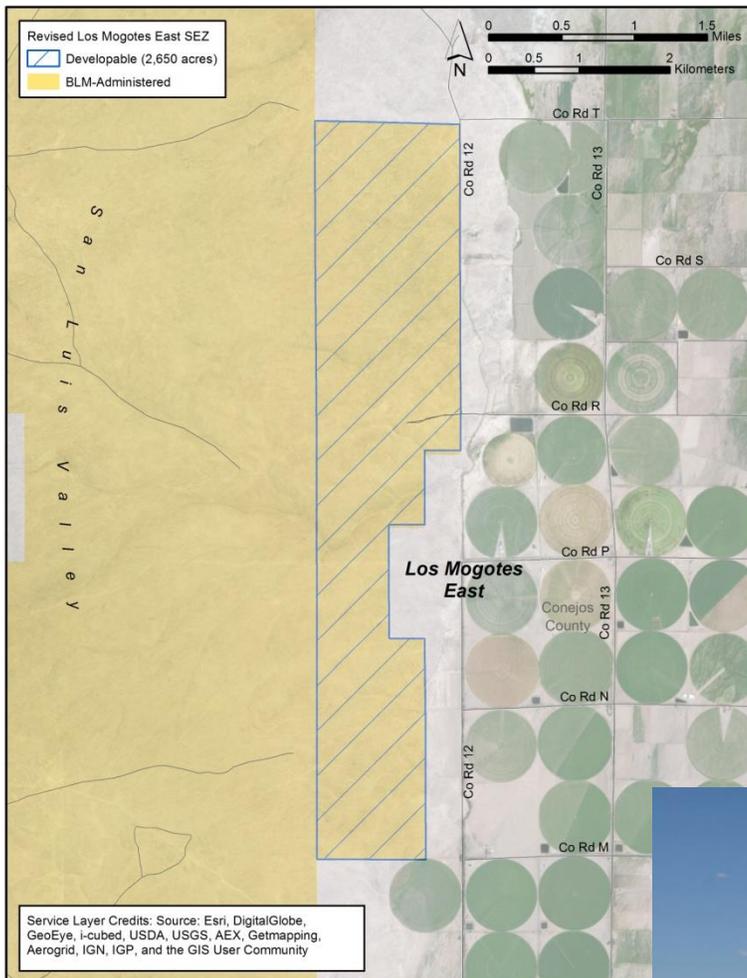


Summary Sheet: Los Mogotes East Solar East Energy Zone

BLM Colorado Solar Regional Mitigation Strategies



Mitigation: actions that will *avoid, minimize, or compensate* for adverse impacts.
Example: avoiding important habitat locations when developing energy facilities.



Developable area: 2,650 acres (10.7 km²)

Maximum Solar Generation Capacity: 424 MW
 (enough to power about 140,000 homes).

Required Solar Design Features: Avoid and Minimize (Solar PEIS ROD, Oct 2012):

- 250+ required solar design features, including:
- Maintain maximum possible native vegetation.
- Conduct pre-disturbance surveys for sensitive plants and animals: avoidance and minimization.

Figure 1: Los Mogotes SEZ:
 La Jara Field Office, Conejos County, CO.



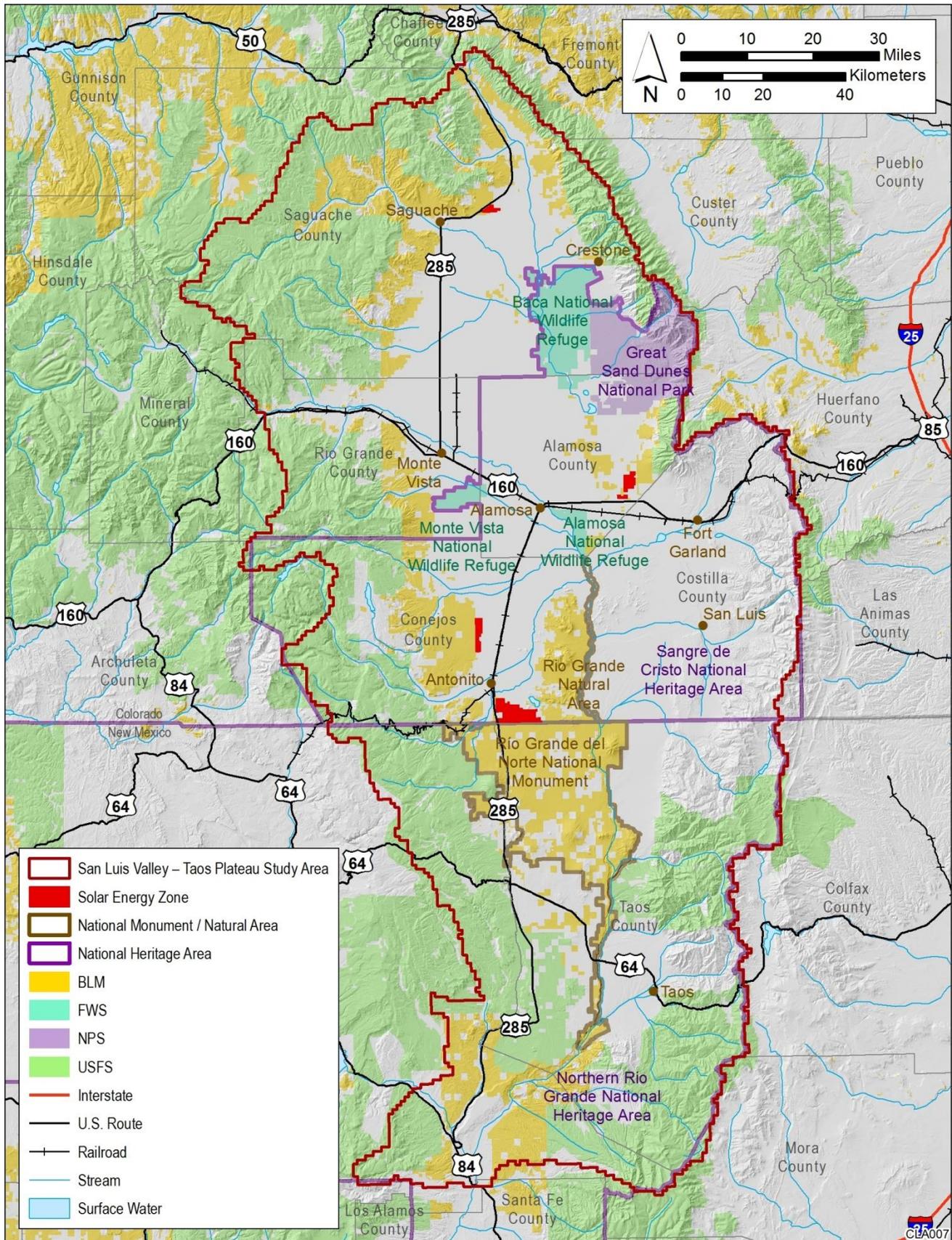


Figure 2: Land Management and Specially Designated Areas in the San Luis Valley

Expected Residual or Unavoidable Impacts: Solar Development of the Los Mogotes East SEZ

Residual impact: an unavoidable impact that cannot be adequately mitigated onsite by avoiding the resource or minimizing the impact (for example, using construction timing restrictions) or due to assumption of 80% buildout of 2,650 acre SEZ.

Expected residual impacts:

- Air Quality
- Vegetation
- Soils
- Visual Resources
- Livestock Grazing
- Wildlife (including Migratory Birds)
- Special Status Animal Species
- Specially Designated Areas
- Native American Concerns

Resources that may have unavoidable impacts (depending on how development occurs):

- Acoustics
- Cultural Resources
- Surface Water Quality and Quantity
- Socioeconomics
- Recreation
- Special Status Plant Species
- Groundwater Quality and Quantity
- Environmental Justice

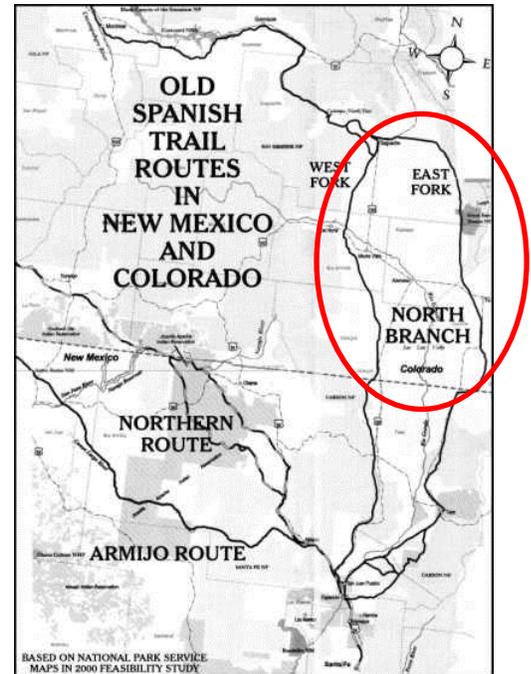


Figure 3: Old Spanish Trail Routes
The San Luis Valley study area is circled in red.

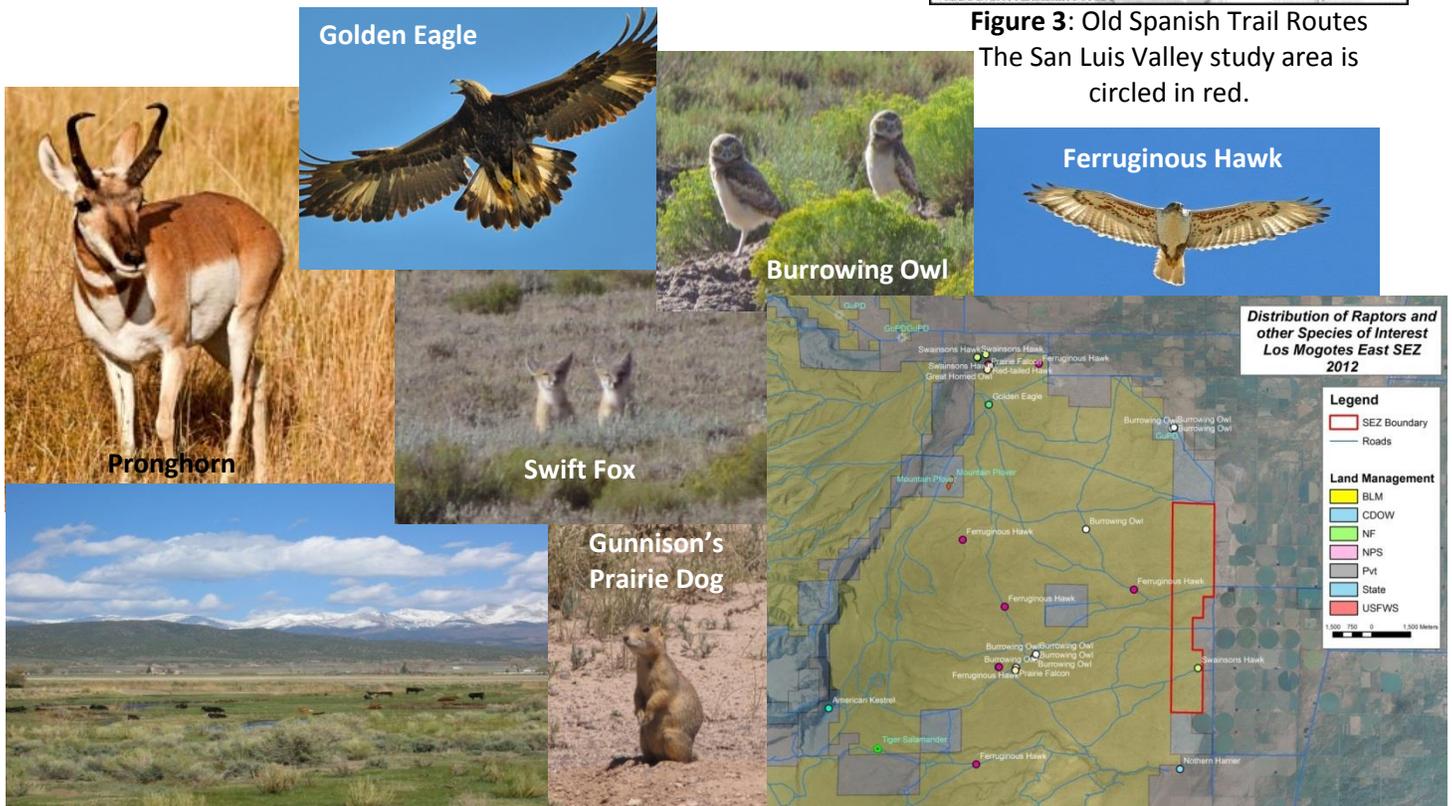


Figure 4. Important Species in the Vicinity of the SEZ (sensitive species surveys conducted 2011-2014. Map from raptor and migratory bird survey.

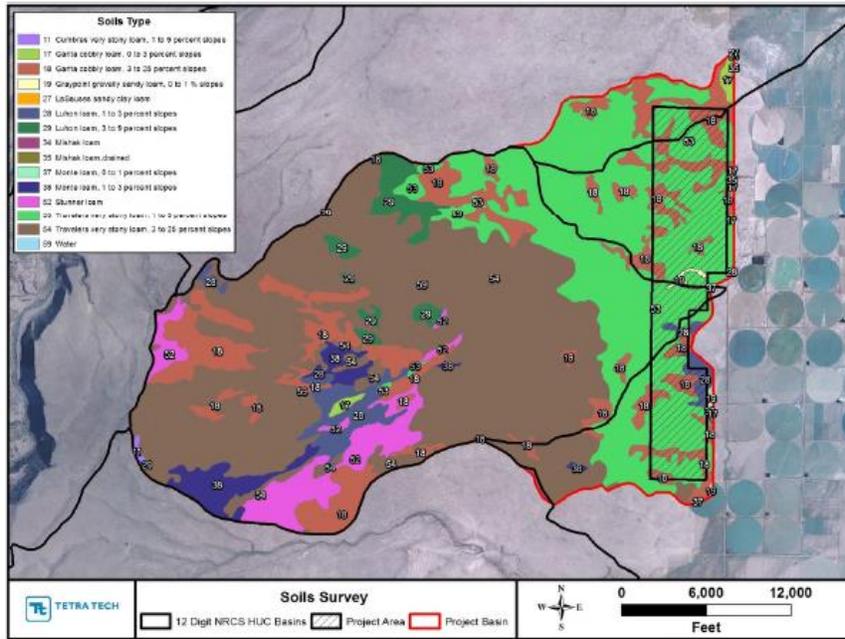


Figure 5. Soil series, texture, and slopes in Los Mogotes East Solar Energy Zone and contributing drainage.

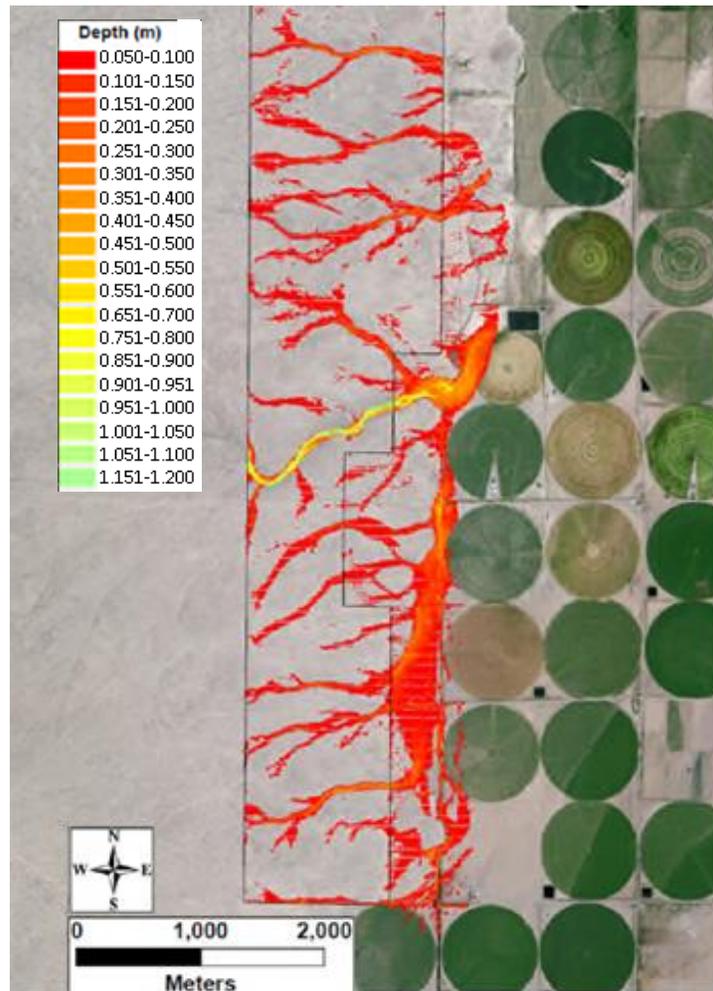


Figure 6. Avoidance & minimization: dry wash ephemeral drainage and maximum 24-hour rainfall flow depths (m) for 100-yr flood event. Source: BLM SEZ Hydrology – Los Mogotes East SEZ (TetraTech, August, 2013)

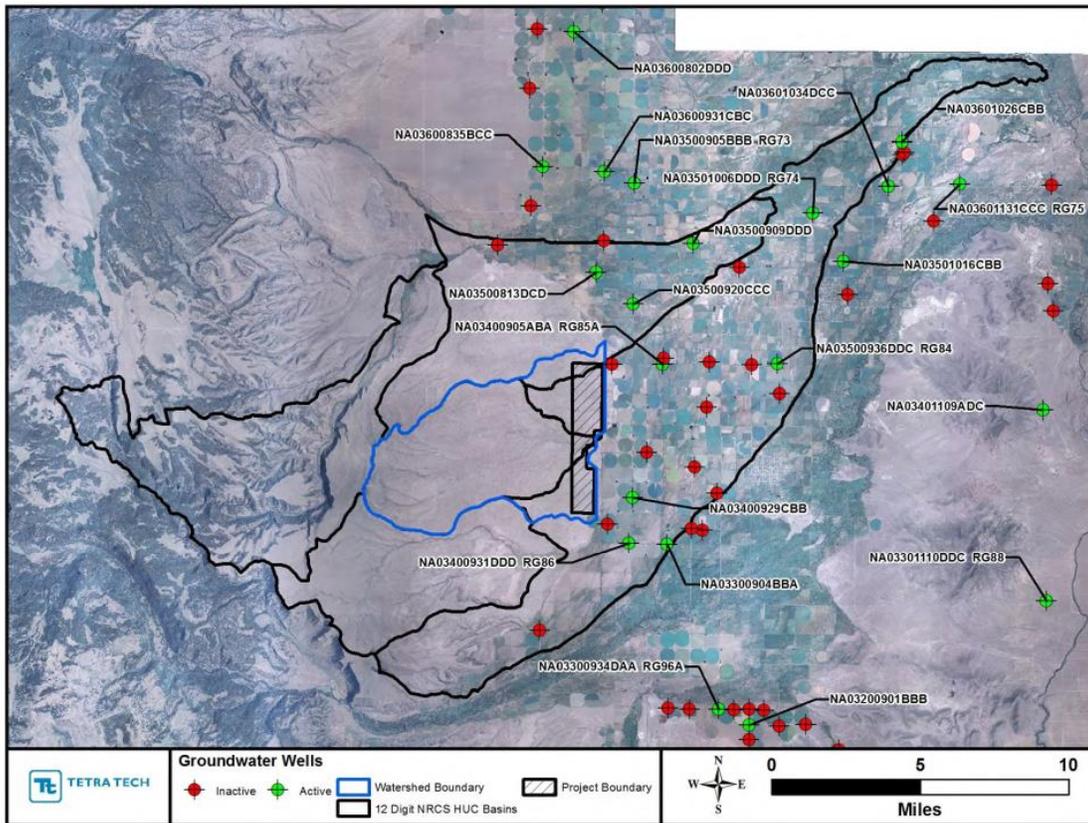


Figure 7. Avoidance & minimization: water well vicinity of the Los Mogotes East Solar Energy Zone.
 Source: BLM SEZ Hydrology – Los Mogotes East SEZ (TetraTech, August, 2013)

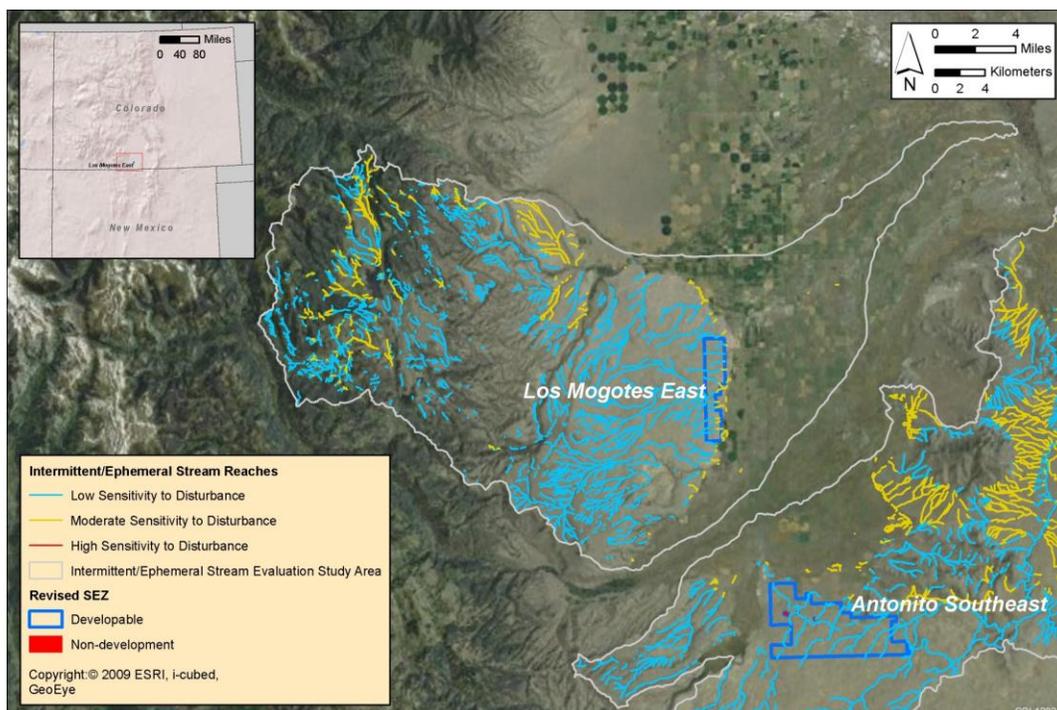


Figure 8: Surface Water Features in the Hydrologic Basin that includes the Los Mogotes SEZ.
 Source: BLM 2012 – Solar PEIS.

Potential Visual Impacts from Solar Facilities in San Luis Valley



Fenced Sun Edison Solar Facility, Vegetation Undisturbed



Glare from Nevada Solar One Parabolic Trough Facility near Las Vegas

Mitigation Hierarchy

Avoidance: Avoiding impacts altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action. (40 CFR 1508.20(a)). Examples:

- Cultural resources
- Wetlands (Alta Lake playa wetland)
- Prairie dog colonies
- Dry washes and ephemeral drainages

Minimization: Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation (40 CFR 1508.20(b)). Examples:

- Limit Groundwater withdrawals
- Maintain undisturbed buffer areas and sediment and erosion controls around water.
- Control use of motorized vehicles

Compensation: Compensating for residual impacts by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments (40 CFR 1508.20(e)). Examples:

- Protecting and/or acquiring other lands in the region with similar resources as mitigation banks
- Restoring and protecting previously damaged areas in the region with similar habitat
- Banking seeds of plants that would be lost

