



Photos taken in vicinity of
North Algodones Dunes Wilderness
and the Osborne Overlook



Chapter 2

Alternatives for ISDRA Management

CHAPTER 2.0

ALTERNATIVES FOR ISDRA MANAGEMENT

This chapter presents the NEPA alternatives (including the No Action, the action alternatives, the alternatives considered but not carried forward, and Alternative 2) analyzed in this DEIS. The alternatives were developed in response to the Issues, Constraints, and Opportunities identified through the public scoping process that was discussed in the previous chapter.

NEPA requirements (40 CFR 1502.14) direct federal agencies to:

- Consider a range of alternatives that could accomplish the lead agency objectives (i.e., Purpose and Need) and present the alternatives in comparative form to define the issues and provide a clear basis for decisionmakers and the public to choose among options.
- Explore rigorously and evaluate objectively a reasonable range of alternatives. If alternatives have been eliminated from detailed study, the EIS must briefly discuss the reasons they were eliminated. The range of alternatives is project-specific, depending on the nature of the proposal and the facts and circumstances of the project.
- Analyze each alternative to a degree that is substantially similar to the analysis afforded the proposed project.
- Identify the Environmentally Preferable Alternative from the range of alternatives considered. This alternative is typically the scenario that best promotes the environmental policy expressed in NEPA.¹
- Include a No Action Alternative. NEPA requires that a No Action Alternative be developed and evaluated to allow decisionmakers to compare the impact of approving the Proposed Action with the impacts of not approving the Proposed Action.

The alternatives were developed by the BLM on the basis of, and in response to, substantive public input on the existing environment and uses, and desired future uses and environmental conditions, of the ISDRA. On the basis of this input and in consideration of their management obligations under FLPMA and other statutory and policy guidance (see Section 1.3), the BLM developed a series of desired future conditions/management objectives that are intended to

¹ The purposes of NEPA are: To declare a national policy that will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; to promote efforts that will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality. **Sec. 2 [42 USC § 4321]**

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apply to a revised RAMP. These conditions/objectives also apply to all the alternatives considered in this DEIS. The goals established by the BLM (see Section 1.1, Purpose and Need) are consistent with the overall management direction provided to the BLM by the various statutes, policies, and guidelines discussed in Section 1.3 of this DEIS. The alternatives considered in this DEIS and subjected to analysis are:

- Alternative 1: No Action
- Alternative 2: Recreation and Natural/Cultural Resource Protection Alternative
- Alternative 3: Natural and Cultural Resource Protection Alternative
- Alternative 4: Motorized Recreation Opportunities Alternative

The alternatives analyzed in this DEIS, including the No Action Alternative, are presented in Section 2.1 and the alternatives considered but eliminated from further analysis are presented in Section 2.2. The BLM's Preferred Alternative is Alternative 2.

All the alternatives (with the exception of Alternative 1, No Action) include geographically delineated management areas (see Section 2.1.2, below) and proposed ROS classifications. The ROS is a system used by many federal and state land management agencies to categorize outdoor recreation settings. There are six recreation settings within the ROS system, and each setting provides a different set of recreation opportunities and experiences. ROS settings range from highly modified environments with numerous contacts with other people to undisturbed natural environments with little or no contact with others. The ROS classifications and their characteristics are:

- Primitive
 - Essentially unmodified natural environment of a fairly large size
 - Low visitor use
 - Facilities only for resource protection (no user comfort/convenience facilities)
 - No motorized use
- Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
 - Predominantly unmodified natural environment of moderate-to-large size
 - Low visitor use, but often other area users are evident
 - Facilities provided for the protection of resource values and the safety of users
 - Motorized use not generally allowed

- Semi-Primitive Motorized
 - Same as Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized except that motorized use is allowed
- Roaded Natural
 - Resource modification and utilization practices are evident, but harmonize with the natural environment
 - Low-to-moderate visitor use (moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of humans)
 - Onsite controls and restrictions offer a sense of security
 - Rustic facilities are provided for user convenience as well as for safety and resource protection
 - Facilities are sometimes provided for group activity
 - Conventional motorized use provided for in construction standards and design of facilities
- Rural
 - Substantially modified natural environment
 - Moderate-to-high visitor use concentration
 - A considerable number of facilities designed for use by large numbers of people; facilities often provided for specific activities
 - Developed sites, roads, and trails designed for moderate to high use
 - Moderate densities provided far away from developed sites
 - Facilities for intensive motorized use available
- Urban
 - Substantially urbanized environment (background may have natural-appearing elements)
 - Renewable resource modification and utilization practices often used to enhance specific recreation activities
 - Vegetative cover often exotic and manicured, and sights and sounds from humans predominant onsite
 - Large numbers of users expected both onsite and in nearby areas
 - Facilities for highly intensified motor use and parking available with forms of mass transit often available to carry people throughout the site

2.1 ALTERNATIVES ANALYZED IN THIS DEIS

Under Alternative 1 (No Action), neither the designation of management areas nor the assignment of ROS classes would occur (see Section 2.1.1).

Under the action alternatives assessed in this DEIS (Alternatives 2, 3, and 4), the management areas would be applied and would be common to all the action alternatives (Section 2.1.2). The ROS classifications are the key features that would vary among the action alternatives to provide variations in the proposed level and management focus of visitor use.

Eight management areas in the ISDRA and the Buffer Zone (see Section 2.1.2.1) comprise the Plan Area evaluated in this DEIS.

2.1.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under Alternative 1, the ISDRA would continue to be managed according to the existing and approved management plan and policies (e.g., the 1987 RAMP). In addition, the No Action Alternative would include compliance with policies and management measures instituted since the 1987 RAMP was first implemented, including the designation of the North Algodones Dunes Wilderness in 1994 and the release of Wilderness Study Area 362 from further suitability studies. Alternative 1 does not include the construction of the Gecko Road extension because such an action would not comply with the Endangered Species Act. Also, Alternative 1 does not include the interim OHV closure areas or the temporary camping closure (see Section 1.3.5 of this DEIS) because these are temporary measures and not part of the management policy for the ISDRA. The CDCA Plan would not be amended under this alternative, and no adaptive management program would be implemented.

Because the ISDRA would continue to be managed according to existing and approved management plans prescribed by the 1987 RAMP, this alternative would develop facilities only to the extent directed by that plan. Alternative 1 would not result in precisely the same implementation actions prescribed by the 1987 RAMP because management must also accommodate the findings of more recent resource inventories at the ISDRA, as well as updated regulations that could constrain full implementation (e.g., new facilities would not be allowed in the wilderness area). Under this alternative, the management areas that would apply to the action alternatives (see Section 2.1.2) would not be created; and no ROS classifications would be assigned to the ISDRA. Therefore, management actions would default, with the exceptions noted above, to the 1987 RAMP. Alternative 1 is shown in Figure 2-1.

2.1.2 Alternatives 2, 3, and 4: The Action Alternatives

This section summarizes the action alternatives (Alternatives 2, 3, and 4) assessed in this DEIS. The discussion first focuses on the proposed management actions that would be implemented under a revised RAMP that are common to all the action alternatives (Section 2.1.2.1). Next is the discussion of the actions that would be specific to each alternative (Section 2.1.2.2). In general, the activities proposed for the Plan Area are similar to current practices and represent revised (rather than new) procedures

that are responsive to changes that have occurred since the last update of the RAMP in 1987. The major differences between management under existing conditions and the three alternatives discussed below are the delineation of management areas, assignment of ROS classifications to those management areas, enhancement of efforts to encourage a safe and enjoyable recreational experience for the user, and an emphasis on public education about OHV use in the context of the recreational, cultural, and biological resources of the area. Where facilities are planned, and where law enforcement would be increased, these actions are proposed to enhance public safety in the context of an enjoyable recreational experience.

**2.1.2.1
Management
Areas and
Actions for all
Action
Alternatives**

This section summarizes the overall management actions proposed by the BLM that would pertain to all the action alternatives (Alternatives 2, 3, and 4) analyzed in this DEIS. Under the revised RAMP, the existing management divisions of the ISDRA would be revised to create eight management areas within the ISDRA and one management area (the Buffer Zone) external to the ISDRA boundary. These management areas, which are shown in Figures 2-1 through 2-4 and listed below, would be the same under all three action alternatives. Each management area would be assigned a specific ROS classification that would guide permitted activities, and help the BLM to establish planning goals for visitor use in the different management areas. The ROS classifications vary among the alternatives (see Sections 2.1.2.2.). These management areas would be:

- Mammoth Management (MM) Area
- North Algodones (NA) Dunes Wilderness Management Area
- Gecko Management Area (GM)
- Glamis Management (GLM) Area
- Adaptive Management (AM) Area
- Ogilby Management (OM) Area
- Dune Buggy Flats Management (DM) Area
- Buttercup Management (BM) Area
- Buffer Zone Management (BZM) Area

A summary of the management actions that pertain to all the action alternatives (for all the management areas) is presented in Table 2-1.

**Table 2-1 Plan Area Management Actions
(applicable to all Management Areas for Alternatives 2, 3, and 4)**

Recreation	Maintain and manage ISDRA as a unique locale providing rural, roaded-natural, and semi-primitive OHV recreation opportunities in the desert Southwest
Public Outreach	Develop a public relations program on cultural and natural resources; safety; interpretive displays and brochures
Biological Resources	Manage using principles of adaptive management. Adaptive management is a process of implementing policy decisions as scientifically driven management experiments that test predictions and assumptions in management plans, using the resulting information to

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**Table 2-1 Plan Area Management Actions
(applicable to all Management Areas for Alternatives 2, 3, and 4)**

	improve the plans.
Air Quality	Implement dust control measures on wash roads and install air monitoring equipment for ozone and PM10
Transportation/Traffic	Grade roads and implement fee entry and construct traffic control
Public Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a law enforcement cooperative team • Increase permanent staff and holiday staff to address the increases in visitor use of major holidays • Ban alcohol outside camping areas • Establish a sundown to sunup closure at Competition Hill north and south, Oldsmobile Hill, Test Hill, and Patton Valley • Post speed limits • Develop and maintain radio system • Continue existing condition of dispatching duties from Cahuilla Ranger Station
Visitor Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish ROS classifications and visitor use targets for management areas • Limit ISDRA use of OHVs if visitation exceeds proposed ROS classifications
Land Use	Establish management areas with specific ROS classifications to meet planning objectives
Commercial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow vending from October 1 through May 31 on Friday through Sunday (exceptions made for major holidays) • Do not allow nonrecreational commercial activities during the holidays
Access and Facilities Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop or retrofit facilities, in the appropriate ROS classes, to accommodate visitation and meet all disability regulations and standards • Ensure that little or no development occurs in primitive areas • Construct disability compliant trash collection facilities (and loading docks)
Fiscal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect fees in all areas based on demand and cost recovery • Review price structure every 2 years • Update fee business plan within 2 years of ROD

**2.1.2.2
Additional
Measures
Applicable to
the Individual
Action
Alternatives**

In addition to the Plan Area measures presented in Section 2.1.2.1, the action alternatives contain specific measures that are described below and summarized in Table 2-2.

Alternative 2: Recreation and Natural/Cultural Resource Protection Alternative
Under Alternative 2, the Plan Area actions identified in Section 2.1.2.1 would be adopted. Each of the management areas would also be assigned the following specific ROS classification that would be used to guide future

visitor use and other management decisions (e.g., levels of facilities construction, law enforcement):

- Mammoth—Semi-Primitive Motorized
- North Algodones Dunes—Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
- Gecko—Rural
- Glamis—Roaded Natural
- Adaptive Management--Semi-Primitive Motorized
- Ogilby—Roaded Natural
- Dune Buggy Flats—Roaded Natural
- Buttercup—Rural
- Buffer—Semi-Primitive Motorized

These ROS classifications (by Management area) for this alternative, as well as the other action alternatives, are shown in Table 2-2. The management focus for Alternative 2 would be to ensure continued use of the ISDRA for OHV recreational opportunities, consistent with its designation as a Recreation Area, and to provide for the protection of natural and cultural resources.

A key component of Alternative 2 (see Table 2-2 at the end of this chapter) is the implementation of an adaptive management strategy coupled with biological resources monitoring of the proposed Adaptive Management Area. The adaptive management and monitoring program would include the development of a monitoring plan and analysis of the monitoring results to determine the impacts (if any) to species of concern as a result of recreational use of the ISDRA. Management of recreational use, especially in the Adaptive Management Area, would be evaluated periodically and revised as needed to achieve a balance of providing a motorized recreational opportunities and conserving species of concern. The special-status species to be monitored would be Peirson's milk-vetch (*Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii*), Algodones Dunes sunflower (*Helianthus niveus* ssp. *tephrodes*), and sand food (*Pholisma sonora*). OHV use would also be estimated and the data from the monitoring and the OHV estimated use would be used to develop management actions based on targeted visitor use, especially during the holiday weekends.

In addition, Alternative 2 would allow access to the Adaptive Management Area via permit only; and those entering the area for OHV recreational use would be required to pass a resource conservation exam. No facilities would be allowed in this area, and interpretive signs would be provided to educate OHV users about the sensitive natural and cultural resources in that area. Visitor use in the Adaptive Management Area would be limited to 75 OHV groups (defined as up to 7 vehicles per OHV group) per day (a maximum of 525 vehicles per day), for the first year of implementation.

Among the action alternatives (2, 3, and 4), this alternative is anticipated to result in the greatest likelihood of the meeting the project objectives (i.e., the

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purpose and need as described in Section 1.1 of this DEIS). Therefore, Alternative 2 is considered the Preferred Alternative by BLM. Alternative 2 is shown in Figure 2-2.

Alternative 3: Natural and Cultural Resources Protection Alternative

Under Alternative 3, the Plan Area actions identified in Section 2.1.2.1 would be adopted. Each of the management areas would also be assigned the following specific ROS classification that would be used to guide future visitor use and other management decisions (e.g., levels of facilities construction, law enforcement):

- Mammoth—Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
- North Algodones Dunes—Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
- Gecko—Roaded Natural
- Glamis—Semi-Primitive Motorized
- Adaptive Management—Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
- Ogilby—Semi-Primitive Motorized
- Dune Buggy Flats—Semi-Primitive Motorized
- Buttercup—Roaded Natural
- Buffer—Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized

The Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized ROS classification of the proposed Mammoth, Adaptive, North Algodones Dunes, and Buffer Zone Management Areas would be Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, resulting in the preclusion of OHV recreational activities in those areas. Law enforcement vehicles and staff, however, would be exempt from this prohibition. The name of the proposed Adaptive Management Area would be changed to reflect the management objectives associated with this alternative and discussed below. For the sake of consistency, however, the name “Adaptive Management Area” is retained for the analysis in this DEIS.

Alternative 3 would effectively provide a higher level and more immediate focus on natural and cultural resources in the ISDRA through the application of management actions that would effectively reduce OHV use. Monitoring would still occur under Alternative 3, but no adaptive management program permitting limited OHV use would be implemented. Because the Adaptive, Mammoth, and Buffer Zone Management Areas would have the same ROS category as the North Algodones Dunes Wilderness Management Area (Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized or SPNM), similar management objectives and actions would apply. Depending on the location within the ISDRA, this would result in two to three adjacent areas with the same or similar desired future conditions and goals, and uniformity of management direction over a larger area.

An increased number of notices (signs and kiosks) would be provided within and surrounding the proposed Mammoth, Buffer Zone, and Adaptive Management Area to minimize the potential for incidental trespass. In addition, an increase in the number of law enforcement staff would be

included as a management action, but this increase would be addressed by the planned staffing levels discussed in Section 2.1.2.1. The closure of the Mammoth, Buffer Zone, and Adaptive Management Areas to motorized recreation activity would provide the greatest level of assurance that sensitive natural and cultural resources would remain protected and would implement this protection upon adoption of the revised RAMP. Specifically, potential threats from OHV activity to the Peirson's milk-vetch and flat-tailed horned lizard would be avoided. Similarly, the possible degradation of as-yet undiscovered cultural resources in the Adaptive Management Area would potentially be avoided. The addition of approximately 89,700 acres to the SPNM ROS category would reduce the total area available to OHV activity at the ISDRA, and within the California Desert as a whole, by that number of acres.

Because the ROS classification of Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized in the Adaptive Management Area would close this area to motorized recreation activity, permits and test requirements would not be management actions contemplated for the Adaptive Management Area under Alternative 3. Alternative 3 is shown in Figure 2-3.

Alternative 4: Motorized Recreation Opportunities Alternative

Under this alternative, the management actions for the Glamis Management Area would be responsive to public input (see Chapter 1) that emphasizes a need for additional motorized recreational opportunities beyond that provided by any of the other alternatives discussed above. Therefore, management measures would be directed at allowing an increased intensity of OHV activity relative to the visitor use baseline established in this DEIS. The increased intensity of use facilitated by Alternative 4 would serve to accommodate existing and future OHV recreational demand at ISDRA by increasing the overall visitor supply, as well as by shifting the areas of use. In addition, Alternative 4 would provide an altered type of recreation experience at the ISDRA (greater densities would be allowed for camping compared with the other alternatives).

Under Alternative 4, the Plan Area actions identified in Section 2.1.2.1 would be adopted. Each of the management areas would also be assigned the following specific ROS classification that would be used to guide future visitor use and other management decisions (e.g., levels of facilities construction, law enforcement):

- Mammoth—Roaded Natural
- North Algodones Dunes—Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
- Gecko—Urban
- Glamis—Rural
- Adaptive Management—Roaded Natural
- Ogilby—Rural
- Dune Buggy Flats—Rural
- Buttercup—Urban

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- Buffer—Semi-Primitive Motorized

The ROS classifications assigned to most proposed management areas would be consistent with a desired moderate-to-high level of OHV recreational use. The ROS for the Adaptive Management Area would be Roaded Natural and that for the Glamis Management Area would be Rural, both resulting in increased OHV recreational use. The assignment of a Rural ROS category in the Glamis Management Area would be accompanied by management actions that reflect this desired future condition. This includes facilities to accommodate increased visitation such as new campgrounds, camping pads, toilets, trash stations, and information kiosks. No additional law enforcement staff beyond those proposed for in Table 2-1 would be required. Alternative 4 is shown in Figure 2-4.

2.2 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED

This section presents the alternatives that were considered for analysis in this DEIS but eliminated from further consideration. Overall, the primary reason that they were not carried forward for detailed analysis is that they would not meet the purpose and need of the BLM's proposed action. Although these alternatives are not evaluated in detail, issues of concern raised by the public in the scoping meetings and in other forums (see Section 1.4) are included in several of the alternatives described above and evaluated in Chapter 4.

2.2.1 Hybrid Recreation Intensive Alternative

The Hybrid Recreation Intensive Alternative would open the majority of the ISDRA to motorized and nonmotorized recreational opportunities with the exception of the Wilderness Area and certain closed areas.

The Hybrid Recreation Intensive Alternative would:

- Implement several northwest-southeast trending permanent closure areas for resource protection along the western dune boundary. These closures would be traversed at periodic locations by OHV corridors, associated with Coachella Canal drop bridges, allowing motorized access to the interior dunes.
- Establish a single larger east-west closure for resource protection traversed by two north-south OHV corridors.
- Install fencing along naturally occurring valleys at the base of dunes to increase compliance and decrease maintenance

Rationale for Rejection

The primary reason for rejection of this alternative is that it does not meet the purpose and need to maintain habitat requirements for special-status species (see Sections 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 of this DEIS). Specifically, habitat fragmentation would result from implementation of this alternative. Although this alternative provides for closure of certain areas of the ISDRA to OHV

2.2.2 Total Closure Alternative

use, these closures would fragment existing sensitive species populations by allowing multiple areas at which to traverse the dunes by motorized vehicles.

The Total Closure Alternative would implement a complete exclusion of OHV use in the ISDRA with the intent of maximizing natural and cultural resource protection.

The Total Closure Alternative would be defined by the following characteristics:

- The entirety of the ISDRA would be closed to motorized recreational opportunities.
- Existing road access to the ISDRA would be maintained, but roads would not be expanded/improved.
- Existing campsites would be retained, but campsites would not be added or improved.
- Permits for vending opportunities would not be issued
- Natural resource monitoring would not occur and inventories of plant, wildlife, and cultural resource inventories would not be conducted.

Rationale for Rejection

The primary reason for rejecting this alternative is that it does not meet the purpose and need for the action contemplated by the BLM (i.e., preparing a revised RAMP). Specifically, a total closure alternative would not:

- Conform to the CDPA intent to provide for continued OHV use at the ISDRA (see Section 1.3.3)
- Provide the opportunity for OHV recreational activities in accordance with the intent of the CDCA Plan. (The CDCA Plan specifically designates the ISDRA as an open area for OHVs and the ISDRA has been managed for this use since the early 1970s)
- Meet the BLM's specific goals for the action evaluated of this DEIS (i.e., provide a variety of sustainable OHV and other recreational activities (see Section 1.4.3)
- Identify the type and level of visitor services, including facilities, needed to support desired visitor use
- Institute measures to achieve desired visitor use levels or accommodate service providers in the ISDRA.

In addition, total closure of the ISDRA is not required to ensure protection of sensitive species at the ISDRA (see Section 2.2.3 below). Measures for protection of these resources are incorporated into several of the alternatives considered in detail in this DEIS.

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2.2.3 Interim Management Alternative

Under the Interim Management Alternative, the ISDRA would continue to be managed according to the existing and approved management plan and policies (i.e., the 1987 RAMP). This alternative would include policies implemented since the 1987 RAMP, including designation of the North Algodones Sand Dunes Wilderness in 1994, and release of WSA 362 from further studies to determine suitability for wilderness designation. In addition, this alternative would include the recent interim actions of the negotiated settlement agreement that stipulate interim closure of certain areas at the ISDRA (i.e., those measures taken to provide protection for endangered and threatened species)—see Section 1.3.5 for a discussion of the interim closure.

Characteristics of the Interim Management Alternative include the following:

- No adaptive management of ISDRA
- Permanent Northern Closure (approximately 3,802 acres), located just south of Mammoth Wash
- Permanent Central Closure Number 1 (approximately 2,000 acres), located east of Gecko Road
- Permanent Central Closure Number 2 (approximately 42,763 acres), located in the center of the Glamis/Gecko area
- Permanent Southern Closure (approximately 160 acres), located south of I-8 in the northwestern portion of Buttercup
- Permanent closure of eastern area to camping (approximately 25,600 acres of desert tortoise habitat)

Rationale for Rejection

The primary reason for rejecting this alternative is that interim closures (as stipulated in the settlement agreement) are not required for adequate protection of sensitive species. A settlement agreement was developed in November 2000 with plaintiffs (Center for Biological Diversity and others) to establish interim actions to protect endangered and threatened species pending completion of USFWS consultation on the CDCA Plan in total. Prior to November 2, 2000, the BLM did not have the results of monitoring to assess adequately the status of sensitive species addressed by the settlement agreement. The results of the monitoring conducted since November 2000 and other data collected prior to November 2000 and assessed after the settlement agreement indicate that continuing the interim closures is not necessary to ensure adequate protection for the species of concern. For further support of the rationale for eliminating this alternative, see Appendix B.

Table 2-2 Management Actions for the Action Alternatives

MANAGEMENT AREAS	ALTERNATIVE 1 NO ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2 RECREATION AND RESOURCE PROTECTION	ALTERNATIVE 3 NATURAL/CULTURAL	ALTERNATIVE 4 RECREATION
Mammoth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1987 RAMP would remain in effect, including policies implemented in the interim between 1987 and 2002 (see Section 2.2.1) • Interim closure to OHV use not included as part of No Action • No ROS classifications or management area designations assigned • No revised biological monitoring or adaptive management program • No increase in law enforcement • No visitor use targets established <p>No amendment to the CDCA Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-primitive Motorized ROS • Establish visitor use ranges to achieve low OHV use and retain semi-primitive characteristics • Conduct recreation satisfaction survey • Develop outreach program on habitat conservation and protection • Establish environmental ethics program • Patrol by rangers would not be on a regular basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-primitive Non- Motorized ROS • Establish visitor use ranges to achieve low OHV use and retain semi-primitive characteristics • Conduct recreation satisfaction survey • Develop outreach program on habitat conservation and protection • Establish environmental ethics program • Patrol by rangers would not be on a regular basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roded Natural ROS • Establish visitor use ranges to allow moderate OHV use and retain semi-primitive characteristics • Conduct recreation satisfaction survey • Develop outreach program on habitat conservation and protection • Establish environmental ethics program • Patrol by rangers would not be on a regular basis
North Algodones Dunes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized ROS • Update kiosks at watchable wildlife site • No motorized access allowed except law enforcement and to maintain wildlife guzzlers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized ROS • Update kiosks at watchable wildlife site • No motorized access allowed except law enforcement and to maintain wildlife guzzlers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized ROS • No motorized access allowed except law enforcement and to maintain wildlife guzzlers.
Gecko	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural ROS • Close Osbourne Overlook to camping • Implement fee entry and construct traffic control area at Gecko Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roded Natural ROS • Close Osbourne Overlook to camping • Implement fee entry and construct traffic control area at Gecko Road • Resurface and maintain Osbourne Overlook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban ROS • Osbourne Overlook would remain open to camping • Implement fee entry and construct traffic control area at Gecko Road • Construct ranger station at Osbourne Overlook

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Table 2-2 Management Actions for the Action Alternatives

MANAGEMENT AREAS	ALTERNATIVE 1 NO ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2 RECREATION AND RESOURCE PROTECTION	ALTERNATIVE 3 NATURAL/CULTURAL	ALTERNATIVE 4 RECREATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct ranger station at Osbourne Overlook • Resurface and maintain Osbourne Overlook • Construct parking lot at base of Osbourne Overlook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct parking lot at base of Osbourne Overlook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurface and maintain Osbourne Overlook • Construct parking lot at base of Osbourne Overlook
Glamis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roaded Natural ROS • Low-to-moderate visitor use goal • Allow camping east of Glamis and the RR tracks • Apply and maintain dust palliative on the wash road • Grade the roads regularly • Construct pit toilets in Glamis Flats and Washes areas • Close Oldsmobile Hill, Competition Hill from sundown to sunup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS • Low-to-moderate visitor use goal • Allow camping east of Glamis and the RR tracks • Apply and maintain dust palliative on the wash road • Grade the roads regularly • Construct pit toilets in Glamis Flats and Washes areas • Close Oldsmobile Hill, Competition Hill from sundown to sunup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural ROS • Increase OHV opportunities in Glamis Management Area • Moderate-to high visitor use goal • New campgrounds, camping pads, pit toilets, trash stations, and information kiosks to accommodate increase visitor use goals
Adaptive Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS classification • Establish visitor use capacity-exceedance targets • Data collection on ISDRA use and willingness to pay • Limit ISDRA use of OHVs if visitation exceeds proposed ROS classifications (over 15% of the season, capacity will be limited to ensure that ROS management objectives are met.) • Develop a biological monitoring program, including adaptive management for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized ROS • Management focus on avoidance of impacts to natural/cultural resources • No use of motorized vehicles (except for law enforcement) • Visitor use would be limited to non-motorized use • No adaptive management program implemented/no monitoring conducted • Future management would include measures comparable to North Algodones Dunes Management Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roaded Natural ROS • Establish visitor use capacity-exceedance targets • Data collection on ISDRA use and willingness to pay • Limit ISDRA use of OHVs if visitation exceeds proposed ROS classifications (over 15% of the season, capacity will be limited to ensure that ROS management objectives are met.) • Develop a biological monitoring program, including adaptive management for species of concern in the ISDRA. • A low visitor density would be

Table 2-2 Management Actions for the Action Alternatives

MANAGEMENT AREAS	ALTERNATIVE 1 NO ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2 RECREATION AND RESOURCE PROTECTION	ALTERNATIVE 3 NATURAL/CULTURAL	ALTERNATIVE 4 RECREATION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> species of concern in the ISDRA. A low visitor density would be established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in law enforcement staff and signage to minimize potential for trespass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> established
Ogilby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roaded Natural ROS Low-to-intense concentration of OHV recreation activity Allow camping and OHV use No road improvements would be implemented No recreational facilities or other developments would be constructed Outreach programs for habitat conservation and resource protection would be implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS Low-to-intense concentration of OHV recreation activity Allow neither camping nor OHV use No road improvements would be implemented No recreational facilities or other developments would be constructed Outreach programs for habitat conservation and resource protection would be implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural ROS Moderate-to-intense concentration of OHV recreation activity Allow camping and OHV use No road improvements would be implemented No recreational facilities or other developments would be constructed
Dune Buggy Flats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roaded Natural ROS Apply and maintain dust palliative on the wash road Grade the entrance roads Construct pit toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS Apply and maintain dust palliative on the wash road Grade the entrance roads Construct pit toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural ROS Apply and maintain dust palliative on the wash road Grade the entrance roads Construct pit toilets
Buttercup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural ROS Designate camping sites based on results of pilot reservation program at the Gecko Management area Designate interpretive area near Greys Well Rd with parking and facilities Construct semipermanent law enforcement facility (parking and helipad, storage area) Construct interpretive facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roaded Natural ROS Designate no additional camping sites Designate interpretive area near Greys Well Rd with parking and facilities Construct semipermanent law enforcement facility (parking and helipad, storage area) Construct interpretive facilities near Greys Well Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban ROS Designate camping sites based on results of pilot reservation program at the Gecko Management area Designate interpretive area near Greys Well Rd with parking and facilities Construct semipermanent law enforcement facility (parking and helipad, storage area) Construct interpretive facilities near Greys Well Road

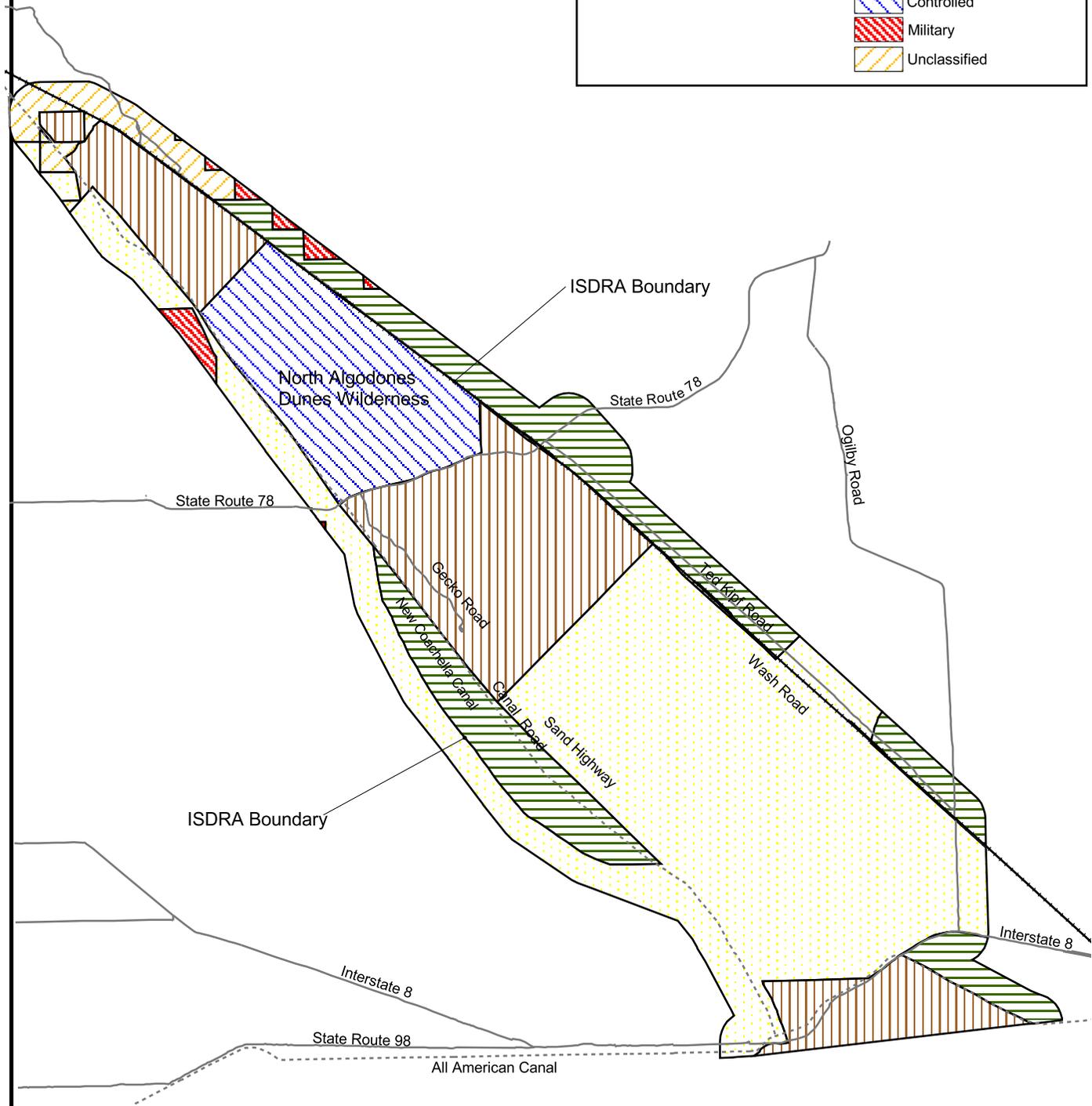
**Alternatives for
ISDRA Management**

Table 2-2 Management Actions for the Action Alternatives

MANAGEMENT AREAS	ALTERNATIVE 1 NO ACTION	ALTERNATIVE 2 RECREATION AND RESOURCE PROTECTION	ALTERNATIVE 3 NATURAL/CULTURAL	ALTERNATIVE 4 RECREATION
		near Greys Well Road		
Buffer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same No Action conditions would apply throughout ISDRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Motorized • 1-mile buffer around ISDRA • No camping • Motorized recreation limited to existing roads and trails • Additional signage for no camping designation and limited road use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized • 1-mile buffer around ISDRA • No camping • Motorized recreation limited to existing roads and trails • Additional signage for no camping designation and limited road use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Semi-Primitive Motorized • 1-mile buffer around ISDRA • No camping • Motorized recreation limited to existing roads and trails • Additional signage for no camping designation and limited road use

Legend

- Southern Pacific Railroad
 - Major Road
 - - - - Canal
 - Plan Area Boundary
- Multiple-Use Classes**
- Intensive
 - Moderate
 - Limited
 - Controlled
 - Military
 - Unclassified



**Figure 2-1
Alternative 1**

Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area - DEIS

0 2 4 6 Miles



Legend

+++++ Southern Pacific Railroad	Desired ROS Classes
— Major Road	 Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized (SPNM)
- - - Canal	 Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM)
— Plan Area Boundary	 Routed Natural (RN)
Recreation Management Areas	 Rural (R)
AM Adaptive Management	GM Gecko
BM Buttercup	MM Mammoth
BZM Buffer	NA North Algodones Wilderness
DM Dune Buggy	OM Ogilby
GLM Glamis	

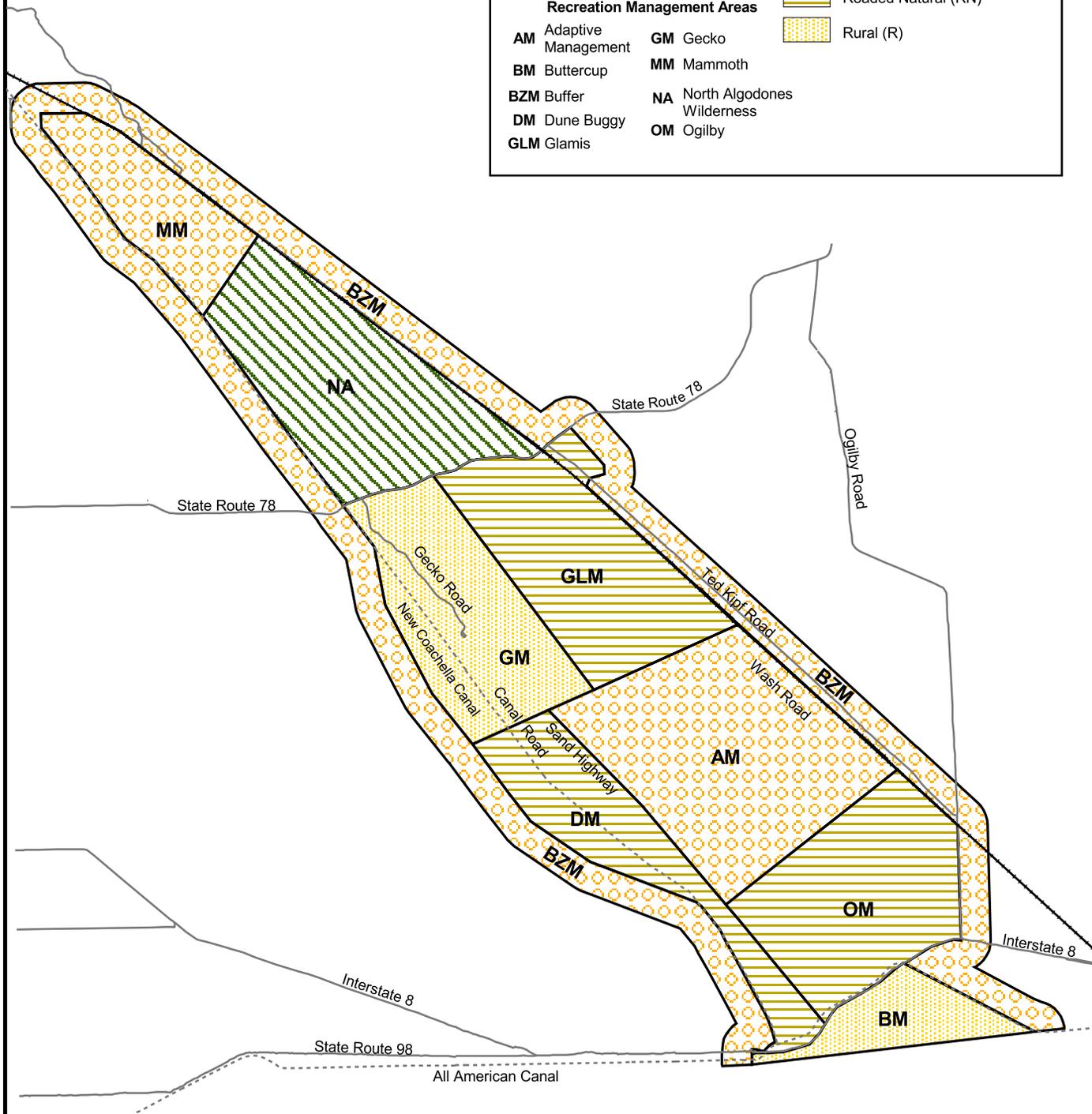
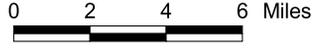


Figure 2-2
Alternative 2
 Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area - DEIS



Legend

<p>----- Southern Pacific Railroad</p> <p>———— Major Road</p> <p>----- Canal</p> <p>———— Plan Area Boundary</p>	<p>Desired ROS Classes</p> <p> Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized (SPNM)</p> <p> Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM)</p> <p> Roaded Natural (RN)</p> <p> Rural (R)</p>
<p>Recreation Management Areas</p> <p>AM Adaptive Management</p> <p>BM Buttercup</p> <p>BZM Buffer</p> <p>DM Dune Buggy</p> <p>GLM Glamis</p>	<p>GM Gecko</p> <p>MM Mammoth</p> <p>NA North Algodones Wilderness</p> <p>OM Ogilby</p>

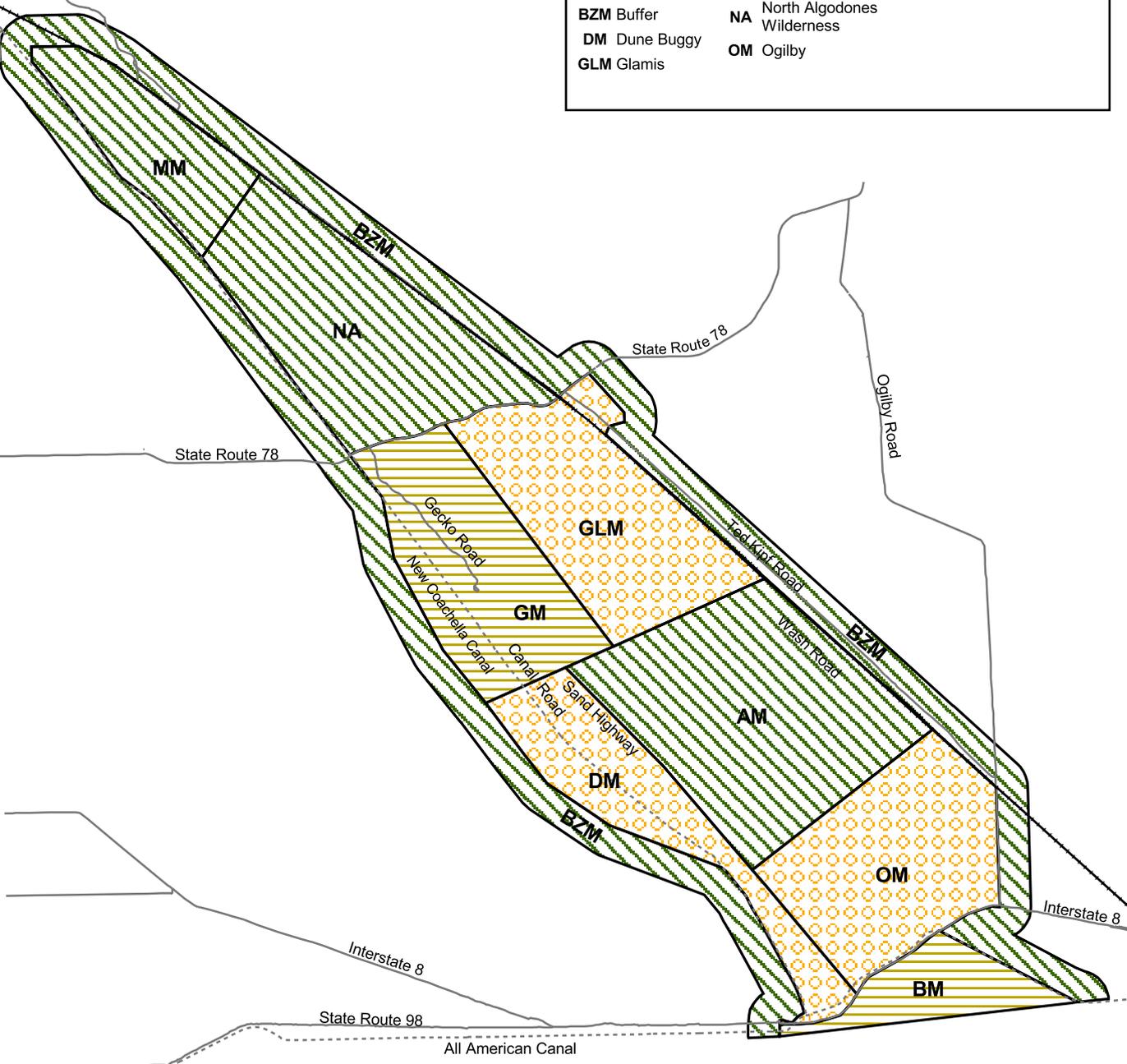


Figure 2-3
Alternative 3
 Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area - DEIS

0 2 4 6 Miles



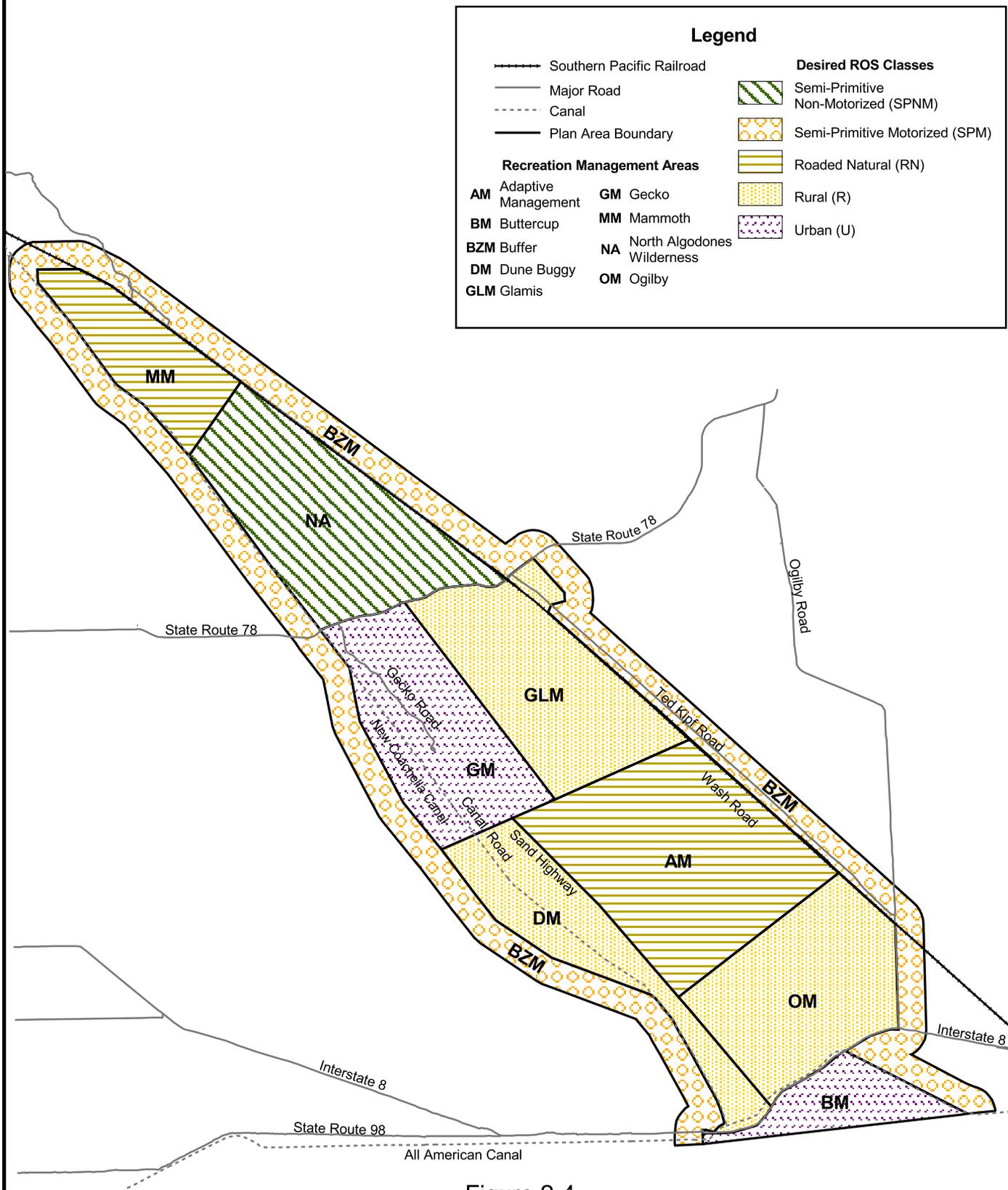


Figure 2-4
 Alternative 4
 Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area - DEIS

