

# **Appendix I**

## **Recreation Management Alternatives: SRMAs and ERMA**

# Appendix I

## Recreation Management Alternatives: Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) and South Coast Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA)

### Border Mountains - Community SRMA

Alternatives A and C: 50,594 acres

#### Otay/Kuchamaa RMZ

This Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) encompasses BLM managed lands south of Highway 94 to the U.S.-Mexico border and east of Otay Mesa to Tecate, California. Most of the RMZ consists of the Otay Mountain Wilderness, the Cedar Canyon ACEC, the Kuchamaa ACEC, and lands acquired by BLM to support the San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP).

#### Goals and Objectives

The Otay/Kuchamaa RMZ would be managed to protect scientific and cultural values and enhance natural habitat in support of the MSCP and provide opportunities for wilderness and backcountry recreational activities.

#### Recreation Niche

The Otay/Kuchamaa RMZ has been utilized by local residents and regional visitors for OHV touring, nature study, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, hunting, and shooting sports. The area offers a unique opportunity to enjoy an area that supports solitude and remoteness, a diverse flora and fauna, and general wilderness quality.

- **Primary Activities:** OHV backcountry touring, wildlife and landscape viewing, photography, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and shooting sports.
- **Experiences:** Recreating in an undeveloped backcountry environment.
- **Benefits:**
  - Personal: Increased appreciation of open spaces and the area's natural and cultural heritage.
  - Household & Community: Increased community stewardship of public lands.
  - Economic: Increased recreation related retail sales and local property values.
  - Environmental: Improved support for protection of natural and cultural resources and management of non-native invasive species.

## **Hauser/La Posta RMZ**

This RMZ covers BLM managed lands north of Highway 94 and south of the Cleveland National Forest, and from Honey Springs Road east to the Imperial County line. The RMZ includes the Hauser Mountain Wilderness Study Area, Potrero Peak, McAlmond Canyon, Smith Canyon, and La Gloria Canyon.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The Hauser/Potrero RMZ would be managed to protect and enhance wildlife habitat and improve public access in order to provide a variety of opportunities for backcountry and low-impact types of recreation (photography, nature study, wildlife viewing, OHV backcountry touring, hunting, etc.), and allow for limited development of facilities (trailheads, trails, signs, kiosks, etc.).

### **Recreation Niche**

The RMZ provides open space and back country recreation opportunities such as OHV trail riding, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, and hunting. This RMZ is a main thoroughfare for the Pacific Crest Trail.

- **Primary Activities:** Hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and wildlife viewing.
- **Experiences:** Regular exercise in natural environments, and learning about the area's natural and cultural history.
- **Benefits:**
  - Personal: Increased appreciation of the area's natural and cultural heritage.
  - Community: Improved community stewardship of public lands.
  - Economic: Increased recreation related retail sales and increased local property values.
  - Environmental: Improved protection of natural and cultural resources.

## **Badlands – Destination/Regional SRMA**

**Alternative C: 1,051 acres**

### **Goals and Objectives**

The Badlands Destination SRMA consists of the rolling hills located south of State Highway 60 just west of Beaumont, California. The area would be managed for its OHV trail riding opportunities. This SRMA is intended as a cooperative component of a proposed state and county managed OHV park. BLM would consider future day use developments to support and control OHV recreational activities.

## Recreation Niche

The SRMA provides the terrain and established routes to support limited OHV trail riding.

- **Primary Activities:** OHV trail riding.
- **Experiences:** Challenging, motorized, exploratory adventures; enjoying a sense of community from recreating with other outdoor enthusiasts.
- **Benefits:**
  - Personal: Improved OHV skills, bonding with family and friends.
  - Community & Household: Improved community stewardship of public lands.
  - Economic: Increased regional tourism revenues by purchasing recreation supplies at local communities.
  - Environmental: Improved stewardship of the public lands through education and outreach of established national programs such as *Tread Lightly*.

## Beauty Mountain Destination-Regional SRMA All Alternatives: 34,199 acres

The Beauty Mountain Destination SRMA is located south of the community of Anza and east of State Highway 79. The southern portion of the SRMA borders the Cleveland National Forest, Palomar Ranger District.

### Goals and Objectives

The Beauty Mountain SRMA includes the Beauty Mountain Wilderness, Beauty Mountain WSA, Million Dollar Spring ACEC, Johnson Canyon ACEC, donated lands, and other BLM managed lands. This SRMA is a rugged area that would be managed for its remoteness, natural landscapes, and backcountry recreational opportunities. BLM would consider implementation of developments to support non-motorized recreational use such as hiking trails, parking and staging areas, and campgrounds.

## Recreation Niche

This SRMA offers a unique opportunity to explore lands that have a wilderness quality. The area offers diverse flora and fauna and remote hiking and non-motorized backcountry experiences for visitors to enjoy.

- **Primary Activities:** Hiking, rock hounding, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, photography, nature study, and hunting.

- **Experiences:** Enjoying an undeveloped natural environment, seeing riparian ecosystems, learning about the area's natural and cultural history.
- **Benefits:**
  - Personal: Increased appreciation of the area's natural and cultural heritage.
  - Community: Increased community stewardship of public lands.
  - Economic: Positive contributions to local-regional economic stability and increased local property values.
  - Environmental: Improved support for protection of natural and cultural resources and management of non-native invasive species.

## **South Coast ERMA**

**Alternative A: 39,156 acres**

**Alternatives B and D: 99,621 acres**

**Alternative C: 47,976 acres**

The South Coast ERMA encompasses all the public lands in the planning area not included in a SRMA.

### **Goals and Objectives**

The BLM would manage this ERMA to provide opportunities for a wide variety of motorized and non-motorized recreational activities, largely free from restrictive regulations and management constraints, in a variety of settings. Designated travel routes would allow visitors to access most terrain by motorized vehicle, while leaving large expanses of open space for backcountry and non-motorized recreational use.

- **Primary Activities:** OHV touring, hiking, horseback riding, viewing wildlife, hunting, and shooting sports.
- **Experiences:** Recreating as a family, experiencing natural landscapes, enjoying physical activities.
- **Benefits:**
  - Personal: Better understanding for the need to maintain open spaces, bonding with family and friends, stress relief.
  - Community: Increased appreciation of nature and opportunities of the public lands, closer family ties, increased community stewardship of public lands, and a better understanding for the need to maintain open spaces.
  - Economic: Enhance local economy via recreation related retail purchases.
  - Environmental: Reduced presence of hazardous fuels, improved protection of cultural and historic resources, and improved health of the land.