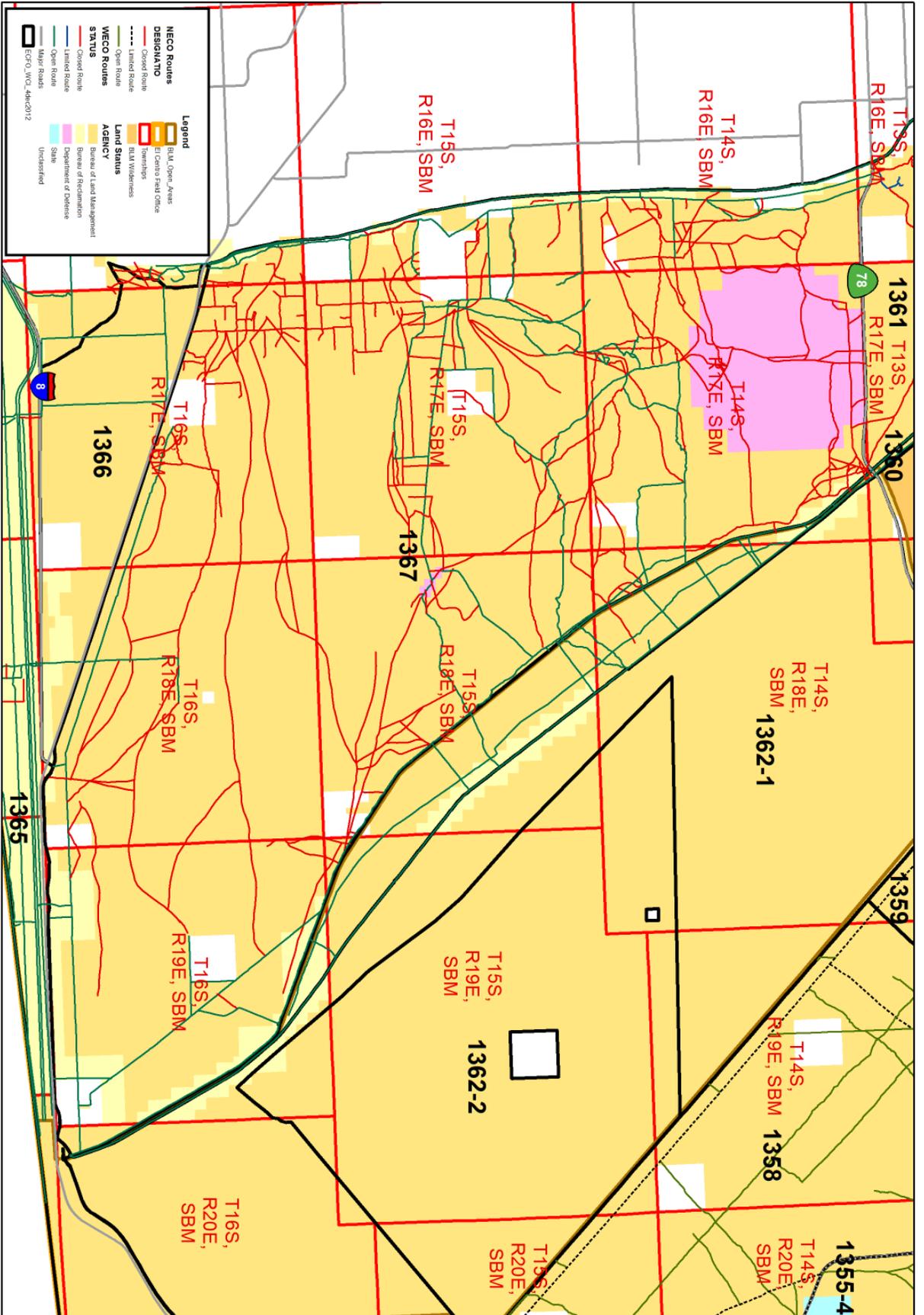


Wilderness Character Inventory 1367-1 - Locator Map





Wilderness Character Inventory - CDCA_1367



IV. NATURAL CONDITION

Except for some agricultural activity in the west, this roadless area is without permanent improvements or human habitation.

V. OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLITUDE OR A PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED TYPE OF RECREATION

Due to the conforming size and shape, and the lack of topographic relief, opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are severely restricted.

VI. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Those comments which addressed inventory considerations supported the findings. Other comments addressed only study phase considerations.

AREA 367

I. PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

This area is bounded by Highway 78 to the north; the Coachella Canal and access road to the east; Interstate 8 to the south; and, maintained roads and the Highline Canal to the west.

II. LAND OWNERSHIP

Approximately nine or ten sections in the area are non-public lands. The area is in a Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal.

III. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENT

This area consists almost entirely of creosote vegetation on relatively flat and uniform terrain, with little topographic relief.

IV. NATURAL CONDITION

Portions of this area are affected by man and are not natural. Portions of Sections 36, (T. 15 S., R. 18 E.), and 16, (T. 16 S., R. 18 E.), and all of Section 16, (T. 16 S., R. 19 E.) have been cleared for agriculture. Several roads enter the western edge of the area. One of these roads penetrates the heart of the area to a U. S. Naval Reservation. A jeep trail from the eastern boundary connects to this reservation. Another Navy reservation to the north has recently had extensive bombing use. There is also a road to an additional Navy reservation in the northern portion. Portions of the area also have some scars from off-road vehicles. The remainder of the area has been affected primarily by the forces of nature.

V. OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLITUDE OR A PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED TYPE OF RECREATION

Opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are restricted in the area due to the Navy leases, agriculture development, roads, off-road vehicle scars and flat terrain.

VI. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

The majority of the comments received disagreed with the exclusion of the area from further wilderness study. One comment dealt with the improper exclusion of a road. The area was reevaluated, and appropriate changes have been made.

AREA 368

I. PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

The northern border of this area is a portion of Interstate 8 and State Highway 98. The western border consists of the California Desert Conservation Area boundary. To the

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory (Public)

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier CDCA 1367-1 Acreage 126,255

(If the inventory area consists of subunits, list the acreage of each and evaluate separately).

In completing steps (1) – (5), use additional space as necessary.

(1) Is the area of sufficient size? (If the area meets one of the exceptions to the size criterion, check “Yes” and describe the exception in the space provided below),

Yes No

Note: If “No is checked, the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check “N/A” for the remaining questions below.

Description (describe the boundaries of the area—wilderness inventory roads, property lines, etc.):

The unit is bounded on the north by Highway 78; the Coachella Canal and access road on the east; Interstate 8 on the south; and east Highline Canal and maintenance roads to the west. The majority of this unit is Public Lands with a mixture of Private and Military Lands scattered throughout.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes No N/A

Note: If “No is checked, the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check “N/A” for the remaining questions below.

Description (include land ownership, location, topography, vegetation, and summary of major human uses/activities):

The unit is almost entirely creosote vegetation on relatively flat and uniform terrain, with little topographic relief. Portions of this unit have been affected by man and are not natural. Several roads enter the western edge and penetrate the heart of the unit to access a U.S. Naval Reservation that has extensive bombing use. The northern half of the unit has several WECO designated routes of travel eliminating this area due to unnaturalness. The southern half (of greater than 50,000 acres) of the unit is more natural with occasional cross-country OHV use.

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

Yes No N/A

Description (describe the area’s outstanding opportunities for solitude):

Opportunities for solitude are restricted in the area due to Navy leases, agriculture development, roads, OHV scars, and flat terrain.

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Note: If "No" is checked for both 3 and 4, the area does not have wilderness characteristics; check "N/A" for question 5.

Description (describe the area's outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation):

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

Yes _____ No _____ N/A X

Description:

(Add description here)