



Legend	
NECO Routes	Townships
DESIGNATION	Sections
Closed Route	BLM Wilderness
Limited Route	Land Status
Open Route	AGENCY
WECC Routes	Bureau of Land Management
STATUS	Bureau of Reclamation
Closed Route	Department of Defense
Limited Route	State
Open Route	Unclassified
Major Roads	
ECFO_WCI_4dec2012	

Wilderness Character Inventory - CDCA_1361



usage. In addition, this area contains only two sections of private land. The area to the north of this landmark boundary has been excluded from Wilderness consideration because of man's disturbances. It includes Mammoth Wash, which is heavily used by off-road vehicles, resulting in reduced natural vegetative cover. The area around Glamis has also been excluded due to the buildings, roads, and off-road vehicle scars.

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

The complexity of the dune system, as well as natural screening of visitors from one another by terrain and thick stands of mesquite vegetation provide outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Due to the unique natural qualities and the natural condition of the southern portion, freedom of movement is unimpeded.

VI. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

A majority of the comments speaking to the inventory factors agreed with the present status of the area's boundaries or felt they should be expanded. Other comments said the area had roads that hadn't been included or that the works of man were evident. The area has been re-evaluated and changes have been made where appropriate. Many of the comments received dealt entirely with study phase factors.

AREA 361

I. PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

This area is bordered on the north by a maintained road; on the east, by the Coachella Canal and access road; on the south, by Highway 78; and, on the west, by the East Highline Canal and access road.

II. LAND OWNERSHIP

Only one section is non-public land.

III. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENT

This area is relatively flat and heavily vegetated with creosote, and is a portion of East Mesa. This sandy area is part of the Algodones Dune system that extends east into roadless Areas 360 and 362.

IV. NATURAL CONDITION

The central portion of this area is a U.S. Naval Reservation bombing area; otherwise, the majority of the area appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. The Schoneman Road in the western portion leads to several gravel pits which reduce the natural condition. The entire roadless area is within a Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal.

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

Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation are restrictive due to the large military inholding, which prevents freedom of travel.

VI. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Most comments received recommended the area be included for further study, primarily because it is an integral part of the larger Algodones Dunes area. Those agreeing with deletion of the area did so because of geothermal potential in the area.

AREA 362

I. PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES

The northern boundary of this area parallels Highway 78; the western boundary, a combination of the Coachella Canal and access road and the new, bulldozed, Coachella

Wilderness Characteristics Inventory (Public)

FORM 2

Current Conditions: Presence or Absence of Wilderness Characteristics

Area Unique Identifier CDCA 1361-1 Acreage 33,380

(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 X 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.):

This area is bordered on the north by Mammoth Wash; on the east by the Coachella Canal and access road; on the south by Highway 78; and on the west by the East Highline Canal and access road. The unit has a couple WECO designated routes of travel and is a mix of Public Lands, Military and Private.

(2) Does the area appear to be natural?

Yes X 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 relatively flat and heavily vegetated with creosote, and is a portion of the East Mesa. This unit is part of the Algodones Dune system that extends into CDCA_360-1 and CDCA_362-1. The central portion of the unit is a U.S. Naval Reservation bombing area; otherwise, the majority of the area appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature.

(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 X N/A _____

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

Outstanding opportunities for solitude are restrictive due to the large military inholding, which prevent freedom of travel.

(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)