Old Woman Springs Wildlife Linkage

Description/Location: South and west of Hwy 247, north and east of Bighorn Mountain Wilderness, between the towns of Lucerne Valley and Yucca Valley and Pioneertown.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: The area is critical for bighorn sheep, Mojave fringed toed lizards, desert tortoise, burrowing owl and several other species. Additionally, numerous rare and sensitive plants have significant populations here, making the area regionally significant. The area provides critical links for wildlife populations to the north and south of this linkage area.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources including wildlife and plant assemblages. The area is critical for bighorn sheep, Mojave fringed toed lizards, desert tortoise, burrowing owl and several other species. Additionally, numerous rare and sensitive plants have significant populations here, making the area regionally significant. The area provides critical links for wildlife populations to the north and south of this linkage area.

Goals: Protect biological values, including habitat quality, populations of sensitive species, and landscape connectivity while providing for compatible public uses.

For NLCS Lands: Where this ruleset differs from the plan-wide NLCS rulesets, the more restrictive rules will apply.

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	0	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	67,100	69,100	0	0.5%
1	18,700	51,800	22,600	0.5%
2	10,100	11,700	0	0.10%
3	67,100	69,100	0	0.5%
4	15,200	0	15,200	NA

*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**

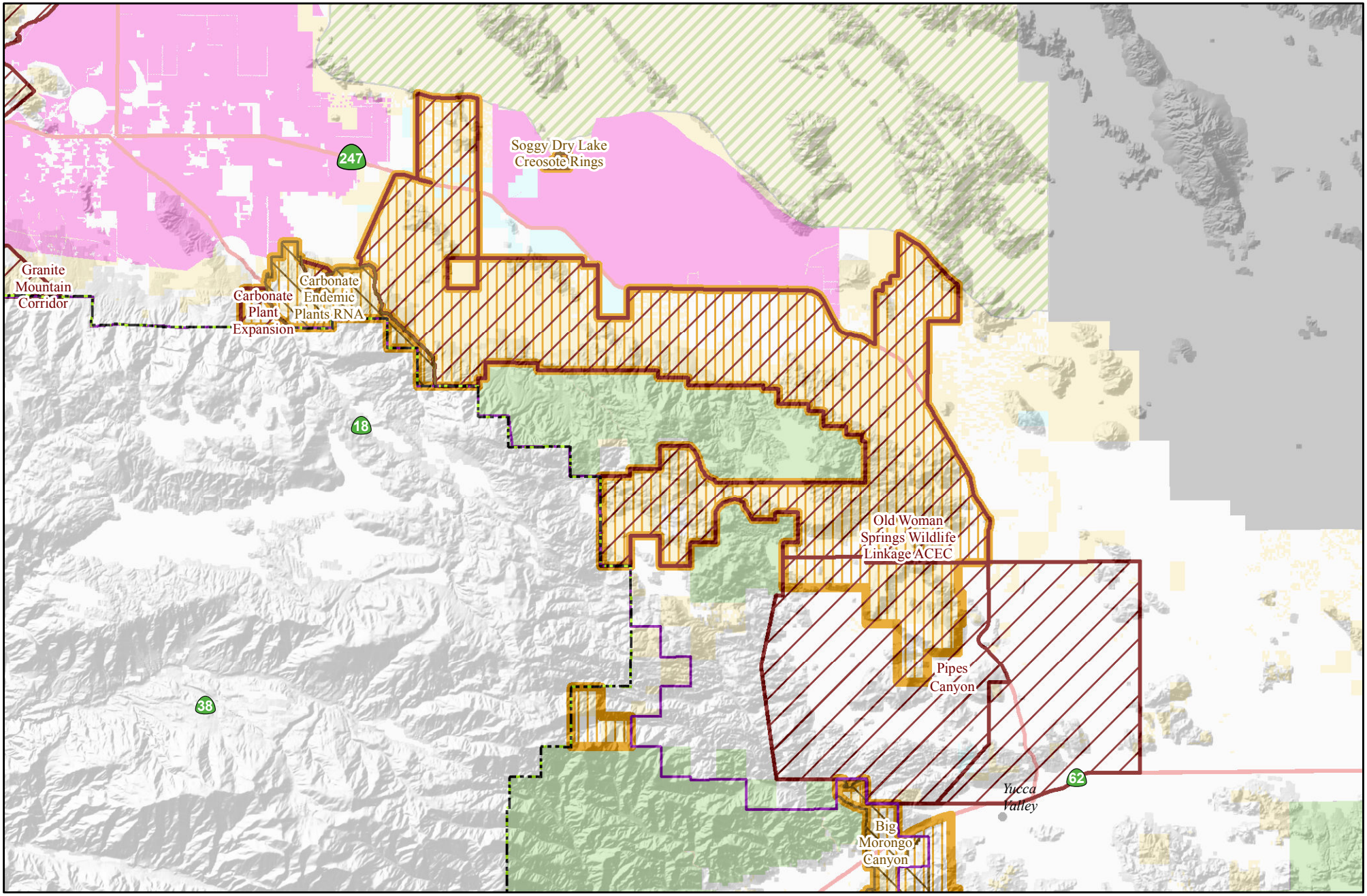
Alternatives:
Under All Alternatives—This area (size and location vary between alternative, see table above and maps that follow) would be identified as an ACEC and/or Wildlife Allocation Area and would be managed to support and maintain wildlife connectivity.

No Action – this conservation area would not exist, as it does not exist currently.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Objective: Maintain or Improve condition of special status plant habitat Management Action1: Remove invasive plants, rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed areas Management Action 2: Protect populations of special status plants Known rare plants: *Piranga rubra* *Mimulus mohavensis* *Mentzelis tridentate* *Chorizanthe xanti* *Linanthus maculatus* *Astragalus bernardinus* Management Action 3: Protect Natural Communities listed as rare by the state.	Vegetation - Including special status species
Objective: Maintain or Improve condition of sensitive wildlife habitat Senstive Species: Burrowing owl Lecontes thrasher Prairie falcon Golden eagles Management Action 1: Protect nesting Golden Eagle habitat, ensure productive nesting Management Action 2: Maintain viable populations and connections between other conservation areas Objective: Maintain or improve condition of Nelson Desert Bighorn Sheep habitat Management Action 1: Maintain viable populations and connections between other conservation areas Management Action 2: Evaluate water sources and determine if artificial water sources should be developed Objective: Maintain or improve condition of Desert Tortoise habitat Management Action: Maintain viable populations and connections between other conservation areas	Fish and Wildlife Including special status species
Objective: Protect sensitive habitat from impacts associated with vehicle traffic Allowable Uses: All vehicle traffic limited to designated roads and trails Management Action 1: Establish no new routes in ACEC Management Action 2: Management Action: Modify the WEMO Route Network to reflect open routes through the ACEC and close other existing unauthorized routes	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Inform the public of the importance of the ACEC Management Action: Install interpretive signs at access points to the ACEC, conduct public education efforts concerning OHV use in the desert	Recreation

Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Objective: Maintain wildlife linkage Management Action: New proposals must not interfere with or inhibit wildlife crossing and movement through the area	Rights of Way (ROW)
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy

Old Woman Springs Wildlife Linkage



6 Miles

8.5 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

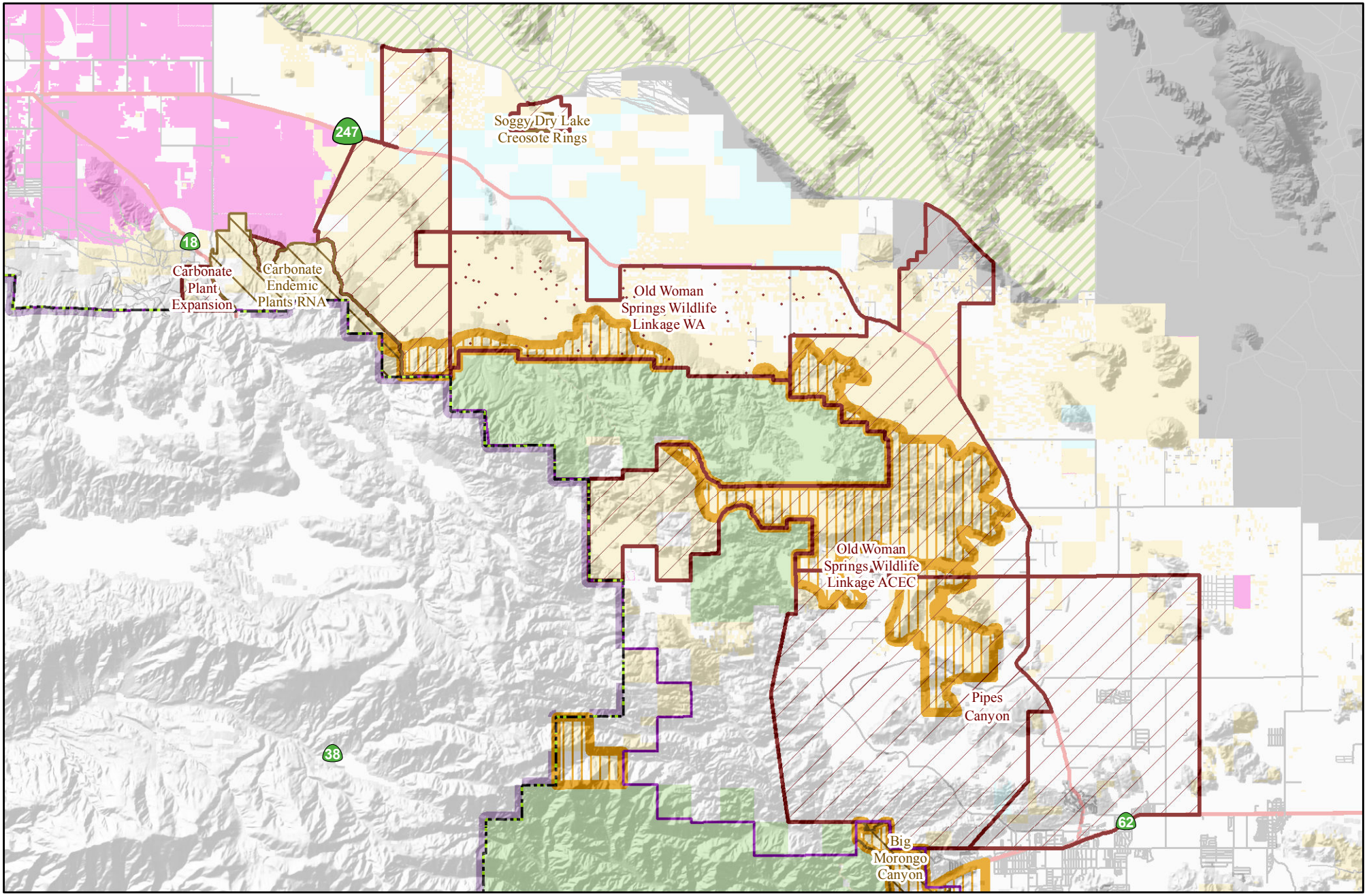
Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Old Woman Springs Wildlife Linkage



5.5 Miles

7.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 1 ACECs

Date Printed: 7/17/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed Wildlife Allocation
- Legislatively and Legally Protected
- Design Focus Areas
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
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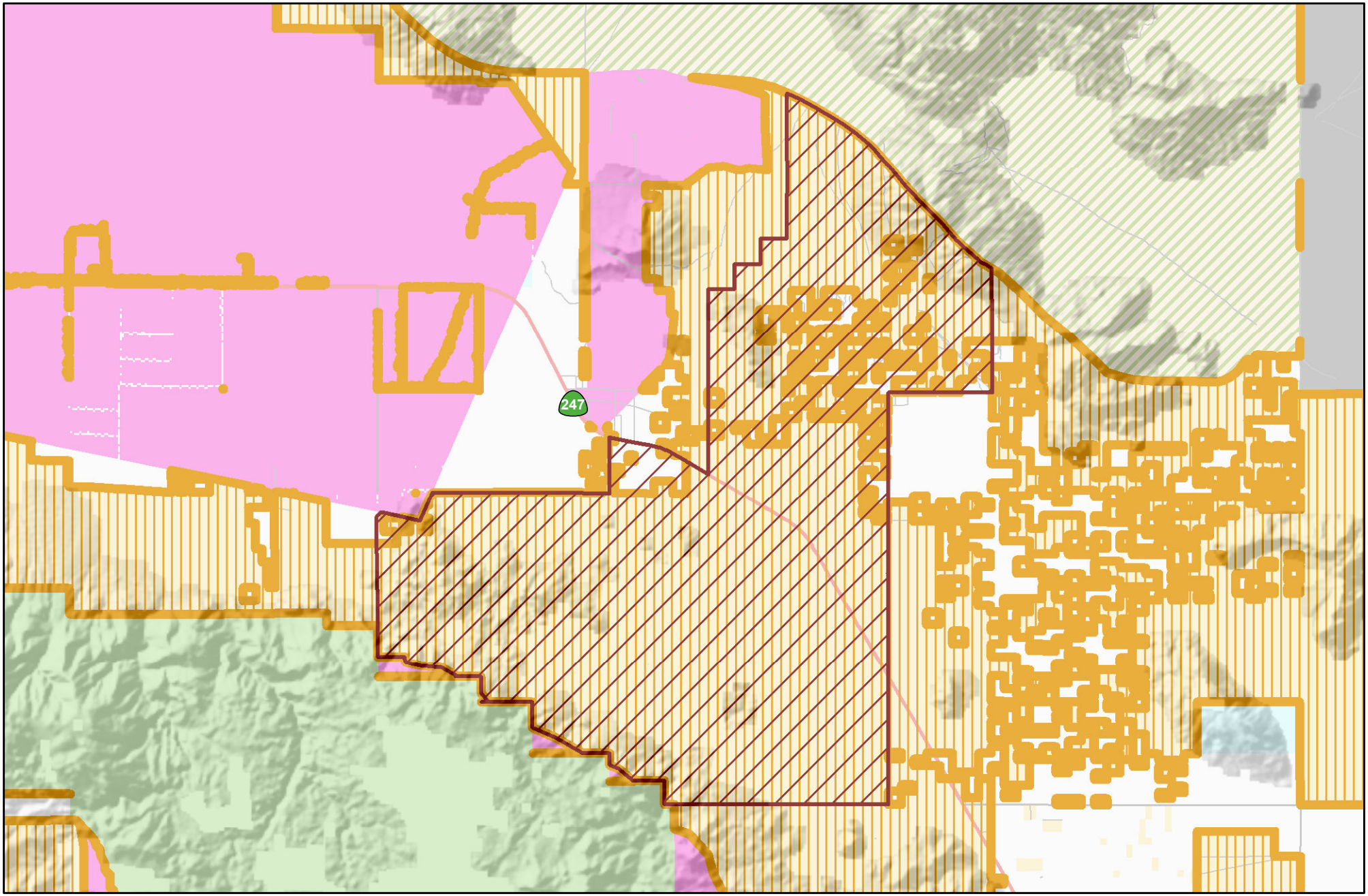
GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Old Woman Springs Wildlife Linkage



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

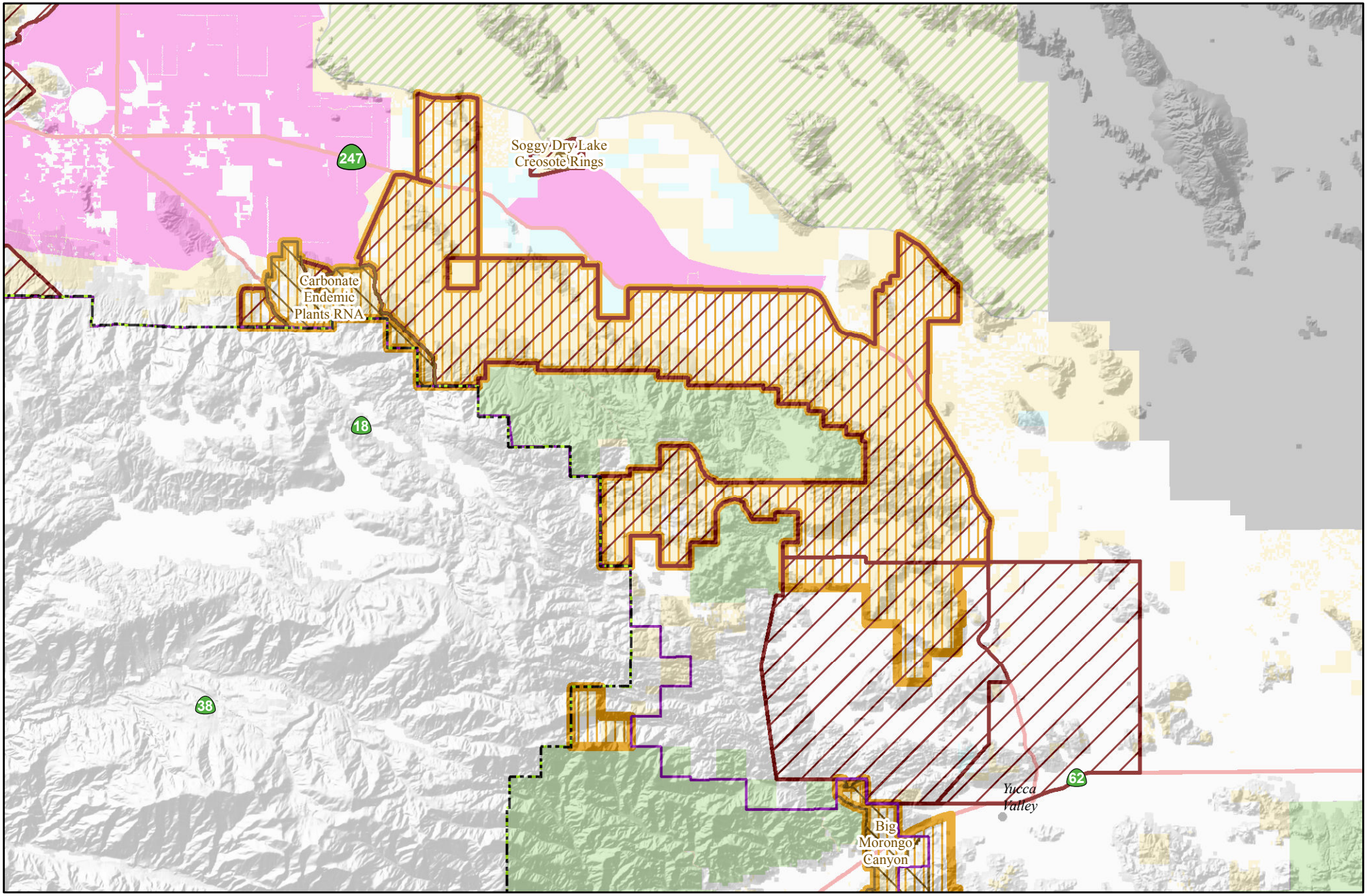
Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Old Woman Springs Wildlife Linkage



6 Miles

8.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

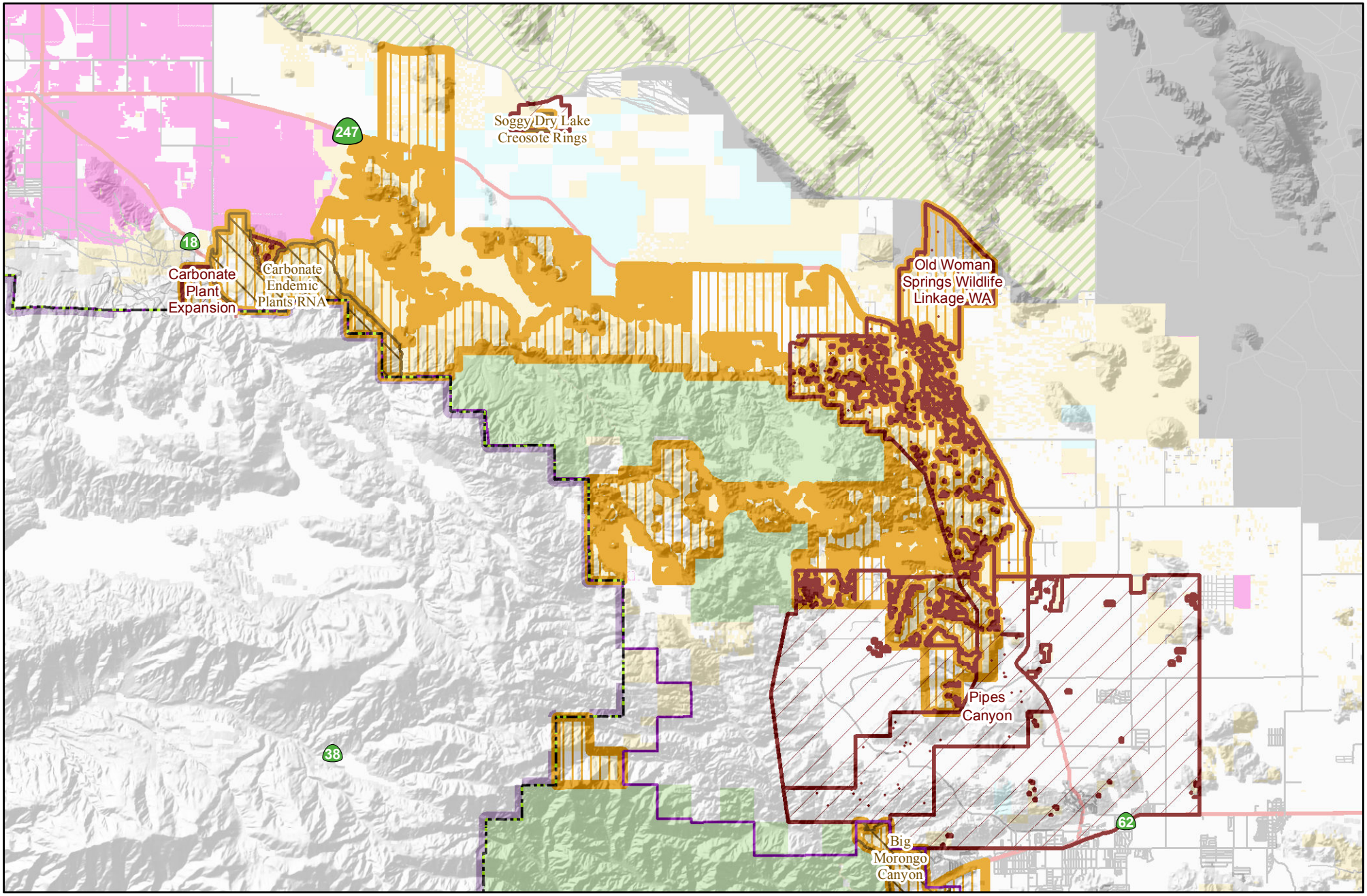
Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Old Woman Springs Wildlife Linkage



5.5 Miles

7.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 7/17/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed Wildlife Allocation
- Legislatively and Legally Protected
- Design Focus Areas
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy