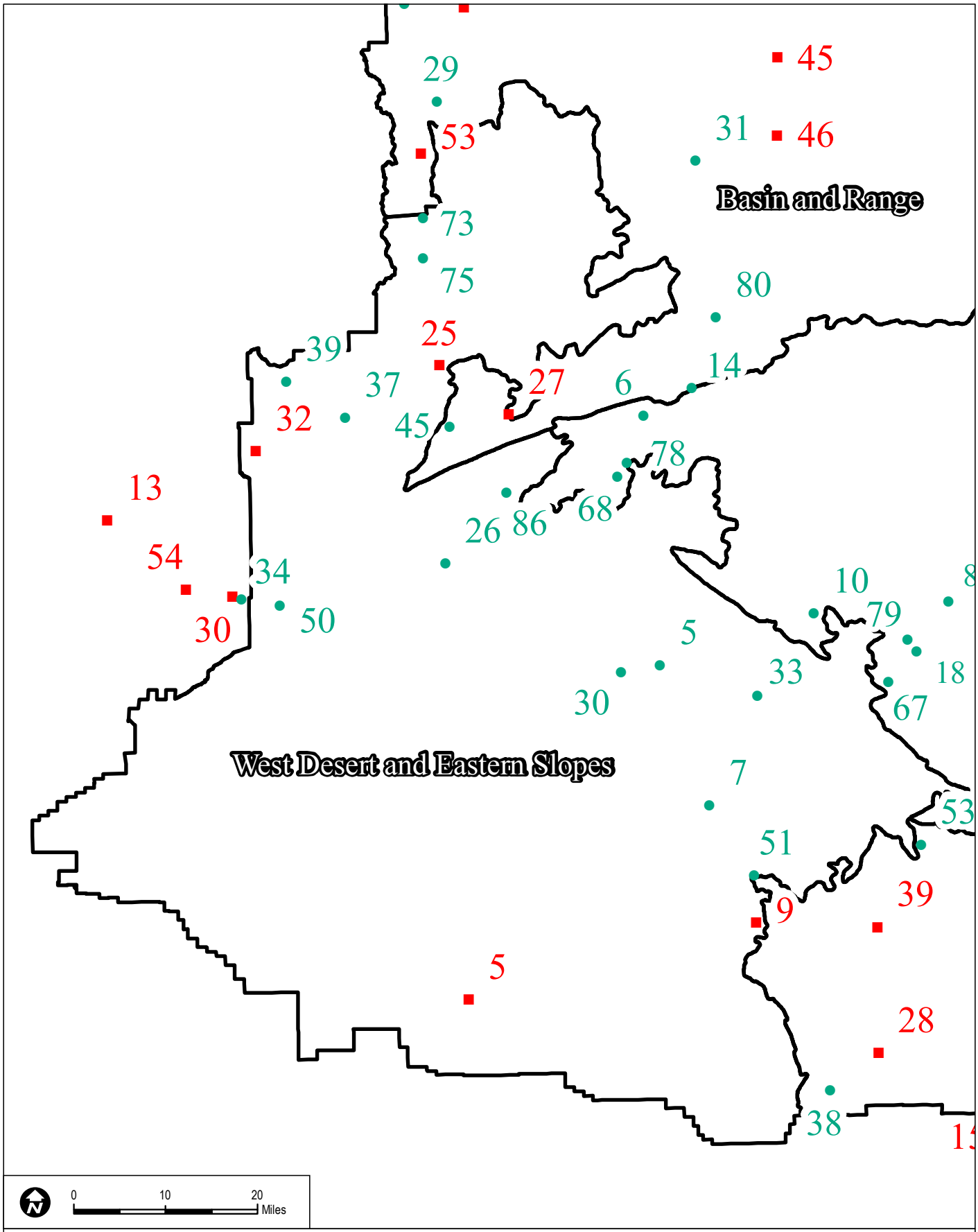
Basin and Range
West Desert and Eastern Slopes
29
53
45
46
31
73
75
80
25
39
37
27
6
14
32
45
78
13
26
86
68
54
34
10
79
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50
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33
18
67
7
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39
9
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28
38
0
10
20
Miles
Existing
Proposed
DRECPSubareas
West Desert and Eastern Slopes
Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP)

ACECs within the West Desert and Eastern Slopes Subarea

#	**Proposed ACECs**
5	Big Rock Creek Wash
9	Brisbane Monkey Flower Expansion
13	Caliente Creek
25	Eagles Flyway
30	Horse Canyon Expansion (covered in Horse Canyon, see below)
32	Jawbone Extension (covered in Jawbone/Butterbredt, see below)
54	Tehachapi Linkage

#	**Existing ACECs (within DRECP boundary)**
5	Barstow Woolly Sunflower
7	Bendire's Thrasher
26	Desert Tortoise Natural Area
30	Fremont-Kramer
33	Harper Dry Lake
34	Horse Canyon
37	Jawbone/Butterbredt
39	Kelso Creek Monkeyflower
50	Middle Knob
51	Mojave Fishhook Cactus
73	Sand Canyon
75	Short Canyon
86	Western Rand Mountains

Big Rock Creek Wash

Description/Location: Los Angeles County, approximately 3.5 miles north east from the town of Pear Blossom.

Description of National Significance:
Ecological: This critical linkage allows wildlife movement from the San Gabriel Mountains out across the desert to Saddleback Butte State Park to the north. Sightings of mountain lions, bobcats, and badgers have been recorded within the Big Rock Creek corridor. This corridor is essential for maintaining species diversity and genetic linkages.
Conservation of ecosystem processes, such as sediment transport, is essential to protect the Mojave fringe-toed lizard, a BLM sensitive animal species. Fluvial action carries the sand down to the wind corridor, which then sorts the sand, carrying the fine-grained particles to dunes, hummocks, and sand sheets occupied by the fringe-toed lizard. The sand creates dune habitat within the blow-sand ecosystem. Sand dune ecosystems, including their source sand and sand corridors, are necessary for the long-term survivorship of Aeolian sand specialists, such as, fringe-toed lizards. Protected land includes areas for source sand, wind and sand corridors, as well as the sand dune habitat and its associated shade plants.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. This BLM parcel is part of a proposed Significant Ecological Area (Big Rock Creek SEA) designated by Los Angeles County. Short-joint beavertail cactus is a USFWS Species of Concern that occurs here. Establishment of the Big Rock Creek Corridor is recommended in the WEMO Plan (pg. 2-17). In addition, remote sensing shows that the Big Rock Wash ecosystem is unique in the region. The red color exhibited in Landsat aerial photos indicates unique soil and vegetation characteristics. The vegetation consists of a diversity of plant species that are unusually dense and robust. This type of habitat supports a variety of wildlife species including the special status San Diego horned lizard.

Goals: Protect this unique wash habitat and wildlife corridor for the San Diego horned lizard, the Mojave fringed toed lizard, and short-joint beavertail cactus.

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	300	0	0.10%
1	0	0	0	NA
2	0	0	0	NA
3	0	0	0	NA
4	0	0	0	NA

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

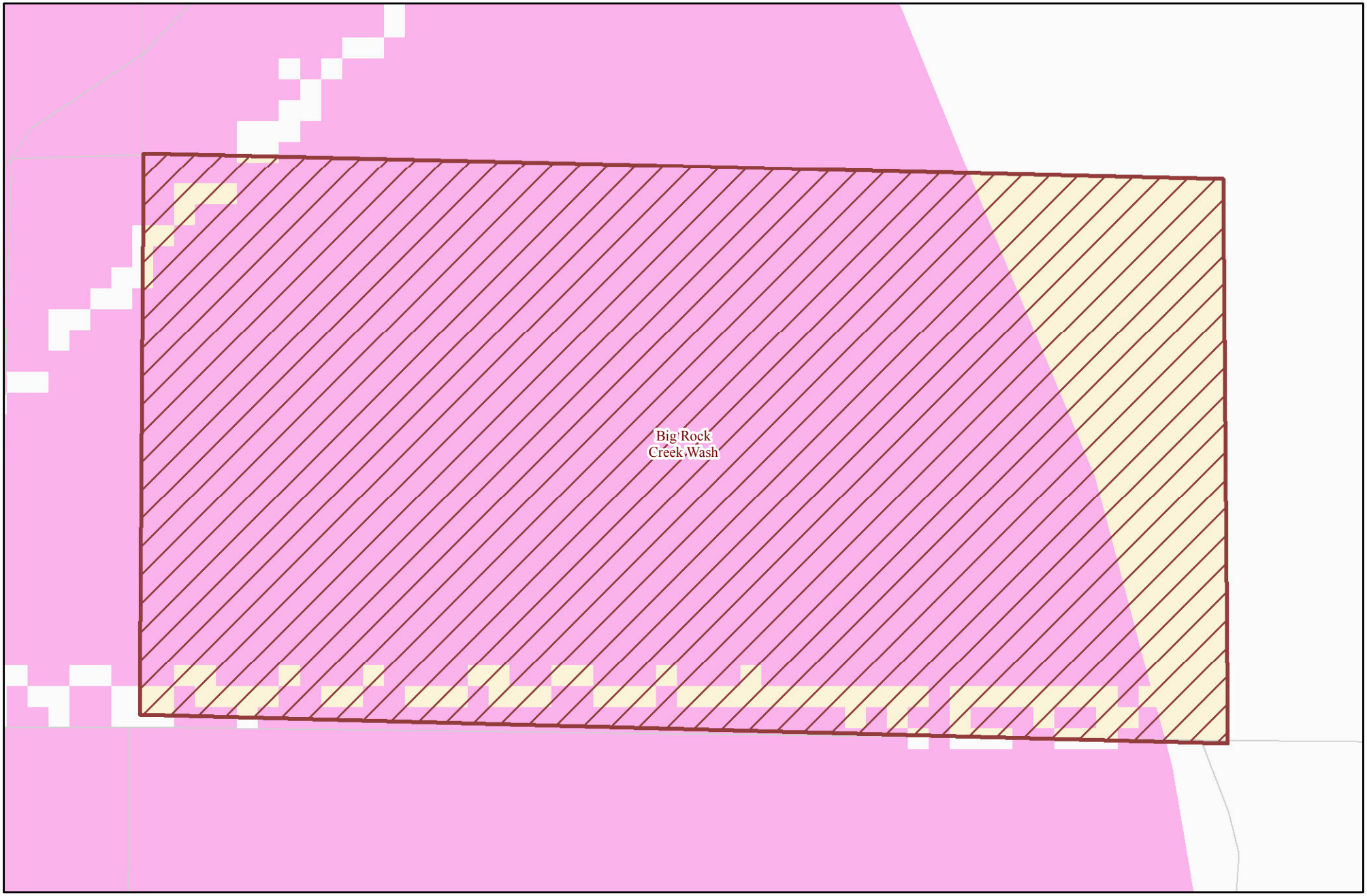
Alternatives:
This ACEC is established only under Alternative 2.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Ensure continued passage of sand downstream during flood flows to maintain natural sediment transport processes. Allowable Uses: 1 % or less surface disturbance of dune surface annually; no disturbance of non-dune surfaces Management Action: Minimize soil disturbance and prevent accelerated erosion caused by human activities.	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 Short-joint beavertail cactus (*Opuntia basilaris* var. *brachyclada*) USFWS Species of Concern & BLM special status species. Prohibit collection of plants except by permit, Rehabilitate/revegetated disturbed area	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Objective: Protect the dune, hummock, and sand sheet habitat: Management Action: Restore habitat as needed , Designate Mojave fringed-toed lizard as priority species for management and protection. Mojave fringe-toed lizard (*Uma scoparia)* BLM sensitive San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) Federally Endangered Le Conte's Thrasher *(Toxostoma lecontei)* State Species of Special Concern American Badger (*Taxidea taxus)* State Special Animal Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii)* Federally and State threatened Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) State threatened San Diego Horned Lizard(*Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii)* USFWS Species of Concern	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

Objective: Prevent habitat fragmentation, which impedes wildlife movement. Management Action: Maintain this critical linkage to allow species to travel freely between the northern San Gabriel Mountains and the Antelope Valley. Explore cooperative management of the resource with LA County	
Objective: Protect sand flow function while allowing for travel through area. Allowable Uses:-Non-motorized and non-mechanized, etc. There is one paved road across private land that accesses the area. BLM does not designate routes across private land. At this time, there is little vehicle use in the area and little to no visitor impacts. The ACEC is surrounded by private lands, but it is thought that the likelihood of these lands being developed is low. The lands are within an active floodplain and L.A. County has zoned the area for non-development Management Action: Modify the WEMO Route Network if needed Should the surrounding area become developed, BLM will need to work first on securing agency and/or public access to the site. Secondly, BLM will need to consider whether the area can be managed best by developing it as a recreational use site, with some interpretative trails and focused recreational pursuits, or by keeping it off of the public radar and maintaining it as a primitive ecological reserve. Management Actions: Monitor and patrol the area and/or ~~to~~ develop~~ing~~ a Friends group or an MOU with some other entity to do this important work.	Trails and Travel Management
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: Protective measures may be required in the future if use increases and/or use starts to adversely impact resources such as: fencing the perimeter of the ACEC to protect it from vehicle incursions originating outside of the ACEC, delineating parking and camping areas and developing interpretative trails.	Recreation
Objective: Provide for existing ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources. Allowable Uses: Exclusion zone for site ROW, no ROWs that alter groundwater regimes 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.	Rights of Way

Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect sand flow and wildlife corridor habitat by restricting mining within the ACEC Allowable Uses: No gravel mining would be allowed in this ACEC. Aggregate mining allowed with minimization measures Management Action: Regulate aggregate mining in Big Rock Creek drainages to ensure continued passage of sand downstream during flood flows.	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables

Big Rock Creek Wash



0.15 Miles

0.2 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Brisbane Valley Mojave Monkeyflower

Description/Location : This is one of two units of the Mojave Monkey Flower ACEC. This unit is located west of Interstate 15, approximately 1.5 miles east of the town of Bryman.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: The area is important for botanical resources and to protect sensitive and restrictive plant species, in particular the Mojave monkeyflower (*Mimulus mohavense*).

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: ACEC established in 2006 West Mojave Plan

Relevance and Importance Criteria: The area is important for botanical resources and to protect sensitive and restrictive plant species, in particular the Mojave monkeyflower. The proposed expansion is to capture known populations of the plant that are not currently protected.

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

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	0	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	12,700	0	0.5%
1	0	12,700	0	0.5%
2	10,500	10,500	0	0.25%
3	0	12,600	0	0.5%
4	10,900	11,800	0	0.25%

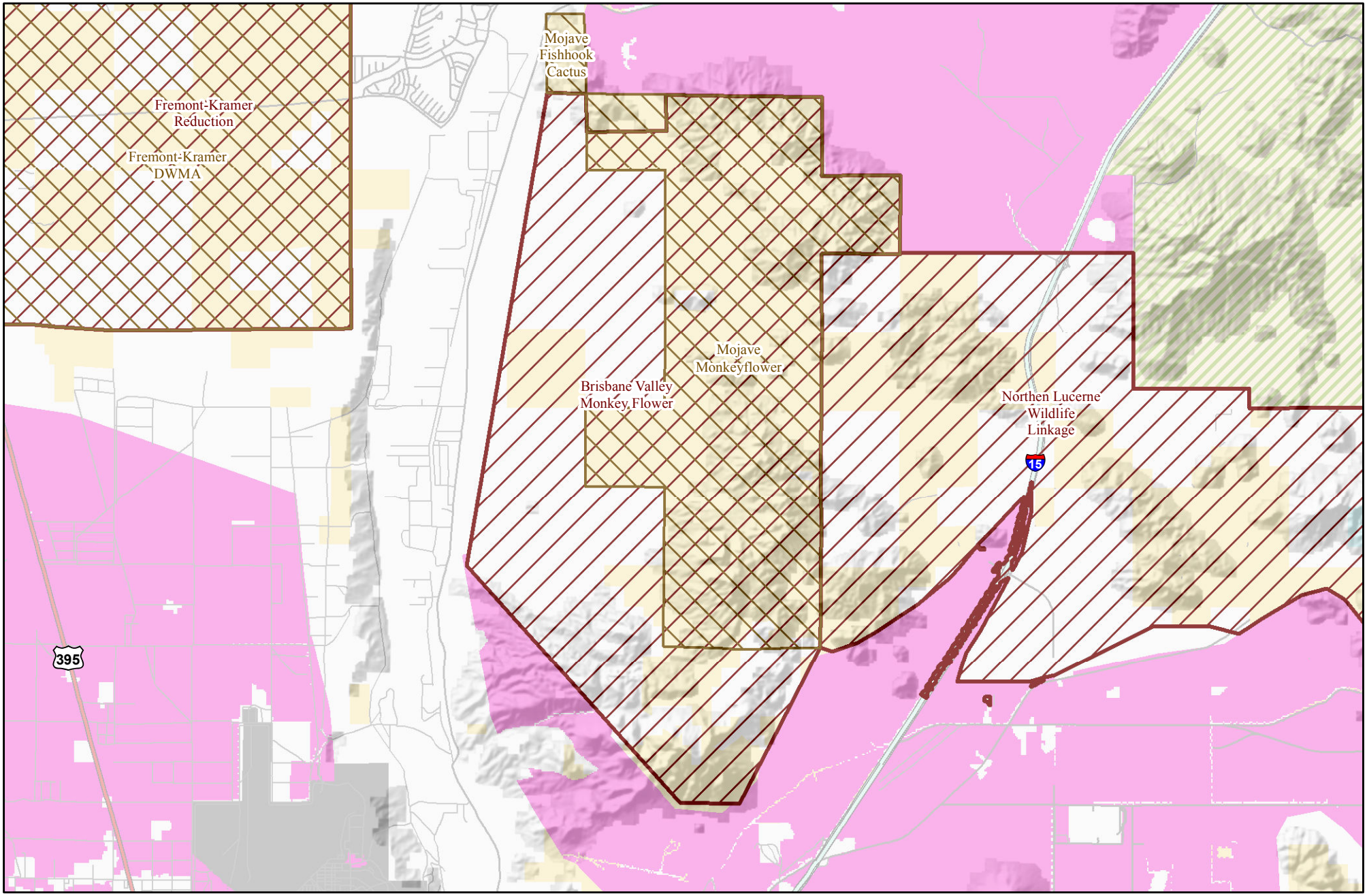
*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**

Alternatives:
Under All Action Alternatives--This is an existing ACEC and it would be expanded to include known populations.

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

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Objective: Protect and enhance Mojave monkeyflower (*Mimulus mohavensis*) populations Management Action 1: Protect viable populations on public land throughout the range Management Action 2: Coordinate with mining companies to protect this species Management Action 3: Establish a core reserve on public land in the Brisbane Valley Management Action 4: Provide site-specific management of occupied habitat on public lands outside the core reserves Management Action 5: Establish a private land mitigation bank	Vegetation - Including special status species
Objective: Protect intact desert tortoise habitat Management Action: Maintain linkage connection across the ACEC to allow tortoise to move between the Fremont-Kramer and Ord Rodman	Fish and Wildlife - Including special status species
Objective: Protect Mojave monkeyflower from impacts associated with vehicle traffic Allowable Uses: All vehicle traffic limited to designated roads and trails Management Action: Establish no new routes in ACEC	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Protect plant population by designation of OHV routes through the area Management Action: Modify the WEMO Route Network to reflect open routes through the ACEC and close other existing unauthorized routes	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Management Action: Exclusion zone for all new ROW except in existing utilities corridor Management Action: New utilities locating within the existing corridor will be required to avoid monkeyflower occurrences to the maximum extent practicable and provide mitigation fees for compensation where avoidance is infeasible	Rights of Way (ROW)
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect Mojave monkeyflower from mining activities Management Action: Include stipulations to protect the monkey flower including not disturbing occupied habitat	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables
Objective: Protect plants and habitat by restricting grazing within the ACEC Management Action: Consider reduction of grazing within the ACEC.	Livestock grazing

Brisbane Valley Monkey Flower



2 Miles
3 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

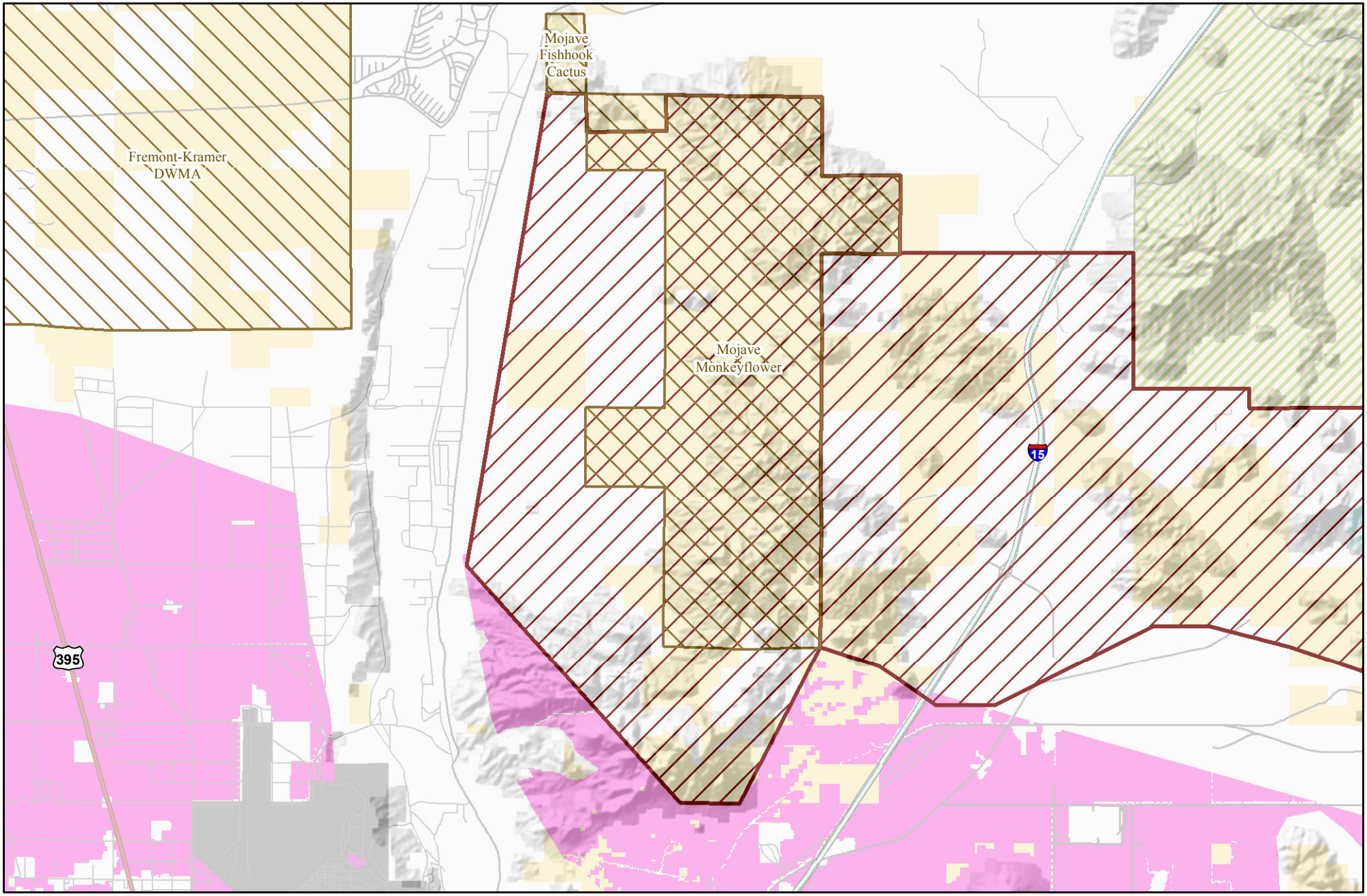
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

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

GTLF
- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Brisbane Valley Monkey Flower



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

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

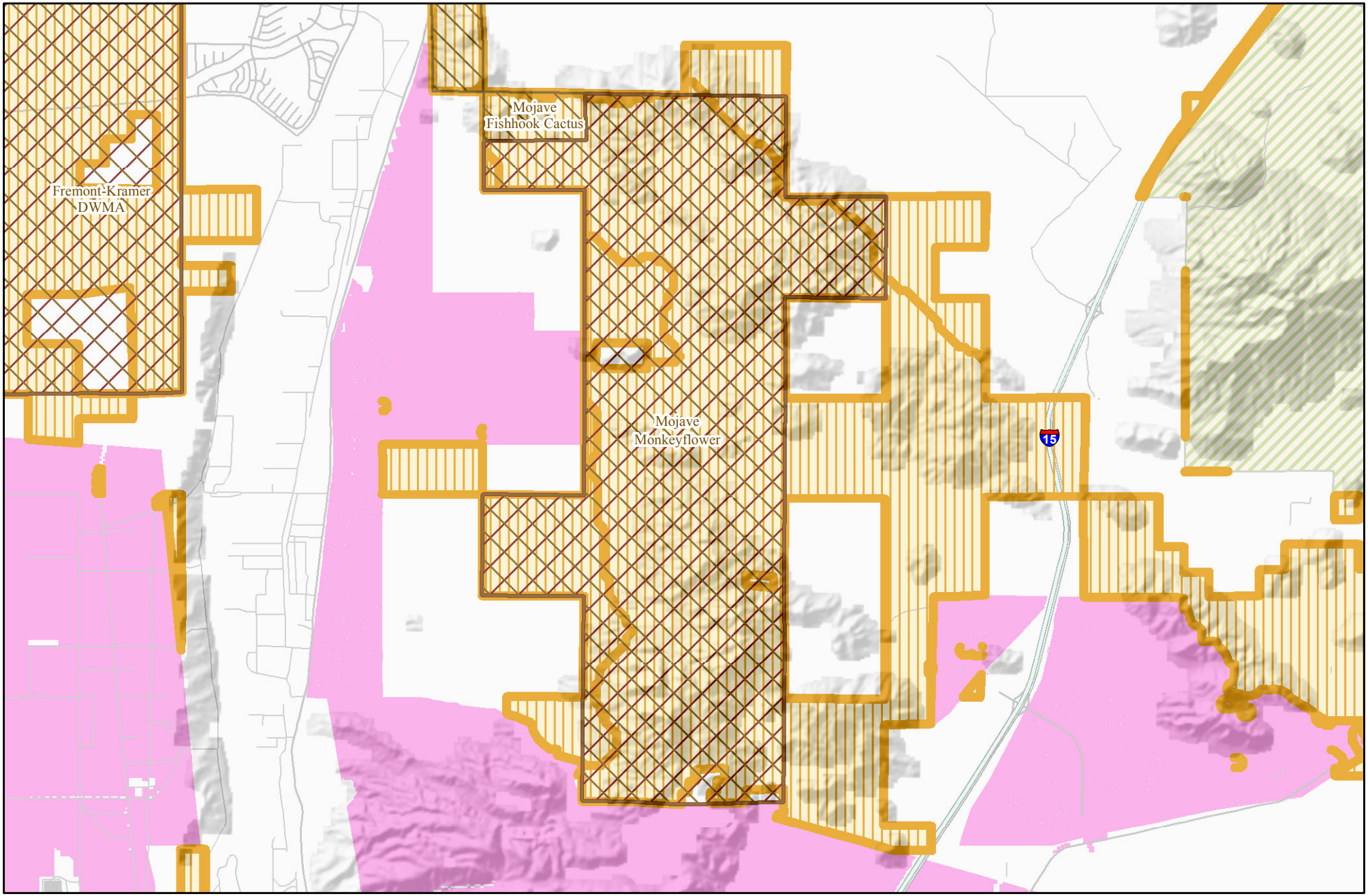
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Brisbane Valley Monkey Flower



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

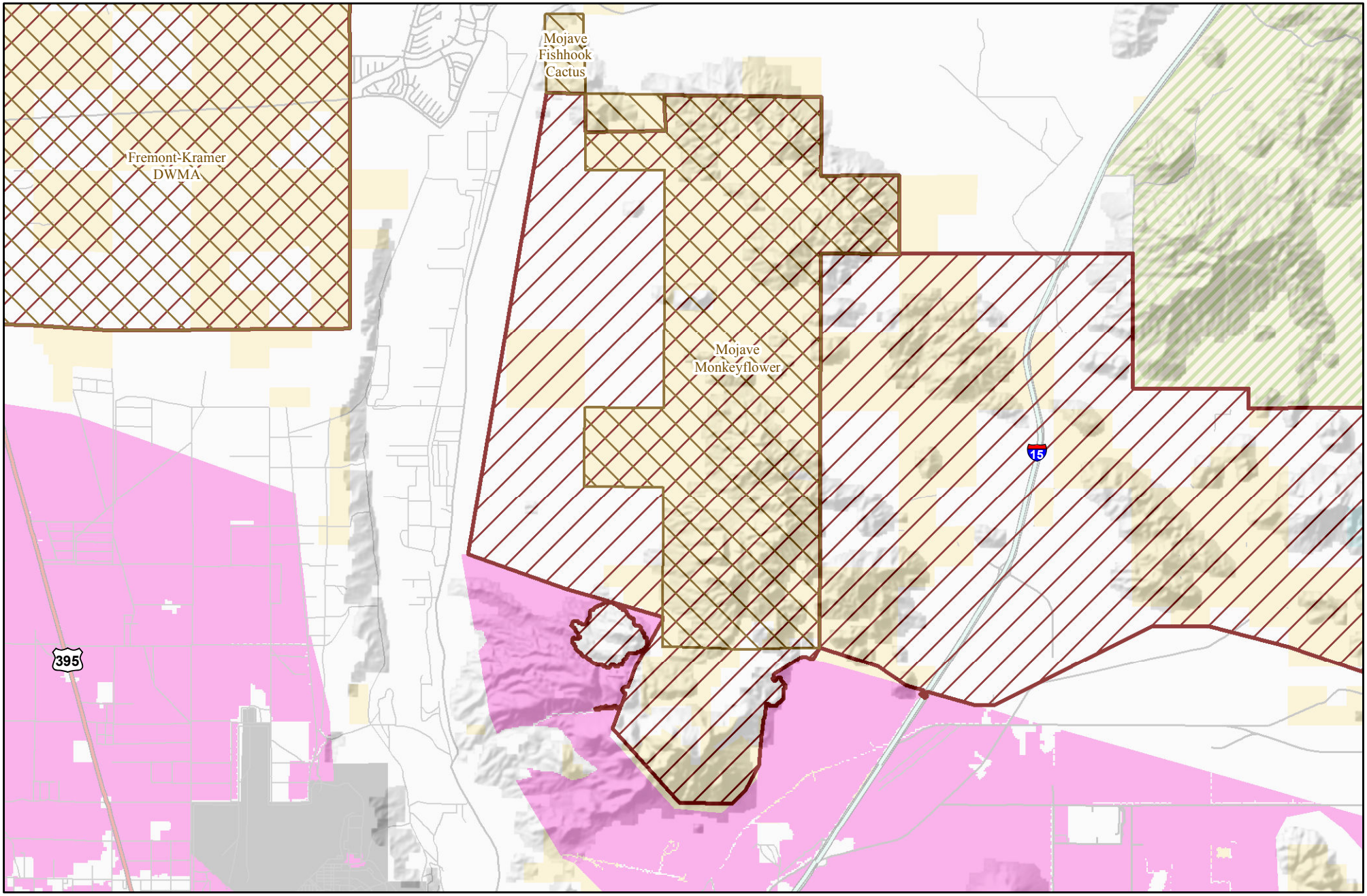
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Brisbane Valley Monkey Flower



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

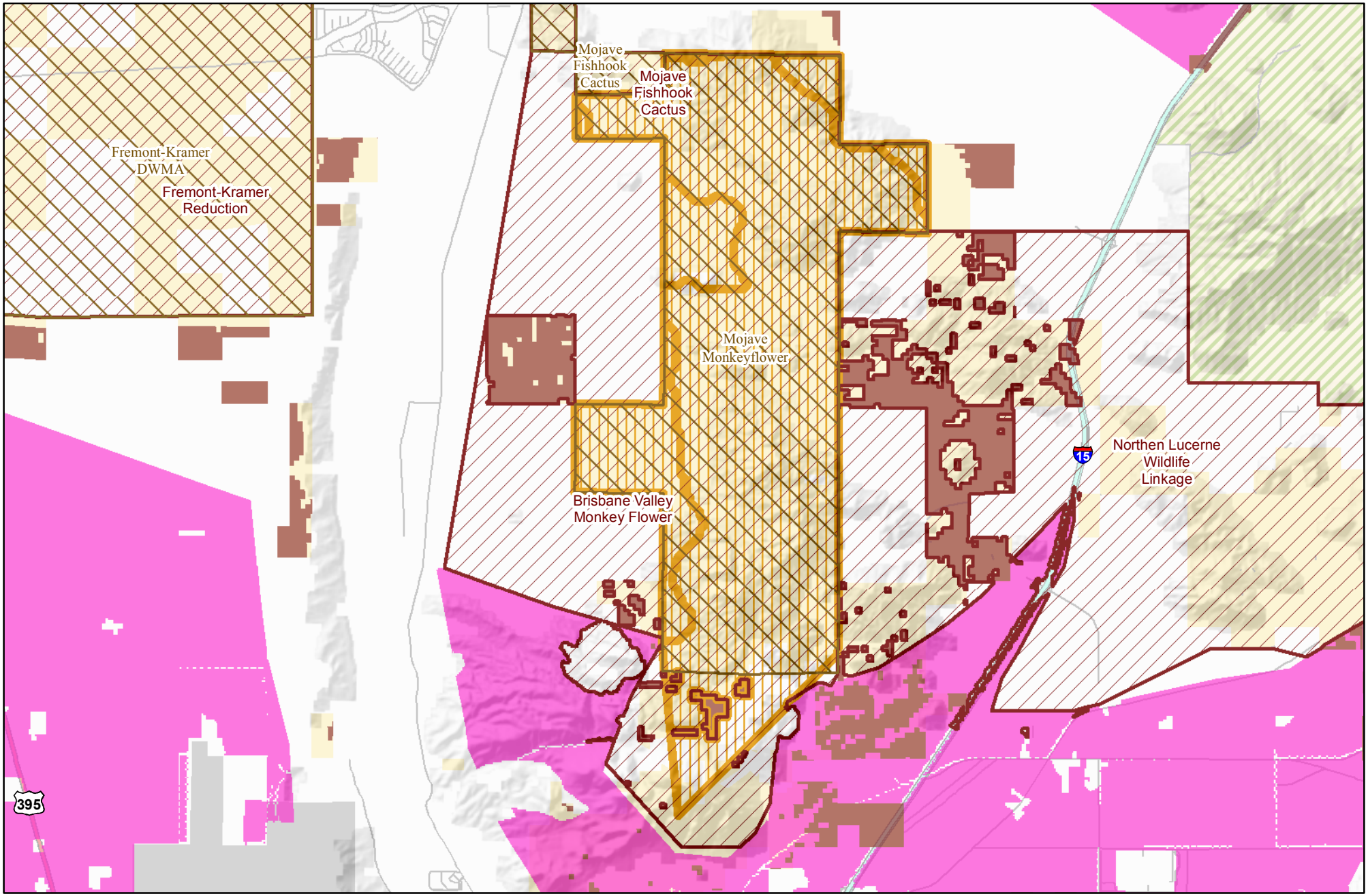
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Brisbane Valley Monkey Flower



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 8/6/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

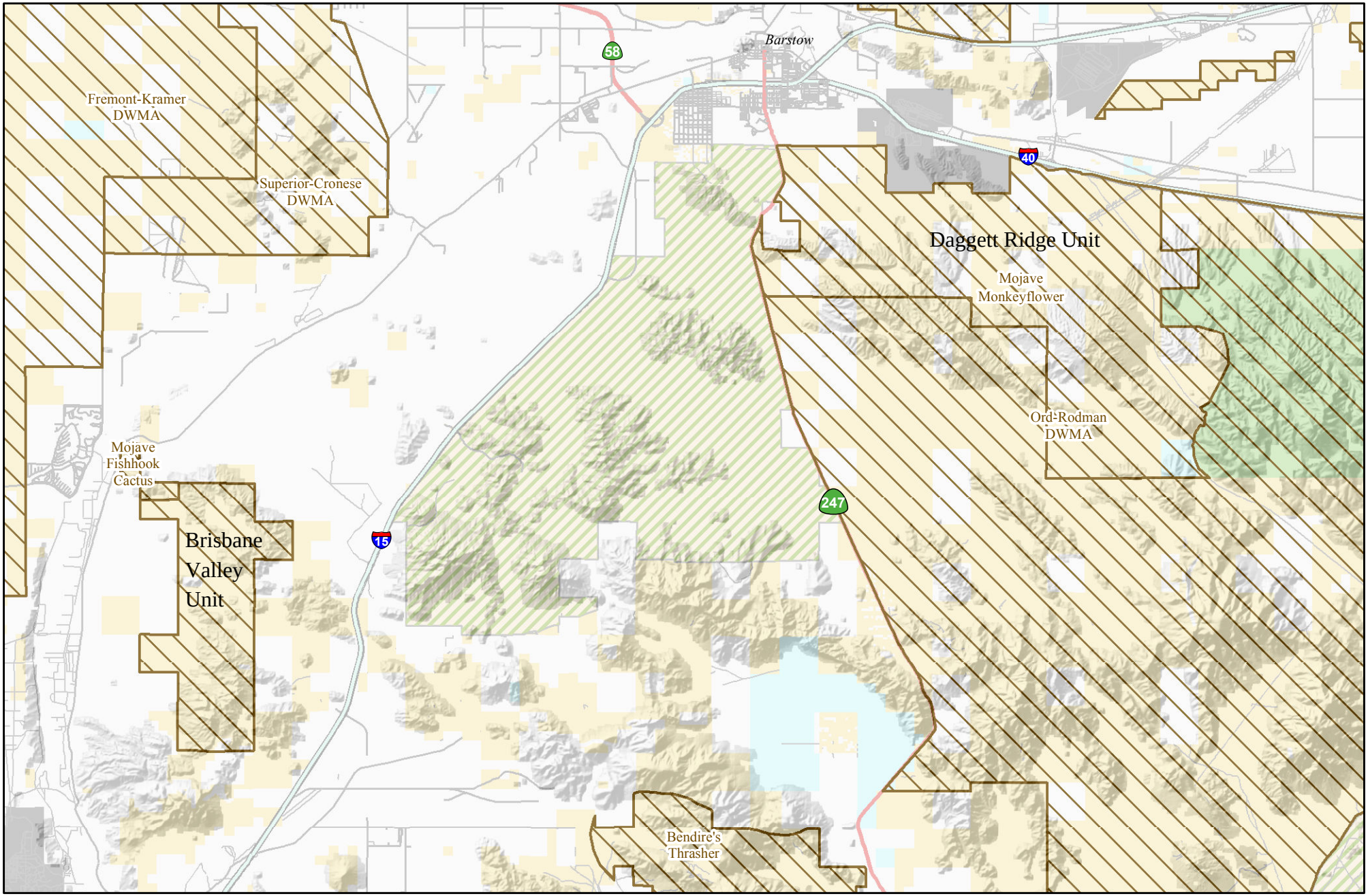
ACEC Layers
- Existing ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed Wildlife Allocation
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Design Focus Areas
- 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

Mojave Monkeyflower (Brisbane Valley Unit and Daggett Ridge Unit)



5 Miles

7 Kilometers

N

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

Caliente Creek

Description/Location: Caliente Creek includes private and federal land and mineral estate, identified principally for the co-occurrence of the federally listed Bakersfield cactus, State listed Tehachapi slender salamander, the BLM sensitive yellow-blotched salamander and riparian woodland. Located approximately 15 miles north the city of Tehachapi; the area consists of the corridor along Caliente Creek extending from the community of Caliente and its confluence with Tehachapi Creek to its confluence with Sycamore Canyon near the community of Loraine.

Nationally Significant Values: Not proposed for NLCS designation.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal.

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant wildlife resource and natural system.

Caliente Creek is a perennial stream supporting riparian woodland dominated by willow, cottonwood and California sycamores. The area contains one of two known populations of the State listed Tehachapi slender salamander. The area also contains the federally listed Bakersfield cactus and the BLM sensitive yellow-blotched salamander. The area does not, however, meet the importance criteria as it does not have more than locally significant qualities when compared to other similar resources within the region.

Under Alternative 3, the level of uncertainty of the long term protection for the other resources in the region would elevate the significance of this area, meeting the criteria for designation as an ACEC.

Goals: Protect the riparian ecosystem and conserve habitat for Tehachapi slender salamander, yellow-blotched salamander, and Bakersfield cactus.

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	0	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	0	100**	NA
1	0	0	100	NA
2	0	0	100	NA
3	0	100	0	0.10%
4	0	0	100	NA

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

**** The total acreage of the Caliente Creek ACEC is 2,800 acres – of which 300 acres are within the DRECP boundary and of which only a portion of that is currently managed by the BLM.**

Alternatives: Alternatives Preferred, 1, 2, & 4: This area would be identified as a land use allocation for wildlife purposes. It would remain the current size and be managed under the decisions in the Bakersfield PRMP/FEIS. Alternatives 3: This area would be designated as an ACEC. No Action Alternative: This area would not have any special management direction.	
Objectives (desired future conditions) /Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Manage 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 the biological soil crusts where appropriate. Management Action 1: Minimize soil disturbance by limiting developments to the smallest area possible and by using previously disturbed areas and existing roads to the extent practicable. Management Action 2: Restrict access and suspend authorized projects during wet weather when soil resources will be detrimentally affected by rutting, compaction, and increased erosion. Objective: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are functional and achieving physical and biological objectives. Management Action 3: Wetlands and riparian areas affected by livestock would be fenced or otherwise protected. Management Action 4: Stream crossings, if necessary, would be designed to minimize adverse impacts to soils, water quality, and riparian vegetation.	Soil, water, air
Objective: Conserve and recover state and federally listed species, and BLM sensitive species through the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of their habitats. Management Action 1: Allow for the expansion of the Caliente Creek area of ecological importance to include additional public lands containing newly discovered populations of Bakersfield cactus. Management Action 2: Implement actions and recommendations from recovery and conservation plans, including those to reduce mortality, provide information and education, and restore habitat to maintain, enhance and restore listed species habitats. Management Action 3: Eliminate, relocate, or redesign uses that may result or have resulted in unacceptable impacts on important biological resources, through actions such as, making season closures, modifying grazing	Vegetation - Including special status plant species

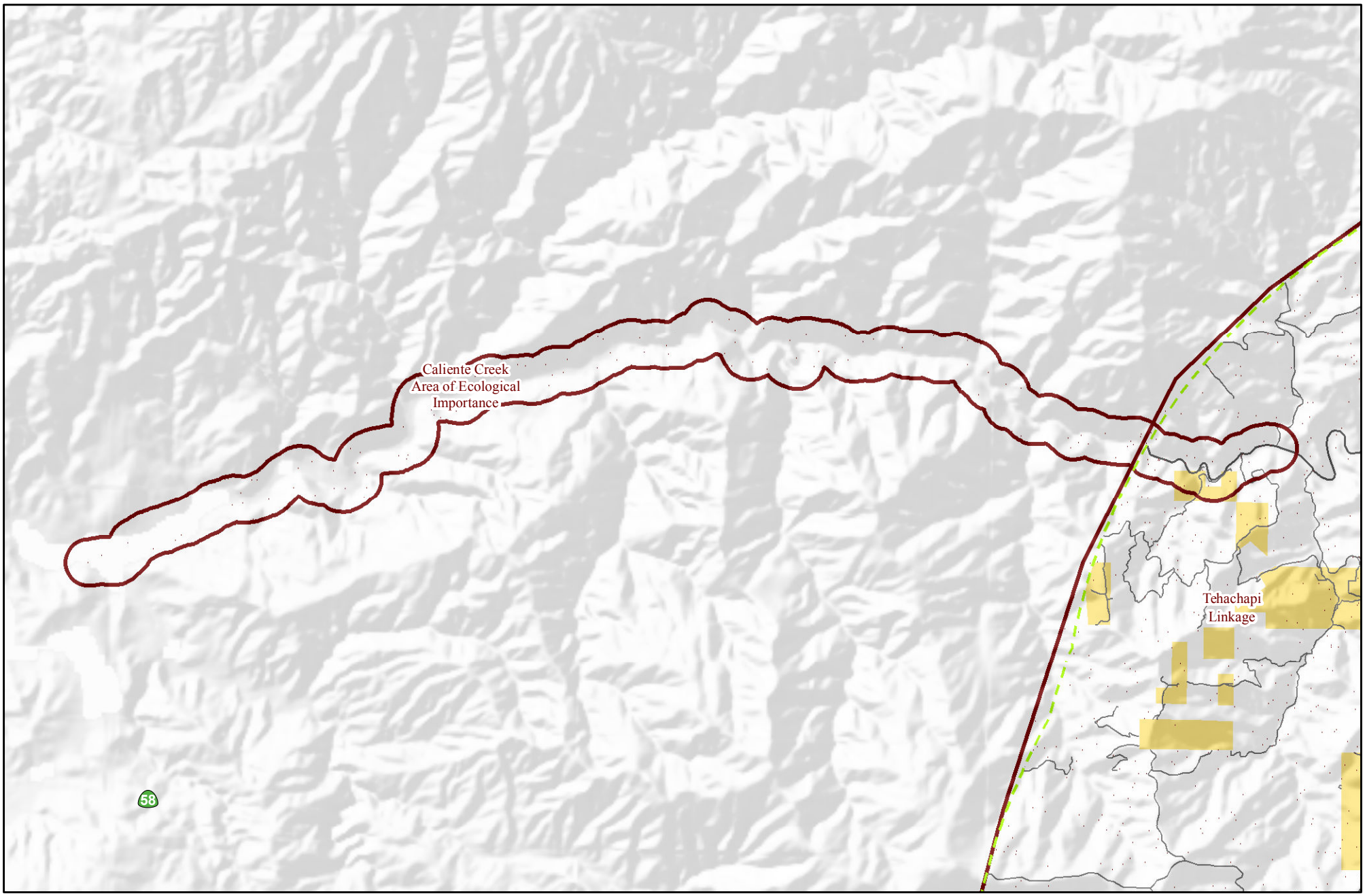
prescriptions, installing protective fencing, restricting equestrian access, relocating parking areas, and closing or realigning travel routes. Management Action 4: Implement a variety of measures (such as controlling weeds, planting native species, applying mechanical and chemical vegetation treatments, improving water availability, and installing artificial structures) to enhance or restore habitat conditions. Objective: Design BLM actions and authorizations to minimize impacts on biological resources, regional conservation strategies and essential habitat linkages. Management Action 1: Apply SOPs, as appropriate to new BLM actions and authorizations such as those contained in Bakersfield PRMP/FEIS Appendix L.	
Objective: Conserve and recover state and federally listed species, and BLM sensitive species through the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of their habitats. Management Action 1: Allow for the expansion of the Caliente Creek area of ecological importance to include additional public lands containing newly discovered populations of Tehachapi slender salamander or Yellow-blotched salamander. Management Action 2: Implement actions and recommendations from recovery and conservation plans, including those to reduce mortality, provide information and education, and restore habitat to maintain, enhance and restore listed species habitats. Management Action 3: Eliminate, relocate, or redesign uses that may result or have resulted in unacceptable impacts on important biological resources, through actions such as, making season closures, modifying grazing prescriptions, installing protective fencing, restricting equestrian access, relocating parking areas, and closing or realigning travel routes. Management Action 4: Implement a variety of measures (such as controlling weeds, planting native species, applying mechanical and chemical vegetation treatments, improving water availability, and installing artificial structures) to enhance or restore habitat conditions. Objective: Design BLM actions and authorizations to minimize impacts on biological resources, regional conservation strategies and essential habitat linkages. Management Action 1: Apply SOPs, as appropriate to new BLM actions and authorizations such as those contained in Bakersfield PRMP/FEIS Appendix L.	Fish and Wildlife - Including special status fish and wildlife species

Objective: General Management of Cultural Resources Management Actions: See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.	Cultural Resources
Objective: General Management and Protection of Paleontological Resources Management Action 1: Manage and protect fossil resources consistent with the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act. Management Action 2: Develop plans for the inventory, monitoring, and scientific and educational use of paleontological resources.	Paleontology
Objective: Manage OHV use to protect environmental resources, promote public safety, and provide OHV use opportunities where appropriate. Allowable Uses: OHV Limited area – vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails. Management Actions: Designate roads and trail for public use as motorized.	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: General Management Of Recreation - Not within a designated Recreation Management Area. Management Action: See planning area wide action items in general recreation rules.	Recreation
Objective: Meet the biological resources objectives through retention and/or land tenure adjustments. Management Action 1: Seek to acquire lands within the Caliente Creek corridor with Tehachapi slender salamander and Bakersfield cactus populations or habitat. Management Action 2: Retain all lands and interests in lands in federal ownership unless it is deemed that the lands are not important in the conservation or recovery of the Tehachapi salamander, Bakersfield cactus or yellow-blotched salamander. **Alternative 3 only:** Management Action 2: Retain all lands and interest in lands in federal ownership within the ACEC.	Land Tenure
Objective: Protect biological resource values. **Alternative 3 only:** Allowable Uses: Entire area is an avoidance area for all rights-of-way.	Rights of Way (ROW)

Management Actions: Applications for uses falling under the 2800 & 2900 regulations that provide a benefit to the management area or serve public interests may be allowed. Transmission lines larger than 231kV must be located in designated transmission corridors.	
Objective: Maintain integrity of riparian ecosystem and special status species habitat. Allowable Use: Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with ACEC values and criteria. Geothermal: ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.	Renewable Energy
Objective: Provide for reasonable, economical, and environmentally sound exploration and development of mineral resources, while ensuring compatibility with ACEC relevant and important values. Mineral Materials: **Alternative 3 only** – Closed to mineral material disposal. Non-Energy Leasables: **Alternative 3 only** – Closed to solid (non-energy) leasing. Fluid Minerals: Open for fluid mineral leasing, subject to major constraints: Controlled Surface Use (CSU)-Protected Species stipulation; and CSU-Sensitive Species stipulation.	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-Energy Leasable
Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on other resources. Allowable Uses: Available for Livestock Grazing. Livestock grazing authorizations may have specific livestock management guidelines applied to ensure grazing use is compatible with the objectives for special status species and riparian resources. For Riparian areas in; • Poor-Fair Condition; Nov.1-May 31 season of use and apply the appropriate Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management, as needed to meet the Standards for Rangeland Health. • Good-Excellent Condition - Maintain current season of use and apply the appropriate Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management as needed, as needed to meet the Standards for Rangeland Health. For known occupied habitats and/or known populations of the following species apply the following guidelines for livestock grazing management. In addition, on a case-by-case basis, depending of the specific needs of the species, extend these guidelines to adjacent areas that are determined to have similar habitat	Livestock grazing

and are likely to contain these species and/or areas directly affecting habitat containing the species of concern; • Tehachapi slender salamander - Apply the appropriate Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management, as needed to meet the Standards for Rangeland Health. • Other special status species - Apply the appropriate Central CA Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management as needed to meet the Standards for Rangeland Health and/or develop a management guideline that takes into account specific species requirements.	

Caliente Creek Area of Ecological Importance



1.5 Miles

2 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative 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

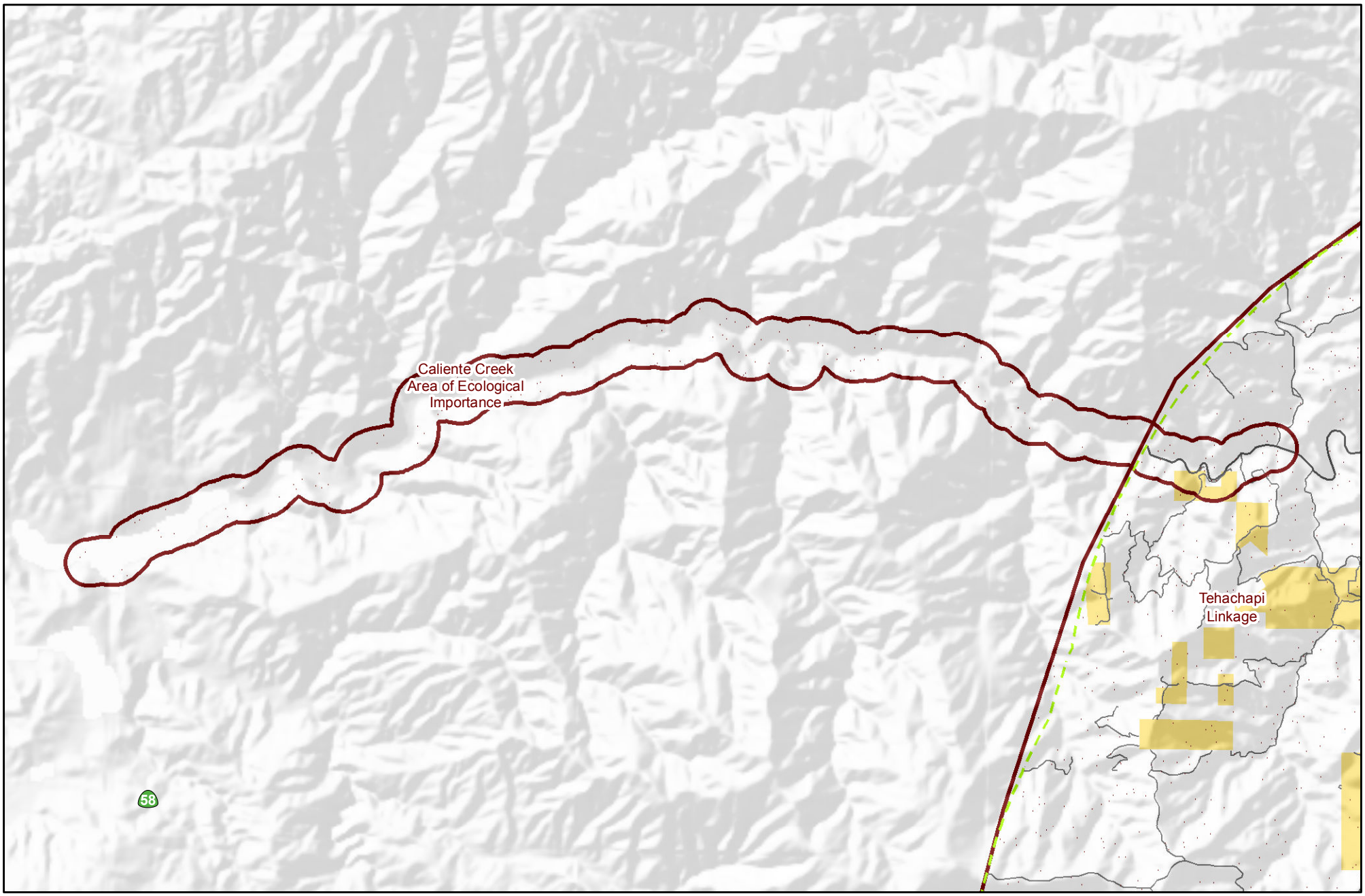
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Caliente Creek Area of Ecological Importance



1.5 Miles

2 Kilometers

N

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

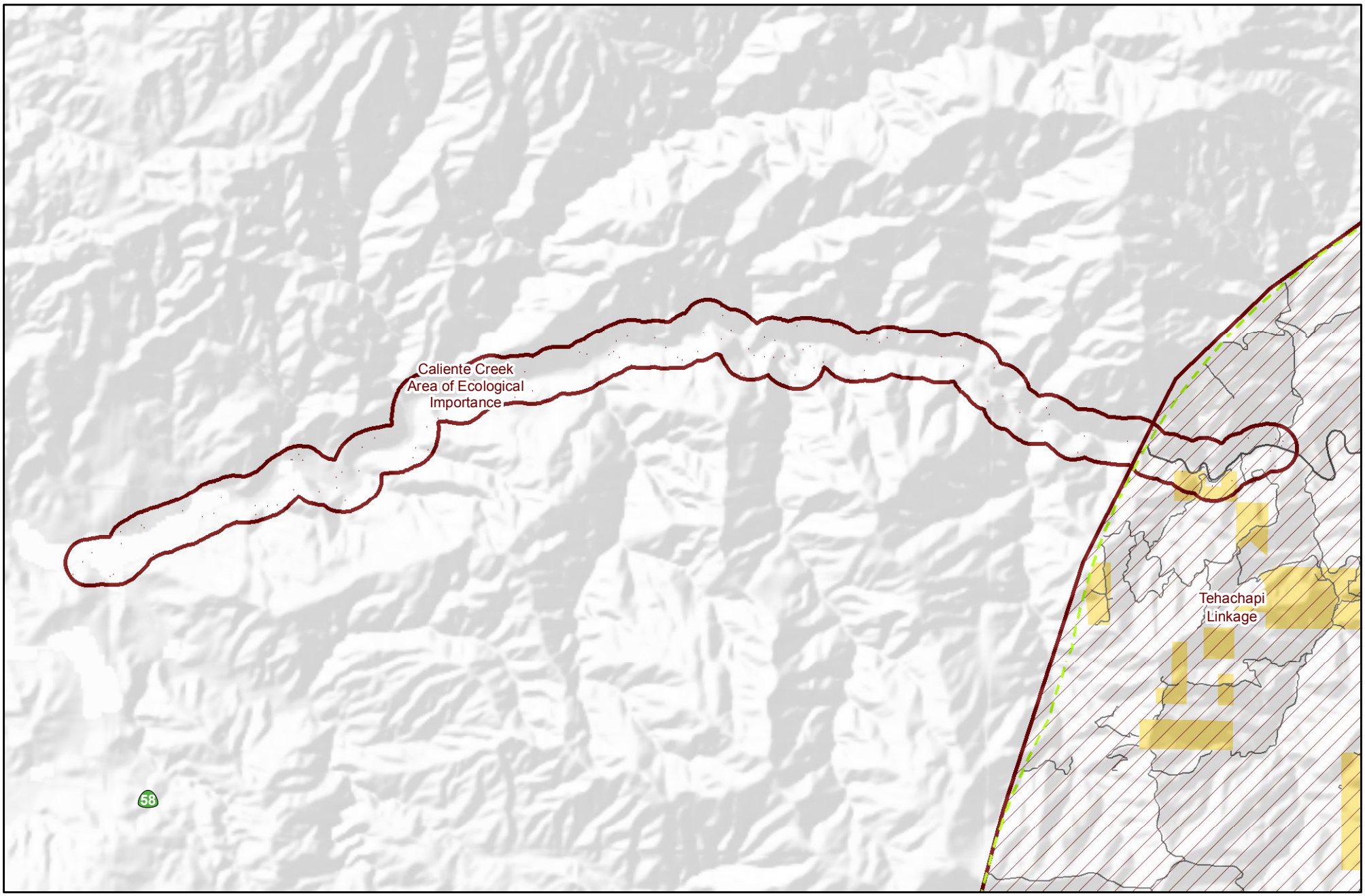
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Caliente Creek Area of Ecological Importance



1.5 Miles

2 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 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

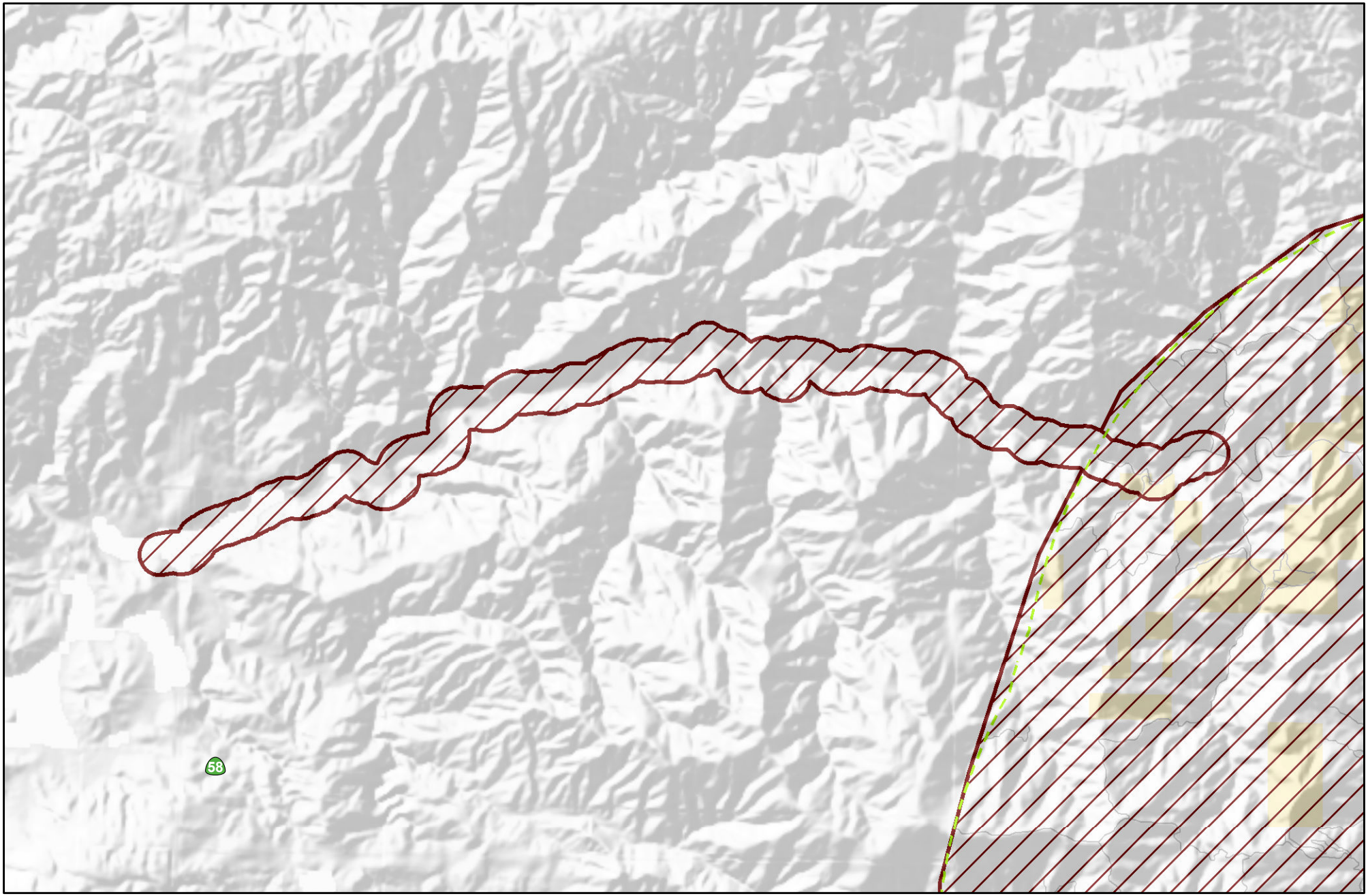
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Caliente Creek Area of Ecological Importance



1.5 Miles

2 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
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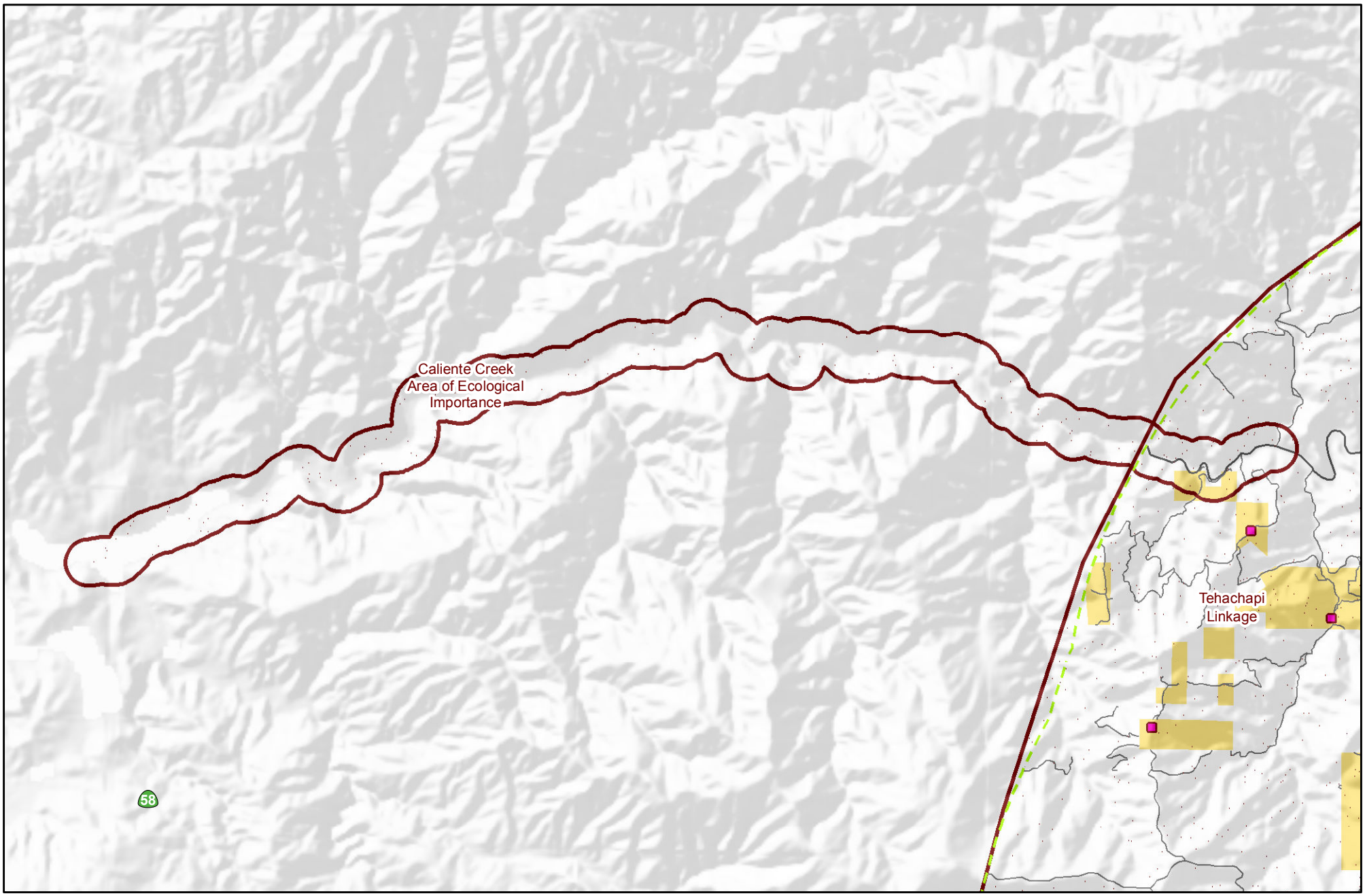
Caliente Creek Area of Ecological Importance



1.5 Miles

2 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 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

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- State
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- Private

GTLF

- Interstate
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- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Eagle Flyway

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

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

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: new proposal

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

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

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

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

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

Alternatives:
Under All Alternatives, except Alternative 2—This area would be identified as an ACEC and would be managed to support and maintain wildlife habitat and connectivity.

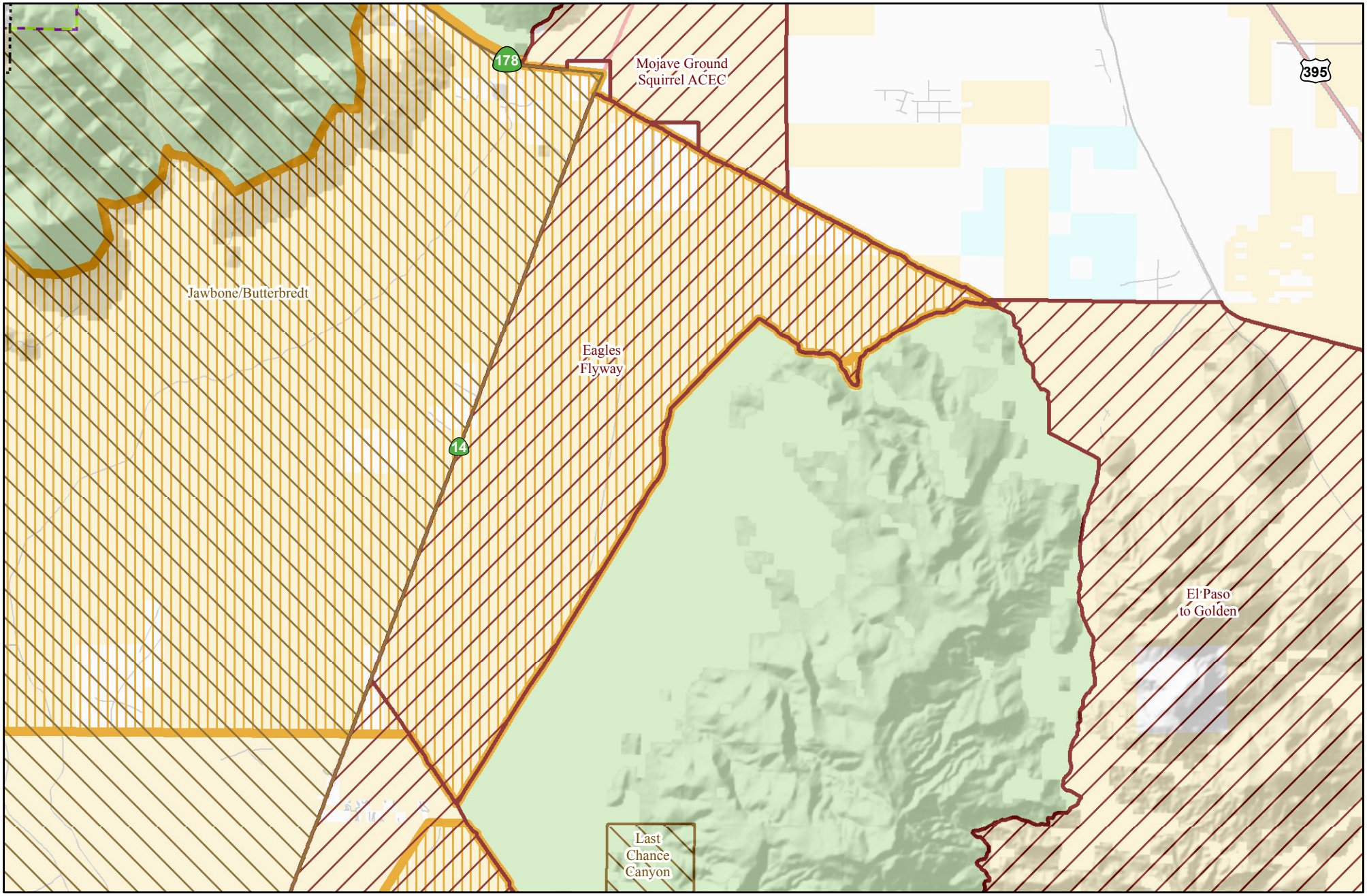
Under Alternative 2- This conservation area would not be designated, as most of the area would be designated as a Development Focus Area.

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

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: 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)
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. Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence: Management Action: Designate Golden Eagle as priority species for management and protection. Management Action: Maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence: American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*) State Special Animal Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) Federally and State threatened Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) State threatened Yellow-eared pocket mouse (*Perognathus xanthonotus*) BLM sensitive Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus)* USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) BLM Sensitive Le Conte's Thrasher *(Toxostoma lecontei)* State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus)* BLM Sensitive	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

Objective: Limit motorized vehicles to designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing. Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, Non-mechanized, etc. Management Action 1: Sign designated routes routinely Management Action 2: Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat. All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignated OHV routes. Management Action 3: Increase information to public and LE patrols	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes while protecting the sensitive resources. 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, and work with volunteers to clean-up parking and camping areas on a regular basis.	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Objective: Provide for existing and new ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources. Allowable Uses: Exclusion zone for site ROW, okay for linear, no ROWs that alter groundwater regimes Management Actions: New proposals will need to be analyzed at on a case-by-case basis and cumulatively, to assess whether they can be accommodated within the area and its management goals. Follow BMP for Avian Protection on transmission lines, etc.	Rights of Way
No Renewable Energy Development Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive resources in the area. 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.	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables
Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on other resources Allowable Uses: Adjust livestock use where monitoring data indicate changes are necessary to meet resource objectives. Management Actions: Manage grazing authorizations to meet or exceed the Standards for Rangeland Health.	Livestock grazing

Eagles Flyway



2 Miles
3 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

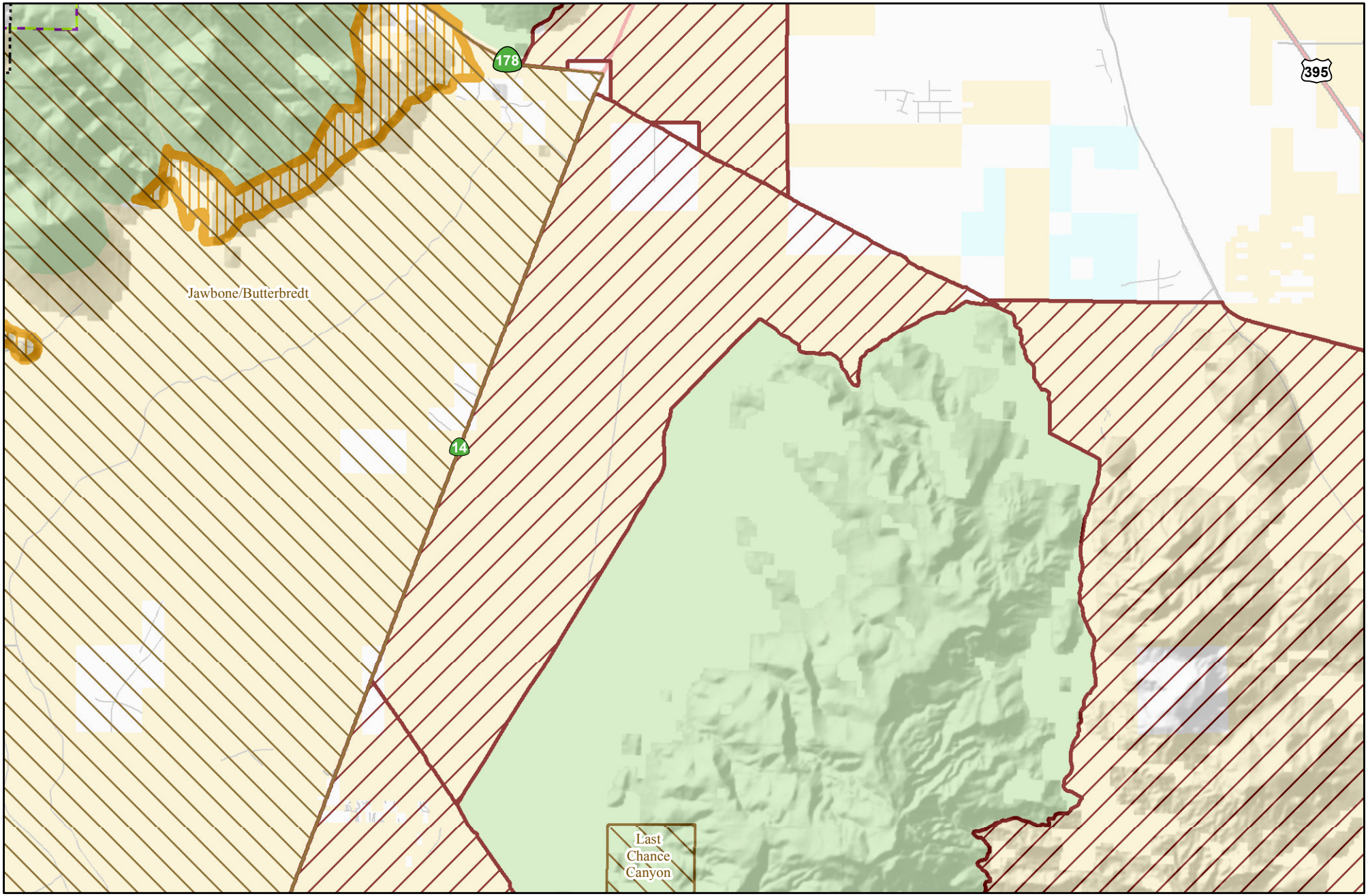
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

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

GTLF
- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Eagles Flyway



2 Miles
3 Kilometers

N

Alternative 1 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

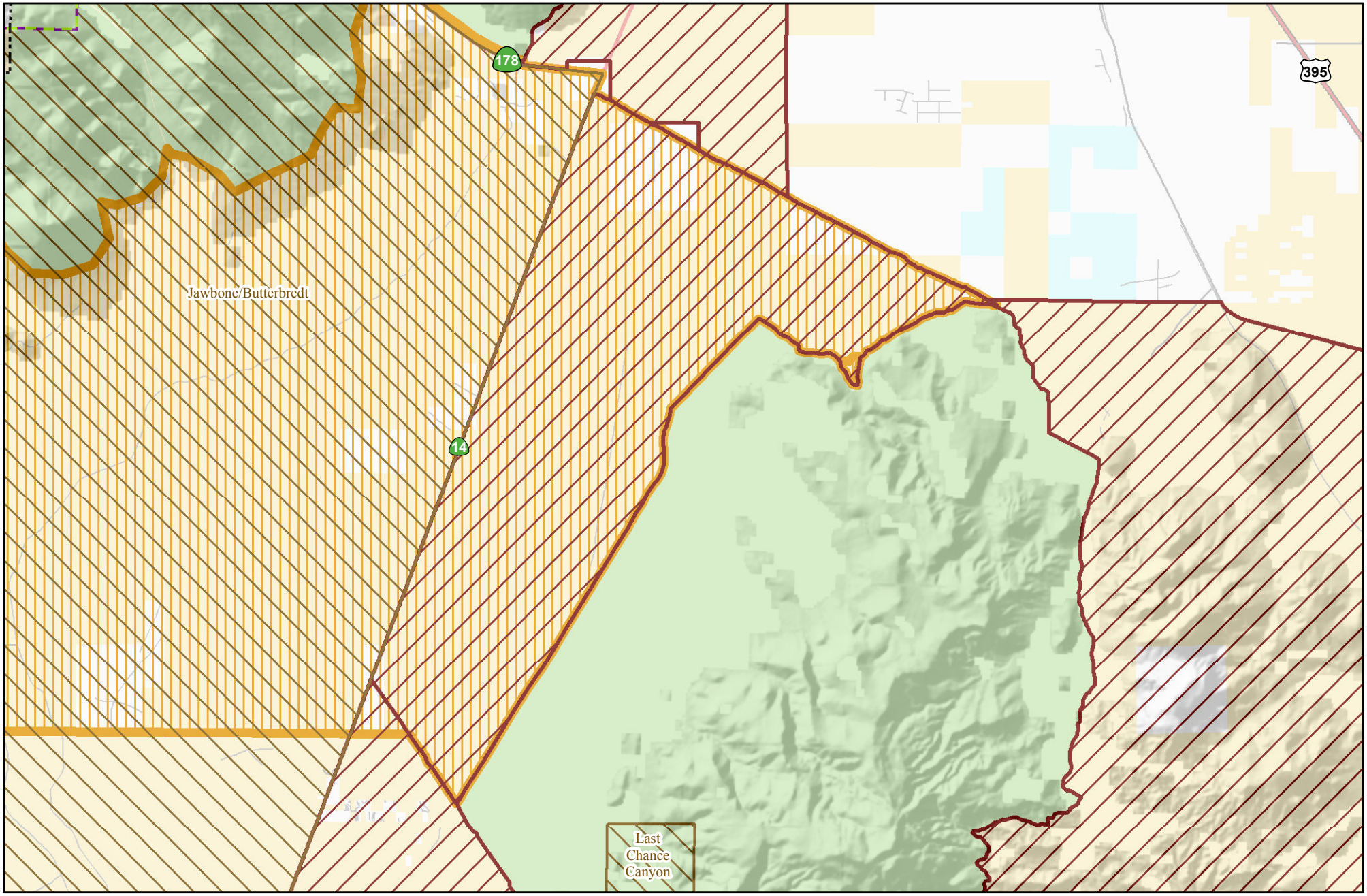
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

Eagles Flyway



2 Miles
3 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

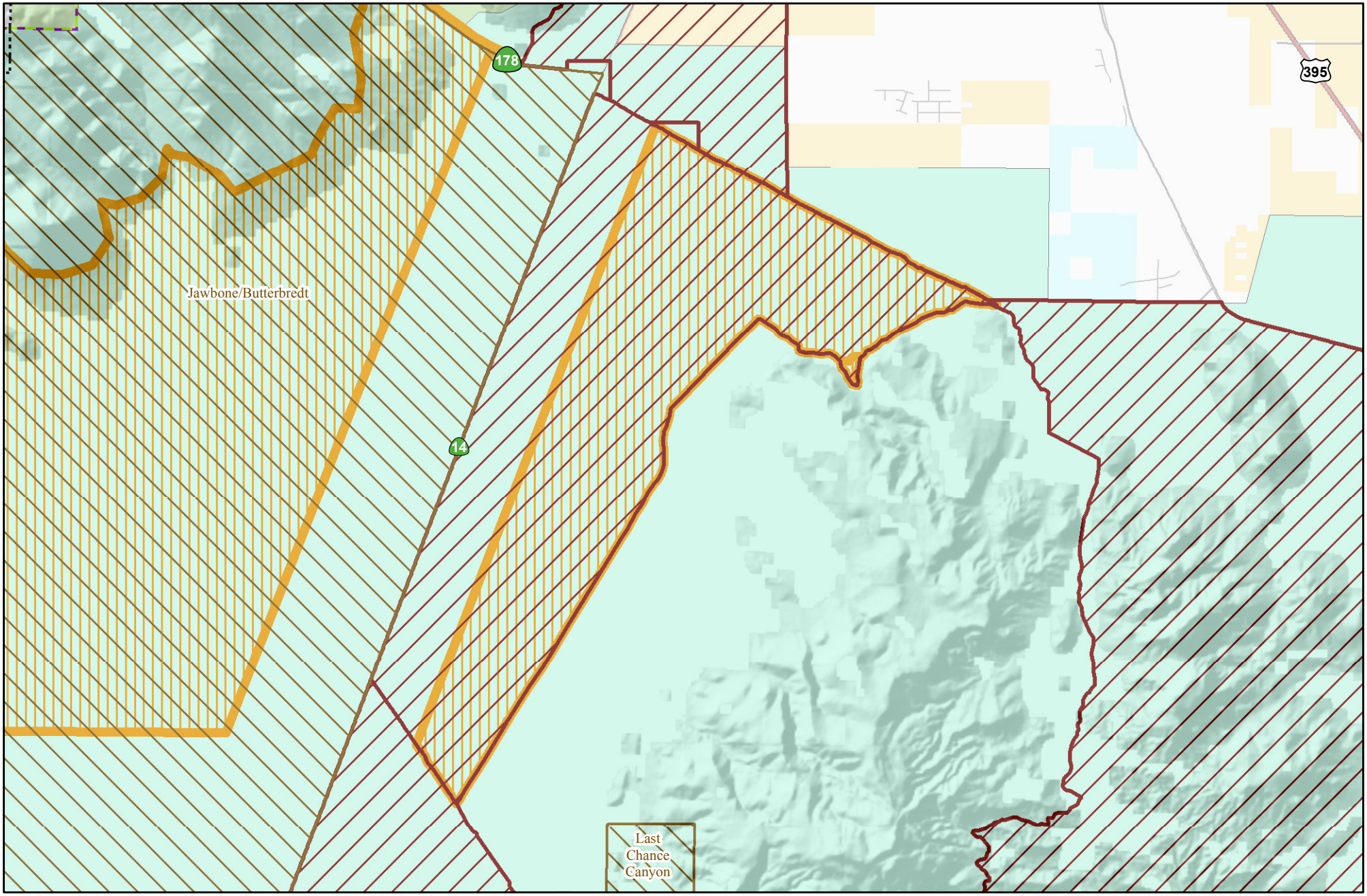
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

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

GTLF
- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Eagles Flyway



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

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

Tehachapi Linkage

Description/Location: The Tehachapi Linkage includes private, state, and federal lands and mineral estate, identified principally for its high habitat and watershed integrity and importance in connecting the Coast and Transverse Ranges with the Southern Sierra Nevada mountains and foothills. This area is located in Kern County north of the Tehachapi Mountains at the southern tip of the Sierra Nevada Range with elevations ranging from 1,500 to 8,400 feet. The area extends from the conserved lands of the Tejon Ranch Conservancy in the Tehachapi Mountains to the Sequoia National Forest and preserves important opportunities for plant and animal populations to migrate along an elevation gradient in response to climate change.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: None

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant wildlife resource and natural system.

This region is the southern limit of many Sierra Nevada plants and animals and contains large areas of representative key habitats found in the four ecoregions that intersect the area. Ranging from the foothills of the San Joaquin Valley to the mountains in the southern Sierra Nevada range, the vegetation includes oak woodlands, riparian woodlands, and conifer woodlands, including a grove of the rare and unique Piute cypress. The federally-listed Bakersfield cactus also occurs within the area. This area contains special status animal species including the federally-listed California condor; State listed Tehachapi slender salamander, and BLM sensitive yellow-blotched salamander, as well as habitat that are essential for maintaining species diversity and genetic linkages. In addition, the Tehachapi area demonstrates a high level of biodiversity attributed to the unique conjunction of geography, geology, and climes and important corridor linkages between Coast, Transverse, and Sierra Nevada Ranges, and the Mojave Desert.

Goals: Preservation of the ecological connection between the southern Sierra Nevada Mountains and foothills and the Transverse Ranges.

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	0	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	0	18,800	NA
1	0	0	18,800	NA
2	0	18,800	0	1%
3	0	0	13,500	NA
4	0	0	18800	NA

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

Alternatives:
Alternatives Preferred, 1, 3, & 4: This area would be identified as a land use allocation for wildlife purposes. Each Alternative allocates a different acreage (see table above and following maps). The area would be managed under the decisions in the Bakersfield PRMP/FEIS.

Alternative 2: This area would be designated as an ACEC and would be managed to protect wildlife connectivity.

No Action Alternative: This conservation area does not exist.

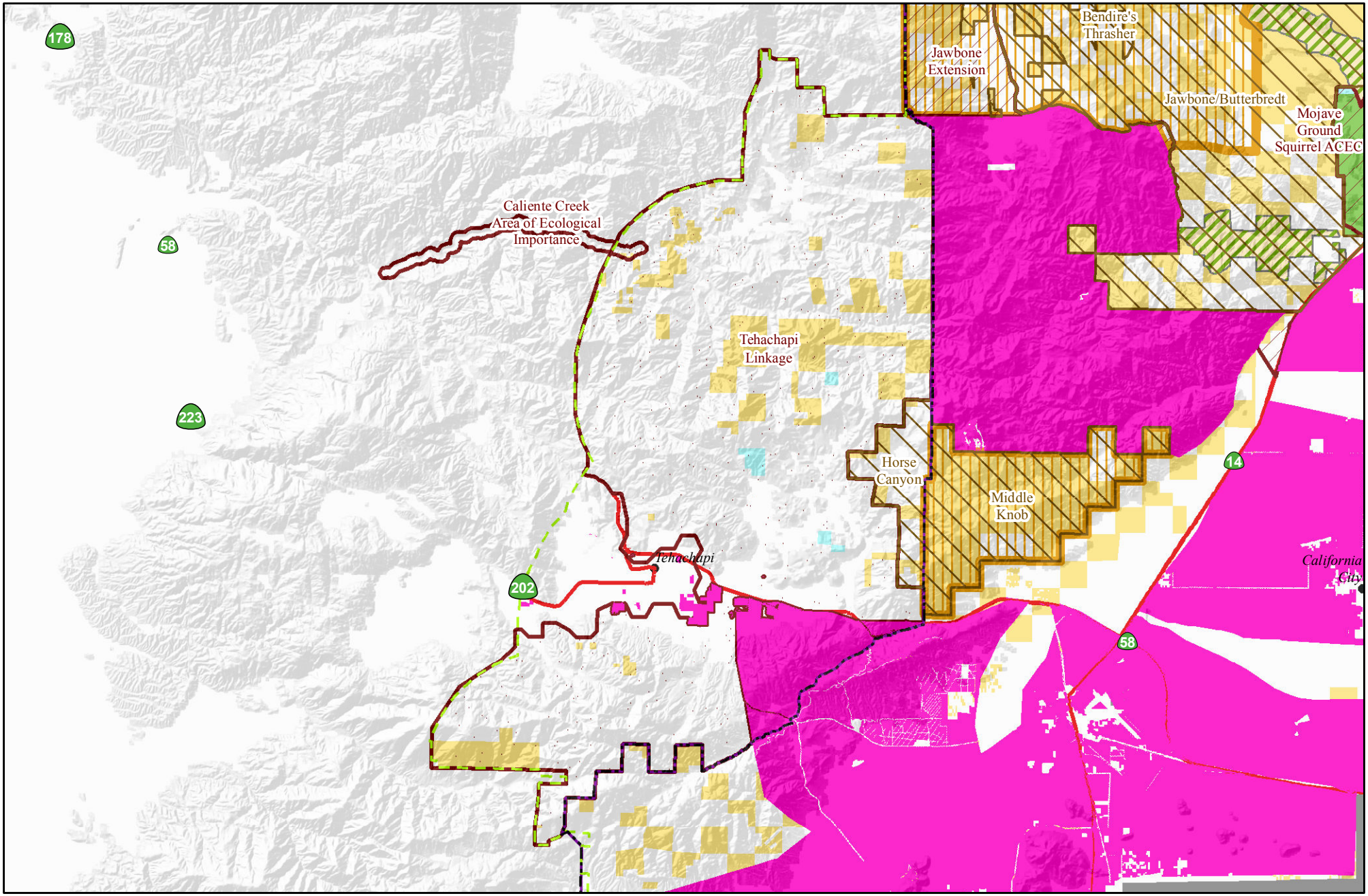
Objectives (desired future conditions) /Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Manage soils to meet or exceed the Soil Standard of Rangeland Health, as indicated by ground or plant cover, diversity of plant species, minimal evidence of accelerated wind and water erosion and the presence of the biological soil crusts where appropriate. Management Action 1: Minimize soil disturbance by limiting developments to the smallest area possible and by using previously disturbed areas and existing roads to the extent possible. Management Action 2: Restrict access and suspend authorized projects during wet weather when soil resources will be detrimentally affected by rutting, compaction, and increased erosion. Objective: Manage riparian/wetland vegetation, structure, and diversity and stream channels and floodplains so that they are functional and achieving physical and biological objectives. Management Action 3: Fence or otherwise protect wetlands and riparian areas affected by livestock. Management Action 4: Locate livestock water sources as far as necessary to protect riparian areas; make these water sources available for wildlife year-round, as needed at to the greatest extent practicable. Management Action 5: Design stream crossings to minimize adverse impacts to soils, water quality, and riparian vegetation and provide for fish passage as appropriate.	Soil, water, air

Objective: Conserve and recover state and federally listed species, and BLM sensitive species through the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of their habitats. Management Action 1: Implement actions and recommendations from recovery and conservation plans, including those to reduce mortality, provide information and education, and restore habitat to maintain, enhance and restore listed species habitats. Management Action 2: Eliminate, relocate, or redesign uses that may result or have resulted in unacceptable impacts on important biological resources, through actions such as, making season closures, modifying grazing prescriptions, installing protective fencing, restricting equestrian access, relocating camping areas, and closing or realigning travel routes. Management Action 3: Implement a variety of measures (such as controlling weeds, planting native species, applying mechanical and chemical vegetation treatments, improving water availability, and installing artificial structures) to enhance or restore habitat conditions. Objective: Design BLM actions and authorizations to minimize impacts on biological resources, regional conservation strategies and essential habitat linkages. Management Action 1: Apply SOPs, as appropriate to new BLM actions and authorizations such as those contained in Bakersfield PRMP/FEIS Appendix L.	Vegetation - Including special status plant species
Objective: Conserve and recover state and federally listed species and BLM sensitive species through the maintenance, enhancement and restoration of their habitats. Management Action 1: Implement actions and recommendations from recovery and conservation plans, including those to reduce mortality, provide information and education, and restore habitat to maintain, enhance and restore listed species habitats. Management Action 2: Eliminate, relocate, or redesign uses that may result or have resulted in unacceptable impacts on important biological resources, through actions such as, making season closures, modifying grazing prescriptions, installing bat compatible closures, restricting equestrian access, relocating camping areas, and closing or realigning travel routes. Management Action 3: Implement a variety of measures (such as controlling weeds, planting native species, applying mechanical and chemical vegetation treatments, improving water availability, and installing artificial structures) to enhance or restore habitat conditions. Objective: Design BLM actions and authorizations to minimize impacts on biological resources, regional conservation strategies and essential habitat	Fish and Wildlife - Including special status fish and wildlife species

linkages. Management Action 1: Apply SOPs, as appropriate to new BLM actions and authorizations such as those contained in Bakersfield PRMP/FEIS Appendix L.	
Objective: General Management of Cultural Resources Management Action: See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.	Cultural Resources
Objective: General Management and Protection of Paleontological Resources Management Action 1: Manage and protect fossil resources consistent with the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act. Management Action 2: Develop plans for the inventory, monitoring, and scientific and educational use of paleontological resources.	Paleontology
Objective: Manage OHV use to protect environmental resources, promote public safety, and provide OHV use opportunities where appropriate. Allowable Uses: OHV Limited area – vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails.	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: General Management Of Recreation - Not within a designated Recreation Management Area. Management Action: See planning area wide action items in general recreation rules.	Recreation
Objective: Meet the biological resources objectives through retention and/or land tenure adjustments. Management Action: Retain all lands and interests in lands in federal ownership unless it is deemed that the lands do not contribute to a regional conservation strategy or habitat linkage. Management Action: **Alternative 2 only –** Retain all lands and interest in lands in federal ownership within the ACEC.	Land Tenure
Objective: Protect biological resource values. Allowable Uses: Continue the designation of the two utility corridors as right-of-way corridors delineated in the Western Regional utility Corridor Study (1993). **Alternative 2 only:** Allowable Use: Entire area is an avoidance area for all rights-of-way.	Rights of Way (ROW)

Management Actions: Applications for uses falling under the 2800 & 2900 regulations that provide a benefit to the management area or serve public interests may be allowed. Transmission lines larger than 231kV must be located in designated transmission corridors.	
Objective: Maintain integrity of large blocks of habitat Allowable Use: Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with ACEC unit values and criteria. Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Provide for reasonable, economical, and environmentally sound exploration and development of mineral resources, while ensuring compatibility with ACEC relevant and important values. Allowable Uses: Locatable Minerals: N/A Mineral Materials: **Alternative 2 only** – Closed to mineral material disposal. Non-Energy Leasables: **Alternative 2 only** – Closed to solid (non-energy) leasing. Fluid Minerals: **Alternative 2 only** – Open for fluid mineral leasing subject to major constraints: Controlled Surface Use (CSU)-Protected Species stipulation and CSU-Sensitive Species stipulation.	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-Energy Leasable
Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on other resources. Allowable Uses: Available or Unavailable for livestock grazing per BKFO PRMP/FEIS Map LG-B. Apply the Bakersfield FO-specific guidelines for livestock grazing management.	Livestock grazing

Tehachapi Linkage



7 Miles

9.5 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative 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

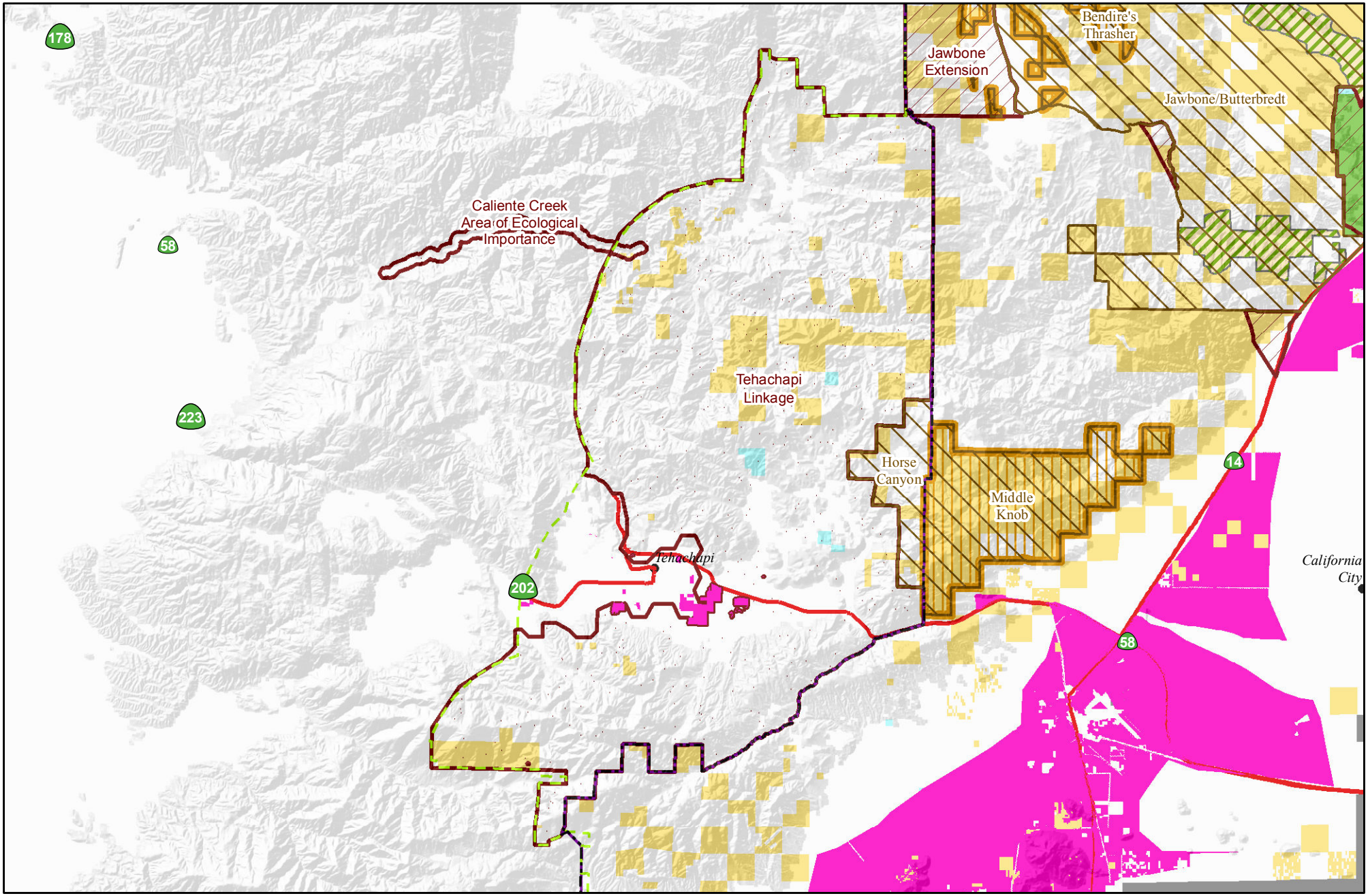
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Tehachapi Linkage



7 Miles

9.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 1 ACECs

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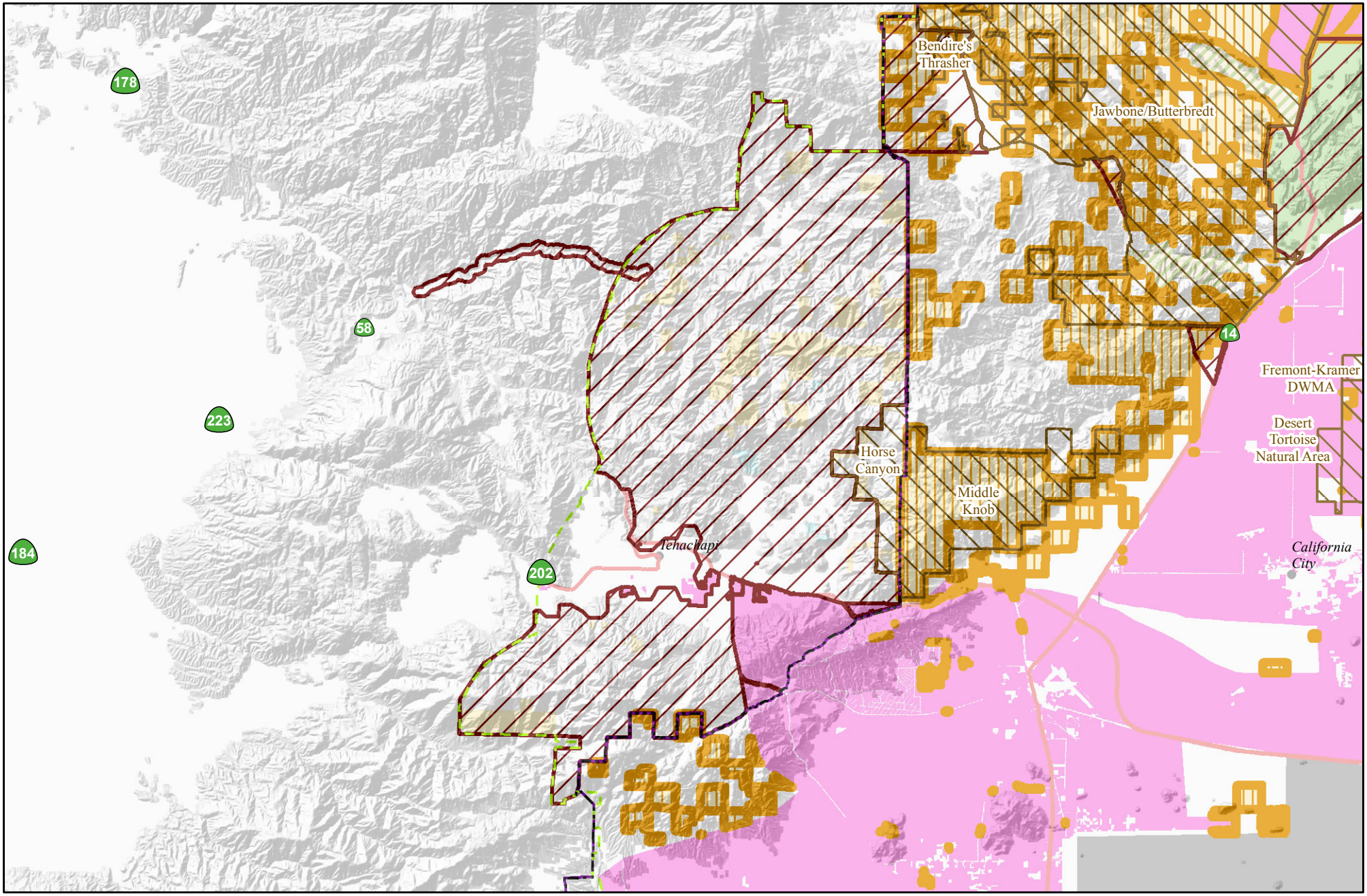
Tehachapi Linkage



8 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
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- Design Focus Areas
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- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

Land Status

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- State
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GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
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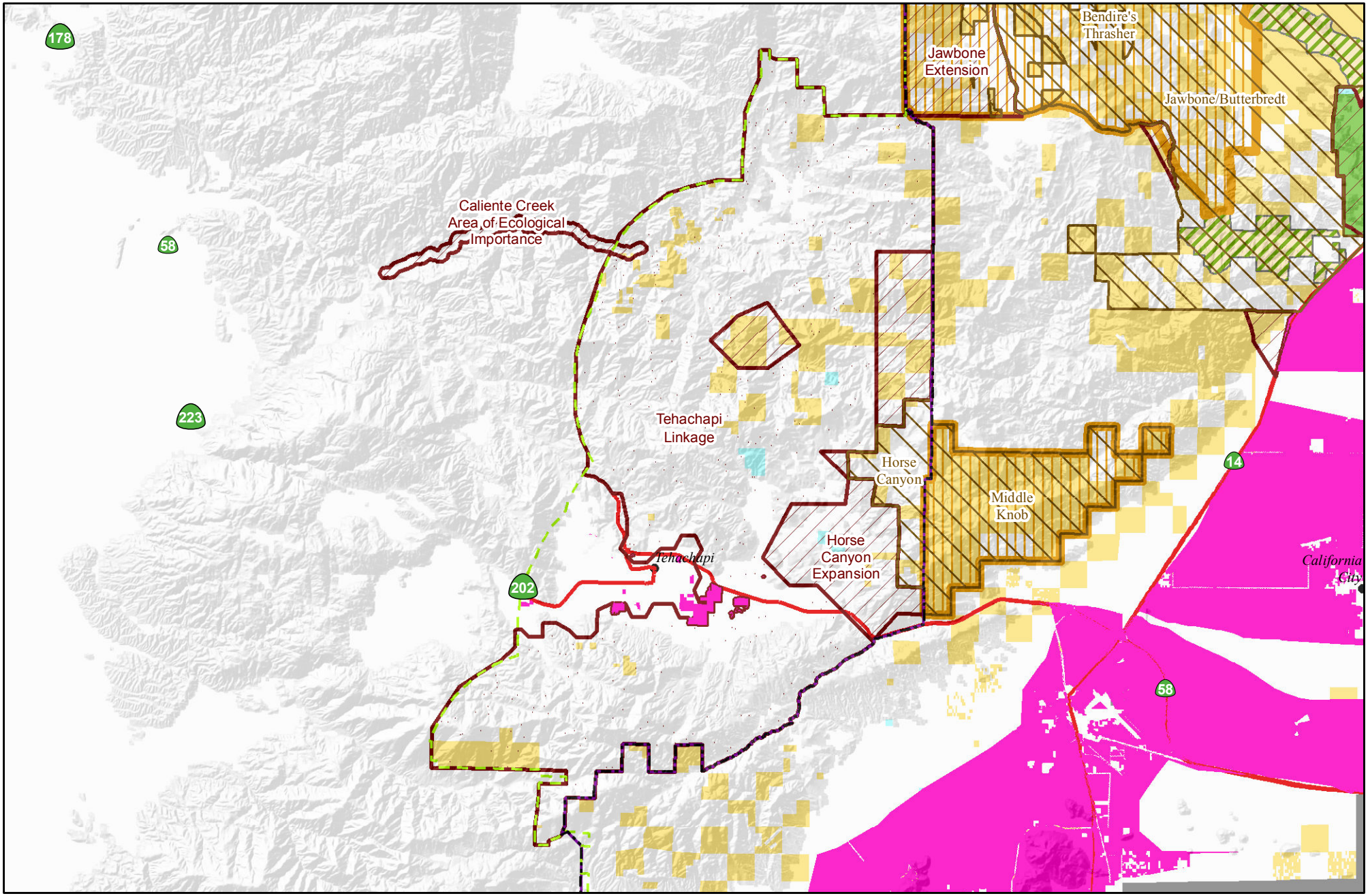
Tehachapi Linkage



7 Miles

9.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 7/28/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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- Proposed NLCS
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Land Status

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GTLF

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- US Hwy
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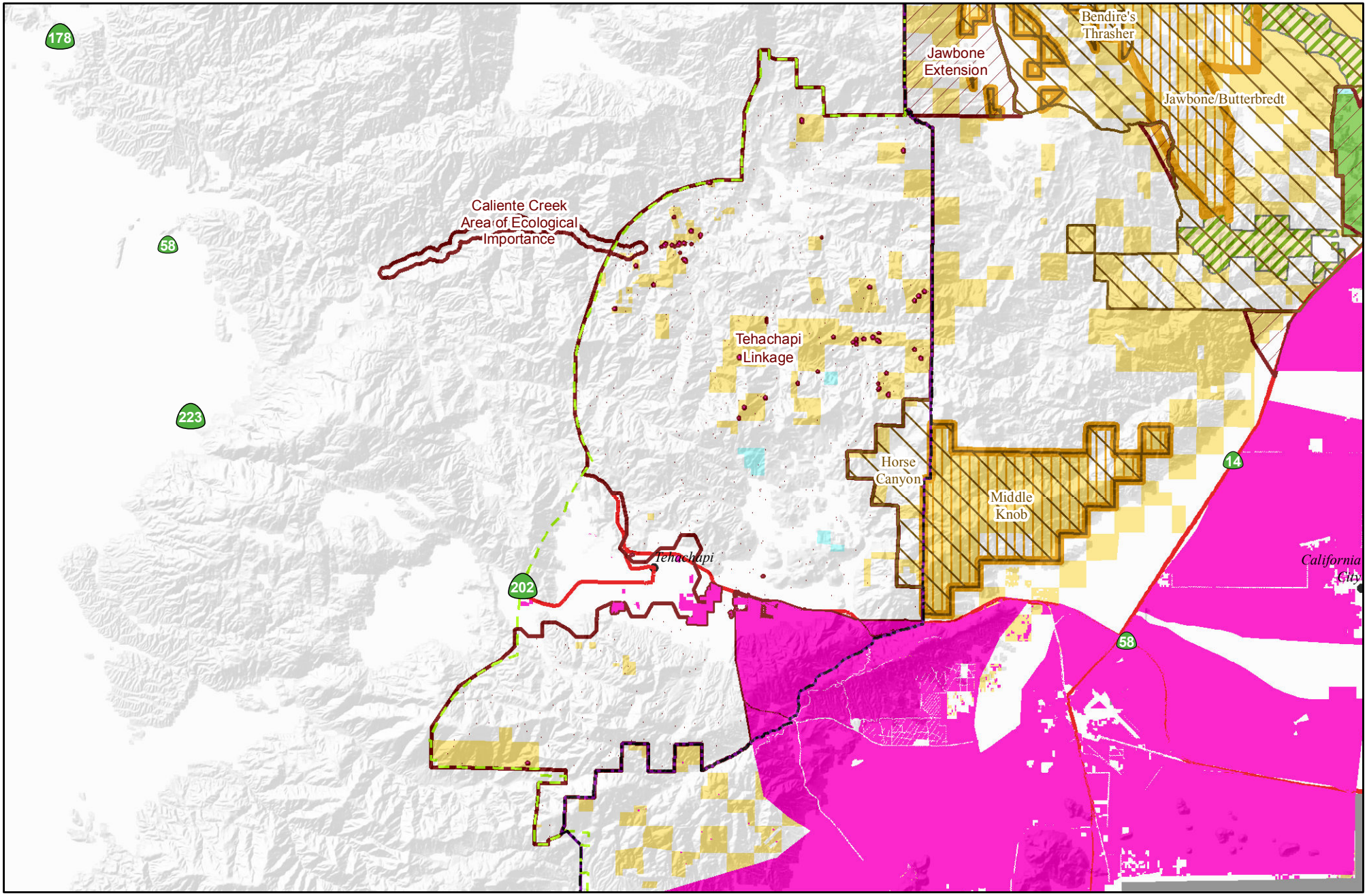
- County Hwy

Tehachapi Linkage



7 Miles

9.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 7/28/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
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Land Status

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- Military
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GTLF

- Interstate
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Barstow Woolly Sunflower

Description/Location: Located 4 miles northeast of Kramer Junction, San Bernardino County, California. Access provided by State Highway 395. This is an existing ACEC. It overlaps the Fremont Kramer Desert Wildlife Management Area. All Action Alternatives would remove this area from the Fremont-Kramer DWMA and remain as the Barstow Woolly Sunflower ACEC to resolve the dual designation and assist the Bureau in tracking total number of acres of protected lands.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: Provides important habitat for the extremely rare and highly localized plant, *Eriophyllum mohavense* (Barstow woolly sunflower).

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: ACEC Plan No. 36, September 1982, size amended with the West Mojave Plan

Relevance and Importance Criteria: This ACEC was particularly set aside for the protection of the extremely rare and highly localized plant, *Eriophyllum mohavense* (Barstow woolly sunflower). This species is under threat from motorized vehicle use and grazing, especially since it is located within the Gravel Hills Grazing Allotment which receives ephemeral use by domestic sheep. In addition to the woolly sunflower, the ACEC contains the rare and CNPS listed Mojave spineflower, as well as the Mohave ground squirrel, desert tortoise, and chisel toothed kangaroo rat.

Goals: Protect the area's sensitive and rare vegetative resources, while still providing for continued grazing and recreational opportunities on immediately adjacent lands.

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	19,100	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	19,100	0	0.5%
1	0	19,100	0	0.5%
2	19,100	19,100	0	0.5%
3	0	19,100	0	0.5%
4	0	19,100	0	0.5%

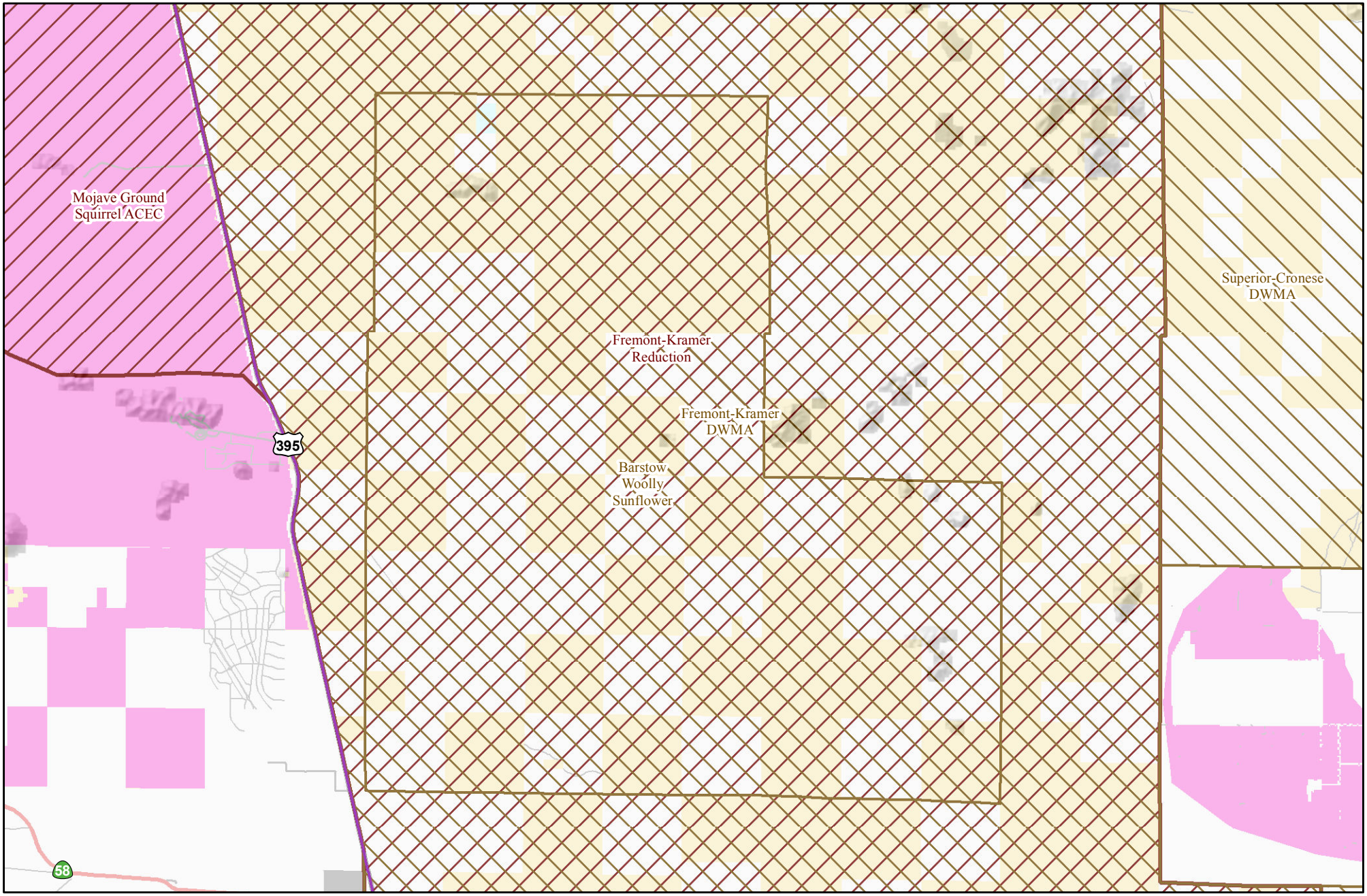
*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**

Alternatives:

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

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Objective: Protect all known populations of Barstow woolly sunflower by excluding vehicular use and grazing Allowable Uses: Commercial vegetation harvest prohibited Management Action 1: Fence 160 acres of ACEC Management Action 2: Initiate surveys of surrounding areas Objective: Education public about vegetation values Action: Install interpretive signs	Vegetation – Including special status species
Objective: Manage for the protection of Mohave ground squirrel, desert tortoise, chisel-toothed kangaroo rat, San Joaquin pocket mouse, kit fox, bobcat and burrowing owl Management Action: Survey for BLM sensitive species, identify current occupied and potential habitat, identify and implement actions to conserve and improve habitat conditions	Fish and Wildlife – Including special status species
Objective: General Management and Protection of Paleontological Resources Management Action 1: Manage and protect fossil resources consistent with the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act Management Action 2: Develop plans for the inventory, monitoring, and scientific and educational use of paleontological resources as needed	Paleontology
Objective: provide dispersed opportunities focuses on enjoyment of the ACEC attributes Management Action: Restrict camping from sensitive habitat areas	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate management activity Management Action: Acquire all inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Reduce vegetation impacts from grazing Allowable Uses: Existing allocations are okay, no new allotments, no expansion of allotment (either size or increased number of AUMs). If willing relinquishment, then the area would be made permanently unavailable for grazing.	Livestock grazing

Barstow Woolly Sunflower



2 Miles
3 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

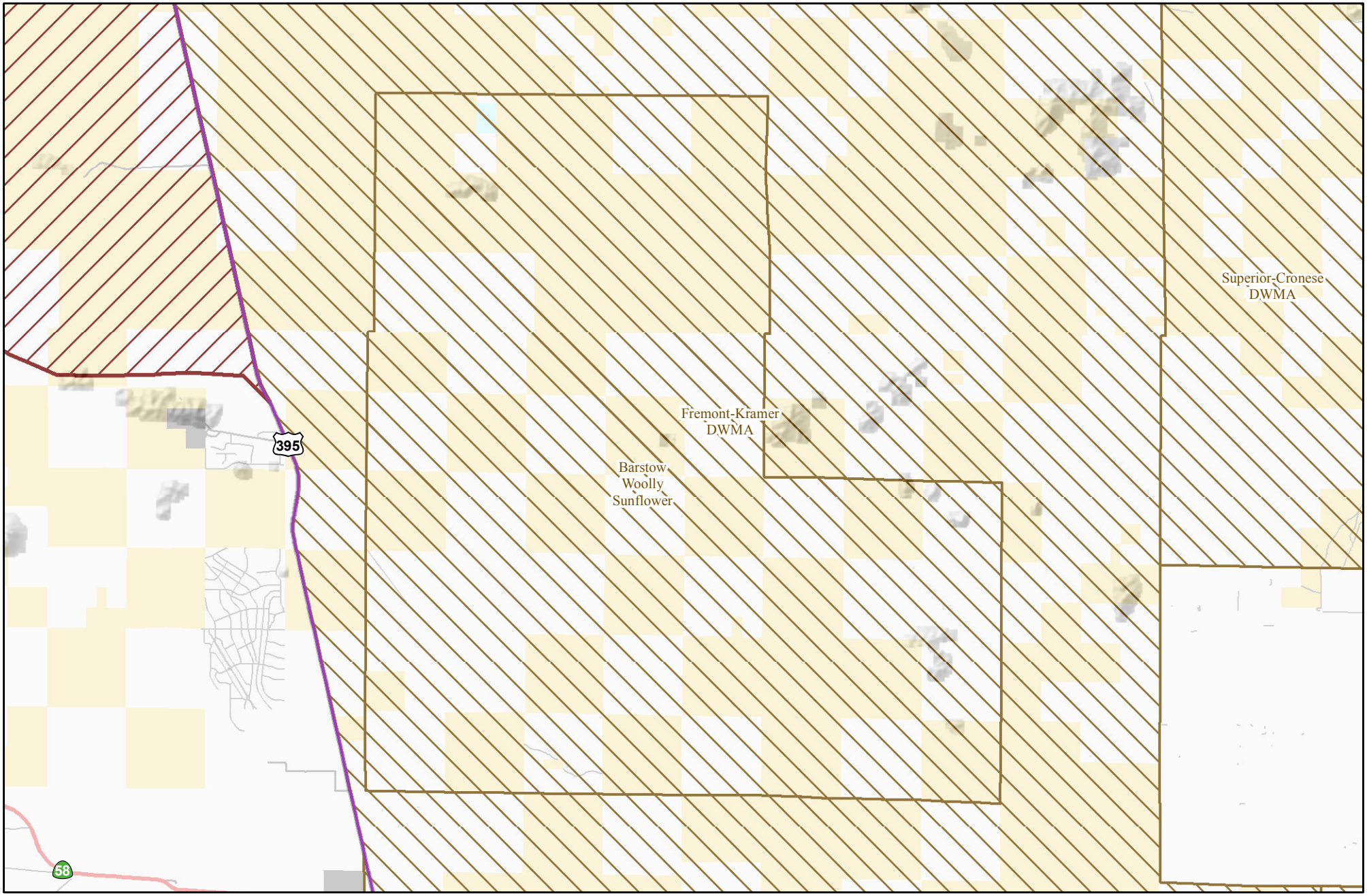
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

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

GTLF
- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Barstow Woolly Sunflower



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

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

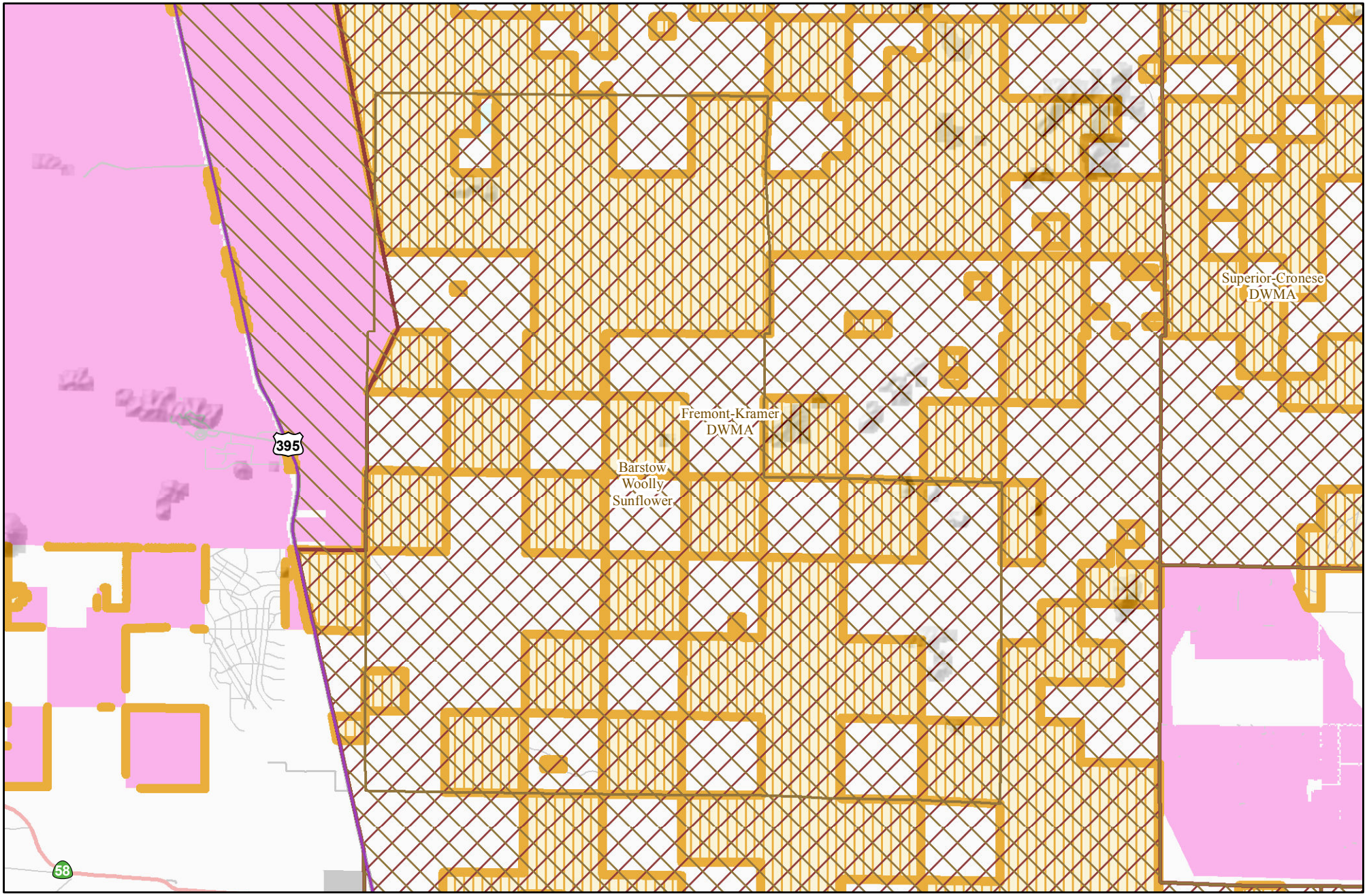
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Barstow Woolly Sunflower



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

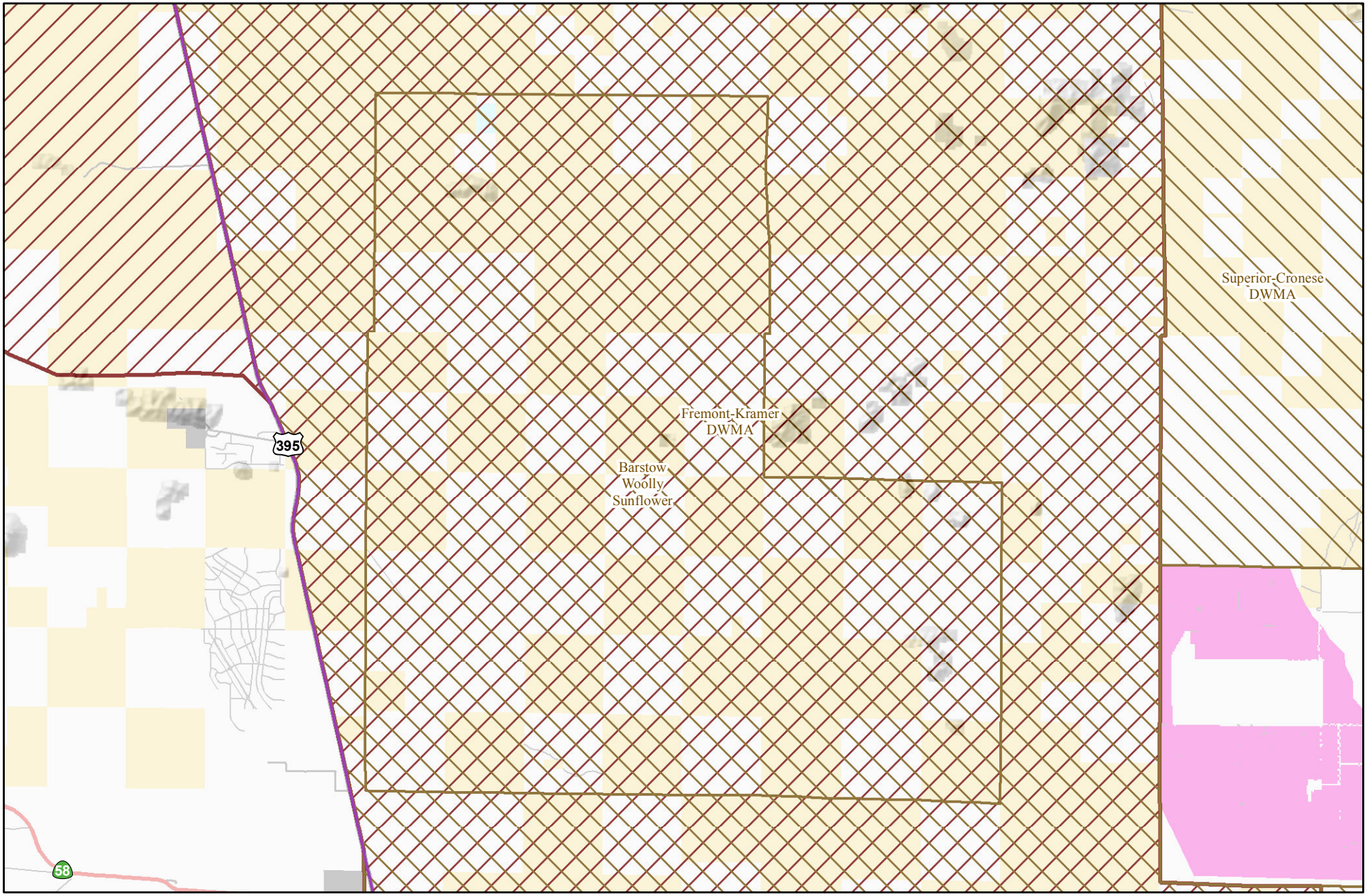
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Barstow Woolly Sunflower



2 Miles
3 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

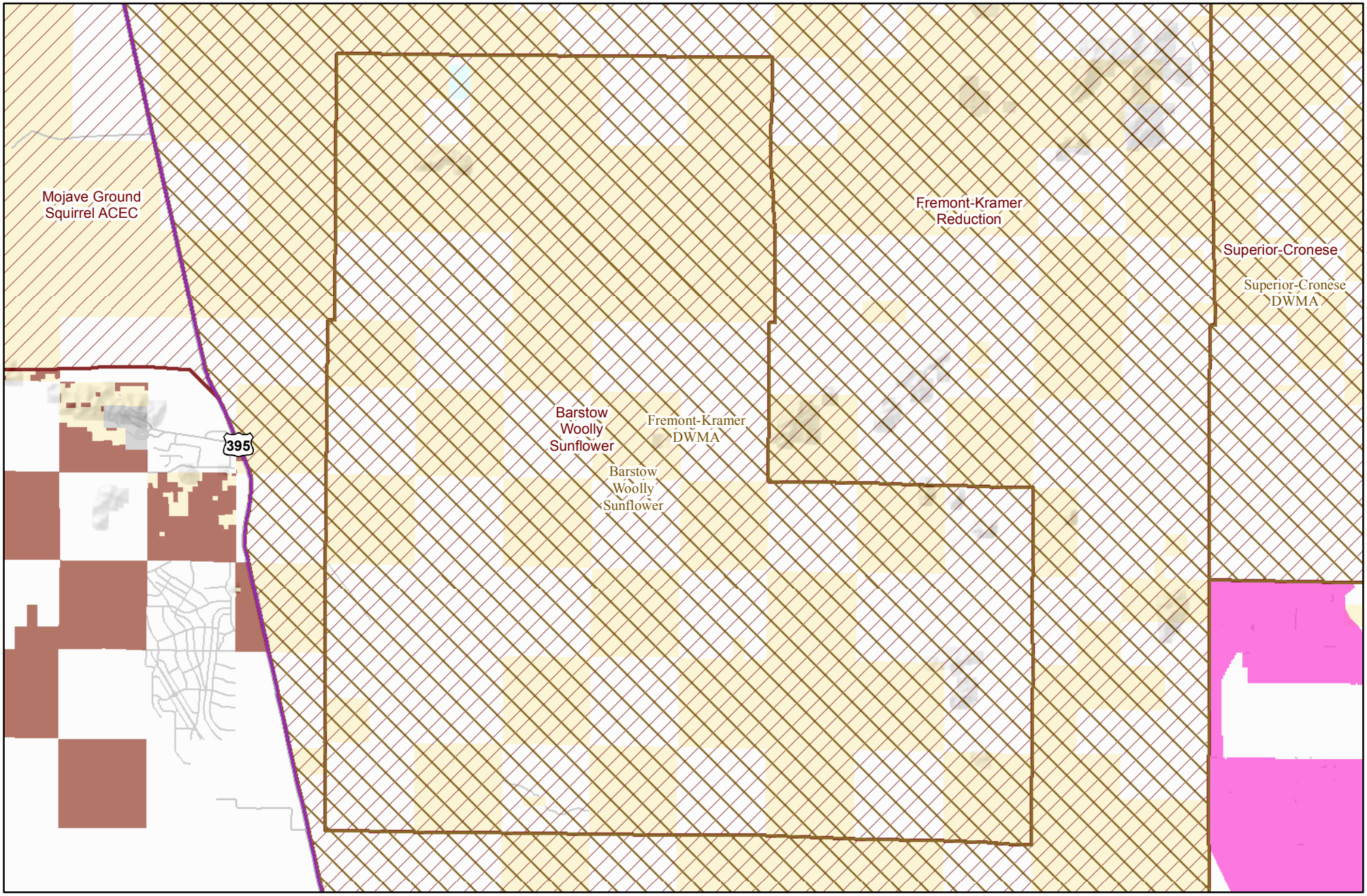
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

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

GTLF
- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Barstow Woolly Sunflower



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 8/6/2014

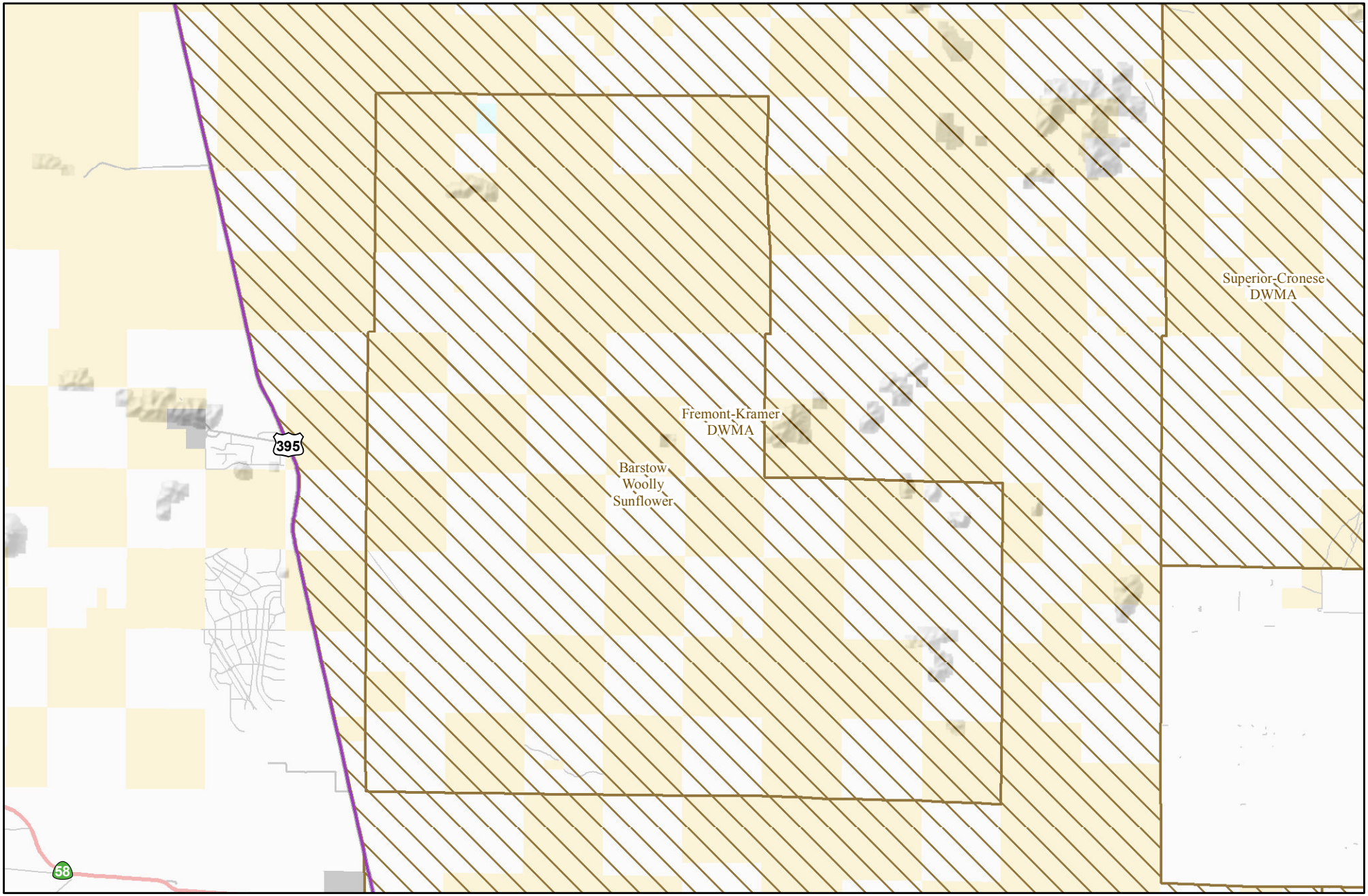
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

Barstow Woolly Sunflower



2 Miles

3 Kilometers

N

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

Bendire's Thrasher

Description/Location: This ACEC covers two disjoint locations, one in the Ridgecrest FO area and one in the Barstow FO area. For the Ridgecrest location, the Bendire's ACEC overlaps portions of the Jawbone ACEC, with a few parcels that are outside of Jawbone to the south and west. For the Barstow FO area, the ACEC is located west of Hwy 247 approximately 8 miles north of Lucerne Valley.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: Under alternatives where NLCS lands are designated north and south of this unit, this area provided important connectivity for wildlife and maintains landscape integrity. This area protects a unique disjunct population of Bendire's Thrasher.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Original ACEC designation in 2006 WEMO plan.

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Provides habitat for a disjunct population of Bendire's Thrasher.

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

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	11,700	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	1,900	9,900	0	0.5 and 1%**
1	8,100	11,700	0	0.5 and 1%**
2	11,700	11,700	0	0.5 and 1%**
3	1,900	11,700	0	0.5 and 1%**
4	11,700	11,700	0	0.5 and 1%**

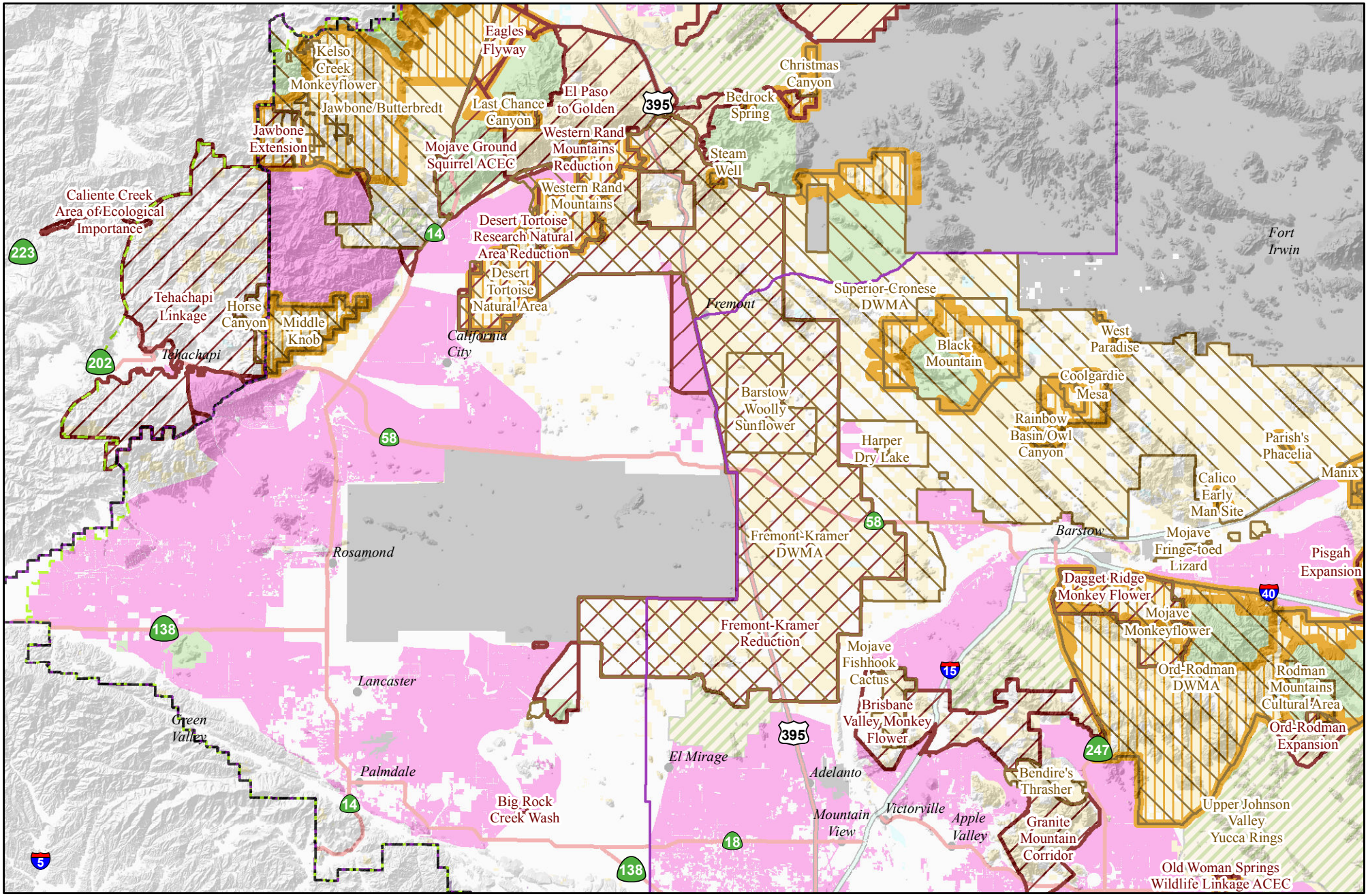
*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**
**** This ACEC is zoned. For areas of the ACEC overlapping a critical desert tortoise linkage – the disturbance cap is 0.5% the portions of the ACEC that do not overlap the linkage are at 1%.**

Alternatives:
Under All Action Alternatives--This is an existing ACEC. The Barstow Unit would remain unchanged. The Ridgecrest scattered Units mostly overlap the existing Jawbone Canyon ACEC. To resolve this dual designation, all action alternatives will incorporate these scattered units into Jawbone and management of the Bendire's Thrasher will be added to the management actions of Jawbone.

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

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Objective: Protect Bendire's Thrasher breeding habitat Allowed Use: Vegetation harvesting is prohibited Management Action: Maintain prohibition of vegetation harvesting, in particular yucca species	Vegetation Including special status species
Objective: Maintain and expand Bendire's thrasher populations Management Actions: Periodically monitor population numbers and habitat disturbance in conservation area. If surveys show presence of significant numbers of birds and undisturbed habitat, then consider addition of a conservation area near Yucca Valley.	Fish and Wildlife Including special status species
Objective: Limit disturbance of breeding Bendire's Thrasher from vehicle traffic Allowable Use: Vehicle use limited to designated roads and trail, no new routes Management Action: Route designation will integrate protection of Bendire's Thrasher	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Minimize Bendire's Thrasher breeding habitat loss associated with ROWs Allowed Use: No new ROWs to be issued within ACEC, no linear ROWs except associated with existing roads	Rights of Way (ROW)
Not an allowable use - Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect Bendire's Thrasher breeding habitat from grazing impacts Allowable Use: No livestock grazing	Livestock grazing

Bendire's Thrasher



10 Miles
20 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

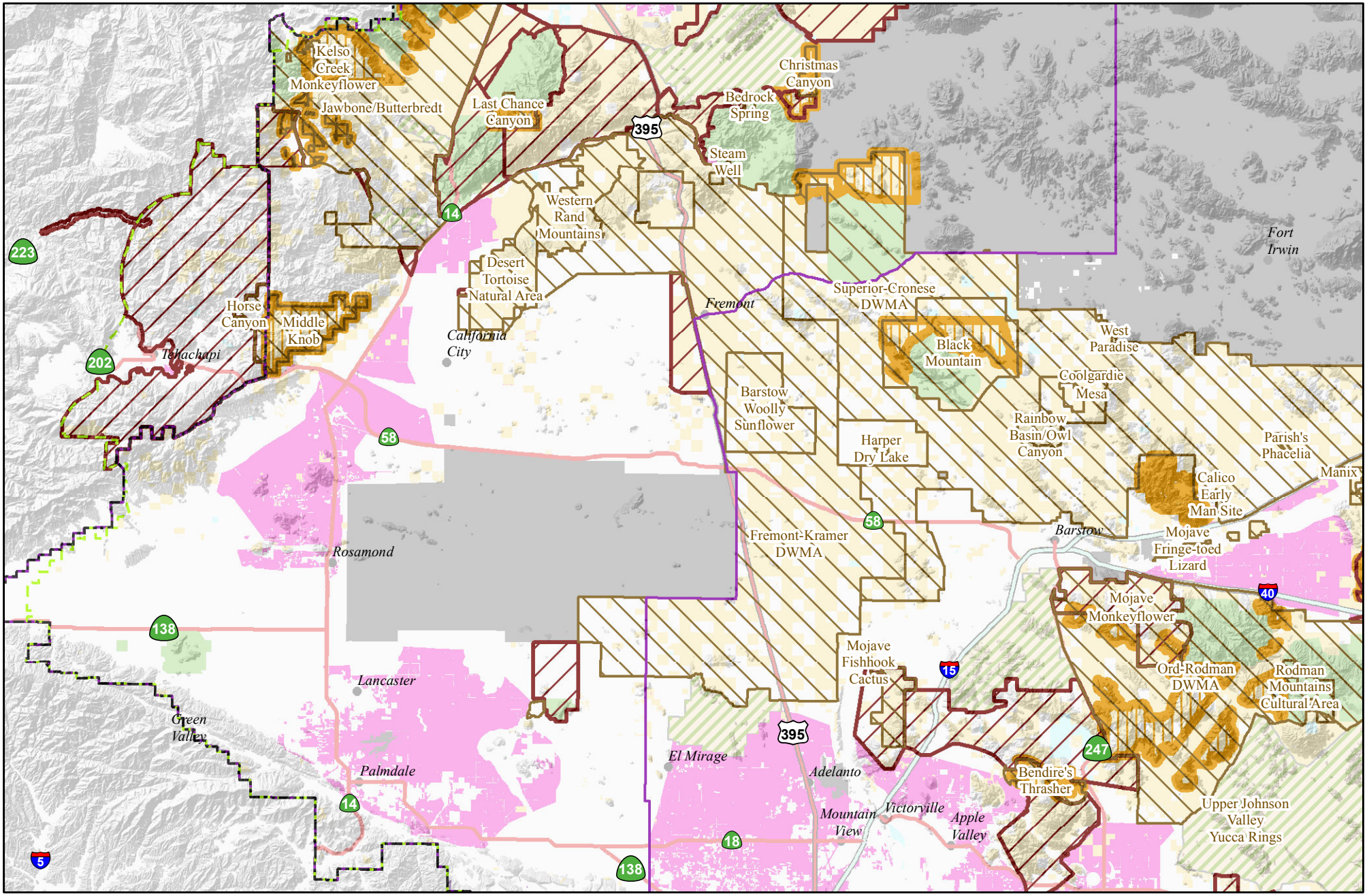
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

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

GTLF
- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Bendire's Thrasher



10 Miles
20 Kilometers

N

Alternative 1 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

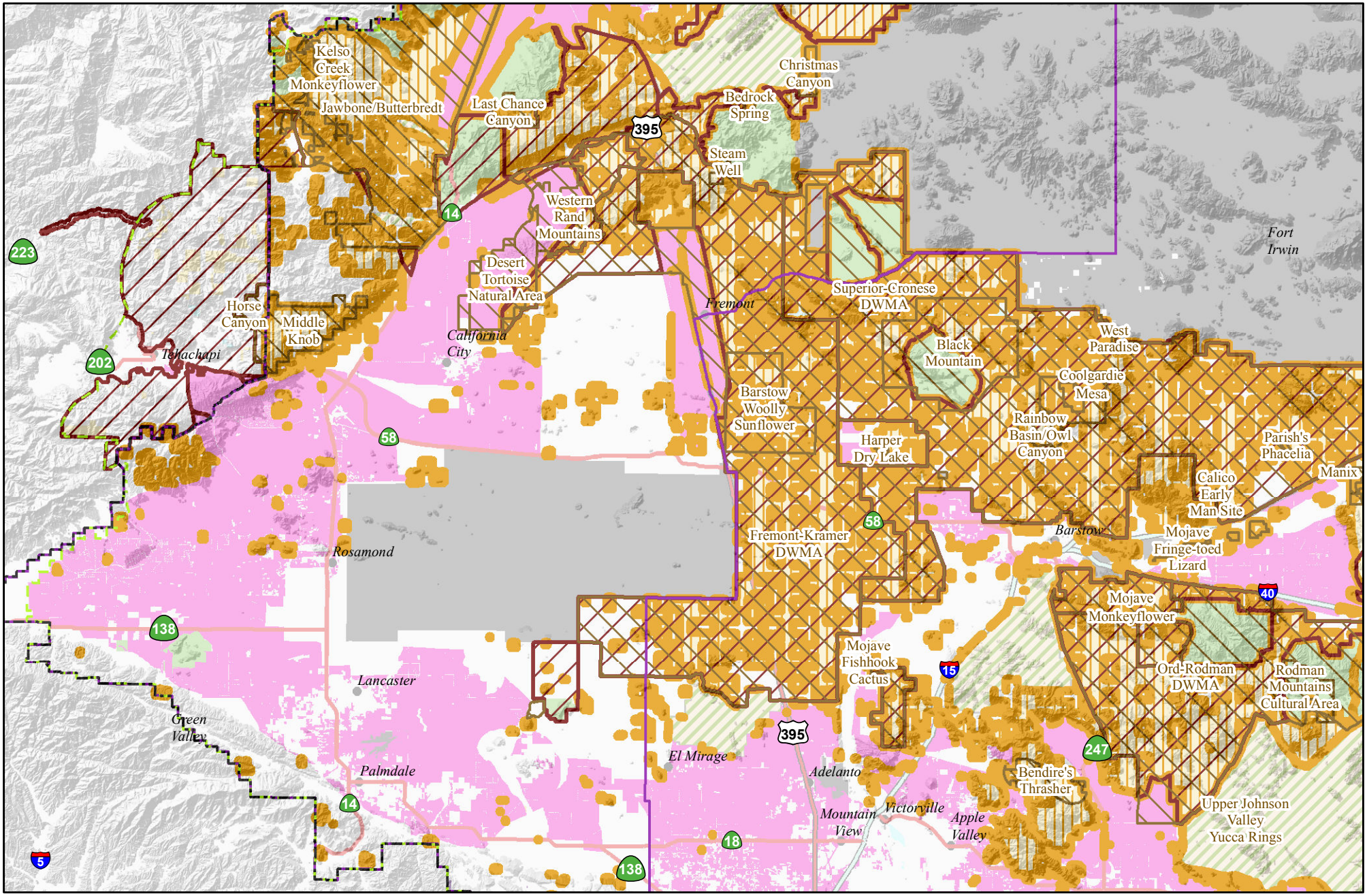
ACEC Layers
- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- 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

Bendire's Thrasher



10 Miles

20 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

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

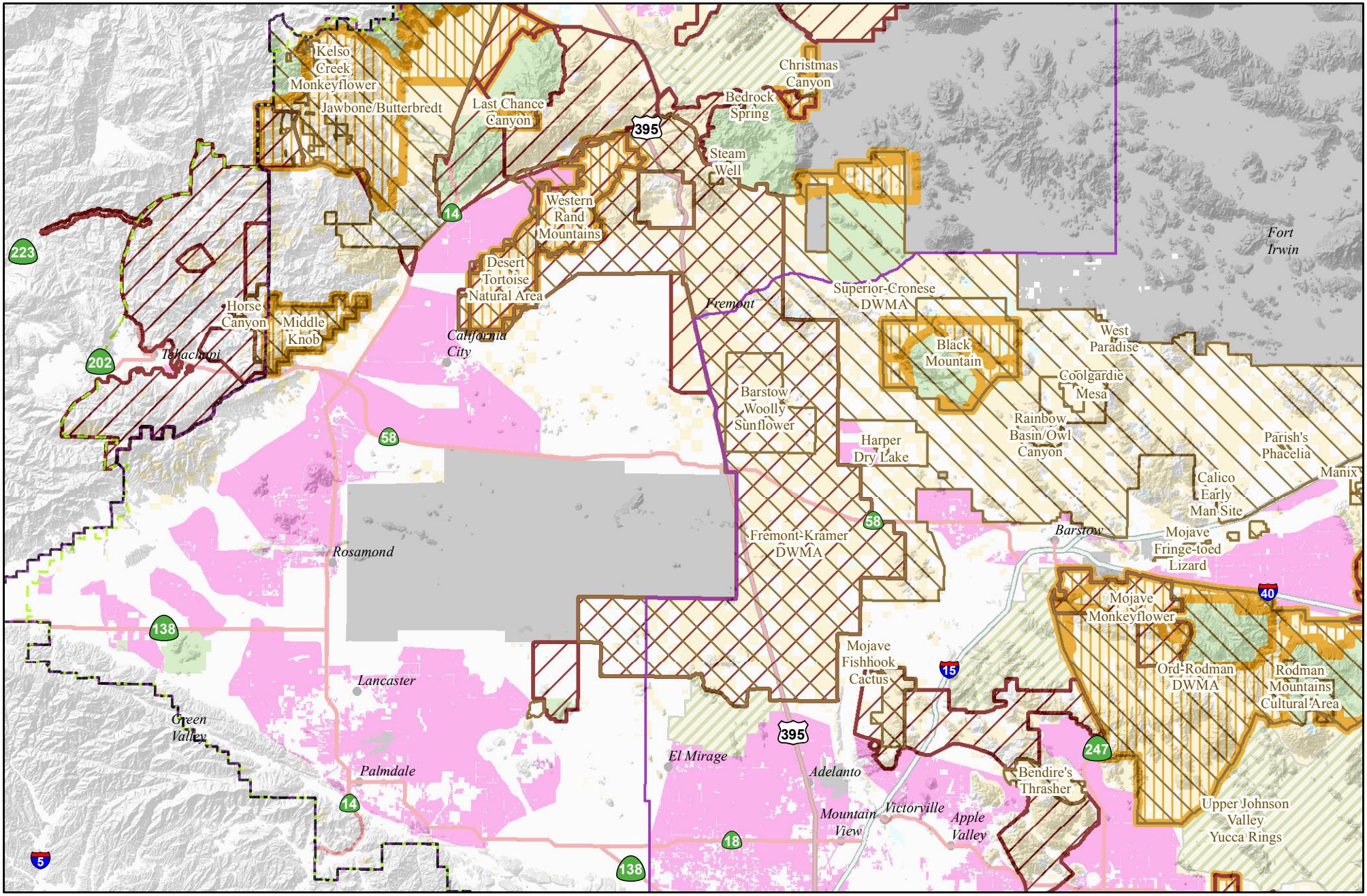
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Bendire's Thrasher



10 Miles
20 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

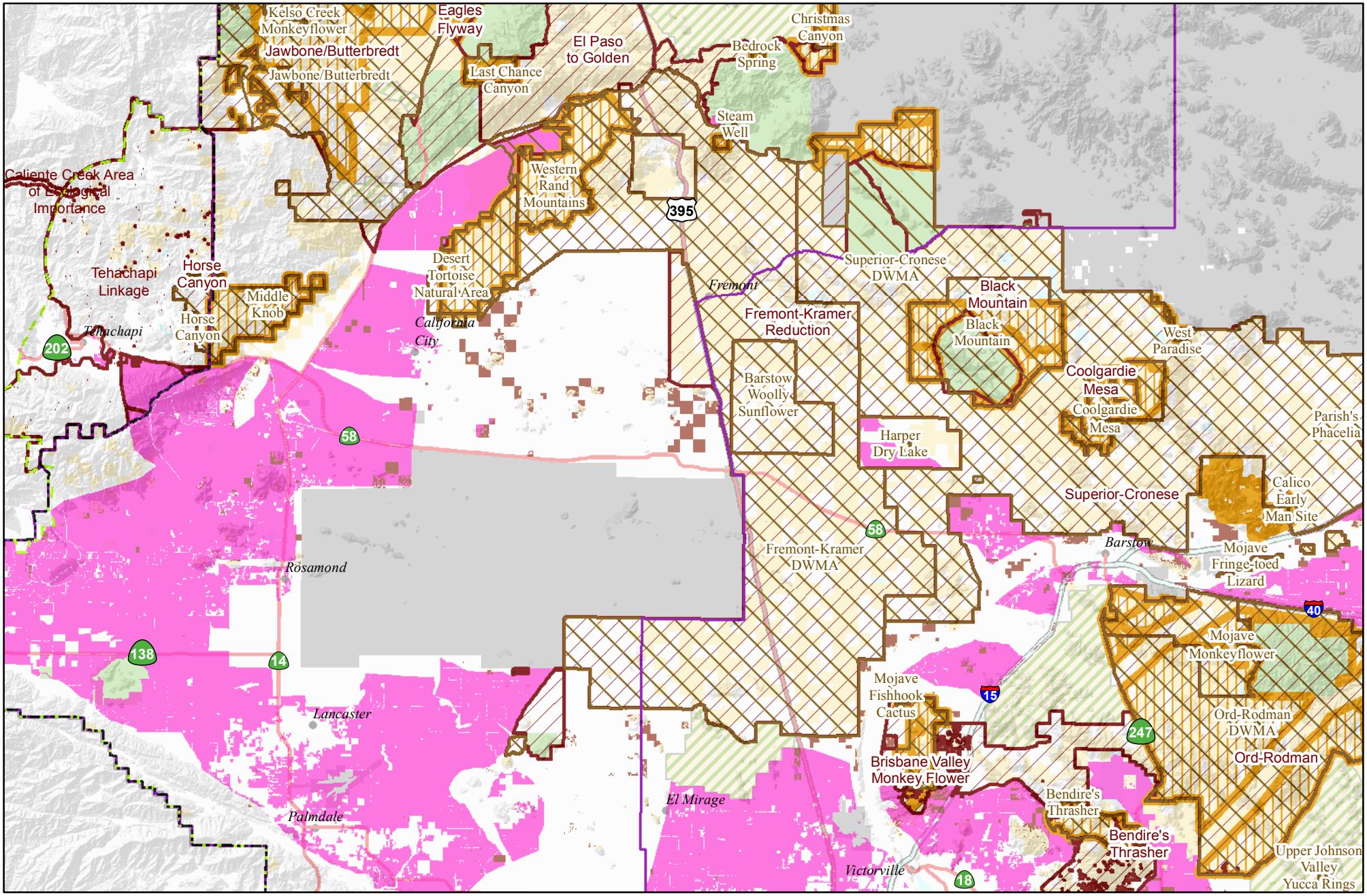
ACEC Layers
- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

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

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

GTLF
- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Bendire's Thrasher



10 Miles

20 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 8/6/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

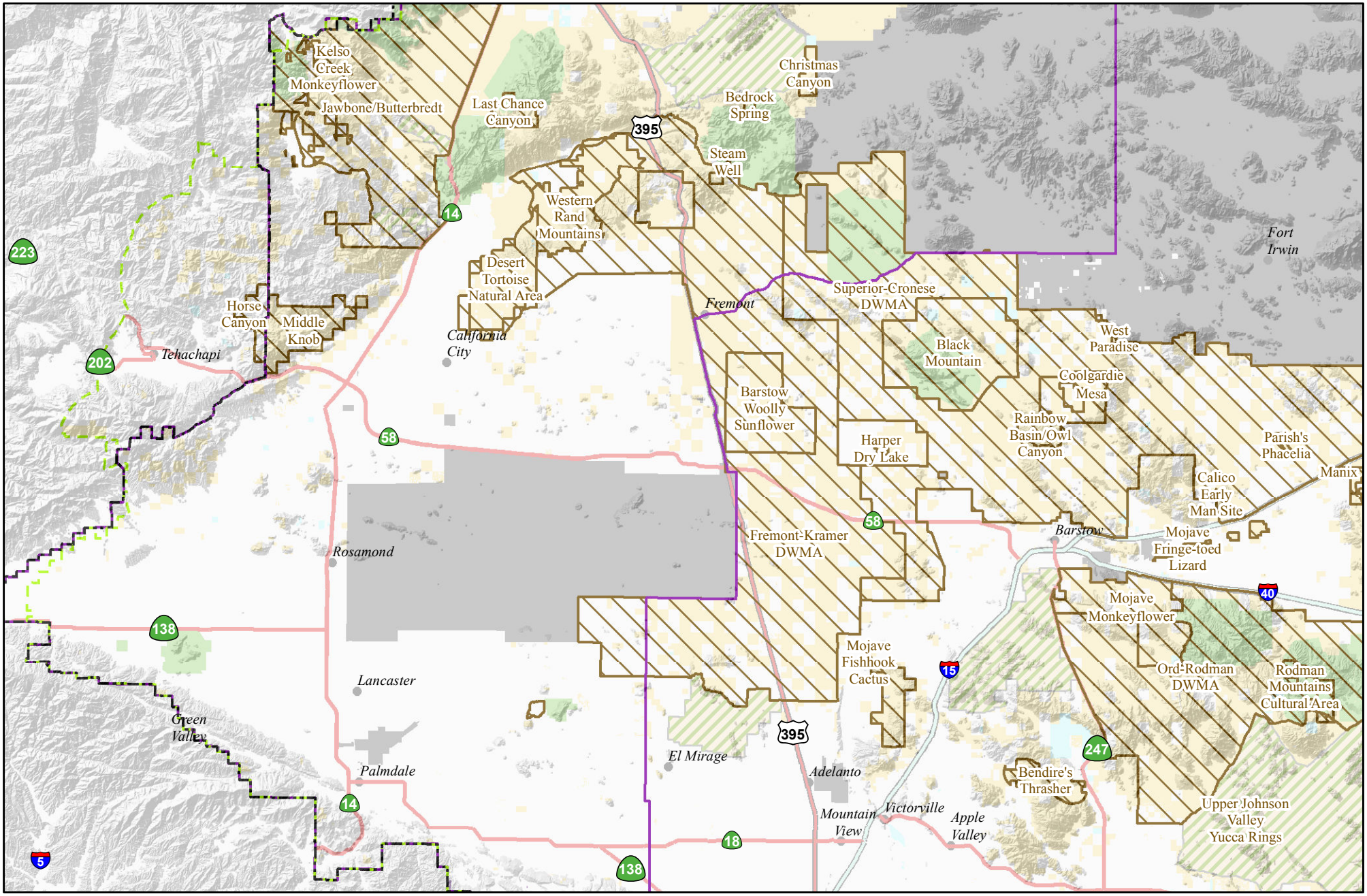
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Bendire's Thrasher



10 Miles

20 Kilometers

N

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

Desert Tortoise RNA

Description/Location: The unit is located in the western Mojave Desert in eastern Kern County, California. It lies east of Hwy 14 and north California City.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: The Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTRNA) was designated to provide protective management of habitat on public lands supporting the highest known continuous densities of Agassiz's Desert Tortoise. The area is also a natural desert ecosystem suitable for conducting research related to management of native flora and fauna. This area provides intact high-density Desert Tortoise habitat and encompassed a large, intact area of designated Desert Tortoise critical habitat.

Scientific: This Research Natural area has been the subject of long-term population monitoring studies for the desert tortoise. Mohave ground squirrel studies began in 2013.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Plan 22/1988

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. It is within the Mojave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area and the Fremont-Kramer DWMA. This area also contains habitat that supports additional special status species including the Barstow woolly sunflower, Burrowing Owl, Mohave Ground Squirrel, and the Desert Kit Fox. The DTRNA is managed cooperatively with the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc. They have acquired additional lands within and bordering the DTNA as well as have secured mitigation lands for CalTrans and other projects

Goals: To protectively manage an area that supports a significantly high density of Desert Tortoises while providing opportunities for compatible recreation. To conduct research activities that help to guide in the management of the Desert Tortoise and its 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	22,200	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	22,000	22,000	0	0.1%
1	0	22,200	0	0.1%
2	0	0	0	NA
3	22,000	22,000	0	0.1%
4	22,000	22,000	0	0.1%

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

Alternatives:
Under Action Alternatives Preferred, 3, and 4 – The northern tip of this unit (approximately 250 acres) will be removed from this ACEC designation and will be classified as part of a Development Focus Area. The remaining portion of the ACEC will continue to exist and be managed for conservation proposes. Additionally, the remaining portion of this is an existing ACEC overlaps the Freemont-Kramer ACEC. To resolve this dual designation, these dually designated acres will be removed from Fremont-Kramer (the designation of this ACEC would remain and the acres would still be for conservation purposes). This will assist BLM is accurate reporting of number of acres in conservation status.

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

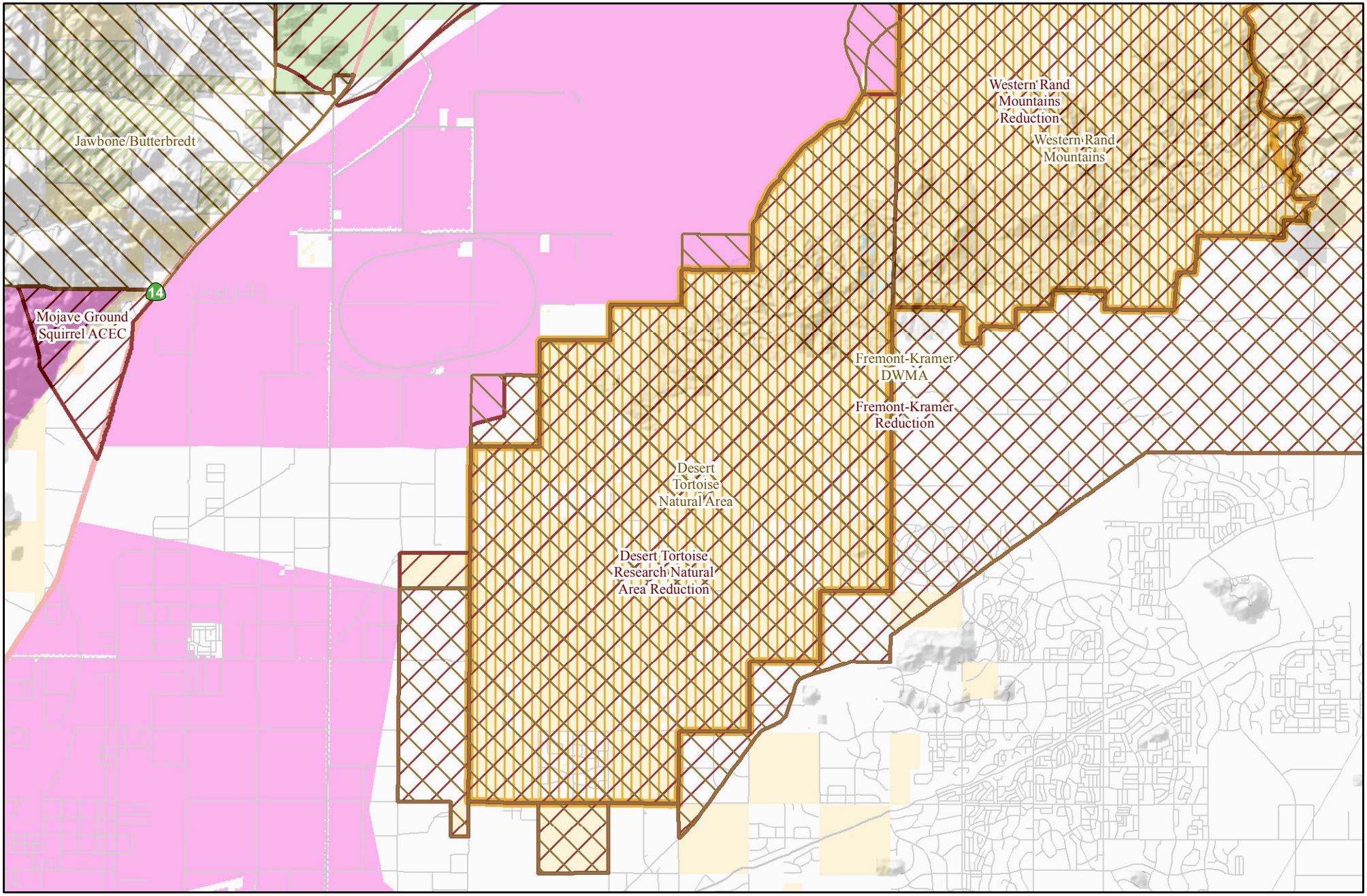
Alternative 2– Approximately 18,700 acres of this ACEC will be removed from conservation status and designated as Development Focus Areas, open for renewable energy development. The remaining approximately 3,500 acres is dually designated with Freemont-Kramer. This ACEC designation would be removed; the 3,500 acres would remain designated as Freemont-Kramer and would be managed for conservation purposes.

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. Management Actions: Ensure soils to meet or exceed the Soil Standards 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 (*Eriophyllum mohavense*) Management Action: Eliminate exotic vegetation, especially invasive mustards and Russian thistle	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of the desert tortoise to ensure persistence: Management Action: Protect, conserve, and enhance Desert Tortoise populations; Reduce collections, releases, loss, and vandalism of Desert Tortoise. Management Action: Install and maintain signs and increase law enforcement presence. Complete perimeter fencing.	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

Objective: Reduce loss of Desert Tortoise from vehicle kills. Management Action: Eliminate competitive OHV events on adjacent lands from Mar. 1 to June 30. Objective: Reduce loss of Desert Tortoise from firearms. Management Action: Close area to all firearm use except for limited hunting of upland game in the Rand Mts.	
Objective: Promote hiking trails Allowable Uses: Non-mechanized travel. Management Action: Maintain nature trails and trail guides. Restrict motorized and non-motorized vehicles to parking area & designated route Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Promote contemplative recreation and educational activities. Allowable Uses: Photography, picnicking, nature study and viewing. Closed to firearms. Dogs prohibited except on a leash and in parking lot area. Management Action: Maintain nature trails and trail guides. Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols	Recreation
Objective: Protect intact desert tortoise critical habitat Allowable Uses: No ROWs	Rights of Way
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
For the acres that remain as ACEC designated, Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect intact desert tortoise critical habitat Allowable Uses: No Mineral entry Management Action: This area is currently starting the formal withdrawal process. Earlier withdrawal expired in 2000, which is in need of renewal.	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables

Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area Reduction



2.5 Miles

3.5 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

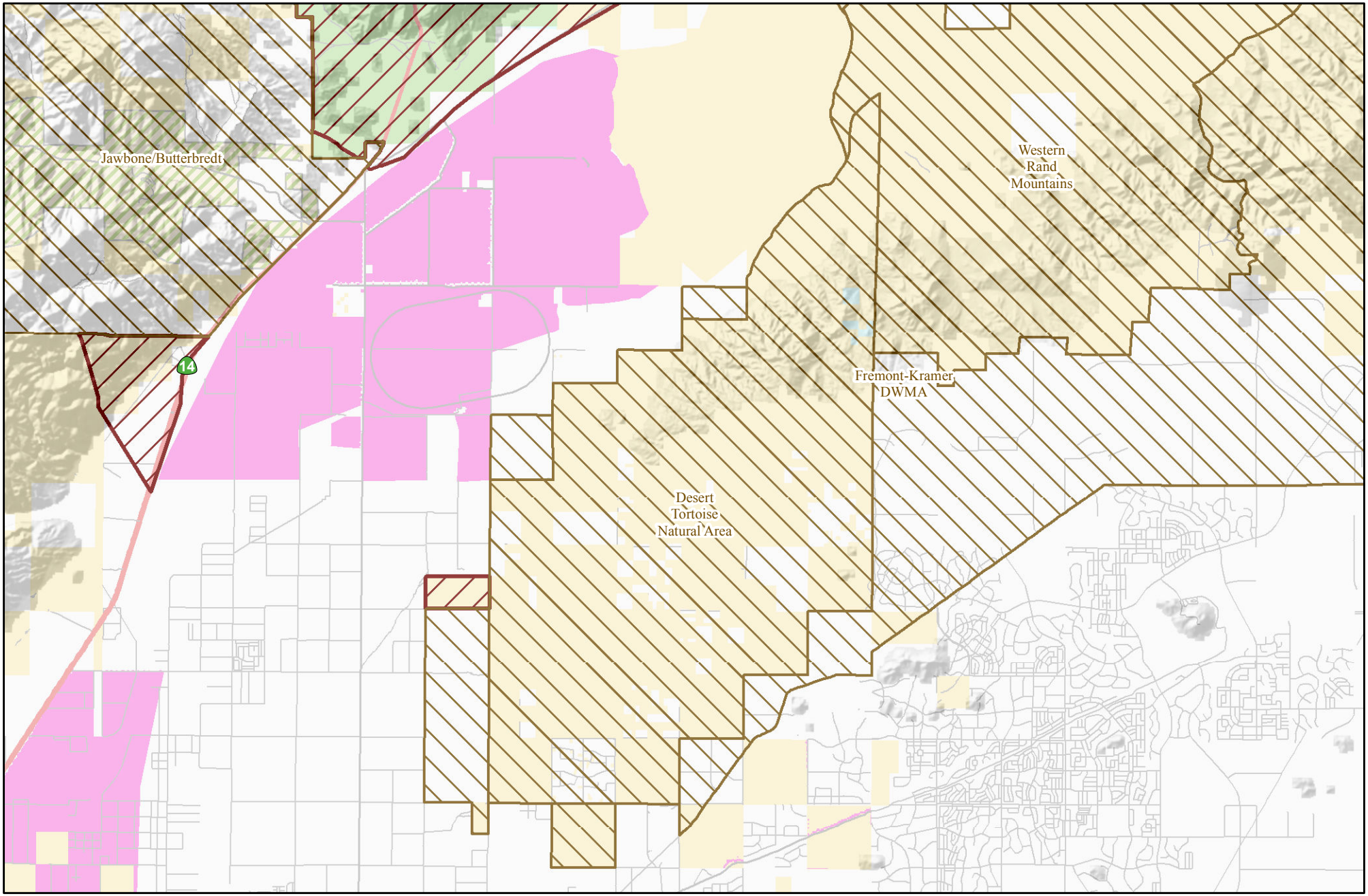
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Desert Tortoise Natural Area



3 Miles
4 Kilometers

N

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
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Land Status
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GTLF
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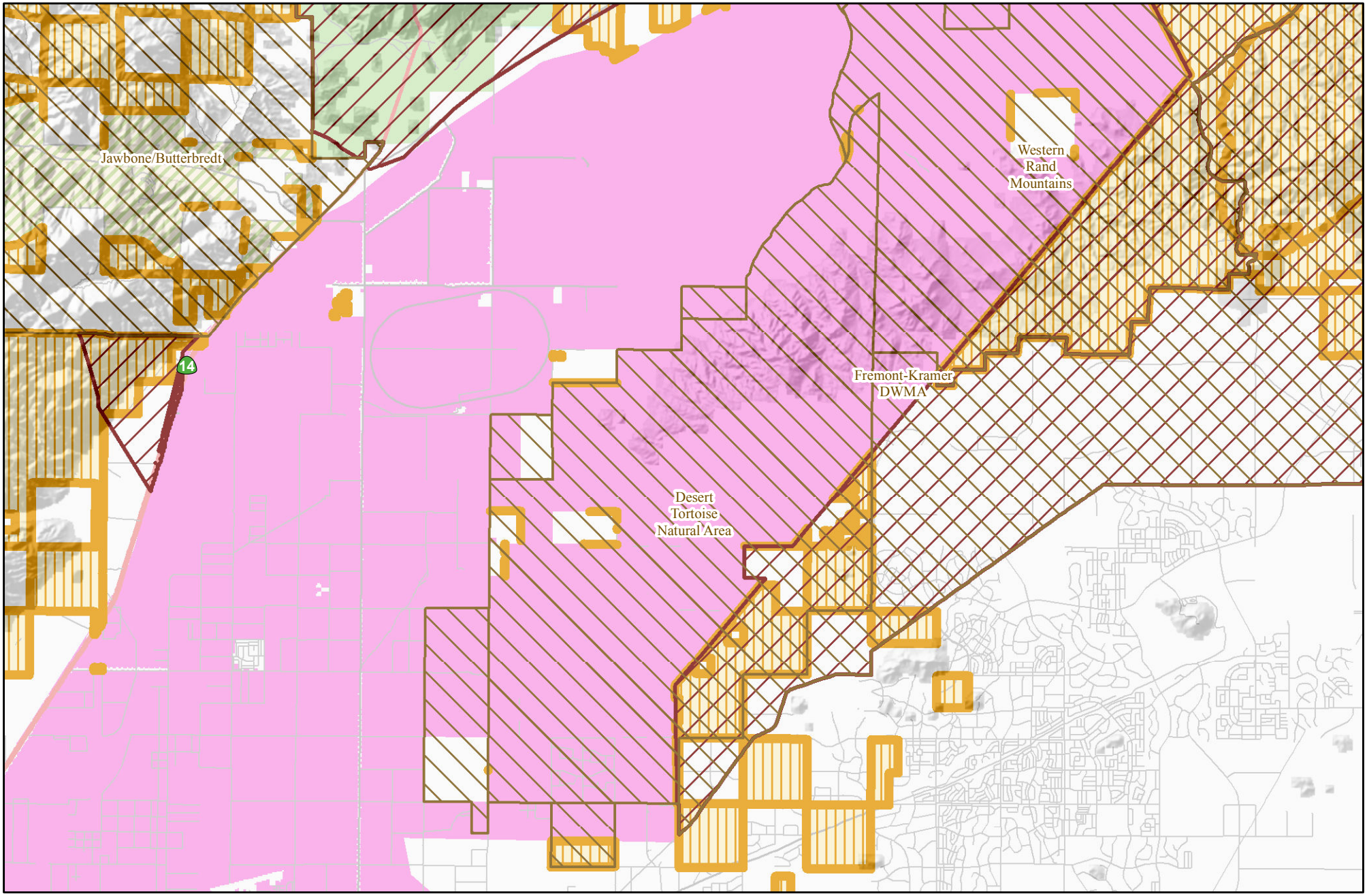
Desert Tortoise Natural Area



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

Land Status

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GTLF

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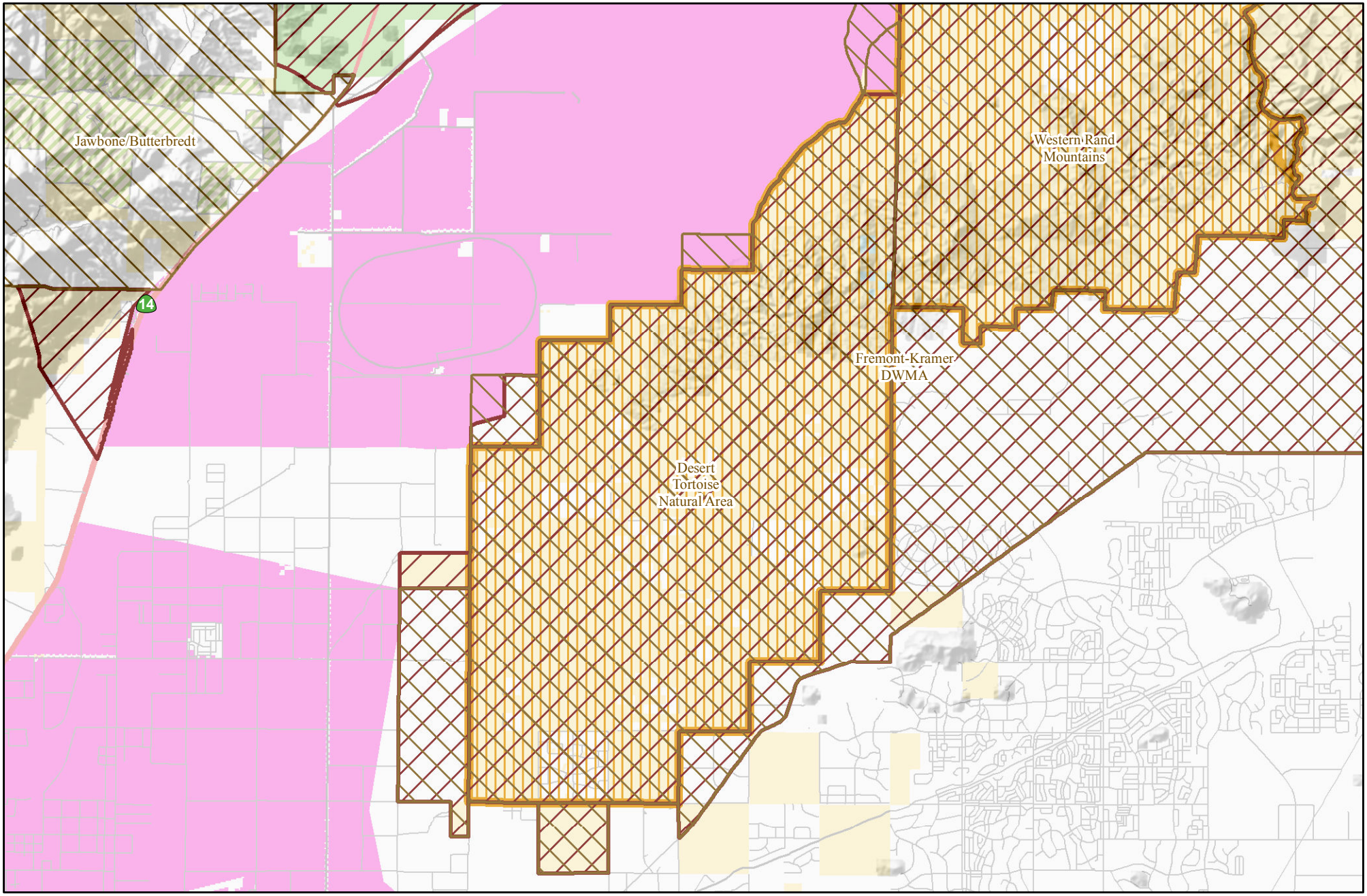
Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area Reduction



2.5 Miles

3.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

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ACEC Layers

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- BLM Field Office

Land Status

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GTLF

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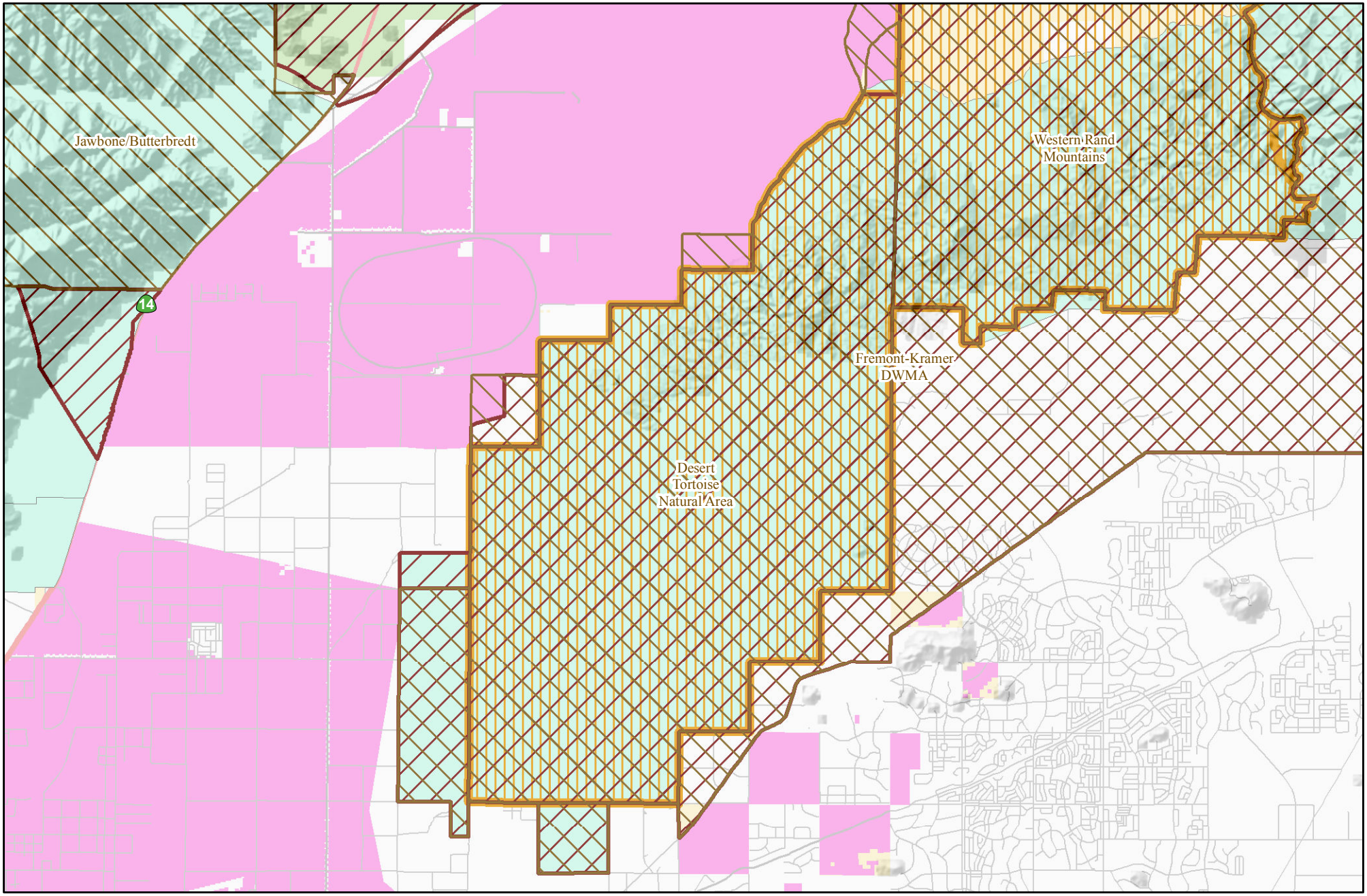
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area Reduction



2.5 Miles

3.5 Kilometers

N

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

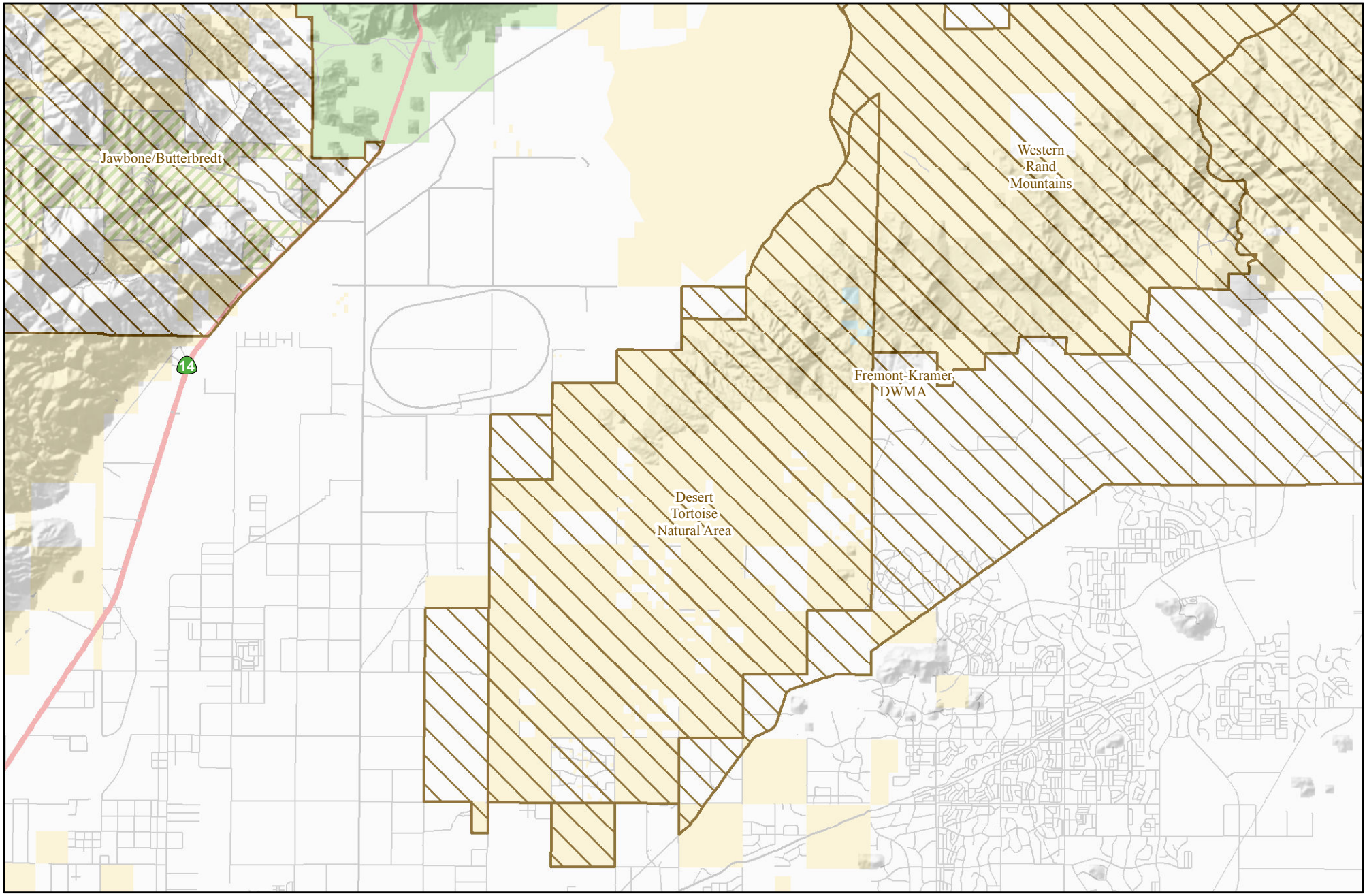
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Desert Tortoise Natural Area



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

N

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

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.

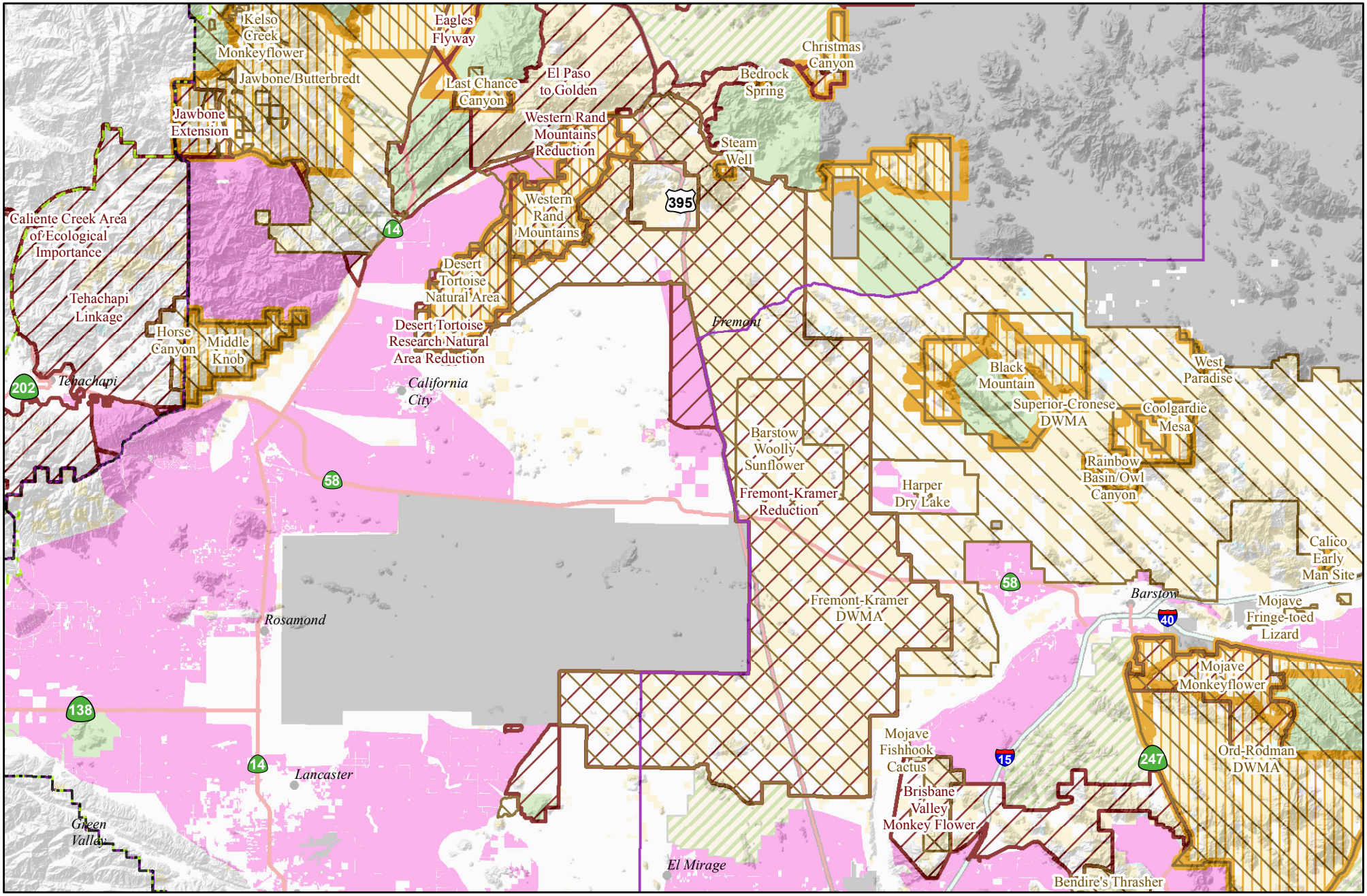
No Action – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is, and the dual designations would remain.

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 Wooly Sunflower (*Eriophyllum mohavense)* Desert Cymopterus (*Cymopterus deserticola)* Creamy blazing star *(Mentzelia tridentate)* 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)

Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus* agassizii) Federally and State threatened Le Conte's Thrasher *(Toxostoma lecontei)* State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus)* State Species of Special Concern American Badger (*Taxidea taxus)* State Special Animal Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) State threatened Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii) BLM sensitive* Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus)* BLM sensitive Spotted bat (*Euderma maculatum)* BLM sensitive Western Mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus)* BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus)* USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) BLM Sensitive Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*) State Species of Special Concern	
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 Management Action: All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignated OHV routes. Management Action: Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat. Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols	Trails and Travel Management
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. Parking of motor vehicles is allowed within 50 feet of the centerline of designated routes and not beyond this distance. 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.	Recreation

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.	
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
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.	Rights of Way
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
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	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables
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	Livestock grazing

Fremont-Kramer Reduction



10 Miles

20 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

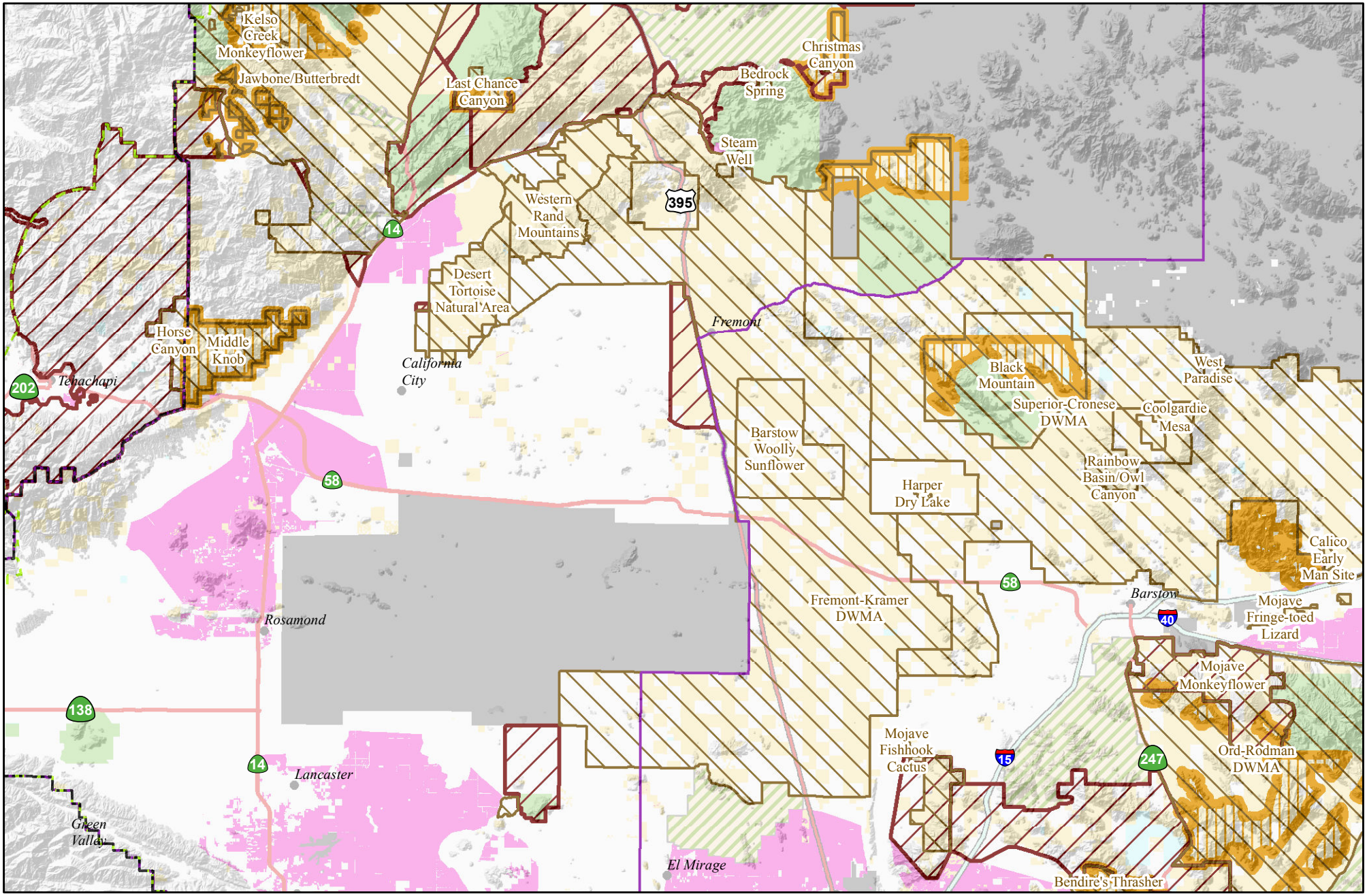
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Fremont-Kramer



10 Miles

20 Kilometers

N

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

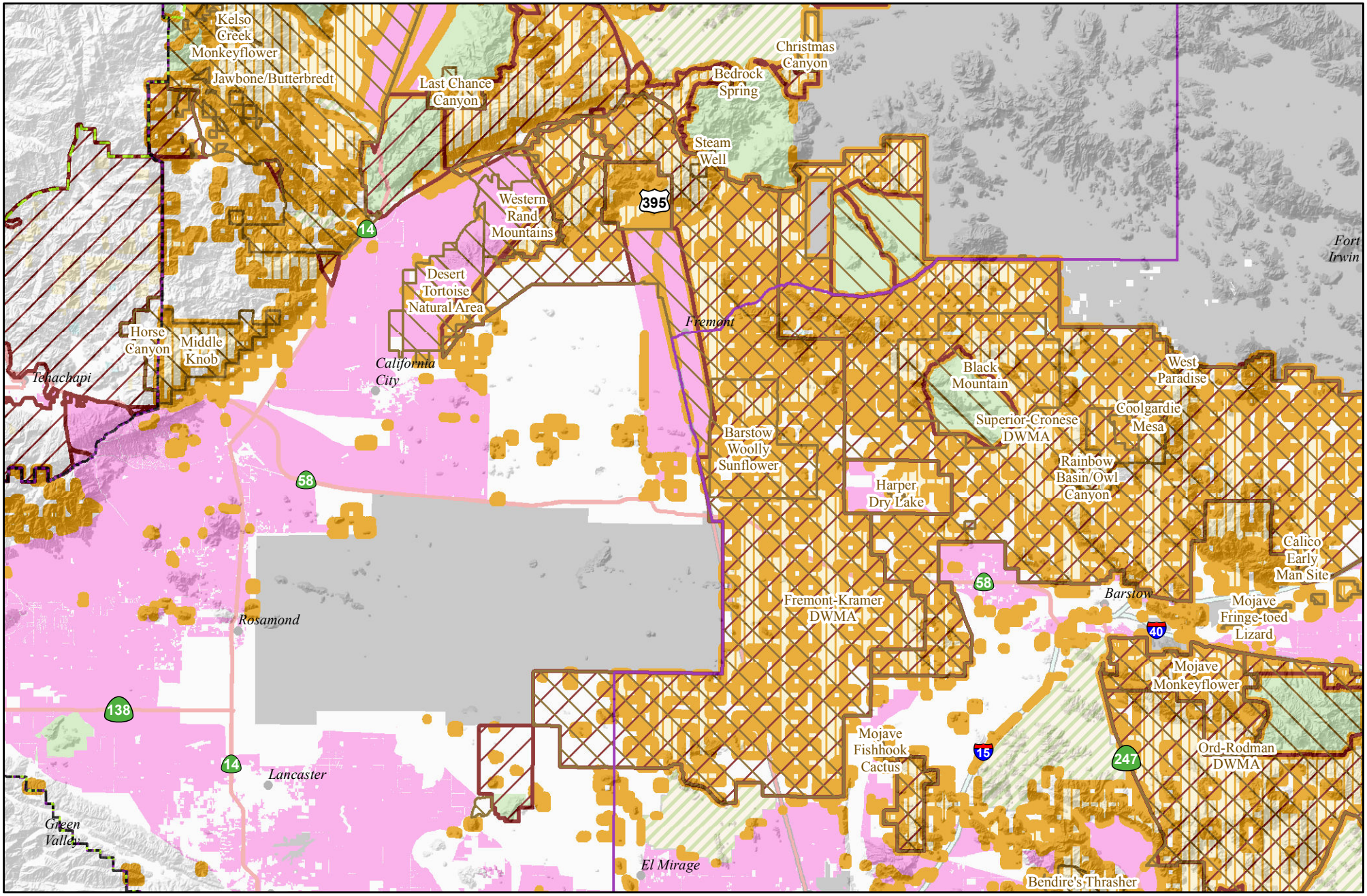
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Fremont-Kramer Reduction



10 Miles

20 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

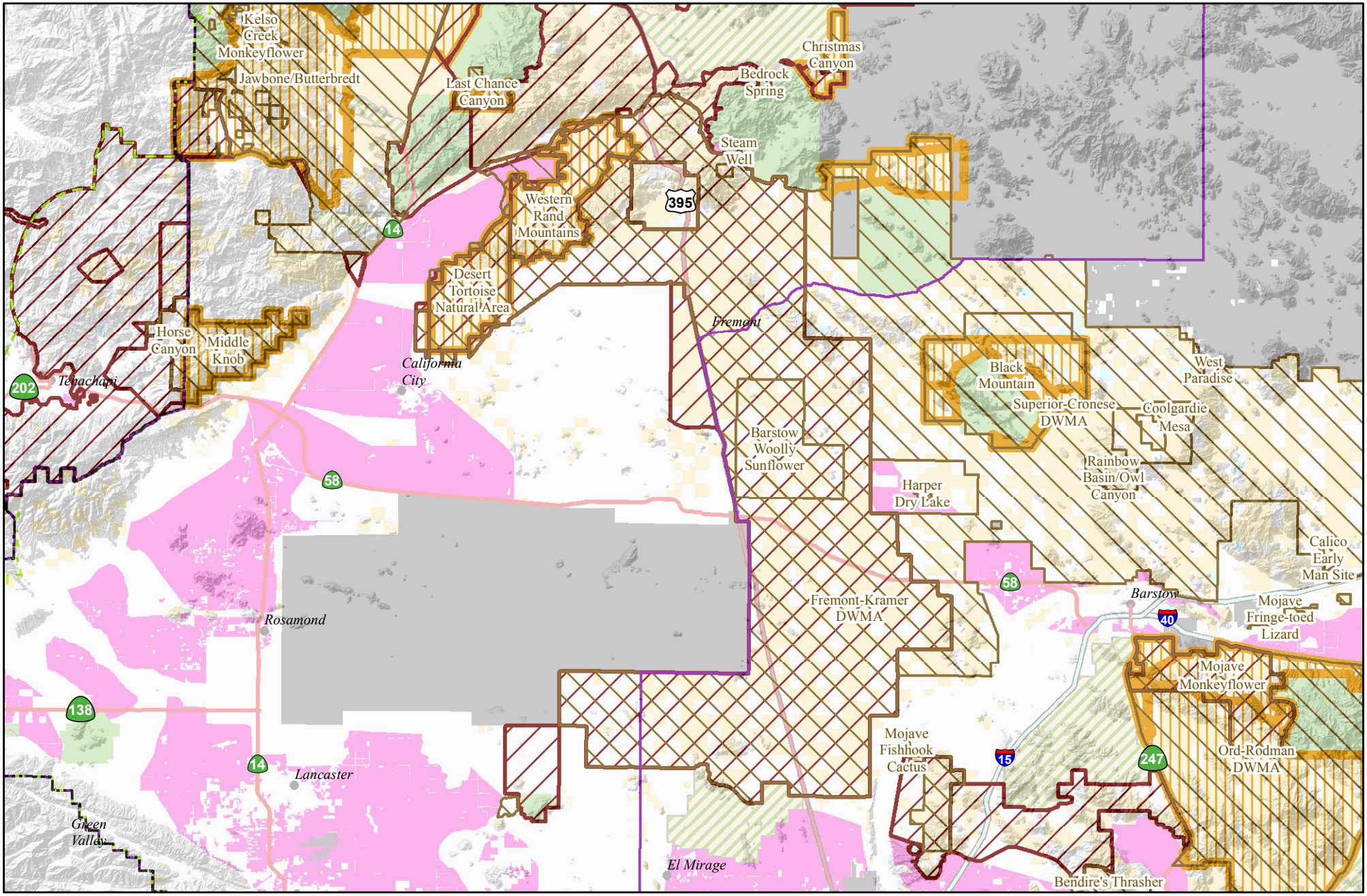
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Fremont-Kramer Reduction



10 Miles
20 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

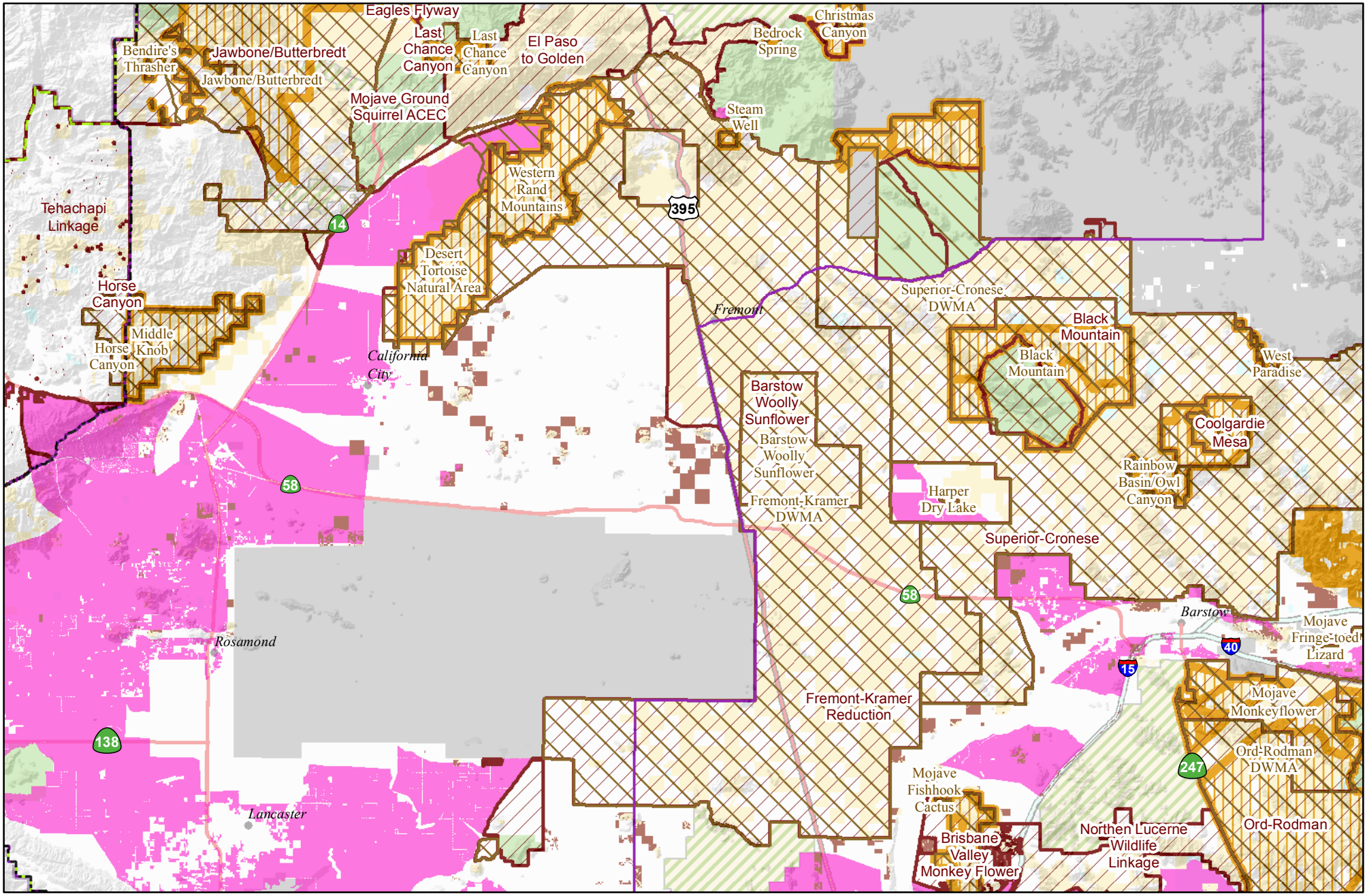
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Fremont-Kramer Reduction



10 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 8/6/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

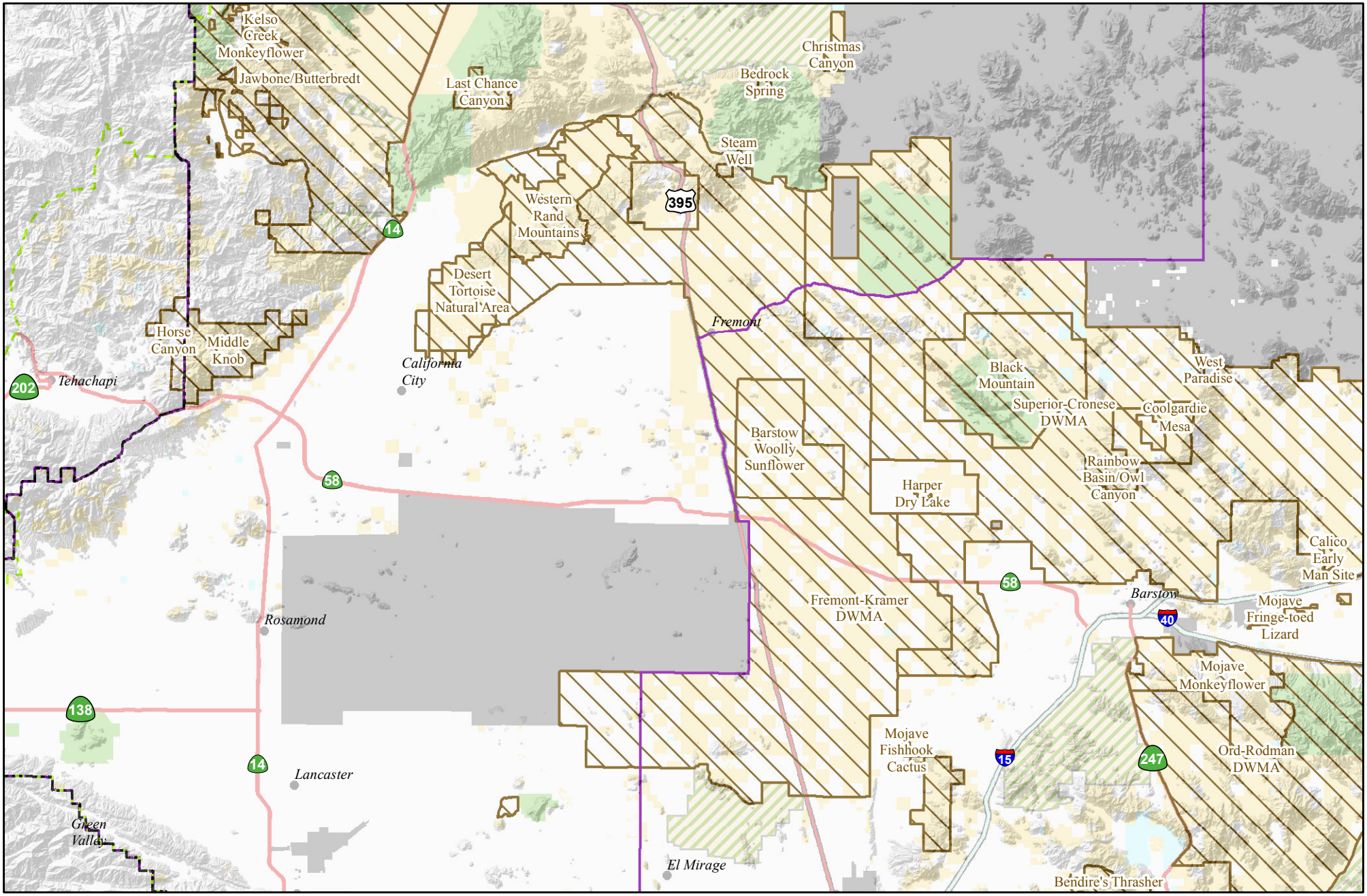
ACEC Layers
- Existing ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed Wildlife Allocation
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Design Focus Areas
- 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



10 Miles
20 Kilometers

N

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

Harper Dry Lake

Description/Location: Harper Dry Lake is a year-round marsh and wetland utilized by a variety of resident and migratory bird species, as well as a watchable wildlife area for viewing these species. It is located within and along the southwestern border of Harper Lake playa in San Bernardino County, approximately twenty miles northwest of Barstow off of Harper Lake Road.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: Harper Dry Lake is recognized as a Key Raptor Area by the BLM, which designated 223 areas nationwide. Key Raptor Areas are places known to be significant habitats for selected species of birds of prey, and Harper Dry Lake is 1 of 7 Key Raptor Areas in the California desert. The species known to utilize the habitat at Harper Dry Lake are northern harrier, short-eared owl, ferruginous hawk, and long-eared owl.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: This ACEC was designated in the CDCA Plan of 1980, and the management plan was approved in June of 1982, and later in 2006, additional management provisions were incorporated in the plan.

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. Before early settlement and adjacent agricultural activities, this playa possessed a shallow water table feeding a productive meadowland habitat. At that time, surface water flowed in the Mojave River throughout the year in much of the West Mojave and spring flows were frequent. With the advent of ranching and later agriculture, much of the Harper Lake meadowland was degraded, and with additional populations and dams, Mojave River flow has been substantially reduced and flows down river of the Victor Valley area are infrequent. With the advent of larger agricultural operations in the area, runoff replenished the Harper Lake playa environs, and along with occasional natural replenishments provide pockets along a 2-mile long stretch of Harper Dry Lake playa that have become a unique lacustrine marsh oasis in the West Mojave. The importance of this area is as the most extensive area of concentrated nesting and migratory bird habitat in this portion of the West Mojave desert.

Goals: To maintain in a healthy condition, sensitive and unique marsh habitat present along the western playa shoreline of Harper Dry Lake, and implement provisions of the West Mojave Plan regarding conservation of plant and animal species. Other uses which are compatible with achieving these objectives will be allowed in the ACEC.

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	500	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	500	0	0.5%
1	0	500	0	0.5%
2	500	500	0	0.5%
3	0	500	0	0.5%
4	0	500	0	0.5%

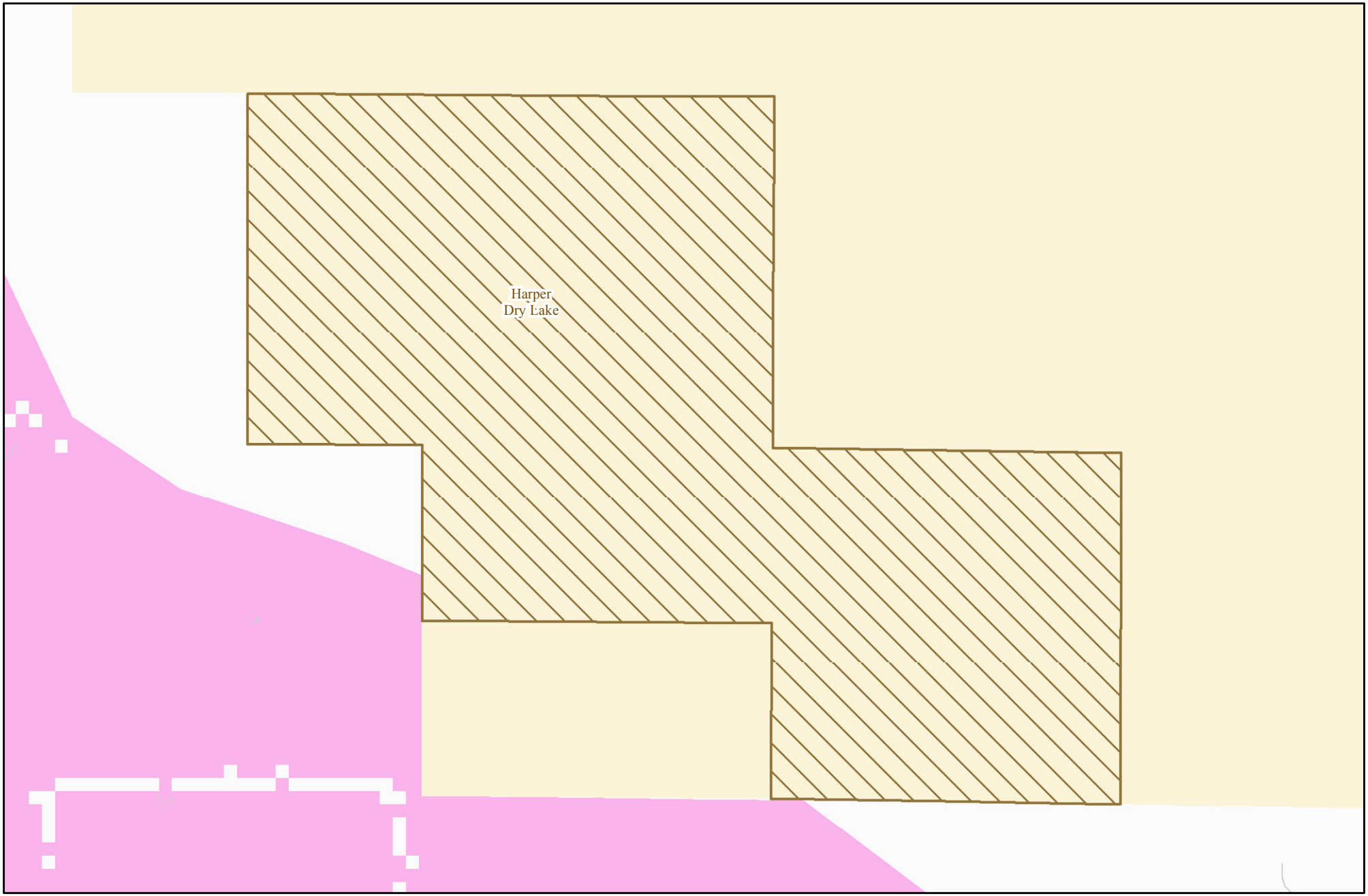
*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**

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

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Provide water to support sensitive plants and wildlife Management Action 1: Provide a reliable permanent source of water to replenish the wetland habitat steady water supply even in the event that agricultural operations are curtailed; 2) this water should not contain as high a salt content or chemical concentration as agricultural overflow; 3) a means of monitoring extent of water allocation from agricultural operations may be difficult to provide; and 4) the relative amounts of water which supply this portion of the marsh from individual operators is not known. Management Action 2: Water quality will be monitored on an annual basis. This includes water salinity levels, total dissolved solids, trace elements, residues, and dissolved oxygen content. Objective: Obtain additional information on reptile, mammal, bird and plant species composition Management Action: Conduct surveys to verify the presence of species which are likely to occur here, and to use as baseline data for assessing long-range trends.	Soil, water, air
Objective: Improve quality of marsh vegetation and habitat for sensitive species Management Action 1: Remove highly competitive, exotic invasive species within the ACEC. All tamarisk within the marsh and drainage channels within the ACEC will be located and removed Management Action 2: Establish cottonwood trees and/or willows at select points and increase habitat heterogeneity through experimental plantings	Vegetation – Including special status species

Objective: Protect Western Snowy Plover nesting habitat Management Action: Post signs and restrict human access near nest sites Objective: Maintain records associated with Key Raptor Area designation Management Action: A raptor census will be conducted of the Harper Dry Lake Key Raptor Area every 5 years, subject to available funds. Information will be stored in the BLM nationwide database of Key Raptor Areas.	Fish and Wildlife – Including special status species
Objective: Prevent loss of critical marsh habitat from intensive recreation use Allowable Uses: Lands within 100 yds. of marsh vegetation are closed to motorized vehicles and landsailers, Management Actions: Restrict vehicle traffic to open routes of travel	Trails and Travel Management
Objective : Prevent loss of critical marsh habitat from intensive recreation uses Allowable Uses: Lands within 100 yds. Of marsh are closed to camping Management Action: Employ rangers to enforce Allowable Use restrictions	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate management of area Management Action: An additional 800 acres containing marsh habitat will be acquired, if possible, through exchange interested private landowners, these lands shall be added to the ACEC for purposes of uniform management	Land Tenure
Right of Way Avoidance Area	Rights of Way (ROW)
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect sensitive marsh habitat from livestock grazing impacts Allowable Uses: No grazing allowed	Livestock grazing

Harper Dry Lake



0.25 Miles

0.35 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

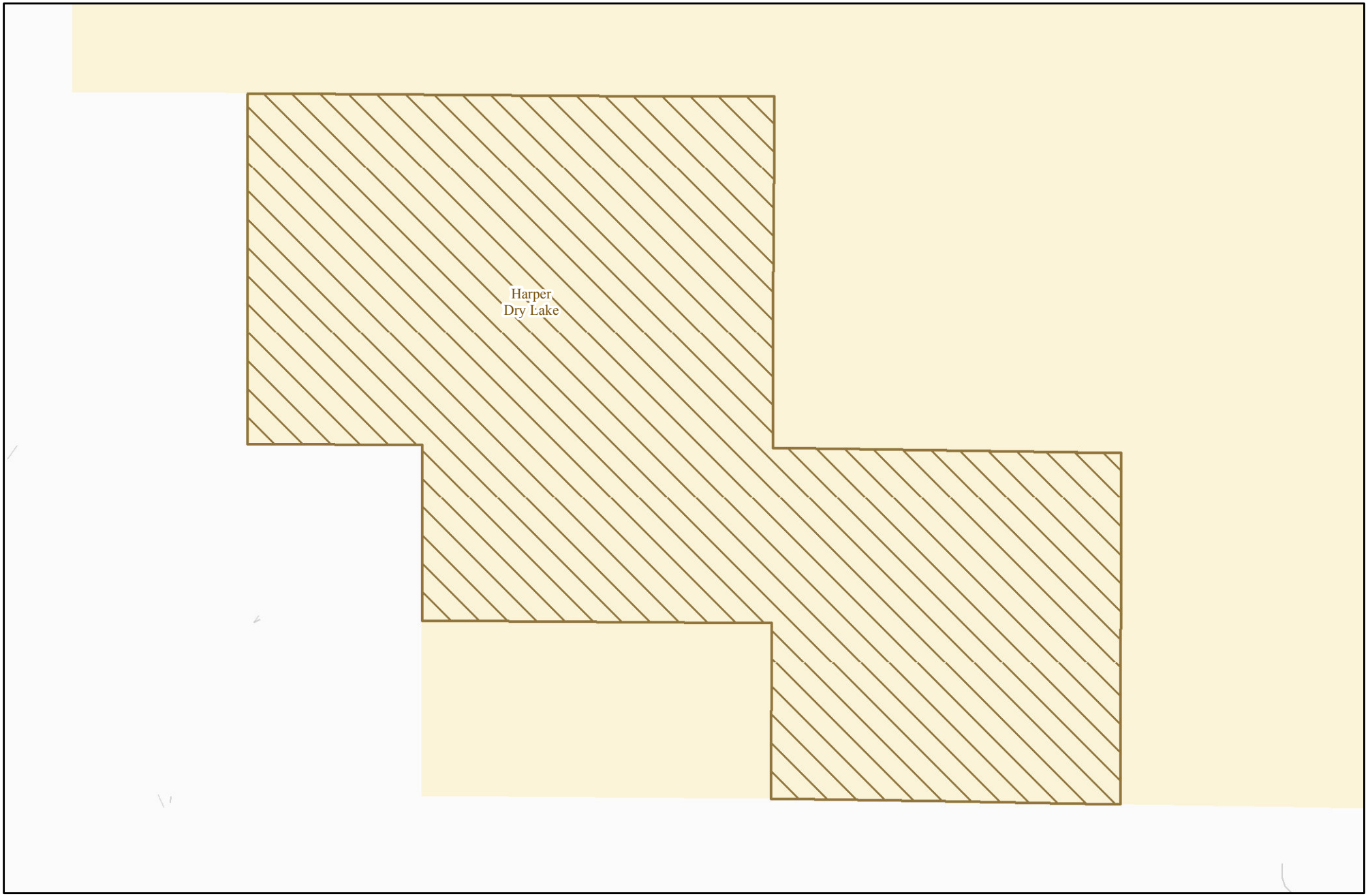
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Harper Dry Lake



0.25 Miles

0.35 Kilometers

N

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
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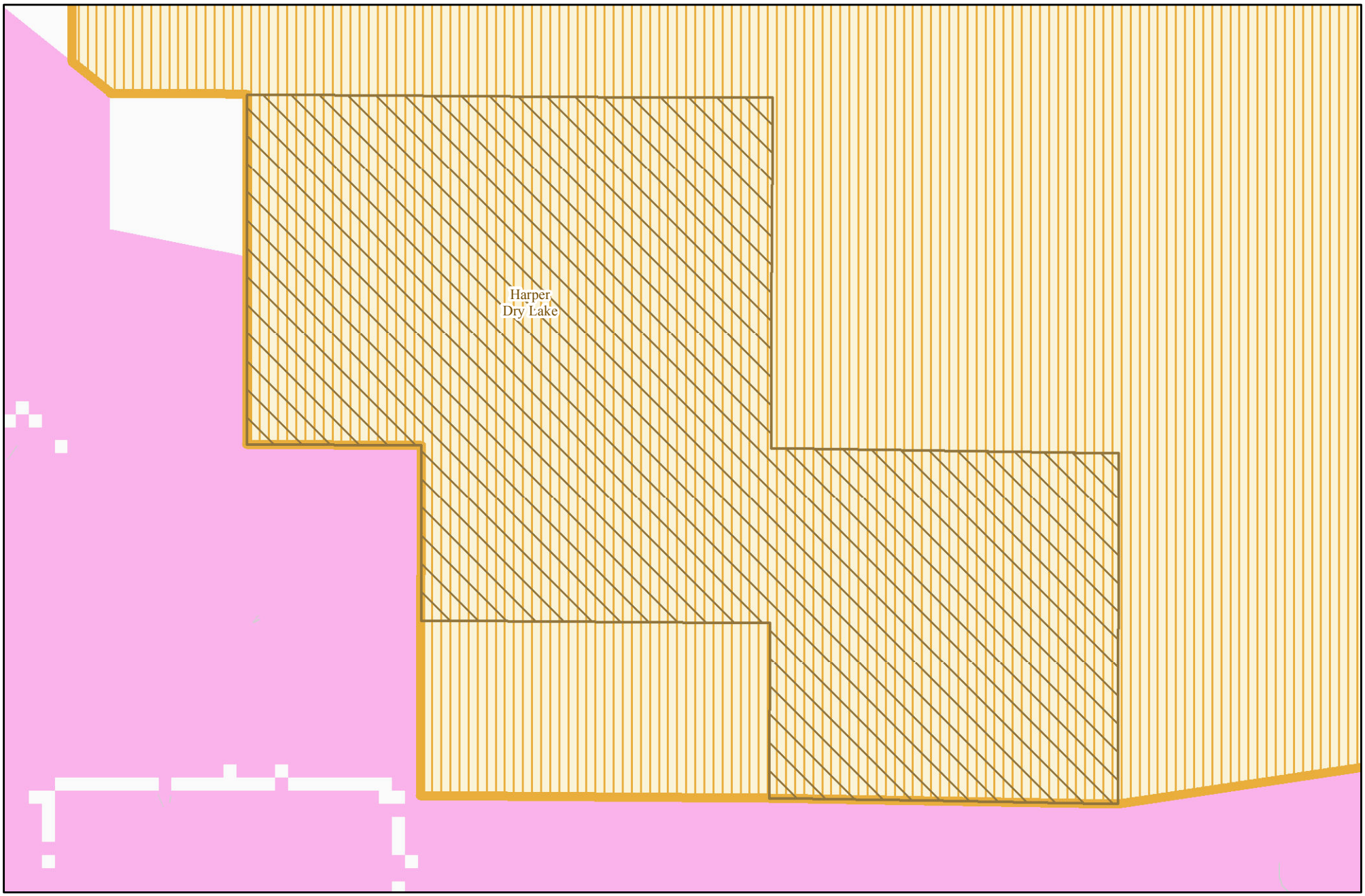
- County Hwy

Harper Dry Lake



0.25 Miles

0.35 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

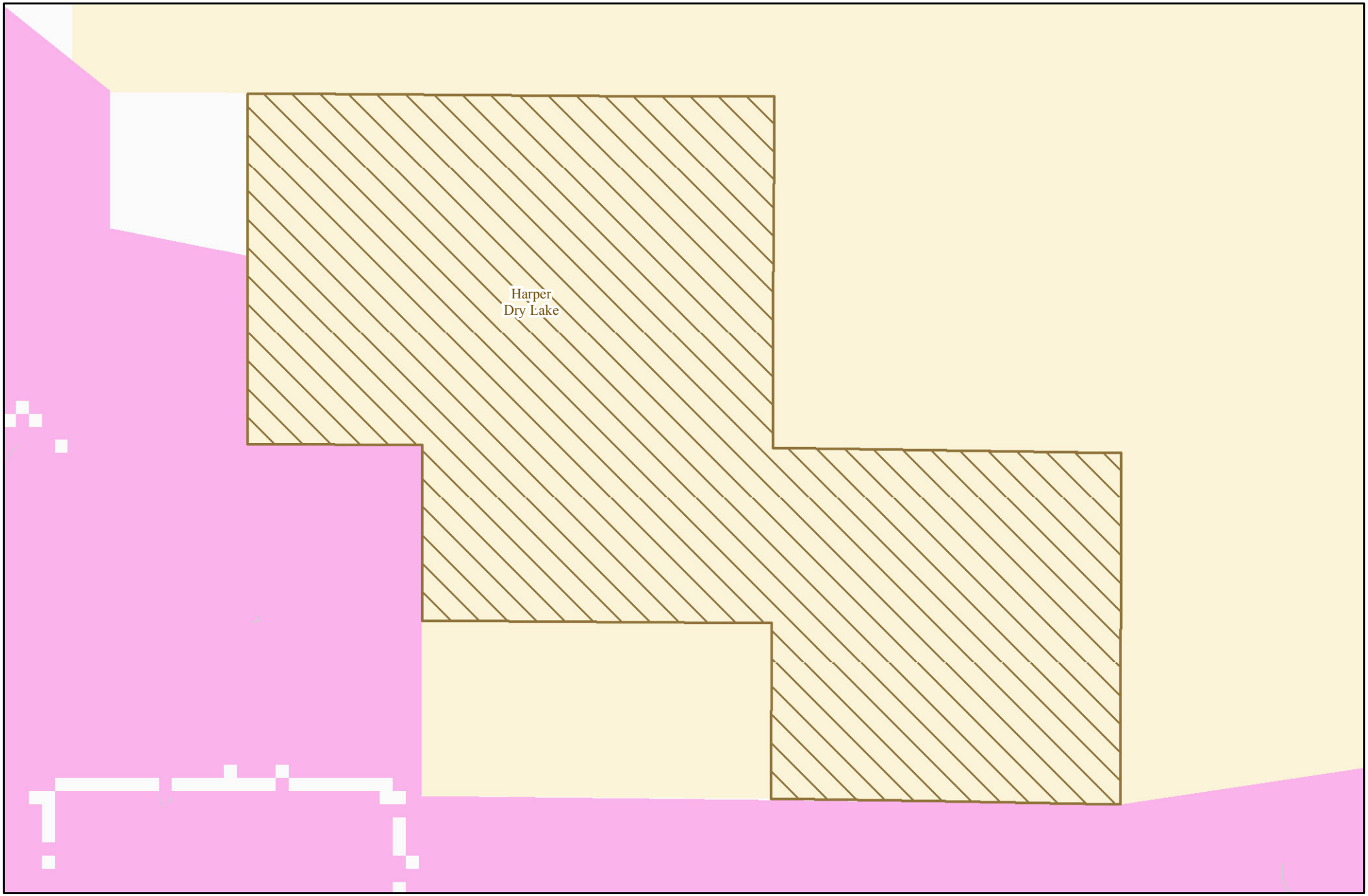
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Harper Dry Lake



0.25 Miles

0.35 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

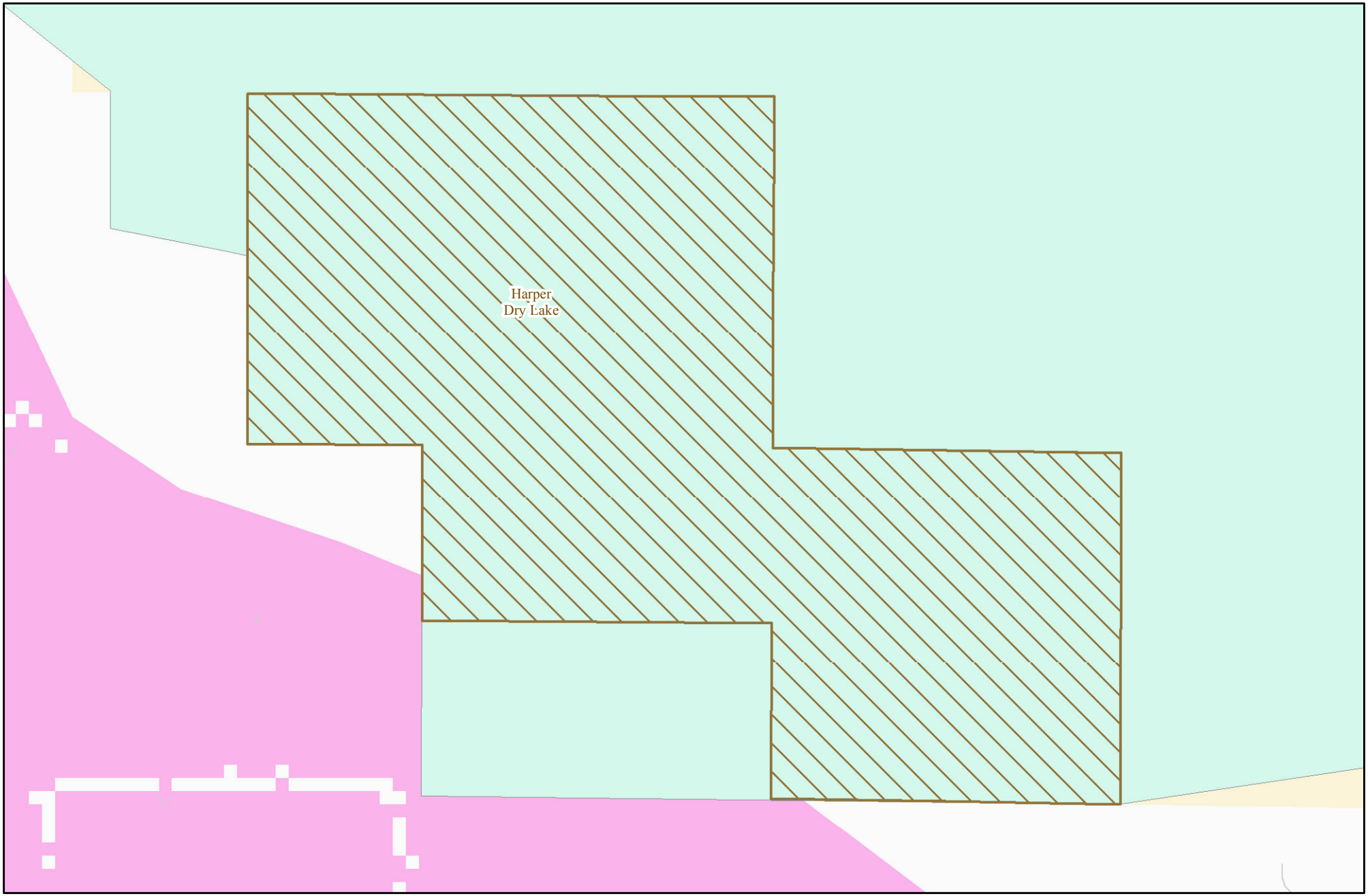
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Harper Dry Lake



0.25 Miles

0.35 Kilometers

N

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

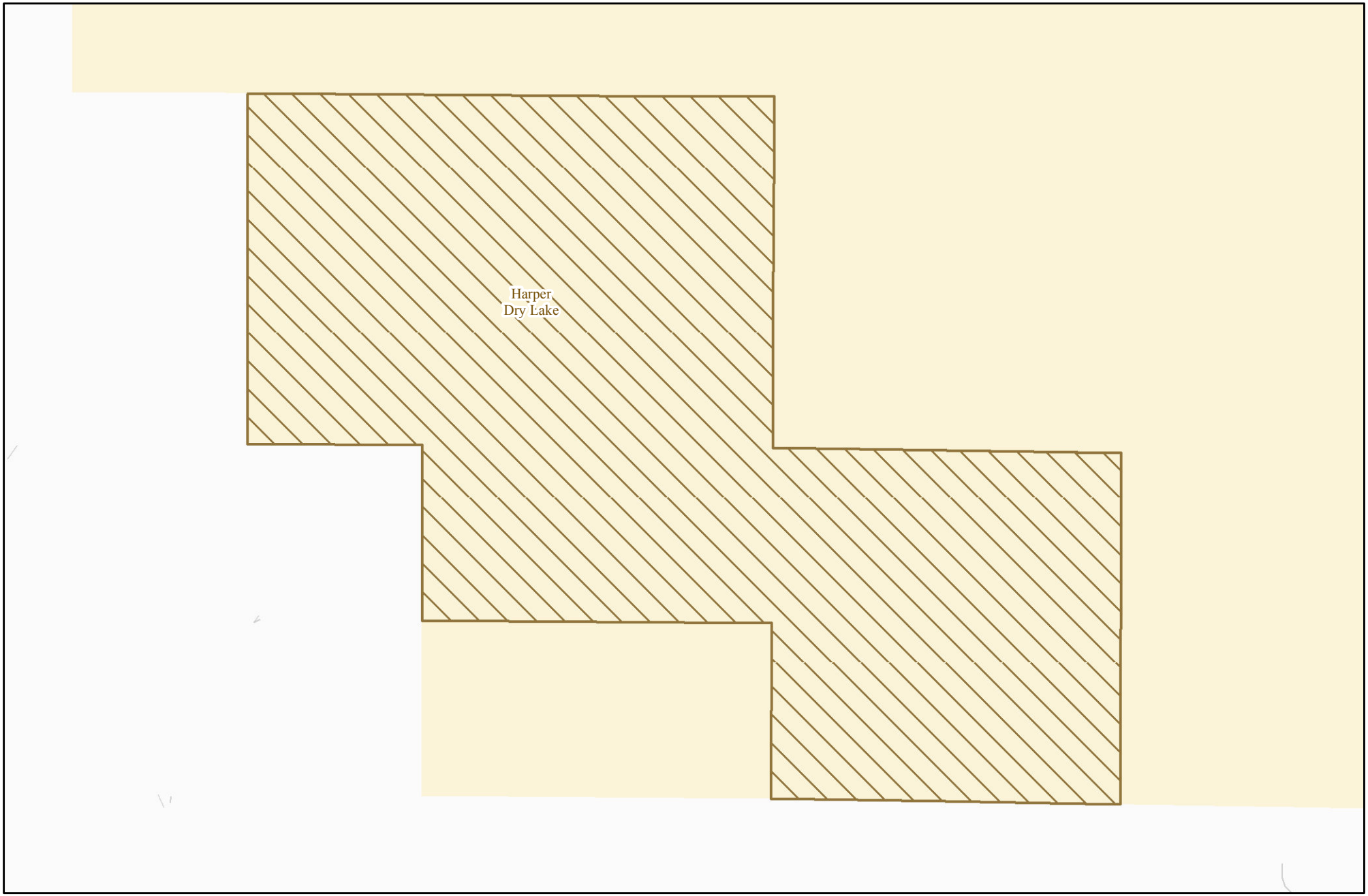
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Harper Dry Lake



0.25 Miles

0.35 Kilometers

N

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

Horse Canyon

Description/Location: The Horse Canyon ACEC includes private and federal land and mineral estate, identified principally for its important cultural and paleontological resources. In addition, the area contains a number of BLM sensitive plant species. The area is a mix of pinyon pine-juniper woodland and desert scrub vegetation communities in the southern Sierra Nevada Range, ranging in elevation from 4,400 to 5,700 feet. Located approximately seven miles northeast of Tehachapi Pass and the city of Tehachapi at the southern tip of the Sierra Nevada Range; it is due west of Middle Knob ACEC.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Original ACEC designation Caliente RMP 1997

Relevance and Important Criteria: Relevant historic, cultural, or scenic value; natural process or system.

The Horse Canyon ACEC lies within an area that was a major east-west corridor for precontact Native American movement between the California desert and Great Basin regions to the coast. As a result, archaeological sites here likely yield important information about trade and cultural exchange. Food processing features, rock art, quarries, lithic flake and tool scatters, rock ring habitation features and aboriginal and historic trails are represented in the ACEC. The area was ethnographically occupied by the Kawaiisu Tribe and informants have identified several spiritually important locations within the ACEC. It is highly likely that Tribal landscape level cultural and spiritual values are still relevant. Although not formally evaluated it is possible that a sacred trail that traverses the private and BLM lands within the ACEC could be eligible for TCP designation. The concentration of precontact sites within this area would be an excellent candidate for an archaeological district NRHP listing. It could be argued that this determination should represent a national level of significance due to the broad patterns of significant precontact history associated with the movement of people, material culture, technology and ideas through this area.

Of the paleontological resource values known within and adjacent to the area the unique presence of the Phillips Ranch vertebrate locality provides high research potential to yield significant information on vertebrate fossils and the history of geologic/fault activity in the region. This locality of the Kinnick formation has resulted in discoveries of fossilized mammalian faunas (small horses, camels, and antelope-like forms) ranging in age from early middle Miocene to late Miocene. In addition, from about the same stratigraphic level of Phillips Ranch fauna locality, floras have been found that consists of sixty-nine trees and shrubs assigned to the early Miocene (Savage, 1954). Furthermore, portions of the Bopesta formation (PFYC Class 5) contain Cache Peak vertebrate fossils (late Miocene) from the locality found on the east fork of Cache Creek, adjacent to the ACEC east boundary. As the Bopesta formation extends across the area, the potential for fossil bearing horizons exists within the ACEC.

In addition to cultural and paleontological resources, seven BLM sensitive plants have been documented to occur in the area: Spanish Needle Onion (*Allium shevockii)*, Palmer's mariposa lily (*Calochortus palmeri* var. *palmeri)*, Cache Peak buckwheat (*Eriogonum kennedyi* var. *pinicola)*, Pale-yellow layia (*Layia heterotricha)*, Calico monkeyflower (*Mimulus pictus)*, Spjut's bristle-moss (*Orthotrichum spjutii)*, and Piute Mountains jewelflower (*Streptanthus cordatus* var. *piutensis)*.

A number of activities in the area threaten the values present within the ACEC. These include residential development, exploitation of wind energy resources, and the presence of valuable solid minerals, most notably the Horse Canyon agate field. These mineral deposits have in addition to agate yielded chalcedony, opal, chert, jasper, and petrified wood. Casual collection of mineral specimens has unfortunately resulted in degradation of cultural resources and values and the unauthorized collection of vertebrate fossils. There is currently one mining claim within the ACEC associated with the Horse Canyon agate field. There are no

current mineral materials operations in the ACEC, however, historically quarries for volcanic and sedimentary rocks for roofing granules were developed in Section 32, 33, & 34, T.31S., R.34E., MDB&M.

Goals:
Protect significant cultural sites, including traditional cultural properties associated with Native American values and important paleontological 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	1,500	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	1,500	1,500	0	1%
1	0	1,500	0	1%
2	0	1,500	0	1%
3	0	6,800	0	1%
4	0	1,500	0	1%

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

Alternatives:
Alternatives Preferred, 1, 2, & 4: This ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is and remain the same size.

Alternative 3: This ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is and would be expanded (see table above and following maps).

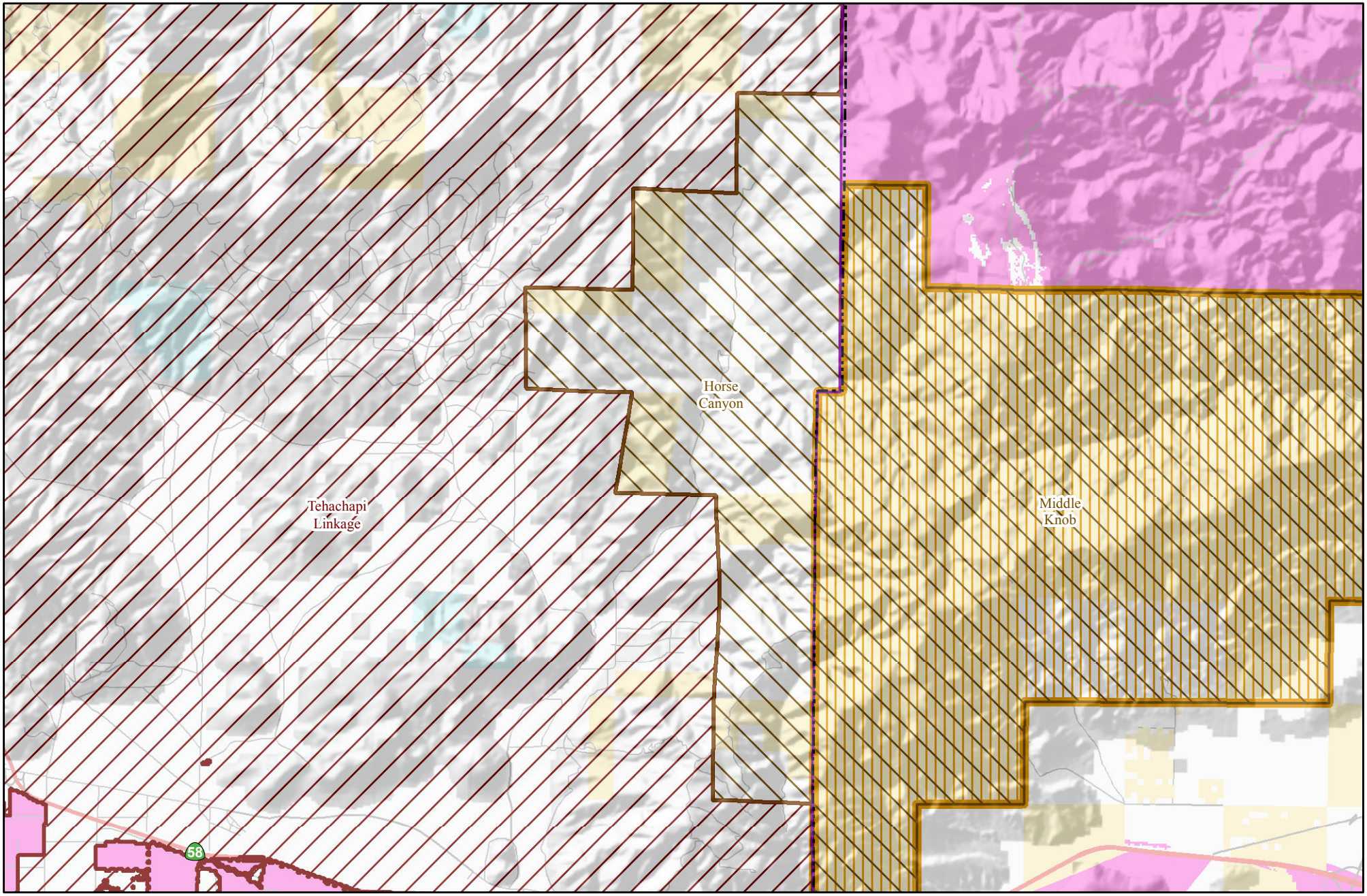
No Action Alternative: This existing ACEC would continue to be managed under the current RMP (Caliente 1997) as revised by the Bakersfield RMP when approved.

Objectives (desired future conditions) /Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Maintain or improve the quality and diversity of biological resources through the maintenance, enhancement, and restoration of habitats. Management Action 1: Remove invasive nonnative weed populations. Management Action 2: Conduct multi-year surveys of special status plants to establish a baseline in the ACEC.	Vegetation - Including special status plant species

Objective: Protect significant cultural sites, including traditional cultural properties associated with Native American values. Management Action 1: Conduct intensive cultural resources inventory of BLM lands within the ACEC. Management Action 2: Conduct ethnographic and ethnohistoric studies to augment existing information regarding Native American values. Objective: General Management of Cultural Resources. Management Action 3: See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.	Cultural Resources
Objective: Identify, manage, and protect important paleontological resources. Allowable Uses: Accommodate permit requests for scientific research by qualified individuals or institutions. Management Action: Minimize or prevent human-caused damage to paleontological resources through educational and interpretive outreach programs focusing use on common invertebrate and plant fossils.	Paleontology
Objective: Manage OHV use to protect environmental resources, promote public safety, and provide OHV use opportunities where appropriate. Allowable Use: OHV Limited area – vehicle use limited to designated roads and trails. Management Action: Designate roads and trail for public use as motorized	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: General Management Of Recreation - Not within a designated Recreation Management Area. Allowable Use: Identify, in accordance with 43 CFR 8365.1-5(b)(2), the ACEC as an area where the collection of nonrenewable resources, such as rocks, mineral specimens, comment invertebrate fossils and semi-precious gem stones is prohibited. Management Action: See planning area wide action items in general recreation rules.	Recreation
Objective: Meet ACEC objectives through retention and/or land tenure adjustments. Management Action 1: Retain all lands and interest in lands in federal ownership within the ACEC.	Land Tenure

Management Action 2: Seek acquisition of lands and interest in lands within the ACEC boundary from willing grantors.	
Objective: Protect resource values. Allowable Use: Entire area is an avoidance area for all rights-of-way. Management Action: Applications for uses falling under the 2800 & 2900 regulations that provide a benefit to the management area or serve public interests may be allowed. Transmission lines larger than 231kV must be located in designated transmission corridors.	Rights of Way (ROW)
Objective: Maintain integrity of traditional cultural properties associated with Native American values. Allowable Use: Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with ACEC values and criteria. Geothermal: ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.	Renewable Energy
Objective: Facilitate reasonable, economical, and environmentally sound exploration and development of mineral resources, while ensuring compatibility with ACEC relevant and important values. Allowable Uses: Locatable Minerals, 1: Establish, in accordance with 43 CFR 3809.31, the ACEC as an area requiring a 15 day notification be given to the BLM prior to beginning any activity under the mining laws including; Casual Use, to allow the BLM to determine whether a plan of operations must be submitted. Locatable Minerals, 2: Identify, in accordance with 43 CFR 8365.1-5(b)(2), the ACEC as an area where the collection of nonrenewable resources, such as rocks, mineral specimens, common invertebrate fossils and semi-precious gem stones is prohibited. Mineral Materials: Closed to mineral material disposal. Non-Energy Leasables: Closed to solid (non-energy) mineral leasing. Fluid Minerals: Open for fluid mineral leasing, subject to No Surface Occupancy (NSO).	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-Energy Leasable
Allowable Use: Unavailable for livestock grazing. **Alternative 2 Only:** Identify as Unavailable and Available for livestock grazing per BKFO PRMP/FEIS Map LG-B.	Livestock grazing

Horse Canyon



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

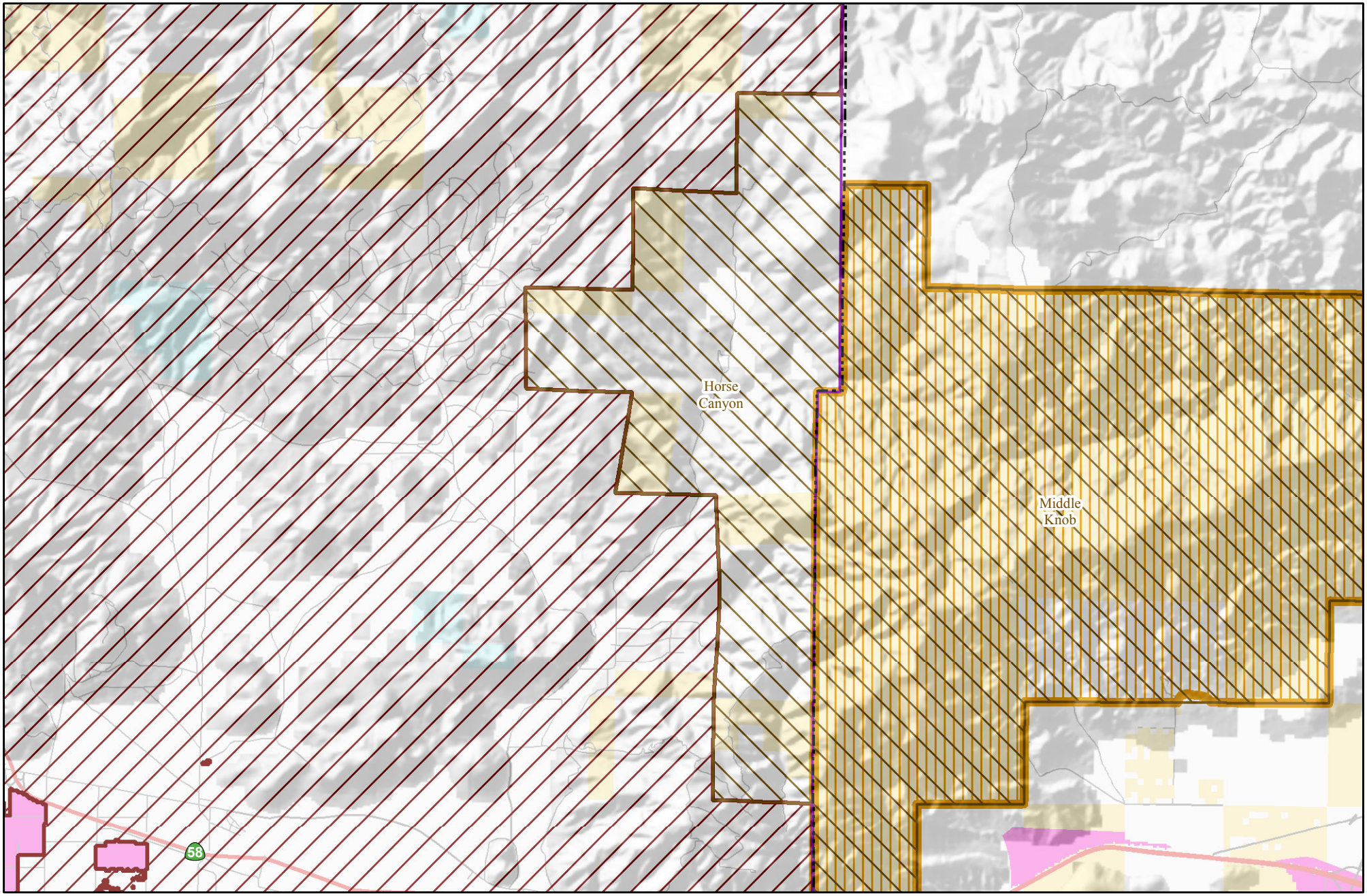
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Horse Canyon



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

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

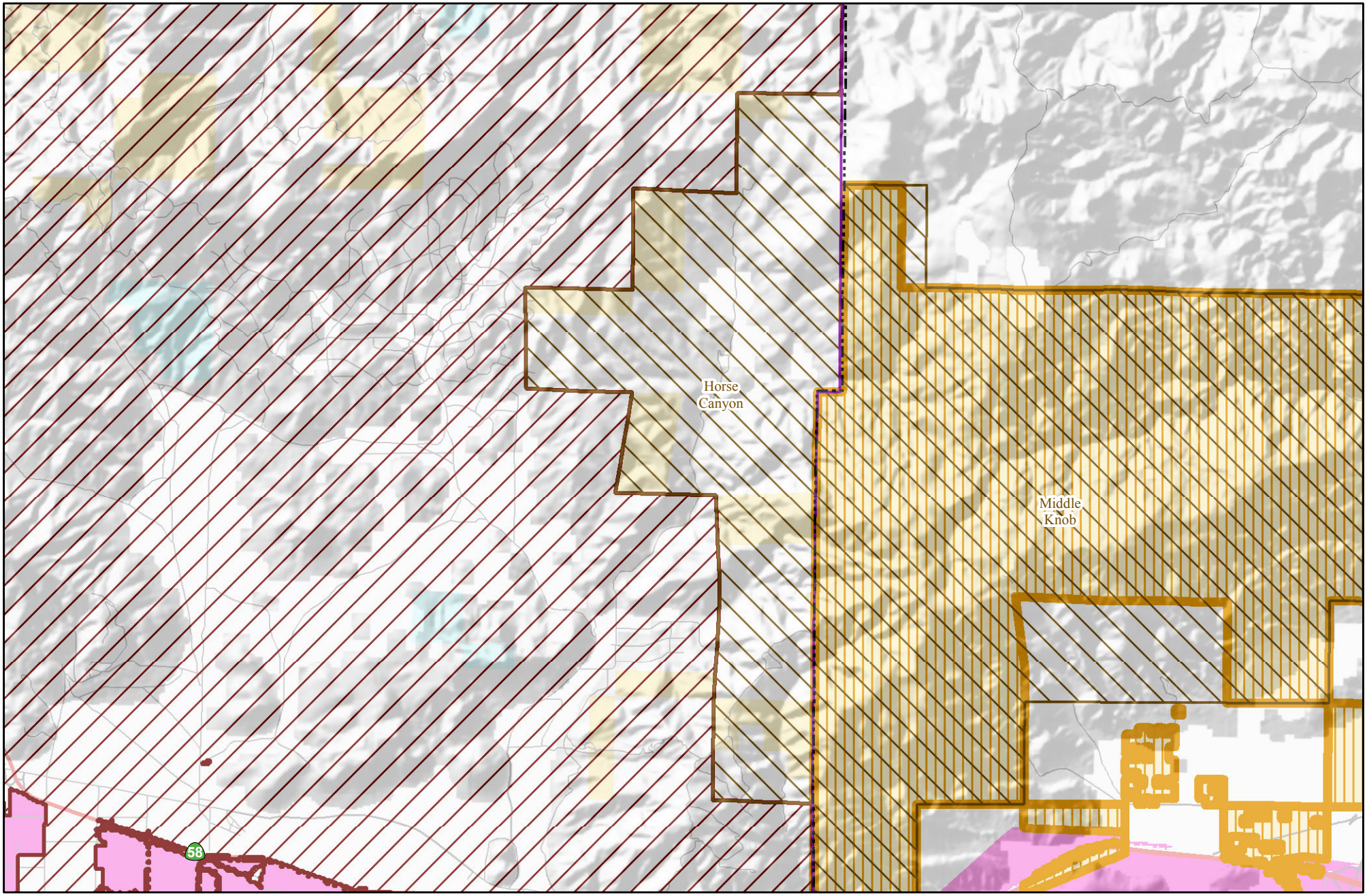
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Horse Canyon



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

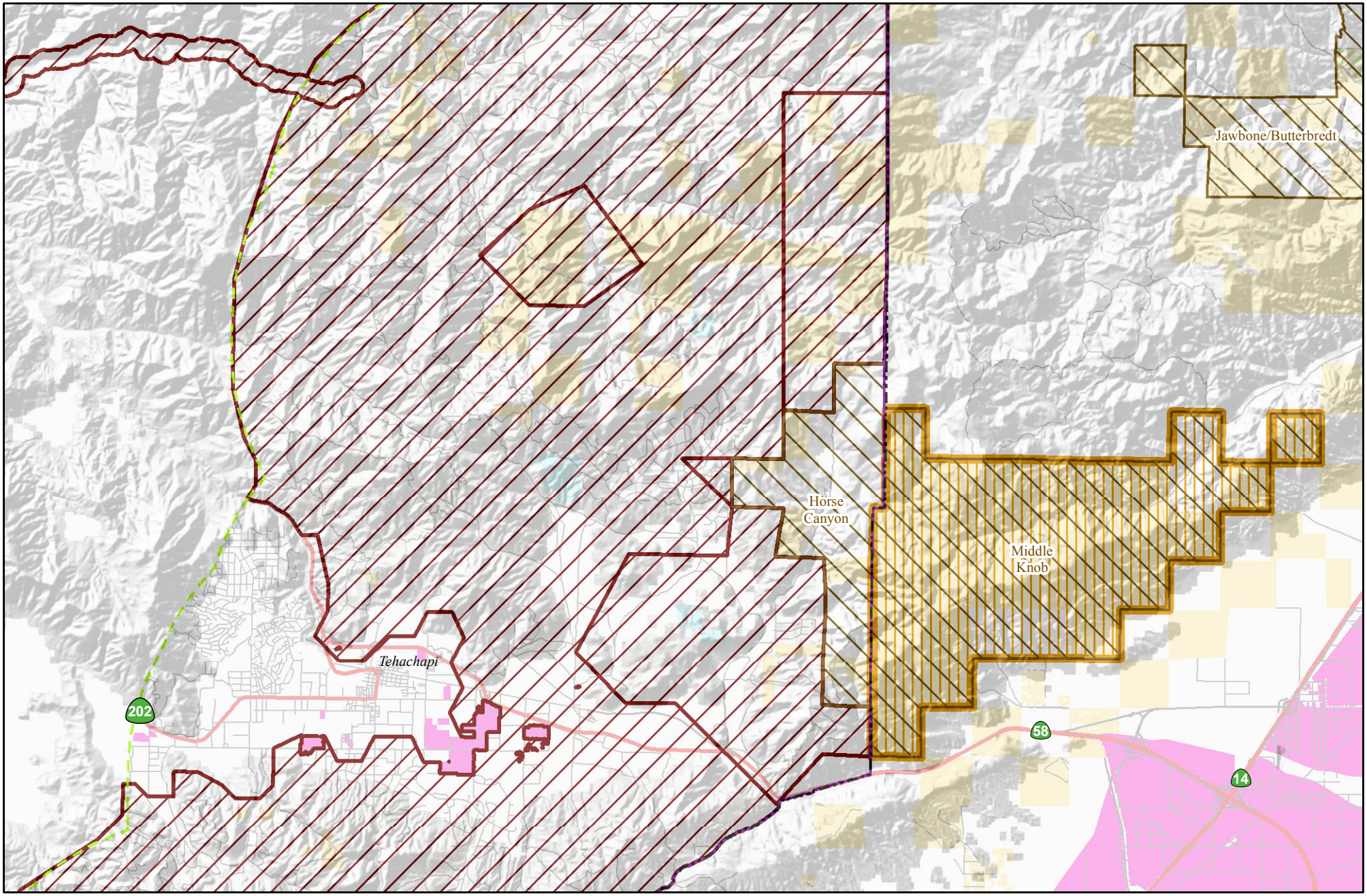
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Horse Canyon



3.5 Miles

5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

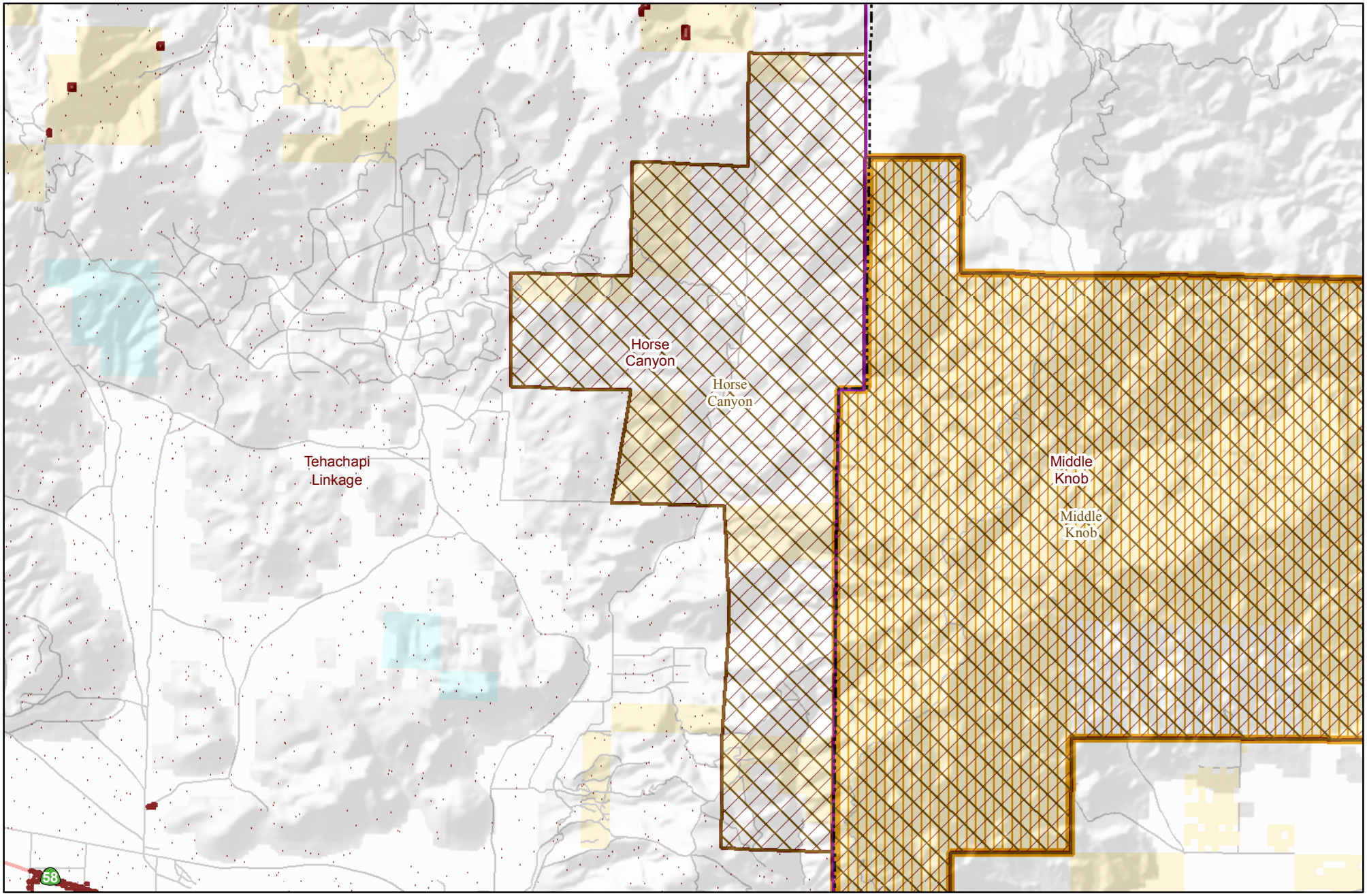
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Horse Canyon



1.5 Miles

2 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 8/6/2014

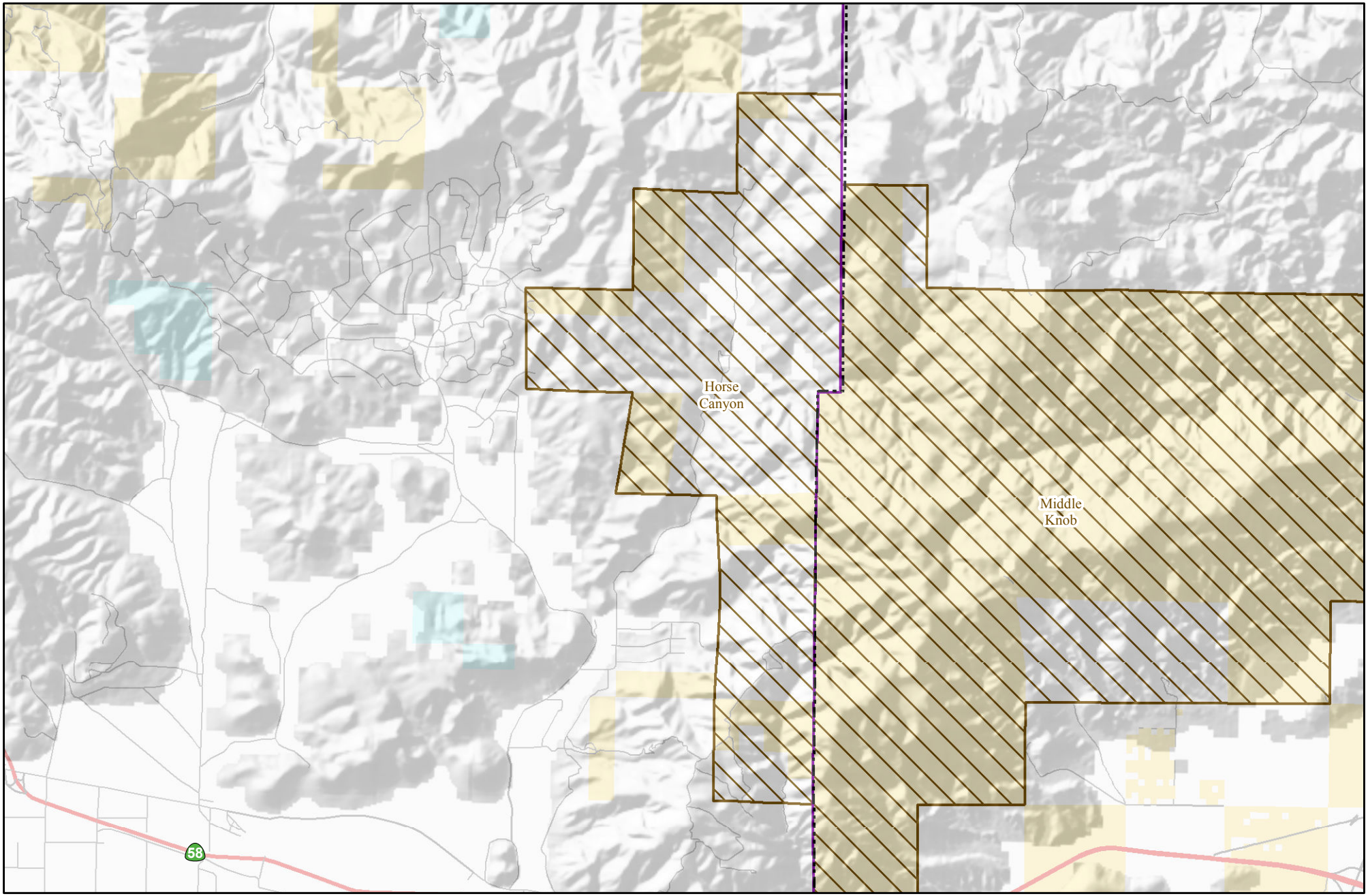
Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

Horse Canyon



1.5 Miles
2.5 Kilometers

N

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

Jawbone/Butterbredt

Description/Location: Located on the eastern slope of Sierra Nevada, west of Highway 14, from Jawbone Canyon north to Highway 178

Nationally Significant Values:
Cultural: The cultural resource values include prehistoric villages, habitation locales, lithic reduction sites, and extensive pictograph and petroglyph rock art sites. Historic resources identified throughout the area include the Los Angeles Aqueduct and associated labor camps, stage coach stops, railroad sidings, mining, Civilian Conservation Corp camps and projects, and historically significant routes of travel such as Bird Springs Pass used by the Fremont Expedition, Walker Pass, a National Historic Landmark identified as one of the first overland routes into California, and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. During the CDCA Plan, the Kawaiisu identified several traditional resource gathering sites, ceremonial locations, and religious areas within this area. Sites throughout the current ACEC boundary are listed or considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Areas of traditional cultural significance were identified by the Kawaiisu during the CDCA, but have not been further designated. Though portions of the Jawbone/Butterbredt area are used for OHV recreation, much of it remains untrammeled.

Ecological: Numerous active Golden Eagle active nests (at least 5) and prime upland foraging habitat. Includes a large portion of the Mohave ground squirrel core population centers of which there are only 11 total. Contains many specific conservation areas including one for the Kelso Creek Monkeyflower. This area also includes Robber's Roost Birds of Prey Nesting Area, a unique geological feature and granitic rock outcropping with ideal nesting habitat.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Designated ACEC in California Desert Conservation Area Plan, 1980; *A Sikes Act Management Plan for the Jawbone-Butterbredt Area of Critical Environmental Concern (CA-06-ACEC 20) and the Sierra-Mojave-Tehachapi Ecotone Wildlife Habitat Management Area (CA-06-WHA-20)*, 09/27/1982; West Mojave Plan Amendment 01/2005 (D.1.13) – added three conservation areas: Bendire's Thrasher/Kelso Valley Conservation Area; Kelso Creek Monkeyflower Conservation Area; Mohave ground squirrel Conservation Area

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant wildlife habitat and Native American values. Contains some of the more productive wildlife habitat in the California Desert including an important migratory bird stopover and part of a major raptor and vulture migratory corridor. Contains yellow-eared pocket mouse, Bendire's Thrasher and Mohave ground squirrel habitat. West Mojave endemic plant Kelso Creek Monkeyflower has nearly its entire range within the ACEC. Native American heritage and religious sites present. Part of the Pacific Crest Trail crosses the ACEC. Sites historically used by Kawaiisu for traditional religious and secular purposes.

Goals: To protect and enhance wildlife habitats, Native American, and other natural and cultural resources, while allowing appropriate land uses.

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	147,800	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	85,600	153,200	0	1%
1	20,900	153,200	0	1%
2	137,500**	137,500	0	1%
3	86,800	153,200	0	1%
4	67,200	153,200	0	1%

*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**
****Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness**

Alternatives:
All Action Alternatives-- The overlapping designation of the two open OHV areas(the Dove Springs OHV Open Area and Jawbone Canyon OHV Open Area) will be removed from this ACEC. There are overlapping designations of the Bendire's Thrasher ACEC and the Kelso Creek MonkeyFlower ACEC. Both of these smaller ACEC designations will be removed, but they will remain in this ACEC and their conservation purposes and management actions will be incorporated here. There is overlap with two wilderness areas (Bright Star Wilderness and Kiavah Wilderness) this overlap area will be removed from this ACEC, the areas will remain designated wilderness and managed for conservation values. The south west corner of ACEC will be expanded to the Forest Service boundary.

Alternatives Preferred, 1, 3, 4– under this alternative this ACEC would continue to be managed as it is currently managed with the above corrections in overlapping designations.

Alternative 2-- A portion of currently designated area (~16,000 acres) would become a renewable energy development focus area (see following maps). If designated as DFA, it would be removed from the ACEC and would not be managed for the conservation of species. The remaining portion would continue to meet the stated conservation purposes and would remain as an ACEC.

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

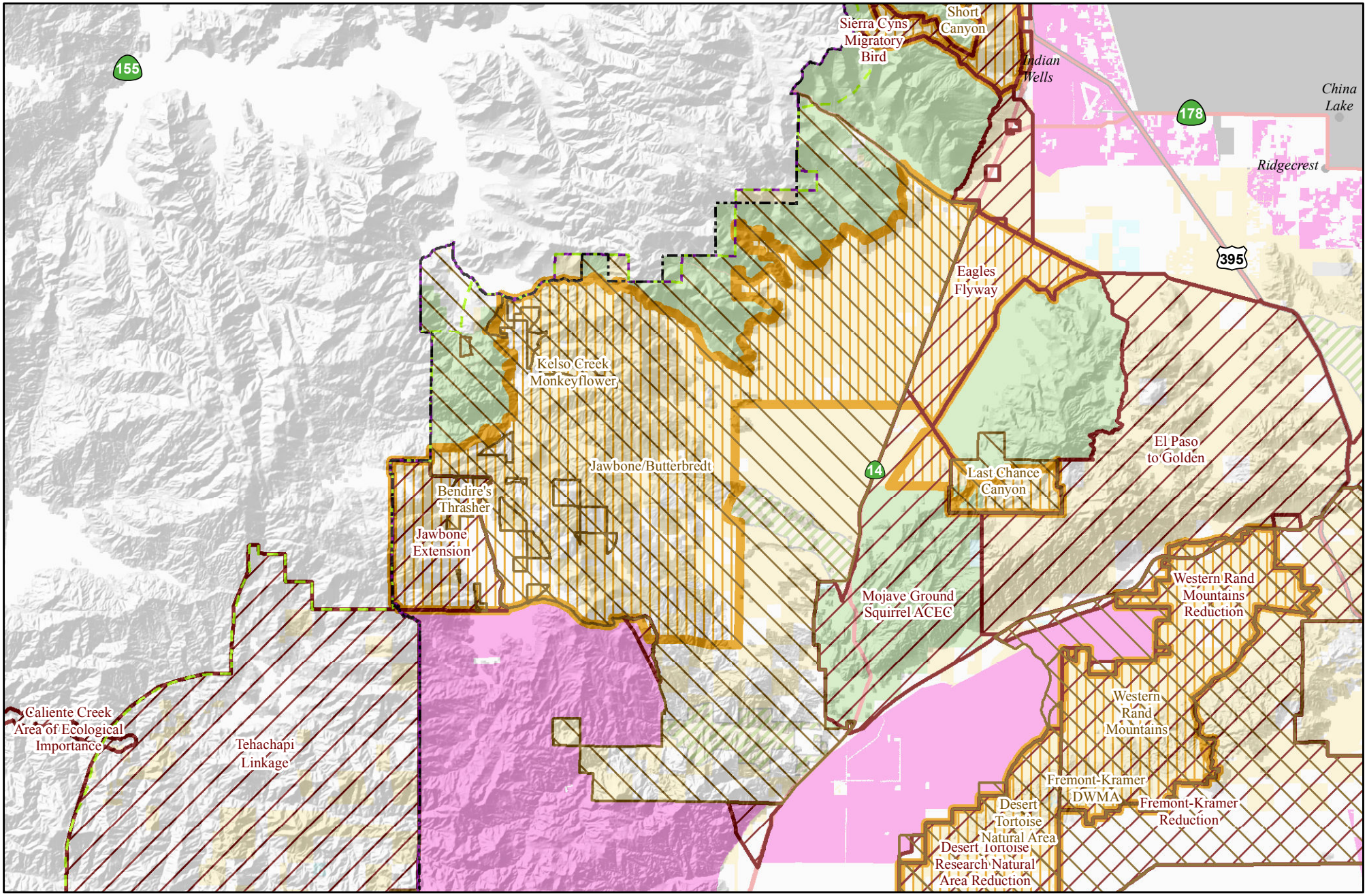
Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Protect water sources and associated riparian habitat Allowable Uses: No construction or recreation in riparian areas Management Action: Restrict construction and recreation activities where water resources will be impacted 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	Soil, water, air

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 or improve condition of habitat for the following sensitive plant species: Spanish Needle Onion (*Allium shevockii*) [CNPS 1B.3] BLM Sensitive Kern County Evening-Primrose (*Camissonia kernensis* spp. *kernensis*) [CNPS 4.3] White Pygmy-Poppy (*Canbya candida*) {CNPS 4.2] Death Valley Sandmat (*Chamaesyce vallis-mortae*) [CNPS 4.2] Peirson's Spring Beauty (*Claytonia lanceolata* var. *peirsonii*) [CNPS 3.1] Mojave Tarplant (*Deinandra mohavensis*) [CNPS 1B.2] – BLM Sensitive Species Dwarf Goldenbush (*Ericameria* nana) {CNPS 4.3] Red Rock Poppy (*Eschscholzia minutiflora* ssp. *twisselmannii*) [CNPS 1B.2] BLM Sensitive Species Pinyon Blazingstar (*Mentzelia eremophila*) [CNPS 4.2] Kelso Creek Monkeyflower (*Mimulus shevockii*) [CNPS 1B.2] BLM Sensitive Species Hubby's Phacelia (*Phacelia hubbyi*) [CNPS 4.2] Charlotte's Phacelia (*Phacelia nashiana*) [CNPS 1B.2] BLM Sensitive Species Mojave Indigo-bush (*Psorothamnus arborescens* var. *arborescens*) [CNPS 4.3] Unique plant assemblage – Kelso Valley Oak Woodland Assemblage Management Action: Maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence Management Action : Provide continued opportunities for research by BLM, scientific institutions, and individuals Management Action: Implement a monitoring program to evaluate protective measures	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Objective: Maintain and protect sensitive species and their habitat Management Action: Stabilize or increase population trends of special status species to ensure persistence: American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*) State Special Animal Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) Federally and State threatened Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) State threatened BLM CA Sensitive Species Tehachapi slender salamander, State Listed Threatened Yellow-eared pocket mouse (*Perognathus xanthonotus*) BLM sensitive Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus)* USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) BLM Sensitive Le Conte's Thrasher *(Toxostoma lecontei)* State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus)* BLM Sensitive Bendire's Thrasher Conservation Area within this ACEC (see write-up).	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

POTENTIAL: California Condor habitat Management Action: Seasonal closure – February 1 to July 1 for raptors (Prairie Falcon) nesting at Robbers Roost Butterbredt Spring: Currently managed as an Audubon bird sanctuary for the high volume of migrating neo-tropical birds every year. Objective: Protect and enhance wildlife habitat Management Action: Continue to manage and protect Butterbredt Springs as a Bird Sanctuary Management Action: Designate approved routes of travel, block non-authorized routes Management Action: Create and install interpretive signs Management Action: Restore areas disturbed by OHV use Management Action : Increase patrols Butterbredt Spring: All of the above including increased patrols during the peak of migration and monitoring fences and barriers.	
Objective: Limit motorized vehicles to open designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing. Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, Non-mechanized, etc. Management Action: All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignated OHV routes Management Action: Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat. Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols Refer to Jawbone SRMA Protect and maintain the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) to protect from motorized use. Note refer to the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail SRMA	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Administer and manage trail resources in accordance Pacific Crest Trail Comprehensive Management Plan, NTSA, FLMPA, local RMPs, and agency policy and direction. Allowable Uses: Research, interpretation, recreation. Management Action: Designate Trail Management Corridor	National Historic Trails
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.	Recreation

Dispersed camping. In Horse, Sage, & Cow Heaven Canyons, camping is allowed only in designated camp areas. No camping within 600 feet of water sources. 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. Refer to Jawbone SRMA	
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Objective: Provide for existing and new ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources. Allowable Uses: 3 ROWs exist – 2 for aqueducts owned by City of Los Angeles, 1 for high voltage electrical transmissions lines owned by the Southern California Edison Company 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.	Rights of Way
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive resources in the area. 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.	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables
Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on other resources Allowable Uses: Adjust livestock use where monitoring data indicate changes are necessary to meet resource objectives. Management Actions: Manage grazing authorizations to meet or exceed the Standards for Rangeland Health.	Livestock grazing

Jawbone/Butterbredt



7 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

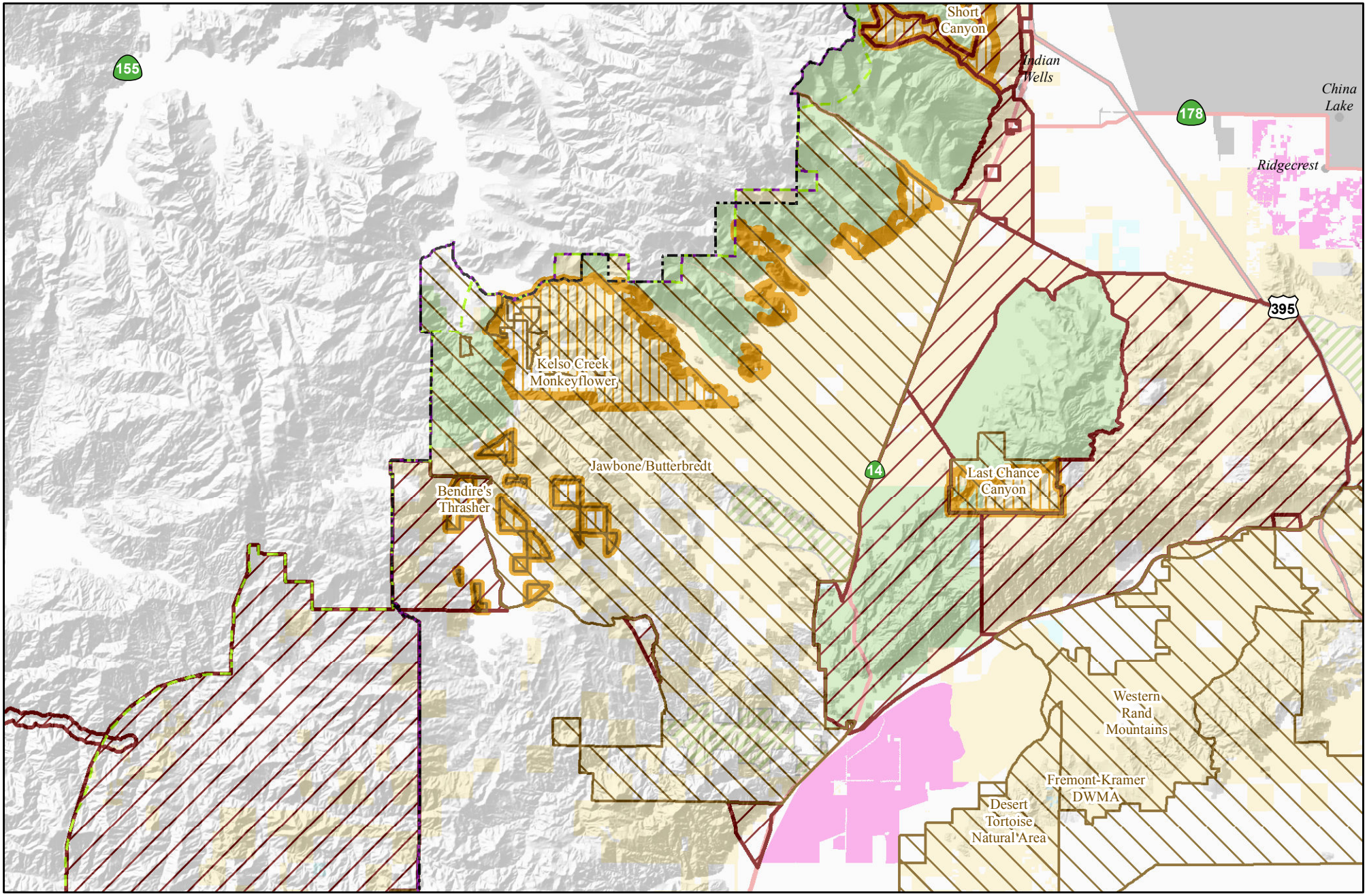
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Jawbone/Butterbredt



7 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

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
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- BLM Field Office

Land Status

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- Other Federal
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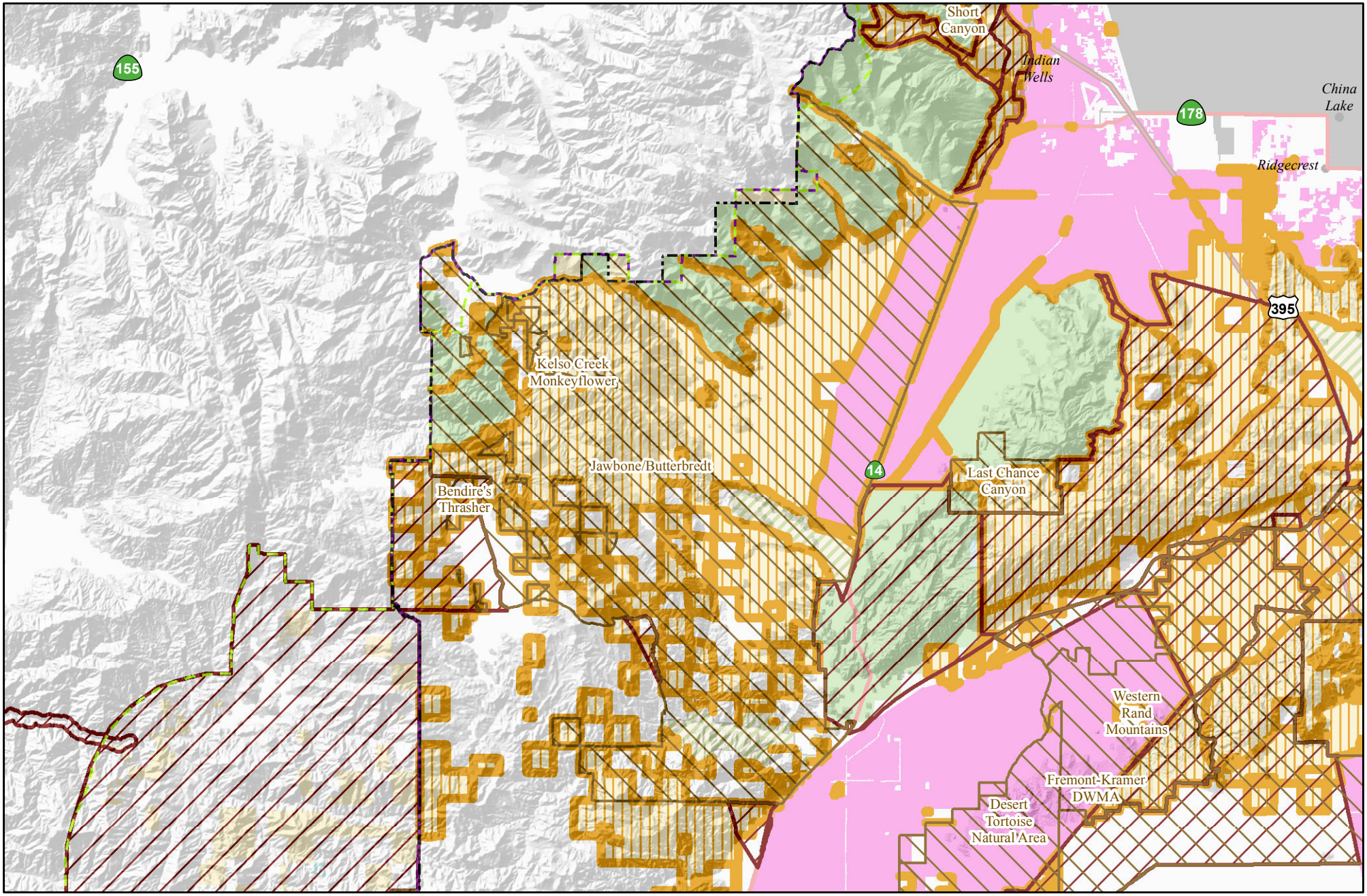
Jawbone/Butterbredt



7 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

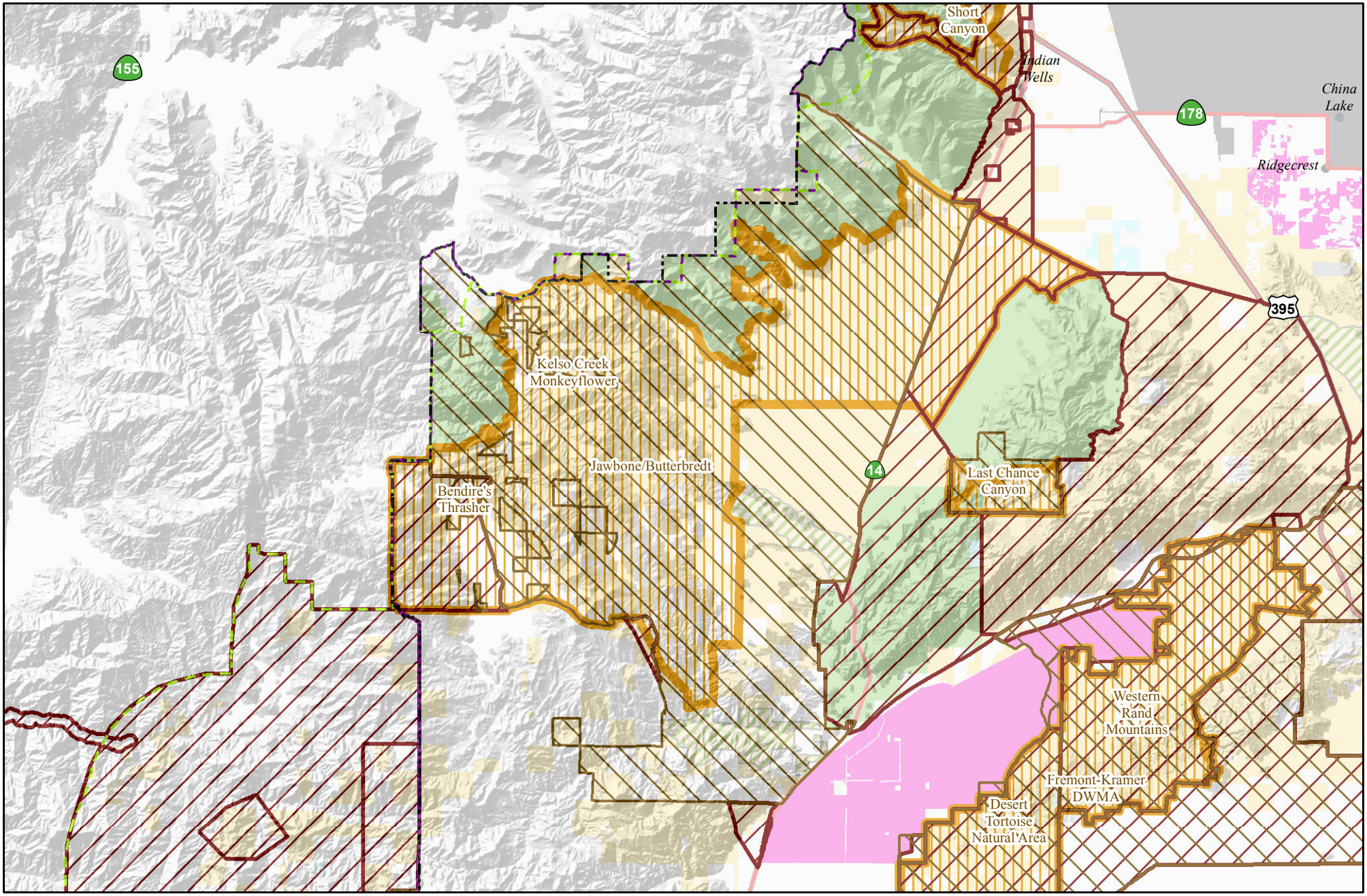
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Jawbone/Butterbredt



7 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

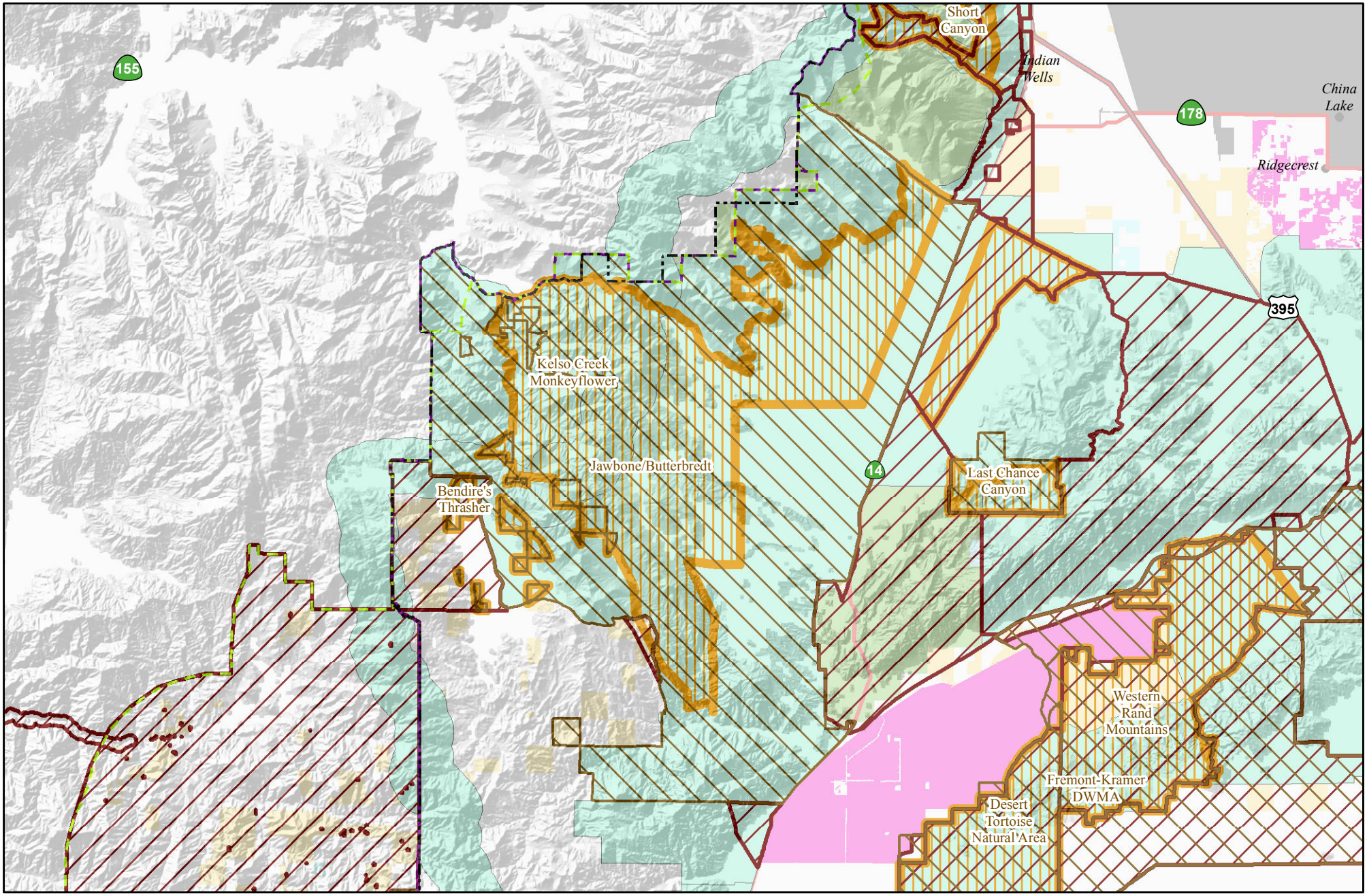
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Jawbone/Butterbredt



7 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

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

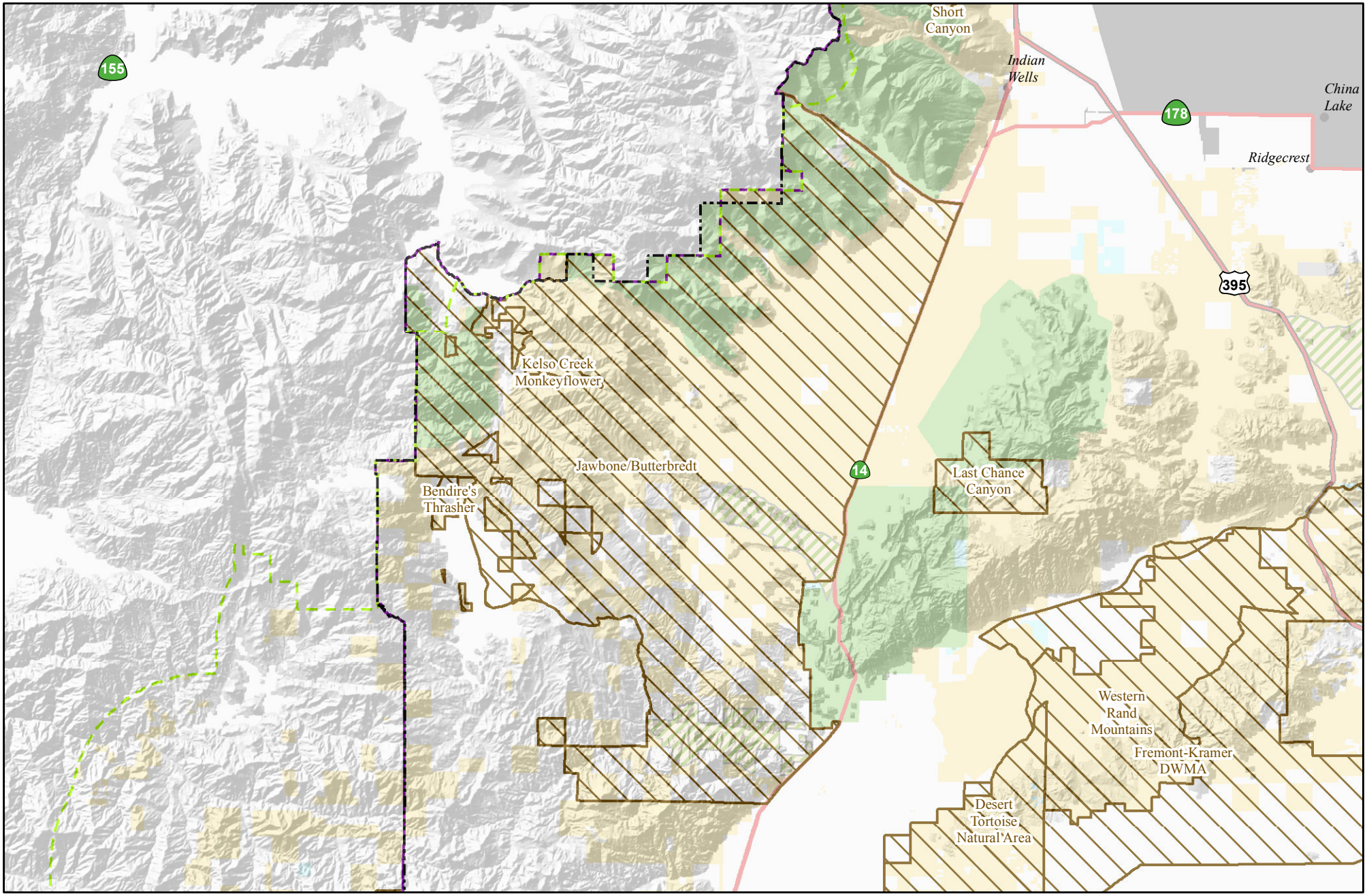
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Jawbone/Butterbredt



7 Miles

10 Kilometers

N

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

Kelso Creek Monkeyflower

Description/Location: The Kelso Creek MonkeyFlower Conservation Area is completely encompassed by the Jawbone-Butterbredt ACEC, located in the northwest corner of Jawbone-Butterbredt.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Conservation Area established in the 2006 West Mojave Plan

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Regionally significant populations of a rare, sensitive plant, the Kelso Creek Monkey flower.

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

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	1,900	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	1,600	1,900	0	1%
1	1,600	1,900	0	1%
2	1,900**	1,900	0	1%
3	1,600	1,900	0	1%
4	1,600	1,900	0	1%

*** Acreage values are for BLM managed land**
****Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness**

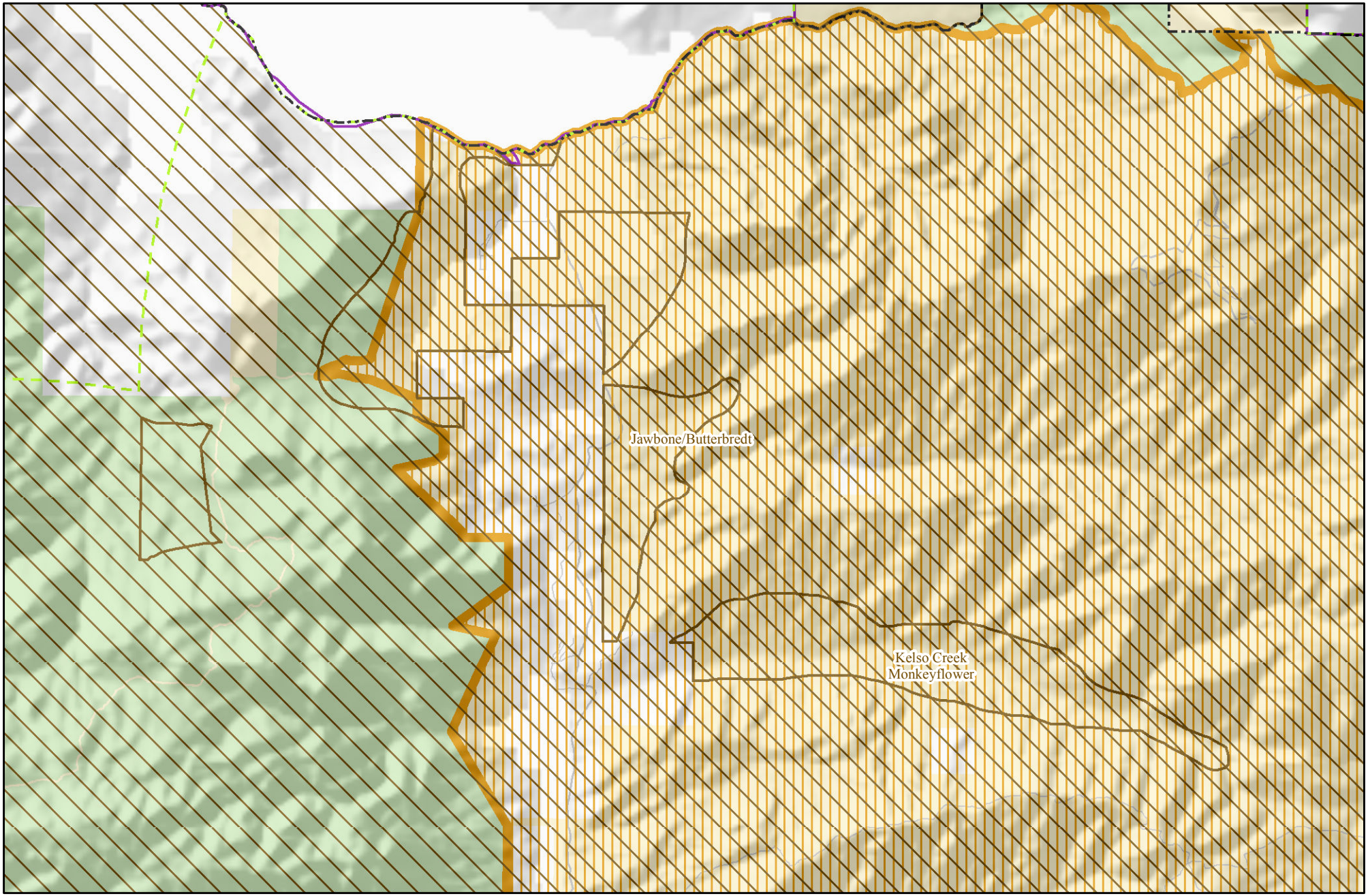
Alternatives:

All Action Alternatives – This ACEC is completely within the Jawbone/Butterbredt ACEC. To resolve this dual designation, these action alternatives will remove this ACEC designated. The area remains protected as part of the Jawbone/Butterbredt ACEC. These acres would still be for conservation purposes. Removing the dual designation will assist BLM in accurate reporting of number of acres in conservation status. All management objectives/actions specific to the Kelso Creek monkeyflower will be incorporated into the Jawbone/Butterbredt ACEC management objectives.

No Action- This unit will be managed as it currently is and the dual designation will remain.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Objective: Manage the CA in a manner that would insure the best long-term protection for the Kelso Creek monkeyflower Management Action 1: Continue to monitor and protect viable populations of this sensitive species.	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Objective: Protect sensitive habitat from impacts associated with motorized vehicle traffic Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc All vehicle traffic limited to designated roads and trails Management Action: Modify the WEMO Route Network to reflect open routes through the ACEC and close other existing unauthorized routes	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: 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, and work with volunteers to clean-up parking and camping areas on a regular basis.	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Objective: Protection of the Kelso Creek monkeyflower populations Allowable Uses: Exclusion zone for all new ROWs	Rights of Way
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect Kelso Creek monkeyflower from mining activities Management Action: Include stipulations to protect the Kelso Creek monkeyflower including not disturbing occupied habitat	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables
Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on other resources Allowable Uses: Existing allotment okay. Adjust livestock use where monitoring data indicate changes are necessary to meet resource objectives. Management Actions: Manage grazing authorizations to meet or exceed the Standards for Rangeland Health.	Livestock grazing

Kelso Creek Monkeyflower



1 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

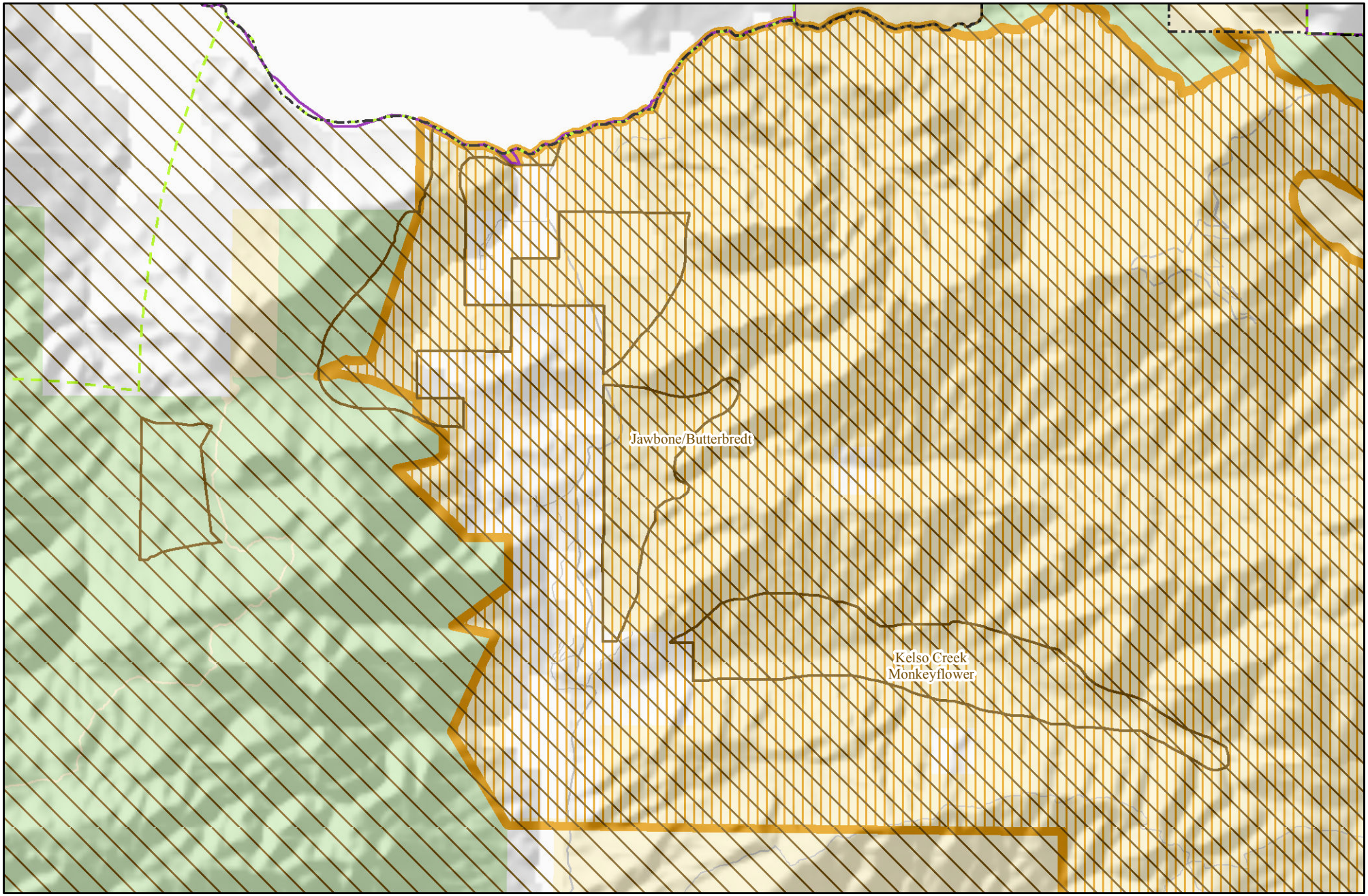
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Kelso Creek Monkeyflower



1 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

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

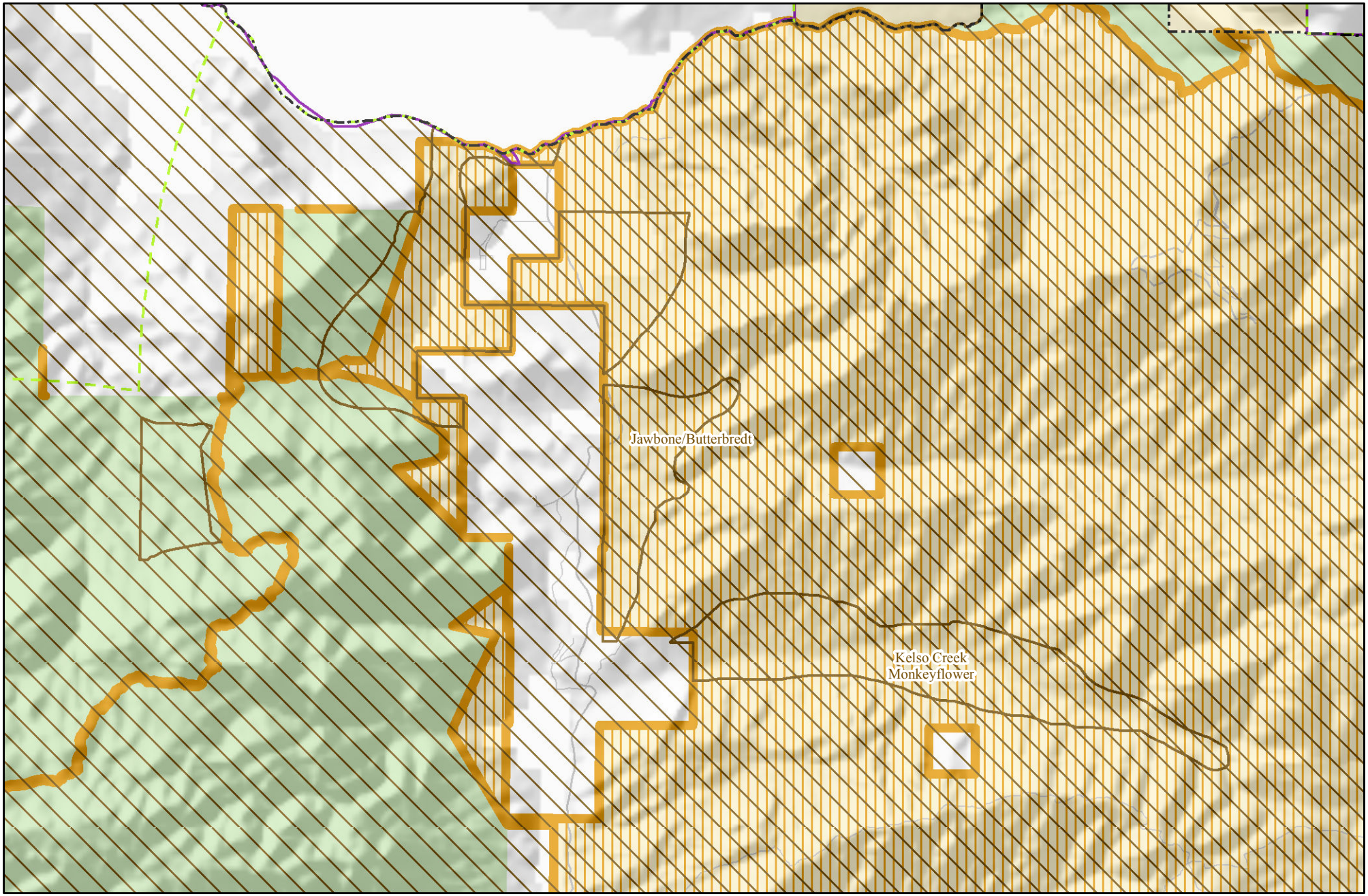
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Kelso Creek Monkeyflower



1 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

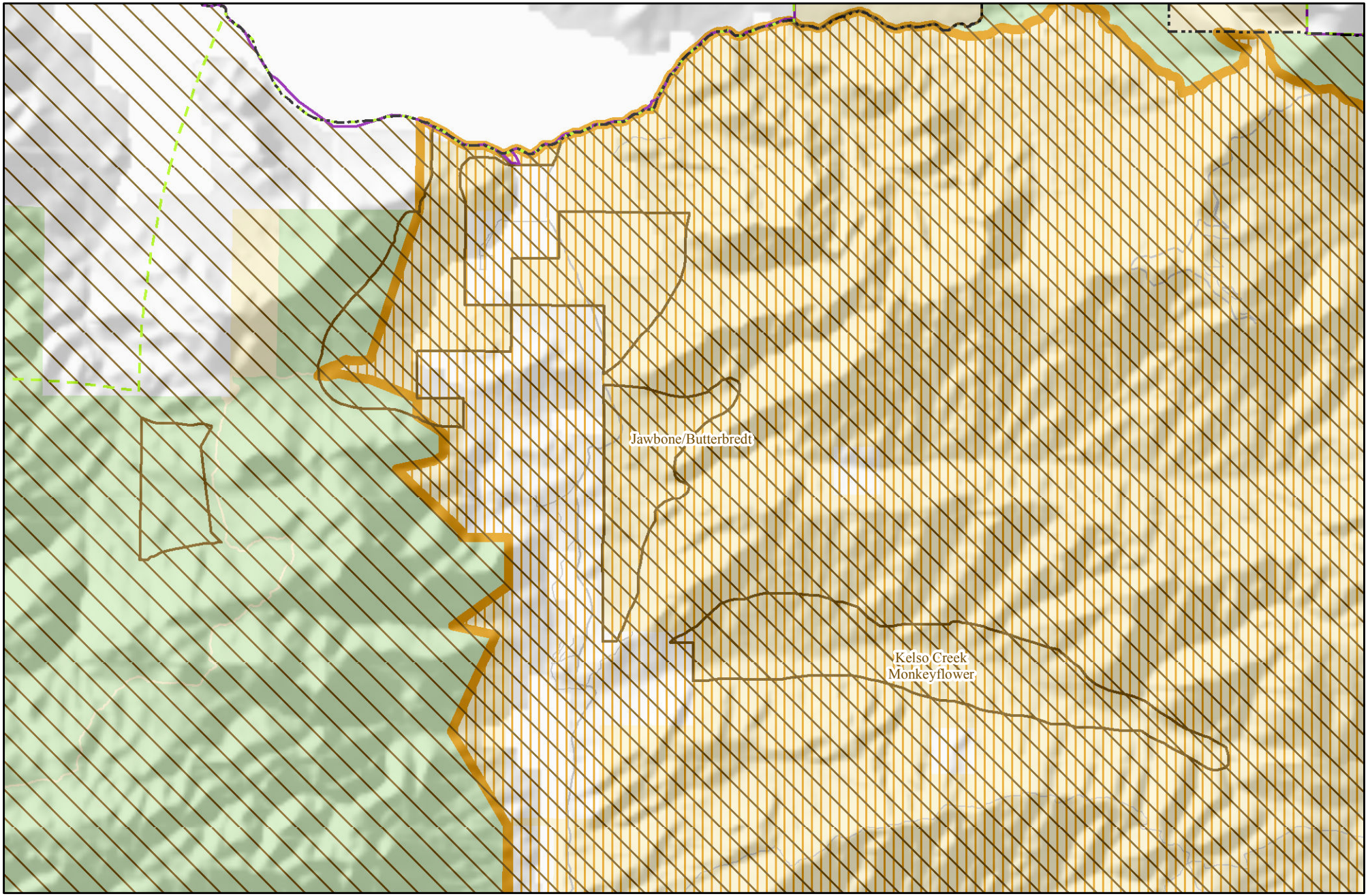
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Kelso Creek Monkeyflower



1 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

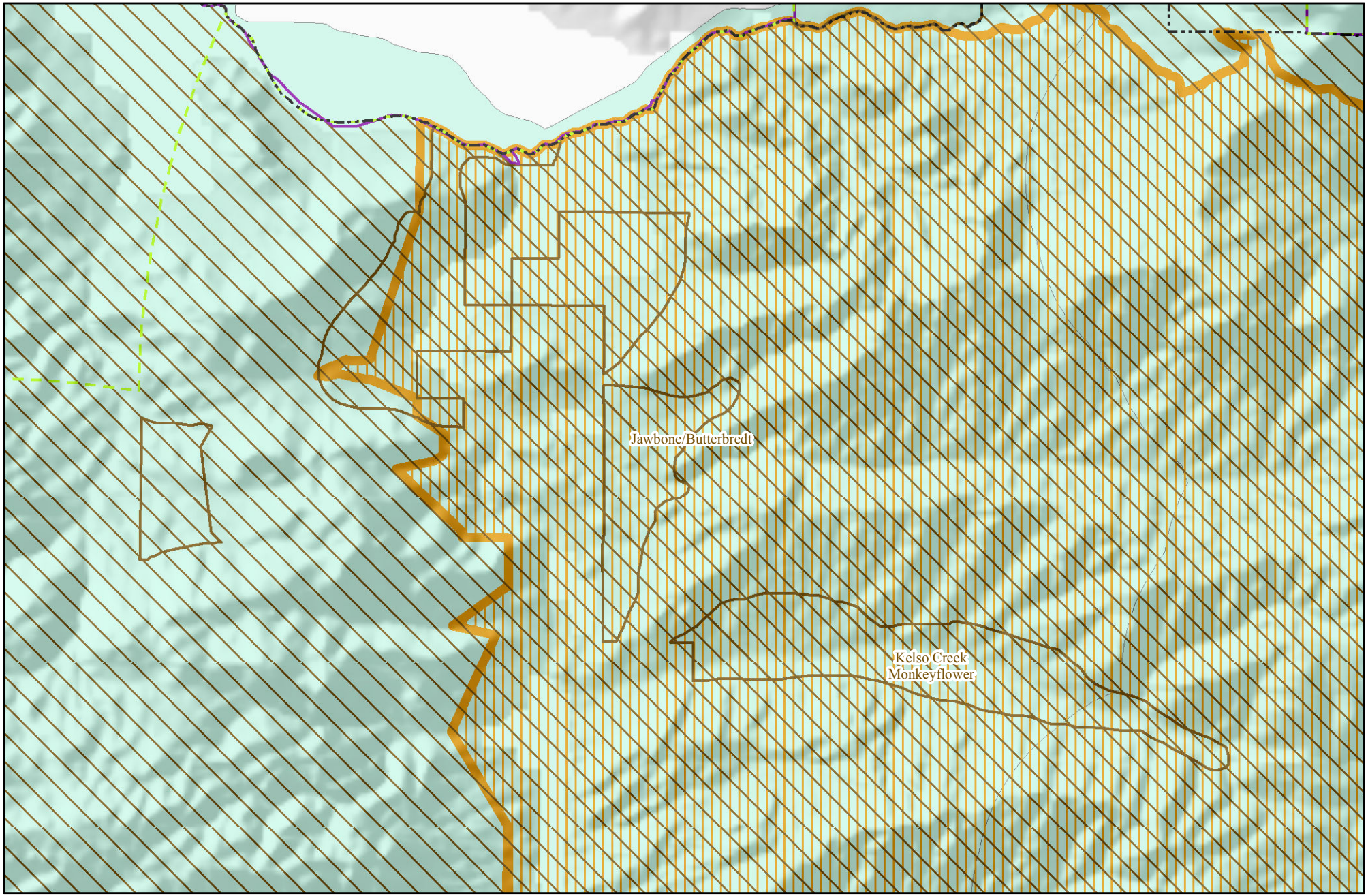
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Kelso Creek Monkeyflower



1 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

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

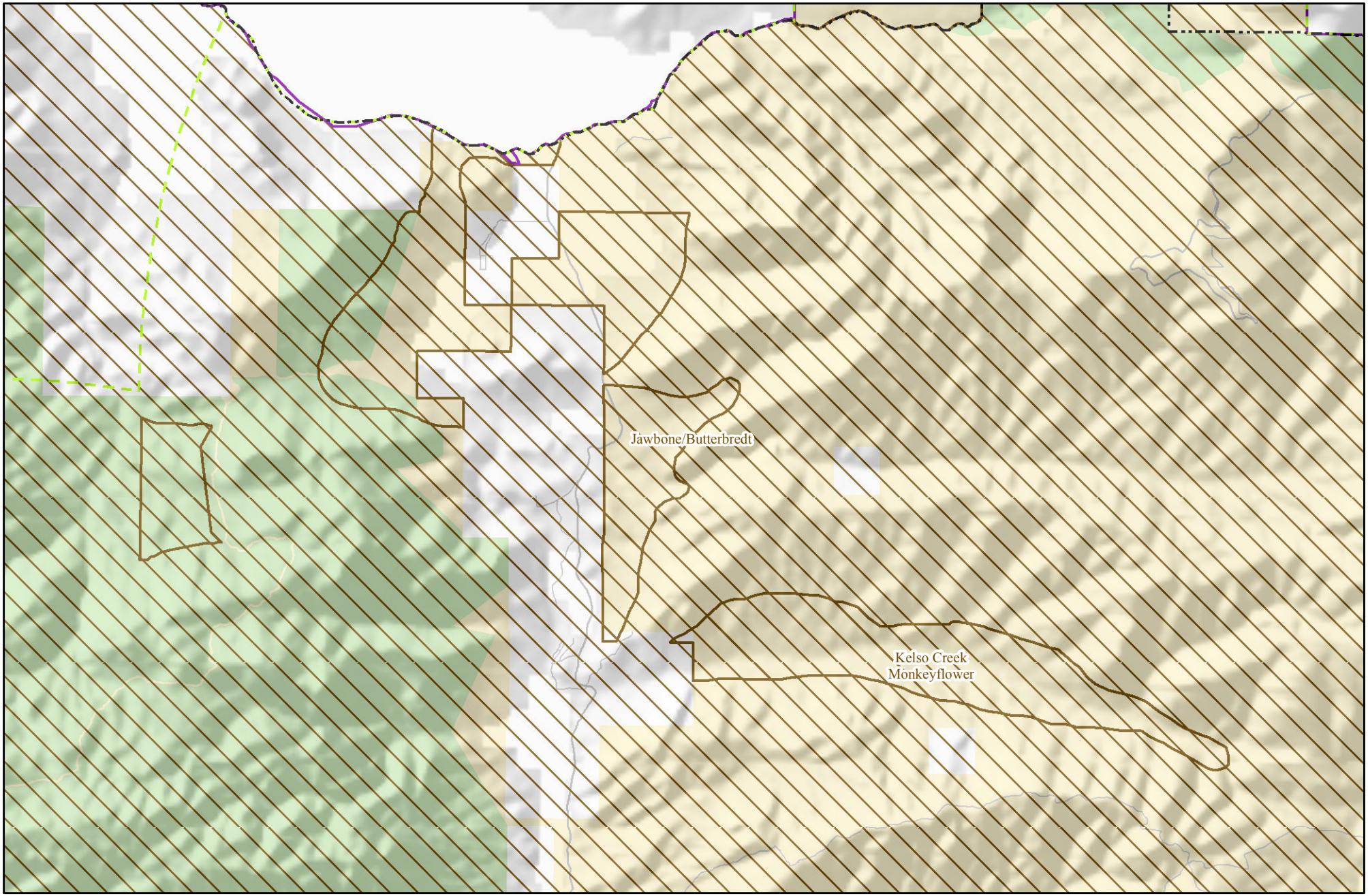
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Kelso Creek Monkeyflower



1 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

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

Middle Knob

Description/Location: Located approximately 6 miles north of the town Mojave and is due east of Horse Canyon ACEC.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: The area includes a portion of the nationally designated Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, which runs from Mexico to Canada.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: CDCA Plan 1980, WEMO Amendment D.2.5

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. Regionally significant populations of a sensitive plant, the Kern Buckwheat. This area was designated to protect areas of Kern buckwheat habitat and to monitor suitable habitat for flax-like monardella. It is also designated as a Key Raptor Area.

Goals: Protect biological values, including habitat quality, populations of sensitive species, and landscape connectivity while providing for compatible public uses.
For NLCS Lands: Where this ruleset differs from the plan-wide NLCS rulesets, the more restrictive rules will apply.

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	17,800	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	17,700	17,800	0	1%
1	17,700	17,800	0	1%
2	17,800	17,800	0	1%
3	17,700	17,800	0	1%
4	17,700	17,800	0	1%

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

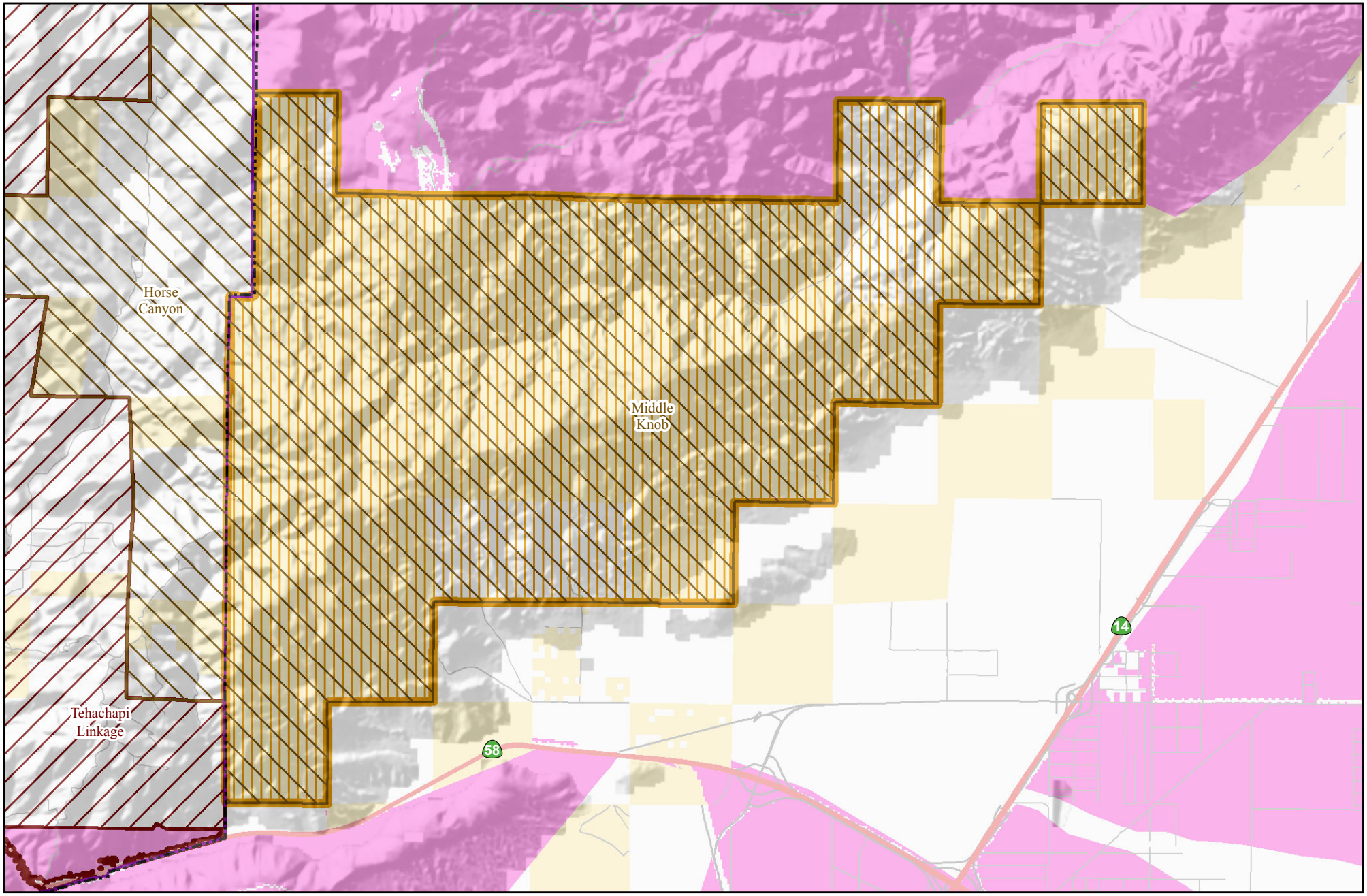
Alternatives:
All Alternatives: This existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it is.

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. 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	Soil, water, air

species, minimal evidence of accelerated wind and water erosion and the presence of biological soil crusts where appropriate. Objective: Protect the hydrologic flow regime in all of the riparian areas Allowable Uses: Existing water rights 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. Monitor Proper Functioning Condition and restore natural flow stream morphology when needed Monitor water uses	
Objective: Manage the CA in a manner that would insure the best long-term protection for the Kern Buckwheat (*Eriogonum kennedyi var. pinicola*) Management Action 1: Continue to monitor and Protect viable populations of this sensitive species. Objective: Initiate a restoration project to reduce impacts and enhance habitat for the Kern buckwheat. Management Action: Create barriers to vehicles along the road adjoining occupied habitat. Action: Create fencing on both sides of the road near the Sweet Ridge population. Action: Restore the vehicle turnaround and parking area so that traffic passes by, rather than on, the buckwheat habitat Objective: Protect other sensitive plant species Management Action: Surveys for the flax-like monardella *(Monardella linoides oblonga)* in suitable habitat would be required for any public ground-disturbing projects within the ACEC.	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Objective: Manage for the protection of sensitive wildlife species including raptors – hawks, eagles, falcons. Action: Protect nesting raptors and nesting habitat.	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
Objective: Administer and manage trail resources in accordance with Pacific Crest Trail Comprehensive Management Plan, NTSA, FLMPA, local RMPs, and agency policy and direction. Allowable Uses: Research, interpretation, recreation. Management Action: Designate Trail Management Corridor	National HistoricTrails
Objective: Protect sensitive habitat from impacts associated with motorized vehicle traffic Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, non-mechanized, etc All motorized vehicle traffic limited to designated roads and trails Management Action: Modify the WEMO Route Network to reflect open routes through the ACEC and close other existing unauthorized routes All designated open routes will be signed, all routes identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored, restore all undesignated OHV routes	Trails and Travel Management

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, and work with volunteers to clean-up parking and camping areas on a regular basis.	Recreation
Objective: Protection of the Kern Buckwheat populations and Golden Eagles Allowable Uses: Exclusion zone for all new ROWs	Rights of Way
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect Kern Buckwheat from mining activities Management Action: Include stipulations to protect Kern Buckwheat including not disturbing occupied habitat	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables

Middle Knob



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

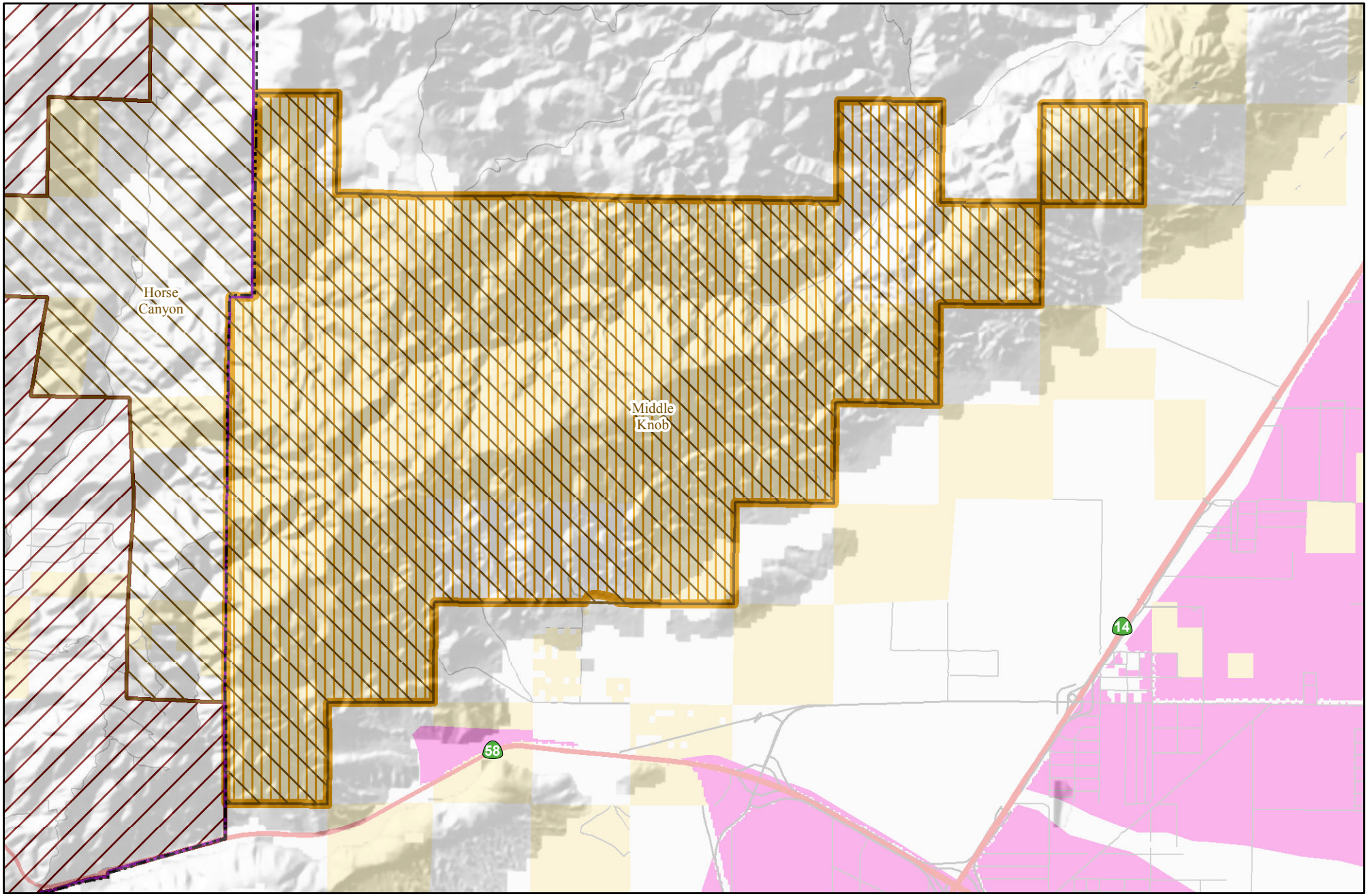
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Middle Knob



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

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

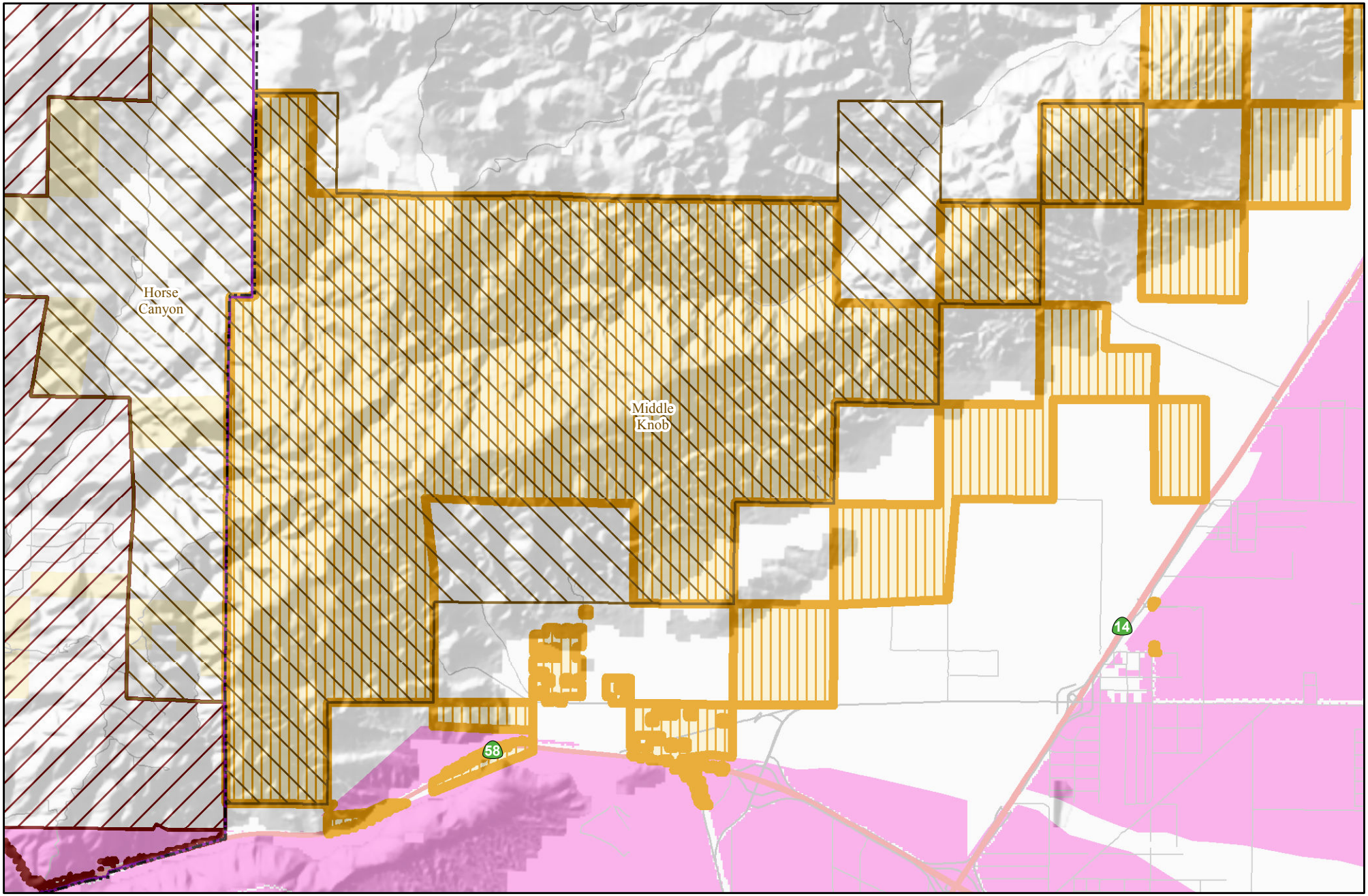
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Middle Knob



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

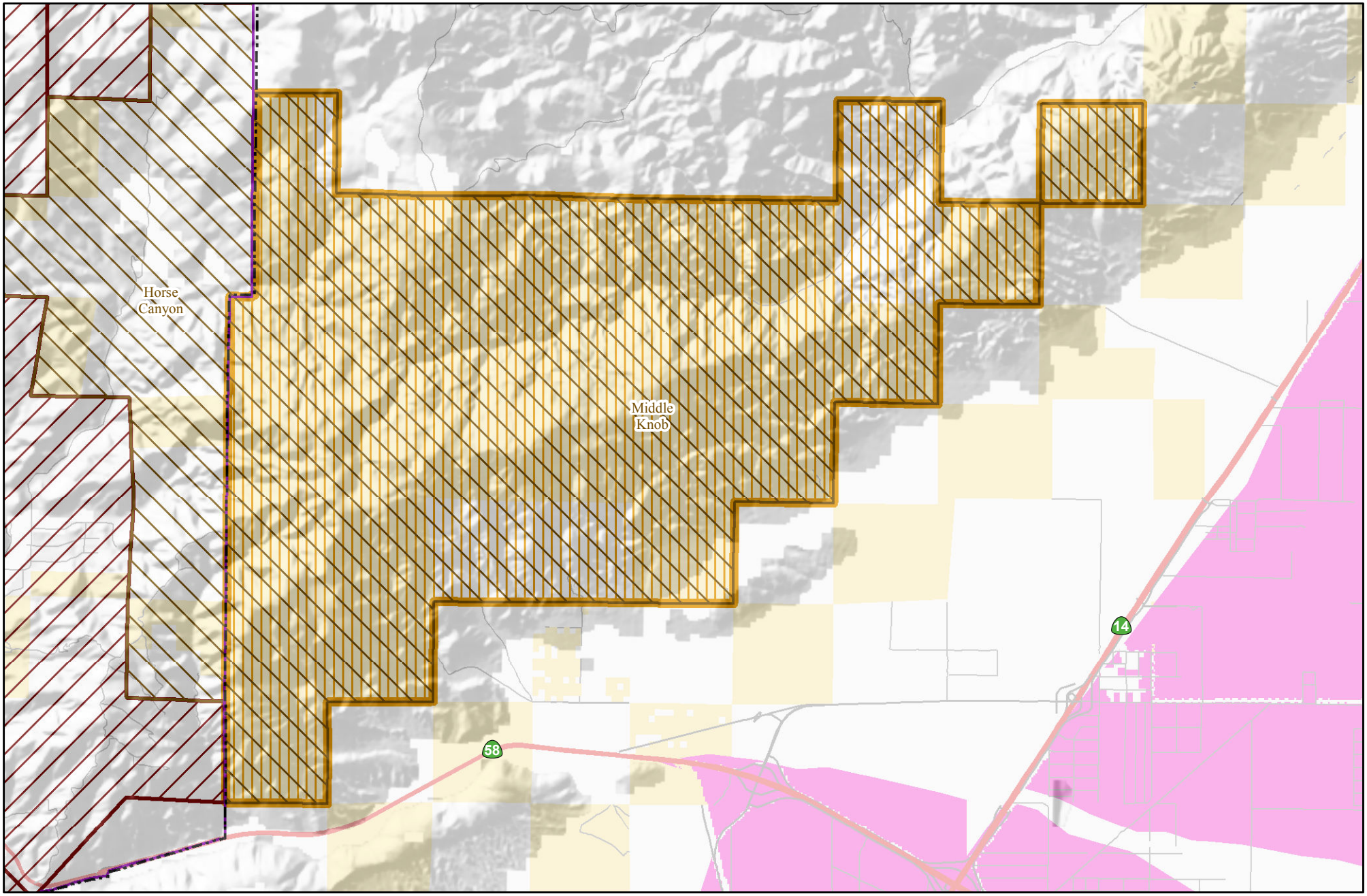
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Middle Knob



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

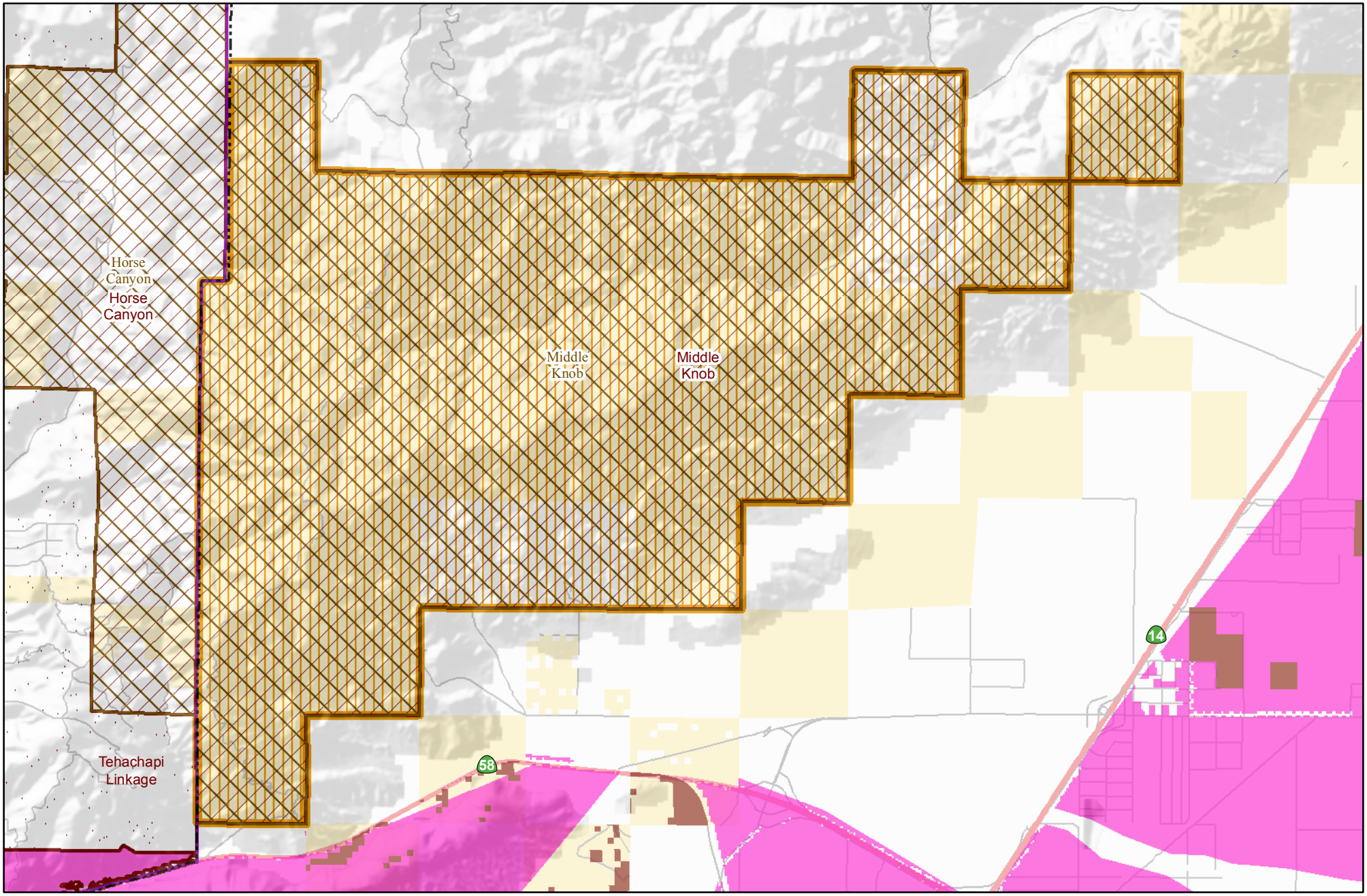
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Middle Knob



1.5 Miles

2 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 8/6/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

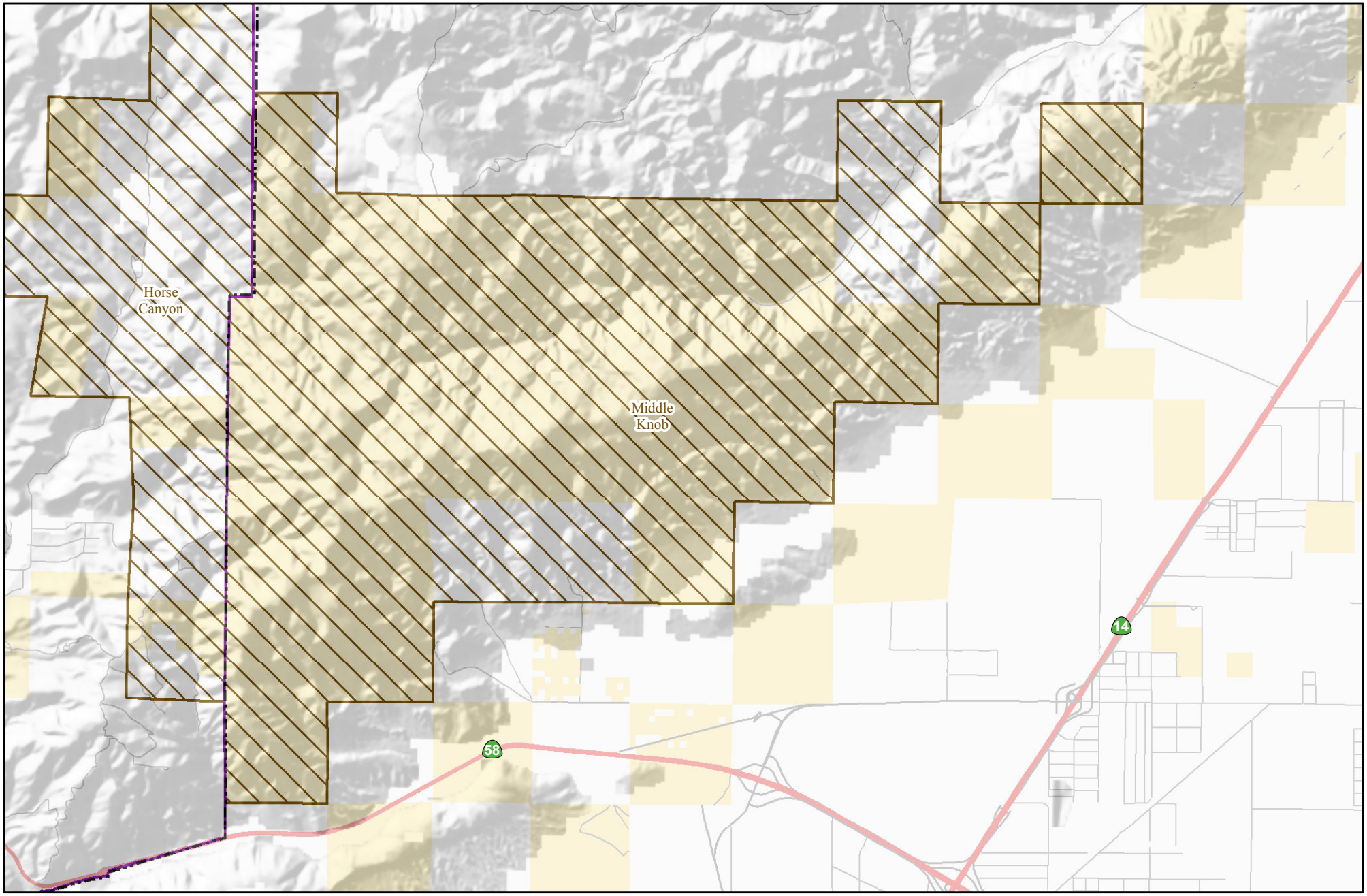
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Middle Knob



1.5 Miles

2.5 Kilometers

N

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

Mojave Fishhook Cactus

Description/Location: Mojave Fishhook cactus ACEC is located between Interstate 15 and Hwy 395 and is adjacent to the north-west corner of the Brisbane Valley Mojave Monkeyflower ACEC.

Nationally Significant Values:
Ecological: The area is important for botanical resources and to protect sensitive and restrictive plant species, in particular the Mojave fishhook cactus. This site also provides landscape connectivity with other surrounding proposed NLCS lands.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: ACEC established in the 2006 West Mojave Plan

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. Set aside solely to protect the Mojave fishhook cactus – yellow-spined form. The unit also has populations of Mojave menodora (*Menodora spinescens* var. *mohavensis*) and several wildlife species.

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

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

Designation and Acreage by Alternative:

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	600	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	600	0	0.5%
1	0	600	0	0.5%
2	600	600	0	0.5%
3	0	600	0	0.5%
4	0	600	0	0.5%

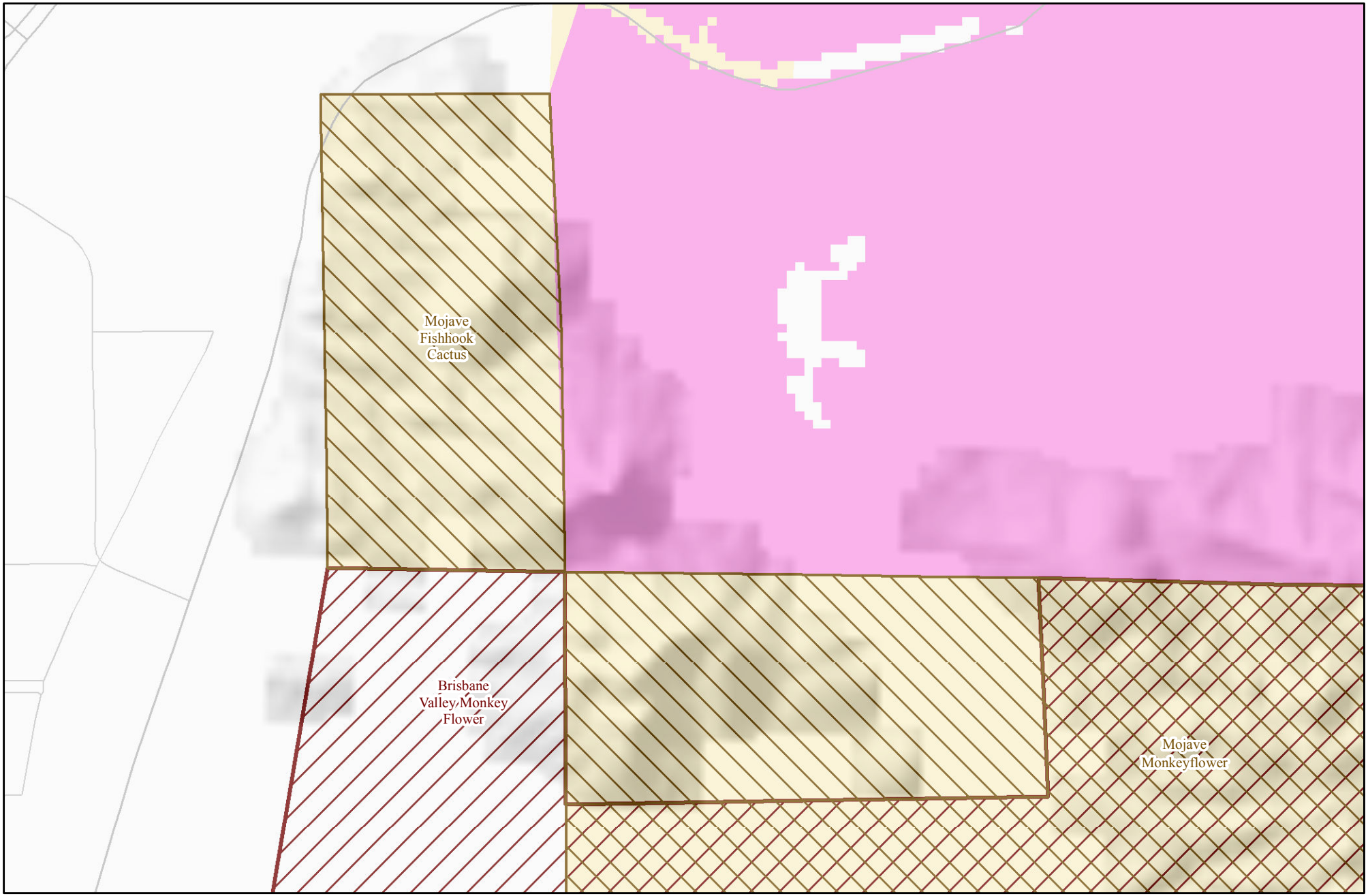
*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**

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

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Manage the ACEC in a manner that would insure the best long-term protection for the Mojave fishhook cactus Objective: Protect and enhance Mojave fishhook cactus populations Management Action 1: Protect viable populations on public land throughout the range	Vegetation - Including special status species

Management Action 2: Coordinate with mining companies to protect this species Management Action 3: Establish a core reserve on public land Management Action 4: Provide site-specific management of occupied habitat on public lands outside the core reserve Management Action 5: Protect Natural Communities that are listed by the state as rare.	
Objective: Manage for the protection of sensitive wildlife species Special Status Species: Coast Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillei*) Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) Nelson's Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsonii*) Management Action: Survey for BLM sensitive species, identify current occupied and potential habitat, identify and implement actions to conserve and improve habitat conditions	Fish and Wildlife - Including special status species
Objective: Protect Mojave fishhook cactus and Mojave monkeyflower, and Mojave menodora from impacts associated with vehicle traffic Allowable Uses: All vehicle traffic limited to designated roads and trails Management Action: Establish no new routes in ACEC	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Protect plant population by designation of OHV routes through the area Management Action: Modify the WEMO Route Network to reflect open routes through the ACEC and close other existing unauthorized routes Objective: Inform the public of the importance of the ACEC Management Action: Install interpretive signs at access points to the ACEC. Conduct public education efforts concerning OHV use in the desert	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate resource management Management Action: Acquire all inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Exclusion zone for all new ROWs	Rights of Way (ROW)
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Protect Mojave fishhook cactus from mining activities Management Action: Include stipulations to protect the Fishhook Cactus including not disturbing occupied habitat	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables

Mojave Fishhook Cactus



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

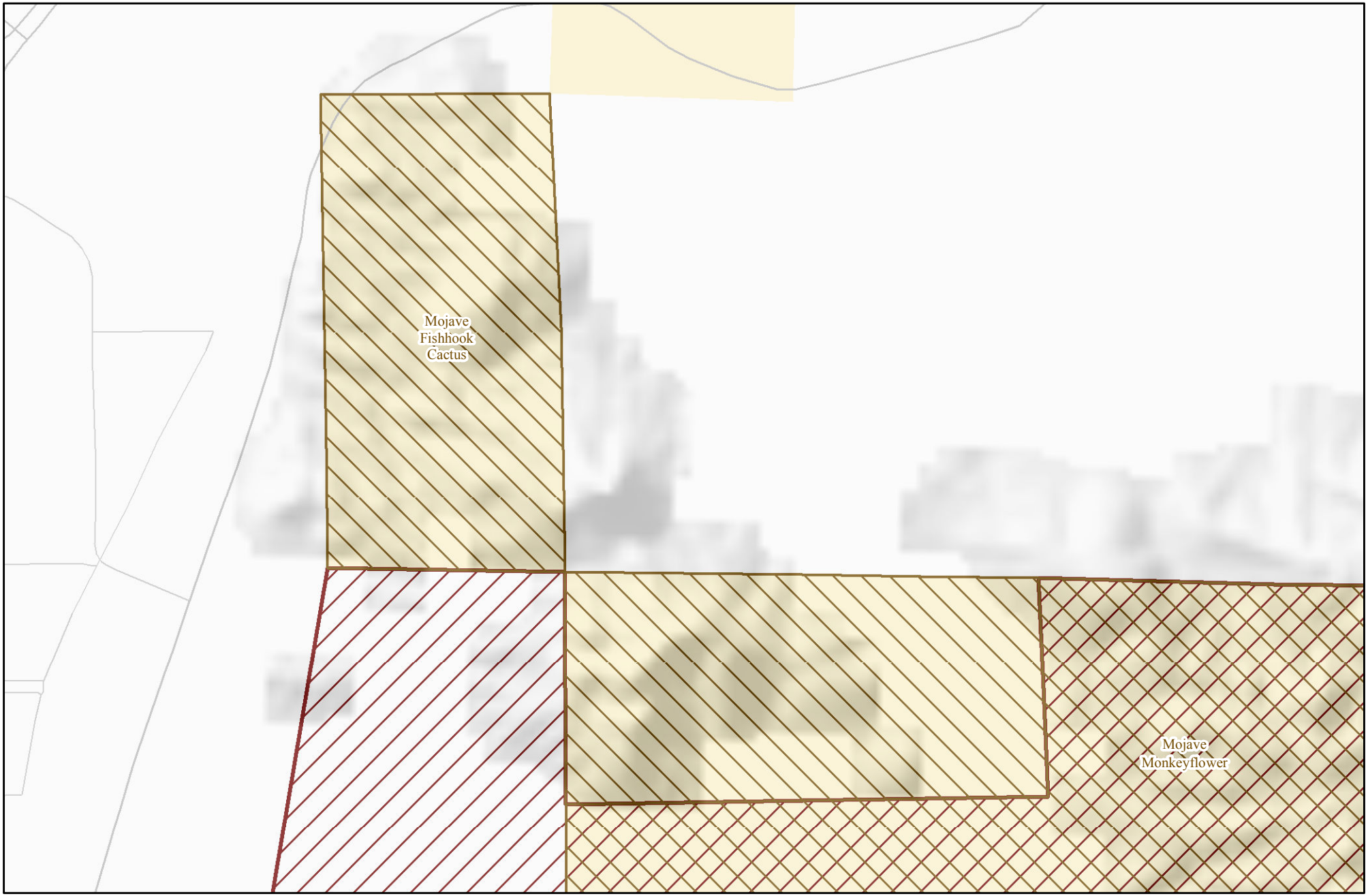
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Mojave Fishhook Cactus



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

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

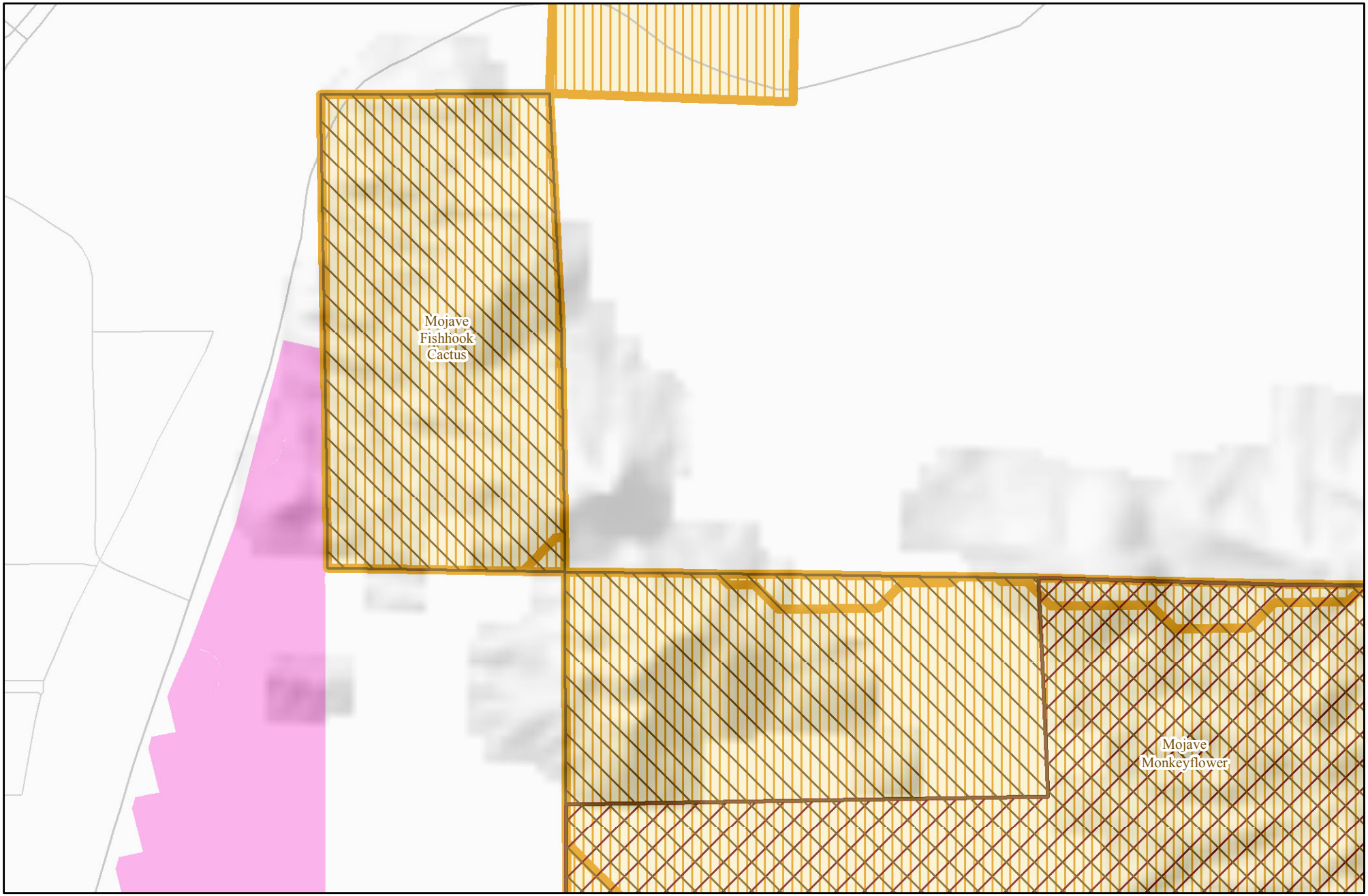
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Mojave Fishhook Cactus



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

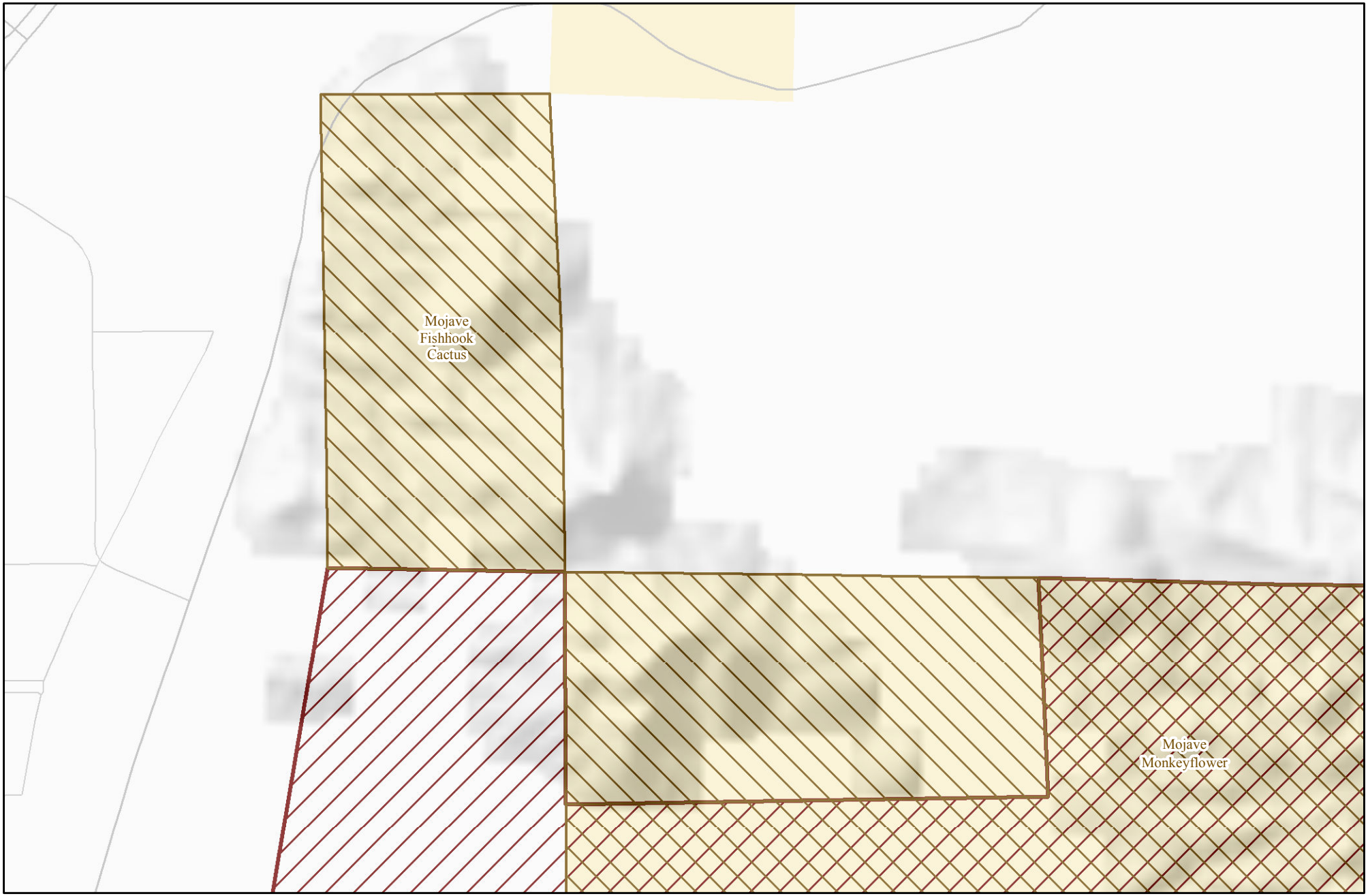
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Mojave Fishhook Cactus



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

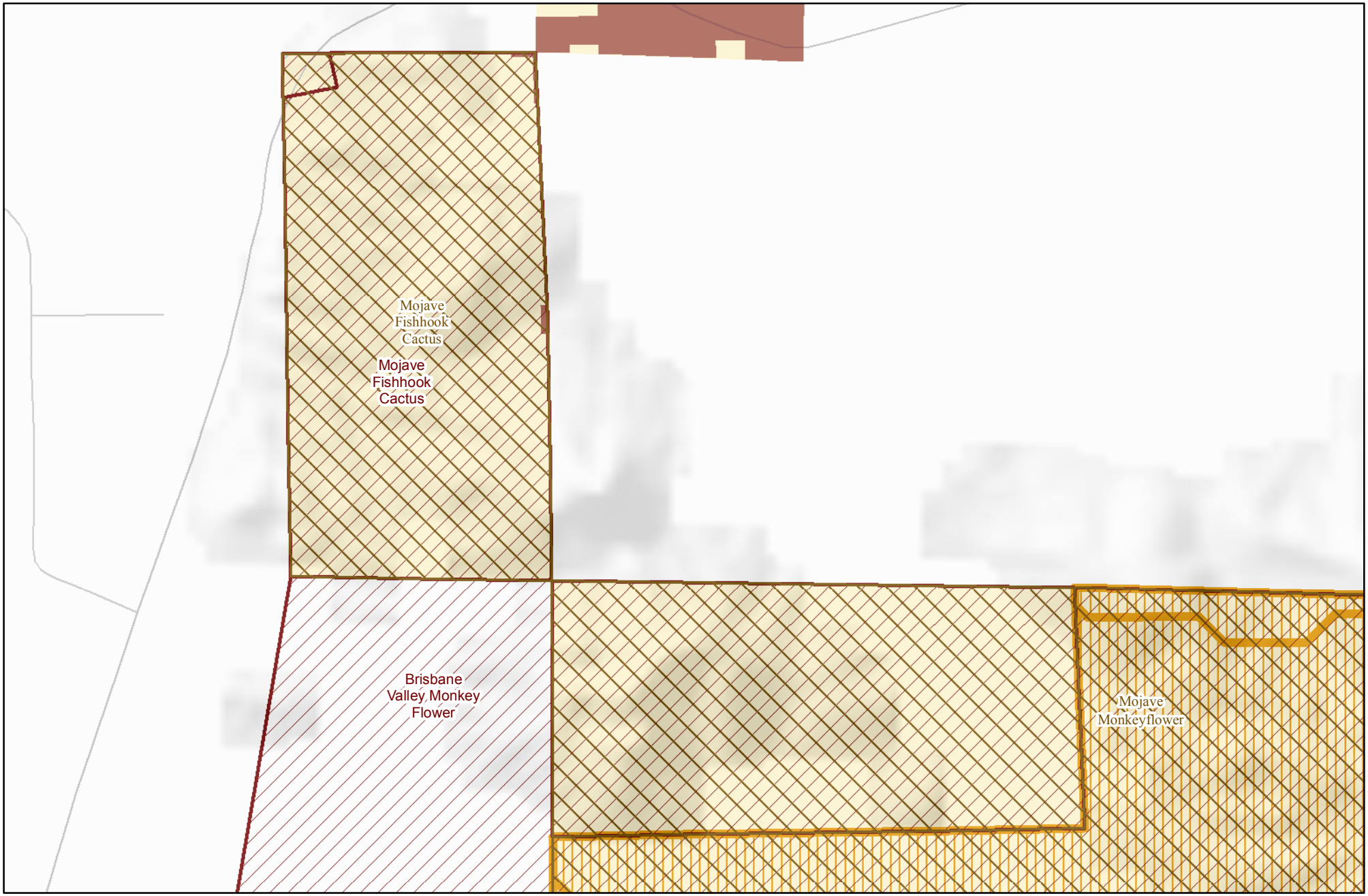
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Mojave Fishhook Cactus



0.35 Miles

0.5 Kilometers

N

Alternative 4 ACECs

Date Printed: 8/6/2014

Prepared by BLM California State Office

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

Mojave Fishhook Cactus

0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

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

Sand Canyon

Description/Location: Canyon originates on the eastern slope of the southern Sierra Nevada

Description of National Significance:
Ecological: The canyon is currently the location of the Sand Canyon Environmental Education Program, a BLM nationally recognized youth outdoor program. This program involves teaching all 4th graders in area about desert and riparian ecosystems, history, and archaeology.

Cultural: Prehistoric resources within the canyon have not been formally evaluated, but are considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The First Los Angeles Aqueduct is listed on the Register of Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks. Recent survey and recordation of the Aqueduct has identified the LAA and its associated camps and features eligible for listing on the National Register

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date : ACEC Plan #11/1989

Relevance and Importance Criteria: This canyon contains exceptional diversity of flora and fauna, and its scenic value attracts many visitors. One of the most diverse areas in the West Mojave for small mammals, reptiles and birds. This riparian area is an important stopover for migratory birds. A broad array of species provides some of the most prolific and consistent wildflower blooms in the California Desert. The area also contains excellent habitat for the federally and state threatened desert tortoise.
Prehistoric and historic cultural values exist within this area. These include prehistoric habitation sites associated with the perennial water source in the canyon, and a large labor camp associated with the construction of the Los Angeles Aqueduct.

Goals: Protect and enhance riparian habitat and the wildlife resources that utilize it. Conserve ecosystem resources so that Sand Canyon can be an outdoor teaching laboratory to serve local communities.

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	2,600	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	500	2,600	0	1%
1	400	2,600	0	1%
2	2,600**	2,600	0	1%
3	500	2,600	0	1%
4	400	2,600	0	1%

*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**
****Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness**

Alternatives:

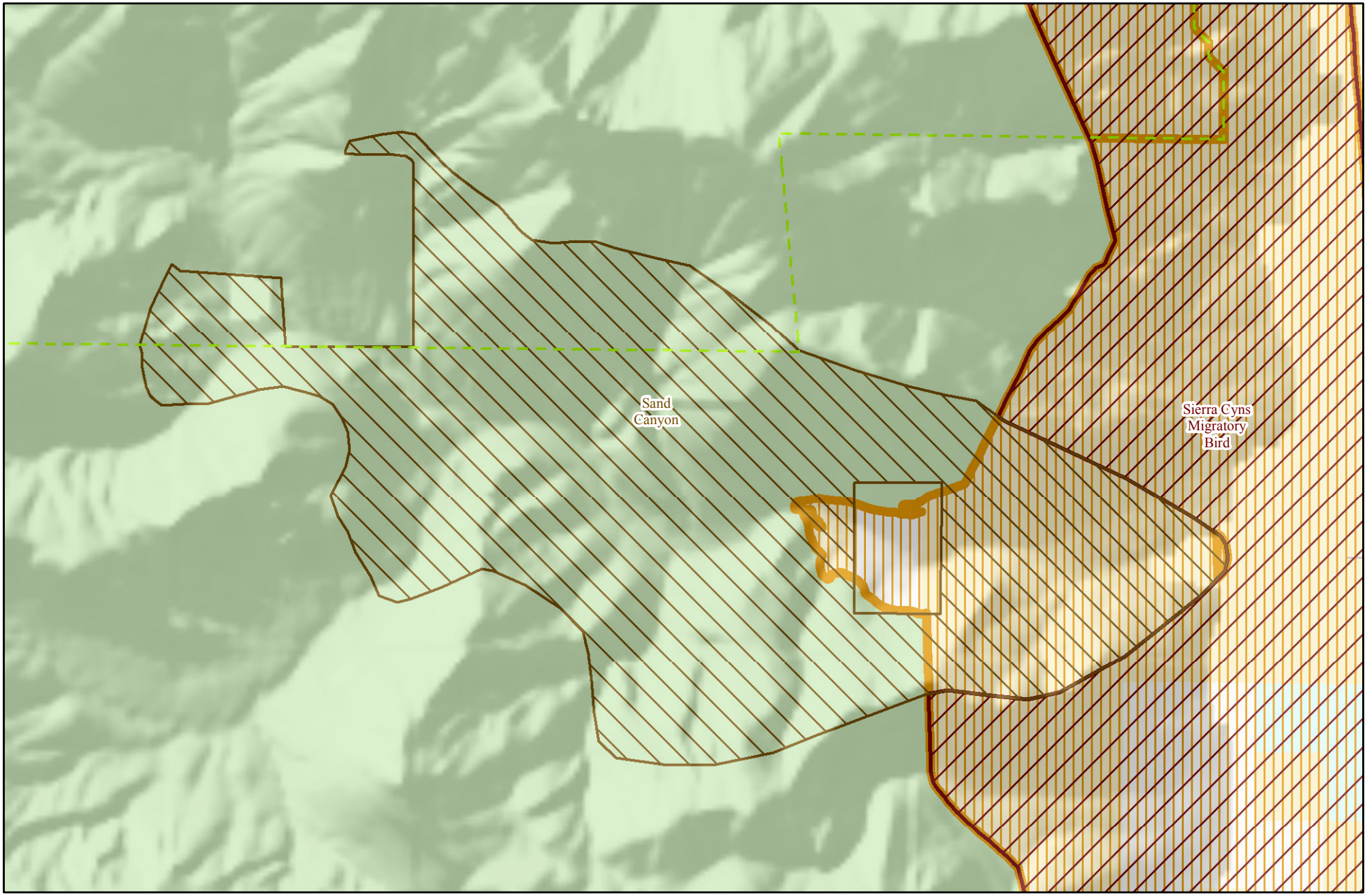
All Alternatives – this existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Protect quality and quantity of in stream flow of perennial stream Management Action: Eliminate diversion of water by the Cal-Ci-Co Sand and Gravel operation Management Action: Regulate livestock grazing near perennial portion of stream Management Action: Construct alternate water source for cattle outside of exclosure fence around perennial stream Management Action: Monitor bacteria in stream from livestock grazing and human activity adjacent to the stream	Soil, water, air
Objective: Protect and enhance the vegetation of the riparian habitat Management Action: Build exclosure fence to control cattle grazing in riparian area Management Action: Baseline monitoring of riparian vegetation within and outside of exclosure fence	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
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: Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) Federally and State threatened Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) State threatened Yellow-eared pocket mouse (*Perognathus xanthonotus*) BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act Management Action: Coordinate with California Department of Fish & Game to determine areas that warrant closure to shooting.	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
See programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.	Cultural Resources
Objective: Limit vehicles to open designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing. Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, Non-mechanized, Management Actions: Sign designated routes routinely	Trails and Travel Management

Rehabilitate unauthorized vehicle play areas and hill climbs, particularly where off-route vehicle use is creating problems for wildlife and visual resources. 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. 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. Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat. Increase information to public and LE patrols For complete description, see Eastern Sierra SRMA	
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. 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. 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. Management Action: Designate certain areas for camping to remove impacts from riparian areas. No cutting firewood from the riparian areas. Impose seasonal restrictions on target shooting in sensitive riparian areas and where large numbers of people congregate to park or camp Increase LE ranger patrols to enforce compliance with fire restrictions, camping limits, and vehicle use on the designated route system.	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Allowable Uses: Inholding of 80 acres by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure

Objective: Provide for existing ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources. Allowable Uses: No ROWs that alter groundwater regimes. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power existing ROW will continue. 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.	Rights of Way
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive riparian and other resources in the area. Allowable Uses: 37 mining claims – interest in gold, copper and tungsten 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	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables
Objective: Provide for livestock grazing opportunities in a manner that limits impacts on other resources Allowable Uses: Entire ACEC is within the Walker Pass Common Allotment managed under the Walker Pass Allotment Management Plan (1984) Area burned extensively in July 2012. Currently no grazing is permitted until rangeland health criteria are met and range improvements have been installed. Management Actions: Manage grazing authorizations to meet or exceed the Standards for Rangeland Health. Provide additional water sources to promote better distribution of livestock and grazing use Control timing of grazing use with periods of rest during critical growth periods Regulate grazing near perennial portion of stream and in riparian habitat by constructing an exclosure. Restrict season of use, fencing and/or provide watering sites away from riparian areas	Livestock grazing

Sand Canyon



0.7 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

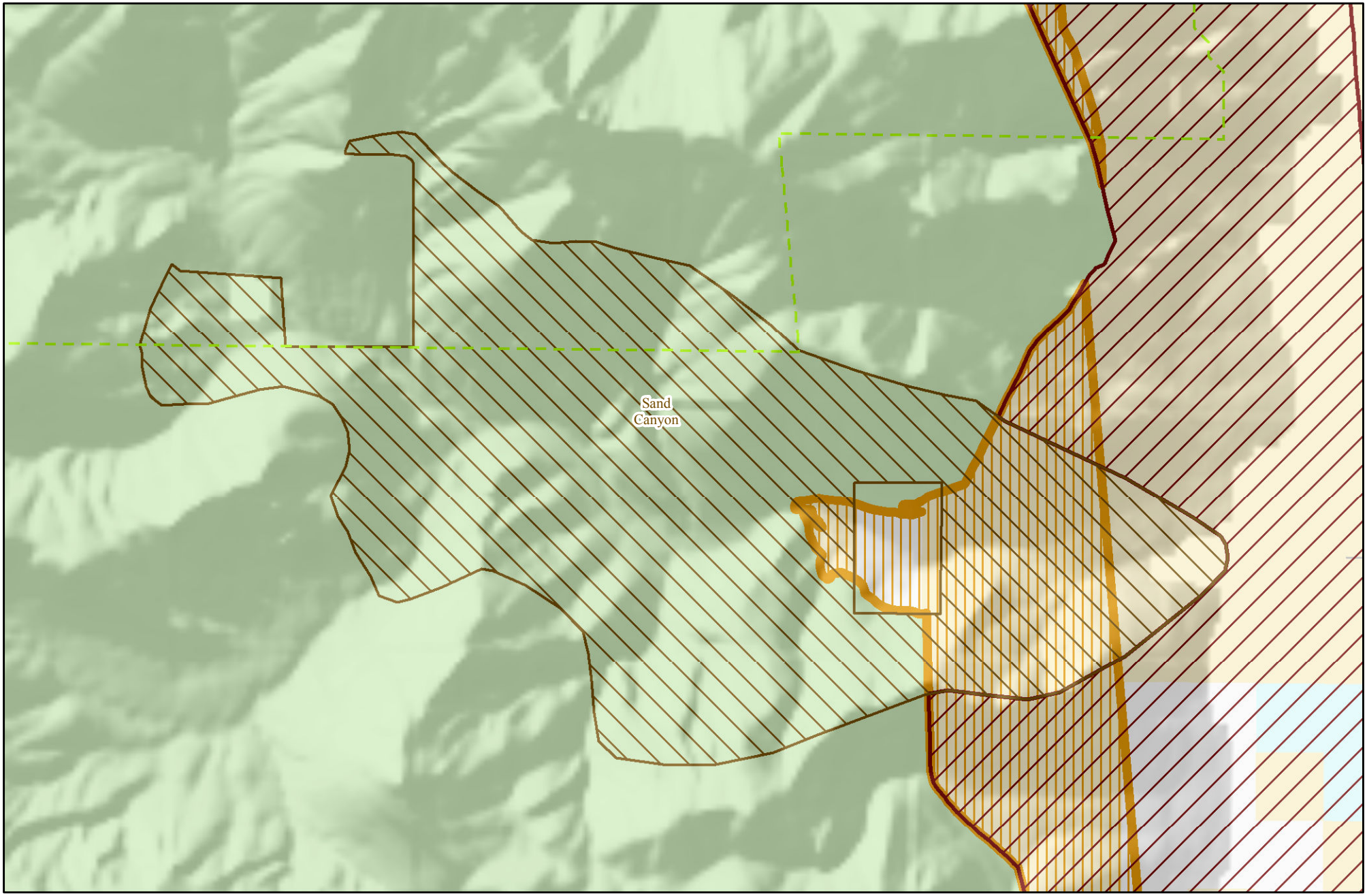
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Sand Canyon



0.7 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

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

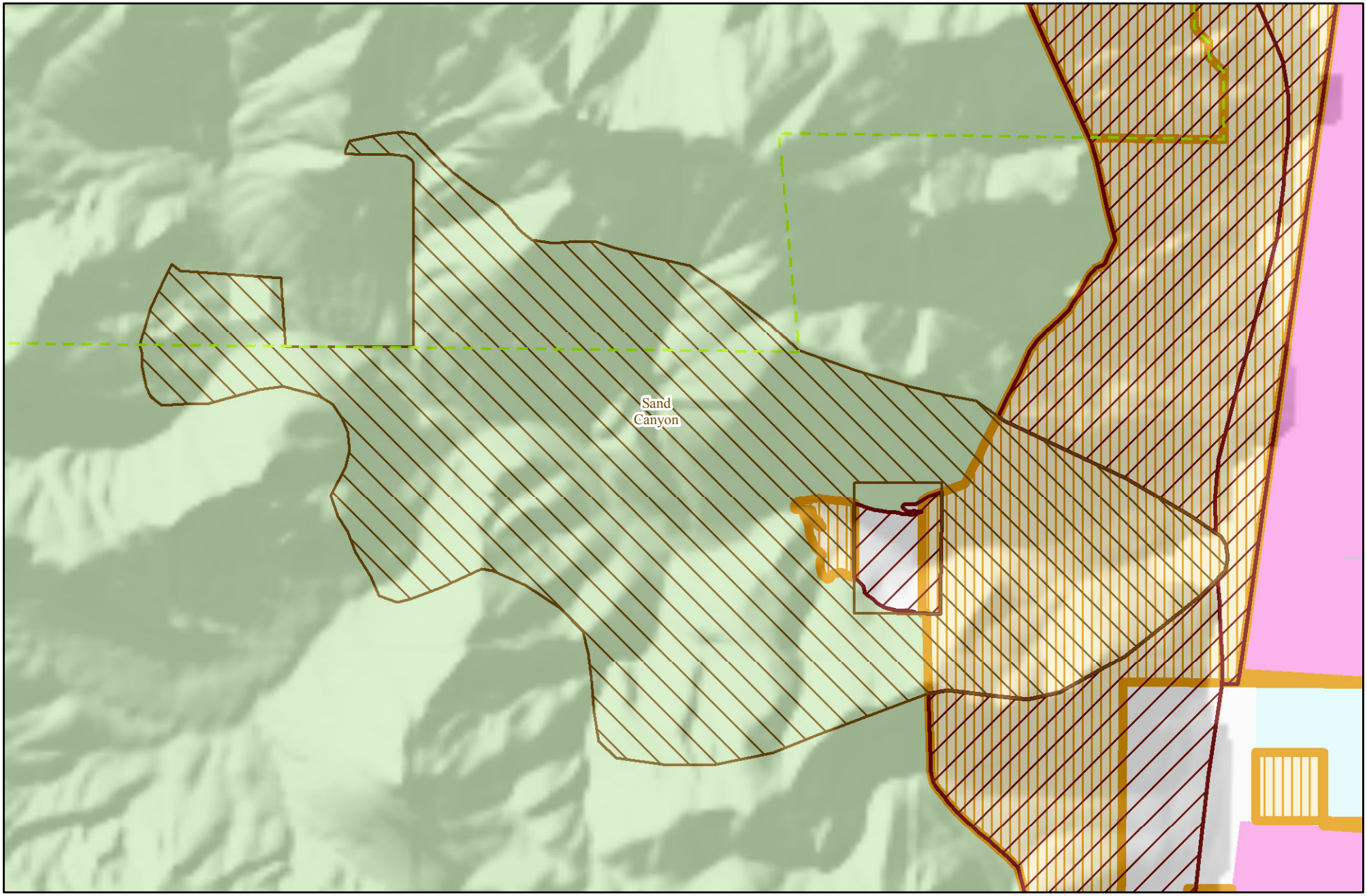
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Sand Canyon



0.7 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

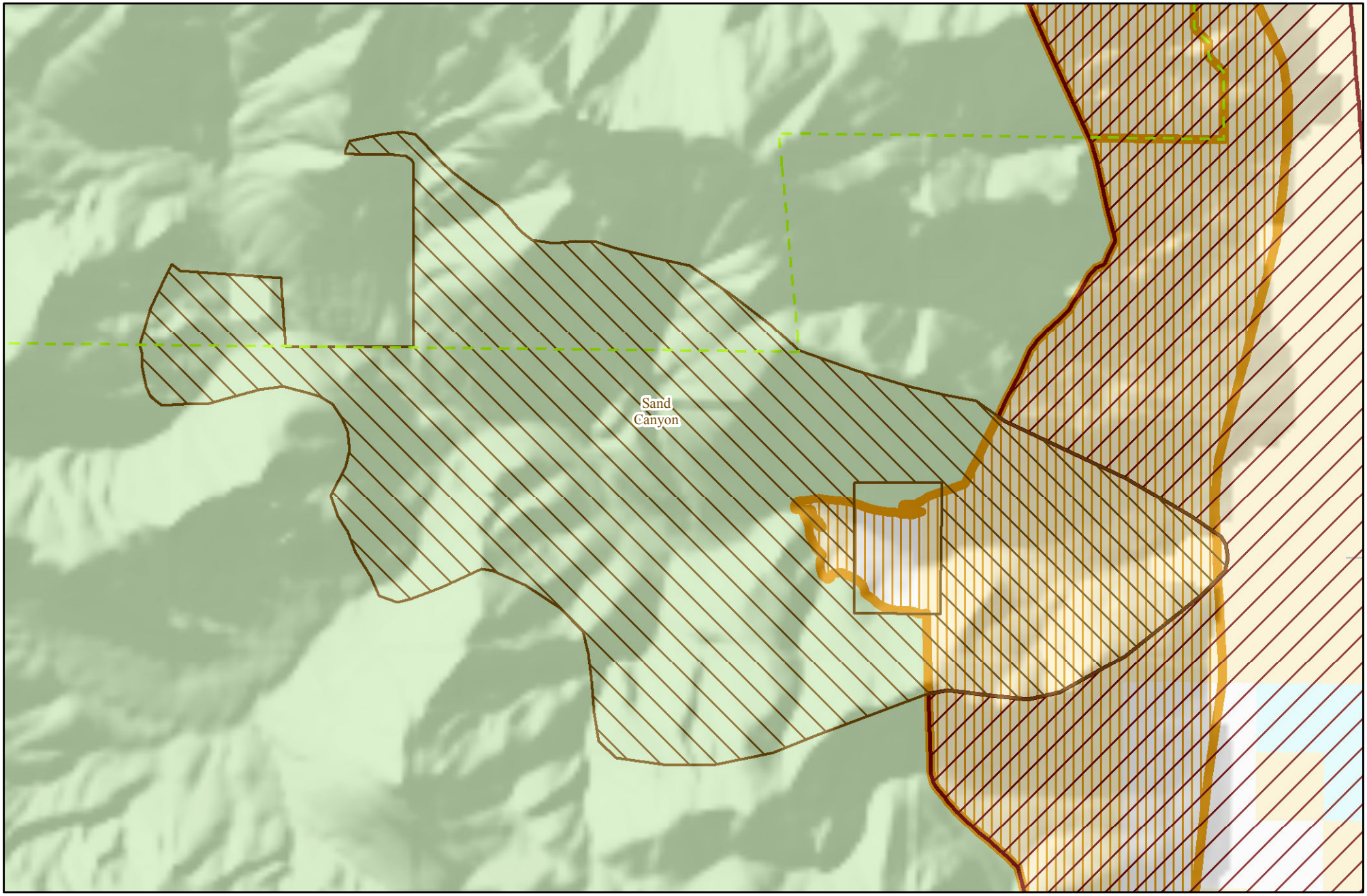
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Sand Canyon



0.7 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

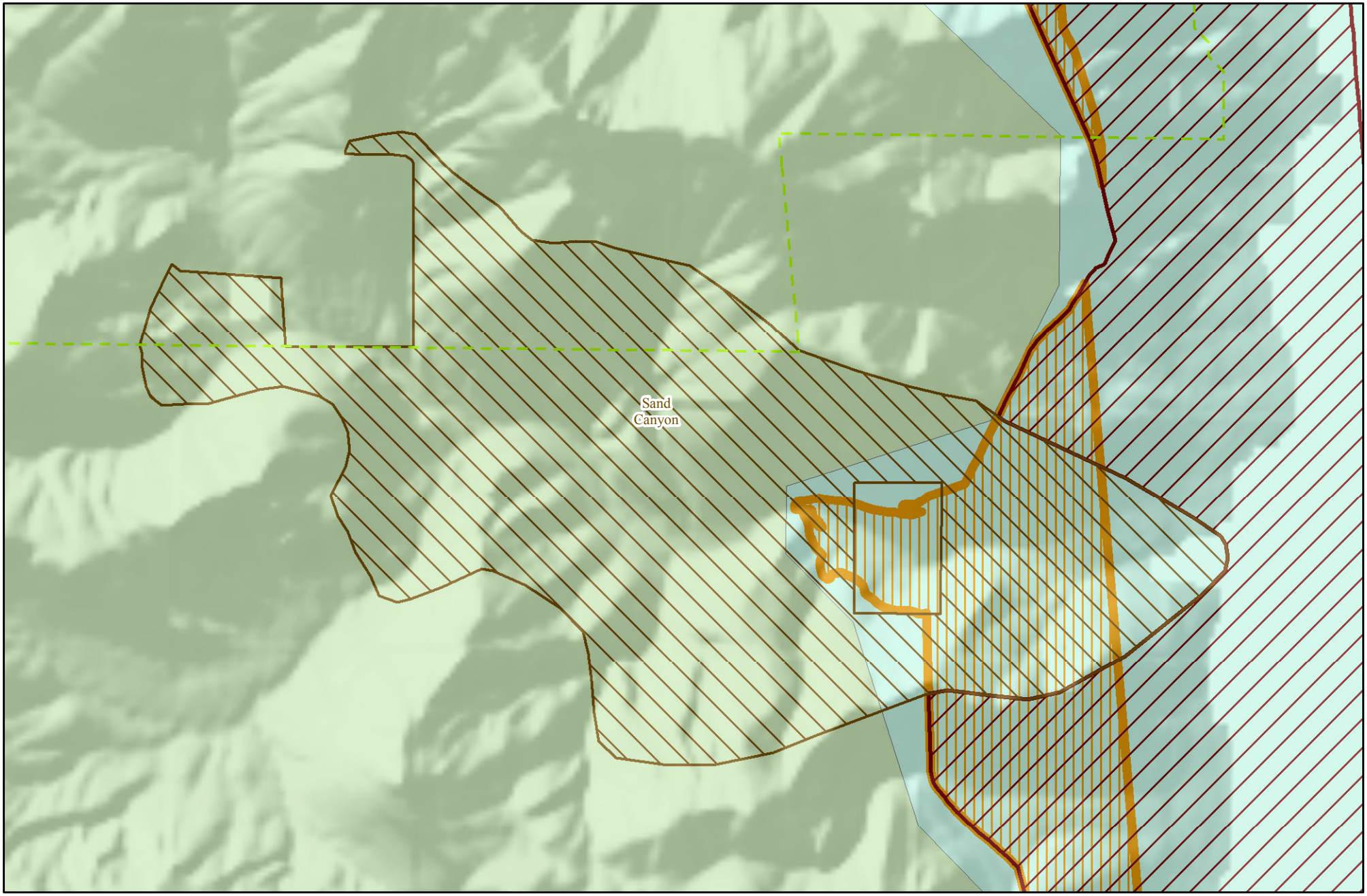
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Sand Canyon



0.7 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

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

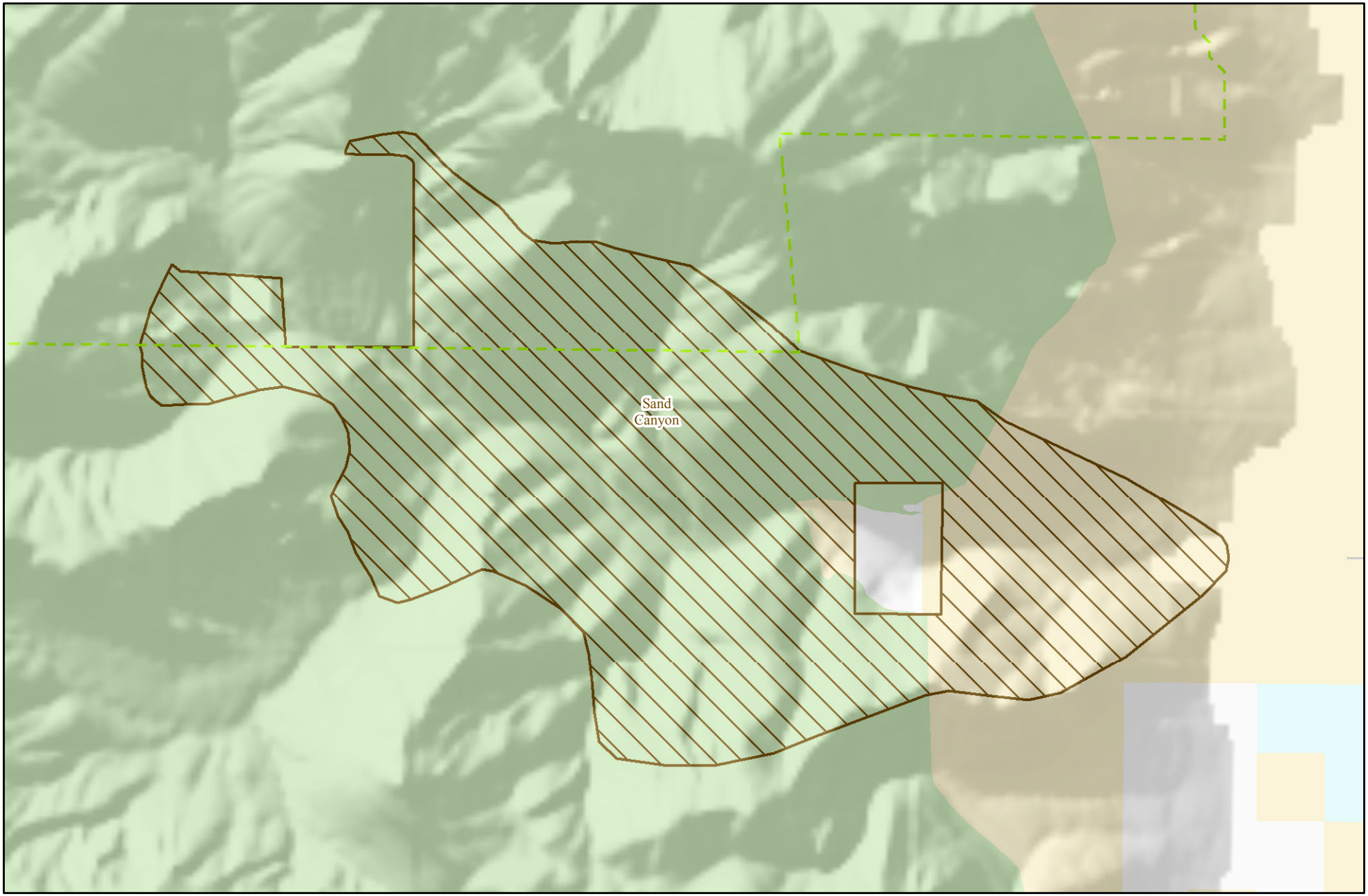
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Sand Canyon



0.7 Miles

1 Kilometers

N

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

Short Canyon

Description/Location: Eastern slope of the southern Sierras, 20 minutes northwest of Ridgecrest. Most of this ACEC lies within the Owens Peak Wilderness.

Description of National Significance:
Ecological: The area provides habitat for numerous special status plant species Charlotte's phacelia and Mojave tarplant. 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.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: ACEC #81/1990

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. Rich botanical resources, unusual vegetation and diverse flora. Wildlife of special management concern includes Mohave ground squirrel, Golden eagle and Prairie falcon. Unusual riparian plant assemblages occur that are rare in the desert environment.

Goals: To protect and enhance the ecosystem and provide compatible recreational opportunities while prompting nature studies and providing interpretive aids.

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	100	800	0	1%
1	100	800	0	1%
2	800**	800	0	1%
3	100	800	0	1%
4	100	800	0	1%

*** Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**
****Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness**

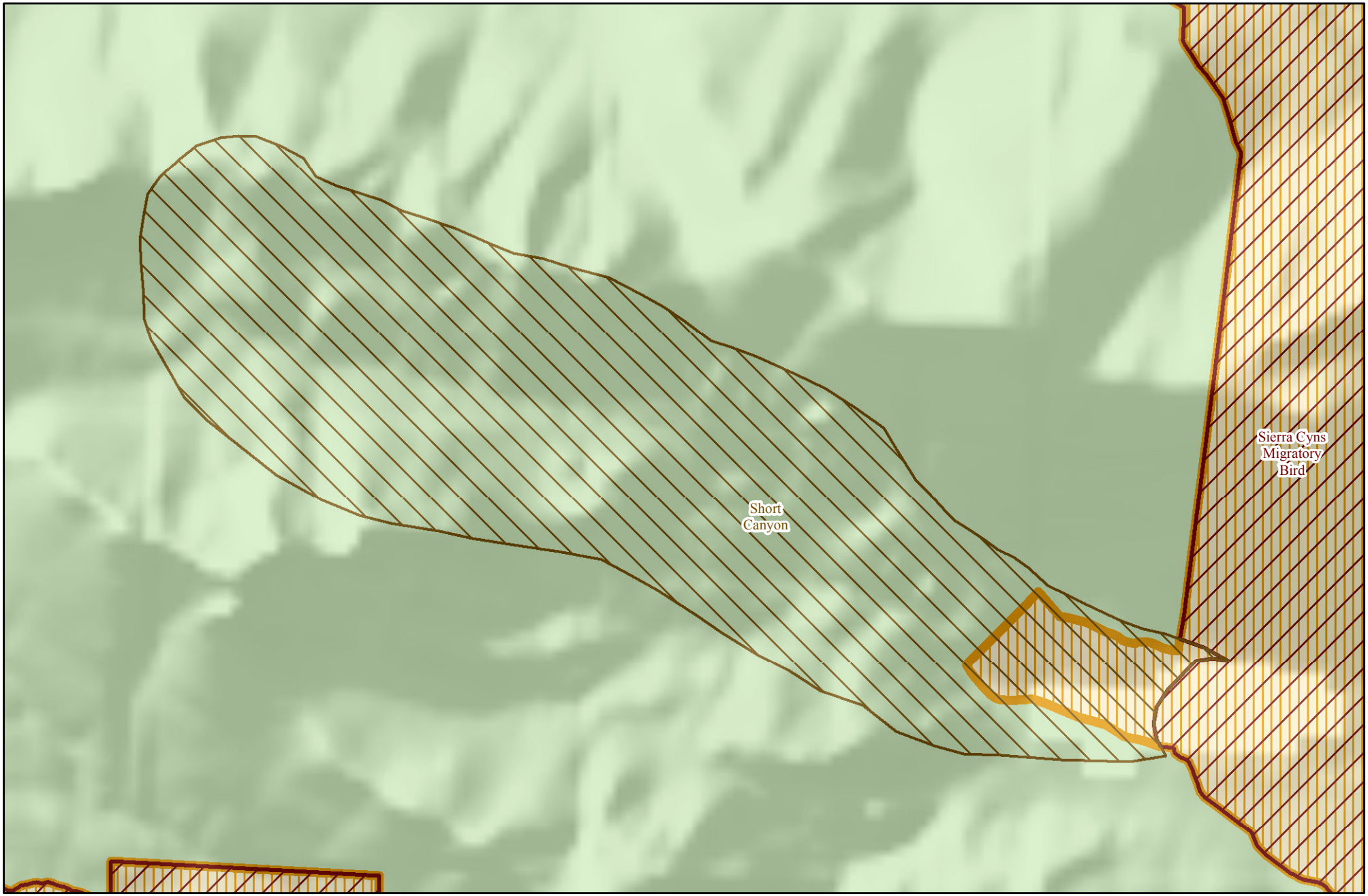
Alternatives:

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

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	**Resource**
Objective: Protect the quality and quantity of in-stream flow of the perennial stream Management Action: Build fences to exclude cattle from riparian area Provide alternative water source for cattle	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 Actions: Protect and monitor populations of special status plants Charlotte's phacelia (*Phacelia nashiana*) Mojave tarplant (*Deinandra mohavensis*) Prohibit collection of plants except by permit Rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed area Management Action: Protect natural communities listed as rare by the state.	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
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. Desert Tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) Federally and State threatened Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) State threatened Yellow-eared pocket mouse (*Perognathus xanthonotus*) BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
Objective: Limit vehicles to open designated routes and prevent user-created routes from developing. Allowable Uses: Motorized, non-motorized, Non-mechanized, Management Actions: Sign designated routes routinely Rehabilitate unauthorized vehicle play areas and hill climbs, particularly where off-route vehicle use is creating problems for wildlife and visual resources. 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. 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.	Trails and Travel Management

Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat. Increase information to public and LE patrols For complete description, see Eastern Sierra SRMA	
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 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, and work with volunteers to clean-up parking and camping areas on a regular basis. Impose seasonal restrictions on target shooting in sensitive riparian areas and where large numbers of people congregate to park or camp. Management Actions: Increase LE ranger patrols to enforce compliance with fire restrictions, camping limits, and vehicle use on the designated route system. Management Action: Designate certain areas for camping to remove impacts	Recreation
Objective: Provide for existing ROWs while protecting the sensitive resources. 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.	Rights of Way
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
Objective: Support the national need for reliable and sustainable domestic minerals while protecting the sensitive riparian and other resources in the area. 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	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leaseables

Short Canyon



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

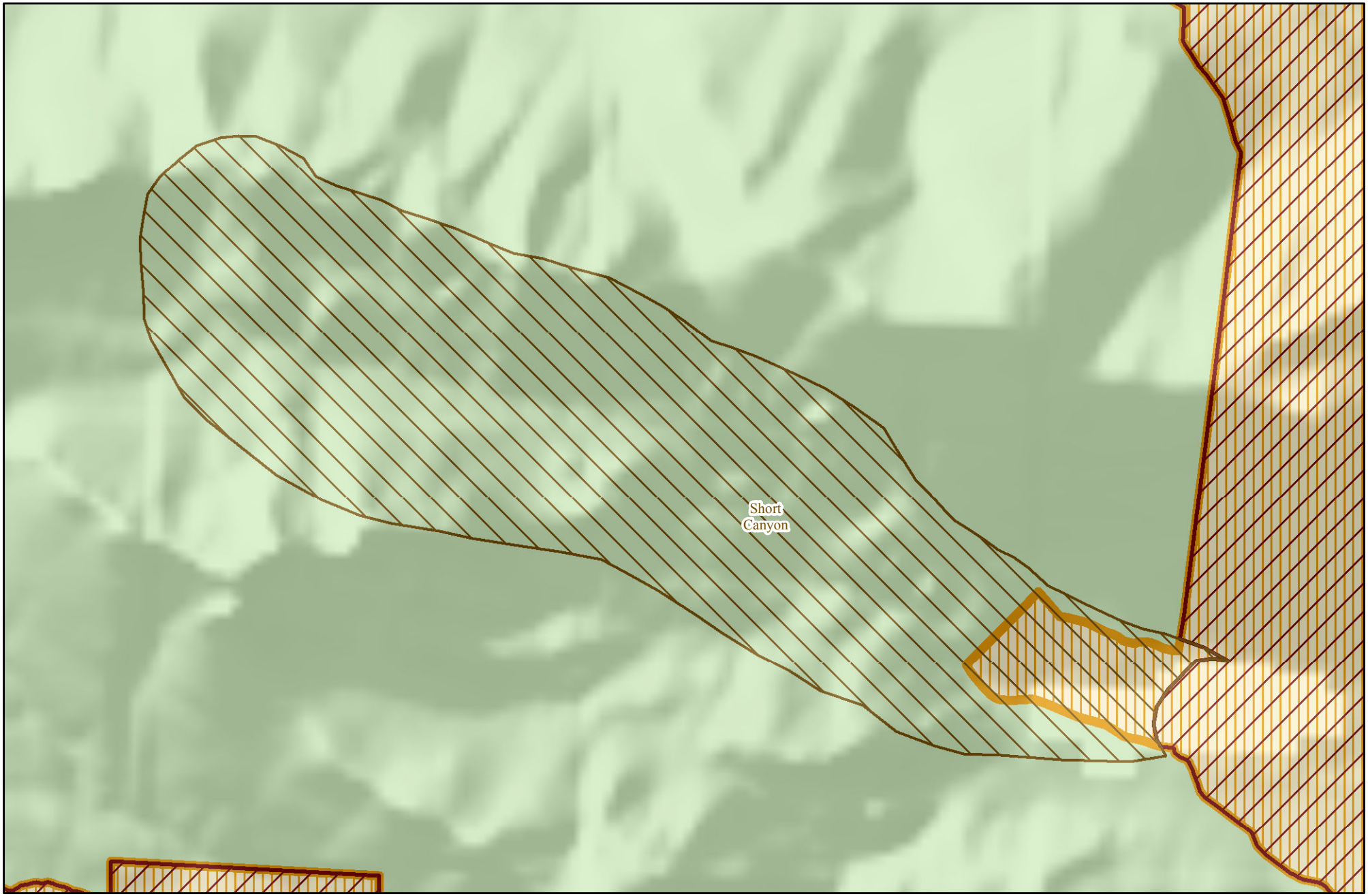
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Short Canyon



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

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

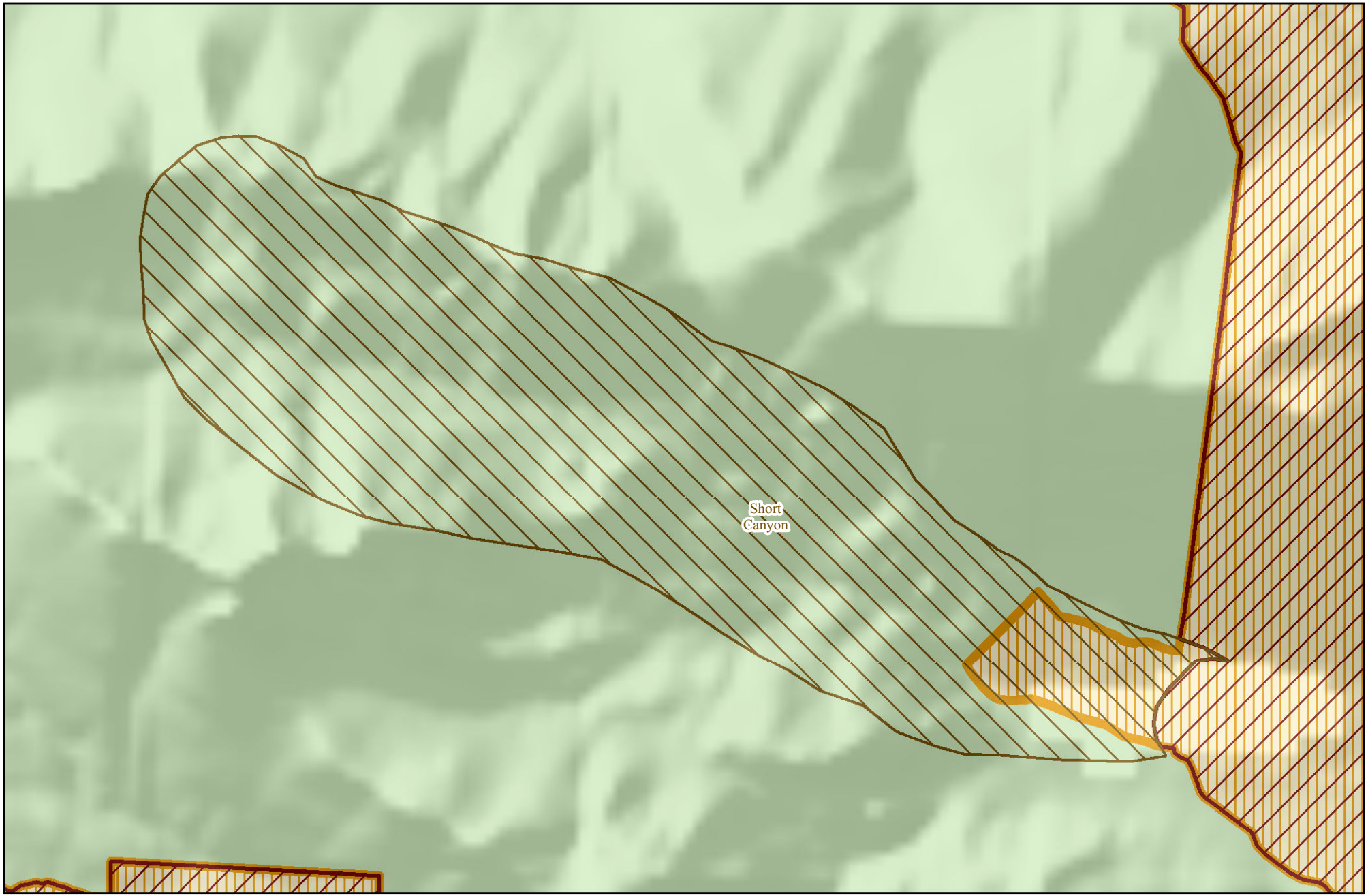
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Short Canyon



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

Alternative 2 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

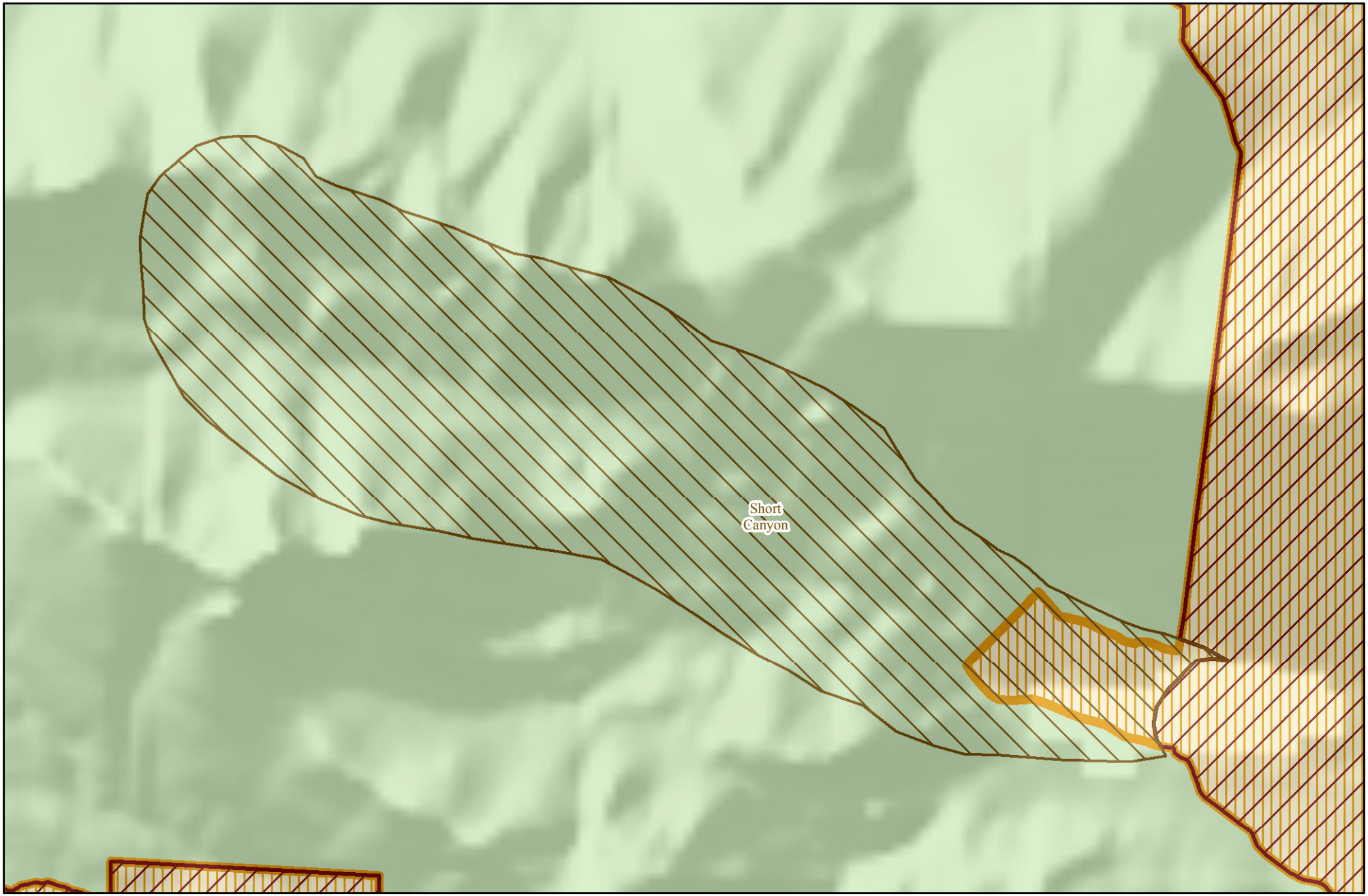
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Short Canyon



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

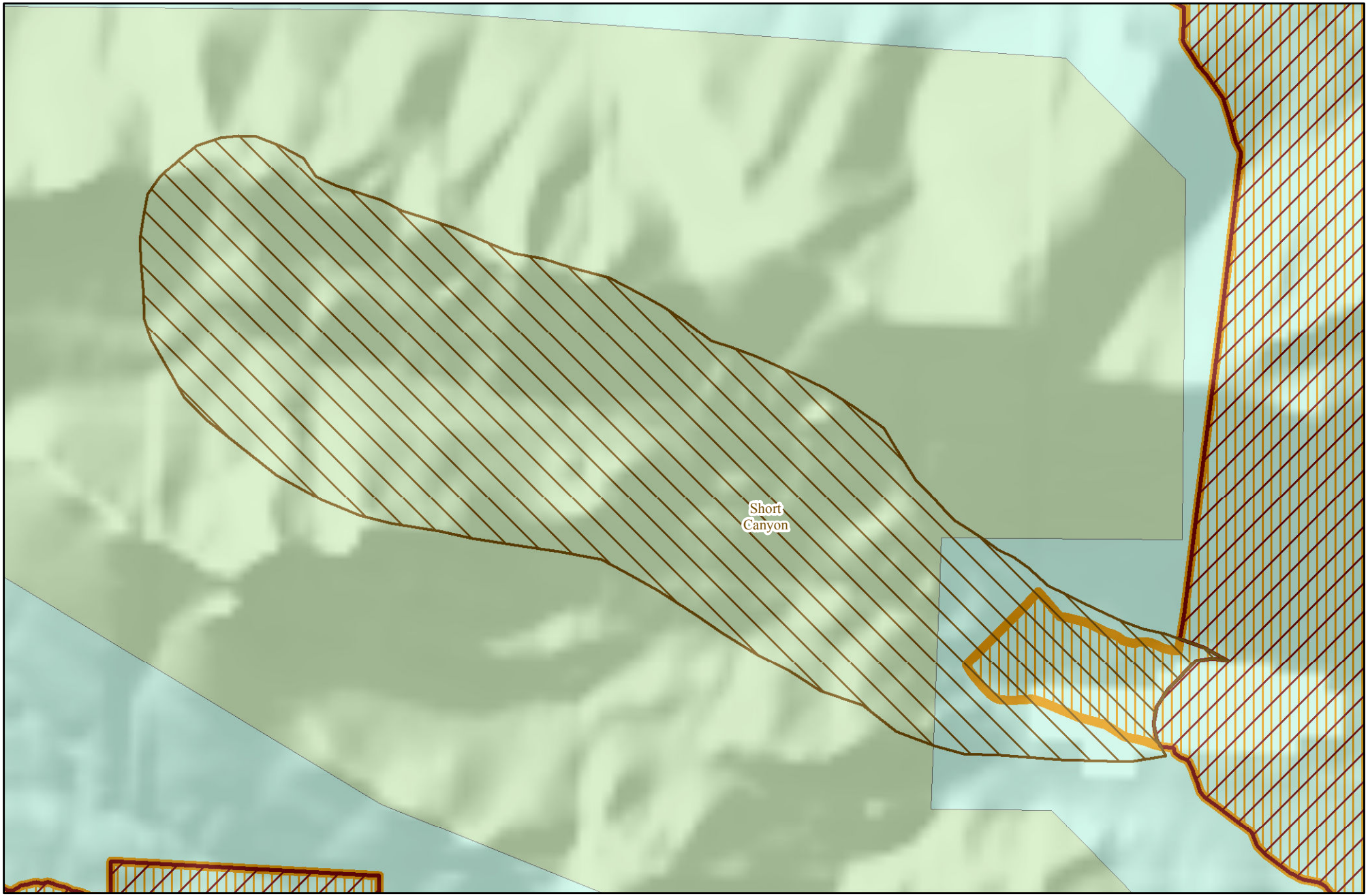
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Short Canyon



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

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

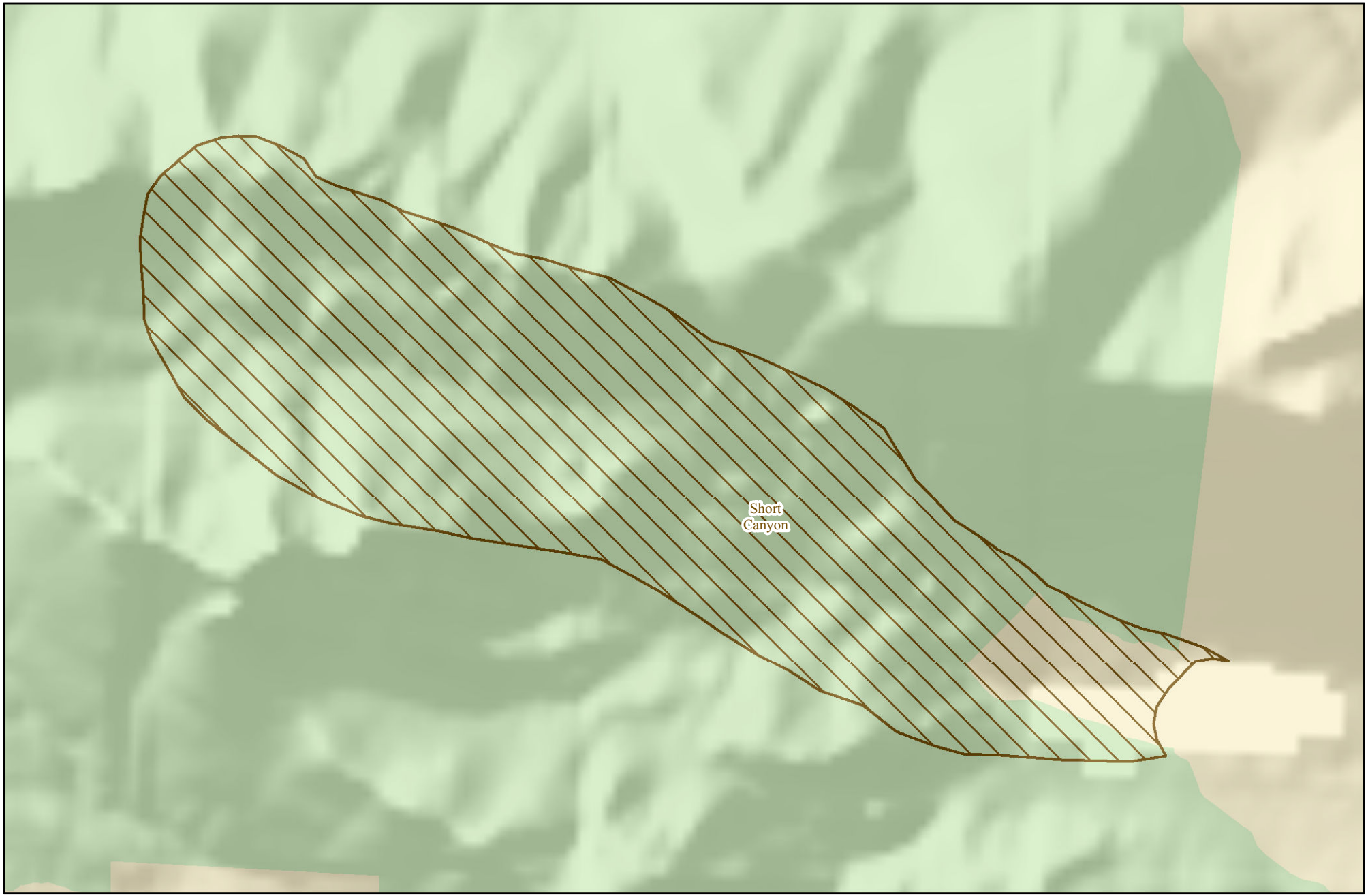
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Short Canyon



0.4 Miles

0.55 Kilometers

N

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

Western Rand Mountains

Description/Location: Located in the south-central portion of the Ridgecrest Resource Area. The area lies just west of Randsburg, Red Mountain, and Atolia and is bordered on the south by California City. The area includes the Rand Mountains, Fremont Valley, and Koehn Dry Lake.

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: This population of desert tortoises has been used as a control population in a long-term study.

Special Designations/Management Plan/Date: Plan 2/1993

Relevance and Importance Criteria: Relevant biological resources. This area includes significant wildlife habitat. It is considered to be the evolutionary home of the Desert Tortoise and the location of the highest historic Desert Tortoise population density throughout their range. The ACEC was designated because of the Desert Tortoise population conflicting with surface use activities. It overlaps the Fremont-Kramer ACEC which is critical desert tortoise habitat and the Mojave Ground Squirrel Conservation Area. It also contains habitat that supports other special status species including the Burrowing Owl.

Goals: Ensure that viable populations of the Desert Tortoise continue in the area. Limit fragmentation of Desert Tortoise critical 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	31,100	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	30,300	30,300	0	0.5%
1	0	31,100	0	0.5%
2	18,400	18,400	0	0.25%
3	30,300	30,300	0	0.5%
4	29,200	30,300	0	0.25%

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

Alternatives:
Under All Action Alternatives –this ACEC that overlaps the Freemont-Kramer ACEC and would be removed from Freemont-Kramer ACEC (but remained designated as Western Rand Moutnains ACEC) to eliminated the dual designation and assist the BLM in properly accounting number of acres in conservation status.

Alternatives Preferred, 3 and 4 -- this ACEC is reduced in size and these portions would be designated as a Development Focus Area and managed for renewable energy development.

Alternative 1 – This existing ACEC would continue to be managed for conservation purposes.

Alternative 2 – this ACEC is reduced in size (larger than Preferred, 3 and 4) and these portions would be designated as a Development Focus Area and managed for renewable energy development.

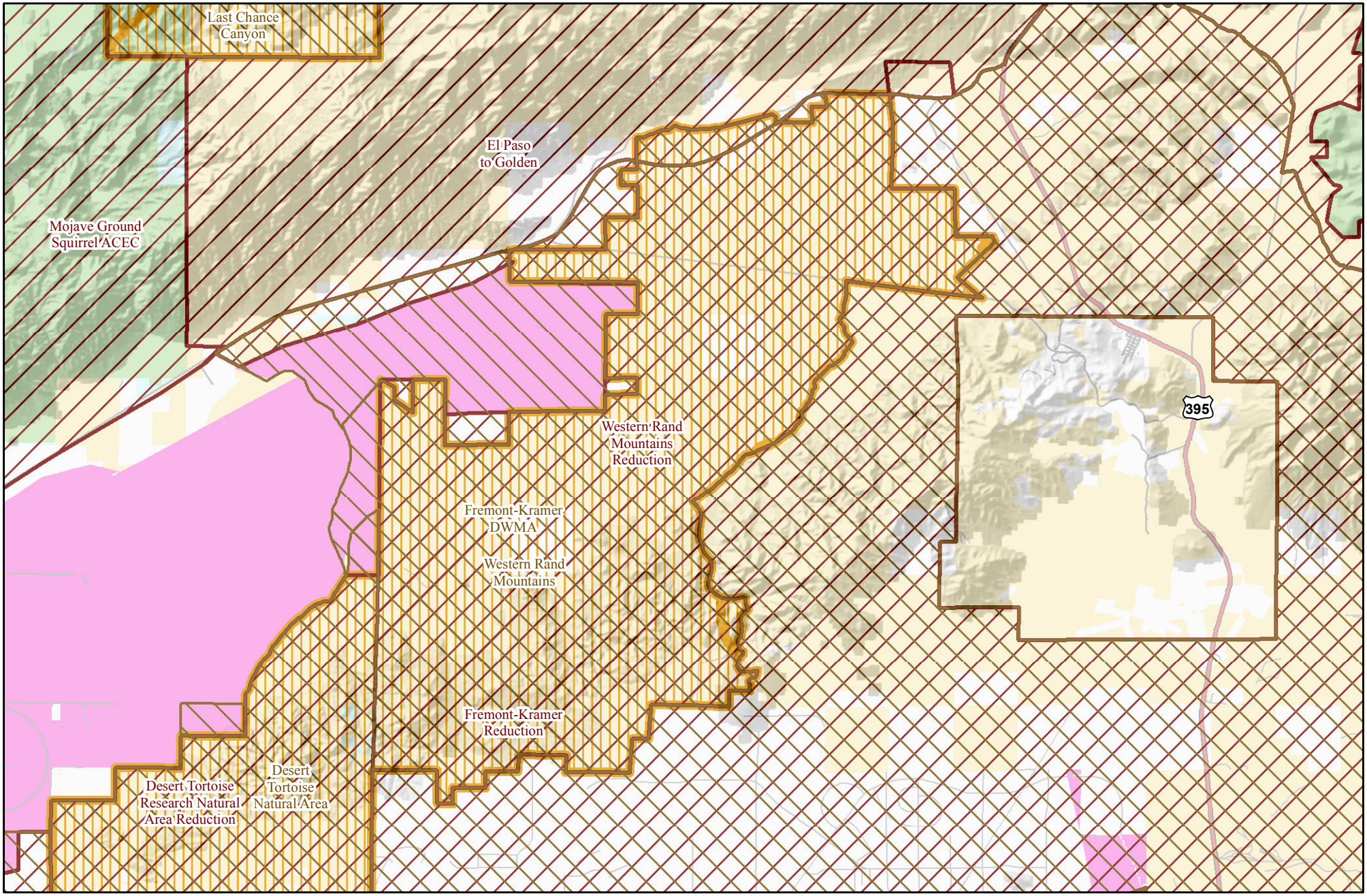
No Action – This existing ACEC would continue to be managed as it currently is, and the dual designation would remain.

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. Prohibit activities that pollute or degrade water sources , including CDFG gallinaceous guzzlers (CDCA plan Table 2)	Soil, water, air
Objective: Ensure biodiversity of plants is stable or improving Management Action: Rehabilitate/revegetate disturbed area Management Action: Maintain intact vegetation communities and prevent fragmentation. Protect natural communities listed as rare by the state.	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 Objective: Protect and enhance habitat to maintain stable or increasing population trends of special status species to ensure persistence: Management Action: Protect other sensitive species: Le Conte's Thrasher *(Toxostoma lecontei)* State Species of Special Concern Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus)* State Species of Special Concern American Badger (*Taxidea taxus)* State Special Animal Mohave ground squirrel (*Spermophilus mohavensis*) State threatened Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii) BLM sensitive* Pallid bat (*Antrozous pallidus)* BLM sensitive Spotted bat (*Euderma maculatum)* BLM sensitive	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)

Western Mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus)* BLM sensitive Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) BLM sensitive, Bald and Golden Eagle P. Act Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus)* USFWS Bird of Conservation Concern Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) BLM Sensitive Long-eared owl (*Asio otus*) State Species of Special Concern	
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: Modify the WEMO Route Network to reflect open routes through the ACEC and close other existing unauthorized routes Management Action: Sign designated routes routinely Management Action: Use minimization criteria for designating routes in Mohave ground squirrel and Desert tortoise habitat. Management Action: Increase information to public and LE patrols	Trails and Travel Management
Objective: Provide dispersed opportunities for enjoyment of the ACEC attributes 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. Parking of motor vehicles is allowed within 50 feet of the centerline of designated routes and not beyond this distance. Camping is restricted to five identified campsites within the Rand Mountain Fremont Valley Management Plan. Within DWMAs, 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. 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. May include: signing, delineating camping boundaries with rocks, installing vehicle barriers, and restoring areas behind signs, rocks, and barriers to stop vehicle camping use from expanding.	Recreation
Objective: Consolidate habitat management Management Action: Acquire inholdings from willing sellers	Land Tenure

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.	Rights of Way
Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development	Renewable Energy
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 DWMA 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 DWMA	Livestock grazing

Western Rand Mountains Reduction



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

N

Preferred Alternative ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

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

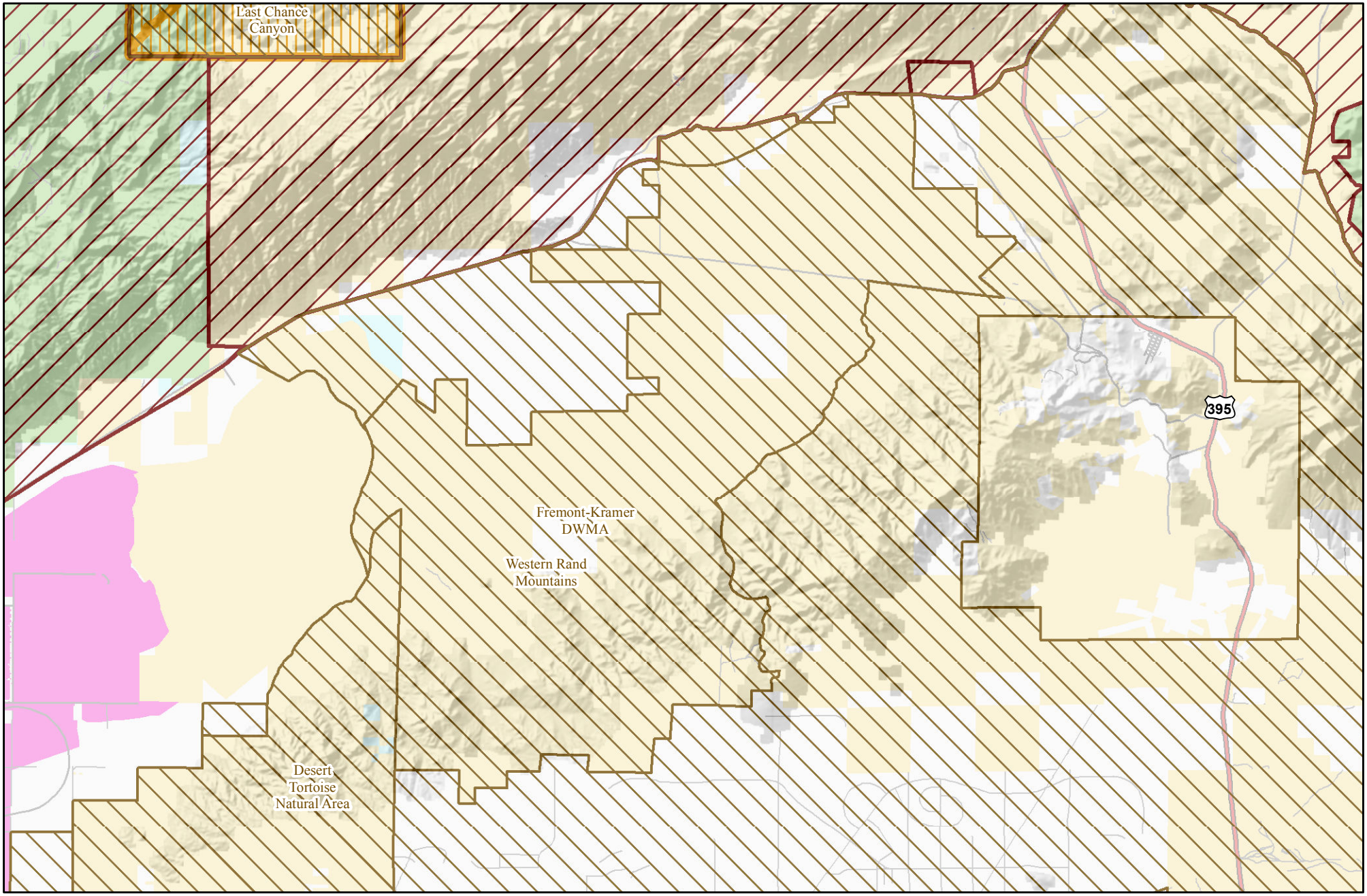
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Western Rand Mountains



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

N

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

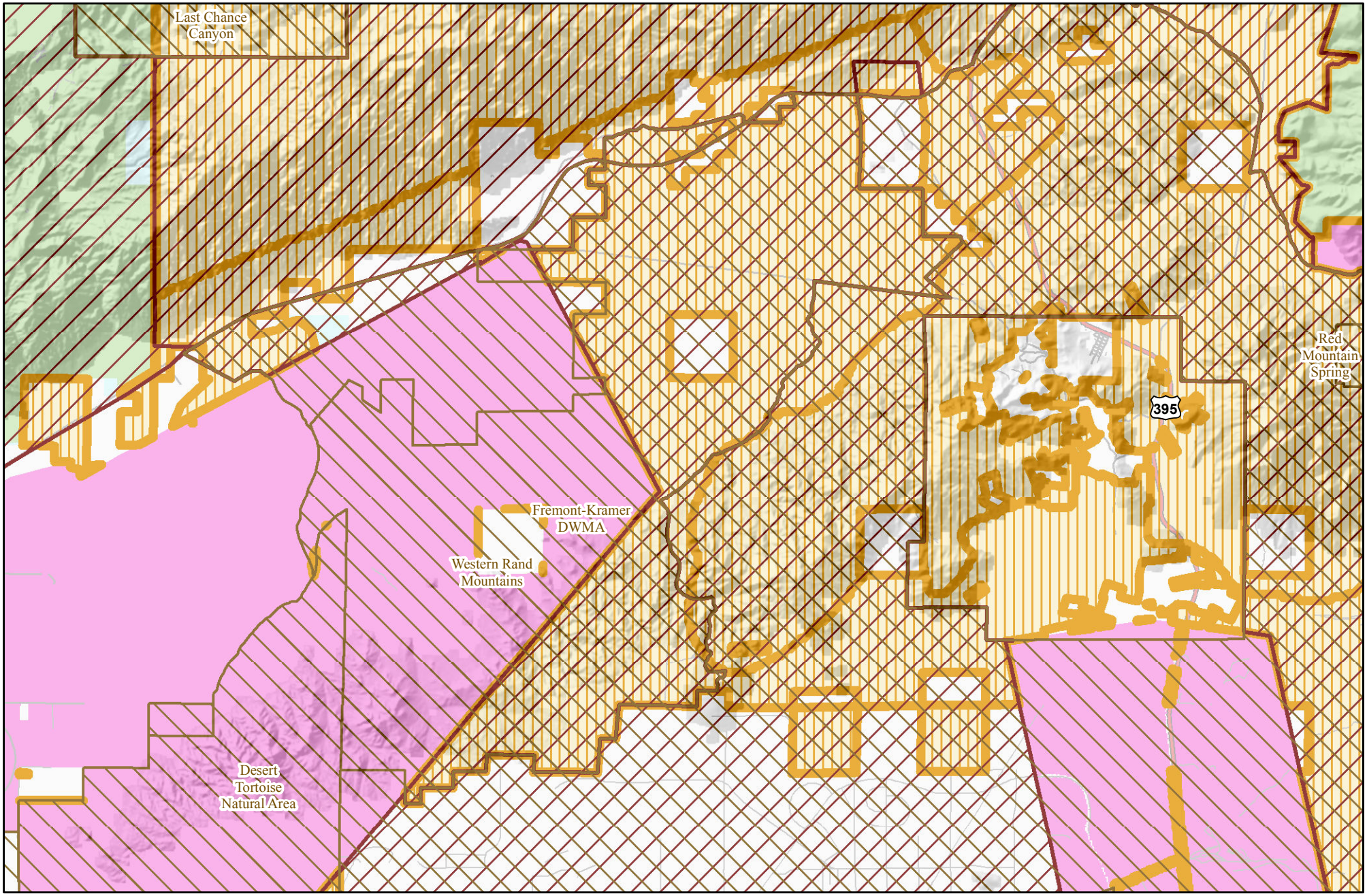
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Western Rand Mountains Reduction



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

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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

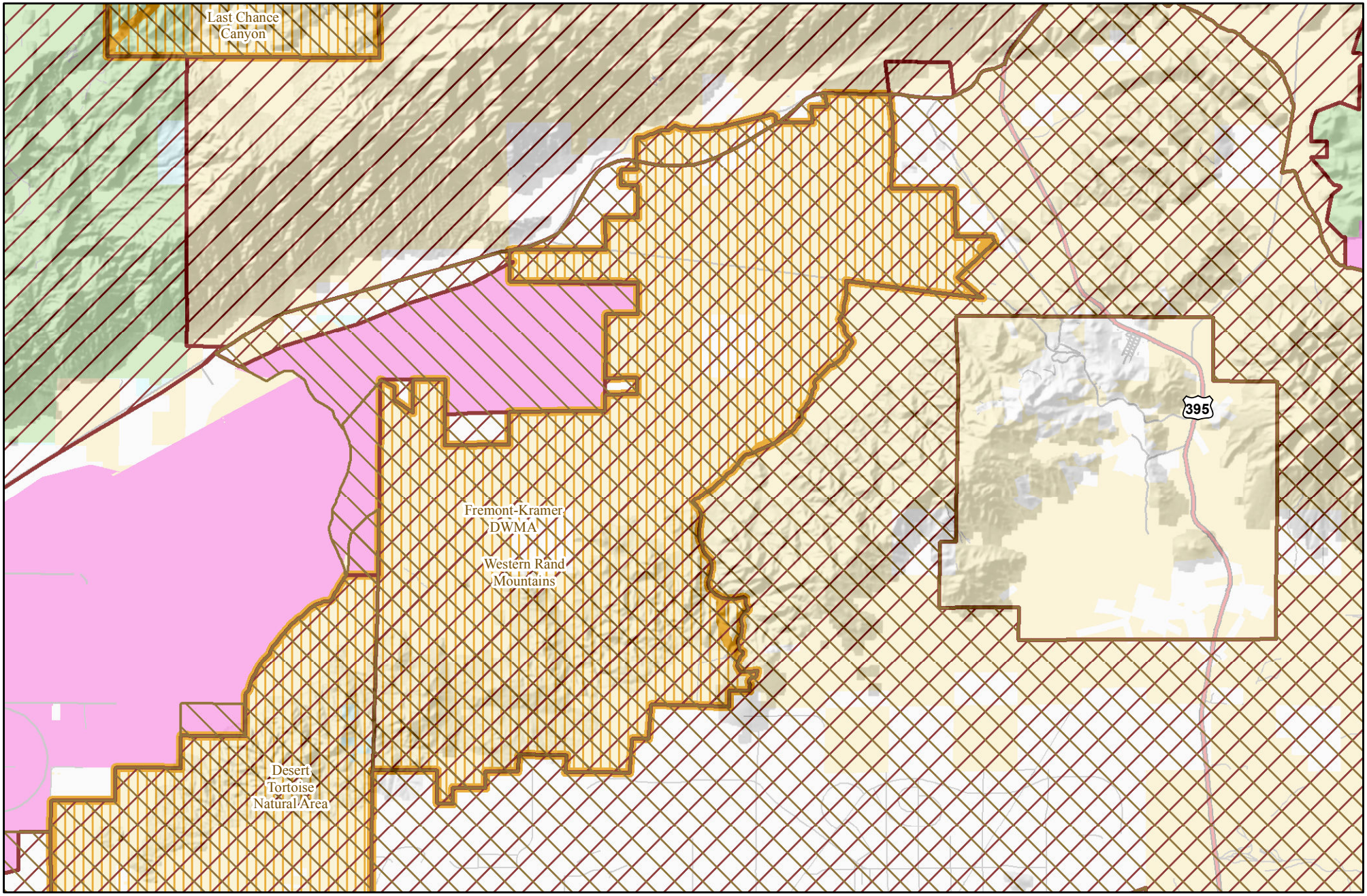
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Western Rand Mountains Reduction



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

N

Alternative 3 ACECs

Date Printed: 5/29/2013

Prepared by BLM California State Office

ACEC Layers

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

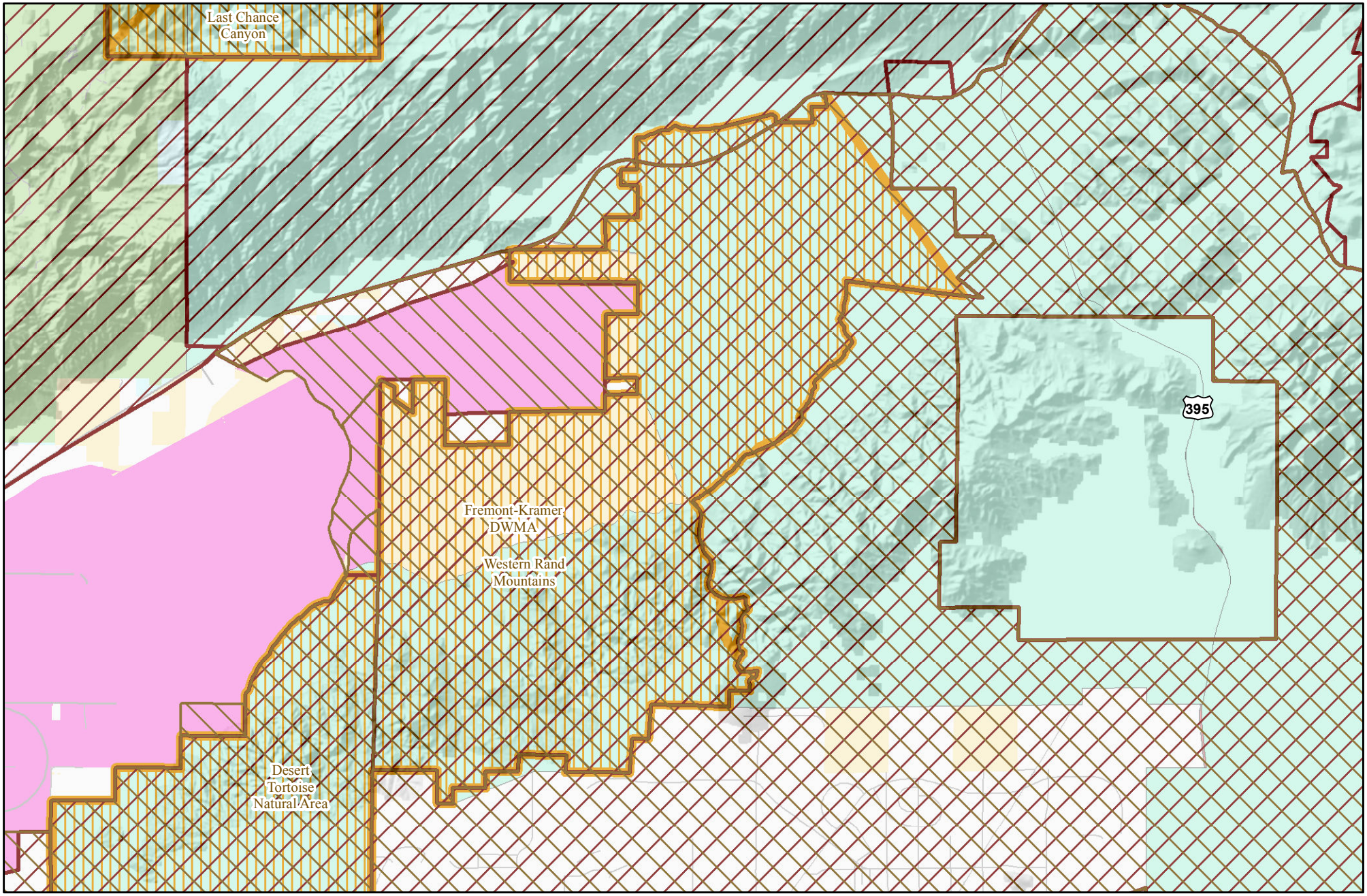
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Western Rand Mountains Reduction



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

N

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

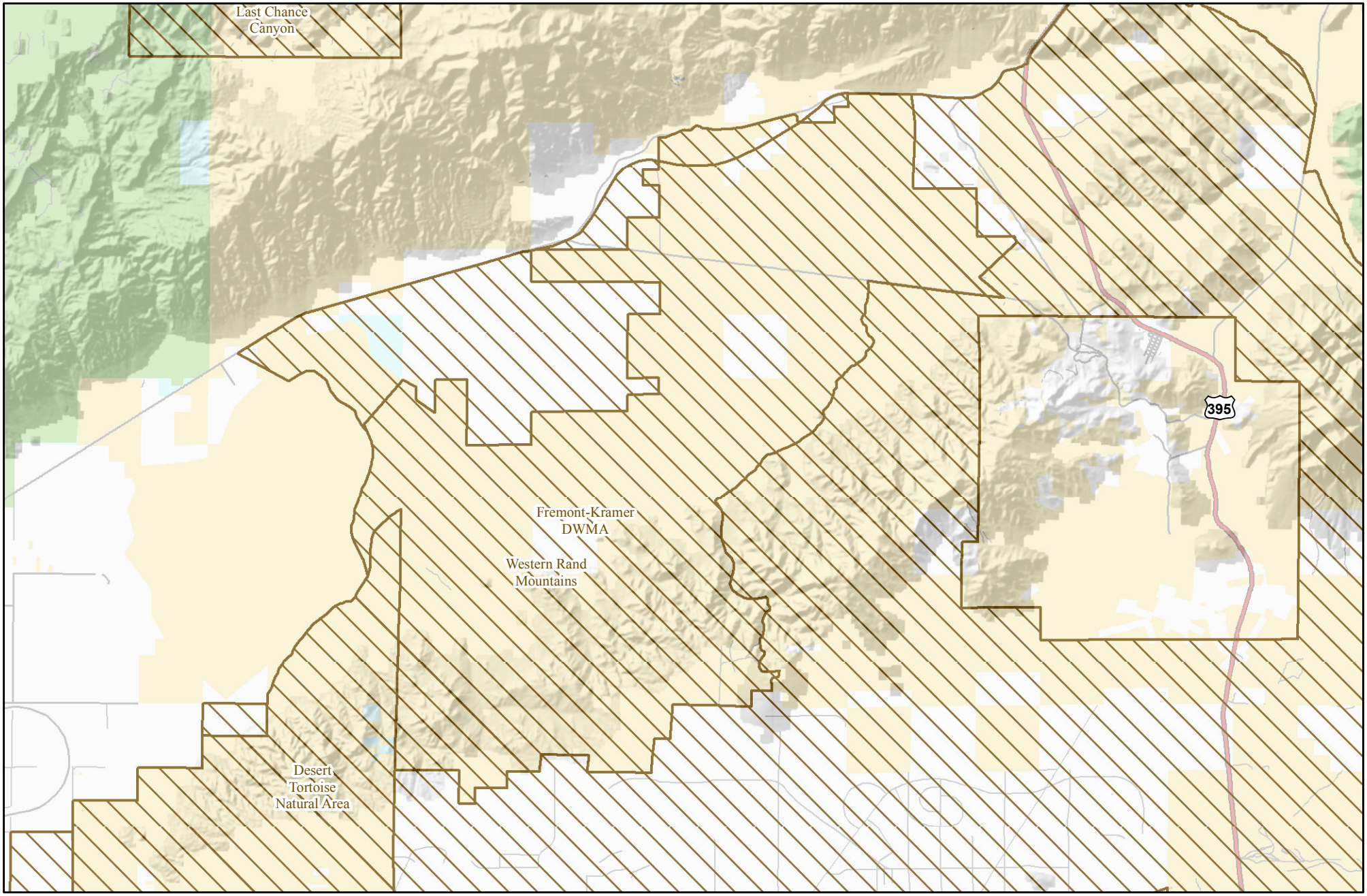
Land Status

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

GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy

Western Rand Mountains



3 Miles

4 Kilometers

N

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