



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# EMERGENCY CLOSURE ORDER

Bureau of Land Management California

**EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF the Certain Lands East of Hwy 14 near Hwy 178 in Kern County, California**

**October 20, 2020**

**Action:** Pursuant to Section 303 (a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1733 (a)), 43 CFR 9268.3(d) and 43 CFR 8364.1, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) hereby provides notice that effective October 20, 2020 at 3:00 p.m., the public lands described below are closed to all forms of public access and entry. This closure is for public safety due to a military aircraft mishap.

**Affected Area:** The approximately 8,527-acre area which encompasses BLM land along California Hwy 14 and US Hwy 178 in California (see attached map) within Mount Diablo Meridian, California:

T. 26 S., R. 38 E.,  
sec. 32, 33, and 34;

T. 27 S., R. 38 E.,  
sec. 3, , S1/2SW1/3, and S1/2SE1/4;  
sec. 4, lots 1 thru 2 and S1/2;  
sec. 5, lots 1 thru 2, NW1/4SW1/4, E1/2SW1/4, and SE1/4;  
sec. 8, N1/2NE1/4, NW1/4, N1/2SW1/4, SE1/4SW1/4, and  
S1/2SE1/4;  
secs. 9, 10, and 15;  
sec. 17, E1/2, E1/2NW1/4, SW1/4NW1/4, and SW1/4;  
secs. 20, 21, and 22.

**Prohibitions:** For public safety, in relation to the military aircraft mishap, all human entry within the 8,527-acre area of BLM lands that runs along California Hwy 14 and US Hwy 178 is prohibited.

**Dates:** This closure is effective beginning at 3:00 p.m. on October 20, 2020 and will remain in effect until 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2020, at such time as conditions allow for safe use of the public lands.

**Supplemental Information:** The following persons are exempt from the provisions of this Order:

1. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member of an organized medical, rescue or firefighting force engaged in fire, emergency, or law enforcement activities.
2. Individuals involved in the investigation and recovery of materials associated with the Mishap.
3. BLM employees or agents engaged in official duties.
4. Individuals operating within the scope of their official and legitimate governmental duties.
5. Parties who carry written approval signed by the BLM Authorized Officer allowing access to the described public lands.

**Penalties:** Any person who violates this Order may be tried before a United States Magistrate and fined in accordance with 18 U.S.C. 3571, imprisoned for no more than 12 months, or both. Vehicles found in violation of this order may be removed.

**Effective:** This Order is effective beginning at 3:00 p.m. on October 20, 2020 through 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2020

Signed by:

October 20, 2020

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Ridgecrest Field Manager

Date

Emergency Closure: