

Basic form letter, sent
out to all countries

Target Date April 5th

Basic intent to continue
on as before. BLM will
be respond by April 5th
with a proposal to
Digo as to which
amendments they will
support.



United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

1600
(C-064.05)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
California Desert District
1695 Spruce Street
Riverside, California 92507

RECEIVED

MAR 21 1982

INYO CO. PLANNING DEPT.

Ted Hilton, Planning Director
Inyo County
Courthouse
Independence, CA 93526

	Planning Dir.	
	Roger DeHart	
✓	Gerry Budlong	imb
	FILE	
	Other	

MAR 29 1982

Dear Mr. Hilton: *Ted*

The 1982 review of the California Desert Plan is underway. Requests for amendments will be accepted through May 17, 1982.

One of the goals of the amendment process is to achieve consistency with county plans and objectives (general plans) within the confines of Federal law and the purposes of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. To this purpose, Mark Lawrence and Alden Sievers, Area Managers of the Ridgecrest and Barstow Resource Areas, respectively, met with you and your staff on March 15 to discuss the amendment procedure. If you desire further consultation, our Planning and Environmental Coordination staff will be happy to meet with you.

In presenting amendment proposals, the county should submit the following information:

- (1) The County Board of Supervisors must approve of the proposal.
- (2) The county must show how it has been, is, or will be adversely affected by the plan(s) or parts thereof.
- (3) The county must show how the proposed amendment is necessary.

In addition, the following criteria will be considered by the BLM in evaluating proposals:

- (1) Is the supporting detail sufficient and the problem clearly stated so that the request can be considered?
- (2) Does the information represent a formal change in State or local government or agency plans?
- (3) Does the information represent a change in legal or regulatory mandate?

If three or more amendments are proposed to either plan, please rank them according to their relative importance. The Multiple Use Advisory Council

will consider the priorities of the suggested amendments at its meeting on June 3 and 4, 1982. In the event that the number of proposed amendments exceeds the funding and staffing capabilities of the Bureau to conduct the required environmental analyses, the Council will set priorities for the amendments to be considered.

A sample amendment application is enclosed with this letter to assist you in presenting your proposals. Development of this form followed your helpful suggestion that we have a format. It isn't required, however, that you use this form, and you may wish to augment it. Please send proposals to the following address by May 17, 1982.

*Thank
you
for the
idea -
- -
H*

1982 Amendments
Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
1695 Spruce Street
Riverside, California 92507

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Hillier
District Manager

Enclosure

cc:
Wilma Muth
Dennis Meyers
AM, Barstow
AM, Ridgecrest

United States Department of the Interior

1600 (C-065)



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Ridgecrest Resource Area
1415A North Norma Street
Ridgecrest, California 93555

RECEIVED

APR 14 1982

INYO CO. PLANNING DEPT.

Planning Dir.	
Roger DeHart	
Gerry Budlong	
FILE	
Other	

APR 13 1982

Mr. Ted Hilton, Director
Inyo County Planning Department
Drawer L
Independence, California 93526

Dear Ted:

In response to our telephone conversation of April 2, 1982, the following is a summary of my recommendations concerning the California Desert Plan:

I recommend that plan amendment proposals be presented for the following:

1. Opening the Panamint Dunes to vehicle use.
2. Designating Little Sand Springs as an ACEC.
3. Changing the use class for trash dumps in Class L to Class M.

Areas where I feel plan amendments are not needed since they can be considered in other administrative processes or reviews are:

ACEC Guidelines

The Eureka Dunes and Surprise Canyon ACEC plans are presently in rough draft and copies will be sent to you in the near future for review and comments. Future ACEC plans to be written in Inyo County will be discussed with you prior to preparation in order to consider your comments and concerns during plan development.

Road Identification and Access

This will be considered during our route designation process in Inyo County which will include input from an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee of local citizens, coordination with the County, and public input and review. Maps of county recommended routes have already been sent to us by Harold Callahan, Public Works Director, and will be used in this

process. If funding and manpower permit, this process should be completed in Fiscal Year 1983.

Saline Corridor

The corridor was provided for in the Final Desert Plan, and management and use will be reviewed during the wilderness report phase.

New Transmission Lines

New electric lines are allowed for in accordance with the multiple use guidelines in the Final Desert Plan.

We will look forward to meeting with you on Friday, April 16, 1982 at 9:00 a.m. - noon to discuss and develop plan amendment proposals. Personnel from our Barstow office are also planning to attend. If you should have any questions prior to this meeting, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Steve Smith
for Mark E. Lawrence
Area Manager

cc:
DM, CD
AM, Barstow RA



County of
INYO

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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

May 4, 1982

Ken Moore
Barstow Area Office, BLM
831 Barstow Road
Barstow, CA 93211

Dear Ken:

Enclosed is the unofficial comments from the Planning Department concerning the preliminary Draft Management Plan/Amargosa River/Grimshaw Lake ACEC for your consideration. We are also enclosing a couple of base maps of Shoshone and Tecopa for your agencies' use.

We have reserved the Charles Brown auditorium at Shoshone High School on May 19, 1982 at 7:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

Ted Hilton
Planning Director


Gerry Budlong
Associate Planner

GB/ih



County of
INYO

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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

May 3, 1982

DRAFT

Barstow Area Office, BLM
831 Barstow Road
Barstow, CA 93211

Subject: Preliminary Draft Management Plan/Amargosa River/Grimshaw Lake ACEC

Thank you for giving this Department an opportunity to comment on the preliminary Draft Management Plan of the Amargosa River/Grimshaw Lake ACEC.

We have reviewed the plan and we submit the following comment for your consideration:

The plan and EIS does not adequately address the 40 acre parcel of Public Water Resource in Section 33, T21N, R7E. To date we perceive three conflicting use alternatives (not counting combinations) can be identified for this parcel. The BLM should discuss the various use alternatives and their environmental impacts and select a preferred BLM alternative.

"ALTERNATIVE 1": Could be the existing unauthorized primitive RV campground known as "Dodge City". This use exists as an alternative camping area (free use) to both the County campground and Commercial RV parks at Tecopa Hot Springs.

"ALTERNATIVE 2": Could be the proposed Senior Citizen Mobilehome Park and Assembly Hall. Currently, representatives of the Senior Citizens have contacted various BLM, State and County agencies in seeking aid to construct this facility. We feel the ACEC Management Plan should address the park, sewer systems and water system as well as the environmental impacts.

"ALTERNATIVE 3": Could be the maintenance and preservation of the area as a public water reserve with a management prescription to protect the water resources of the area.

Our second comment regards the Tecopa Heights Community; a former BLM Small Tract Section 10, T20N, R7E. Our office has identified approximately 290 acres of Public Land that should stay in BLM administration because of various planning, environmental and safety reasons. Our office has also identified 5 acres for Cemetery use and 58 acres for future residential use. We are enclosing a detailed map of Tecopa that will better illustrate the location of our concerns.

We also recommend that the boundaries of the ACEC on pages 14 and 25 be redrafted. We suggest the boundaries be drawn on a base map that shows land status.

Our last comment concerns a land trade program. We suggest the BLM consider a program where wetlands (sensitive) in private holdings could be acquired in exchange for BLM lands that are developable (non-sensitive).

We have no further comments for the rest of the ACEC Management Plan for the Amargosa River. If you have questions regarding our comments, please contact this office.

DRAFT

12.48

NOTIFICATION FROM THE MEETING OF May 4, 1982 INYO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

TO: PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- 1. The Board concurred to agree with the California Desert Plan amendment process which has been proposed by the B.L.M., concurred to continue pursuing Inyo County's amendment process to the plan, and continue to pursue the lawsuit against the B.L.M. regarding the plan. The Board also stated that they are encouraged by the B.L.M.'s current attitude, and that they are optimistic that the County may be able to drop the lawsuit against the B.L.M. Desert Plan due the this new attitude.

RECEIVED

MAY 07 1982

INYO CO. PLANNING DEPT.

Document 83 - Page 1 of 1

I, Kelli Herman, Deputy Clerk, hereby declare that 1 copy of the foregoing Notification was delivered this day, May 4, 1982, to the Planning Dept.

DATE: May 4, 1982

Kelli Herman

NOTIFICATION FROM THE MEETING OF 05/18/82 INYO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

TO: PLANNING DIRECTOR

The Board directed the Planning Director to lend moral support to the proposed amendments from Eugene Spencer & Rita Krucker requesting the County support their request to have the California Desert Plan amended so that the upper part of Pleasant Canyon, east of Clair Camp is designated Multiple Use Class I rather than Multiple Use Class L to be less restrictive to mining in the area, when he attends a hearing to be held in Ridgecrest in June to discuss amendments to the Desert Plan.

RECEIVED

JUN 01 1982

INYO CO. PLANNING DEPT.

Document 84 - Page 1 of 1

I, Roberta Carter, Deputy Clerk, hereby declare that 1 copy of the foregoing Notification was delivered this day, May 28, 1982, to the Planning Director.

DATE: 5/29/82

Roberta Carter



COUNTY OF INYO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COURTHOUSE

INDEPENDENCE, CALIFORNIA 93526

RESOLUTION NO. 82-51

A RESOLUTION ON AMENDMENTS TO THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Inyo County Board of Supervisors have authorized staff to draft a series of amendments to the Bureau of Land Management California Desert Conservation Area Plan; and

WHEREAS, staff of Inyo County has drafted such amendments for the Board consideration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Inyo County Board of Supervisors do hereby authorize several amendments to the Riverside District, Bureau of Land Management.

Passed and Adopted this 18th day of May, 1982.

Attest: MARGARET BROMLEY, County Clerk

By Kelli Human Deputy

Wilma B. Muth
Wilma B. Muth, Chairman
Inyo County Board of Supervisors

The foregoing Resolution 82-51 was duly passed and adopted by the Inyo County Board of Supervisors at a regular meeting thereof held on May 18 1982 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Ina Johnson, Muth, Cook & Brennan

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Attest: WILMA B. MUTH
Chairman

Kelli Human Dep. Clerk

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

James Capris

CCV

cc

Dist. Auct. Plng. (2) file

Date: 5/18/82

APPLICATION FOR INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN
OR THE
EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: INYO COUNTY, RIDGECREST RESOURCE AREA

Ted Hilton, Mark Lawrence Independence & Ridgecrest, CA
Contact Person Address

Area code Telephone number

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
CDCA PLAN X EAST SAN DIEGO MFP

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)
AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

Change the Panamint Dunes from a closed designation to a partial open dunes
to provide for limited dune buggy use. Develop a management plan to protect
sensitive resources.

1. Please state the reasoning for the request:
Due to closures of the Eureka and Saline dunes, Inyo County has very limited
dunes systems to provide for this type of recreational use. Use of these dunes
would provide an alternative to prevent illegal use on the Eureka Dunes.

2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the
CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect:
Reduction of a dune recreational experience; encourages illegal use on sensitive
dune systems in Saline and Eureka Valleys.

3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment:
(e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.)
Would require signing of a suitable access route; protection of sensitive cultural
resource areas; developing protection of sensitive cultural resource areas;
developing a management plan; cooperation with users & patrol by BLM Rangers & Inyo

4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative
priority of the amendment described above: County

APPLICATION FOR INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN
OR THE
EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: INYO COUNTY
 Ted Hilton Drawer L, Independence, CA 93526
 714 Contact Person 878-2411 Address
 Area code Telephone number

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
CDCA PLAN EAST SAN DIEGO MFP _____

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)
AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

 Redesignate approximately 45 square miles of WSA 157 to non-suitable WSA.

1. Please state the reasoning for the request:
 Conflict between "yellow" (unqualified potential locatable mineral resource)
 and WSA designation.

2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the
CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect:
 Could prevent future extraction of minerals if WSA stays in effect.

3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment:
(e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.)
 Future extraction of mineral resource is possible.

4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative
priority of the amendment described above: _____

APPLICATION FOR INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN OR THE EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: INYO COUNTY
Ted Hilton
Drawer L, Independence, CA
714 878-2411
Area code Telephone number

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
CDCA PLAN [X] EAST SAN DIEGO MFP _____

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY) AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

Change portion of WSA 150 in Chicago Valley/Resting Springs Range to non-suitable wilderness.

1. Please state the reasoning for the request:
Section 36 T22N, R7E is occupied by permanent residents on private property. The WSA will deny access to 640 acres of private property. Section 2, T21N, R7E is indian withdrawal land and Resting Spring Range has "Red" and "Blue" potential locatable Minerals according to Map 12.

2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect:
Deny access to private property and permanent residents, conflict between Mineral Resources and Wilderness Study Area. Deny access to Indian Reserve.

3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment: (e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.)
Would permit mining in Resting Springs Range and grant access to Chicago Valley residents and give access to Indians.

4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative priority of the amendment described above: _____

APPLICATION FOR INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN OR THE EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: INYO COUNTY
Ted Hilton
714 Contact Person 878-2411 Drawer L, Independence, CA
Area code Telephone number Address

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
CDCA PLAN [X] EAST SAN DIEGO MFP _____

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY) AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

Eliminate approximately 20 square miles of WSA 145 north of the Baxter Mine vicinity and approximately 10 square miles of WSA 145 north and west of Shadow Mountain. These portions of Resting Spring Range has "Red" and "Blue" Potential locatable minerals according to Map 12.

- 1. Please state the reasoning for the request: Conflict between Mineral Resources and WSA designation.
2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect: Threat of locking up mineral resources (Category I & II Minerals).
3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment: (e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.) Future mining areas, depending on resource.
4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative priority of the amendment described above:

APPLICATION FOR INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN OR THE EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: Inyo County
Ted Hilton Drawer L, Independence, CA 93526
714 878-2411
Area code Telephone number

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
CDCA PLAN XX EAST SAN DIEGO MFP _____

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY) AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

1. Please state the reasoning for the request:
Conflict between "yellow" (unqualified potential locatable material resource) Map 12 "potential for locatable minerals". Conflict with existing County roads. Portions of WSA are less than 5,000 acres as a result do not qualify as roadless under Federal standards.

2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect:
Could prevent future extraction of minerals if WSA stays in effect. Also prohibits existing recreation use where the American public currently uses both County roads and other roads to gain close hiking access to recreational resources in Death Valley National Monument as Gold Valley, Funeral Peak, Epaulet Peak and Upper Virgin Spring Canyon.

3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment: (e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.)
Future extraction of minerals is possible. A continuation of recreational use by hikers is most probable, providing access (5 to 9 miles) is allowed to exist.

4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative priority of the amendment described above: _____

APPLICATION FOR INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN
OR THE
EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: INYO COUNTY
Ted Hilton Drawer L, Independence, CA
714 Contact Person 878-2411 Address
Area code Telephone number

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
CDCA PLAN EAST SAN DIEGO MFP _____

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)
AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

Create non-suitable WSA in vicinity of Shaw Mine; approximately 2 square miles.

1. Please state the reasoning for the request:

This portion of Nopah Range has "Red" potential locatable Minerals according to Map 12, could result in conflict.

2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect:

Conflict between Mineral Resource and WSA designation. There is a threat of locking up mineral resources.

3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment: (e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.)

Continue existing land use, i.e. mining.

4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative priority of the amendment described above: _____

APPLICATION FOR INTERPRETATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE
CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN
OR THE
EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: INYO COUNTY

Ted Hilton Drawer L, Independence, CA
Contact Person Address
714 878-2411
Area code Telephone number

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
CDCA PLAN XX EAST SAN DIEGO MFP _____

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)
AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

Redesignate approximately 2 square miles of WSA 117 (Eureka Valley) to non-
suitable WSA in vicinity of Victor Cons Mine

1. Please state the reasoning for the request:
First of all it is not a roadless area (being less than 5,000 acres). Second,
it would create a buffer between the proposed Eureka Valley Wilderness and the
talc claims.

2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the
CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect:
It is shown on Desert Plan that mineral resources are present on land

3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment:
(e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.)
Could be an expansion of mining, providing the tale reserves are present.

4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative
priority of the amendment described above: _____

CALIFORNIA DESERT CONSERVATION AREA PLAN
 OR THE
 EASTERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)

DATE: _____

APPLICATION PROPOSED BY: INYO COUNTY, RIDGECREST RESOURCE AREA

 Ted Hilton, Mark Lawrence Independence and Ridgecrest, CA
Contact Person Address

Area code Telephone number

CHECK PLAN TO BE CHANGED:
 CDCA PLAN X EAST SAN DIEGO MFP

DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)
 AND ATTACH EXPLANATORY MAP

 Designate Big Sand Springs as an area of critical environmental concern.
 T. 9 S., R. 41 E., Sec. 7 SE¼-160 acres or less.

1. Please state the reasoning for the request:
 Protect sensitive plant species (sodaville milk-vetch) and a historical bighorn
 sheep watering site.

2. Describe how existing requirements or management objectives contained in the
 CDCA Plan are causing adverse effect:
 Wild burros and horses, drift and concentration of livestock outside of a grazing
 allotment, and possibly plant collecting are adversely impacting and reducing
 sensitive plant species and critical bighorn sheep watering area.

3. Describe the project, (if any) which may result from the proposed amendment:
 (e.g., water, line, rail, spur, etc.)
 Development of management plan and construction of facilities to protect site.

4. If applicant is proposing three or more amendments, please indicate the relative
 priority of the amendment described above: _____



United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO

1600
(C-060)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
California Desert District
1695 Spruce Street
Riverside, California 92507

MAY 21 1982

Dear Reader:

The first review of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan has reached the decision point and now enters the final 30-day protest period ending July 6, 1982. The first amendment (1981) incorporates 26 changes to the Plan, the majority of which are clarification of guidelines or precise location of boundaries. These changes are described in the enclosed summary of the Record of Decision. The summary should be attached to your copy of the Plan for reference.

The Record of Decision can be seen at the Desert District Office or any of the Resource Area offices. Copies can be obtained by writing to:

District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
1695 Spruce Street
Riverside, California 92507

The 1982 amendment process is now underway. The public has proposed a large number of plan amendments. The Multiple Use Advisory Committee will recommend which proposals should be considered at their meeting in Ridgecrest on June 3rd and 4th. This meeting will also serve as the "scoping" meeting for the Environmental Impact Statement which will be prepared on 1982 amendments.

Sincerely,

Gerald E. Hillier
District Manager

Enclosure

The First Amendment (1981) to the California Desert Conservation Area Plan, 1980 included the following changes:

A. Changes in Multiple Use Class Designation
(Amendments 1 through 10)

1. Change from L to M

- a) Two sand and gravel mining areas in P.U. 34; 1630 and 1560 acres (#'s 1 and 2).
- b) The Hess Mining Area in P.U. 101; 1650 Ac (#9).
- c) Turtle Valley area, P.U. 36; 12,375 Ac (#5).

2. Change from M to L

- a) Eastern portion of Rainbow Basin/Owl Canyon ACEC (#39); 2496 Ac (#3).

3. Change from M to I

Silver Mountain Vicinity south of Barstow P.U. 36; 3110 acres (#4).

4. Change from C to I

Vicinity of Glamis store in P.U. 103 (#10).

5. Change from L to Unclassified

Small tract area south of Highway 247 in P.U. 41; 2670 Ac (#6).

6. Change from M to Unclassified

Small area north of Highway 247 in Johnson Valley, P.U. 40; 2271 Ac (#7).

B. Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)

1. New ACEC

None

2. Delete ACECs

- a) Goldstone (#27)
- b) Silver Mountain Vicinity (#44)
- c) Sidewinder Well (#54)

b) Page 70.

Reword the section titled "Ephemeral/Perennial Range," second paragraph, to read:

The restrictions for livestock turnout and monitoring presented under Ephemeral Range, above, will pertain to only those livestock authorized for annual forage production. Locator animals maintained on ephemeral/perennial range year long may remain on waters located in predominantly ephemeral forage. This methodology will allow cattle to remain at year-long waters to orient stocker cattle to ephemeral range during those seasons when it is determined that temporary nonrenewable ephemeral authorization is available. Regular fees will be charged. It is recognized that cattle may drift back and forth across the rather indefinite boundary between perennial and ephemeral ranges. Determination of this temporary nonrenewable ephemeral authorization will be made according to stipulations described for Ephemeral Range.

D. Wild Horse and Burro Element

Update Desert Plan to reflect the change in burro management policy at the Naval Weapons Center (NWC).

The entire Centennial Herd Management Area (HMA) and Slate Range HMA will be deleted as burro habitat. Concentration areas 13, 16, 16a, 17, and 18 will have total burro removal. Concentration area 12 and adjacent herd area east of the Argus Range will be regrouped with the Panamint HMA.

Total burro reduction will be 1200 burros.

E. Energy/Utility Element

Designate a communication site in Class L for a limited military facility adjacent to eastern boundary of Fort Irwin National Training Center (#25).

F. Changes in Multiple Use Guidelines

1. Change guidelines for saleable minerals in Class L, p. 19, as follows:

"Except as provided in Appendix 5.4, 516 DM6, NEPA procedures titled "Categorical Exclusions," an EA shall be required for material sales locations, including sand and gravel sites. Depending on the sensitivity of area, District Manager may choose to extend the normal public review period."

The amendment will also change the text in the Geology, Energy, and Minerals Resource Element of the Desert Plan. Reword the last paragraph under the section titled "Multiple-Use Class Provisions" page 102 to read:



County of
INYO

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

DRAWER L • INDEPENDENCE • CALIFORNIA 93529 • (714) 878-2411 (Ext. 318)

November 29, 1982

H E N O

County Board of Supervisors & Planning Commission

Planning Department

Amendments to the California Desert Plan

Inyo County has submitted several amendments to the California Desert Plan. These amendments were recently considered, and since the Planning Department was responsible for their processing before the Desert Plan Advisory Council, we were present to advocate their approval. Listed below are the results of the action of the Desert Plan Advisory Council.

At their November 18, 19 and 20 meeting the Desert Plan Advisory Council considered 53 amendments to the California Desert Plan. Inyo County submitted 9 of these amendments. Additionally, 2 other amendments were submitted by private individuals for lands located within Inyo County. Of these 11 amendments, 6 of these were approved, 2 were denied, 2 were recommended for deferral for 6 months for further study. Of the 9 amendments submitted, 1 was approved and 1 was denied.

Desert Plan Advisory Council action was only of a recommending nature. The Bureau of Land Management Desert Plan Staff can still approve or deny any of the plan amendments. The Planning Department will monitor the progress of these amendments and keep the Board of Supervisors informed of developments.

10-54

24
12/7/82



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
California Desert District
1695 Spruce Street
Riverside, California 92507

J

MAY 10 1982

Memorandum

To: State Director (C-910)
From: District Manager, California Desert
Subject: 1981 Amendment Decision

Enclosed is the Record of Decision for the 1981 Amendment Review of the California Desert Plan indicating my approval of the amendments and my concurrence with the recommendations of the Multiple Use Advisory Council.

The enclosed document is provided for your review and concurrence.

Conrad Eckhardt

Enclosure

I concur with the California Desert District Manager's amendment decisions attached.

Ed Hardy 5/19/82
State Director, California

RECORD OF DECISION

The 1981 amendment review of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan was conducted in accordance with Bureau of Land Management Planning Regulations, 43 CFR 1600, as amended November 23, 1981 (FR, Vol. 46, p. 57448), with the procedures set forth in Chapter 7 of the CDCA Plan, 1980, and with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1500).

The process began with a 60-day period for public input. Thirty three changes were proposed, fourteen of which were selected for consideration by BLM management and the California Desert District Multiple Use Advisory Council (MUAC). The remainder were rejected or placed on "hold" for possible consideration in a later amendment process. Thirteen additional amendments were introduced by the BLM staff. The twenty seven proposed changes were then analyzed for possible environmental effects in the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA).

A 60-day period for public review of the DEA was followed by a public hearing at which recommendations were made by the Advisory Council. The final decision was made by the California Desert District Manager, with the concurrence of the State Director.

The combination of approved amendments comprises the First Amendment to the Desert Plan. Each component amendment is described below. Amendments which were either rejected or deferred are described in Appendix D of the DEA. A general overview of public comments is given in Appendix C.

AMENDMENT ONE

Change a small mining area (1600 Ac) in P.U. 34 from Class L to Class M (Map D, Draft EA, p. 47).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) The area has been mined for sand and gravel in the past. Three active quarries are present.
- 2) The area was excluded from Wilderness Study Area 242 because of existing mining disturbances.
- 3) The sensitive resource values which are found in the Class L portion of P.U. 34 do not extend into this particular area.
- 4) Class M is an appropriate designation for this small area which will become an extension of the Class M portion of P.U. 34.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

- 1) The No Action Alternative was rejected because of existing mining impacts in the area.
- 2) Although a larger or smaller-sized area could have been specified, the proposed area was selected because it covers the mining area which was excluded from WSA 242.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Gerard E. Ebelin
District Manager

AMENDMENT TWO

Change an area of 1564 Ac at the southern end of the Soda Mountains from Class L to Class M (Map D, Draft EA, p. 47).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) The site has been mined for sand and gravel in the past.
- 2) The sensitive resource values which are found in the surrounding Class L area do not extend into this area.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected. Mining impacts in the area make Class M a more appropriate designation than Class L.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with
Conditions




District Manager

AMENDMENT THREE

Change the eastern portion of Rainbow Basin/Owl Canyon ACEC (#39) from Class M to Class L (Map B, Draft EA, p. 45).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

This amendment corrects an error through which this site was designated Class M. Sensitive resources found in the area include cultural resources, Native American values, high scenic quality, wildlife, and paleontological values. The area is a valuable education and interpretive site. Designation as Class L will still permit mineral exploration.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would allow a continuation of the Class M designation for this area. Degradation of valuable and irreplaceable resources (particularly paleontological values) would occur due to increased vehicular access and more intense use of the site.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with
Conditions



Conrad E. Ehlert
District Manager

AMENDMENT FOUR

Change Silver Mountain Vicinity (3110 Ac) from Class M to Class I (Map E, Draft EA, p. 48).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) Present and past intensive mining operations in the vicinity make Class I suitable for this area. This designation is consistent with other heavily mined areas which are designated Class I.
- 2) This amendment does not change the motorized vehicle designation, which will remain "existing routes of travel."

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would allow a continuation of Class M in this area. Reactivation of old mines and present intensive activity here make Class I more appropriate than Class M.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with
Conditions



Carroll E. Hill
District Manager

AMENDMENT FIVE

Change an area in Turtle Valley (12,400 Ac) From Class L to Class M (Map E, Draft EA, p. 48).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) This area is presently exposed to widespread vehicle use and is unmanageable as Class L.
- 2) Wildlife or cultural values that exist in this area will not be protected to any greater degree by maintaining the present Class L designation.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would allow this area to remain Class L. Present difficulties in controlling vehicle use would continue with the result that Class L status would have little beneficial effect on sensitive resources which were the reason for the Class L designation.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve:

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Grand F. ...
District Manager

AMENDMENT SIX

Change a small tract area (2,670 Ac) adjacent to and south of Highway 247 in P.U. 41 from Class L to "unclassified." (Map F, Draft EA, p. 49).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) Management of this land as Class L has been extremely difficult since over 50 percent of the land is privately owned and not subject to BLM management.
- 2) Class L guidelines conflict with the development that has occurred and will continue to occur on remaining private parcels. Conversion to unclassified status indicates that sometime in the future, the Bureau will dispose of the land.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

No Action Alternative would allow the present condition to continue with insufficient personnel available to handle incompatible uses.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve:

MAY 10 1992

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Craig E. [Signature]
District Manager

AMENDMENT SEVEN

Change a small area of public land (2,270 Ac), adjacent to and northeast of Highway 247 in P.U. 40, from Class M to unclassified (Map F, Draft EA, p. 49).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) This area is surrounded by unclassified land. Separation from other public lands makes management impractical.
- 2) This change will establish a more consistent land use pattern for better manageability of the area.
- 3) The Bureau's potential for land exchanges in this area will be improved.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would maintain the present situation of an isolated Class M area.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982
Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Carol E. Miller
District Manager

AMENDMENT EIGHT

Reevaluate boundaries of WSA 305 and 328 to eliminate conflicting uses (Map G, Draft EA, p. 50).

A. Decision:

Consideration of this proposal was deferred for consideration with other 1982 proposals

B. Rationale:

- 1) The areas have been recommended for wilderness status. A change in classification from C to M may be inappropriate prior to minerals review.
- 2) Further study on this area will be accomplished during the wilderness reporting phase. Boundary adjustments could be recommended at that time.
- 3) Field review is needed of the alleged incursions and loss of wilderness characteristics.
- 4) The Multiple Use Advisory Council recommended deferment at this time.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with
Conditions



Cornel Eckel
District Manager

AMENDMENT NINE

Change the Hess Mining Area (1650 Ac) from Class L to Class M (Map J, Draft EA, p. 53).

A. Decision: Approve the amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) This change will correct an error in the Final Plan map. The vicinity of the Hess Mine has historically been an intensive mining area and the intent was to designate the area Class M.
- 2) A Class M designation will encourage continued mineral exploration and development.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would permit this area to remain Class L which is inappropriate due to active mining in the vicinity.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with Conditions



David E. Eitel
District Manager

AMENDMENT TEN

Correct boundary of Class I area in P.U. 103 to include the Glamis Store and its immediate vicinity (Map J, Draft EA, p. 53).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

This change will correct a mapping error which shows this area as Class C. The area has been used for intensive recreation since establishment of the Interim Critical Management Plan in 1973.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected since it would allow the error to remain uncorrected.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with
Conditions



Conrad Edler
District Manager

Delete Silver Mountain ACEC (#44) (Map E, Draft EA, p. 48).

A. Decision: Approve amendment

B. Rationale:

- 1) Many old mines and minerals claims have been reactivated in this area.
- 2) Management of an ACEC in an area of active mining is unfeasible.
- 3) Recent inspection of the area by BLM staff indicated that the cultural resources (mining relics) are not sufficient to justify ACEC designation and management.
- 4) The structures for which protection is sought are not the property of the government. Therefore ACEC management can do nothing.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would require special treatment for cultural relics which are generally viewed to be unworthy of ACEC designation, particularly in the presence of active mining operations.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

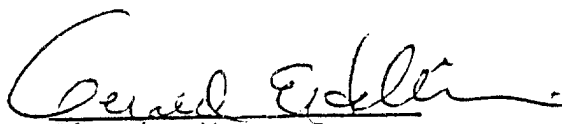
Date

Disapprove



Approve with
Conditions




District Manager

AMENDMENT TWELVE

Reduce area of Harper Lake ACEC (#37) from 1,760 to 480 acres (See Map B, Draft EA, p. 45).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

The ACEC was nominated for wildlife protection and maintenance of the wetland habitat along the playa shoreline. The amendment will limit the ACEC boundaries to the marsh area, thus avoiding ACEC management of the playa which does not contain the resources requiring protection.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected due to the inclusion within the ACEC of an approximately 1,280 acres of barren playa bed which do not require management consideration beyond that provided by Class L guidelines.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982
Date _____

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions


District Manager

AMENDMENT THIRTEEN

Delete Goldstone ACEC (#27) (Map C, Draft EA, p. 46).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) This area was nominated as an ACEC to protect the historic mining town of Goldstone. At the time of nomination, several wooden structures were still standing. Recent observation indicates that most of the structures have been destroyed by new mining activity and that most of the land is privately owned and not under the jurisdiction of the U.S. government.
- 2) Deletion of Goldstone ACEC would not cause a loss of cultural resources.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected, since it would require ACEC management of an area containing no resource worthy of this protection.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with
Conditions

Carol E. Edell
District Manager

AMENDMENT FOURTEEN

Establish a new ACEC near Helendale to protect habitat of Sclerocactus polyancistrus (Map E, Draft EA, p. 48).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) The nominated area is habitat for Sclerocactus polyancistrus, an endangered plant species. The plant is threatened by motorized vehicle use, grazing, and collection by cactus enthusiasts and dealers.
- 2) Although the plant occurs over a large area of the Mojave Desert, populations are widely scattered and sparse. The site near Helendale is a stronghold for this species and should be protected.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

- 1) The No Action Alternative was rejected since it would provide no protection for Sclerocactus polyancistrus.
- 2) Other boundaries for the ACEC were considered, but were less suitable than the one proposed.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Carol E. Hill
District Manager

Rationale for Disapproval: This species not officially listed, and while on the CNPS list, is found in other areas. Its presence in this area, among others, does not warrant designation of the area as an ACEC. It can be protected without special measures or land designations. Further, the tracked proposal for this ACEC is isolated from other public lands and is inappropriate for special manage-

AMENDMENT FIFTEEN

Reduce the area of Corn Springs ACEC (#56) from 5,568 to 2,720 acres (Map H, Draft EA, p. 51).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

The ACEC was nominated for protection of vegetative, wildlife, cultural, and scenic resources. The original boundary included areas which did not contain critical resources, but were included as a buffer for the key areas. In preparing the ACEC management plan, it was decided that this extensive buffer area was not necessary. The revised boundaries contain all critical resource values that warrant protective ACEC designation.

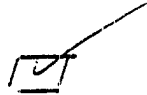
C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected because it would have required ACEC management for lands having no resources warranting special treatment.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with Conditions



District Manager

AMENDMENT SIXTEEN

Drop Sidewinder Well from ACEC Status (ACEC #54, P.U. 90; Map H, Draft EA, p. 51).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

The Sidewinder Well ACEC was established for protection of cultural resources. Recent on-the-ground data shows that significant cultural sites are not present within the assigned area. Therefore, deletion of the ACEC will not affect cultural resources.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would have continued to designate the area as an ACEC. BLM resources would have been wasted in creating, implementing, and monitoring an ACEC plan for an area containing no resources worthy of ACEC protection.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve:

MAY 10 1982
Date

Disapprove

Approve with
Conditions

George E. Hill
District Manager

AMENDMENT SEVENTEEN

Revise the Mountain Pass ACEC (#30) to Exclude Historical Mining Sites (Map I, Draft EA, p. 52).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) This ACEC was established to protect a well-preserved mining complex of the 1881-1915 period. Recent investigation has shown that the most valuable mining remains are located on private land. Approval of the ACEC would provide no protection of historical remains, since the Bureau has no authority to enforce restrictions on private land.
- 2) The ACEC was also intended to protect paleontological resources. Revision of the boundary will include these resources and provide a more manageable boundary.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected since it would have continued the original ACEC designation which set forth restrictions on use of private land and, thus, was unenforceable.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

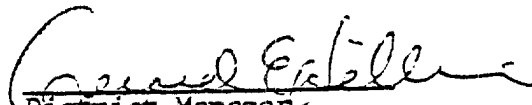
Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date _____

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions


District Manager

AMENDMENT EIGHTEEN

Correct range condition from "poor" to "good" in Deep Springs Grazing Lease. Maintain current allocation of 1250 AUMs (Regional Map, Draft EA, p. 43).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

Field observation showed that range condition was "good" and that the reduction of AUMs authorized for this allotment was in error.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected, since it would decrease authorized AUMs by 20% as recommended by the Desert Plan on the basis of an incorrect evaluation of range condition. The result would be that 46 head of cattle would have to be pastured elsewhere, and forage would be wasted.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with
Conditions

Carroll Estell
District Manager

AMENDMENT NINETEEN

Adjust boundary between Tunawee and Lacey-Cactus-McCloud grazing allotments to reflect the historic use of the area (Map A, Draft EA, p. 44).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) This correction to the allotment boundaries reflects historic grazing use. The Tunawee allotment is increased by 4,978 acres and 280 AUMs, only 209 of which will be authorized due to a 25% reduction in carrying capacity.
- 2) The Lacey-Cactus-McCloud allotment will be reduced by 4,978 acres and will lose 280 AUMs. Since the carrying capacity of this allotment is much greater than actual use, current livestock allocation will not be affected.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would result in management problems, since the boundary between these two allotments is not consistent with natural barriers and logical usage. The operator would lose forage for 50 animals or the equivalent of \$20,000 per year.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove



Approve with Conditions



Conrad E. Allen
District Manager

AMENDMENT TWENTY

Increase AUMs for the Jean Lake Allotment from 251 to 298

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) Reevaluation of range condition revealed the presence of two water sources which were not recognized during Desert Plan preparation. The resulting improvement in range suitability provides for 47 additional AUMs.
- 2) The increase in grazing should not impact the Ivanpah Crucial Tortoise Habitat since the grazing area does not coincide with high density tortoise habitat area.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected, since it would not take advantage of newly recognized range improvements which increase range suitability in this allotment.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve:

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Cecilia E. Hill
District Manager

AMENDMENT TWENTY ONE

Change designation of Lazy Daisy Grazing Allotment from ephemeral to ephemeral/perennial range, and change allotment boundaries, permitting re-authorization of 3,192 AUMs (Map L, Draft EA, p. 55).

A. Decision:

Approve with additional stipulations concerning a 5-year period of water exploration and development and monitoring of bighorn population and range conditions.

B. Rationale:

- 1) The Desert Plan apparently would place an economic hardship on the operator of this allotment through substantial reduction of his former authorization. The BLM was directed by the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior to alleviate and mitigate this type of circumstance.
- 2) Recent field study showed that the bighorn sheep habitat in the Old Woman Mountains is less extensive than that assumed in the Plan. Water, not space, was found to be the limiting factor.
- 3) The Grazing Board and Multiple Use Advisory Council recommended that the allotment management plan for the Lazy Daisy allotment should emphasize water exploration and development. A variety of funding sources will be used to finance water development throughout the Old Woman range.

At the end of five years (1987), there will be a full reanalysis of bighorn populations and range conditions. If grazing is shown to negatively impact bighorn population, elimination or reduction of cattle range will be considered.

- 4) The alternative of trying to exclude livestock from bighorn range appeared at this time to be infeasible from both a physical and an economic standpoint and to be counterproductive.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would continue range type and authorization of AUMs as outlined in the Desert Plan, thereby allowing continuation of hardship on the operator of the Lazy Daisy grazing allotment.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve



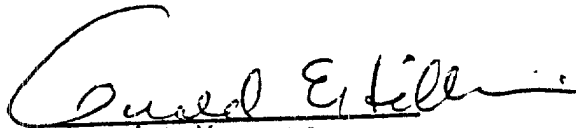
MAY 10 1982
Date

Disapprove



Approve with
Conditions




District Manager

AMENDMENT TWENTY-TWO

Add a new grazing allotment (Chemehuevi #61) to the Grazing Element for ephemeral use by cattle only, with allocation to be determined annually (Map R, Draft EA, p. 54).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) Native American applicants claim they have been grazing the area for 40 years under BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) authorization. Approval of the amendment will legitimize a continuing historic use.
- 2) Since grazing has been present in this area for many years, designation of a grazing allotment here should have no impacts on wildlife (tortoises) beyond those already in evidence.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would deny the grazing allotment and allow continued unauthorized use of the area until BLM can initiate the trespass process. Economic hardship on Native Americans who depend upon livestock operation would result.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions


District Manager

AMENDMENT TWENTY-THREE

Amend wording for ephemeral grazing regulations to distinguish between ephemeral use by sheep and cows. Text will be changed as follows:

- a) Page 69 of CDCA Plan, 1980.
In the section titled, "Ephemeral Range," insert the following paragraph between the first two paragraphs.

Because of significant differences between the grazing habits and practices of sheep and cattle, different stipulations on livestock class will be in effect. For ephemeral cattle operations, turnout of animals will be determined annually by an interdisciplinary team, including the grazing operator, based on considerations for maintaining an adequate amount of annual forage production for wildlife, erosion prevention, and visual needs.

Revise wording of first sentence of second paragraph as follows:

Allotments classified as ephemeral sheep operations will be managed under ephemeral authorizations.

- b) Page 70.
Reword the section titled "Ephemeral/Perennial Range," second paragraph, to read:

The restrictions for livestock turnout and monitoring presented under Ephemeral Range, above, will pertain to only those livestock authorized for annual forage production. Locator animals maintained on ephemeral/perennial range year long may remain on waters located in predominantly ephemeral forage. This methodology will allow cattle to remain at year-long waters to orient stocker cattle to ephemeral range during those seasons when it is determined that temporary nonrenewable ephemeral authorization is available. Regular fees will be charged. It is recognized that cattle may drift back and forth across the rather indefinite boundary between perennial and ephemeral ranges. Determination of this temporary nonrenewable ephemeral authorization will be made according to stipulations described for Ephemeral Range.

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

- 1) The criteria in the Desert Plan for determining turnout for livestock on ephemeral range was designed for sheep. New language will identify policy for cattle grazing on both ephemeral and ephemeral/perennial allotments.

2) This change corrects an unintended omission in the Desert Plan.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected due to conflict between present Desert Plan guidelines and management of grazing operations.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

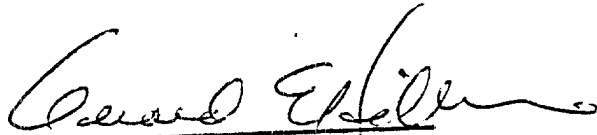
Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with
Conditions


 District Manager

AMENDMENT TWENTY-FOUR

Change the Wild Horse and Burro Element to reflect the change in burro management policy at the Naval Weapons Center.

A. Decision: Approve the amendment.

B. Rationale:

Burro policy at the Naval Weapons Center has changed since the adoption of the Plan and presently specifies that Herd Management Areas (HMAs) will not be established on military land. The Centennial Valley HMA, which covers a large portion of the China Lake Naval Weapons Center (NWC) and the Slate HMA, will be deleted as burro habitat. The net effect on the Burro Element will be a reduction of 1200 burros. Some burro herds will be regrouped with HMAs outside the Weapon Center and maintained in conformance with goals of the Desert Plan.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected since it would ignore policy of Naval Weapons Center. The lack of agreement on burro management inside and outside Naval Weapon Center would lead to public confusion and adverse effects on the NWC burro program.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982
Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Carol E. Bell
District Manager

AMENDMENT TWENTY-FIVE

Designate a communication right-of-way site in P.U. 54 adjacent to the eastern boundary of Fort Irwin (Map M, Draft EA, p. 56).

A. Decision: Approve amendment.

B. Rationale:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has applied for a right-of-way for placement of an automatic repeater station. The facility will be one of approximately 44 repeater stations within the Fort Irwin Training Center. Considerable effort was made to place the facility inside the Fort Irwin reservation, but it was determined that adequate coverage could not be obtained if the antenna were placed inside the station.

The site selected is adjacent to the eastern boundary of Fort Irwin in Class L land. MUC guidelines preclude new communication sites in Class L. However, the proposed facility will be self-contained, and will be installed with the aid of a helicopter. Once erected, it will be maintained by a weekly site visit using a 4WD truck. Impacts should be minimal.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

- 1) The No Action Alternative would reject the proposal, forcing the Army to use an inferior on-lease site or to eliminate this repeater link.
- 2) Relocating the proposed site to another location on public lands was precluded by technical considerations.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Edward E. Hill
District Manager

AMENDMENT TWENTY-SIX

Change the multiple use class guidelines for saleable minerals (sand and gravel) in Class L to require an Environmental Assessment followed by a 60-day public review period.

Change guidelines for saleable minerals in Class L, p. 19 as follows:

"Except as provided in Appendix 5.4, 516 DM6, NEPA procedures titled "Categorical Exclusions," an EA shall be required for material sales locations, including sand and gravel sites. As this class is a sensitive area of public concern, a 60-day public review period shall be required on the EA."

The amendment will also change the text in the Geology, Energy, and Minerals Resource Element of the Desert Plan. Reword the last paragraph under the section titled "Multiple-Use Class Provisions" page 102 to read:

"Mineral material sales in Classes L, M, and I will be processed under 43 CFR 23 and 3600. In addition, in new extraction areas located in Class L, a 60-day period will be provided for public review and comment on the proposal."

A. Decision: Approve amendment with conditions.

B. Rationale:

- 1) By deleting the EIS requirement except in cases where there is a significant adverse impact, sources of sand and gravel will be made available in a faster and more cost effective manner. To date, new sand and gravel sites over five acres in size have been "de facto withdrawn" due to the high cost, complexities, and time delays attendant to EIS preparation.
- 2) Resource values will be fully protected under the 43 CFR 3600 regulations.
- 3) The potential for mineral trespass may be decreased due to easier legal accessibility.
- 4) The time of BLM specialists will be utilized on more environmentally significant projects.

C. Alternatives Not Selected

The No Action Alternative would continue the requirement for an EIS on sites of 5 acres or more, resulting in additional

costs and delays to users, along with loss of field capacity to process cases in more sensitive areas.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

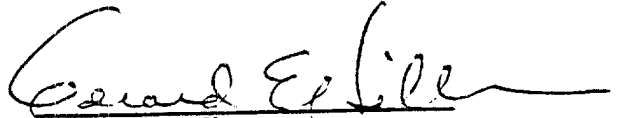
Approve

Date

5/10/82

Disapprove

Approve with
Conditions


District Manager

Remove last sentence of guidelines which state "as this class is a sensitive area of concern, a 60 day public review period shall be required on the EA", and replace with; "depending on the sensitivity of area, District Manager may choose to extend the normal public review period".

AMENDMENT TWENTY SEVEN

Reduce requirements in Class L from 60 days to 30 days for public review of plans of operations for mineral exploration and development.

Under guidelines for locatable minerals (p. 18) delete paragraph two and insert the statement "NEPA requirements will be met."

A. Decision:

Approve the amendment with the stipulation that in cases where an ACEC is involved, a longer comment period will be provided.

B. Rationale:

- 1) Reduction of the public review period will allow quicker processing of plans of operation and less delay for miners. Miners will be more inclined to file plans of operation since time between filing and approval of plans will be reduced.
- 2) So far, the public has shown little interest in commenting on mining plans of operation. BLM Area Managers report that most comments are received within 30 days. However, the practice will be continued of applying special publicity efforts when it is known that a controversial plan is coming up.

C. Alternative Not Selected

The No Action Alternative was rejected. Maintaining the 60 day comment period would cause needless delay since the public has not, thus far, shown an interest in commenting on mining plans.

D. Conclusions

- 1) The decision is in the public interest.
- 2) There will be no significant adverse impacts.
- 3) An EIS is not required.

Approve

MAY 10 1982

Date

Disapprove

Approve with Conditions

Grand E. Williams
District Manager