

Summary of Findings and Conclusion

Unit Name and Number: **WIU #CDCA 182-1**

Summary

Results of Analysis:

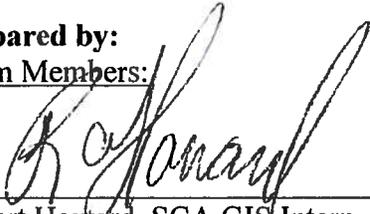
- 1. Does the area meet any of the size requirements? **Yes**
- 2. Does the area appear to be natural? **Yes**
- 3. Does the area offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation? **Yes**
- 4. Does the area have supplemental values? **Yes**

Conclusion

CDCA-182-1 has wilderness characteristics.

Prepared by:

Team Members:



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Date: 06-11-2013

Approved by:



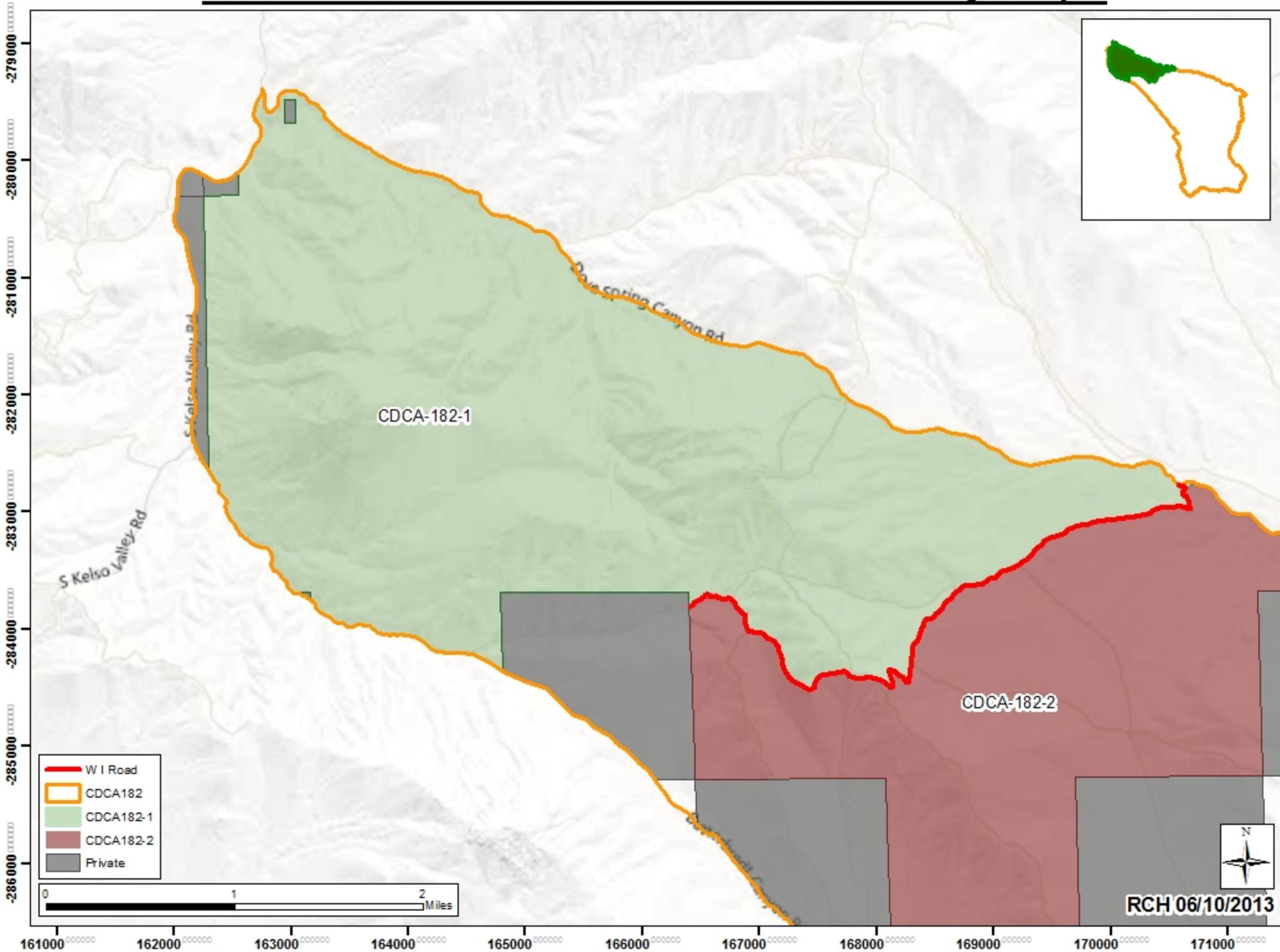
Carl B. Symons, Field Manager

6/19/2013

Date

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 1610.5-2.

CDCA-182-1 Wilderness Characteristics Inventory - Map 1



Year 2013 Inventory Unit Number/Name WIU #CDCA 182-1

FORM 1

Documentation of BLM Wilderness Inventory Findings On Record

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

Yes

Inventory Source: 1979 CDCA Wilderness Inventory Final Descriptive Narratives, BLM Ridgecrest FO

Inventory Unit Name(s)/Number(s): WIU #CDCA-182

Map Name(s)/Number(s): USDI BLM CASO Wilderness Final Inventory, March 31, 1979

BLM District(s)/Field Office(s): Ridgecrest Field Office

2. BLM Inventory Findings on Record

Existing inventory information regarding wilderness characteristics:

Inventory Source: 1979 CDCA Wilderness Inventory Final Descriptive Narratives, BLM, Ridgecrest FO

Unit#/ Name	Size (acres)	Natural Condition? Y/N	Outstanding Solitude? Y/N	Outstanding Primitive & Unconfined Recreation? Y/N	Supplemental Values? Y/N
1979 Findings within WIU #CDCA 182	Y	N	N	N	N/A
2013 Findings within WIU #CDCA 182-1	Y (8,639 acres)	Y	Y	Y	Y

Summarize any known primary reasons for prior findings in this table:

The 1979 CDCA Wilderness Inventory defines the boundaries of CDCA-182 as: Dove Spring Canyon road and connecting ranch road to the north; the Los Angeles Aqueduct maintenance road to the east; Jawbone Canyon Road to the south; and, Butterbrecht Canyon Road to the west. According to the inventory, 80-90 percent of the unit is in a checkerboard pattern, alternating between public and non-public land.

The topography of CDCA-182 is diverse, especially in the northern section. A variety of mountains, valleys, and foothills exist across the unit, highlighted by Gold Peak, Pinyon Mountain, and Mayan Peak. The topographic diversity of the unit helps support a wide range of vegetation including Joshua trees, Pinyon Pine, desert shrub, and native grasses, which occur at a greater frequency at upper elevations. The southern portion of the unit consists of low, rolling hills and lacks the diversity of both geology and vegetation found in the north.

The inventory concludes that condition of the unit is reflected by the “open” and “special design” designations which allow off-road vehicle use. OHV activity is heavy, indicated by numerous ways and trails, and substantially affects the landscape. Man and machine are the dominant forces affecting the naturalness of unit. In addition, these impacts detract from opportunities for solitude and/or primitive recreation. Highly-visible trails prevent any of these opportunities from being “outstanding”.

FORM 2

Documentation Of Current Wilderness Inventory Conditions

Unit Number/Name **WIU #CDCA 182-1**

(1) Sufficient size **Yes**

Acreage: 8,639 acres

Boundary revision: A wilderness inventory road fragments CDCA-182 into multiple subunits, including CDCA-182-1. This section is bounded by Dove Spring Canyon Road to the north and Butterbrecht Canyon Road to the southwest. Private land adjacent to South Kelso Valley Road forms the western edge of the unit, while the aforementioned wilderness inventory road frames the eastern boundary.

Description of Current Conditions

Land ownership: BLM (8,634 acres); private inholdings (4.8 acres).

Location: Kern County, approximately 32 miles west/southwest of Ridgecrest

Topography: Topographically the unit is diverse, possessing mountains, valleys, canyons, and foothills. Maya Peak to the west dominates unit, while Pinyon Mountain and Gold Peak all help to make up a rugged landscape. Numerous canyons and low valleys further contribute to the dynamic terrain.

Vegetation features: Vegetation is balanced across this section with the exception of a dense thicket of foliage along the northern portion of the PCT.

Major human uses/activities: Hiking (PCT), equestrian and foot trails

(2) Natural condition

Yes. CDCA182-1 is primarily affected by natural forces and has retained its primeval character. Impacts from man include a few hiking and equestrian trails, which generally possess a low degree of visibility due to the dynamic terrain of the section. OHV activity is limited.

(3) Outstanding opportunities for solitude

Yes. The dynamic terrain and diverse vegetation provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The rugged mountainous areas promote isolation and seclusion while the numerous canyons also offer solace.

(4) Outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation

Yes. Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation such as hiking and horseback riding are outstanding within this section of CDCA-182. The Pacific Crest Trail bisects the unit, providing an unequalled chance for primitive and unconfined recreation.

(5) Supplemental values

Yes. The Pacific Crest Trail bisects the unit providing additional supplemental value to CDCA-182-1.