

# Cerro Gordo Mines

SINCE 1865

Box 3 — LONE PINE, CALIFORNIA

September 13, 1978

RECEIVED

OCT 2 1978

MARGARET BROMLEY  
EX OFFICIO CLERK OF  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
DEPUTY

Dear Lucy:

We now have the Supervisors going to bat for us, the people, who want to get BLM out of our hair.

We are thanking the supervisors - want them to keep up the good work.

Starting on the 4th. page are the resolutions as set forth by the supervisors.

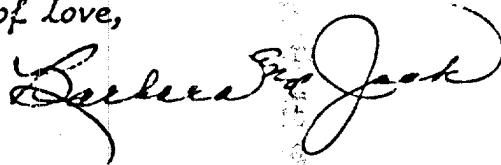
We now have Bishop pretty well covered, Lone Pine, Big Pine, Independence, Shoshone & Tecopa also. Are attempting to get 'em all.

San Bernardino like the idea (that's the largest co. and if they get on it, maybe we'll get these BLM turning tail!

Please help us with Darwin. When it is filled, send to the Board of Supervisors, Inyo Co. Court House, Independence 93526.

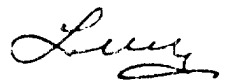
Thanks so much.

Lots of love,



Dear Mae,

In forwarding these signatures to you in all the excitement & concern yesterday, I forgot to give them to you.



RICHARD B. McDONALD  
SUPERVISOR 5TH DISTRICT  
P. O. BOX 737  
LONE PINE, CALIFORNIA 93545



COUNTY OF INYO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 10, 1978

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Folio: Copus  
C.A. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
D. \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: Supers  
Date: 10.2.78

Mr. Clayton A. Record, Chairman  
California Desert Advisory Committee  
C/O California Desert Planning  
3610 Central Ave., Suite 402  
Riverside, Calif. 92506

Dear Clayton:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate as a panel member on your September 29, 1978 Desert Advisory Committee Meeting. I left, however, somewhat frustrated with myself, not being able to convey my feelings as to the potential impacts that could have detrimental effects on Inyo County. I am surprised and somewhat dismayed at the broad brush approach used by the Bureau in distinguishing potential roadless wilderness areas. They have painted green existing roads, (by their own criteria) known mining interests, private property, etc. Then, to compound my concerns, Mr. Haste's statement "that this is very close to being if not the final map".

I pray that during your evaluation of their proposal that you do not lose sight of the fact that our total sum and substance is our mining and recreation and that any action taken that would upset the balance would have devastating effects on the economy of our County.

Please take into account that Death Valley Monument is already treated as roadless wilderness. Also, the U. S. Naval Weapons Center is a restricted area not open to the public. Color both of those green and what is left for our mining and recreation, virtually nothing!

Taking time to digest Mr. Mortenson's "Market Area One" report, I am sure that his twelve quotes are accurate and his over view of the various areas measurably correct but (as I read it) there was a great deal of emphasis on the numbers that reside in the area. You must take into consideration that our total County population is just in excess of 17,000 so when he refers to "that only about 1,000" represents approximately 17% of the total residence.

A brief comment on your slide presentation which Dave presented at the end of the program on why people live in the desert, which seemed to gather some laughter, I hope this was not an effort on anyone's part to make light of people's feelings and concerns. What we have and cherish can't always be put into writing and words and I do not believe we need someone to lead us up out of the desert and teach us the true meaning of why we are there.



P. O. Box 737  
LONE PINE, CALIFORNIA 93545

# COUNTY OF INYO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Page #2

Mr. Clayton A. Record, Chairman  
California Desert Advisory Committee

In summary - I would like to inform the Committee that with the concensus of the Board and Planning Dept., I have put together an advisory group, maybe not as prestigious and scholarly as yours, but by living and working in the area of concern for many years are as, or possibly more familiar with this area that is proposed wilderness. Through this effort our County will prepare and adopt a map for your consideration. I have also attached a letter dated October 13, 1978 to Mr. Bob Rice, Forest Supervisor for Inyo County. This might give you a little further insight as to our feeling towards the wilderness.

Sincerely,

*Richard B. McDonald*  
Richard B. McDonald  
Supervisor Fifth District

rbm/nm

- Enclosures:
- 1-Petitions of Support for Resolution 78-111 (567 signatures)
  - 2-Letters of Concern: High Desert Scribe - Southern Inyo Search & Rescue Squad, Inc.  
James O. Randolph, Jr.
  - 3-Letter to Mr. Robert Rice, Forest Supervisor

- Copy or Letter to:
- Senator Walter W. Stiern
  - Senator S. I. Hayakawa
  - Senator Alan Cranston
  - Assemblyman Larry Chimbole
  - Ed Hastey, State Director
  - James W. Burns
  - Frank W. DeVore
  - W. Leon Hunter
  - Richard H. Jahns
  - Laurence W. Lane, Jr.
  - E. Dean Lemon
  - Wilbur W. Mayhew
  - Harvey Perloff
  - Willie Pink
  - Erna Schuiling
  - Ruth Simpson
  - Ronald J. Sloan
  - Genny Smith
  - Richard Vogl



County of  
**INYO**

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

P.O. BOX 37 • INDEPENDENCE • CALIFORNIA 93526 • (714) 878-2411 (Ext. 318)

October 25, 1978

Dear Southern Owens Valley Committee Member:

There will be a meeting of the Southern Owens Valley Committee on Thursday, November 2, 1978, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lone Pine Town Hall.

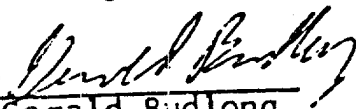
Announcements: The Planning Department received a BLM News Release stating that a publication date of November 1, 1978 for the Draft Wilderness Inventory Map and Text as well as a 90-day public review and comment period. There will be a BLM public meeting at the Lone Pine Townhall on December 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The Planning Department will have a copy of this map at your meeting if one is received from BLM on or before your meeting date.

### AGENDA

- ✓ 1. Further discussion of the Emergency Preparedness and Response of Seismic Safety and Safety Elements.
2. Discuss Implementation Section of Seismic Safety Element.
3. Further discussion items brought up by the Chairman.

Sincerely,

Douglas Sherburne  
Planning Director

By   
Gerald Budlong  
Associate Planner

GB/mss

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Refer: Inyo

November 7, 1978

Richard B. McDonald  
Supervisor, Fifth District  
County of Inyo  
P. O. Box 737  
Lone Pine, California 93545

Supervisor, Plumb  
11-8-78

RECEIVED  
NOV 8 1978  
MARGARET PROBLEY  
EX. CLERK  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
DEPUTY

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Thank you for your letter of October 19, 1978 regarding the last meeting of the Desert Advisory Committee.

I have discussed your concerns with Mr. Pfulb the Desert Planning Director, and based on that discussion I submit the following response to your concerns.

In your first paragraph you seem to indicate that you interpreted the work that BLM has done to inventory wilderness characteristics as some form of final recommendation and this of course is not the case. The maps which have been prepared and responded to by the public do represent the Bureau's best evaluation of the characteristics that do now exist that reflect wilderness qualities. The Wilderness Act is very specific as to the nature of the qualities they must investigate and they have had extensive public input during their inventory period. Nevertheless, I recognize that reasonable minds may differ on the interpretation of wilderness qualities because in many cases it is a subjective evaluation. The law does require however that BLM make a determination and map the areas that they feel now contain wilderness characteristics. It should be very clear however, that what has been done so far is not a recommendation on the part of BLM, that the areas identified as having wilderness characteristics are recommended for wilderness designation. Before arriving at a recommendation, BLM will be studying potential wilderness opportunities along with the many other opportunities and competing demands during the planning process which will begin next Spring and extend throughout the Summer of 1979. At the conclusion of this study and planning period, a draft plan for the entire California desert will be prepared containing recommendations not only for wilderness, but for many other uses. This draft plan will be published and circulated for public review and comment approximately January 1980. After receiving public input, BLM will then reevaluate the draft plan and make a final recommendation on wilderness which will be one component or element of the comprehensive plan for the California desert which will be submitted to the Secretary of Interior in October 1980.

As you can see, there should be ample opportunity for you and the Board of Supervisors in Inyo County to develop your own recommendations and to submit those recommendations to the Advisory Committee and to BLM. I know that Neil Pfulb's staff has been in touch with the planning staff in Inyo County to establish direct liaison between the professional staffs in your county and their own. It is my recommendation that this relationship should be encouraged and expanded upon.

11-5-78

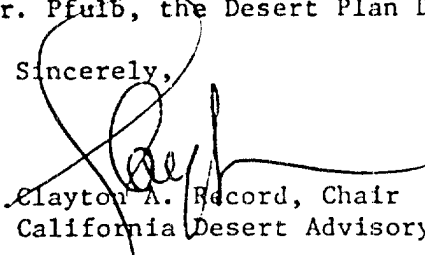
34

I believe if there is a constructive and positive staff relationship in which the DPS staff and Inyo Planning staff are working together, and that the citizen's committee in turn is working closely with your staff, such a relationship would produce the most positive and practical results. I assume that the products and recommendations produced by your citizen's advisory committee would be presented to the Board of Supervisors who in turn would review and decide what recommendations were to be passed on to BLM and the Desert Advisory Committee.

By now you may have already received a packet of information which was sent out October 31, 1978 by BLM which includes the draft wilderness inventory maps and narratives and has been sent to each member of the Board of Supervisors with an extra copy to the Chairman for the record. In addition, copies were sent to Inyo County Planning Department and Commission. Information has been included which shows that public hearings will be held in Lone Pine on December 14, 1978 from 9:00 a.m. until Noon and 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in Town Hall at Bush and Jackson Streets. It should be emphasized that these hearings are intended to provide opportunity for the public and county spokesmen to officially comment again on the "wilderness inventory" and there will be in the future during calendar year 1979 other additional opportunities for public and county comment and recommendations concerning areas to be recommended for wilderness designation as part of the comprehensive plan.

As the local government representative on the Committee, I recognize there may be some differences in the manner which each county may wish to proceed in coordinating their planning with BLM. However, my comments and suggestions reflect how I expect these procedures to unfold in Riverside County and possibly some of the other counties. If I can be of assistance at any time, please feel free to contact me directly or through Mr. Pfulb, the Desert Plan Director.

Sincerely,

  
Clayton A. Record, Chair  
California Desert Advisory Committee

cc: Neil B. Pfulb  
Desert Plan Director

RECEIVED

NOV 1973

MARGARET WOODLEY  
EX OFFICIO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
DEPUTY

November 3, 1978

Inyo County Board of Supervisors  
Inyo County Courthouse  
Independence, California 93526

Dear Board Members:

We, the Southern Owens Valley Committee are strongly opposed to the California Desert Wilderness Inventory Plan as it applies to Inyo County. We are voicing our concern about the lack of time for the County to organize a concerned effort to oppose this plan.

We, therefore, request the County to call a meeting at the earliest convenience with the purpose of developing an organized plan to best combat this extremely adverse effect upon our people and economy.

We also request both an oral comment to be presented at the December 14th BLM meeting at Lone Pine besides a regular comment to be presented on or before the January 30, 1979 deadline.

Sincerely,

*Charles L. Hapke*

Charles Hapke  
Chairman  
Southern Owens Valley Committee

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Referred Supers

CAO           

By           

Other Supers, Plus

Date 11-6-78

A/430  
1-7-78

Desert Regional Citizens Advisory Committee

November 9, 1978

MOTION: BOB FISHER

SECONDED: STELLA ROOK

TO THE INYO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

We the Desert Citizens Committee hereby go on record supporting the Southern Owens Valley Citizens Committee requesting the County to call a meeting of County Staff, elected and appointed officials and key citizens to formulate a plan to address the BLM Public Hearings at Trona on December 12, and Lone Pine on December 14 in addition to written comments addressing the California Desert Wilderness Inventory Plan.

We in addition, request the Board of Supervisors to contact the other effected Desert Counties with the intention to join forces in opposition to the BLM Wilderness Inventory Plan.

YES - 6

NO - 0



BE IT RESOLVED by the East Sierra/High Desert Chamber of Commerce as follows:

WHEREAS, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 requires the preparation and completion of a comprehensive long-range plan for the management use development and protection of the Public Lands within the California Desert Conservation Area, and

WHEREAS, the Wilderness Act of 1964 set the criteria for determining the roadless areas of Public Lands, and

WHEREAS, such acts could provide for millions of acres of California Desert lands to be placed into a Desert Wilderness that could restrict the use to a degree that would not allow for the multiple use concept of the resources of the area, and

WHEREAS, one very important desert resource which our nation is heavily dependent upon at present and will be even more dependent upon in the future are the minerals of the California Desert Conservation Area, and

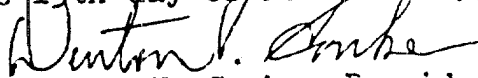
WHEREAS, it appears that the Desert Planning Unit could possibly recommend withdrawals of large parts of this Area from mineral exploration and development, and

WHEREAS, such action would prove to have a devastating effect on the security of our nation as well as its economical well being,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Sierra/High Desert Chambers of Commerce go on record as supporting the development of a California Desert Plan that will recognize the need to keep our California Desert Area open to mineral exploration and development of which is so vital to the continued well being of our nation, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to all pertinent individuals, groups, organizations and governmental entities.

Passed, Approved and Adopted this 15th day of November 1978.

  
Denton V. Sonke, President  
East Sierra/High Desert Chambers  
of Commerce

Member Chambers:

Lancaster Chamber of Commerce  
Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce  
Bishop Chamber of Commerce  
Inyokern Chamber of Commerce  
Mojave Chamber of Commerce  
Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce  
Rand Trio  
California City Chamber of Commerce  
Searles Valley Community Services Council  
Palmdale Chamber of Commerce



INYO

# PLANNING COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 37 • INDEPENDENCE • CALIFORNIA 93528 • (714) 878-2411 (Ext. 318)

November 28, 1978

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: The Planning Commission

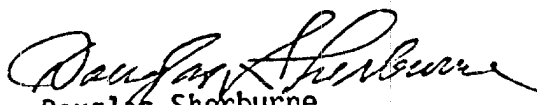
RE: Bureau of Land Management Wilderness Inventory

The Planning Commission at its regular meeting of November 21, 1978 conducted its review and consideration of the program being carried out by the Bureau of Land Management to inventory potential wilderness areas. The Planning Commission determined that its primary concern is with maintaining future opportunities for resource utilization and mineral production along with the protection of private property owners and their ability to have a reasonable use of their land. These concerns are felt by the Planning Commission to be paramount and should guide the Bureau of Land Management in its preparation of recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

The Planning Commission believes furthermore that the concept of defensible boundaries should also be followed in determining any area as being suitable for wilderness designation. This is to say that any area in the desert regions of Inyo County considered suitable for wilderness should be characterized by a perimeter area which is both unique and easily identifiable.

The Planning Commission recommends that the County continue to work closely with the Bureau of Land Management and review the draft recommendations that are expected to be forthcoming sometime in mid-1979.

Sincerely,

  
 Douglas Sherburne  
 Planning Director

1A  
10/425

10-5.4

11/28/78



★ ★ ★ 1776 ★ ★ ★ 1976 ★ ★ ★  
**Bishop Chamber of Commerce**

690 North Main Street, Bishop, California 93514 • Telephone (714) 872-4731

Inyo County Board of Supervisors  
Courthouse  
Drawer F  
Independence, CA 93526

Dear Board Members,

Enclosed you will find a copy of our Resolution No. 78-1 in regards to mineral exploration and development as it pertains to the development of the California Desert Conservation Plan. We sincerely hope that this issue will be properly addressed as the Desert Plan is brought to a successful conclusion.

We thank you for your good consideration of our input on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Denton Sonke*  
Denton Sonke  
East Sierra/High Desert  
Chambers of Commerce  
690 N. Main St.  
Bishop, Calif. 93514



AA/435-

# FIRST PROGRESS REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

# CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA



United States  
Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

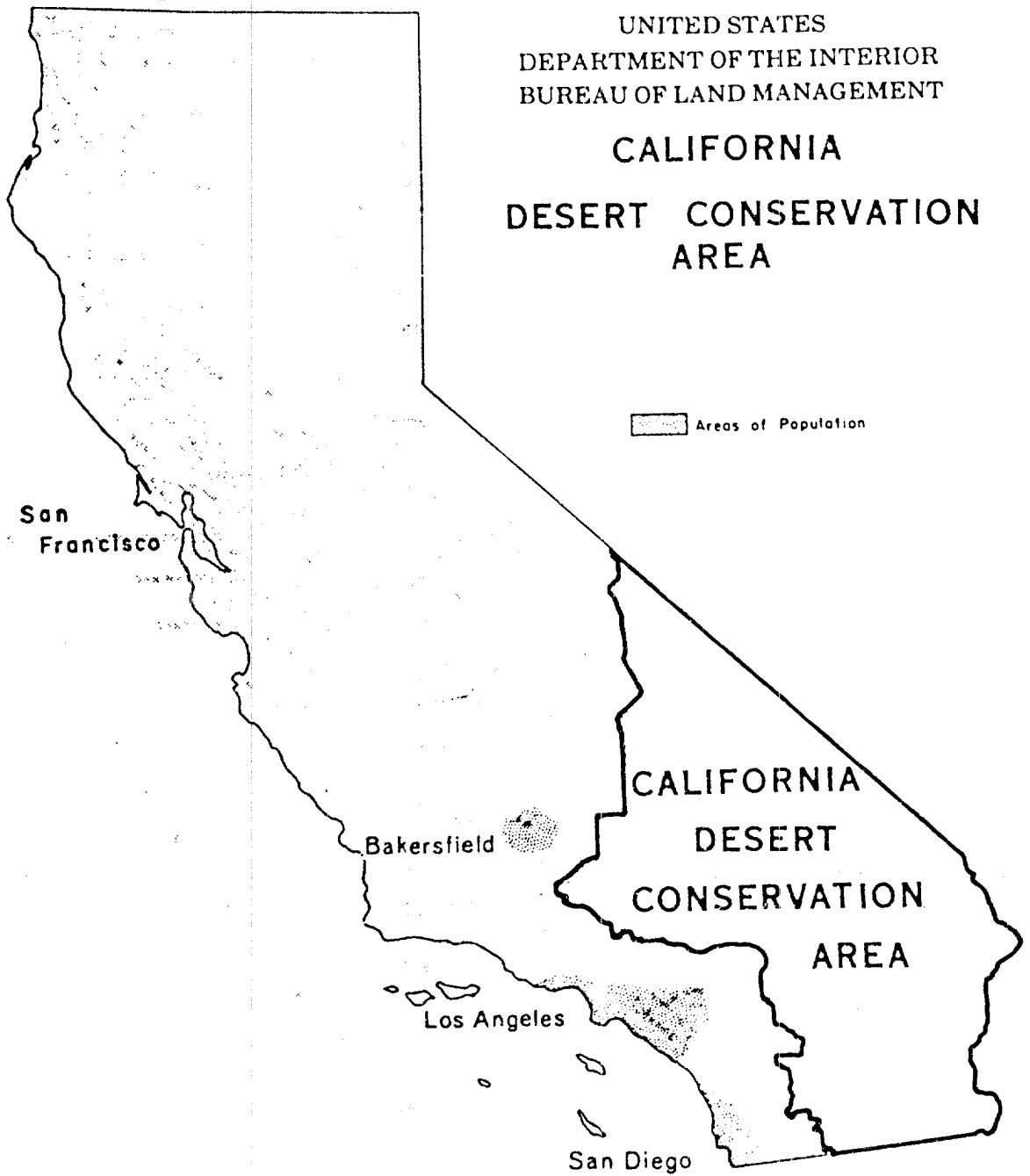
First Progress Report to the Congress

CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA

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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
**CALIFORNIA**  
**DESERT CONSERVATION**  
**AREA**



Summary

As noted in Section 601 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1701, 1781), the California Desert:

- Contains historical scenic, archaeological, environmental, biological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational and economic resources uniquely located adjacent to an area of large population.
- Is a total ecosystem that is extremely fragile, easily scarred and slowly healed, with current use pressures already taking a growing toll.
- Must have interim critical management while a multiple-use plan for all resources, based on sustained yield to provide resources for future generations, is being formulated for implementation by September 30, 1980.

This is the first of two interim progress reports on the California Desert Program called for under FLPMA. In summary, the planning task is well underway and on schedule to meet the September 30, 1980, completion deadline and critical interim management work is meanwhile in progress.

Issues to be dealt with in the plan have been identified and include:

- How much Wilderness and where?
- Management of motorized vehicle activity on-road and off-road.
- Utility corridors and powerplant siting.
- Mineral exploration and development - Where and how much?
- Public land availability vs. private and military needs.
- Grazing and range conditions.
- Protection of wild burros and horses vs. range resource control.
- Natural and cultural resource protection.

The planning effort falls basically into two phases, each encompassing two years. The first involves massive inventories of resources and the values people place on them coupled with the building of a public involvement process and a planning framework. The second encompasses the analysis of inventory



information and public input to draft a comprehensive land use plan and environmental impact statement; to obtain public review and comment; and then to finalize the land use plan and its accompanying EIS.

At this point the inventory job covering over 16 million acres (12.5 million acres of public lands plus intermingled private lands) is well on its way to on-schedule completion by February 1979. Data is being entered and stored in computer memory banks for later retrieval and analysis as it is obtained.

The planning framework development is on schedule with policy guidelines and a prototype plan outline and EIS preparation plan drafted for use when the analyzed data is ready to shape into a draft plan containing alternative approaches to resolving the issues.

Public participation has been strong, starting with the appointment of a broadly based 15 member Advisory Committee in early 1977 whose sessions have been used as public forums for comment and advice in its eight meetings to date. Public interest has been solicited through radio and TV announcements, and public opinion surveyed through national and regional polls.

Critical interim management efforts have included the deployment of a small but well trained uniformed Desert Ranger force. They are enforcing resource protection compliance and providing emergency visitor aid. A dunes system has been closed to vehicles to protect endangered plant species. Construction on segments of the Pacific Crest Trail within the Desert is underway. One visitor center is in full operation and construction of a second center will start soon. An EIS on a major high potential geothermal area has been started

and other major energy transmission projects are being handled with individual EIS efforts as applications are received.

No insurmountable problems are foreseen at this point. Funding appropriations under the \$40 million FLPMA authorization have been adequate with some adjustment of internal BLM priorities to channel money to the Desert effort. It is important that interim management appropriations be kept adequate through FY-80 and FY-81 as the needs to protect desert resources are unending.

There has been a problem with the Bureau's own slow start in developing mining and surface protection regulations under Section 601 of FLPMA, but such regulations should be ready for issuance.

If there is any problem at present, it is one of adequate time to do a massive task in a quality manner. The BLM is coping well with this to date and will continue to apply itself to meeting the responsibility assigned it by Congress in the time it has been allotted.

WILDERNESS

Public lands in the California Desert Conservation Area are being inventoried for the characteristics presented in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964: (1) an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man; (2) an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation; (3) an area which generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (4) an area which has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and confined type of recreation; (5) an area which has at least 5,000 acres of land, or is of sufficient size to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (6) an area which may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

The Wilderness Inventory Program in the California Desert began in May 1978 and is scheduled for completion in February 1979. Completion of the California Desert Plan, September 30, 1980, will result in recommendations on those areas which have been determined to be suitable or unsuitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Decisions on inclusion will be made by the Congress after further study.

Numerous public and organizational meetings have been conducted during the inventory period. During May 1978, 17 public meetings were held statewide to explain the procedures which would be followed during the inventory phase. Each of these meetings was followed, the next day,

by a workshop where specific areas on the Preliminary Inventory Map were discussed. A 45-day public review and comment period followed the initial public meetings, during which time the public was encouraged to provide the Wilderness Inventory team with input for inclusion in an Interim Inventory Map published in August.

Team members divided the Conservation Area into numbered roadless polygons and conducted on-the-ground checks in each, developing descriptive narratives on findings and rationales. Another series of workshops was conducted in August, after publication of the Interim Inventory Map, to permit public comment and discussion of the proposed Wilderness Study Areas. This was part of the 30-day review and comment period provided after map publication.

A Draft Wilderness Inventory Map of the California Desert Conservation Area is scheduled for release in November, followed by a 90-day public review and comment period during which public meetings will be conducted statewide to receive formal comments.

A Final Wilderness Inventory Map will include comments on the Draft and will be published in February 1979.

This designation supersedes the unpublished designation effective February 2, 1977.

(Delegation of Authority by the Secretary effective October 1, 1970; 36 FR 3389, February 23, 1971.)

**TERRANCE R. DUVERNAY,**  
*Area Manager, New Orleans  
 Area Office, Region VI  
 (Dallas).*

**WALTER G. SEVIER,**  
*Deputy Regional Administrator,  
 Region VI (Dallas).*  
 [FR Doc. 79-9701 Filed 3-29-79; 8:45 am]

**[4210-01-M]**

[Docket No. D-79-550]

**OFFICE OF THE AREA MANAGER: SAN ANTONIO AREA OFFICE**

*Designation*

**AGENCY:** Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**ACTION:** Designation of line of succession.

**SUMMARY:** The Area Manager is designating officials who may serve as Acting Area Manager during the absence of, or vacancy in the position of, the Area Manager.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 30, 1979.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Each of the officials appointed to the following position is designated to serve as Acting Area Manager during the absence of, or vacancy in the position of, the Area Manager, with all the powers, functions, and duties redelegated or assigned to the Area Manager: Provided, that no official is authorized to serve as Acting Area Manager unless all officials before him in this designation are unavailable to act by reason of absence or vacancy in the position:

1. Deputy Area Manager.
2. Director, Housing Division.
3. Area Counsel.

This designation supersedes the unpublished designation effective February 2, 1977.

(Delegation of Authority by the Secretary effective October 1, 1970; 36 FR 3389, February 23, 1971.)

**FINNIS E. JOLLY,**  
*Area Manager, San Antonio Area  
 Office, Region VI (Dallas).*

**WALTER G. SEVIER,**  
*Deputy Regional Administrator,  
 Region VI (Dallas).*

[FR Doc. 79-9702 Filed 3-29-79; 8:45 am]

**[4210-01-M]**

[Docket No. D-79-557]

**ACTING REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR, SEATTLE REGIONAL OFFICE, REGION X, WASHINGTON**

*Designation*

Each of the officials appointed to the following positions is designated to serve as Acting Regional Administrator during the absence of the Regional Administrator, with all the powers, functions, and duties redelegated or assigned to the Regional Administrator; provided that no official is authorized to serve as Acting Regional Administrator unless all officials listed before him in this designation are unavailable to act by reason of absence or vacancy in the position:

1. Deputy Regional Administrator.
2. Director, Office of Regional Administration.
3. Director, Office of Community Planning and Development.

Effective as of the 25th day of January 1979.

**GEORGE J. ROYBAL,**  
*Regional Administrator,  
 Seattle Regional Office.*

[FR Doc. 79-9703 Filed 3-29-79; 8:45 am]

**[8230-01-M]**

**INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AGENCY**

**CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT WORKS OF ART**

**Amendment of Determination; Extension of Pompeii A.D. 79 Exhibition Within the United States**

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by P.L. 89-259 of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459) and Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978 (43 FR 13359, March 29, 1978) I hereby amend Public Notice No. 596, published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on March 9, 1978 (43 FR 9665), as amended, by adding to the places of exhibition or display: the American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York, on or about April 22, 1979 to on or about July 31, 1979.

This additional exhibition is pursuant to amendments to the loan agreement between the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass., and the Government of Italy referred to in Public Notice No. 596 of March 9, 1978.

Notice of this amendment of the determination is ordered to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

March 27, 1979.

**JOHN E. REINHARDT,**  
*Director, International  
 Communication Agency.*

[FR Doc. 79-9740 Filed 3-29-79; 8:45 am]

**[4310-84-M]**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
 Bureau of Land Management  
**CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA**  
 Designated Wilderness Study Areas

Under authority heretofore delegated by the Director, Bureau of Land Management, I hereby determine that public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management within the designated California Desert Conservation Area have been inventoried according to the provisions of Sections 201(a) and 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Pub. L. 94-579) and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-577) and that all, or any portions of, the 138 areas listed herein as meeting the wilderness criteria of Section 2(c) of Pub. L. 88-577, are hereby designated Wilderness Study Areas scheduled for intensive study by the BLM Desert Plan Staff, located at Suite 402, 3610 Central Avenue, Riverside, California 92506:

*Area Number Public Land Acreage*

100	458
100A	407
101	897
102	12,585
103	7,784
104	3,729
105	5,729
107A	851
111	14,983
112	36,287
115	69,282
117	495,215
117A	6,560
118	7,851
119	32,878
120	11,465
121	5,760
122	87,145
123	23,004
124	56,650
127	50,427
130	8,102
131	24,873
132	5,972
132A	8,319
132B	21,099
134	36,949
136	52,698
137	33,390
137A	8,522
142	89,528
143	46,529
145	89,772
147	123,131
148	54,022
149	33,929
149A	2,348
150	109,701
150A	13,779
154	33,914
156	113,901
157	25,207
158	36,023
159	5,564
160	4,057
160H	6,826
160C	1,076
163	8,725
164	17,084
170	32,208
172	7,040
173	7,260

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Area Number	Public Land Acreage
184	12,798
186	7,602
206	21,968
207	25,077
217	53,219
218	6,190
218A	9,610
219	8,611
220	5,320
221	87,831
221A	29,433
222	255,058
222A	17,064
223	23,125
225	44,317
225A	8,103
227	14,107
228	26,422
235A	10,132
237	11,092
237A	2,560
237B	3,290
238A	2,976
238B	15,333
239	44,992
242	106,641
243	49,301
244	16,619
245	16,714
249	64,273
250	124,518
251	65,177
251A	14,447
252	18,333
256	72,296
258	18,423
258A	23,238
259	29,178
260	37,787
262	23,933
263	51,057
264	13,390
265	35,383
266	36,239
267	37,561
270	7,556
271	37,758
272	32,477
276	29,411
268	17,063
268A	10,984
290	9,136
292	36,450
294	111,685
295	29,434
299	100,826
300	17,889
304	26,912
304A	13,414
305	135,827
307	229,241
310	57,229
312	81,548
321	50,538
322	43,845
325	239,878
328	52,992
328A	8,532
334	49,723
334A	4,480
335	24,710
341	64,051
342	15,655
344	44,195
348	126,057
350	44,422
352	25,428
355	25,971
355A	6,982
356	37,196
360	22,778
362	35,324
364	24,868
372	10,858
373	8,769
<b>Totals: 138 Areas</b>	<b>5,520,318 Acres of Public Lands</b>

These areas and acreages are delineated on a map entitled "California Desert Wilderness Inventory", dated March 31, 1979, published by BLM and available to the public through BLM offices in California, or by contacting the BLM Desert Plan Staff at the address noted above. The Wilderness Study Areas designated herein will remain under BLM interim management, as required in Section 603 of Pub. L. 94-579 during a period of review and until the Congress has determined otherwise.

The remaining 206 areas inventoried within the California Desert Conservation Area but not designated herein as Wilderness Study Areas, and the portions of the 138 areas not designated herein as Wilderness Study Areas as shown on the referenced map, will no longer be subject to the management restrictions imposed by Section 603 of Pub. L. 94-579.

As a resource value, wilderness was inventoried and presence identified in the California Desert Conservation Area, in order that it be integrated and compared with other resources in development of the California Desert Plan required by Section 601(d) of Pub. L. 94-579. Because this Section requires completion of the comprehensive, long-range management plan for the California Desert Conservation Area by September 30, 1980, the wilderness review for public lands within that Area was accelerated within the time requirements of Section 603, Pub. L. 94-579.

In order to determine specific roadless areas containing at least 5,000 acres of contiguous public lands, area boundaries were limited by rights-of-way, non-public ownerships, and existing roads (conforming to the BLM "road" definition as published in the BLM Wilderness Inventory Handbook, dated September 27, 1978). Within these inventoried areas, there frequently are a number of "ways" or trails which do not qualify within that definition as roads, although they may be used as routes of travel.

Within the listed Wilderness Study Areas are 11 Areas containing less than 5,000 acres of contiguous public lands. These particular Areas, however, met at least one of the following criteria: (1) contiguous with lands managed by another agency which have been formally determined to have wilderness or potential wilderness values; (2) received strong public support for study and demonstration that it is of sufficient size to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; or (3) contiguous with an area of less than 5,000 acres of other Federal lands adminis-

tered by an agency with authority to study and preserve wilderness lands, and the combined total is 5,000 acres or more.

The final designations listed herein as Wilderness Study Areas shall become effective April 30, 1979. For the purposes of this designation, each area is considered separable from every other area. Should any amendment to these designations be made by the BLM State Director, California, as a result of new information received following this publication, that amendment will be formally published in the Federal Register and will not become effective until 30 days following such publication. This 30-day extension will apply only to the amendment and not to the original designations.

Persons wishing to protest any of the Wilderness Study Area Designations or non-designations made herein shall have 30 days after the final designation of the State Director, California, is published in the Federal Register to file a written protest, which must specify the Area to which the protest is directed; must include a clear and concise statement of reasons for the protest; and, must furnish supporting data, with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825. The State Director, California, will render a written decision on any such protest so received.

Any person adversely affected by the State Director's decision on such written protest filed by such person may appeal such decision by following normal administrative procedures applicable to formal appeals to the Interior Board of Land Appeals which are published in 43 CFR Part 4.

Dated: March 20, 1979.  
 ED HASTEY,  
 State Director, California.  
 (FTR Doc. 79-9155 Filed 3-29-79; 8:45 am)

[4310-84-M]

NEARSHORE BEAUFORT SEA  
 Availability of Draft Environmental Statement  
 Regarding Proposed Federal-State Oil and  
 Gas Lease Sale

Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Department of the Interior has prepared a draft environmental statement (DES) relating to a proposed joint Federal-State of Alaska oil and gas lease sale of 186 tracts (208,091 hectares; 514,193 acres) in the nearshore Beaufort Sea. The tracts extend from the Canning River on the east to the Kuparuk River on the west and lie generally seaward from the



# United States Department of the Interior

1780  
(C-961.1)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
California Desert Plan Program  
3610 Central, Suite 402  
Riverside, California 92506

APR 26 1979

Inyo County Planning Office  
Drawer L  
Inyo County Courthouse  
Independence, California 93526

**RECEIVED**

APR 30 1979

INYO CO. PLANNING DEPT.

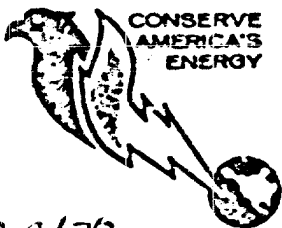
Dear Sirs:

We had an inquiry from your office regarding the distribution of Bristle Cone Pine in Wilderness Study Areas 117, 120 and 122. Enclosed are two maps, one showing the Wilderness Study Areas published by the BLM and the other the locations of Bristle Cone Pine on BLM lands in the Inyo Mountains; all are found in WSA 122. Some Bristle Cone Pine stands are also located in the Panamint Mountains.

Sincerely,

Hyrum B. Johnson  
Lead Range Conservationist

Enclosure



Save Energy and You Serve America!

B.G.170

115

A) The following areas contain small parcels with less than 5000 acres connected only by corners:

186C, 206, 217, 340

B) The following areas have parcels of less than 5000 acres:

160, 218

C) Area #172 contains known road access with roads capable of handling bus sized vehicles.

D) The following areas have existing mining claims in them which should not be included as potential wilderness areas, and raise questions as to whether the claim can be developed if a wilderness area is declared nearby:

132, 136, 137A, 149, 150A, 221A, 262, 265

E) The following areas lie adjacent to or surround existing mining claims and which may preclude or hinder development of them if adopted as wilderness areas:

149, 221A, 222, 325, 334, 348

F) The following areas contain portions which have extensive private land holdings within them. Declarations of these areas as wilderness would prevent access to these holdings, or close them to development due to air quality or other restrictions:

207, 242, 250, 251, 252, 256, 258, 258A, 259, 260, 263,  
271, 272, 274, 276, 288, 288A, 290, 294, 295, 299, 300,  
304, 304A, 305, 310



In the Rooms of the Board of Supervisors

County of Inyo, State of California

AUDITOR'S
PAGE
NO.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, held in their rooms at the Court House in Independence on the 3rd day of April, 1979, an order was duly made and entered as follows:

PLANNING - Wilderness Areas

Moved by Supervisor McDonald, seconded by Supervisor Johnson to direct the Planning Department to draw up a resolution opposing anymore land being designated Wilderness Area in Inyo County.

Motion carried unanimously.

as the same appears of record in my office.

APPROVED FOR ENTRY

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board

this 3rd day of April, 1979

MARGARET BROHLEY

County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of said Board.

Auditor.

By

*Kelli Hummer*

Deputy

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Referred *Agis*

CAO

DA

Other *And Plug*

Date *4/19/79*



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
STATE OFFICE  
Federal Office Building  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, California 95825

30

Mr. Richard McDonald, Chairman  
Inyo County Board of Supervisors  
Courthouse, P.O. Drawer F  
Independence, CA 93526

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Attached for your information is an advance copy of the map delineating Public Lands in the California Desert Conservation Area which have been inventoried for wilderness values as directed by Section 603 of FLPMA and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

This inventory has been completed, and I have designated Wilderness Study Areas as shown on the map. The Federal Register notice announcing this designation is scheduled for publication Friday, March 30, 1979. Copies of the enclosed map and an accompanying book which: (1) contains Descriptive Narratives applicable to each numbered area on this map; (2) lists the designated Wilderness Study Areas; and (3) describes the procedures to be followed in implementing the study phase of the wilderness review process on these designated areas; will be available to the general public on March 30, 1979. Copies of all documents will be sent to you as a routine matter on that date.

The wilderness review process on Public Lands within the California Desert Conservation Area began in April 1978, as an accelerated program in order to complete inventory of the wilderness resource within a time frame that would coordinate with completion of the California Desert Plan by September 30, 1980, as mandated by Section 601 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Sincerely yours,

*Ed Hastey*  
Ed Hastey  
State Director



Save Energy and You Serve America!

*Info 4-10-79*



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
 800 Truxtun Avenue, Room 311  
 Bakersfield, California 93301  
 Phone: (805) 861-4191

Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays APR 23 1979

Dear Citizens:

We are currently inventorying public lands outside of the California Desert Conservation Area to identify those which possess wilderness characteristics as defined in the Wilderness Act of 1964. The first step in this inventory process was to identify those lands which clearly and obviously do not have wilderness characteristics. These lands were identified by map and narratives published in March, 1979. Public meetings to explain the inventory process and to present these publications were held throughout the state at the end of March.

We are now soliciting specific information regarding the areas which are being intensively inventoried. We invite you to attend one of our upcoming open house sessions to provide information about the wilderness character of these public lands. If you will be unable to attend one of the sessions, we encourage you to submit your written comments to this office by May 29, 1979, or contact us for an appointment to meet with one of our wilderness specialists.

The open house sessions will be held at the following locations:

Bureau of Land Management  
 Bishop Resource Area Office  
 873 N. Main Street - Suite 201  
 Bishop, California 93514  
 May 9, 1979  
 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Bureau of Land Management  
 Bakersfield District Office  
 800 Truxtun Avenue - Room 311  
 Bakersfield, California 93301  
 May 10, 1979  
 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If you have not received a copy of the inventory maps and narratives, please contact this office so that your name can be placed on our mailing list.

Sincerely yours,

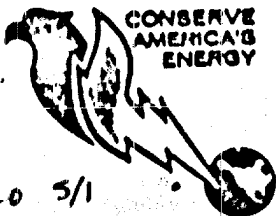
Louis A. Boll  
 District Manager

**RECEIVED**

APR 25 1979

MARGARET WILKINLEY  
 EX OFFICIO CLERK OF  
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CONSERVE  
 AMERICA'S  
 ENERGY



10-524

Document 41 - Page 1 of 1

Save Energy and You Serve America!

57

Info 5/1

In the Rooms of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Inyo, State of California

AUDITOR'S
PAGE
NO.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, held in their rooms at the Court House in Independence on the 8th day of May, 1979, an order was duly made and entered as follows:

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT/DESERT MAP

Moved by Supervisor McDonald, seconded by Supervisor Johnson to submit the Inyo County Tentative Desert Conservation Wilderness Map to the Bureau of Land Management subject to changes.

Motion carried unanimously.

as the same appears of record in my office.

APPROVED FOR ENTRY

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board

this 8th day of May, 1979

MARGARET BRIMLEY

County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of said Board.

Auditor.

By

*Glenda Lister*

Deputy

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Other Planing Dept

Date 5/14/79

RESOLUTION 79-40

A RESOLUTION ON CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION  
AREA INVENTORY AND STUDY PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 requires the preparation and completion of a comprehensive long range plan for the management, use, development and protection of the Public Lands within the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA); and

WHEREAS, the Wilderness Act of 1964 set the criteria for determining the roadless areas of Public Lands; and

WHEREAS, such acts could provide for hundreds of thousands of acres of Inyo County lands to be placed into a plan that could restrict the use of the land to a degree that would not allow for the multiple use concept of the resources of the area; and

WHEREAS, one very important desert resource which our nation is heavily dependent upon at present and will be even more dependent upon in the future are the minerals of the CDCA; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the CDCA could result in withdrawals of large areas from mineral exploration and development; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to designate industrial milling sites to process the mineral resources of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Nation needs to know the extent and location of land that can produce food, feed, fiber, forage, oil seed and alternate energy supply crops; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has directed the U.S. Soil Conservation Service to be concerned about any action that tends to impair the productive capacity of American agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Soil Conservation Service should conduct studies to identify potential agricultural land and set aside this land for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, a method should be developed whereby this potential agricultural land will be returned to the production of food, feed, fiber, forage, oilseed and alternate energy supply crops and to the tax rolls of the County; and

WHEREAS, land currently being used as rangeland should continue to be used for production of livestock as well as good

WHEREAS, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors recognize some sites within Inyo County that could be devoted to a "wilderness" use, those places being the Pyramid Peak area and Brown Peak area as depicted in the accompanying Inyo County Map; and

WHEREAS, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors recognize that the Eureka Valley Area as depicted in the above mentioned map be considered National Park status, with an improved road granting access to the Eureka Sand Dunes from the Death Valley Road as well as keeping the Eureka Valley-Saline Valley corridor open in a primitive state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors' position on the CDCA as stated in Resolution 78-111 on September 27, 1978 will be superceded by this new resolution which is intended to be in the spirit of compromise from a position of "no new wilderness" to a position of recognizing certain new wilderness areas in the County that do qualify for wilderness status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors go on record as supporting a California Desert Plan that will recognize the need to keep the California Desert Area open to exploration, development and processing of mineral resources, as well as the development of agriculture, of which are so vital to the continued well being of our nation.

Passed and adopted this 15th day of May, 1979.

ATTEST: MARGARET BROMLEY,  
County Clerk

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
*[Handwritten signatures]*  
Date: 5/16/1979

The foregoing Resolution 79-110 was duly passed and adopted by the Inyo County Board of Supervisors at a regular meeting thereof held on May 15, 1979 1979, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Dick B. Engel, William Muth, Bernard B. Dunbar, & B. Lewis

NOES: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: Y. E. Johnson

Attest: Dick B. Engel  
Chairman



County of  
INYO

## PLANNING COMMISSION

Drawer L • INDEPENDENCE • CALIFORNIA 93526 • (714) 878-2411 (Ext. 318)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
OCTOBER 23, 1979

Re: Inyo County Planning Commission Recommendations  
Regarding Draft California Desert Plan

### BACKGROUND:

The formulation process of the Conservation and Open Space Elements has involved compiling and analyzing the environmental and resource data developed by the California Desert Planning Staff of BLM where applicable.

The Planning Department under direction of the Board of Supervisors has concurrently developed a map of recommended classification designations based upon the BLM classification system in order to present the County views to the California Desert Planning Staff. The map has been presented to the public at four citizen advisory committee meetings for citizen input.

The Planning Commission reviewed the Inyo County Recommendation Map and Resource Maps at their October 10, 1979 workshop.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Planning Commission has determined that Inyo County already has a large percentage of the County designated as wilderness. It was decided to acquiesce some and propose Pyramid Peak, Brown Peak and Eureka Valley as wilderness areas.

It is recommended that a road corridor should extend through the Eureka Valley wilderness area to Saline Valley. County Road 2049-South Eureka Valley Road should have a one mile wide corridor with a class "M" classification. It is the Commission's opinion that two wilderness classifications are unnecessary and can possibly cause confusion to the public.

In those areas exhibiting sensitive and/or valuable environmental resources, it is recommended that the multiple use management tool known as "Area of Critical Environmental Concern" (ACEC) be implemented. This management program can provide environmental protection while still allowing mining, grazing, or other uses, provided they are written in the management prescription.

The remainder of the desert portion of the County was recommended for classes M, I or land subject to possible divestment. This is due to the area having mineral resources, grazing resources, areas important to economic development and/or community expansion.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Commission feels that it is appropriate for the Board of Supervisors to consider adopting a resolution supporting this locally-developed alternative. The map should be forwarded to the California Desert Planning Staff for their review and comment. It is further recommended that this alternative be sent to all representatives of State and Federal Government legislative bodies as well as to BLM Headquarters in Washington, D.C. and the Secretary of the Interior for their review and comment.

GB:d1m

Encl. County of Inyo Recommendation Map  
Recommended "Areas of Critical Environmental Concern"  
and recommended management prescription  
Workshop of October 10, 1979, Summary; including two motions.





## PLANNING COMMISSION

Drawer L • INDEPENDENCE • CALIFORNIA 93526 • (714) 878-2411 (Ext. 318)

WORKSHOP OF OCTOBER 10, 1979

### SUMMARY

In this discussion on the BLM Draft California Desert Plan, Mr. Gerry Budlong advised the Commission that Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) requires that BLM be consistent with local jurisdictions, where feasible. Therefore, it is necessary that an Open Space and Conservation Element be adopted so the Board of Supervisors can seek a consistency with BLM plans.

There were three alternative BLM Desert Conservation maps presented at the workshop: 1) balanced concept; 2) use oriented alternative and 3) protection oriented. Mr. Budlong reviewed these maps outlining mining, grazing and geo-thermal areas which would also be affected by these findings. He went on to discuss the flora and fauna throughout the County.

There was considerable debate regarding Mr. Budlong's recommendation that Eureka Valley be offered for national park status. It was the general consensus of the Commission that aside from the Eureka Sand Dunes that there was not much else to be appreciated in the area for a national park. The idea of a one-way access from Saline Valley to Eureka Valley was rejected as unenforcable and unrealistic for the amount of recreational use at present. Commissioner Gracey requested Mr. Budlong to set the boundaries for the area using natural features as much as possible. It was therefore decided to acquiese a little bit and offer Eureka Valley as a wilderness area to BLM instead of a national park along with a road corridor for access to Eureka Valley from Saline Valley.

MOTION: "Moved by Commissioner Gracey, seconded by Commissioner Jarvis, that the Planning Commission revise the Eureka Valley National Park proposal of the map to a proposed wilderness area with Gerry Budlong to have the option to make it with definable natural features. A road corridor shall extend through the Eureka Valley wilderness area to Saline Valley. County Road 2049-South Eureka Valley Road shall have a one mile wide corridor with a class "M" land classification. The road from the Sand Dunes to Saline Valley is to be delineated as a passable primitive road."

Motion carried. (4-0) Commissioner Sorrels was absent at this workshop.

MOTION: "Moved by Commissioner Gracey, seconded by Commissioner Jarvis, that the Planning Commission does not want any more wilderness being established in the Benton-Owens Valley BLM Land Use Plan."

Motion carried. (4-0)

A RESOLUTION OF THE INYO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON INYO COUNTY'S ALTERNATIVE TO THE CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN

WHEREAS, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 requires the preparation and completion of a comprehensive long range plan for the management, use, development and protection of the Public Lands within the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA); and

WHEREAS, the Wilderness Act of 1964 set the criteria for determining the roadless areas of Public Lands; and

WHEREAS, such acts could provide for hundreds of thousands of acres of Inyo County lands to be placed into a plan that could restrict the use of the land to a degree that would not allow for the multiple use concept of the resources of the area; and

WHEREAS, one very important desert resource which our nation is heavily dependent upon at present and will be even more dependent upon in the future are the minerals of the CDCA; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the CDCA Plan could result in withdrawals of large areas from mineral exploration and development; and

WHEREAS, the CDCA Plan will prohibit electric power plant development on vast areas of public lands; the prohibition also includes geothermal power plant development; and

WHEREAS, the Nation should not place development restrictions on land that can potentially produce food, feed, fiber, forage, oil seed and alternate energy supply crops; and

WHEREAS, land currently being used as rangeland should continue to be used for production of livestock; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the CDCA Plan could result in withdrawals of large areas from potentially future agricultural production and development; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the CDCA land classification identified as "Class L" Limited Use is in fact a generic wilderness classification, and therefore should be eliminated from the proposed CDCA Land Classification system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CDCA Plan be consistent with the attached "County of Inyo RECOMMENDATION MAP" and "RECOMMENDED AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN AND RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION."

PASSED AND ADOPTED on the 23rd day of October, 1979 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Engel, Johnson and McDonald

NOES: Supervisor Irwin

ABSENT: Supervisor Muth

ATTEST: MARGARET BROMLEY,  
County Clerk

By *Billi G. Heiman*  
Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Refered *Copies*

CAO *✓*

DA \_\_\_\_\_

Other *file, Aud, Plan, B&M,*

Date *10/26/79*

*St. Rep. (H)*



United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1608(202)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

Ms. Margaret Bromley  
County Clerk  
Inyo County Board of Supervisors  
Court House  
Independence, California 93526

NOV 15 1979

Dear Ms. Bromley:

Thank you for your resolution No. 79-120 regarding the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA).

Your resolution and alternative to the CDCA plan have been sent to our California Desert Planning Office for their use in preparing the CDCA plan. If it is too late to fully consider your proposal in the development of the draft plan, it will be fully considered in the development of the final plan.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Deputy Director for Lands  
and Resources

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1979

MARGARET BROMLEY  
EX OFFICIO CLERK OF  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY

DEPUTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Returned to press

CAO ✓

CA ✓

Other Supervisor, Planning, Press

Date 11/19/79

Info 11/28



United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO  
8500

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

RECEIVED

STATE OFFICE  
Federal Office Building

2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, California 95825

JAN 14 1980

December 28, 1979

MARGARET M. V. LLEY  
EX OFFICIO CLERK OF  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dear Citizen: DEPUTY

California's Intensive Wilderness Inventory outside the California Desert Conservation Area including approximately 3,206,000 acres of public land has been completed. The enclosed Final Intensive Inventory Report, December, 1979 presents our findings on the 323 inventory units involved.

I wish to personally thank you for your past interest and participation in this program. Our current mailing list contains about 6,000 individuals and organizations each of which is being sent a copy of this report.

On map 01-M the notation "deferred" should have been included with the label for inventory unit CA-010-105. The text is correct for this area. For all of the interstate inventory units for which a decision has been deferred a draft joint decision will be mailed out for public review and comment in the spring of 1980.

These inventory findings become final on February 5, 1980. Protests may be submitted on specific inventory unit findings contained in the attached report as provided on page 9. We have delayed the protest period until after the holidays in the hope you will have more time for reviewing our report. The 30 day period for filing such protests is January 7, 1980, through February 5, 1980. Protests received after February 5, 1980, which are postmarked on or before the 5th will be accepted.

Because of the importance of the next phase of the Bureau's Wilderness Program I want to call your special attention to pages 12 and 13 of this report. The study phase will develop the Bureau's final recommendations on the wilderness suitability of each Wilderness Study Area. This decision will be the basis of the Bureau's wilderness recommendations to the Secretary of Interior, President and Congress.



Save Energy and You Serve America

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
CALIFORNIA  
Other: [Signature]

Document 47 - Page 1 of 3 36

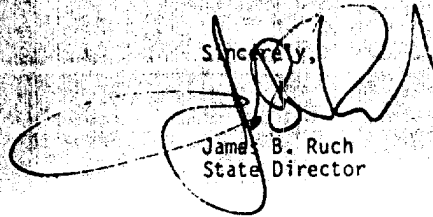
tion 1/22

The significance of the land use decisions being made in this phase necessitates consideration of significant resource tradeoffs. I would appreciate your continued participation in order to assure full analysis of all known resource considerations during these studies.

A copy of The Bureau's "Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review" is enclosed for your information. This policy will guide Bureau actions in wilderness study areas until such time as Congress acts on the recommendations for each area.

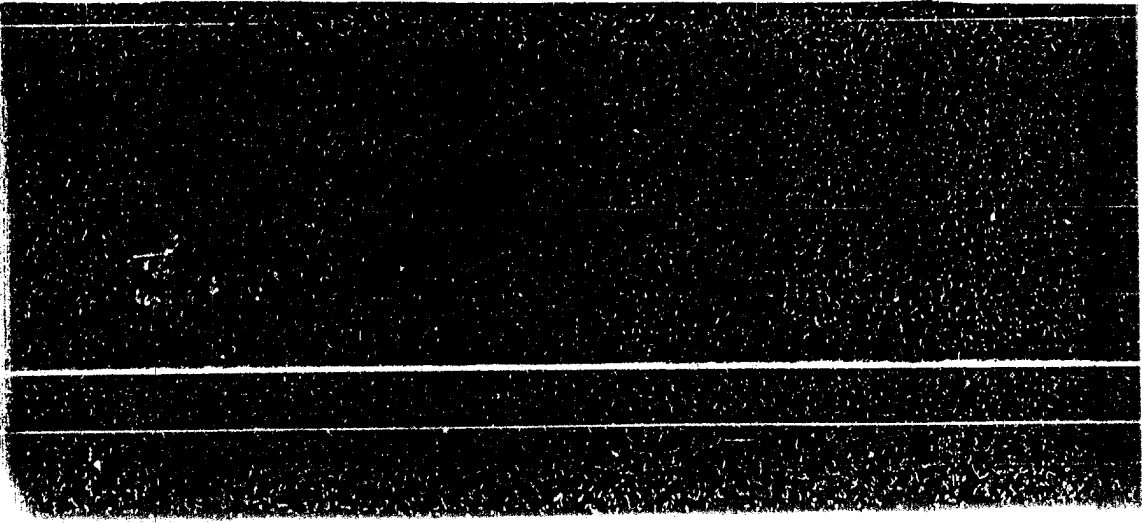
Thank you for your continued participation in California's Wilderness Program.

Sincerely,



James B. Ruch  
State Director

Enclosure:  
California's Final Intensive Inventory Report, December 1979  
Interim Management Policy and Guidelines, December 1979



In the Rooms of the Board of Supervisors

County of Inyo, State of California

AUDITOR'S
PAGE
NO.

I HEREBY CERTIFY That at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, held in their rooms at the Court House in Independence on the 4th day of March 19 80 an order was duly made and entered as follows:

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - California Desert Plan

Moved by Supervisor McDonald, seconded by Supervisor Muth to direct the Planning Commission and Planning Staff to determine the best way in which to proceed with responding to the Bureau of Land Management California Desert Plan, and return to the Board with their recommendation.

Motion carried unanimously.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Board as the same appears of record in my office. this 4th day of March, 19 80

APPROVED FOR ENTRY

MARGARET BROMLEY

County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of said Board.

Auditor. By

Margaret Vaugier Deputy

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County of  
INYO

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Drawer L • INDEPENDENCE • CALIFORNIA 93526 • (714) 878-2411 (Ext. 318)  
PLANNING DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #18 CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION PLAN  
APRIL 23, 1980

### BACKGROUND:

In 1973 an environmental organization called the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), filed suit in Federal Court to require BLM to prepare regional site specific Environmental Impact Statements for grazing management decisions covered in grazing allotment management plans.

In December 1974 the Federal Court ruled in favor of NRDC. The court ordered BLM to prepare a series of regional Environmental Impact Statements for all grazing management plans rather than a national one. BLM was given a deadline of September 30, 1988 to complete the court mandate. The purpose of the court ruling is to have grazing management plans based upon local range and ecological conditions rather than one general national plan.

Congress passed the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). This act designated a seven county desert management area to be known as the "California Desert Conservation Area" (CDCA).

The purpose of the CDCA is to provide for both the immediate and future protection and administration of BLM administered lands and the formulation of a general plan which would insure multiple use of lands, sustained yield of resources and to insure environmental quality. This plan will not be subject to Congressional review or approval. Final approval of the CDCA plan is the responsibility of the Secretary of the Interior. Congress has declared the plan implementation is to be initiated by September 30, 1980.

Congress further mandated in FLPMA that the Secretary of the Interior shall review those roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more of BLM administered lands identified during a Wilderness Inventory Study by 1991. The Secretary will submit Wilderness recommendations to Congress. Congress will then make the final determination on any further additions of wilderness to the National Wilderness System.

The creation of FLPMA by Congress did not eliminate the NRDC Federal Court Order of 1974. As a result, the California Desert Plan has to fulfill the court order too. However, the CDCA has to fulfill the court mandate 8 years earlier than the rest of the United States.



BLM implemented FLPMA first by implementing the California Desert Vehicle Program. This program is a temporary management program which has designated which land is open and closed to vehicles.

BLM then created a multidisciplinary team of environmental scientists, geologists, archaeologists and resource inventory professionals. The purpose of this team was to inventory the resources of the CDCA. Upon completion of this inventory a professional planning team was to develop a plan based upon the inventoried data. In the meantime, the planning team performed a Wilderness Inventory Study on the CDCA.

COUNTY INVOLVEMENT:

FLPMA mandates that BLM coordinate their planning activities with those of other Federal agencies, and State and local governments. Land Use Plans of BLM are to be consistent with State and local plans to the "maximum extent the Secretary of the Interior finds consistent with Federal law and purposes of FLPMA."

As a result of this Congressional mandate, Inyo County Officials and Staff have coordinated the County General Plan revisions with the CDCA Staff.

CALIFORNIA DESERT PLAN LAND CLASSES, PLAN ELEMENTS AND ACEC's:

The CDCA Staff has been placed in an unenviable position of coordinating two Congressional mandates and one Federal Court Order. In addition they had to coordinate with many Federal and State agencies; including all military branches of service, seven County Governments, many city governments and still satisfy public participation requirements.

DESCRIPTION OF CDCA PLAN:

The draft CDCA Plan is composed of four alternatives:

1. Protection
2. Balanced
3. Use
4. No Action

The CDCA was divided into irregular 30 to 400 square mile geographic areas called "Polygons". Inyo County is composed of 31 polygons.

Then there are four multiple use classes with guidelines. These classes are a type of "Zoning". These classes are defined as follows:

Class C (Controlled Use) in a class designed to preserve and protect wilderness values.

Class L (Limited Use) is a class designed to provide low intensity multiple use of resources.

that can carefully be controlled to insure that environmental and resource values are protected and preserved.

Class M (Moderate Use) is designed to provide a wide range of present and future uses including mining, grazing, etc. Policies are designed to conserve desert resources and mitigate damage to these resources by permitted uses.

Class I (Intensive) is designed to permit the use of lands and resources to meet consumptive needs with reasonable mitigation while still maintaining sensitivity to environmental and resource values.

Superimposed upon all of the land classes discussed above are 9 plan elements. Each element also has 4 alternatives; Protection, Balanced, Use and No Action. A Plan Element is designed to provide more detail on specific management guidance. The 9 elements are:

1. Cultural Resources/Native American Values
2. Recreation
3. Wilderness
4. Motorized Vehicle Access
5. Energy Production Utility Corridors
6. Mineral Exploration and Development
7. Livestock Grazing/Wild Horse and Burro Management
8. Wildlife
9. Land Tenure Adjustment

In addition to the Land Classes and Plan Elements is the inclusion of "Areas of Critical Environmental Concern" (ACEC). Inyo County has 8 proposed ACEC's. ACEC's are special management areas where a site specific management plan is designed to protect and preserve important environmental or resource values.

LAND CLASS DISTRIBUTION IN INYO COUNTY BY ALTERNATIVE:

The CDCA plan is composed of four alternatives, the summary of each alternative is discussed below:

The Planning Staff reviewed that portion of the CDCA that is located only within the boundaries of Inyo County. We refer to this study area as "area" throughout the remainder of this report.

- I. PROTECTION ALTERNATIVE-This plan is designed to the maximum preservation of natural and environmental resources with emphasis on protecting fragile resource values. Use and production will only be allowed at levels that do not risk the diminishment of the above resources.
  - A. The "C" and "L" land classification cover more that 99% of the area. These combined classifications cover an area about 25% larger than Death Valley National Monument (inside Inyo County's borders).
  - B. The "M" and "I" classifications cover less than 1% of the area.
- II. BALANCED ALTERNATIVE-This plan is designed as a compromise between the Protection Alternative and Use Alternative.
  - A. The "C" classification has been reduced by more than double.
  - B. The "L" classification is the majority zone.
  - C. The combined "C" and "L" classifications still cover about 80% of the area or approx. the size of Death Valley National Monument.
  - D. The combined M & I classifications make up only about 20% of the area. The I classification is only about 1% of the area.
- III. USE ALTERNATIVE-This plan is designed to give the minimum environmental protection levels BLM is willing to recommend and still permit the highest degree of use and production of natural resources.
  - A. The "C" classification has been reduced to about 15% of the area.
  - B. The "L" classification has been reduced to about 35% of the area.
  - C. The combined "C" and "L" classifications still amounts to the equivalent area equal to about 75% of Death Valley National Monument.
  - D. The M & I classifications have been expanded to about 50% of the area.
- IV. NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE-This plan is really the current 1976 California Desert Vehicle Program.
  - A. No class "C" land classification.
  - B. Class "L" amounts to 25% of the area.
  - C. Class "L" still amounts to about  $\frac{1}{2}$  the size of Death

D. Classes M & I make up about 75% of the area.

IMPACT OF CDCA PLANS ON INYO COUNTY

GENERAL IMPACTS OF PROTECTION, BALANCED AND USE ALTERNATIVES:

1. The potential of solar and wind energy installations may be prohibited on potential sites. Further study is suggested by Staff.
2. The prohibitions regarding access of motorized vehicles in Classes "C" and "L" can severely impact mining, grazing, recreation, religion, and scientific study.
3. The Wild horse and Burro Element has certain management areas that can impact adversely rare, endangered, sensitive plants and animals, range ecosystems, livestock economy, game populations such as major wintering deer herds, upland game, and in some cases are in conflict with National Park Service and China Lake Naval Weapons Center Policies.
4. The Energy Production Utility Corridors Element portrays the future siting of 46% of the potential power plant sites in Mexico rather than California. We question the investment and placement of power plants for domestic consumption in a foreign country.
5. Some proposed policies could deny the beneficial use of water in many localities where construction of recharge basins, dikes, etc. would be prohibited.
6. There is no policy addressing hazards that present a risk to humans, such as abandoned concentrations of mining shafts on public lands.

PROTECTION ALTERNATIVE IMPACTS

1. Mining will be prohibited except for existing valid rights which may be allowed, in 86% of the polygons or portions of them.
2. Mining of uranium or other industrial radioactive minerals are prohibited in 90% of the polygons or portions of them, except for valid rights which may be allowed.
3. Geothermal energy exploration and production is prohibited.
4. Policies regarding grazing in wilderness areas could result in elimination of livestock use on 86% of the polygons having public range capable of livestock grazing (primarily because of access, fencing and water).
5. Agricultural other than grazing is prohibited.

6. The Protection Alternative through the Land Tenure Adjustment Element plans to acquire private property. The result, this plan could result in a loss of 25% to 30% of the total private property in Inyo County. Also as much as 170,000 acres of State school lands could be lost through the State trading those lands for federal holdings outside of Inyo County.

#### BALANCED ALTERNATIVE IMPACTS

1. Mining will be prohibited except for existing valid rights which may be allowed, in 31% of the polygons or portions of them.
2. Mining of uranium or other industrial radioactive minerals will be prohibited in 33% of the polygons or portions of them, except for valid rights which may be allowed.
3. Geothermal Energy exploration and production will be allowed in five potential areas and prohibited in eight areas or portions of areas.
4. Policies regarding grazing in wilderness areas could result in the elimination of livestock use on 24% of the polygons having public range capable of livestock grazing (primarily because of access, fencing and water).
5. Agriculture other than grazing will be prohibited in seven areas and permitted in three areas on suitable lands.
6. The Land Tenure Adjustment Element could result in a loss of possibly 25% of the total private property in Inyo County and possibly as much as 150,000 acres of State owned land.

#### USE ALTERNATIVE IMPACTS

1. Mining will be prohibited except for existing valid rights on 19% of portions of polygons.
2. Uranium mining not impacted; the only deposit affected in Inyo County is located at Eureka Sand Dunes, this area is already closed to mining.
3. Geothermal energy and production is prohibited within polygon 42. Geothermal production is permitted, except on steep sloping mountainous areas.
4. Grazing is not impacted.
5. Agriculture is only prohibited in polygon 42.

6. Land Tenure Adjustment Element could result in the acquisition of private property generally limited to patented mining claims. There could be as much as 30,000 to 35,000 acres of State land which would be acquired by BLM.

#### NO ACTION IMPACT

1. Management in the Searles Valley and Indian Wells Valley would be similar to the Protection and Balanced Alternatives with extensive "Class L" that would restrict land use activities.
2. There may be unresolved conflicts between mining, grazing, and recreation due to resource planning being eliminated in favor of the California Desert Vehicle Program.
3. The burro and wild horse over-grazing would continue.
4. The Wilderness Study Program mandated by Congress under FLPMA Section 603(a) would continue because Congress has mandated a Wilderness Study Program to be completed by 1991.
5. Studies and an EIS on a regional grazing management plan with a September 30, 1988 deadline would still be mandated by a Federal Court Order.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. The BLM has asked Inyo County to evaluate this plan for consistency with our adopted plans and policies.
2. The BLM has asked the public to review the plan and address comments as specific as possible.

The BLM suggests for review purposes to indicate page numbers or map references, with the focus on accuracy of facts and validity of the analysis presented.

The final opportunity for protesting the plan will be after the final proposed plan and EIS is submitted for public review. BLM has allowed only a 30 day public review period for the County to issue final comments of the plan. The Staff is of the opinion that this review period is too short a time period. This plan is a very large complicated document which takes time to review properly. In addition the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors need an adequate time period to hear staff and public recommendations and make the final determinations and draft a final response.

The County will have an opportunity to file a protest but only on the issues presented during the BLM planning process. The protest will be reviewed during a 60 day review process.

The Plan will be implemented afterward by BLM not Congress (No Congressional review will occur). The only responsibility Congress will have is the final decision on whether to create new wilderness areas in Inyo County.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Include the above mentioned "IMPACTS OF CDCA PLAN ON INYO COUNTY" in the body of comments to BLM.
2. Send BLM the Draft Conservation and Open Space Element Maps developed by the Planning Department and Citizen Committee.
3. The County should oppose the Protection Alternative.
4. The County should oppose the Balanced Alternative.
5. The County should recommend the Use Alternative as a base where recommendation will be added to it through a polygon by polygon approach.

The recommendations are as follows:

POLYGON #1-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".

POLYGON #2-No recommendations to be added

POLYGON #3-Black Toad Habitat should be an ACEC Overlay

POLYGON #4-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M", with an ACEC Overlay on Inyo Mountains which is habitat vital for Bighorn Sheep.

POLYGON #5-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M" with an ACEC Overlay to manage range for both cattle and winter range for Mule Deer.

POLYGON #6-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M". Recommend keeping the Wilderness; but with a oneway north-bound corridor between sand dunes and Saline Valley.

POLYGON #7-No recommendations except for oneway corridors

POLYGON #8-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M" and ACEC Overlay at Sand Springs to protect rare and endangered plants. Also an ACEC Overlay to manage both cattle grazing and winter range for Mule Deer.

- POLYGON #9-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".  
An ACEC should be established at Warm Springs to permit continued recreational use of hot springs with only primitive camping allowed as is present use.
- POLYGON #10-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M" and an ACEC Overlay should be established for Beverage Canyon, Hunter Canyon and Bristle Cone Pine Forest.
- POLYGON #11-Eliminate Class "C" only in Talc deposit areas.
- POLYGON #12-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".  
An ACEC should be established in Salt water and fresh water marsh to protect this rare ecosystem. An ACEC should be established to manage game populations of deer and upland game birds. Also to manage Bighorn Sheep herds and wild horses and burros and still permit grazing of livestock.
- POLYGON #13-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".
- POLYGON #14-No recommendations.
- POLYGON #15-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M" with an ACEC Overlay.
- POLYGON #16-Eliminate Black Springs ACEC.
- POLYGON #17-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".
- POLYGON #18-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".
- POLYGON #23-No recommendations need to be added.
- POLYGON #24-No recommendations need to be added.
- POLYGON #25-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".  
We recommend the establishment of three more ACEC's in Panamint Mountains with County boundaries of Environmental Resource Areas' (ERA) on Map 5.
- POLYGON #26-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".  
Establish an ACEC for the Great Falls Basin to have consistent boundaries with the ERA on Map 5.
- POLYGON #42-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Funeral Mountains Wilderness as shown in Balanced Element with the two existing mining areas on the north slope of the Funerals being excluded from the wilderness area. Eliminate remainder of Class "L" with Class "M".  
Establish a "Natural Area" for the Ash Meadows Wildhorse herd.



POLYGON #43-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".  
Establish a "Natural Area" for the Ash  
Meadows Wild Horse Herd.

POLYGON #44-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".  
Establish a "Natural Area" for Eagle  
Mountain and the Ash Meadows Wild Horse  
Herd. Exclude the Zeolite deposits from  
the boundaries of the "Natural Area".

POLYGON #45-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "C" for  
the northern half and Class "M" for the  
southern half.

POLYGON #46-Eliminate Class "L" in favor of Class "M".

POLYGON #47-No recommendations need to be added.

POLYGON #48-Eliminate Class "C" in favor with Class "M"  
with the Class "M" having an ACEC Overlay.

POLYGON #49-Establish the entire Amargosa Canyon south  
of Tecopa as an ACEC. Eliminate Class "L"  
in favor of Class "M".

POLYGON #50-Recommend the establishment of a 1,500  
acre to 2,000 acre ACEC in the higher  
elevations of the Kingston Mountains in  
Inyo County in order to manage the  
Bighorn Sheep and Mule Deer populations.

6. We recommend the County not support or oppose the No  
Action Alternative, because the alternative is the current  
1976 California Desert Vehicle Program which was established  
quickly without any consideration of resource use planning.
7. Oppose the Land Tenure Adjustment Element; all alternatives.

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