

### Whipple Mountains

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

**Nationally Significant Values:**

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

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

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

**Mgmt. Plan/Date of Designation-** ACEC #53/1989

**Relevance and Importance Criteria:** Relevant cultural and biological resources. The Whipple Mountains are important in Chemehuevi and Mohave traditional values and beliefs; it contains areas of sacred and ritual importance. The Whipple Mountains are source locations of ceremonial materials, rock art, dance platforms, vision quest and power stations and cairn markers. Important population of saguaro cactus. This region is the core of the saguaro range in California – likely the only area where the species remains in California – no current information is available for populations historically known from Imperial County.

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

**Designation and Acreage by Alternative:**

Alternative	BLM Acres of NLCS within ACEC or Wildlife Allocation	BLM Acres within ACEC	BLM Acres within Wildlife Allocation	ACEC Disturbance Cap
No Action	0	2,800	0	NA
Preferred Alternative	0	2,800	0	1%
1	0	2,800	0	1%
2	2,800	2,800	0	1%
3	0	2,800	0	1%
4	0	2,800	0	1%

\* Acreage values are for BLM managed lands

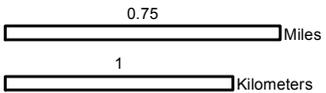
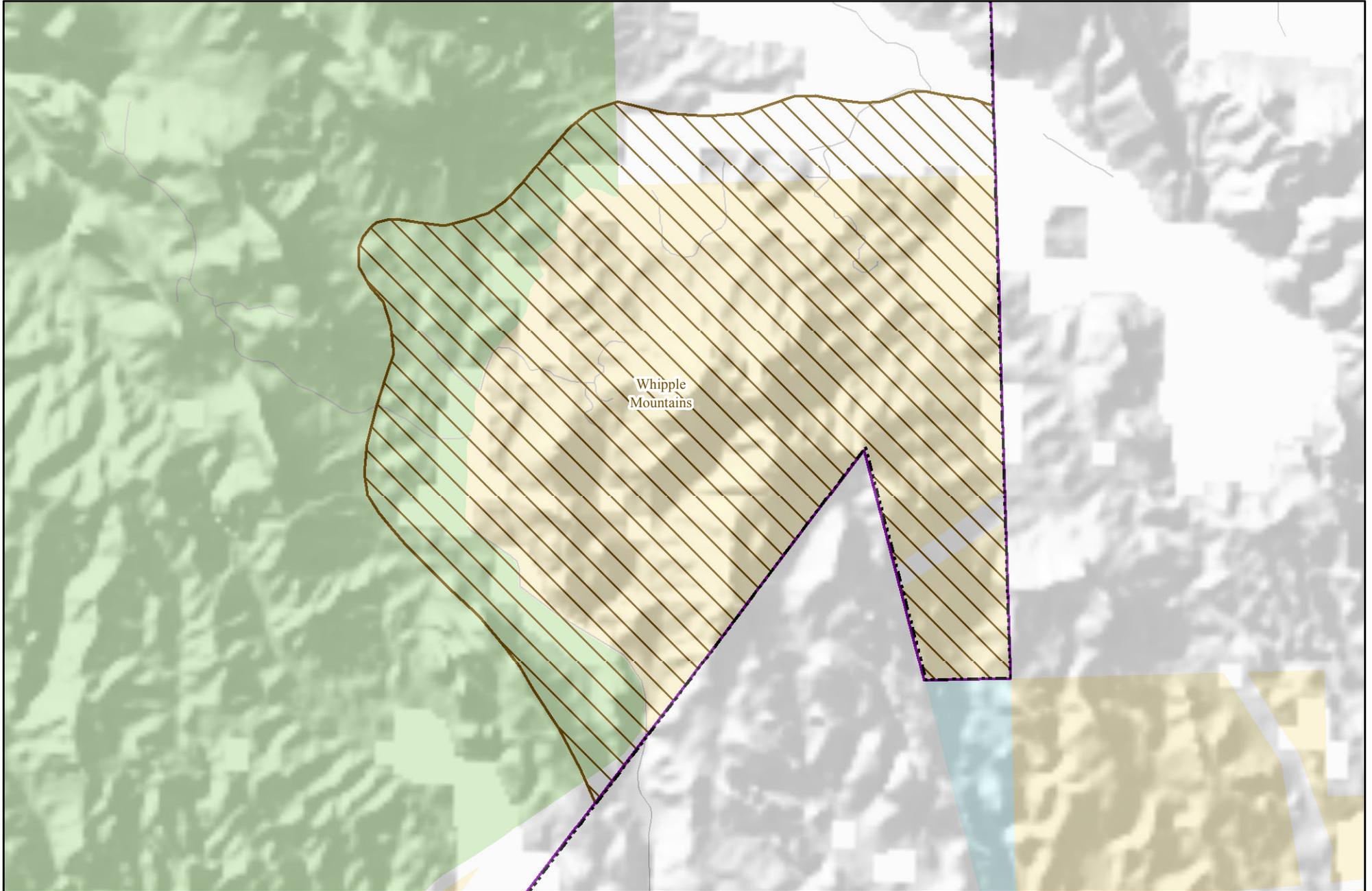
**Alternatives:**

All Alternatives – this ACEC would continue to be managed as it has been.

Objectives (desired future conditions)/Allowable Uses/Management Actions	Resource
<p>UPA: Foothill paloverde saguaro woodland  Rare Plants:  Saguaro (<i>Carnegiea gigantea</i>) [CNPS 2.2]  Narrow-leaved psorothamnus (<i>Psorothamnus fremontii</i> var. <i>attenuatus</i>) [CNPS 2.3  Desert germander (<i>Teucrium glandulosum</i>) [CNPS 2.3]</p> <p>Objective: Protect saguaros.  Management Action 1: Patrol saguaro sites (BLM locations are now mapped)  Management Action 2: Document excavation and vandalism of saguaros  Management Action 3: Enhance saguaro germination sites under foothill palo verde (<i>Parkinsonia microphylla</i>)  Management Action 4: Experiment with seeding sites suitable for saguaro germination</p> <p>Objective: Protect foothill palo verde woodland from burro predation  Management Action 1: Enhance regeneration of foothill palo verde by fencing enclosures to prevent burro browse. Remove burros to keep the population within established population targets.  Management Action 2: Prohibit the collection of any live vegetation and/or dead and down material.</p>	<p>Vegetation (incl. special status species)</p>
<p>Gila Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes uropygialis</i>) – DFG State Listed  Lucy’s Warbler (<i>Oreothlypis luciae</i>) – BLM Species of Concern (likely – found in Whipple Wash in Whipple Mts. Wilderness)</p> <p>Objective: Maintain or improve condition of wildlife populations and habitat  Management Action: Maintain viable populations and connections between other conservation areas</p>	<p>Fish and Wildlife (incl. special status species)</p>
<p>Objective: Educate the public about cultural resources present  Management Action: Maintain or expand existing research and education programs that could include excavation, lectures, guided tours, and an outreach program</p> <p>Objective: Protect cultural resources  Management Action: Increase patrols for protection, compliance and enforcement</p> <p>See additional programmatic ACEC cultural resources objective and action items in general cultural resources rules.</p>	<p>Cultural Resources</p>
<p>Objective: Provide for the use of a designated system of roads and trails to ensure access to the public for appropriate uses.  Management Action 1: All legal open roads and trails will be signed including road or trail number/name. All roads and trails identified as closed will be rehabilitated/restored.</p>	<p>Trails and Travel Management</p>

<p>Management Action 2: Restore all undesignated roads or trails.</p> <p>Management Action 3: Provide routine maintenance of the designated roads and trails system including installation of routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, water bars, barriers, gates, or cattle guards on/or adjacent to system roads and trails.</p>	
<p>Objective: Manage recreation consistent with established conservation goals, while providing a broad range of recreation opportunities, and to ensure public health and safety;</p> <p>Management Action 1: Provide interpretive, directional, and regulatory signs and materials as necessary to provide public information and reduce impacts from recreational use.</p> <p>Management Action 2: Allow stopping and parking within 25 feet, and camping within 100 feet of designated routes.</p> <p>Management Action 3: Allow SRP events which do not negatively affect ACEC Relevance and Importance Values.</p>	Recreation
<p>Objective: Manage Area Right-Of-Ways</p> <p>Management Action: Rights of Ways will be allowed where they do not negatively affect the Relevance and Importance Values</p>	Rights of Way
<p>No Renewable Energy Development</p> <p>Geothermal: Area is closed to geothermal leasing and development</p>	Renewable Energy
<p>Validity determination and PO required for mining</p> <p>Stipulations would be imposed</p>	Locatable Minerals Mineral Materials Non-energy Leasables
<p>Objective: Minimize impacts to lands adjacent to Inholdings</p> <p>Actions: Provide Access to Inholdings and Acquire Lands from willing sellers.</p>	Inholdings

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## Preferred Alternative ACECs

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### ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

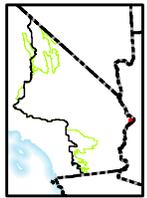
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

### Land Status

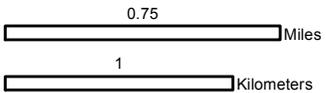
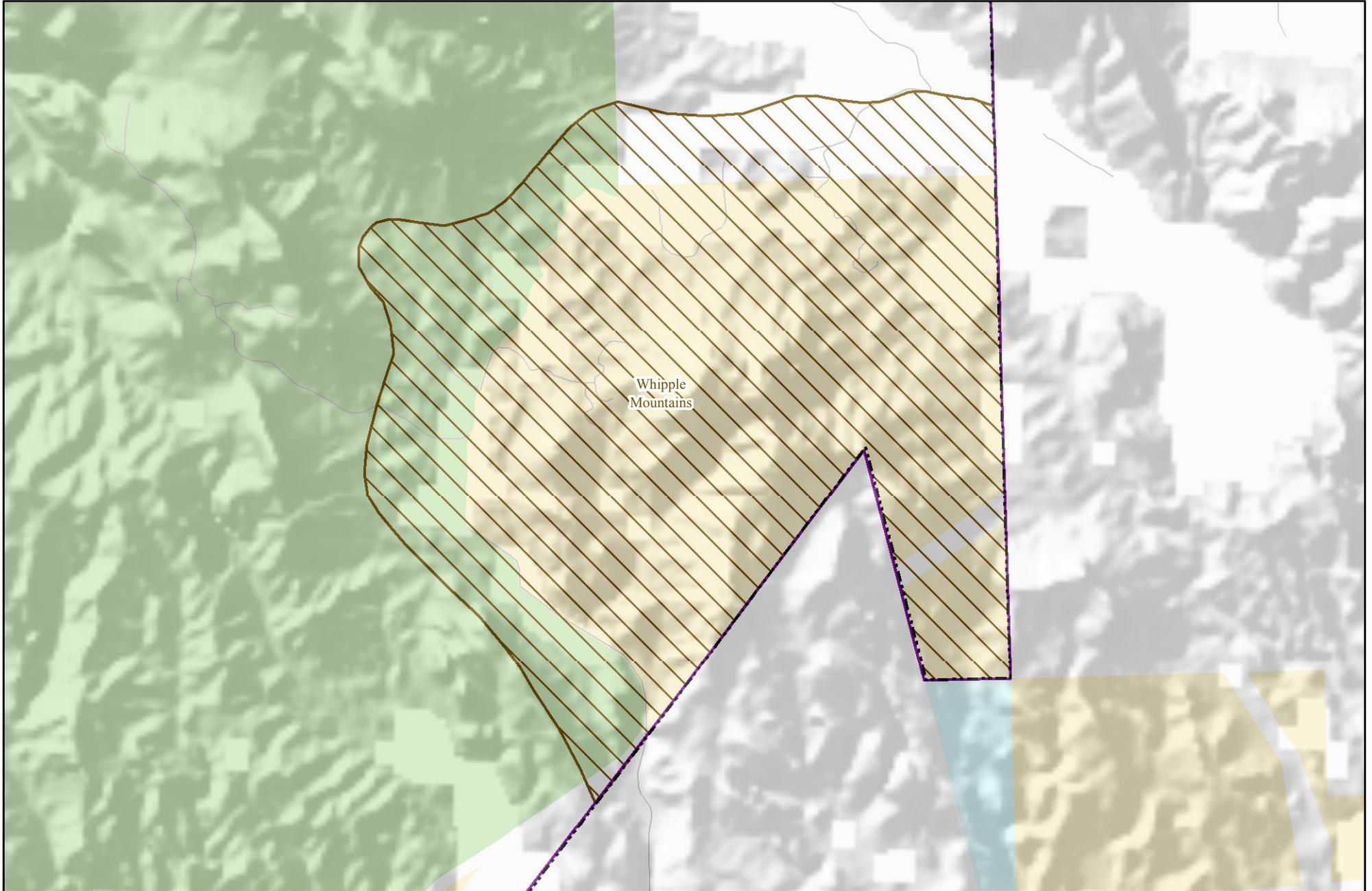
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

### GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



# Whipple Mountains



## Alternative 1 ACECs

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### ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

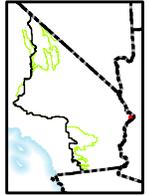
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

### Land Status

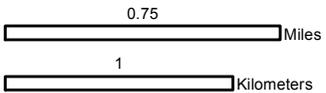
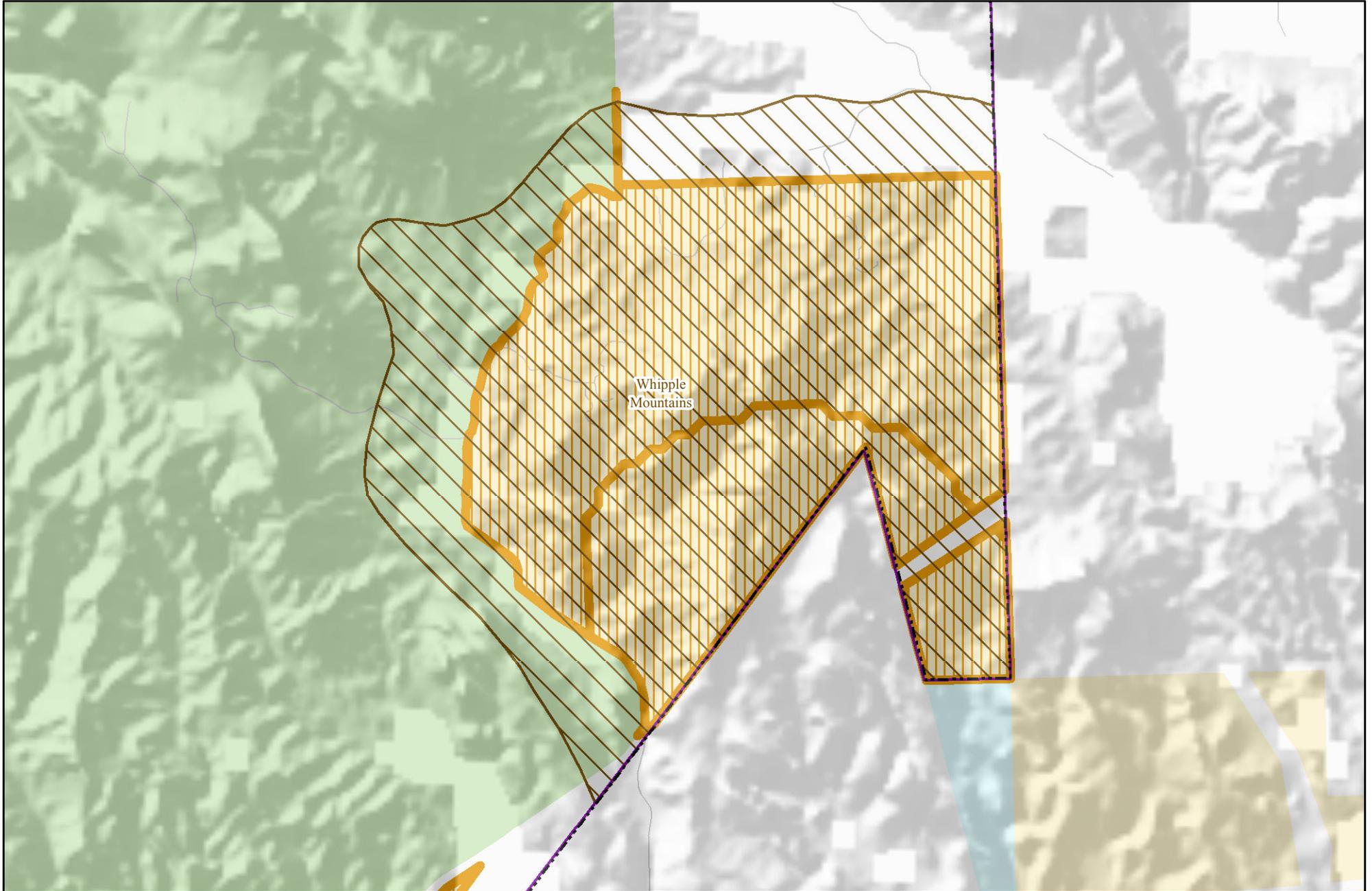
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## Alternative 2 ACECs

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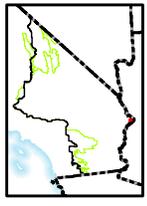
### ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

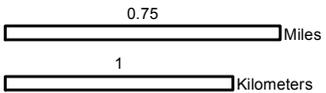
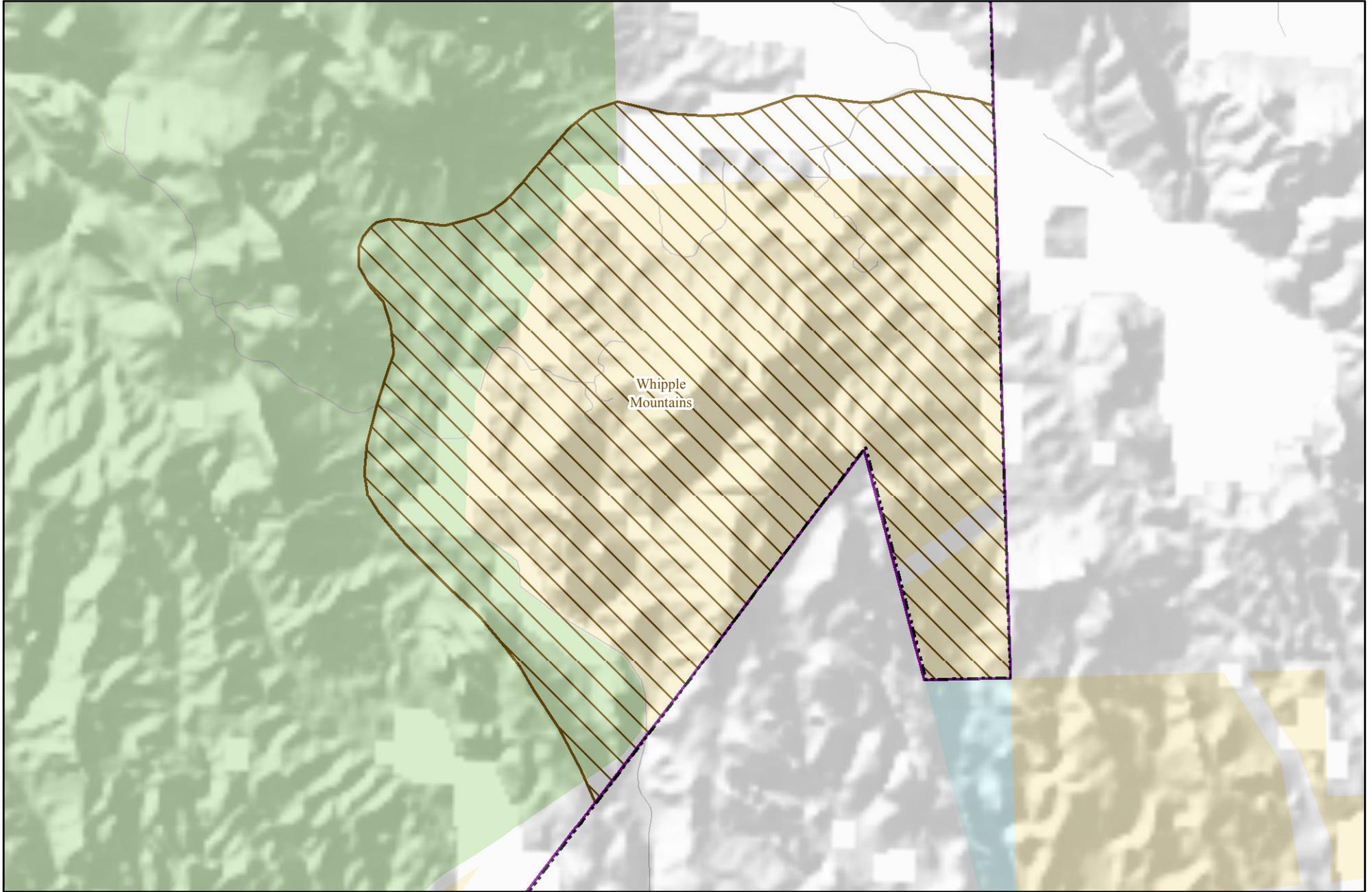
- Cities
- OHV Areas
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- BLM Field Office

- ### Land Status
- Bureau of Land Management
  - State
  - Other Federal
  - Military
  - Private

- ### GTLF
- Interstate
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## Alternative 3 ACECs

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### ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

### Land Status

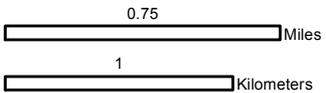
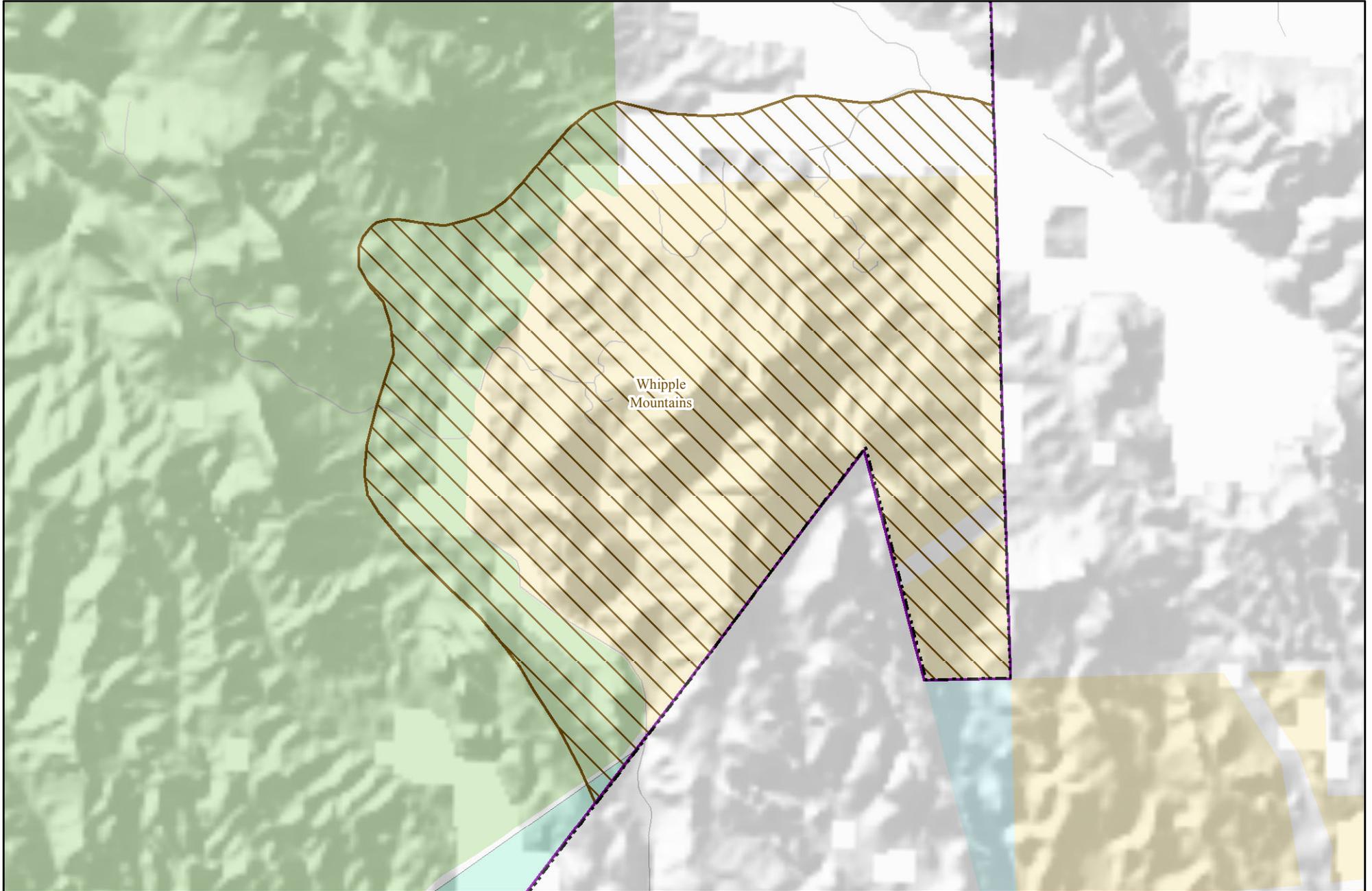
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

### GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



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## Alternative 4 ACECs

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### ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- Proposed ACEC
- Proposed NLCS
- Design Focus Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

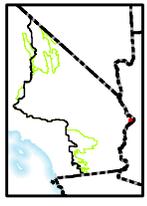
- Cities
- OHV Areas
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

### Land Status

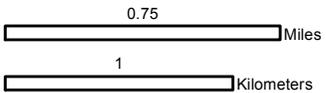
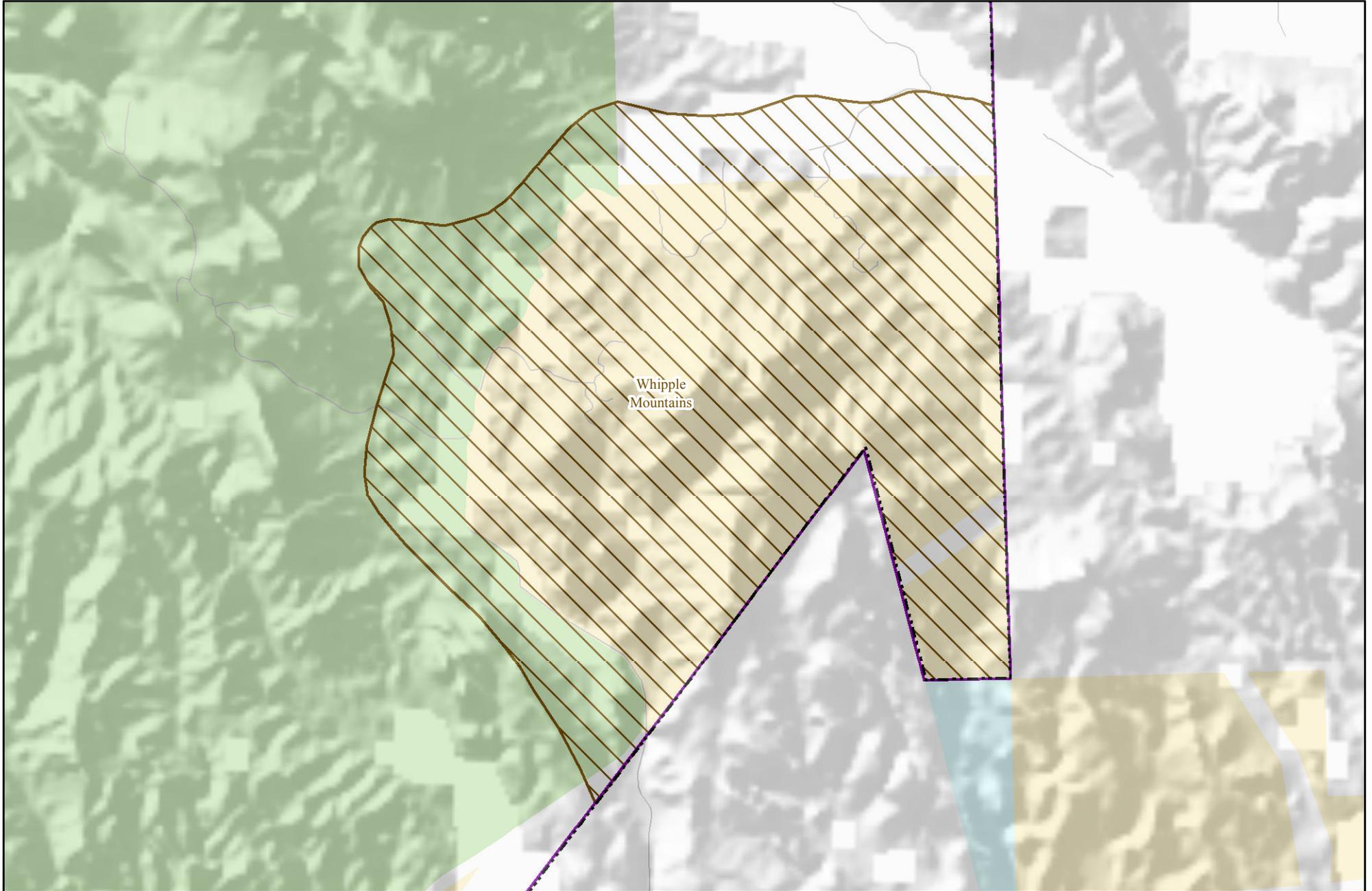
- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

### GTLF

- Interstate
- US Hwy
- CA Hwy
- County Hwy



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## No Action ACECs

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### ACEC Layers

- Existing ACEC
- OHV Areas
- Legislatively and Legally Protected

- Cities
- CDCA Boundary
- DRECP Boundary
- BLM Field Office

### Land Status

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Other Federal
- Military
- Private

### GTLF

- Interstate
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