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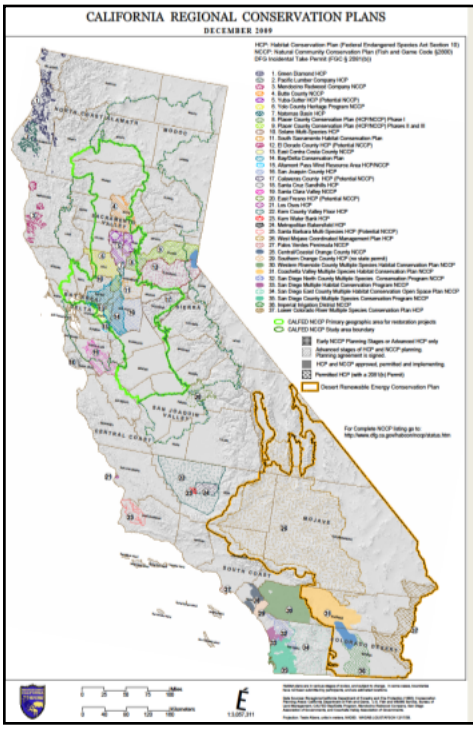
DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN

Desert Renewable Conservation Plan (DRECP) Overview

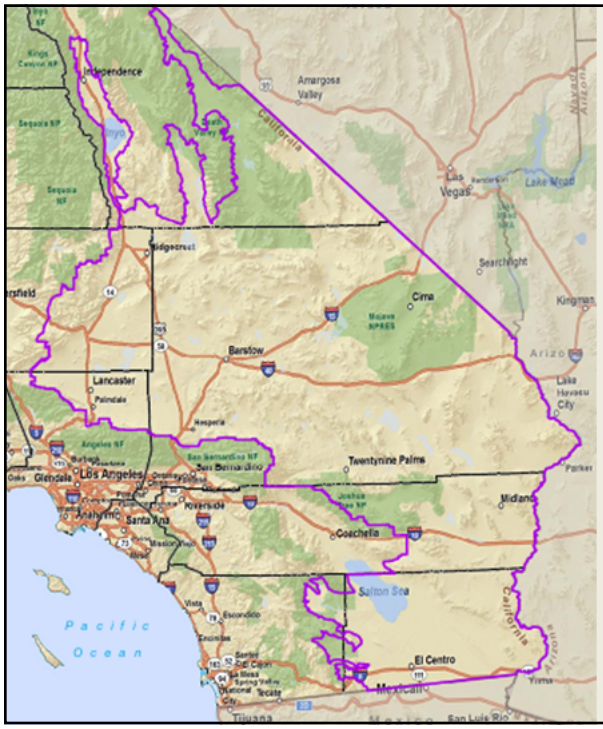
May 10, 2012



DRECP is a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), and a Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) for BLM public lands

39 NCCP Plans Development and Implementation in California

DRECP is the Largest, approximately 22 million acres of public and private lands



Mojave and Colorado Desert in California

All or a portion of 7 Counties:

- Inyo
- Kern
- San Bernardino
- Los Angeles
- Riverside
- Imperial
- San Diego

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Project and Developer Benefits to Operation of the DRECP:

- CESA – ESA Certainty of Mitigation Requirements for Projects Affecting T&E Species; Project Costs for Biological Mitigation Identified Up Front
- Mitigation and Monitoring Costs and Responsibilities Identified for Entire Permit Term
- Plan Development and Implementation in Partnership with State and Federal Agencies Reduces Individual Project Costs
- Project Permitting Timeline Reduced Significantly
- Project Environmental Review Complete, or Subsequent Timelines Reduced Significantly

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Environmental and Agency Benefits to Operation of the DRECP:

- Regional Biodiversity (Habitats, Species, Ecological Processes) Conserved on a Sustainable Basis
- Assist in Species Recovery; Prevent Future Species Listings
- Increased Biological Effectiveness of Project Mitigation
- Plan Development and Implementation in Partnership with Industry and Developers Reduces Conservation Costs
- Agency Workloads for Individual Project Permitting and Environmental Reviews Reduced Significantly

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DRECP Progress:

- Develop an initial set of alternatives for conservation and development senarios.
- Identify Initial Renewable Energy Zones – preferred areas of development with lower biological value.
- Identify corresponding areas for species conservation to provide offset for project impacts.
- Develop and implement coordinated permitting and incentives for Initial renewable energy zones.

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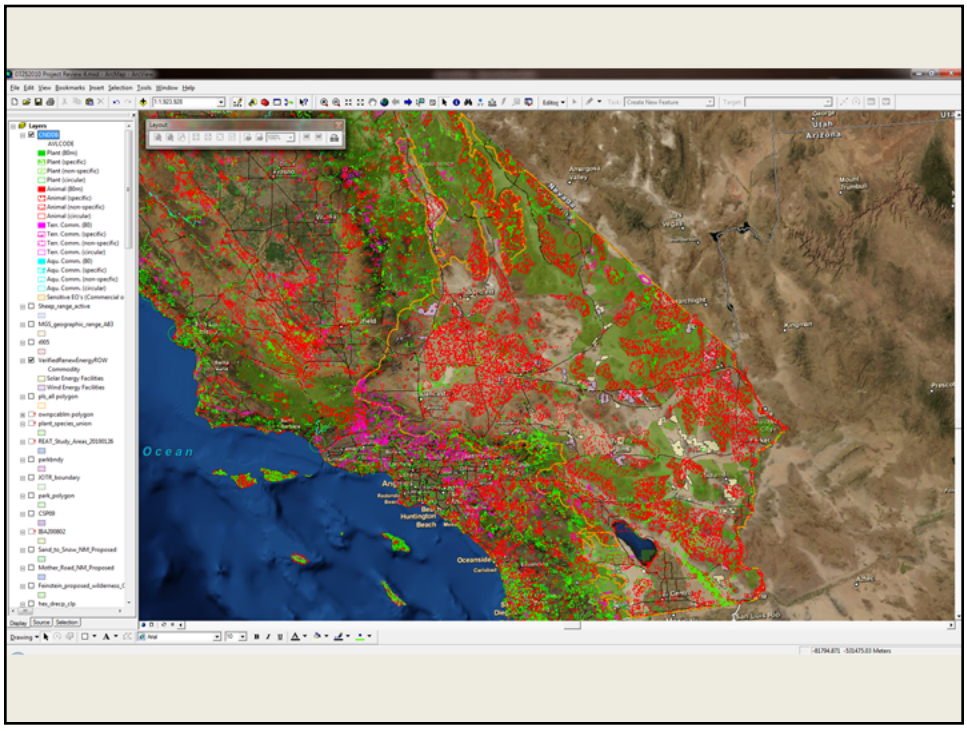
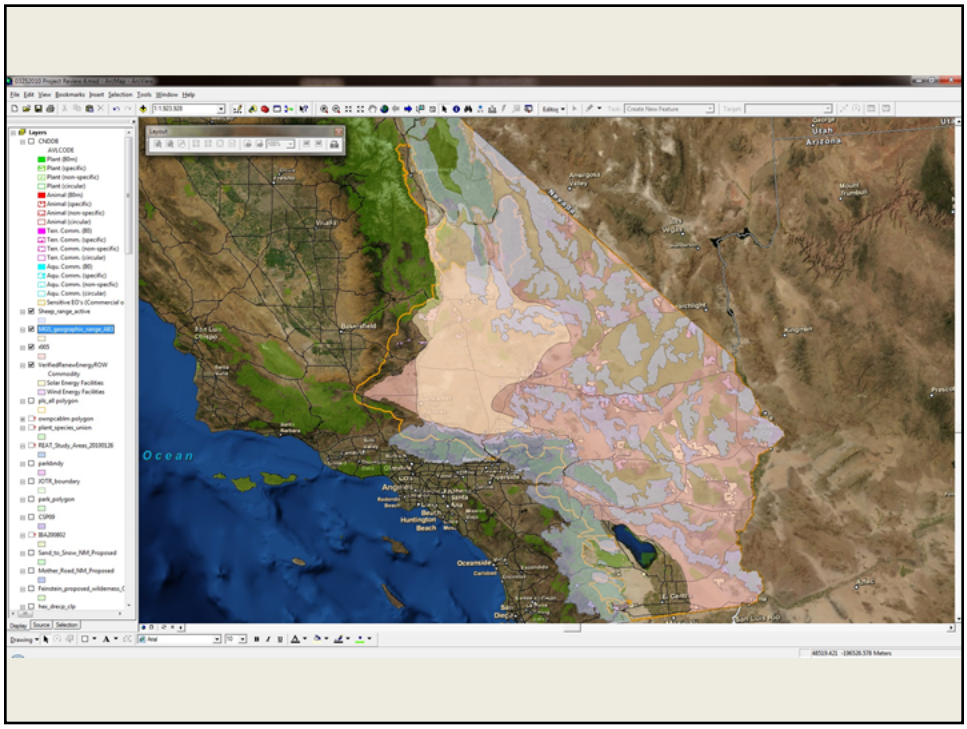
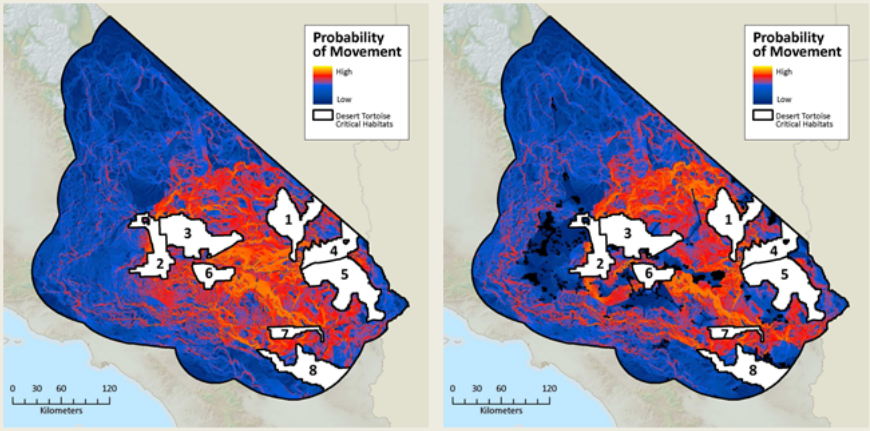
Data Assessed:

- Criteria used to identify potential areas for utility-scale solar, wind and geothermal development
  - Quality of resource
  - Slope
  - Proximity to roads and transmission
  - Conservation value of the land





Desert Tortoise



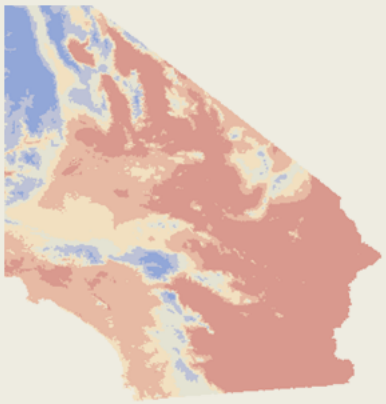
Project Members: Lucas Bare, Tessa Bernhardt, Toby Chu, Christopher Noddings, Melissa Gomez, Milena Viljoen,
Project Advisor: Lee Hannah

Cumulative Impacts of Large-scale
Renewable Energy Development in the West Mojave
Effects on habitat quality, physical movement of species, and gene flow

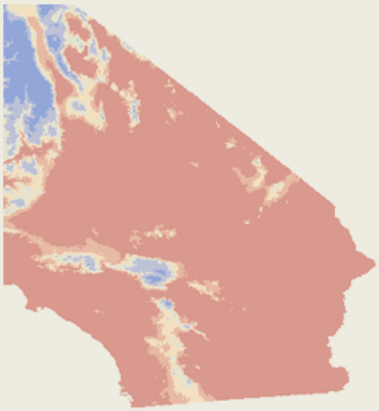
ON THE WEB AT HTTP://WWW.BREN.UCSB.EDU/~WESTMOJAVE SPRING 2009

Climate – Annual Mean Temperature

Projected Current Climate



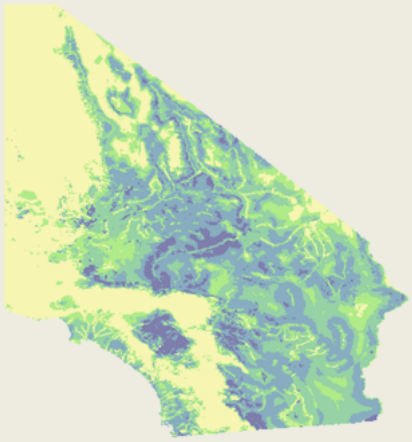
Projected Future Climate



PRBO Conservation Science

Cactus Wren

Projected Current Distribution



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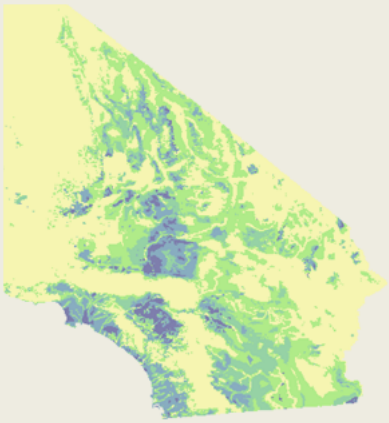
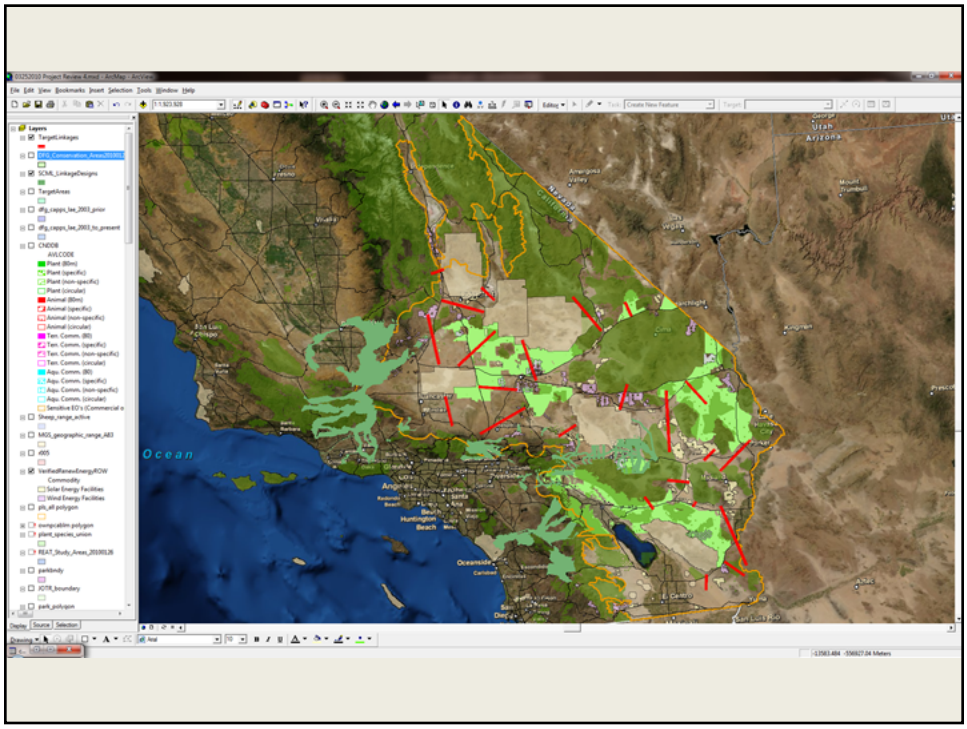


PRBO Conservation Science



15 Non-Biological Issues Addressed*

- Agricultural Land & Production
- Air Quality & Attainment Status
- Climate Change Predictions
- Cultural Resources - Historic and Pre-historic
- DOD Military Operations
- Flood Hazard , Hydrology, & Drainage Areas
- Groundwater & Water Supply
- Meteorology & Climate Data
- Native American Traditional Land Uses
- Noise
- Outdoor Recreation
- Planned Land Uses & Policies
- Public Safety Services
- Socioeconomics & Environmental Justice
- Visual Resources

*Some topics are also relevant to biological issues.

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The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan: Challenges

- Integration of, and coordination with, current conservation and planning efforts
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- Desert is fully subscribed with uses
- Meeting complex and evolving conservation objectives over multiple land owners and land uses
- Overcoming multi-agency culture and process impediments to create a seamless and integrated permitting process

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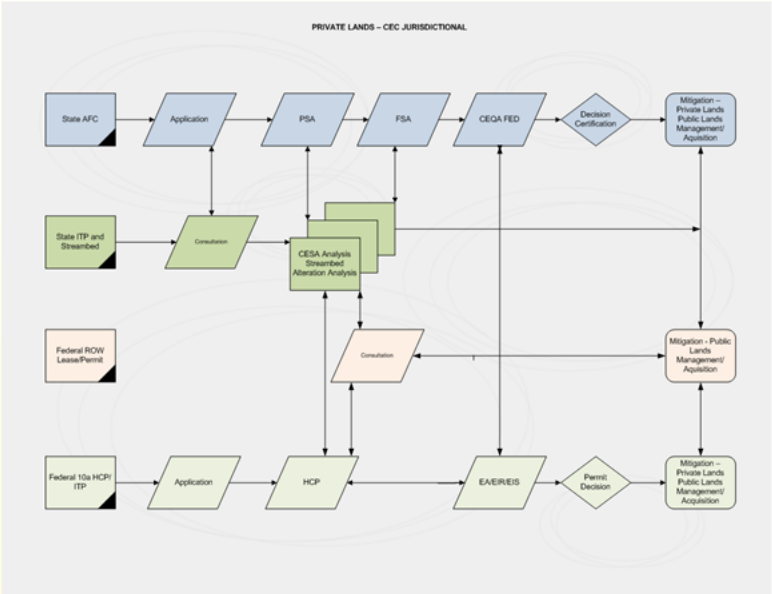

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