

Fremont-Kramer

Location: Located south of Ridgecrest, north of Victorville and in between Fort Irwin and Edwards Air Force Base, this unit encompasses Fremont Valley, the Rand Mountains, Red Mountain, Cuddeback Lake, and extends south beyond Kramer Junction.

Nationally Significant Values:

Ecological: This area provides high density Desert Tortoise habitat and encompassed designated desert tortoise critical habitat. This area provides critical tortoise habitat linkage.

Scientific: Parts of this area have been the subject of long-term population monitoring studies for the desert tortoise.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Established in WEMO, March 2006. The West Mojave Plan would serve as the ACEC management plan so that a future ACEC plan would not be required.

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. This area contains Desert Tortoise Critical Habitat designated by the FWS. This habitat is considered t essential to the recovery of the federally listed Desert Tortoise. This area provides critical tortoise habitat linkage. The area also encompasses essential movement corridors which link wildlife habitats in the Western Rand Mountains and Fremont Valley to the Cuddeback Lake area and to both the Golden Valley and Grass Valley Wildernesses. A variety of songbirds use the area, both during migration and as nesting habitat. Resident songbird species include loggerhead shrikes and Le Conte's thrashers.

Goals: Protect biological resources. The area is managed for tortoise conservation and recovery until which time the tortoise may be delisted as per criteria given in the Recovery Plan. Manage area in accordance with the Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan. Protect biological values, including habitat quality, populations of sensitive species, and landscape connectivity while providing for compatible public uses. Maintain habitat connectivity for wildlife with movement corridors in all directions and 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	311,500	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	257,400	0	0.5%
1	0	311,500	0	0.5%
2	238,500	238,500	0	0.25%
3	51,716	309,367	0	0.5%
4	28,600	267,800	0	0.25%

* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

Alternatives:

Under All Action Alternatives--This is an existing ACEC that overlaps numerous several other ACECs. To resolve this dual designation, all action alternatives will removed these dually designated acres from Fremont-Kramer (the designation of the other ACEC would remain and the acres would still be for conservation purposes) to assist BLM is accurate reporting of number of acres in conservation status.

Alternatives Preferred, 2, 3, and 4 – Portions (size and location vary by alternative, see table above and maps that follow) of this ACEC will be removed from conservation status and designated as Development Focus Areas, open for renewable energy development.

Alternative 1 – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is, dual designations would be removed.

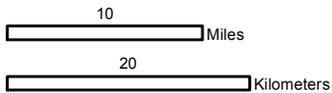
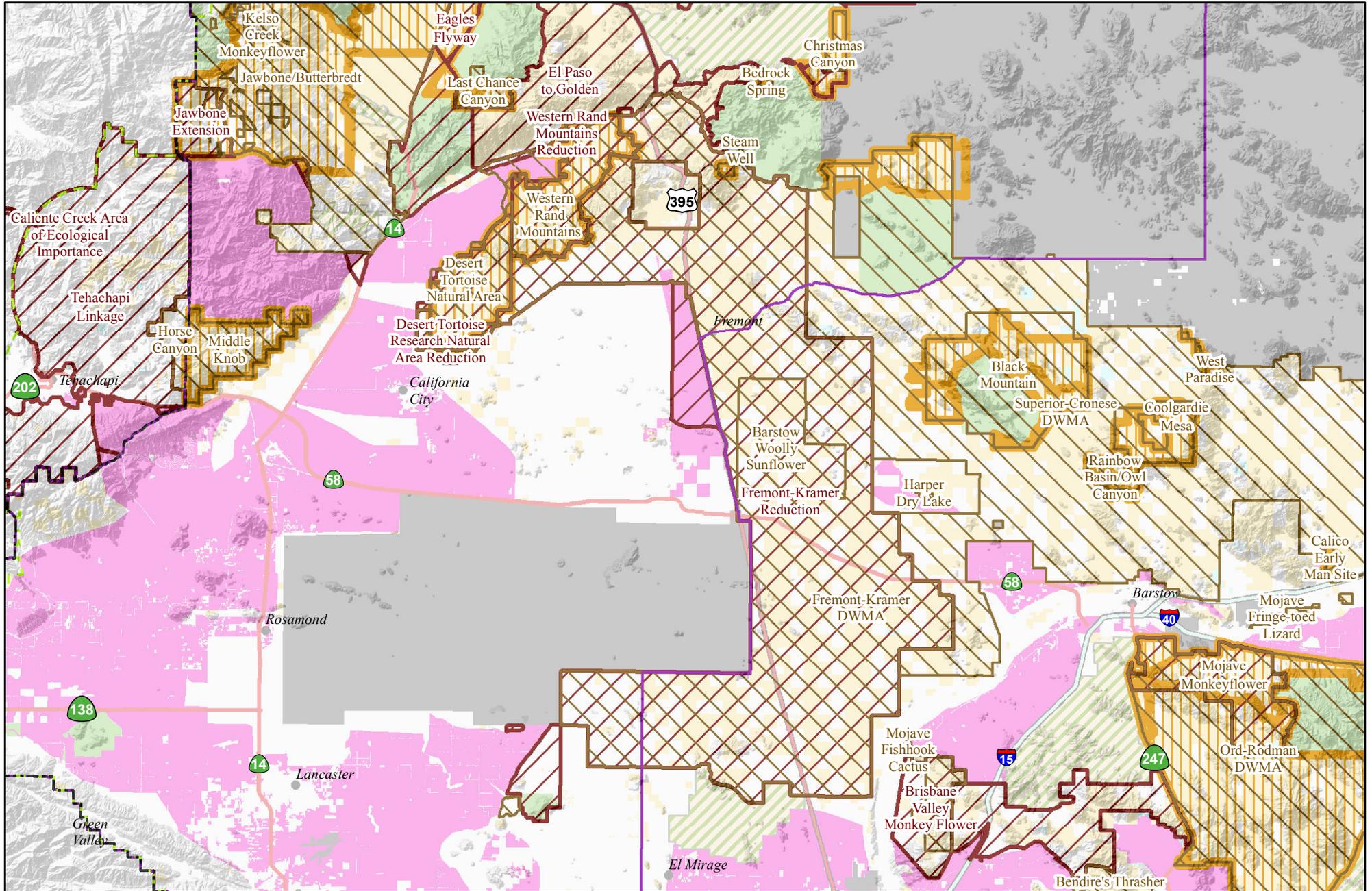
No Action – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is, and the dual designations would remain.

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. 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.	Soil, water, air
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 plant Barstow Woolly Sunflower (<i>Eriophyllum mohavense</i>) Desert Cymopterus (<i>Cymopterus deserticola</i>) Creamy blazing star (<i>Mentzelia tridentate</i>) Management Action: Rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed area Management Action: Maintain intact vegetation communities and prevent fragmentation.	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Objective: Maintain or improve condition of Desert Tortoise habitat Management Action: Maintain viable populations and connections between other conservation areas by preventing unnecessary large-scale barriers Management Action: Fence along highways as needed and as funding allows. Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence: Management Action: Protect sensitive species:	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

<p>Desert Tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>) Federally and State threatened Le Conte’s Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma lecontei</i>) State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>) State Species of Special Concern American Badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>) State Special Animal 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: 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: Establish no new routes in ACEC Management Action: Modify the WEMO Route Network to reflect open routes through the ACEC and close other existing unauthorized 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>Management Action: Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat.</p> <p>Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes</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>Parking of motor vehicles is allowed within 50 feet of the centerline of designated routes and not beyond this distance.</p> <p>Shooting is allowed only during hunting season while pursuing game or when shooting at paper targets that are transported to the shooting site and taken home after target practice.</p>	<p>Recreation</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>Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Maintain wildlife linkage and protect desert tortoise critical habitat Management Action: To the degree possible, new utility right-of-ways shall be situated as closely together as practical given engineering specifications, human safety, and other limiting factors.</p>	Rights of Way
<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>	Renewable Energy
<p>Objective: Protect from mining activities Allowable Uses: small placer mining operations Management Action: Include stipulations to protect the desert tortoise and desert cymopterus including not disturbing occupied habitat Management Action: New proposals will need to be analyzed at on a case-by-case basis and cumulatively, to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals. Management Action: Propose 32,590 acres within the Rand Mountains and the Fremont Valley Management Area for withdrawal from mineral location and entry</p>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables
<p>Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on desert tortoise habitat and other resources Allowable Uses: A small part of the ACEC is within the Cantil Common Allotment which is an ephemeral sheep grazing allotment. Special rules exist for determining threshold forage production before sheep can be turned out and when they will be removed. Management Action: Continue to monitor and regulate the sheep grazing in the ACEC</p>	Livestock grazing

Fremont-Kramer Reduction



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

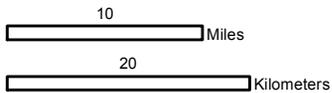
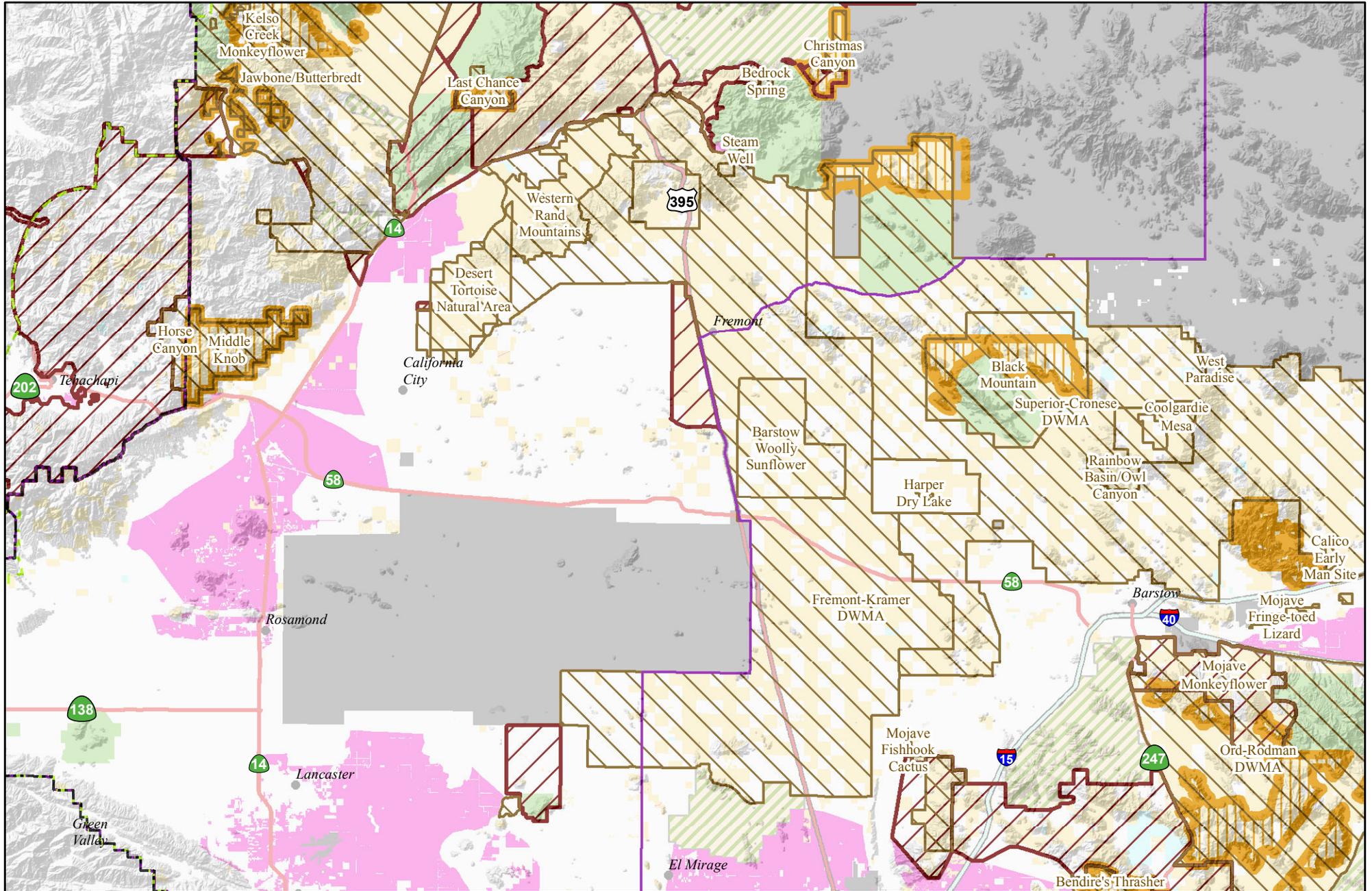
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTFL

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fremont-Kramer



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

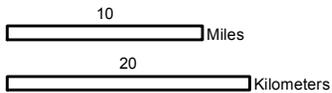
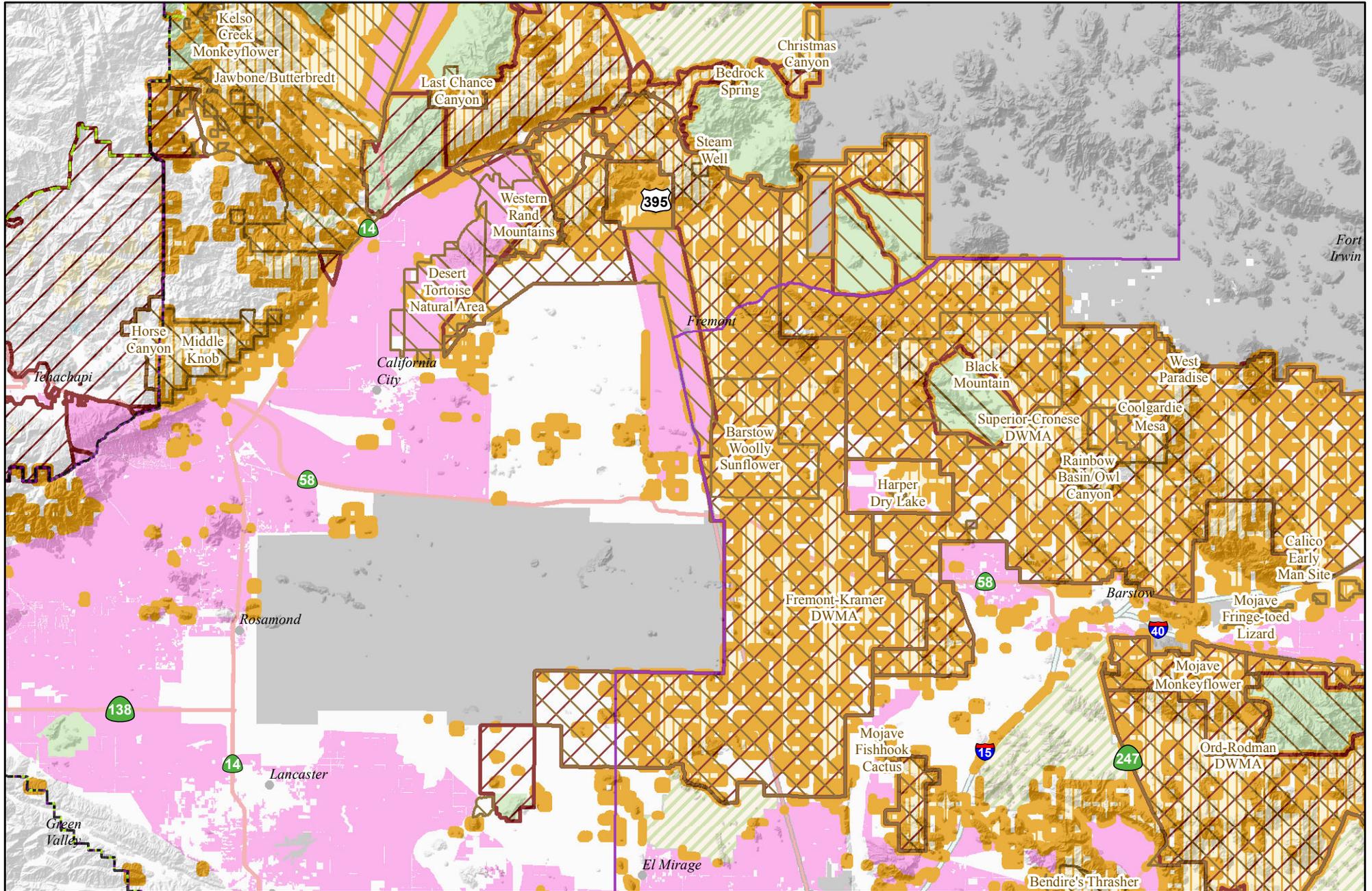
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTFL

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fremont-Kramer Reduction



Alternative 2 ACECs
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ACEC Layers

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

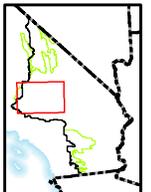
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

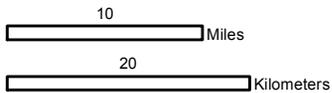
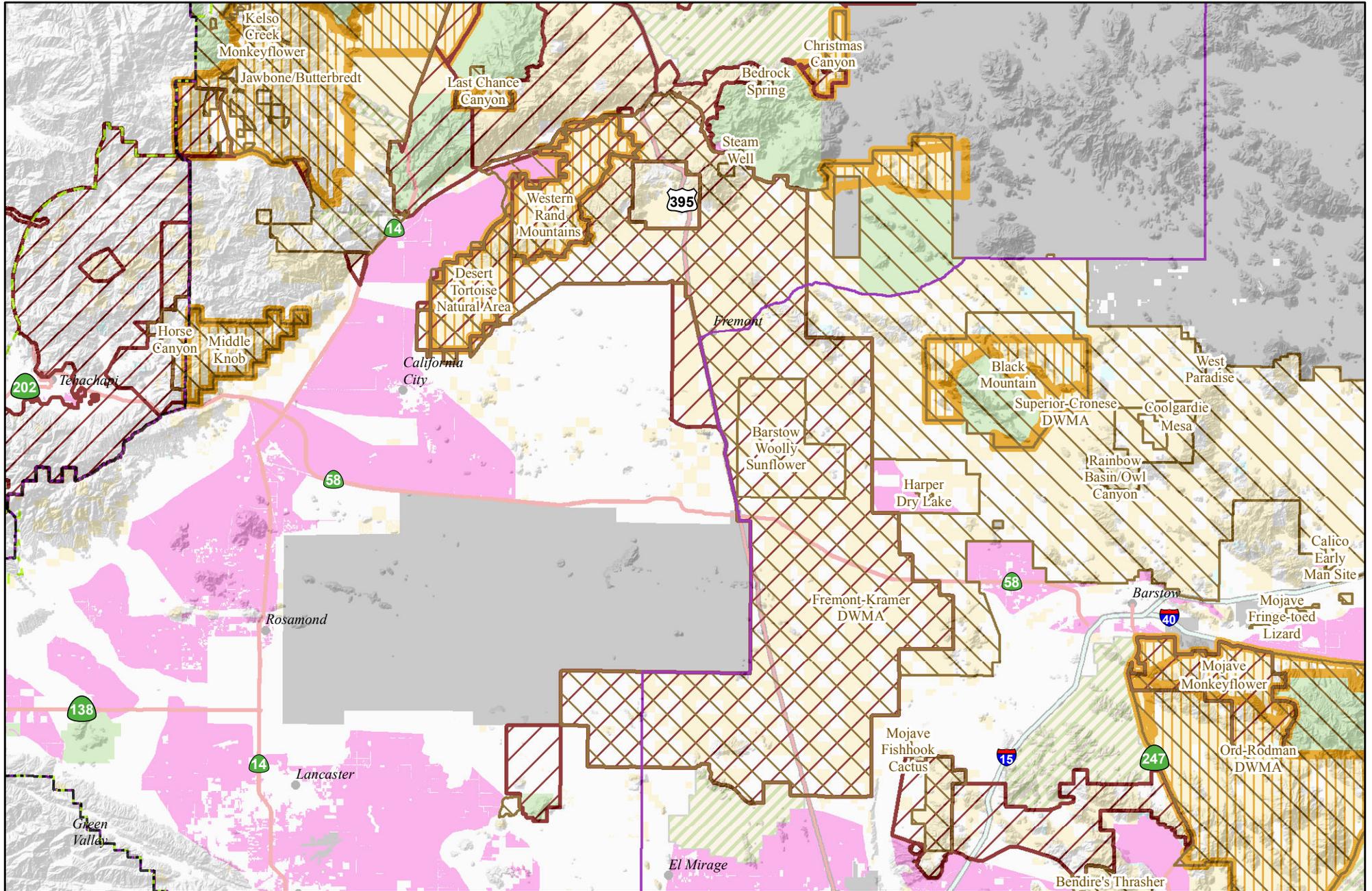
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTFL

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fremont-Kramer Reduction



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

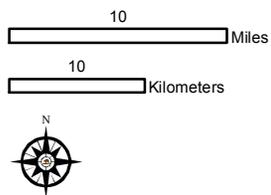
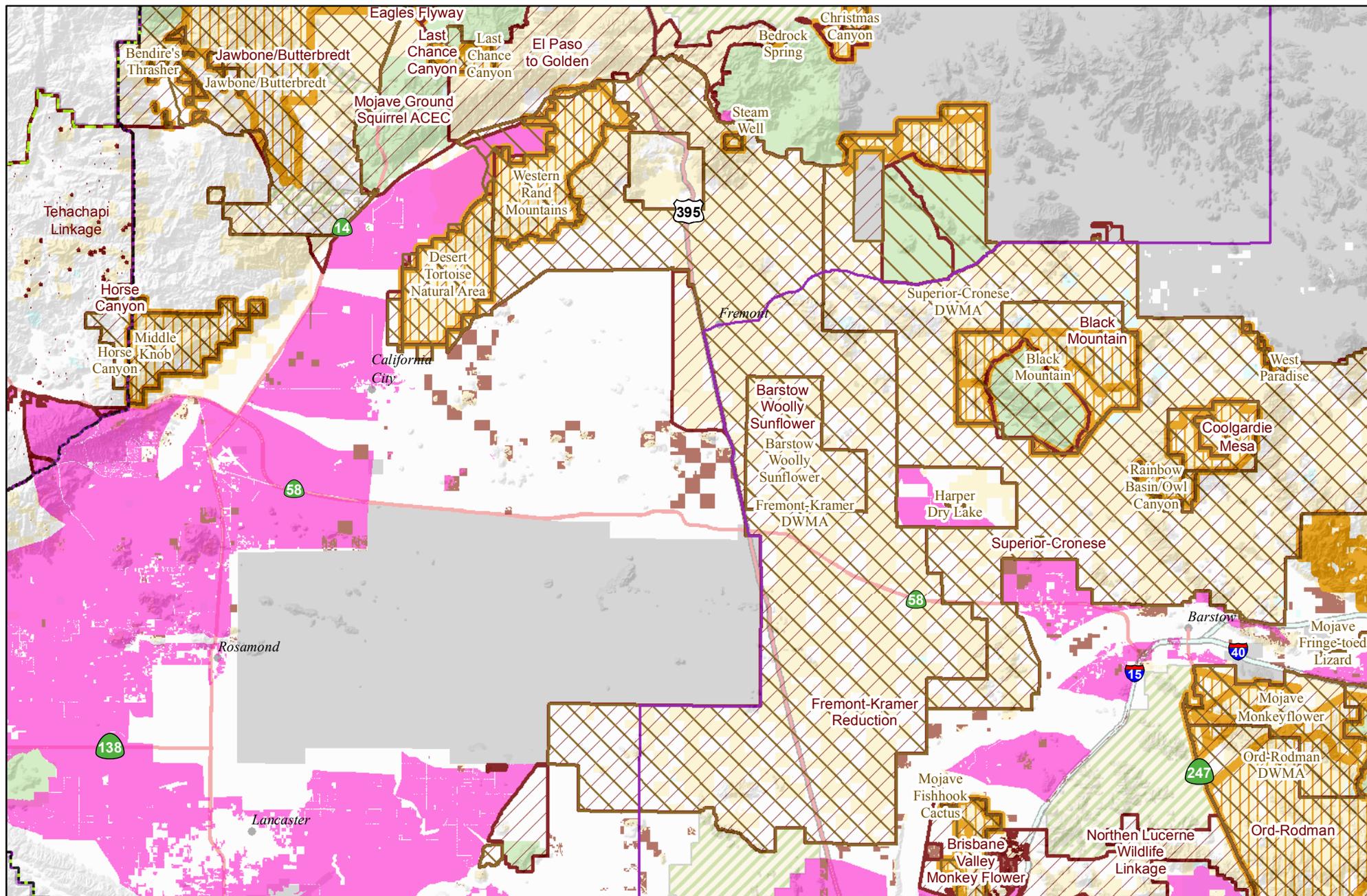
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTFL

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fremont-Kramer Reduction



Alternative 4 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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

Design Focus Areas

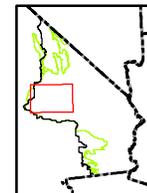
- Design Focus Areas
- Variance Lands
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

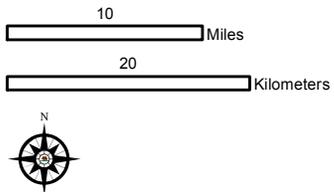
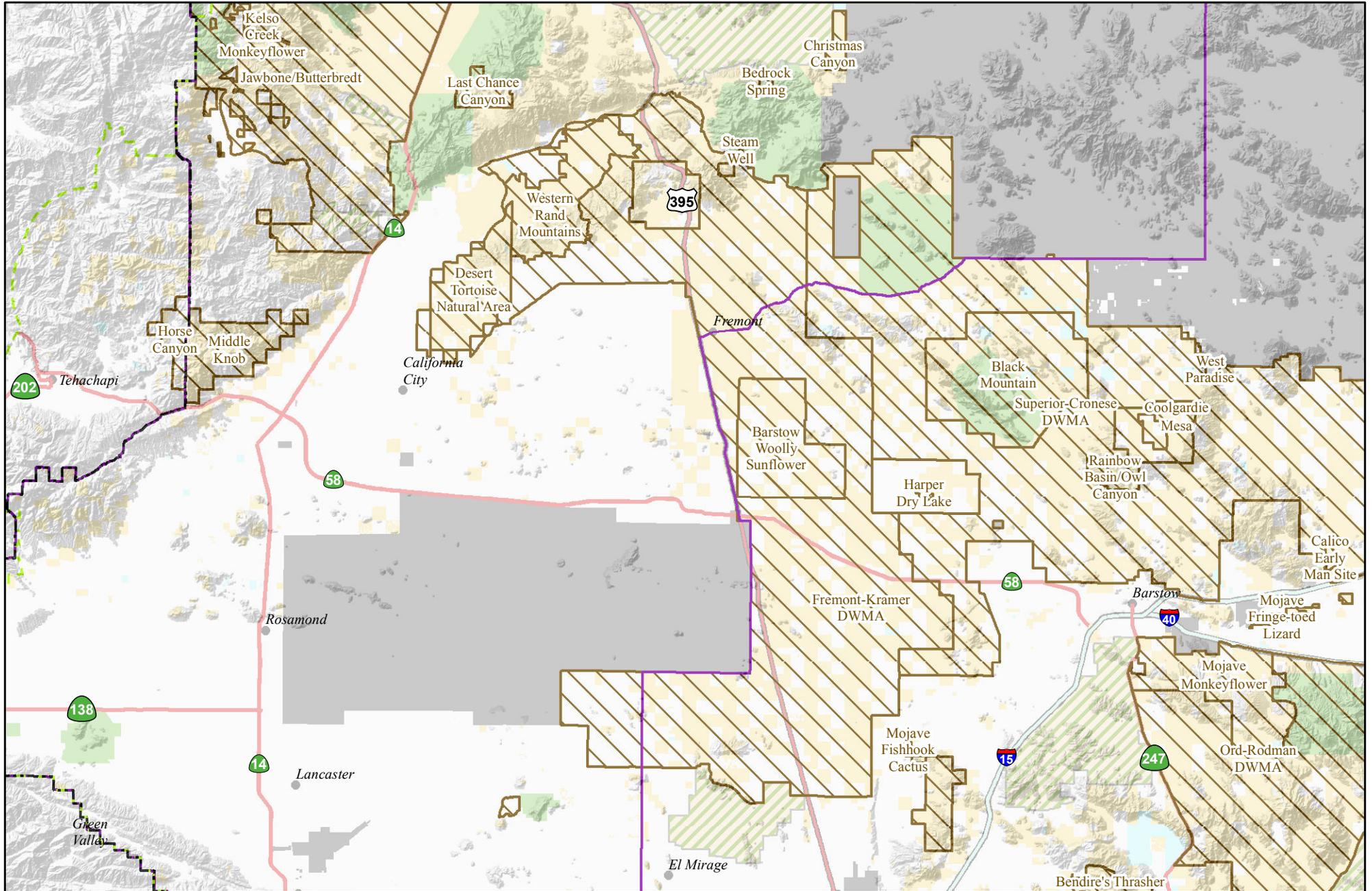
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



Fremont-Kramer DWMA



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

