

Eagle Flyway

Location: South of CA State Hwy 178; east of CA State Hwy 14; north of EP15; west of El Paso Mountain Wilderness

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: This area connects Robber’s Roost Birds of Prey Nesting Area to the El Paso Wilderness. It is an important area for maintaining connectivity for raptors and other wildlife between the Sierras and the El Paso Mountains. Golden eagles, which are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, have frequently been seen flying from the Sierras across this area to the El Pasos. This area provides prime upland foraging for these birds of prey. The area also includes Mohave ground squirrel (MGS) core habitat within the MGS Conservation Area. This is one of only 11 core population centers. The Little Dixie wash acts as a corridor for this species and is critical to maintaining species diversity and genetic linkages. There is also a healthy population of state and federally threatened desert tortoise found here.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. The habitat has healthy stands of Desert Needle grass and Indian Rice grass, as well as a diversity of desert shrub species. Very little disturbance has occurred here other than ephemeral sheep grazing. Views from Inyokern-Red Rock Road towards the Sierras are stunning, with little evidence of human occupancy. Important raptor foraging area and core habitat for the Mohave ground squirrel.

Goals: Protect biological resources. Allow safe passage of golden eagles and other raptors between east-west habitats. Protect Mohave ground squirrel habitat; maintain wildlife habitat connectivity and prevent fragmentation; retain healthy desert habitat for species such as burrowing owls, Le Conte’s thrashers, loggerhead shrikes and other bird species. Maintain native bunch grasses, desert wash habitat and desert shrub diversity, as well as expansive views across undisturbed desert to the Sierra Mountains.

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

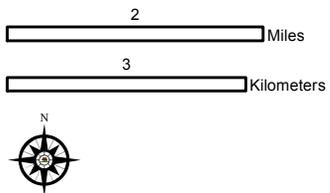
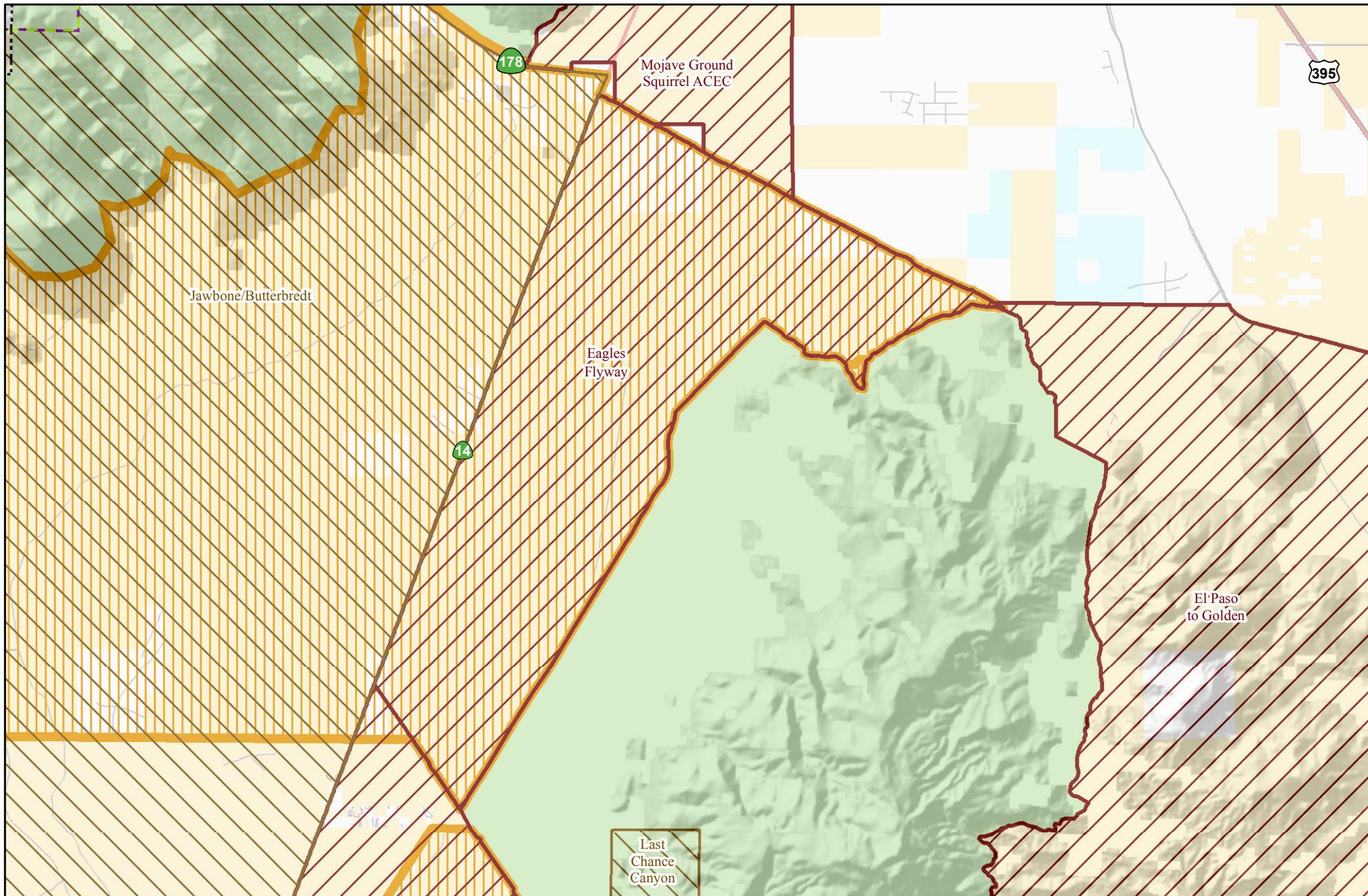
Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	0	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	11,000	11,000	0	1%
1	0	11,000	0	1%
2	0	0	0	NA
3	11,000	11,000	0	1%
4	7,600	11,000	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

<p>Alternatives:</p> <p>Under All Alternatives, except Alternative 2—This area would be identified as an ACEC and would be managed to support and maintain wildlife habitat and connectivity.</p> <p>Under Alternative 2- This conservation area would not be designated, as most of the area would be designated as a Development Focus Area.</p> <p>No Action – this conservation area would not exist, as it does not exist currently.</p>	
Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Soils exhibit functional biological and physical characteristics that are appropriate to soil type, climate, and land form.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Restrict construction activities when soils are susceptible to heightened risk of erosion.</p> <p>Management Actions: Ensure soils to meet or exceed the Soil Standard of Rangeland Health, as indicated by ground or plant cover, diversity of plant species, minimal evidence of accelerated wind and water erosion and the presence of biological soil crusts where appropriate.</p>	Soil, water, air
<p>Objective: Maintain intact vegetation communities and prevent fragmentation.</p> <p>Management Action: Remove invasive plants, rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed areas</p> <p>Management Action: Monitor to ensure diverse vegetation with Rangeland Health Standards</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Protect flyway to ensure current safe passage of resident and migratory bird species.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Linear rows allowed with mitigation measures</p> <p>Management Actions: New proposals will need to be analyzed at on a case-by-case basis and cumulatively, to assess whether they can be accommodated within the ACEC and its management goals.</p> <p>Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence:</p> <p>Management Action: Designate Golden Eagle as priority species for management and protection.</p> <p>Management Action: Maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence:</p> <p>American Badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>) State Special Animal Desert Tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>) Federally and State threatened Mohave ground squirrel (<i>Spermophilus mohavensis</i>) State threatened Yellow-eared pocket mouse (<i>Perognathus xanthonotus</i>) BLM sensitive Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>) BLM Sensitive Le Conte’s Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>) State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>) BLM Sensitive</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

<p>Objective: Limit motorized vehicles to designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, Non-mechanized, etc.</p> <p>Management Action 1: Sign designated routes routinely</p> <p>Management Action 2: Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat. All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignated OHV routes.</p> <p>Management Action 3: Increase information to public and LE patrols</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes while protecting the sensitive resources.</p> <p>All forms of recreational use are allowed including but not limited to dispersed camping, hunting, photography, picnicking, climbing, rock hounding, astronomy/ star gazing, nature study and viewing as long as these activities due not degrade the relevant and important values that the ACEC is being established for.</p> <p>Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols, maintain signs, vehicle barriers and kiosks, and work with volunteers to clean-up parking and camping areas on a regular basis.</p>	<p>Recreation</p>
<p>Objective: Consolidate habitat management</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers</p>	<p>Land Tenure</p>
<p>Objective: Provide for existing and new ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Exclusion zone for site ROW, okay for linear, no ROWs that alter groundwater regimes</p> <p>Management Actions: New proposals will need to be analyzed at on a case-by-case basis and cumulatively, to assess whether they can be accommodated within the area and its management goals. Follow BMP for Avian Protection on transmission lines, etc.</p>	<p>Rights of Way</p>
<p>No Renewable Energy Development</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	<p>Renewable Energy</p>
<p>Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive resources in the area.</p> <p>Management Actions: New proposals will need to be analyzed at on a case-by-case basis and cumulatively, to assess whether they can be accommodated within the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables</p>
<p>Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on other resources</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Adjust livestock use where monitoring data indicate changes are necessary to meet resource objectives.</p> <p>Management Actions: Manage grazing authorizations to meet or exceed the Standards for Rangeland Health.</p>	<p>Livestock grazing</p>

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Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

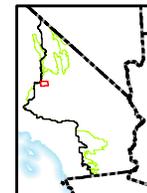
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

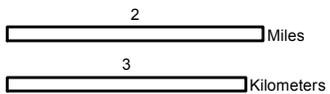
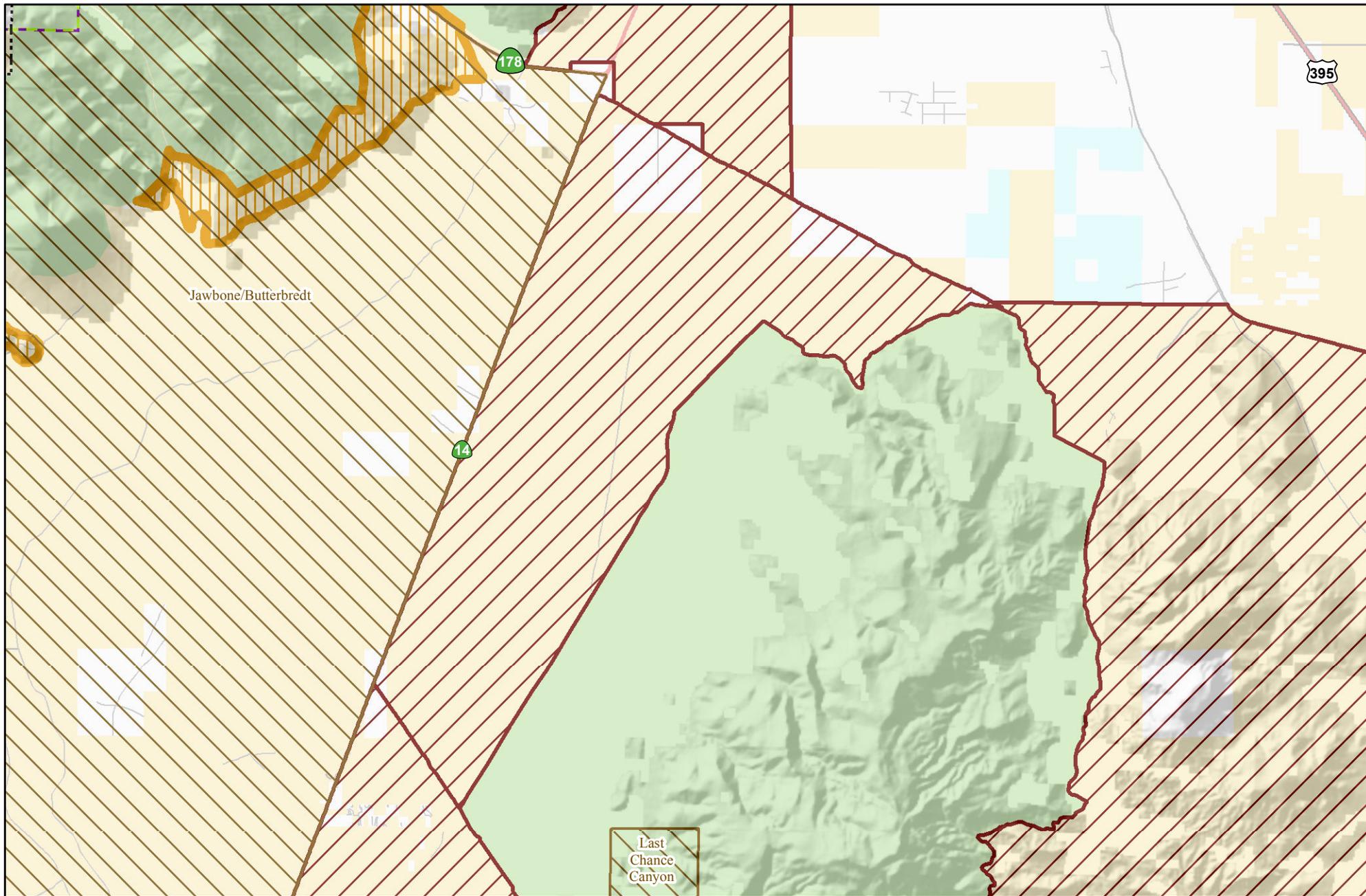
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



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Alternative 1 ACECs

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Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

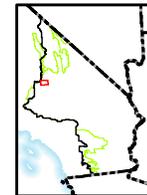
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

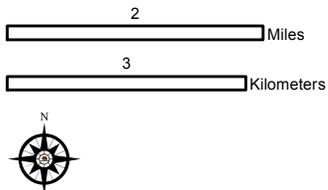
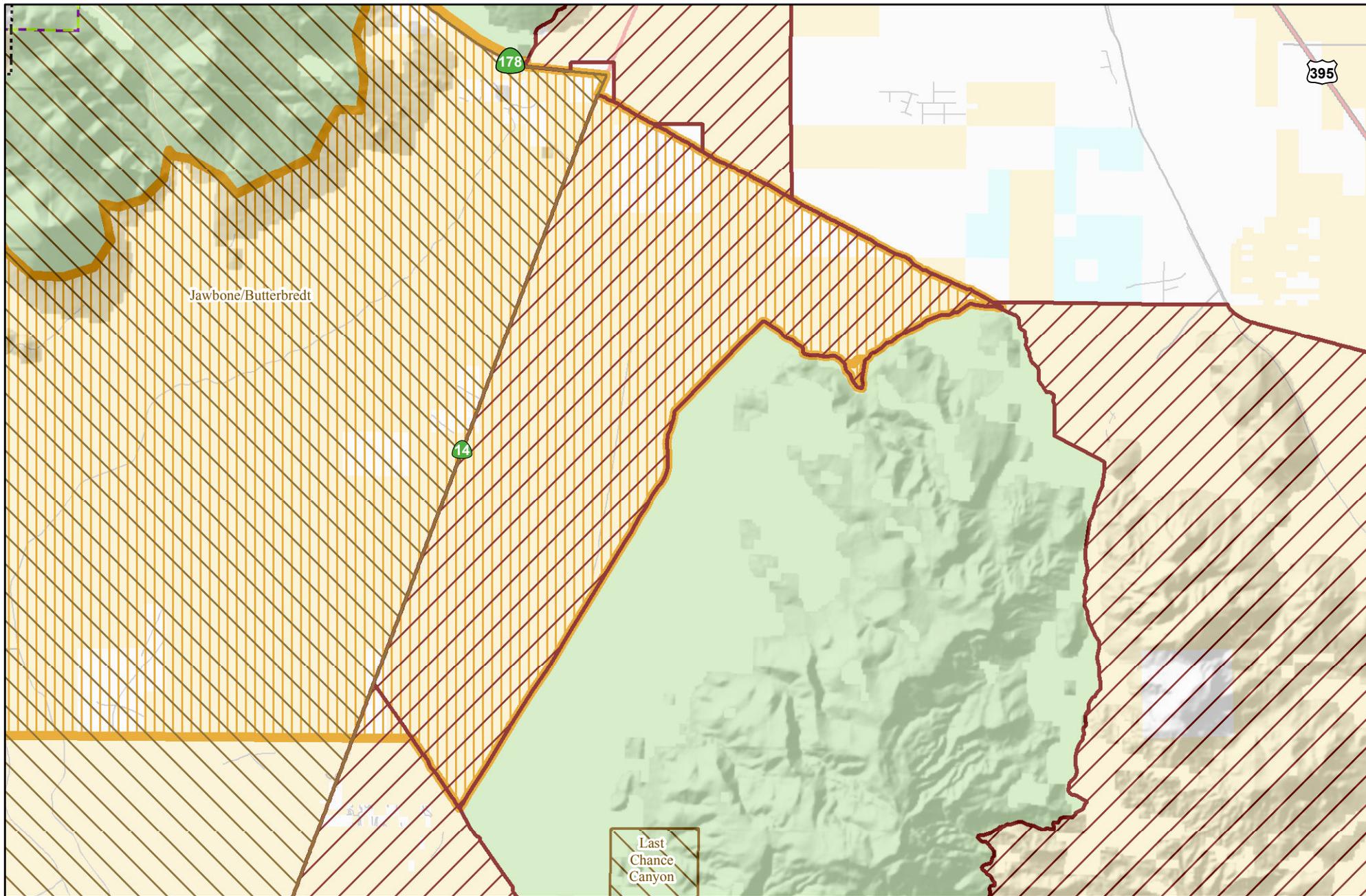
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



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Alternative 3 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

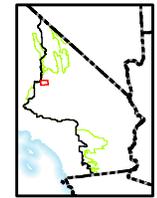
Land Status

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

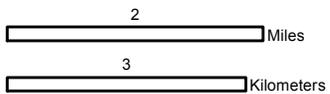
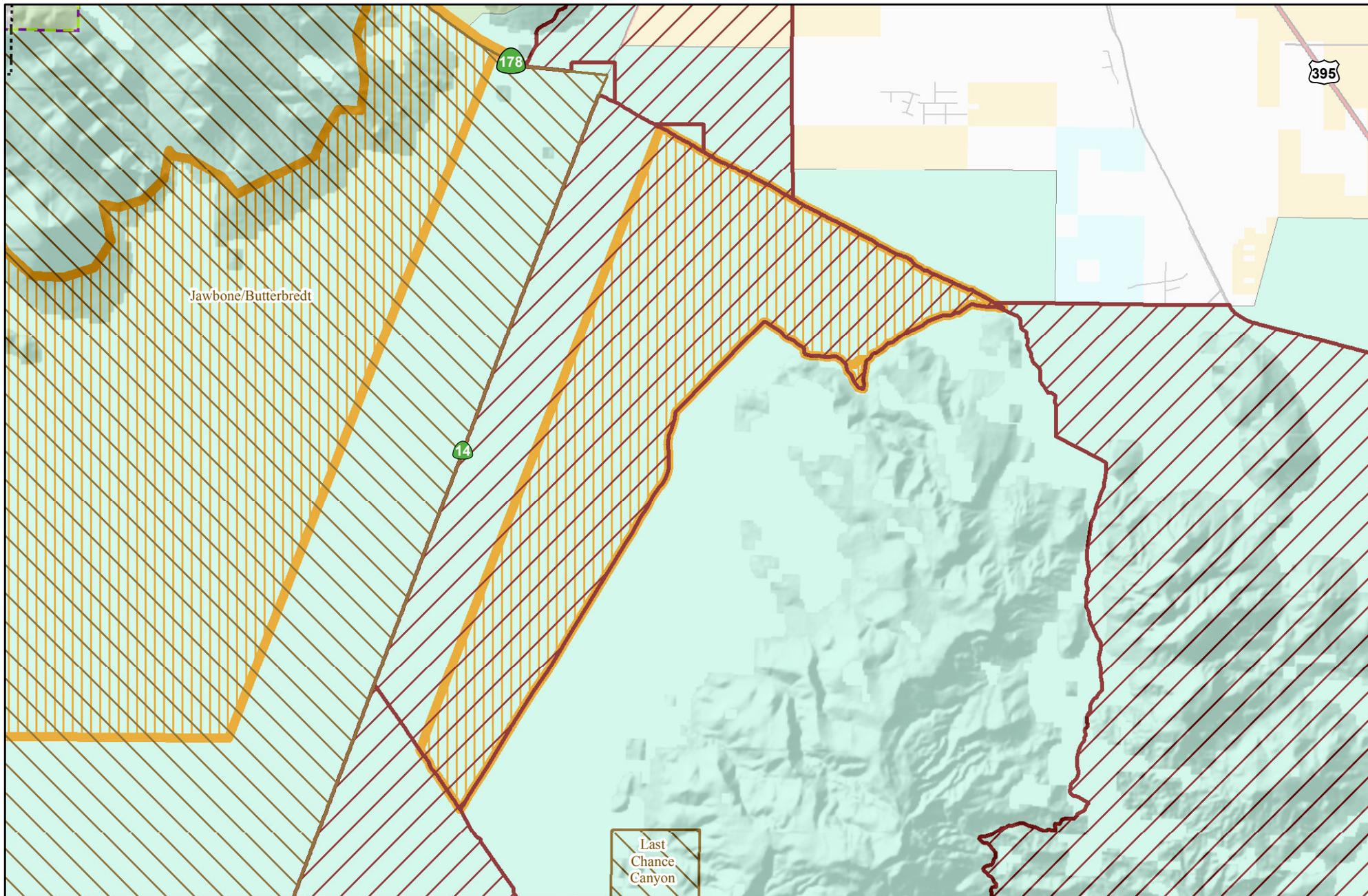
GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office



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Alternative 4 ACECs
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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

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

