

6310 - Wilderness Characteristics Inventory

Summary of Findings and Conclusions

Area Unique Identifier: CA-080-198 Kramer Hills

Summary: Even though the BLM manages around 42,890 acres within the inventory unit, the area is bisected by roads and dominated by primitive routes that dissect the unit until and it no longer meets the necessary contiguous size requirement.

Results of analysis:

- 1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? ___ Yes X No
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural? ___ Yes ___ No X N/A
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? X Yes ___ No X N/A
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? ___ Yes ___ No X N/A

Conclusion:

___ The area, or a portion of the area, has wilderness characteristics and is identified as lands with wilderness characteristics.

 X The area does not have wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by (team members):

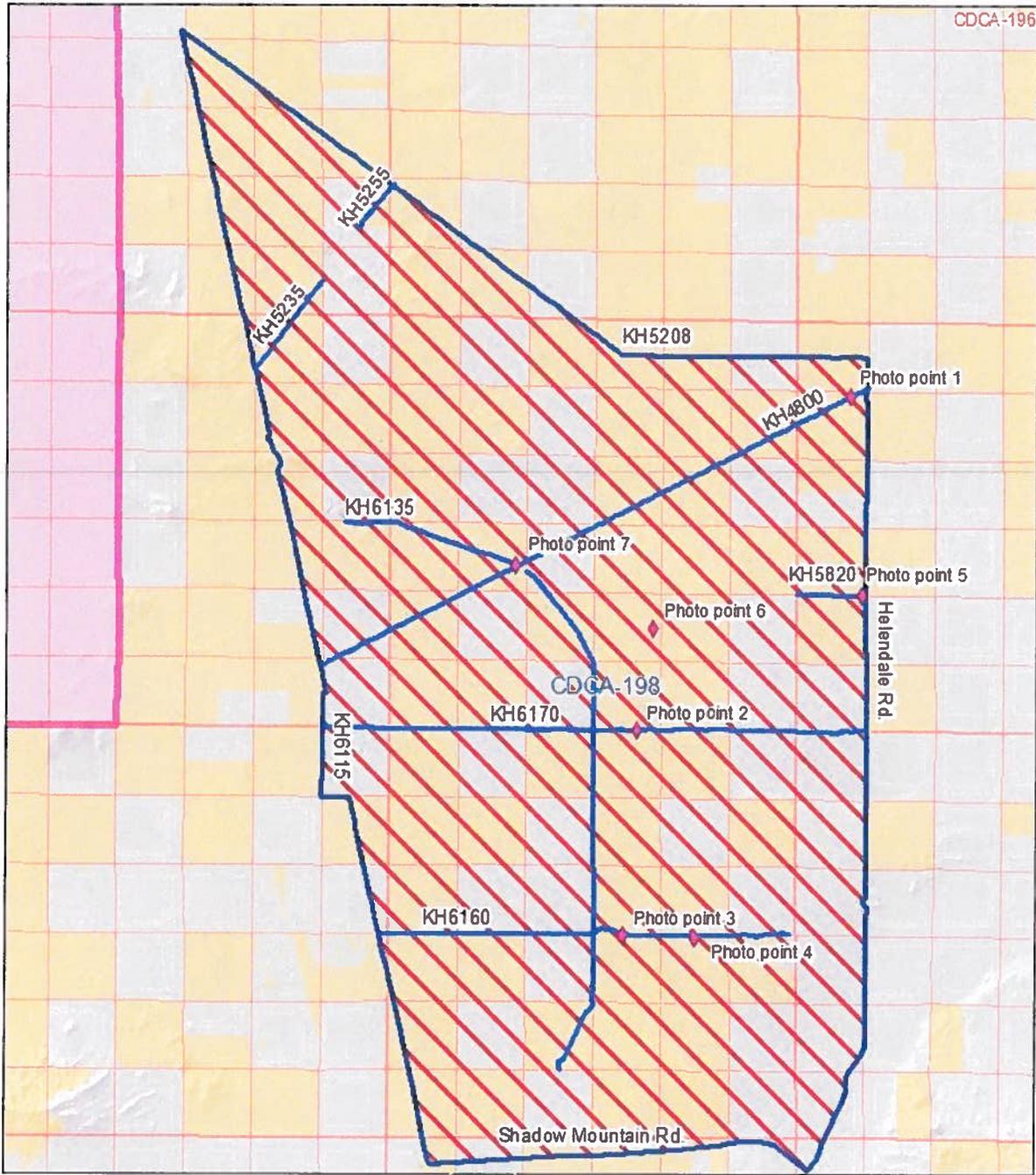
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January 2015

Reviewed by (District or Field Manager):

Name: [Signature] **Title:** Barstow Field Manager
Date: 3/13/15

* This form documents information that constitutes an inventory finding on wilderness characteristics. It does not represent a formal land use allocation or a final agency decision subject to administrative remedies under either 43 CFR parts 4 or 1610.5-3.



CDCA-196

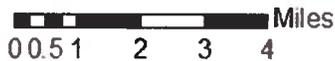
- Roads
- Lands with wilderness characteristics**
- No
- Land managed by AGENCY**
- Bureau of Land Management
- Department of Defense
- Unclassified
- Photo points



WIU 198 Kramer Hills

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FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Characteristics Inventory Findings from Previous Inventory on Record

1. Is there existing BLM wilderness characteristics inventory information on all or part of this area?

No ____ (Go to Form 2) Yes X (If yes, and if more than one area is within the area, list the unique identifiers for those areas.):

a) Inventory Source: California Desert Conservation Area - Wilderness Inventory - Final Descriptive Narratives - March 31, 1979

b) Inventory Area Unique Identifier(s): CA-080-198 Kramer Hills

c) Map Name(s)/Number(s): California Desert Access Guide: Victorville (2012) Surface Management Status, 1:100,000

d) BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): California Desert District, Barstow Field Office

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record:

Natural Condition:

The low Kramer Hills have been extensively mined. Access routes are numerous and are used as much by rock hounds as miners. An abandoned power line maintenance road splits the area from northeast to southwest. Several sections of land in the southern half of the area have been impacted by speculative development. Access roads and street networks have been carved into the desert floor. The area is commonly used for competitive motorcycle events. These impacts are substantially noticeable and significantly detract from the primeval character and influence of the land.

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation:

The Kramer Hills are low ridges which do not provide screening from other visitors or give any feeling of isolation due to the proximity of the U.S. 395, the large power lines, provides no vegetative screening; however, its size does provide for outstanding opportunities for solitude. The topography lacks diversity and is impacted by many ways which negate opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation.

Inventory Source: California Desert Conservation Area - Wilderness Inventory - Final Descriptive Narratives - March 31, 1979

Area Unique Identifier	Sufficient Size? Yes/No	Naturalness? Yes/No	Outstanding Solitude? Yes/No	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Yes/No	Supplemental Values? Yes/No
CA-080-198	Y	N	Y	N	N

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier: CA-080-198 Kramer Hills

Total Acreage: 67,188

(1) Is the area of sufficient size?

Yes _____ No X

Description:

Approximately 60% (42,890 acres) of the inventory unit is managed by the BLM while the other 40% (23,968 acres) is private land.

The northern border of area 198 is a steel structured power line marked KH5208 (on map). The inventory unit is bounded to the east by Helendale Rd. while the western boundary is KH6115. The southern boundary is Shadow Mountain Road.

Even though the total acreage meets the size requirement, the existing public land does not meet the necessary size due to multiple areas that are bisected by roads as well as areas dominated by popular routes (see attached map). The most prominent road that cuts through the entire unit is road KH4800 located in the Northern area of unit 198. Furthermore, other roads that cause the unit to be disqualified for lands with wilderness characteristics are roads: KH5235, KH5255, KH6170, KH6160, and KH6135. As well as these roads, many primitive routes that are driven constantly dominate the landscape throughout the inventory unit.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

(3) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for solitude?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

(4) Does the area (or the remainder of the area if a portion has been excluded due to unnaturalness and the remainder is of sufficient size) have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

(5) Does the area have supplemental values (ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic or historical value)?

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY

Appendix A - Route Analysis

Route #	Purpose	ROW	Constructed or Improved Mechanically	Is it in regular and continuous use	Maintenance if needed	WIU Road	Photo point
KH4800	recreation	No	Yes-berms and the straightness of the road	Yes-multiple tracks	Yes-No maintenance necessary	Yes	#1
KH5235	recreation or access, also leads to private inholdings	No	Yes-large berms on sides of road	Yes-route sees multiple user groups	Yes-No maintenance necessary, leads to private lands	Yes	
KH6170	recreation or access, also leads to private inholdings	No	Yes-berms on side of road, straightness of construction	Yes-Multiple tracks	Yes-No maintenance necessary, leads to private lands	Yes	#2
KH6160	recreation or access, also leads to private inholdings	No	Yes-large berms on sides of road	Yes-passed users during survey, multiple tracks	Yes-No maintenance necessary, leads to private lands.	Yes	#3
KH6135	recreation	No	Yes-berms and grading	Yes multiple tracks	Yes-No maintenance necessary	Yes	

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS INVENTORY
APPENDIX B – PHOTO LOG**

Photographer(s): Hannah Morris, Dan Maus, Erin Mounce, Brendan O'Connor
Inventory Area Unique Identifier: CA-080-198 Kramer Hills

Date	Frame #	Camera Direction	Description	GPS/UTM Location	Township	Range	Sec.	Photo Point #
1/7/2015		southwest	Looking at Road KH4800	-117.334207 W 34.892172 N	11N	5W	7	1
1/7/2015		west	Looking at road KH6170	-117.389863 W 34.820712 N	11N	6W	3	2
1/7/2015			Looking at road KH6160	-117.393042 W 34.776908 N	11N	6W	22	3
1/7/2015	1	east	180 degree photo facing networks of roads and popular routes	-117.374485 W 34.776273 N	11N	6W	23	4
1/7/2015	2	south	networks of roads and popular routes	-117.374485 W 34.776273 N	11N	6W	23	4
1/7/2015	3	west	networks of roads and popular routes	-117.374485 W 34.776273 N	11N	6W	23	4
1/7/2015		west	Road KH5820	-117.331212 W 34.849452 N	11N	5W	19	5
1/7/2015		north	Another area with networks of routes that are driven often	-117.385693W 34.842472 N	11N	6W	27	6
1/7/2015		northwest	Open route 6135	-117.421602 W 34.855767 N	11N	5W	20	7

Photo point 1- The photo below was taken looking into the unit at road KH4800. This road travels through the entire inventory unit and is visible all the way to the horizon. It has small berms but it is in consistent use for private inholding access and recreation. It cuts off a large section of land in the northern region of the unit, affecting the size requirement for lands with wilderness characteristics. 1/7/15



Photo point 2- This photo is looking west into the unit at road KH6170, which also cuts through a large portion of the inventory unit. It separates the central region from much of the inventory unit area. 1/7/15



Photo point 3- This photo is looking at road KH6160 and separates the southern region from the inventory unit area. 1/7/15



Photo point 4- Frame 1- The photo below is facing east along route KH6159. Networks of routes are visible and common of the entire inventory unit. These routes dissect contiguous areas of public lands into sections smaller than 5,000 acres. 1/7/15



Photo point 4- Frame 2- Facing south on road KH6159 in the southern area of the unit. This road and other routes lace the southern portion making the area even harder to meet the minimum acreage for lands with wilderness characteristics. 1/7/15



Photo point 4- Frame 3- This photo is facing west on road KH6159. This route along with many others cross over and cut through KH6160 affecting the size requirement of the inventory unit. 1/7/15



Photo point 5- This designated route, KH5820 cuts through the eastern central region of the unit and bisects S19 and 30, T9N R4W. 1/7/15



Photo point 6- Impacts like this are common throughout the inventory unit and create a network of routes dominating the landscape, and detract from naturalness. 1/7/15



Photo point 7- This photo was taken facing north along designated route KH6135, which runs north and south through the unit, bisecting it into multiple sections with less than 5,000 acres. 1/7/15

