

## **III.24 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LANDS AND OPERATIONS**

This chapter presents the environmental setting and affected environment for the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP or Plan) for Department of Defense (DOD) lands, including military bases and operations, airspace operations, and radar facilities. It describes the environmental setting for the entire Plan Area, since all six alternatives analyzed in Volume IV are within the Plan Area boundaries. This chapter also describes the environmental setting for certain areas outside of the Plan Area boundaries because some actions related to the Plan would occur there. While DOD lands are included within the Plan boundary, they are only considered for informational and planning purposes and for how the Plan may impact DOD lands and operations. Although DOD has no regulatory authority under the DRECP, they have participated in the DRECP planning process as part of the Transmission Technical Group.

### **III.24.1 Regulatory Setting**

#### **III.24.1.1 Federal**

##### ***III.24.1.1.1 Special Use Airspace***

As stated in the Special Use Airspace Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR 73.3), “Special use airspace consists of airspace of defined dimensions identified by an area on the surface of the earth wherein activities must be confined because of their nature, or wherein limitations are imposed upon aircraft operations that are not a part of those activities, or both.” Special use airspace is defined as either “prohibited areas” or “restricted areas.” Special use airspace includes prohibited areas, restricted airspace, and military operations areas. Vertical and lateral limits define special use airspace and separate military testing and training activities from other air traffic.

##### ***III.24.1.1.2 Construction or Alteration Requiring Notice***

Notice to the Federal Aviation Administration is required for any proposed construction or alteration of objects within any of the following categories (14 CFR 77.9):

1. More than 200 feet above ground level at its site.
2. Within 20,000 feet of an airport that has at least one runway longer than 3,200 feet where the proposed object would exceed a slope of 100:1 horizontally from the closest point of the nearest runway.
3. Within 10,000 feet of an airport that does not have a runway greater than 3,200 feet and the proposed object would exceed a 50:1 horizontal slope from the closest point of the nearest runway.
4. Within 50,000 feet of a heliport where the proposed object would exceed a 25:1 horizontal slope from the nearest landing and takeoff area of that heliport.

### ***III.24.1.1.3 Department of Defense—Bureau of Land Management Wind Energy Protocol of 2008***

In 2008, DOD and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) signed the Wind Energy Protocol to improve the communication and coordination process for reviewing proposed wind energy right-of-way applications on BLM-administered public lands. The goal of the protocol is to promote long-term wind energy development on BLM-administered public lands that is compatible with military activities. Specifically, the protocol establishes a process for DOD's review of and comment on proposed wind energy applications on BLM-administered public lands. The protocol also provides a process to develop mitigation measures that minimize impacts on military activities, and increases opportunities for wind energy development on high-value wind energy sites on public lands in the western United States.

### ***III.24.1.1.4 California Military Lands Withdrawal and Overflights Act of 1994***

The U.S. Congress passed Public Law 103-433, which is known as the California Military Lands Withdrawal and Overflights Act of 1994. The law is a component of the California Desert Protection Act. The act withdrew from BLM 1,100,000 acres of public lands for Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake, 226,711 acres for the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range (CMAGR), and 46,000 acres for Naval Air Facility (NAF) El Centro. Under the public land laws, these lands were withdrawn from appropriation to the Navy for military purposes for a period of 20 years, or until October 31, 2014. Furthermore, this act authorized the continued use of approximately 45,000 acres of withdrawn land for the El Centro managed ranges until 1997 or until such time as Congress reauthorized to renew the withdrawals for those lands. Subsequently, Public Law 104-201 passed in 1996 and renewed the El Centro land withdrawals for 25 years (2021). Later, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 extended the current land withdrawal until all transfer actions were complete and reported to Congress.

### ***III.24.1.1.5 Department of Defense Siting Clearinghouse***

The DOD Siting Clearinghouse is an organization within the DOD that was established in the summer of 2010 and formally authorized by Congress through Section 358 of Public Law 111-383 in January 2011. Its purpose is to coordinate the DOD review of applications for projects filed with the Secretary of Transportation (pursuant to 49 United States Code [U.S.C.] 44718) and referred to the DOD by the Department of Transportation (specifically the Federal Aviation Administration).

The Clearinghouse coordinates the efforts of all DOD components (including the Joint Staff, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and other critical offices) in the assessment of project

proposals and the development of official DOD positions on the impacts of those projects on military missions (visit the Clearinghouse website at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dodsc/>).

## **III.24.2 Department of Defense Lands and Operations Within the Plan Area**

### **III.24.2.1 Military Bases and Operations**

The DOD operates 11 areas totaling approximately 3,028,800 acres, or just over 13% of the land within the Plan Area. Many of these lands were withdrawn from BLM-administered lands and transferred to the DOD. As shown in Figure III.24-1, DOD lands are throughout the Plan Area. The majority of these lands are within the facilities described below, and they span all components of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Military operations throughout the Plan Area include both ground and aerial warfare training and testing. Military personnel are trained to use ground and airborne navigation equipment including fleet tracking and radar targeting devices.

Past, current, and future Marine Air Ground Task Force training requires the use of off-installation lands to support operating forces training exercises across the Sonoran and Mojave deserts. These exercises are similar to the historical exercises conducted during World War II in the California-Arizona Maneuver Area. These Marine Air Ground Task Force exercises typically focus on command and control of river crossing and long range tactical movements but with smaller footprints and less intensity than the World War II California-Arizona Maneuver Area exercise. Typical exercises would include movements off-installation between Yuma Proving Grounds, CMAGR, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), and/or Fort Irwin Army National Training Center. Restrictions on military transit or use of off-installation property would have impacts on military training that would need to be evaluated on a project specific basis.

#### **III.24.2.1.1 Edwards Air Force Base**

Edwards Air Force Base (AFB) is an approximately 306,700-acre Air Force-operated facility bordered by Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino counties. Edwards AFB has been operational since 1948 and provides military aircraft testing and training.

The Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards AFB conducts research, development, testing, and evaluation of aerospace systems. The facility houses multiple airborne weapons systems and operates 65 linear miles of useable landing area and runway lengths up to 7.5 miles.

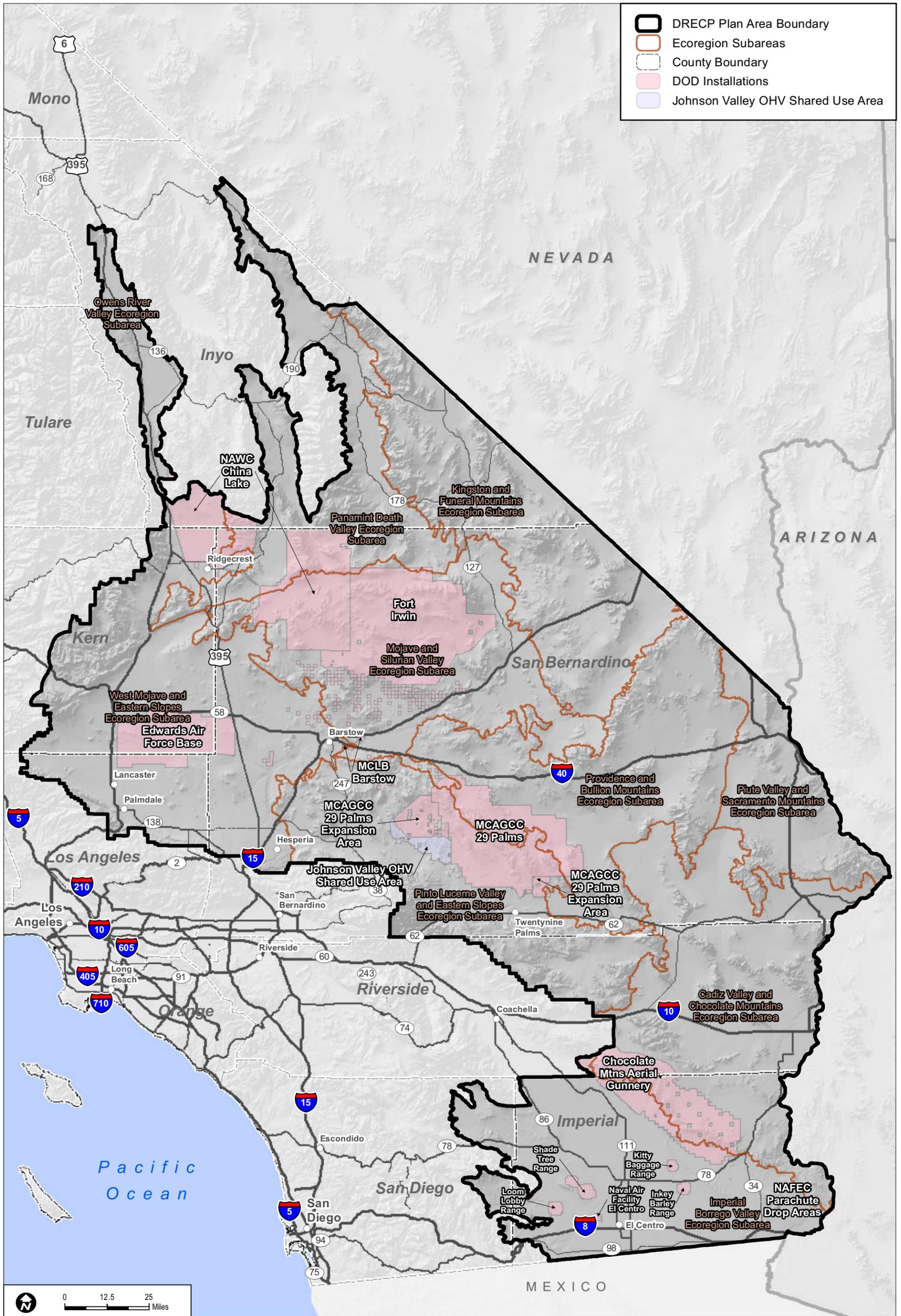
The R-2508 Complex provides the airspace areas required for bombing ranges, supersonic corridors, low-altitude high-speed maneuvers, radar intercept areas, and refueling areas for Edwards AFB, Fort Irwin Army National Training Center, and NAWS China Lake.

Edwards AFB is the Air Force's second largest installation and plays a vital role in the Developmental and Operational Test and Evaluation of weapons systems. The mission focus is on advancement through Systems Test and Evaluation, Air and Space Superiority, Global Precisions Attack, Rapid Global Mobility Personnel Recovery, Global Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, and Agile Combat Support. The 412th Test Wing at Edwards AFB utilizes the R-2508 Complex, and other ranges, to accomplish test missions on airframes structures, propulsion, avionics and electronic warfare to ensure weapons systems will operate correctly the first time and every time in combat situations. Edwards AFB is the home of the Air Force Test Pilot School and hosts a number of tenants to include the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, Air Force Research Lab, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

#### ***III.24.2.1.2 Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms***

The MCAGCC at Twentynine Palms is an approximately 598,200-acre Marine Corps base adjacent to the city of Twentynine Palms in southern San Bernardino County. Operational since 1952, the MCAGCC is the world's largest U.S. Marine Corps base and the largest military training facility in the nation.

The Record of Decision(ROD) signed in 2013 approved the expansion of MCAGCC to the west and south (Figure III.24-1). The expansion includes the withdrawal of public land and purchase of private and state-owned land collectively totaling approximately 168,000 acres. Of the 168,000 acres, approximately 103,600 acres (west) are an exclusive military use area, 43,000 acres (west) are designated as a Shared Use Area allowing public access when the Marine Corps training exercises are not being conducted (60 days per year for Marine Corps activities and the remaining 305 days for recreational use), and 21,300 acres (south) are for exclusive military use (Figure III.24-1). The ROD also establishes new Special Use Airspace and modifications to existing airspace, and expands training operations to include two Marine Expeditionary Brigade Exercises each year to the west and south acquisition areas and the existing Combat Center (DOD 2013).



Sources: ESRI (2014); CEC (2013); BLM (2013); CDFW (2013); USFWS (2013)

FIGURE III.24-1

DOD Installations in the Plan Area

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Training exercises at MCAGCC include every weapons system in the U.S. Marine Corps arsenal, from small arms to attack aircraft. The facility also offers tactical courses for electronic technicians and radio, radar, and air intercept operators.

### **III.24.2.1.3 Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range**

The CMAGR is a vital component of the U.S. Marine Corps' largest and most capable aviation training range and managed by Marine Corps Air Station Yuma (MCAS Yuma). The CMAGR portion of that aviation training range complex is on desert mountain terrain (northern area of the Chocolate Mountains) in Riverside and Imperial counties. The Navy operates the facility for aerial bombing and live-fire aerial gunnery practice.

As shown in Figure III.24-2, the land jurisdiction map of the CMAGR looks like a checkerboard. The Navy owns roughly half of the land; the other half is BLM-administered public land withdrawn from BLM management and reserved by the Navy for military training. Subject to conditions outlined in the California Military Lands Withdrawal and Overflight Act of 1994, the Navy's authority to use the public land in the CMAGR expires in October 2014.

In December 2013, the president signed Public Law 113-66. Provisions of the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act authorized the transfer of withdrawn public lands within the CMAGR to the Navy. This act also extended the current land withdrawal until all transfer actions were complete and reported to Congress.

CMAGR currently supports military aircrew training in air combat maneuvering and tactics, airborne laser system operations, air-to-air gunnery, and air-to-ground bombing, rocketry, and strafing. Artillery, demolitions, small arms, and Navy Special Warfare training are also conducted within the CMAGR.

### **III.24.2.1.4 Fort Irwin Army National Training Center**

Fort Irwin Army National Training Center is an approximately 750,200-acre military training facility in the Mojave Desert in northern San Bernardino County. In 1979 the Department of the Army announced that its National Training Center would be at Fort Irwin.

Fort Irwin National Training Center provides both ground and aviation live-fire training.

### **III.24.2.1.5 Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake**

NAWS China Lake is a more than 1.1-million-acre Navy facility. Approximately 781,200 acres are within the Plan Area boundaries. In operation since the 1940s, NAWS China Lake is in the western Mojave Desert approximately 150 miles north of Los Angeles in Kern, Inyo, and San Bernardino counties.

NAWS China Lake researches, develops, acquires, tests, and evaluates weapons systems. Aircraft operations conducted at Armitage Field contain three runways with more than 26,000 linear feet and 20,500 linear feet of taxiway. More than 20,000 manned and unmanned military sorties are conducted out of Armitage each year.

#### **III.24.2.1.6 Naval Air Facility El Centro**

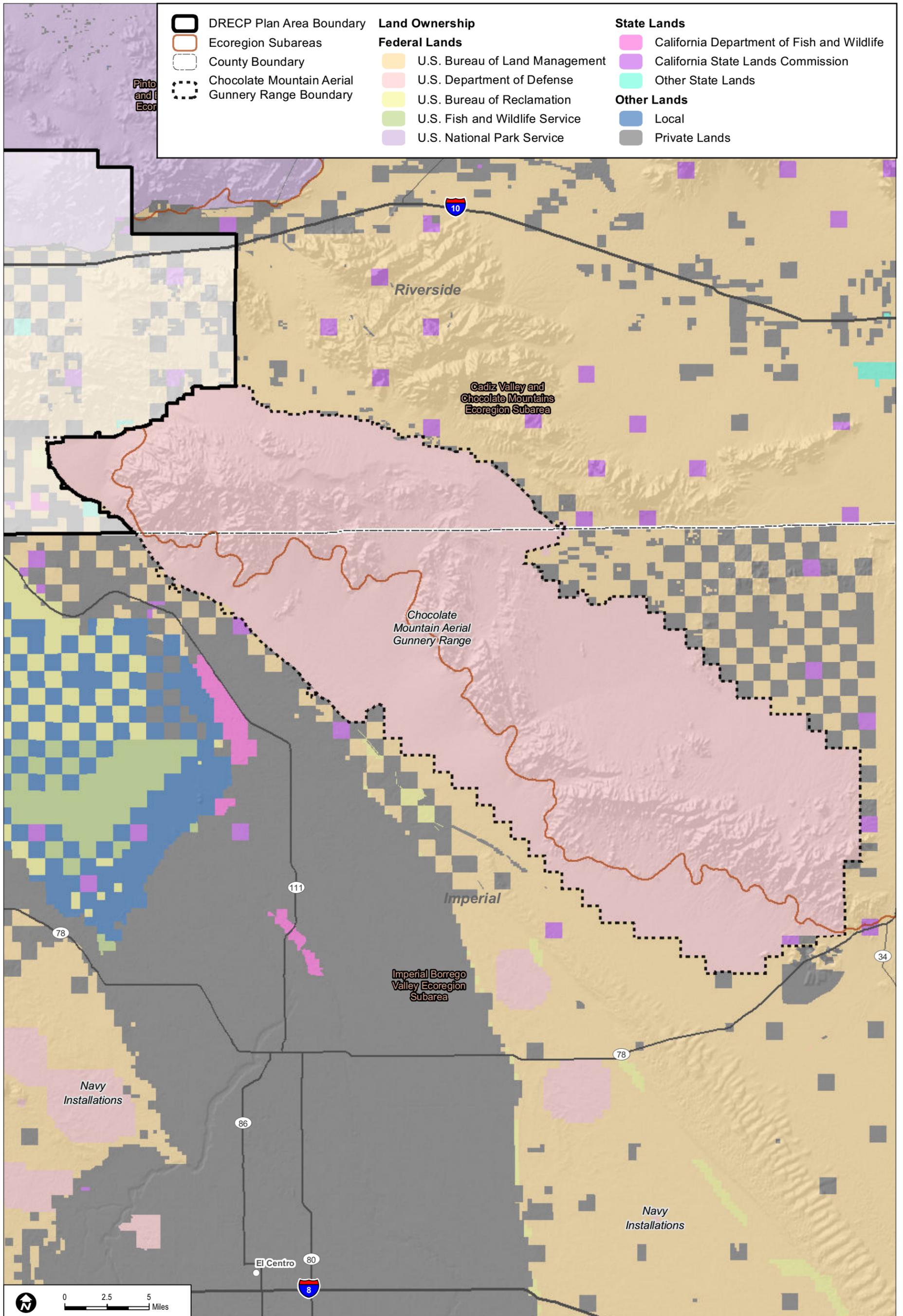
NAF El Centro in Southern California's Imperial Valley is a 2-hour drive from San Diego and Palm Springs, respectively, and approximately 15 minutes from the U.S.–Mexico border. Commissioned in 1946, NAF El Centro provides naval ground and aviation training.

The approximately 2,300-acre base has control over an additional 54,000 acres of several ranges and bombing areas in the valley. The range is used for air-to-ground bombing, rocket firing, strafing, dummy drops, and mobile land target training. The facility has two operating runways. The 9,500-foot east–west runway handles 96% of the traffic. It is equipped with special optical landing systems and lighted carrier deck landing areas where pilots can simulate carrier landings.

#### **III.24.2.2 Airspace Operations**

The DOD uses military operations areas as designated by the Federal Aviation Administration. Military operations areas are designated to contain nonhazardous, military flight activities in airspace above and between military facilities. Military Operations Areas and military training routes are throughout the Plan Area. Military training routes are aerial corridors that serve as flight paths. Military aircraft can operate at floors from surface to 1,000 feet above ground level. Figure III.24-3 shows the location of restricted airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes in the Plan Area.

The R-2508 Complex is a system of military operations areas and training routes that support military flight crew training, including the airspace used and managed by the three principal military facilities in the Upper Mojave Desert region: Edwards AFB, Fort Irwin, and China Lake (Edwards AFB 2012). The R-2508 Complex provides the largest single area of overland special use airspace within the United States and consists of the overlying Restricted Area R-2508, five underlying restricted areas, and 10 military operations areas. Typical operations within the R-2508 Complex include aircraft research and development in all stages of flight, operational weapons test and evaluation flights, student pilot training, air combat maneuvering and proficiency flights, and civilian test aircraft in direct support of DOD and/or defense testing.



Sources: ESRI (2014); CEC (2013); BLM (2013); CDFW (2013); USFWS (2013)

FIGURE III.24-2

Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range Land Jurisdiction

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The R-2508 Complex encompasses large portions of Inyo, Kern, San Bernardino, and Tulare counties. It also includes a portion of both Fresno and Los Angeles counties and extends into Nevada's Esmeralda County.

The Bob Stump Training Range Complex (BSTRC) is the largest single concentration of military restricted airspace with interspersed gunnery and bombing ranges underneath. It provides the U.S. military's premier training venue for realistic tactical air-to-air and air-to-ground aviation training. The BSTRC is situated along the southern U.S. border and spans across southern Arizona and Imperial and Riverside counties in Southern California. It consists of all portions of the R2301, R2306, R2307, R2308, and R2311 airspace in Arizona and all portions of the R2507, R2512, and R2510 airspace in California plus all military operations areas and designated bombing/gunnery ranges in and around those established pieces of restricted airspace.

Together, the R2508 Complex and the BSTRC provide DOD with the highest value aviation airspace within the United States that replicates the most realistic mission conditions for aircrew proficiency training and unit-level readiness up to and including large-scale exercises that integrate air-ground components as well as research, testing, development, and evaluation of aviation and aviation-related systems.

### **III.24.2.3 Radar Facilities**

Radar sites both within and close to the Plan Area are important for military operations. These sites include Terminal Doppler Weather Radar stations, Airport Surveillance Radar installations, and Air Route Surveillance Radar installations (Figure III.24-4). In addition, the military ranges have specialized tracking radar systems, communications systems, and other specialized instrumentation.

## **III.24.3 Department of Defense Lands and Operations by DRECP Ecoregion Subarea**

### **III.24.3.1 Cadiz Valley and Chocolate Mountains Ecoregion Subarea**

The Cadiz Valley and Chocolate Mountains ecoregion subarea contains the eastern portion of the CMAGR as well as special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-1.

**Table III.24-1  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Cadiz Valley and  
Chocolate Mountains Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	311,000
Military Training Routes	2,414,000
Military Operations Areas	1,155,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	295,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.2 Imperial Borrego Valley Ecoregion Subarea

The Imperial Borrego Valley ecoregion subarea contains the western portion of the CMAGR, four military ranges, special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-2.

**Table III.24-2  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Imperial Borrego Valley Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	184,000
Military Training Routes	1,716,000
Military Operations Areas	1,522,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	336,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.



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### III.24.3.3 Kingston and Funeral Mountains Ecoregion Subarea

There are no DOD installations within the Kingston and Funeral Mountains ecoregion subarea, but it does contain special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-3.

**Table III.24-3  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Kingston and Funeral Mountains  
Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	0
Military Training Routes	1,383,000
Military Operations Areas	931,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	38,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.4 Mojave and Silurian Valley Ecoregion Subarea

The Mojave and Silurian Valley ecoregion subarea contains the majority of Fort Irwin Naval Training Center, a portion of NAWS China Lake, and special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-4.

**Table III.24-4  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Mojave and Silurian Valley Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	1,154,000
Military Training Routes	1,369,000
Military Operations Areas	622,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	1,387,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.5 Owens River Valley Ecoregion Subarea

The Owens River Valley ecoregion subarea contains only a small portion of NAWS China Lake and special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-5.

**Table III.24-5  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Owens River Valley Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	4,000
Military Training Routes	188,000
Military Operations Areas	420,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	423,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.6 Panamint Death Valley Ecoregion Subarea

The Panamint Death Valley ecoregion subarea contains a substantial portion of NAWS China Lake and special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-6.

**Table III.24-6  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Panamint Death Valley Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	242,000
Military Training Routes	831,000
Military Operations Areas	1,947,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	2,147,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.7 Pinto Lucerne Valley and Eastern Slopes Ecoregion Subarea

The Pinto Lucerne Valley and Eastern Slopes ecoregion subarea contains the western portion of the MCAGCC Twentynine Palms and special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-7.

**Table III.24-7  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Pinto Lucerne Valley and Eastern Slopes  
Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	328,000
Military Training Routes	925,000
Military Operations Areas	28,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	350,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.8 Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains Ecoregion Subarea

There are no DOD installations or special use airspace within the Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains ecoregion subarea, but it does contain military operations areas and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-8.

**Table III.24-8  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Piute Valley and Sacramento Mountains  
Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	0
Military Training Routes	524,000
Military Operations Areas	717,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	0

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.9 Providence and Bullion Mountains Ecoregion Subarea

The Providence and Bullion Mountains ecoregion subarea contains the eastern portion of the MCAGCC Twentynine Palms and special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-9.

**Table III.24-9  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the Providence and Bullion Mountains  
Ecoregion Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	262,000
Military Training Routes	2,153,000
Military Operations Areas	561,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	331,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.3.10 West Mojave and Eastern Slopes Ecoregion Subarea

The West Mojave and Eastern Slopes ecoregion subarea is dominated by Edwards AFB and contains special use airspace, military operations areas, and military training routes, as shown in Table III.24-10. This ecoregion subarea also contains one Air Route Surveillance Radar installation.

**Table III.24-10  
DOD Land and Airspace Within the West Mojave and Eastern Slopes Ecoregion  
Subarea**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	544,000
Military Training Routes	1,670,000
Military Operations Areas	1,187,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	2,247,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

### III.24.4 Affected Environment for the Natural Community Conservation Plan

The affected environment for the Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) is the same as described for the Plan Area as a whole. While both DOD and tribal lands are within the Plan boundaries they are not included in the description of the affected environment since the Plan does not analyze their effects on the lands.

### **III.24.5 Affected Environment for the General Conservation Plan**

The affected environment for the General Conservation Plan (GCP) includes a subset of the lands covered by Plan-wide analysis and the NCCP. In addition to excluding DOD and tribal lands, the GCP also excludes all other federal lands (BLM-administered public lands, national parks, etc.). The GCP is not addressed for DOD lands because the GCP addresses nonfederal lands only.

### **III.24.6 Department of Defense Lands and Operations Outside of Plan Area**

#### **III.24.6.1 Department of Defense Lands and Operations—Transmission Outside of Plan Area**

The federal regulatory setting presented in Section III.24.1.1 encompasses corridors in all transmission outside of Plan Areas. The affected environment information presented in Section III.24.2.2 for airspace operations additionally encompasses all transmission outside of Plan Area corridors.

The following discussion provides environmental setting information on DOD lands, military bases, and operations along each transmission corridor outside of the Plan Area.

##### **III.24.6.1.1 *San Diego Area***

DOD bases and facilities near the Outside of Plan Area corridor in San Diego include the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar, Naval Base San Diego, Naval Base Point Loma, Naval Base Coronado, and Marines Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

The MCAS Miramar is home to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, which is the aviation element of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. It is about 10 miles north of downtown San Diego. MCAS Miramar covers approximately 23,000 acres and contains three runways.

Naval Base San Diego is home to the Pacific Fleet, consisting of 49 Navy ships, two Coast Guard cutters, five Military Sealift Command logistical support platforms, and several research and auxiliary vessels. Naval Base San Diego comprises over 1,600 land acres and over 300 acres of water.

Naval Base Point Loma, also located in San Diego, consists of six installations and is consolidated under Commander Navy Region Southwest. Naval Base Point Loma provides support to 70 U.S. Pacific Fleet afloat and shore based tenant commands headquartered on the base.

Naval Base Coronado is a consolidated Navy installation encompassing eight military facilities stretching from San Clemente Island (70 miles west of San Diego) to the La Posta Mountain Warfare Training Facility (60 miles east of San Diego). Naval Base Coronado provides a shore-based platform for helicopters, aircraft carriers, SEAL Teams and other ashore and afloat commands for access to a comprehensive quantity of ground, sea, air, and undersea operational and training space.

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton is the Marine Corps' largest West Coast expeditionary training facility. It encompasses more than 125,000 acres in Southern California and is approximately 38 miles from downtown San Diego in North County and 82 miles south of Los Angeles. Camp Pendleton offers a broad spectrum of training facilities for many active and reserve Marine, Army and Navy units, as well as national, state and local agencies.

#### ***III.24.6.1.2 Los Angeles Area***

DOD bases and facilities near the Outside of Plan Area corridors in Los Angeles include Edwards AFB (see Section III.24.2.1.1).

#### ***III.24.6.1.3 North Palm Springs-Riverside Area***

DOD bases and facilities near the Outside of Plan Area corridor in the North Palm Springs-Riverside area include MCAGCC Twentynine Palms (see Section III.24.2.1.2) and March Air Reserve Base, which is in Riverside County between the cities of Riverside and Moreno Valley. It is home to the Air Force Reserve Command's 4th Air Force Headquarters and is host to the 452nd Air Mobility Wing. March Air Reserve Base covers 7,680 acres and contains two runways.

#### ***III.24.6.1.4 Central Valley Area***

DOD bases and facilities near the Outside of Plan Area corridor in the Central Valley area include Lemoore Naval Air Station, which is approximately 18 miles east of the corridor in the Central Valley.

### **III.24.6.2 Bureau of Land Management Land Use Plan Amendment Decisions**

DOD lands and operations on BLM lands within the California Desert Conservation Area boundary but Outside of Plan Area are shown in Table III.24-11.

**Table III.24-11**  
**DOD Land and Airspace on BLM Lands Within the California Desert Conservation**  
**Area Boundary but Outside of Plan Area**

Facility Type	Acres
DOD Installations	0
Military Training Routes	1,594,000
Military Operations Areas	659,000
Special Use Airspace – Restricted	548,000

**Note:** The following general rounding rules were applied to calculated values: values greater than 1,000 were rounded to nearest 1,000; values less than 1,000 and greater than 100 were rounded to the nearest 100; values of 100 or less were rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore totals may not sum due to rounding. In cases where subtotals are provided, the subtotals and the totals are individually rounded. The totals are not a sum of the rounded subtotals; therefore the subtotals may not sum to the total within the table.

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