

● Existing
 ■ Proposed
 DRECP Subareas

Basin and Range

ACECs within the Basin and Range Subarea

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3	Ayer's Rock
17	Cerro Gordo (covered in Conglomerate Mesa)
23	Conglomerate Mesa
27	El Paso to Golden Wildlife Linkage
29	Olancha Greasewood
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46	Panamint and Argus
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#	Existing ACECs (within DRECP boundary)
14	Christmas Canyon
29	Fossil Falls
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80	Trona Pinnacles
83	Warm Sulfur Springs

Ayer's Rock

Description/Location: This unit is located in the Coso Junction Area and is formed by route SE435 on the west, the China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station on the east, and Gill Station Road on the south.

Description of National Significance:

Ecological: This area also includes Mohave ground squirrel (MGS) core habitat within the MGS Conservation Area. This is one of only 11 core population centers.

Cultural: Ayer's Rock was formally listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003. The Ayer's Rock ACEC encompasses a complex of prehistoric archaeological resources, the most prominent of which is a monolithic boulder renowned for panels of Native American rock art, specifically painted polychrome pictographs. The ACEC would include the main Ayer's Rock boulder as well as the surrounding boulder fields. Research at this location attributes the rock art as a distinctive style termed Coso Representation, and has been associated with local Numic-speaking groups such as the Northern Paiute, Panamint Shoshone, Coso Shoshone, and Kawaiisu. These sites have high densities of obsidian and other types of lithic material unparalleled in the west Mojave.

Scientific: The associated nearby cultural resource sites make the ACEC an important avenue for research and preservation of the archaeological record. An expanded inventory of the area needs to be conducted to ensure a complete record of the associated cultural resources has been identified

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal, Listed on the National Register of Historic Places 03/12/2003

Other Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological and cultural resources. Ayer's Rock is one of a few known pictograph sites in the Ridgecrest Field Office. In addition, eagles and other raptors perch on boulders in the area. It is a very scenic area with valuable wildlife habitat. This proposed ACEC is also within the Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area and is excellent habitat for this BLM special status species. The ACEC is currently readily accessible by open travel routes and is a popular destination for recreationists and rock art enthusiasts. The area was classified as a VRM Class II. The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape.

Goals: To preserve and protect cultural resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the associated setting and landscape, as well as to protect the habitat of special status species.

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	1,300	1,600	0	0.10%
1	1,300	1,600	0	0.10%
2	1,600	1,600	0	0.10%
3	1,300	1,600	0	0.10%
4	1,300	1,600	0	0.10%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives:

Under All Action Alternatives—This area would be identified as an ACEC and would be managed for conservation purposes.

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

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 or Improve condition of vegetation</p> <p>Management Actions: Remove invasive plants, Rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed areas, Ensure food species for the Mohave ground squirrel are maintained (spiny hopsage and Atriplex sp.)</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence:</p> <p>Management Actions: Restore habitat as needed, Designate [Mohave ground squirrel] as priority species for management and protection.</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

<p>American Badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>) State Special Animal Desert Tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>) Federally and State threatened BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act 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>) State Species of Special Concern</p>	
<p><i>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</i></p> <p>Objective: Protect Cultural Resources of the Ayres Rock ACEC</p> <p>Management Action: Increase patrol, Prohibit camping and recreational off highway vehicle use, Explore cooperative management with site stewards and/or affiliated Native American communities</p>	Cultural Resources
<p>Objective: General Management and Protection of Paleontological Resources</p> <p>Action Item 1: Manage and protect fossil resources consistent with the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act.</p> <p>Action Item 2: Develop plans for the inventory, monitoring, and scientific and educational use of paleontological resources as needed.</p>	Paleontology
<p>Objective: Preserve the sense of isolation and unspoiled view shed that is as much a part of the site as the pictographs themselves.</p> <p>Management Actions: Account for Visual Resource Inventory in all project assessments</p>	Visual Resources
<p>Objective: Limit Motorized vehicle impacts</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc. The ACEC is bounded by three open designated vehicle routes - SE435, SE756, and SE771- and the western boundary of the China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS). An old vehicle route to Ayres Rock was partially closed several years ago. Visitors typically use this route to drive in partway to a small parking area before hiking the rest of the way into the site. Maintain</p> <p>There is one short user-created spur route to a campsite immediately off of SE756, and another much longer, user-created, non-designated route along the NAWS fence line north of the site. Both user-created routes need to be evaluated by a BLM archeologist before a decision is made to include them in the open designated route system.</p> <p>Management Action: All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignated OHV routes.</p>	Trails and Travel Management

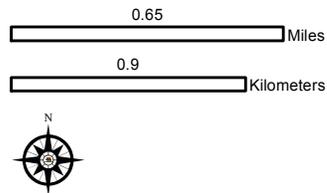
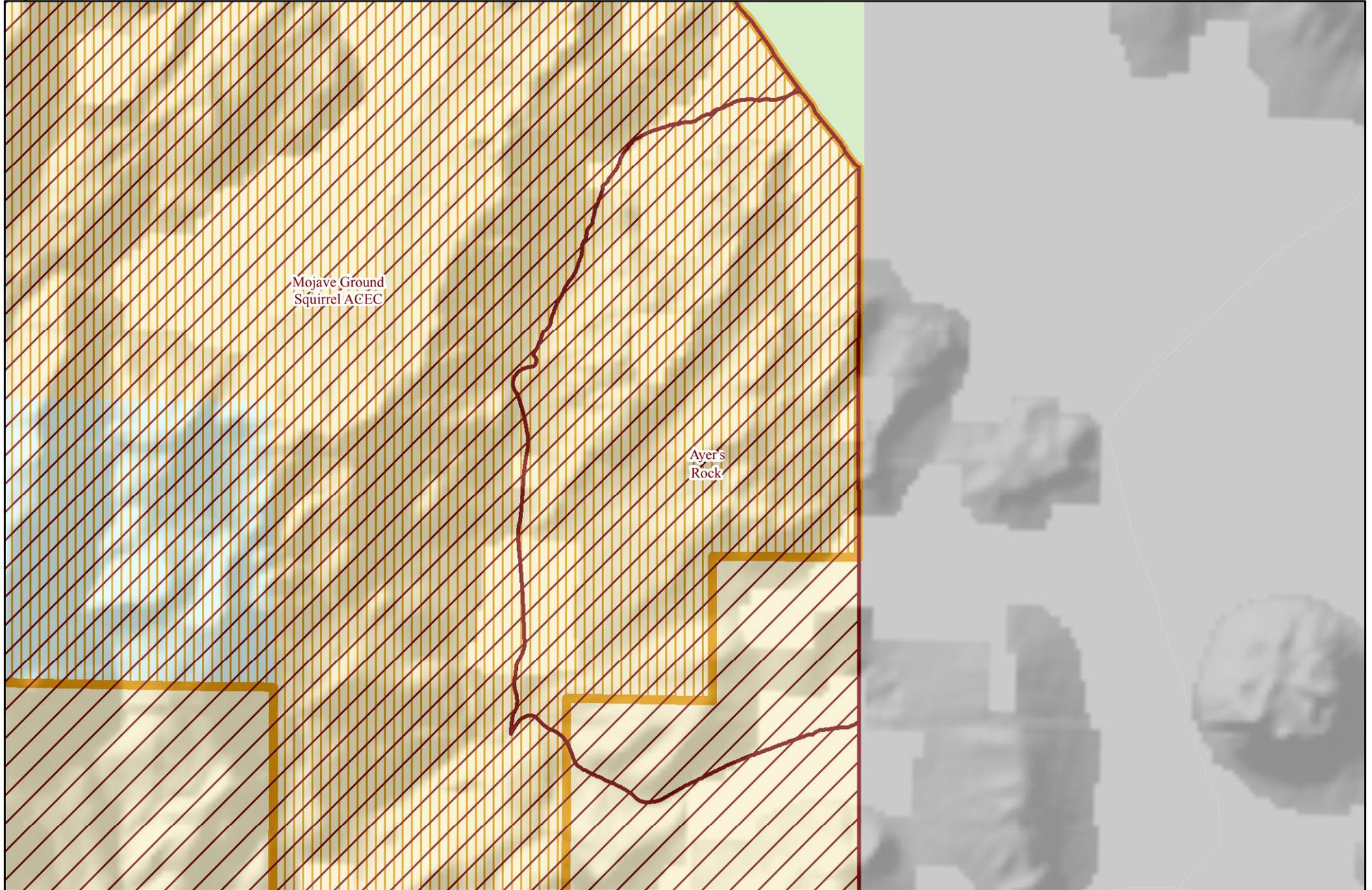
<p>Objective: Provide recreation opportunities that are consistent with resource protection</p> <p>Allowable Uses: All forms of recreational use are allowed including but not limited to dispersed camping, hunting, photography, picnicking, climbing, rock hounding, astronomy/ star gazing, nature study 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: Delineate the parking area from the surrounding area, perhaps with boulders of the same type and color as the flanking rock outcrops. Delineate the foot trail from the parking area to Ayer’s Rock itself Maintain signs, vehicle barriers and kiosks</p>	<p>Recreation</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 There is one ROW associated with the southern boundary road (SE435) to the active pumice mine straddling the NAWS boundary near Ayres Rock. It does not affect the site.</p> <p>There is also an approved but as yet still undeveloped ROW to improve and use of part of the western boundary jeep trail (SE756) to access a proposed geothermal exploratory drilling site located more than two miles away. The site sits in a bowl, where SE756 cannot be seen, and looks west out over the tops of the Sierra.</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.</p>	<p>Rights of Way</p>
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</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>Allowable Uses: Mineral development will be prohibited within the ACEC unit boundary.</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</p>	<p>Livestock grazing</p>

are necessary to meet resource objectives.

The area is located within a cattle grazing allotment (the Lacy Cactus- McCloud Allotment), but is on the periphery of the active grazing area to the north in Cactus and McCloud Flats.

Management Actions: Manage grazing authorizations to meet or exceed the Standards for Rangeland Health.

Ayer's Rock



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 Locally Designated

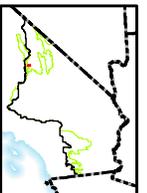
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

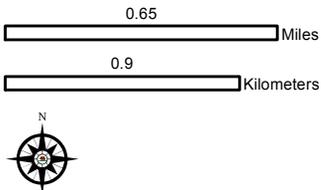
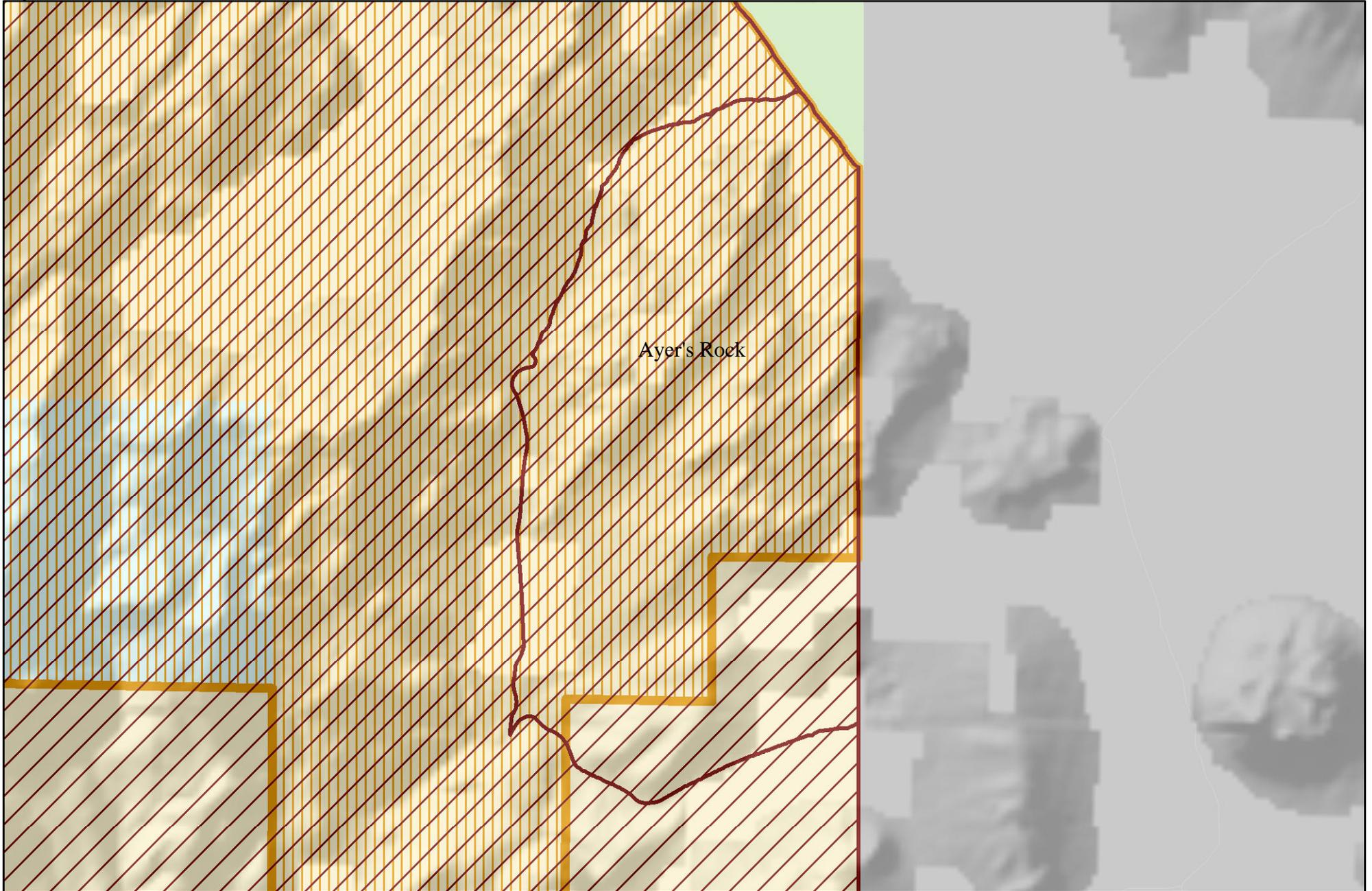
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Ayer's Rock



Alternative 1 ACECs
 Date Printed: 5/29/2013
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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Locally Designated

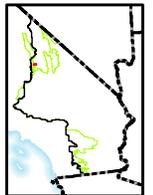
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

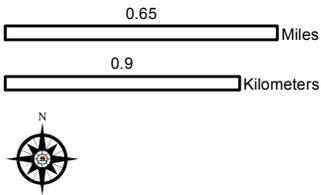
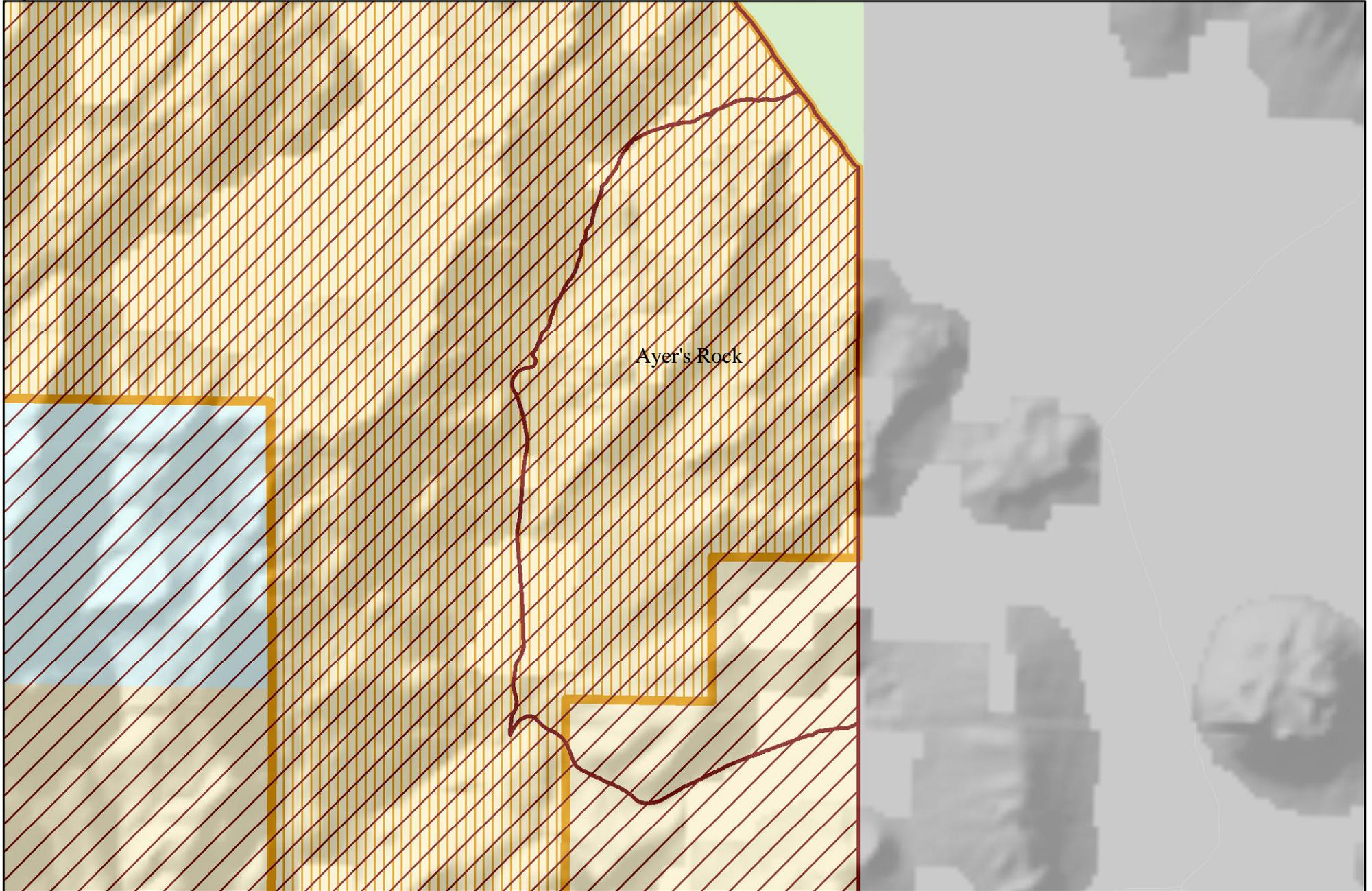
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Ayer's Rock



Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013
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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Locally Designated

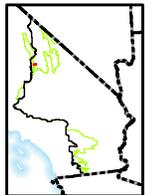
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

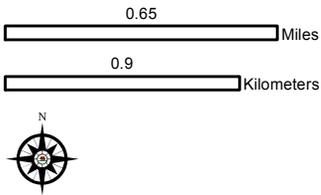
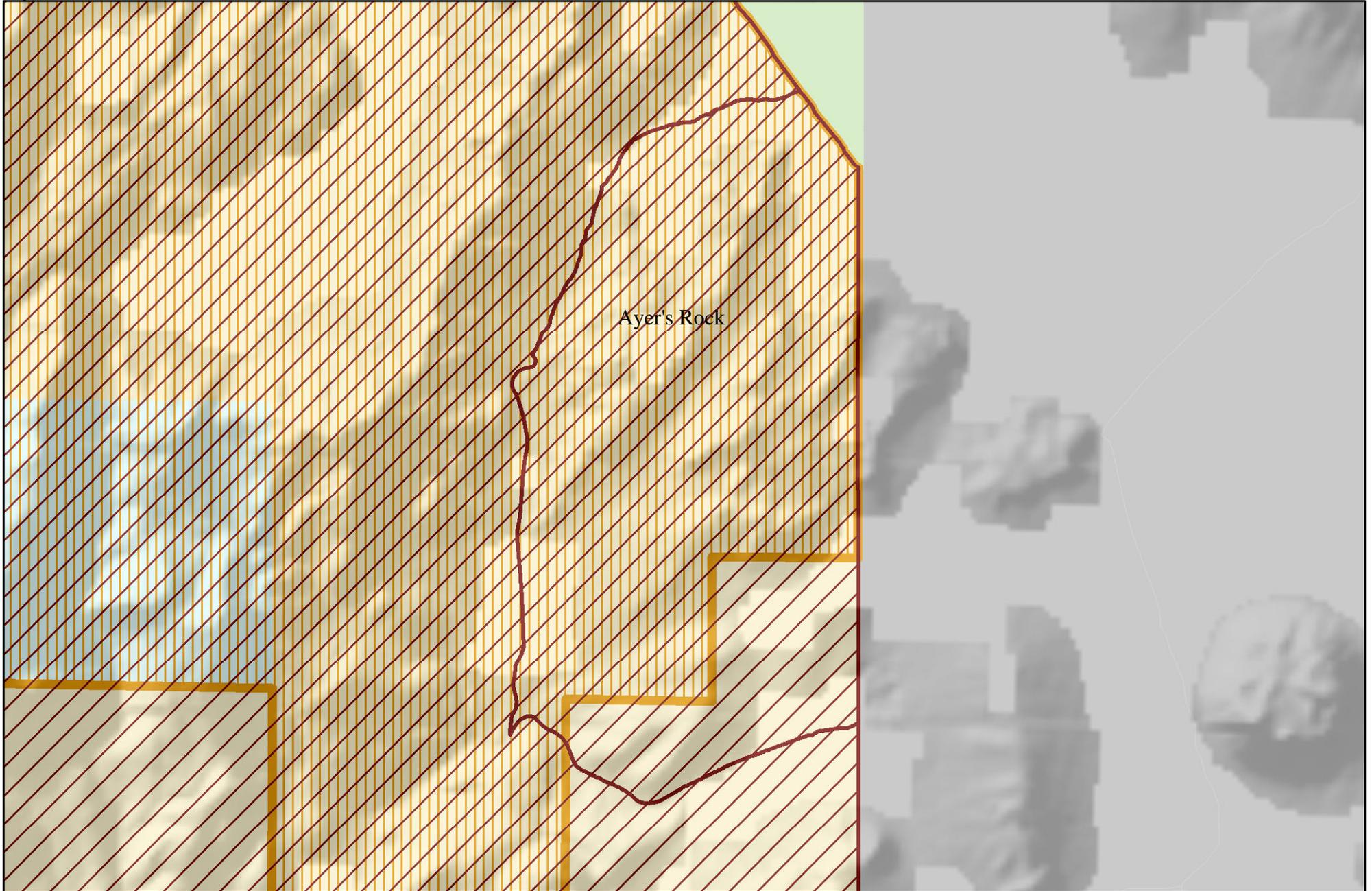
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Ayer's Rock



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 Locally Designated

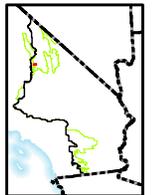
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

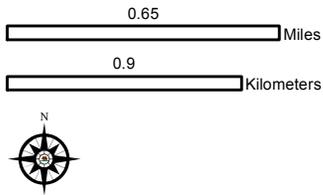
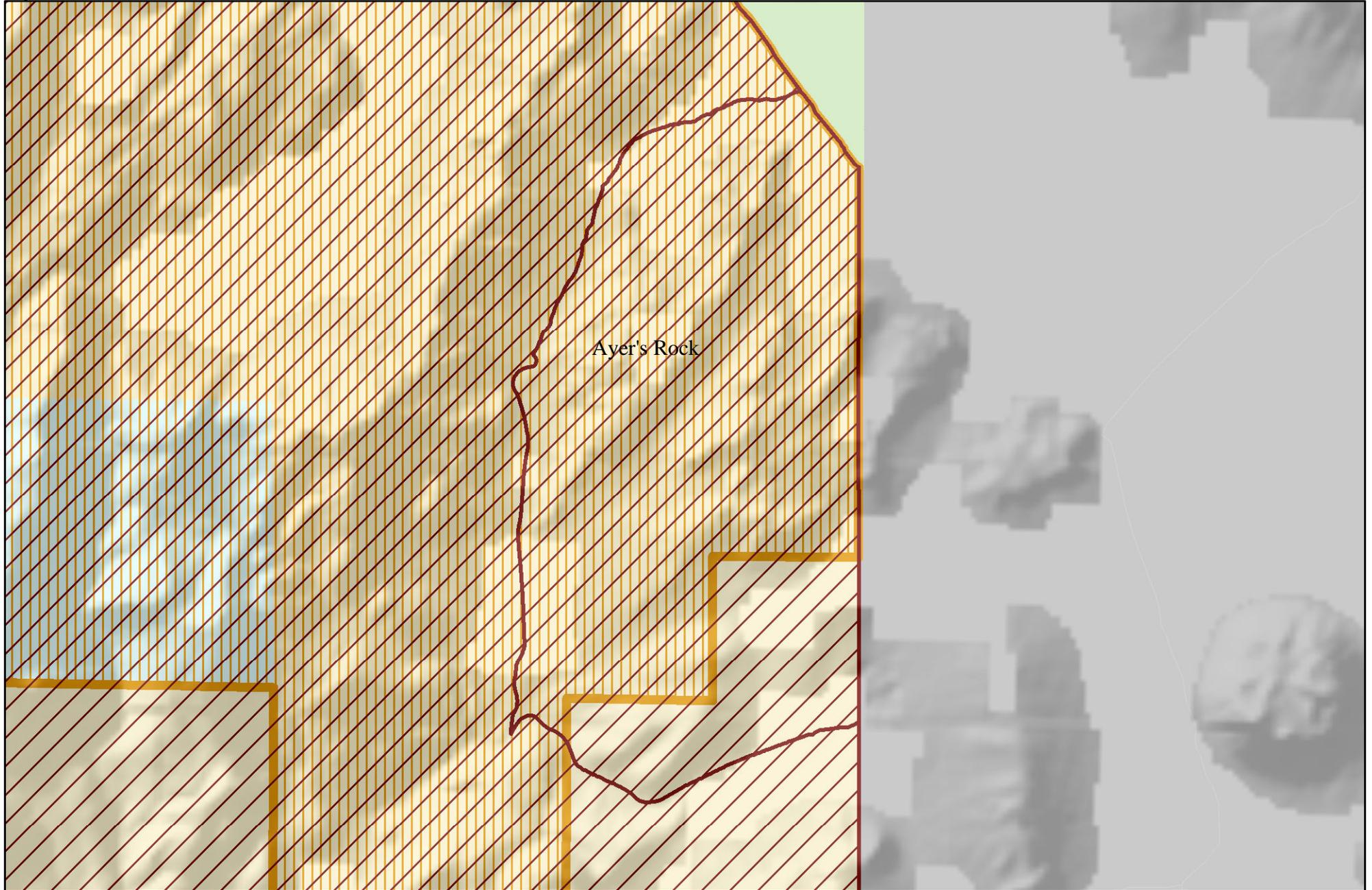
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Ayer's Rock



Alternative 4 ACECs
Date Printed: 5/29/2013
Prepared by BLM California State Office



Ayer ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Locally Designated

- 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



Cerro Gordo-Conglomerate Mesa

Description/Location: Located along the crest at the southern end of the Inyo Mountains in Inyo County. The southernmost expansion includes the area south of Cerro Gordo Peak and the town of Cerro Gordo known as Conglomerate Mesa. The northernmost expansion area is northeast of the town of Cerro Gordo, along the crest and eastern slope of the Inyo Mountains.

Nationally Significant Values:

Cultural: Cerro Gordo and its mining operations were critical in the development of Los Angeles; without Cerro Gordo revenue, Los Angeles would not be the second most populous city in the United States and the hub of international and national trade, finance, and culture that it is today. The area will provide an opportunity to research the role Cerro Gordo played in the Owens Valley resource wars, answer questions about the ethnicity of charcoal makers, and allow for the examination of the prehistoric and historic lifeways of the Native American people who used this area. The NLCS designation for this area would protect the viewshed of the Owens and Saline Valleys – as well as the Malpais Mesa and Inyo Mountains Wilderness Areas - and allow for ongoing research in this undisturbed location.

Ecological: The expanded ACEC has a unique assemblage of plant communities since it lies at the eastern edge of the Mojave Desert and the western edge of the Great Basin. The area supports creosote scrub and silver cholla, Joshua tree and pinyon –juniper woodlands, as well as sagebrush ecosystems. The area is known to contain many unique and sensitive plant species, including *Perityle inyoensis*, *Caulostramina jaegen*, *Eriogonum eremicula*, and *Eriogonum microthecium*.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Designated ACEC in CDCA Plan, 1980, Cerro Gordo ACEC Management Plan 8/15/1990 (CA-060-ACEC-05)

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant cultural values and rare plant and animal species and habitat found in the area. Most of the cultural resources Identified have been associated with the Cerro Gordo Mining District. Four rare plant species have been located on the limestone outcrops along the crest of the Inyo Mountains. This area contains habitat for special status species such as the Townsend Western Big-eared Bat, Big Horned Sheep, and Burro Mule Deer. The northern and southern ends of the ACEC are within the former Cerro Gordo Peak WSA. Desert mining features provide habitat for special status bat species

Expansion Area (as discussed in all of the action alternatives)

This ACEC would be an expansion of the existing Cerro Gordo ACEC to include culturally and biologically sensitive areas east of the Inyo crest and south in Conglomerate Mesa.

The new ACEC would include additional mining structures and features that were privately owned in 1990 when the original ACEC was established, but that are now in public ownership. Cerro Gordo was the largest silver producing mine in Inyo County and provided much of the revenue required to build Los Angeles. While the town of Cerro Gordo is currently under private ownership, many of the surrounding mining features and structures are associated with early mining activity at Cerro Gordo and within the Cerro Gordo Mining District. They contribute to the significance of the mine and its historic mining district whose period of significance extends from 1865 to 1890. This period may be extended into the 1930's to encompass many depression era mining activities in the area.

Conglomerate Mesa in the southern Inyo Mountains has a unique collection of historic era mining features, particularly associated with early charcoal production for Cerro Gordo and smelters in the Owens Valley.

Because of the inaccessibility of the mesa and limited to no off-highway vehicle use of the area, these sites, dated to 1868 are in excellent, undisturbed condition. The area is also identified in the ethnographic literature as being a traditional pinyon nut gathering location; this is evidenced by the presence of brush structures, lithic materials, and ceramics, dating to the contact period in the Owens Valley and earlier. The mining history of this area details battles between native groups and charcoal burners, who were competing for the pinyon resources in this area.

The expanded ACEC has a unique assemblage of plant communities since it lies at the eastern edge of the Mojave Desert and the western edge of the Great Basin. The area supports creosote scrub and silver cholla, Joshua tree and pinyon –juniper woodlands, as well as sagebrush ecosystems. The old mines east of Cerro Gordo provide bat habitat. Conglomerate Mesa provides good upland game bird habitat and in winter, mule deer habitat. The mesa is a scenic, roadless area. It provides outstanding recreational opportunities for hiking, hunting, and backpacking.

Goals: To provide protection to cultural resources, rare plant and animal species, and habitat.

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative: Cerro Gordo

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	9,000	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	9,700	10,400	0	1%
1	9,700	10,400	0	1%
2	10,400	10,400	0	1%
3	9,700	10,400	0	1%
4	9,700	10,400	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:			Conglomerate Mesa	
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	1,700	1,700	0	0.10%
1	1,700	1,700	0	0.10%
2	1,700	1,700	0	0.10%
3	1,700	1,700	0	0.10%
4	1,700	1,700	0	0.10%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives –

All Action Alternatives – The expansion area to the north and south would be designated as an ACEC and managed for conservation purposes. The original Cerro Gordo would continue to be managed as it is currently. This ACEC would be included into NLCS.

No Action – the original Cerro Gordo would exist and be maintained and managed as previously described.

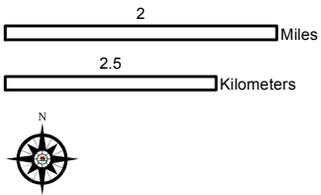
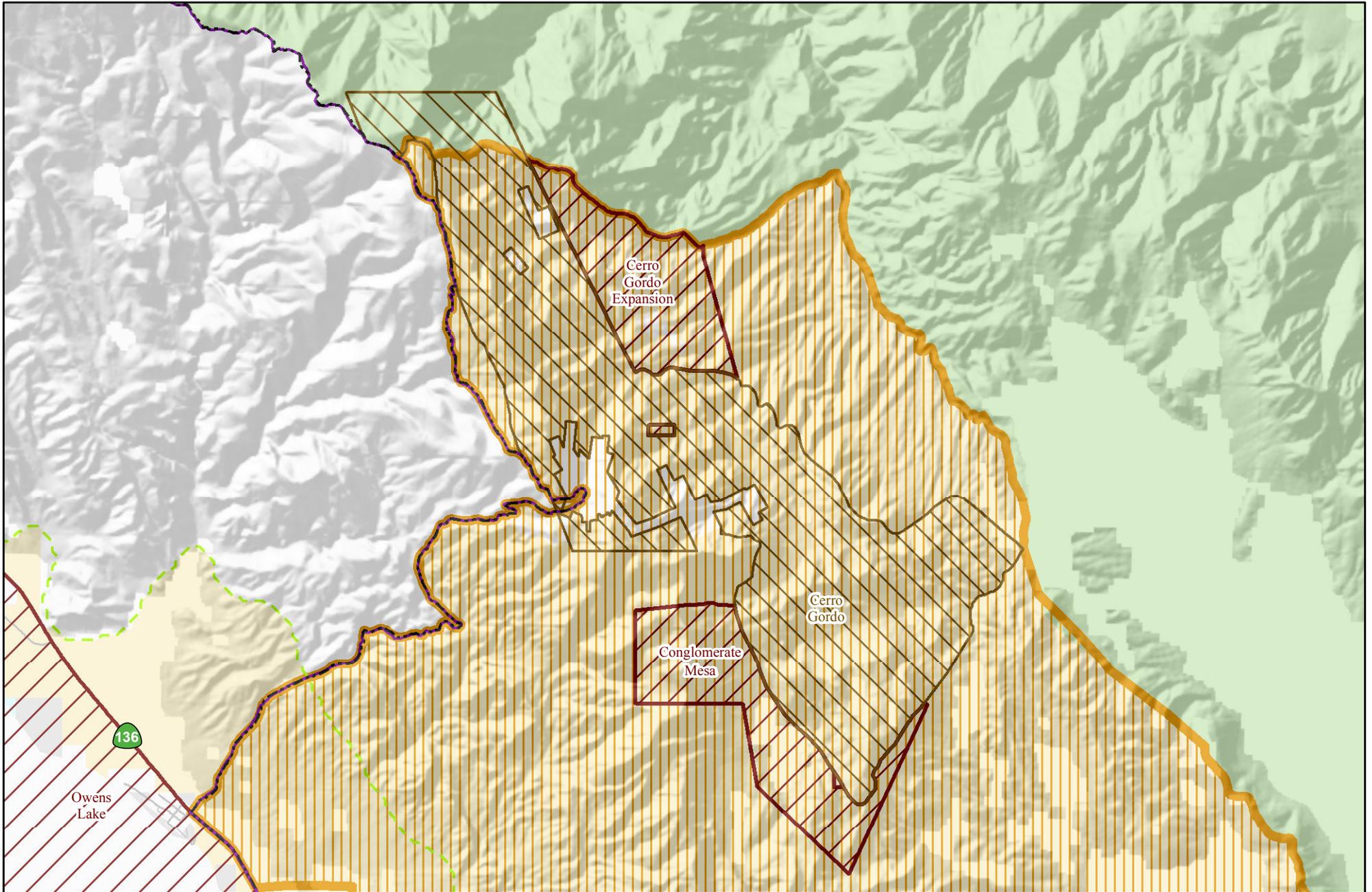
Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Protect springs in a natural state and enhance wildlife habitat</p> <p>Management Actions</p> <p>Allow for natural fire regime</p> <p>Introduce artificial water sources to prevent further</p> <p>All Action Alternatives add the following:</p> <p>Objective: Minimize soil disturbance and prevent accelerated erosion caused by human activities. Prevent air quality degradation related to human activities.</p> <p>Allowable uses: Restrict development activities where 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: Protect the quantity and quality of existing water resources, protect groundwater from contamination.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Existing water rights</p> <p>Management Action: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are function and achieving physical and biological objectives. Monitor Proper Functioning Condition and restore natural flow stream morphology when needed. Monitor water uses</p>	
<p>Objective: Protect rare plants species including <i>Perityle inyoensis</i>, <i>Caulostramina jaegen</i>, <i>Eriogonum eremicula</i>, and <i>Eriogonum microthecium</i>.</p> <p>Action Item 1: Prohibit collection of rare plant species by increasing ranger patrol and proper signing.</p> <p>All Action Alternatives add the following objects and actions: The area is known to contain many unique and sensitive plant species, such as Ripley’s Cymopterus and Inyo rock daisy. It is probable that more sensitive species exist here since few surveys have been conducted. The area needs to be more thoroughly inventoried for rare plants and unusual plant assemblages so these can be protected.</p> <p>Maintain intact vegetation communities for sensitive species and prevent fragmentation.</p>	<p>Vegetation (incl. special status species)</p>
<p>Objective: Protect and preserve special status species and their habitat including the Big-horned Sheep, Mule Deer, and the Townsend Big-eared Bat.</p> <p>Action Item 1: Prohibit closure of existing adits except by BLM gating techniques</p> <p>Install bat gates on existing mine openings (adits, shafts).</p> <p>Action Item 2: Eliminate potential impacts to native and sensitive species through control of burros and feral goats.</p> <p>Objective: Prohibit collection of rare animals Action: Proper signing and increased ranger patrol</p> <p>Objective: Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence:</p> <p>Northern Sagebrush Lizard (<i>Sceloporus graciosus graciosus</i>) BLM Sensitive Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicluria</i>) BLM Sensitive Le Conte’s Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>) State Species of Special Concern Nelson’s Bighorn Sheep (<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>) BLM Sensitive Northern goshawk (<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>) BLM Sensitive Many sensitive species of bats</p> <p>Action Item 1: Prevent habitat fragmentation and retain connectivity for wildlife movement by limiting off-highway vehicle use and development</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)</p>

<p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</p> <p>Continue management objectives set forth in the initial Cerro Gordo ACEC Management Plan</p> <p>Objective: Protect and preserve cultural resources for scientific and interpretive values. Allowable Uses: Scientific research, Interpretation</p> <p>Management Actions: Explore options for an agreement with owners of private land for protection and preservation. Explore options for an agreement with mining claimants to clarify their legal rights to protect cultural resources. Restrict or withdraw the newly expanded Conglomerate Mesa area, where Native American sites and charcoal camps are still in pristine condition, from mineral development.</p>	<p>Cultural Resources</p>
<p>Allocation/Restriction: OHV limited Improve vehicle access for safety and access to manage resources</p> <p>All Action Alternatives add the following: Objective: Maintain current travel allocation as Limited Allowable uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc.</p> <p>Management Actions: Limit vehicles to open designated routes by posting signs, updating maps as appropriate. Stop vehicle incursions off-route into roadless areas, particularly from breaching the top of Conglomerate Mesa. All routes identified as closed and/or translinear disturbances will be rehabilitated and restored.</p> <p>NOTE: There is an error in NEMO. The Keeler-Death Valley trail across the top of Conglomerate Mesa is NOT a vehicle route. It is an historic foot and mule trail that extends from Keeler all the way to Ubehebe Crater in Death Valley National Park. This trail needs to be inventoried for cultural resources and a cultural-recreation activity plan developed before it can be formally adopted into BLM's trail system as a non-motorized trail.</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Develop interpretive materials for ACEC/ cultural resources/ rare species</p> <p>All Action Alternatives add the following: Objective: Provide recreation opportunities that are consistent with resource protection. Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for the enjoyment of the area attributes</p> <p>Allowable Uses: 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</p>	<p>Recreation</p>

<p>activities due not degrade the relevant and important values that the ACEC is being established for.</p> <p>Management Actions: All historic structures must be fully inventoried and evaluated by qualified cultural resource specialist before allowable use by the public is determined. Delineate parking and camping areas where resource impacts are minimized Maintain signs, vehicle barriers, and install interpretive kiosks</p>	
<p>Allocation: Overhead powerline, communication sites and access roads Objective: Provide for existing ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources Allowable Uses: Exclusion zone for site ROW 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.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Allocation: restricted mineral exploration and development See programmatic NLCS objective and action items in general mineral resources rules.</p> <p>Existing mining proposals and any future proposals will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis and cumulatively, to assess whether they can be accommodated within the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables

Cerro Gordo-Conglomerate Mesa



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

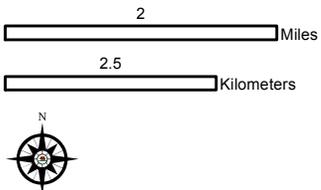
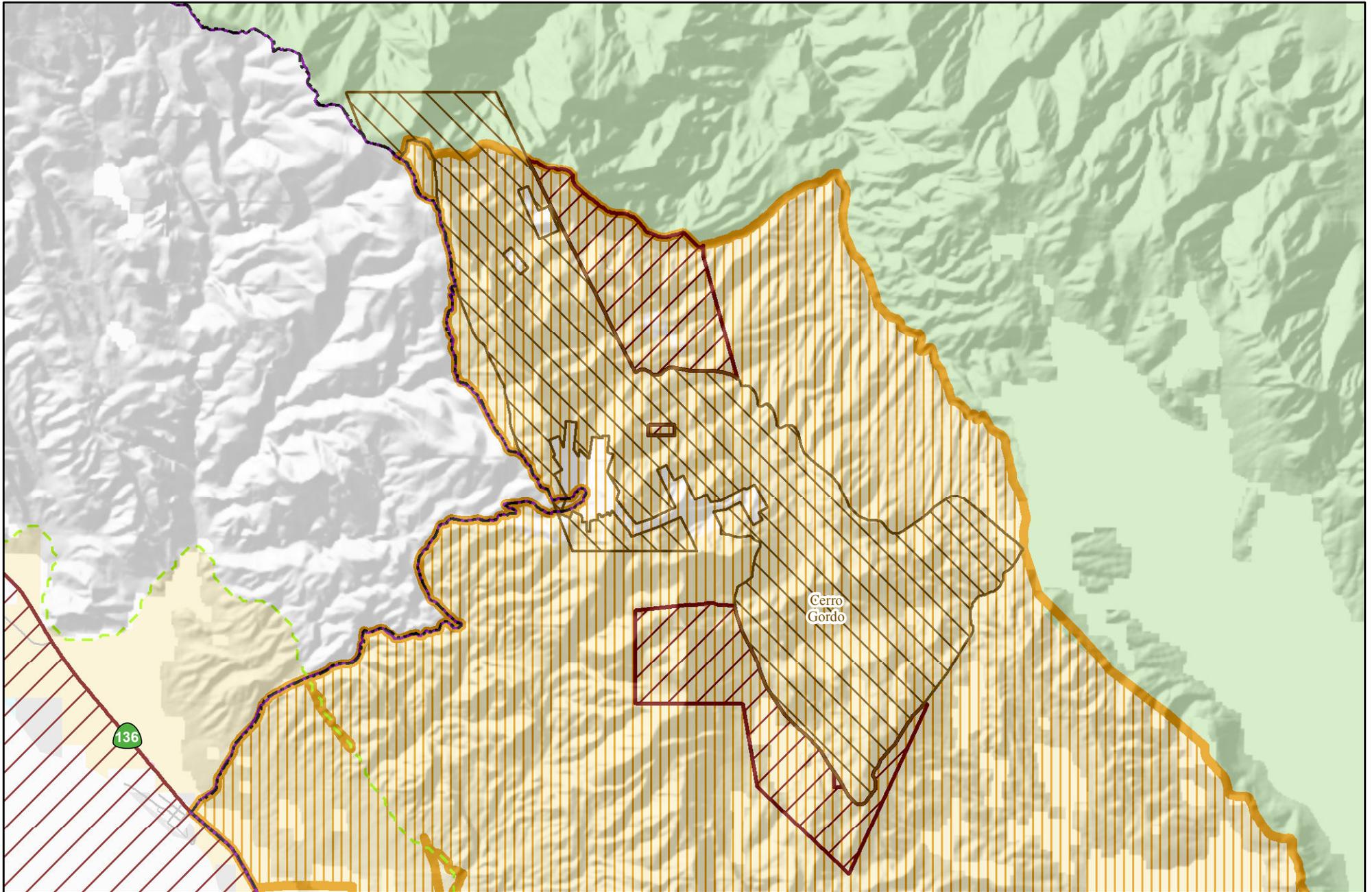
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Cerro Gordo-Conglomerate Mesa



Alternative 1 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

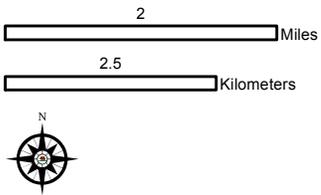
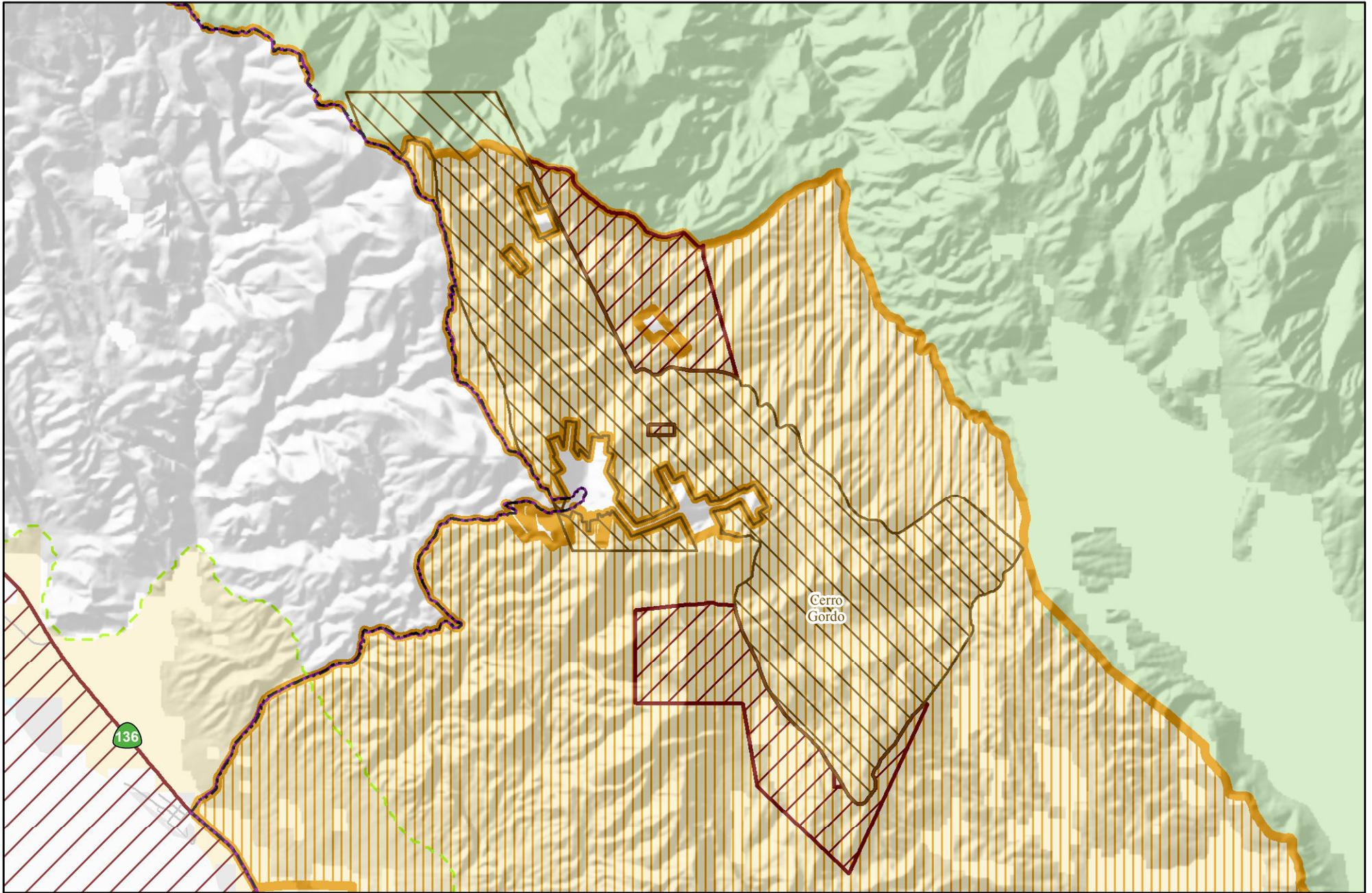
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Cerro Gordo-Conglomerate Mesa



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

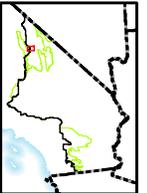
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

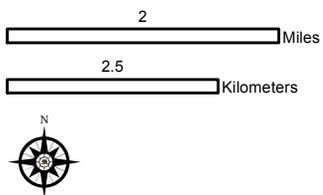
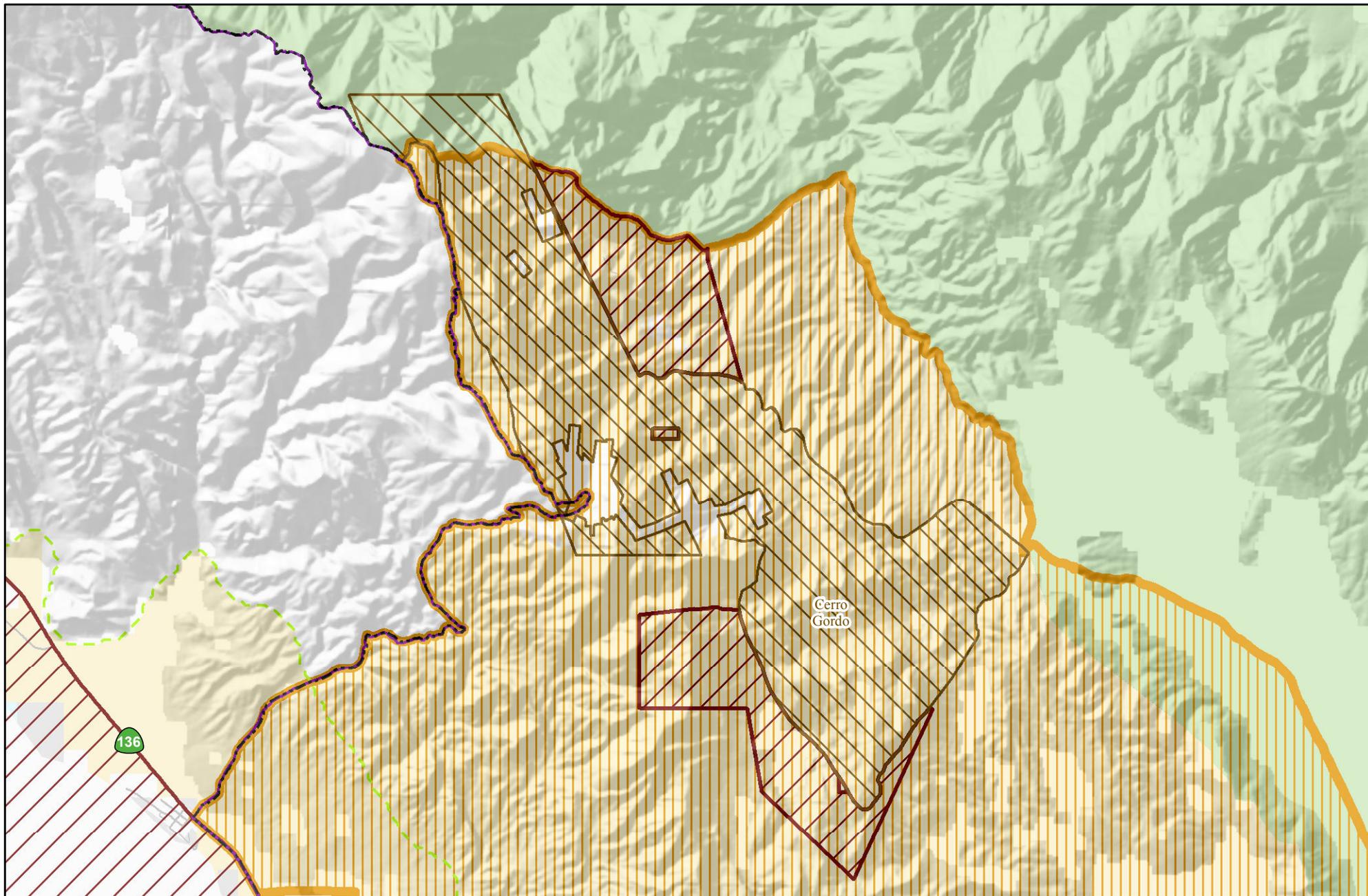
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Cerro Gordo-Conglomerate Mesa



Alternative 3 ACECs
 Date Printed: 5/29/2013
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

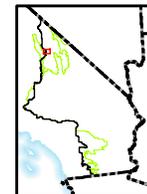
- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

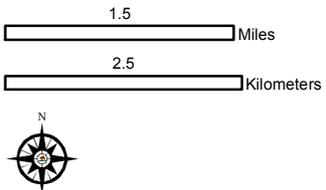
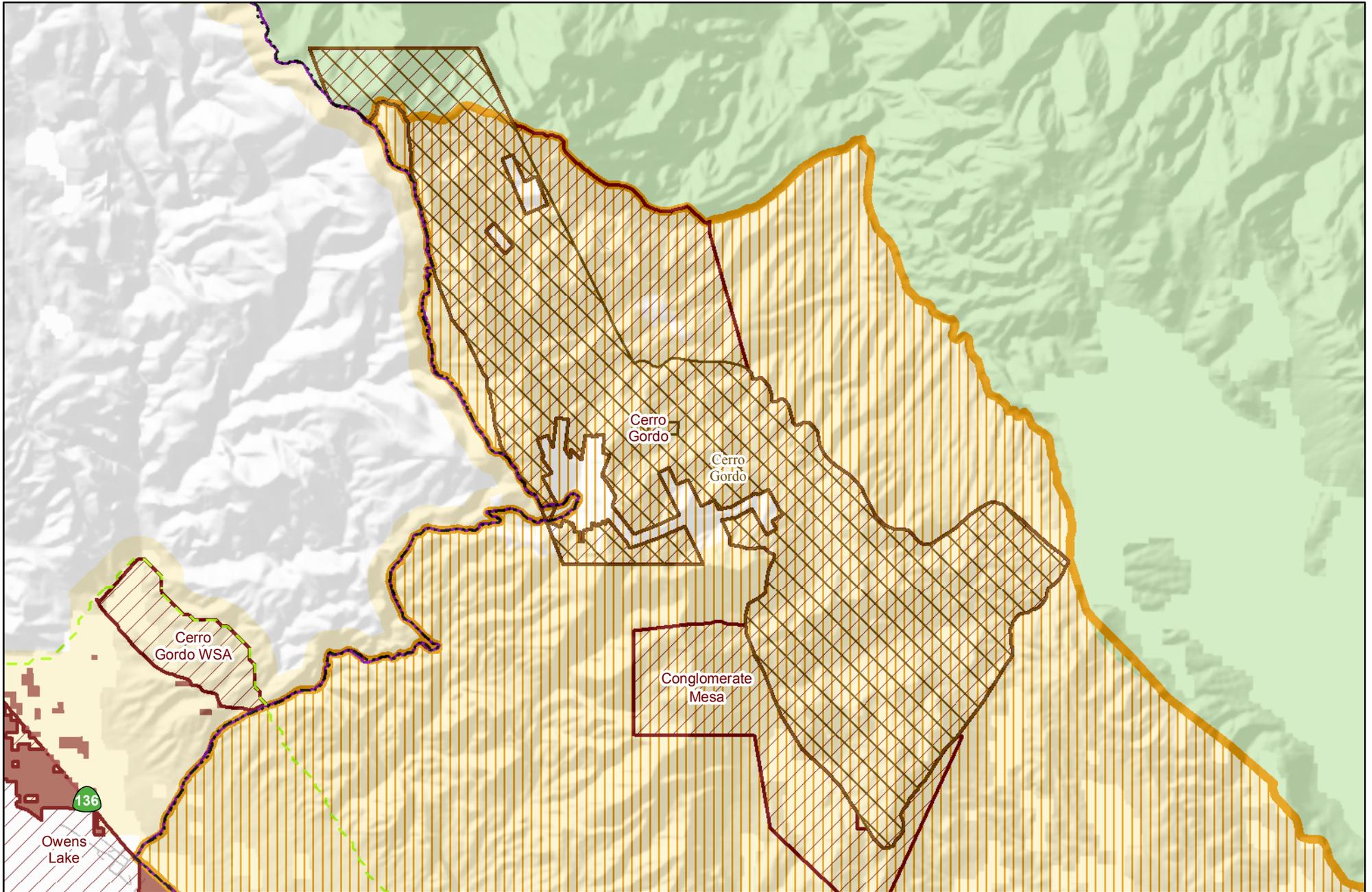
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



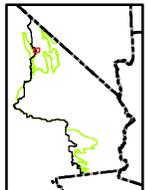
Cerro Gordo-Conglomerate Mesa



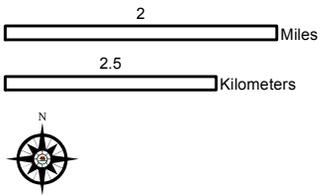
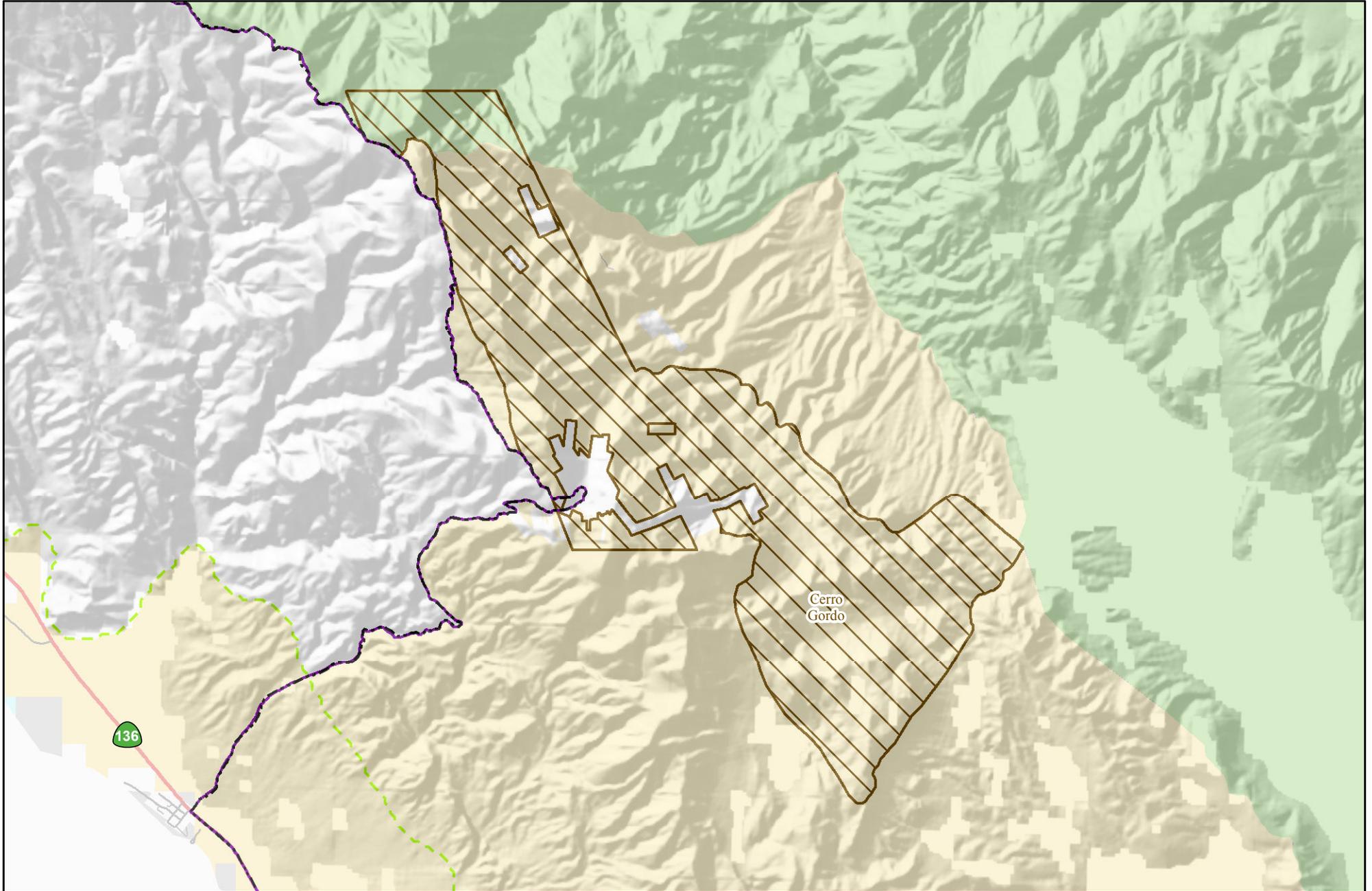
Alternative 4 ACECs
 Date Printed: 8/6/2014
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| ACEC Layers | | Design Focus Areas | Land Status | GTLF |
| Existing ACEC | Variance Lands | Bureau of Land Management | Interstate | US Hwy |
| Proposed NLCS | OHV Areas | State | CA Hwy | County Hwy |
| Proposed ACEC | CDCA Boundary | Other Federal | | |
| Proposed Wildlife Allocation | DRECP Boundary | Military | | |
| Legislatively and Legally Protected | BLM Field Office | Private | | |



Cerro Gordo



No Action ACECs
 Date Printed: 5/29/2013
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

-  Existing ACEC
-  OHV Areas
-  Legislatively and Legally Protected

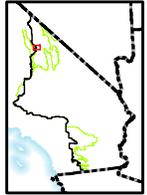
-  Cities
-  CDCA Boundary
-  DRECP Boundary
-  BLM Field Office

Land Status

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

GTLF

-  Interstate
-  US Hwy
-  CA Hwy
-  County Hwy



El Paso to Golden Valley Wildlife Corridor

Description/Location: South and East of the El Paso Wilderness, north of Redrock-Garlock Road and west of highway 395.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources including wildlife and plant assemblages Desert tortoise and Mojave ground squirrels occur here. In addition, the area provides excellent habitat for foraging and nesting of numerous raptor species, including golden eagles and burrowing owls. A variety of songbirds, including loggerhead shrikes and Le Conte's thrashers, use the area, both during migration and as nesting habitat. There are at least four special status bat species, including the sensitive Townsend's big-eared bat, that call this area home. This area encompasses an essential movement corridor which links wildlife habitats in the Golden Valley Wilderness to those in the El Paso Mountains and Western Rand Mountains ACEC. There are plants that are endemic to a portion of this area such as the Red Rock poppy and the Red Rock tarplant.

Goals: Protect wildlife and plant species and habitat. Maintain habitat connectivity for wildlife with a movement corridor between the El Paso mountains, the Golden Valley Wilderness and Western Rand Mountains ACEC. Maintain healthy desert ecosystem for desert species such as desert tortoise, Mohave ground squirrel, burrowing owl, kit fox, American badger, and a variety of bird species. Prevent habitat fragmentation.

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	0	57,900	0	1%
1	0	57,900	0	1%
2	56,000	56,000	0	0.25%
3	0	57,900	0	1%
4	0	57,900	0	0.25%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives:

Under All Alternatives, this area would be identified as an ACEC and would be managed to support and maintain wildlife connectivity, wildlife and plant populations, and natural habitat.

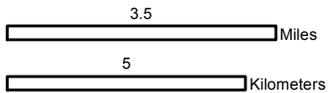
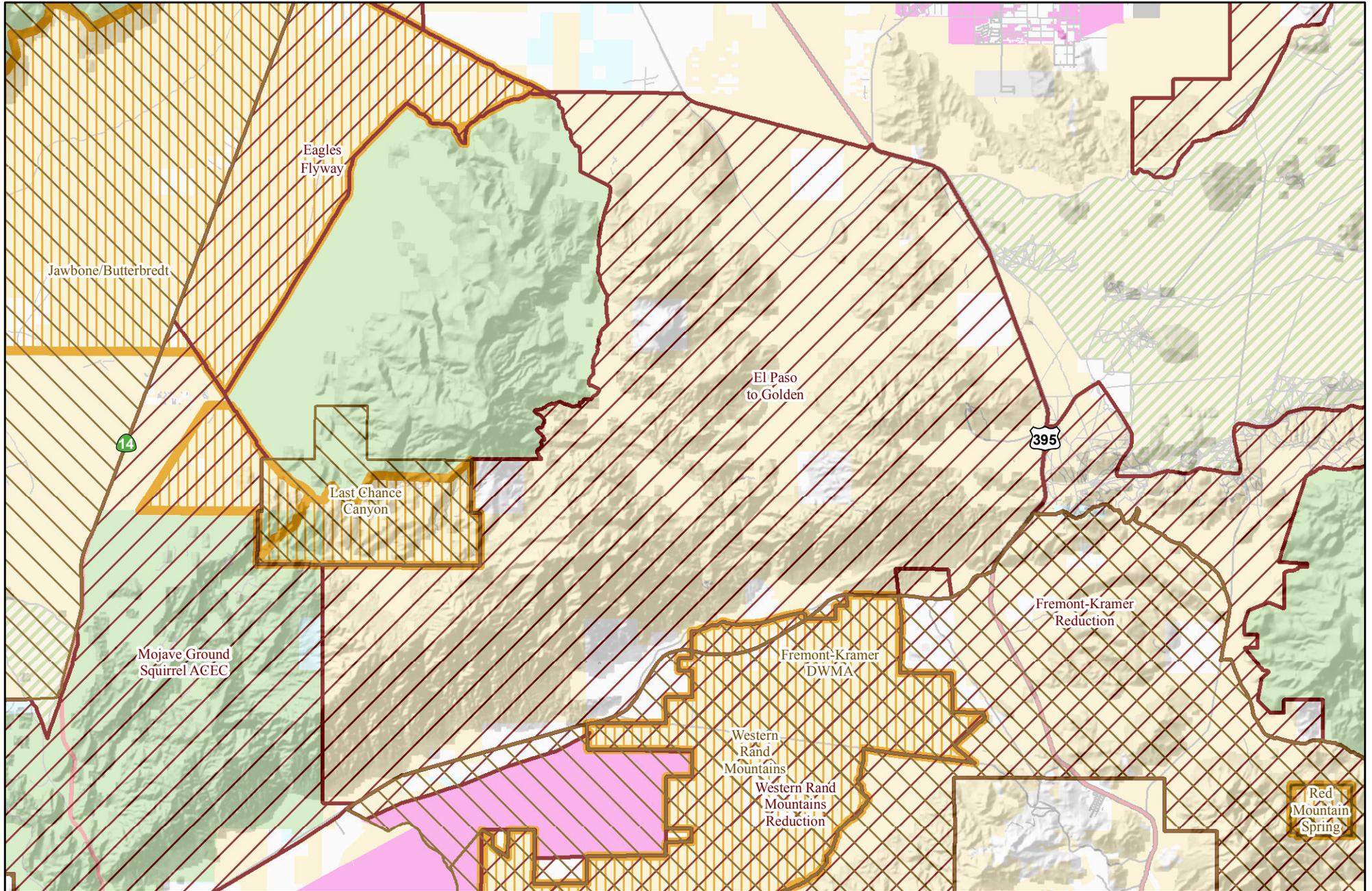
No Action – this conservation area would not exist, as it does not exist currently.

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. Allowable Uses: Restrict construction activities when soils are susceptible to heightened risk of erosion. Management Action: 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> <p>Objective: Protect the hydrologic flow regime in all of the riparian areas Allowable Uses: Existing water rights Management Action: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are function and achieving physical and biological objectives. Management Action: Monitor Proper Functioning Condition and restore natural flow stream morphology when needed Management Action: Monitor water uses</p>	Soil, water, air
<p>Objective: Protect the following special status plants by ensuring habitat is in a stable or improving condition to keep the species from becoming listed under the ESA. Management Action: Protect and monitor populations of special status plants Red Rock Poppy (<i>Eschscholzia minutiflora ssp. twisselmannii</i>) Red Rock tarplant (<i>Deinandra arida</i>) Management Action: Prohibit collection of plants except by permit Management Action: Rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed area to maintain intact vegetation communities and prevent fragmentation.</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Prevent habitat fragmentation, which impedes wildlife movement. Management Action: Maintain wildlife connectivity between wilderness areas to maintain/increase genetic diversity</p> <p>Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence: Management Action: Designate Species below as priority species for management and protection.</p> <p>Le Conte's Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>) State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>) BLM Sensitive 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 Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>) BLM sensitive Pallid bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>) BLM sensitive Spotted bat (<i>Euderma maculatum</i>) BLM sensitive Western Mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>) BLM sensitive</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

<p>Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) BLM sensitive Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>) BLM Sensitive Long-eared owl (<i>Asio otus</i>) State Species of Special Concern</p>	
<p>Objective: Limit motorized vehicles to designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing. Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, Non-mechanized, etc. Management Actions: 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 undesigned OHV routes. Management Actions: Increase information to public and LE patrols</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Objective: Provide dispersed recreational opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes while protecting the sensitive resources. Allowable Uses: Dispersed camping 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 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. Allowable Uses: Approved transmission corridor Management Action: 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>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</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. Allowable Uses: There are many small mining operations in the area, each less than 1 acre in size. Management Action: 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>There is a large gravel pit that has been excluded from the ACEC, because it is inconsistent with ACEC designation. It extends over approximately 50 acres. The operators have an application pending to expand their operations beyond their current footprint.</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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El Paso to Golden



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

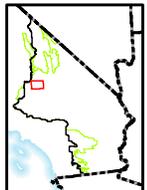
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

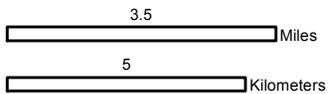
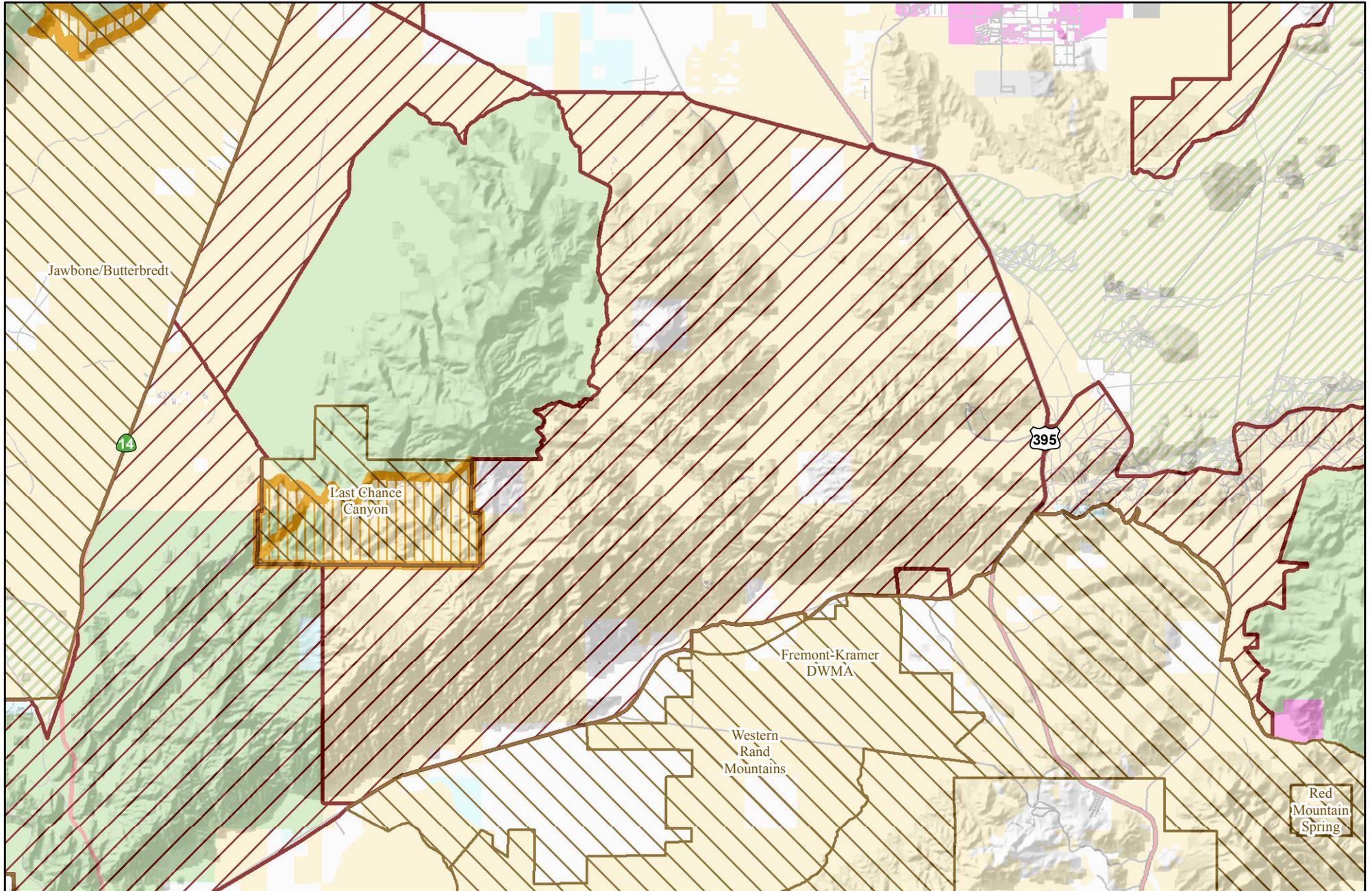
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



El Paso to Golden



Alternative 1 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

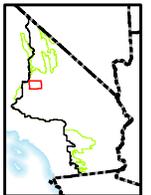
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

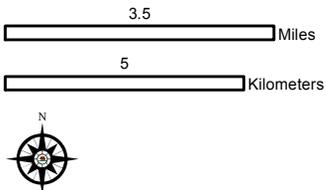
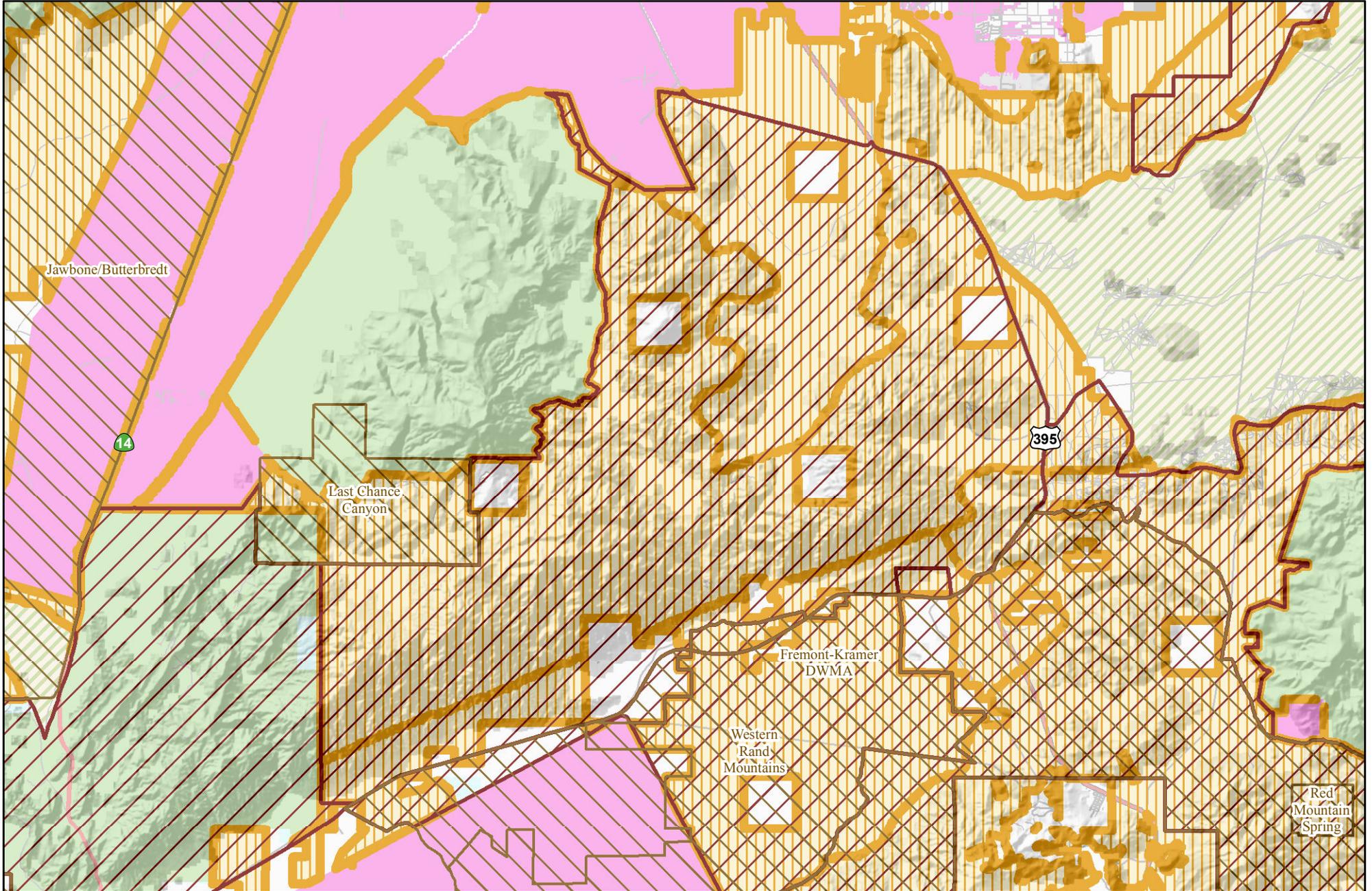
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



El Paso to Golden



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

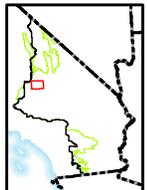
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

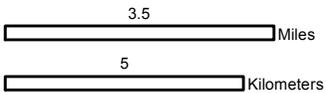
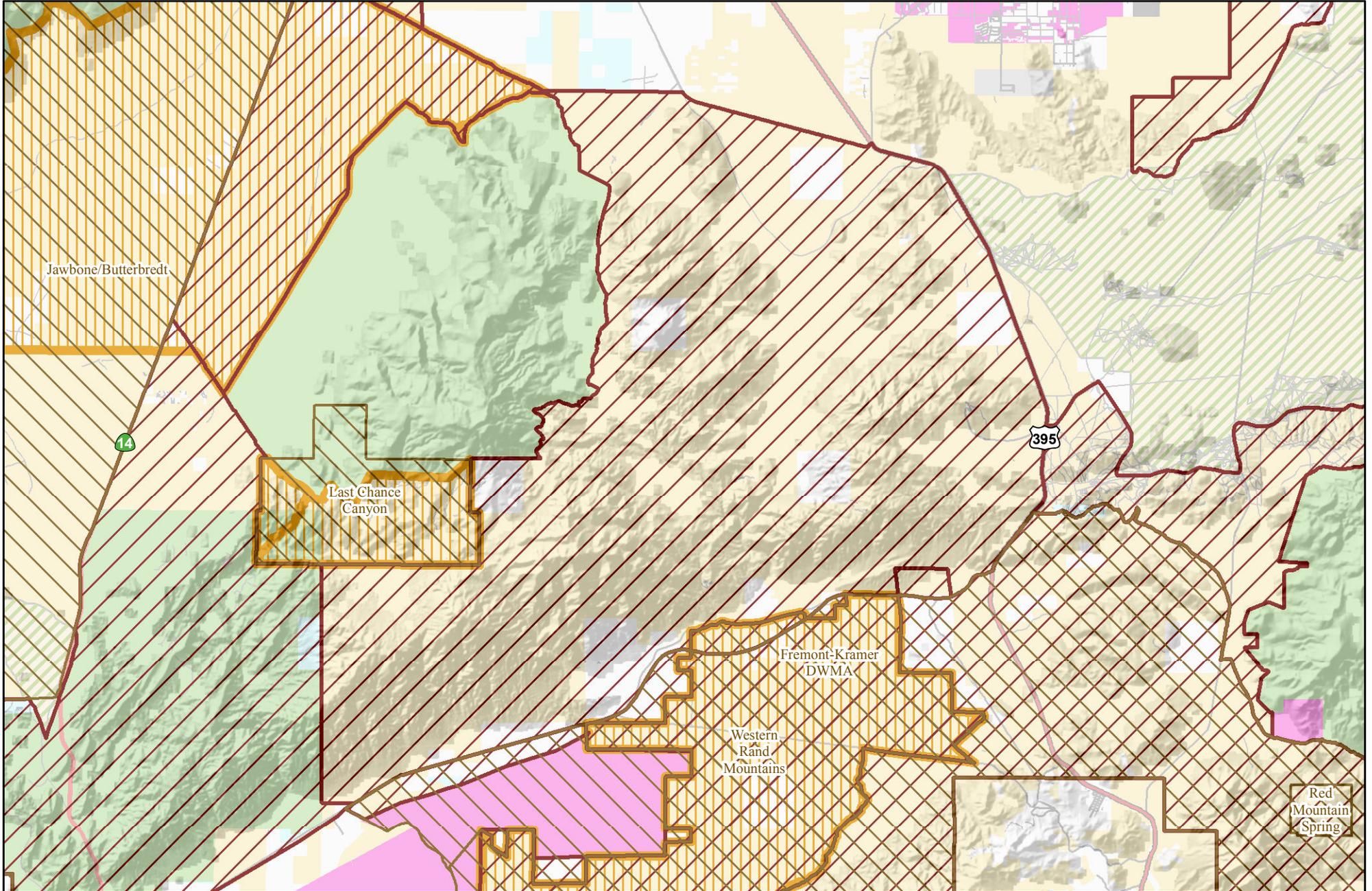
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



El Paso to Golden



Alternative 3 ACECs
 Date Printed: 5/29/2013
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ACEC Layers

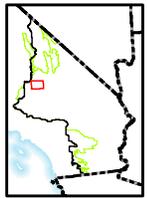
- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

Land Status

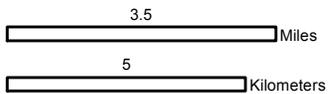
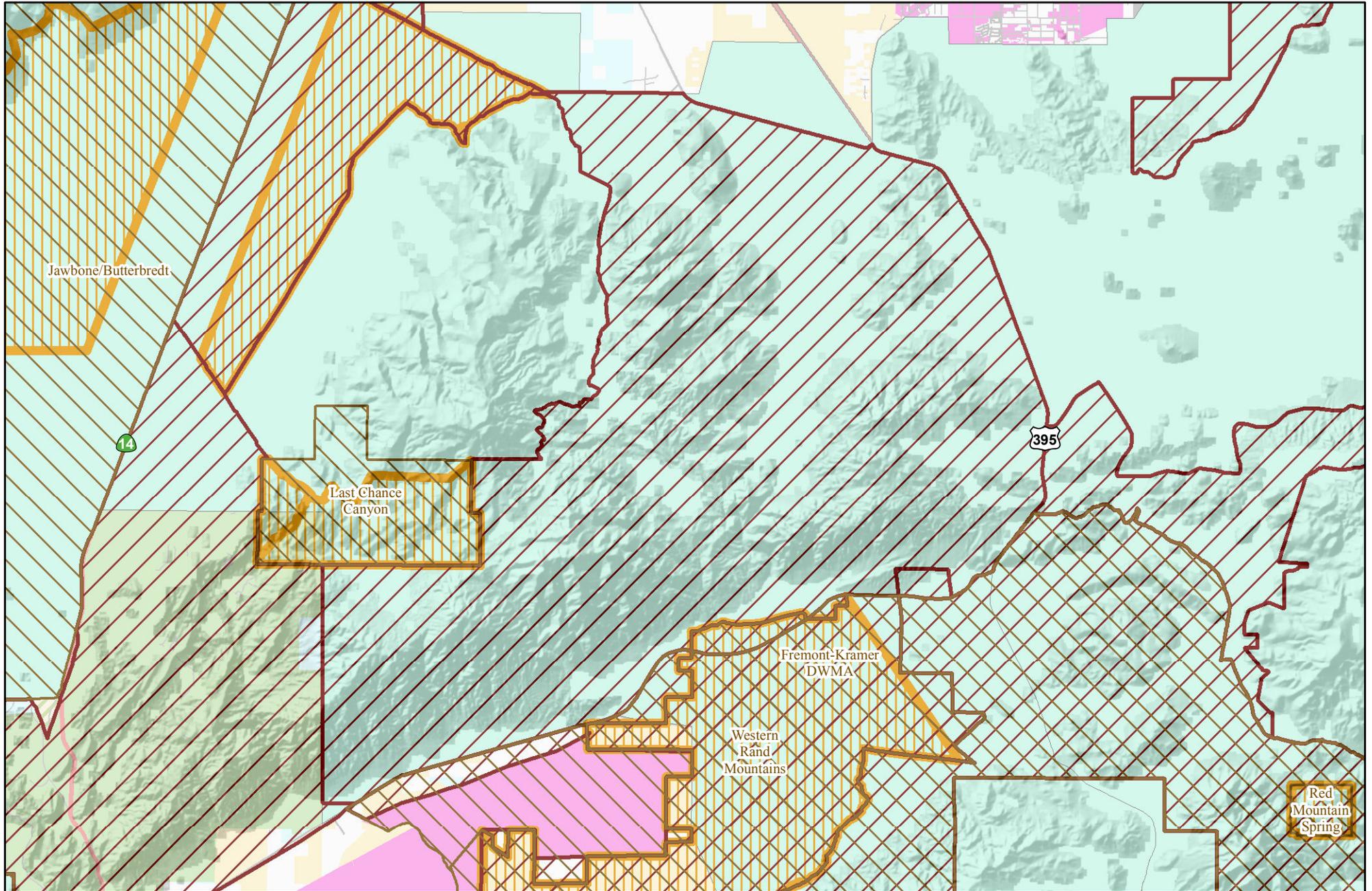
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



El Paso to Golden



Alternative 4 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



Olancha Greasewood

Description/Location of ACEC – South of CA State Hwy 190; east of CA State Hwy 195 and Olancha Dunes Open Area

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Proposed ACEC

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: This area of sand dunes has an unusual plant assemblage (UPA) described in the CDCA Plan as a Great Basin Enclave with greasewood (*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*) as the dominant plant. Designated to provide protection of this UPA. What makes this greasewood community unique is that it is growing on tall sand dune hummocks and is acting as an important dune stabilizer. Normally greasewood assemblages occur at the base of eroded hills and in ephemeral stream channels where the water table is near the surface. A variety of desert wildlife is associated with this greasewood community that has established on the sand dune hummocks.

Scientific: The uniqueness of the Greasewood assemblage represents high research value.

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. To conserve this unusual plant assemblage and its associated wildlife community, as well as the cultural values of greasewood.

Greasewood is a deciduous shrub growing to 0.5–3 m tall with spiny branches and succulent leaves. Its leaves are bright green, in contrast to the grey-green color of most of the other shrubs within its range. Greasewood is a halophyte, tolerant of alkaline and saline soil conditions. Native Americans used the hard, yellow wood as firewood and ate the seeds and succulent leaves. The plant provides burrowing or resting sites for small mammals or birds.

Goals: To increase protection of sensitive biological resources while continuing use of lands for compatible recreational opportunities.

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

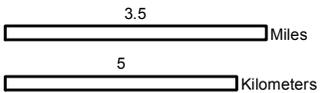
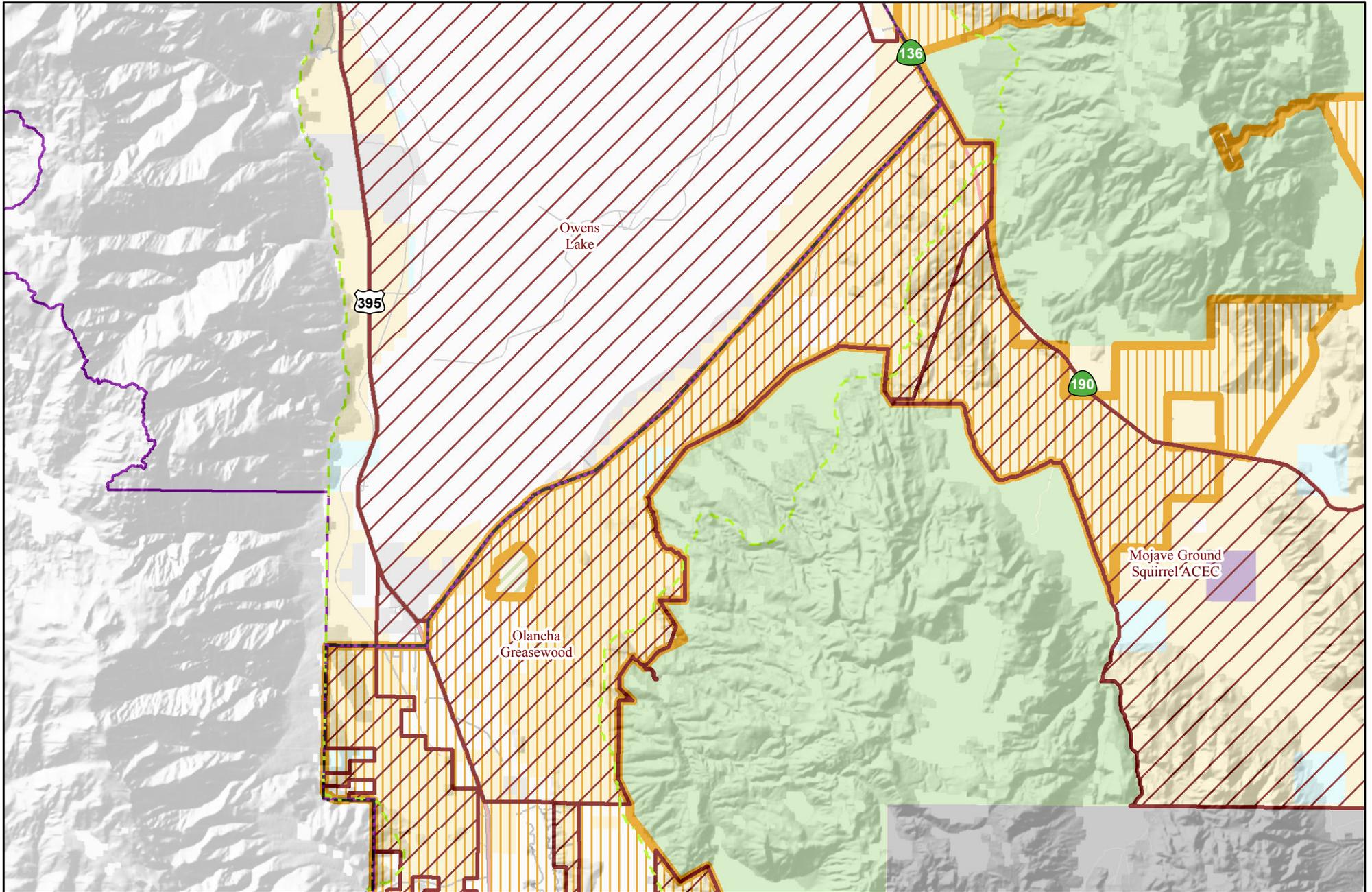
Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	0	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	20,700	21,400	0	1%
1	3,000	21,400	0	1%
2	21,400	21,400	0	0.25%
3	20,600	21,400	0	1%
4	21,400	21,400	0	0.25%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

<p>Alternatives: All Action Alternatives – This area would be designated as a conservation area and managed as such. No Action: This area would receive no special management.</p>	
Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Maintain the natural sand transport and the dune system. Allowable Uses: Restrict construction activities when soils are susceptible to heightened risk of erosion. Management Action: Minimize soil disturbance and prevent accelerated erosion caused by human activities.</p>	Soil, water, air
<p>Objective: Maintain intact greasewood community and prevent fragmentation. Management Action: Post interpretive signs</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Protect wildlife associated with the this assemblage and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence Management Action: Monitor/survey for sensitive species</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Protect sensitive habitat from impacts associated with vehicle traffic Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc All vehicle traffic limited to designated roads and trails Management Action: Sign designated routes routinely Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols</p>	Trails and Travel Management
<p>Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes Allowable Uses: 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. Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols; maintain signs, vehicle barriers and kiosks.</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Provide for existing and new ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources. Allowable Uses: Approved transmission line Management Action: 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>	Rights of Way

<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</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 this UPA.</p> <p>Management Action: 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 Leaseables</p>

Olancha Greasewood



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

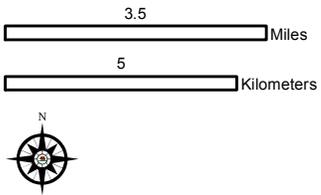
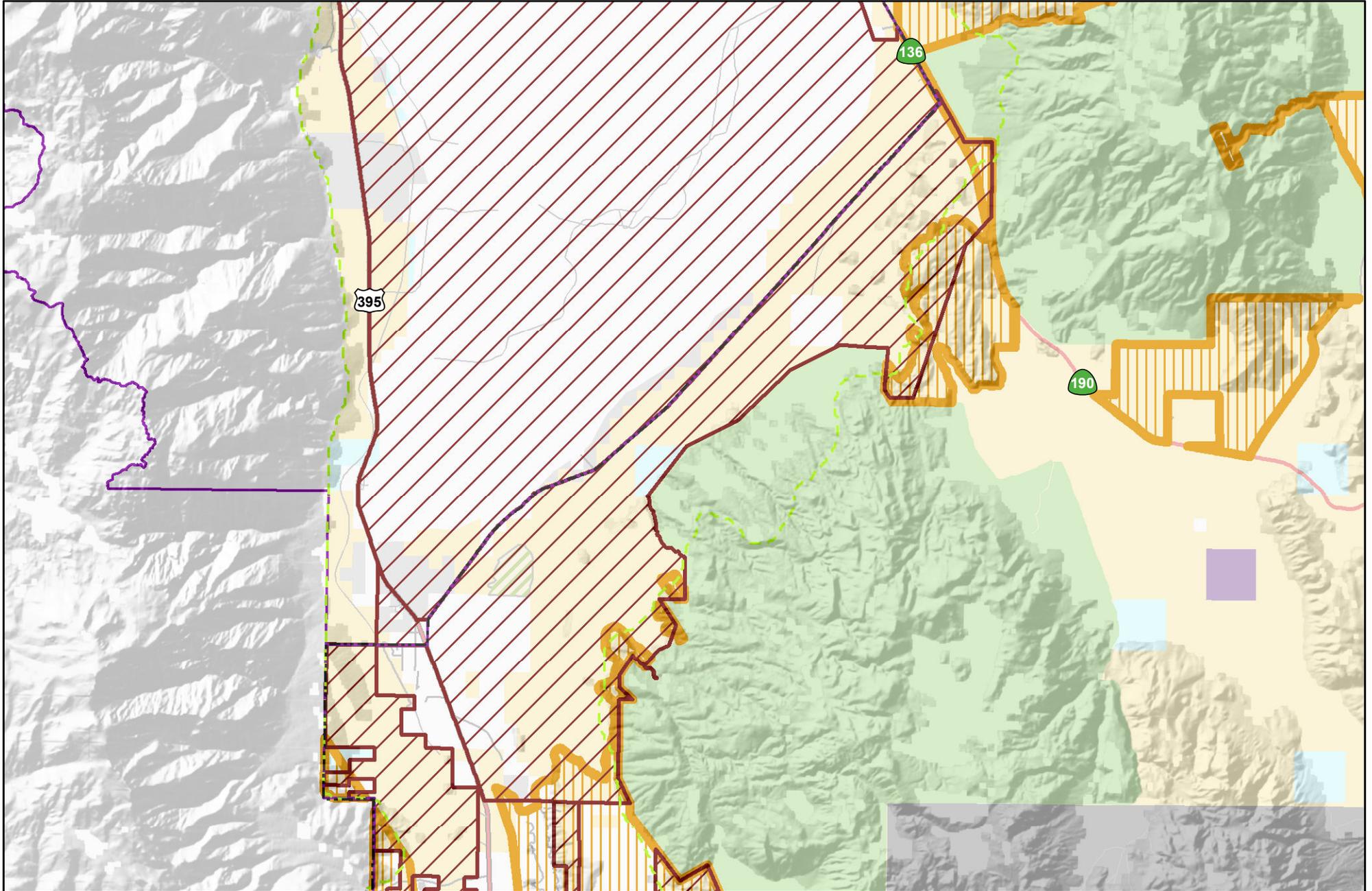
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Olancha Greasewood



Alternative 1 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

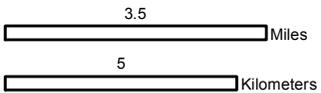
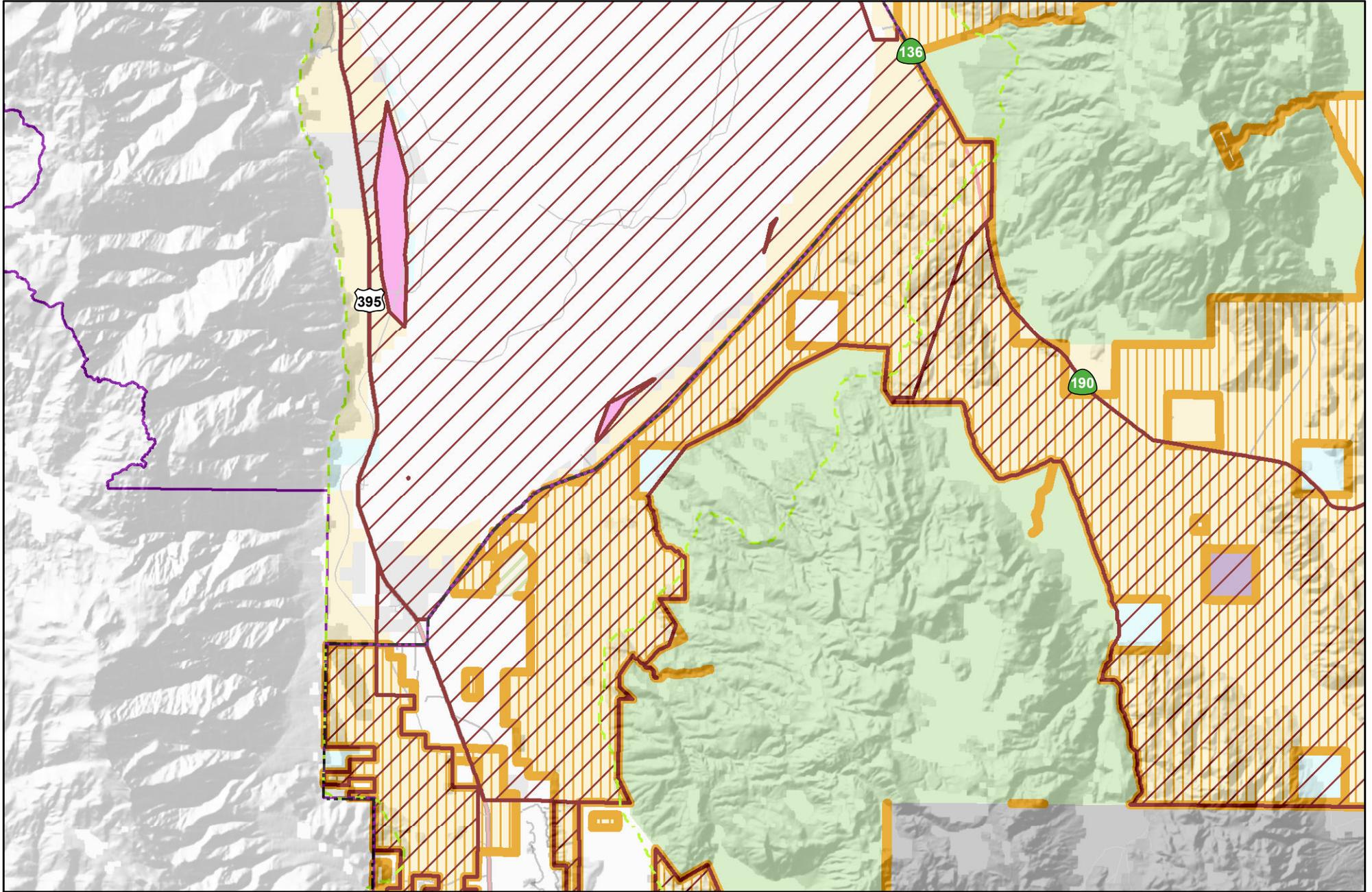
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Olancha Greasewood



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

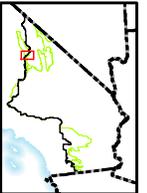
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

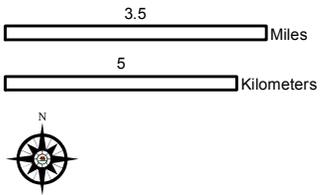
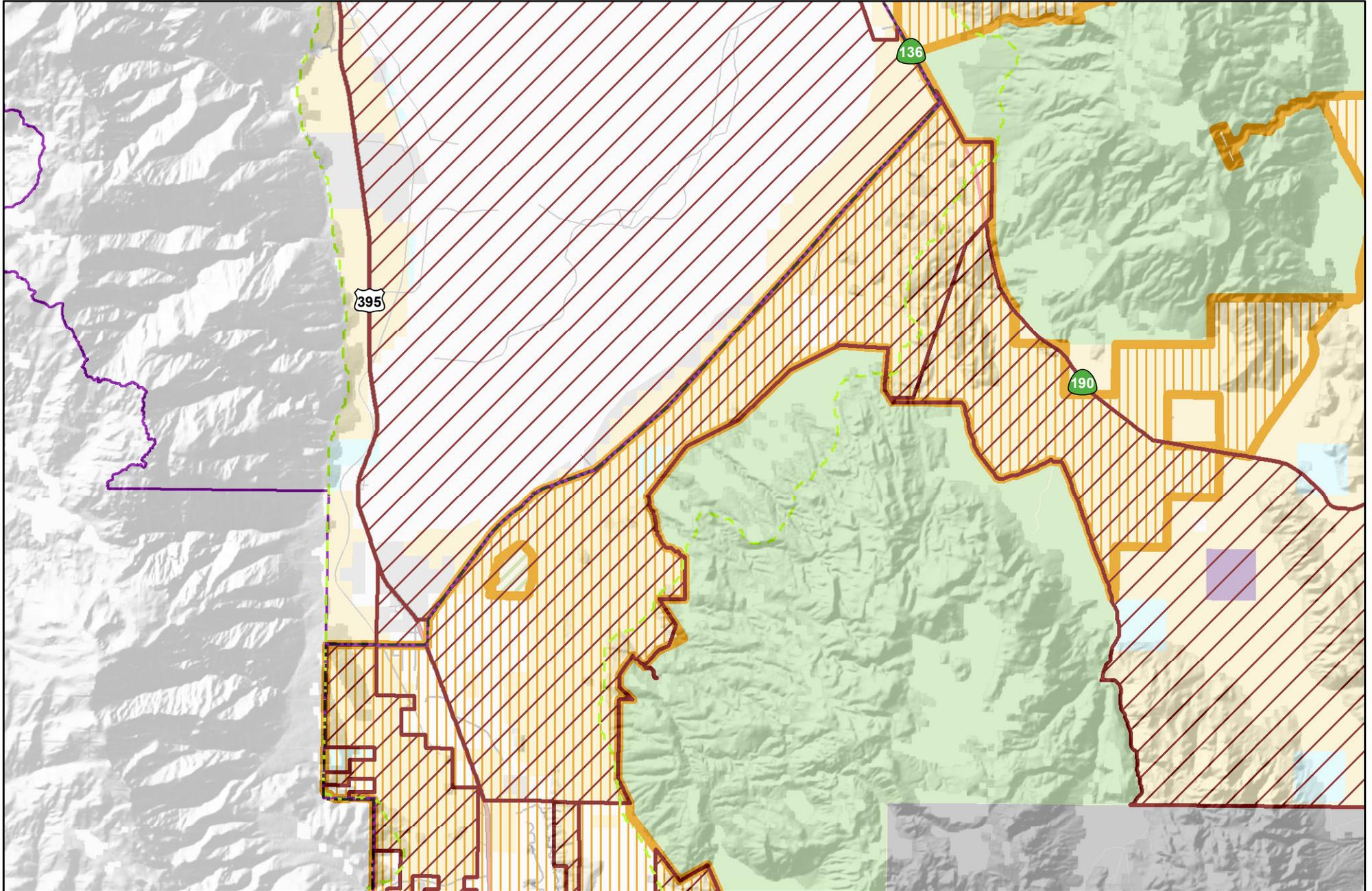
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Olancha Greasewood



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

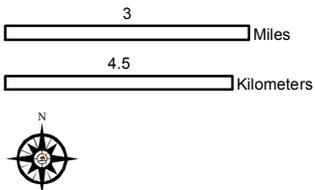
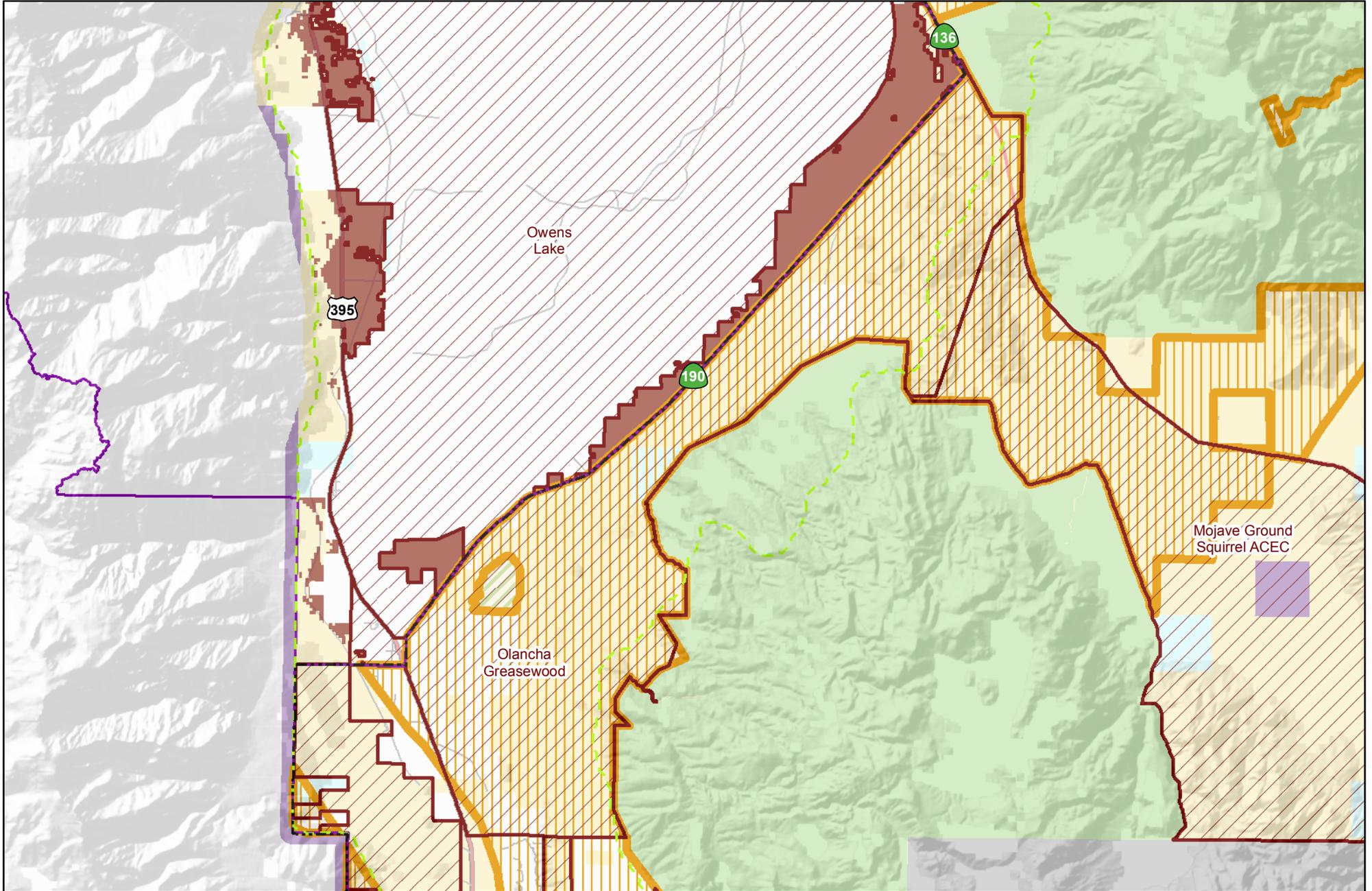
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



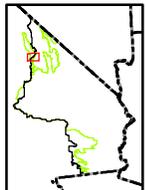
Olancha Greasewood



Alternative 4 ACECs
 Date Printed: 8/6/2014
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



<p>ACEC Layers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing ACEC Proposed NLCS Proposed ACEC Proposed Wildlife Allocation Legislatively and Legally Protected 	<p>Design Focus Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Focus Areas Variance Lands OHV Areas CDCA Boundary DRECP Boundary BLM Field Office 	<p>Land Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bureau of Land Management State Other Federal Military Private 	<p>GTLF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interstate US Hwy CA Hwy County Hwy
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Manzanar

Description/Location: This unit is adjacent to Manzanar National Historic Site (NHS) managed by the National Park Service. It is located west of highway 395 near the town of Independence.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

Relevance and Importance Criteria:

Relevant significant historic and cultural values, including archaeological and cultural resources that are sensitive and vulnerable to adverse change.

Manzanar National Historic Site [NHS], managed by the National Park Service, was established to preserve the stories of the internment of nearly 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II and to serve as a reminder to this and future generations of the fragility of American civil liberties. The unit is adjacent to the Manzanar NHS. The unit contains numerous cultural resources related to the internment camp and the prehistoric use of the area. These include a concrete and stone water reservoir constructed by the Japanese-American internees, and several prehistoric habitation sites. The historic feature has been determined to be a contributing element to the significance of the NHS, but has not been formally added to the listing. The viewshed has been identified as important by the National Park Service. ,

Goals: Protect cultural resources within a landscape setting, to ensure that the environmental context is preserved.

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	0	600	0	0.10%
1	0	600	0	0.10%
2	0	600	0	0.10%
3	0	600	0	0.10%
4	0	400	0	0.10%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

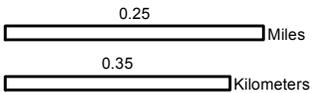
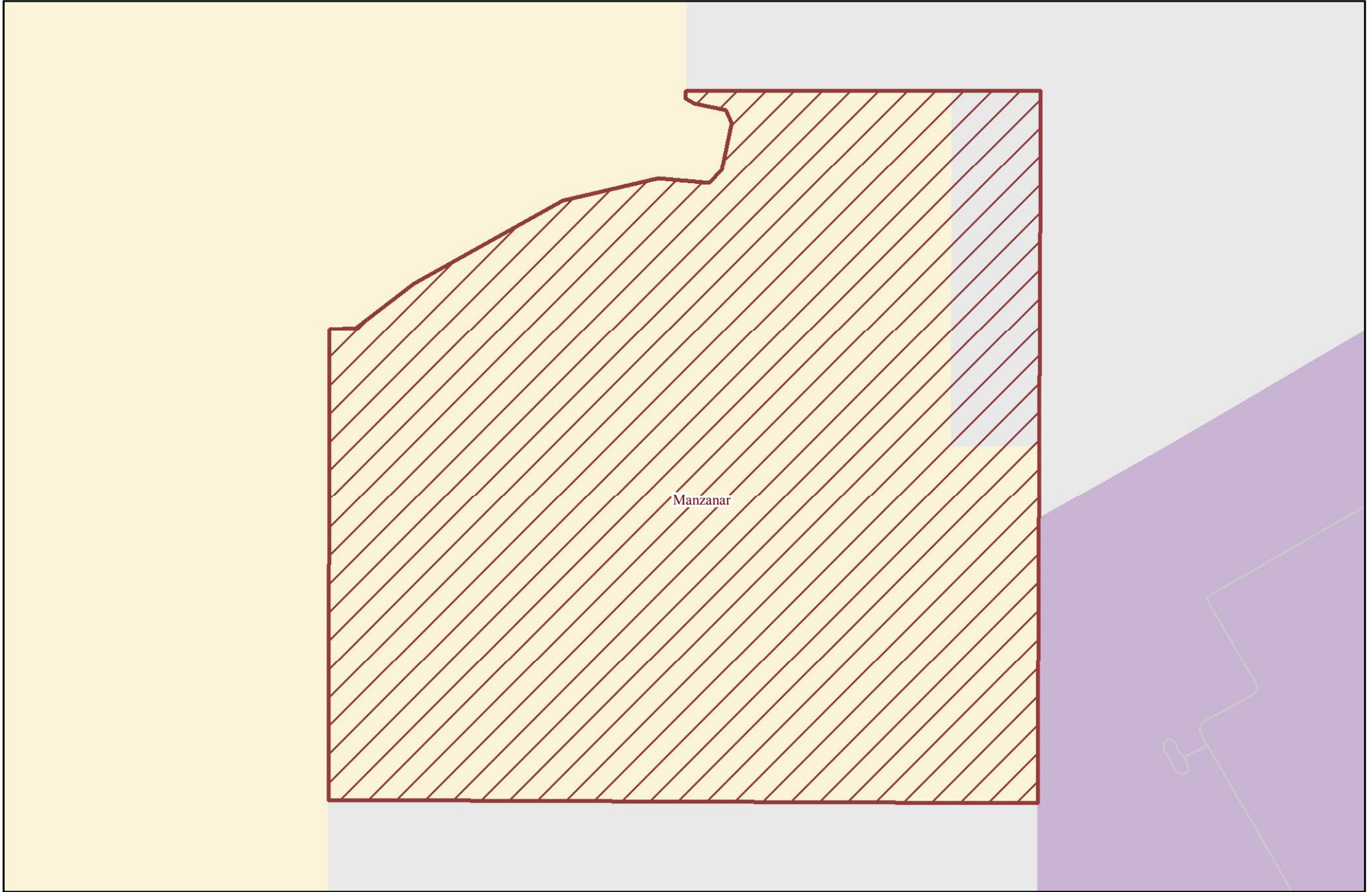
Alternatives:

All Action Alternatives – The area would be identified as an ACEC.

No Action: This area would not have any special management direction.

Objectives (desired future conditions) /Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Protection of all significant cultural resources in perpetuity.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Uses that can be carried out without adversely affecting the integrity of the historic or ethnographic landscape and that can be designed to avoid adverse effects to cultural resources.</p> <p>Management Actions: Consider the resources on the landscape level and limit any activities that would alter the setting, context, or feel of the cultural sites. Limit all activities below the threshold of an Adverse Effect.</p> <p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general resource rules</p>	Cultural Resources
<p>Objective: Retain the appearance and setting of the historic landscape, as seen from the adjacent Manzanar National Historic Site and other key observation points.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Uses that can be carried out without adversely affecting the integrity of the historic or ethnographic landscapes and that can be designed to avoid adverse effects to cultural resources.</p> <p>Management Actions: Consider the resources on the landscape level and limit any activities that would alter the setting, context, or feel of the historic or ethnographic landscapes</p>	Visual Resources
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with unit values and criteria.</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy

Manzanar



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

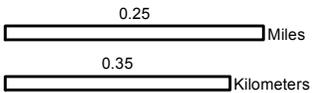
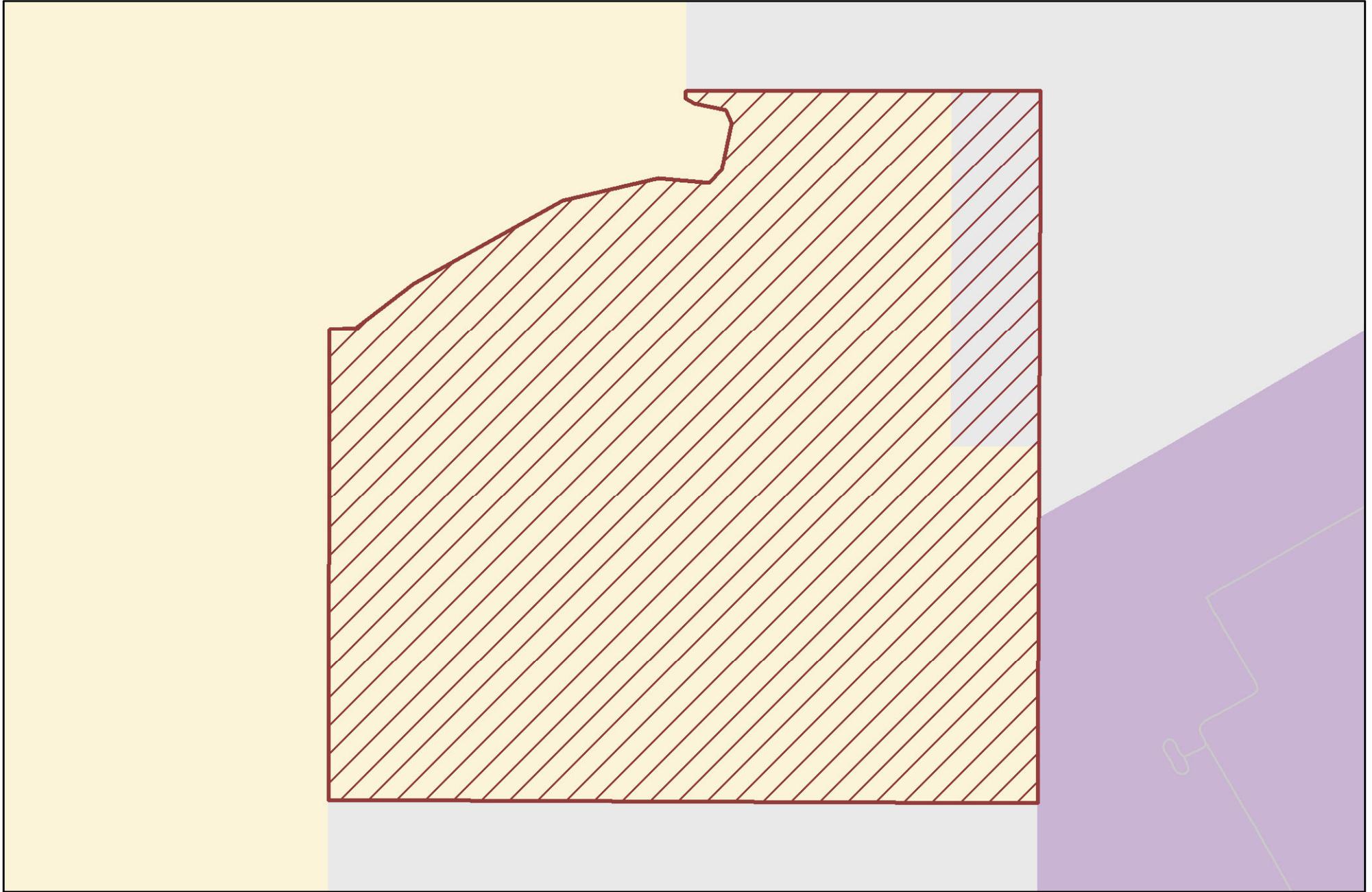
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Manzanar



Alternative 1 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

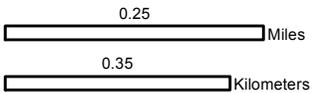
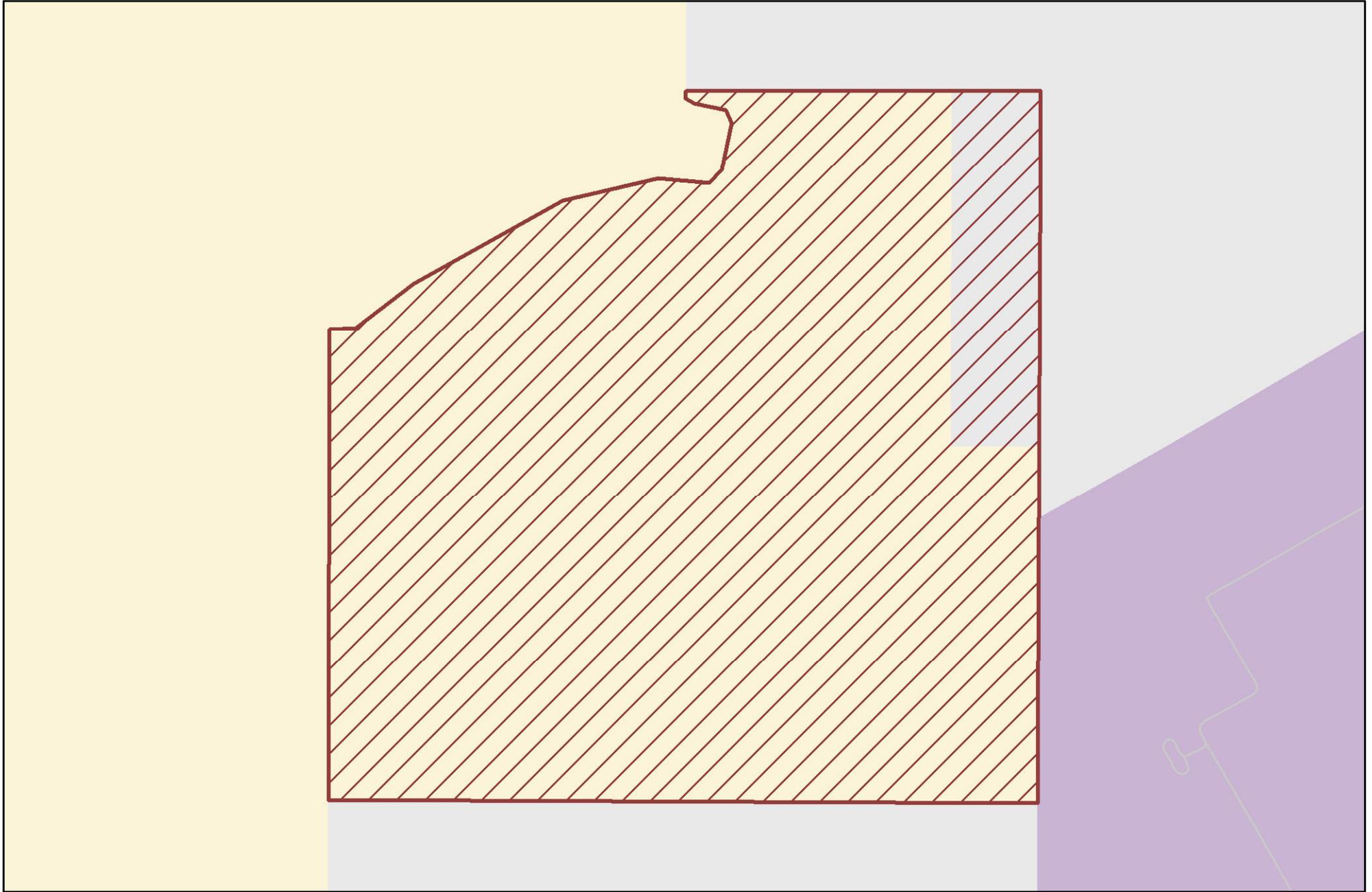
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Manzanar



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

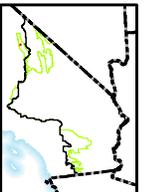
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

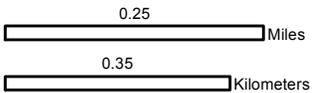
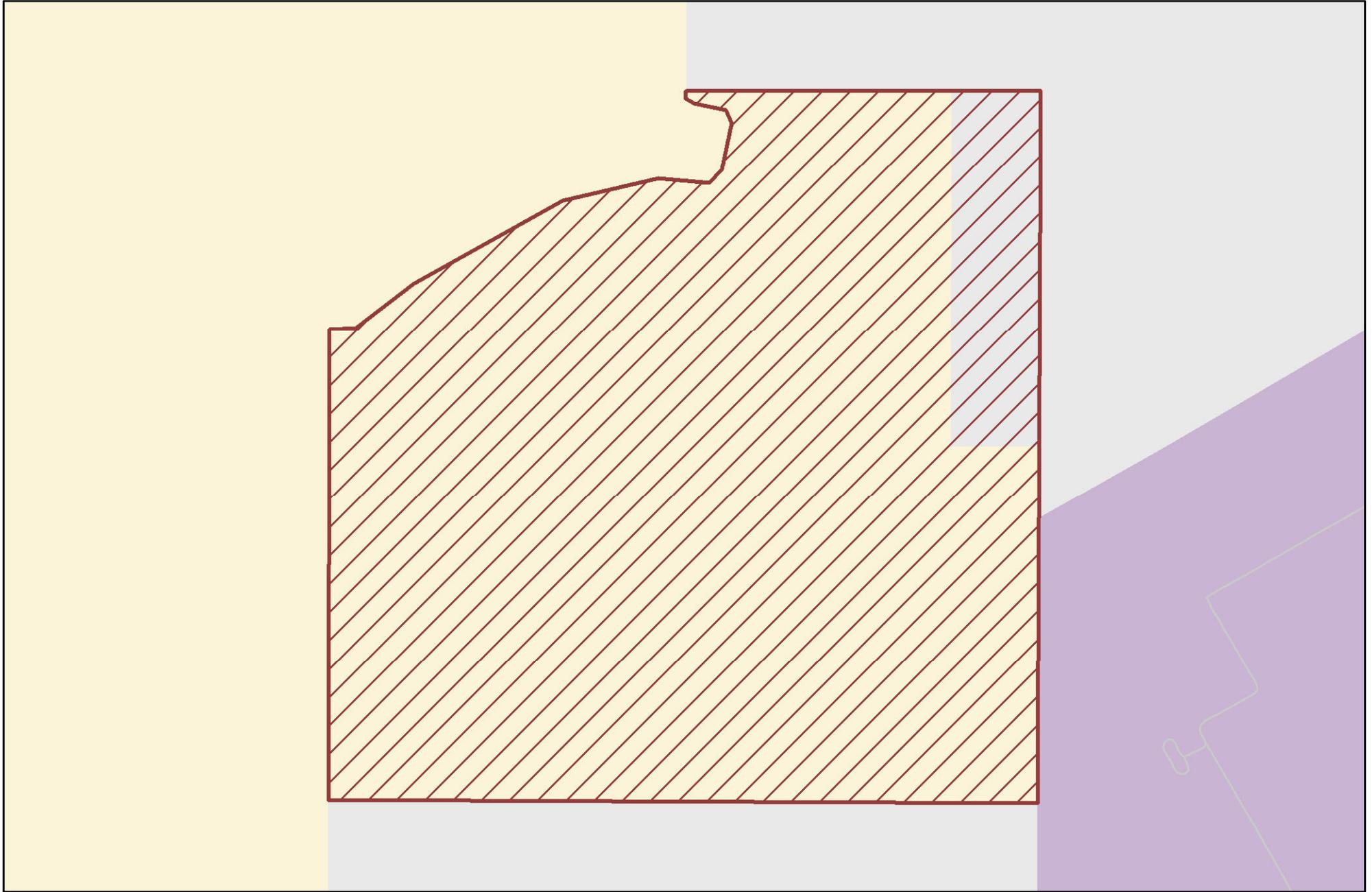
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Manzanar



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

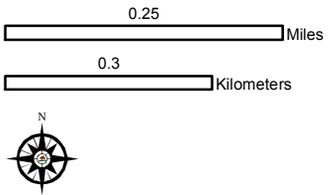
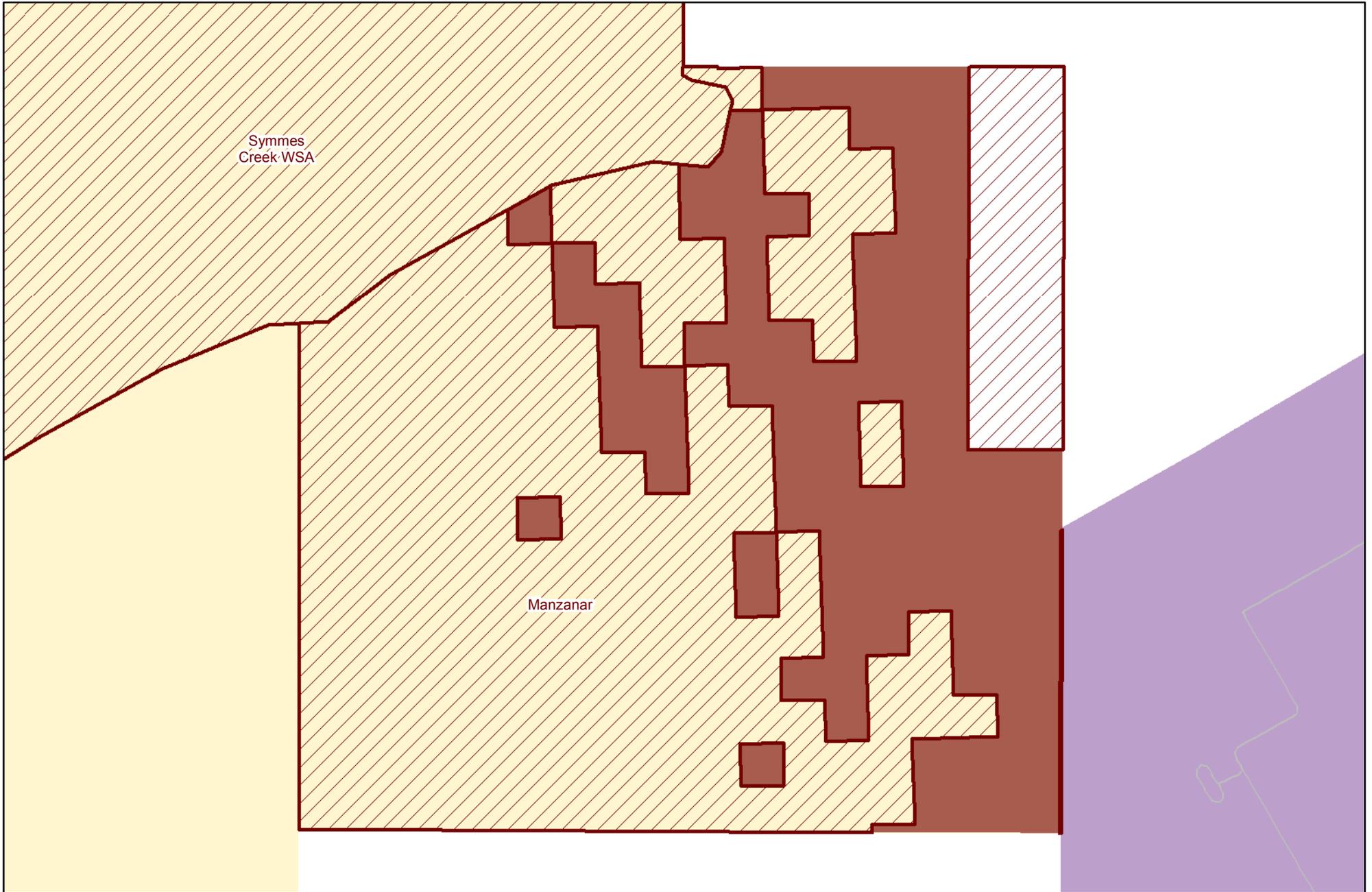
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



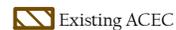
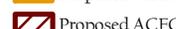
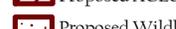
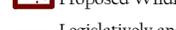
Manzanar



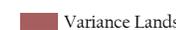
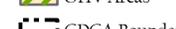
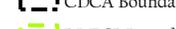
Alternative 4 ACECs
 Date Printed: 8/5/2014
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



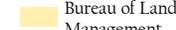
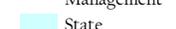
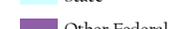
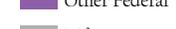
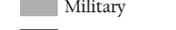
ACEC Layers

-  Existing ACEC
-  Proposed NLCS
-  Proposed ACEC
-  Proposed Wildlife Allocation
-  Legislatively and Legally Protected

ACEC Layers (continued)

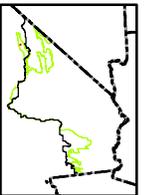
-  Variance Lands
-  OHV Areas
-  CDCA Boundary
-  DRECP Boundary
-  BLM Field Office

Land Status

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

GTLF

-  Interstate
-  US Hwy
-  CA Hwy
-  County Hwy



Owens Lake

Description/Location: This unit is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Lone Pine, CA and encompasses all BLM-administered lands within the following described boundaries: U.S. Highway 395 on the west, State Highway 136 on the northeast, and State Highway 190 on the southwest.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant cultural and biological resources. Significant historic and cultural values, including sensitive archaeological and cultural resources that are important to Native Americans and vulnerable to adverse change; and relevant wildlife and plant resources including bird habitat of recognized national importance, sensitive species habitat and rare plant communities.

Cultural relevance and importance

The Southern Owens Valley Mortuary Complex contains enigmatic artifact and rock mound features. In addition to the numerous features comprised of artifacts, the presence of human remains at most of these sites is most intriguing. It has become apparent that these features had an important role in burial ceremonies late in prehistory. The importance of these sites and their protection is paramount to the extant Native Americans in the region and these sites have been determined to be eligible by the BLM, but have not been formally nominated. In addition to these mortuary sites other prehistoric sites and historic sites occur within the proposed unit.

Biological relevance and importance

Owens Lake is a nationally significant Important Bird Area (IBA) as designated by the National Audubon Society. The lake is an important corridor for shorebirds and waterfowl, with brine flies supporting thousands of shorebirds in the spring and fall, and wetlands along the edges of the lake supporting thousands of ducks. Snowy Plover are known to breed on the lake as do many alkali marsh birds. Snow geese overwinter in the IBA. In addition to the birds drawn to the area for the water, several raptors that prey on these species have been documented in the unit, including Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, and Prairie Falcon.

The southeastern edge of the unit contains greasewood, an unusual plant assemblage as described in the California Desert Conservation Area plan (1980). The unit also contains an alkali meadow community, designated by California Department of Fish and Wildlife as a rare plant community. Both of these communities are associated with BLM sensitive plants and alkali meadows are associated with the Owens Valley vole, also a BLM sensitive species.

The Keeler dunes, on the northeastern edge of the unit, support the Owens sand dune snout beetle, a rare beetle.

Goals: Protect cultural resources in the unit. Protect biological resources in the unit.

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	0	10,600	0	0.10%
1	0	10,600	0	0.10%
2	0	9,200	0	0.10%
3	0	10,600	0	0.10%
4	0	1000	0	0.10%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives:

Alternatives Preferred, 1, and 3: The area would be identified as an ACEC.

Alternative 2: The area identified as an ACEC is reduced so those acres can be identified as a Development Focus Area.

Alternative 4: The area identified as ACEC is reduced. The variance lands identified in the Solar PEIS remain and are open to evaluation for renewable energy development.

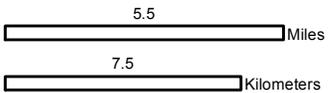
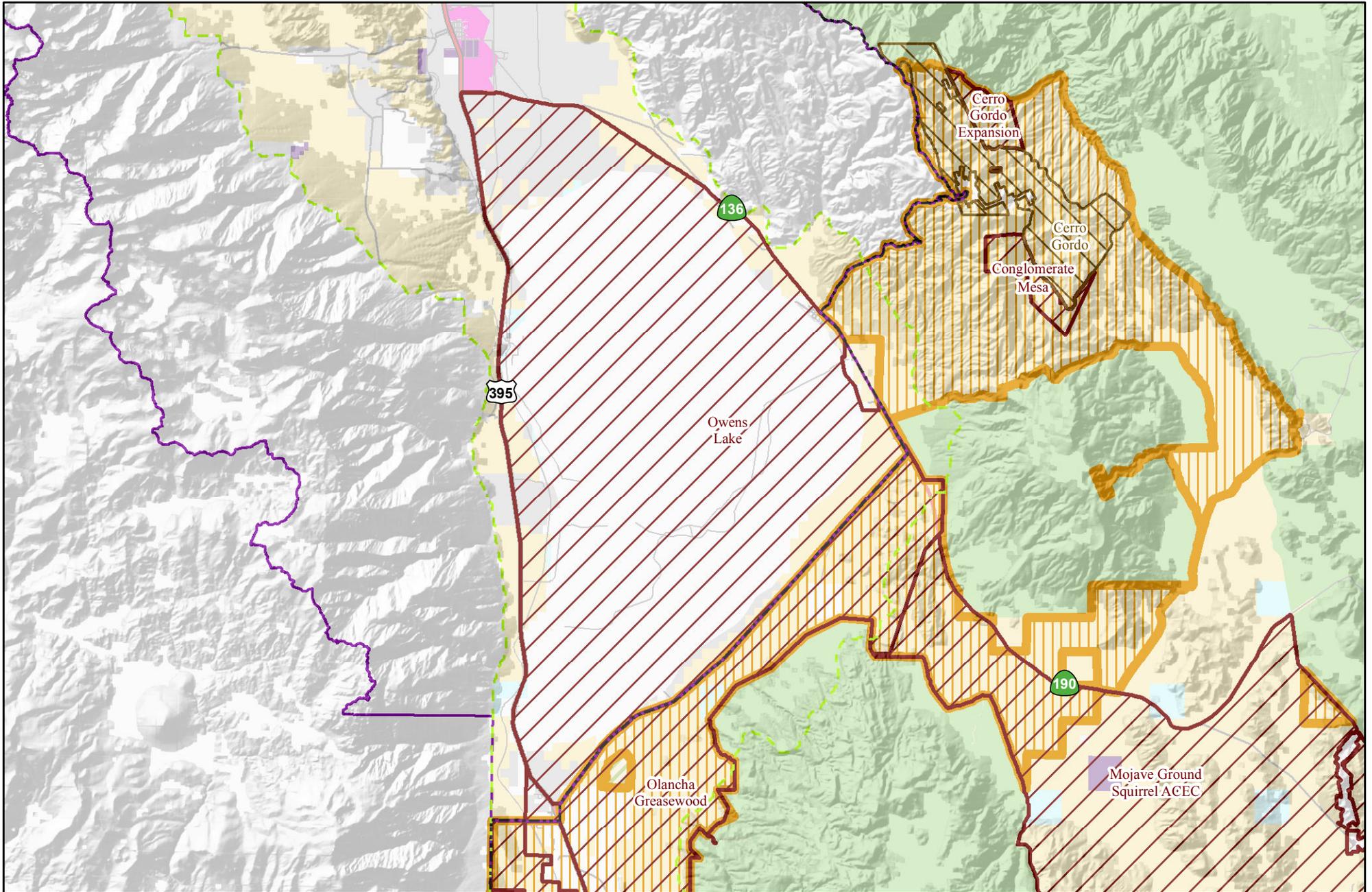
No Action: This area would not have any special management direction.

Objectives (desired future conditions) /Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Stabilize dunes for protection of cultural resources and to limit PM10 emissions.</p> <p>Allowable uses: Uses that are scientific or that would not adversely affect the cultural resources.</p>	Soil, water, air
<p>Objectives: Maintain/promote rare and unique plant communities including alkali meadows and the Olancha Greasewood plant assemblage. Maintain/promote Special Status Plants and their habitat, including but not limited to: Manage alkali meadow as a rare plant community which may include BLM sensitive plants <i>Calochortus excavatus</i>, <i>Sidalcea covillei</i>, <i>Plagiobothrys parishii</i>. Manage greasewood salt flats for BLM sensitive plant, <i>Loeflingea squarosa</i>. Retain the following RMP guidance (1993 Bishop RMP): Yearlong Protection of endangered, threatened, candidate, and sensitive plant and animal habitats – no discretionary actions which would adversely affect target resources would be allowed.</p>	Vegetation - Including special status plant species

<p>Manage to achieve Desired Plant Community goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPC for Sand Dunes in the Owens Lake and South Inyo Management Areas: The goal is to insure adequate vegetative cover and microclimatic conditions for <i>Trigonoscuta owensi</i>, Owens sand dune snout beetle. • DPC for the Section 22 Spring Complex and Springs and Associated Wetlands in the Owens Lake Management Area: The goal is to maximize essential habitat characteristics for migratory and resident bird species. <p>Management Actions:</p> <p>Survey for BLM Sensitive species; identify current occupied and potential habitat.</p> <p>Prevent invasive plant infestations from impacting rare and unique plant communities.</p> <p>Manage in accordance with current policy and RMP guidance, including Yearlong Protection of listed and BLM Sensitive species habitats.</p>	
<p>Objectives:</p> <p>Manage dunes for Owens sand dune snout beetle (rare).</p> <p>Manage alkali meadow for Owens Valley vole (BLM Sensitive).</p> <p>Manage for the protection of migratory birds and for raptors including Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcons, Prairie Falcon.</p> <p>Manage for LeConte’s Thrasher (BLM Sensitive species elsewhere in the state but not in this area, due to lack of data).</p> <p>Manage for protection of desert tortoise (Federal Threatened) if present.</p> <p>Manage for protection of important bird area.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>Survey for BLM Sensitive species, desert tortoise, LeConte’s Thrasher, and Owens sand dune snout beetle; identify current occupied and potential habitat.</p> <p>Identify and implement actions to conserve and improve habitat conditions.</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife - Including special status fish and wildlife species</p>
<p>Objective: Limit or design all undertakings to a level below the threshold for an Adverse Effect.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Yearlong Protection of mortuary complex and any significant cultural resources. No discretionary actions which would adversely affect target resources would be allowed.</p> <p>Consider the resources on the landscape level and limit any activities that would alter the setting, context, or feel of the cultural sites. .</p> <p>Management Actions: Manage the resource in manner consistent with Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and SHPO guidance for the protection of pre-historic cemeteries. Consider the potential impacts within the landscape level for impact analysis. Engage the appropriate tribal entities in consultation regarding these resources which have been identified as having religious and spiritual importance.</p>	<p>Cultural Resources</p>

See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general resource rules	
<p>Objective: Retain the appearance and setting of the historic landscape.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: uses that would not negatively impact the historic or ethnographic setting above the threshold for an adverse effect determination.</p> <p>Management Actions: Manage the resource in manner consistent with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation guidance for landscape level analysis.</p>	Visual Resources
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with unit values and criteria.	Renewable Energy

Owens Lake



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

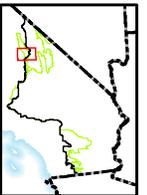
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

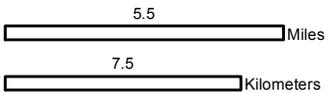
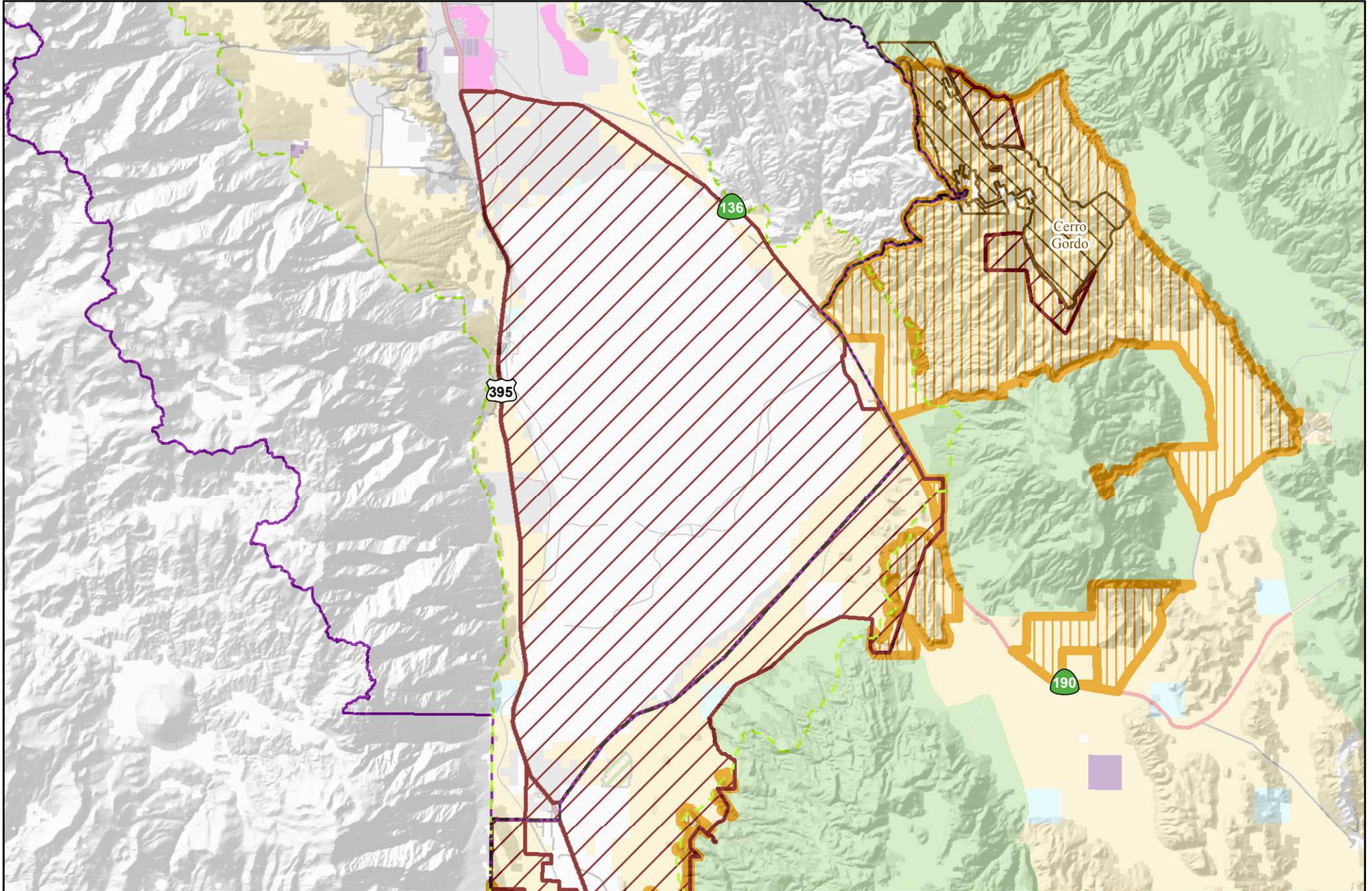
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Owens Lake



Alternative 1 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

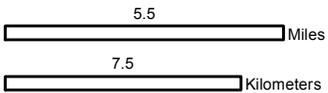
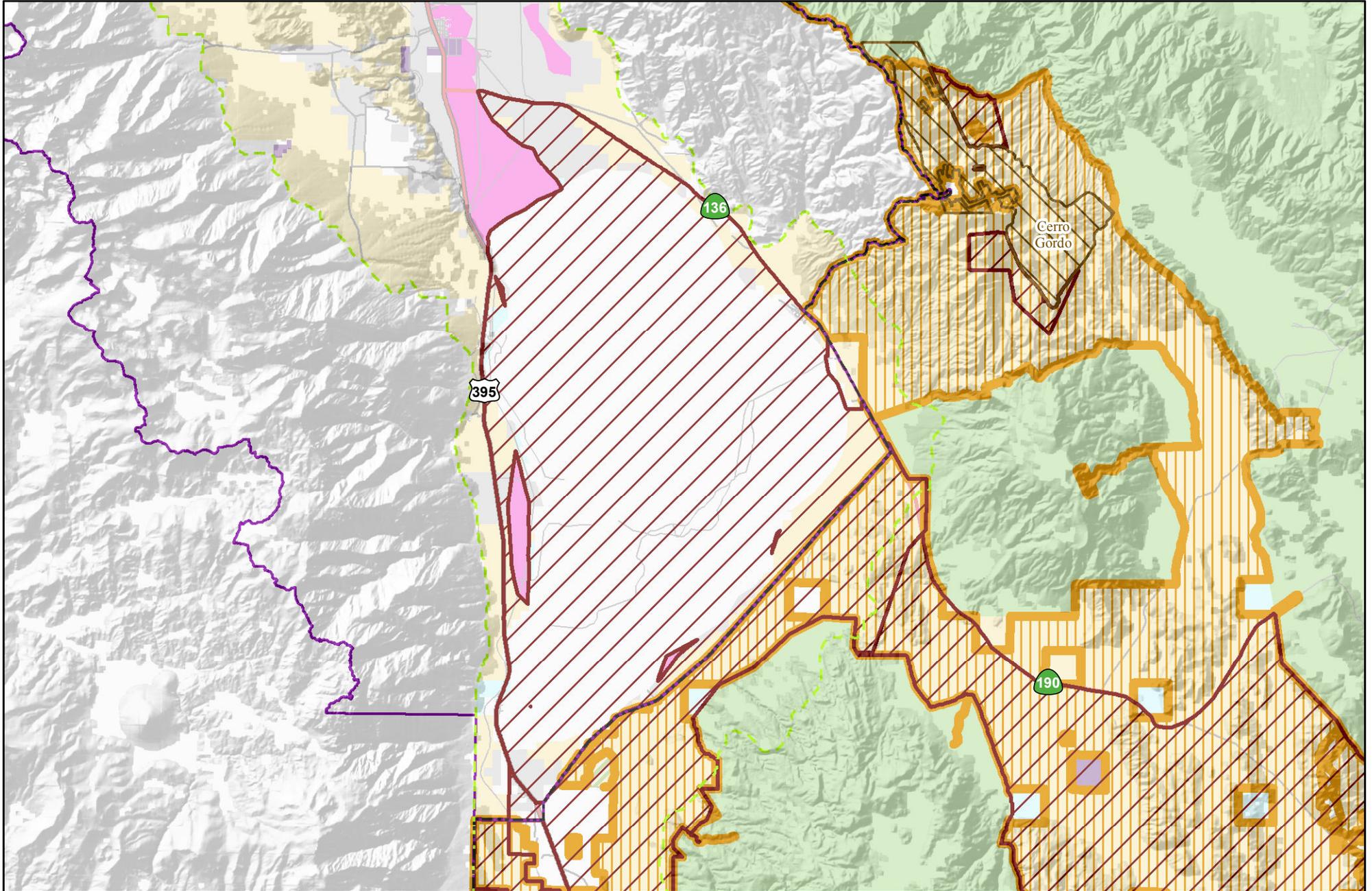
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Owens Lake



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

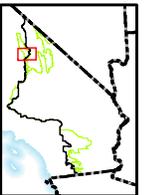
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

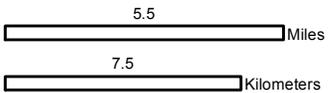
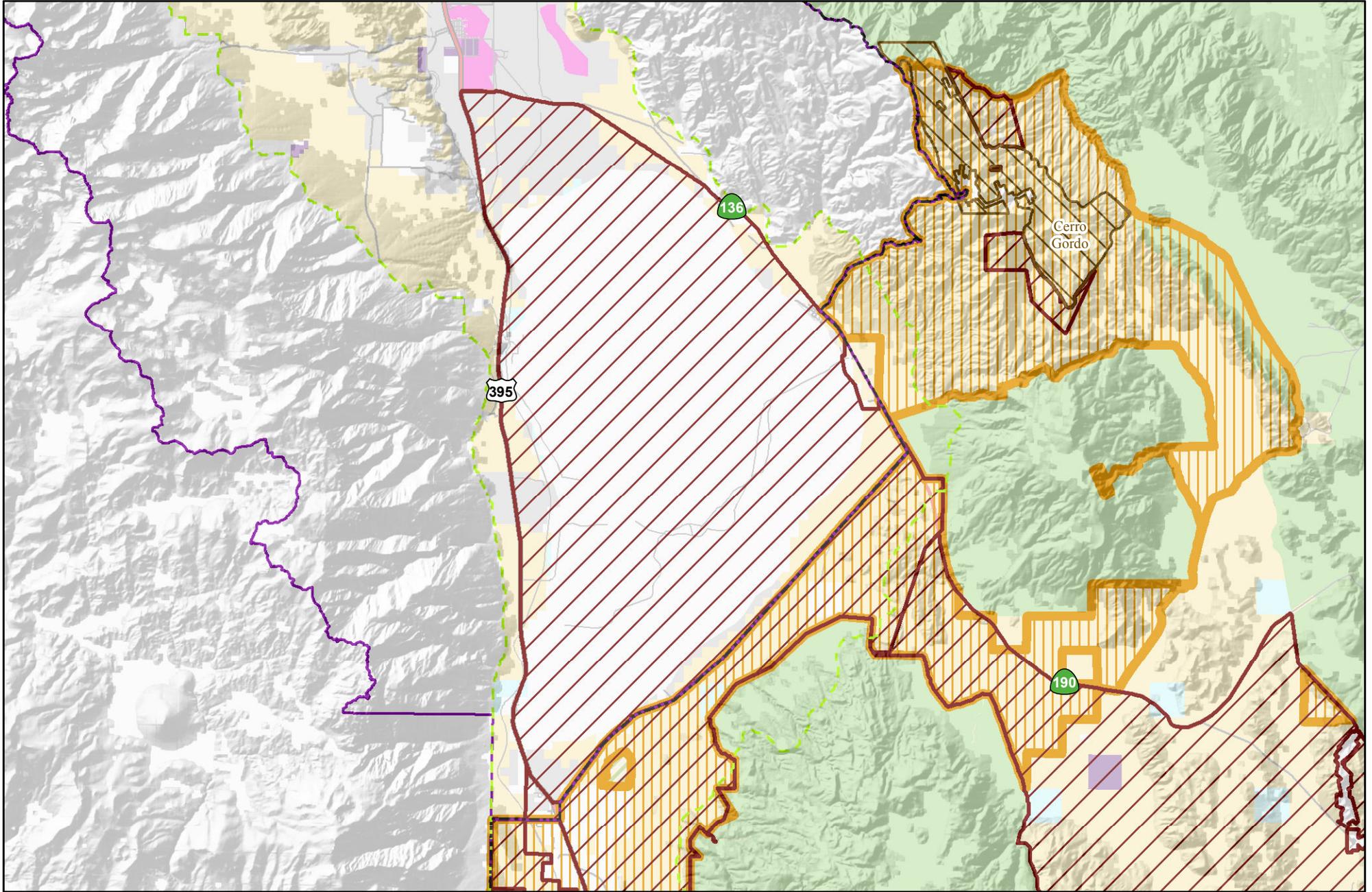
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Owens Lake



Alternative 3 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

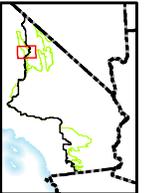
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

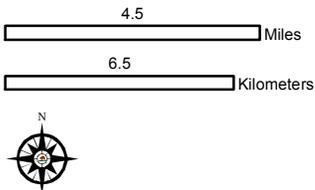
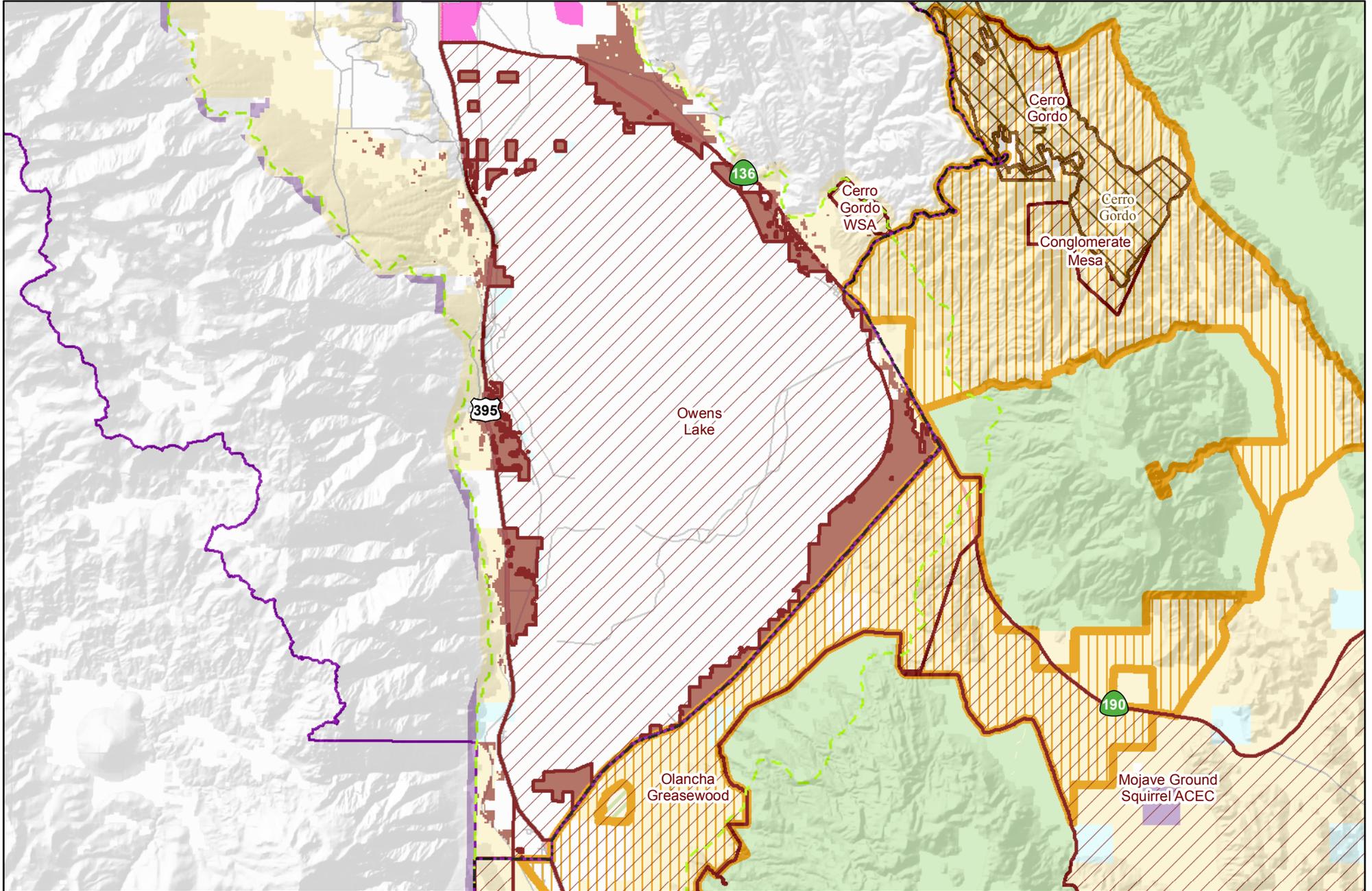
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



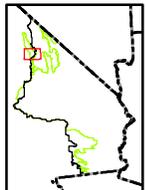
Owens Lake



Alternative 4 ACECs
 Date Printed: 8/6/2014
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers		Design Focus Areas	Land Status	GTLF
Existing ACEC	Variance Lands	Bureau of Land Management	Interstate	US Hwy
Proposed NLCS	OHV Areas	State	CA Hwy	County Hwy
Proposed ACEC	CDCA Boundary	Other Federal		
Proposed Wildlife Allocation	DRECP Boundary	Military		
Legislatively and Legally Protected	BLM Field Office	Private		



Panamint/Argus

Description/Location: Panamint/Argus, subdivided into 2 units: Panamint Lake Unit and the Mountain Unit. Located between Argus Wilderness and Death Valley National Park.

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: This area encompasses an essential movement corridor which links wildlife habitats in the China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station and Argus Wilderness to those protected by the Death Valley National Park. This corridor was developed by the SC Wildlands group (Science and Collaboration for Connected Wildlands). SC Wildlands was part of a team that worked with the California Departments of Transportation and Fish and Game on a statewide habitat connectivity effort from which this unit was developed. The habitat suitability and movement needs of over 40 selected focal species were used in this process. Desert Bighorn sheep and Mojave ground squirrels are two of those focal species that occur here. In addition, the area provides excellent habitat for foraging and nesting of numerous raptor species, including golden eagles and prairie falcons.

The Slate, Argus, and Panamint Mountain ranges would be included in this large unit. These ranges provide habitat for Nelson's desert bighorn sheep, Townsend's big-eared bats, and the federally threatened Inyo California towhee. The abandoned mines in this area have historically housed the largest maternity colonies of Townsend's big-eared bats in the Western Mojave Desert. It is likely that unsurveyed mines in the Slates and Argus Range also house large colonies. The area also includes Mohave ground squirrel (MGS) core habitat within the MGS Conservation Area. This is 1 of only 11 core population centers.

Cultural: There are numerous prehistoric and historic sites in the area encompassed by the unit. Panamint Lake was an important location in prehistory when water and riparian resources were abundant, allowing prehistoric Native Americans a refuge from the harsh environment around them. The Lake has many National Register eligible properties and has ethnographic significance to several Paiute and Shoshone Tribal groups today.

Sites in this area may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as districts, trail systems, or individual sites under any of the National Register Criteria. The entire valley is well preserved from development and may constitute a nationally significant cultural landscape.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Panamint Valley is the only remaining, large, undeveloped valley in the Ridgecrest Field Office area. The area contains unique desert wetland communities, including mesquite bosques and freshwater & saltwater marshes. Endemic fairy shrimp occur in the lake. Panamint Lake is the remains of a terminal Pleistocene lake originally 700 feet deep. The lake contains ephemeral wetlands with perennial pools of freshwater springs located along the lake margins. It encompasses 2 major springs, Post Office Springs & Warm Sulphur Springs, which are classified as jurisdictional wetlands. In California, Utah pickleweed (*Salicornia utahensis*) occurs only in this area and in adjacent DVNP. The bosques & wetlands are prime stop-over and wintering habitats for migratory birds, as well as important areas for nesting birds. The riparian areas produce insect prey for native birds, bats, reptiles, & amphibians and provide shelter to Desert Bighorn Sheep. When filled with water, this shallow lake has outstandingly scenic reflections of the surrounding mountains.

It would also include Redland Springs located east of the Briggs mining claim. Redlands Spring provides essential habitat for the Redlands Canyon herd of bighorn sheep and for the Townsend's big-eared bat

maternity colonies in the area. The Panamint Mountains are home to the endemic Panamint Daisy and Panamint Alligator Lizard. Part of this ACEC falls within the West Panamint Mountains Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (WHMA) area. According to a 1982 management plan prepared under the Sikes Act, this area contains “unique and significant habitat and species which will be afforded special consideration in the environmental assessment process for other proposed land uses.”

The area includes several historic mining sites and features in the Slate, Panamint, and Argus Ranges. Mining in this region was an integral part of the development of this part of California, particularly in the Death Valley and Owens Valley region. Many of the sites in these ranges are exceptionally well-preserved, with still standing structures. Many of these sites are associated with the historic Nadeau Trail. Panamint Dry Lake also has the potential for paleontological deposits.

Goals: Protect biological and cultural resources. Protect Nelson’s bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelson*), bat species, Panamint alligator lizard (*Elgaria panamintina*), Inyo California towhee, desert tortoise, Mojave ground squirrel, and resident and migrating bird species and protect their habitats. Protect wetland, aquatic and riparian habitats and their associated plant communities and wildlife assemblages, specifically mesquite bosques and marshes, and isolated seeps and springs, that are rare ecosystems in the desert. Protect BLM special status plant species such as the Panamint daisy (*Enceliopsis covillei*). Protect paleontological resources. Preserve unique geologic/hydrologic features. Preserve scenic views and existing low impact recreational opportunities. Protect the critical connectivity corridor between the Argus, Slate and Panamint Ranges, and between Panamint Valley and undeveloped lands to the south, allowing unimpeded movement of wildlife and preventing habitat fragmentation. Protect unique cultural resources, both prehistoric and cultural. Preserve National Register eligible properties and retain ethnographic significance to Native American tribes.

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative: Panamint Lake

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	79,000	104,000	0	1%
1	10,000	21,800	0	1%
2	102,300	102,300	0	0.25%
3	76,100	101,100	0	1%
4	77,300	102,300	0	1%

Designation and Acreage by Alternative: Mountain Unit				
Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
Preferred Alternative	78,859	103,808	0	1%
1	59,332	0	105,318	Wildlife Allocation
2	77,530	102,492	0	0.25%
3	75,974	100,923	0	1%
4	77,484	102,433	0	1%

* 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
<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> <p>Objective: Protect the hydrologic flow regime in all of the wetlands, springs, and riparian areas</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Existing water rights. Remove any unauthorized developments (possibly Bainter Spring, Chris Wicht Camp).</p> <p>Management actions: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are function and achieving physical and biological objectives.</p> <p>Monitor Proper Functioning Condition and restore natural flow stream morphology when needed</p> <p>Monitor water uses</p> <p>Maintain the vehicle closure in Surprise Canyon beyond Chris Wicht Camp until a final decision is reached about vehicle use in the canyon corridor and/or Wild</p>	Soil, water, air

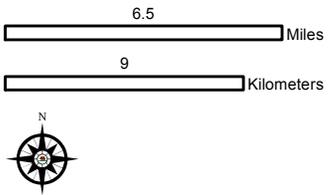
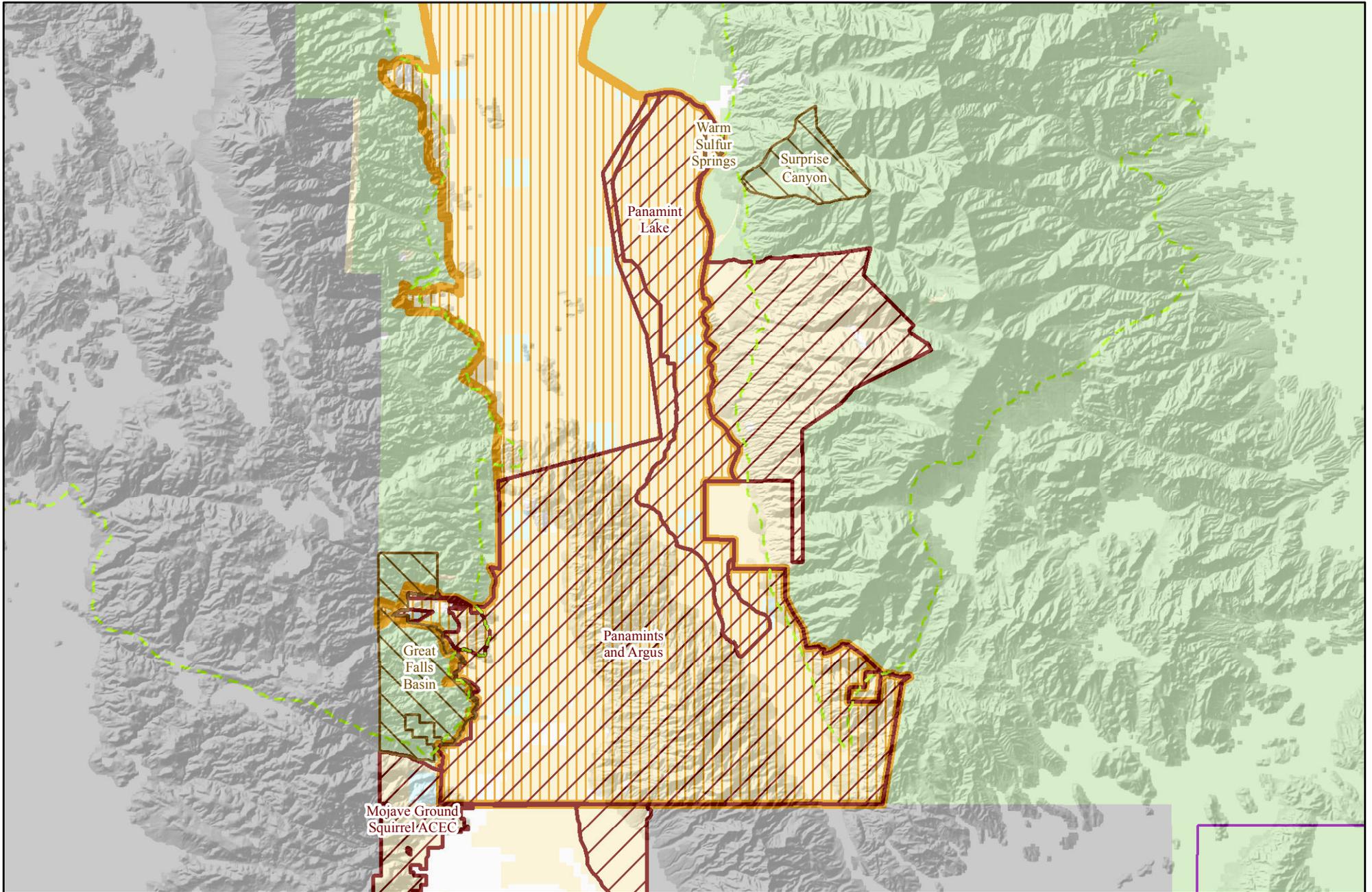
<p>and Scenic River legislation is passed. Follow proper procedures for eliminating ROWS and removing developments where they are no longer in use or are not being used for the (mostly mining) purposes for which they were granted. Check status of all wells on public lands in the area. Protect federal reserve water rights in wilderness. Remove excess burros to protect seeps, springs, and riparian habitat in the area. Maintain protective burro enclosure fences around seeps, springs, and riparian areas. Consider more protective fencing as needed.</p>	
<p>Objective: Protect the following special status plants by ensuring habitat is in a stable or improving condition to keep the species from becoming listed under the ESA. Management Action: Protect and monitor populations of special status plants Panamint daisy (<i>Enceliopsis covillei</i>) Panamint Mountains buckwheat (<i>Eriogonum microthecum var. panamintense</i>) Panamint dudleya (<i>Dudleya saxosa ssp. saxosa</i>) Death Valley Sandpaper plant (<i>Petalonyx thurberi sub gilmanii</i>) Death Valley round-leaved phacelia (<i>Phacelia mustelina</i>) Darwin Mesa milk-vetch (<i>Astragalus atratus var. mensanus</i>) Wildrose Canyon buckwheat (<i>Eriogonum eremicola</i>) Management Action: Prohibit collection of plants except by permit. Maintain special camping and use restrictions (collecting of firewood) within the mesquite bosques in the Panamint Lake Unit and within the heavily-used riparian areas in Surprise Canyon. In Surprise Canyon, implement an interim trail maintenance program to allow for foot traffic through the canyon. This would stop damage and loss to the riparian area caused by casual use, trail braiding, and unauthorized trail clearing. Eliminate exotic vegetation, especially tamarisk.</p>	<p>Vegetation (incl. special status species)</p>
<p>Objective: Prevent habitat fragmentation, which impedes wildlife movement. Management Action: Maintain wildlife connectivity between wilderness areas to maintain/increase genetic diversity Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence: Management Action: Designate Desert Bighorn Sheep as a priority species for management and protection along with other sensitive species: Inyo California towhee (<i>Pipilo crissalis eremophilus</i>) Federally threatened</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)</p>

<p>Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii townsendii</i>) BLM Sensitive Desert Tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>) Federally and State threatened Mohave ground squirrel (<i>Spermophilus mohavensis</i>) State threatened Pallid bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>) BLM Sensitive Western mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>) BLM Sensitive Panamint alligator lizard (<i>Elgaria panamintina</i>) BLM Sensitive Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Ring-tailed cat (<i>Bassariscus astutus</i>) State Fully Protected</p> <p>Prohibit collection of animals, such as the Panamint Alligator lizard, except by permit.</p> <p>Inventory mines in the Slates, Argus, and Panamint ranges for bats and suitable bat habitat. Take appropriate measures (install bat gates, develop adequate mitigation sites) to protect bat habitat and insure public safety. Identify and monitor golden eagle and prairie falcon nests in the area. Take protective measures as needed.</p>	
<p>Objective: Limit vehicles to open designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing. Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc Continue and enforce vehicle closure on Panamint Dry Lake. Restrict vehicle use across the lakebed to a small number of open, designated routes. Management Actions: Sign designated routes routinely Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and desert tortoise habitat and any bighorn sheep lambing areas. Keep routes out of streams and significant riparian areas where good alternatives exist, i.e., Pleasant Canyon. Where routes need to cross streams and riparian areas, they will be managed appropriately to minimize impacts. Interpret open designated vehicle routes following historic trails, such as the Escape Trail and the Nadeau Trail, through the area. Develop and manage these trails to provide for a high quality, primitive recreational experience, emphasizing scenery and historic significance.</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Objective: Provide diverse recreational opportunities that are compatible with the ACEC values. Allowable Uses: 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 do not degrade the relevant and important values that the ACEC is being established for.</p> <p>Management Actions: Follow-through with the existing Great Fall Basin ACEC recommendation to prohibit target shooting within the original ACEC boundaries in the large wash on the approach to and at the base of the falls. This prohibition is necessary to reduce litter (particularly broken glass) and to protect public safety. Increase LE ranger patrols to enforce compliance with fire restrictions, camping</p>	<p>Recreation</p>

<p>limits, and vehicle use on the designated route system.</p> <p>Impose seasonal and/or permanent restrictions on target shooting in sensitive riparian areas and where large numbers of people congregate to park or camp</p> <p>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>Enforce prohibitions on camping and firewood collecting in the mesquite bosques on and along Panamint Lake and within the Surprise Canyon riparian zone.</p> <p>Within the original Great Falls Basin ACEC, continue hill climb reclamation, graffiti removal, camping and fire restrictions (no closer than 200 meters from a desert wildlife watering hole), and burro exclosure fences. Extend similar protections as needed to maintain visual resources, protect springs and riparian areas, and to support towhees within the expanded area in Northern Searles Valley and throughout the Argus Range.</p>	
<p>Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Provide for existing and new ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: There are several existing ROWs in the area, including roads, power lines, and water pipelines servicing private property, Searles Valley Minerals, the Briggs Mine, and a handful of other active mining and material collection sites in the area.</p> <p>Exclusion Area: Critical habitat for Inyo CA Towhee</p> <p>Management Action: 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>Existing water diversions, pipelines, and wells on public lands should be checked for legitimacy of use (authorized ROWS and terms of use) and condition. All unauthorized uses should be terminated and unauthorized developments, unless historic in nature, removed.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy

<p>Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive resources in the area.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: There is one small active mining operation (the Goldbug Mine, a two-pro prospector, hard rock gold mining operation) and one small Inyo County material storage and mixing site for highway maintenance within the proposed ACEC.</p> <p>In addition, there is a ROW associated with the paved portion of the Nadeau Trail, which accesses an active Limestone Quarry on Private Patented Land used by the ACE Co-Generation facility in Trona.</p> <p>There is also a ROW associated with the bypass route around the riparian area in Pleasant Canyon and the improved portion of the upper Pleasant Canyon route. This ROW services the Radcliffe Mine, a gold mine operation on patented private lands.</p> <p>There is one pending proposal for exploratory drilling on Panamint Lake.</p> <p>Exclusion Area: Critical habitat for Inyo CA Towhee</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>NOTE: The Briggs Mine is incompatible with the goals of this ACEC. The current mine and its larger permitted exploration area have been excluded from the ACEC, as has Brigg's permitted clay collection area on Panamint Lake.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables</p>
<p>Objective: Removal of wild burros and horses in the area to attain the management goals.</p> <p>Management Action: BLM will continue its removal and adoption program to protect seeps, springs, and riparian habitat in the area.</p>	<p>Wild Horse and Burro</p>

Panamints and Argus



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

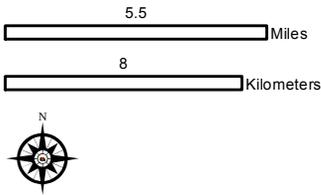
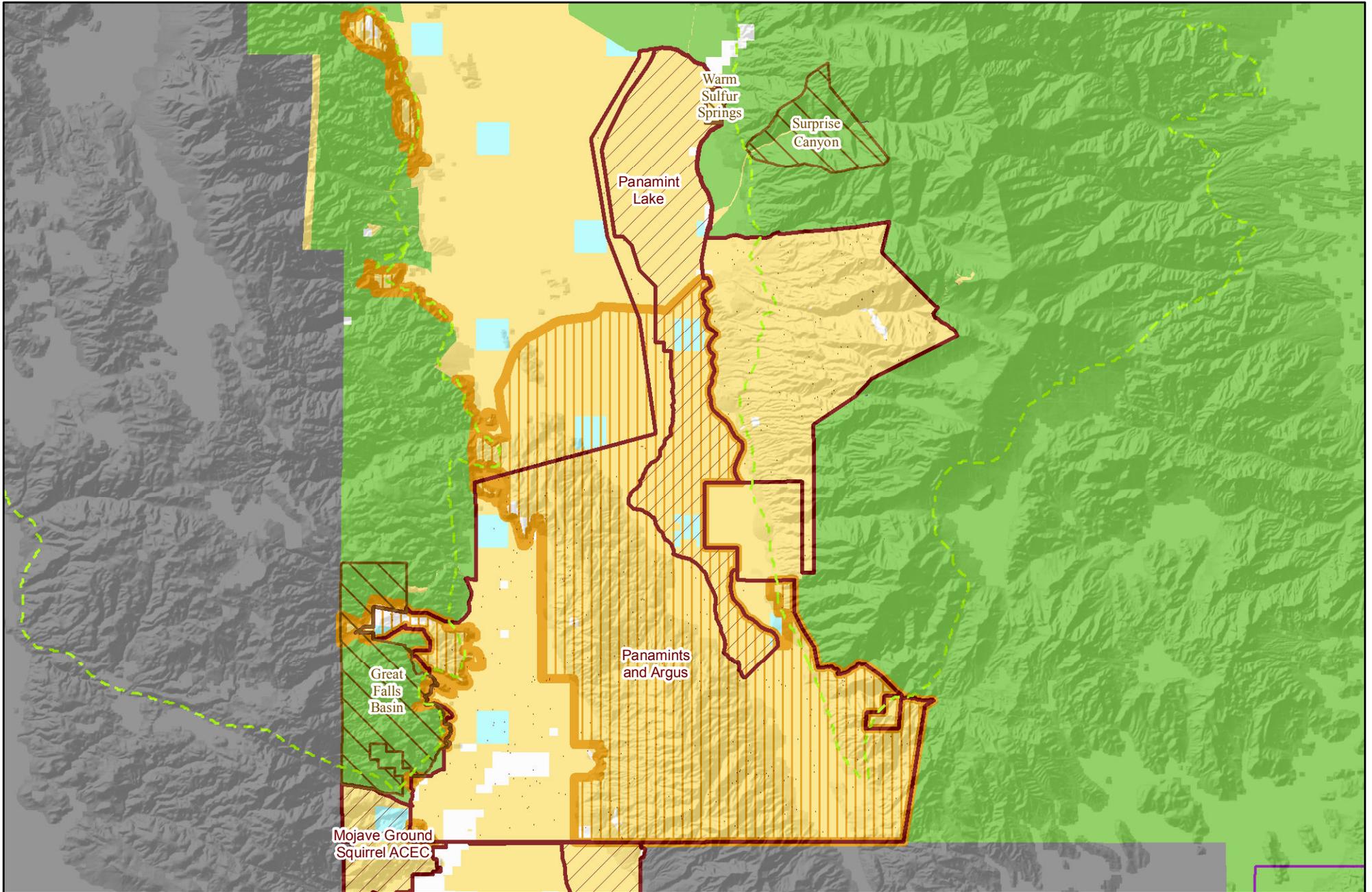
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Panamints and Argus



Alternative 1 ACECs
 Date Printed: 7/28/2014
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed Wildlife Allocation
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

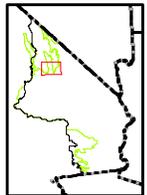
- Design Focus Areas
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

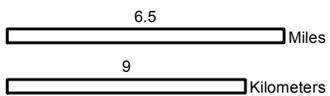
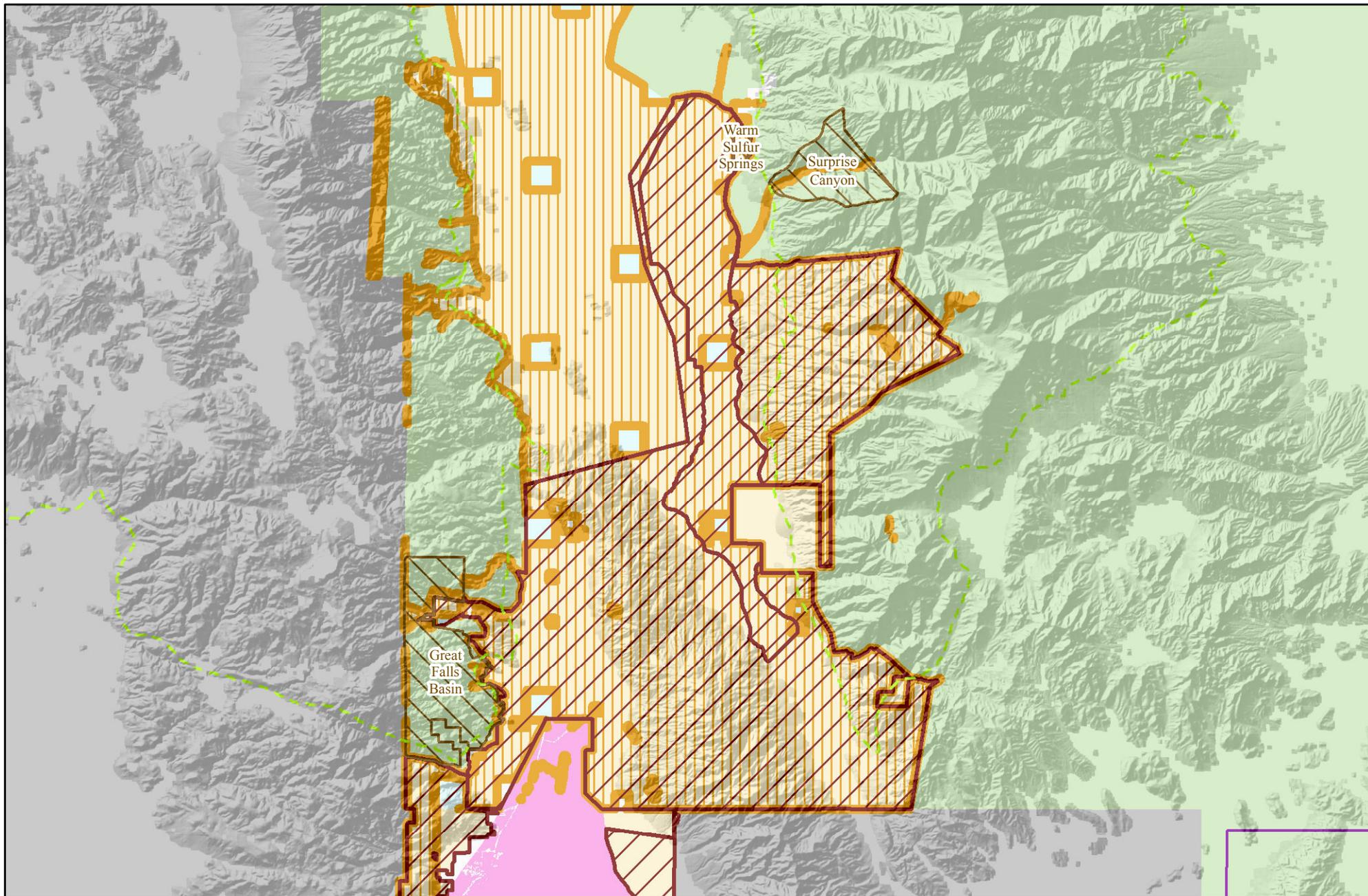
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Panamints and Argus



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

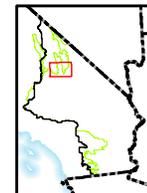
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

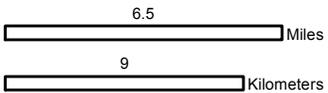
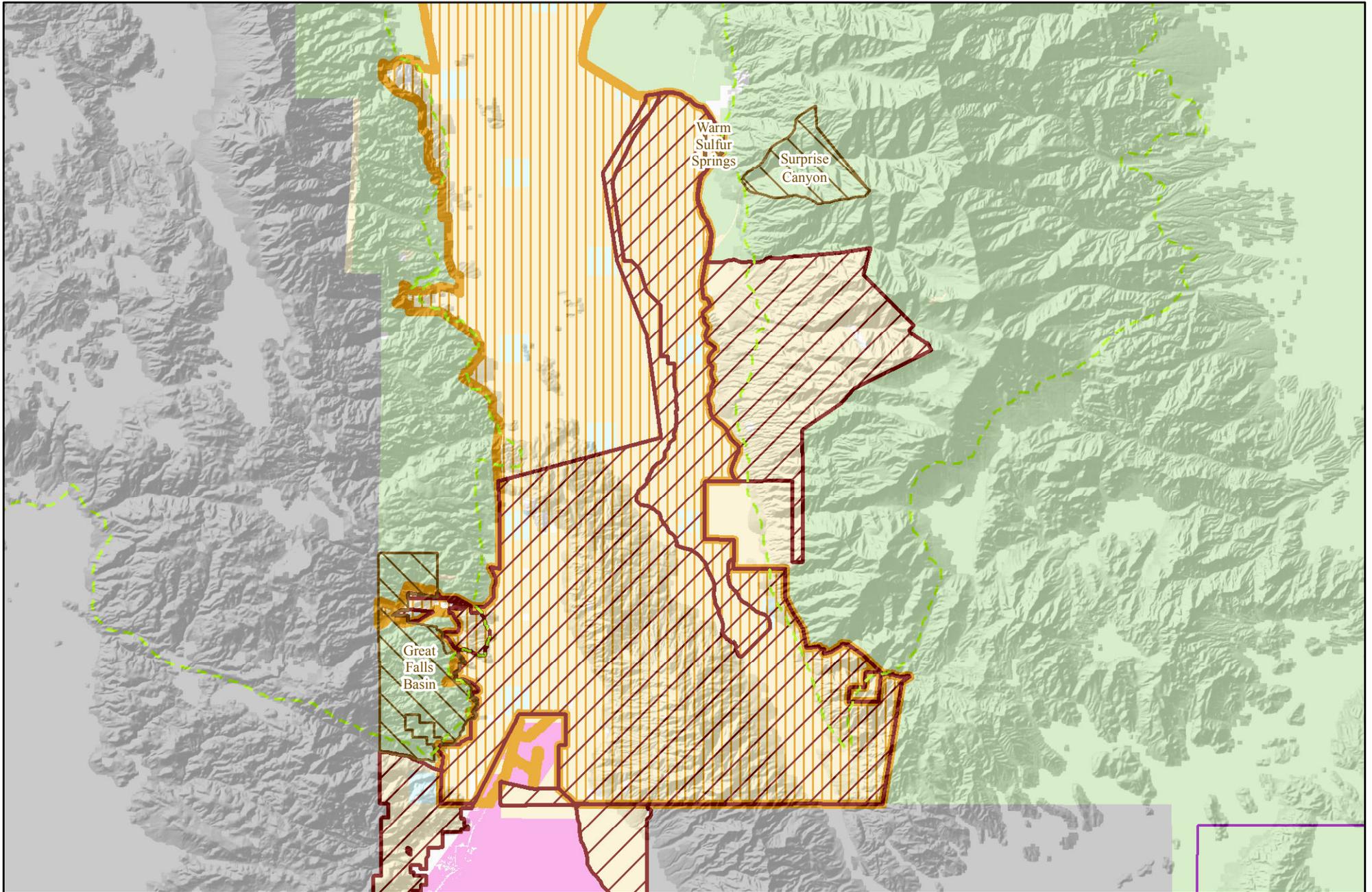
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Panamints and Argus



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

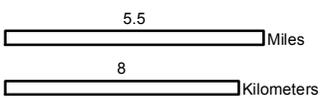
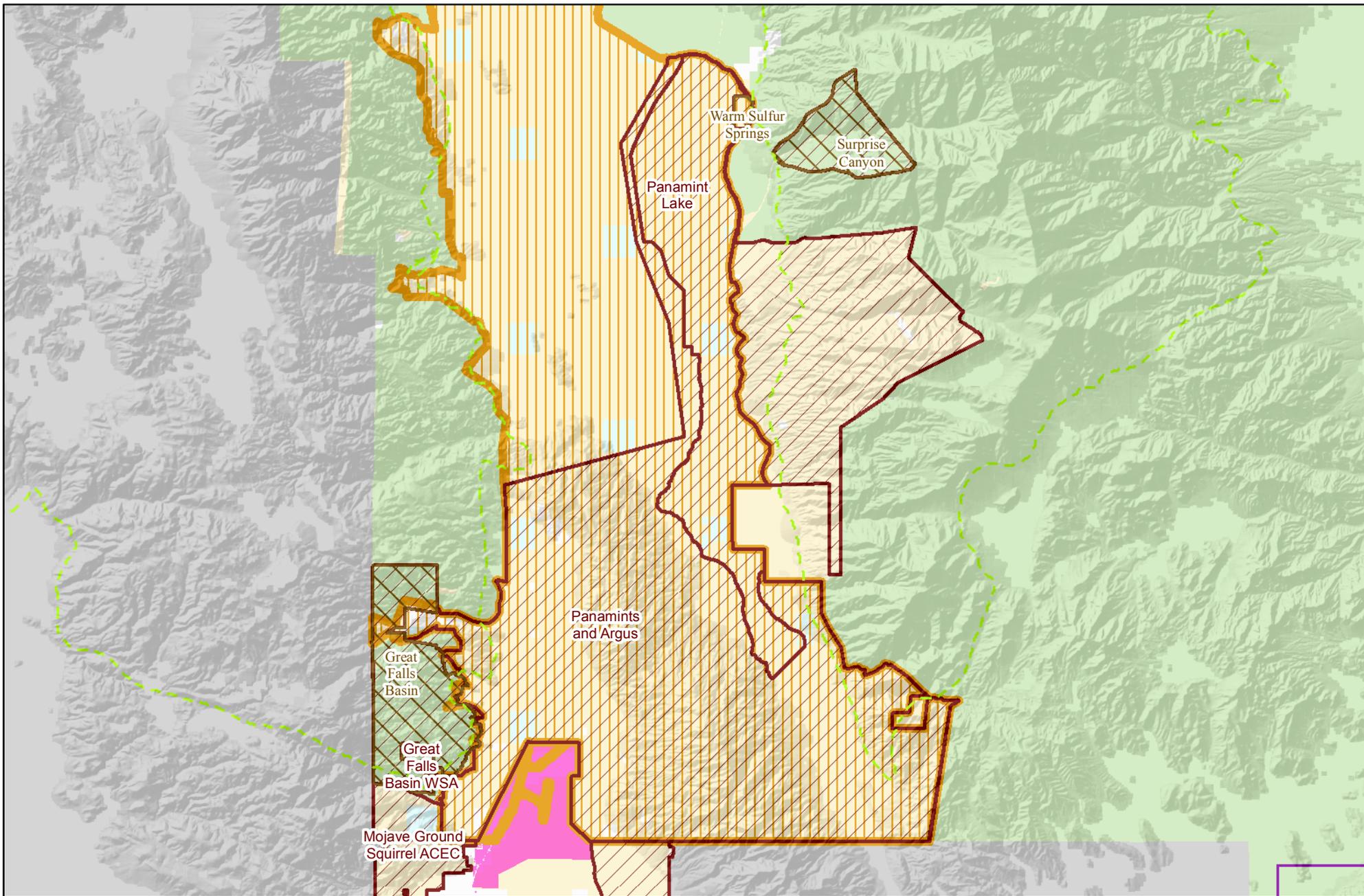
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GTLF

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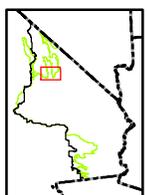
Panamints and Argus



Alternative 4 ACECs
 Date Printed: 8/6/2014
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



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| <p>ACEC Layers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing ACEC Proposed NLCS Proposed ACEC Proposed Wildlife Allocation Legislatively and Legally Protected | <p>Design Focus Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Focus Areas Variance Lands OHV Areas CDCA Boundary DRECP Boundary BLM Field Office | <p>Land Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bureau of Land Management State Other Federal Military Private | <p>GTLF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interstate US Hwy CA Hwy County Hwy |
|---|---|---|---|



Sierra Canyons

Description/Location: This unit lays along the eastern Sierra, west of Hwy 395 between the towns of Indian Wells and Haiwee.

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: This flyway provides outstanding habitat for golden eagles and other raptors, with nearby cliffs for nesting and the valley floor for foraging. This area is a part of the Pacific Migratory Bird Flyway with riparian stop-over habitats. Songbirds pass through the valley on their way to breeding grounds. Shore birds migrate to Owens Lake and Mono Lake. The flyway has stop-over riparian/wetland habitat in the Sierra Nevada canyons, Little Lake, Haiwee Reservoir, Owens Lake and Mono Lake and provides a path from Mexico to Canada for certain species.

The area provides habitat for numerous special status plant species Charlotte's phacelia and Latimer's woodland gilia. These species and a broad array of additional species provide some of the most prolific and consistent wildflower blooms in the California Desert. Every spring, the Ridgecrest Wildflower Festival conducts field trips to these canyons taking visitors from across the country and abroad to these Sierra Canyons. The area also contains excellent habitat for the federally and state threatened desert tortoise.

This area offers outstanding opportunities to view a portion of the East Monache mule deer herd. As winter moves in, deer move down from the mountains to the valley bottom, at about 4,000 feet above sea level. This is the largest of the three winter ranges and runs for approximately 30 miles along the base of the Sierras between Olancho Creek and Five Mile Canyon. About 600-700 deer spend their winters here.

The area was also called out in WEMO as the "Sierra Foothills Habitat Connector" for the state threatened and BLM sensitive Mohave ground squirrel (MGS). It is a very important corridor linking MGS habitats from north to south.

Cultural: National cultural values include those sites eligible for and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Los Angeles Aqueduct played a vital role in the development of the Los Angeles area, sparked the California Water Wars, and has contributed to changes in water regulations and policy throughout the state. The scientific value of the area includes the potential to answer some of the most pressing questions in California archaeology, particularly about trade, human adaptation to changing environments, and culture contact and interaction.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: newly proposed.

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological and cultural resources. The Eastern front Sierra Canyons were a critical part of the Native American seasonal round. Not only did these places have necessary water in the summer, they provided access points to the hunting grounds of the Sierra Nevada crest, sacred areas associated with mountains. They also served as conduits for trade with groups over the mountains in the Central Valley and beyond to the Coast. The North and South Units of the Sierra Canyons ACEC contain many large, prehistoric National Register of Historic Places eligible properties in relatively undisturbed contexts. These sites have high densities of obsidian and other types of lithic material unparalleled in the Ridgecrest Field Office. The sites located in these canyons have the potential to answer some of the most pressing questions in California archaeology, particularly about trade, human adaptation to changing environments, and culture contact and interaction.

The North and South Unit Sierra Canyons Conservation Area also encompass the footprint of the Los

Angeles Department of Water and Power Los Angeles Aqueduct. The first aqueduct, built in 1913, redefined the history of Owens, Rose, and Indian Wells Valleys. The First LA Aqueduct has been listed as a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. The Aqueduct and all of the associated labor camps along the line have also been recommended eligible for the listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Sierra Canyons Conservation Area will provide an added layer of protection to the prehistoric, historic, and ethnographic sites associated with the Sierra Front. A management plan for this area would include restrictions to OHV routes in these areas, a harder look at proposed development, and an opportunity for scientific exploration and public interpretation.

Healthy creosote habitat supports a high variety and density of resident bird species such as the Le Conte’s thrasher and loggerhead shrikes. It also includes great habitat for other sensitive species such as the BLM sensitive burrowing owl.

Goals: Protect flyway to ensure current safe passage of resident and migratory bird species in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Preserve and protect other sensitive biological and cultural resources in the area.

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	26,900	26,900	0	1%
1	9,400	26,900	0	1%
2	21,600	21,600	0	0.25%
3	21,800	26,900	0	1%
4	14,100	26,900	0	0.25%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives:

Under All Alternatives—This area (size and location vary between alternatives, see table above and maps that follow) would be identified as an ACEC and would be managed for conservation purposes.

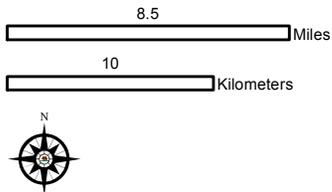
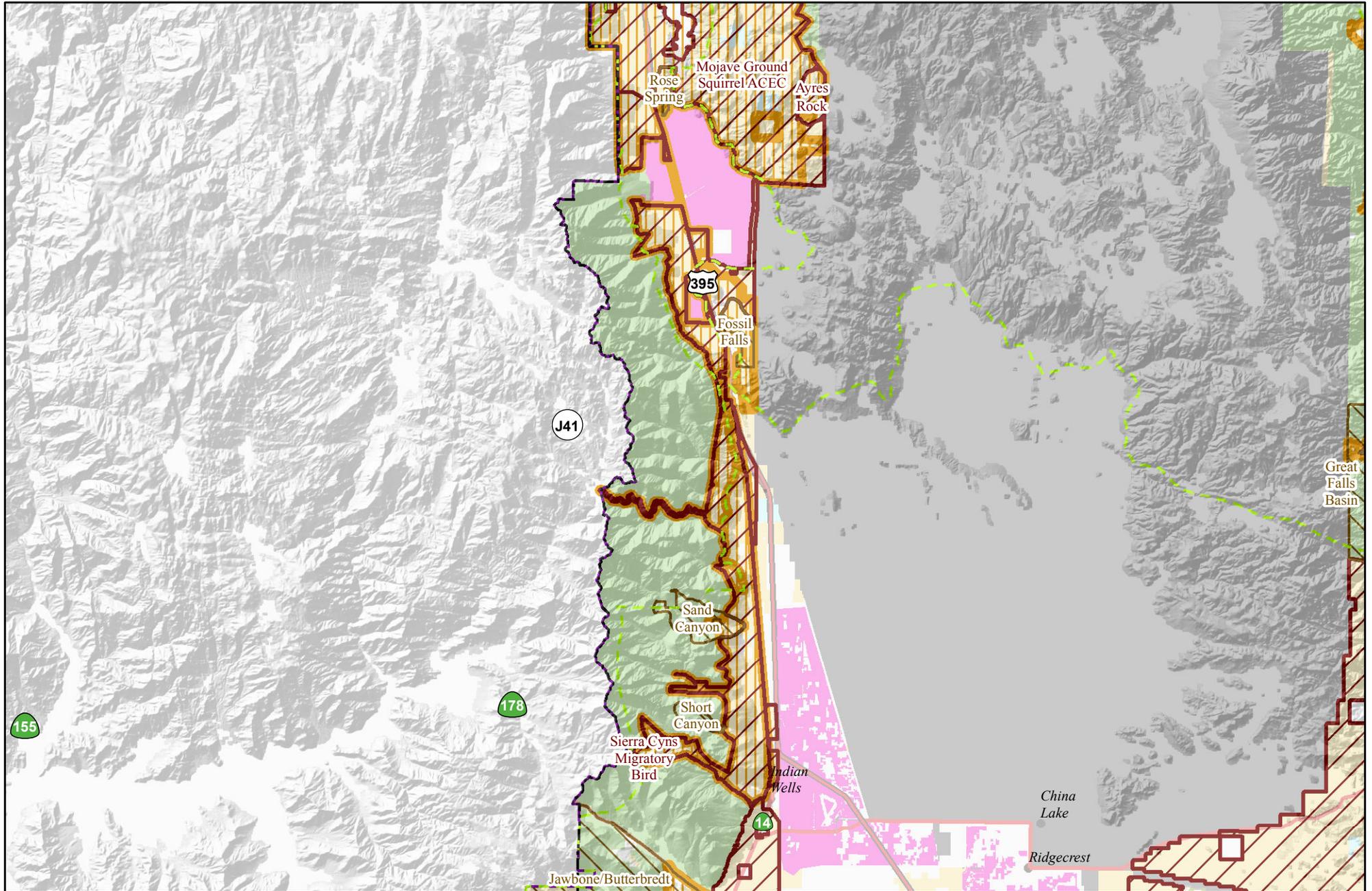
No Action – this conservation area would not exist, as it does not exist currently.

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. 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> <p>Objective: Protect the hydrologic flow regime in all of the canyons Allowable Uses: Existing water rights</p> <p>Management actions: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are function and achieving physical and biological objectives.</p> <p>Monitor Proper Functioning Condition and restore natural flow stream morphology when needed</p> <p>Monitor water uses</p>	<p>Soil, water, air</p>
<p>Objective: Protect the following special status plants by ensuring habitat is in a stable or improving condition to keep the species from becoming listed under the ESA. Management Actions: Protect and monitor populations of special status plants</p> <p>Creamy blazing star (<i>Mentzelia tridentata</i>) Latimer’s woodland-gilia (<i>Saltuglia latimeri</i>) Charlotte’s Phacelia (<i>Phacelia nashiana</i>) Nine Mile Canyon phacelia (<i>Phacelia novenmillensis</i>) Mojave tarplant (<i>Deinandra mohavensis</i>)</p> <p>Prohibit collection of plants except by permit Rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed area Management Action: Protect natural communities listed as rare by the State</p>	<p>Vegetation (incl. special status species)</p>
<p>Objective: Protect flyway to ensure current safe passage of resident and migratory bird species. Allowable Uses: Linear rows allowed with mitigation measures 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: Management Action: Designate Species below as priority species for management and protection.</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)</p>

<p>Mule Deer 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 Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act 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>) State Species of Special Concern</p> <p>Objective: Maintain quality foraging habitat for the Monache Deer Herd</p> <p>Management Action: Monitor to ensure diverse grasses and forbs with Rangeland Health Standards</p>	
<p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</p>	<p>Cultural Resources</p>
<p>Objective: Limit vehicles to open designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, Non-mechanized,</p> <p>Management Actions: Sign designated routes routinely</p> <p>Rehabilitate unauthorized vehicle play areas and hill climbs, particularly where off-route vehicle use is creating problems for wildlife and visual resources.</p> <p>Avoid designating routes in high value streams and riparian areas. Where routes need to cross streams and riparian areas, they will be managed appropriately to minimize impacts.</p> <p>Avoid designating routes where they are not sustainable, i.e., on steep, loose sandy and/or gravelly slopes. Attempt to re-route routes so they switch back down slopes instead of plummeting straight down.</p> <p>Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat.</p> <p>Increase information to public and LE patrols</p> <p>For complete description, see Eastern Sierra SRMA</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes. Protect sensitive riparian resources (i.e. nesting birds) and people from the risk of fire and accidental shooting</p> <p>Allowable Uses: All forms of recreational use are allowed including but not</p>	<p>Recreation</p>

<p>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>Impose seasonal restrictions on target shooting in sensitive riparian areas and where large numbers of people congregate to park or camp.</p> <p>Increase LE ranger patrols to enforce compliance with fire restrictions, camping limits, and vehicle use on the designated route system.</p>	
<p>Objective: Consolidate habitat management</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers</p>	Land Tenure
<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.</p> <p>Follow BMP for Avian Protection on transmission lines, etc.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria.</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy
<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>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables
<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>	Livestock grazing

Sierra Canyons



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

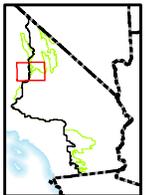
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

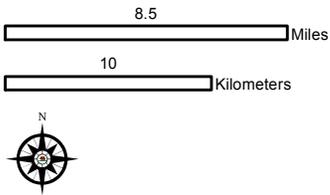
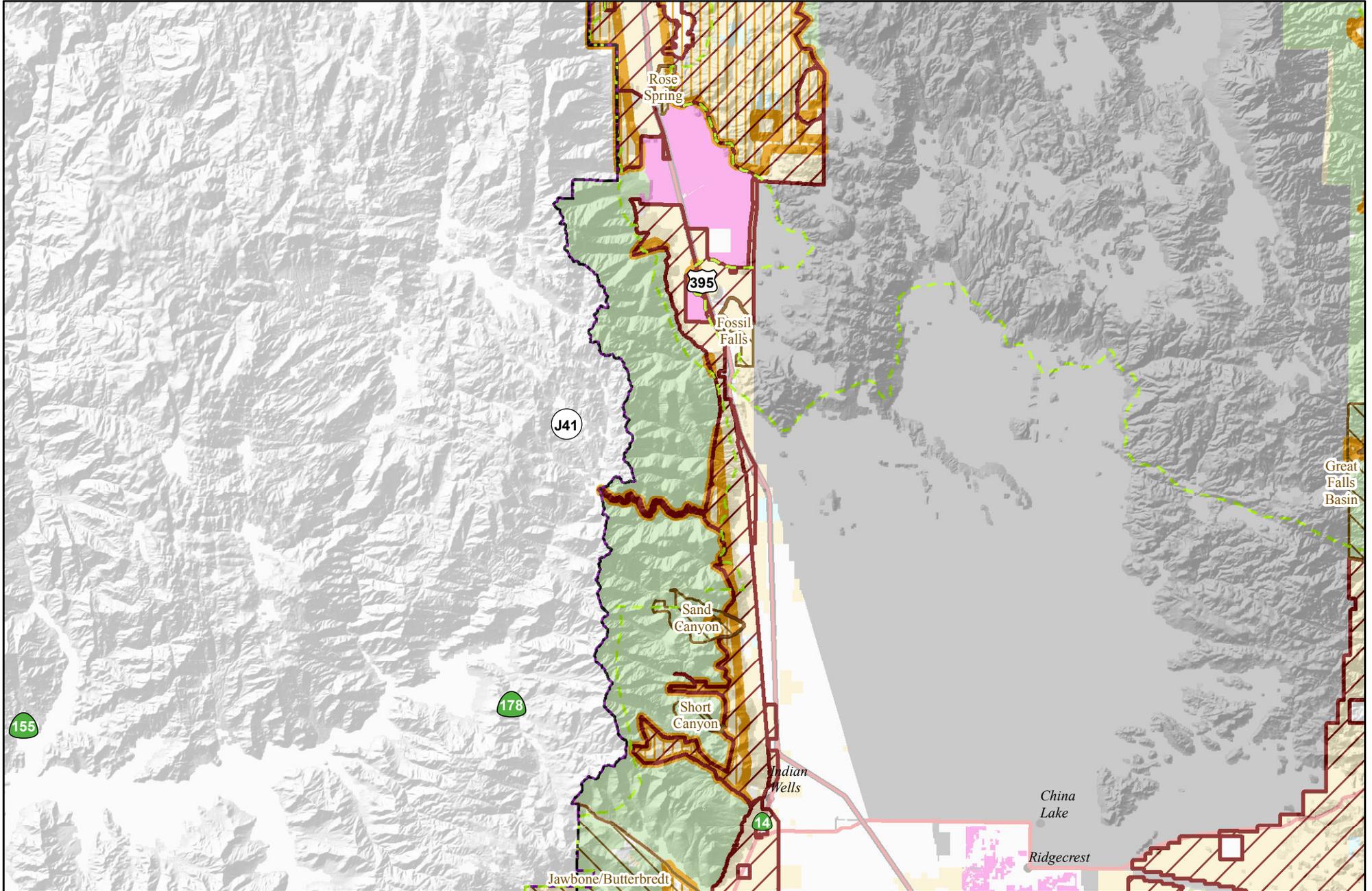
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Sierra Canyons



Alternative 1 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

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

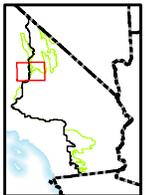
- Cities
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- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

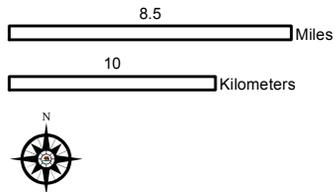
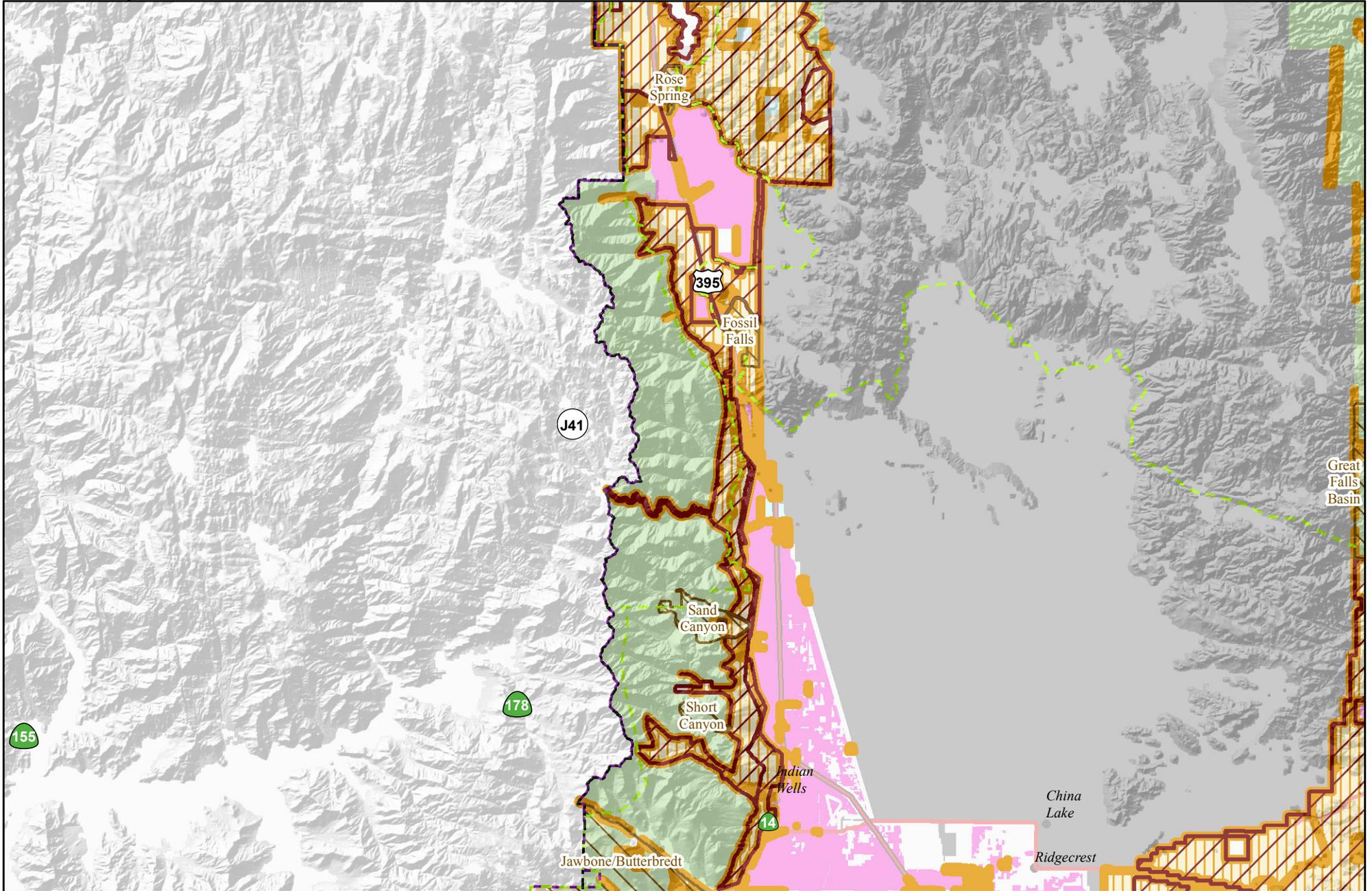
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLP

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Sierra Canyons



Alternative 2 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Executive Decreted

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

Land Status

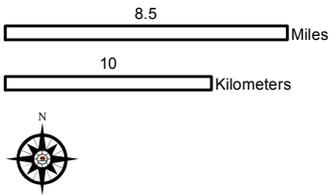
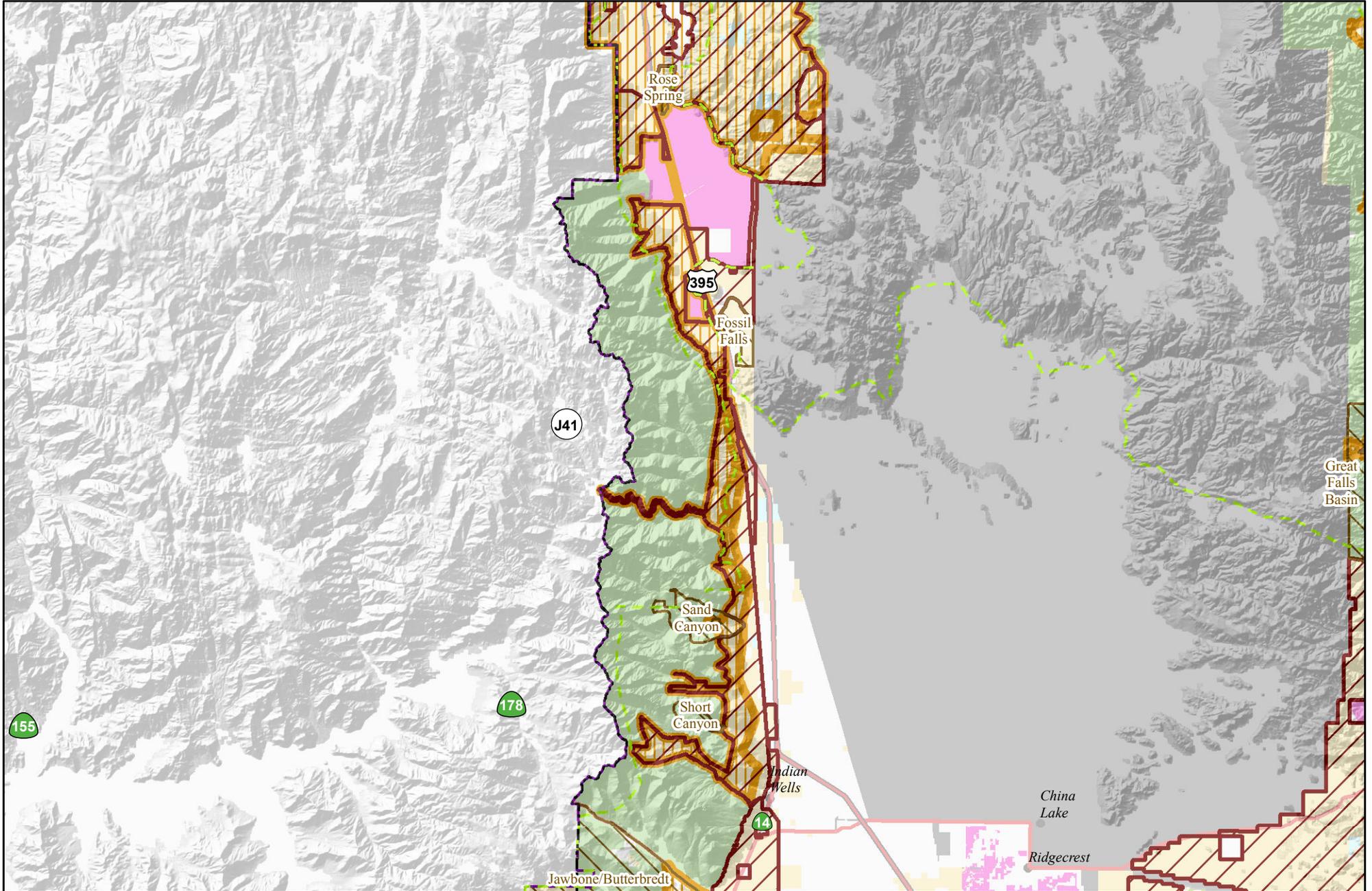
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Sierra Canyons



Alternative 3 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

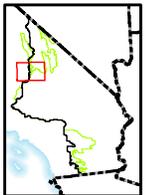
- Cities
- OHV Areas
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- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

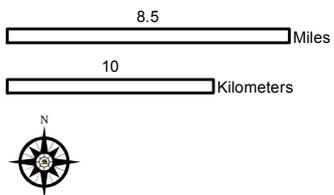
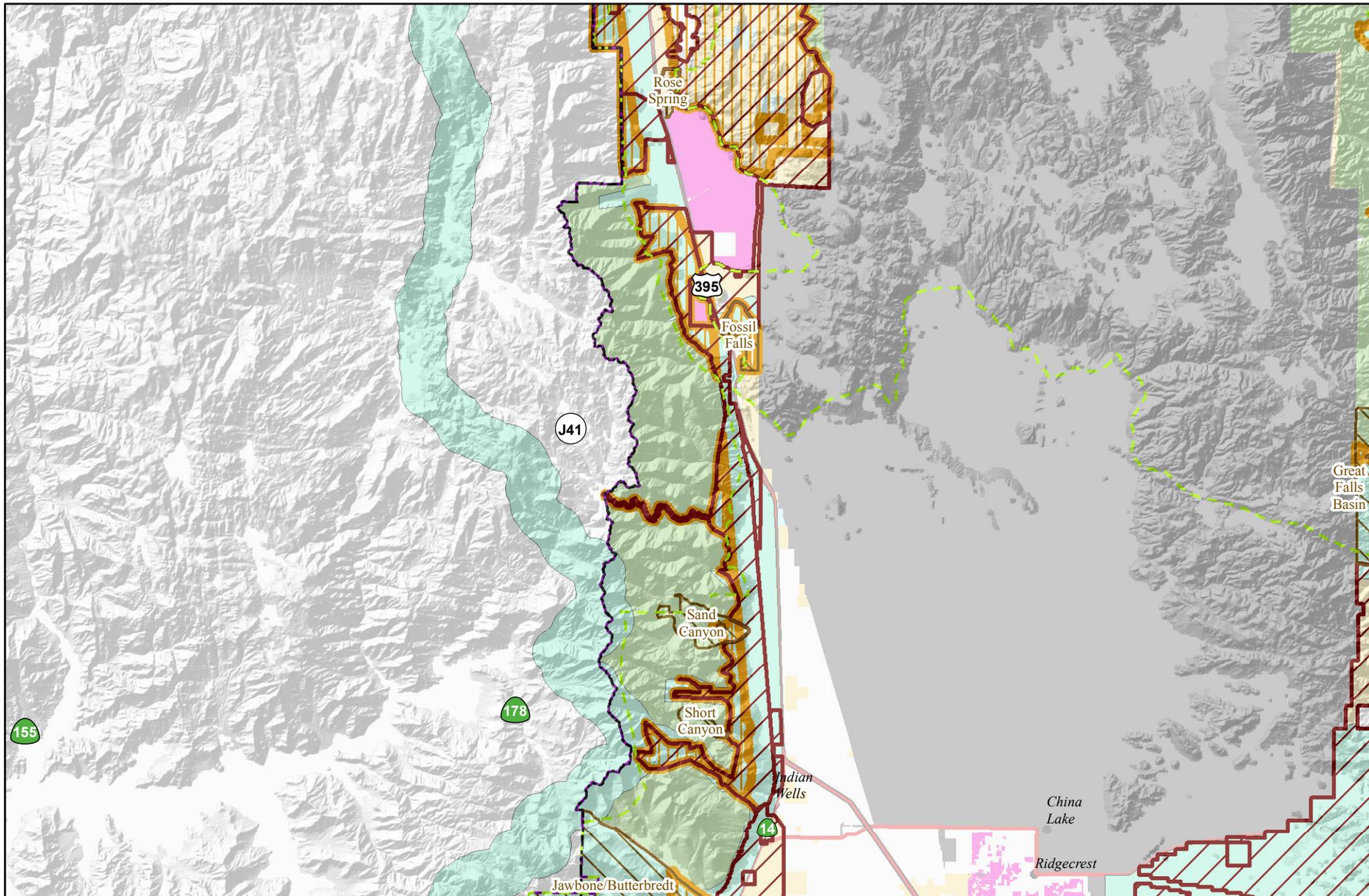
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLP

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Sierra Canyons



Alternative 4 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

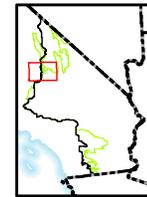
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Christmas Canyon

Description/Location: Located at the southern end of Searles Valley in the northwestern corner of San Bernardino County. The ACEC is named for the canyon which forms part of its eastern boundary.

Nationally Significant Values:

Cultural: Researchers and avocational collectors are using the data from the sites within Christmas Canyon to identify early Holocene occupation of the Searles Dry Lake shore, a research topic currently being explored throughout the Great Basin and Mojave Desert. The results of such research may be applicable to similar environments where current land use patterns conflict with archaeological preservation. The Navy continues to do scientific research in the areas adjoining the current ACEC boundary. The scientific and cultural resource potential remains high. Resources within this locality have been identified as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Continued research may identify a definitive National Register District Boundary.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Designated ACEC, CDCA Plan, 1980, Christmas Canyon ACEC Management Plan, 11/14/1988 (CA-060-ACEC-23)

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant cultural resources. This area was designated to protect archaeological resources associated with prehistoric reduction of lithic resources, a large chert quarry, and the collection and processing of local edible plants. Eighteen cultural properties were identified when the area was originally designated an ACEC in the CDCA Plan; approximately 72 have been identified since then, with ongoing research and survey work anticipated in this area by the Navy. Researchers and avocational collectors have attempted to identify early Holocene occupation of the Searles Dry Lake shore with sites within Christmas Canyon This area was withdrawn specifically from the surrounding Spangler Hills Off-Highway Vehicle Open Area to protect it from further degradation by vehicles. A portion of the southern edge of the ACEC is included in the Mojave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area.

Goals: Protect cultural resources that are present within the Canyon and surrounding area. These deposits are particularly susceptible to damage from surface disturbance.

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	3,400	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	3,400	3,400	0	1%
1	3,400	3,400	0	1%
2	3,400	3,400	0	1%
3	3,400	3,400	0	1%
4	3,400	3,400	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives :

All Action Alternatives – Remove ACEC from the Open Area. Reclassify ACEC as Limited Use Land. Designate routes within this new Limited Use area.

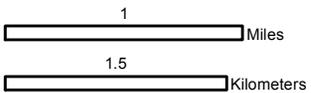
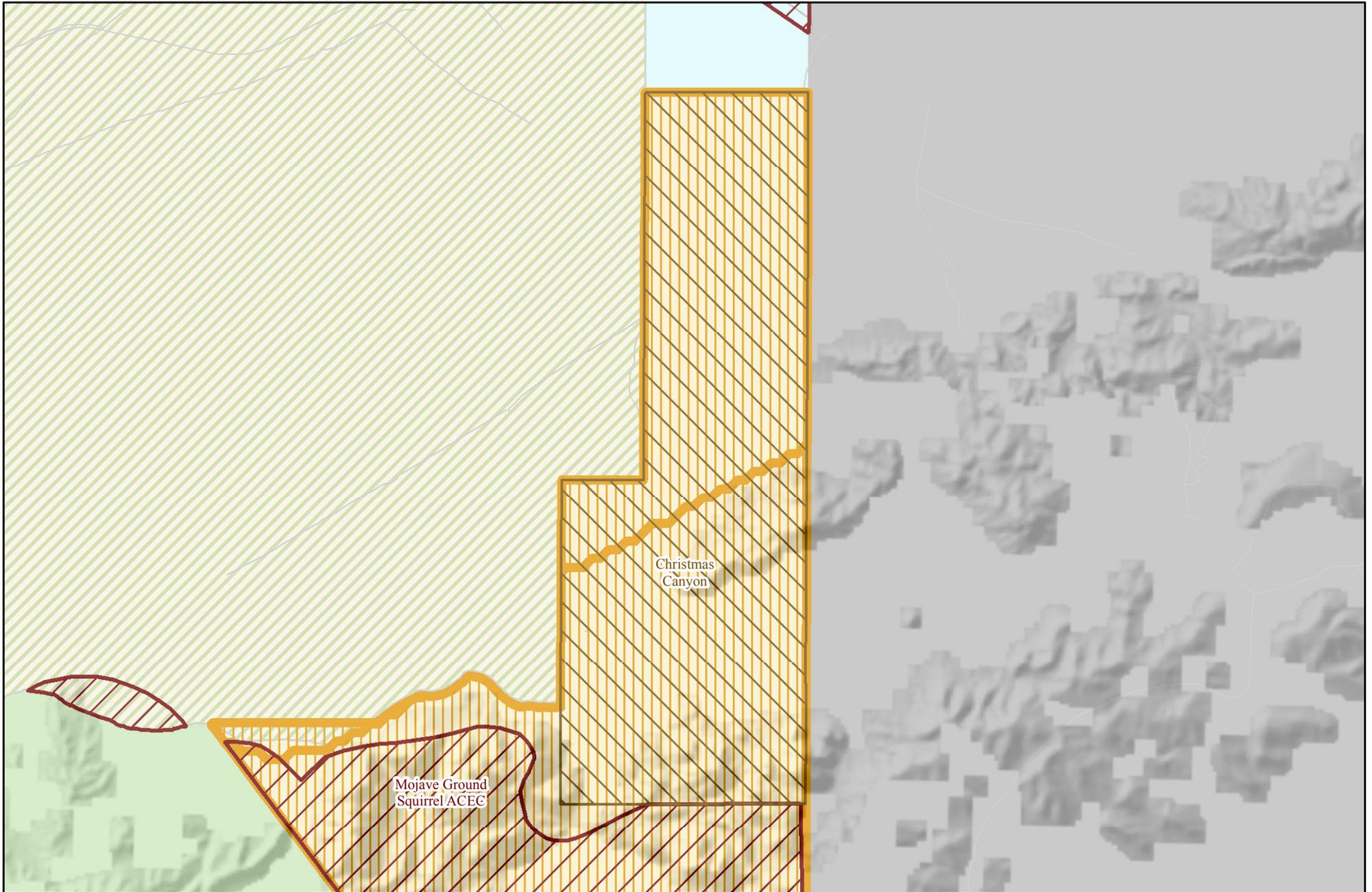
No Action Alternative –This area would be managed as it is currently managed. Most of the ACEC is within a recreational vehicle Open Area. Under the No Action Alternative, open use by vehicles would continue.

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 and recreation activities when soils are susceptible to heightened risk of erosion.</p> <p>Management Actions: Ensure soils 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>	<p>Soil, water, air</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 Species below as priority species for management and protection.</p> <p>Le Conte’s Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>) State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>) BLM Sensitive 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 Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>) BLM sensitive Pallid bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>) BLM sensitive Spotted bat (<i>Euderma maculatum</i>) BLM sensitive Western Mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>) BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>) BLM Sensitive Long-eared owl (<i>Asio otus</i>) State Species of Special Concern</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)</p>
<p>Maintain objectives and management actions of existing ACEC Management Plan.</p> <p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in</p>	<p>Cultural Resources</p>

<p>general cultural resources rules.</p> <p>Objective: Conserve archaeological resources, decrease vandalism, and minimize and mitigate impacts from Off Highway Vehicle Use</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Impose travel and camping restrictions within sensitive cultural resources, allow for continued scientific research by qualified and permitted archaeological professionals</p> <p>Management Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and designate all routes within ACEC that will minimize impacts by OHV use. All open and restricted routes which will be posted with appropriate signage and fencing if necessary. Prohibit camping in sensitive areas near rock art, rock shelters, and middens. Conduct salvage excavation at damaged resources Develop collaborative monitoring and research strategies with NAWS China Lake Cultural Resources staff as appropriate 	
<p>Objective: Designate the area within the boundary as Limited Use. Limit motorized vehicle impacts.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc</p> <p>Management Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and designate routes within the new Limited Use Area. Identify access routes which minimize impact to resources Limit vehicles to open designated routes by signing, fencing, and barriers Rehabilitate and restore closed and translinear disturbance routes 	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Under the No Action Alternative:</p> <p>Within the Spangler Hills Open Area, non-competitive motorized vehicles have full access of the area. Require competitive events to be held on existing routes</p> <p>Under All Action Alternatives:</p> <p>Objective: Provide recreation opportunities that are compatible with cultural resource preservation by providing dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes</p> <p>Allowable Uses: 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>Recreation</p>

<p>Restricted Special Recreation Permits for motorized events</p> <p>Management Actions: No competitive motorized events within ACEC. Non-competitive motorized events limited to open designated routes.</p>	
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Lode and placer mining claims are currently on file.</p> <p>Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting sensitive resources in the area.</p> <p>Allowable Use: Casual Use mining allowed with approved plan of operations.</p> <p>Management Action: 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>	Minerals (Locatable, Leasable, Mineral Materials)
<p>Area falls within the Spangler Hills Grazing Allotment.</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>	Livestock grazing

Christmas Canyon



Preferred Alternative 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

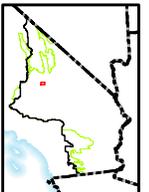
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

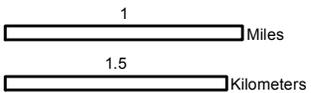
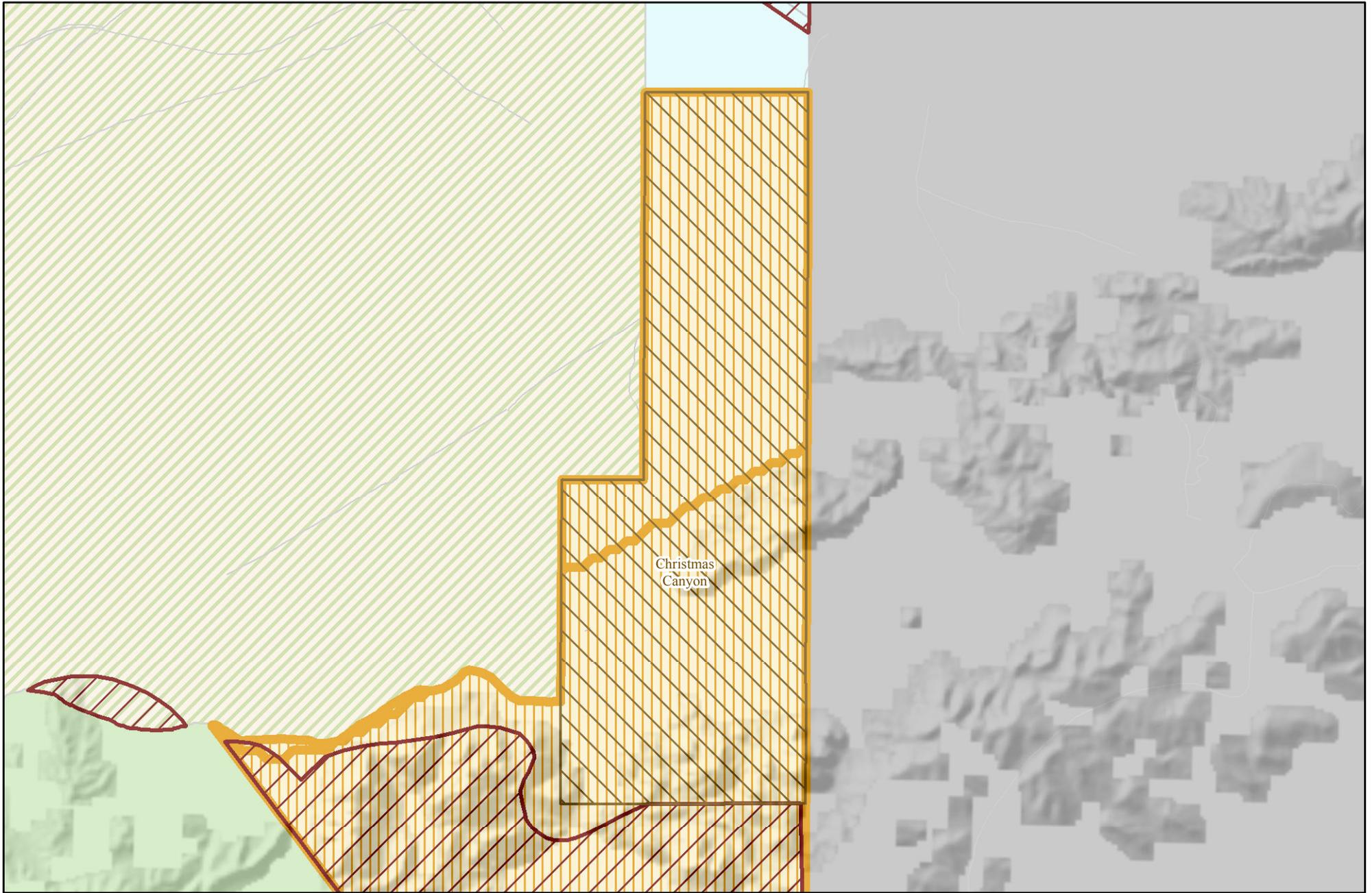
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Christmas Canyon



Alternative 1 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

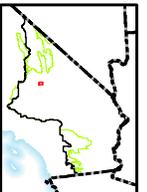
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

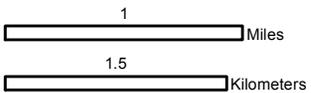
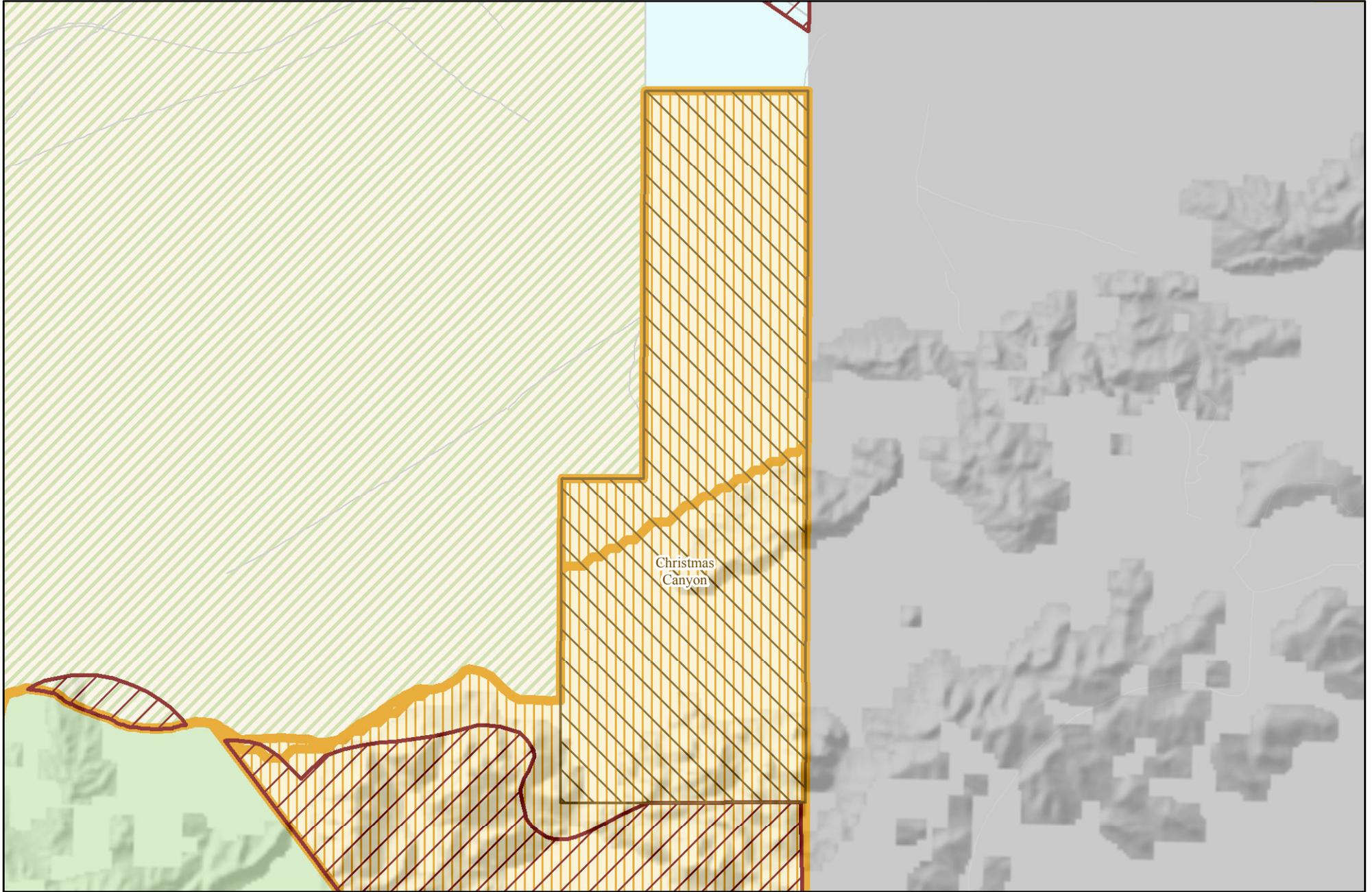
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Christmas Canyon



Alternative 2 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
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Land Status

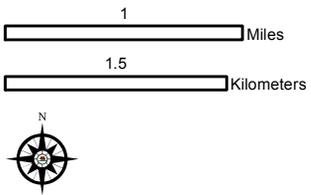
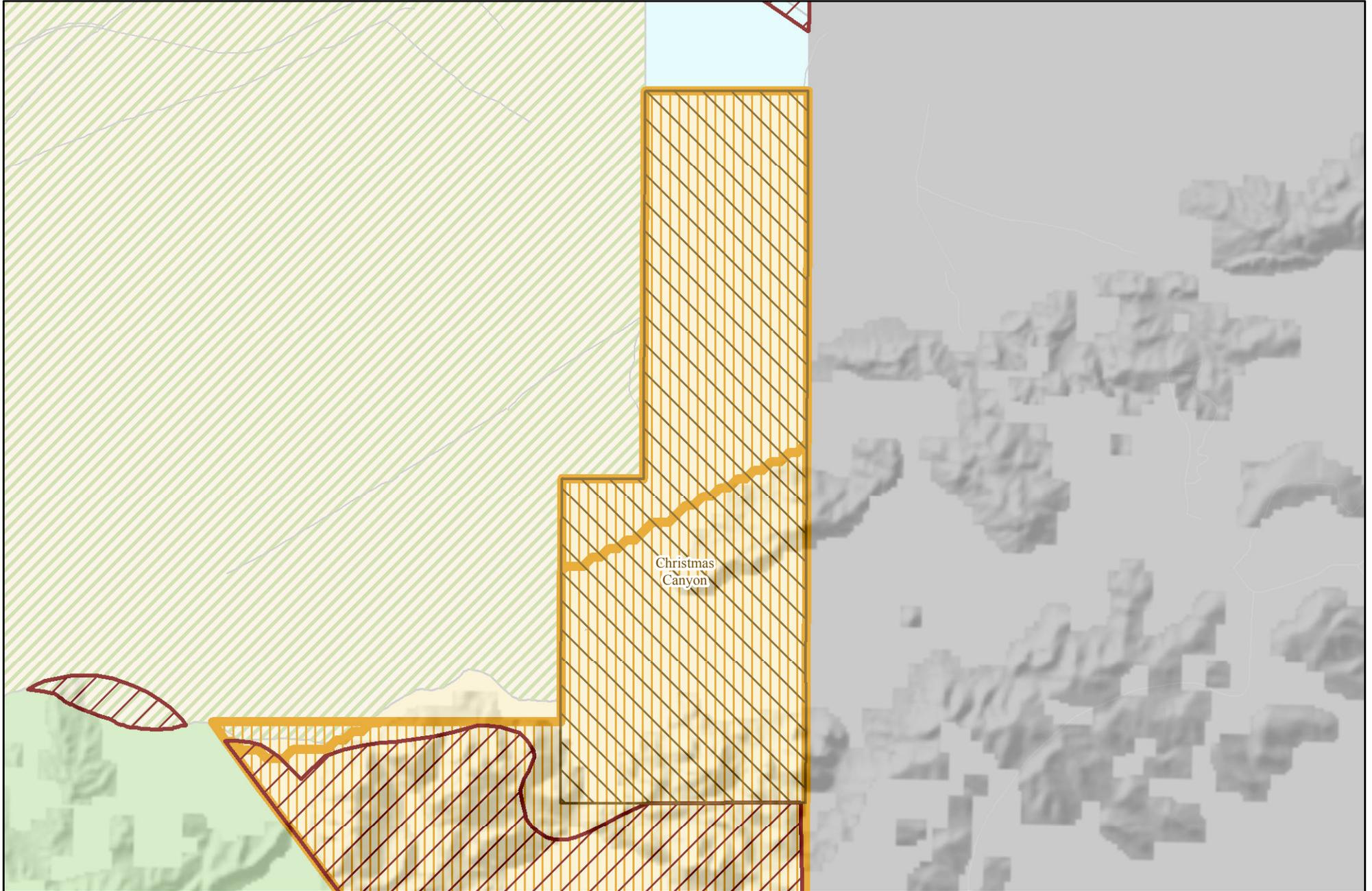
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Christmas Canyon



Alternative 3 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

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

- Cities
- OHV Areas
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- DRECP Boundary
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Land Status

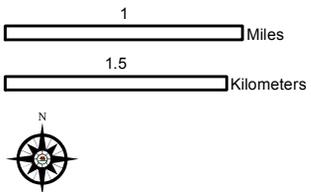
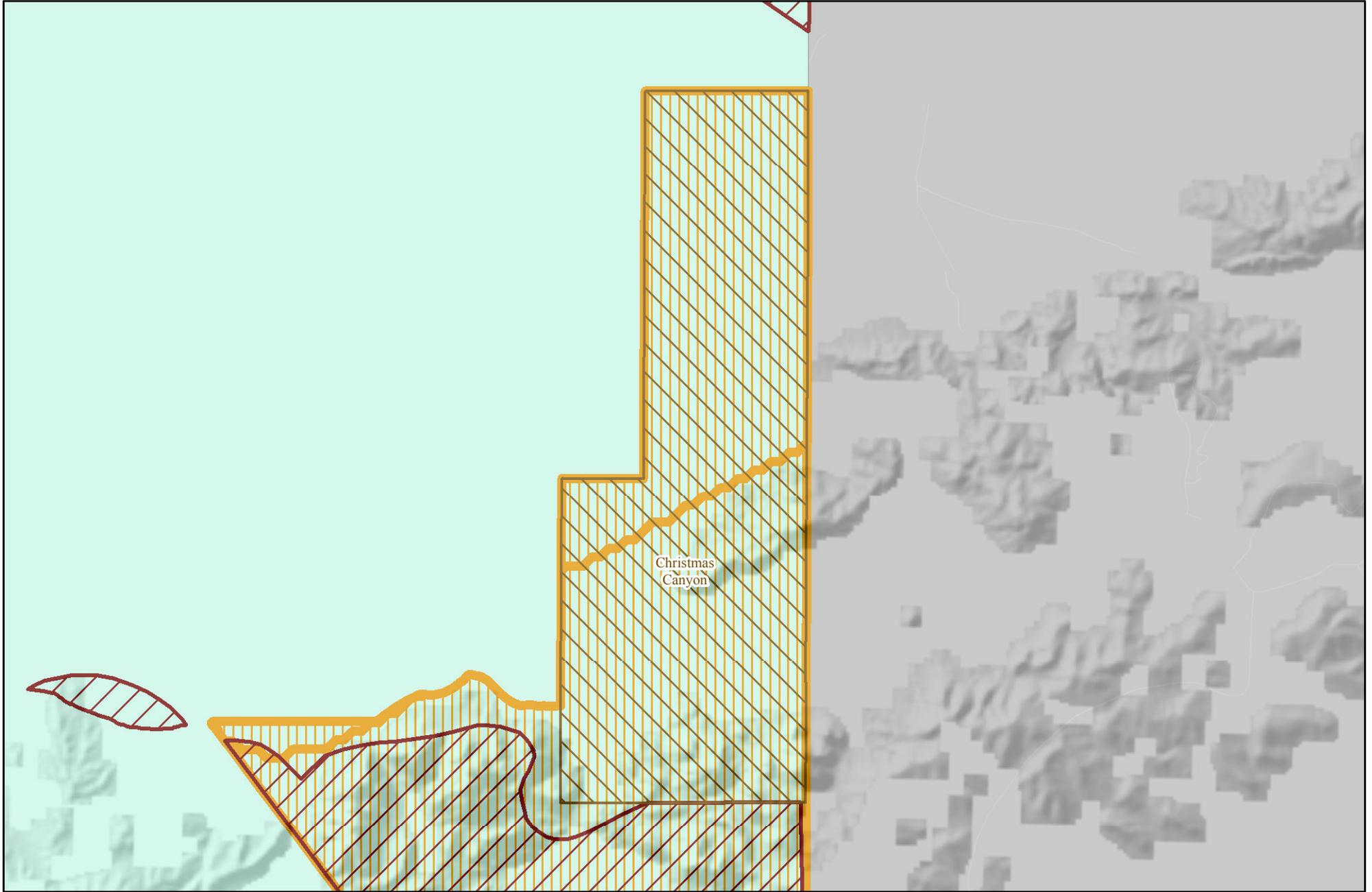
- Bureau of Land Management
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- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
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- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Christmas Canyon



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
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Land Status

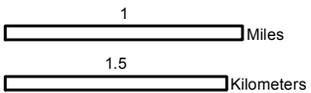
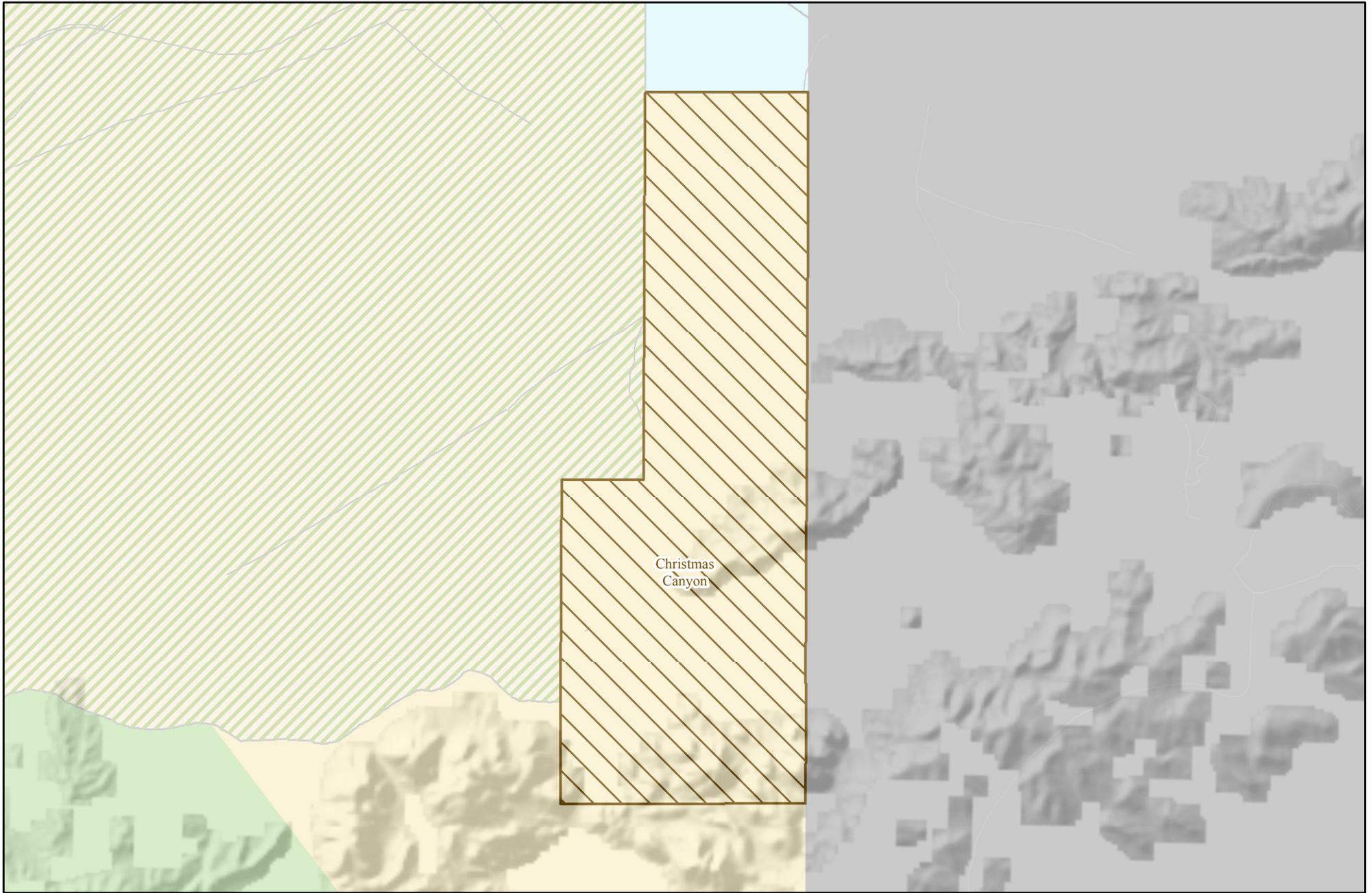
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Christmas Canyon



No Action ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

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ACEC Layers

Existing ACEC

OHV Areas

Legislatively and Legally Protected

Cities

CDCA Boundary

DRECP Boundary

BLM Field Office

Land Status

Bureau of Land Management

State

Other Federal

Military

Private

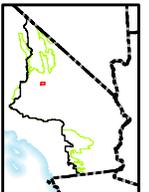
GTLF

Interstate

US Hwy

CA Hwy

County Hwy



Fossil Falls

Description/Location: Located in the southernmost section of Owens Valley, in what is commonly known as Rose Valley. It is flanked on the western edge by the Sierra Nevada Mountains and on the east by the Coso Range and Coso Volcanic Field. The northern edge is the prominent cinder cone known as Red Hill and the southern boundary is the point of greatest constriction between the Coso Range and the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and includes Little Lake.

Nationally Significant Values:

Cultural: The national cultural significance for this area is determined by the listing of the district on the National Register of Historic Places. The rock art at Fossil Falls mirrors the type and style of the Coso Rock Art District, a National Historic Landmark and World Heritage site located on China Lake. The Coso Rock Art District is not accessible to the public because of its location on the Navy base; security clearance, appointments, and military escorts are required to access the location. Fossil Falls, by contrast, is due west of the Coso Rock Art District on public lands with a developed camping and interpretive area, providing a recreational opportunity not available elsewhere in this region. The relationship between this site and the Coso Rock Art District is evidenced by the archaeological assemblage present, the rock styles observed, and the protected and intact landscape between the localities.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Designated ACEC, CDCA Plan 1980, Cultural Resources Management Plan, 08/1976, Fossil Falls ACEC Management Plan 04/26/1986 (CA-06-ACEC-10), Revised ACEC, West Mojave Plan 01/2005 (D.1.10)

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant cultural and geologic resources. This area was designated for relevant significant prehistoric and historic cultural values and unique geological formations east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and west of the Coso Range Volcanic Field. The current ACEC boundary includes portions of a larger Fossil Falls National Register Archaeological District. Cultural resource investigations, including excavations at the Stahl Site, have identified cultural components in excess of 10,000 years before present. The main lava flow and surrounding lava outcrops have extensive rock art, prehistoric habitation sites, and large scatters of lithic materials from the nearby Sugarloaf Obsidian Source, located on China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station. This area is included in the Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area and has some desert tortoise habitat.

Goals: To provide protection to cultural resources while also enabling the public to enjoy them. Protect geological resources.

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	1,600	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	1,600	1,600	0	1%
1	0	1,600	0	1%
2	1,600	1,600	0	1%
3	0	1,600	0	1%
4	1,600	1,600	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives –

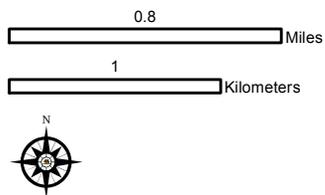
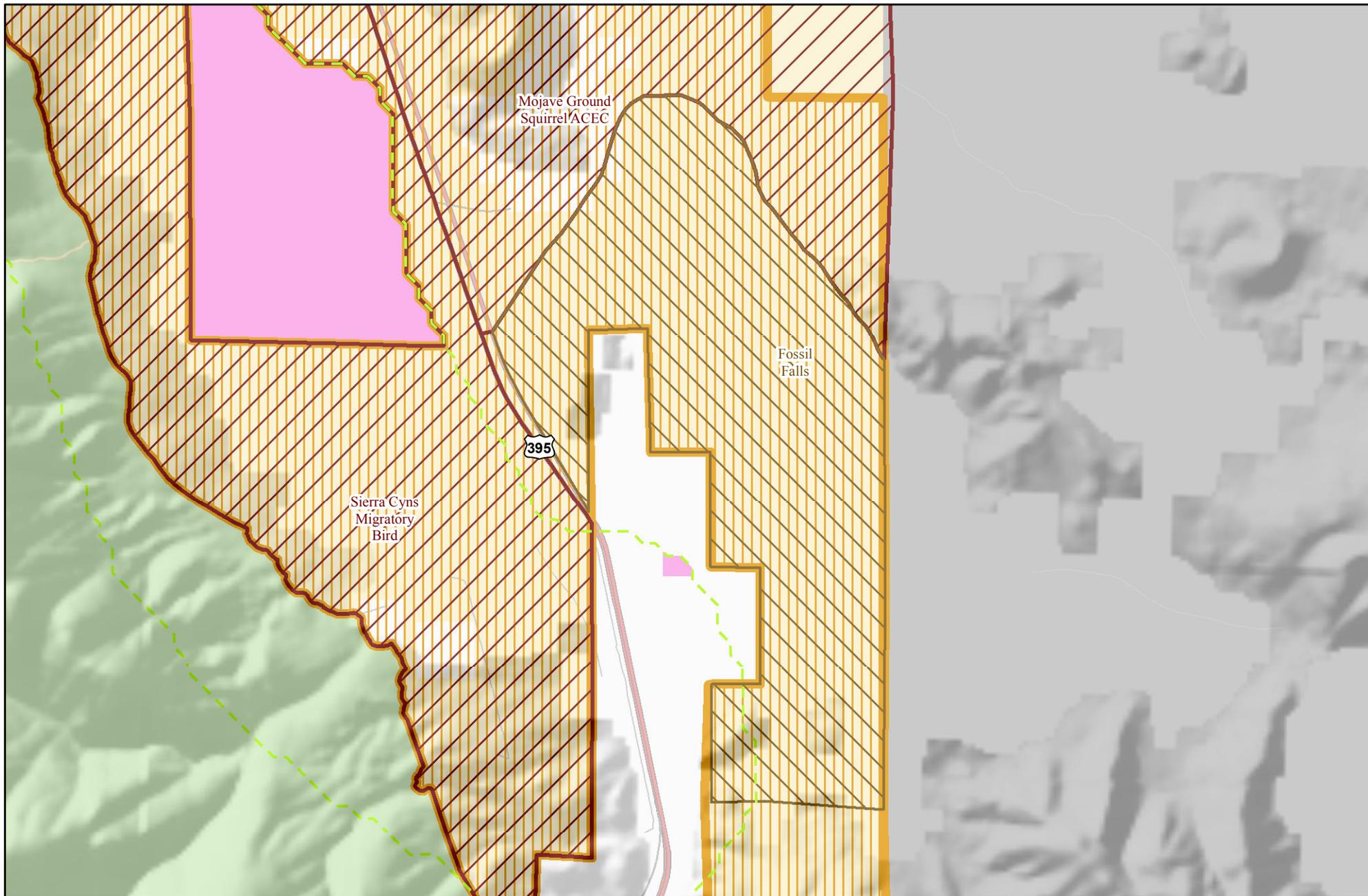
All Alternatives – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence:</p> <p>Management Actions: Restore habitat as needed Designate the following as priority species for management and protection.</p> <p>American Badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>) State Special Animal Mohave ground squirrel (<i>Spermophilus mohavensis</i>) State threatened Desert Tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>) Federally and State threatened BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</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>) State Species of Special Concern</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<p>Maintain objectives and management actions of existing Cultural Resources Management Plan: Garfinkel, Alan P. 1976 <i>A Cultural Resource Management Plan for the Fossil Falls/Little Lake Locality</i>. Bureau of Land Management, California.</p> <p>Objective: Minimize impacts to cultural resource values within the ACEC Allowable Uses: Recreational use by the public, interpretation by BLM, and continued scientific research by cultural resource specialists</p>	Cultural Resources

<p>Management Action: Improve sign and foot trail</p> <p>Management Action: Stabilize and rehabilitate sites that have been impacted by vandals, including the removal of graffiti.</p> <p>Management Action: Institute regular patrols and interpretive services.</p> <p>Objective: Reconcile ACEC boundary with National Register District boundary.</p> <p>Management Action: Facilitate research, scientific study, and general study of cultural resources</p> <p>Management Action Work to acquire lands as described ACEC Management Plan</p> <p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</p>	
<p>Objective: Protect scenic values of the Fossil Falls ACEC</p> <p>Management Action: 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 of maintaining scenic values.</p>	Visual Resources
<p>Objective: Limit impacts from OHV use by designating and limiting trail use</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized restricted from foot trails. Limited use in and around ACEC.</p> <p>Management Action: Install protective vehicle barriers and closures signs.</p> <p>Management Action : Develop foot trail</p> <p>Management Action : Regularly monitor trail use</p> <p>Management Action : Restore and rehabilitate trails as appropriate</p>	Trails and Travel Management
<p>Objective: Provide recreation opportunities that are consistent with resource protection</p> <p>Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Camping and picnicking in designated areas. Firearms prohibited. Rock climbing where impacts to cultural resources are minimized.</p> <p>Management Action: Develop trails/ designate day use and camping areas.</p> <p>Management Action: Develop interpretive materials for ACEC/ cultural resources.</p> <p>Management Action: Develop interpretive materials for recreational</p> <p>Management Action: opportunities, including allowable rock climbing activities and location.</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Maintain valid and existing rights-of- way, including power transmission line, aqueduct or ditch, and Highway 395.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Valid and existing rights.</p> <p>Management Action: 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 of maintaining scenic values and minimizing impacts to cultural values.</p>	Rights of Way

<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria.</p> <p>Objective: Coso Known Geothermal Resource Area (KGRA) overlaps the ACEC</p> <p>Allowable Uses: No surface entry within the Fossil Falls Archaeological District</p> <p>Management Action: Continued management practices as prescribed in management plans</p> <p>Management Action: Geothermal leasing and development is allowed in an ACEC where there is overlap between a Development Focus Area where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, geothermal leasing is allowed with an NSO stipulation.</p>	<p>Renewable Energy</p>
<p>Objective: Allow for valid and existing active mining rights for pumice deposits and cinder cones.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: No surface entry within the Fossil Falls Archaeological District</p> <p>Management Action: 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 of maintaining scenic values and minimizing impacts to cultural values.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables</p>
<p>Objective: This ACEC is within the Tunawee Common Allotment</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>

Fossil Falls



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

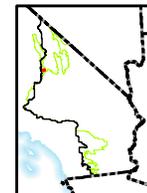
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

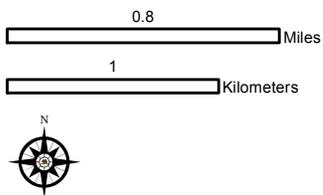
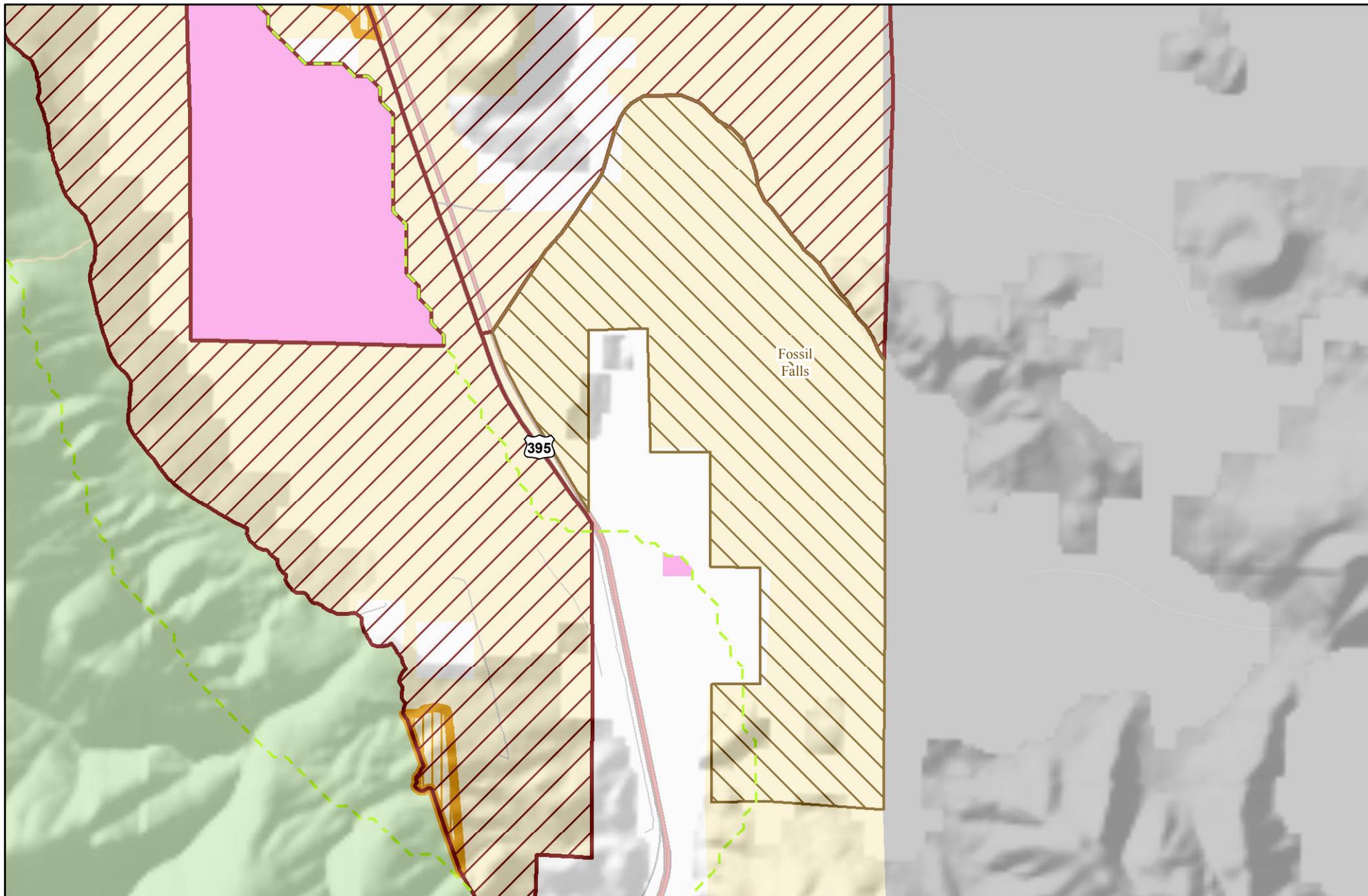
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fossil Falls



Alternative 1 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

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

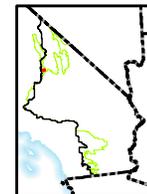
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

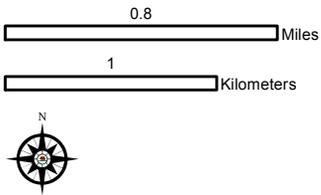
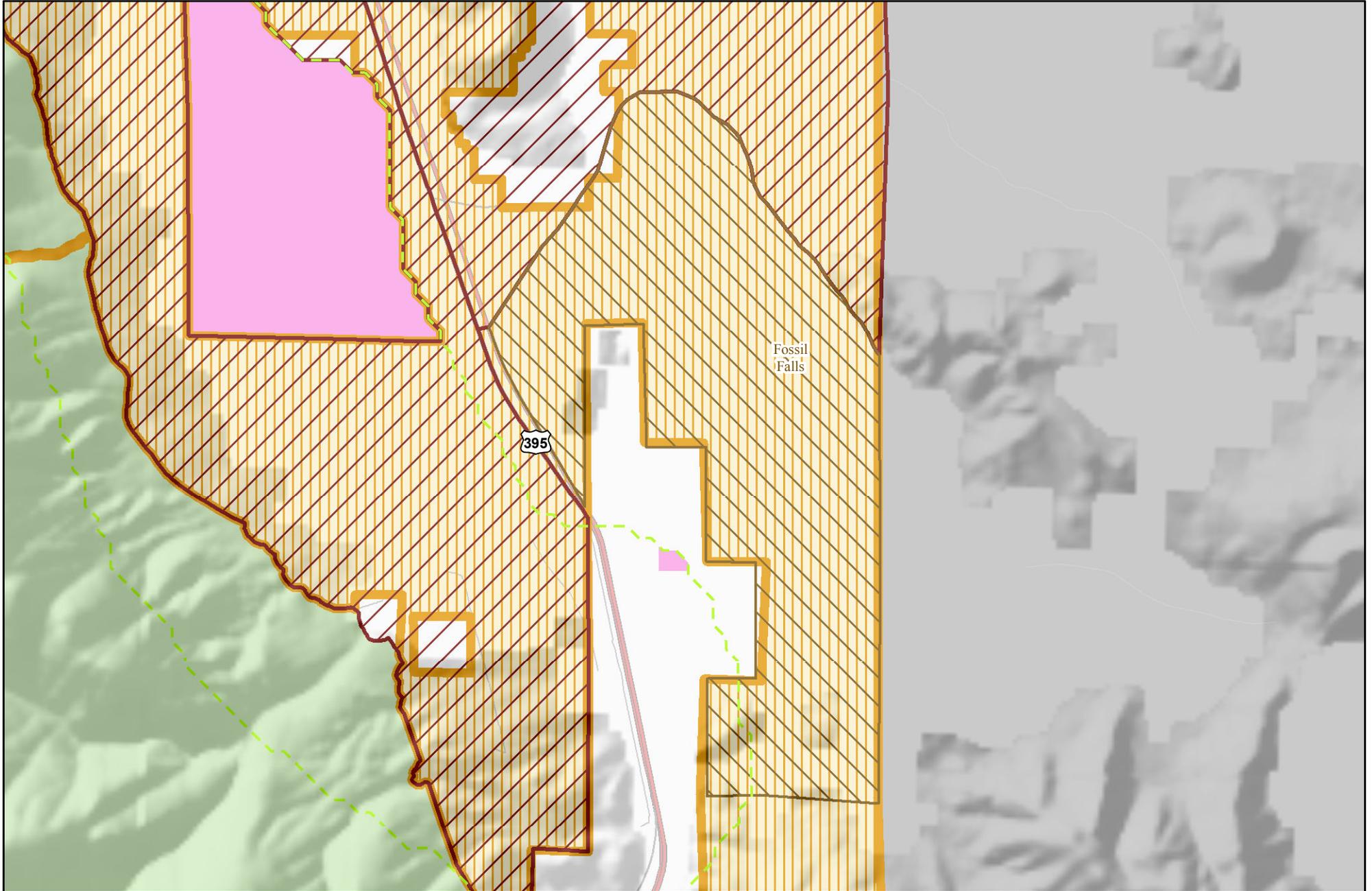
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fossil Falls



Alternative 2 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

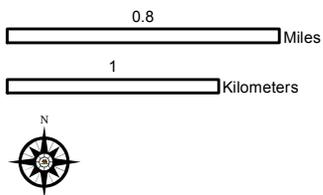
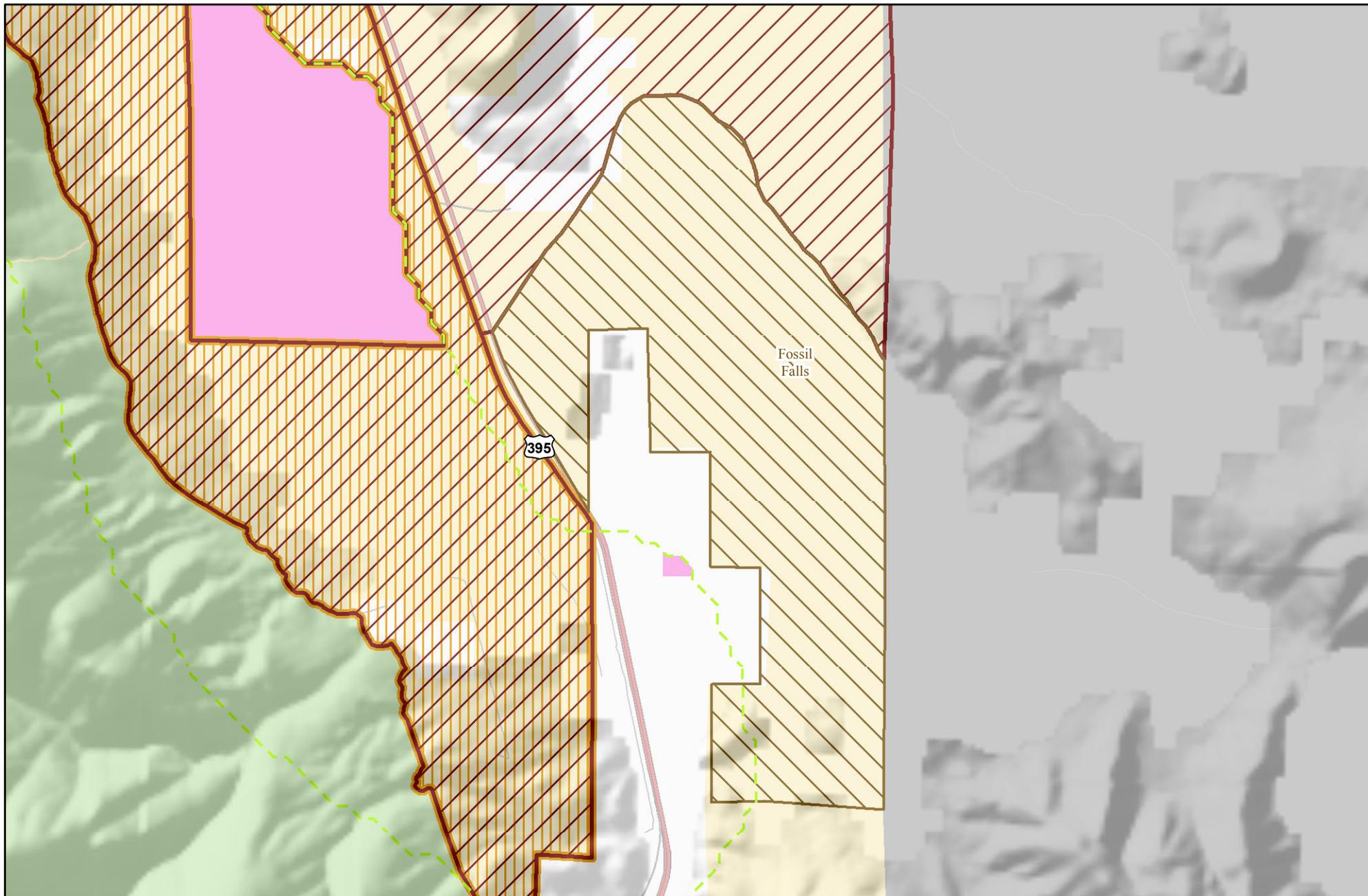
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fossil Falls



Alternative 3 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

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

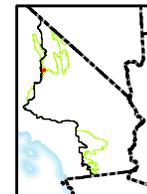
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

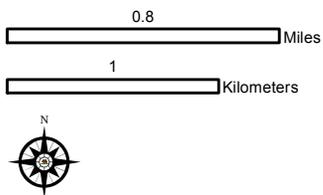
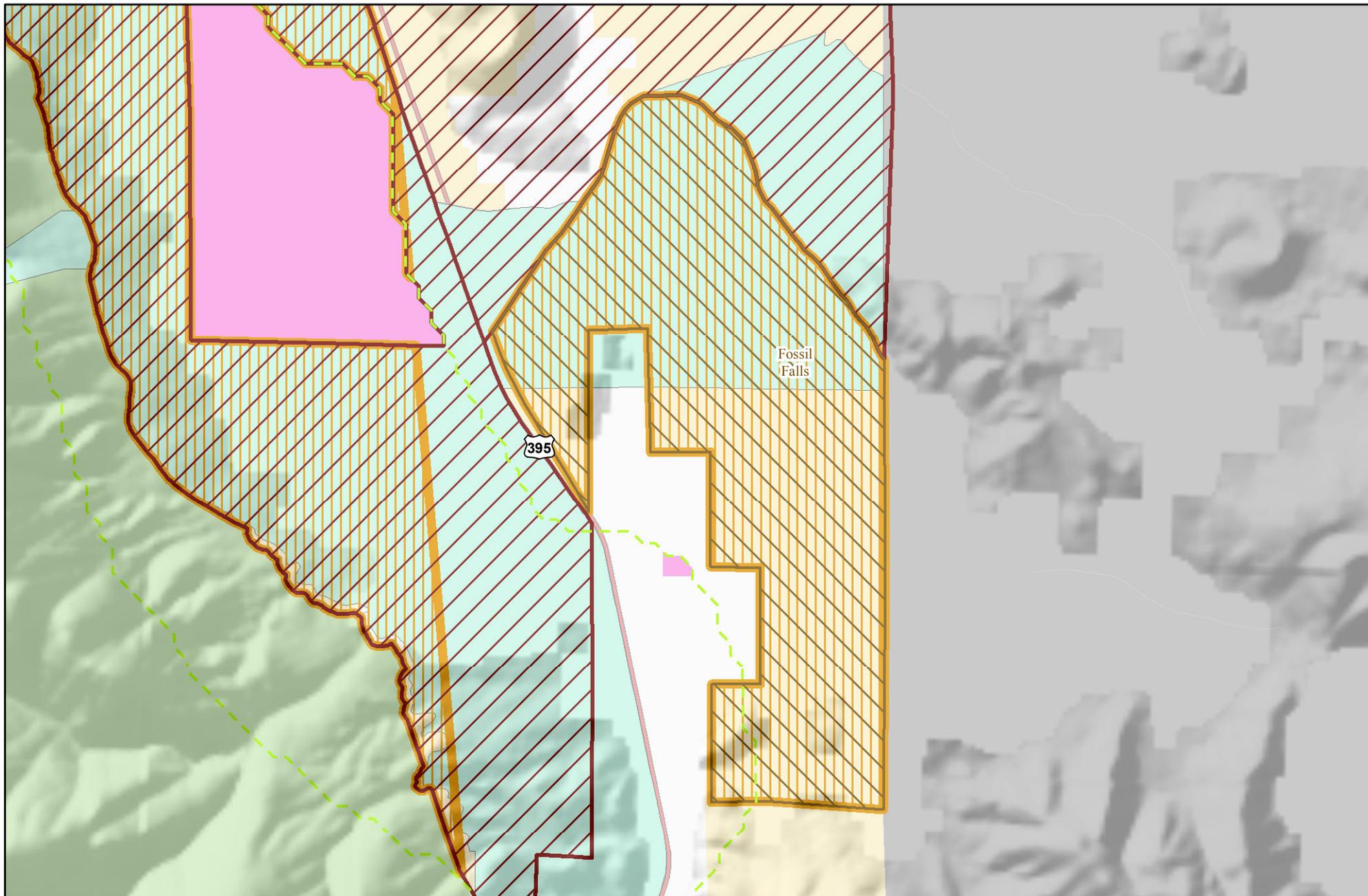
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fossil Falls



Alternative 4 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

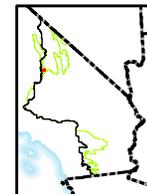
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

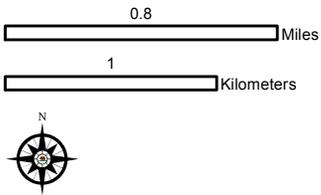
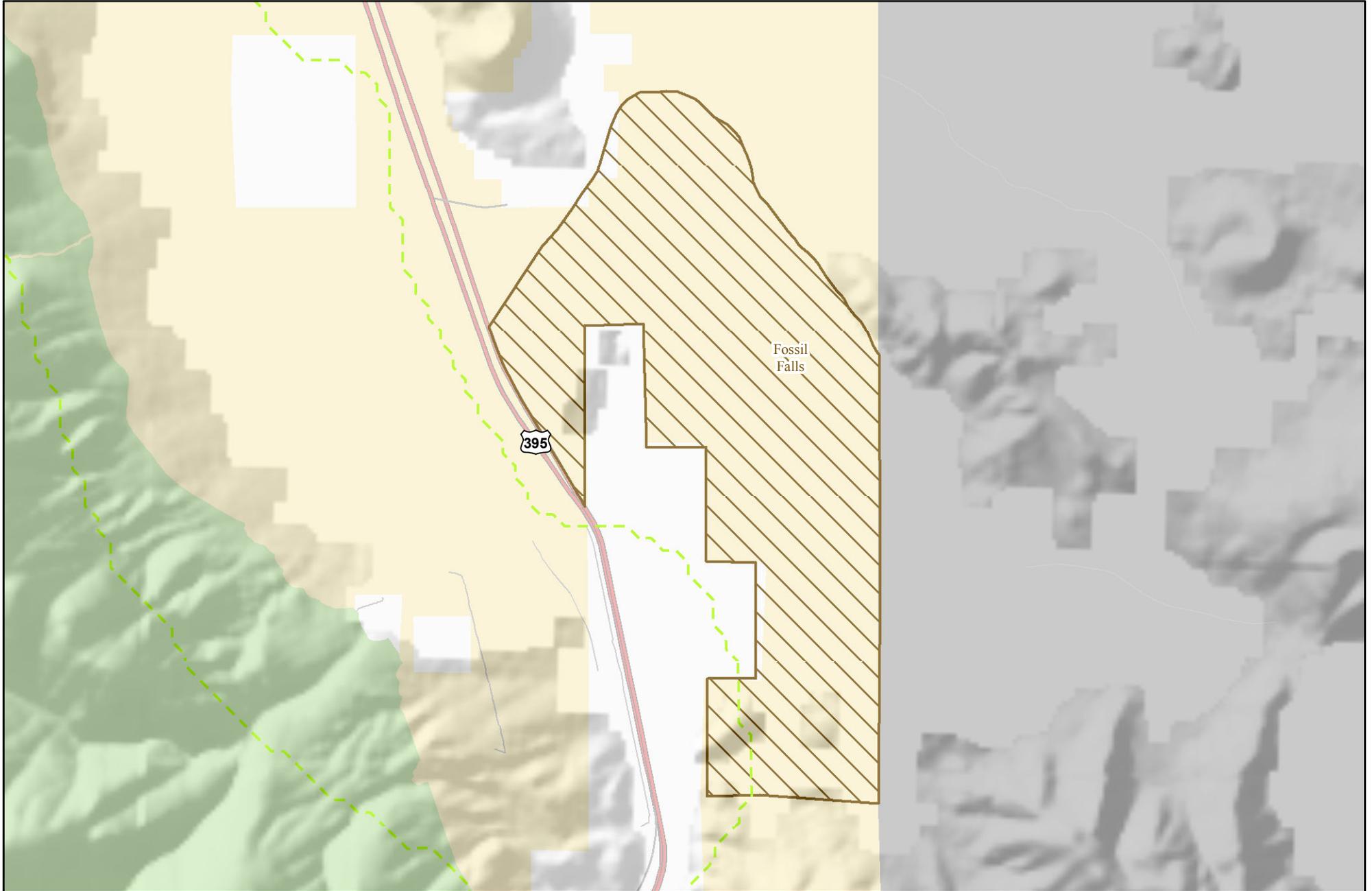
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fossil Falls



No Action ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- OHV Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Cities
- 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



Great Falls Basin

Description/Location: Located in the northern Mojave Desert in the Argus Range, approximately 8 miles north of the town of Trona, California.

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: Contains intact habitat for a relict population of Inyo California Towhee, which has been state listed as endangered and is listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as threatened.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Plan 12/1987

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Provides relevant and important wildlife habitat and scenic values with the Falls themselves. Furthermore, it falls within the Mojave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area and the proposed Argus Range Key Raptor Area.

Goals: Protect and enhance wildlife and plant resources and habitat.

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	9,500	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	500	9,500	0	1%
1	500	9,500	0	1%
2	9,500**	9,500	0	1%
3	500	9,500	0	1%
4	500	9,500	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

**Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness

Alternatives:

All Alternatives – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is.

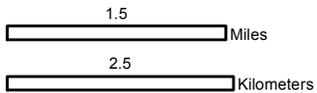
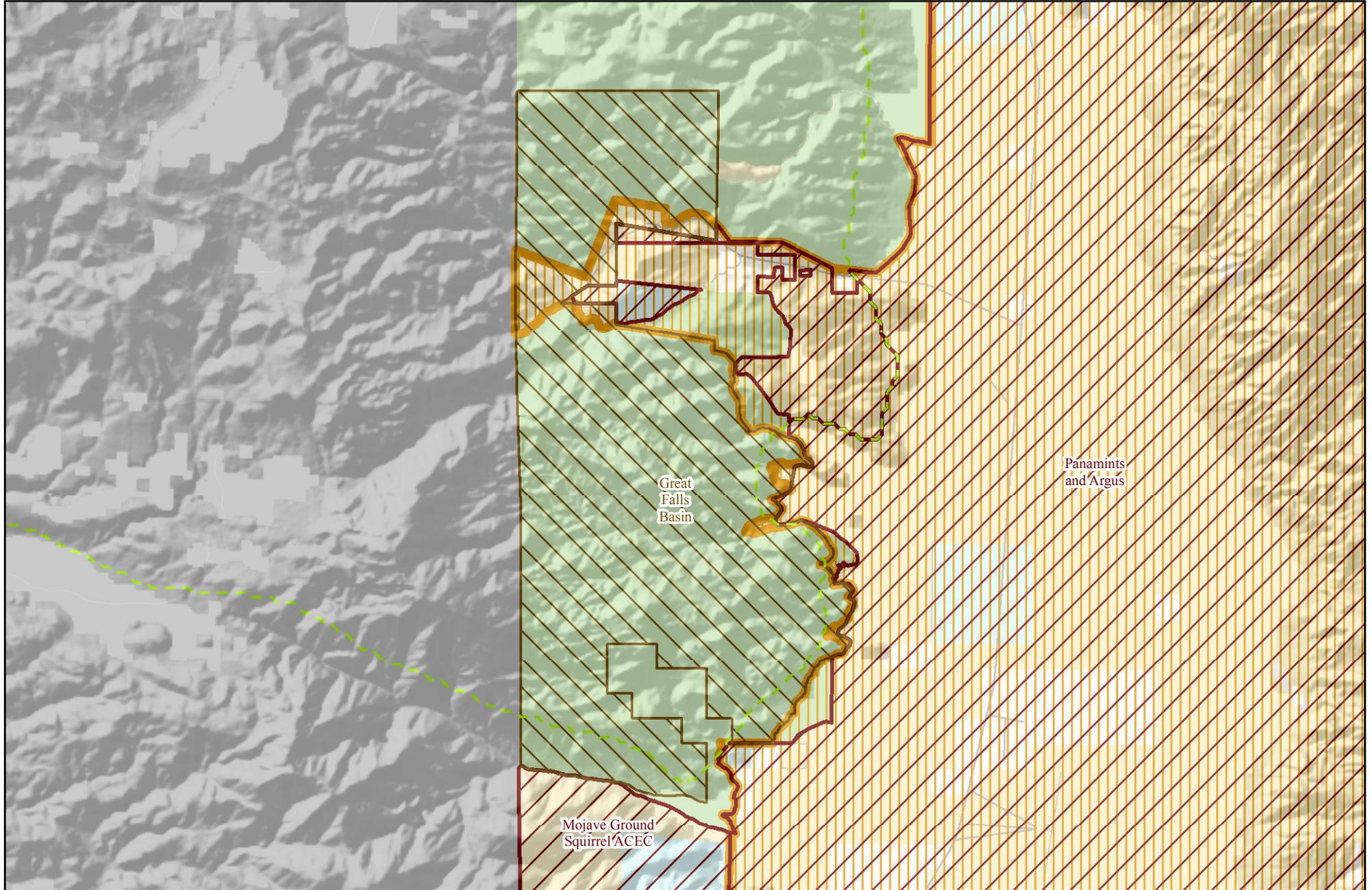
Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Soils exhibit functional biological and physical characteristics that are appropriate to soil type, climate, and land form.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Restrict construction activities when soils are susceptible 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</p>	Soil, water, air

<p>presence of biological soil crusts where appropriate.</p> <p>Objective: Protect the hydrologic flow regime in all of the wetlands, springs, and riparian areas</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Existing water rights. Remove any unauthorized developments (possibly Bainter Spring, Chris Wicht Camp).</p> <p>Management Action: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are function and achieving physical and biological objectives.</p> <p>Management Action: Monitor Proper Functioning Condition and restore natural flow stream morphology when needed</p> <p>Management Action: Monitor water uses</p> <p>Management Action: Follow proper procedures for eliminating ROWS and removing developments where they are no longer in use or are not being used for the (mostly mining) purposes for which they were granted.</p> <p>Check status of all wells on public lands in the area.</p> <p>Management Action: Protect federal reserve water rights in wilderness.</p> <p>Management Action: Remove excess burros to protect seeps, springs, and riparian habitat in the area.</p> <p>Management Action: Maintain protective burro enclosure fences around seeps, springs, and riparian areas.</p>	
<p>Objective: Protect Riparian Vegetation which is critical Towhee habitat</p> <p>Management Action: Continue invasive tamarisk removal</p> <p>Remove excess burros to protect seeps, springs, and riparian habitat in the area.</p> <p>Management Action: Maintain protective burro enclosure fences around seeps, springs, and riparian areas.</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Protect Inyo CA Towhee by ensuring habitat is in a stable or improving condition habitat</p> <p>Management Action: Continue Burro Removal and maintain protective burro enclosure fences around seeps, springs, and riparian areas.</p> <p>Objective: Protect raptors by ensuring nesting and foraging habitat is in a stable or improving condition habitat</p> <p>Management Action: Minimize disturbance to nesting activities</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Preserve the sense of isolation and vast, unspoiled view shed in this area</p> <p>Allowable uses: The current Great Falls Basin ACEC has been classified as Class II Visual Resource Management Areas. The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of acceptable change to the characteristic landscape should be low.</p> <p>Management Actions: Account for Visual Resource Inventory in all project assessments</p>	Visual Resources

<p>Objective: Limit motorized vehicles to open designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc No vehicle use within the Argus Mt Vehicle Closed Area.</p> <p>Management Actions: All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignedated OHV routes</p>	Trails and Travel Management
<p>Objective: Provide diverse recreational opportunities that are compatible with the ACEC values and the protection of Protect sensitive riparian resources (i.e. nesting Inyo CA Towhee) and people from the risk of fire and accidental shooting.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: 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: No camping within 200 yards of springs and riparian areas.</p> <p>Management Actions: Follow-through with the existing Great Fall Basin ACEC recommendation to prohibit target shooting within the original ACEC boundaries in the large wash on the approach to and at the base of the falls. This prohibition is necessary to reduce litter (particularly broken glass) and to protect public safety.</p> <p>Management Action: Increase LE ranger patrols to enforce compliance with fire restrictions, camping limits, and vehicle use on the designated route system.</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>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Consolidate habitat management</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Provide for existing and new ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: There are several existing ROWs in the area, including roads, power lines, and water pipelines servicing private property.</p> <p>Exclusion Area: Critical habitat for Inyo CA Towhee</p> <p>Management Action: 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.</p> <p>Existing water diversions, pipelines, and wells on public lands should be checked for legitimacy of use (authorized ROWS and terms of use) and condition. All unauthorized uses should be terminated and unauthorized developments, unless historic in nature, removed.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy

<p>Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive resources in the area.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Exclusion Area: Critical habitat for Inyo CA Towhee</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 Leaseables</p>
<p>Objective: Removal of wild burros and horses in the area to attain the management goals.</p> <p>Management Action: Continue to manage herd following Centennial Herd Management Plan</p>	<p>Wild Horse & Burros</p>

Great Falls Basin



Preferred Alternative 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

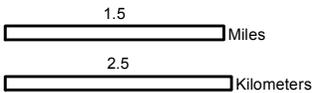
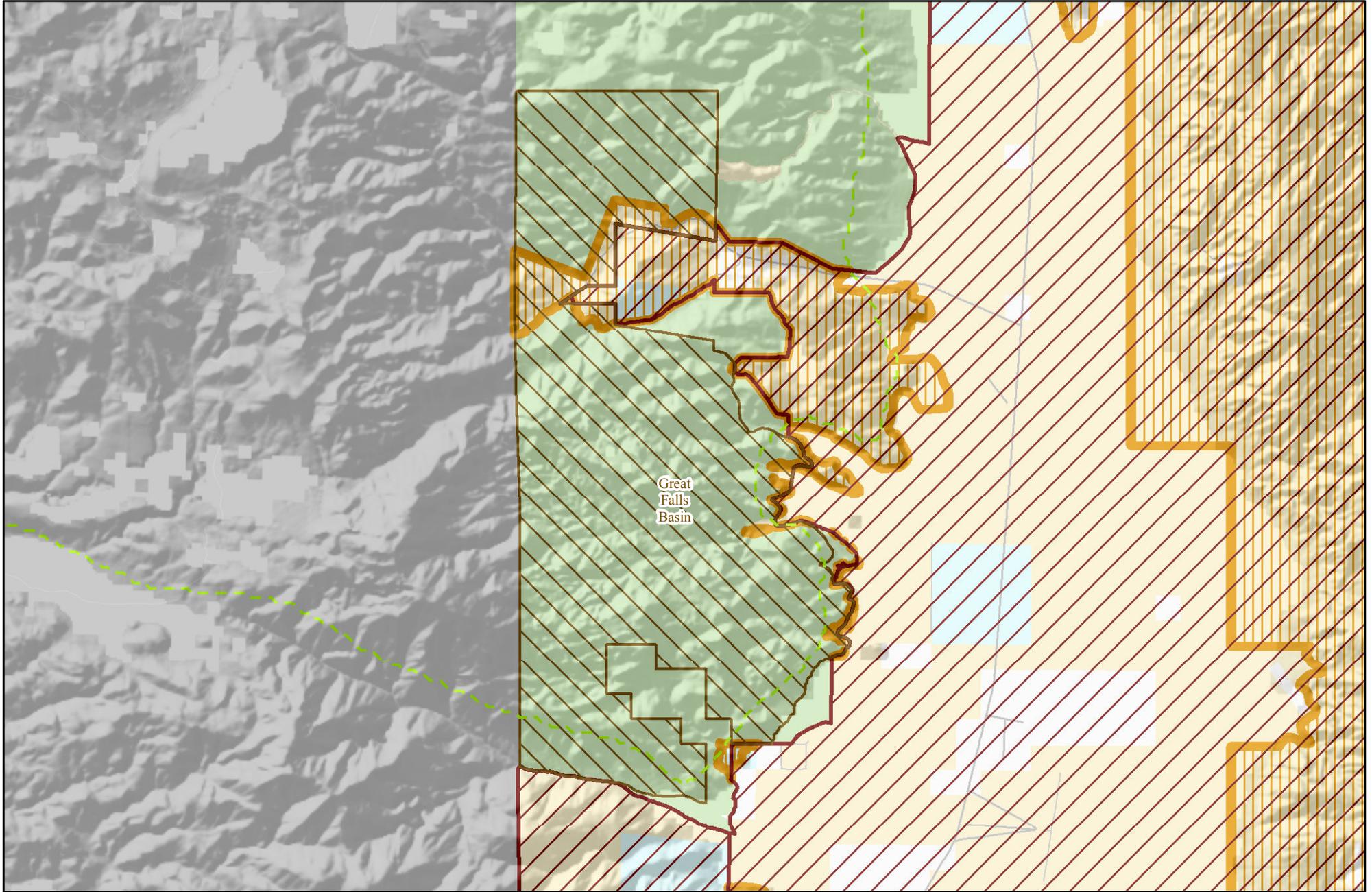
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Great Falls Basin



Alternative 1 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

- Cities
- OHV Areas
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Land Status

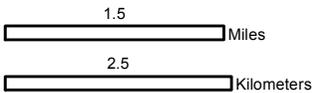
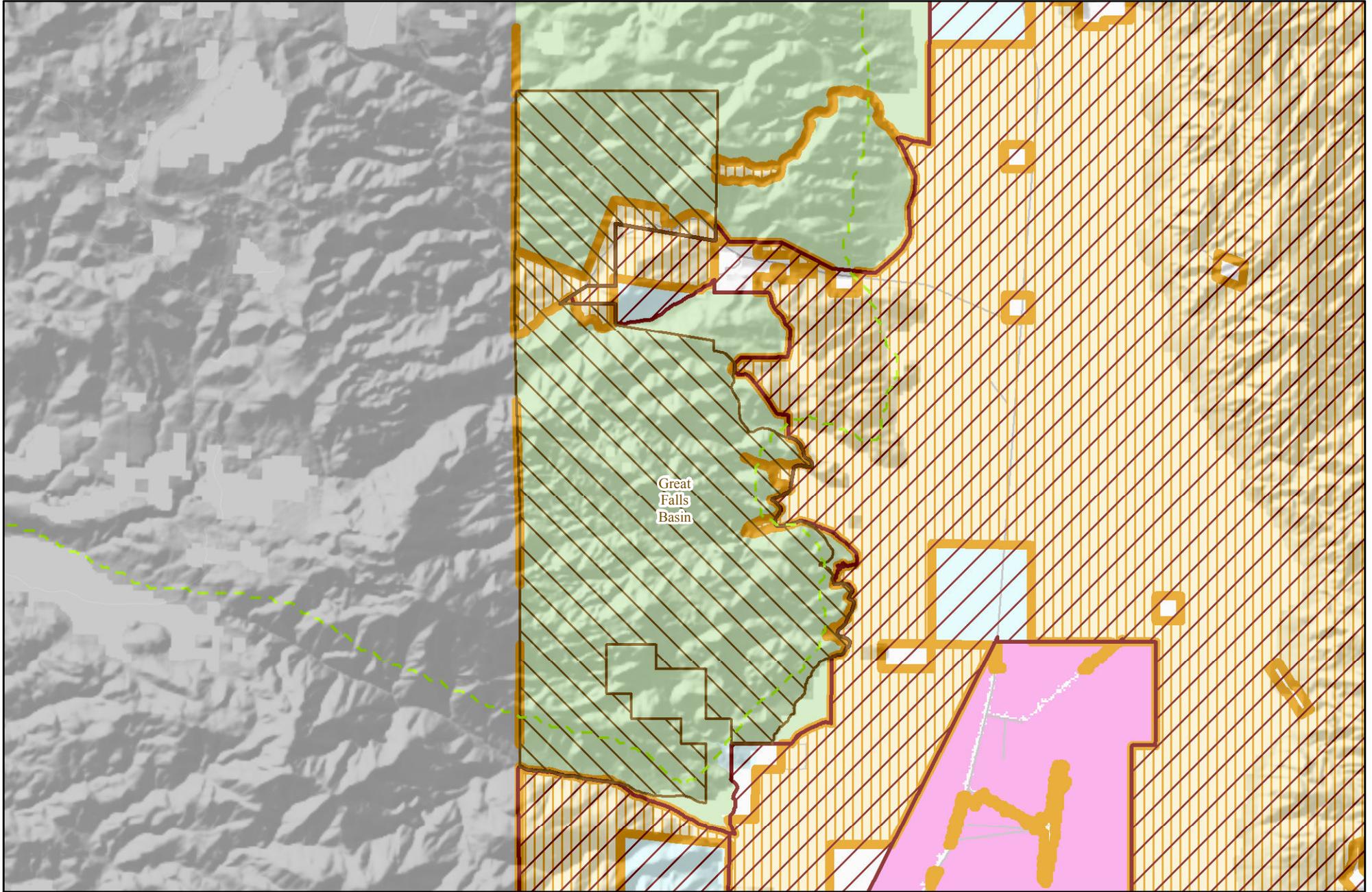
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Great Falls Basin



Alternative 2 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

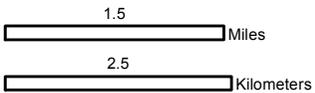
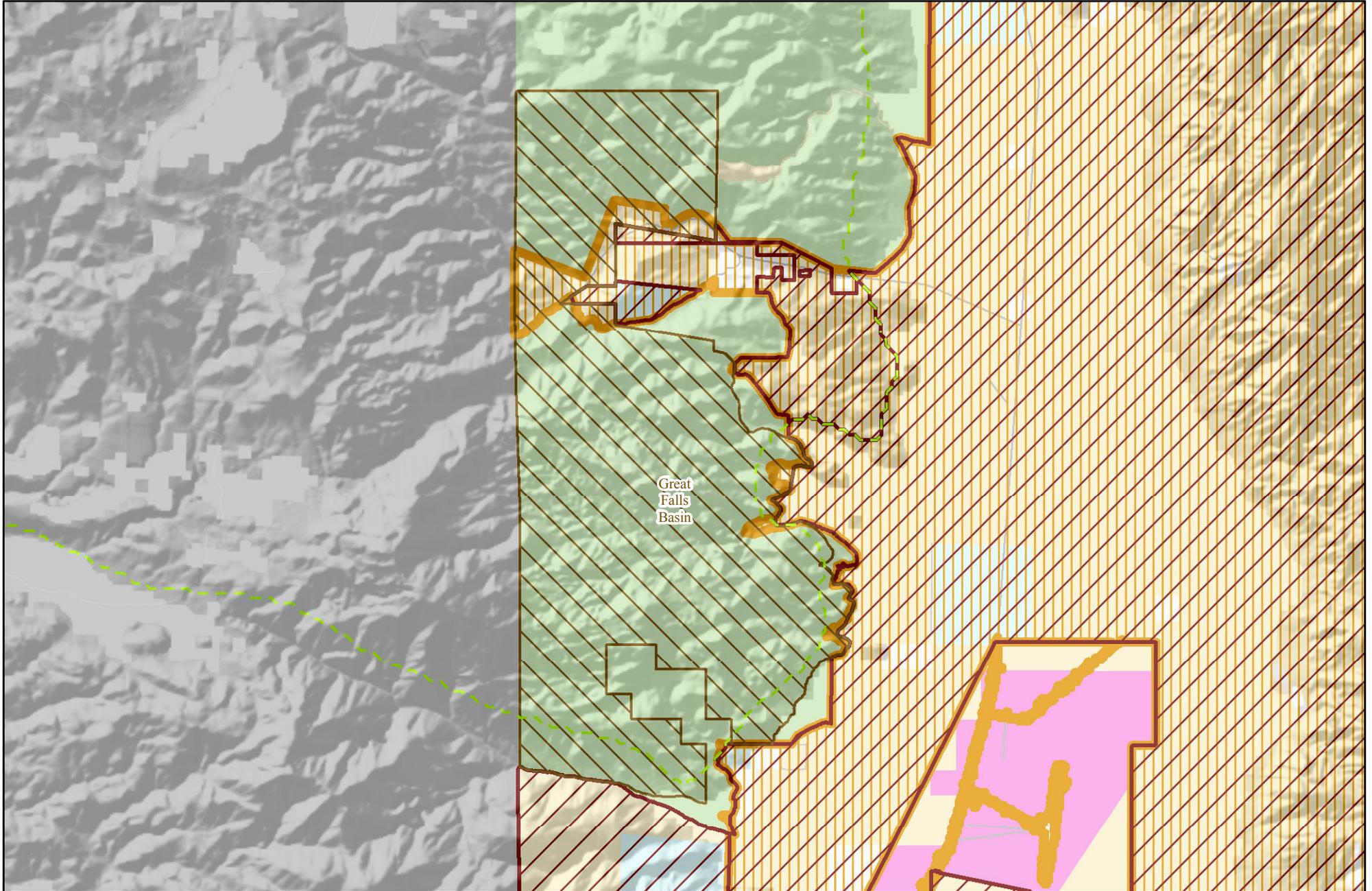
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Great Falls Basin



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

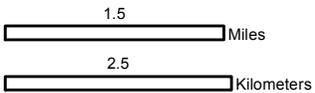
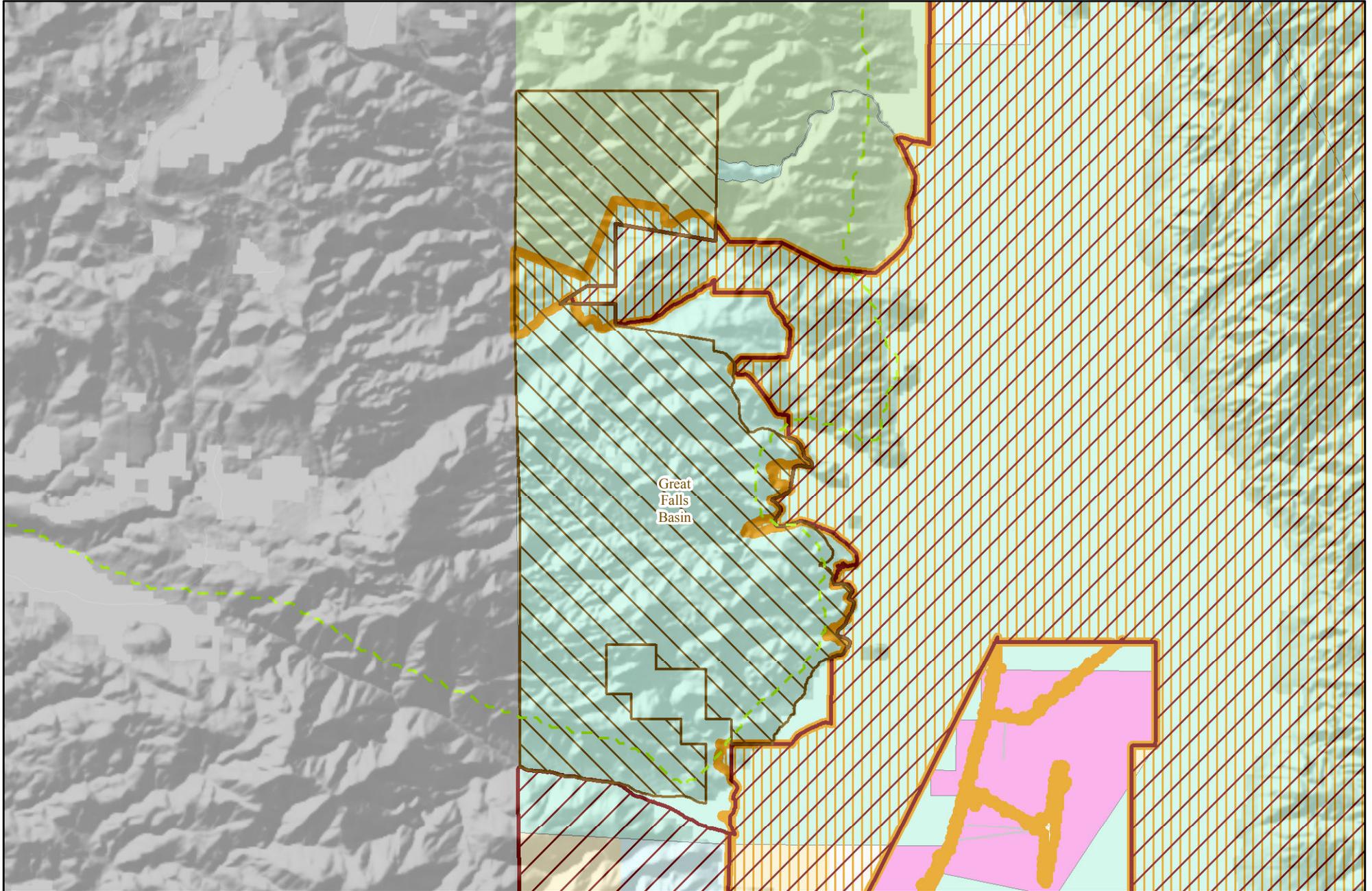
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GTLF

- Interstate
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- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Great Falls Basin



Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
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Land Status

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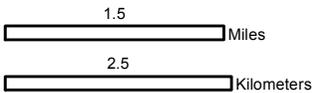
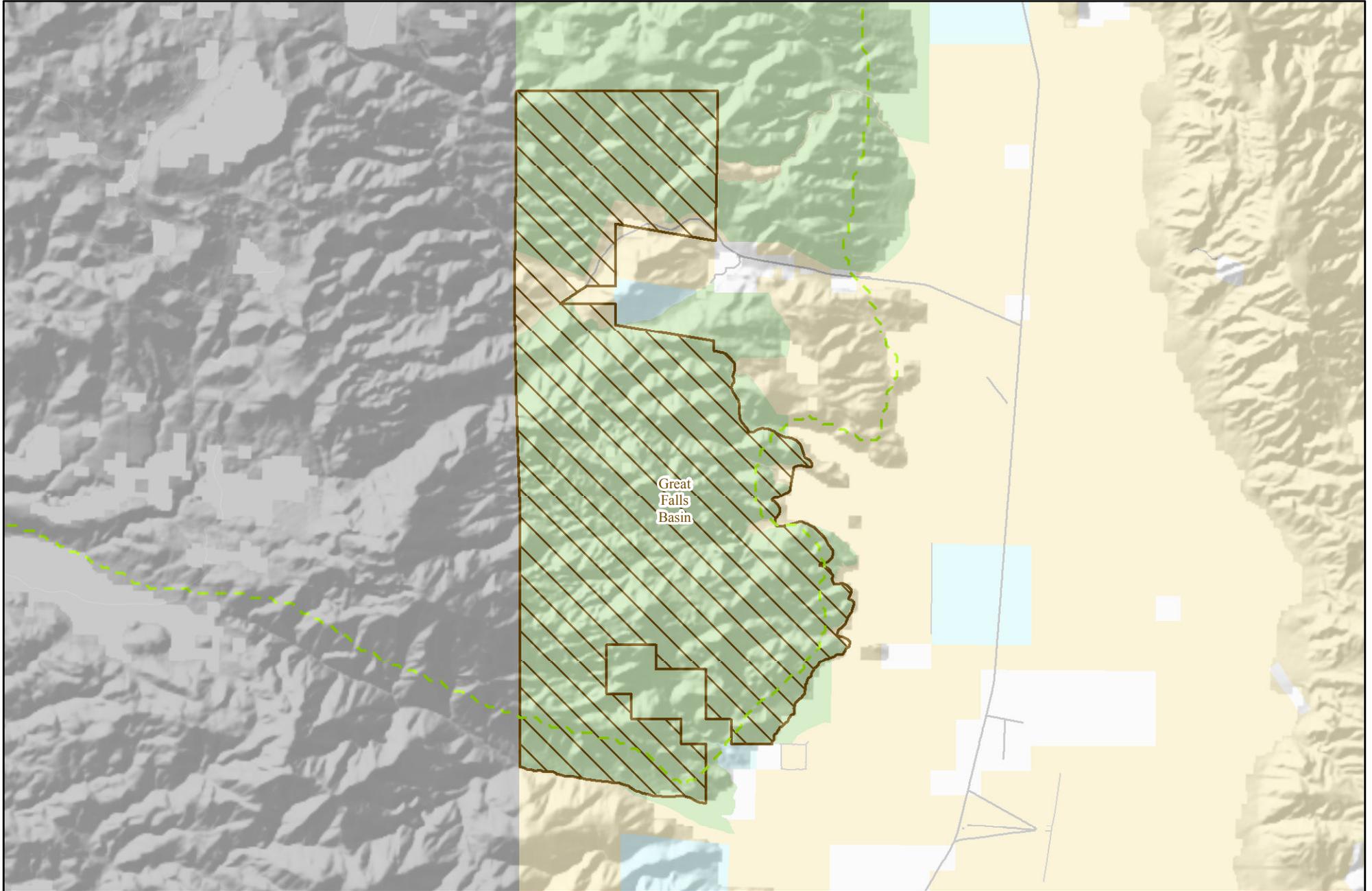
GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

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



Great Falls Basin



No Action ACECs

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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- OHV Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Cities
- 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



Last Chance Canyon

Description/Location: Located in the western portion of the El Paso Mountains, on the southwest slopes of Black Mountain. The mountain range lies to the east of the Sierra Nevada in northeastern Kern County.

Nationally Significant Values:

Cultural: As much as 10,000 years of human occupation is represented in the assemblage in Last Chance Canyon. Ethnographic interviews during the CDCA Plan revealed Black Mountain as an area of religious and cultural significance to the Kawaiisu and related contemporary Tribal groups. A larger National Register Archaeological District surrounds the currently designated boundary, verifying the national cultural significance of this place. A complete cultural resource inventory has not been conducted within the boundary; the potential to increase the national cultural significance of this area is high. Historic cabins and mining features located within the boundary may be eligible for listing on the NRHP, in part as examples of vernacular architecture and mining development of the West.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, 1971; Designated ACEC in California Desert Conservation Area Plan, 1980; Last Chance Canyon Cultural Resources Management Plan, 1980; Last Chance Canyon ACEC Management Plan 09/1982 (CA-06-ACEC-21); CDCA Plan Amendment boundary adjustment 1984; West Mojave Plan Amendment route designations and Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area 01/2005 (D.1.15)

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant cultural resources. This area was designated in recognition of its important cultural resources. It is situated within the El Paso Mountains. Archaeological materials represent aboriginal occupation of the area from the Late Pleistocene to the historic period. Anglo historic sites include mining sites and cabins dating from the late 1800s to the present. It is also included in the Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area and contains desert tortoise habitat. The Red Rock Poppy and Red Rock tarplant may occur in this area.

Goals: To protect and enhance the significant cultural resources while providing compatible recreational opportunities.

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	5,100	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	3,500	5,100	0	1%
1	3,400	5,100	0	1%
2	5,100**	5,100	0	1%
3	3,500	5,100	0	1%
4	3,500	5,100	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

**Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness

Alternatives –

Action Alternatives:

Alts 1, 3, 4, and Preferred-- there are no proposed changes to it; it will continue to be managed as it has been.

In Alt 2 – a small portion of the ACEC is overlapped with a DFA (40 acres) (Not depicted in the table above due to rounding). If this DFA is approved then the portion that overlaps would be removed from the ACEC and allocated for renewable energy development. The remaining area would keep the ACEC designation and would be managed for conservation purposes.

No Action – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions

Resource

Objective: Soils exhibit functional biological and physical characteristics that are appropriate to soil type, climate, and land form.

Soil, water, air

Allowable Uses: Restrict construction activities when soils are susceptible to heightened risk of erosion.

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.

Objective: Maintain intact vegetation communities and prevent fragmentation.
 Management Action: Remove invasive plants, rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed areas
 Management Action: Monitor to ensure diverse vegetation with Rangeland Health Standards

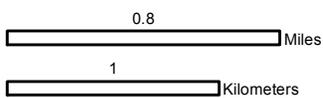
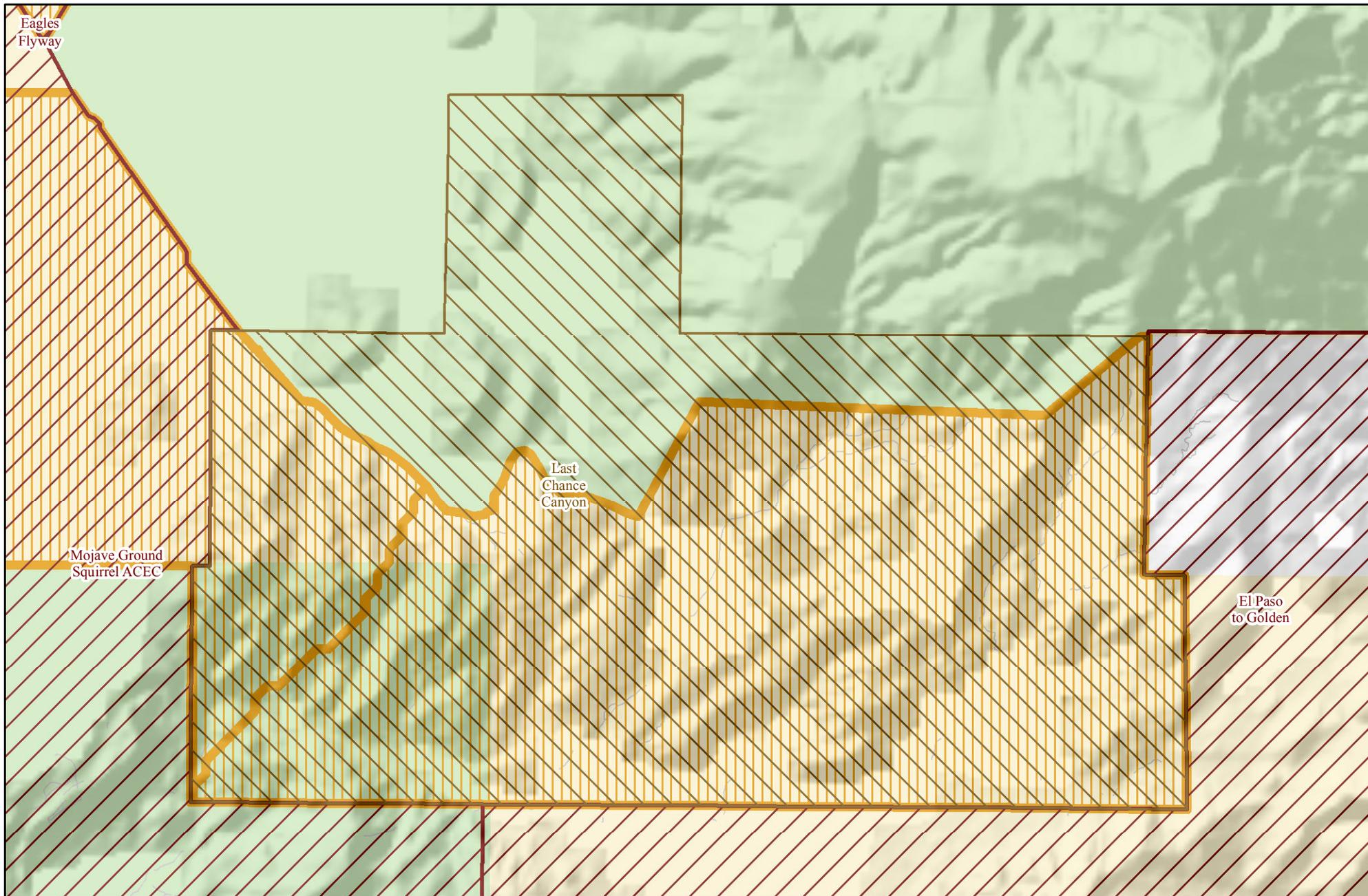
Vegetation (incl. special status species)

<p>Objective: Protect the following special status plants by ensuring habitat is in a stable or improving condition to keep the species from becoming listed under the ESA.</p> <p>Management Action: Protect and monitor populations of special status plants Red Rock Poppy (<i>Eschscholzia minutiflora ssp. Twisselmannii</i>) Red Rock tarplant (<i>Deinandra arida</i>) Management Action: Prohibit collection of plants except by permit</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 Species below as priority species for management and protection.</p> <p>Le Conte’s Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>) State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>) BLM Sensitive 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 Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>) BLM sensitive Pallid bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>) BLM sensitive Spotted bat (<i>Euderma maculatum</i>) BLM sensitive Western Mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>) BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>) BLM Sensitive Long-eared owl (<i>Asio otus</i>) State Species of Special Concern</p> <p>Objective: Increase Upland game bird habitat Allowable Use: Maintenance of existing developed springs and guzzlers Management Action: Monitor and maintain guzzlers on a continuing basis with the help of Quail Unlimited.</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)</p>
<p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</p> <p>Maintain current prescriptions of the Cultural Resource Management Plan.</p> <p>Objective: Protect cultural resources of the Last Chance Canyon ACEC for scientific use and public interpretation Allowable Use: Interpretation, Research by qualified cultural resource specialists</p> <p>Management Action: Develop regular monitoring, recordation, and survey program to fully identify resources within the ACEC Conduct salvage excavation of specific sites Install interpretive or closure signs on a site specific basis</p>	<p>Cultural Resources</p>

<p>Reconcile ACEC boundary with National Register District boundary</p> <p>Objective: Allow for multiple uses while minimizing impacts to cultural resources within the ACEC.</p> <p>Management Action: Prohibit camping near sites Designate route system which minimizes impacts to sites Limit mining in sensitive areas</p>	
<p>Objective: General Management and Protection of Paleontological Resources</p> <p>Allowable Use: Permitted and authorized research by paleontological professionals in areas surround Red Rock Canyon State Park</p> <p>Management Action: Manage and protect fossil resources consistent with the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act. Develop plans for the inventory, monitoring, and scientific and educational use of paleontological resources as needed.</p>	Paleontology
<p>Objective: Maintain scenic values of unique geological formations and canyons</p> <p>Management Action: 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.</p>	Visual Resources
<p>Objective: Limit Motorized vehicle impacts</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc.</p> <p>Management Action: All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesigantated OHV routes.</p>	Trails and Travel Management
<p>Objective: Provide recreation opportunities that are consistent with resource protection</p> <p>Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes</p> <p>Allowable Uses: 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: Maintain signs, vehicle barriers and kiosks, Regular patrol</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Maintain integrity of National Register District and limit fragmentation of landscape level values</p>	Rights of Way

<p>Management Action: 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.</p>	
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	<p>Renewable Energy</p>
<p>Objective: Maintain Use Classification of C and L of CDCA Plan for mining claims</p> <p>Allowable uses: Mining with approved plan of operations</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables</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>

Last Chance Canyon



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

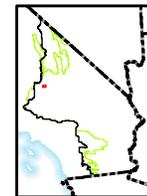
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

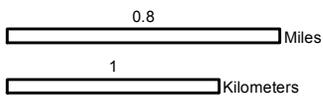
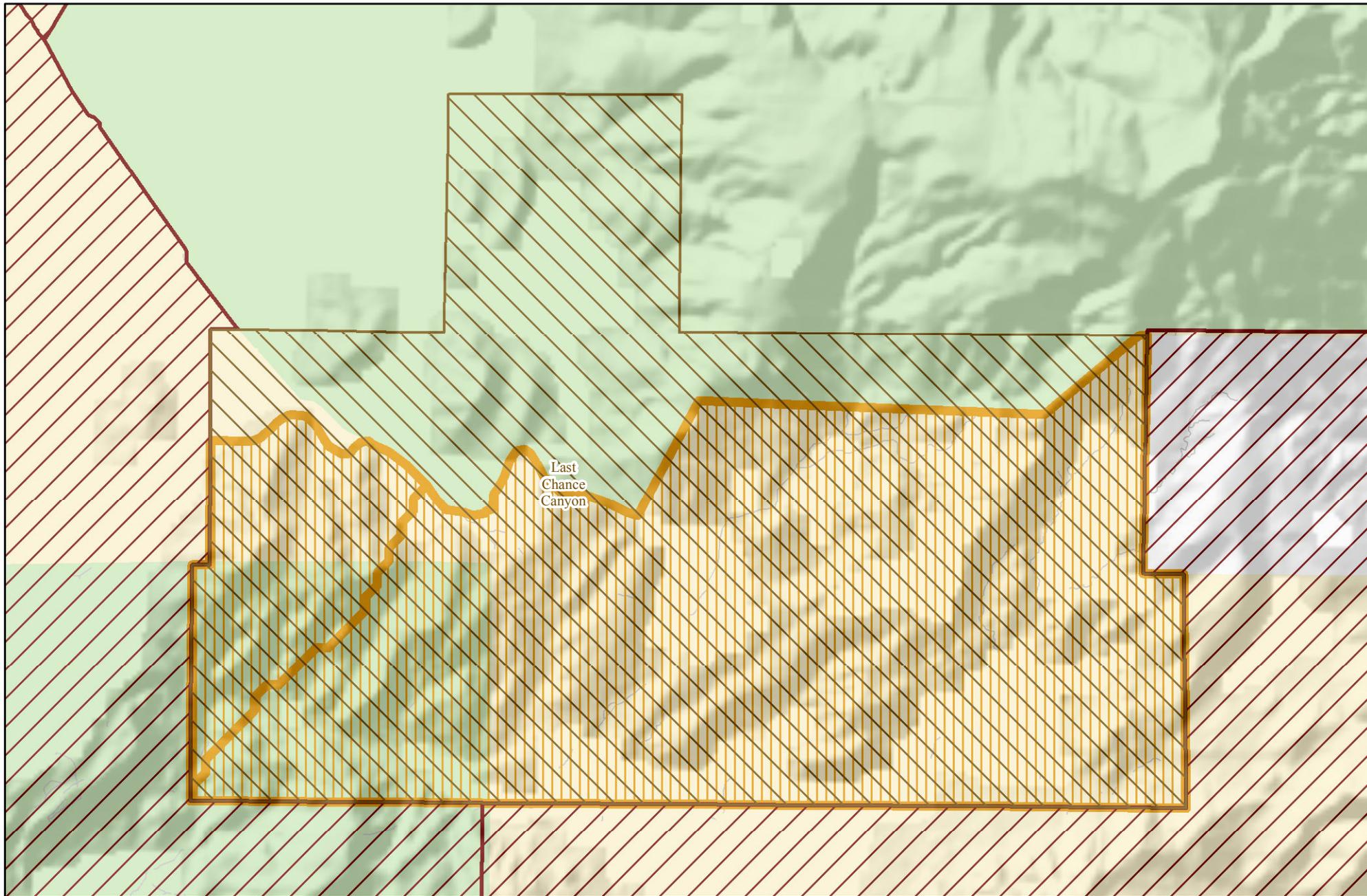
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Last Chance Canyon



Alternative 1 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

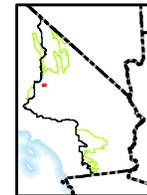
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

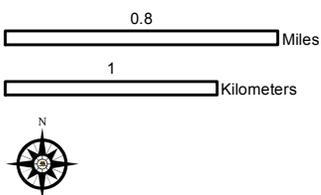
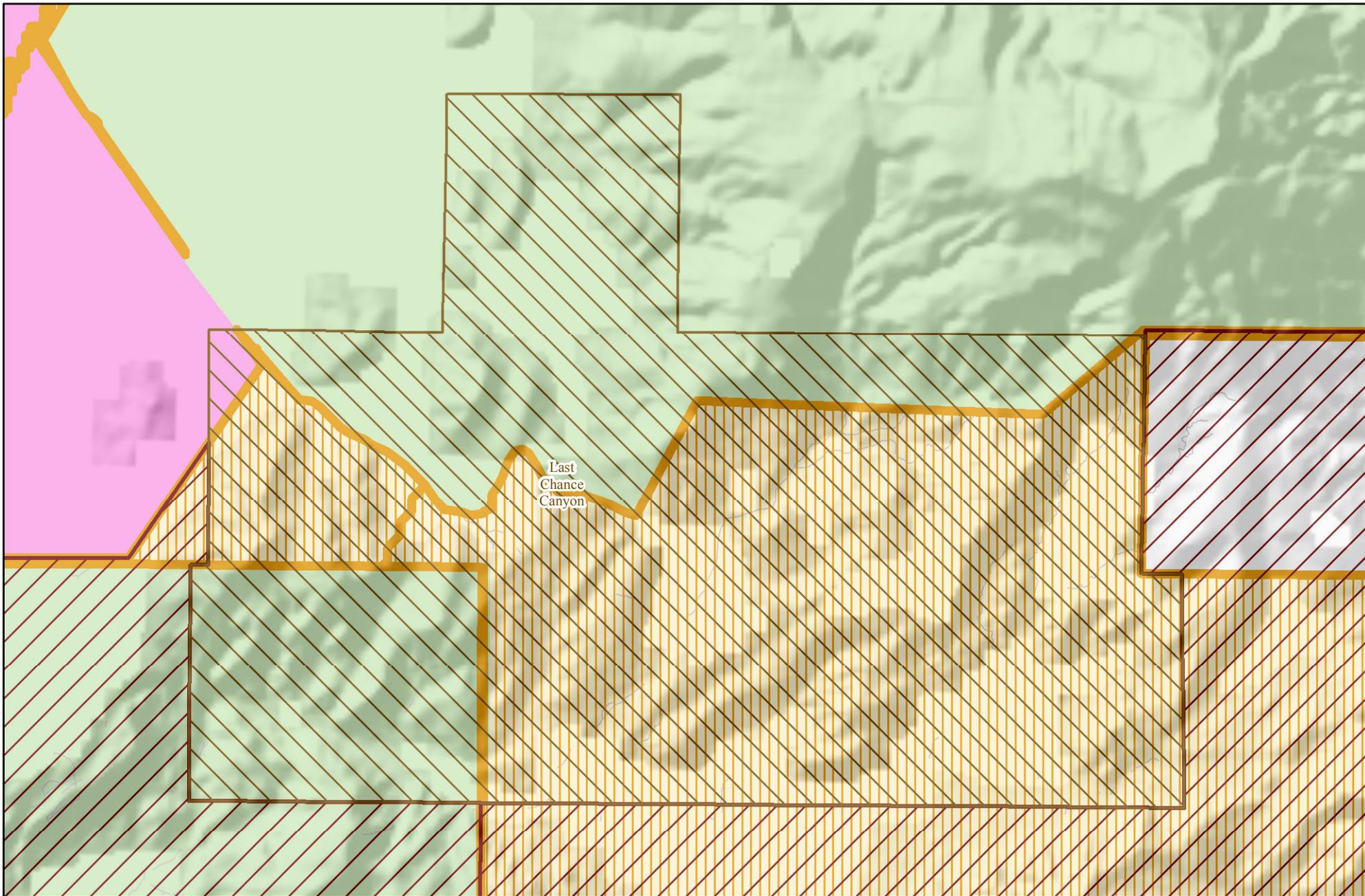
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



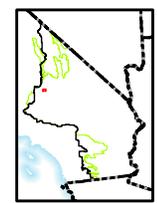
Last Chance Canyon



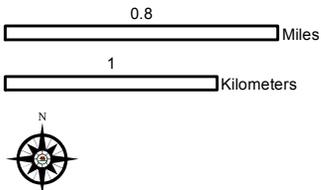
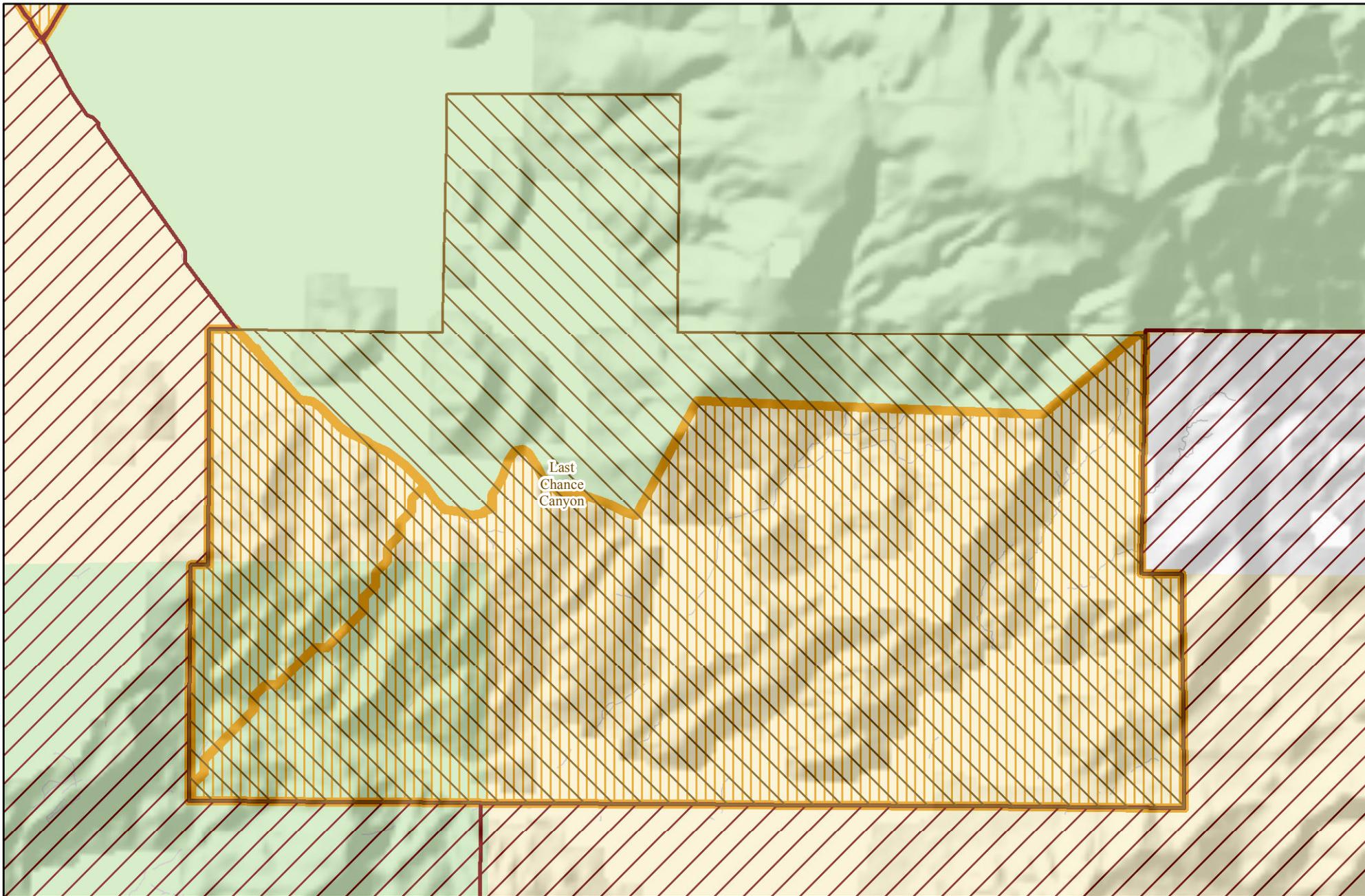
Alternative 2 ACECs
 Date Printed: 5/29/2013
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ACEC Layers		Land Status		GTIF
Existing ACEC	Cities	Bureau of Land Management	Interstate	US Hwy
Proposed ACEC	OHV Areas	State	CA Hwy	County Hwy
Proposed NLCS	CDCA Boundary	Other Federal	Military	
Design Focus Areas	DRECP Boundary	Private		
Legislatively and Legally Protected	BLM Field Office			



Last Chance Canyon



Alternative 3 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

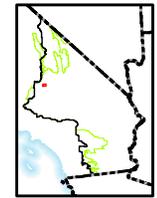
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

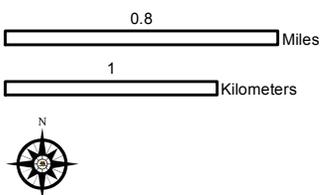
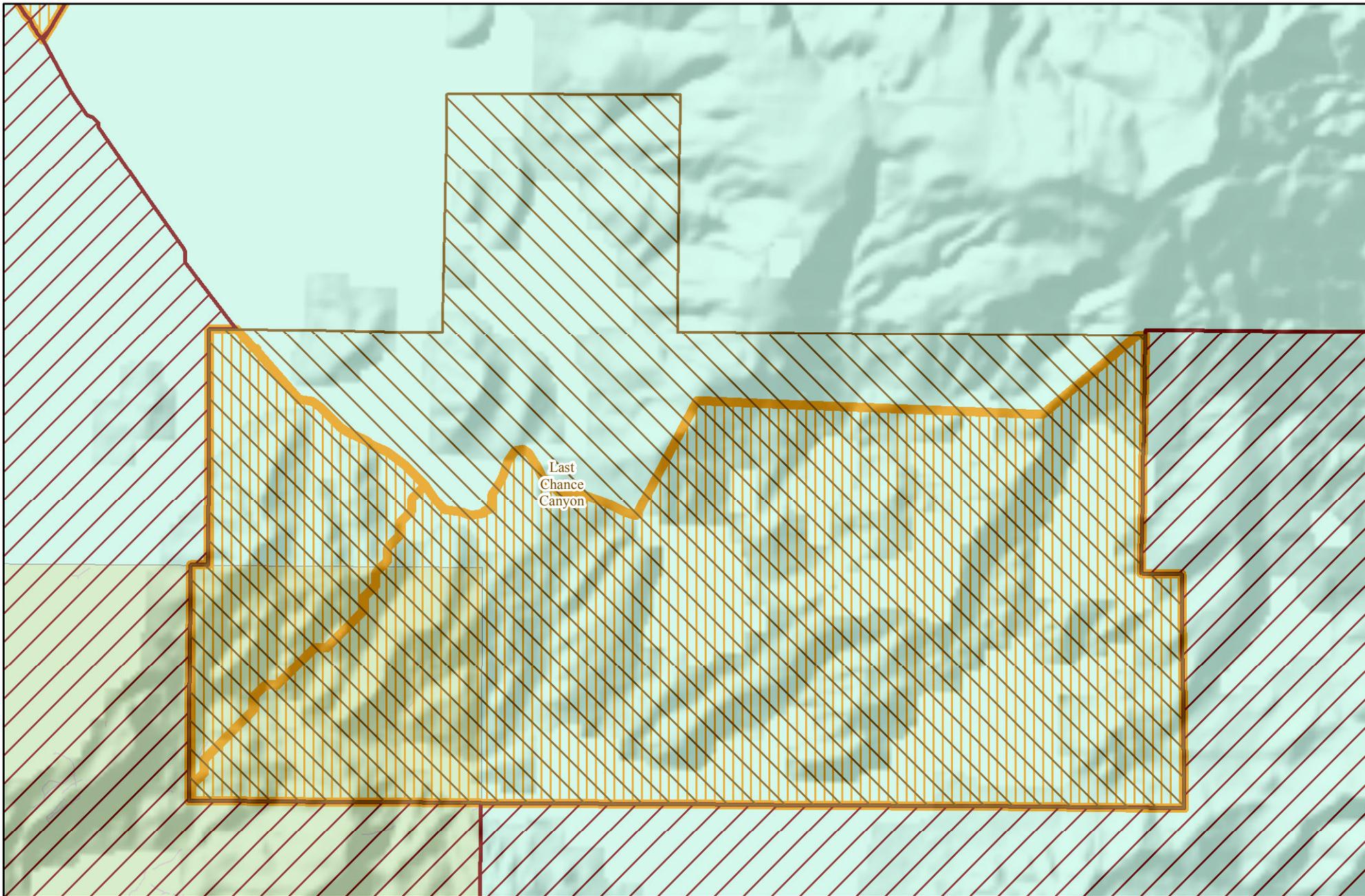
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



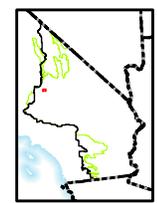
Last Chance Canyon



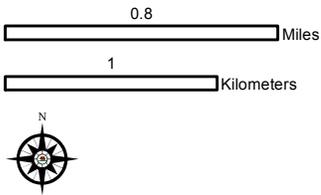
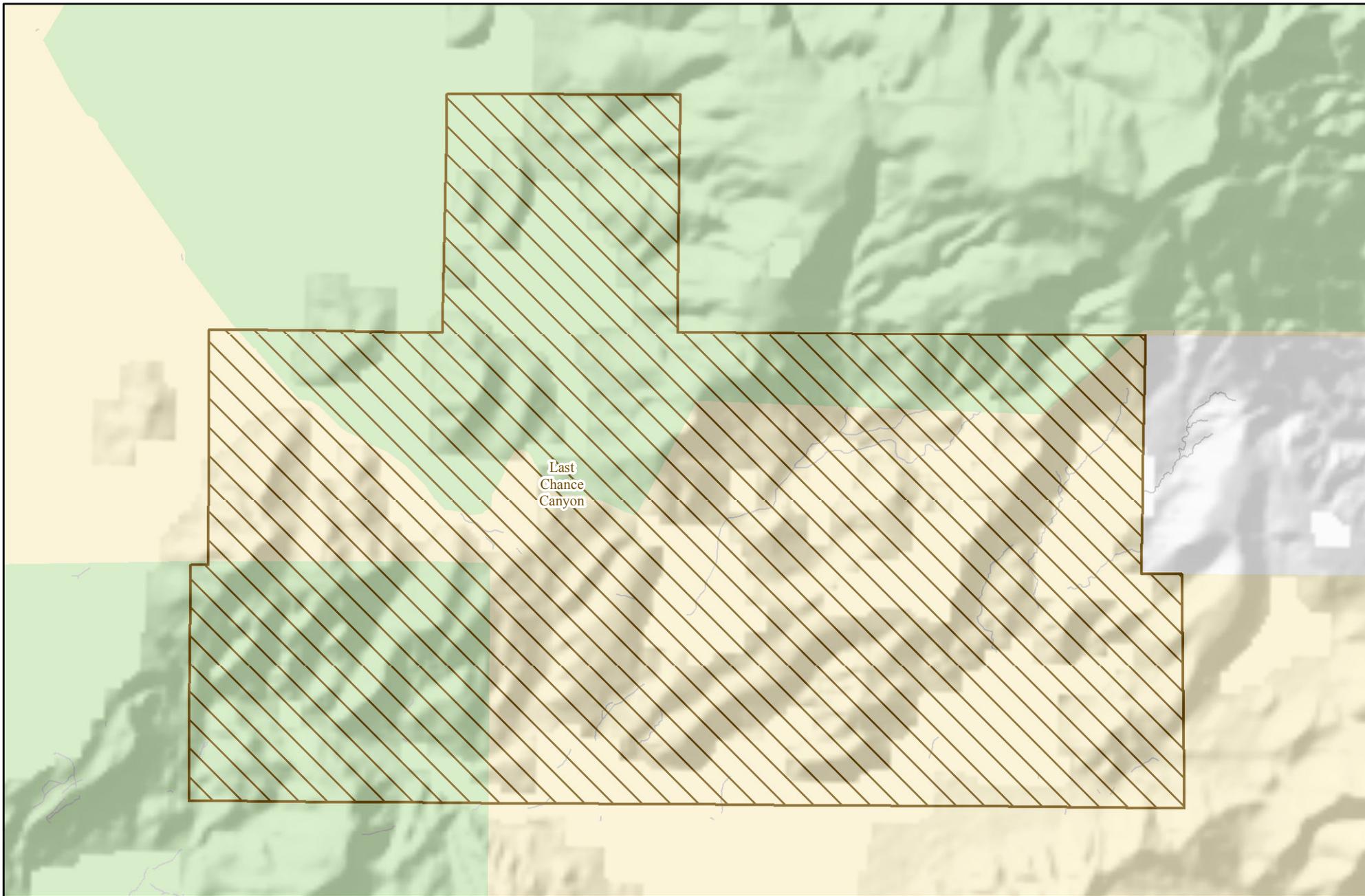
Alternative 4 ACECs
 Date Printed: 5/29/2013
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers		Land Status		GTIF
Existing ACEC	Cities	Bureau of Land Management	State	Interstate
Proposed ACEC	OHV Areas	Other Federal	Military	US Hwy
Proposed NLCS	CDCA Boundary	Private		CA Hwy
Design Focus Areas	DRECP Boundary			County Hwy
Legislatively and Legally Protected	BLM Field Office			



Last Chance Canyon



No Action ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013
Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

-  Existing ACEC
-  OHV Areas
-  Legislatively and Legally Protected

-  Cities
-  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



Rose Springs

Description/Location: Located at the western edge of the Great Basin. It is south of Owens Valley and the Haiwee Reservoir and is at the northern end of Rose Valley

Nationally Significant Values:

Cultural: This area is designated for significant prehistoric cultural resource values associated with the Rose Spring Archaeological site complex. The area is located in the traditional homelands of the Shoshone and Paiute peoples, as recorded by Steward. Site INY -372 has an occupational history of over 3,000 years and is one of the most important sites in the Great Basin and California. The stratigraphic sequence of projectile points recovered from this site is the basis for the cultural chronology used by archaeologists throughout the region and state today. Most significantly, the site was used to date the introduction of bow and arrow technology to Eastern California, an event which changed the patterns of prehistory not only in this region, but throughout the Great Basin and neighboring southwest.

The site is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Sites associated with the main Rose Spring are also eligible, and may contain human burials.

The implications of the data recorded from this site are scientifically, culturally, and ecologically significant on a national level. The introduction of bow and arrow technology changed the patterns of mobility, settlement, land use, and resource procurement by Native Americans throughout the region and neighboring areas. The archaeological research potential for this area remains high, and can continue to contribute to our knowledge of prehistory.

Ecological: This area also includes Mohave ground squirrel (MGS) core habitat within the MGS Conservation Area. This is one of only 11 core population centers.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Original ACEC Designation, California Desert Conservation Area Plan, 1980; Rose Springs ACEC Management Plan 09/1985 (CA-06-ACEC-7); West Mojave Plan, addition of Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation 01/2005 (D.1.21)

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological and cultural resources. Designated in recognition of important and irreplaceable cultural resources. It includes recorded areas of prehistoric cultural resources, is part of a natural travel corridor with an occupational history of at least 3000 years and is within an area of sensitivity to contemporary Native Americans. It also has hydrological values as it is bisected by the Los Angeles Aqueduct system. This area also contains desert tortoise habitat.

Goals: To provide for protective management of cultural resources for scientific use and public interpretation.

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	800	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	800	800	0	1%
1	100	800	0	1%
2	800	800	0	1%
3	800	800	0	1%
4	100	800	0	1%

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

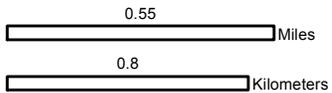
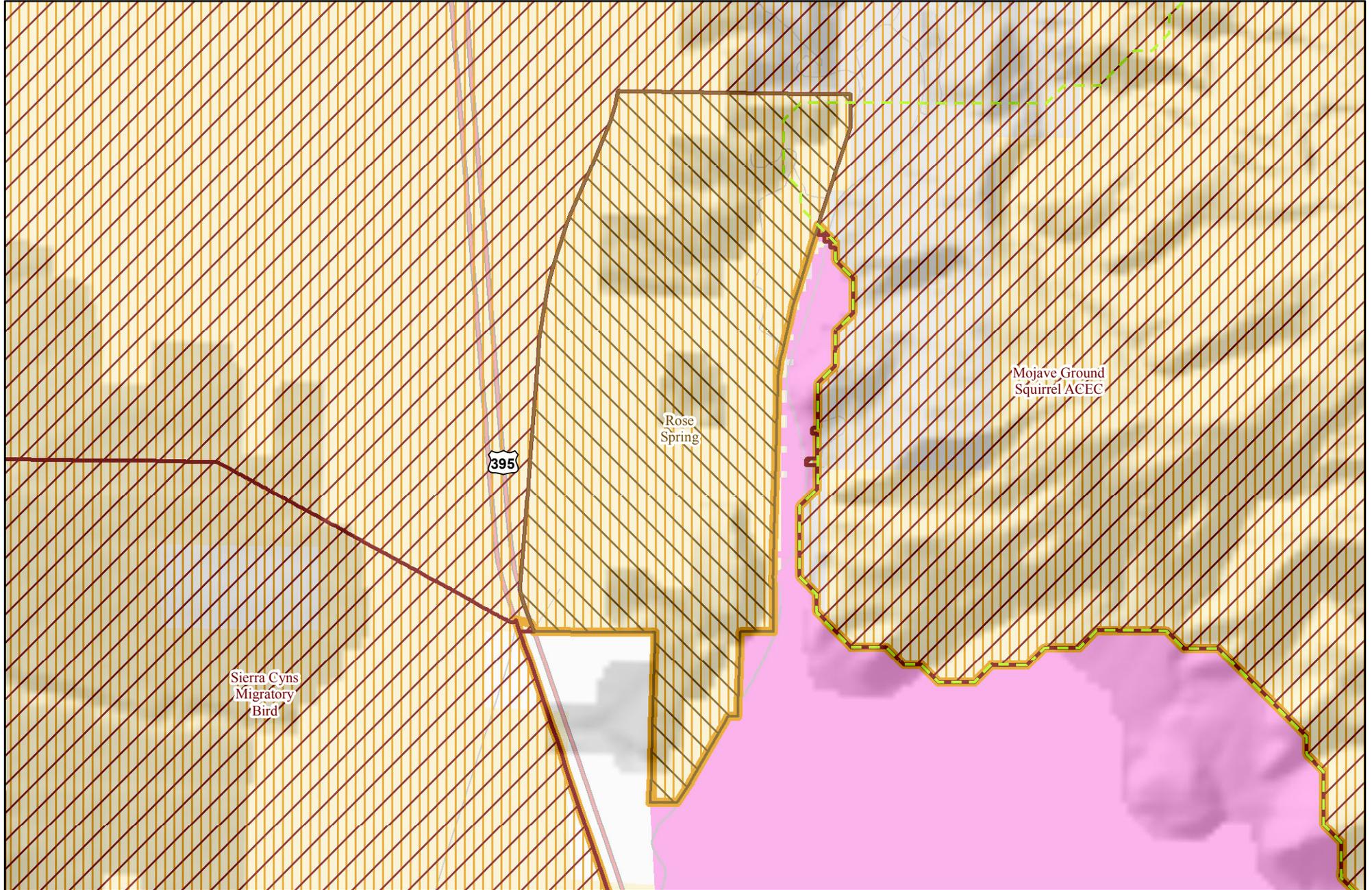
Alternatives –

All Alternatives – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Maintain or Improve condition of vegetation</p> <p>Management Actions: Remove invasive plants, Rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed areas, Ensure species important for the Mohave ground squirrel are maintained (spiny hopsage and Atriplex sp.)</p> <p>Management Action: Protect natural communities that are listed as rare by the State.</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence:</p> <p>Management Actions: Restore habitat as needed</p> <p>Designate [Mohave ground squirrel] as priority species for management and protection.</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</p> <p>Objective: Protect and monitor INY 372 archaeological site.</p> <p>Management Action: Redefine boundary and indicate areas of disturbance. Install fences and gates in coordination with LADWP to protect the site. Data recovery to mitigate previous damage.</p>	Cultural Resources

<p>Objective: Limit Motorized vehicle impacts</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc. All Roads closed except through designated routes</p> <p>Management Action: All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignated OHV routes.</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Objective: Provide recreation opportunities that are consistent with resource protection</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Limited access/Controlled by gate</p> <p>Management Actions: Signs for interpretation/entry/closure Regular Patrol of law enforcement to prevent unauthorized collecting and vandalism of cultural resources.</p>	<p>Recreation</p>
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is open to geothermal leasing and development with a “No Surface Occupancy” stipulation.</p>	<p>Renewable Energy</p>
<p>Five current mining claims.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables</p>

Rose Spring



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

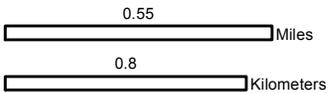
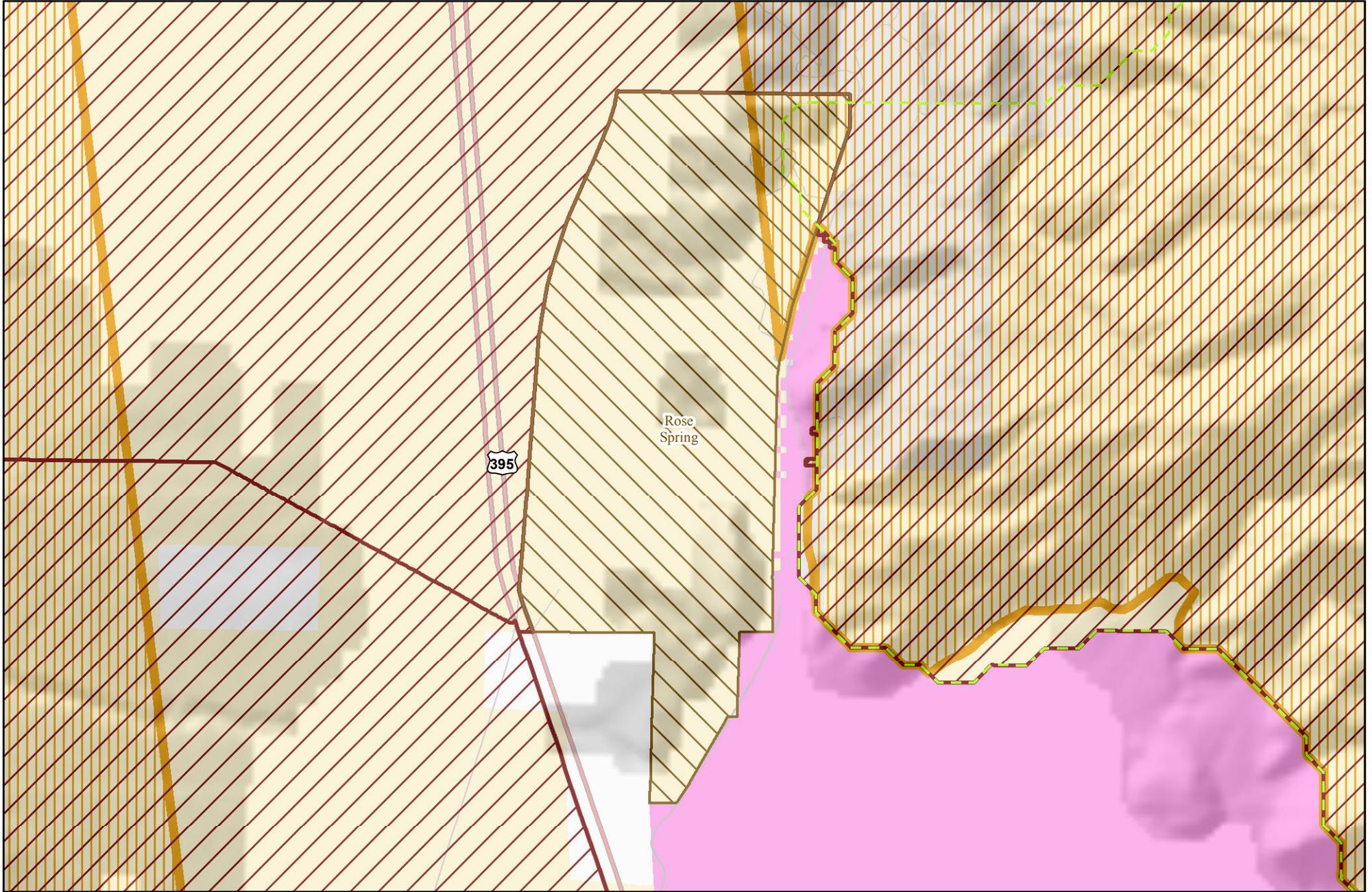
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Rose Spring



Alternative 1 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

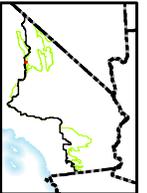
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

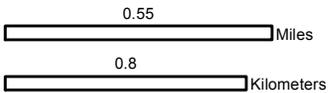
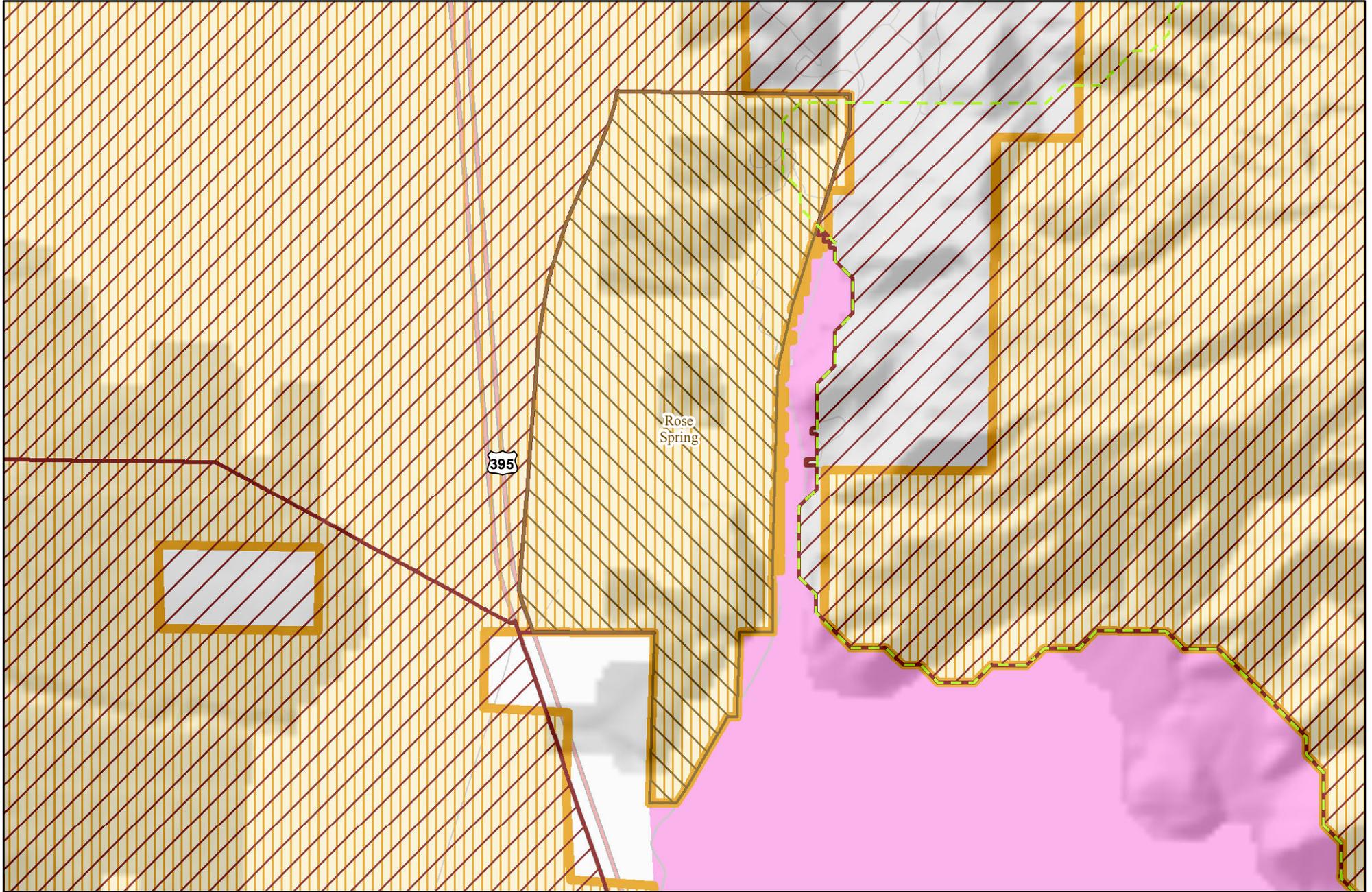
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Rose Spring



Alternative 2 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

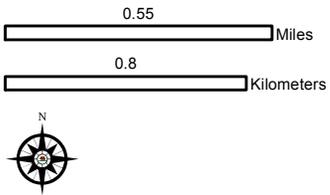
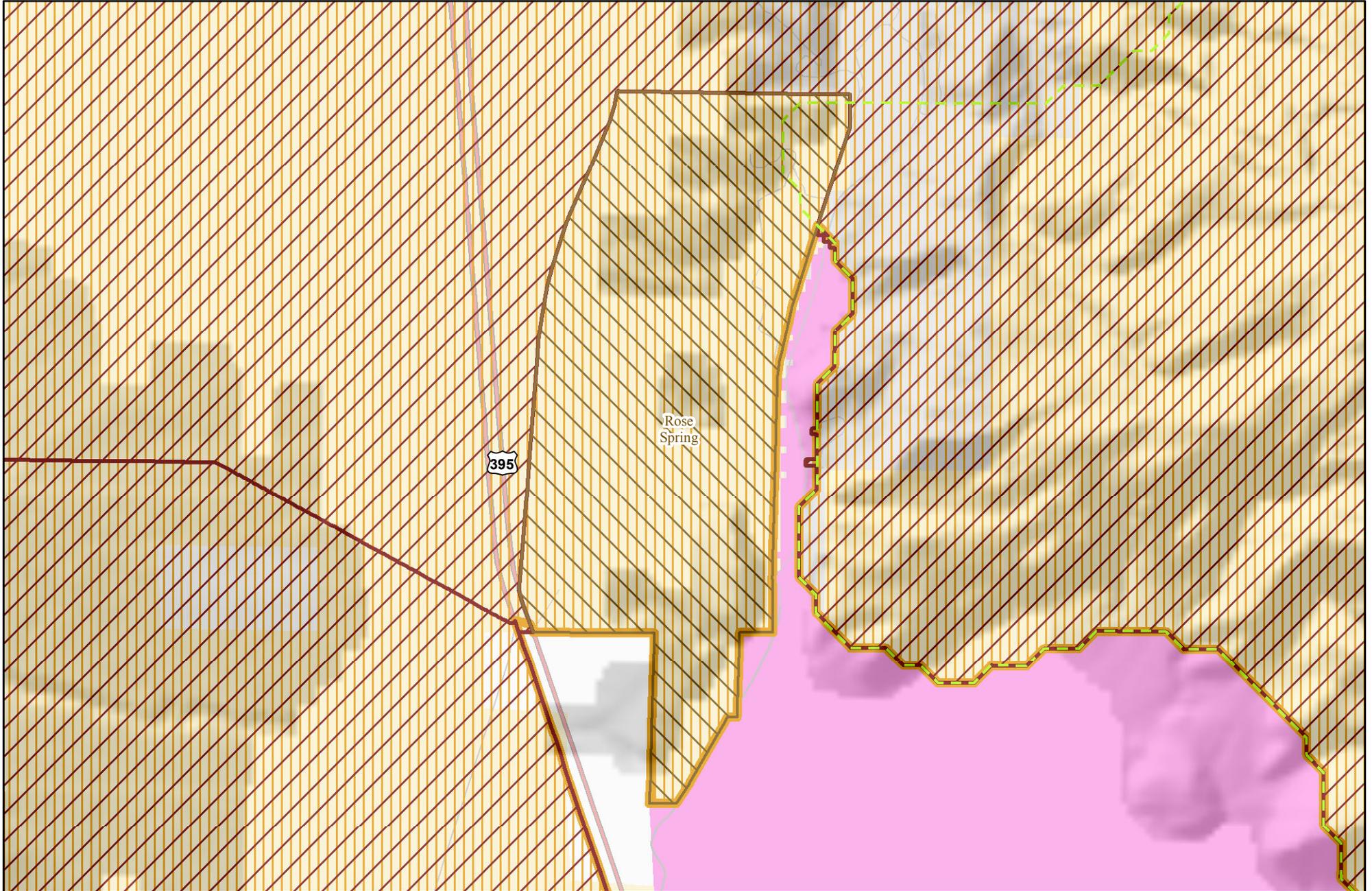
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Rose Spring



Alternative 3 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

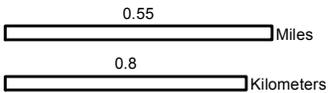
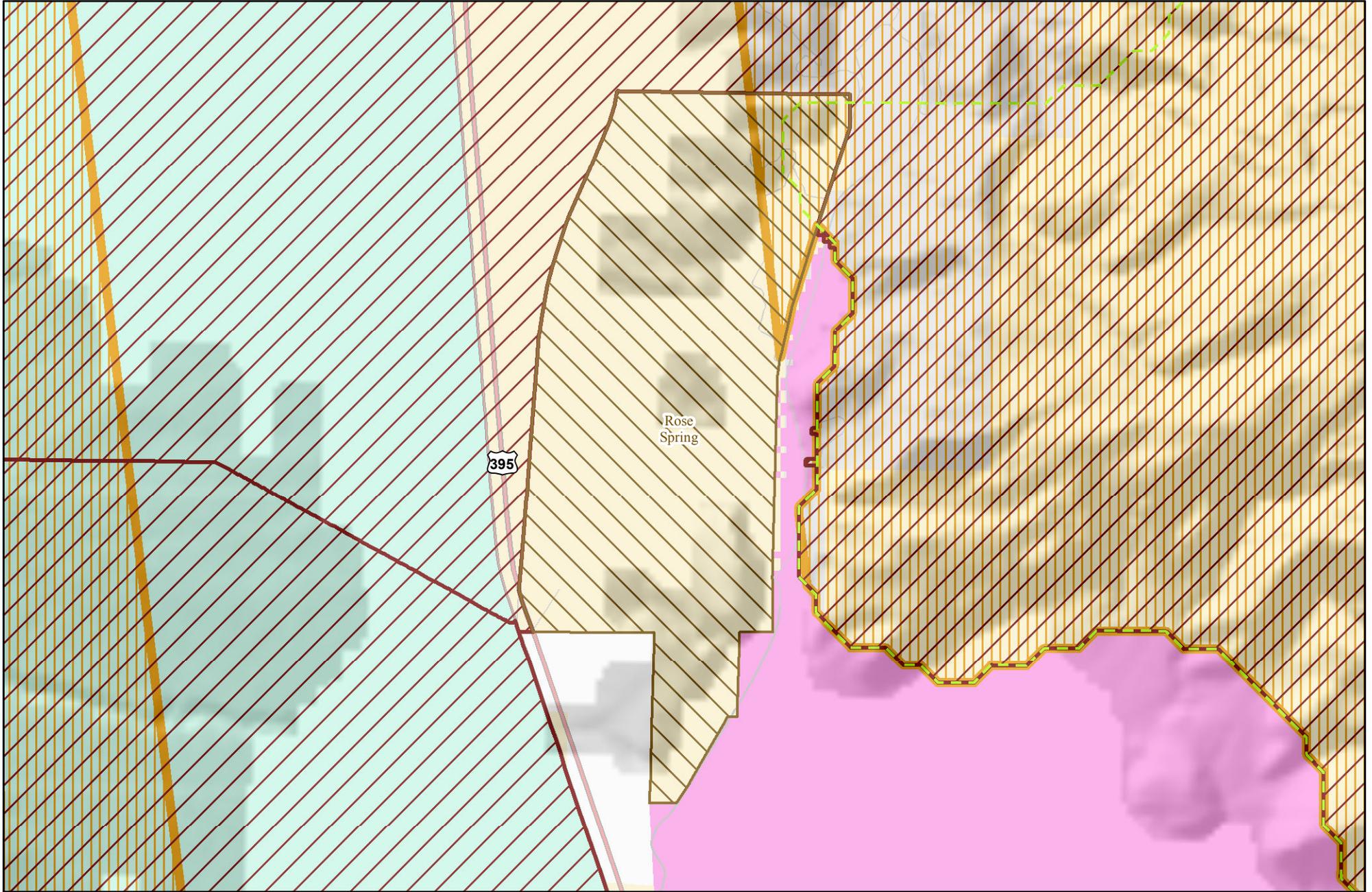
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Rose Spring



Alternative 4 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

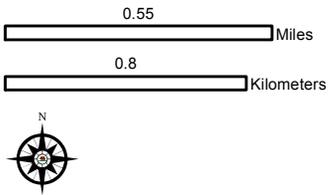
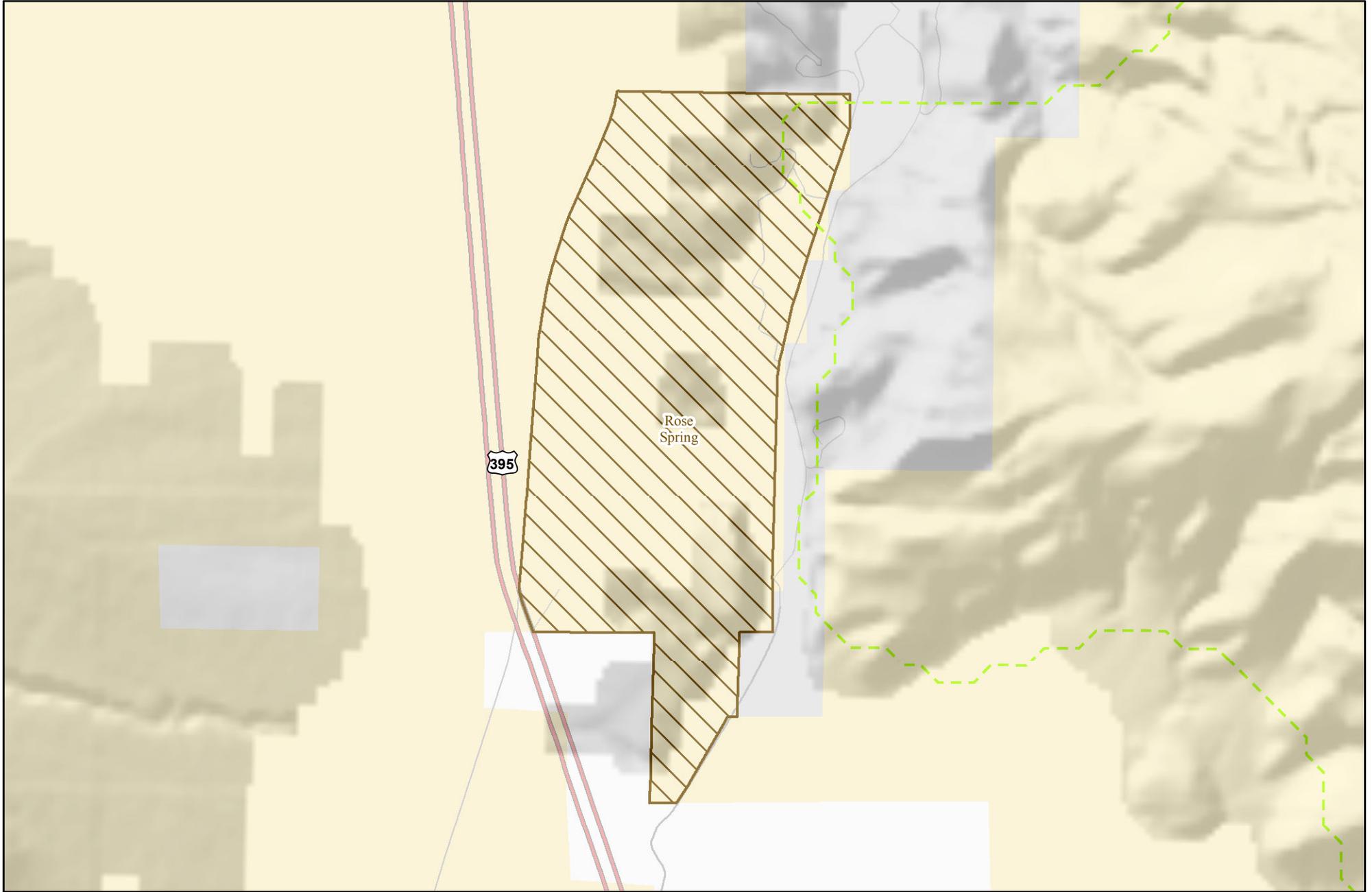
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Rose Spring



No Action ACECs
 Date Printed: 5/29/2013
 Prepared by BLM California State Office



ACEC Layers

-  Existing ACEC
-  OHV Areas
-  Legislatively and Legally Protected

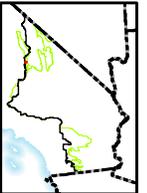
-  Cities
-  CDCA Boundary
-  DRECP Boundary
-  BLM Field Office

Land Status

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

GTLF

-  Interstate
-  US Hwy
-  CA Hwy
-  County Hwy



Trona Pinnacles National Natural Landmark

Description/Location: Located at the southern end of Searles Valley on the bed of Searles Dry Lake in northwest San Bernardino County.

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: The Trona Pinnacles are a National Natural Landmark, designated to protect one of the nation’s best examples of tufa formation. The Pinnacles formed 10,000 to 100,000 years ago, when Searles Lake was part of a chain of Pleistocene Lakes from Mono Basin to Death Valley.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: National Natural Landmark Designation, 1968; Designated ACEC, California Desert Conservation Area Plan, 1980; Management Plan for the Trona Pinnacles ACEC 02/24/1989 (CA-06-ACEC-16); West Mojave Plan Route Designation 01/2005 (D.1.25)

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant geologic resources. This area was designated in recognition of outstanding scenic quality and unique geologic formations. It contains one of the most unusual geologic formations in the California desert consisting of over 500 spires that are the most outstanding example of tufa in North America. These rock formations were designated a National Natural Landmark.

Goals: Protect unique geologic formations while providing for recreational opportunities. . Furthermore, it falls within the Mojave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area and contains habitat for desert tortoise.

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	4,000	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	4,000	4,000	0	1%
1	0	4,000	0	1%
2	4,100	4,100	0	1%
3	0	4,100	0	1%
4	4,100	4,100	0	1%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

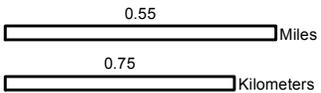
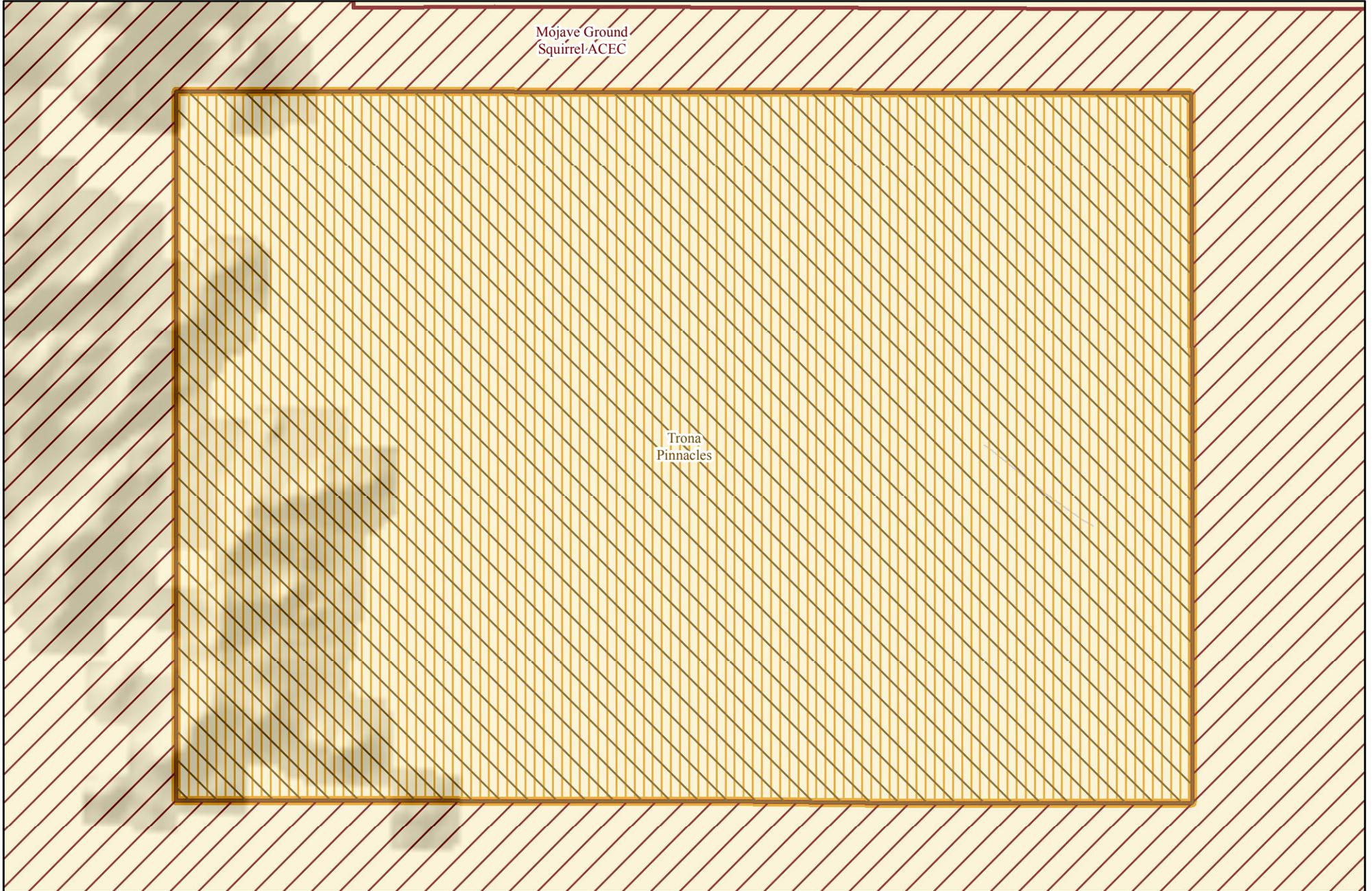
Alternatives:

All Alternatives – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Objective: Protect unique geologic formations from undue degradation Allowable uses: Activities which do not result in soil loss or erosion</p> <p>Management Action: Increase ranger patrol Provide interpretive and educational opportunities Monitor for soil compaction</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>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Protect raptors by ensuring nesting and foraging habitat is in a stable or improving condition habitat Allowable Uses: Prohibit target shooting</p> <p>Management Action: Conduct surveys to evaluate the use of the area by avian species. Management Action: Minimize disturbance to nesting activities</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 the following 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 Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>) BLM Sensitive Golden Eagles</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<p>Objective: Maintain the high Scenic Quality, which was the identified purpose of the Landmark and ACEC designation</p> <p>Management Action: Establish a day use area with camping spots and a vault toilet where the viewshed of the Pinnacles would not be interrupted. Prohibit target shooting Establish regular patrols to ensure vandalism and graffiti is controlled</p>	Visual Resources

<p>Objective: Minimize impacts to the Trona Pinnacles through designation of routes and trails through the area. Allowable Use: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized limited access to designated trails.</p> <p>Management Action: Install and maintain Highway destination signs Designate routes for travel Restore, Rehabilitate, or otherwise block access on non-designated trails</p>	Trails and Travel Management
<p>Objective: Enhance visitor experience Allowable Uses: All forms of recreational use are allowed including but not limited to dispersed camping, hunting, photography, picnicking, climbing, 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. Variety of day use activities</p> <p>Management Action: Establish a day use area with picnic area and toilet. Closed to firearms Limit OHV use to designated routes Create interpretive guide and trails No camping at the designated picnic area</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Maintain valid and existing rights for the Trona Railroad Allowable Uses: Maintenance of Trona Railroad within ROW Management Action: No further right of way will be authorized</p> <p>Objective: Allow for filming and movie production Allowable Uses: Permitted, authorized filming with monitoring by BLM staff Management Action: Film productions must adhere to the Trona Pinnacles ACEC Management Plan to prevent further degradation of the viewshed and resource values</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Not an allowable use. Mineral development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria.</p> <p>Management Action: Withdrawal from mineral entry</p>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables

Trona Pinnacles



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

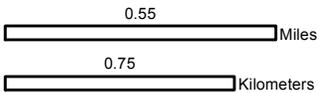
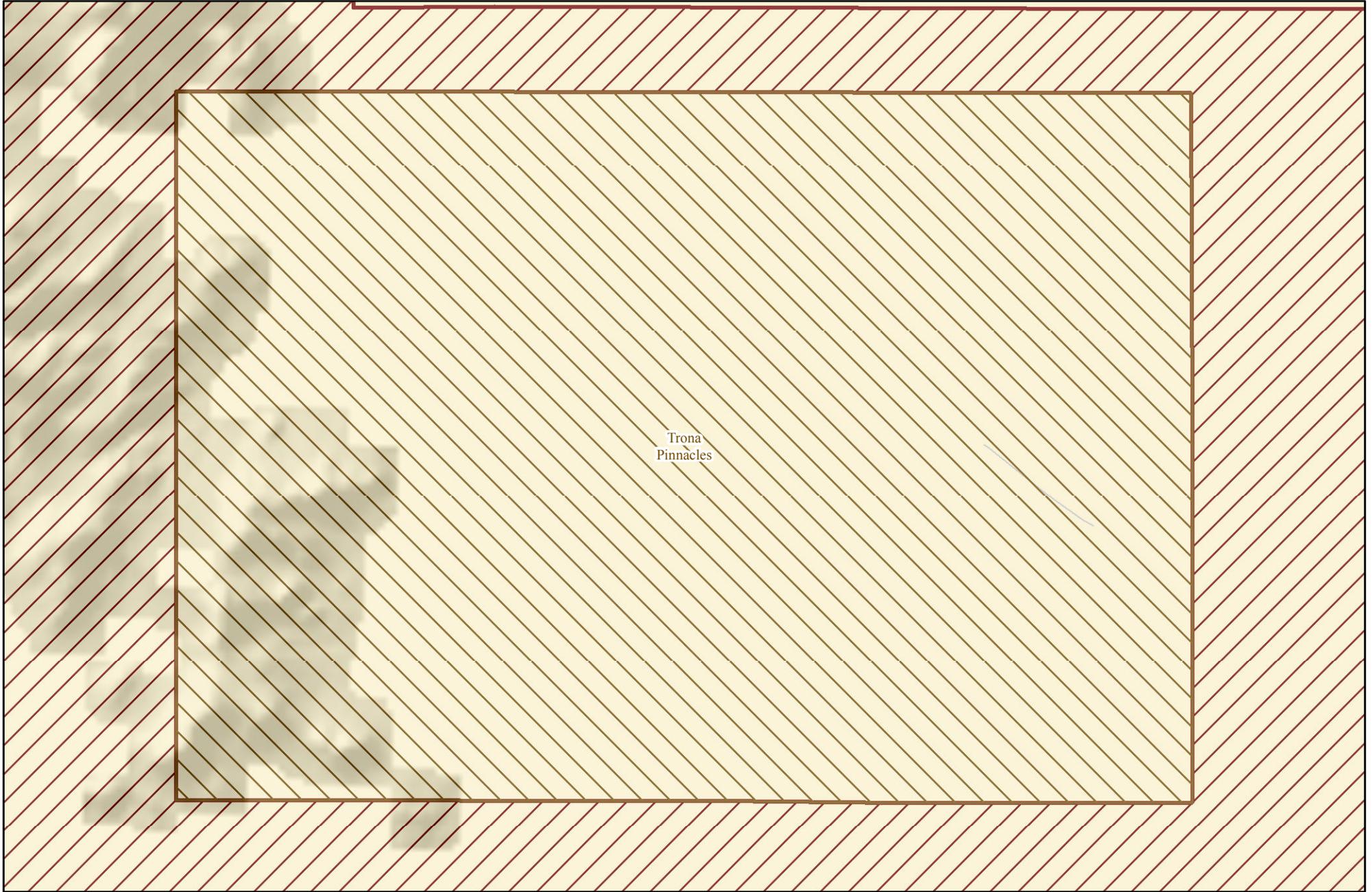
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Trona Pinnacles



Alternative 1 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

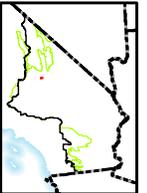
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

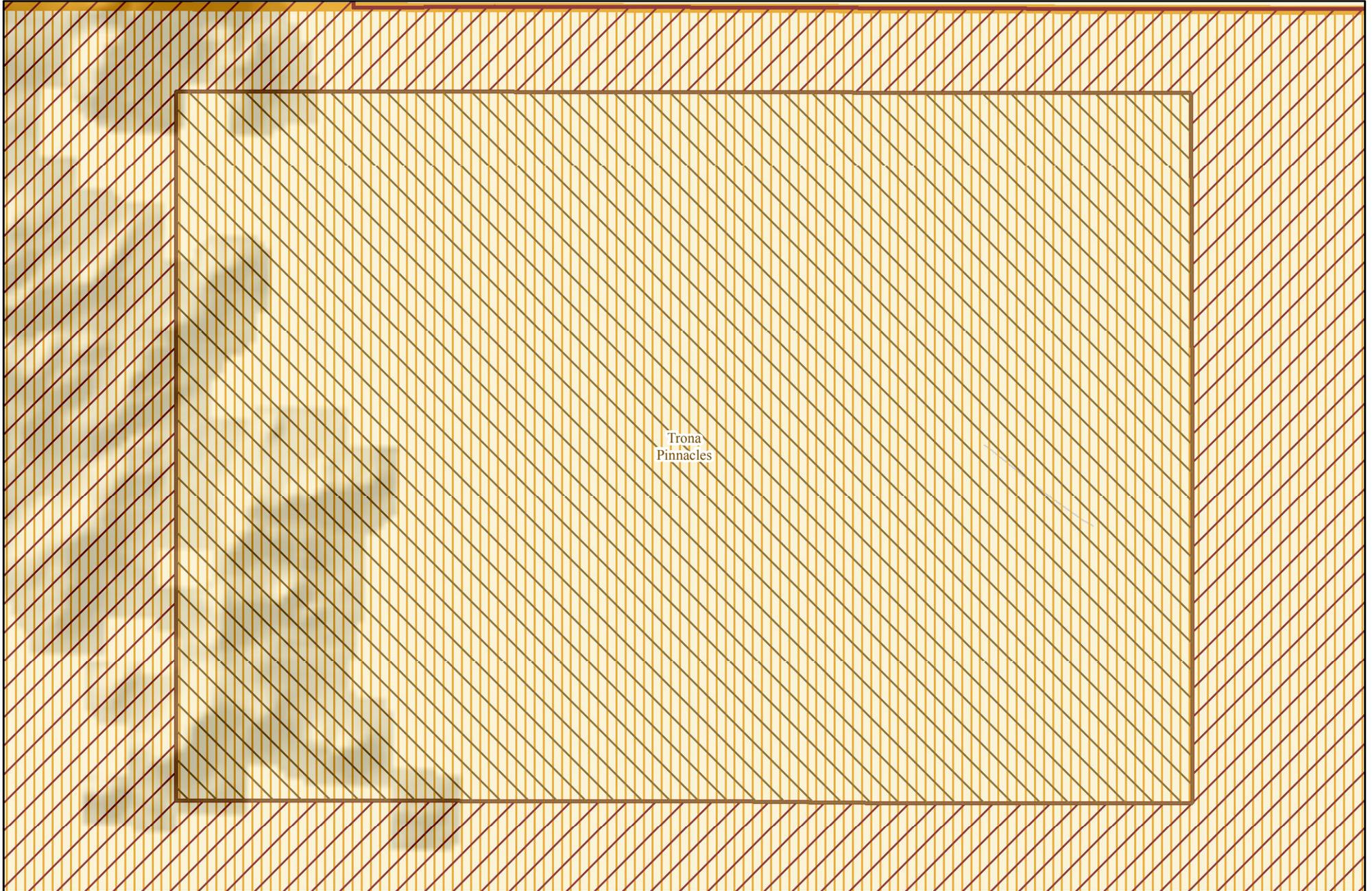
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Trona Pinnacles



Alternative 2 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

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

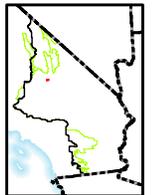
- Cities
- OHV Areas
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- DRECP Boundary
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Land Status

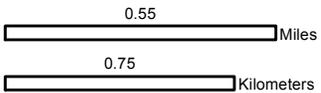
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- Military
- Private

GTLP

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Trona Pinnacles



Alternative 3 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

- Cities
- OHV Areas
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Land Status

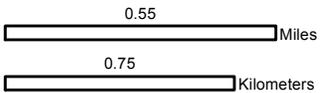
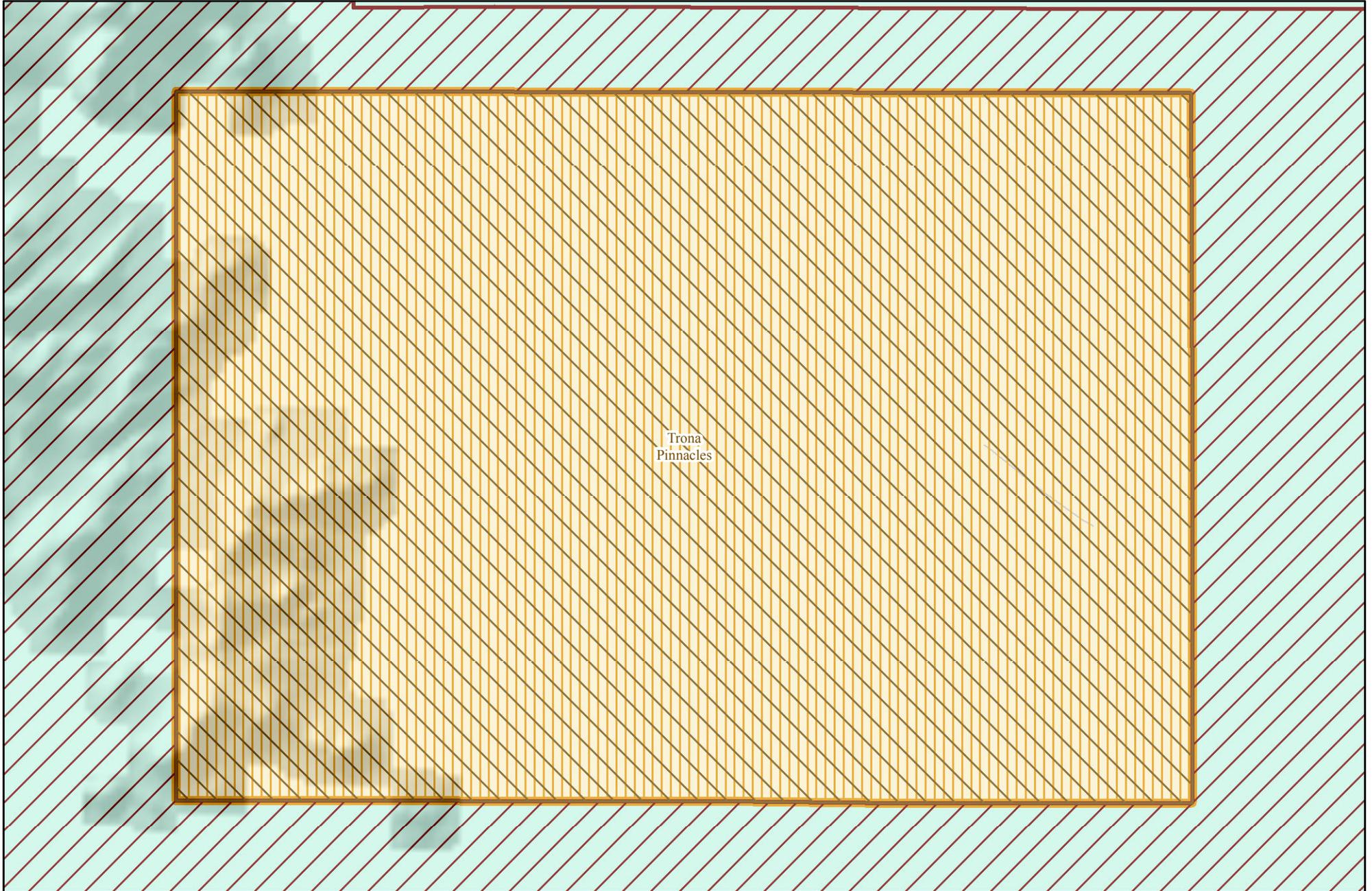
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTIF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Trona Pinnacles



Alternative 4 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

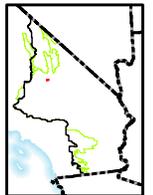
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

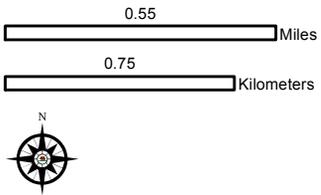
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLP

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Trona Pinnacles



No Action ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013
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ACEC Layers

-  Existing ACEC
-  OHV Areas
-  Legislatively and Legally Protected

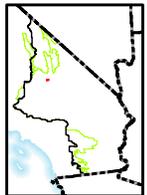
-  Cities
-  CDCA Boundary
-  DRECP Boundary
-  BLM Field Office

Land Status

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

GTLF

-  Interstate
-  US Hwy
-  CA Hwy
-  County Hwy



Warm Sulfur Spring

Description/Location : Northeast part of Panamint Valley just west of the Surprise Canyon Wilderness and west of Indian Ranch Road. Warm Sulfur Springs extends north from Surprise Canyon to Hall Canyon in the Panamint Range.

Nationally Significant Values:

Cultural: The expected cultural resources at Warm Sulphur Springs could include both prehistoric and historic archaeological sites. Datable events involving man begin before 8,000 B.C. at Lake Hill near Panamint Butte (Davis, 1970). Sites in this area may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as districts, trail systems, or individual sites under any of the National Register Criteria.

The area is a Tribal Cooperative Activity/Special Use Area within the Timbisha Shoshone Homeland. The Tribe is authorized to use the area for low impact, ecologically sustainable, traditional practices pursuant to a jointly established management plan mutually agreed upon by the National Park Service or the Bureau of Land Management, as appropriate. This authorization is set forth in the Timbisha Shoshone Homeland Act of January, 2000. The Timbisha tribe attaches considerable importance to the springs, desert marsh, and mesquite groves of this area. The importance of the Warm Sulphur Springs to the Timbisha Shoshone covers a period of at least 200 years.

Scientific: Aquatic invertebrate studies have been focused in this area.

Mgmt. Plan/Date of Designation: No plan has been completed yet, but one is in progress. This ACEC was designated by an amendment to the CDCA Plan in 1985 (Amendment 14).

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological and cultural resources. Warm Sulphur Springs is a desert marsh in Panamint Valley that has considerable importance to wildlife. The marsh provides habitat for waterfowl, wading birds, amphibians, and other species. It is a unique desert wetland community with mesquite bosques and freshwater & saline marshes. Warm Sulphur Springs is classified as jurisdictional wetlands. In California, Utah pickleweed (*Salicornia utahensis*) occurs only in this area and in adjacent DVNP. The bosques & wetlands are prime stop-over and wintering habitats for migratory birds, as well as important areas for nesting birds. The riparian areas produce insect prey for native birds, bats, reptiles, & amphibians and provide shelter to Desert Bighorn Sheep.

Important food plants grow in the Warm Sulphur Springs area, including cattails and mesquite. Subsistence activities focused on collecting and processing mesquite seeds. The Native Americans used fire here to remove emergent vegetation to create open water, which attracts waterfowl, an important food.

Goals: Protect and enhance wetland, aquatic and riparian habitats and their associated plant communities and wildlife assemblages, specifically mesquite bosques and marshes, and isolated seeps and springs, that are rare ecosystems in the desert. Preserve unique geologic/hydrologic features. Preserve scenic views and opportunities for observing nature. Inventory and protect cultural resources from disturbance and damage.

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	300	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	300	300	0	1%
1	0	300	0	1%
2	300	300	0	1%
3	300	300	0	1%
4	300	300	0	1%

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

Alternatives:

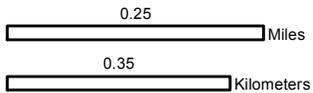
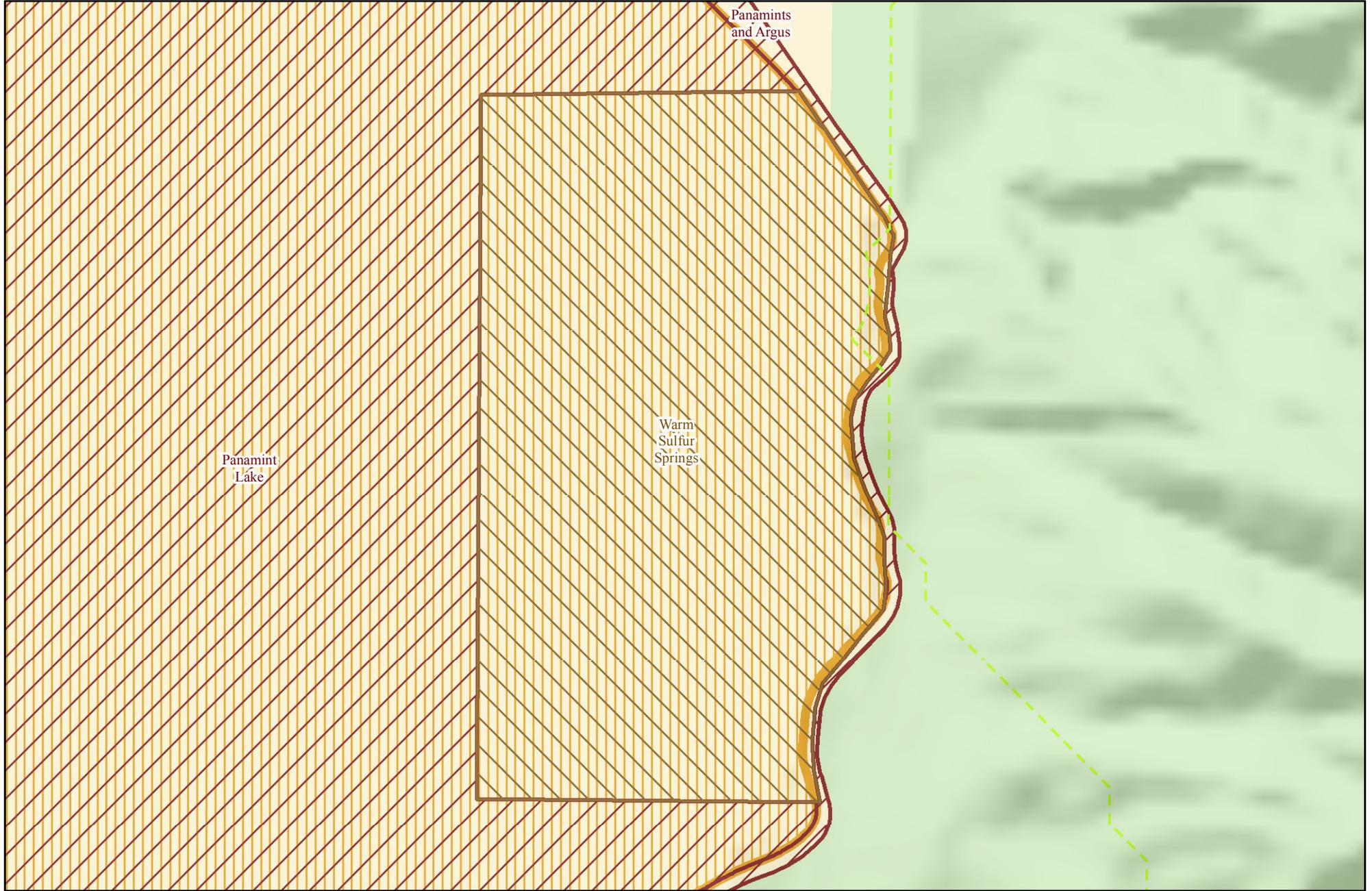
All Alternatives – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Management actions: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are function and achieving physical and biological objectives.</p> <p>Monitor Proper Functioning Condition and restore natural flow stream morphology when needed</p> <p>Monitor water uses</p>	Soil, water, air
<p>Objective: Protect unique marsh, bosque, and riparian communities.</p> <p>Management Action: Eradicate Salt cedar (<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>) from the area.</p> <p>Prohibit collection of plants except by permit.</p> <p>Remove burros to prevent damage to the vegetation.</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<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 wading birds and priority species for management and protection along with other sensitive species:</p> <p>Townsend's big-eared bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii townsendii</i>) BLM Sensitive Pallid bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>) BLM Sensitive Western mastiff bat (<i>Eumops perotis californicus</i>) BLM Sensitive Panamint alligator lizard (<i>Elgaria panamintina</i>) BLM Sensitive Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>) USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern</p> <p>Prohibit collection of animals except by permit.</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

<p>See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</p>	<p>Cultural Resources</p>
<p>Objective: Preserve the sense of isolation and vast, unspoiled view shed in this area</p> <p>Allowable uses: the area has been classified as Class II Visual Resource Management Areas. The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of acceptable change to the characteristic landscape should be low.</p> <p>Management Actions: Account for Visual Resource Inventory in all project assessments</p>	<p>Visual Resources</p>
<p>Objective: Limit vehicles to open designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc</p> <p>Management Actions: Sign designated routes routinely</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Objective: Provide for recreational opportunities that are compatible with the protection of ACEC resource values.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: All forms of recreational use are allowed including but not limited to 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 Actions: Provide opportunities for visitors to learn about the natural and cultural values of the area. Establish the area as a Watchable Wildlife Site. Eliminate camping in the ACEC. Enforce prohibitions on camping and firewood collecting.</p> <p>Evaluate visitor needs Prepare a Site Enhancement Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signs - Brochures - Kiosks - Walkways, trails, viewing areas 	<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: There is an existing Inyo County road ROWs along Indian Ranch Road that borders the east edge of the ACEC.</p> <p>Management Action: 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.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria.</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive resources in the area.</p> <p>Allowable Uses: Restrict mining activity to upland sites, east of the Indian Ranch road.</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>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables
<p>Objective: Removal of wild burros and horses in the area to attain the management goals.</p> <p>Management Action: BLM should continue its removal and adoption program to protect seeps, springs, and riparian habitat in the area.</p>	Wild Horse and Burro

Warm Sulfur Springs



Preferred Alternative 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

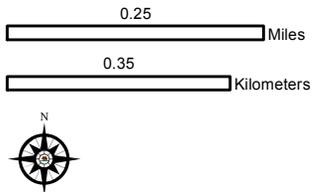
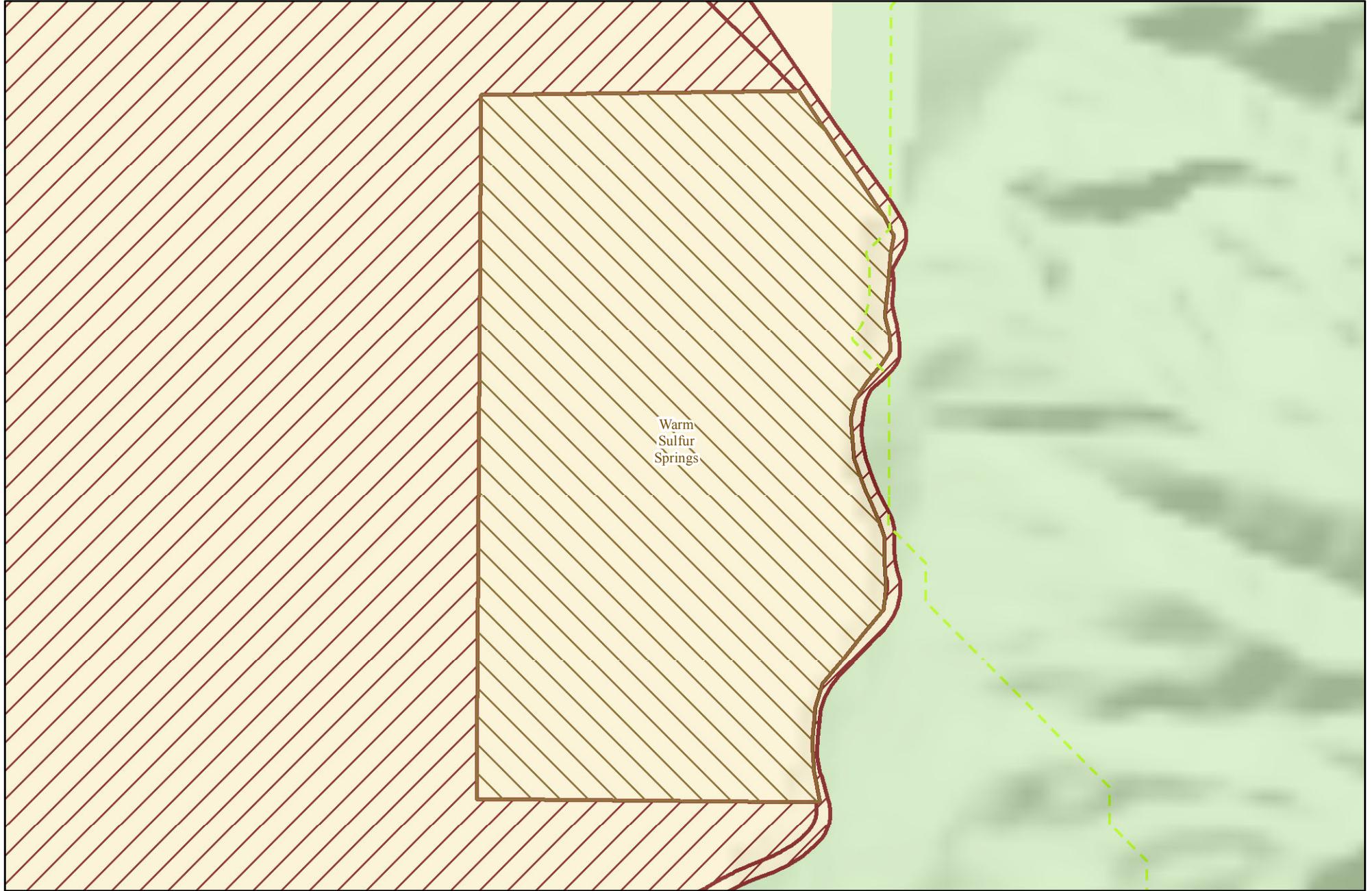
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Warm Sulfur Springs



Alternative 1 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
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Land Status

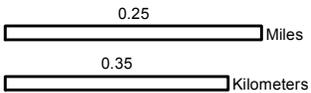
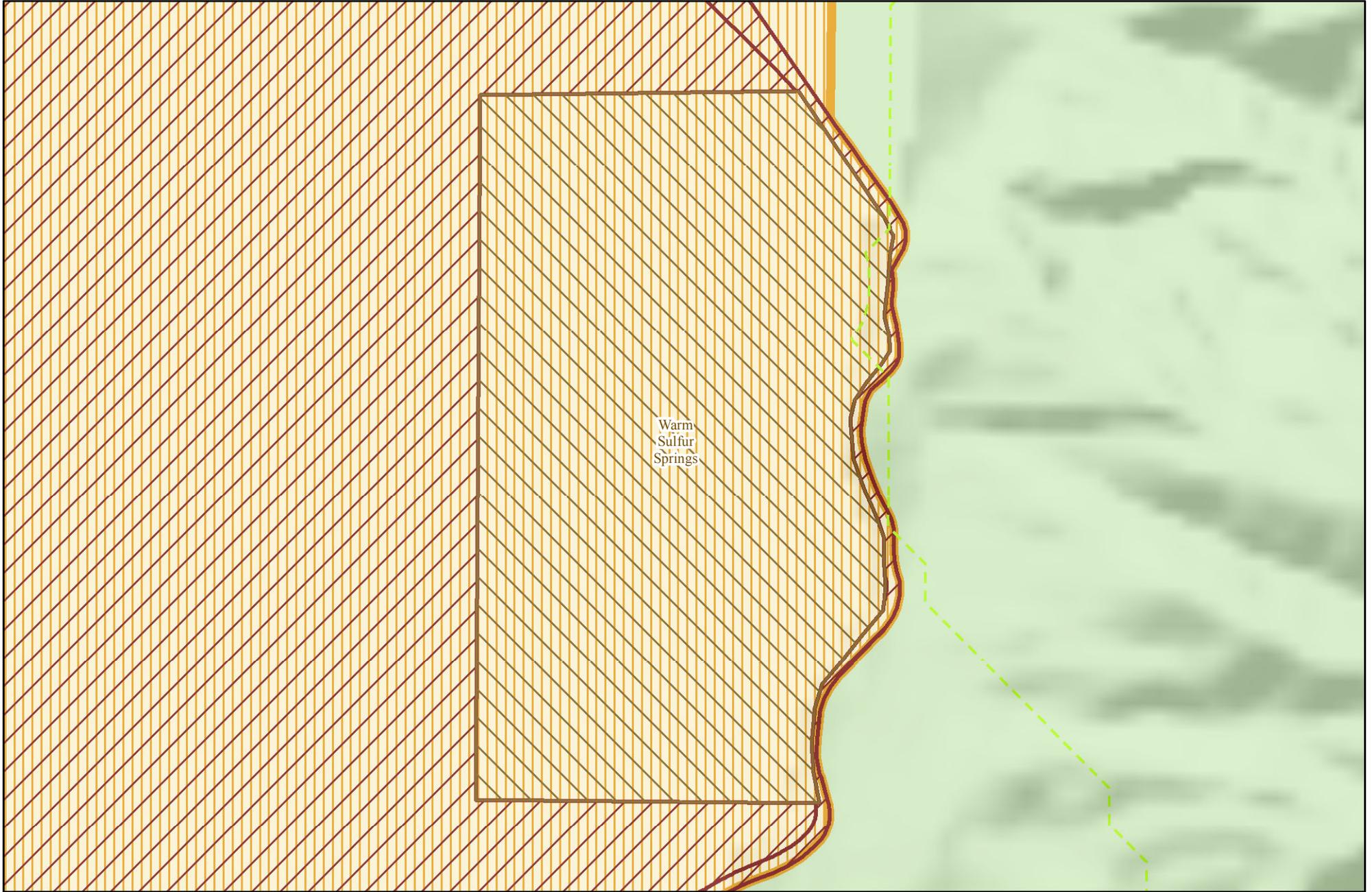
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Warm Sulfur Springs



Alternative 2 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
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Land Status

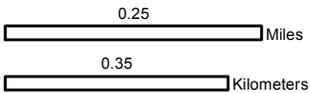
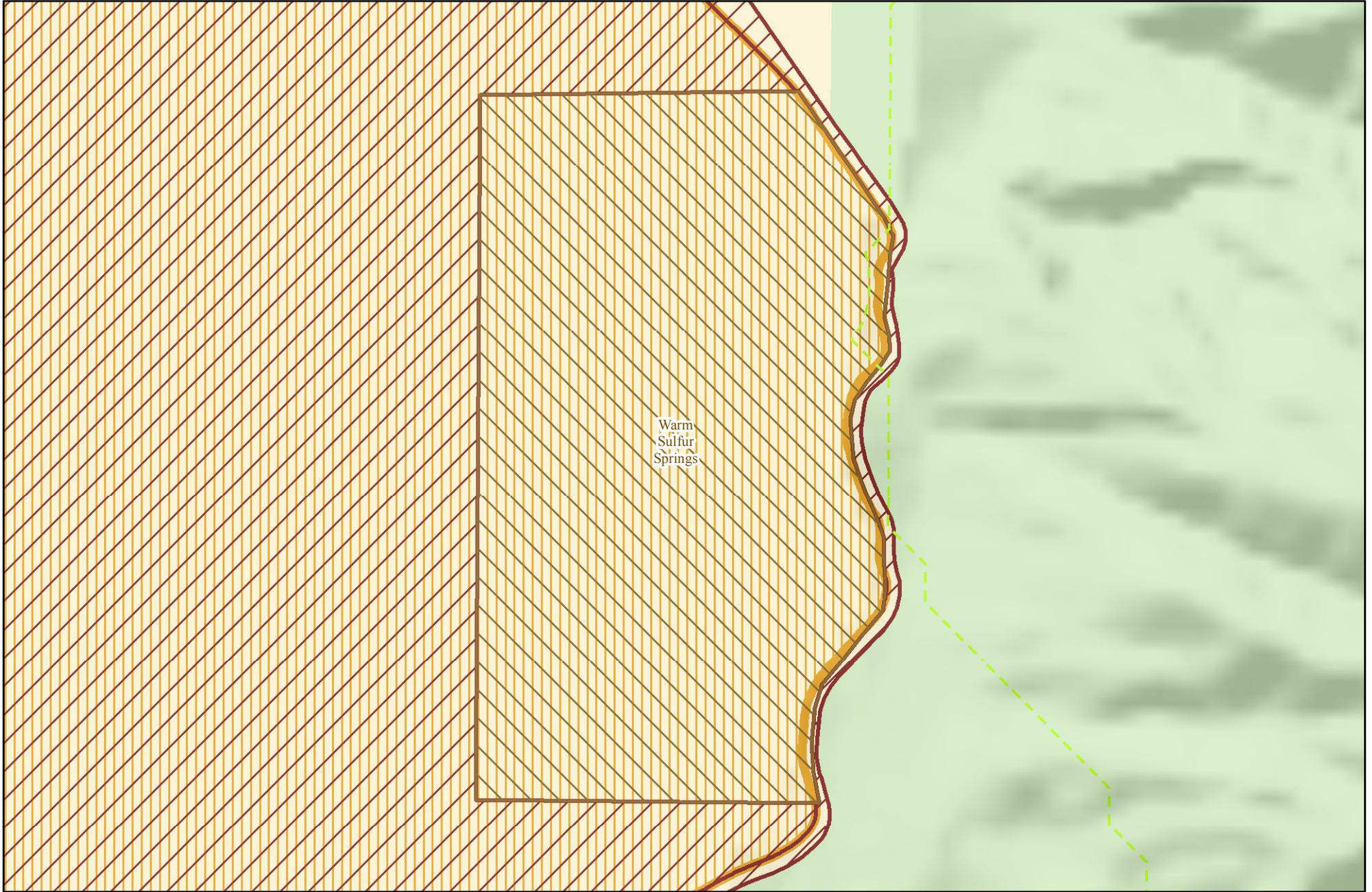
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
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GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
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Warm Sulfur Springs



Alternative 3 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
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- Legislatively and Legally Protected

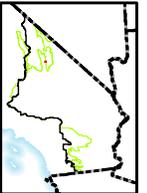
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Land Status

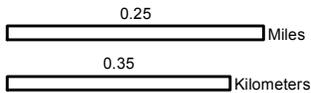
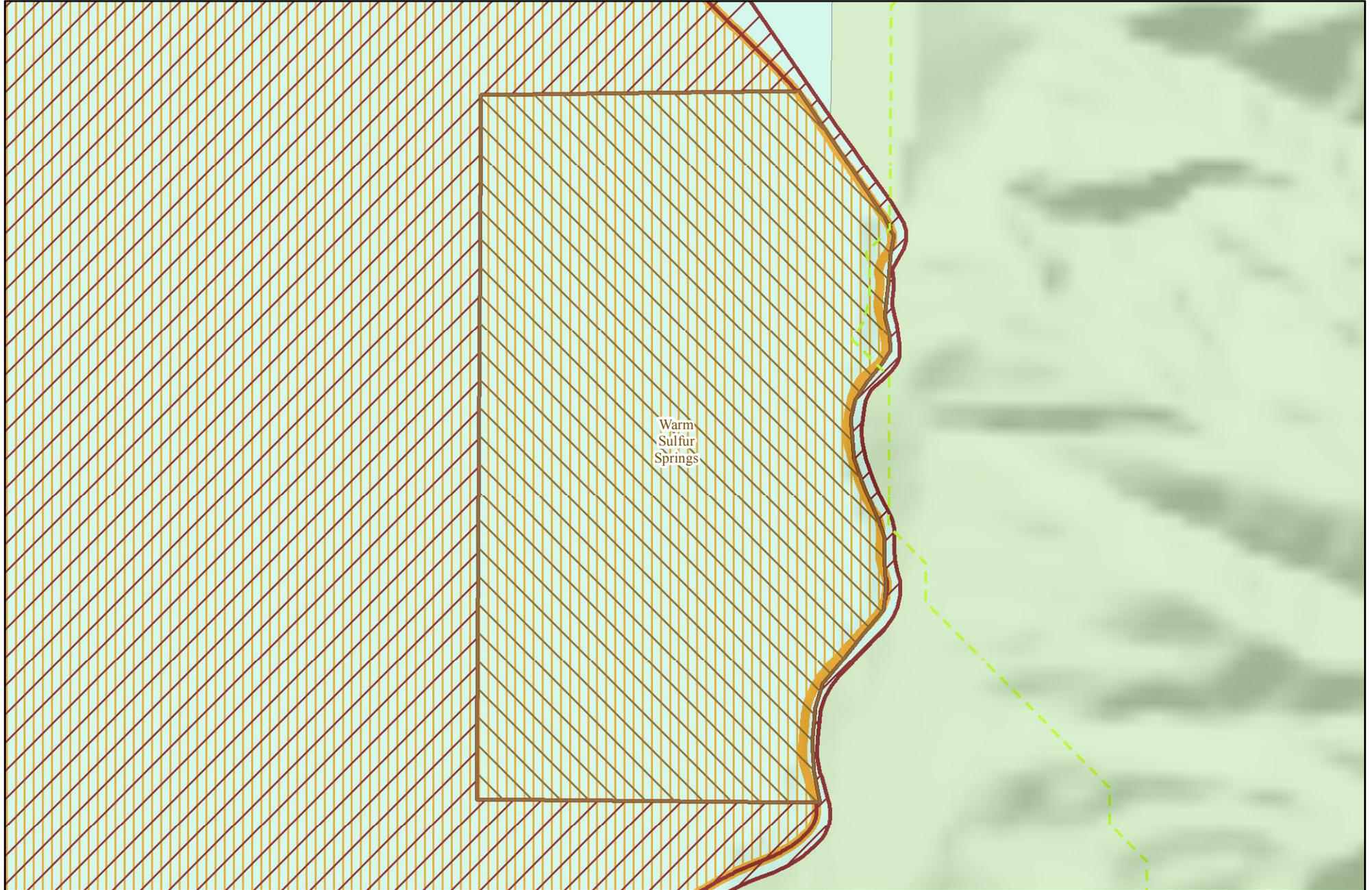
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GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
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Warm Sulfur Springs



Alternative 4 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
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- Design Focus Areas
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- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
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Land Status

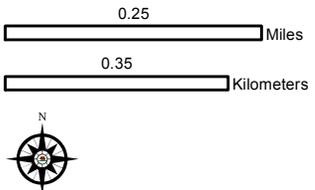
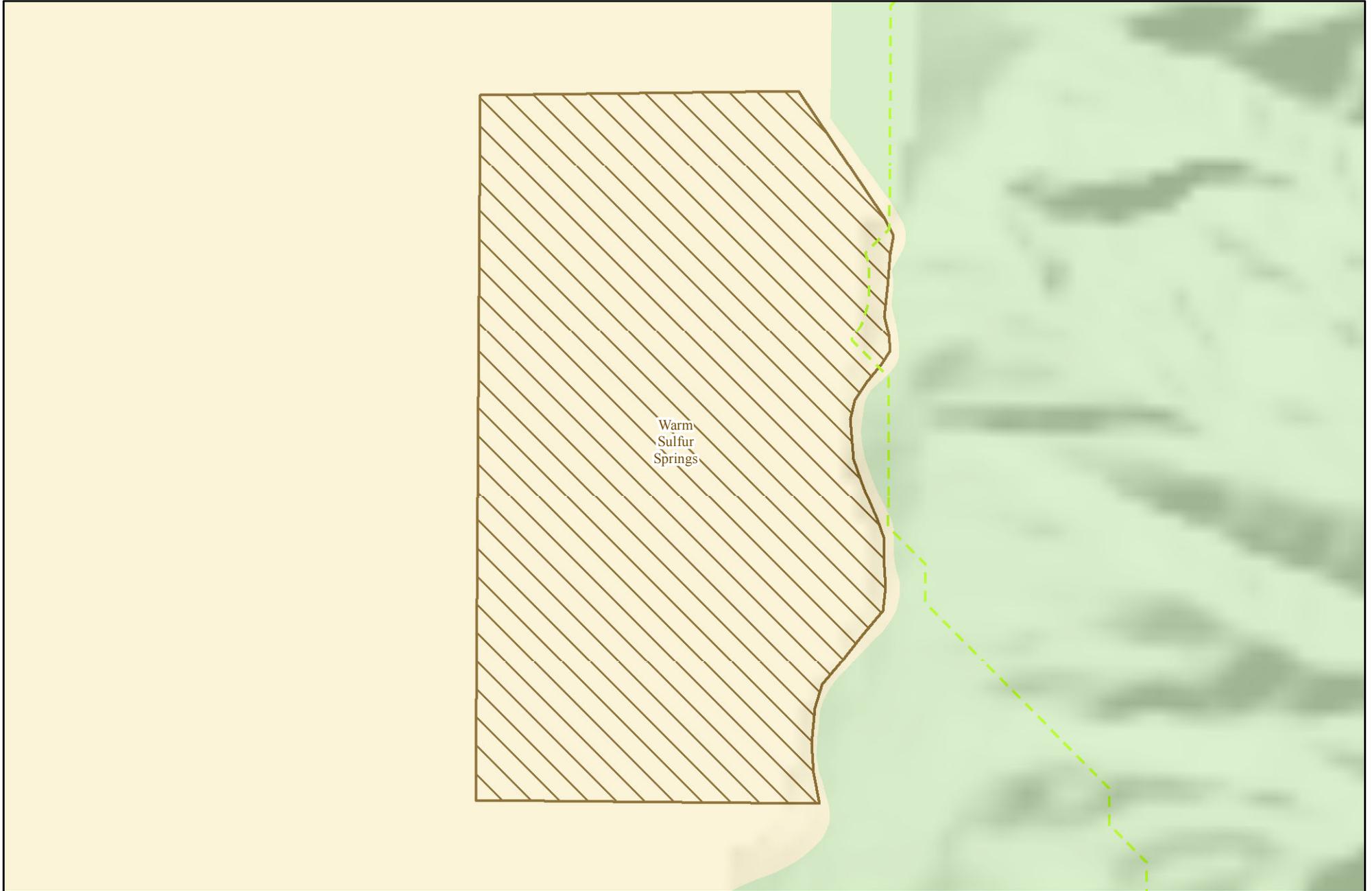
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GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Warm Sulfur Springs



No Action ACECs
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ACEC Layers

-  Existing ACEC
-  OHV Areas
-  Legislatively and Legally Protected

-  Cities
-  CDCA Boundary
-  DRECP Boundary
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Land Status

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