COVER PAGE

MEASURING ATTRIBUTES OF WILDERNESS CHARACTER
WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY

CDCA227-1/CLARK MOUNTAIN NORTH
AUGUST 2015

BLM

Needles Field Office

Summary of Analysis*

Area Unique Identifier: CDCA227-1/Clark Mountain North

Summary

Results of analysis:
(Note: explain the inventory findings for the entirety of the inventory unit. When wilderness characteristics have been identified in an area that is smaller than the size of the total inventory unit, explain why certain portions of the inventory unit are not included within the lands with wilderness characteristics (e.g. the inventory found that certain parts lacked naturalness).

1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? ___ Yes __√__ No

2. Does the area appear to be natural? ___ Yes__√__No ___ N/A

3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? ___ Yes ___No __√__ N/A

4. Does the area have supplemental values? ____ Yes ____ No __√__ N/A
Check one:

___ The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

__√__The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by (team members):

Ramona Daniels, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Wilderness Coordinator,
August 18, 2015

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: [illegible] **Title:** Field Manager

Date: 10-7-15

* This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.

Office: Needles Field Office
Unit: CDCA227-1/Clark Mountain North

FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous Inventory on Record

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory information on all or part of this area?

_____**No** (Go to Form 2)
__√__**Yes** (If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the unique identifiers for those areas.):

a) Inventory Source: California Desert Conservation Area Wilderness Inventory 1979

b) Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): CDCA227

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): USGS, California 1:100,000: 35115-E1 Mesquite Lake

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): California Desert District/Needles Field Office

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:
Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics (if more than one BLM inventory area is associated with the area, list each area and answer each question individually for each inventory area):

Inventory Source: Needles Field Office Inventory

Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? Yes/No (acres)	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No
CDCA227-1	N	N	N	N	N

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier: CDCA227-1
Acreage: 1,240 acres

(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate each separately).

In completing steps (1)-(5), use additional space as necessary.

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check "Yes" and describe the exception in the space provided below),

Yes ____ No __√__

Note: If "No" is checked the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (describe the boundaries of the area--wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.):

Within the 1994 California Desert Protection Act, the NPS Mojave Preserve was designated. As part of this designation the Clark Mountain Wilderness and Clark Mountain NPS unit were developed. The majority of CDCA227 is within this area, however, small parts of CDCA227 were bisected and can be found both north and south of the NPS unit.

Therefore, the southern section CDCA277-1/Clark Mountain North and the northern section will be labeled CDCA277-2/Clark Mountain South. The Northern Boundary is the Boulder Corridor (NN135), the western boundary Cima Road, southern the NPS Mohave Preserve Boundary and eastern boundary is NN181(Green Well Road).

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes _____ No __√__ N/A _____

Note: If "No" is checked, the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for the remaining questions below.

Description (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities):

Current Industrial mining and powerline facilities reduce the natural conditions of the area.

(3) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No ___ N/A ___√___

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for solitude):

The Needles Field Office developed a system of designated routes of travel in 2002 as a requirement of local land plans. These trails have been named the Mojave Adventure Routes System (MARS) CDCA225 is immediately adjacent to two ways included in the MARS inventory.

(4) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes _____ No ____ N/A___√___

Note: If "No" is checked for both 3 and 4 the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "NA" for question 5.

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation):

The proximity to the utility facilities present the opportunity for outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation.

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes ___ No _____ N/A ___√___

Description:

None.

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY
APPENDIX C – ROUTE ANALYSIS[1]

(Factors to consider when determining whether a route is a road[2] for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes.)

Route Analysis Table

Route #		Purpose	Row	Construction Mechanically or Improved Mechanically	Is it in regular or continuous use	Maintenance if needed	WIU Road	Photo Points
1	NN620	Recreation,	No	Yes	Yes	Not Currently	No	
2	NN619	Recreation,	No	Yes	Yes	Not Currently	No	

Route Map: See Attached

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Area Unique Identifier: **CDCA227-1**
Route or Route Segment[3] Name and/or Identifier: **See Table**
(Include Transportation Plan Identifier, if known, and include route number supplied by citizen information, when available.)

I. LOCATION:
Refer attached map **CDCA227-1 /Clark Mountain North** and BLM corporate data (GIS) located at the California State Office. List photo point references (where applicable) and/or reference attached photo log:

Describe:

As stated in Form 2, the Northern Boundary is the Boulder Corridor (NN135), the western boundary Cima Road, southern the NPS Mohave Preserve Boundary and eastern boundary is NN181(Green Well Road).

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[2] Road: An access route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.
a. Improved and maintained – Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. —Improvedl does not necessarily mean formal construction. —Maintainedl does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.
b. Mechanical means – Use of hand or power machinery or tools.
c. Relatively regular and continuous use – Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples are: access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources, access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities, or access roads to mining claims.

[3] If a portion of a route is found to meet the wilderness inventory road criteria (see Part III) and the remainder does not meet these criteria (e.g., a cherrystem road with a primitive route continuing beyond a certain point), identify each segment and explain the rationale for the separate findings under pertinent criteria.

II. ROUTE CONTEXT

A. Current Purpose[4] (if any) of Route: (Examples: Rangeland/Livestock Improvements (stock tank, developed spring, reservoir, fence, corral), Inholdings (ranch, farmhouse), Mine Site, Concentrated Use Site (camp site), Recreation, Utilities (transmission line, telephone, pipeline), Administrative (project maintenance, communication site, vegetation treatment)).

Describe:

Within the Northern & Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan (NECO), an amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan 1980 and Sikes Act Plan with the California Department of Fish and Game, a series of routes were designed for use for the public. On page 3-64, section 3.8.7. California Back Country Discovery Trails: "The California back Country Discovery Trails…will be a shared-use trail system providing recreational opportunities for all persons, including those who use street-legal and non-street legal (Green Sticker) vehicles, hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians. It will also provide a backcountry opportunity for non-traditional trail users such as persons with disabilities, senior citizens, and families with small children." BLM Needles Field Office (NFO) developed this system of California Back Country Discovery Trails for all designated routes within the field office boundaries and named it the Mojave Adventure Route System (MARS). This system of designated routes was developed to minimize resource damage, as well as providing a system of backcountry touring routes, which offer ample recreational experiences: (i.e., camping, hunting, rockhounding, etc.) for all members of the public. The NFO receives funding annually from both federal and state programs to maintain and monitor on a need to basis, the management of these routes also includes the placement of field cameras for the monitoring of use, repairing flood damage, and the installation of route signs and informational kiosks.

B. Right-of-Way (ROW):

1. Is there a ROW associated with this route(s)?

   Yes____ No __√__ Unknown ____

2. If yes, what is the stated purpose of the ROW?

3. Is the ROW still being used for this purpose?

   Yes _____ No__√__ Unknown or N/A ____

Explain:

***This unit either contains or is immediately adjacent to high-tension electrical lines.**

The Needles Field Office is immediately adjacent to the Colorado River, much of the lands managed by the office support the infrastructure of the Colorado River Energy Complex and powerlines, which move electric to outlaying metropolitan areas.

III. WILDERNESS INVENTORY ROAD CRITERIA

A. Evidence of construction or improvement using mechanical means:

Yes __√__ (if either A.1 *or* A.2 is checked "yes" below) No _____ (if both A.1 *and* A.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Construction: (Is there evidence that the route or route segment was originally constructed using mechanical means?) Yes __√__ No _____

Examples: Paved___ Bladed__√__ Graveled___ Roadside Berms__√__ Cut/Fill___ Other__√__

Describe:

Mining operations in the nearby areas and the addition of a major utility corridor during the early 1900s caused the development of many of the engineer routes in the area, which continue to be used today by the utility companies.

[4] The purpose of a route is not a deciding factor in determining whether a route is a road for wilderness characteristics inventory purposes. The purpose of a route does provide context for factors on which such a determination may be based, particularly the question of whether maintenance of the route ensures relatively regular and continuous use. The purpose also helps to determine whether maintenance that may so far have been unnecessary to ensure such use would be approved by BLM when the need arises.

2. Improvements: (Is there evidence of improvements using mechanical means to facilitate access?) Yes __√__No ____ If "yes": by Hand Tools ____ by Machine ____

Examples: Culverts___ Hardened Stream Crossings___ Bridges___ Drainage__√__ Barriers___ Other___

Describe: **Utility Company routinely maintains the corridors.**

B. Maintenance: (Is there evidence of maintenance that would ensure *relatively* regular and continuous use?): Yes __√__ (if either B.1 *or* B.2 is checked "yes" below) No ___ (if both B.1 *and* B.2 are checked "no" below)

1. Is there Evidence or Documentation of Maintenance using hand tools or machinery?

Yes __√__ No ____ If "yes": by Hand Tools ____ by Machine ____

Explain:

This area is routinely monitor for route maintenance needs.

2. If the route or route segment is in good[5] condition, but there is no evidence of maintenance, would mechanical maintenance with hand tools or machines be approved by BLM to meet the purpose(s) of the route in the event this route became impassable?

Yes __√__ No ____

Explain:

As part of the MARS, the route would continue to receive maintenance by the NFO on a need to basis.

[5] Good condition would be a condition that ensures regular and continuous use relative to the purposes of the route. Consider whether the route can be clearly followed in the field over its entire course and whether all or any portion of the route contains any impediments to travel.

C. Relatively regular and continuous use: (Does the route or route segment ensure relatively regular and continuous use?) Yes __√__No ____

Describe evidence (e.g., direct, vehicles or vehicle tracks observed, or indirect, evidence of use associated with purpose of the route such as maintenance of facility that route accesses) and other rationale for whether use has occurred and will continue to occur on a *relatively* regular basis (i.e., regular and continuous use relative to the purpose(s) of the route).[6]

Describe: **See above information.**

IV. CONCLUSION:

Does the route or route segment[7] meet the definition of a wilderness inventory road (i.e., are items III.A *and* III.B *and* III.C all checked yes)?

Yes __√__ = Wilderness Inventory Road No ____ = Not a road for wilderness inventory purposes

Explanation[8]:

Routes belonging to the Designated Route System will be maintained as needed. Routes not designated through the land plan will not be considered a route and therefore will be considered closed. Routes errors and/or realignments will be addressed through the NEPA Process.

Closed routes will be evaluated for their use. Routes used to maintain Grazing Infrastructure (Taylor Grazing Act), Herd Management Areas and facilities for the California Fish and Wildlife Department (California Desert Protection Act) will be closed with gates, and barricades, all other routes will be closed through restoration and/or barricades.

Evaluator(s): _____ Date: 10/1/2015

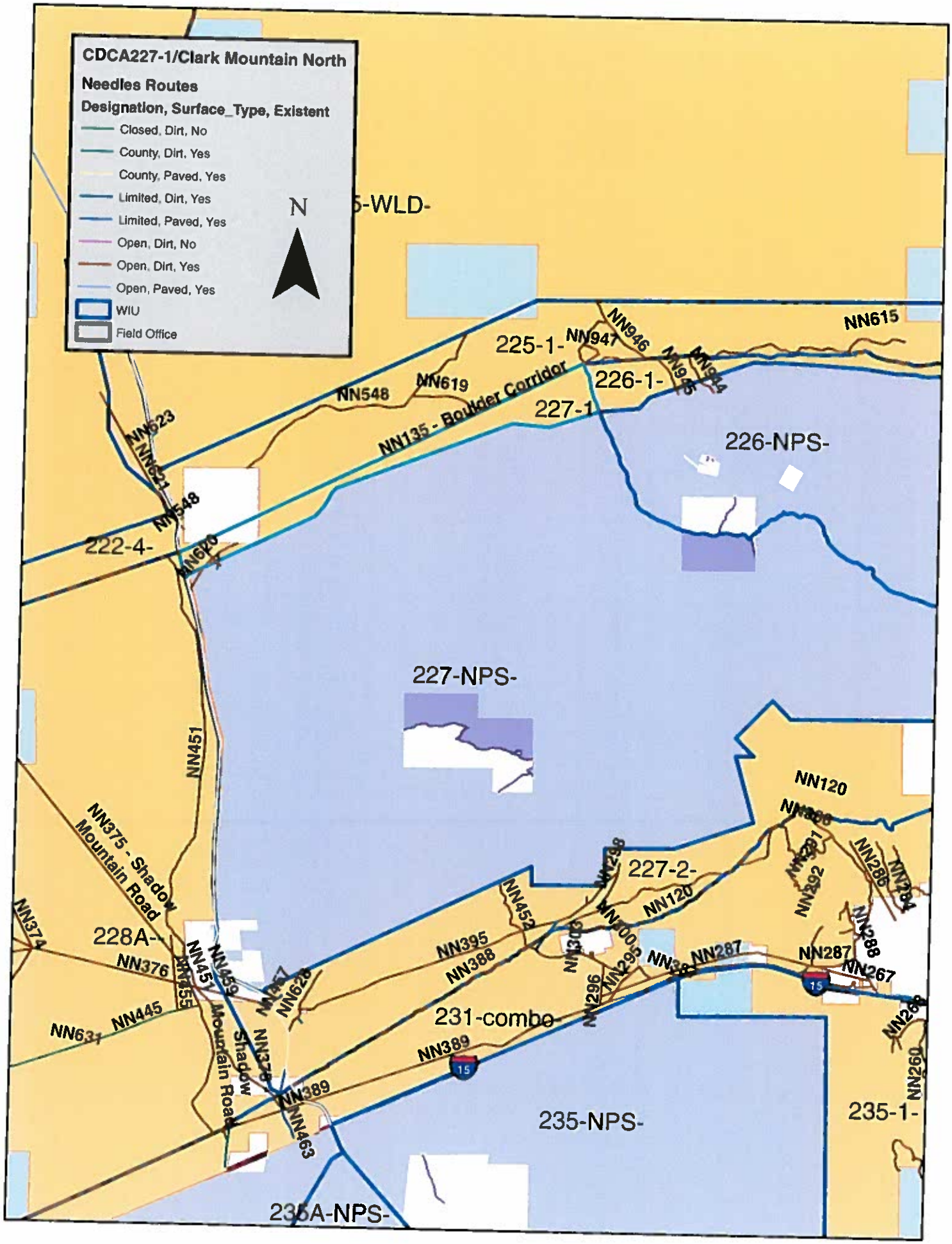
[6] Include estimate of travel rates for the stated purposes, e.g., trips/day or week or month or season or year or even multiple years in some facility maintenance cases.

[7] If part of the route meets the wilderness inventory road definition and the remainder does not, describe the segment meeting the definition and any remaining portion not meeting the definition and why.

[8] Describe and explain rationale for any discrepancies with citizen proposals.

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY
APPENDIX D – PHOTO LOG

See Attached


CDCA227-1/Clark Mountain North
Needles Routes
Designation, Surface_Type, Existent
Closed, Dirt, No
County, Dirt, Yes
County, Paved, Yes
Limited, Dirt, Yes
Limited, Paved, Yes
Open, Dirt, No
Open, Dirt, Yes
Open, Paved, Yes
WIU
Field Office
N
5-WLD-
225-1-
NN947
NN946
NN615
226-1-
227-1
NN548
NN619
NN135 - Boulder Corridor
226-NPS-
NN523
NN548
222-4-
227-NPS-
NN451
NN120
NN375 - Shadow Mountain Road
227-2-
NN452
NN395
NN388
NN374
228A-
NN376
NN445
NN631
NN287
NN267
231-combo-
NN389
15
235-NPS-
235-1-
NN463
235A-NPS-