

Corridor 236-237

Cleveland National Forest

Introduction

Corridor 236-237 extends east from north of Silverado, CA, east of the I-5, to west of the I-15 (Figures 1 and 2). The federally designated portions of this corridor are entirely on National Forest System lands with a 2,000-ft width over its entire length. Corridor 236-237 can accommodate electrical transmission projects. The corridor spans 9.2-miles, with 6.8 miles designated on USFS-administered lands. The designated corridor's area is 1,690 acres or 2.6 square miles. This corridor is in Orange and Riverside counties in California and entirely within the Cleveland National Forest. This corridor is entirely in Region 1.

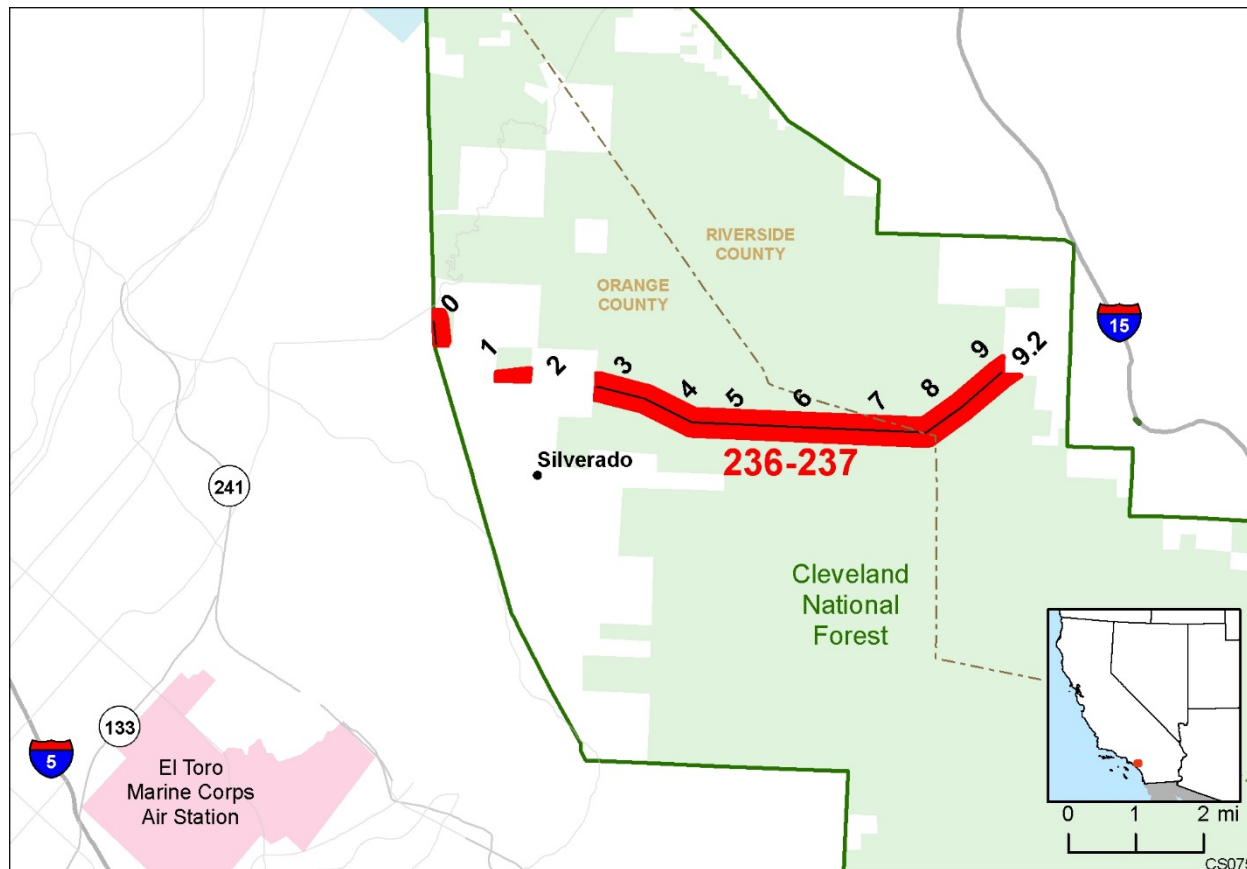
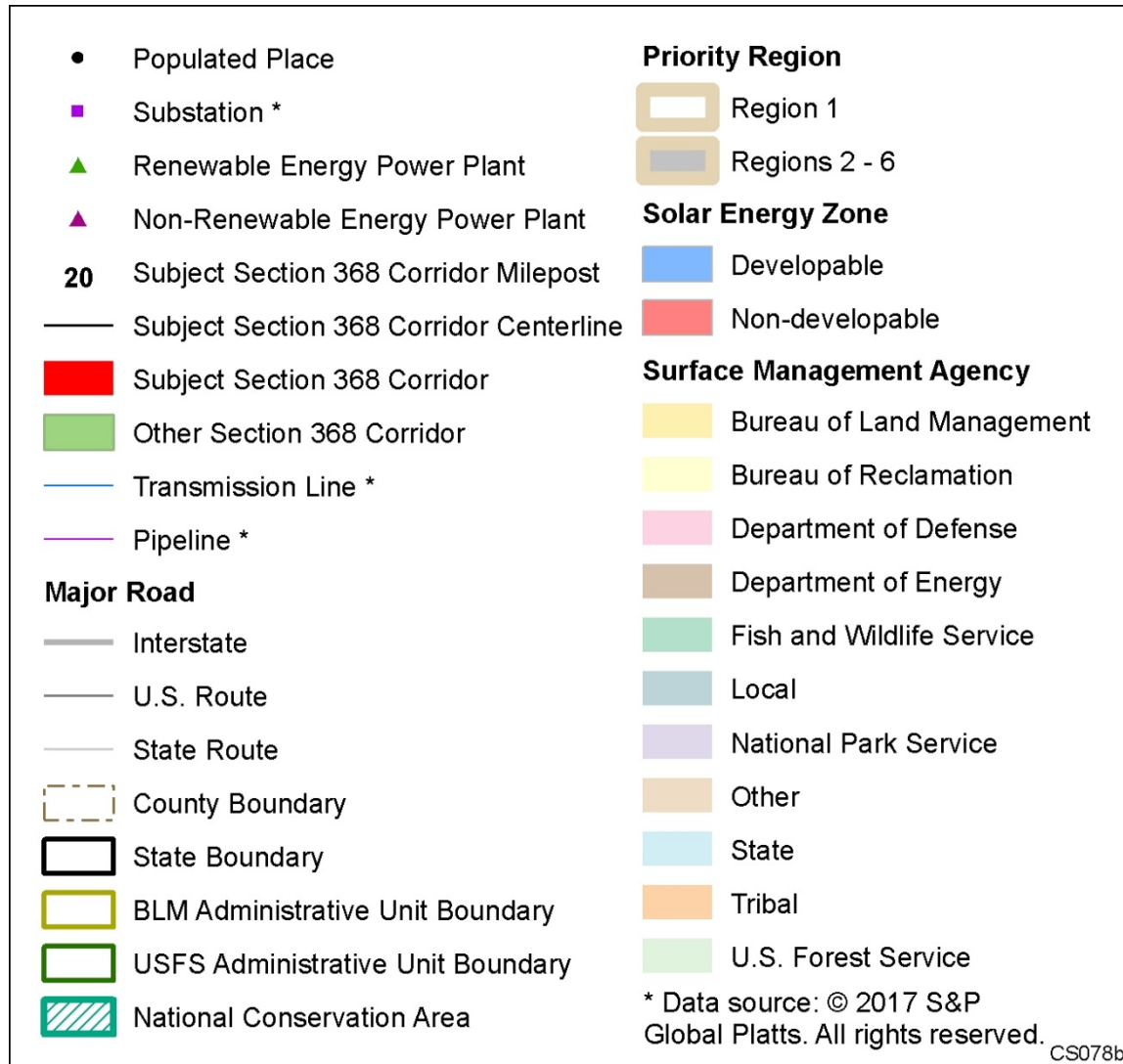


Figure 1. Corridor 236-237



Key

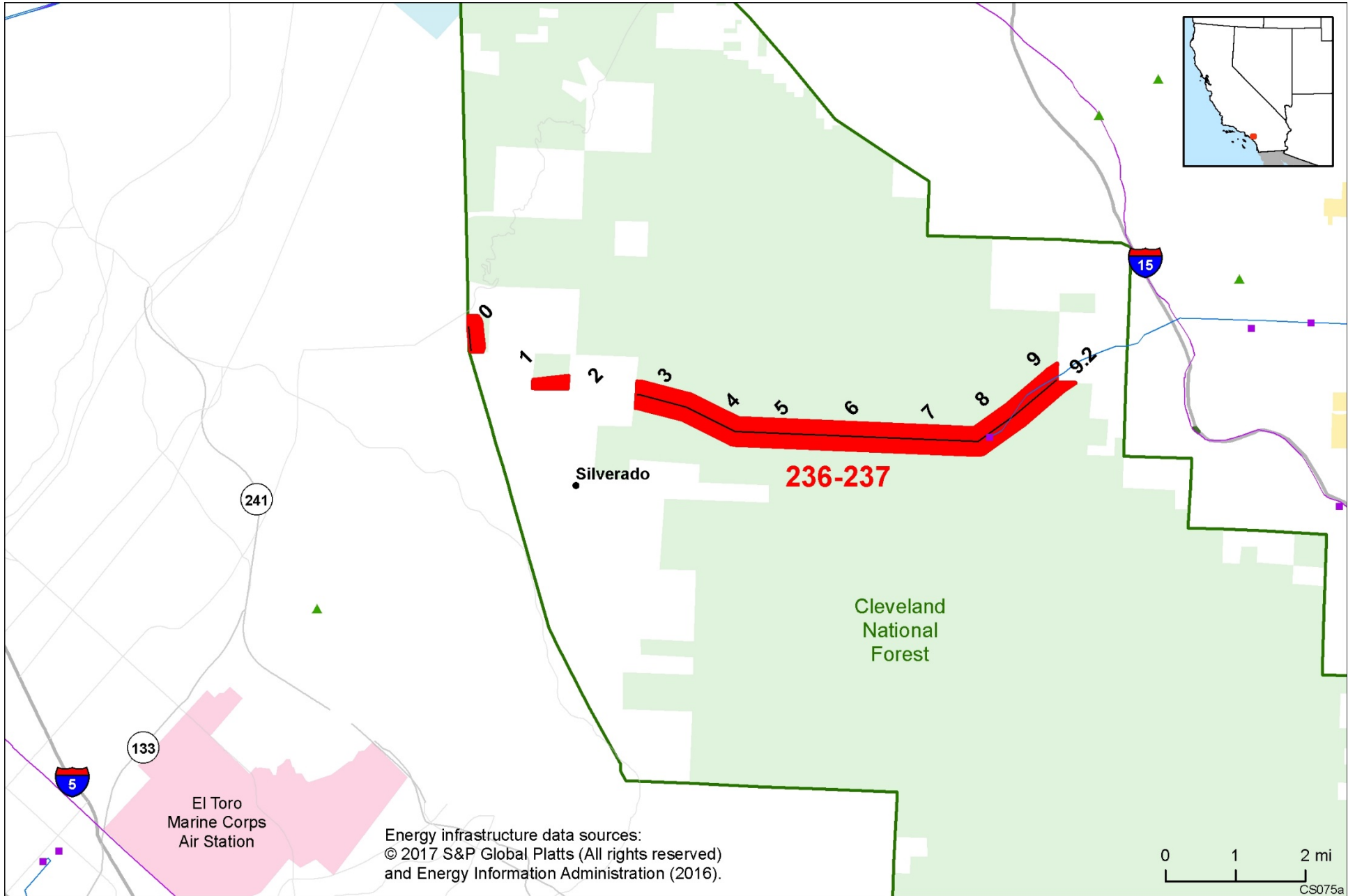


Figure 2. Corridor 236-237, Including Existing Energy Infrastructure

Corridor Rationale

During scoping for the WWEC PEIS, routes generally following this corridor were suggested by the Western Utility Group and the American Wind Energy Association.

Existing Infrastructure: There are three existing transmission lines (SCE, 69 kV; SCE, 500 kV; and another 69-kV line), one Arizona Public Service Co. substation, and the planned 500-kV North Gila-Northern-Serrano/Valley Transmission line project within the corridor.

Potential Future Development: Although there is existing infrastructure, the corridor could accommodate new development through the Trabuco Ranger District. SCE indicated that there are 6,015 MW of CAISO-queued generation and 666 MW of SCE-queued generation near, or able to use, the corridor. Stakeholders commented that the corridor is located on mountainous terrain and has not historically provided access to new generation; however, the existing 500-kV transmission line that passes through this corridor carries large amounts of generation from the RETI 2.0 Riverside TAFE, providing an opportunity for the corridor to accommodate transmission tied to renewable-energy development.

Corridor of Concern Status

Corridor 236-237 was not identified in the Settlement as a corridor of concern.

Corridor Abstract Update

New data have been added to the Section 368 Energy Corridor Mapping Tool since the release of the draft abstracts in September 2016. A GIS view identifying high-, medium-, and low-conflict areas consistent with the screening criteria in 43 CFR 2804.35(a)-(c) has also been added to the mapping tool. A complete description of the mapping tool, the high-, medium-, and low-conflict areas, and a list of the GIS data sources are included in the report for Region 1 Regional Review.

Additions to the corridor analysis table, based on input from stakeholders and additional Agency analysis, include special status species.

Revisions, deletions, or additions to Section 368 energy corridors would be made only during the land use planning process through a plan amendment, for an individual project or a plan revision. However, the Settlement Agreement sets forth a systematic process for the Agencies to review Section 368 energy corridors and provide recommendations for revisions, deletions, or additions to the corridors. There was a stakeholder recommendation in the 2014 RFI to delete or replace the corridor segment that scored a "very high" risk for both CHAT (Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool) and Imperiled Species. Mapping of potential conflict areas indicates there is no nearby alternate route that would avoid crucial habitat and provide continuity across the Cleveland National Forest from Arizona into the Los Angeles metropolitan area. There were no suggestions for corridor revisions, deletions, or additions in response to the release of the draft abstracts. On the basis of Agency analysis of these issues, corridor revisions, deletions, or additions are not recommended for Corridor 236-237.

Corridor Analysis

The corridor analysis table below identifies concerns affecting Corridor 236-237, the location of the concerns within the corridor, and the results of the analysis of the concerns by the Agencies. Concerns are checked if they are known to apply to the corridor.

Energy Planning Opportunities

- Appropriate and acceptable uses
- WWEC purpose (e.g., renewable energy)
- Transmission and pipeline capacity opportunity

Energy Planning Concerns

- Physical barrier
- Jurisdictional concern
- Corridor alignment and spacing
- Transmission and pipeline capacity concern

Land Management Responsibilities and Environmental Concerns

- Acoustics
- Air quality
- Climate change
- Cultural resources
- Ecological resources
- Environmental justice
- Hydrological resources
- Lands and realty
- Lands with wilderness characteristics

- Livestock grazing
 - Paleontology
 - Public access and recreation
 - Socioeconomics
 - Soils/erosion
 - Specially designated areas
 - Tribal concerns
 - Visual resources
 - Wild horses and burros
- Interagency Operating Procedures**

REGION 1 – CORRIDOR 236-237 – ANALYSIS TABLE

ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Concern/Opportunity	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source: Context	Agency Review and Analysis
ENERGY PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES							
<i>Appropriate and Acceptable Uses</i>							
236-237 .001	USFS	Cleveland National Forest	Riverside, CA	Substation in corridor	MP 8.0	GIS Analysis.	There is generally space, since the corridor is 2,000 feet wide.
ENERGY PLANNING CONCERNS							
<i>Corridor Alignment and Spacing</i>							
236-237 .002	USFS	Cleveland National Forest	Riverside and Orange, CA	SCE 69-kV transmission line	MP 2.8 to MP 8.0	GIS Analysis.	There is generally space for additional lines, since the corridor is 2,000 feet wide.
236-237 .003	USFS	Cleveland National Forest	Riverside, CA	SCE 500-kV and other 69-kV transmission lines	MP 8.0 to MP 9.2	GIS Analysis.	There is generally space for additional lines, since the corridor is 2,000 feet wide.

REGION 1 – CORRIDOR 236-237 – ANALYSIS TABLE

ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Concern/Opportunity	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source: Context	Agency Review and Analysis
LAND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS							
Ecology: Special Status Animal Species							
236-237 .004	USFS	Cleveland National Forest	Riverside and Orange, CA	"Very High" risk for both CHAT and Imperiled Species across much of corridor	CHAT High Risk Area: entire corridor	RFI: delete or replace this segment. This segment scores "Very High" risk for both CHAT and Imperiled Species.	Crucial habitat is pervasive in the vicinity of the corridor, and there is no nearby alternative route that would avoid crucial habitat and provide continuity across the Cleveland National Forest from Arizona into the Los Angeles area in a corridor with existing infrastructure. The Cleveland National Forest would need to do a NEPA analysis to specifically outline where those species are located. There are currently no new designations of land status in this area, but there is high fire danger most of the year.
236-237 .005	USFS	Cleveland National Forest	Riverside and Orange, CA	Arroyo Southwestern Toad and Coastal California Gnatcatcher critical habitat	MP 0.9 to MP 1 and MP 8.9 to MP 9.2	RFI: corridor intersects critical habitat. consult with USFWS to avoid adverse modification to Arroyo Southwestern Toad and Coastal California Gnatcatcher designated critical habitat.	The Cleveland National Forest would need to do a NEPA analysis to specifically outline where those species are located. There are currently no new designations of land status in this area, but there is high fire danger most of the year.
Specially Designated Areas							
236-237 .006	USFS	Cleveland National Forest	Riverside and Orange, CA	Inventoried Roadless Areas (Ladd, Coldwater)	MP 2.8 to MP 4.9 and MP 7.2 to MP 9.2	GIS Analysis.	Impacts from proposed development would be analyzed as part of the project-specific environmental review required under NEPA. The USFS is unlikely to approve development of new roads within the corridor.
Other Issues							
2236-237 .new1						Input was provided clarifying existing capacity and potential for new capacity.	The input provided by stakeholders regarding existing capacity and potential for future capacity has been added to the corridor abstracts and

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ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Concern/Opportunity	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source: Context	Agency Review and Analysis
							has been considered in the Agencies' analysis.

Abbreviations: CFR = Code of Federal Regulations; CHAT = Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool; GIS = geographic information system; MP = milepost; NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act; RFI = Request for Information; SCE = Southern California Edison Co.; USFS = Forest Service; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; WWEC = West-wide Energy Corridor.