

# Piute Valley & Sacramento Mountains

- Ecoregions
- ACEC
- Wildlife Allocation
- DRECP Boundary
- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

## DRECP Ecoregions-Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains

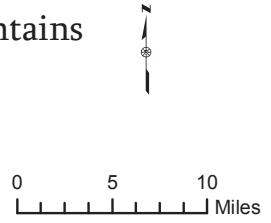


ACECs



9/14/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



## **Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains Subregion**

### **ACEC Units**

<b>Unit Name</b>	<b>Map #</b>	<b>See Here for Special Unit Management Plan</b>
Bigelow Cholla	13	Page 964
Chemehuevi	26	Page 973
Chuckwalla to Chemehuevi Tortoise Linkage	29	Colorado Desert Subregion
Dead Mountains	40	Page 985
Mopah Spring	76	Page 995
Piute-Fenner	97	South Mojave-Amboy Subregion
Turtle Mountains	123	Page 1005
Whipple Mountains	130	Page 1015

## Bigelow Cholla Research Natural Area

**National Conservation Lands Ecoregion:** Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains and South Mojave-Amboy

**Description/Location:**

Located on both sides of interstate 40 in the Sacramento Mountains adjacent to land owned by the University of California as part of its Natural Reserve System.

**Nationally Significant Values:**

The Bigelow Cholla RNA lies in the northern end of the Sacramento Mountains. The mountains consist of very dark, highly eroded volcanic rock. Elevations range from 1,400 feet to 3,314 feet atop Bannock Peak. The vegetation types are predominantly creosote bush desert scrub and desert wash scrub. The densest concentration of Bigelow cholla cactus in the California Desert is found within the Bigelow Cholla Garden Wilderness as well as the Stepladder and Chemehuevi Wilderness units.

**Ecological:** Dense population of desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) exists within this area.

**Scientific:** Additional populations of Bigelow cholla exist inside the Stepladder Mountains Wilderness and the Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness

**Special Designations/Management Plan/Date:** CDCA amendment #6, 1989-90

**Relevance and Importance Criteria:**

**Biological:** This area was designated due to relevant and important vegetation values. It contains the northern-most population and the densest-known concentration of Bigelow cholla in the CDCA. The area is designated as a Research Natural Area and will be managed primarily for research purposes in coordination with the University of California.

**Expansion Area:** The area is proposed for expansion to capture more of this unique vegetation resource. Additionally, the area is important for desert tortoise.

**Recreation Area:** This unit overlaps with National Trails SRMA.

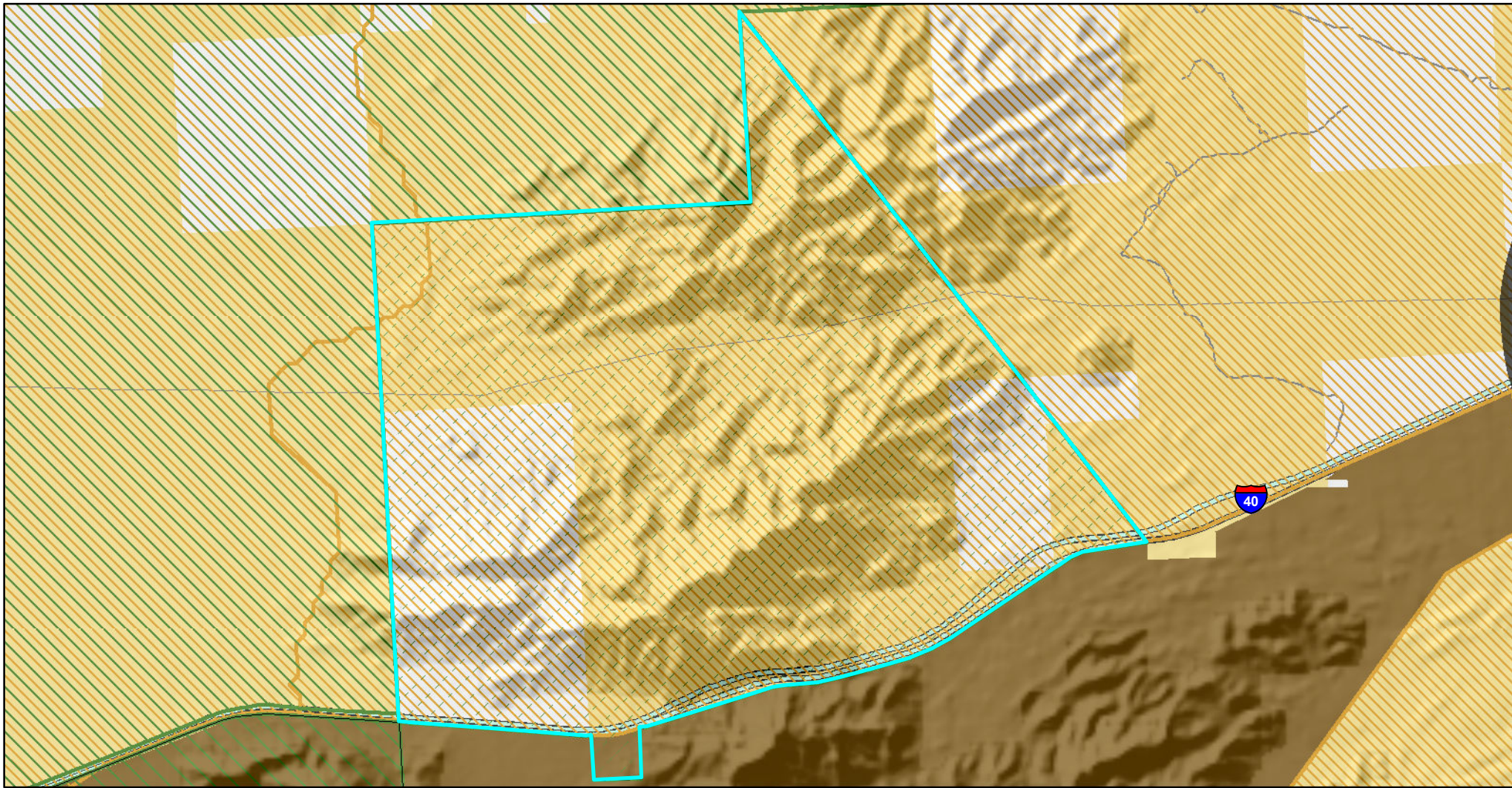
**Overarching Goals:** To preserve area for the protection and study of the Bigelow cholla.

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e., management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.








If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

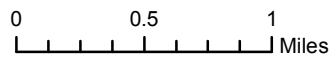
<b>Designation and Acreage by Alternative:</b>				
Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	100	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	4,360	4,399	0	1%
1	4,400	4,400	0	1%
2	4,400	4,400	0	1%
3	4,400	4,400	0	1%
4	4,400	4,400	0	1%
<b>* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands</b>				
<b>Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions</b>			<b>Resource</b>	
Protect soil, water and air quality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor area for soil health adjacent to Interstate 40. Monitor Wilderness for illegal intrusion.</li> </ul>			Soil, water, air	
UPA: Sacramento-Stepladder Mountains Teddy-Bear Cholla Assemblage Northern limit of the range of Bigelow cholla ( <i>Cylindropuntia bigelovii</i> )  Prescription: Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of California to address cooperative research activities.  Objective: Maintain or Improve condition of vegetation Action: Remove invasive plants, rehabilitate/revegetated disturbed areas. Action: Protect populations of special status plants and UPAs			Vegetation (incl. special status species)	
Desert Tortoise. Monitor tortoise populations and manage for recovery of species.			Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)	
Goal: Provide for the use of a designated system of Ground Transportation Linear Features to ensure access to the public for appropriate uses. Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All legal open roads and trails will be signed including road or trail number/name. All roads and trails identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored.</li> <li>Restore all undesignated roads or trails.</li> </ul> Provide routine maintenance of the designated roads and trails system including installation of routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, water bars, barriers, gates, or cattle guards on/or adjacent to system roads and trails.			Trails and Travel Management	
Goal: Manage recreation consistent with established conservation goals, while			Recreation	

<p>providing a broad range of recreation opportunities and to ensure public health and safety;  Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide interpretive, directional, and regulatory signs and materials as necessary to provide public information and reduce impacts from recreational use.</li> <li>• Allow stopping and parking within 25 feet, and camping within 100 feet of designated routes.</li> <li>• Manage recreational shooting consistent with state and local laws.</li> <li>• Allow SRP events which do not negatively affect RNA Relevance and Importance Values.</li> <li>• Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impact no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads and trails designated open in the land use or accompanying activity level plans.</li> </ul> <p>Area would be managed within the National Trails Special Recreation Management Area.</p>	
<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment.  Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edgeholdings and other interests from willing sellers.</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC  Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Unavailable for Renewable Energy Development  Geothermal: ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Open mineral entry w/ stipulations</p>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-Energy Leasables



**Conservation Footprint**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  DRECP Boundary | <b>Land Status</b>  |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>   |  CDCA Boundary  |  Bureau of Land Management |
|  0.5% Disturbance Cap                    |  |   |
|  1% Disturbance Cap                      |  |   |
|  National Conservation Lands             |  |   |

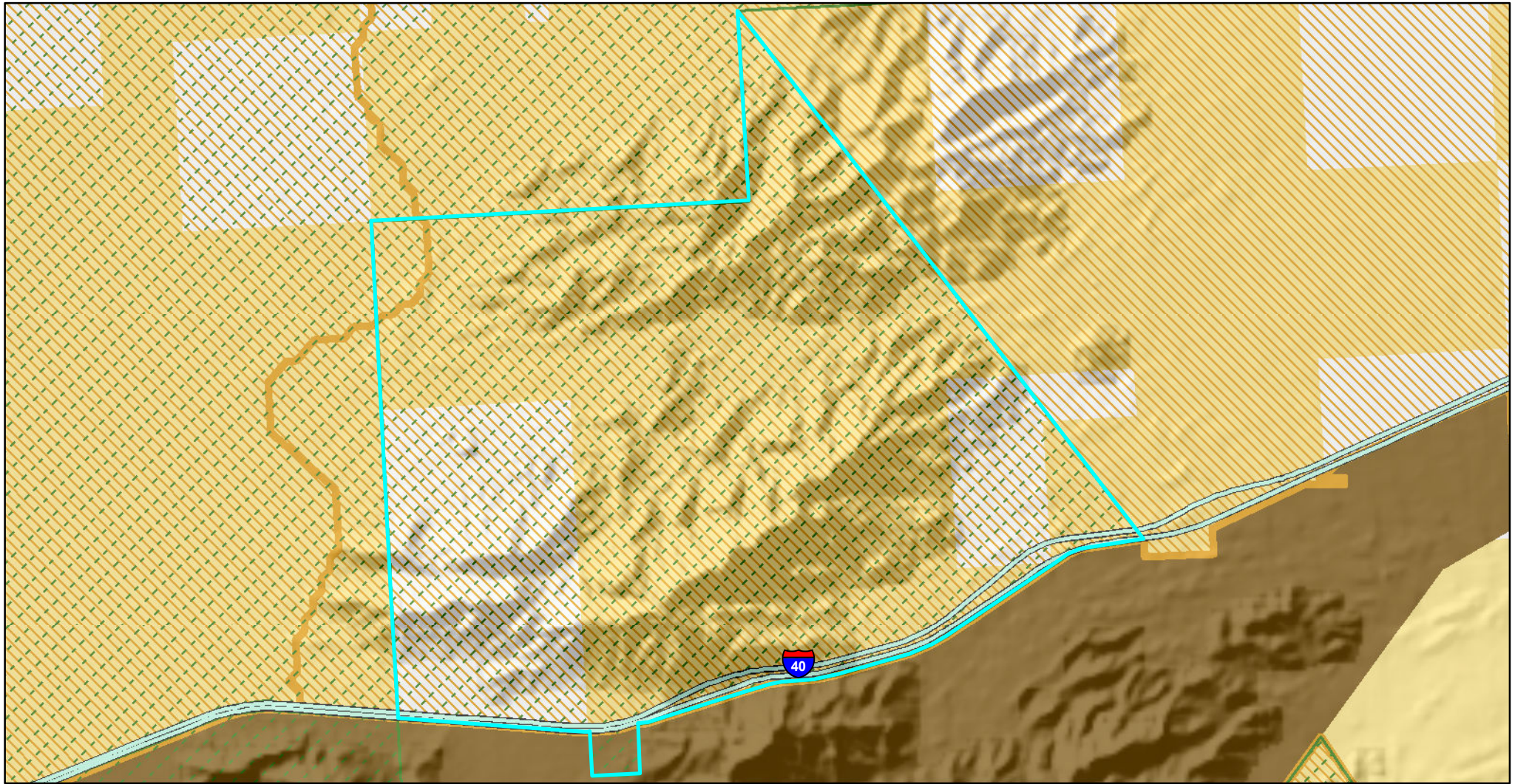


**Bigelow Cholla**







6/23/2015

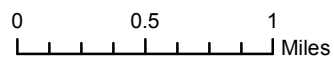
Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

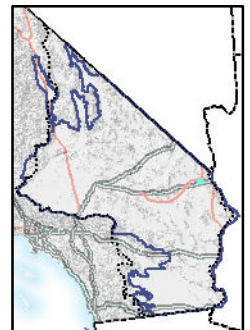
- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  DRECP Boundary | <b>Land Status</b>  |
|  National Conservation Lands             |  CDCA Boundary  |  Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>   |  |   |
|  1% Disturbance Cap                      |  |   |

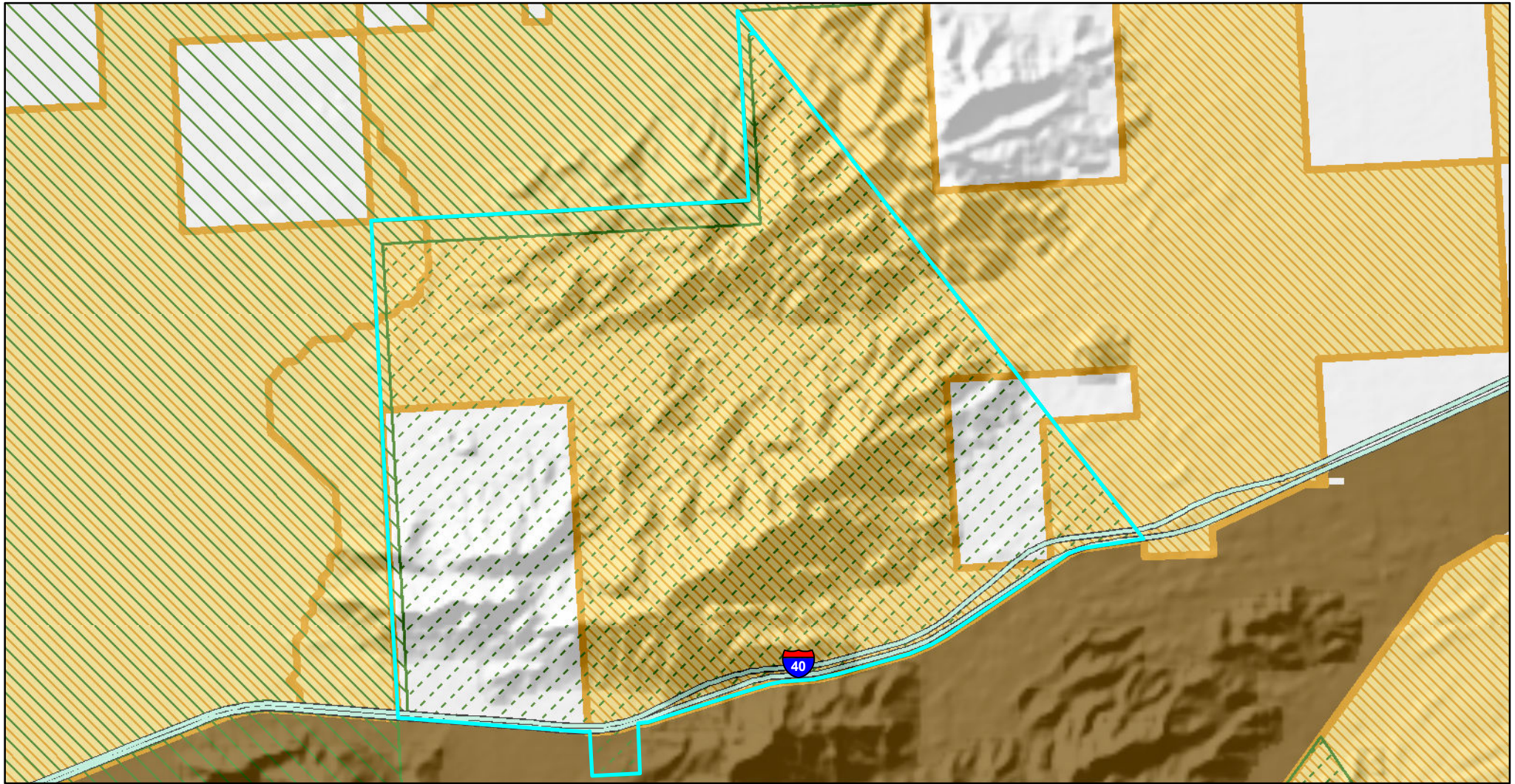


**Bigelow Cholla  
Alternative 1**

8/25/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



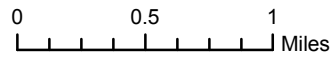


**Conservation Footprint**

- |   |                |                           |
|---|----------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary  | Bureau of Land Management |

**ACEC Boundaries**

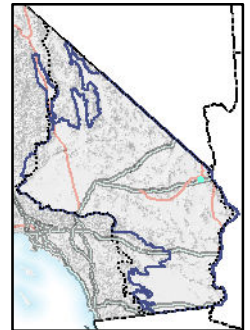
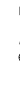
- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap



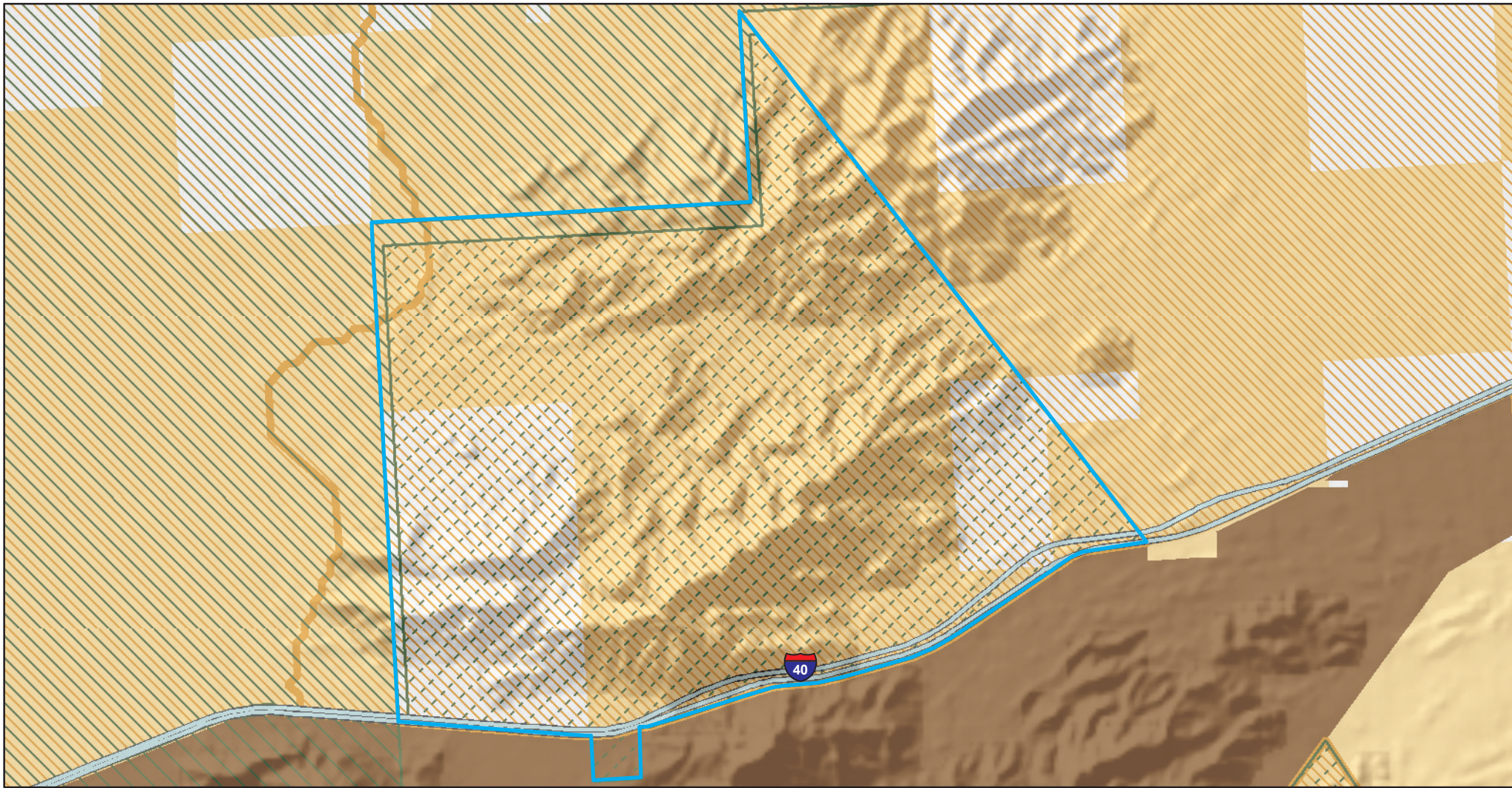
**Bigelow Cholla  
Alternative 2**

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





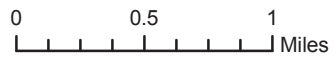


**Conservation Footprint**

- |   |                |                           |
|---|----------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary  | Bureau of Land Management |

**ACEC Boundaries**

- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap

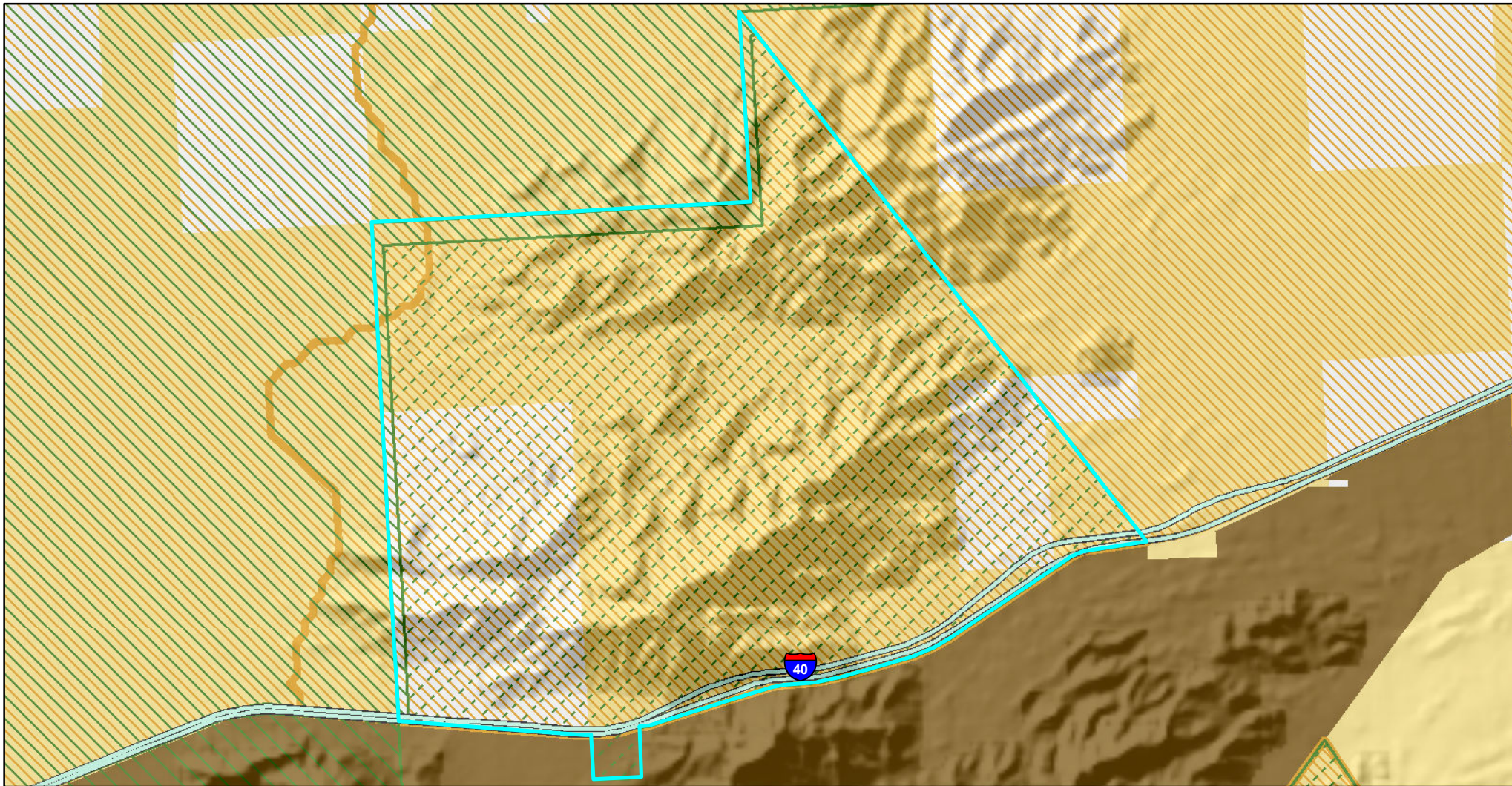


**Bigelow Cholla  
Alternative 3**

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



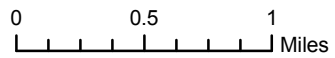


**Conservation Footprint**

- National Conservation Lands
- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management

**ACEC Boundaries**

- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap

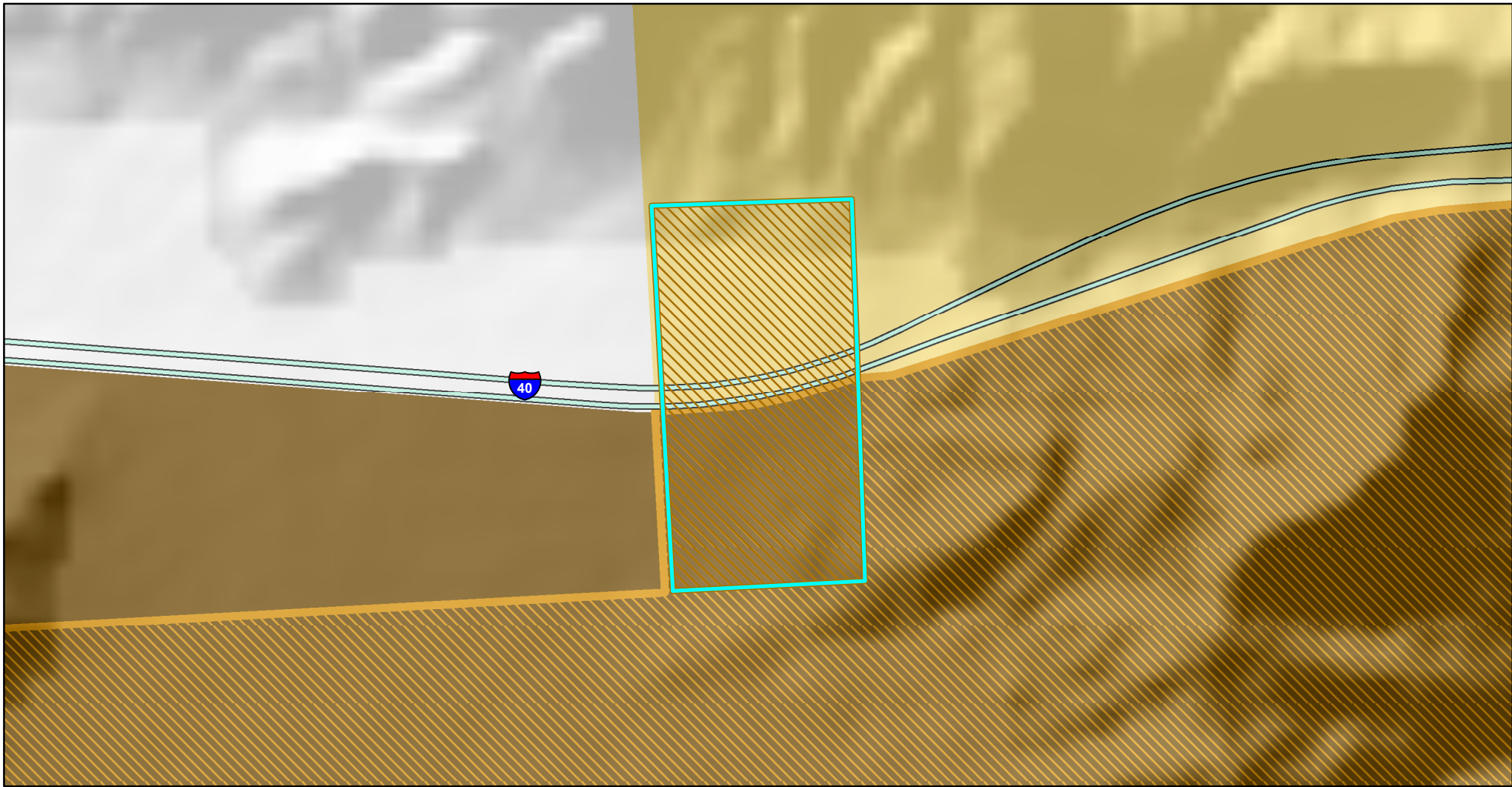


**Bigelow Cholla  
Alternative 4**







8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

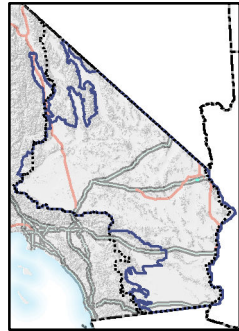
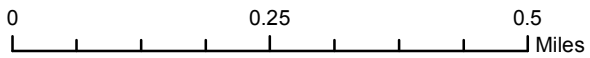
- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|  Existing ACEC  |  National Conservation Lands             | <b>Land Status</b>  |
|  CDCA Boundary  |  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  Bureau of Land Management |
|  DRECP Boundary |   |   |

**Bigelow Cholla**

**No Action**

9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



## Chemehuevi

**National Conservation Lands Ecoregions:** Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains, South Mojave-Amboya, and Colorado Desert

**Description/Location:** The north edge of the unit adjoins the southern and eastern boundary of Mojave National Preserve and the Nevada border and extends south and east to the Colorado River and Riverside County. There are 3 expansion areas proposed for this ACEC. The existing ACEC and proposed ACEC expansions and NLCS lands would link and connect the protected lands in ten wilderness areas (Trilobite, Clipper Mountains, Piute Mountains, Bigelow Cholla, Dead Mountains, Old Woman Mountains, Turtle Mountains, Stepladder Mountains, Whipple Mountains, and Chemehuevi Mountains) with Mojave National Preserve. This extensive and contiguous conservation landscape would stretch from the Colorado River region to the higher East Mojave desert.

**Nationally Significant Values:**

**Ecological:** This area encompasses a transition zone between both Mojave and Sonoran/Colorado Desert ecosystems. Chemehuevi Wash is one of the largest desert wash systems in the US portion of the Sonoran Desert. The area has some of the best tortoise habitat in the southeast Mojave. The Chemehuevi ACEC was established to protect and conserve this desert tortoise habitat. The transitional ecosystem attracts a variety of birds including sensitive species such as prairie falcons, gray vireo, Bendire's thrasher, and burrowing owls. Specialized habitats include dunes for Mojave fringe-toed lizards and roosting habitat for several bat species. Numerous rare and sensitive plants inhabit the area including Emory's crucifixion thorn, white margined penstemon, scrub lotus, rosy two-toned beardtongue and white-margined beardtongue. Between the Clipper Mountains and the Trilobite Wilderness areas is Bonanza Spring, one of the few natural watering areas for wildlife in the Mojave Desert. Conservation lands would protect this reliable and critical water source for Bighorn sheep and other species that traverse this vast landscape. While this region is still relatively undeveloped, conservation lands of this subarea would benefit wildlife and plant species that have been displaced or impacted in other parts of the California Desert.

Unusual Plant Assemblages (UPAs) found in the area include Crucifixion Thorn Assemblage; Sacramento / Stepladder Teddy Bear Cholla; Northernmost Sonoran Desert Thorn Woodland in California full of old-growth trees. Rare and special status species include *Castela emoryi*, *Cryptantha clokeyi*, *Ditaxis claryana*, *Juncus nodosus*, *Mentzelia tricuspis*, *Opuntia wigginsii*, and *Psoralea fremontii* var. *attenuates*.

Rare and special status animal species include Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) – BLM California Sensitive Species; Elf Owl – possibly irregular nester; Arizona Bell's Vireo – nesting in Sonoran Desert wash woodland; Bendire's Thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*) – BLM California Sensitive Species; Crissal Thrasher (*Toxostoma crissale*) – BLM California Sensitive Species  
Loggerhead Shrike – CDFW Species of Concern; Lucy Pyrrhuloxia; Yuma Myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*) BLM California Sensitive Species; *Ovis canadensis nelsoni*; American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*); Desert tortoise; Prairie Falcon, LeConte's Thrasher, Pyrrhuloxia.

**Cultural:** The area is a transition between the lower Sonoran Desert and the higher Mojave Desert and was extensively used by Native Americans for travel, trade, habitation, and migration. Hundreds of archaeological sites have been identified in Chemehuevi, spanning human occupation and activities in the desert over the past 10-12,000 years. These inventoried sites represent only a small portion of the evidence of human occupation in this area. Historic resources include remnants of ranching, mining and railroad activities of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Over 30 miles of historic Route 66 traverses the proposed conservation

lands. Much of the World War II Desert Training Center (DTC), and California-Arizona Maneuver Area (CAMA), are located within this area.

**Scientific:** Because of the extensive landscape and diversity of the Chemehuevi Expansion area scientific values are high. Research and scientific study are ongoing throughout the region. The Sweeny Granite Mountains Desert Research Center (University of California) is located nearby and draws students and researchers from around the world to study the ecological and cultural resources of this area.

**Special Designations/Management Plan/Date:** ACEC Plan No. 99, 2002

**Relevance and Importance Criteria:**

Relevant wildlife resource values. The ACEC contains Category I Desert Tortoise Habitat - habitat capable of sustaining viable tortoise populations and the highest value critical habitat. Some areas within the ACEC provide a combination of meteorological, geological, hydrological, topographical features that have been identified as important climate refugia (features that slow/minimize climate changes) for wildlife species.

**Expansion Areas:**

The expansion areas have the following Relevance and Importance Criteria making them worthy of inclusion into the ACEC. West Expansion: The area provides habitat and supports important populations of BLM sensitive plants, including white-margined beardtongue (*Penstemon albomarginatus*). The area provided habitat and supports regionally important populations of desert bighorn sheep, desert tortoise, and burrowing owls. Northeast-East Expansions: The area provides habitat and supports regionally important populations of desert bighorn sheep, desert tortoise, and prairie falcons. These expansion areas are also identified as critical to maintaining wildlife connectivity within the desert region.

**Recreation Area:** This unit overlaps with the National Trails and Chemehuevi Valley Rock Collecting and Touring SRMAs and the Lava Hills and Ward Valley ERMAs.

**Grazing Allotment:** This unit overlaps with Lazy Daisy Allotment.

**Lands with Wilderness Characteristics:** This unit contains 132,948 acres of lands that would be managed to protect wilderness character under the preferred alternative. The CMAs for lands managed to protect wilderness character would also apply in those areas.

**Overarching Goals:** To protect desert tortoise and significant natural resources including special status plant species, animal species and natural communities. Manage area in accordance with the Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan. Protect biological values, including habitat quality, populations of sensitive species, climate refugia, and landscape connectivity while providing for compatible public uses.

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e. management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it

will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

**Designation and Acreage by Alternative:**

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	818,900	0	1%
Preferred Alternative	575,300	875,424	0	1%
1	236,000	873,800	0	1%
2	875,100	875,100	0	1%
3	872,800	875,100	0	1%
4	432,800	873,800	0	1%

**\* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands**

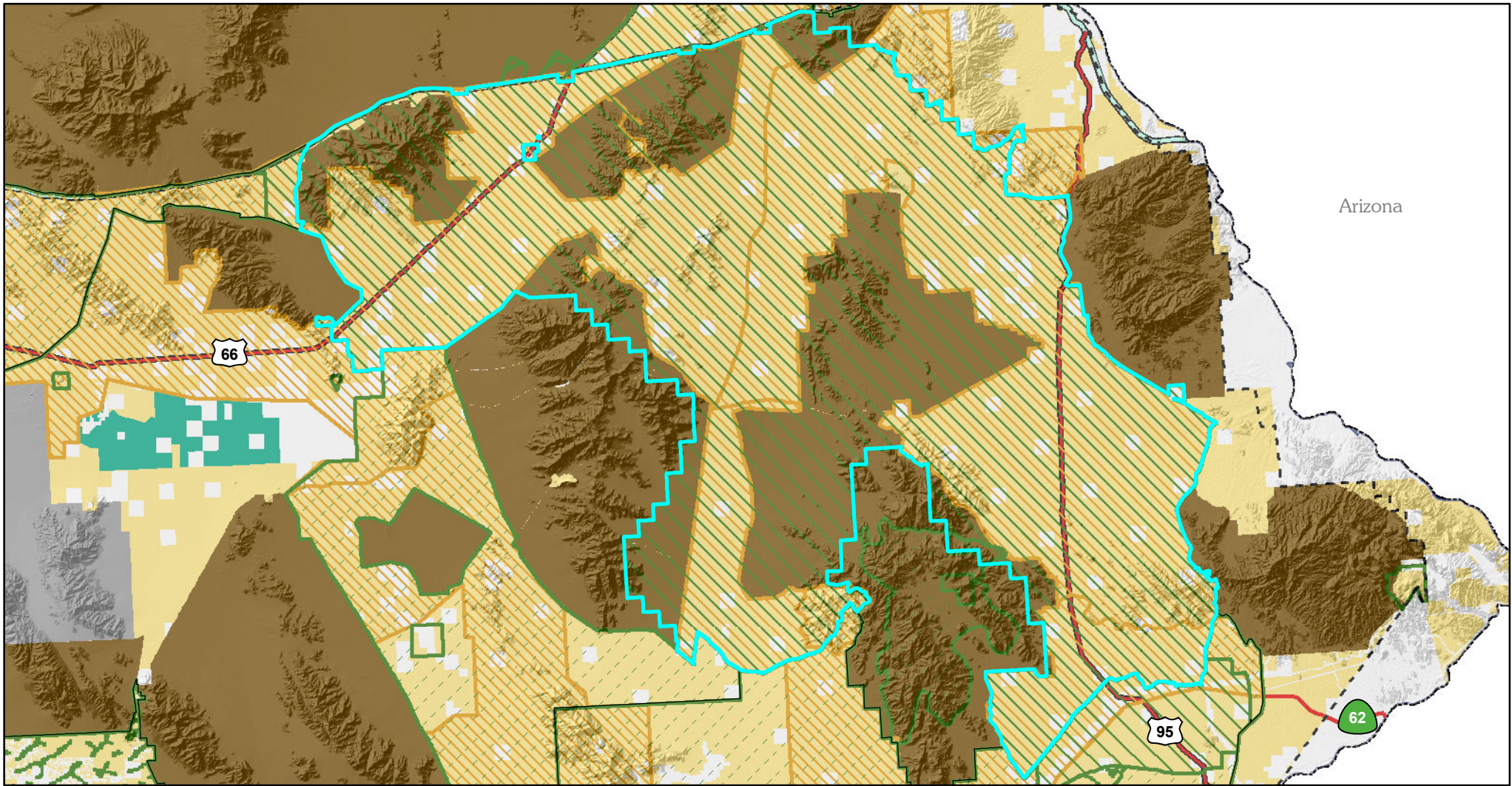
There is a tremendous amount of overlapping designations within this conservation area. In order to aid in the tracking of conservation lands, the BLM plans to remove dual designations. All wilderness areas and site specific ACECs that are located within this conservation area will be removed from this particular designation, but will keep their other designation.

Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Chemehuevi Wash is one of the largest desert wash systems in the US portion of the Sonoran Desert. Management Action: Minimize impacts to desert washes	Soil, water, air
Prescription : Create fenced areas for Hillside palo verde regeneration so that burros don't munch all the treelets until such time as the tree canopies are substantially above the reach of the burros. - Permits for live vegetation harvest may be issues after EA review only within salvage areas where surface disturbance has been authorized. -	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
Prescriptions: - Remove ravens that are known predators to tortoises where there is evidence of predation in or within 1 mile of desert tortoise habitat - Main paved roadways within and adjacent to the unit will be fenced, signed and patrolled.	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<b>Objective 1:</b> Protect biodiversity and manage for resilience (protect climate refugia and provide for migration corridors).	Climate Change and Adaptation

<p>Management Action 1: Prioritize habitat enhancement in areas expected to provide for the greatest level of resiliency (good response or rehabilitation results after significant disturbance such as fire) and or resistance to change (e.g. climate refugia).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Consider actions that enhance the primary productivity of climate refugia with native species restoration, reduced soil surface disturbance, and habitat infrastructure to increase carrying capacity of refugia (e.g., wetland, oasis).</p> <p>Management Action 3: Maintain migration corridor integrity by minimizing obstructions (fences, roads), disturbances (limiting access to water and shade during peak temperatures) and habitat fragmentation.</p> <p><b>Objective 2:</b> Maintain and or enhance key ecosystem processes (e.g., carbon sequestration, water residence time) and prepare and respond to significant disturbances to the environment (e.g. floods).</p> <p>Management Action 1: Develop proactive and responsive management actions for potentially dangerous and damaging disturbances to the environment, which are exacerbated by climate change (e.g. wildfire, flash floods, etc.).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Minimize carbon sequestration losses from management activities by reducing impacts to vegetation, soil structure and soil biota.</p> <p>Management Action 3: Leverage disturbance events and other landscape changes, when possible, as opportunities to assess climate adaptation actions. For example, revegetation objectives for projected climate scenarios benefiting multiple ecosystem services (habitat and carbon sequestration objectives).</p>	
<p>Prescription: Keep the Chemehuevi burro herd outside the Chemehuevi ACEC.</p>	<p>Wild Horse and Burro</p>
<p>Goal: Provide for the use of a designated system of Ground Transportation Linear Features to ensure access to the public for appropriate uses.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All legal open roads and trails will be signed including road or trail number/name. All roads and trails identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored.</li> <li>• Restore all undesignated roads or trails.</li> <li>• Provide routine maintenance of the designated roads and trails system including installation of routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, water bars, barriers, gates, or cattle guards on/or adjacent to system roads and trails.</li> </ul>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Refer to the National Trails Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) and the Ward Valley Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA) write-up for</p>	<p>Recreation</p>

<p>detailed objectives, allocations, and management direction.</p> <p>Goal: Manage recreation consistent with established conservation goals, while providing a broad range of recreation opportunities and to ensure public health and safety;</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide interpretive, directional, and regulatory signs and materials as necessary to provide public information and reduce impacts from recreational use.</li> <li>• Allow stopping and parking within 25 feet, and camping within 100 feet of designated routes.</li> <li>• Manage recreational shooting consistent with state and local laws.</li> <li>• Allow SRP events which do not negatively affect ACEC Relevance and Importance Values.</li> <li>• Issuance of Special Recreation Permits for day use or overnight use up to 14 consecutive nights; that impact no more than 3 staging area acres; and/or for recreational travel along roads and trails designated open in the land use or accompanying activity level plans.</li> </ul>	
<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment.</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edgeholdings and other interests from willing sellers.</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC</p> <p>Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Closed to renewable energy development.</p> <p><b>Geothermal:</b> ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Open to mineral entry w/ stipulations.</p> <p>Unavailable to mineral material sales or available with mitigation/compensation to result in net benefit to ACEC/NLCS values.</p> <p>Unsuitable for leasing or available with NSO to protect ACEC/NLCS values.</p>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-Energy Leasables
<p>A part of this ACEC is within the Lazy Daisy grazing allotment. Grazing will continue to be authorized in the overlap area and is governed by federal regulations including the achievement of standards and guidelines.</p>	Livestock grazing



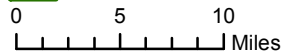


Arizona

**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- National Conservation Lands
- ACEC Boundaries**
- 0.1% Disturbance Cap
- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap
- Renewable Footprint
- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Variance Process Lands

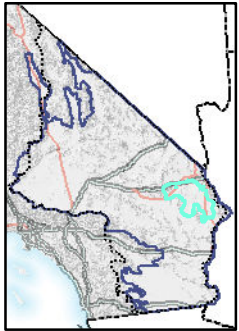
- Land Status**
- Bureau of Land Management
  - Department of Defense

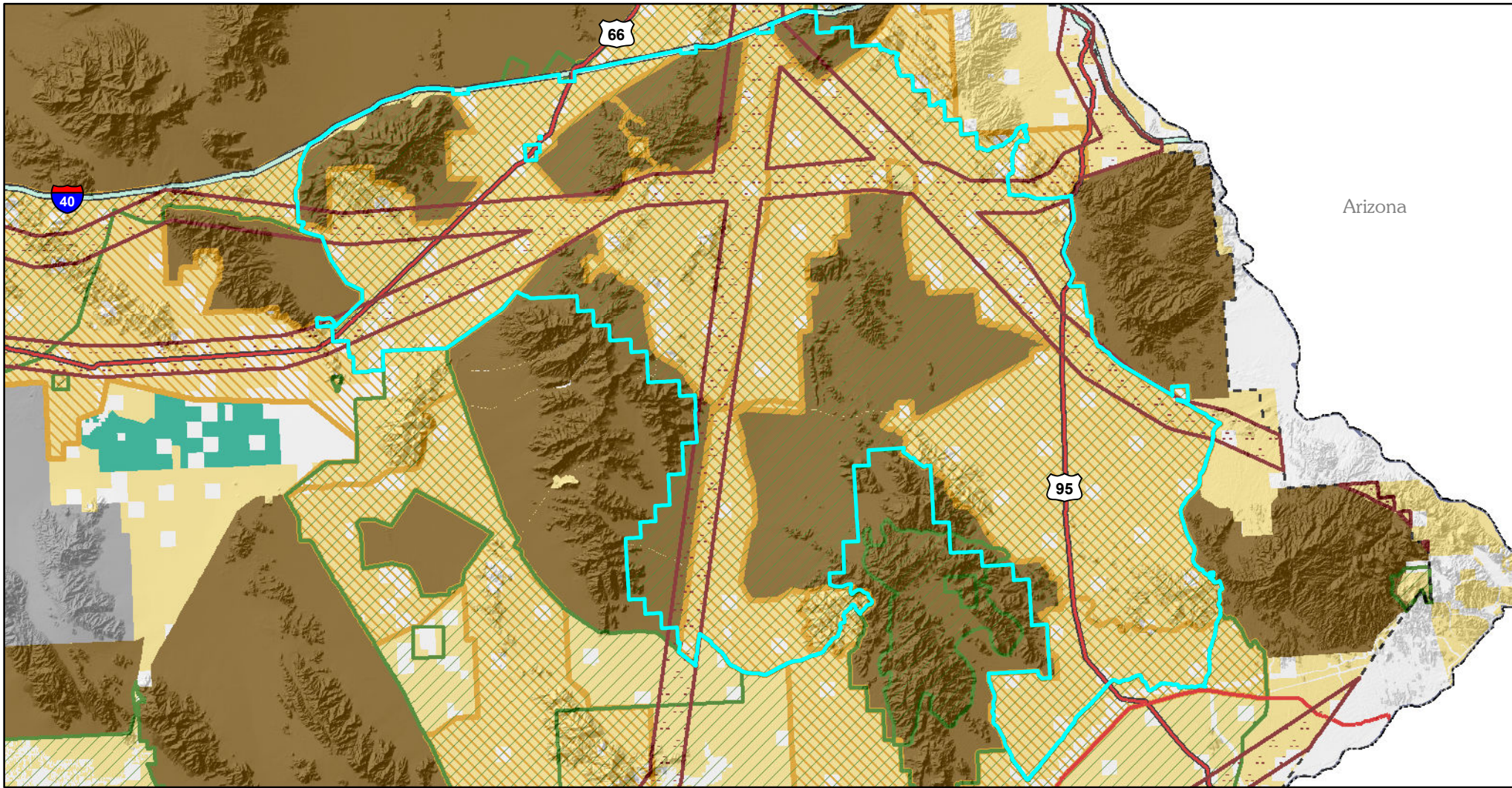


**Chemehuevi**

6/23/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change







Arizona

**Conservation Footprint**

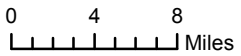
-  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
-  National Conservation Lands
-  Proposed ACEC
-  DRECP Boundary
-  CDCA Boundary
-  Transmission Corridor
- Renewable Footprint**
-  Variance Process Lands

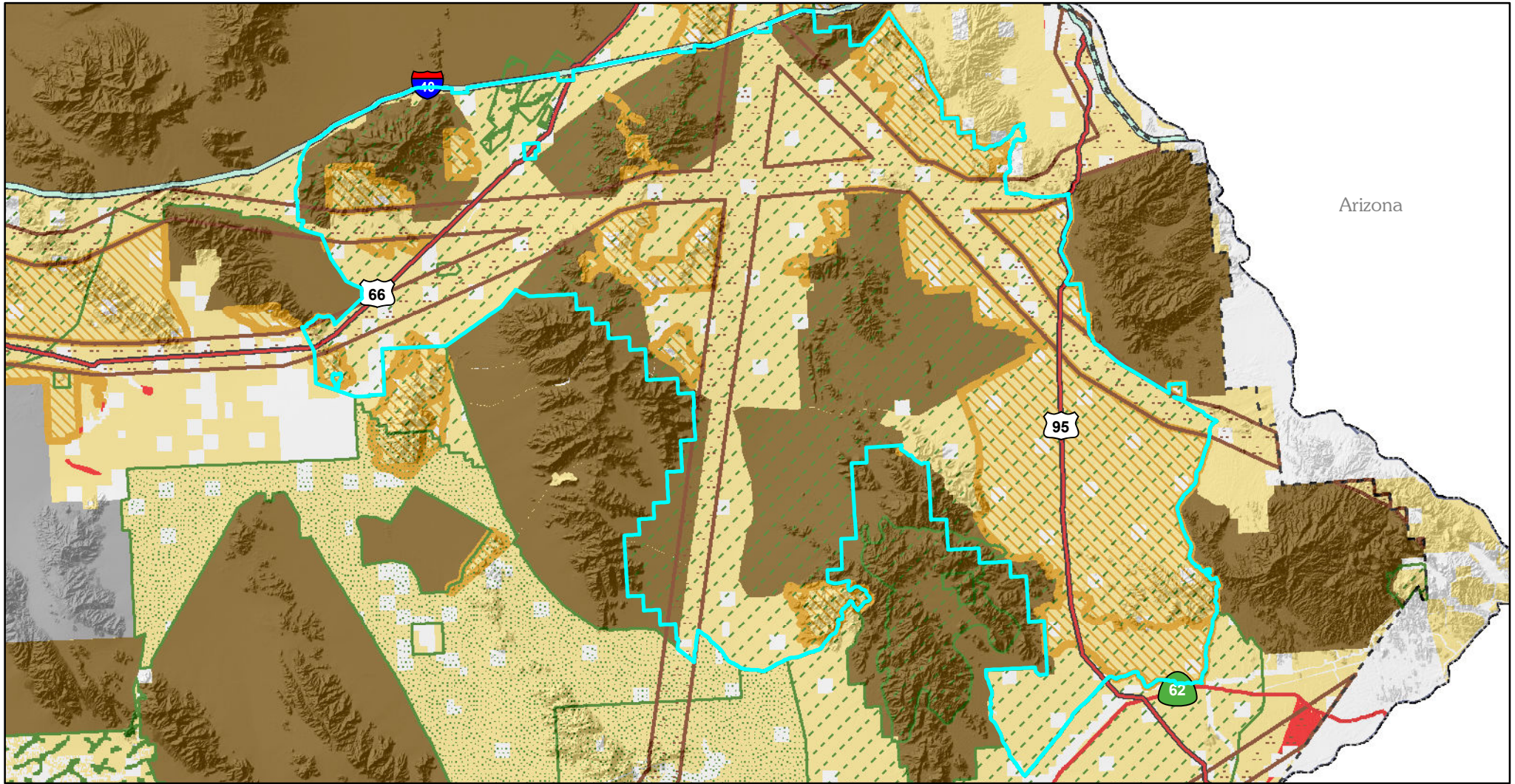
- Land Status**
-  Bureau of Land Management
  -  Department of Defense

**Chemehuevi**

7/14/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





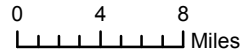
Arizona

**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- National Conservation Lands
- ACEC Boundaries**
- 0.1% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap
- Wildlife Allocation

- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Transmission Corridor
- Renewable Footprint**
- Variance Lands

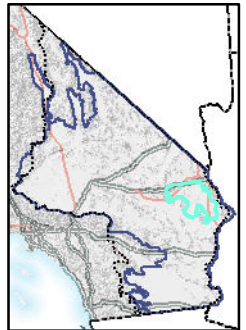
- Land Status**
- Bureau of Land Management
  - Department of Defense

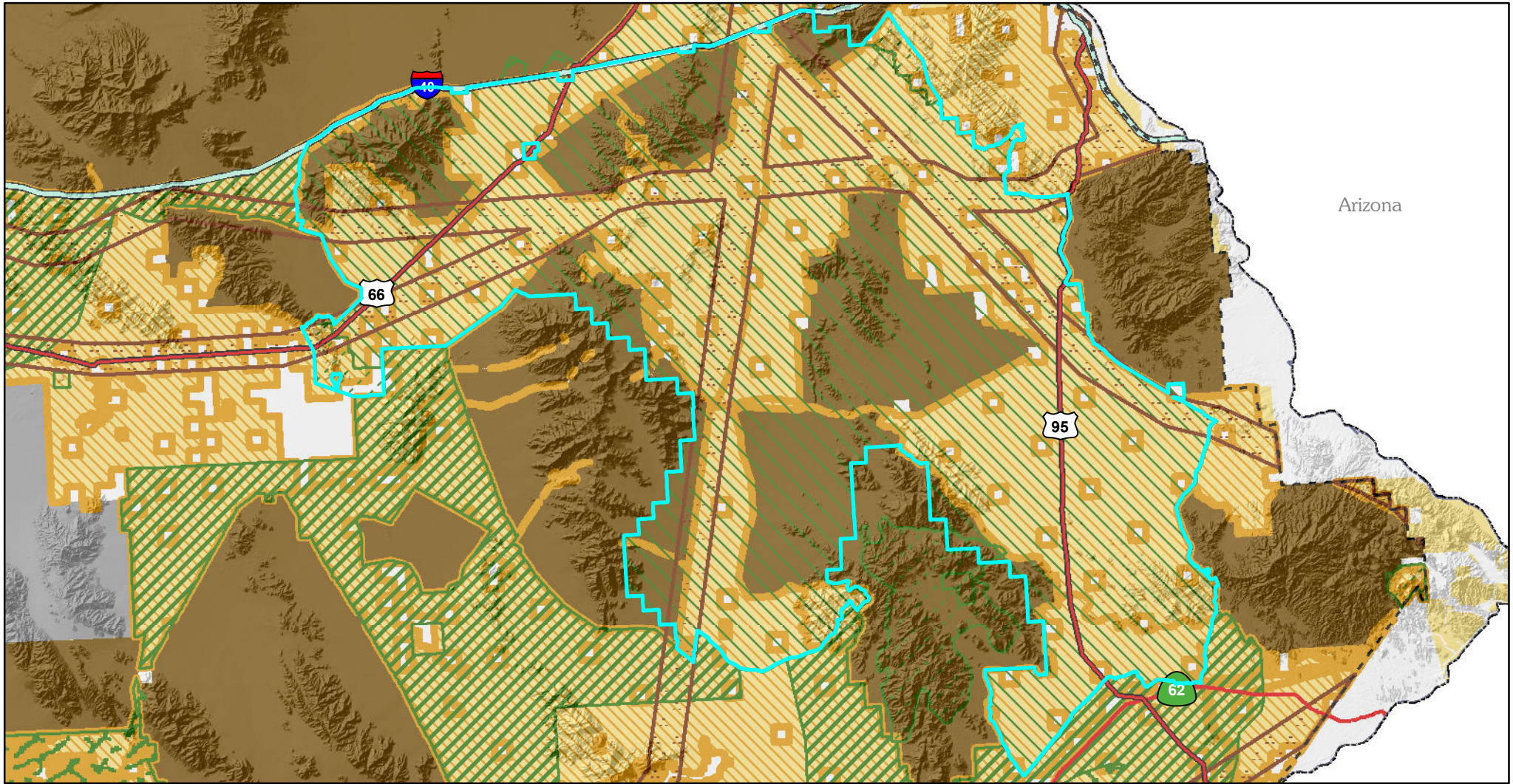


**Chemehuevi  
Alternative 1**

8/25/2015











Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





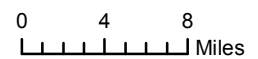


Arizona

**Conservation Footprint**

-  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
-  National Conservation Lands
- ACEC Boundaries**
-  0.1% Disturbance Cap
-  0.25% Disturbance Cap
-  0.5% Disturbance Cap
-  1% Disturbance Cap
-  DRECP Boundary
-  CDCA Boundary
-  Transmission Corridor
- Renewable Footprint**
-  Future Assessment Areas

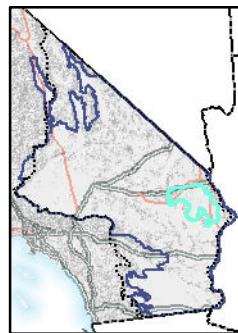
- Land Status**
-  Bureau of Land Management
  -  Department of Defense

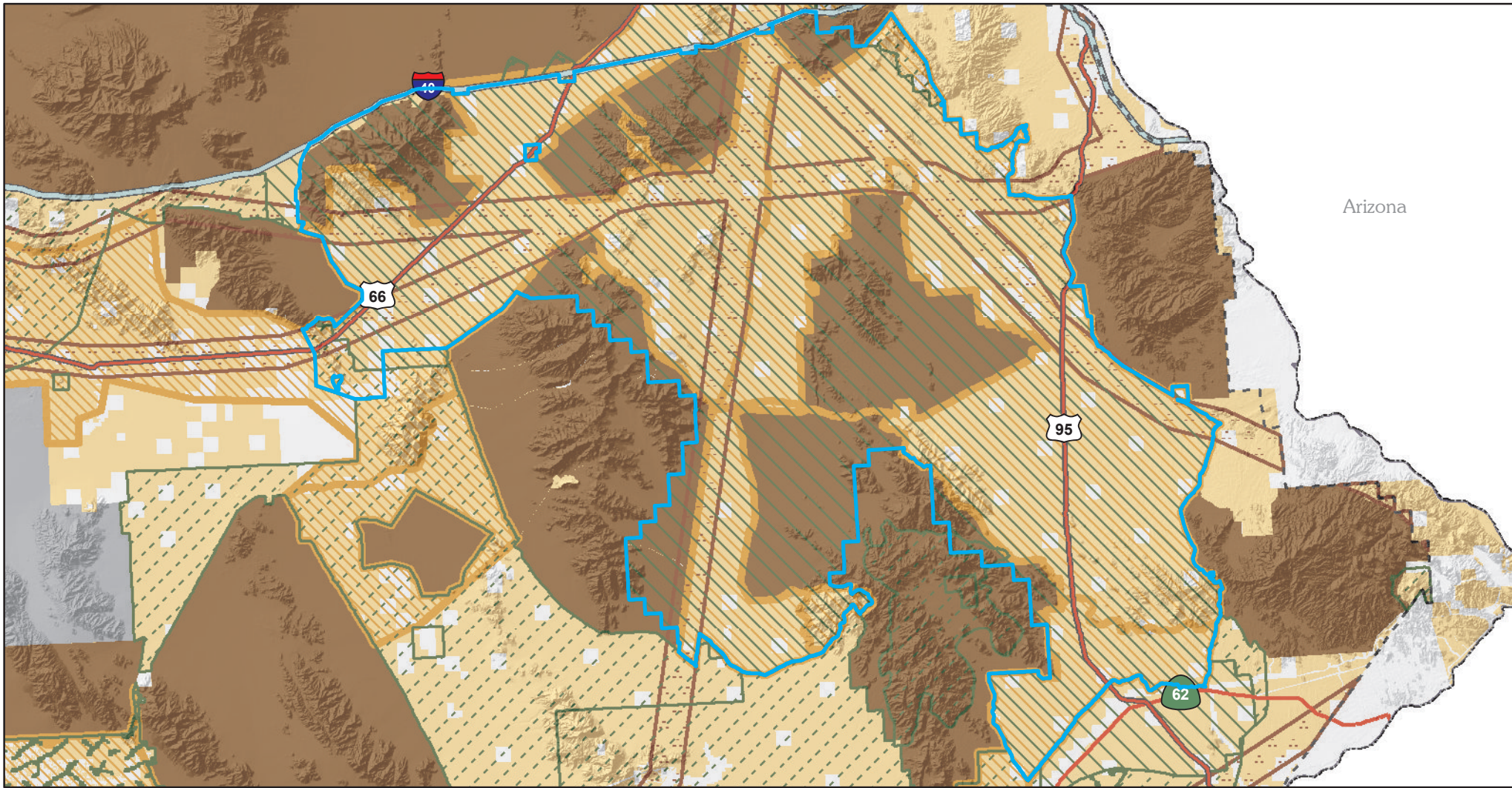


**Chemehuevi  
Alternative 2**

8/26/2015

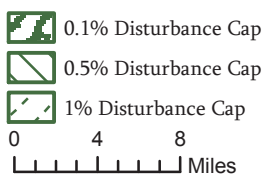
Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

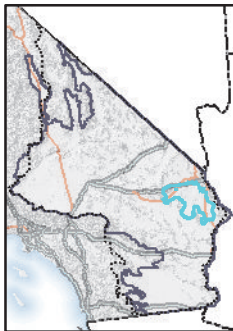
- |   |                       |                           |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary        | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary         | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  | Transmission Corridor | Department of Defense     |
| 0.1% Disturbance Cap                    |                       |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    |                       |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      |                       |                           |

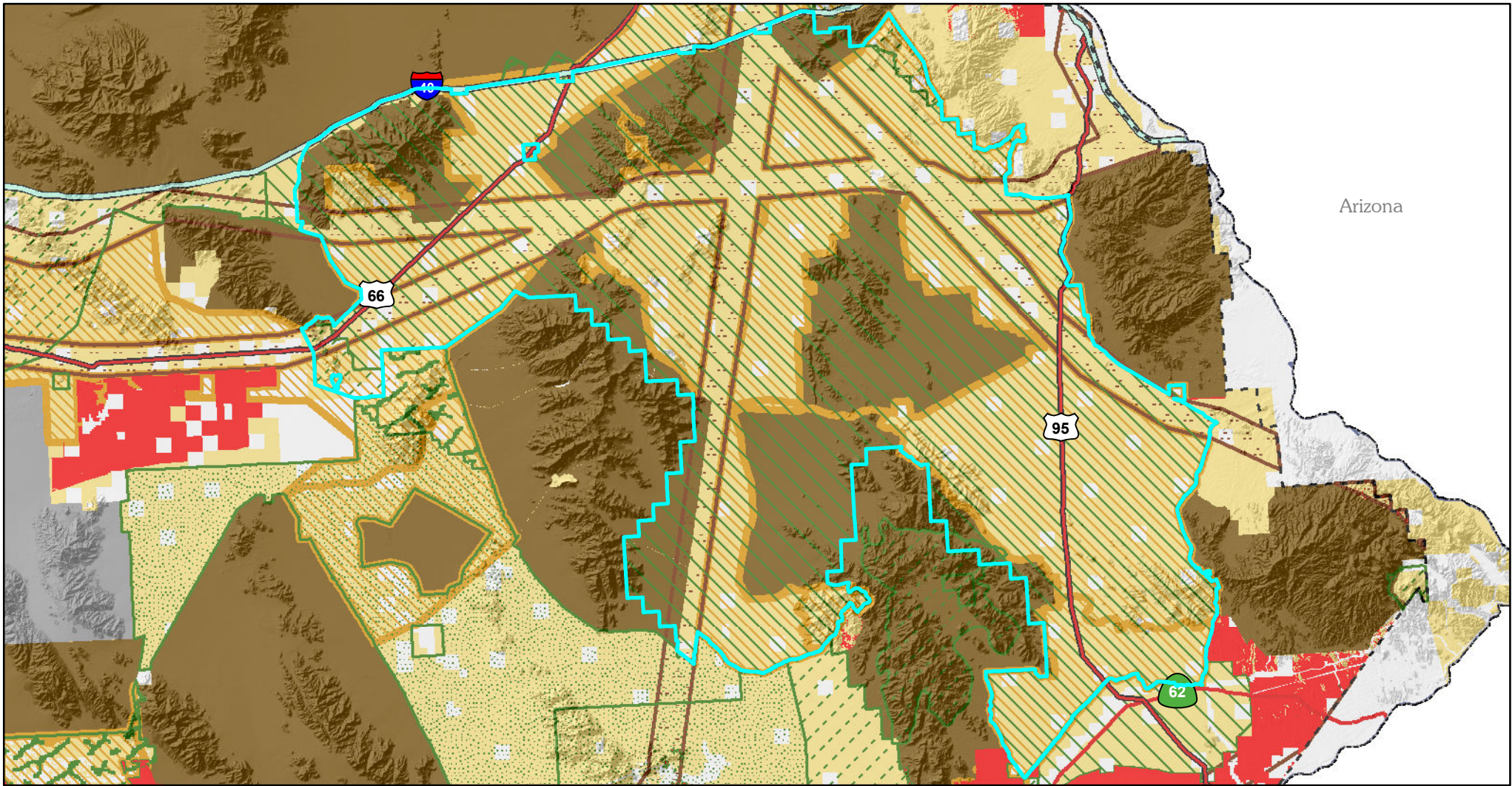


**Chemehuevi  
Alternative 3**

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

- National Conservation Lands
- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas

**ACEC Boundaries**

- 0.1% Disturbance Cap
- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap
- Wildlife Allocation

- DRECP Boundary

- CDCA Boundary

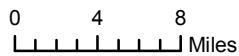
- Transmission Corridor

**Renewable Footprint**

- Variance Lands

**Land Status**

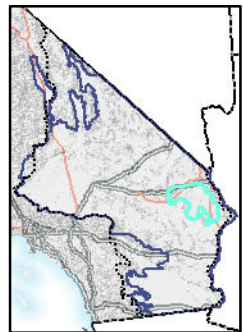
- Bureau of Land Management
- Department of Defense

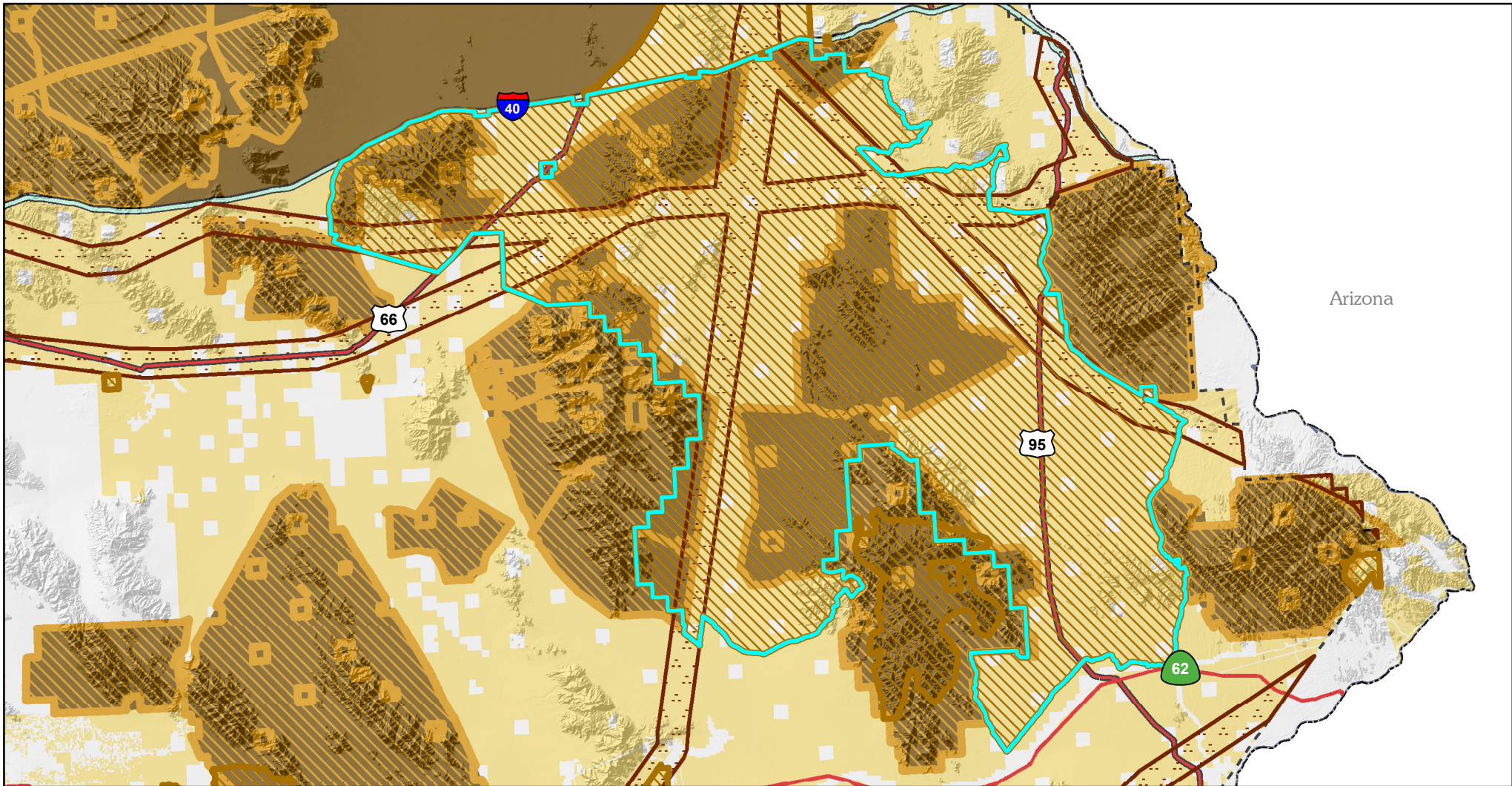


**Chemehuevi  
Alternative 4**

8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Arizona

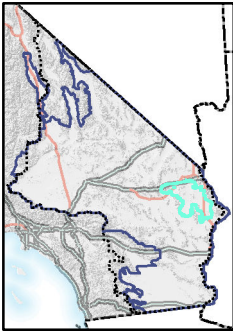
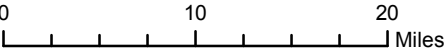
**Conservation Footprint**

- |                       |   |                           |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Existing ACEC         | National Conservation Lands             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| Transmission Corridor | Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | Bureau of Land Management |
| CDCA Boundary         |   |                           |
| DRECP Boundary        |   |                           |

**Chemehuevi DWMA**

**No Action**  
9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



## Dead Mountains

**National Conservation Lands Ecoregion:** Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains

**Description/Location:** Located between 8 and 20 miles north-northeast of Needles, California along the Colorado River, adjacent to the Nevada and Arizona state lines.

**Nationally Significant Values:**

This area encompasses the jagged, steep, rust-colored Dead Mountains and the alluvial fans sweeping to the west towards Piute Valley and east towards the Colorado River. Centered in the northern half of the wilderness is its highest point, Mount Manchester at an elevation of 3,598 feet. Picture Canyon (a spring location and major wash) transects the wilderness in the north and Piute Wash borders the wilderness on the west. Vegetation is predominantly creosote bush desert scrub and desert wash scrub. The northern most occurrences of smoke trees in the California Desert Conservation Area.

**Ecological:**

Bighorn populations utilize the northern most point of the wilderness unit where a large water source exists. Homer mountain Ocotillo Assemblage and the Piute Valley Smoke Tree Assemblage occur within this region. Some areas within the ACEC provide a combination of meteorological, geological, hydrological, topographical features that have been identified as important climate refugia (slow/minimized climate changes) for wildlife species.

**Cultural:**

In 1776, a Franciscan Friar, Father Garcés, served at the mission of Tucson, in present day Arizona. He accompanied Juan Bautista de Anza on two California expeditions, in an attempt to find a cross-country route to California. The group traveled west along the Gila Trail, or southern Santa Fe route, when Garcés left the travelers in Yuma, Arizona, and journeyed north along the Colorado River where he met both the Mojave and Chemehuevi Tribes. Garcés with the aid of a local native scout learned about, and utilized a western trade route which from the Colorado River ascended into the Dead Mountains to a spring site just north of the Mt. Manchester and continued west along what is known today as the Mojave Road. This route followed the Mojave River to the coast. Garcés continued to travel extensively throughout the Southwest until he was killed in a native American attack in Yuma, Arizona.

Picture Canyon located within the Dead Mountains ACEC and the Dead Mountains Wilderness is a rich flowing springs site with a strong cultural resource history. Native Americans and early explorers are believed to have utilized this area as part of the prehistoric Mojave Road route. When the Old Government Road was implemented in the in the 1860's this Spring site would have been diverted around due to the roughness of the canyon. The cultural resources including petroglyphs and trails.

**Scientific:**

The area is important for studies of human adaptation to arid environments and ecological processes. Ethnographic studies of cultural traditions are ongoing. Research is needed on changes to wilderness values due to human use and climate change.

**Special Designations/Management Plan/Date:** ACEC Plan 34/1989

**Relevance and Importance Criteria:** This area was designated to provide protection of Native American values. It has been identified by both the Mojave and Chemehuevi tribes to be of religious and cultural significance. It contains areas of both sacred and ritual importance that are associated with traditional



cosmogony, delineate religious events, embody religious figures, and define burial places. These important values are subject to the provisions of the American Indian Religious Act.

**Recreation Area:** This unit overlaps with the National Trails SRMA.

**Lands with Wilderness Characteristics:** This unit contains 343 acres of lands that would be managed to protect wilderness character under the preferred alternative. The CMAs for lands managed to protect wilderness character would also apply in those areas.

**Overarching Goals:** To ensure that the Native American cultural resources are provided protection in accordance with FLPMA and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e. management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

**Designation and Acreage by Alternative:**

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	27,200	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	335	27,209	0	1%
1	27,200**	27,200	0	1%
2	27,200**	27,200	0	1%
3	27,200**	27,200	0	1%
4	27,200**	27,200	0	1%

\* Acreage values are for BLM managed land

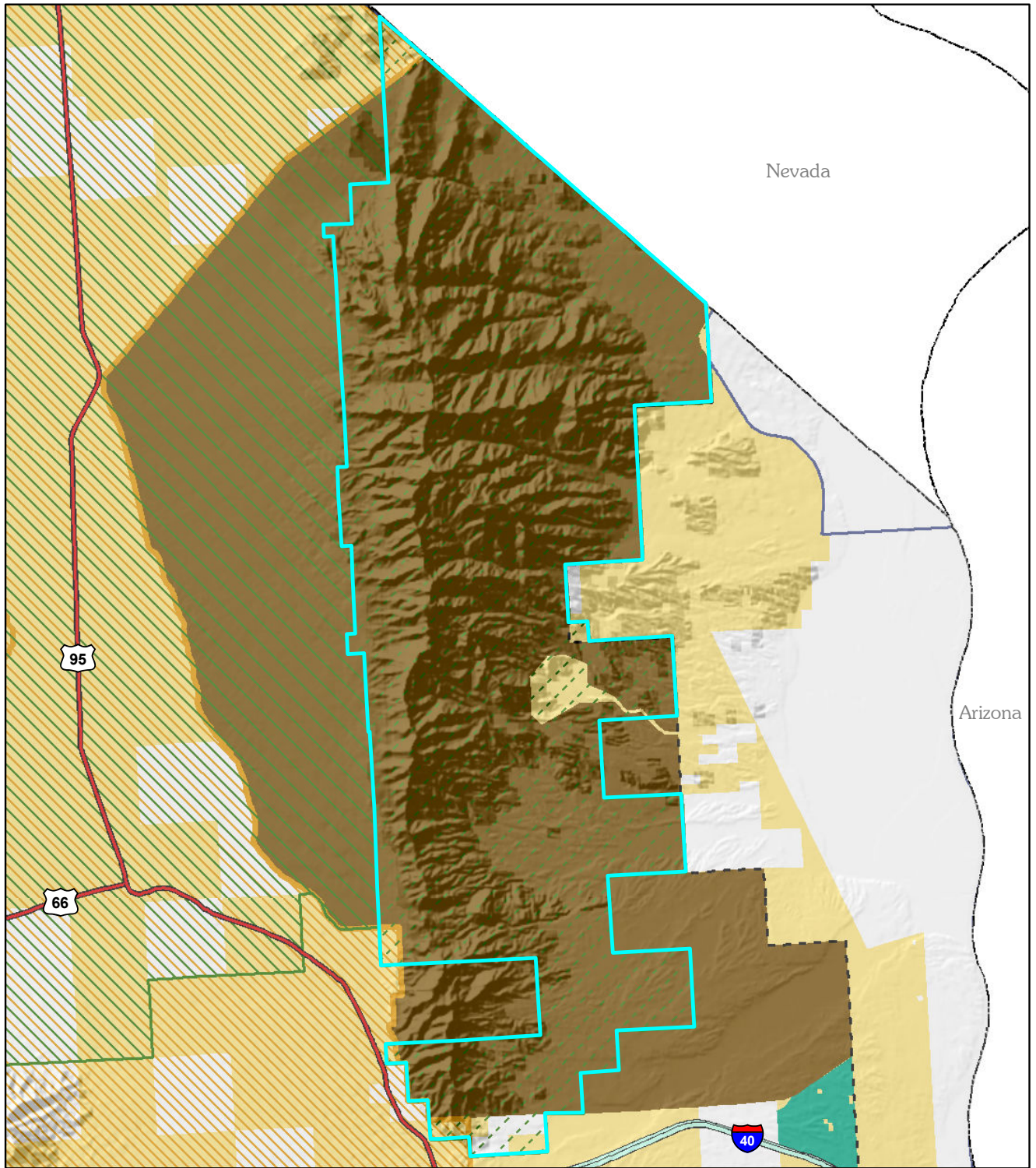
\*\* Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness

Only a small portion of this unit is designated for inclusion in NCLS. The remainder of this unit overlaps designated wilderness and is automatically included in NCLS.

Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
Maintain proper functioning conditions of soils and vegetation in wilderness. Limit OHV use to designated routes. Enforce closures in wilderness.	Soil, water, air

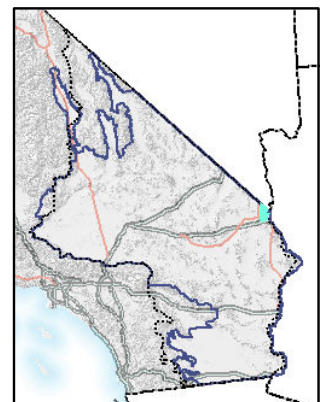
<p>Manage to maintain populations of Arizona pholistoma (<i>Pholistoma auritum</i> var. <i>arizonicum</i>) [CNPS 2]. The flora of this area is just beginning to become known.</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Manage to maintain populations of BLM CA Sensitive Species: <i>Ovis canadensis nelson</i> Monitor populations and water sources.</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<p><b>Objective 1:</b> Protect biodiversity and manage for resilience (protect climate refugia and provide for migration corridors).</p> <p>Management Action 1: Prioritize habitat enhancement in areas expected to provide for the greatest level of resiliency (good response or rehabilitation results after significant disturbance such as fire) and or resistance to change (e.g. climate refugia).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Consider actions that enhance the primary productivity of climate refugia with native species restoration, reduced soil surface disturbance, and habitat infrastructure to increase carrying capacity of refugia (e.g., wetland, oasis).</p> <p>Management Action 3: Maintain migration corridor integrity by minimizing obstructions (fences, roads), disturbances (limiting access to water and shade during peak temperatures) and habitat fragmentation.</p> <p><b>Objective 2:</b> Maintain and or enhance key ecosystem processes and prepare and respond to significant disturbances to the environment (e.g. floods).</p> <p>Management Action 1: Develop proactive and responsive management actions for potentially dangerous and damaging disturbances to the environment, which are exacerbated by climate change (e.g. wildfire, flash floods, etc.).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Minimize carbon sequestration losses from management activities by reducing impacts to vegetation, soil structure and soil biota.</p>	Climate Change and Adaptation
<p>Protect and minimize changes to characteristic landscapes important to Native Americans. Manage visual resources in wilderness as VRM Class I, and other landscapes consistent with adopted VRM Classes.</p>	Visual Resources
<p>Protect cultural resources and wilderness character. Wilderness is closed to OHV, remainder of area is limited to designated routes per NECO plan.</p>	Trails and Travel Management
<p>Manage for recreation opportunities that are appropriate in Wilderness</p>	Recreation

<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment.  Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edgeholdings and other interests from willing sellers.</p>	<p>Land Tenure</p>
<p>Wilderness is closed to ROW except for pre wilderness designation valid and existing rights.  Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC  Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	<p>Rights of Way</p>
<p>Area would be closed to applications for renewable energy projects.  <b>Geothermal:</b> ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	<p>Renewable Energy</p>
<p>Wilderness is withdrawn from locatable, saleable, and leasing  Outside wilderness is open to entry for locatable minerals. Validity exam and PO required for mining. Available for sales and leasing if proposed actions do not conflict with values of ACEC.</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals  Mineral Materials  Non-energy Leasables</p>

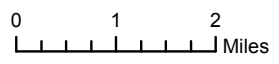


**Conservation Footprint**

- |   |                            |                           |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary              | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  | <b>Renewable Footprint</b> |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    | Variance Process Lands     |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      |                            |                           |



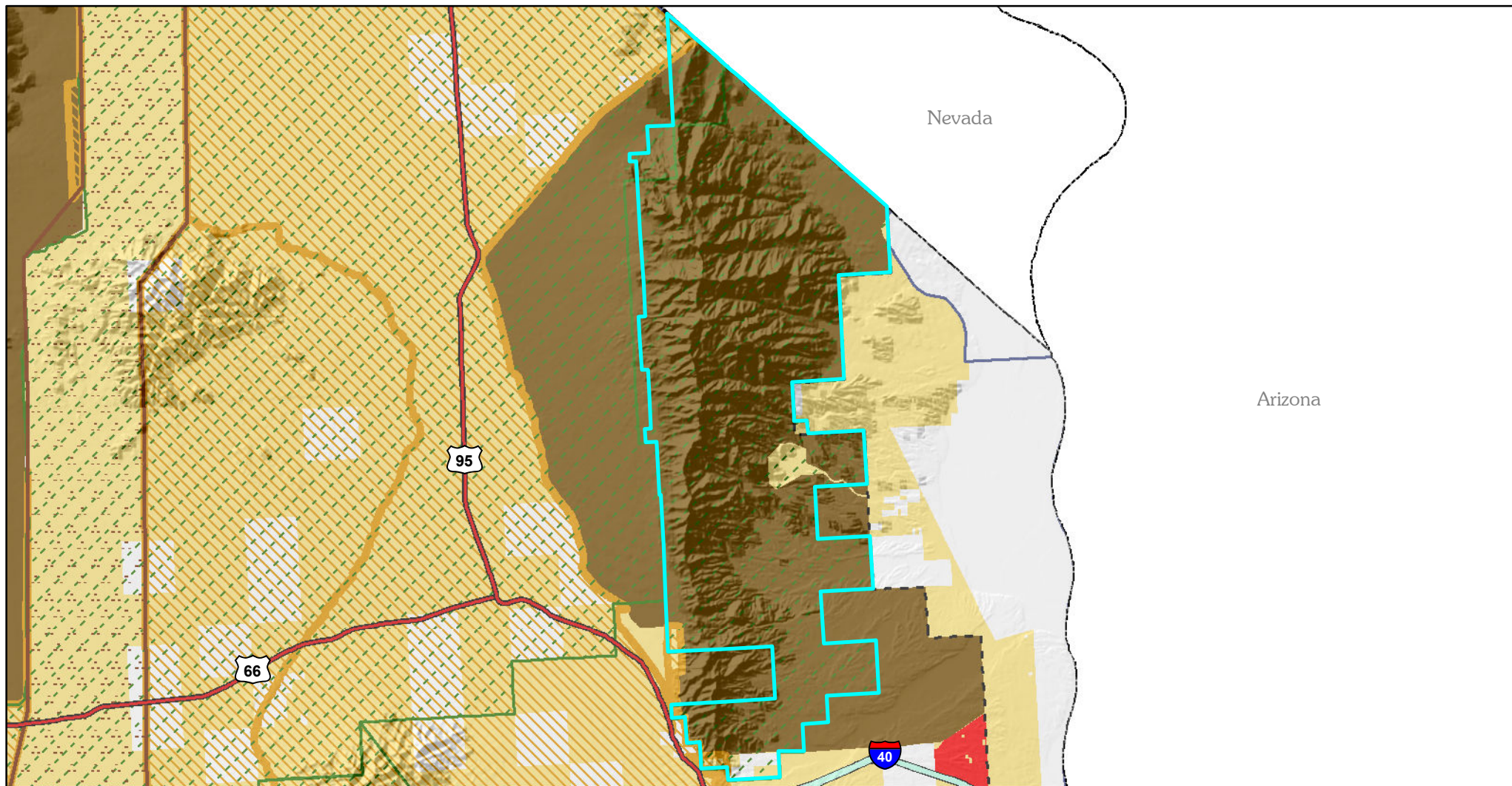
**Dead Mountains**



6/25/2015



Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



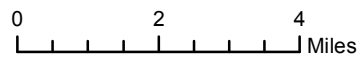
**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- National Conservation Lands
- ACEC Boundaries**
- 1% Disturbance Cap

- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Transmission Corridor
- Renewable Footprint**
- Variance Lands

**Land Status**

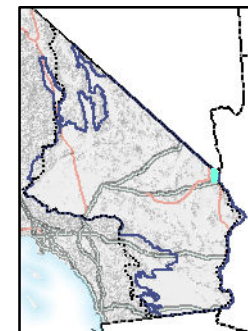
- Bureau of Land Management

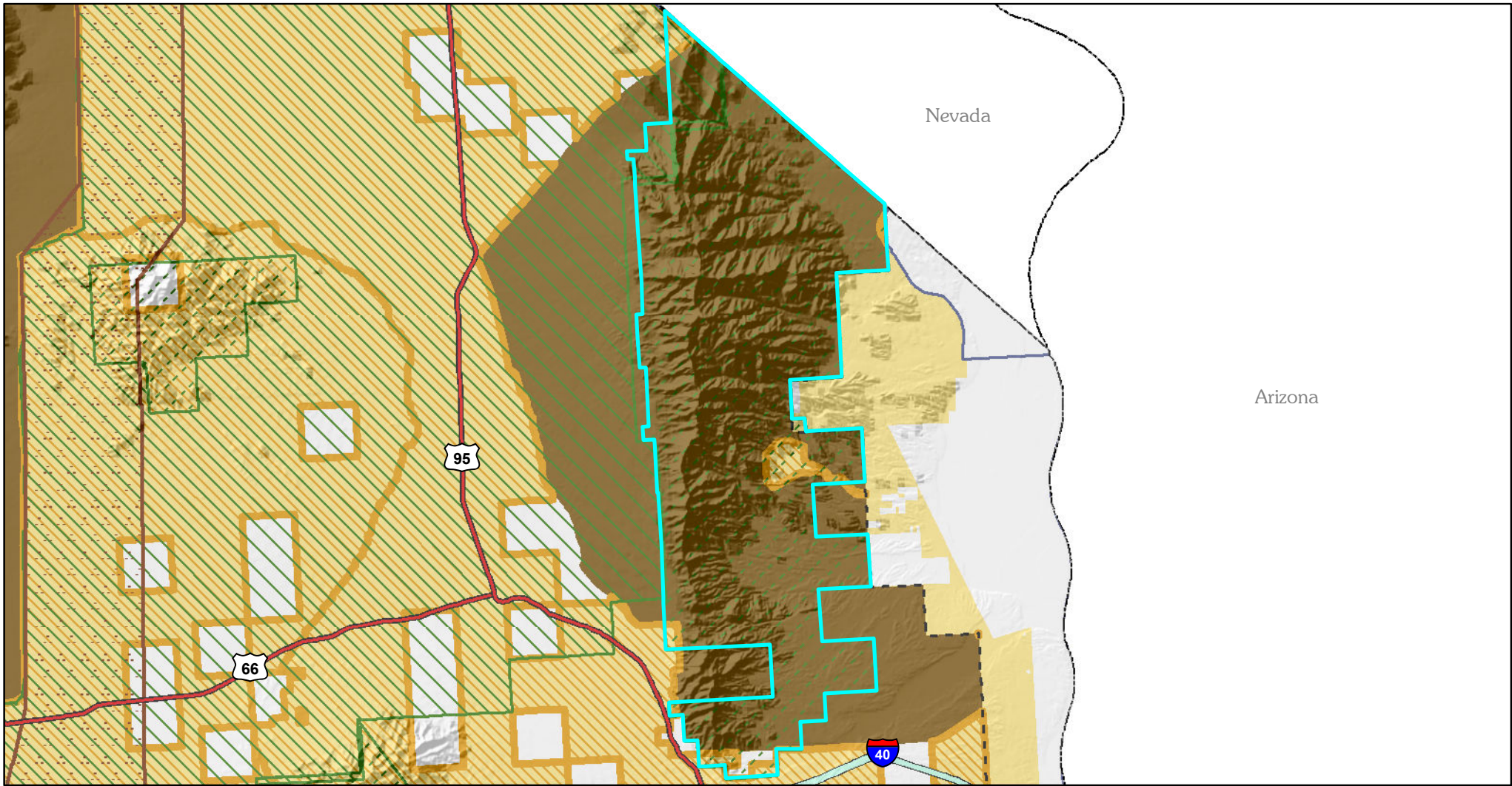


**Dead Mountains  
Alternative 1**

8/25/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





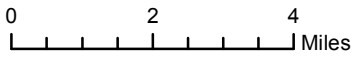
**Conservation Footprint**

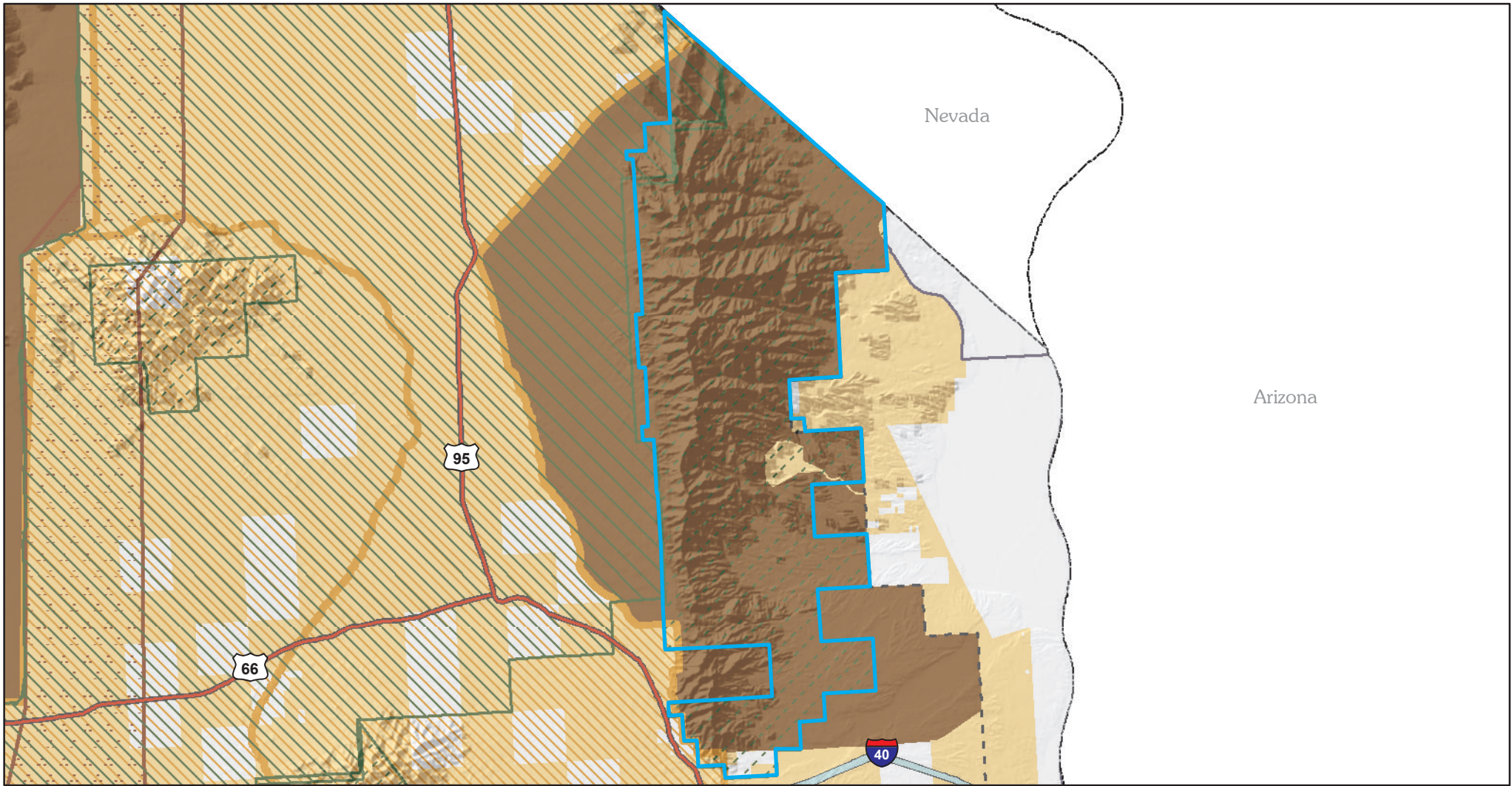
- |   |                       |                           |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary        | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary         | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  | Transmission Corridor |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    |                       |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      |                       |                           |

**Dead Mountains  
Alternative 2**

8/26/2015

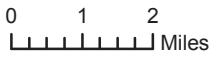
Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

- |   |                       |                           |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary        | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary         | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  | Transmission Corridor |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    |                       |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      |                       |                           |

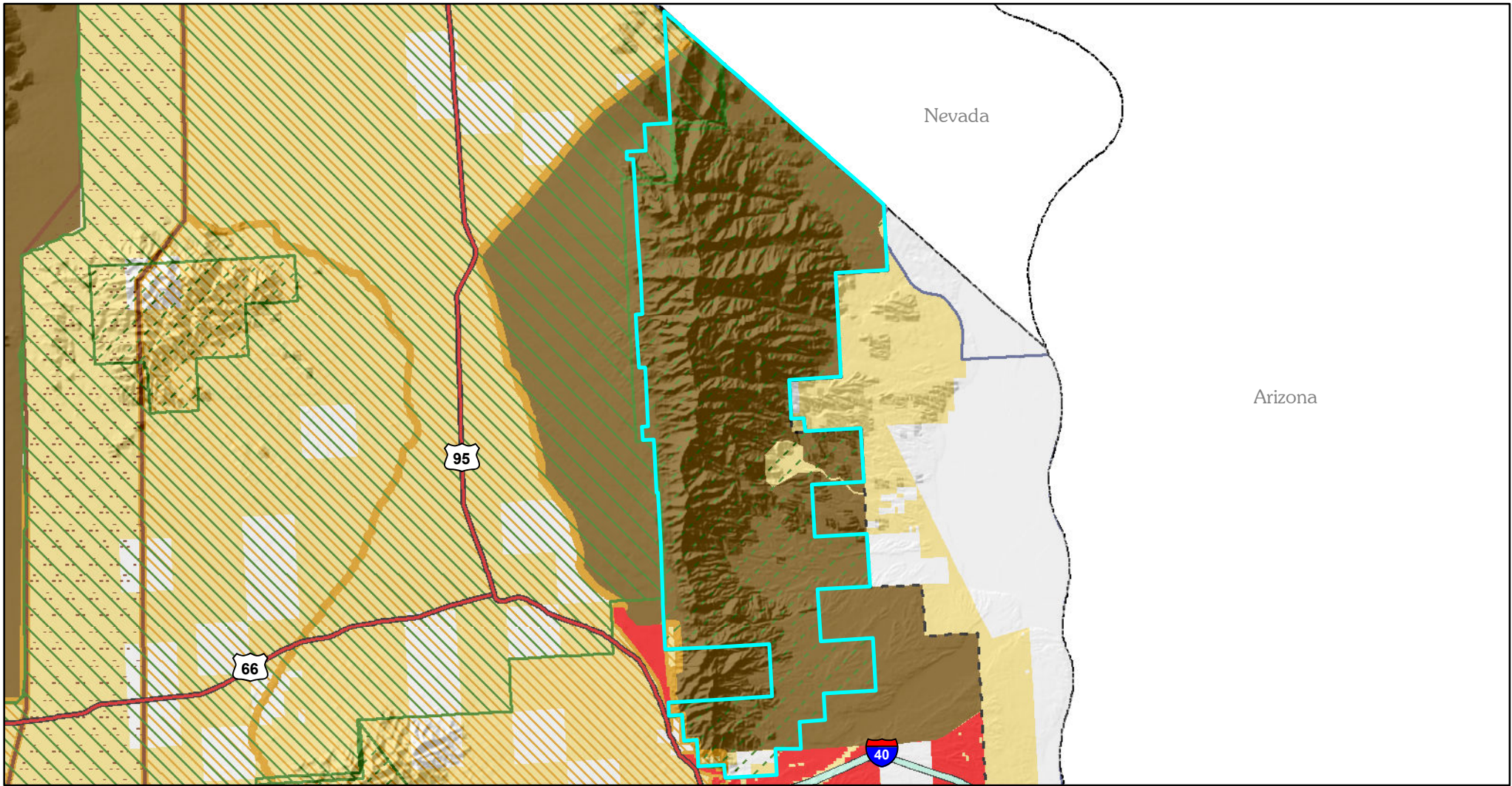


**Dead Mountains  
Alternative 3**

8/26/2015

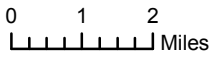
Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

- |   |                            |                           |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| National Conservation Lands             | DRECP Boundary             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | CDCA Boundary              | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  | Transmission Corridor      |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    | <b>Renewable Footprint</b> |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      | Variance Lands             |                           |



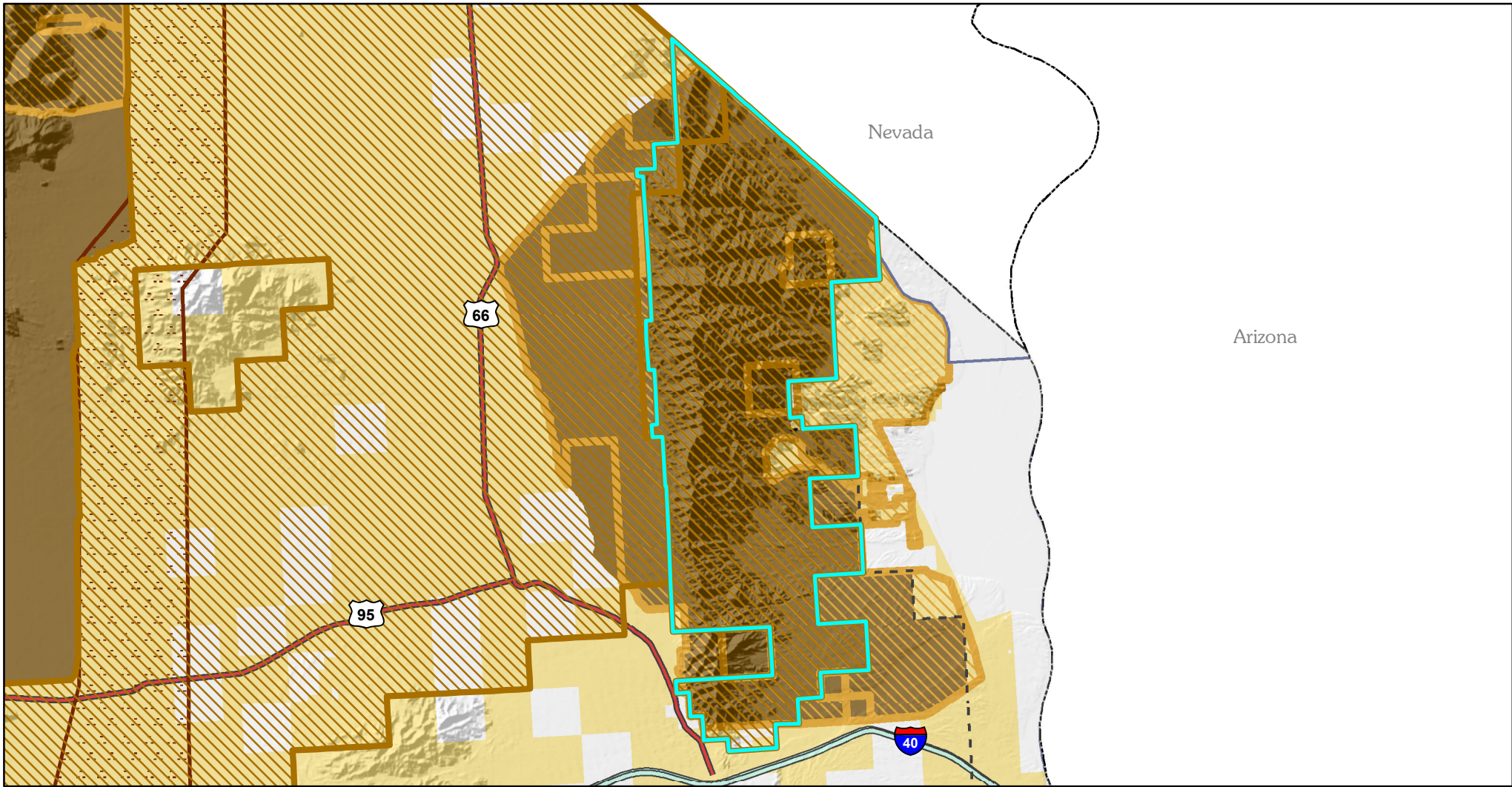
**Dead Mountains  
Alternative 4**

8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change







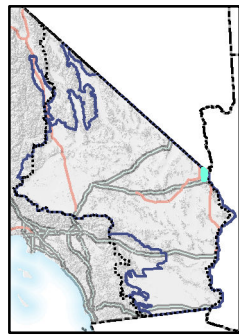
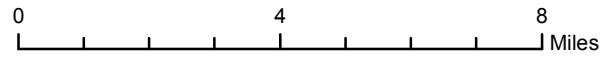
**Conservation Footprint**

- |                       |   |                           |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Existing ACEC         | National Conservation Lands             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| Transmission Corridor | Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | Bureau of Land Management |
| CDCA Boundary         |   |                           |
| DRECP Boundary        |   |                           |

**Dead Mountains**

**No Action**  
9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



## **Mopah Spring**

**National Conservation Lands Ecoregion:** Colorado Desert and Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains

**Description/Location:** Located in the Mopah Range of the Turtle Mountains between Vidal Valley and Chemehuevi Valley. The spring is approximately 8 miles west of Hwy. 95, 12 miles north of Vidal Junction. It includes Mopah Peaks and Mopah Spring.

**Nationally Significant Values:** Not proposed for NCLS designation. Unit completely overlaps designated wilderness and is automatically included in NCLS.

**Special Designations/Management Plan/Date:** Plan 75/1982

**Relevance and Importance Criteria:**

**Biological:** Mopah Spring is known to support mountain lion, bighorn sheep, and badger. CDF&W monitors maintain spring site. Mopah Springs is recorded as the furthest North location of naturally occurring native California fan palms. However there is some speculation that the palms were originally planted by the native American family which homesteaded the area in the early 1900s. Some areas within the ACEC provide a combination of meteorological, geological, hydrological, topographical features that have been identified as important climate refugia (slow/minimized climate changes) for wildlife species.

**Cultural:** Mopah Spring and the surrounding Turtle Mountains are traditional land use areas of the Mojave and Chemehuevi Indian Tribes. The modern name Mopah is derived from the Chemehuevi "Mau' upah" which means Woman Water. The Mopah Spring ACEC is highly sensitive for cultural resources and is a pristine area with many unique features. Relevant cultural resources include portable petroglyphs, prehistoric habitation sites, trails, trail shrines and markers, and the Mopah Peak which is of Native American concern. The outstanding scenic quality at Mopah Spring and the fact that this spring is a crucial watering place for wildlife, including Big Horn Sheep, add to the cultural values by being partly responsible for the use of the spring by prehistoric populations.

**Overarching Goals:** To protect the vulnerable and non-renewable resources within the ACEC.

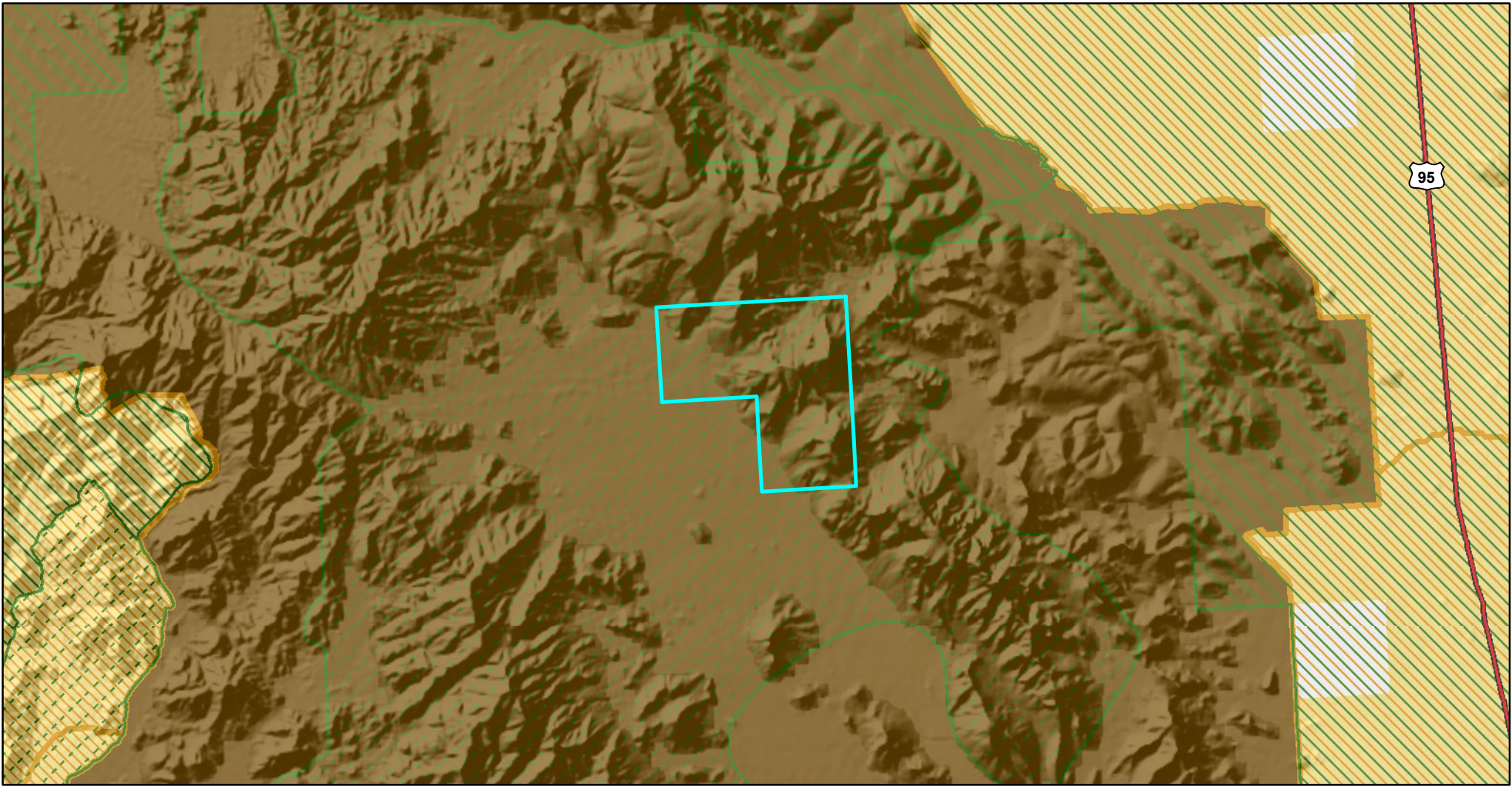
Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e. management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

<b>Designation and Acreage by Alternative:</b>				
Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	1,900	0	
Preferred Alternative	0	1,922	0	NA
1	0	1,900	0	1%
2	0	1,900	0	1%
3	0	1,900	0	1%
4	0	1,900	0	1%
<b>* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands</b>				
<b>Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions</b>			<b>Resource</b>	
Objective: provide a steady supply of uncontaminated water for wildlife Management Action: Restore and protect springs			Soil, water, air	
Unusual Plant Assemblage: Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland Rare Species: Coues's Cassia ( <i>Senna covesii</i> ) [CNPS 2.2]			Vegetation (incl. special status species)	
Big horn Sheep habitat: BLM sensitive species.			Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)	
<b>Objective 1:</b> Protect biodiversity and manage for resilience (protect climate refugia and provide for migration corridors).  Management Action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritize habitat enhancement in areas expected to provide for the greatest level of resiliency (good response or rehabilitation results after significant disturbance such as fire) and or resistance to change (e.g. climate refugia).</li> <li>• Consider actions that enhance the primary productivity of climate refugia with native species restoration, reduced soil surface disturbance, and habitat infrastructure to increase carrying capacity of refugia (e.g., wetland, oasis).</li> <li>• Maintain migration corridor integrity by minimizing obstructions (fences, roads), disturbances (limiting access to water and shade during peak temperatures) and habitat fragmentation.</li> </ul>			Climate Change and Adaptation	

<p><b>Objective 2:</b> Maintain and or enhance key ecosystem processes (e.g., carbon sequestration, water residence time) and prepare and respond to significant disturbances to the environment (e.g. floods).</p> <p>Management Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop proactive and responsive management actions for potentially dangerous and damaging disturbances to the environment, which are exacerbated by climate change (e.g. wildfire, flash floods, etc.).</li> <li>• Minimize carbon sequestration losses from management activities by reducing impacts to vegetation, soil structure and soil biota.</li> <li>• Leverage disturbance events and other landscape changes, when possible, as opportunities to assess climate adaptation actions. For example, revegetation objectives for projected climate scenarios benefiting multiple ecosystem services (habitat and carbon sequestration objectives).</li> </ul>	
<p>Objective: Protect and preserve the integrity of the archaeological sites.</p> <p>Management Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a foot path to the ACEC by barring vehicle access at the entrance to the canyon</li> <li>• Increase compliance with archaeological protection laws</li> <li>• Nominate to the National Register of Historic Places</li> <li>• Continue existing mineral withdrawal</li> <li>• Designate and post the area for no shooting</li> </ul>	Cultural Resources
<p>Objective: General Management and Protection of Paleontological Resources</p> <p>Management Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage and protect fossil resources consistent with the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act.</li> <li>• Develop plans for the inventory, monitoring, and scientific and educational use of paleontological resources as needed.</li> </ul>	Paleontology
<p>Manage visual resources consistent with adopted VRM Classes. Mopah Peaks are designated as VRM class I</p>	Visual Resources
<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment. Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edgeholdings and other interests from willing sellers.</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights-of-Way
<p>Allocation: closed to renewable energy development and geothermal leasing</p>	Renewable Energy

<p>Allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No registered mining claims</li><li>• A portion of the ACEC in the southeast quarter of section 28 of T. 3N, R. 21E was withdrawn from agricultural and mineral entry.</li><li>• PO required for mining.</li></ul>	<p>Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasable</p>
--	---

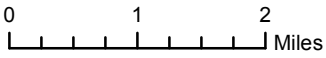


**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- DRECP Boundary
- National Conservation Lands
- Bureau of Land Management
- CDCA Boundary

**ACEC Boundaries**

- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap

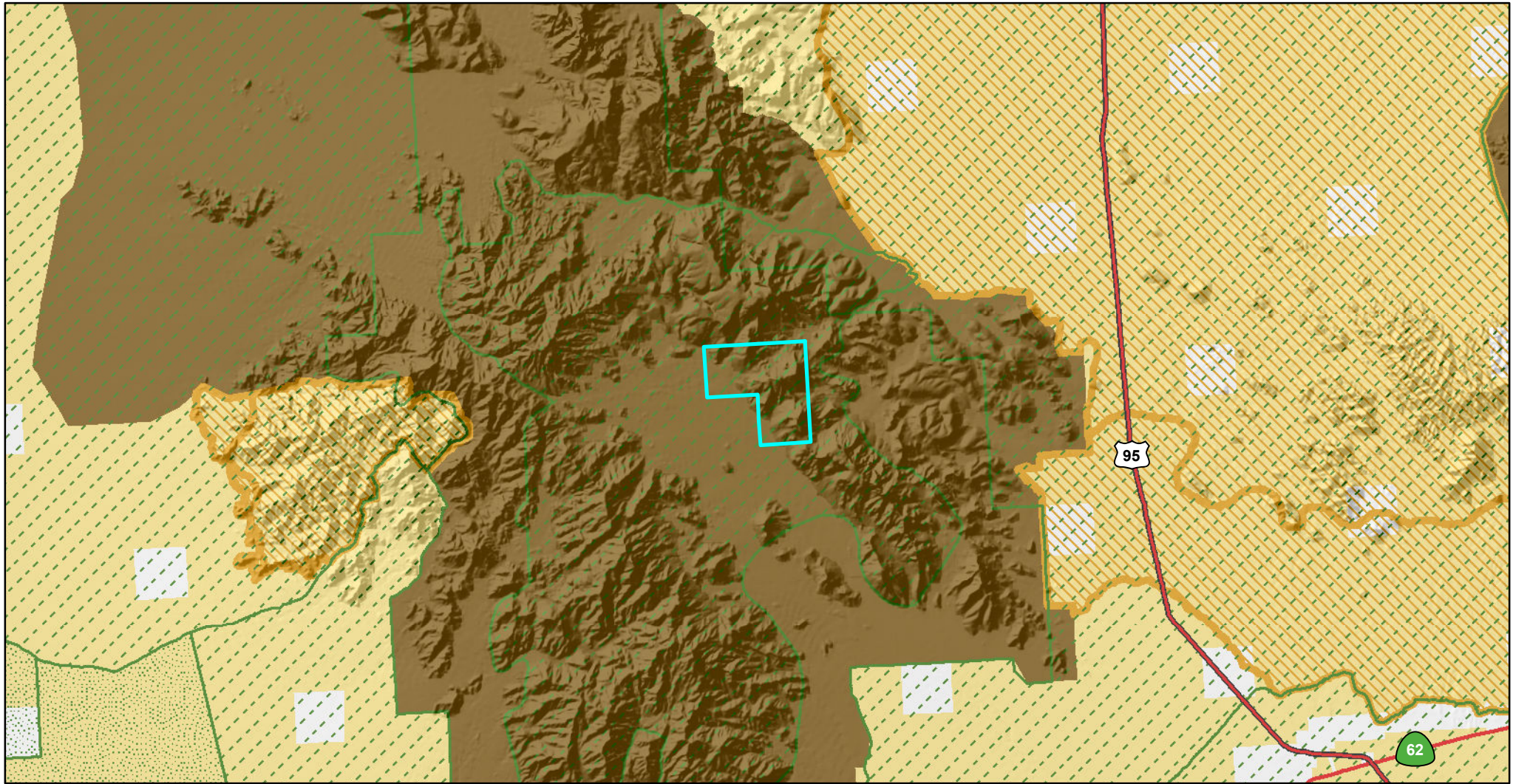


**Mopah Spring**

6/24/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





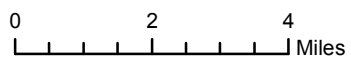


**Conservation Footprint**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  DRECP Boundary | <b>Land Status</b>  |
|  National Conservation Lands             |  CDCA Boundary  |  Bureau of Land Management |

**ACEC Boundaries**

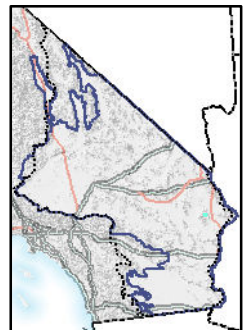
- |  |
|--|
|  1% Disturbance Cap  |
|  Wildlife Allocation |

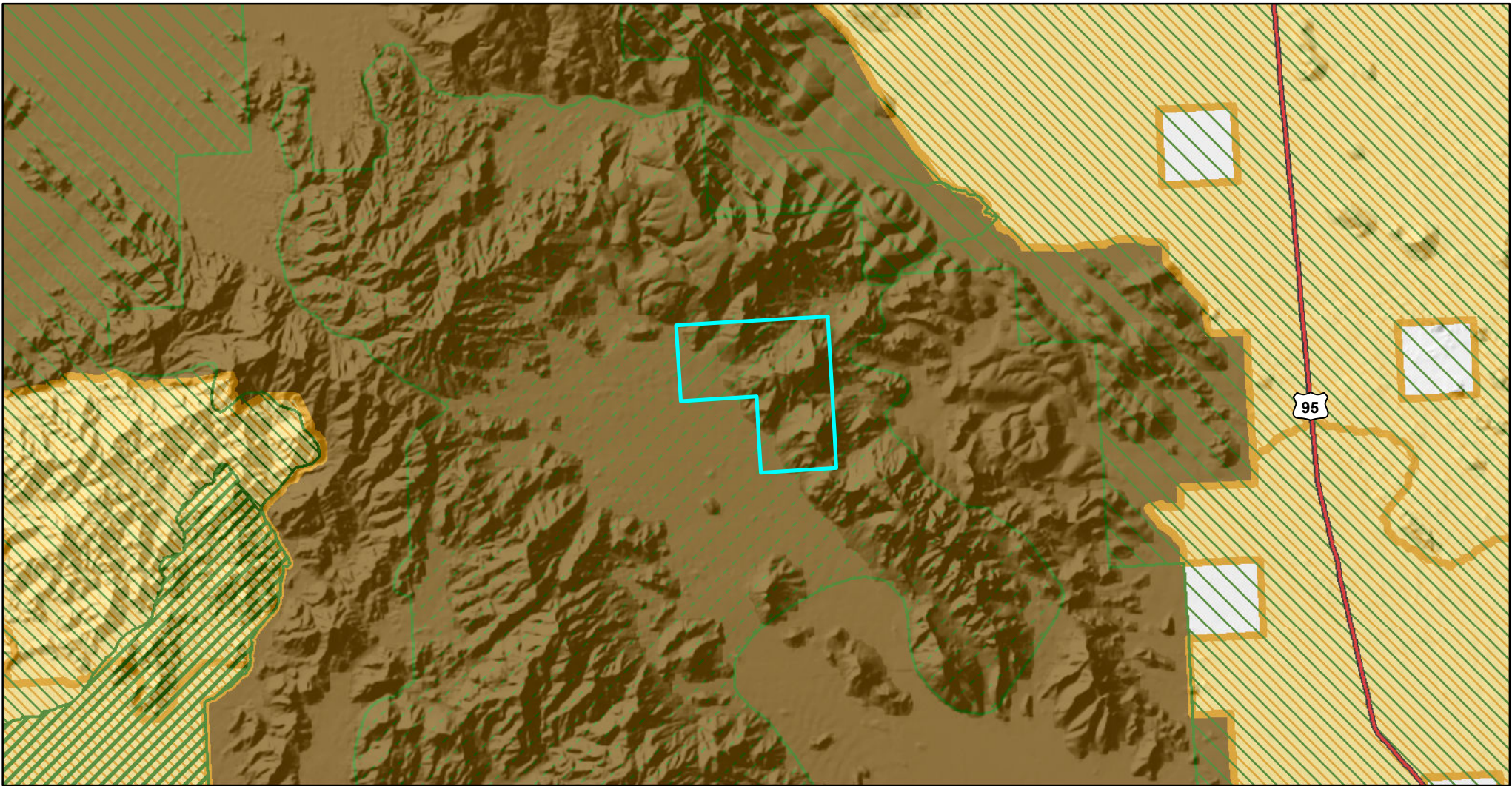


**Mopah Spring  
Alternative 1**

8/25/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



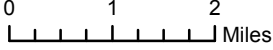


**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- DRECP Boundary
- National Conservation Lands
- CDCA Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management

**ACEC Boundaries**

- 0.25% Disturbance Cap
- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap



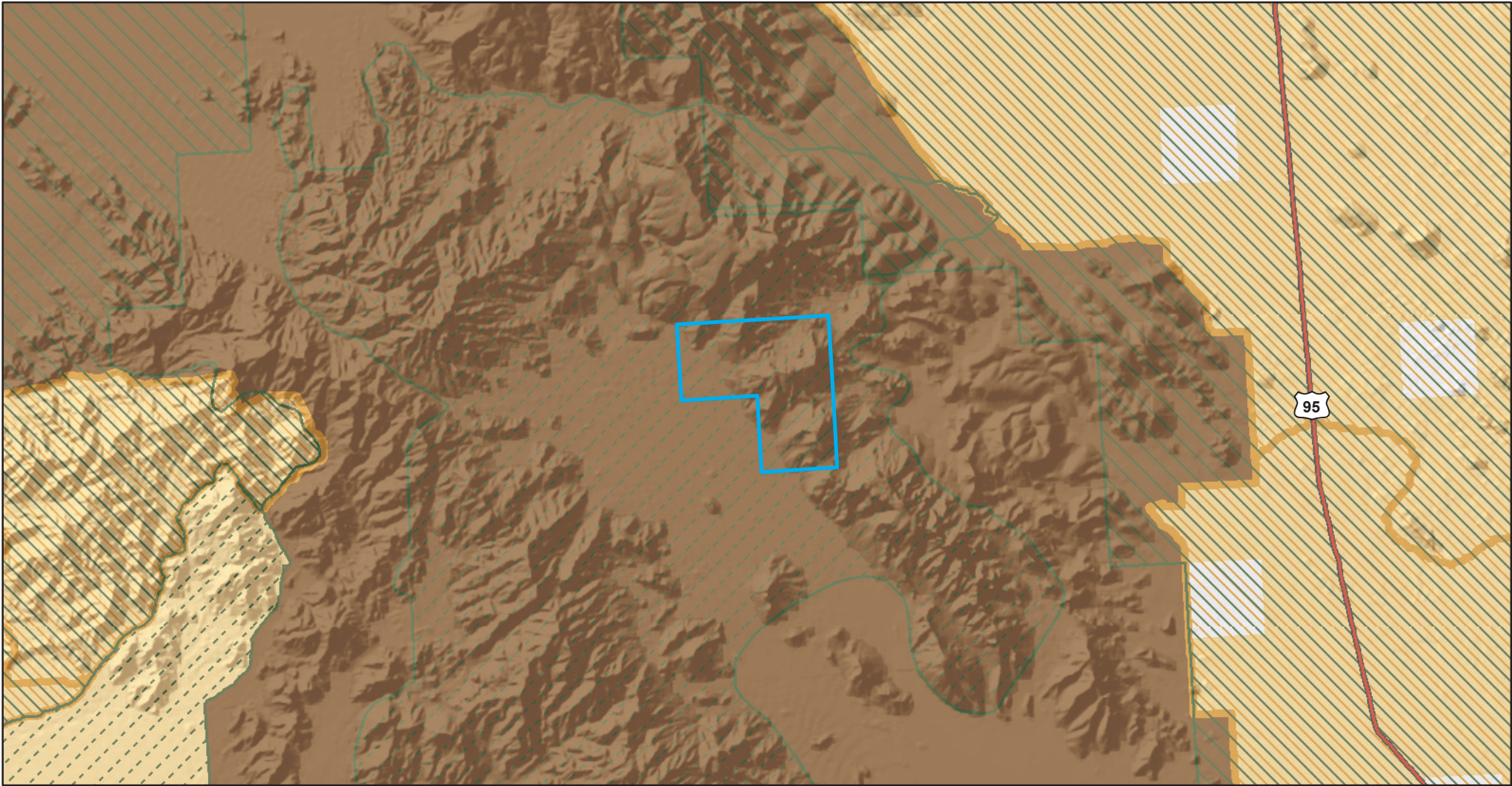
**Mopah Spring  
Alternative 2**

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





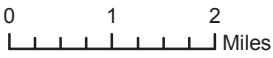


**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- DRECP Boundary
- National Conservation Lands
- CDCA Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management

**ACEC Boundaries**

- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap

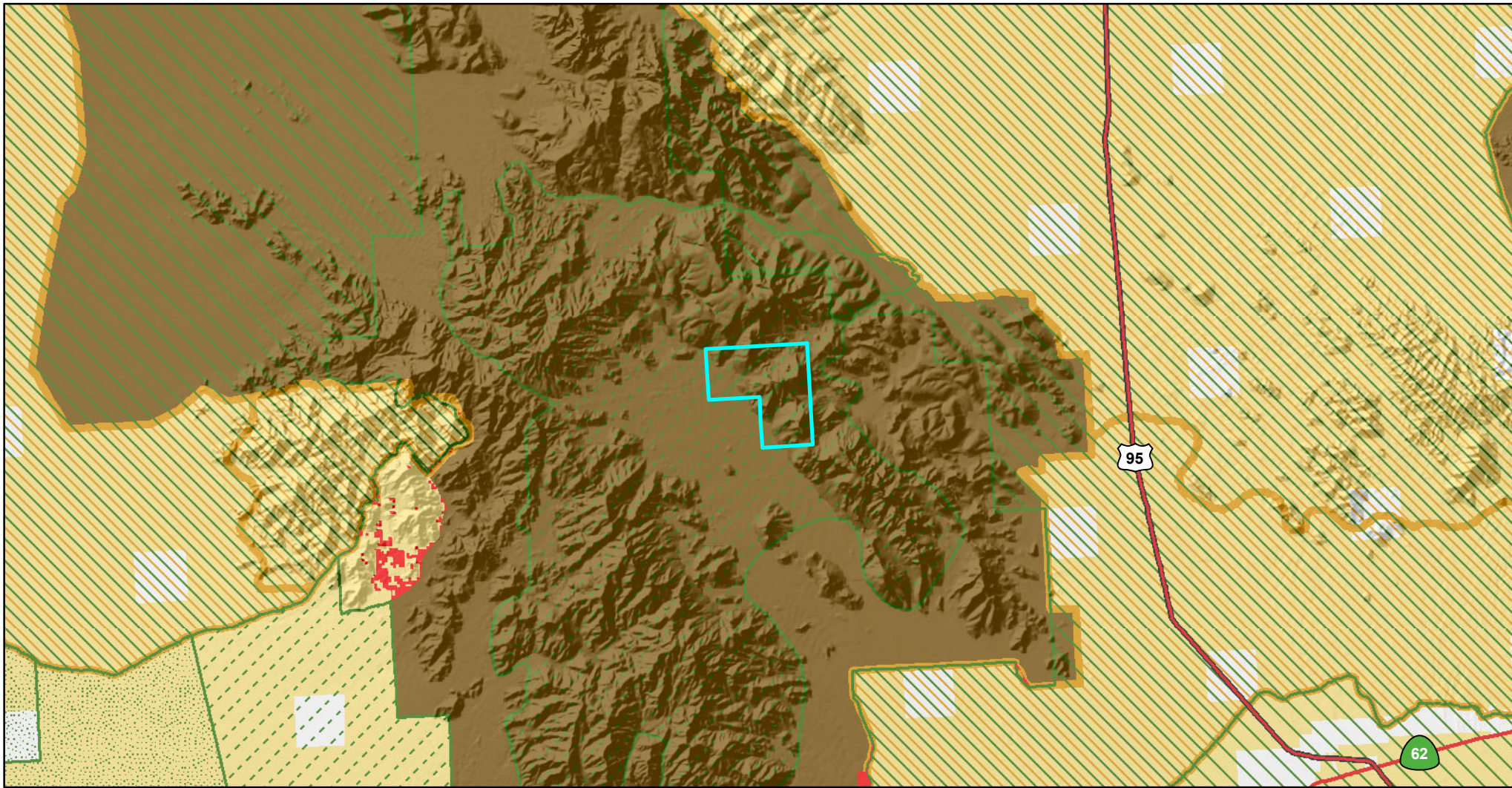


**Mopah Spring  
Alternative 3**

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

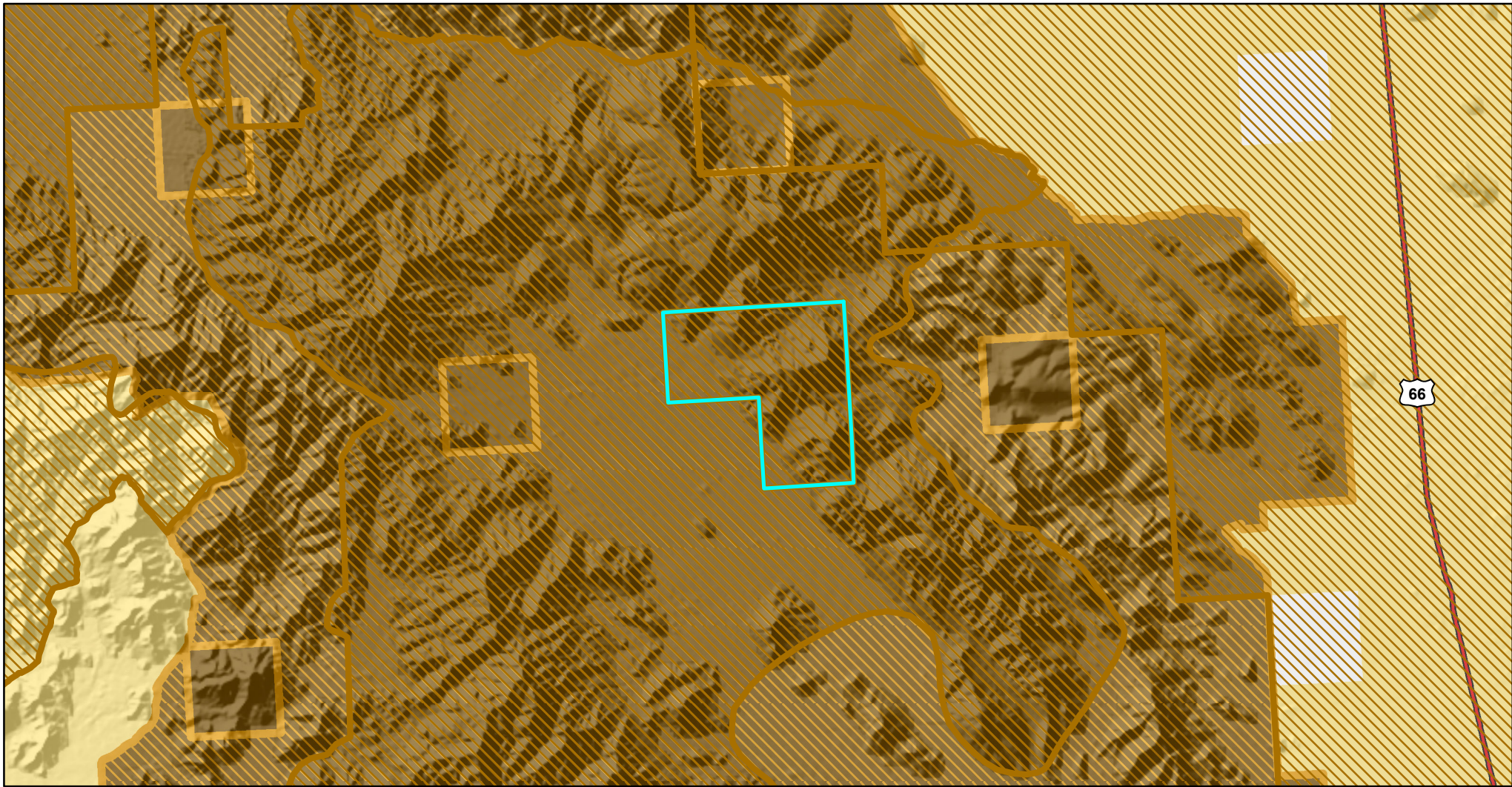
- |   |                            |                           |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary              | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  |                            |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    | <b>Renewable Footprint</b> |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      | Variance Lands             |                           |
| Wildlife Allocation                     |                            |                           |
- 0 1 2  
Miles

**Mopah Spring  
Alternative 4**







8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

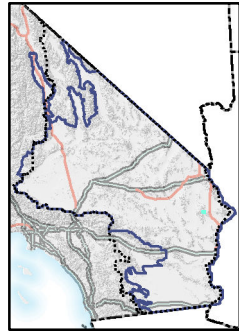
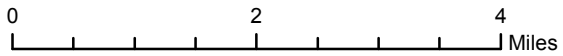
- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|  Existing ACEC  |  National Conservation Lands             | <b>Land Status</b>  |
|  CDCA Boundary  |  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  Bureau of Land Management |
|  DRECP Boundary |   |   |

**Mopah Spring**

**No Action**

9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



## Turtle Mountains

**National Conservation Lands Ecoregion:** Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains

**Nationally Significant Values:**

**Ecological:** The Turtle Mountains are located in an ecological transition zone between the Mojave Desert and Colorado Desert and therefore contains a high diversity of plant and animal species. The Turtle Mountain range is a northern or southern 'delimiter of occurrence' for some species; for example the endangered California Fan Palm, *Washingtonia filifera*, encounters the northern limit of its range in the Mopah-Turtle Mountains.

**Description/Location:**

The Turtle Mountain NNL and ACEC overlap the Turtle Mountain Wilderness and adjacent lands. It is 40 miles southwest of the city of Needles. The Area can easily be reached by two access points off of US Highway 95, Turtle Mountain Road (NS434) and Mopah Trail (NS629). The Lost Arch Historic Mining Camp is located in the northern most portion of the NNL. And Mopah Peak and its sister peak are located on the southeastern side of the NNL. Both sites are heavily visited.

**Special Designations/Management Plan/Date:** ACEC Plan No. 93, 1989/1990

**Relevance and Importance Criteria:**

**Biological:** The Turtle Mountains are located in an ecological transition zone between the Mojave Desert and Colorado Desert and therefore contains a high diversity of plant and animal species. The Turtle Mountain range is a northern or southern 'delimiter of occurrence' for some species; for example the endangered California Fan Palm, *Washingtonia filifera*, encounters the northern limit of its range in the Mopah-Turtle Mountains. Dominant vegetation in the Turtle Mountains Wilderness Area consists of the creosote bush-bur sage with Creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*) and the palo verde-cactus shrub ecosystems with the Palo Verde tree (*Parkinsonia microphylla*). In the washes, Colorado/Sonoran microphylla woodlands can be found. These woodlands include such things as Smoke Tree (*Psoralea argophylla*), Honey Mesquite (*Prosopis juliflora*), and Catclaw (*Acacia greggii*). Wildlife species include Desert Bighorn Sheep, coyote, black-tailed jackrabbits, ground squirrels, kangaroo rats, quail, roadrunners, golden eagles, prairie falcons, rattlesnakes, the Desert Tortoise and several species of lizards.

**Recreation Area:** This unit overlaps with the Ward Valley ERMA.

**Lands with Wilderness Characteristics:** This unit contains 86 acres of lands that would be managed to protect wilderness character under the preferred alternative. The CMAs for lands managed to protect wilderness character would also apply in those areas.

**Overarching Goals:**

Protect geological resources

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e. management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special

Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

**Designation and Acreage by Alternative:**

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	50,400	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	86	50,418	0	0.5%,1%
1	0	50,500	0	1%
2	50,400**	50,400	0	0.5%,1%
3	0	50,500	0	0.5%,1%
4	0	50,500	0	0.5%,1%

\* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

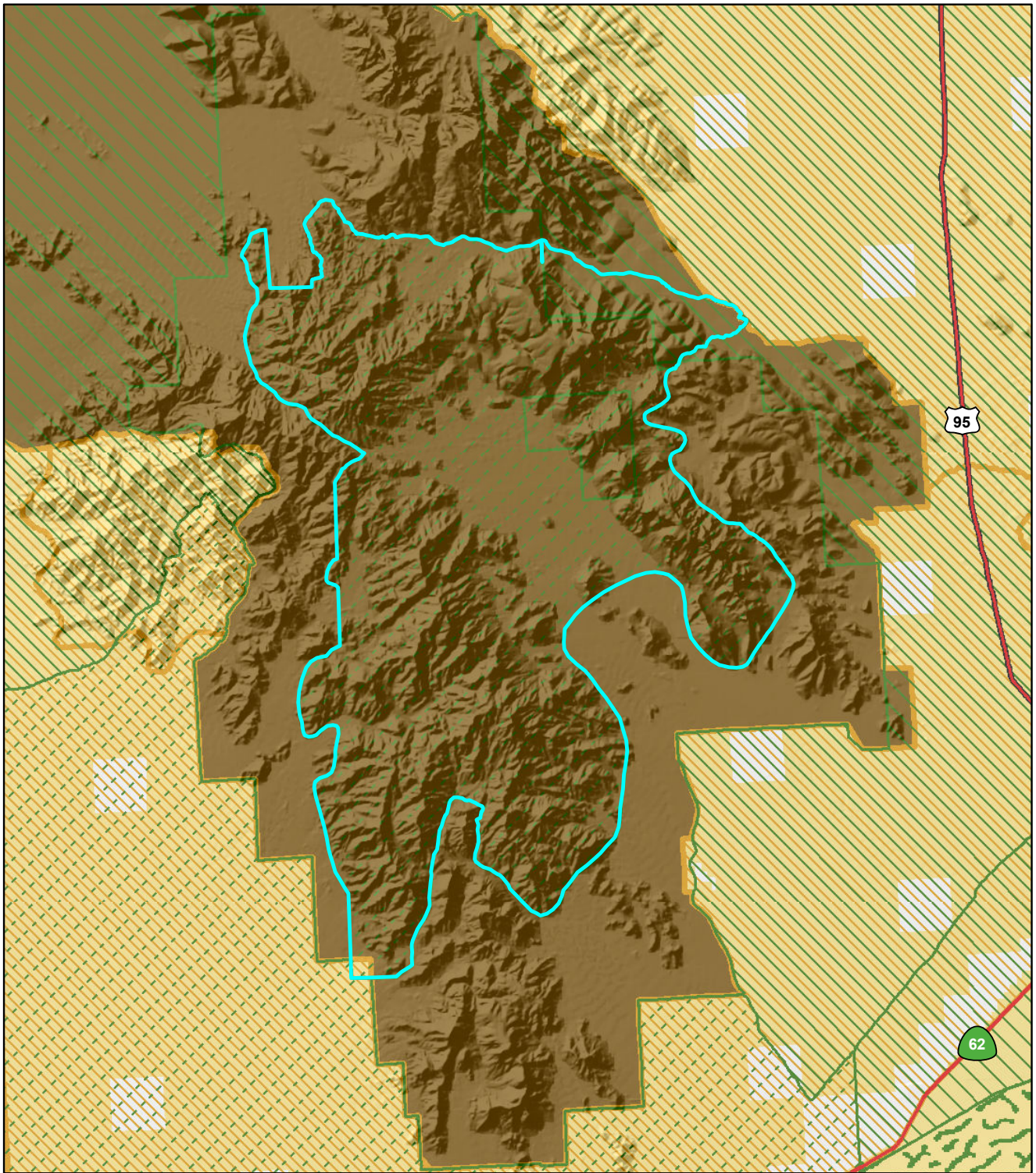
\*\* Includes overlap of existing designated Wilderness

The majority of this unit is completely within designated wilderness and automatically included in NCLS, the small amount that is not within designated wilderness is proposed for inclusion in NCLS.

Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>Unusual Plant Assemblage: Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland (Mopah Springs)                      Rare Species: Coues’s Cassia (<i>Senna covesii</i>) [CNPS 2.2] (Mopah Springs)</p> <p>Action: Prohibit the collection of any live vegetation and/or dead and down material.</p>	Vegetation (incl. special status species)
<p>Desert Bighorn Sheep                      Other species of note: LeConte’s Thrasher</p>	Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)
<p><b>Objective 1:</b> Protect biodiversity and manage for resilience (protect climate refugia and provide for migration corridors).</p> <p>Management Action 1: Prioritize habitat enhancement in areas expected to provide for the greatest level of resiliency (good response or rehabilitation results after significant disturbance such as fire) and or resistance to change (e.g. climate refugia).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Consider actions that enhance the primary productivity of climate refugia with native species restoration, reduced soil surface disturbance, and habitat infrastructure to increase carrying capacity of refugia (e.g., wetland, oasis).</p> <p>Management Action 3: Maintain migration corridor integrity by minimizing</p>	Climate Change and Adaptation

<p>obstructions (fences, roads), disturbances (limiting access to water and shade during peak temperatures) and habitat fragmentation.</p> <p><b>Objective 2:</b> Maintain and or enhance key ecosystem processes (e.g., carbon sequestration, water residence time) and prepare and respond to significant disturbances to the environment (e.g. floods).</p> <p>Management Action 1: Develop proactive and responsive management actions for potentially dangerous and damaging disturbances to the environment, which are exacerbated by climate change (e.g. wildfire, flash floods, etc.).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Minimize carbon sequestration losses from management activities by reducing impacts to vegetation, soil structure and soil biota.</p>	
<p>Manage visual resources consistent with VRM Class I</p>	<p>Visual Resources</p>
<p>Goal: Designate a system Ground Transportation Linear Features to ensure for appropriate uses on public lands.</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outside of wilderness units all legal open roads and/or trails will be signed with identification number/names. All roads and/or trails identified as closed will be rehabilitated and restored.</li> <li>• Restore all undesignated roads or trails.</li> <li>• Provide routine maintenance of the designated roads and trails system including installation of routine signs, markers, cairns, culverts, ditches, water bars, barriers, gates, cattleguards on/or adjacent to system roads and trails.</li> </ul>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>
<p>Goal: Manage recreation consistent with established conservation goals, while providing a broad range of recreation opportunities, and to ensure public health and safety;</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide interpretive, directional, and regulatory signs and materials as necessary to provide public information and reduce impacts from recreational use.</li> <li>• Prohibit competitive special recreation events.</li> <li>• Allow stopping and parking within 25 feet, and camping within 100 feet of designated routes.</li> <li>• Manage recreational shooting consistent with state and local laws.</li> <li>• Issuance of Special Recreation Permits which do not negatively affect unit Relevance and Importance Values.</li> </ul>	<p>Recreation</p>
<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment.</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edgeholdings and other interests from willing sellers.</p>	<p>Land Tenure</p>

<p>Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC  Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Not an allowable use. Renewable energy development is not compatible with NLCS and ACEC unit values and criteria. <b>Geothermal:</b> ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	Renewable Energy

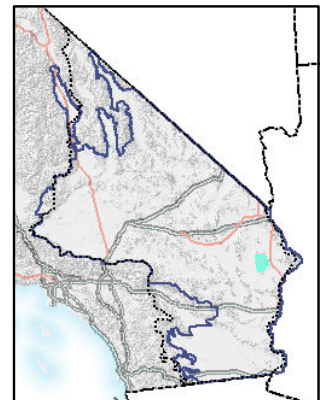


**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- National Conservation Lands
- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management

**ACEC Boundaries**

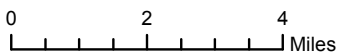
- 0.1% Disturbance Cap
- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap



**Turtle Mountains**

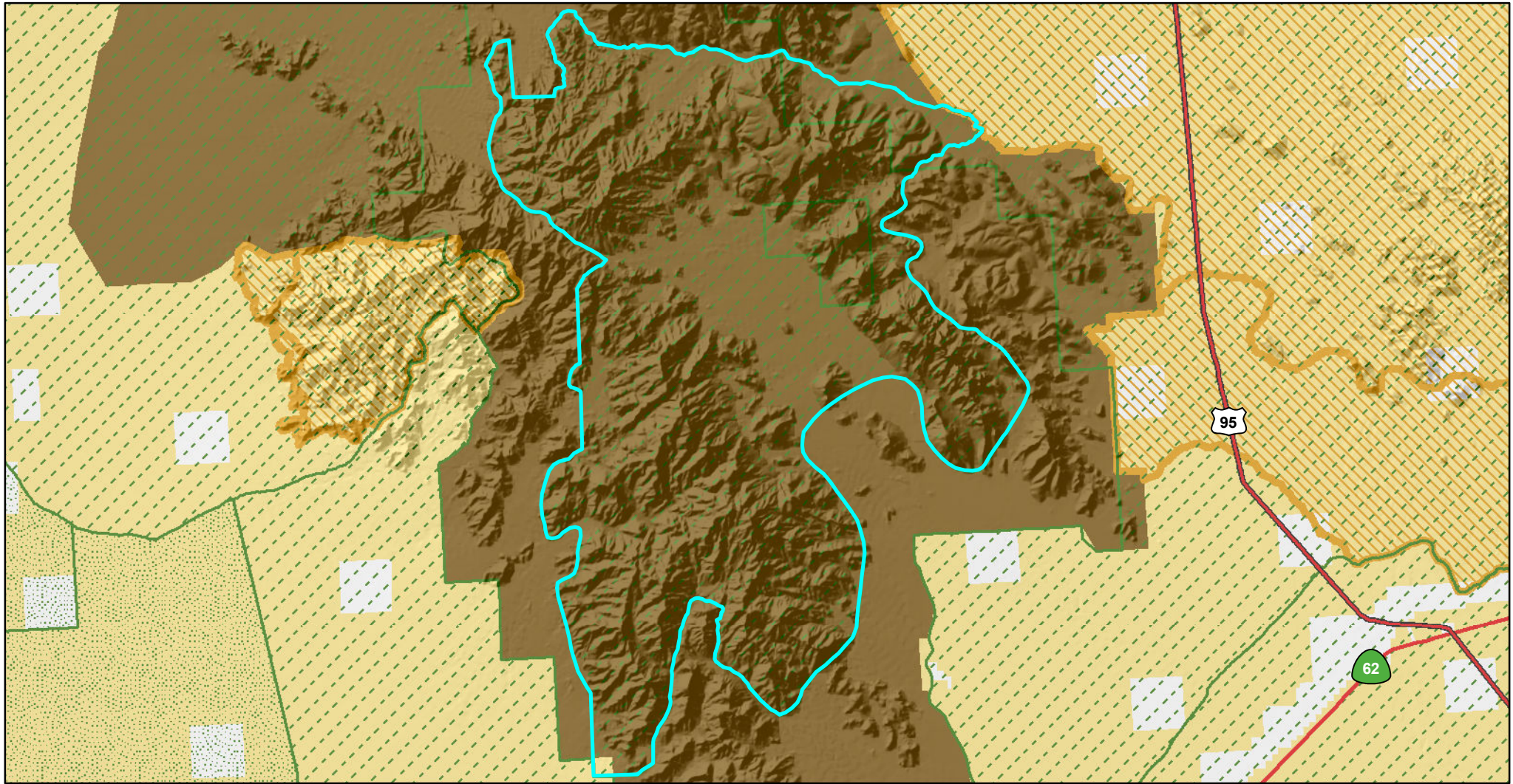


6/25/2015



Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





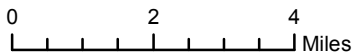


**Conservation Footprint**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  DRECP Boundary | <b>Land Status</b>  |
|  National Conservation Lands             |  CDCA Boundary  |  Bureau of Land Management |

**ACEC Boundaries**

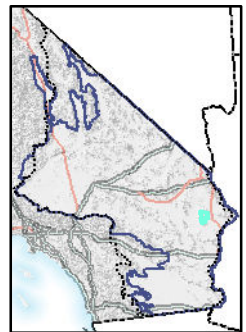
-  1% Disturbance Cap
-  Wildlife Allocation

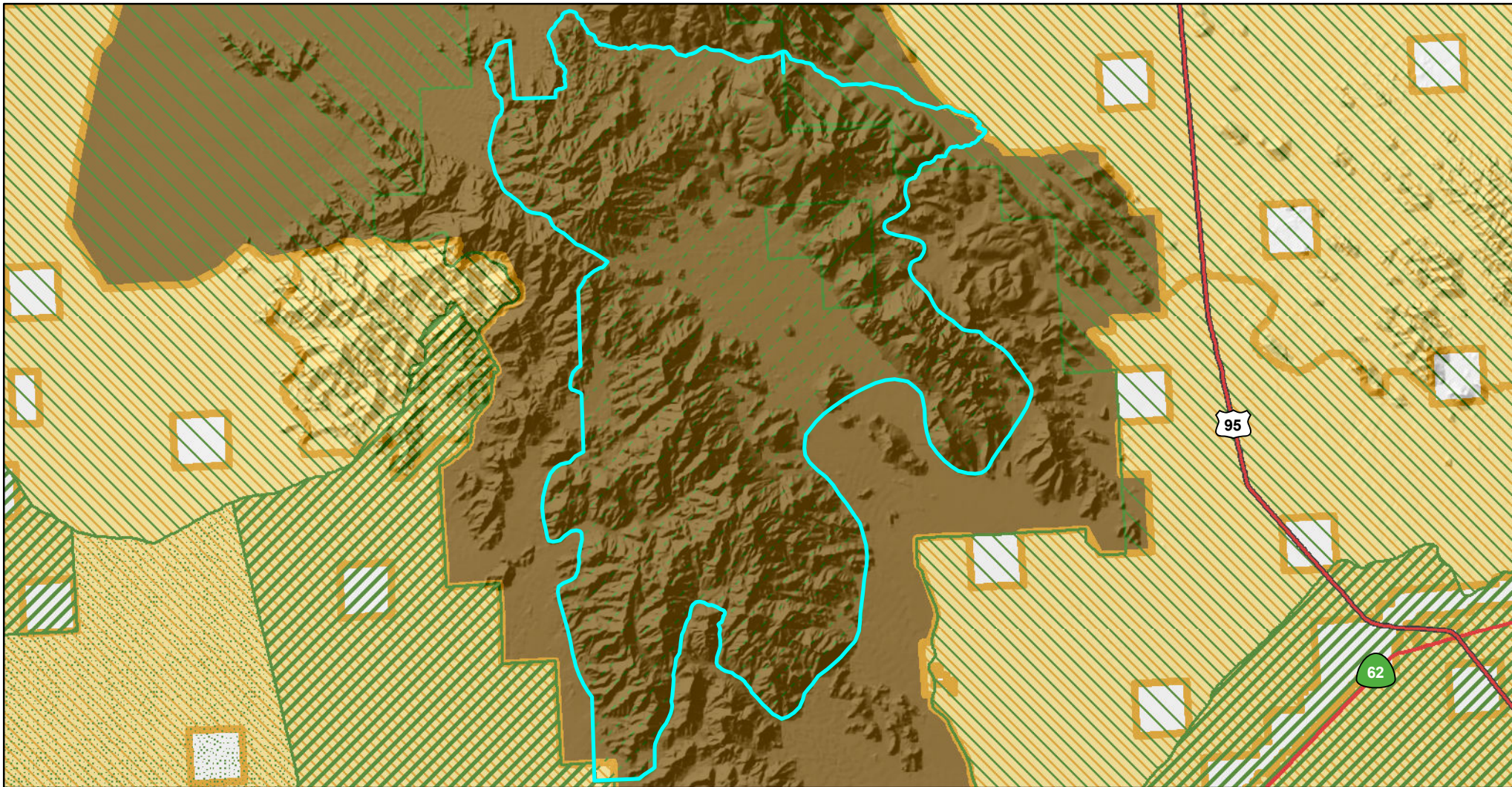


**Turtle Mountains  
Alternative 1**










8/25/2015

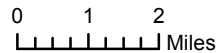
Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

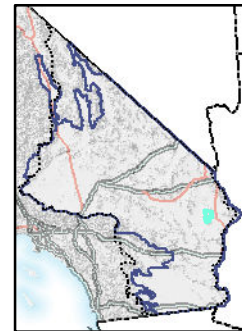
- |   |   |   |                |   |                           |
|---|---|---|----------------|---|---------------------------|
|  | Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas |  | DRECP Boundary | <b>Land Status</b>  |                           |
|  | National Conservation Lands             |  | CDCA Boundary  |  | Bureau of Land Management |
- ACEC Boundaries**
-  0.25% Disturbance Cap
  -  0.5% Disturbance Cap
  -  1% Disturbance Cap
  -  Wildlife Allocation

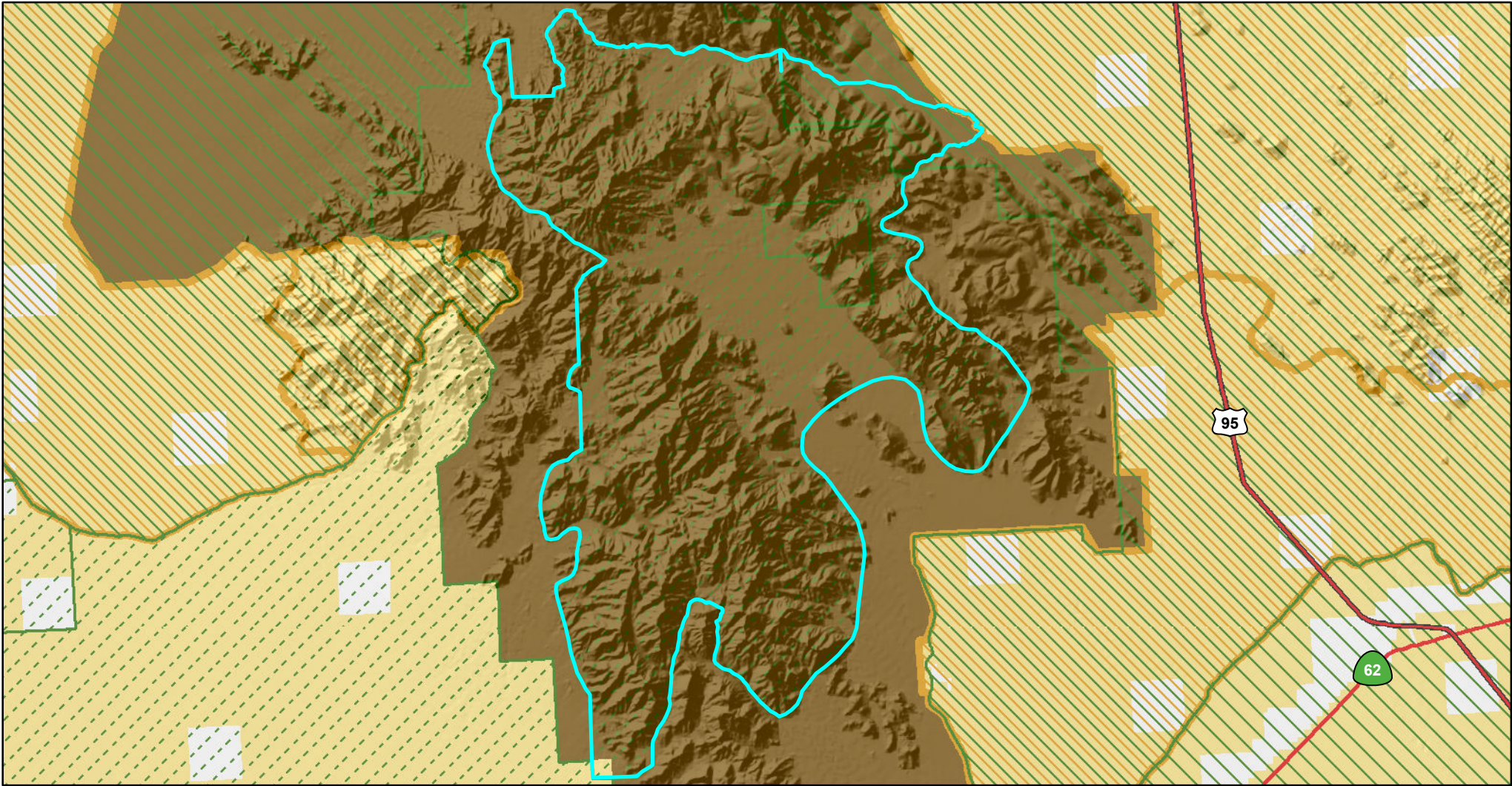


**Turtle Mountains  
Alternative 2**

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



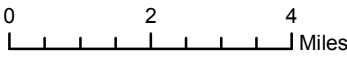


**Conservation Footprint**

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- DRECP Boundary
- National Conservation Lands
- CDCA Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management

**ACEC Boundaries**

- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap

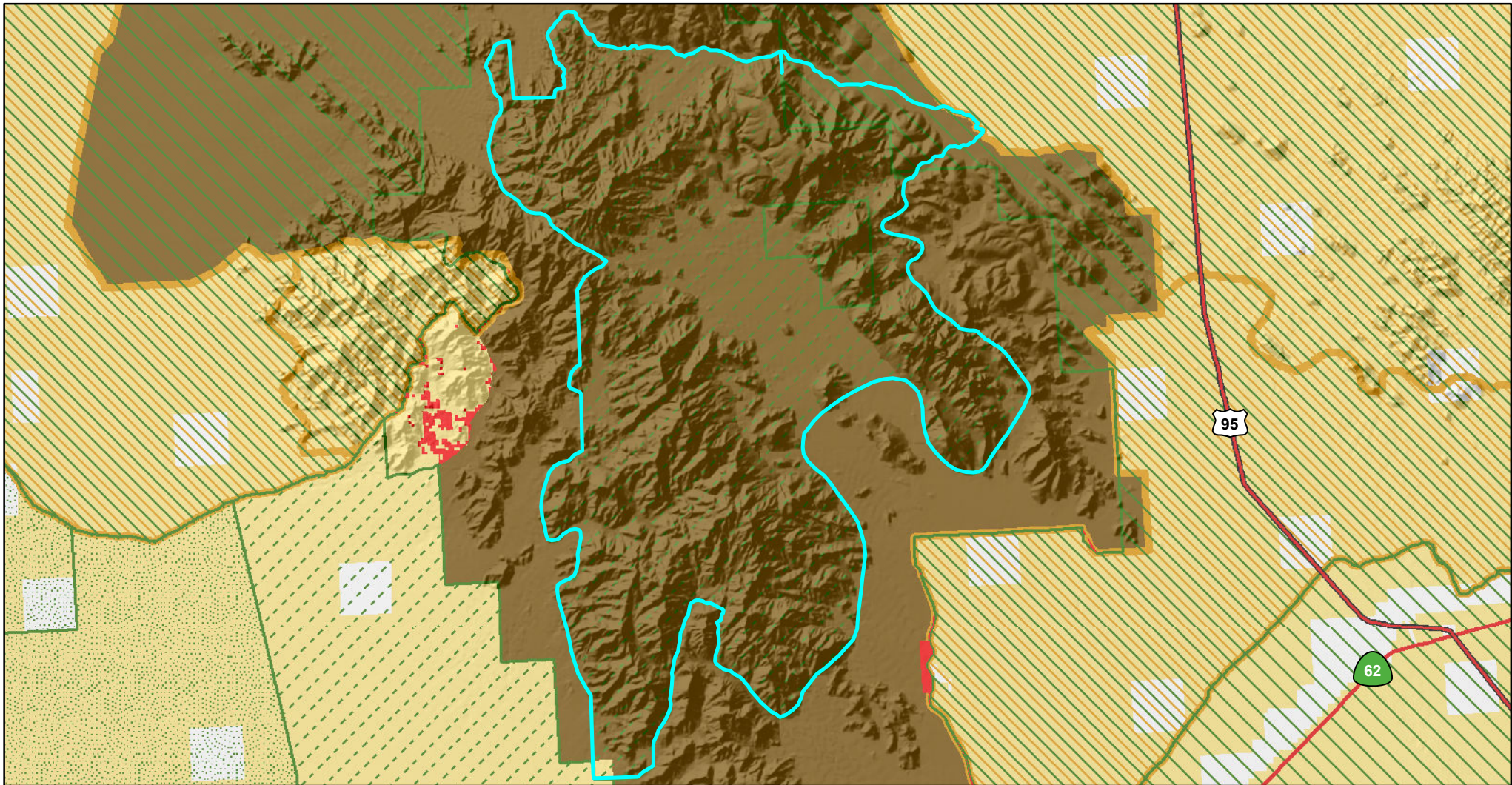


**Turtle Mountains  
Alternative 3**

8/27/2015

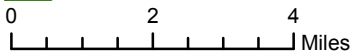
Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





**Conservation Footprint**

- |   |                            |                           |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary              | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  |                            |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    | <b>Renewable Footprint</b> |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      | Variance Lands             |                           |
| Wildlife Allocation                     |                            |                           |

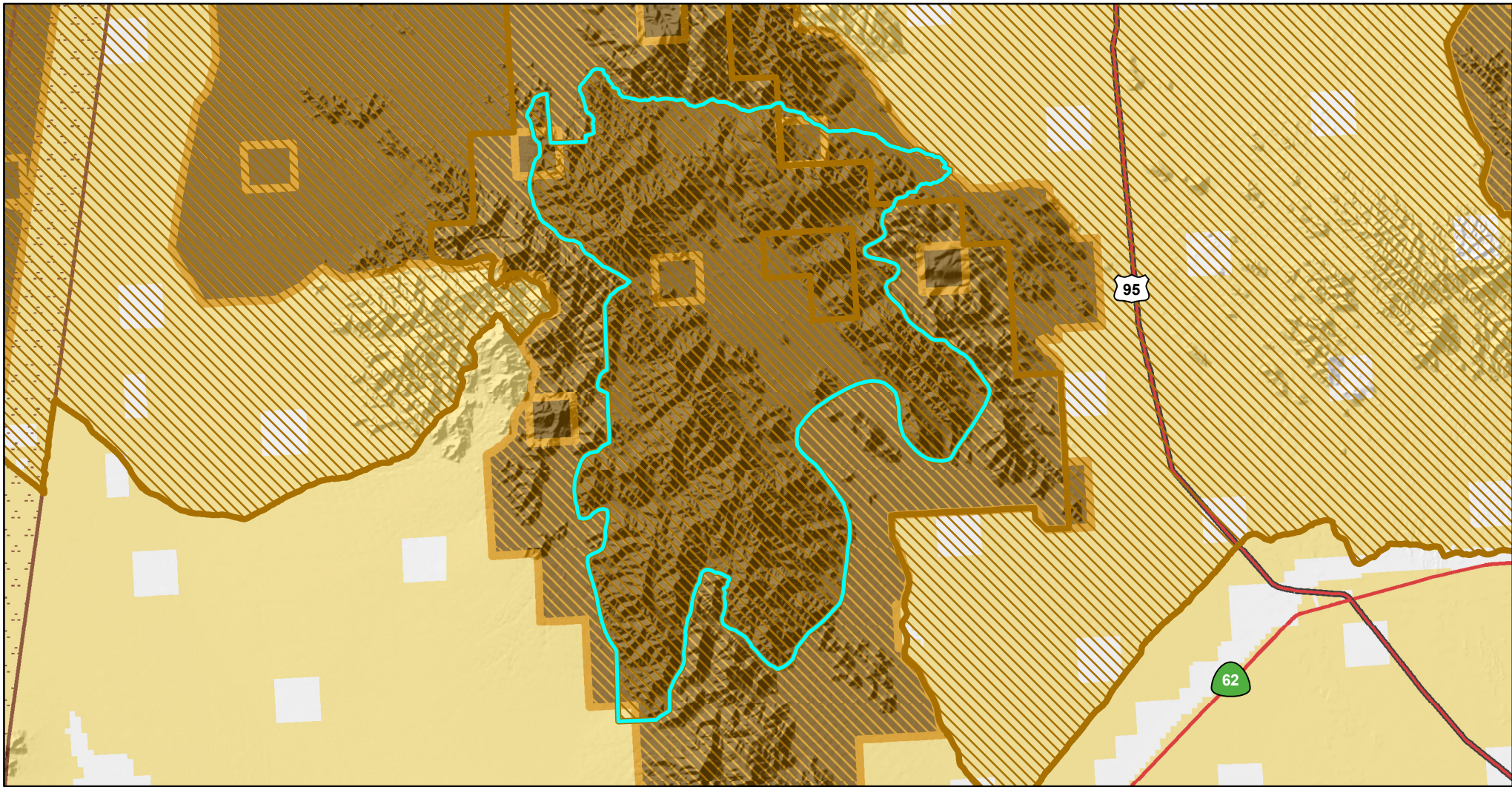


**Turtle Mountains  
Alternative 4**

8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

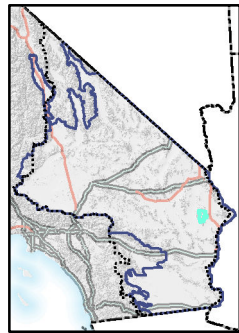
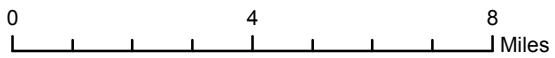
- |                       |   |                           |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Existing ACEC         | National Conservation Lands             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| Transmission Corridor | Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | Bureau of Land Management |
| CDCA Boundary         |   |                           |
| DRECP Boundary        |   |                           |

Turtle Mountains

No Action

9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change



## Whipple Mountains

**National Conservation Lands Ecoregion:** Colorado Desert, Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains

**Description/Location:**

Located 13 miles southeast of Lake Havasu City, Arizona and 13 miles north of Parker, Arizona in southeastern San Bernardino County. Accessible solely through Bowman's Wash Road, along the inner eastern boundary.

**Nationally Significant Values:** Not proposed for NLCS designation.

**Special Designations/Management Plan/Date:** ACEC #53/1989

**Relevance and Importance Criteria:**

The southern flanks of the Whipple Mountains are comprised of structurally complex Precambrian rocks, intruded by dark basaltic structures, riven by faults and overlapped by red sandstone. Accordingly, the area is characterized by fairly rugged terrain of steep, sharp ridges and deep, sometimes gorge-like washes, with limited areas of more gentle alluvial basins. This is a very different environment from the relatively open gently undulating lands of the Phoenix/Tucson area where Saguaros thrive in large numbers.

**Ecological:** Over 200 Giant Saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*) grow within this area of California. The Whipple Mountain saguaros are believed to be the last healthy population of saguaro within California.

**Cultural:** Monument Peak is a large volcanic spire and is the dominant landmark within the region. Highly visible the numerous basaltic caves within the area provided shelter to ancient tribes, as well as serving as a trading center along the Colorado River.

The Whipple Mountains are important in Chemehuevi and Mohave traditional values and beliefs; it contains areas of sacred and ritual importance. The Whipple Mountains are source locations of ceremonial materials, rock art, dance platforms, vision quest and power stations and cairn markers. Some areas within the unit provide a combination of meteorological, geological, hydrological, topographical features that have been identified as important climate refugia (slow/minimized climate changes) for wildlife species.

**Recreation Area:** This unit overlaps with the Chemehuevi Valley Rock Collecting and Touring SRMA.

**Overarching Goals:** Protect cultural resources and cultural values.

Where the CMAs in this Special Management Plan conflict from the CMAs included in Volume II of the Proposed LUPA and Final EIS, the more restrictive CMA would be applied (i.e. management that best supports resource conservation and limits impacts to the values for which the conservation unit was designated), unless otherwise specified.

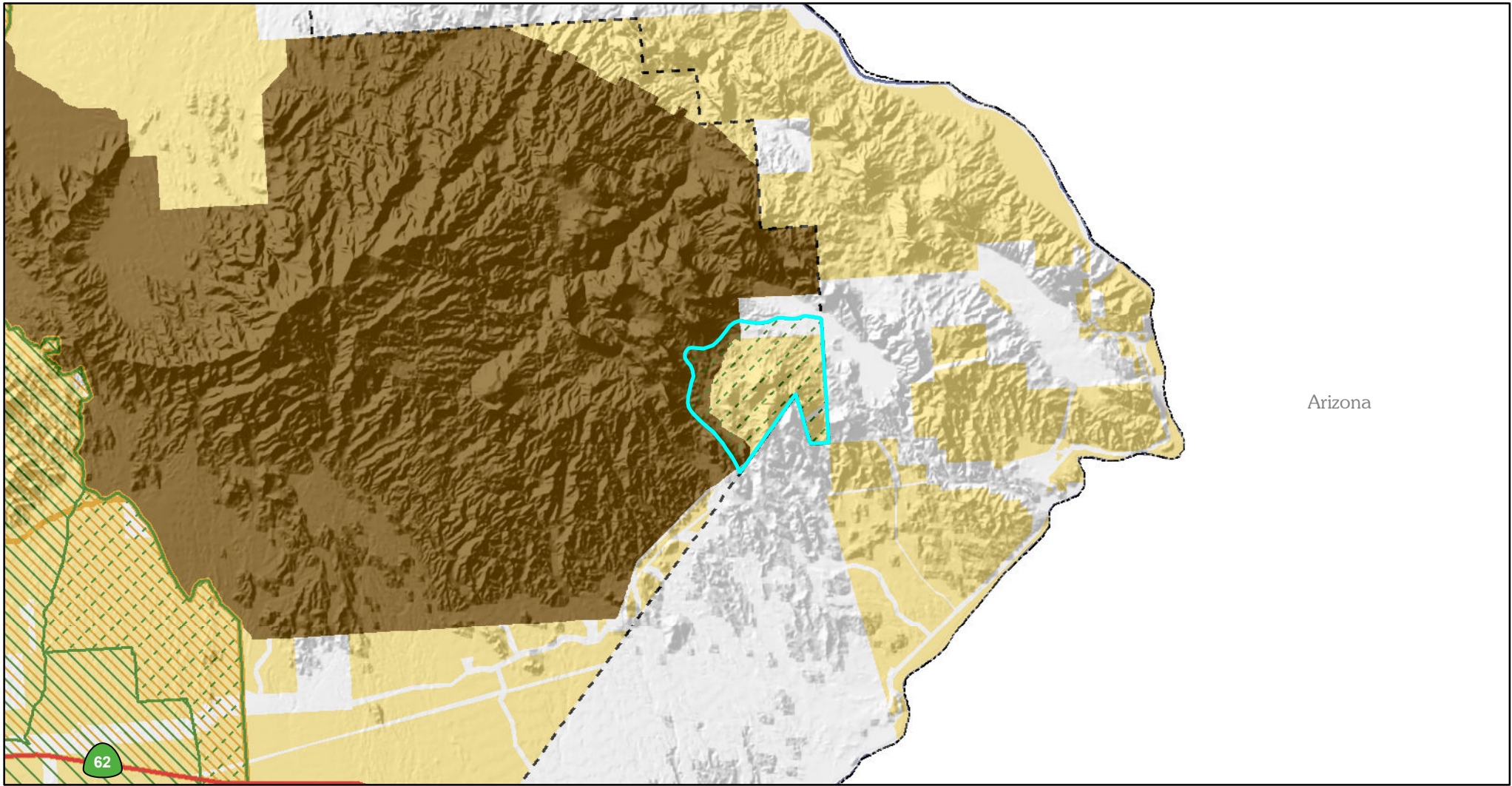
If this area is included in the National Conservation Lands, the BLM will manage this area to protect the Nationally Significant Values above. Appropriate multiple uses will be allowed, consistent with this Special Unit Management Plan and the CMAs in Volume II. If an activity is not specifically covered by the CMAs, it will be allowed if it is consistent with the Nationally Significant Values, but prohibited if the uses conflict with those values.

<b>Designation and Acreage by Alternative:</b>				
Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	2,800	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	2,805	0	1%
1	0	2,800	0	1%
2	2,800	2,800	0	1%
3	0	2,800	0	1%
4	0	2,800	0	1%
<b>* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands</b>				
<b>Objectives (desired future condition)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions</b>			<b>Resource</b>	
<p>UPA: Foothill paloverde saguaro woodland            Rare Plants:            Saguaro (<i>Carnegiea gigantea</i>) [CNPS 2.2]            Narrow-leaved psorothamnus (<i>Psorothamnus fremontii</i> var. <i>attenuatus</i>) [CNPS 2.3]            Desert germander (<i>Teucrium glandulosum</i>) [CNPS 2.3]</p> <p>Note: This region is the core of the saguaro range in California – likely the only area where the species remains in California – no current information is available for populations historically known from Imperial County.</p> <p>Objective: Protect saguaros.            Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patrol saguaro sites (BLM locations are now mapped)</li> <li>• Document excavation and vandalism of saguaros</li> <li>• Enhance saguaro germination sites under foothill palo verde (<i>Parkinsonia microphylla</i>)</li> <li>• Experiment with seeding sites suitable for saguaro germination</li> </ul> <p>Objective: Protect foothill palo verde woodland from burro predation            Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance regeneration of foothill palo verde by fencing enclosures to prevent burro browse. Remove burros to keep the population within established population targets.</li> <li>• Prohibit the collection of any live vegetation and/or dead and down material.</li> </ul>			Vegetation (incl. special status species)	

<p>Gila Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes uropygialis</i>) – DFG State Listed  Lucy’s Warbler (<i>Oreothlypis luciae</i>) – BLM Species of Concern (likely – found in Whipple Wash in Whipple Mts. Wilderness)</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)</p>
<p><b>Objective 1:</b> Protect biodiversity and manage for resilience (protect climate refugia and provide for migration corridors).</p> <p>Management Action 1: Prioritize habitat enhancement in areas expected to provide for the greatest level of resiliency (good response or rehabilitation results after significant disturbance such as fire) and or resistance to change (e.g. climate refugia).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Consider actions that enhance the primary productivity of climate refugia with native species restoration, reduced soil surface disturbance, and habitat infrastructure to increase carrying capacity of refugia (e.g., wetland, oasis).</p> <p>Management Action 3: Maintain migration corridor integrity by minimizing obstructions (fences, roads), disturbances (limiting access to water and shade during peak temperatures) and habitat fragmentation.</p> <p><b>Objective 2:</b> Maintain and or enhance key ecosystem processes (e.g., carbon sequestration, water residence time) and prepare and respond to significant disturbances to the environment (e.g. floods).</p> <p>Management Action 1: Develop proactive and responsive management actions for potentially dangerous and damaging disturbances to the environment, which are exacerbated by climate change (e.g. wildfire, flash floods, etc.).</p> <p>Management Action 2: Minimize carbon sequestration losses from management activities by reducing impacts to vegetation, soil structure and soil biota.</p> <p>Management Action 3: Leverage disturbance events and other landscape changes, when possible, as opportunities to assess climate adaptation actions. For example, revegetation objectives for projected climate scenarios benefiting multiple ecosystem services (habitat and carbon sequestration objectives).</p>	<p>Climate Change and Adaptation</p>
<p>Manage visual resources consistent with adopted VRM Classes</p>	<p>Visual Resources</p>
<p>Objective: Designate both a system of roads and/or trails to ensure for appropriate uses on public lands.  Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outside of wilderness units all legal open roads and/or trails will be signed with identification number/names.</li> <li>• All routes and/or trails identified as closed will be rehabilitated and restored.</li> <li>• Restore all undesignated roads or trails.</li> <li>• Provide routine maintenance of the designated roads and trails system</li> </ul>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>



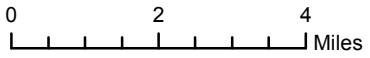
including installation of routine signs, markers, cairns, culverts, ditches, water bars, barriers, gates, or cattle guards on/or adjacent to system roads and/or trails.	
<p>Goal: Manage recreation consistent with established conservation goals, while providing a broad range of recreation opportunities, and to ensure public health and safety;</p> <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide interpretive, directional, and regulatory signs and materials as necessary to provide public information and reduce impacts from recreational use.</li> <li>• Prohibit competitive special recreation events.</li> <li>• Allow stopping and parking within 25 feet, and camping within 100 feet of designated routes.</li> <li>• Manage recreational shooting consistent with state and local laws.</li> <li>• Issuance of Special Recreation Permits which do not negatively affect ACEC Relevance and Importance Values.</li> </ul>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Consolidate through tenure adjustment.</p> <p>Management Action: Acquire inholdings, edgeholdings and other interests from willing sellers.</p>	Land Tenure
<p>Objective: Protect resource values of the ACEC</p> <p>Management Action: Land use authorization proposals (new, renewal, and amendment) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis to assess whether they are compatible with the ACEC and its management goals.</p>	Rights of Way
<p>Closed to renewable energy development</p> <p><b>Geothermal:</b> ACECs are closed to geothermal leasing and development unless they overlap with a DFA where geothermal is allowed. Where there is overlap, ACECs are open to geothermal leasing with an NSO stipulation.</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Validity determination and PO required for mining</p> <p>Stipulations would be imposed</p>	<p>Locatable Minerals</p> <p>Mineral Materials</p> <p>Non-energy Leasables</p>



Arizona

**Conservation Footprint**

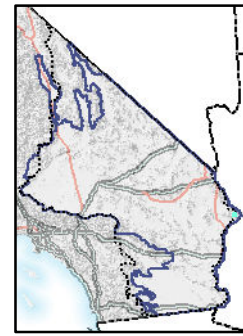
- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- DRECP Boundary
- Bureau of Land Management
- National Conservation Lands
- CDCA Boundary
- 0.5% Disturbance Cap
- 1% Disturbance Cap

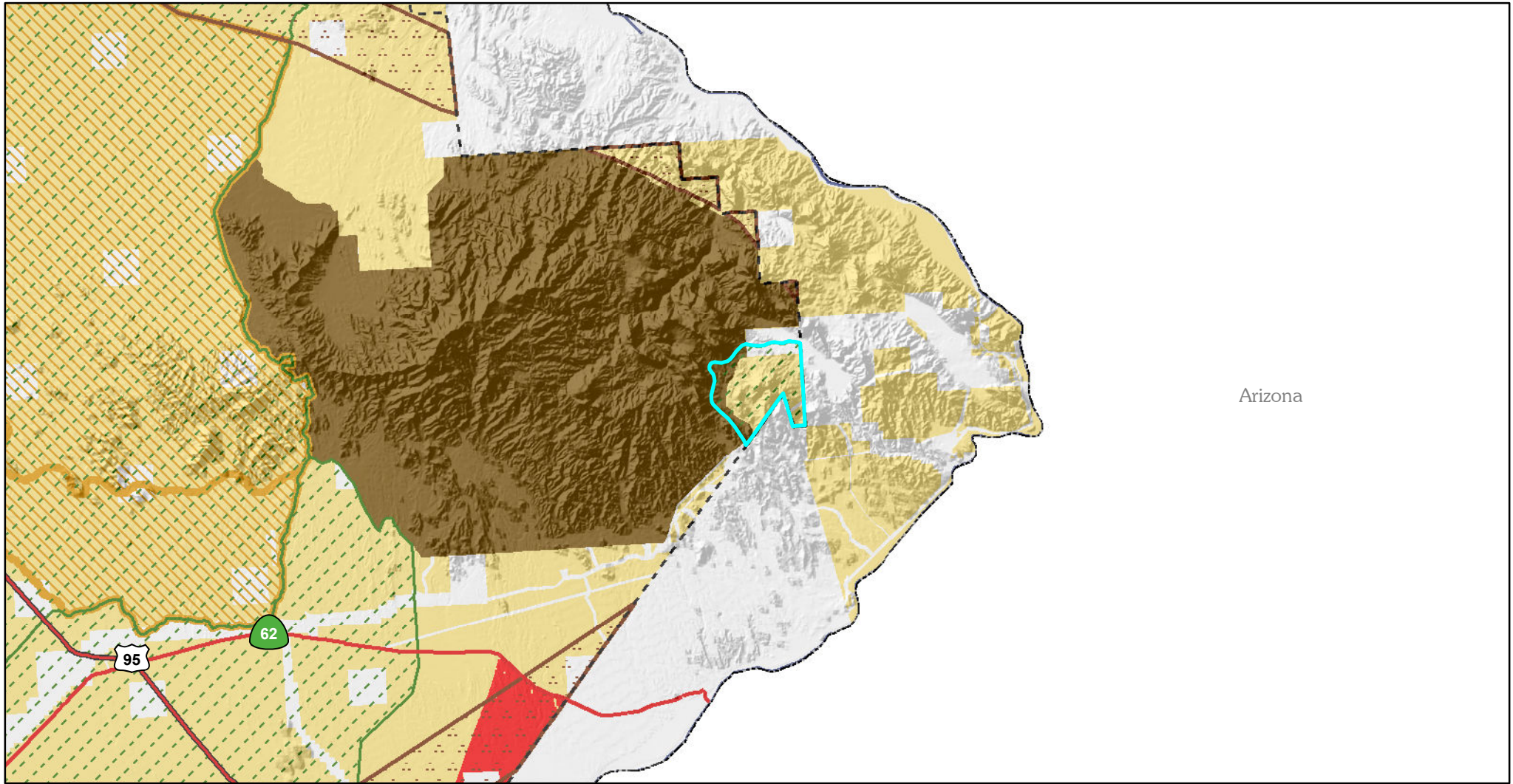


**Whipple Mountains**

6/24/2015




Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change










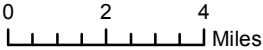
Arizona

Conservation Footprint

-  Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
-  National Conservation Lands
- ACEC Boundaries
-  1% Disturbance Cap

-  DRECP Boundary
-  CDCA Boundary
-  Transmission Corridor
- Renewable Footprint
-  Variance Lands

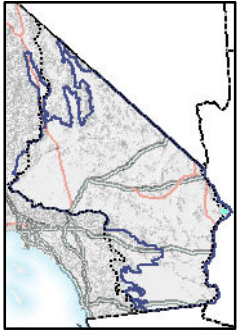
- Land Status
-  Bureau of Land Management

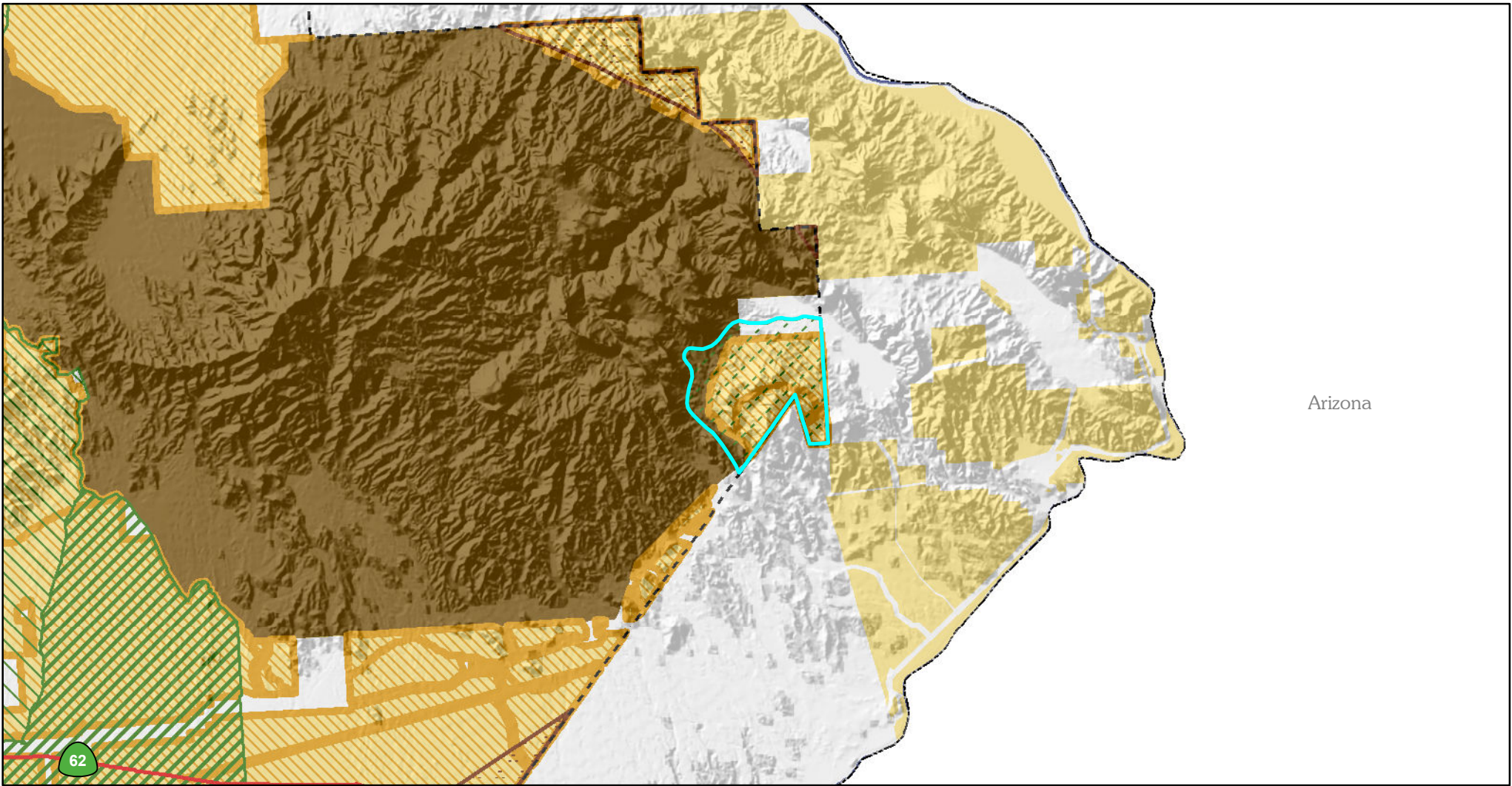


Whipple Mountains  
Alternative 1

8/25/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Arizona

Conservation Footprint

Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas	DRECP Boundary	<b>Land Status</b>
National Conservation Lands	CDCA Boundary	Bureau of Land Management
<b>ACEC Boundaries</b>	Transmission Corridor	
0.25% Disturbance Cap		
0.5% Disturbance Cap		
1% Disturbance Cap		

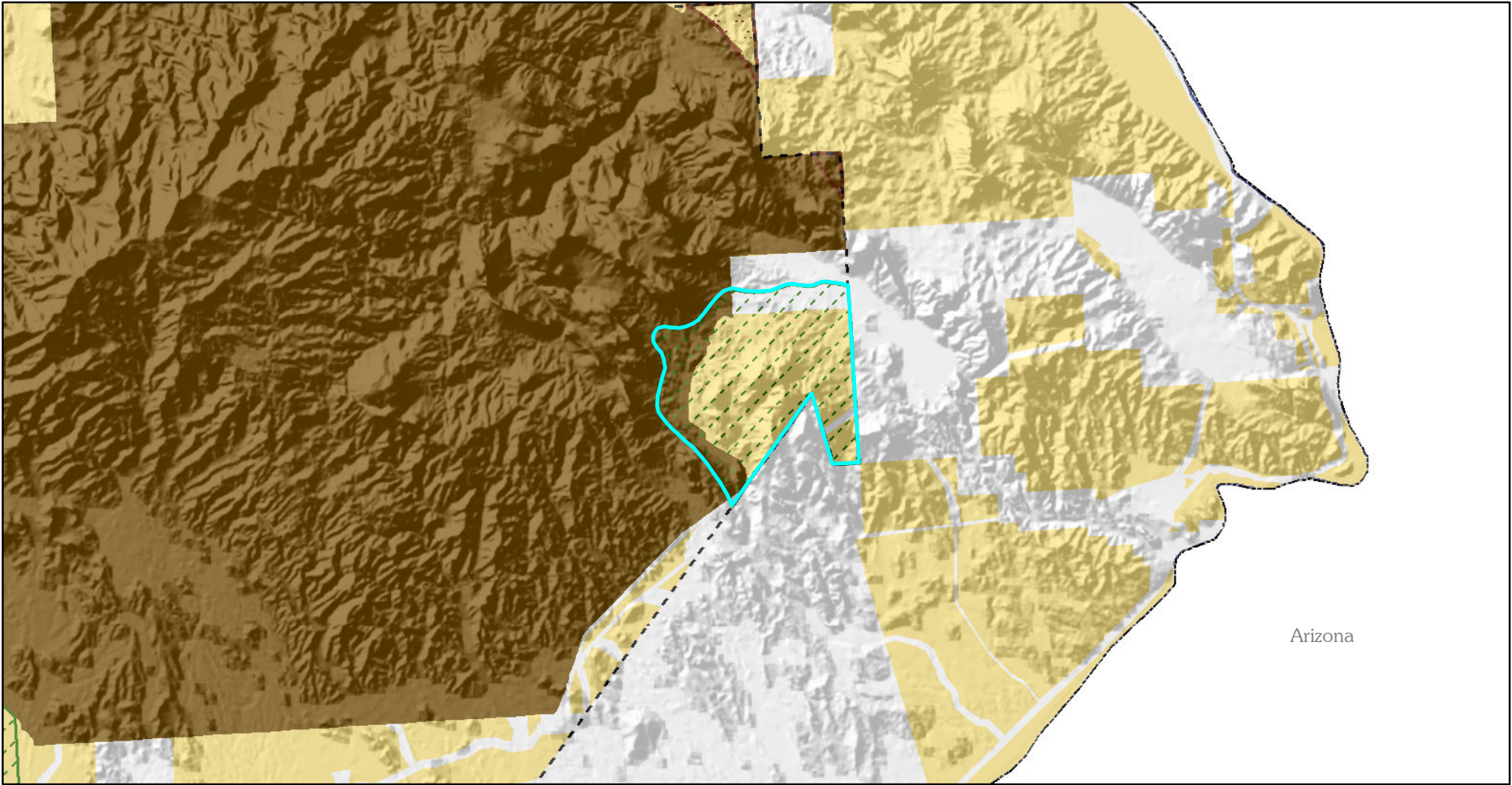
0 1 2 Miles

Whipple Mountains  
Alternative 2

8/26/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

- Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas
- ACEC Boundaries
- 1% Disturbance Cap

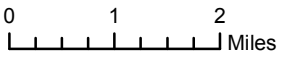
- DRECP Boundary
- CDCA Boundary
- Transmission Corridor

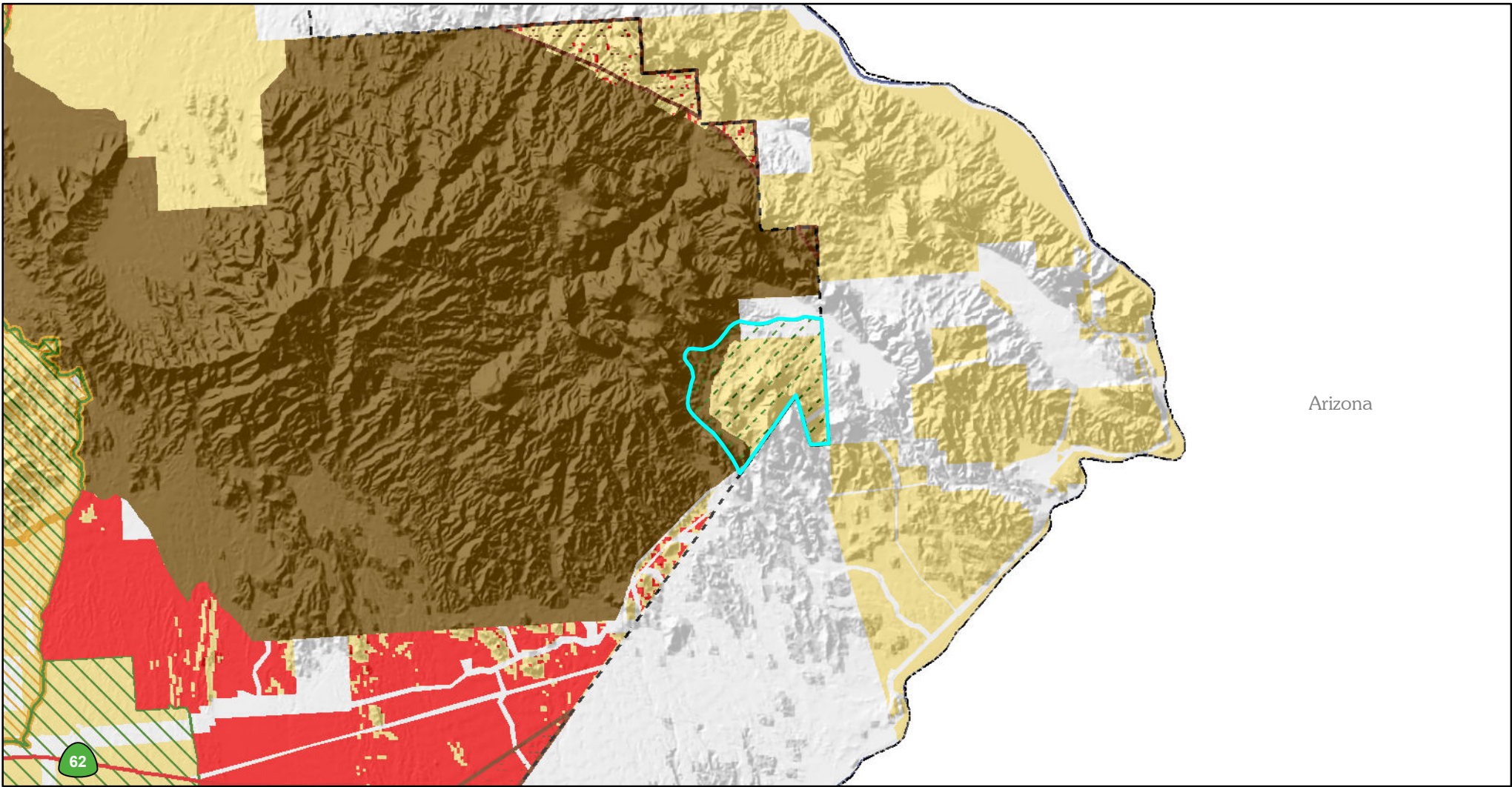
- Land Status
- Bureau of Land Management

Whipple Mountains  
Alternative 3

8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Arizona

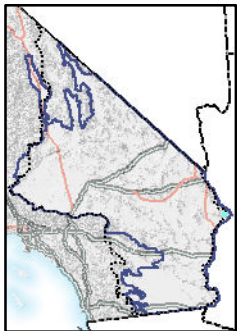
Conservation Footprint

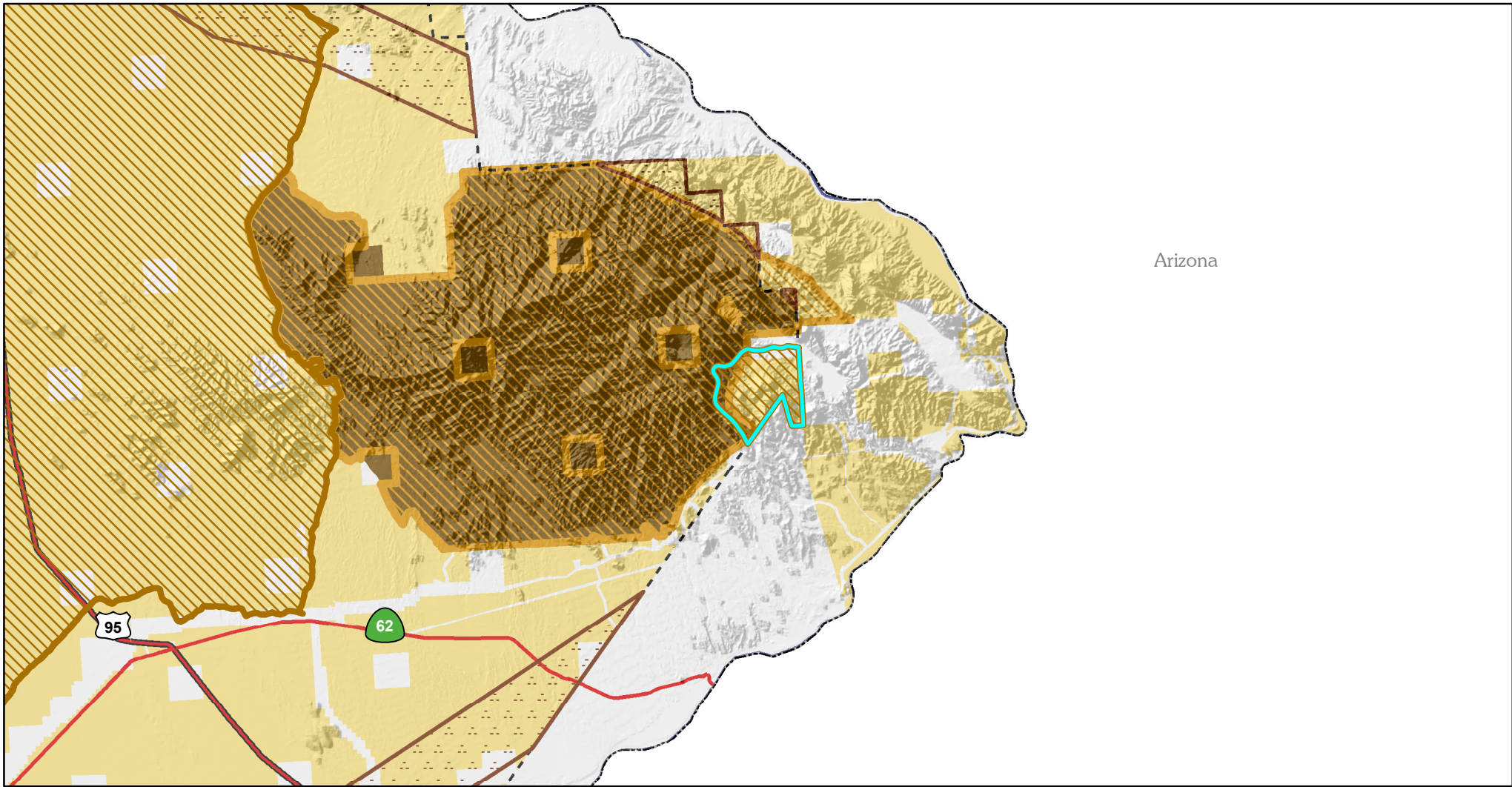
- |   |                            |                           |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | DRECP Boundary             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| National Conservation Lands             | CDCA Boundary              | Bureau of Land Management |
| <b>ACEC Boundaries</b>                  | Transmission Corridor      |                           |
| 0.5% Disturbance Cap                    | <b>Renewable Footprint</b> |                           |
| 1% Disturbance Cap                      | Variance Lands             |                           |

Whipple Mountains  
Alternative 4

8/27/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change





Conservation Footprint

- |                       |   |                           |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Existing ACEC         | National Conservation Lands             | <b>Land Status</b>        |
| Transmission Corridor | Legislatively & Legally Protected Areas | Bureau of Land Management |
| CDCA Boundary         |   |                           |
| DRECP Boundary        |   |                           |

Whipple Mountains

No Action

9/15/2015

Draft Map Boundaries Subject to Change

