DC Event	HI Event	Organization Type	Organization	First Name	Last Name	Title	Phone Number	Email Address	Notes
X	X	Other	Former US Representative	Colleen	Hanabusa	Former US Representative			Niece of Internee
X	X	Congressional	US Senate	Brian	Schatz	Senator	email/call COS	Andrew_Winer@schatz.senate.gov	
X	X	Congressional	US Senate	Maizie	Hirono	Senator	email/call COS	Betsy_lin@hirorno.senate.gov	
X	X	Congressional	US Representative	Mark	Takai	Representative	emai/call COS	Rod.Tanonaka@mail.house.gov	
X	X	Congressional	US Representative	Tulsi	Gabbard	Representative	email/call COS	walt.kaneakua@mail.house.gov	
		Congressional	US Representative	Mark	Takano	Representative	email/call COS	richard.mcpike@mail.house.gov	
		Congressional	Representative	Mike	Honda	Representative	email/call COS	Jennifer.VanderHeide@mail.house.gov	
		Congressional	Representative	Judy	Chu	Representative	email/call COS	linda.shim@mail.house.gov	
		Congressional	Representative	Doris	Matsui	Representative	email/call COS	julie.eddy@mail.house.gov	
X		NGO	Trust for Public Land	Will	Rogers	President & CEO	202-543-7552	willrogers@tpl.org	
X		NGO	National Parks Conservation Association	Theresa	Pierno	CEO		tpierno@npca.org	
X		NGO	National Parks Conservation Association	Craig	Obey	Senior VP, Government Affairs		cobey@npca.org	
X		NGO	Trust for Public Land	Kathy	DeCoster	VP and Director of Federal Affiars		kathy.decoster@tpl.org	
X		NGO	National Trust for Historic Preservation	Tom	Cassidy	Government Affairs		tcassidy@savingplaces.org	
X		NGO	National Trust for Historic Preservation	Denise	Ryan	Director of Public Lands Policy			
X		NGO	Sierra Club	Michael	Brune	Executive Director	415-977-5500	michael.brune@sierraclub.org	
X		NGO	Wyss Foundation, The	Molly	McUsic	President	202-232-4418 ext.12	mcusic@wyssfoundation.org	
X		NGO	PEW	Mike	Matz	Director, US Public Lands	970-247-2888	mmatz@pewtrusts.org	
X		NGO	League of Conservation Voters	Tiernan	Sittenfeld	Senior Vice President, Government Affairs	202-785-8683	Tiernan_sittenfeld@lcv.org	
X		NGO	National Parks Conservation Association	Alan	Spears	Government Affairs Cultural Resources Director		aspears@npca.org	
X		NGO	National Parks Conservation Association	Clark	Bunting	President and CEO	202-223-6722	cbunting@npca.org	
X		NGO	League of Conservation Voters	Alex	Taurel	Deputy Legisltive Director	202-454-4606	alex_taurel@lcv.org	
X		NGO	League of Conservation Voters	Tiernan	Sittenfeld	Senior Vice President, Government Affairs	202-785-8683	Tiernan_sittenfeld@lcv.org	
X		NGO	Sierra Club	Athan	Manuel	Director, Lands Protection Program	202-548-4580	atthan.manuel@sierraclub.org	

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

RSVP Browns Canyon Honoulini National Monument (Responses) - Request for access

1 message

Gisella Ojeda-dodds (via Google Sheets) <gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 12:01 PM
To: steven_avila@ios.doi.gov

gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov is **requesting access** to the following spreadsheet:

RSVP Browns Canyon Honoulini National Monument (Responses)

Open sharing settings

Google Sheets: Create and edit spreadsheets online.

Google

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: President Obama Every Kid in a Park, Transit to Trails, Honouliuli, Pullman, Browns Canyon National Monuments

1 message

Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 1:03 PM
To: Terri Johnson <Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

FYI
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Robert Garcia** <rgarcia@cityprojectca.org>
Date: Thu, Feb 19, 2015 at 11:29 AM
Subject: President Obama Every Kid in a Park, Transit to Trails, Honouliuli, Pullman, Browns Canyon National Monuments
To: Francisco Carrillo <Francisco_Carrillo@ios.doi.gov>

This email is also available online at: http://www.cityprojectca.org/blog/archives/35621

Follow us:

Equal Justice, Democracy, and Livability for All

February 19, 2015

President Obama Every Kid in a Park, Transit to Trails, Honouliuli, Pullman, Browns Canyon National Monuments

Since President Barack Obama designated the San Gabriel Mountains Monument in October 2014, the White House has demonstrated a renewed commitment to environmental and green justice.

Every child has the right to the simple joy of playing in the park. Under President Obama's Every Kid in a Park initiative, the National Park Service will give all fourth graders and their families free admission to national parks and other federal lands for a full year. The President also designated new national monuments.

President Obama recognizes that too many children, especially children of color, don't have access to parks where they can play, breathe fresh air, experience nature, and learn about their environment. This is an issue of social justice, health, and economic vitality for all. It's not enough to have awesome natural wonders. You have to be able to access them. Green justice is about working with communities to open up parks and our heritage to everybody — young and old, Latino, Asian, Native American, black, white — to make sure everybody can enjoy these rights. Every Kid in a Park will award transportation grants for school children to visit parks, public lands and waters, focusing on schools with the greatest need.

Transit to Trails provides opportunities for park-poor, income-poor communities to learn about water, land, wildlife and cultural history, and engage in healthy physical activity. Transit to Trails increases access to national parks, monuments, and other park lands. Underserved commuities lack close-to-home green space, monuments, transportation, and opportunities to reach recreation and natural resources. Transit to Trails is a best practice to get people to the parks now, and prepare y0ung people to be the stewards of our natural heritage tomorrow. Transit to Trails helps reduce traffic congestion and parking problems, improve air quality, and reduce polluted water run-off into rivers and the ocean by providing accessible public

transportation. President Obama agrees with the National Park Service, the California Parks Forward Commission, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), US Army Corps of Engineers about the Transit to Trails program by Anahuak Youth Sports Association, and The City Project, and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). Transit to Trails is a best practice for taking inner city youth and their families and friends on fun, educational, and healthy park, river, beach, and mountain trips.

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell with children from Anahuak Youth Sports Association and The City Project

We celebrate President Obama designating three new monuments that honor the diverse history of our nation, and promote access to healthy, outdoor recreation for all: Honouliuli, Pullman, and the Browns Canyon landscape and river corridor.

Honouliuli commemorates the fragility of civil rights, and the incarceration of innocent Japanese Americans for three years during World War II. The designation on February 19 comes 73 years to the day after President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed executive order 9066. The order authorized the evacuation of over 100,000 men, women, and children of Japanese ancestry, including U.S. citizens, to isolated, fenced, and guarded internment camps. The United States Supreme Court upheld this intentional discrimination against Japanese Americans in *Korematsu v United States.* A federal district court threw out Fred Korematsu's conviction 40 years later, concluding that "'today the decision in *Korematsu* lies overruled in the court of history.'"

Pullman, on Chicago's Far South Side, honors the formation of the first African-American labor union, development of the first "company town," and the role of railroads in the nation's industrial past.

Honouliuli and Pullman, like Manzanar National Monument, are best practice examples to celebrate the nation's diversity faithfully, completely, and accurately, and to stimulate and provoke a greater understanding of, and dialogue on, civil rights, democracy, and freedom.

The City Project has been working for 15 years to broaden access to parks and open space for inner-city residents and to fight childhood obesity by guaranteeing that students get enough physical education. We are profoundly grateful to President Barack Obama and the National Park Service for Kid in a Park, and for diversifying national monuments.

–Robert García, Founding Director and Counsel, The City Project

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The flags from the ten Japanese American internment camps at Rohwer, Serome, Amache, Heart Mountain, Minidota, Topaz, Poston, Giva, Tule Lake, Manzanar

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Please consider making a secure, online, tax-deductible donation to The City Project to help promote equal justice, democracy, and livability for all.

The City Project 1055 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1660 Los Angeles CA 90017 www.cityprojectca.org 213-977-1035

Robert García
Founding Director and Counsel
The City Project
1055 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1660
Los Angeles, CA 90017
rgarcia@cityprojectca.org
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Visit our website and blog at
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cityprojectca.tumblr.com
facebook.com/TheCityProject | facebook.com/robert.garcia1
twitter @CityProjectCA | @Robert_Garcia
Google+ gplus.to/cityproject | google.com/+RobertGarcia
linkedin.com/company/the-city-project
linkedin.com/in/robertgarcia2

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FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: LTE& Support for Public Lands

1 message

Johnson, Terri <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 3:35 PM
To: Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Francisco Carrillo <Francisco_Carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>

Below is an email and attached letters to the editor that will hopefully run regarding the monument designations that we may want to include in our stakeholder statements.

Terri

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Brianne Condon** <bri@catalystwilderness.org>
Date: Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 2:14 PM
Subject: LTE& Support for Public Lands
To: John_blair@ios.doi.gov, Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov

Attention: Sally Jewel

The recent monuments designations by President Obama has truly inspired me to reach out to your office and to submit the attached Letters To the Editors. I founded a small innovative non-profit outdoor behavioral healthcare program working with teenagers in foster care and could not continue our work if it were not for open and accessible public lands and backcountry wilderness area designations. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your support on the topic of public lands and their protection as well as your part in supporting the President's use of the Antiquities Act!

Respectfully,
Brianne Condon, M.A
Founder & CEO

Bri@CatalystWilderness.org
(541) 514-0561
http://CatalystWilderness.org
Registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization

2 attachments

(1)Letter to the Editor. Union Bulletin.docx
13K

(2) Letter to the Editor. Tri-City Herald.docx
13K

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Letter to the Editor **Union-Bulletin**

Catalyst is a non-profit wilderness therapy organization dedicated to serving teenagers in the foster care system via a highly specialized backcountry setting. Our goal is to support and empower the next generation of marginalized teenagers past complex issues of mental health and substance abuse.

Catalyst relies on wild, protected public lands in order for its youth program to be successful. While our program takes teens out into the vast and wild national forests here in Washington, we don't want to miss the opportunity to applaud the protection of wildlands in other parts of the West.

This week, President Obama used his authority under the Antiquities Act to establish the Browns Canyon National Monument in Colorado. One of our nation's most important conservation tools, the Antiquities Act of 1906 gives the president the power to protect natural, historical, and cultural places for current and future generations.

A broad cross-section of local groups and businesses endorsed proposals to protect Browns Canyon, including river outfitters, sportsmen, youth, faith organizations, veterans groups, local businesses, and county commissioners.

Browns Canyon is beautiful place for backpacking and hiking, providing awe inspiring views of some of Colorado's tallest mountain peaks. The Arkansas River in Browns Canyon is the country's most commercially rafted stretch of river, bringing in roughly $60 million to the economy. The Arkansas River is a great place for people with physical disabilities to experience wilderness. Rivers of Recovery is one of many veterans groups that take wounded warriors into Browns Canyon to experience the outdoors.

Like veterans recovery from battle, teens who have experienced trauma need uncrowded peaceful outdoor settings to help clear their minds and bolster their spirits. Catalyst is grateful to President Obama for permanently protecting Browns Canyon, and encourages him to continue to protect the West's vast wildlands so that our kids have a place to heal.

Letter to the Editor Tri-City Herald

Catalyst is a non-profit wilderness therapy organization dedicated to serving teenagers in the foster care system via a highly specialized backcountry setting. Our goal is to empower the next generation of marginalized teens past complex issues of mental health and substance abuse.

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Like veterans recovering from battle, teens who have experienced trauma need uncrowded peaceful outdoor settings to help clear their minds and bolster their spirits. Catalyst is grateful to President Obama for permanently protecting Browns Canyon, and encourages him to continue to protect the West's vast wildlands so that our kids have a place to heal.

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Program for reception

13 messages

Walls, Erin <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 4:59 PM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>

Steven and Maria,

Can your team figure out what the run of show will look like for the reception tomorrow? If there are going to speakers, SJ always wants to know the timeline and speaking order. I can add those details to the schedule.

Thanks!

--
Erin Walls
Special Assistant to the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-6087
erin_walls@ios.doi.gov

Najera, Maria <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 5:12 PM
To: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>

On it!

Maria Nájera
Special Assistant | Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs | Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior |1849 C Street NW | Room 6225 | Washington, DC 20240
☎ 202.513.0888 (desk) | 202.215.5668 (cell)
maria_najera@ios.doi.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Najera, Maria <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 5:53 PM
To: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>

Tomorrow morning ok for this? John needs to sign-off and he left for the day.

Maria Nájera
Special Assistant | Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs | Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior |1849 C Street NW | Room 6225 | Washington, DC 20240
☎ 202.513.0888 (desk) | 202.215.5668 (cell)
maria_najera@ios.doi.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Frautschy Barrows, Erin <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 5:55 PM
To: "Najera, Maria" <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Yes! I think that's fine, thank you.

If you could also provide a general sense of who will be in the audience - e.g. 35 external stakeholders, 10 USDA staff, xyz VIPs, etc etc that would be very helpful. Thank you!
[Quoted text hidden]
--

Erin Frautschy Barrows
Deputy Director for Advance
Department of the Interior
202.208.5078 (direct)
202.341.0273 (cell)

Walls, Erin <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 5:55 PM
To: "Najera, Maria" <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>

That is fine. Thanks!
[Quoted text hidden]

Najera, Maria <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 5:57 PM
To: "Frautschy Barrows, Erin" <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

We'll get you something in the morning.

Maria Nájera
Special Assistant | Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs | Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior |1849 C Street NW | Room 6225 | Washington, DC 20240
☎ 202.513.0888 (desk) | 202.215.5668 (cell)
maria_najera@ios.doi.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Najera, Maria <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 6:04 PM
To: "Frautschy Barrows, Erin" <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

John got back to me. Here is the tentative run of show... it will likely change depending new RSVPs. Thanks!

Maria Nájera
Special Assistant | Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs | Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior |1849 C Street NW | Room 6225 | Washington, DC 20240
☎ 202.513.0888 (desk) | 202.215.5668 (cell)
maria_najera@ios.doi.gov

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Run of show 02 24 15.docx
15K

Walls, Erin <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 6:08 PM
To: "Najera, Maria" <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Frautschy Barrows, Erin" <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

We can make adjustments tomorrow. I put the start time at 5:50 instead of 5:45. She has a call at 5:30 so I wanted to give her a little cushion for arrival. Thanks!
[Quoted text hidden]

Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 8:31 AM
To: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Najera, Maria" <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Thanks, Maria!

Is there an emcee and/or who will line up guests and let them know it's their turn?

Erin Frautschy Barrows
Deputy Director for Advance
Department of the Interior
202.208.5078 (o)
202.341.0273 (c)
[Quoted text hidden]

Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 8:50 AM
To: Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Yes, that job will go to Mr. John Blair.

Sent from my iPhone
[Quoted text hidden]

Frautschy Barrows, Erin <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 8:56 AM
To: Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Walls, Erin" <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Perfect. Thanks!
[Quoted text hidden]

Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 10:09 AM
To: Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Erin Walls <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>

As for a breakdown of the audience, there will be about 40 people representing stakeholder groups, 15 USDA staff, 5-10 CEQ staff, the Governor of Hawaii, possibly Governor of Colorado, and around 35 DOI staff (NPS, BLM, and Political Staff). I would check in with Janou for a final Member count. We have also invited everyone who will be attending the oval signing.

From: Frautschy Barrows, Erin [mailto:erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:56 AM

To: Maria Najera
Cc: Walls, Erin; Steven Avila
Subject: Re: Program for reception

[Quoted text hidden]

Frautschy Barrows, Erin <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 10:15 AM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Erin Walls <erin_walls@ios.doi.gov>

That's perfect. Thank you!
[Quoted text hidden]

Browns Canyon-Honouliuli National Monument Celebration

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

5:30 pm – South Penthouse, MIB

Run of Show – Program is scheduled to begin at 5:45 pm

Secretary Jewell (2 min)

USDA Undersecretary Robert Bonnie (2 min)

Governor David Ige, HI (2 min)

Neil Kornze (2 min)

FS Chief Thomas Tidwell (2 min)

Jon Jarvis (2 min)

Senator Brian Schatz, D-HI (2 min)

Carole Hayashino, President, Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (2 min)

Senator Michael Bennet, D-CO (2 min)

Keith Baker, Executive Director, Friends of Browns Canyon (2 min)

Not confirmed

Governor John Hickenlooper, CO

Senator Mazie Hirono, D-HI

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Reception tonight

5 messages

Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 11:10 AM
To: jena.griswold@state.co.us

Hi Jena,

Do you and the Governor plan on attending tonight's reception celebrating the Brown's Canyon Monument? I believe you were sent an invite last night, but I included it below in case you missed it.

Thanks!

Steven Avila

Special Assistant, Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior

W: 202-208-6015 | C: 202-215-2502

Pease join U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack today, February 24, at 5:30PM (EDT) for a celebration of the Browns Canyon and Honouliuli National Monuments.

President Obama designated Browns Canyon and Honouliuli Internment Camp as national monuments using his authority under the Antiquities Act. Browns Canyon spans approximately 21,500 acres of rugged cliffs, colorful rock outcroppings and stunning mountain vistas. Honoulini national mounument permanently protects a site where Japanese American citizens, resident immigrants, and prisoners of war were held captive during World War II.

We also anticipate holding local events celebrating these monuments in the coming weeks.

Please RSVP by clicking HERE.

Celebration of the Browns Canyon and Honouliuli National Monuments

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

5:30PM – 7:00PM

South Penthouse

Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW Washington D.C. 20240

This invitation is non-transferable

Griswold - GovOffice, Jena <jena.griswold@state.co.us> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 11:13 AM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Hi Steven,

The governor is back in CO. I unfortunately had a conflict. I will let you know if anything changes.

Thank you for everything!

Jena
[Quoted text hidden]
--
Jena Griswold
D.C. Office Director
Governor John Hickenlooper

Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 11:14 AM
To: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>

FYI – Hickenlooper is a no.

From: Griswold - GovOffice, Jena [mailto:jena.griswold@state.co.us]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:13 AM
To: Steven Avila
Subject: Re: Reception tonight

[Quoted text hidden]

Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 11:14 AM
To: "Griswold - GovOffice, Jena" <jena.griswold@state.co.us>

No problem!

From: Griswold - GovOffice, Jena [mailto:jena.griswold@state.co.us]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:13 AM

To: Steven Avila
Subject: Re: Reception tonight

Hi Steven,

[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Griswold - GovOffice, Jena <jena.griswold@state.co.us> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 12:56 PM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Saenz, Adrian" <Adrian_Saenz@who.eop.gov>

Dear Steven,

I will attend this evening!

Best,

Jena

On Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 11:10 AM, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

> Hi Jena,
>
> Do you and the Governor plan on attending tonight's reception celebrating the Brown's Canyon Monument? I believe you were sent an invite last night, but I included it below in case you missed it.
>
> Thanks!
>
> Steven Avila
>
> Special Assistant, Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs
>
> Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior
>
> W: 202-208-6015 | C: 202-215-2502
>
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5:30PM – 7:00PM

South Penthouse

Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW Washington D.C. 20240

This invitation is non-transferable

--
Jena Griswold
D.C. Office Director
Governor John Hickenlooper

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Hispanics Celebrate Browns Canyon National Monument Designation!

11 messages

Sara Benitez <sara@hispanicaccess.org> Fri, Feb 20, 2015 at 4:10 PM
To: kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov, laura_davis@ios.doi.gov, Nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov, "Carrillo, Francisco" <Francisco_Carrillo@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, john_blair@ios.doi.gov
Cc: Maite Arce <maite@hispanicaccess.org>, Robert Fanger <robert@hispanicaccess.org>, Rodrigo Otarola y Bentin <rodrigo@hispanicaccess.org>

Hello all,

Hispanic Access Foundation thanks you and Secretary Jewell for your leadership in President Obama's designation of Browns Canyon in Colorado a national monument. Latino youth and faith leaders who have been involved in efforts to permanently protect Browns Canyon have been celebrating and talking about the good news with Spanish-language print, radio, and t.v. outlets in Denver.

We'd like to share two stories that aired yesterday about the Browns Canyon designation on two Spanish-language media outlets, Telemundo and Univision, in Denver. The English-language translations are included below for your reference.

We're also forwarding Hispanic Access Foundation's press release in English and Spanish about the Browns Canyon designation. We have also been sharing messages and photos celebrating the Browns Canyon designation on our Twitter and Facebook page throughout the week.

We expect a few more t.v. and print media stories early next week, including a national Univision story.

Thank you for all your hard work and leadership in preserving our nation's natural heritage!

Sincerely,

The Hispanic Access Foundation Team

Telemundo Denver:

http://www.telemundodenver.com/noticias/local/browns-canyon-el-nuevo-tesoro-de-colorado-4070653530001-video.html

Univision Colorado:

http://www.somosnoticiascolorado.com/2015/02/19/browns-canyon-declarado-monumento-nacional/

Telemundo:

Anchor: As of this week, President Obama will protect the public lands of Browns Canyon by designating it as a national monument. Los latinos, who make up 21% of the state population, celebrated this decision that will help preserve and increase access to one of Colorado's treasures. It will preserve the watersheds of clean water for families in the southern part of the state and the wildlife prized by hunters for generations.

Linda Sosa, "This is for us and for the generations who come after us, a heritage of nature and where

we have fun and enjoy the area."

Student (Diana Luna): "Now, it will be history that young people, Hispanics and Americans, we all came together to protect this place as a national monument. It is truly important."

Anchor: These young people were key to making this happen. These students raised money to go to Washington D.C. to share their experiences with Senator Mark Udall, Senator Michael Bennet, and the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

Univision, KCEC News

Anchor: Before going to break, we have good news. As of this week, President Obama will protect the mountains known as Browns Canyon as a national monument. Latinos played an important role in this effort.

Linda Sosa: We went to Washington D.C. with President Obama's team to talk about Browns Canyon.

Diana Luna (Student): The most important thing we are talking about today is Browns Canyon. We, one by one, can make a change. One of the changes that we made was to gain a national monument.

Anchor: The national monument designation will help permanently protect the quality of the watershed and water, the conservation of fish, and wildlife, preserve air quality, and increase access to outdoor activities.

--
Sara Benitez
Hispanic Access Foundation
Community Outreach and Partnerships Manager
Office: (202)-688-2221
Mobile: (202)-280-9284

---

2 attachments

HAF Browns Canyon Press Release_FINAL.pdf
506K

HAF Browns Canyon Press Release_Spanish_FINAL.pdf
382K

Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 2:14 PM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Question for you...
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Sara Benitez** <sara@hispanicaccess.org>
Date: Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 1:54 PM
Subject: Re: Hispanics Celebrate Browns Canyon National Monument Designation!

To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>

Hi Francisco,

Thanks for the update. In addition to you, who should we send connect with on communications?

Also, we're excited that Diana Luna, the student from Denver featured in several Spanish-language interviews last week, will be here tomorrow to go to the signing ceremony at the White House. She and Linda Sosa, the community leader from Denver, will be here all day tomorrow. I want to make sure they can also come to the reception at DOI at 5:30 p.m. Who should I talk to about RSVP'ing for them?

Thanks!
Sara

On Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 12:29 PM, Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> Thanks Sara. FYI- Laura Davis left DOI and Kate Kelly is no longer the Comms Director.
> [Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 2:17 PM
To: Francisco Carrillo <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>

I can send her the invite and she can RSVP for the people she mentioned in her email. You can let her know that an invite is on the way.

From: Carrillo, Francisco [mailto:francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 2:15 PM
To: Steven Avila
Subject: Fwd: Hispanics Celebrate Browns Canyon National Monument Designation!

[Quoted text hidden]

Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 2:18 PM
To: Sara Benitez <sara@hispanicaccess.org>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

An invite is forthcoming. Thanks Sara.

On Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 1:54 PM, Sara Benitez <sara@hispanicaccess.org> wrote:
> Hi Francisco,
>
> Thanks for the update. In addition to you, who should we send connect with on communications?
>
> Also, we're excited that Diana Luna, the student from Denver featured in several Spanish-language interviews last week, will be here tomorrow to go to the signing ceremony at the White House. She and Linda Sosa, the community leader from Denver, will be here all day tomorrow. I want to make sure they can also come to the reception at DOI at 5:30 p.m. Who should I talk to about RSVP'ing for them?
>
> Thanks!
> Sara

> On Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 12:29 PM, Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
> Thanks Sara. FYI- Laura Davis left DOI and Kate Kelly is no longer the Comms Director.
>
> On Fri, Feb 20, 2015 at 4:10 PM, Sara Benitez <sara@hispanicaccess.org> wrote:
> [Quoted text hidden]
>
> [Quoted text hidden]

Sara Benitez <sara@hispanicaccess.org> Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 2:22 PM
To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

awesome, thanks Francisco!
[Quoted text hidden]

Sara <sara@hispanicaccess.org> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 9:35 AM
To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Hi Francisco,

Thank you for sending the invite for our guests from Denver. Can we share the invite with other staff from HAF?

Maite, Rodrigo and I received the invitation directly, but others on our team may want to come too.

Thanks!
Sara
[Quoted text hidden]

Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 10:18 AM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Quit being a hard ass. No one's going to care if more of them come.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Sara** <sara@hispanicaccess.org>
Date: Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 9:35 AM
Subject: Re: Hispanics Celebrate Browns Canyon National Monument Designation!
To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
[Quoted text hidden]

Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 10:20 AM
To: Francisco Carrillo <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>

THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH WINE TO GO AROUND!

I was just joking earlier, the more the merrier.

From: Carrillo, Francisco [mailto:francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 10:19 AM
To: Steven Avila
Subject: Fwd: Hispanics Celebrate Browns Canyon National Monument Designation!

[Quoted text hidden]

Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 10:31 AM
To: Sara <sara@hispanicaccess.org>, Francisco Carrillo <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>

Good Morning Sara,

Feel free to share the invite with your colleauges. Just make sure they RSVP using the online form.

Thanks!

Steven

From: Sara [mailto:sara@hispanicaccess.org]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:36 AM
To: Carrillo, Francisco
Cc: Steven Avila
Subject: Re: Hispanics Celebrate Browns Canyon National Monument Designation!

Hi Francisco,

[Quoted text hidden]

Sara Benitez <sara@hispanicaccess.org> Tue, Feb 24, 2015 at 3:57 PM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Francisco Carrillo <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>

Thanks Steven!
[Quoted text hidden]

John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov> Wed, Feb 25, 2015 at 3:05 PM
To: Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Making sure I passed these along and that they were included. Thanks! jb

From: Sara Benitez [mailto:sara@hispanicaccess.org]
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 4:11 PM
To: kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov; laura_davis@ios.doi.gov; Nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov; Carrillo, Francisco; Steven

Avila; john_blair@ios.doi.gov
Cc: Maite Arce; Robert Fanger; Rodrigo Otarola y Bentin
Subject: Hispanics Celebrate Browns Canyon National Monument Designation!

[Quoted text hidden]

---

2 attachments

HAF Browns Canyon Press Release_FINAL.pdf
506K

HAF Browns Canyon Press Release_Spanish_FINAL.pdf
382K

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Hispanic Access Foundation

Building Bridges, Changing Lives

For Immediate Release
February 18, 2015 @ 12:01 AM EST

Contact: Robert Fanger
P: 317-410-7668
E: Robert@hispanicaccess.org

Latinos Applaud Browns Canyon National Monument Designation

President's action protects outdoor heritage for future generations

WASHINGTON – On Thursday, President Barack Obama will protect the national public lands of Browns Canyon by designating it as the nation's newest national monument. Latinos, which account for more than 21 percent of the state's population, celebrated the decision that will help preserve and increase access to the Colorado treasure, safeguard critical clean water supplies for southern Colorado families and protect wildlife habitat prized by generations of hunters.

"Browns Canyon is significant to people across many cultures and communities," said Maite Arce, president and CEO of Hispanic Access Foundation. "Protecting these public lands will strengthen the diverse social fabric of the region and unite our hopes that future generations will be able to experience Browns Canyon as we do today."

While Hispano settlers helped develop the Sante Fe Trail trading corridor in the 19th century spawning settlements from the lower Arkansas Valley to San Luis Valley and beyond, Browns Canyon has continued to be a destination for Latinos. In August 2014, Hispanic Access Foundation led a Browns Canyon rafting and hiking trip with 60 Latino youth from Denver's Healing Waters Family Center and New Hope Christian Fellowship in Greeley.

"Colorado's clean water, wildlife habitat, cultural treasures and public lands are entrusted to us to be protected and preserved for the next generation. It is our moral responsibility to care for our land, water, and wildlife," said Joseito Velasquez, a pastor with Healing Waters Family Center. "The support of Browns Canyon demonstrates just how important stewardship of our outdoor and cultural heritage is to the Latino community."

Latinos played a visible and vocal role in the effort to protect Browns Canyon. For example, several Latino youth from St. Cajetan Catholic Church traveled to Salida, Colo. to share their support for a national monument. In 2012, youth from the church held their own weekend rafting and camping trip in Browns Canyon. These youth then raised money to travel to Washington, D.C. to share their experience with Sens. Mark Udall and Michael Bennet, the director of the National Park Service, representatives from Department of Interior and the White House Council for Environmental Quality.

"Whitewater rafting the Arkansas River through Browns Canyon was the best experience of my life," said Paola Soto, a Community College of Denver student who spoke at the public meeting in Salida. "Protecting this area will make sure that everyone has this opportunity. A Browns Canyon National Monument is good for our economy, our environment and our community. I can't wait to return."

The national monument designation will help permanently protect watersheds and water quality, conserve fish and wildlife, enhance air quality and increase access to healthy outdoor recreation. Additionally, areas surrounding national monuments often experience an economic boost from increased tourism.

Hispanic Access Foundation

Building Bridges, Changing Lives

"There is a misperception that Latinos are solely focused on only a few issues, like immigration reform or the economy," said Arce. "As we've seen from the Colorado Latino community's active support for Browns Canyon, environmental issues, such as public lands protection, are equally important to our community. Latinos are making their voices heard as a community that enjoys spending time in the outdoors and enthusiastically support protecting public lands for future generations."

"We appreciate the leadership of Department of Interior Secretary Sally Jewel, Bureau of Land Management Director Neil Kornze and U.S. Forest Service Chief Thomas Tidwell, and their efforts to listen to the concerns of the Latino community," said Arce.

-30-

Hispanic Access Foundation (HAF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works to promote responsible citizenship, educational attainment, and active engagement in improving the health, environment, and financial well-being of Hispanic families throughout the United States.

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Hispanic Access Foundation

Building Bridges, Changing Lives

PARA DISTRIBUCIÓN INMEDIATA:
19 de febrero 2015 @ 6:00 AM EST

Contacto: Robert Fanger
T: 317-410-7668
E: Robert@hispanicaccess.org

Latinos aplauden la designación de Browns Canyon como Monumento Nacional

La acción del Presidente protege la herencia natural para futuras generaciones

WASHINGTON – A partir de este jueves, El Presidente Barack Obama protegerá las tierras públicas nacionales de Browns Canyon al designarlo nuevo Monumento Nacional. Los latinos, quienes suman más de 21% de la población estatal, celebraron la decisión que ayudará a preservar e incrementar el acceso a este tesoro de Colorado, salvaguardar suministros críticos de agua limpia para las familias del sur de Colorado y proteger el hábitat silvestre, apreciado por generaciones de cazadores.
"Browns Canyon es importante para personas a través de muchas culturas y comunidades", dijo Maite Arce, presidenta y CEO de la Fundación Acceso Hispano. "La protección de esas tierras públicas fortalecerá el diverso tejido social y unirá nuestras esperanzas de que las futuras generaciones podrán disfrutar la experiencia de Browns Canyons como nosotros podemos hacerlo hoy".

Mientras los colonos hispanos ayudaron a desarrollar el corredor de Santa Fe Trail en el siglo XIX, sembrando nuevos asentamientos desde la zona baja del Valle de Arkansas al Valle de San Luis y más allá, el Browns Canyon ha sido de forma continua un destino para los latinos. En agosto de 2014, la Fundación Acceso Hispano organizó una excursion de navegación y senderismo con 60 jóvenes latinos del Denver's Healing Waters Family Center y New Hope Christian Fellowship en Greeley.

"El agua pura de Colorado, su hábitat de vida silvestre, tesoros culturales y tierras públicas nos han sido encomendados para su protección y preservación para la próxima generación. Es nuestra responsabilidad moral el cuidar de nuestra tierra, agua y vida silvestre", dijo Joseíto Velásquez, pastor del Healing Waters Family Center. " El apoyo al Browns Canyon demuestra su importancia para la herencia cultural y actividades al aire libre en la comunidad latina."

Los latinos jugaron un papel visible y vocal en el esfuerzo por proteger al Browns Canyon. Por ejemplo, varios jóvenes latinos de la iglesia católica de San Cayetano viajaron a Salida, CO para compartir su apoyo hacia el monumento nacional. En 2012, jóvenes de la iglesia llevaron a cabo su propio viaje de campamento y rafting en Browns Canyon. Estos jóvenes recaudaron fondos para viajar a Washington para compartir su experiencia con los Senadores Mark Udall y Michael Bennet, el director del Servicio de Parques Nacionales, representantes del Departamento del Interior y la Comisión de Calidad Medioambiental de la Casa Blanca. "Navegando los rápidos del Río Arkansas a través de Browns Canyon fue la mejor experiencia de mi vida", dijo Paola Soto, estudiante del Community College de Denver, quién habló en una reunion pública en Salida. "La protección de este área asegurará que todos tendrán esa oportunidad. Browns Canyon como Monumento Nacional es bueno para nuestra economía, nuestro medioambiente y nuestra comunidad. Estoy deseando regresar."

Hispanic Access Foundation

Building Bridges, Changing Lives

La designación como Monumento Nacional ayudará a proteger de forma permanente la calidad de la cuenca y del agua, la conservación de la vida acuática y silvestre, la mejora de la calidad del aire e incrementa el acceso a actividades al aire libre saludables. De forma adicional, las zonas que rodean a los monumentos nacionales experimentan un crecimiento económico y turístico.

"Hay una percepción equivocada de que los latinos están enfocados únicamente en un par de asuntos, como la reforma inmigratoria o la economía", dijo Arce. "Como hemos podido ver en el apoyo activo de la comunidad latina en Colorado hacia el Browns Canyon , temas medioambientales , como la protección de las tierras públicas , son igual de importantes para nuestra comunidad. Los latinos están haciendo escuchar sus voces como una comunidad que disfruta del tiempo al aire libre , y apoyan de forma entusiasta la protección de las tierras públicas para generaciones futuras".

"Apreciamos el liderazgo de la Secretaria del Departamento de Interior Sally Jewel; Neil Kornze, Director del Bureau de Administración de Tierras; y el Director del Servicio Forestal Federal Thomas Tidwell, y sus esfuerzos por escuchar las preocupaciones de la comunidad latina", dijo Arce.

-30-

Hispanic Access Foundation (HAF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works to promote responsible citizenship, educational attainment, and active engagement in improving the health, environment, and financial well-being of Hispanic families throughout the United States.

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: 02-24-15 SOI J Honouliuli & Browns Canyon Reception

1 message

Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> Fri, Feb 27, 2015 at 2:59 PM
To: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>, Terri Johnson <Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Photos from the monuments reception.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Tami Heilemann** <tami_heilemann@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Fri, Feb 27, 2015 at 11:18 AM
Subject: Fwd: 02-24-15 SOI J Honouliuli & Browns Canyon Reception
To: Francisco Carrillo <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Heilemann, Tami" <tami_heilemann@ios.doi.gov>
Date: February 25, 2015 at 4:13:08 PM EST
To: Tami Heilemann <tami_heilemann@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: 02-24-15 SOI J Honouliuli & Browns Canyon Reception

To view the photos, please click on the link below. The password required to access them is: (b) (5)

Photos: http://www.smugmug.com/gallery/n-63Knt9

Image quality is reduced resolution for viewing & web use – if you would like prints, please contact at tami_heilemann@ios.doi.gov or 202-208-1793.

Additionally, if you would like a signed photo from the Secretary, please provide the image number located on the lower left of the photo, first and last name, and a mailing address.

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

LCA - Thank you!

1 message

Rodrigo Otarola y Bentin <rodrigo@hispanicaccess.org> Fri, Feb 27, 2015 at 5:07 PM
To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Sara Benitez <sara@hispanicaccess.org>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, maria_najera@ios.doi.gov

Hola Francisco,

It was great to see you at the reception to celebrate Browns Canyon and Honouliuli designations!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you and your Latino colleagues for giving us a warm welcome at the Department of Interior. LCA members appreciated sharing breakfast and getting to know the group, while talking about all current possibilities to work together in increasing the engagement of the Latino community.

Also, I have a small favor to ask, I was searching for Deputy Secretary Connor's e-mail between my cards and couldn't find it. Could you please forward this thank-you letter to him? Aside from a formal PDF document, I'm also sending a brief e-mail message for him and a list of LCA contacts for future reference.

Have a great weekend!

Saludos,

Rodrigo

Dear Deputy Secretary Connor:

We enjoyed catching up with you at the reception this Tuesday. We'd also like to thank you for meeting with the Latino Conservation Alliance a couple of weeks ago.

We will be in touch with you about opportunities to join in a community activity for Latino conservation Week, July 11th-19th, 2015.

For more information about Latino Conservation Week please visit our website,www.latinoconservationweek.com.

Sincerely,

Maite Arce, President/CEO
Hispanic Access Foundation

--
Rodrigo Otárola y Bentín
Environment Program Associate
Hispanic Access Foundation
rodrigo@hispanicaccess.org
Phone: (801)400-5222

Hispanic Access Foundation

2 attachments

LCA_Contact list.pdf
172K

Deputy Secretary Mike Connor - Thank you.pdf
264K

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LATINO CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

Name	Title	E-mail	Office number	Cellphone number	Office Address
Hispanic Access Foundation					
Maite Arce	Executive Director/CEO	maite@hispanicaccess.org	202-640-4344//ext. 102	571-335-3645	Hispanic Access Foundation 2111 Wilson Blvd., Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22201
Robert Fanger	Chief of Communications	fangerpr@hispanicaccess.org	202-688-2224/ext.110	317-410-7668	
Sara Benitez	Community Outreach and Partnership Manager	sara@hispanicaccess.org	202-688-2221/ext.109	202-280-9284	
Rodrigo Otárola y Bentín	Environment Program Associate	rodrigo@hispanicaccess.org	703-351-5000	801-400-5222	
Hispanic Federation					
Lissette Rodriguez	Junior Policy Analyst	lrodriguez@hispanicfederation.org	202-842-4977 ext.154	(b) (6)	1133 19th Street NW, Suite 1056, Washington, D.C 20036
Hispanics Enjoying Camping, Hunting, and the Outdoors (HECHO)					
Camilla Simon	Program Director	(b) (6)	503-975-6355	(b) (6)	New Venture Fund/Western EnergyProject/HECHO 1201 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 300 Washington DC 20036
Rod Torrez		rod@hechoonline.com			
Max Trujillo					
La Madre Tierra (LMT)					
Marcela Gutiérrez	Program Director	marce@resource-media.org		415.397.5000	Resource Media 101 Montgomery Street Ste. 2600 San Francisco, CA 94104
Latino Outdoors (LO)					
Jose Gonzalez	Founder	jgonzalez@latinooutdoors.org		209 968 6155	1840 41st Ave # 102-101 Capitola, CA 95010
Green Latinos (GL)					
Mark Magana	President	markmagana@greenlatinos.org		202-230-2070	700 7th St., SW, #144 Washington, DC 20024

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LATINO CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

HECHO | Hispanic Access Foundation | La Madre Tierra | hispanicfederation | LATINO OUTDOORS | GREENLATINOS

February 27th, 2015

Mr. Mike Connor – Deputy Secretary
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3115
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Deputy Secretary Mike Connor,

On behalf of the Latino Conservation Alliance, I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with the leaders of our coalition on Friday, February 13th. Our members appreciated the opportunity to talk to you about the ways in which their organizations can work together with the Department of Interior and continue to elevate the voices of Latino communities in public lands conservation.

We also want to thank you for your work towards safeguarding wildlife habitats and prioritizing the protection of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. These issues are intimately tied with Latinos' natural and historic heritage, and as such, these are high priorities for our communities.

We enjoyed meeting with you and learning more about the work you do. As we discussed, we would like to invite you to meet with the Latino community and join an outdoor activity in the coming months. We will follow up with you and your office as we plan events for Latino Conservation Week, taking place July 11th-19th, 2015. For more information about Latino Conservation Week, please visit www.latinoconservationweek.com; and to find more conservation stories from the Latino community, please visit the following link: http://www.lamadretierra.org/voces/

We look forward to contributing to working with you to engage the Latino community in decision-making about our natural resources.

Sincerely,

Maite Arce, President/CEO
Hispanic Access Foundation

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Re: Urgent? Nikki Buffa

5 messages

Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> Fri, Mar 6, 2015 at 10:30 AM
To: Patrick Von Bargen <patrick@38northsolutions.com>
Cc: Terri Johnson <Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Hi Patrick. I believe Nikki is out of the country as well, so let me do some digging around for you. Thanks

Francisco Carrillo
Deputy Director, Office of Intergovernmental & External Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
(202) 208-5541 w (202) 412-8846 c

On Fri, Mar 6, 2015 at 9:43 AM, Patrick Von Bargen <patrick@38northsolutions.com> wrote:

FRANCISCO:

I just sent the message below to John, and got his out-of-office message. Can you help me? Thanks so much!

Cheers,
Patrick Von Bargen
38 North Solutions
(direct) 202-524-8887
(web) www.38northsolutions.com
(linkedin) www.linkedin.com/in/patrickvonbargen

Begin forwarded message:

From: Patrick Von Bargen <patrick@38northsolutions.com>
Subject: Urgent? Nikki Buffa
Date: March 6, 2015 at 9:41:11 AM EST
To: John Blair <John_Blair@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Isaac Brown <isaac@38northsolutions.com>

JOHN:

I understand that Secretary Jewell -- or the Department at least -- might do a "thank you" and celebratory event later this month in Colorado around the designation of Browns Canyon, and our Conservation for Economic Growth Coalition would love to coordinate press activities around that event. I have been advised to reach out to Nikki Buffa to do that coordination. Is that right, and if so, can you give me an intro or an email address for her? Thanks so much!

Cheers,
Patrick Von Bargen
38 North Solutions
(direct) 202-524-8887
(web) www.38northsolutions.com
(linkedin) www.linkedin.com/in/patrickvonbargen

Patrick Von Bargen <patrick@38northsolutions.com> Fri, Mar 6, 2015 at 10:32 AM
To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Terri Johnson <Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

FRANCISCO:

Thank you so much!

Cheers,
Patrick Von Bargen
38 North Solutions
(direct) 202-524-8887
(web) www.38northsolutions.com
(linkedin) www.linkedin.com/in/patrickvonbargen

[Quoted text hidden]

Patrick Von Bargen <patrick@38northsolutions.com> Tue, Mar 10, 2015 at 11:03 AM
To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Terri Johnson <Terri_Johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

FRANCISCO:

Any luck with the digging yet? Thanks so much!

Cheers,
Patrick Von Bargen
38 North Solutions
(direct) 202-524-8887
(web) www.38northsolutions.com
(linkedin) www.linkedin.com/in/patrickvonbargen

On Mar 6, 2015, at 10:30 AM, Carrillo, Francisco <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Johnson, Terri <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Mar 10, 2015 at 2:15 PM
To: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Patrick Von Bargen <patrick@38northsolutions.com>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Good afternoon Patrick - I just spoke with a colleague at the Bureau of Land Management and a date has not yet been determined for this event. We will make sure to let you know when it is scheduled and discuss ways to amplify the importance of Browns Canyon to the local and state economy.

Thanks,

Terri

Terri Johnson
Deputy Director, Office of Intergovernmental & External Affairs
Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
202-208-7513 | terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Patrick Von Bargen <patrick@38northsolutions.com> Tue, Mar 10, 2015 at 2:17 PM
To: "Johnson, Terri" <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Carrillo, Francisco" <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

TERRI:

This is really helpful! Thank you for keeping us in mind!

Cheers,
Patrick Von Bargen
38 North Solutions
(direct) 202-524-8887
(web) www.38northsolutions.com
(linkedin) www.linkedin.com/in/patrickvonbargen

[Quoted text hidden]

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: Browns Canyon Attendees

3 messages

Anderson, James <jeanderson@blm.gov> Fri, Mar 13, 2015 at 11:12 AM
To: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>

Do either of you guys have these?

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **William Donovan** <william_donovan@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Fri, Mar 13, 2015 at 11:04 AM
Subject: RE: Browns Canyon Attendees
To: James Anderson <jeanderson@blm.gov>, Joseph Stout <j2stout@blm.gov>

I do not. Maybe check with Intergov (Steven or Maria)?

From: Anderson, James [mailto:jeanderson@blm.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:52 AM
To: Joseph Stout; William Donovan
Subject: Browns Canyon Attendees

Do either of you guys have the final list of stakeholders that attended the Browns Canyon event in the Oval?

--

James Anderson

Advisor to the Director

Bureau of Land Management

202-208-5996 (o)

202-748-1726 (c)

--
James Anderson
Advisor to the Director
Bureau of Land Management
202-208-5996 (o)
202-748-1726 (c)

Najera, Maria <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov> Fri, Mar 13, 2015 at 11:39 AM
To: "Anderson, James" <jeanderson@blm.gov>

Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Below is the final list I got of people that were invited. I do not have a list of who ended up attending. I would ask Nikki.

Browns Canyon, CO

1. *Senator Michael Bennet, D-CO*
2. Representative Jared Polis, D-CO
3. Representative Diana DeGette, D-CO
4. *Former Senator Mark Udall, D-CO*
5. Secretary Jewell, Department of Interior
6. Secretary Vilsack, Department of Agriculture
7. Neil Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management
8. Garett Reppenhagen, Rocky Mountain West Coordinator, Vet Voice Foundation
9. Bill Dvorak, Dvorak Expeditions
10. Keith Baker, Executive Director, Friends of Browns Canyon
11. Diana Luna, student, Metro State College
12. Michael Boots, CEQ

Maria Nájera
Special Assistant | Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs | Office of the Secretary
Department of the Interior |1849 C Street NW | Room 6225 | Washington, DC 20240
☎ 202.513.0888 (desk) | 202.215.5668 (cell)
maria_najera@ios.doi.gov

[Quoted text hidden]

Anderson, James <jeanderson@blm.gov> Fri, Mar 13, 2015 at 12:16 PM
To: "Najera, Maria" <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Great. Thanks.
[Quoted text hidden]

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Brown's Canyon Celebration Planning Discussion

2 messages

John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov> Mon, Jul 6, 2015 at 4:21 PM
To: Nicole Buffa <nikki_buffa@ios.doi.gov>, James Anderson <jeanderson@blm.gov>, Gisella Ojeda-dodds <gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov>, Kevin Thompson <kevin_thompson@ios.doi.gov>, Stephenne Harding <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <jkrauss@blm.gov>, Terri Johnson <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>

invite.ics
3K

Anderson, James <jeanderson@blm.gov> Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 8:23 AM
To: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Kevin Thompson <kevin_thompson@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Stephenne Harding <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>, Nicole Buffa <nikki_buffa@ios.doi.gov>, Jeff Krauss <jkrauss@blm.gov>, Terri Johnson <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, gisella_ojeda-dodds <gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Shoop <gshoop@blm.gov>

Please add Greg Shoop to this invitation. Greg, please add other logistics folks as needed

On Jul 6, 2015 4:21 PM, "John Blair" <john_blair@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Browns Canyon Outreach - Invitation to edit

1 message

Maria Najera (via Google Sheets) <drive-shares-noreply@google.com> Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 11:13 AM
Reply-To: maria_najera@ios.doi.gov
To: steven_avila@ios.doi.gov
Cc: cleff@blm.gov, francis_iacobucci@ios.doi.gov, gshoop@blm.gov, jeanderson@blm.gov, john_blair@ios.doi.gov, kevin_thompson@ios.doi.gov, lindsey_wagner-oveson@ios.doi.gov, rwelch@blm.gov, terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov, francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov, jkrauss@blm.gov, erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov, kerry_mcnellis@ios.doi.gov, stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov, jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov

maria_najera@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **edit** the following spreadsheet:

Browns Canyon Outreach

Want to make sure everyone has the Browns Canyon outreach list in advance of today's planning meeting. Thanks!

Open in Sheets

Google Sheets: Create and edit spreadsheets online.

Google

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Brown's Canyon Celebration Trip Planning

2 messages

John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 9:17 AM
To: Nicole Buffa <nikki_buffa@ios.doi.gov>, James Anderson <jeanderson@blm.gov>, Gisella Ojeda-dodds <gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov>, Kevin Thompson <kevin_thompson@ios.doi.gov>, Stephenne Harding <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <jkrauss@blm.gov>, Terri Johnson <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Shoop <gshoop@blm.gov>, Francis Iacobucci <francis_iacobucci@ios.doi.gov>

invite.ics
3K

Anderson, James <jeanderson@blm.gov> Tue, Jul 7, 2015 at 3:06 PM
To: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Nicole Buffa <nikki_buffa@ios.doi.gov>, Gisella Ojeda-dodds <gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov>, Kevin Thompson <kevin_thompson@ios.doi.gov>, Stephenne Harding <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <jkrauss@blm.gov>, Terri Johnson <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Shoop <gshoop@blm.gov>, Francis Iacobucci <francis_iacobucci@ios.doi.gov>

Attached is the latest run of show from the BLM.

2015-07-07 9:17 GMT-04:00 John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>:

--
James Anderson
Advisor to the Director
Bureau of Land Management
202-208-5996 (o)
202-748-1726 (c)

July 18 Run of Show 070815_1.0_vl edits (1).docx
30K

Browns Canyon National Monument Celebration
Event Commander: Andrew Archuleta (719) 588-5567
Event Command Post Located at the Buena Vista Community Center (715 E. Main Street)

Friday, July17, 20015

Partner event in Salida, CO, at River's Edge Restaurant. Time: 5:00 pm (Taco Bar, Open Bar, live music). Private event with partners, agencies, VIPs. Will get cost/person.

Saturday, July 18, 2015

8:15 a.m. Participants arrive at staging area at Fisherman's Bridge Recreation Site (located along the Ruby Mountain Access Road). Travel time from Buena Vista to Fisherman's bridge is approximately XXXXX. Travel time from Salida to Fisherman's Bridge is approximately XXXXX.

8:30 a.m. Transport raft trip participants via shuttle to Ruby Mountain Recreation Site and to observe new BCNM Sign.

8:45 a.m. Safety briefing for raft trip participants at Ruby Mountain Boat Ramp

9-11 a.m. Raft trip into Browns Canyon

*****Attendees: This list is preliminary***

Interior Secretary Jewell + staff
BLM Director Kornze
Steve Ellis
Governor Hickenlooper
Teddy Hickenlooper
John Swartout
Derek Dash (Hickenlooper Advance)
Trooper (Hickenlooper)
Ruth Welch
(T) DNR Director Mike King
DNR Deputy Director Bob Randall
Madeleine West (DNR)
(T) Todd Hartman
Senator Bennet + 4 family
John Whitney (Bennet)
Noah Koerper (Bennet)
(T) Senator Gardner Staff Member
Former Senator Udall
Jen Rokala (Udall)
Congresswoman DeGette
Jennifer Clanahan (DeGette)
(T) Former Congressman Hefley

(T) Buena Vista Mayor Joel Benson
(T) Salida Mayor Jim Dickson
Sierra Club President Aaron Mair
Friends of Browns Canyon Representatives
Rafting Community Representatives
Steven Hall
TBD Reporter/Photographer (Scott Willoughby)
CLF Senior Director for Conservation Ryan Bidwell

11 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Lunch at Browns Canyon (Zoom Flume Rapid) (provided by Arkansas River Outfitters Association) (Cost of Lunche: $12.00/person). AROA members will serve lunch and be available for discussion.
12 – 1 p.m.	Complete raft trip and take-out at Hecla Junction
1 – 1:30 p.m.	Raft trip participants return to Fisherman's Bridge via shuttle.
1 – 1:30 p.m.	Raft trip participants travel to Buena Vista.
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Freshen-up and/or prep time for afternoon event.

(Parking will be available on the west side of the soccer fields. Participants can use the shade tent or walk over to the Community Center. The Event Command Post as well as the Public Affairs post will be located at the Community Center. Computers, WiFi, and a printer will be available at the Community Center.)

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Walk over to Buena Vista River Park (200 yards)
3 – 5 p.m.	Dedication Ceremony at Buena Vista River Park (Backup Venue: BV High School –confirmed)

THIS LIST IS NOT FINALIZED and is not necessarily in final order for speaking. Speakers have not been notified/invited to date.

MCs: Jiron, Welch
Speakers (3 minutes each)
MC Opening
Terry Knight, Tribal Prayer
Buena Vista Mayor Joel Benson
Interior Secretary Sally Jewell
Governor John Hickenlooper
DNR Deputy Director Bob Randall or Director Mike King
Rafting Community Representative Bill Dvorak
Senator Michael Bennet
Former Senator Mark Udall
School Children Presentation (working with partners on this)

Salida Mayor Jim Dickson
Friends of Browns Canyon Representative Keith Baker
Conservation Lands Foundations Senior Director for Conservation Ryan
Forest Service Chief Thomas Tidwell
Representative from Veterans Expeditions
MC Closing

5 p.m. Partner Event at Eddyline Restaurant/Brewery (102 Linderman Ave., Buena Vista, CO 81211) for a live music post celebration. (Not a public event, will have a cost/person)

DRAFT

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Invitation: Browns Canyon Event and Flyover planning call @ Fri Jul 10, 2015 12:30pm - 1pm (steven_avila@ios.doi.gov)

1 message

Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov> Fri, Jul 10, 2015 at 10:12 AM
Reply-To: Erin Frautschy Barrows <erin_frautschybarrows@ios.doi.gov>
To: steven_avila@ios.doi.gov, Stephenne Harding <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>, Gisella Ojeda-dodds <gisella_ojeda-dodds@ios.doi.gov>, Ruth Welch <rwelch@blm.gov>, James Anderson <jeanderson@blm.gov>, Terri Johnson <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Gregory Shoop <gshoop@blm.gov>, Emily Porcari <emily_porcari@fws.gov>, Jessica Kershaw <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Andrew Archuleta <aarchule@blm.gov>, Francis Iacobucci <francis_iacobucci@ios.doi.gov>, John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>, Vanessa Lacayo <vlacayo@blm.gov>, Kevin Thompson <kevin_thompson@ios.doi.gov>, Lindsey Wagner-Oveson <lindsey_wagner-oveson@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Deanna Masterson <dmasters@blm.gov>, Nicole Buffa <nikki_buffa@ios.doi.gov>, Jeff Krauss <jkrauss@blm.gov>

Browns Canyon Event and Flyover planning call

more details »

Please join us for a call to discuss the Secretary's upcoming visit to Browns Canyon, CO (7/18-7/19)

Dial-in Number: (b) (5)
Participant Code: (b) (5)

Leader Code: (b) (5) (Erin will activate)

When	Fri Jul 10, 2015 12:30pm – 1pm Eastern Time
Where	MIB Participants can join in 6623 (map)
Video call	(b) (5)
Calendar	steven_avila@ios.doi.gov
Who	• Erin Frautschy Barrows - organizer • Steven Avila • Stephenne Harding • Craig Leff • Anita Bilbao • Gisella Ojeda-dodds • Ruth Welch • James Anderson • Terri Johnson • Gregory Shoop • Emily Porcari • Jessica Kershaw • Steven Hall • Andrew Archuleta • Francis Iacobucci • John Blair • Vanessa Lacayo

- Kevin Thompson
- Lindsey Wagner-Oveson
- Maria Najera
- Deanna Masterson
- Nicole Buffa
- Jeff Krauss

Going? **Yes** - **Maybe** - **No** more options »

Invitation from Google Calendar

You are receiving this email at the account steven_avila@ios.doi.gov because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar steven_avila@ios.doi.gov.

To stop receiving these emails, please log in to https://www.google.com/calendar/ and change your notification settings for this calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to modify your RSVP response. Learn more at https://support.google.com/calendar/answer/37135#forwarding

invite.ics
5K

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

For Review Before Noon Thursday: Sec. Jewell, Community Leaders to Celebrate Establishment of Browns Canyon Natl Mnmt

5 messages

Kershaw, Jessica <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov> Wed, Jul 15, 2015 at 4:01 PM
To: Press_Review <press_review@ios.doi.gov>, James Anderson <jeanderson@blm.gov>, Neil Kornze <nkornze@blm.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Vanessa Lacayo <vlacayo@blm.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <JKrauss@blm.gov>, Linda Lance <llance@blm.gov>, Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>, Steven Ellis <sellis@blm.gov>, Ruth Welch <rwelch@blm.gov>

Folks -

Attached is a draft media advisory for this weekend's Browns Canyon celebration.

We're taking edits and comments on this through tomorrow (Thursday) at noon.

Thanks for your timely review,
Jessica

--
Jessica Kershaw
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary
U.S. Dept of the Interior
@DOIPressSec
202-208-6416

07-16-15 Aspen & Browns Canyon CO Advisory v3.doc
109K

Anderson, James <jeanderson@blm.gov> Wed, Jul 15, 2015 at 7:11 PM
To: "Kershaw, Jessica" <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Press_Review <press_review@ios.doi.gov>, Neil Kornze <nkornze@blm.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Vanessa Lacayo <vlacayo@blm.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <JKrauss@blm.gov>, Linda Lance <llance@blm.gov>, Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>, Steven Ellis <sellis@blm.gov>, Ruth Welch <rwelch@blm.gov>

Generally this looks good. A couple quick things.

- In paragraph 2, I would add a sentence saying that the new monument complements and supports the existing and continuing management regime of the Arkansas River Recreation Area (check the official name), which is a collaboration among these two federal agencies and State of Colorado Parks and Wildlife (check the official name).
- I would change the Salida sentence to say that the monument lies between the towns of Buena Vista and Salida in Chaffee County.
- I wonder if we need the penultimate paragraph. My preference would be to delete it unless we think folks are going to come in hot on those issues (I don't).

We will need BLM-CO's review of this before proceeding.

Thanks!
Jamey
[Quoted text hidden]
--

James Anderson
Advisor to the Director
Bureau of Land Management
202-208-5996 (o)
202-748-1726 (c)

Bilbao, Anita <abilbao@blm.gov> Wed, Jul 15, 2015 at 7:19 PM
To: "Anderson, James" <jeanderson@blm.gov>, Craig Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>
Cc: "Kershaw, Jessica" <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>, Press_Review <press_review@ios.doi.gov>, Neil Kornze <nkornze@blm.gov>, Vanessa Lacayo <vlacayo@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <JKrauss@blm.gov>, Linda Lance <llance@blm.gov>, Steven Ellis <sellis@blm.gov>, Ruth Welch <rwelch@blm.gov>

Great. Craig, If you would please work with CO for final input.

Thanks, everyone. Anita

[Quoted text hidden]

--
Anita Bilbao
Acting Chief of Staff
Bureau of Land Management
Washington DC
202.208.4586 (o)
202.578.5209 (c)

Leff, Craig <cleff@blm.gov> Wed, Jul 15, 2015 at 10:31 PM
To: "Bilbao, Anita" <abilbao@blm.gov>
Cc: "Anderson, James" <jeanderson@blm.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, "Kershaw, Jessica" <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>, Press_Review <press_review@ios.doi.gov>, Neil Kornze <nkornze@blm.gov>, Vanessa Lacayo <vlacayo@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <JKrauss@blm.gov>, Linda Lance <llance@blm.gov>, Steven Ellis <sellis@blm.gov>, Ruth Welch <rwelch@blm.gov>

Will do.
[Quoted text hidden]

--
Craig Leff
BLM Communications
202-208-6913 (office)
202-549-9218 (cell)

Leff, Craig <cleff@blm.gov> Thu, Jul 16, 2015 at 11:07 AM
To: "Anderson, James" <jeanderson@blm.gov>
Cc: "Kershaw, Jessica" <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>, Press_Review <press_review@ios.doi.gov>, Neil Kornze <nkornze@blm.gov>, Steven Hall <sbhall@blm.gov>, Vanessa Lacayo <vlacayo@blm.gov>, Jeff Krauss <JKrauss@blm.gov>, Linda Lance <llance@blm.gov>, Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>, Steven Ellis <sellis@blm.gov>, Ruth Welch <rwelch@blm.gov>

In addition to Jamey's suggestions below, attached are a few edits from BLM-CO. Please note that Terry Knight had a death in the family and will not be attending. BLM-CO is working on a replacement.
Thanks,
Craig
[Quoted text hidden]

Craig Leff
BLM Communications
202-208-6913 (office)
202-549-9218 (cell)

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

07-16-15 Aspen & Browns Canyon CO Advisory v3-sh (1).doc
109K

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov
Media Advisory

Date: July 16, 2015
Contact: Jessica Kershaw, Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

Secretary Jewell, Community Leaders to Celebrate Establishment of Browns Canyon National Monument

BUENA VISTA, Colo. – On Saturday, July 18, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell will join the local community and other federal, state, tribal and local leaders to celebrate President Obama's designation of the Browns Canyon National Monument.

The new monument was officially designated on February 19, 2015, and is jointly managed by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as part of BLM's National Conservation Lands.

Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Chief Tom Tidwell, Bureau of Land Management Director Neil Kornze, U.S. Senator Michael Bennet, U.S. Representative Diana DeGette, as well as other local leaders will join Jewell.

Browns Canyon National Monument, located in Chaffee County near the town of Salida, Colo., spans approximately 21,500 acres of rugged cliffs, colorful rock outcroppings and stunning mountain vistas. Browns Canyon tells the story of the area's native peoples as well as the history of recent settlers and mining communities. The monument protects one of the nation's most popular destinations for whitewater rafting, with the Arkansas River and adjacent uplands supporting world-class recreation opportunities and a strong outdoor economy.

Under joint USFS and BLM management, all continued uses of the historic Browns Canyon area will continue, including hunting, fishing and grazing and the designation does not alter or affect the valid water rights or management of the Arkansas River flows. The state of Colorado preserves existing agreements for recreation uses and access.

Prior to the celebration, on Friday, July 17, Secretary Jewell will discuss conserving public lands and the importance of connecting America's youth to the great outdoors as part of the Hurst Lecture Series at The Aspen Institute. The Hurst Lecture Series features conversations with renowned and inspiring leaders for public audiences in Aspen.

Who: **Sally Jewell,** U.S. Secretary of the Interior

John Hickenlooper, Governor, State of Colorado
Tom Tidwell, Chief, United States Forest Service
Neil Kornze, Director, Bureau of Land Management
Michael Bennet, U.S. Senator
Diana DeGette, U.S. Representative
Terry Knight, Spiritual Leader, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Local leaders and community members

What: Browns Canyon National Monument Dedication Ceremony & Celebration

When: Saturday, July 18, 2015
2:45 p.m. MDT – Media check-in
3:00 p.m. MDT – Dedication ceremony followed by brief media availability

Where: Buena Vista River Park, Soccer Field
Intersection of East Main Street and South Main Street
Buena Vista, CO 81211

Media: Credentialed members of the media are encouraged to RSVP here.

###

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov
Media Advisory

Date: July 16, 2015
Contact: Jessica Kershaw, Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov

Secretary Jewell, Community Leaders to Celebrate Establishment of Browns Canyon National Monument

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Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Chief Tom Tidwell, Bureau of Land Management Director Neil Kornze, U.S. Senator Michael Bennet, U.S. Representative Diana DeGette, as well as other local leaders will join Jewell.

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Under joint USFS and BLM management, all continued uses of the historic Browns Canyon area will continue, including hunting, fishing and grazing and the designation does not alter or affect the valid water rights or management of the Arkansas River flows. The state of Colorado preserves existing agreements for recreation uses and access, and the successful Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife will continue.

Prior to the celebration, on Friday, July 17, Secretary Jewell will discuss conserving public lands and the importance of connecting America's youth to the great outdoors as part of the Hurst Lecture Series at The Aspen Institute. The Hurst Lecture Series features conversations with renowned and inspiring leaders for public audiences in Aspen.

Who:	**Sally Jewell,** U.S. Secretary of the Interior **John Hickenlooper,** Governor, State of Colorado **Tom Tidwell**, Chief, United States Forest Service **Neil Kornze,** Director, Bureau of Land Management **Michael Bennet**, U.S. Senator **Diana DeGette**, U.S. Representative ~~**Terry Knight**, Spiritual Leader, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe~~ Local leaders and community members
What:	Browns Canyon National Monument Dedication Ceremony & Celebration
When:	Saturday, July 18, 2015 2:45 p.m. MDT – Media check-in 3:00 p.m. MDT – Dedication ceremony followed by brief media availability
Where:	Buena Vista River Park, Soccer Field Intersection of East Main Street and South Main Street Buena Vista, CO 81211
Media:	Credentialed members of the media are encouraged to RSVP here.

###

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

Bi-monthly call with DOI

1 message

Barranco, Angela <(b) (6) Thu, Jul 16, 2015 at 3:59 PM
To: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>, "Elson, Tom" <(b) (6)>, "Antoniewicz, Mark" (b) (6) "Najera, Maria" <maria_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Steven Avila <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Francisco Carrillo <francisco_carrillo@ios.doi.gov>, Terri Johnson <terri_johnson@ios.doi.gov>

CEQ/DOI Bi-monthly check-in
July 20, 2015

DOI Participants:
John Blair
Francisco Carrillo
Terri Johnson
Maria Najera
Steven Avila

DOI Agenda:

- SPR
- 4 corners
- Brown's Canyon Celebration
- Shell

CEQ Agenda:

- Faith Champs of Change
- CPP Constituency Calls
- EPA Youth and Teacher Awards

Past Events:

- Monument Rollout (CA, NV, TX)
- Resiliency Rollout
- U.S. Brazil Climate Announcement
- Native American Youth Summit

Avila, Steven <steven_avila@ios.doi.gov>

U.S. Department of the Interior News Briefing for Friday, July 17, 2015

1 message

Bulletin Intelligence <Interior@bulletinintelligence.com> Fri, Jul 17, 2015 at 7:03 AM
To: Interior@bulletinintelligence.com

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NEWS BRIEFING

Mobile version and searchable archives available at interior.bulletinintelligence.com.

DATE: FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2015 7:00 AM EDT

TODAY'S TABLE OF CONTENTS

DOI IN THE NEWS:
+ Obama Administration Proposes New Stream Protection Rules.
+ Secretary Jewell To Meet With Moffat County Officials To Discuss Colowyo Mine.
+ Browns Canyon National Monument To Be Dedicated Saturday.
+ Joint Hearing Held On Recent Data Breaches.
+ Rep. Clyburn Links Dropping Confederate Flag To Voting Rights Revamp.
+ Al Gore Criticizes Arctic Drilling Decision.
+ Climate Activists Press Clinton At New Hampshire Event.
+ Additional Coverage: Interior Shares Picture Of Eagle Battling Seagulls In Alaska.

EMPOWERING NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES:
+ BIA Supports Bill Restoring Texas Tribe's Gaming Rights.
+ Petition Calls For Federal Recognition Of Lumbee Tribe.
+ Santa Clara Pueblo Objects To Continued Operation Of Pojoaque Casinos.
+ Additional Coverage Of Decision On Duwamish Tribe.

TACKLING AMERICA'S WATER CHALLENGES:
+ House Approves GOP's Drought Relief Bill.
+ BOR Close To Wrapping Up $40M Replacement Of Glen Canyon Dam Turbines.
+ BOR Announces Improved Water Forecast For Yakima River.
+ California Farmers Turn To Water-saving Technologies In Face Of Drought.

SECURING AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE:

Onshore Energy Development:
+ BLM Director Kornze Defends Fracking Rules On Hill.
+ Ruling Defers Federal Drilling Rules Until September.
+ EPA Inspector General: Agency Must Oversee Fracking Chemicals.
+ Trapper Mine Provides Update To Court.
+ BLM Holds Oil, Gas Lease Action In North Dakota.
+ BLM Seeking Comments On Alton Coal Mine Expansion.
+ BLM Hears Complaints About Proposal To Open Land To Possible Oil, Gas Exploration.
+ Miramar Officials Take Stand Against Everglades Oil Drilling.
+ Fracking May Be Tied To More Hospitalizations.
+ Opinion: Pipeline Bills Threaten National Parks.
+ Column: Environmentalists Ignore Value Of Natural Gas.

Offshore Energy Development:
+ Lease Sale Will Offer Acreage In Western Gulf.
+ BSEE Completes Inspections On Shell Arctic Vessels.
+ Cleanup Of Santa Barbara Oil Spill "98 Percent Complete."

AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS:

Bureau of Land Management:
+ Utah To Investigate Closure Of Road In ATV Protest.
+ BLM Temporary Housing Complex Ready To Be Occupied.
+ BLM Advisory Council Backs Bullwhacker Road Land Swap.

Fish and Wildlife Service:
+ FWS Upholds Rules Blocking Imports Of African Elephant Trophies.
+ Chinese Officials Tour "Sister Wildlife Refuge".
+ FWS Meets With Harrison County Commission Over Dam Demolition Project.
+ Study: Polar Bears Do Not Hibernate.
+ FWS Posts Draft Recovery Plan For Salt Creek Tiger Beetle.
+ End Of Public Comment Period On Gillnet Proposal Approaches.
+ New Vaccine Saves Prairie Dogs In Fight For Black-footed Ferrets.

National Park Service:
+ National Parks Educating Visitors About Dangers Of Climate Change.
+ Officials Say Drone Ban Difficult To Enforce.
+ Denali National Park Discourages Posting Of Trip Itineraries Online.
+ Freeway Crossing Proposed For Los Angeles Mountain Lions.
+ Mammoth Cave Draws Researchers.
+ Waterfall At Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Attracts Daredevils.
+ Dinosaur National Monument Sees Jump In Visitors.
+ Woman Seriously Injured In Boat Crash At Lake Mead.
+ William Cole Vineyards Joins National Register Of Historic Places.
+ Additional Coverage: Fight Brewing Over Ban On Water Bottles At National Parks.
+ Katahdin Region Urged To Focus On Economic Development.

US Geological Survey:
+ USGS Awards Contract To Cherokee Nation Technologies.
+ Additional Coverage: USGS Study Finds Contaminants In California Public Water Supplies.

TOP NATIONAL NEWS:
+ At Oklahoma Prison, Obama Says He Could Have Ended Up In Jail "But For The Grace Of God."
+ Four Marines Killed By Single Shooter At Tennessee Naval Reserve Center.
+ Yellen Promises "Prudent," "Gradual" Rate Increases.

EDITORIAL WRAP-UP:
+ New York Times.
+ Washington Post.
+ Wall Street Journal.

BIG PICTURE:
+ Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

WASHINGTON SCHEDULE:
+ Today's Events In Washington.

LAST LAUGHS:
+ Late Night Political Humor.

DOI in the News:

OBAMA ADMINISTRATION PROPOSES NEW STREAM PROTECTION RULES. The AP (7/17, 491K) reports that the Obama Administration proposed new rules "designed to reduce the environmental impact of coal mining on the nation's streams" on Thursday. The move "met quick resistance from Republicans, even as the administration projected only modest job losses in coal country."

The New York Times (7/17, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) reports that the Interior Department's proposed regulation, which "mandates that coal companies test and monitor the condition of streams affected by their activities before, during and after a mining operation," would have the greatest effect on states in the Appalachian Mountains. The rule is aimed at protecting streams "from the high level of pollution caused by a technique known as mountaintop removal mining."

The Craig (CO) Daily Press (7/16, 10K) reports that Interior Secretary Sally Jewell "minimalized the impact a proposed rule intended to protect water in the proximity of coal mines would have on coal-reliant communities during a press conference Thursday." Jewell "called the potential loss of approximately 200 jobs across coal country 'relatively minor.'" Joseph Pizarchik, director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, "expanded on the economic impacts of the surface and ground water rule." He said, "In total, the analysis predicts an annualized decline in severance taxes of about $2.5 million across all coal producing states." Also providing coverage is the Steamboat (CO) Pilot & Today (7/16, 30K).

The Hill (7/16, Cama, 533K) reports that the Republicans and industry leaders "immediately blasted the rule as part of President Obama's 'war on coal.'" Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah), chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, said, "The Obama administration has proven to be the bully regulation machine once again."

E&E Publishing (7/16, 705) reports that "the mining industry is reacting strongly against the Interior Department's new proposal to protect waterways from the impacts of surface and underground coal mining." The Washington (DC) Post (7/17, Warrick, 5.03M) reports that Hal Quinn, president of the National Mining Association, criticized the move, saying that "It has nothing to do with new science and everything to do with an old and troubling agenda for separating more coal miners from their jobs."

The Center for American Progress (7/16, 2K) provided a statement by Visiting Senior Fellow David J. Hayes. He said, "The proposed rule addresses key defects in the current rules—including bonding reforms so that taxpayers are not left footing the bill for environmental damage—and establishes clear baseline testing, monitoring, and restoration requirements."

Coverage was also provided by ABC (7/17), CNBC (7/16, 2.01M), Washington Post (7/17, Kevin Freking |, Ap, 5.03M), Daily Mail (7/17, 5.37M), St Louis Post Dispatch (7/17, 1.01M), Killeen Daily Herald (7/17, 40K), New York Times (7/17, Press, Subscription Publication, 12.24M), Houston Chronicle (7/17, 2.29M), Bristol Herald Courier (7/17), Lexington Herald Leader (7/16, 268K), Lynchburg News (7/17, 77K), Sun Herald (7/16, 127K), Yahoo News (7/17, Freking), US News & World Report (7/16, 907K), News OK (7/17, 506K), Fox Business (7/16, 387K), SF Chronicle (7/17, Subscription Publication, 2.92M), Kansas City Star (7/17, 590K), Salon (7/16, 1.16M), El Paso Inc (7/17, 33K), New Jersey Herald (7/17, 39K), Minneapolis Star Tribune (7/17, 1.29M), and PBS (7/17).

Also providing coverage are the Houston (TX) Chronicle (7/17, 2.29M), the Washington (DC) Post (7/17, Kevin Freking |, Ap, 5.03M), US News & World Report (7/16, 907K), the Atlanta (GA) Journal-Constitution (7/17, 985K), the Bristol (VA) Herald Courier (7/17), the Columbia (SC) State (7/17, 300K), the Allentown (PA) Morning Call (7/16, 374K), KSL-TV Salt Lake City (UT) Salt Lake City (7/17, 1.07M), WPXI-TV Pittsburgh (PA) Pittsburgh (7/17, 307K), WBBH-TV Fort Myers (FL) Fort Myers, FL (7/17, 149K), KXXV-TV Waco (TX) Waco, TX (7/17, 30K), WKBN-TV Youngstown (OH) Youngstown, OH (7/16, 49K).

Additional reporting was provided by Politico (7/17, Guillén, 1.11M), The Hill (7/17, Cama, 533K), the National Journal (7/17, Subscription Publication, 156K), Bloomberg News (7/16, Drajem, 3.81M), the Greenwire (7/16, Subscription Publication), the Washington (DC) Times (7/17, Wolfgang, 641K), the Washington Examiner (7/17, 349K), the Charleston (WV) Gazette (7/16, 31K), the Charleston (WV) State Journal (7/17, 1K), the Charleston (WV) Daily Mail (7/16, 53K), Beckley (WV) Register-Herald (7/17, 62K), the Logan (WV) Banner (7/17, 696), the Logan (WV) Banner (7/17, 696), the Logan (WV) Banner (7/17, 696), the Clarksburg (WV) Exponent-Telegram (7/17, 42K), the Salt Lake (UT) Tribune (7/17, 470K), the Bowling Green (KY) Daily News (7/17, 60K), Fox News (7/16, 9.4M), Reuters (7/16), the Huffington Post (7/17, 194K), the Biloxi (MS) Sun Herald (7/16, 127K), the St. Louis (MO) Post-Dispatch (7/17, 1.01M), the Summit County (CO) Citizens Voice (7/16, 506), the Deseret (UT) News (7/17, 538K), the Richmond (KY) Register (7/17, 14K), the Bradenton (FL) Herald (7/16, 127K), the Macon (GA) Telegraph (7/16, 32K), the Pittsburgh (PA) Tribune-Review (7/17, 682K), the St. George (UT) Spectrum (7/16, 46K), the Oklahoman (7/17, 506K), Environment News Service (7/16, 25), Wyoming Business Report (7/17, 24K), West Virginia MetroNews (7/16, 16K), the Huntington News Network (7/17, 479), the Energy Guardian (7/17), Think Progress (7/16, 435K), Grist (7/17, 8K), the Law 360 (7/17, 15K), KTWO-AM Casper (WY) Casper, WY (7/17, 576), WYMT-TV Hazard (KY) Hazard, KY (7/17), and WFPL-FM Louisville (KY) Louisville, KY (7/17, 6K).

SECRETARY JEWELL TO MEET WITH MOFFAT COUNTY OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS COLOWYO MINE. The Craig (CO) Daily Press (7/16, 10K) reports that "several Moffat County officials have been invited to sit down with U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell Friday evening in Glenwood Springs to discuss the future of Colowyo Mine." According to the article, Moffat County Commissioner John Kinkaid, Natural Resources Director Jeff Comstock and Craig Mayor Ray Beck are among the officials to meet with Jewell Friday. The article notes that "the meeting is not open to the public, as there aren't enough elected officials meeting with Jewell to have the Colorado open meeting laws apply."

Additional coverage was provided by the Steamboat (CO) Pilot & Today (7/16, 30K), the Denver (CO) Post (7/17, Jaffe, 894K), the Craig (CO) Daily Press (7/16, 10K), the National Review (7/17, 493K), and KULR-TV Billings (MT) Billings, MT (7/17, 2K).

BROWNS CANYON NATIONAL MONUMENT TO BE DEDICATED SATURDAY. The Pueblo (CO) Chieftain (7/17, 79K) reports that "public lands officials and Gov. John Hickenlooper are slated to be among the dignitaries gathering to dedicate the newly designated Browns Canyon National Monument on Saturday." The article notes that "among those slated to speak are Hickenlooper, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, BLM National Director Neil Kornze, former U.S. Sen. Mark Udall, U.S. Sen. Michael Bennett, D-Colo., and U.S. Forest Service Chief Director Tom Tidwell." Local officials have also "been invited to speak about the monument, which will be preserved for wildlife habitat, rafting, fishing, hiking and other year-round activities."

Also reporting on the story is the Summit (CO) Daily News (7/17, 35K).

JOINT HEARING HELD ON RECENT DATA BREACHES. The E&E Daily (7/16, Subscription Publication) reports that "vulnerabilities in the Interior Department's computer system could be exploited with devastating effect, Interior Deputy Inspector General Mary Kendall" testified Wednesday. Kendall said, "A successful cyberattack against these internal computer networks could severely degrade or even cripple the department's operations and could also result in the loss of sensitive data." The testimony "came as two House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittees interrogated Interior officials over concerns about the safety of the agency's data." The article notes that "the hearing was the first of a series the Information Technology Subcommittee plans to hold scrutinizing cybersecurity at federal agencies following last year's breach at the Office of Personnel Management."

Additional coverage was provided by the Washington (DC) Post (7/17, Rein, 5.03M), the Washington (DC) Post (7/17, Davidson, 5.03M), NextGov (7/17, 2K), ExecutiveGov (7/17, 548), SC Magazine (7/17, 301), FierceGovernmentIT (7/17, Kanowitz, 277), Ars Technica (7/17, 571K), and NextGov (7/16, Subscription Publication, 156K).

REP. CLYBURN LINKS DROPPING CONFEDERATE FLAG TO VOTING RIGHTS REVAMP. The Hill (7/16, Lillis, 533K) reports that House Democrats are "floating a legislative deal linking the thorny Confederate flag debate with expanded voting rights." Rep. James Clyburn "said Thursday that Democratic leaders will drop their push to attach flag-related amendments to appropriations bills, freeing Republicans to pursue their spending agenda," if the GOP will "consider an update" to the voting rights act, "a central part of which was gutted by the Supreme Court in 2013."

Additional coverage was provided by the Indian Country Today Media Network (7/16, 28K).

AL GORE CRITICIZES ARCTIC DRILLING DECISION. In an interview with The Guardian (UK) (7/16, 2.93M), former US Vice President Al Gore criticizes President Obama's decision to allow Royal Dutch Shell to explore for oil in the Alaskan Arctic, saying that "I think Arctic drilling is insane. I think that countries around the world would be very well advised to put restrictions on drilling for oil in the Arctic ocean." He cites the Deepwater Horizon spill as a cautionary tale to the danger of offshore drilling. The Hill (7/16, Henry, 533K) reports that Gore also criticized the President for allowing "large amounts of coal" to be "extracted from public lands." Aside from drilling and mining, Gore said that he thinks Obama is "doing essentially a very good job."

Additional coverage is available from Politico (7/17, Gass, 1.11M), the National Journal (7/17, Foran, Subscription Publication, 156K), the Greenwire (7/16, Subscription Publication), and Vice (7/17, 1.43M).

Bill Would Block Arctic Drilling. The Huffington Post (7/16, Kerr, 194K) notes that "Gore's comments come on the same day that Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) is introducing a bill that would ban Arctic drilling."

E&E Publishing (7/16, 705) reports that Merkley's legislation, the "Stop Arctic Drilling Act of 2015," would "block the renewal of new and existing fossil fuel drilling permits in the Arctic Ocean." The bill would also "amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to give the Interior Department more control over energy development in the Arctic Ocean." Merkley said "drilling in the Arctic would be a 'crime against the environment' because it could lead to more oil spills like the Exxon Valdez spill that dumped 11 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound in 1989."

Fuel Fix (TX) (7/17, Dlouhy, 7K) reports that Merkley expressed hope that a potential visit by President Obama to the Arctic would inspire him to rescind approval for Shell to drill there. "The president himself has talked about going to the Arctic later this summer," Merkley said. "So I hope the president will be able to use this as a moment to ponder the type of destruction that I'm speaking of and come to support that the Arctic should absolutely be off limits."

Additional coverage of Merkley's bill was provided by the Maritime Executive (7/17, 21), My Central Oregon (7/16), KTVZ-TV Bend (OR) Bend, OR (7/17, 1K), and KOIN-TV Portland (OR) Portland, OR (7/16, 50K).

CLIMATE ACTIVISTS PRESS CLINTON AT NEW HAMPSHIRE EVENT. The Los Angeles Times (7/17, Memoli, 4.03M) reports that at yesterday's campaign event in New Hampshire, "a woman representing an environmental advocacy group pressed Clinton on whether she would support banning fossil fuel extraction on public lands, including the use of hydraulic fracturing." Earlier in the event, Clinton hold told a questioner "that she could not commit to such a ban until alternative sources of fuel were in place." And when another person "raised the issue again," accusing Clinton "of failing to lead on climate change, others joined in a coordinated chant of 'Act on climate.'" The Hill (7/16, Henry, 533K) reports, "As the group chanted, Clinton replied: 'That's OK, that's OK, that's OK. I am all in favor of acting on climate.'" CNN (7/16, Merica, Tatum, 3.17M) reports that Clinton called climate change an "existential threat" and urged the hecklers to "run for office" to get out their message.

Reuters (7/16, Becker, Volcovici) reports that Clinton emphasized that the economy relies on energy to run, and rejected the notion that campaign contributions were softening her stance. Further, the Democratic frontrunner said that she supports phasing out fossil fuel extraction and increasing fees on companies doing so on public lands. Politico (7/16, Gold, 1.11M) notes that Clinton also expressed support for "accelerating the development of solar wind, energy efficiency, everything we can do."

Reuters (7/16) also provides video of the incident.

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: INTERIOR SHARES PICTURE OF EAGLE BATTLING SEAGULLS IN ALASKA. Additional coverage of the picture shared by the Interior Department showing a bald eagle and two seagulls fighting was provided by NPR (7/16, 1.52M), TIME (7/17, 19.57M), GQ (7/17, 3.12M), Inquisitr (7/17, 369K), the Blaze (7/16, 1.87M), io9 (7/17, 837K), and RYOT (7/17).

Empowering Native American Communities:

BIA SUPPORTS BILL RESTORING TEXAS TRIBE'S GAMING RIGHTS. The Law 360 (7/17, 15K) reports that BIA official "urged a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee on Wednesday to shore up the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas' gaming rights by bringing the tribe squarely within the reach of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act." BIA Deputy Director Michael Smith "told the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs that the U.S. Department of the Interior supports H.R. 2684."

PETITION CALLS FOR FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF LUMBEE TRIBE. The Robesonian (NC) (7/17, 42K) reports that "a Pembroke woman is hoping that her online petition calling for federal recognition of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina will remind President Barack Obama of his campaign pledge to help make recognition a reality." Monica Locklear said, "He said during his campaign that he and his administration would support us. He said he would work to get us the federal recognition we deserve." Locklear "on July 9 started a petition on whitehouse.com, a website that provides an opportunity for people to communicate directly with the president and his administration."

SANTA CLARA PUEBLO OBJECTS TO CONTINUED OPERATION OF POJOAQUE CASINOS. The Santa Fe New Mexican (7/17, 49K) reports that "Santa Clara Pueblo, which operates a casino in the city of Española, is asking the federal government to shut down Pojoaque Pueblo's casinos north of Santa Fe — which the U.S.

Attorney's Office has allowed to operate without a New Mexico gambling compact while a federal appeals court hears a legal dispute between Pojoaque and the state." According to the article, "in a July 5 letter to Kevin Washburn, the U.S. Department of the Interior's deputy secretary of Indian affairs, Santa Clara Gov. J. Michael Chavarria said allowing Pojoaque Pueblo to continue operating its Buffalo Thunder and Cities of Gold casinos without a gambling compact with the state gives Pojoaque 'a huge competitive advantage' over other gambling tribes in the New Mexico."

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE OF DECISION ON DUWAMISH TRIBE. Additional coverage of the ruling that the Duwamish Tribe "doesn't meet all of the criteria required for the U.S. to recognize it as an indigenous nation" was provided by the Indian Country Today Media Network (7/16, 28K).

Tackling America's Water Challenges:

HOUSE APPROVES GOP'S DROUGHT RELIEF BILL. The Greenwire (7/16, Subscription Publication) reports that the House on Thursday "approved GOP lawmakers' latest relief measure for parched California, although most everyone agrees the bill is a long way from becoming law." Lawmakers "approved H.R. 2898 by a vote of 245-176, mostly along party lines." The legislation would "loosen environmental restrictions on how much water can be pumped from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Valley Delta to parched agricultural communities in the Central Valley and municipalities farther south." Also, "it would grease the skids for new water storage projects across the West, requiring the federal government to finish studies on certain projects that have been discussed for years and streamlining review and permitting processes for future projects."

The AP (7/17) reports that similar bills have "faltered in the last two congressional sessions after initially passing the House, and the White House and Democrats remain opposed."

The Hill (7/16, Cama, Marcos, 533K) reports that the legislation is "a major test" for House Majority Leader McCarthy of California, "who is tasked with balancing his leadership responsibilities while staying in touch with his agriculture-heavy district in the Central Valley." The Los Angeles Times (7/17, 4.03M) (7/17, 4.03M) reports that the legislation is "unlikely to break the longstanding partisan stalemate over how to confront the drought." Even if it clears the Senate, the White House has indicated that the President will veto it. The House bill "aims to funnel more water to San Joaquin Valley growers by reducing the amount used to support endangered fish populations, among a number of other provisions."

Additional coverage was provided by the Miami (FL) Herald (7/17, 676K), the Ventura County (CA) Star (7/17, 214K), the Contra Costa (CA) Times (7/17, Press, 279K), the Quincy (IL) Herald-Whig (7/17, 100K), the Klamath Falls (OR) Herald And News (7/17, 45K), the Riverside (CA) Press Enterprise (7/17, 395K), Fox News (7/16, 9.4M), Fox Business (7/16, 387K), Yahoo! News (7/17, Freking, Press, 6.18M), KOVR-TV Sacramento (CA) Sacramento, CA (7/16, 61K), KERO-TV Bakersfield (CA) Bakersfield, CA (7/17, 3K), KCRA-TV Sacramento (CA) Sacramento, CA (7/17, 136K).

BOR CLOSE TO WRAPPING UP $40M REPLACEMENT OF GLEN CANYON DAM TURBINES. The AP (7/17, 470K) reports that the BOR is "wrapping up a project to replace the giant turbines that produce electricity at Glen Canyon Dam." According to Rick Clayton, of the bureau's Upper Colorado Region power office, "when the eighth one goes online later this year, energy production from the dam near the Arizona-Utah border is expected to increase by 3 percent." He said, "It's a fairly small increase, but it's a benefit for the next 40 years." Clayton noted that "the turbines were replaced one at a time after a contract was awarded in 2004, at a cost of $40 million."

BOR ANNOUNCES IMPROVED WATER FORECAST FOR YAKIMA RIVER. The Tri-City Herald (WA) (7/16, 100K) reports that the BOR "announced an improved water supply in a report to irrigation districts in Eastern Washington." According to the article, "the supply for irrigators with junior water rights increased, by 2 percent, for the first time this season," to 46 percent.

CALIFORNIA FARMERS TURN TO WATER-SAVING TECHNOLOGIES IN FACE OF DROUGHT. The Wall Street Journal (7/17, Brat, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) reports that farmers in California are seeking to adapt to the drought by employing water-saving technology. According to the article, the efficacy of the technologies is unclear. However, some farmers say that it could reduce agricultural water use by 10% to 25%.

Securing America's Energy Future:

Onshore Energy Development:

BLM DIRECTOR KORNZE DEFENDS FRACKING RULES ON HILL. The E&E Daily (7/16, Subscription Publication) reports that BLM Director Neil Kornze on Wednesday "told lawmakers that his agency identified areas where it could grant variances to state oil and gas agencies from its hydraulic fracturing rules, but that it can't proceed while the rule is stalled by a federal judge." Kornze told the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources at a hearing, "We have identified places where variances could be granted. I would say there are background conversations. We are not in a position to formalize anything."

Additional coverage was provided by Natural Gas Intelligence (7/17, Subscription Publication).

RULING DEFERS FEDERAL DRILLING RULES UNTIL SEPTEMBER. Fuel Fix (TX) (7/17, Dlouhy, 7K) reports that a decision by Federal District Court Judge Scott Skavdahl has blocked rules on drilling on federal land until at least September. Neal Kirby, a spokesman for the Independent Petroleum Association of America, said that "The government's request proves there is no urgent reason to immediately implement the final rule before the court has adequate opportunity to resolve a number of important and legitimate legal questions." The rule was set to take effect in June, but was challenged by industry, as well as the states of Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, and Utah.

EPA INSPECTOR GENERAL: AGENCY MUST OVERSEE FRACKING CHEMICALS. The Hill (7/17, Cama, 533K) reports that the EPA's Inspector General has expressed dissatisfaction with the agency's efforts to oversee the chemicals used in fracking. In a report released Thursday, the office said that "There is evidence that the EPA and primacy states have not been fully successful in their efforts to effectively control the use of diesel fuels for well stimulation." Further, it notes that the Agency "needs to develop an action plan with a timeline to address the public comments and determine whether to propose a rule to obtain information on chemical substances and mixtures used in hydraulic fracturing."

TRAPPER MINE PROVIDES UPDATE TO COURT. The Craig (CO) Daily Press (7/16, 10K) reports that "although an update was provided to the district court on Wednesday, the diplomacy between Trapper Mining Inc., WildEarth Guardians and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement has yet to produce results." According to a document from Trapper filed with the district court, "discussions have been positive and productive." But "the unavailability of parties with final approval authority prevented the possibility of a final agreement between the parties."

Also providing coverage is the Steamboat (CO) Pilot & Today (7/16, 30K).

BLM HOLDS OIL, GAS LEASE ACTION IN NORTH DAKOTA. The Bismarck (ND) Tribune (7/17, 39K) reports that a BLM "oil and gas lease auction Tuesday netted $36,805 in revenues from the sale of six federal leases in North Dakota, totaling 1,595 acres."

BLM SEEKING COMMENTS ON ALTON COAL MINE EXPANSION. The Deseret (UT) News (7/17, 538K) reports that the BLM is "once again reaching out to the public for comment on a proposal to expand Utah's only surface coal mining operation — a controversial pitch because of potential impacts to sage grouse, nearby national parks and monuments and air quality." And "at the same time Alton Coal wants to boost its operation by more than 3,500 acres, the federal agency acknowledges that difficult mining conditions and depleted reserves in Utah's chief coal beds in Carbon and Emery counties are forcing mining operators to look elsewhere in the state to meet future coal demands." The bureau's "comment period runs until Aug. 11 and also includes informational open houses planned for tonight at the Red Lion Hotel in Salt Lake City, July 21 in Kanab at the BLM's field offices on U.S. 89 and on July 22 at Alton Town Hall."

BLM HEARS COMPLAINTS ABOUT PROPOSAL TO OPEN LAND TO POSSIBLE OIL, GAS EXPLORATION. The St. George (UT) Spectrum (7/16, 46K) reports that "a crowd of some 70 people complained Wednesday night to a Bureau of Land Management representative via a Webex presentation over the BLM's proposal to open several parcels of land in Lincoln County to possible oil and gas exploration." According to the article, "a representative of the BLM's Ely District conducted the nearly two-hour meeting with members of the Moapa Band of Paiutes, the Mesquite City Council, trustees of the Virgin Valley Water District board and a host Southern Nevada residents."

MIRAMAR OFFICIALS TAKE STAND AGAINST EVERGLADES OIL DRILLING. The South Florida Sun Sentinel (7/17, Ballou, 729K) reports officials in Miramar "moved quickly to oppose plans by" Miami-based

company Kantor Real Estate LLC "to conduct exploratory oil drilling five miles west of the city, saying it would hurt the Everglades and the region's water supply." Mayor Wayne Messam said, "Plans to drill just minutes away from our city is alarming, because of the potential impact it could have not only to the Everglades but to drinking water." On Wednesday, Messam and other commissioners "voted against plans submitted to the state last week by Kantor Real Estate LLC."

FRACKING MAY BE TIED TO MORE HOSPITALIZATIONS. In continuing coverage, Reuters (7/16) reports on the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University study of fracking counties in Pennsylvania that experienced higher rates of hospitalization than counties with no fracking activity.

OPINION: PIPELINE BILLS THREATEN NATIONAL PARKS. Writing in The Hill (7/17, Lund, 533K), National Parks Conservation Association Landscape Conservation Program manager Nick Lund argues that the country's national parks are at risk of serving as transit routes for gas pipelines. Citing one bill in the House and two in the Senate, Lund writes that "Unmitigated placement of natural gas pipelines through national parks is inconsistent with the conservation mandate that created both the National Park System and the agency that protects them" and calls for the defeat of the bills.

COLUMN: ENVIRONMENTALISTS IGNORE VALUE OF NATURAL GAS. Writing for USA Today (7/17, Shellenberger, Nordhaus, 5.01M), Michael Shellenberger And Ted Nordhaus, co-founders of the Breakthrough Institute, argue that the environmental movement has reversed on its support for natural gas by attacking fracking, the process that its bringing about a cleaner energy grid. They cite analysis showing that "more than 90% of the growth in gas-fired generation since the onset of the shale gas revolution in 2005 has replaced coal-fired generation" and assert that gas can bring us great environmental benefits, despite ideological opposition from some environmentalists.

Offshore Energy Development:

LEASE SALE WILL OFFER ACREAGE IN WESTERN GULF. The AP (7/17) reports that the BOEM announced that it will offer nearly 22 million acres offshore Texas for oil and gas exploration in August's lease sale. The sale will "include 4,083 blocks in water depths ranging from 16 feet to more than 10,975 feet."

Additional coverage was provided by the Houston (TX) Chronicle (7/17), the San Antonio (TX) Express-News (7/17, 670K), the Gulf Live (AL) (7/17, 26K), the New Orleans (LA) Times-Picayune (7/17, 733K), WBRC-TV Birmingham (AL) Birmingham, AL (7/17, 59K), and WDAM-TV Hattiesburg (MS) Hattiesburg, MS (7/17, 34K).

BSEE COMPLETES INSPECTIONS ON SHELL ARCTIC VESSELS. The Marine Link (7/16, 1K) reports that "Shell Oil Co. marine vessels Noble Discoverer and the semisubmersible drilling unit Transocean Polar Pioneer were inspected by two Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) personnel in Dutch Harbor, Alaska July 7-12, BSEE announced." The bureau said "its inspectors were on board the vessels to review drilling equipment, assess overall readiness and test key safety devices, also verifying BOEM lease stipulations, environmental mitigation measures and air quality equipment, as well as Environmental Protection Agency National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements." The article notes that "also inspected was the capping stack onboard ice management vessel Fennica, which received hull damage while departing Dutch Harbor on July 3." According to the article, "BSEE personnel verified the capping stack was not damaged during the incident, though Fennica's damage requires repairs in drydock in Portland, Ore."

Additional coverage was provided by Splash 24/7 (SGP) (7/17).

CLEANUP OF SANTA BARBARA OIL SPILL "98 PERCENT COMPLETE." The AP (7/17) reports that government officials said cleanup was "98 percent complete" at the site of a pipeline rupture that spilled roughly 101,000 gallons of crude near Santa Barbara, California on May 19. "About 300 workers remained on the job," and it was not clear when the work would be done, continues the AP. The piece notes that a congressional committee and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration are investigating, and California state prosecutors are "considering potential charges against operator Plains All American Pipeline."

America's Great Outdoors:

Bureau of Land Management:

UTAH TO INVESTIGATE CLOSURE OF ROAD IN ATV PROTEST. The AP (7/17, 2.29M) reports that Utah Gov. Gary Herbert has "asked the state attorney general to investigate whether the federal government acted illegally in the closure of a remote canyon trail that was the site of an ATV protest last year." The move "comes after state lawmakers donated cash from their pockets to help defend a county commissioner from southern Utah who was convicted on federal misdemeanor charges for his role in the protest." Rep. Mike Noel of Kanab said Wednesday that "he has documents proving the road shouldn't have been off-limits because local authorities had a right of way there."

Additional coverage was provided by the Salt Lake (UT) Tribune (7/17, 470K) and the Cache Valley (UT) Daily (7/17, 639).

BLM TEMPORARY HOUSING COMPLEX READY TO BE OCCUPIED. The Dickinson (ND) Press (7/17, 609) reports that "Loren Wickstrom, the BLM's acting North Dakota field manager, said while the site's bare dirt still needs landscaping work, the 10 mobile homes placed above the lake are ready for occupation." The article notes that "construction crews broke ground last August and completed much of the remaining work this spring."

BLM ADVISORY COUNCIL BACKS BULLWHACKER ROAD LAND SWAP. The Great Falls (MT) Tribune (7/16, 80K) reports that the BLM Central Montana Resource Advisory Council "voted Thursday to support a land exchange proposal being considered as an alternative to restore motorized road access to the Bullwhacker Road area." The bureau is "in the process of developing an environmental assessment to build a new road to access the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument after a judge ruled that Bullwhacker Road was a private road." The article notes that "Texas businessmen and brothers Dan and Farris Wilks, who own the portion of private land crossed by Bullwhacker Road, have proposed a land swap with the BLM," but "the RAC's vote wasn't specific [to] the Wilkses' proposal, explained Jonathan Moor, spokesman for the BLM's Central and Hi-Line districts." Rather, "the vote was more general, in the sense that some sort of land swap should be considered as an alternative."

Fish and Wildlife Service:

FWS UPHOLDS RULES BLOCKING IMPORTS OF AFRICAN ELEPHANT TROPHIES. The Hill (7/17, Devaney, 533K) reports that the FWS will "uphold rules that block hunters from importing African elephant trophies taken in Zimbabwe." The service "expressed an 'inability to determine that the killing of the animal whose trophy is intended for import into the United States would enhance the survival of the species in the wild.'"

CHINESE OFFICIALS TOUR "SISTER WILDLIFE REFUGE". The Fairbanks (AK) News-Miner (7/17, 42K) reports that "as part of a new partnership agreement, a group of five Chinese officials toured China's new 'sister wildlife refuge' in Alaska this month." In 2013, "the U.S. and China signed an agreement making Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and China's Changbaishan National Nature Reserve 'sister refuges.'" The article notes that "so far the agreement has led to official visits to Changbaishan last year," and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge this year.

FWS MEETS WITH HARRISON COUNTY COMMISSION OVER DAM DEMOLITION PROJECT. The West Virginia MetroNews (7/16, 16K) reports that "though the Harrison County Commission has not officially taken control of four dams along the West Fork River from the Clarksburg Water Board, representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service attended their meeting Thursday to update them on the status of the project to demolish three of them." Nick Millett, a Bioligist with the FWS said, "Our contract with the water board will carry over with the land. We just wanted to come and introduce ourselves, offer any assistance that we can provide, answer any questions that they may have and kind of give them an idea of what the project entails."

Additional coverage was provided by WDTV-TV Bridgeport, WV (7/17, 6K).

STUDY: POLAR BEARS DO NOT HIBERNATE. The New York (NY) Times (7/17, Gorman, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) reports that a new study finds that polar bears do not hibernate or do anything resembling hibernation, contrasting with long-held belief. While the ability would help the species adapt to warming summers on land when sea ice melt disrupts their feeding patterns, "We didn't find anything that looks like hibernation," said John P. Whiteman, a biologist at the University of Wyoming who did most of the research. The Washington (DC) Post (7/17, Harvey, 5.03M) notes that "last week the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service" unveiled "a new conservation management plan, which identifies climate change and sea ice loss as the primary threat to polar bears."

Also providing coverage is the AP (7/17, Joling).

FWS POSTS DRAFT RECOVERY PLAN FOR SALT CREEK TIGER BEETLE. The Summit County (CO) Citizens Voice (7/16, 506) reports that the FWS "this week published a draft recovery plan for the endangered Salt Creek tiger beetle." The agency is "taking public comments on the draft plan, which sets specific recovery goals."

END OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON GILLNET PROPOSAL APPROACHES. The Kenai (AK) Peninsula Clarion (7/16, 17K) reports that "the final count for public comments regarding the Kenai and Kasilof rivers subsistence gillnets was nearing 600, including requests from federal agencies, on the eve of the public comment period closing July 17." The input aims "to become true requests for reconsideration, or RFRs, which must be discussed by the federal board in special work sessions scheduled at a later date."

NEW VACCINE SAVES PRAIRIE DOGS IN FIGHT FOR BLACK-FOOTED FERRETS. The AP (7/17, 2.29M) reports that "rodents such as prairie dogs love peanut butter and black-footed ferrets love prairie dogs, so a peanut butter-like substance has been doctored with an oral vaccine to thwart sylvatic plague." According to the article, "the new experimental vaccine is added to peanut butter flavored 'baits;' little chips of what look like chunks of caramel or peanut brittle."

National Park Service:

NATIONAL PARKS EDUCATING VISITORS ABOUT DANGERS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. The Chico (CA) News and Review (7/17, 101K) reports that national parks are educating visitors about the impact of climate change. According to the article, "as climate change projections became dire, the agency's position shifted to one of more urgency." In fall 2008, NPS Director Jonathon Jarvis "testified before Congress about climate change, and 'blew it wide open,' said Jeffrey Olson, public affairs officer with the National Park Service." Olson said, "despite the potential for political opposition, the agency will continue keeping climate change at the forefront of its outreach and communication."

OFFICIALS SAY DRONE BAN DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE. The High Country (CO) News (7/17, 74K) reports that despite a ban on drones in national parks, "the number of drone incidents" has "increased". Park officials say "the ban has been difficult to enforce and in many parks, the early season drone reports are outpacing the number of incidents last year."

DENALI NATIONAL PARK DISCOURAGES POSTING OF TRIP ITINERARIES ONLINE. The Greenwire (7/16, Subscription Publication) reports that "Denali National Park and Preserve officials are urging visitors not to post the exact GPS locations of routes or campsites to ensure what is supposed to be untrammeled Alaska wilderness remains as intended." Rangers said "visitors creating maps of their adventures in the central Alaskan park attract more footprints to specific paths in what's supposed to be a trailless area." Michael Raffaeli, a backcountry ranger at Denali, said, "If someone says this is the greatest campsite ever and then everyone camps there on a published route, we're going to see impacts." According to the article, "officials have incorporated a request not to post GPS information into a 30-minute video that backcountry campers are required to watch about bear safety, river crossings and other safety issues."

FREEWAY CROSSING PROPOSED FOR LOS ANGELES MOUNTAIN LIONS. The Guardian (UK) (7/16, 2.93M) reports that "in Los Angeles, the mountain lions of the Santa Monica mountains are trapped, hemmed in by busy oncoming traffic from the 101 freeway." An NPS team has "found that the 101 freeway is a major barrier to the mountain lion's essential mobility." In an effort "to curb this ecological disaster, the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) has been heading Save LA Cougars, a massive initiative to build what could be the world's largest wildlife crossing."

MAMMOTH CAVE DRAWS RESEARCHERS. The Louisville (KY) Courier-Journal (7/16, 386K) reports that "along with 400,000 visitors who tour Mammoth Cave National Park's 14 miles of developed trails each year, Mammoth also attracts flocks of biologists, geologists and anthropologists who venture much deeper." According to the article, "drawn to its size, cave life and the accessibility of 26 entrances, as many as 50 scientists at any given time are conducting studies on everything from endangered albino cave shrimp to early American Indians and cave hydrodynamics."

WATERFALL AT DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA ATTRACTS DAREDEVILS.

The Pocono (PA) Record (7/16, Writer, 44K) reports on the recent spate of injuries at the Adams Creek waterfall in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. According to the article, "spurred by social media, the cliffs are more popular than once imaginable," but the NPS is reminding "everyone that the jump has injured at least four people this summer, and could very easily kill any person who attempts it."

DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT SEES JUMP IN VISITORS. KUSA-TV Denver (7/16, 248K) reports that "people are flocking, or should we say stampeding, to Dinosaur National Monument – a park with fossils and paleontological sites on the border between Colorado and Utah." According to the NPS, "the monument has seen a 12.7-percent increase in total visitation in the first six months of 2015."

WOMAN SERIOUSLY INJURED IN BOAT CRASH AT LAKE MEAD. The AP (7/17, 2.29M) reports that "a boat crash at Lake Mead has left one woman suffering from life-threatening injuries."

WILLIAM COLE VINEYARDS JOINS NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. The Napa Valley (CA) Register (7/17, 45K) reports that "the mid-19th century stone winery and gardens of William Cole Vineyards" has been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: FIGHT BREWING OVER BAN ON WATER BOTTLES AT NATIONAL PARKS. Additional coverage of the battle over bans on the sale of plastic water bottles at national parks was provided by the Beaver County (PA) Times (7/17, 58K) and the Mother Nature Network (7/17, 152K).

KATAHDIN REGION URGED TO FOCUS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. In an editorial, the Bangor (ME) Daily News (7/16, 179K) notes that "leading opponents of the proposed national park and recreation area in the Katahdin region on Tuesday asked the family foundation pushing the park proposal to abandon its efforts." In a letter to Roxanne Quimby and her son, Lucas St. Clair, the Maine Woods Coalition "called on the pair to 'apply your substantial land holdings and financial resources to more realistic and meaningful economic development in the region.'" The paper agrees that "the debate around the region's economic future should go beyond a singular focus on a national park to the exclusion of all else." It says that "whether Quimby and St. Clair continue to push their park proposal or drop it, Katahdin-region leaders need to guide residents through serious conversations about their area's future." The editorial concludes that "it's fruitless to expend energy on defeating a park proposal when that time is better spent developing an economic vision."

US Geological Survey:

USGS AWARDS CONTRACT TO CHEROKEE NATION TECHNOLOGIES. The Tulsa (OK) World (7/17, 456K) reports that "Cherokee Nation Technologies announced Thursday it has received a services support contract with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) that has the potential of reaching $45 million throughout multiple years." According to the article, "the indefinite-delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract begins with a base-year and includes four one-year options, each with a ceiling of $9M."

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: USGS STUDY FINDS CONTAMINANTS IN CALIFORNIA PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES. Additional coverage that a USGS study has "concluded that natural contaminants are more prevalent than human-made contaminants in California groundwater aquifers used for public consumption" was provided by the Los Angeles (CA) Times (7/17, Sahagun, 4.03M).

Top National News:

AT OKLAHOMA PRISON, OBAMA SAYS HE COULD HAVE ENDED UP IN JAIL "BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD." Coverage of the shootings at two military sites in Chattanooga, Tennessee on Thursday that left four Marines dead overshadowed all other stories on the Thursday evening newscasts and caused only NBC to cover President Obama's historic visit to the Federal Correctional Institution El Reno near Oklahoma City. However, there is wide print and wire coverage of the visit – the first ever by a sitting president to a federal prison. Much of the focus is on the very personal tone of the President's remarks, particularly his observation that his youth was not that different from some of the inmates he met, and that he could have ended up in jail as well if not for a strong support system. Coverage also notes the emerging bipartisan consensus that criminal justice reform is needed.

NBC Nightly News (7/16, story 4, 2:20, Holt, 7.86M) reported the President "got a first-hand look inside this country's criminal justice system in a way no sitting president ever has, walking into a federal prison. He met with a group of inmates at a prison in Oklahoma, all of it to underscore his recent push for criminal justice

reform." Obama: "We have to reconsider whether 20 or 30 or life sentences for nonviolent crimes is the best way for us to solve these problems." NBC (Jansing): "Reform is getting rare bipartisan support. Today for the first time, the Speaker of the House got behind criminal justice legislation." Speaker Boehner: "I'd like to see it on the floor."

The AP (7/17, Superville) reports the President "came to the medium-security El Reno Federal Correctional Institution near Oklahoma City to press his case that the nation needs to reconsider the way crime is controlled and prisoners are rehabilitated." Prison officials "opened cell no. 123 for Obama and he gazed at its sparse trappings: a double bunk bed and third bed along the wall, a toilet and sink, along with a small bookcase and three lockers." Obama remarked on the small size of the cell.

Reuters (7/17, Edwards) reports the President said of the prisoners he met, "These are young people who made mistakes that aren't that different from mistakes I made. The difference is they did not have the support structure, the second chances, the resources that would allow them to survive these mistakes."

The Oklahoman (7/17, 506K) reports the President "said he was struck how easy it could be for a young person with few resources to end up incarcerated in a place like this. 'There but for the grace of God,' he said." The New York Times (7/17, A1, Baker, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) says the President "could not help reflecting on what might have been. After all, as a young man, he smoked marijuana and tried cocaine." The President noted that "there is a fine line between president and prisoner."

The Washington Post (7/17, Eilperin, 5.03M) says Obama's "frank assessment" about the course his life might have taken "came just two days after he told a largely black audience: 'I see what happens' when black and Latino families are devastated by the high rates of incarceration in their communities." USA Today (7/17, Jackson, Davis, 5.01M) reports that Obama cited "the overcrowded and violent conditions at too many prisons" in the US, and "said the situation is 'not normal. It's not what happens in other countries.'" The President said other nations do not incarcerate their young for youthful mistakes.

The Los Angeles Times (7/17, Parsons, 4.03M) says "the climate is favorable" for criminal justice reform, "with crime at historic lows and Republicans including Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, a presidential hopeful, also backing aspects" of reform. McClatchy (7/17, Douglas, 32K) notes Boehner's remark Thursday that he would "bring a bipartisan prison sentencing overhaul bill to a vote because there are people incarcerated 'under what I'll call flimsy reasons.'" The Wall Street Journal (7/16, Nelson, Fields, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) says the President is seizing on this bipartisan opportunity, noting in his address to the NAACP annual convention this week that conservative brothers Charles and David Koch have been very involved in the push for reform.

Politico (7/17, Wheaton, 1.11M) says the President's visit to the prison "capped a week of efforts to swing the pendulum away from the 'tough on crime' drug laws of the 1990s." The Hill (7/16, Fabian, 533K) similarly says that the "unprecedented visit capped a week of activity designed to build momentum behind bipartisan proposals to make the criminal justice system fairer for those who end up incarcerated."

Cole, Lucas Criticize Oklahoma City Protesters Who Greeted Obama With Confederate Flags. The Hill (7/16, Wong, 533K) reports two Oklahoma Republican congressmen, Reps. Tom Cole and Frank Lucas, "ripped into protesters who greeted President Obama in Oklahoma City by waving Confederate flags, calling their actions 'disrespectful,' 'embarrassing' and 'inappropriate.'" A group of about 10 people waved the flag near the President's hotel Wednesday evening; Cole said, "The unacceptable behavior displayed by these individuals certainly does not reflect the values and views of the vast majority of Oklahomans." Lucas said, "Free speech is an amazing thing. Unfortunately this was an inappropriate use of it."

NYTimes Backs SAFE Justice Act; WPost Says It Could Be Stronger. The New York Times (7/17, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) says in an editorial that President Obama visited the prison "to see for himself a small piece of the damage that the nation's decades-long binge of mass incarceration has wrought." The President has called for change and "put a spotlight on intolerable conditions, like overuse of solitary confinement in which more than 80,000 inmates nationwide are held on any given day." The Times says, "It's time that Congress fixed the federal system. After failed efforts at reform, an ambitious new bill called the SAFE Justice Act is winning supporters," including Boehner.

The Washington Post (7/16, 5.03M) says in an editorial that the SAFE Justice Act "isn't perfect. It wouldn't give felons who have served their time the right to vote in federal elections, for example. Nor would it do enough to cut back on the rampant overuse of solitary confinement." When the bill comes to the floor, "lawmakers should take the opportunity to be as comprehensive as possible."

More Commentary. USA Today (7/16, 5.01M) editorializes, "When President Obama, the liberal ACLU and the conservative Koch brothers all agree on something, it is probably worth paying attention. And they all agree that it is time to rethink America's penchant for doling out harsh, mandatory sentences even for low-level, non-violent crimes." But in a responding USA Today (7/17, 5.01M) op-ed, National Association of Assistant US Attorneys President Steve Cook writes that "anybody who lives in a community plagued by drugs can tell you that violence and drug trafficking are inseparable" and that lawmakers should proceed with "caution before dismantling laws that have helped keep our nation safe."

FOUR MARINES KILLED BY SINGLE SHOOTER AT TENNESSEE NAVAL RESERVE CENTER. A single shooter later identified as 24-year-old Mohammod Youssuf Abdulazeez of Hixson, Tennessee opened fire on a military recruiting station in Chattanooga, Tennessee on Thursday morning around 10:35, then drove to a Naval Reserve Center where he shot and killed four Marines and injured three other individuals. Abdulazeez was killed during the incident. The shootings are being investigated as potentially an act of terrorism, though FBI officials cautioned that there is so far no evidence directly tying Abdulazeez to any international terrorist group.

ABC World News (7/16, lead story, 2:55, Muir, 5.84M) reported "authorities are treating [the shootings] as a 'act of domestic terrorism.' ... A single shooter with a massive arsenal, pulling up to this recruiting center first...then, the second shooting, just a few miles away." The CBS Evening News (7/16, lead story, 2:50, Pelley, 5.08M) reported, "Today the US military under attack, not overseas, but here at home." CBS said Abdulazeez "was born in Kuwait but lived in the Chattanooga area. He was killed today, apparently by the police." NBC Nightly News (7/16, lead story, 2:55, Holt, 7.86M) reported, "Our country appears to have once again been struck by an act of terrorism. The question tonight, from where?"

Obama Calls Shootings "Heartbreaking," Warns Against Jumping To Conclusions. ABC World News (7/16, story 3, 1:15, Muir, 5.84M) reported President Obama "asked for prayers for the families of the victims." Obama: "We know what appears to be a lone gunman carried out these attacks. We've identified a name. And at this point, a full investigation is taking place. ... My main message right now is obviously the deepest sympathies to the American people, to the four Marines that have been killed. It is a heartbreaking circumstance for these individuals who have served our country with great valor, to be killed in this fashion."

Reuters (7/17, Rascoe) reports the President said the investigation would be prompt but thorough. USA Today (7/17, Jackson, 5.01M) reports the President said investigators "are trying to piece together exactly how the attack happened, and what the motive may have been," and "said the Department of Defense is working to bolster security at all of its facilities."

The Washington Times (7/17, Dinan, Boyer, 641K) reports the President "pleaded for Americans not to jump to conclusions, but Republicans were already blaming him for what investigators termed domestic terrorism." Presidential candidate Gov. Bobby Jindal said, "This shooting underscores the grave reality of the threat posed to us by radical Islamic terrorism every single day. It's time for the White House to wake up and tell the truth and the truth is that radical Islam is at war with us, and we must start by being honest about that."

The CBS Evening News (7/16, story 3, 0:25, Pelley, 5.08M), the Chattanooga (TN) Times Free Press (7/17, 196K), Politico (7/16, Collins, 1.11M), The Hill (7/16, Fabian, Byrnes, 533K), and the Huffington Post (7/17, 194K) also report on the President's remarks. In addition, the Memphis (TN) Commercial Appeal (7/17, Johnson, Bridis) reports Vice President Biden said the US "will get to the bottom of the shootings that killed at least four Marines in Chattanooga" and said the "young Marines killed were part of what he's calling 'probably the most incredible generation that this country has seen.'"

Abdulazeez Apparently Not On Law Enforcement Radar. The AP (7/17) reports federal authorities said they were investigating the possibility that the shootings were "an act of terrorism, and the FBI took charge of the case." A federal official speaking on condition of anonymity "said there was no indication Abdulazeez was on the radar of federal law enforcement before the shootings." The Chattanooga (TN) Times Free Press (7/17, 196K) reports that the "motive behind the attack, which the FBI said came without warning, is still under investigation."

ABC World News (7/16, story 2, 2:05, Muir, 5.84M) said Abdulazeez reportedly was "a recent college grad" with "a good paying job." ABC (Thomas) added, "Authorities are now investigating if he was inspired by ISIS or another terrorist organization. Sources tell ABC News, this man was not under active surveillance by the FBI. A classic so-called lone wolf. But Abdulazeez joked in his 2008 high school yearbook that 'my name causes national security alerts. What does yours do?'"

USA Today (7/17, Jervis, 5.01M) reports that in the "shaded, quiet neighborhood where Abdulazeez lived with his family, about seven miles from the Naval Reserve Center where the killings occurred, neighbors were stunned by the developments." One neighbor said, "I didn't find anything wrong with the kid. He just intermingled with the kids in the neighborhood." The same man told the New York Times (7/17, Fausset, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) that "he had known Mr. Abdulazeez for the last dozen years or so, when the family moved into the neighborhood," and remembered him "and his siblings as well-behaved, and polite. You could tell, he said, that 'they had strict parents. They had a structured lifestyle.'" The Washington Post (7/17, Leonnig, 5.03M) says Abdulazeez came from "a conservative Muslim family."

The CBS Evening News (7/16, story 2, 2:10, Pelley, 5.08M) reported officials said Abdulazeez "acted alone." CBS (Pegues) added that federal law enforcement officials said Abdulazeez "was born in Kuwait and became a naturalized US citizen. His father was from Nablus in the West Bank and his mother from Kuwait. He was not on any US terror list, and the FBI was not aware of his having any terrorist leanings." NBC Nightly News (7/16, story 2, 2:00, Holt, 7.86M) showed Knoxville FBI Special Agent In Charge Edward Reinhold saying, "We expect probably by the end of the day, we will have several hundred FBI resources on scene to conduct this investigation."

The New York Times (7/17, Fausset, Blinder, Schmidt, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) reports that though Abdulazeez "was not on the government's radar," law enforcement officials said that his father "had been under investigation several years ago for possible ties to a foreign terrorist organization. At one point, a law enforcement official said that the father was on a terrorist watch list and was questioned while on a trip abroad but that he was eventually removed from the list."

On the CBS Evening News (7/16, story 4, 1:15, Pelley, 5.08M), Jim Axelrod reported security has been increased at "high-profile recruiting centers like the one in Times Square in New York City. But the Northern Command has yet to issue a nationwide alert to increase security at all recruiting stations. A military spokesman tells CBS News, 'We are continuing to look into this incident, working very closely with both federal and local law enforcement agencies to determine exactly what happened and if we need to make any adjustments.'" The Wall Street Journal (7/17, McWhirter, Barrett, Nissenbaum, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) reports DHS Secretary Johnson said protective measures would be heightened "at certain federal facilities out of an abundance of caution."

The Washington Post (7/17, Miller, 5.03M) reports that "the names of the Marines killed in the attack were not publicly disclosed Thursday as U.S. military officials sought to reach members of their families." A military official speaking on condition of anonymity "said at least three of the Marines were from an artillery unit."

The Tennessean (7/17, Alund, 444K) reports that "mass killings – defined by the FBI as four of more victims, not including the killer – have taken place across the U.S. at the rate of about one every two weeks since 2006." McClatchy (7/17, Rosen, 32K) says the shooting "was the deadliest criminal attack at a domestic military base" since Army psychiatrist Nidal Malik Hasan shot and killed 13 soldiers and wounded 29 others in Fort Hood, Texas in 2009.

Bloomberg News (7/16, Keane, Wilber, 161K), Reuters (7/17, McKay), the Los Angeles Times (7/17, Jarvie, 4.03M), The Hill (7/16, Hensch, Hattem, 533K), the Huffington Post (7/16, Murdock, 194K), and the Daily Caller (7/17, Ross, 366K) also report on the shootings.

YELLEN PROMISES "PRUDENT," "GRADUAL" RATE INCREASES. In her second day of congressional testimony on Thursday, the AP (7/17) reports that Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen "sought to reassure worried lawmakers" that when the central bank begins raising rates, "it will be careful not to derail the economy." Both Sens. Robert Menendez and Charles Schumer "told Yellen that with inflation at such low levels now, it would be a mistake for the Fed to begin raising interest rates too quickly." Yellen said, "We don't want to cut off job growth and income growth, and we do want to see inflation move up to 2 percent." The Wall Street Journal (7/17, Harrison, Leubsdorf, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) reports that Sen. Sherrod Brown said that there are "real risks in tightening monetary policy too soon because although the economy has made progress since the crisis, we still have a ways to go."

Bloomberg News (7/17, Boesler, 3.81M) reports that Yellen, addressing the Senate Banking Committee, "told lawmakers that waiting too long to raise interest rates holds risks for the U.S. economy, along with tightening too quickly." She said, "There are risks on both sides. My own preference would be to proceed in a prudent and gradual manner." The New York Times (7/17, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) reports that while Democrats expressed concern about the timing of rate increases, GOP "critics have dialed down the volume of

their complaints."

Economists Expect US Economy To Weather Overseas Troubles. The Wall Street Journal (7/17, Madigan, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) reports that according to economists surveyed by the paper, the US should be able to withstand the negative impact of the Chinese economic troubles due to stronger consumer spending and an improving housing market.

Home Builder Confidence Hits Highest Level Since 2005. The Wall Street Journal (7/17, Sussman, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) reports that an index of home builder confidence rose to 60 points in July from an originally reported 59 in June. That is the highest level since November 2005, and the Journal suggests it is a sign of strength in the housing market.

Jobless Claims Down. The Wall Street Journal (7/17, Harrison, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) reports that first-time claims for jobless benefits fell 15,000 this week to 281,000, according to Labor Department numbers. Economists had expected claims to come in at 285,000. The four-week moving average, which irons out week-to-week volatility, rose 3,250 to 282,500.

Stocks Rose On Thursday. The AP (7/17) reports that a "new financial lifeline for Greece and strong corporate earnings on Thursday helped push U.S. stocks higher." The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 70.08 points to 18,120.25, while the S&P 500 climbed 16.89 points to 2.124.29, and the Nasdaq was up 64.24 points to 5,163.18.

Warren, Cummings Press Regulators On Swaps. Meanwhile, Bloomberg News (7/17, Brush, 3.81M) reports that Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) are asking financial regulators, including the Fed and the FDIC, about how last year's "easing" of "stricter derivatives rules" exposes taxpayers to "the risk of future bailouts." The pair said that major banking firms "provided insufficient responses to questions they sent earlier this year about the impact of the changes to the Dodd-Frank requirement that banks move certain types of swaps out of bank units that receive federal government benefits."

Treasury Begins Examination Of Online Lending Industry. The New York Times (7/17, Corkery, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) reports that the Treasury Department "has begun a study of online marketplace lenders, as the federal government looks to determine whether regulations are keeping up with the rapidly growing industry." With "many" traditional banks backing off making "small loans," a "flood of online lenders have filled the void." In a statement on Thursday, Treasury said it was looking "to study the potential for online marketplace lending to expand access to credit and how the financial regulatory framework should evolve to support the safe growth of the industry."

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. ***"President Obama Takes On The Prison Crisis."*** The New York Times (7/17, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) says in an editorial that President Obama visited a federal prison "to see for himself a small piece of the damage that the nation's decades-long binge of mass incarceration has wrought." The President has called for change and "put a spotlight on intolerable conditions, like overuse of solitary confinement in which more than 80,000 inmates nationwide are held on any given day." The Times says, "It's time that Congress fixed the federal system. After failed efforts at reform, an ambitious new bill called the SAFE Justice Act is winning supporters," including House Speaker Boehner.

"Iran Must Free Jason Rezaian." The New York Times (7/17, Board, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) editorializes, "In the year leading up to this week's nuclear deal with Iran, the cruel and unjustified imprisonment" of Jason Rezaian of the Washington Post "complicated negotiations between world powers and Tehran. It is imperative that Iran set him free immediately and unconditionally."

"The South China Sea, In Court." The New York Times (7/17, Board, Subscription Publication, 12.24M) editorializes about the Permanent Court of Arbitration dispute between China and the Philippines "over the resource-rich South China Sea." The Philippines asserted in court last week that China "had violated the rights of individual countries and asked the five-judge tribunal to declare China's claims" to 90% of the seat invalid. China "insists the tribunal has no jurisdiction," and if the court rules in Manila's favor, Beijing "may well ignore it." But that would be a mistake "if China wants to be recognized as a leader in a world that values the resolution of disputes within a legal framework."

WASHINGTON POST. ***"Reforming Criminal Sentencing."*** The Washington Post (7/16, 5.03M) says in an editorial that the SAFE Justice Act "isn't perfect. It wouldn't give felons who have served their time the right to vote in federal elections, for example. Nor would it do enough to cut back on the rampant overuse of solitary confinement." When the bill comes to the floor, "lawmakers should take the opportunity to be as comprehensive as possible."

"Victory For Transgender People." In an editorial, the Washington Post (7/17, 5.03M) hails the move by Defense Secretary Carter to prepare for the military for an end of the ban on transgender. The Post says that lifting the ban "will bring in more good soldiers and help those already in the armed forces do their jobs even better. It will also grant all Americans the chance to serve their country with dignity."

"Prince George's Misses The Mark." The Washington Post (7/17, Board, 5.03M).

WALL STREET JOURNAL. ***"Free Speech Liberation Day."*** In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (7/17, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) hails the Wisconsin Supreme Court's 4-2 ruling on Thursday that shut down an almost-three-year secret investigation into conservative groups backing Gov. Scott Walker. The Journal says that it has long argued that the legal rationale that special prosecutor Francis Schmitz and Milwaukee District Attorney John Chisholm used to justify their investigation was illegal.

"The Government-Insurance Complex." In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (7/17, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) says that under the current Administration, big business and big government are working closer together more than ever, criticizing America's Health Insurance Plans' announcement that ex-Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Marilyn Tavenner will be the trade group's new CEO.

"The Crime Of Disagreement." In an editorial, the Wall Street Journal (7/17, Subscription Publication, 5.68M) criticizes the American Society of Criminology for its attack on Manhattan Institute scholar Heather MacDonald for her arguments that the political fallout from police shootings have left many officers reluctant to engage in proactive investigations, and aided a recent spike in crime in some urban areas. The Journal says that the group doesn't support free debate, but instead is a partisan and one-sided organization.

Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY'S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:
Germany Blasts Deutsche Bank Over Culture
Gunman Kills Four Marines In Chattanooga
FCC Set To Reject Dish Partners' Spectrum Discounts
Silicon Valley Doesn't Believe Us Productivity Is Down

New York Times:
German Tone Grows Sharper In Greek Crisis
A Saudi Obsession With Politics And Religion
President Visits Federal Prison
Gunman Kills 4 Military Site In Chattanooga
Verdict Is Guilty In Aurora Attack
Japan Moves To Allow Military Combat For First Time In 70 Years

Washington Post:
Simple Songs Top Charts, Over And Over And Over . . .
Four Marines Killed In Tenn. Attacks
Workforce Diversity A Major Challenge For Silicon Valley
Clinton Campaign Grew And Spent Fast
Debt Crisis Revives The 'Cruel German'
Shooter Grew Up In Conservative Family

Washington Times:
Four Marines Killed In 'Act Of Domestic Terrorism' At Tenn Recruiting Center
Renewable Energy Standards Reconsidered As States Question Mandates, Fret Over Costs
US Allies In Middle East Fear Iran Nuclear Deal Will Fuel Sectarian Violence

Congress Guts Bush-Era No Child Left Behind Education Plan
Jeb Bush Trounces 2016 Republican Rivals In Fundraising; Ben Carson Makes Good Showing
Muhammad Youssef Abdulazeez Identified As Chattanooga Gunman

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:
ABC: Chattanooga Shootings; Chattanooga Shootings-Shooter Identified; Chattanooga Shootings-Obama Response; Chattanooga Shootings-Analysis; Colorado Theater Shooting Found Guilty; Charleston Church Shooter-Trial Scheduled; Texas-Jail Cell Death Investigation; Washington-Plane Crash Survivor Interviewed; GHW Bush Hospitalized; CDC-Lyme Disease Warning; Laundry Detergent Pods Warning; Texas-Robbery Foiled.
CBS: Chattanooga Shootings; Chattanooga Shootings-Shooter Identified; Chattanooga Shootings-Obama Response; Military Recruitment Offices Security; Colorado Theater Shooter Found Guilty; Charleston Church Shooter-Court Hearing; GHW Bush Hospitalized; New Jersey-Laser Pointing Incidents; US Veterans Return To Battle; Washington-Plane Crash Survivor Interviewed; Severe Weather-Kentucky; ISS-Space Junk Incident; Chattanooga Shootings.
NBC: Chattanooga Shootings; Chattanooga Shootings-Shooter Identified; Colorado Theater Shooting Found Guilty; Obama-Criminal Justice Reform; New Jersey-Laser Pointing Incidents; Texas-Jail Cell Death Investigation; Washington-Plane Crash Survivor Interviewed; GHW Bush Hospitalized; Climate Change Report; Mexico-Drug Lord Manhunt.

Network TV At A Glance:
Chattanooga Shootings – 18 minutes, 30 seconds
Washington-Plane Crash Survivor Interviewed – 6 minutes, 35 seconds
Colorado Theater Shooter Found Guilty – 4 minutes, 15 seconds
New Jersey-Laser Pointing Incidents – 3 minutes, 55 seconds
Texas-Jail Cell Death Investigation – 3 minutes, 50 seconds
GHW Bush Hospitalized – 3 minutes, 30 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:
ABC: Chattanooga Shootings; Colorado Theater Shooting Found Guilty; St. Louis-House Fire; Severe Weather-Illinois.
CBS: Chattanooga Shootings; Colorado Theater Shooting Found Guilty; California-Oil Spill Cleanup; Obama-Criminal Justice Reform; Greek Banks Reopens Monday.
FOX: Chattanooga Shootings; Colorado Theater Shooting Found Guilty; Greek Banks Reopens Monday; Severe Weather-Illinois; 2016 Politics-Fox News GOP Poll; California-Uber Dispute; Senate-NCLB Reform Bill Passed.
NPR: Chattanooga Shootings; Colorado Theater Shooting Found Guilty; Greek Banks Reopens Monday; Iran Nuclear Deal-Saudi Foreign Minister's Comments; Primetime Emmy Awards.

Washington Schedule:

TODAY'S EVENTS IN WASHINGTON.
White House:

PRESIDENT OBAMA — The President departs the White House, South Lawn, open press; departs Joint Base Andrews, out-of-town travel pool coverage; arrives New York, John F. Kennedy International Airport, open to pre-credentialed media; participates in a DNC roundtable, Private Residence, New York, New York, closed press. Notes: Press Briefing by Press Secretary Josh Earnest.

VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN — Unavailable.
US Senate: 10:40 a.m. — The Senate convenes for a pro forma session.
US House: No votes are expected in the House.

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP — 10 a.m. Press call. Congresswomen Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) will highlight the "danger" the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) poses to pharmaceutical access. With Nawel Rojkjaer, Senior Director International Affairs for Mylan; Brian Honermann, Senior Research Advisor for amfAR; K.J. Hertz, Sr. Legislative Representative, AARP; A Representative of Doctors Without Borders. Contacts: Lee Whack (Rep. Schakowsky), 202-225-2111 Sara Lonardo (Rep. DeLauro), 202-225-3661. Notes: Dial-in: (712) 775-7031. Access code: 219-671

INTERNET CAUCUS – STREAMING MUSIC — 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. Briefing, "Taylor Swift or Congress? Who

Has More Power in the Digital Music Streaming Marketplace?" Speakers: Kevin Erickson, Communications and Outreach Manager, Future of Music Coalition; Alec French, Founder and Principal, Thorsen French Advocacy LLC; Julia Massimino, Vice President, Global Public Policy, SoundExchange. Location: 2237 Raybum.
Other: NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS — July 17 – 19. 22nd Biennial Convention. Theme: "50/20 by 2020: Marching Toward Parity." Highlights: 6 p.m. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman receives a 2015 Woman of Courage Award and delivers remarks at the Caucus' Diversity Reception. Location: Renaissance Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Ave. NW. On the Net: http://www.nwpc.org/

US CHAMBER – FED VICE CHAIR FISCHER — 10 a.m. "The Federal Reserve: A Conversation with Vice Chair Stanley Fischer." At this event, Vice Chair Fischer will discuss the Fed's near term and long term priorities and challenges. Location: US. Chamber of Commerce, 1615 H Street, NW. Notes: Erica Flint, US. Chamber of Commerce, (202) 463-5682 or press@uschamber.com (Media must register in advance by email).

CSIS – DEFENSE ACQUISITION — 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. The Center for Strategic and International Studies cordially presents: Defense Acquisition Reform: Rethinking the Packard Commission Approach after 30 years, with a panel discussion featuring the Honorable Alan Estevez, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics; others. Location: CSIS 2nd Floor Conference Center 1616 Rhode Island Avenue NW, Washington. Contacts: Gabriel Coll (gcoll@csis.org), 202-775-3183

WILSON CENTER – RUSSIAN NAVY — 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. "Russia's Naval Power in the 21st Century." Dmitry Gorenburg, Fellow Senior Research Scientist, CNA; Olga Oliker, Director, Center for Russia and Eurasia, RAND Corporation; Michael Kofman, Public Policy Fellow, Program Manager and Research Fellow, Center for Strategic Research, Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS), National Defense University. Location: Woodrow Wilson Center, Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Contacts: kennan@wilsoncenter.org, 202-691-4100.

GW – GENERATION PRAGUE 2015 — 12 p.m. – 6 p.m. As part of the US. State Department's 6th Annual Generation Prague Conference, the Elliott School of International Affairs will host a special seminar on Emerging Research in Nuclear Security. Location: Elliott School of International Affairs, Room 113, 1957 E Street NW. Notes: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1bDCXjPwfqX3EJUkfFppKiy3qb89QInKHx3qEuDO3Trc/viewform?c0&w1

NASA – PLUTO FLYBY — 1 p.m. NASA will hold a media briefing to reveal new images of Pluto and discuss new science findings from Tuesday's historic flyby. Participants: Jim Green, director of Planetary Science at NASA Headquarters in Washington; Alan Stern, New Horizons principal investigator at Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) in Boulder, Colorado; Randy Gladstone, New Horizons co-investigator at SwRI in San Antonio; Jeffrey Moore, New Horizons co-investigator at NASA's Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, California; Fran Bagenal, New Horizons co-investigator, University of Colorado, Boulder. Location: NASA Headquarters, 300 E Street, SW. Contacts: Dwayne Brown, dwayne.c.brown@nasa.gov, 202-358-1726.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

Jimmy Fallon: "Donald Trump met with fellow GOP candidate Ted Cruz yesterday and Trump admitted that he had no idea why they were meeting. Got even weirder when someone asked how they arranged the meeting and Trump said, 'Craigslist.'"

Jimmy Fallon: "Trump's been very busy since announcing he's running for president. In fact, earlier this week he gave an interview with CNN at a winery he owns in Virginia. Turns out Trump's winery makes two different kinds of wine: white wine and not white wine."

Jimmy Fallon: "Over on the Democratic side, Martin O'Malley recently spoke about the need for Wall Street to reform and said that he isn't running for president to be 'wined and dined' by executives. And then Chris Christie said, 'And I am also not running to be wined.'"

Jimmy Fallon: "Some of the candidates are struggling to get momentum as we get further into the election. In fact, in a new poll of Democratic voters, presidential candidate Lincoln Chafee came in with zero percent support. In other words, we are all tied with presidential candidate Lincoln Chafee."

Seth Meyers: "Ted Cruz said this week that he is a big fan of Donald Trump. He is a big fan of Donald Trump. So if there's one thing Donald Trump should try to avoid, it's big fans."

Seth Meyers: "President Obama today became the first sitting US president to visit a Federal prison and, for a brief moment, there was some real excitement over at Fox News."

Conan O'Brien: "Hillary Clinton campaigning very hard for the presidency. Getting that vote out. In an interview, Hillary Clinton said she likes nearly every flavor of ice cream. You know, when he heard this, Chris Christie said, 'Hey, she stole my speech.'"

Conan O'Brien: "A store in Houston is selling Donald Trump piñatas filled candy. Yeah. So finally something good is going to come out of Donald Trump."

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BCNM Celebration Run of Show - Invitation to edit

2 messages

John Blair (via Google Docs) <drive-shares-noreply@google.com> Thu, Jul 16, 2015 at 4:45 PM
Reply-To: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>
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john_blair@ios.doi.gov has invited you to **edit** the following document:

BCNM Celebration Run of Show

Open in Docs

Google Docs: Create and edit documents online.

Google

Kershaw, Jessica <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov> Fri, Jul 17, 2015 at 10:58 AM
To: John Blair <john_blair@ios.doi.gov>
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I think this looks great, John! One suggestion - do the FOBC really need two speakers? I think we could ask that they select 1 and be covered just fine. See here:

> Governor Hickenlooper gives remarks (1-2 min) and introduce Friends of Browns Canyon President Bill Dvorak
> Mr. Dvorak gives remarks (1-2 min) and introduces Friends of Browns Canyon Executive Director Keith Baker

[Quoted text hidden]

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Jessica Kershaw
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary
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The California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015: Impacts on Mining and the Regional Economy

Report Prepared by

The Sonoran Institute

October 2015

About the Sonoran Institute

Founded in 1999, the Sonoran Institute's mission is to connect people and communities with the natural resources that nourish and sustain them. We work at the nexus of commerce, community, and conservation to help people in the North American West build the communities they want to live in while preserving the values which brought them here. We envision a West where civil dialogue and collaboration are hallmarks of decision making, where people and wildlife live in harmony, and where clean water, air, and energy are assured.

Acknowledgements

The report was co-authored by Joe Marlow, Resource Economist at the Sonoran Institute; John Shepard, Senior Director of Programs at the Sonoran Institute; and Stephanie Weigel, Principal Consultant at Weigel Research and Planning. Cameron Ellis, GIS and Creative Project Manager at the Sonoran Institute, conducted GIS analysis related to the mineral resource assessment.

This report and associated summaries can be found at www.sonoraninstitute.org.

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Executive Summary

This report explores the economic contribution of mining in the California Desert and assesses the impact of the proposed California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act (CDCRA) of 2015 on mining activities in the region. The report concludes that the legislation will have minimal impact on mining and builds on the natural and cultural attractions that have been significant drivers of the regional economy for the past four decades. Among the report's findings:

- Over the past four decades, the California Desert has experienced steady growth in population, employment, and personal income. This growth is significantly driven by businesses and demographic changes that benefit directly from preserving the desert.
- Since 1970, mining has played a small role in total private employment. In the last 25 years, mining has contributed no more than 0.25% of the region's overall employment. Within the California Desert, only 5 mining operations employ more than 100 employees.
- Current mining operations, existing mining claims, and future mineral development in areas of high potential are all preserved and excluded from the conservation areas within the legislation.

The California Desert as a whole has experienced consistent population growth over the past four decades, at times outpacing the national average. This growth trend is also true of the desert portions of the 7 counties that, in part, comprise the California Desert (Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties).

Despite the region's growth, mining's contributions to the desert economy have been modest, with jobs in mining playing a small role in total private employment. In the last 25 years, mining's contribution to total private employment in the 7 desert counties has not exceeded 0.25%. Most recent total regional employment estimates (2013) range between 3,000 and 5,600 direct employees. At a local level, mining does provide a more significant contribution. In Kern and Inyo counties in 2013, employment in all mining (including oil and gas) represented 5.5% and 4.4% of total private employment; San Bernardino County had 0.2% of employment in mining for the same time period. For small communities, such as Lucerne Valley or Borrego Springs, mining operations that employ 25, 50, or 100 persons are considered major employers.

A reflection of its modest contribution to regional employment, in 2013, mining's contribution (including oil and gas) to overall labor-related income is small, approximately 0.8%. Between 1970-2013, that contribution has fluctuated between 0.3% and 1.0%, with no defined trend, while overall labor-related earnings between 1970 and 2013 increased by 132%. Non-labor income increased by 287% in that time period.

Even when direct, indirect, and induced impacts on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) are considered, the contribution to nominal GDP in 2014 is estimated between 0.04% and 4.12%. When only the desert portions of these counties are considered, the contribution of direct, indirect, and induced impacts on GDP due to mining activities were highest in Kern (25%), Inyo (8%), and San Bernardino (5%) counties.

These impacts likely represent upper limits to impacts, as the multipliers used were developed for use at the state level and likely overestimate impacts at the county and sub-county levels.

Mining's contribution to the California Desert's economy is overshadowed by growth in other economic sectors that track closely with economic trends throughout the interior West. These trends reflect the increasing importance of regional amenities, notably natural and cultural attractions, and are defined by growth in services, professional, and government sectors, and non-labor income. These sectors and income sources have grown over the past 4 decades—serving as the key economic drivers throughout the region.

These trends also have profound implications for the economic role of public lands, where protected public lands become an important economic asset. Tourism and recreation remains one of the bright spots of the region's economy, having rebounded to pre-recession levels: total direct travel spending in the desert region in 2013 reached $6.2 billion.

Mining activity is influenced by many factors, depending on the specific commodity. Industrial minerals currently being mined in the California Desert, such as construction aggregate and cement inputs, are influenced by local and regional demand and supply. Mining for most metals such as gold, base metals, and rare earth elements is affected by global supply/demand factors. The availability of public lands for mineral exploration and mining has a much smaller influence on mining activity than regional and global economic forces have on mining activity.

Through its extensive conservation designations, the CDCRA seeks to preserve the region's natural and cultural attractions, which have fueled much of the region's growth and prosperity. Protected public lands such as designated wilderness, national parks, national preserves, and national monuments protect key amenities that serve as the foundation for the region's tourism and recreation businesses, military operations, real estate development, and other economic sectors.

As currently drafted, the proposed CDCRA recognizes and protects existing mining claims and minimizes impacts on current mining operations. A careful screening of the location of current activities and operations indicates few impacts. Any effort to address these impacts would need to take into consideration the broad range of resource values in these areas.

The CDCRA will have minimal impacts on future mining activities in the California Desert due to the existence of extensive mineral potential outside of the proposed boundaries and the act's preservation of existing valid mineral rights (many coinciding with high mineral potential zones). Given the uncertainty regarding additional mineral potential in the proposed CDCRA on the one hand, and the clearly identified environmental and cultural values of these lands on the other, it would appear that favoring conservation is a wise societal choice.

As a result, the study concludes that the proposed legislation is compatible with ongoing mining activities and allows for future development of critical and competitive mineral resources.

Consequently, the protective designations proposed under the legislation likely represent the highest and best economic use of those public lands.

Background

The California Desert region covers approximately 20 million acres of southeastern California. While the California Desert is sparsely populated relative to other areas of the state, it is becoming increasingly urbanized. Both the large cities that ring the region and smaller cities and towns within the region have experienced significant population growth. The desert also attracts millions of visitors annually, with desert region direct travel total spending and direct travel total employment up since 1992.[1] Local economies benefit from visitation to the area that welcomed over 3.2 million visitors to the 3 desert national parks in 2014[2] and almost 4.2 million visitors in 2013 to areas managed by BLM California Desert District Offices.[3]

The desert's wildness and remoteness are among its biggest assets, offering significant recreational opportunities, including camping, hiking, rock climbing, hunting, horseback riding, exploring historical sites, and wildlife watching. These activities contribute hundreds of millions of dollars to local communities and the regional economy. The desert's natural splendor has also spurred development, as homes located near open spaces enjoy premium real estate values. The military makes use of the desert's vast undeveloped terrain to test new equipment and train combat forces. Hollywood similarly takes advantage of the landscape to shoot movies, television shows, and advertisements.

Increased degradation of the California Desert may be attributed to growth and development as well as to tourism and recreation impacts. Concerns about these impacts have led to proposals to protect the region's remaining pristine landscapes and proactively identify areas that are suitable for certain types of development. Most notable in this regard are (1) the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 (CDCRA), which seeks to protect up to 1.6 million acres of federal lands; and (2)the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), which seeks to guide renewable energy development, protect resources, and manage recreation across a 22.5-million-acre planning area, which includes many areas of current and former mining activities.

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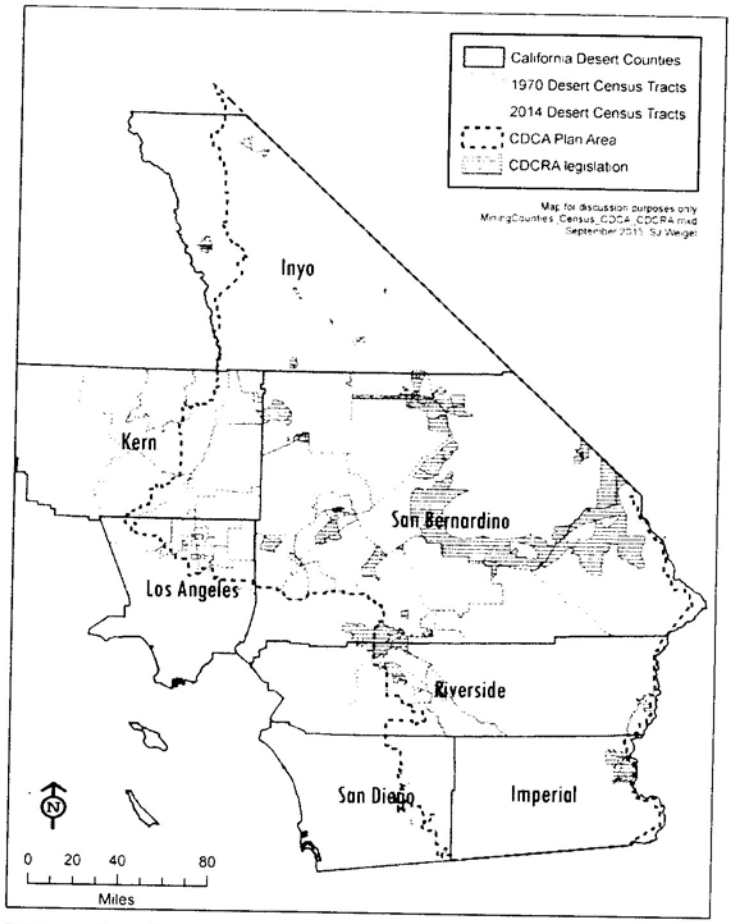
[1] California Travel Impacts, 1992-2014p. April 2015, Dean Runyan and Associates, prepared for Visit California. http://industry.visitcalifornia.com/media/uploads/files/editor/CAImp14p.pdf. The report summarizes 2014 regional direct travel impacts for the desert region (as defined by Runyan) as $6.3 billion in total spending, $1.7 billion in earnings, 64,900 jobs and local and state tax revenues totaling $485 million (page 24).

[2] National Park Service visitation numbers for Death Valley National Park, Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve were accessed from the NPS Visitor Use Statistics website at https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/.

[3] Bureau of Land Management 2013 RMIS 23c visitation report, personal communication.

This report looks at the economic contribution of mining in the California Desert region and the potential impact of the CDCRA on current and future mining activities. It is intended to inform ongoing general public discussions about the CDCRA and public lands conservation in the California Desert. It focuses on the 7 desert counties that are part of the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA):[4] Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego (Figure 1).[5]



Data Sources: Census Tracts: USCensus TIGER/Line shapefiles, 2014 version; 1970 Census tracts : Minnesota Population Center. National Historical Geographic Information System. Version 2.0. Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota 2011, https://www.nhgis.org/, accessed July 2015. CDCA Boundary: Databasin.org.

Figure 1. California desert counties showing modern (2014) and historic (1970) census tracts approximating California Desert Conservation Area planning boundary, with boundaries of proposed components of the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act legislation.

For this report, socioeconomic trend data were examined to provide insights on the contributions of the mining sector to the region's economic development over time. Initially, the county is used as the unit of analysis for this exploration. Since the CDCRA and the current mining activities are primarily located in the desert portions of the counties, where possible, additional analyses were performed using census tract boundaries for a finer scale analysis that considers the desert portions of the counties as a subarea for study (Figure 1). The census tract is a spatial unit used by the US Census Bureau for reporting socioeconomic data. The US Census Bureau defines these tracts as "relatively homogeneous

[4] The CDCA was designated by Congress in 1976 through the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. The Bureau of Land Management developed a plan for the CDCA that was approved as the California Desert Conservation Area Plan in 1980, which has subsequently been amended. Lands in the proposed CDCRA lie within the CDCA boundary, except for the western portion of the proposed Sand to Snow National Monument in the area of the San Gorgonio Wilderness and San Bernardino National Forest.

[5] Areas of the CDCA planning area have been proposed for protection as part of the CDCRA. Not included in the CDCA planning area is the western portion of the proposed Sand to Snow National Monument (CDCRA) in the area of the San Gorgonio Wilderness and San Bernardino National Forest.

units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions." Tracts are designed to average around 4,000 inhabitants. This desert subarea was designated using the boundary of the CDCA to select census tracts from the 1980, 2000, and 2014 TIGER/Line GIS shapefiles.

While the economies of the desert and non-desert portions of counties are linked due to their common governance and revenue streams, the desert portions have different economic structures which, like many rural areas in the western US, are more tightly coupled with the unique values that derive from the resources present in those areas. For example, 72% of mining employment reported to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)[6] in the 7 desert counties occurred in the desert portions of the counties, while only 9% of the populations of those counties resided in the desert portions in 2013.[7]

Population

The California Desert as a whole has experienced consistent population growth over the past decades, at times outpacing the national average. This growth trend is also true of the desert portions of the 7 desert counties.

Population, the total number of people by place of residence, is a key economic indicator. Long-term, steady population growth is an indicator of a prosperous, healthy economy, since it generally provides additional employment opportunities and an increase in total wages.

Since 1970, population has grown in all the desert counties, with rates of increase in the desert portions of the counties keeping pace with increases in non-desert portions. In the 7 desert counties, combined population rose at a rate higher than that of the US over the period 1970-2013 (87% increase vs. 55% increase, Figure 2). However, in the more recent period 2000-2013, the rate of change was essentially the same for the 7 desert counties combined and the US (13% increase vs. 12% increase, Figure 2).

While absolute population numbers are lower in desert portions of the 7 counties, in 5 of the 7 counties the rate of population growth from 1970 - 2013 kept pace with the 87% overall rate of population increase for the 7 counties combined (Figure 3). Kern County was close, with an 81% percent increase in population. This indicates that in all of the counties except Inyo County, an influx of population was occurring in desert portions of these counties comparable to the region as a whole, providing growth to support ongoing desert economic activities.

[6] The MSHA is the US Department of Labor branch tasked with protecting miners' safety and health.

[7] US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2013 data.

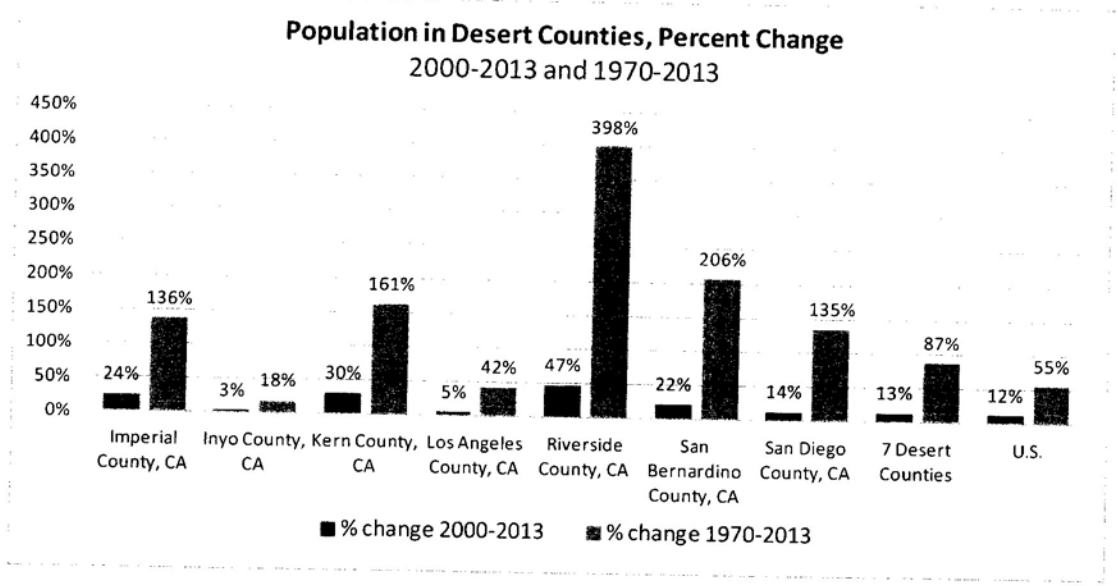


Figure 2. Percent change in desert counties' population, 1970-2013 and, 2000-2013, Table CA30. *Source:* Bureau of Economic Analysis, US Department of Commerce, Regional Economic Accounts.

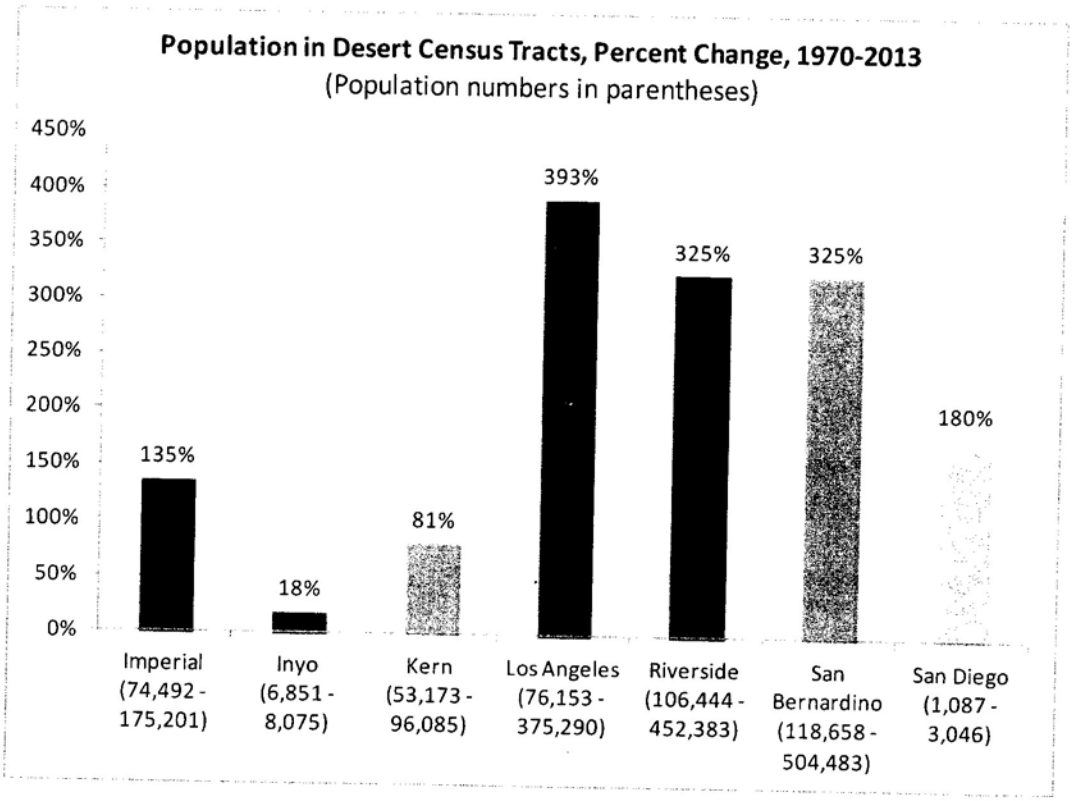


Figure 3. Percent change in population in desert census tract portions of desert counties, 1970-2013. *Sources:* 1970 data and census tract boundaries from Minnesota Population Center, National Historical Geographic Information System, V 2.0 and US Census Bureau. 2013 population from US Census Bureau, American Community Survey and TIGER/Line shapefiles for 2014.

Population Distribution

Recognizing how population is distributed across the landscapes of the 7 counties--particularly the current proportions of population and land area in the desert portions of the 7 counties--helps to truly understand the desert areas where conservation and energy development activities are focused for this examination. Therefore, where possible when data are available, analysis for this report has been performed at a finer scale of analysis, to best represent the areas of interest where the impact of the proposed California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act (CDCRA) of 2015 on mining activities in the region is being considered.[8]

Figures 4 and 5 illustrate the distributions of population and land area across desert and non-desert census tracts for each of the 7 counties. All of Imperial County is considered desert, but in the remaining 6 counties, less than half of the population resides in the desert portions of the counties. Except for the coastal and more urbanized counties of San Diego County and Los Angeles County, more than half of the land area of the counties is considered desert. In the cases of San Bernardino County and Inyo County, more than 90% of the land area is part of the desert. Not unexpectedly, population densities in desert portions are much lower than in the non-desert, more urbanized portions of the 7 county region--approximately 36 persons per square mile over the 7 county region in desert areas versus approximately 1,218 persons per square mile in non-desert areas.

[8] The multiple ways in which data may be grouped for analysis can impact the results of those analyses. A case in point is the familiar art of manipulating voting district boundaries for possible political gain, known as gerrymandering. Gerrymandering is just one example of a phenomenon known in geographical research and spatial analysis as the Modifiable Areal Unit Problem (MAUP). An awareness of MAUP can help reduce the bias or information loss that comes from any grouping of data; scale-related MAUP can be ameliorated by selection of a finer scale. See http://gispopsci.org/maup/ for a succinct discussion of the issues around MAUP and additional references.

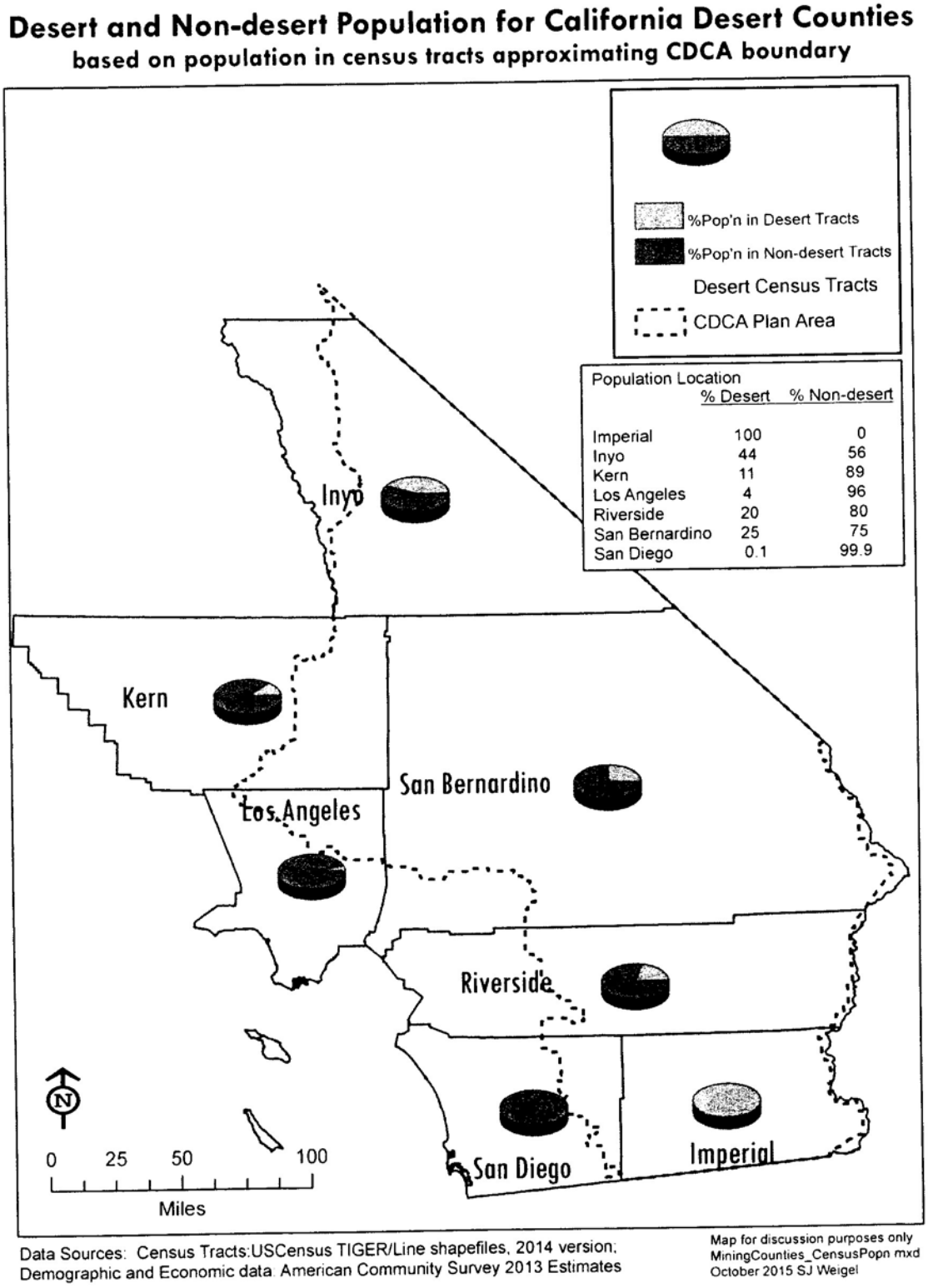


Figure 4. Percentages of 2013 population located in desert and non-desert census tracts.

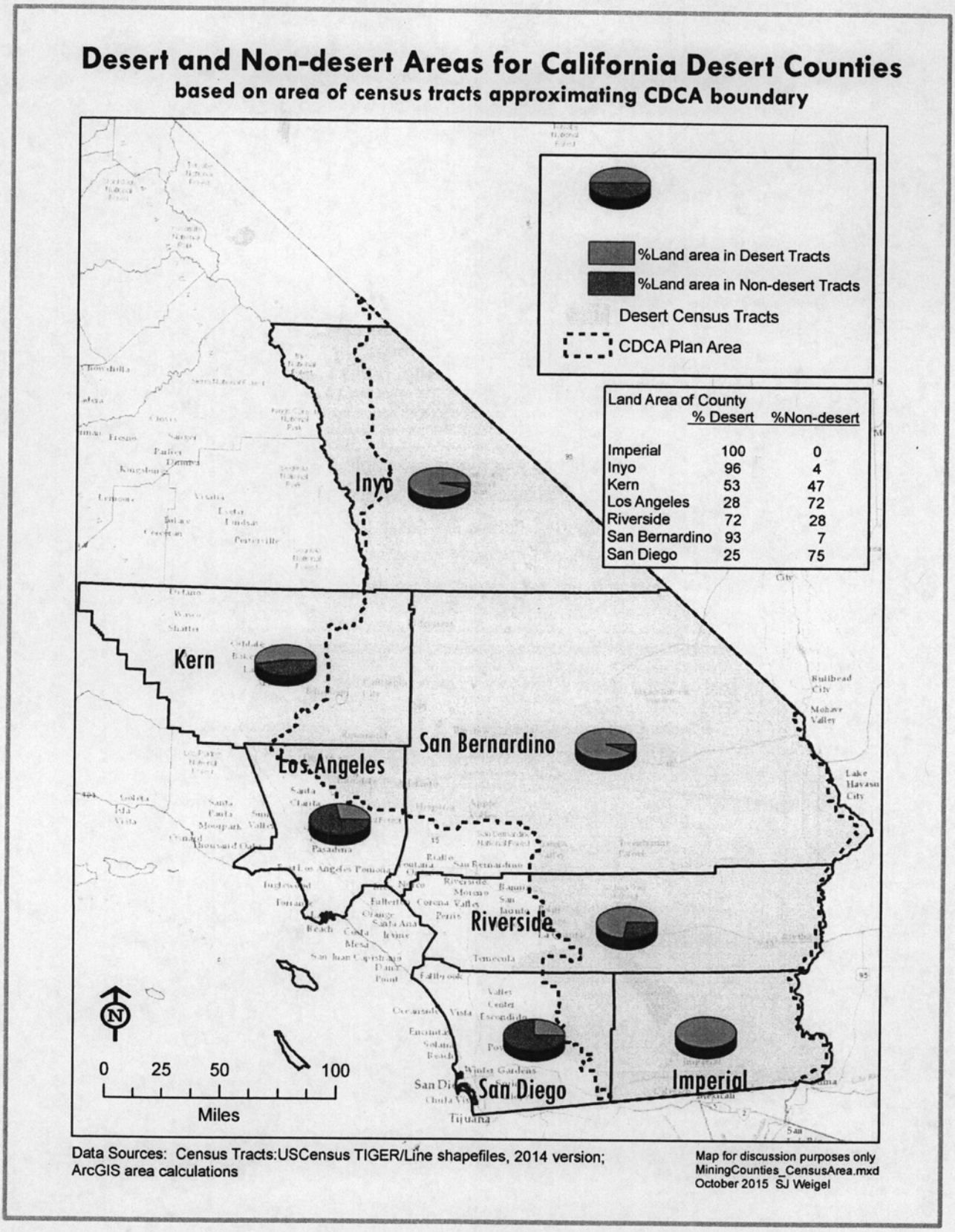


Figure 5. Percentages of land area of desert counties located in desert census tracts.

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Contributions of Mining to the Regional Economy - Employment

Despite the region's growth, mining's contributions to the desert's economy have been modest, with jobs in mining playing a small role in total private employment. In the last 25 years, mining's contribution to total private employment in the 7 desert counties has not exceeded 0.25%. Most recent total regional employment estimates (2013) range between 3,000 and 5,600 direct employees. At a local level, mining does provide a more significant contribution. In Kern and Inyo counties in 2013, employment in all mining (including oil and gas) represented 5.5% and 4.4% of total private employment; San Bernardino County had 0.2% of employment in mining for the same time period. For small communities, such as Lucerne Valley or Borrego Springs, mining operations that employ 25, 50, or 100 persons are considered major employers.

Employment—another key economic indicator—generally refers to full- and part-time workers, including hourly and salaried employees and the self-employed.

Employment in the 7 desert counties can be examined by employment sector.[9] Between 2001 and 2013, jobs in service-related industries grew 24%, jobs in non-services-related industries shrank 18%, and government jobs remained relatively flat, with a 2% decrease in number of employees (Figure 6). Industry sectors with the largest numbers of jobs were government, health care/social assistance, and retail trade (Figure 7), which respectively employed approximately 12%, 11%, and 9% of persons employed in the region in 2013.

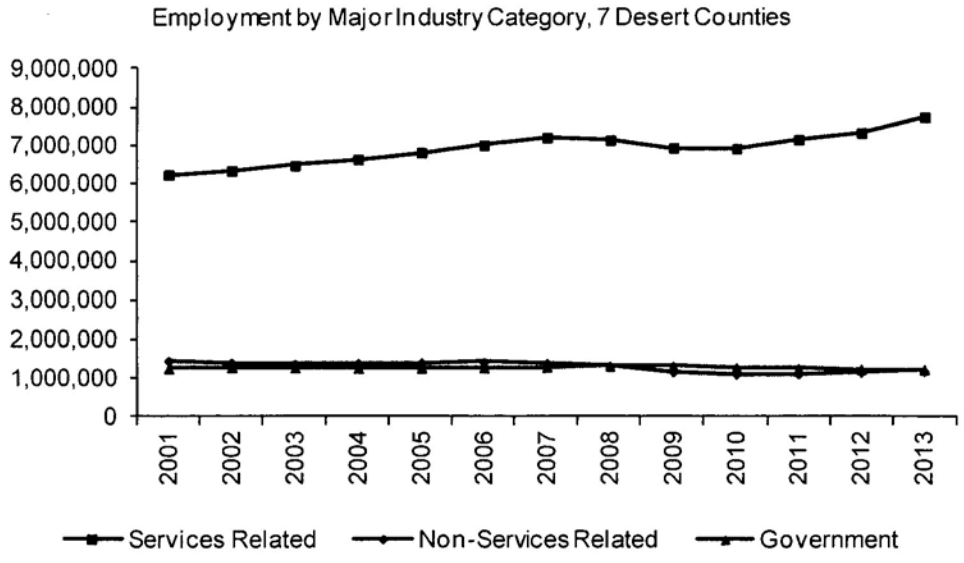

Figure 6. Employment by major industry category, 7-county desert region, 2001 – 2013. *Source:* US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA25N.

[9] Appendix A provides extensive detail on employment growth trends for the time periods 1970-2000 and 2001-2013 for each of the 7 desert counties. In 2001 the US Department of Commerce switched to organizing industry-level information using the newer North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), from the previously used Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. Employment by industry and income source by industry is more readily classed using the designations from the system in place at the time the data were collected (1970-2000 and 2001-2013).

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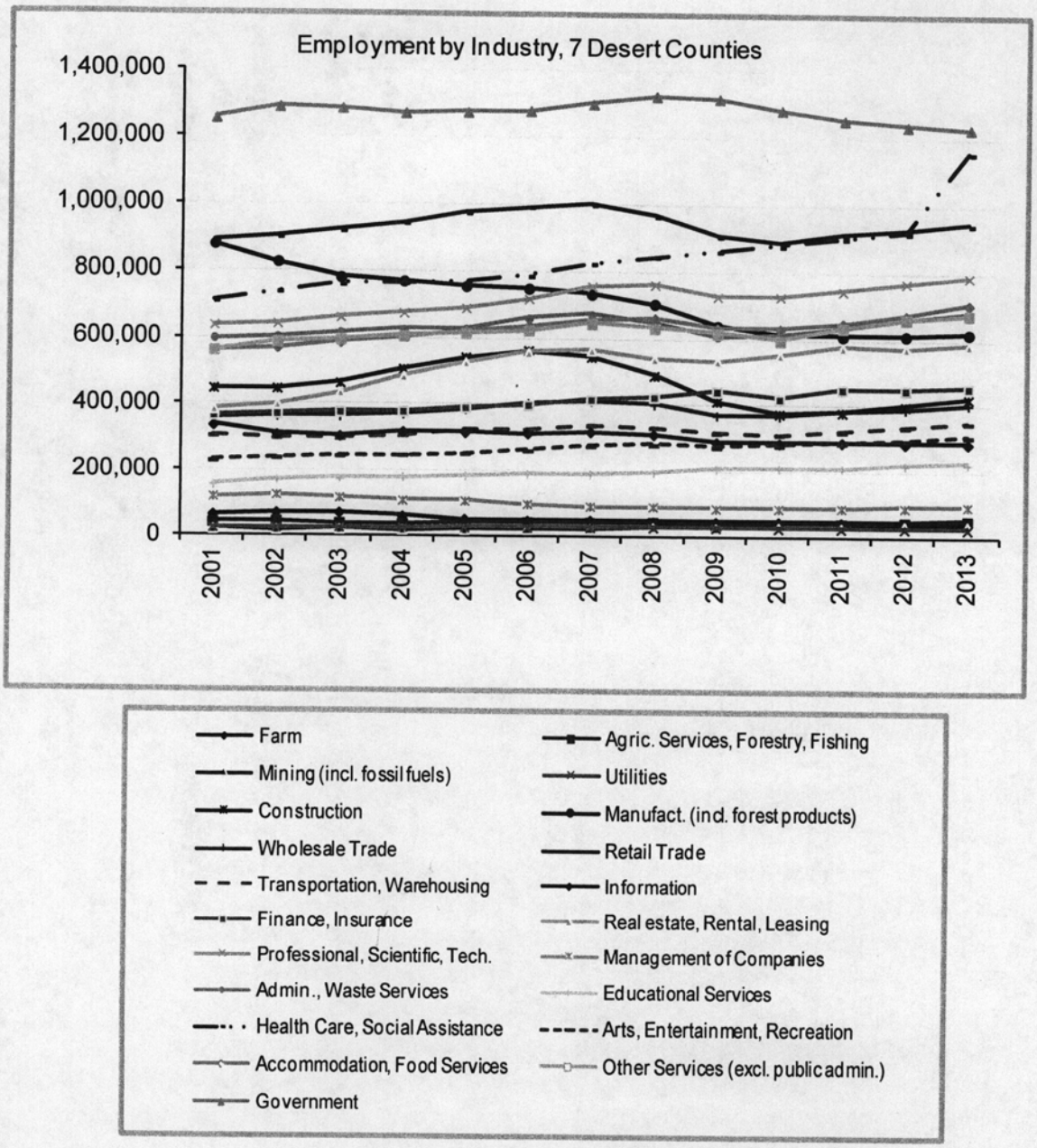

Figure 7. Employment by industry sector, 7-county desert region, 2001 – 2013. *Source:* US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA25N.

The mining sector component of the employment by industry graph is difficult to discern due to the relatively small number of mining jobs. A closer look at mining employment between 1998 and 2013 by county and in all counties combined (Figure 8) shows that the percent of total private employment in all mining in the 7 counties combined fluctuated between 0.1% and 0.25%; values for each of the 7 counties individually are shown in the graphs in Figure 8.

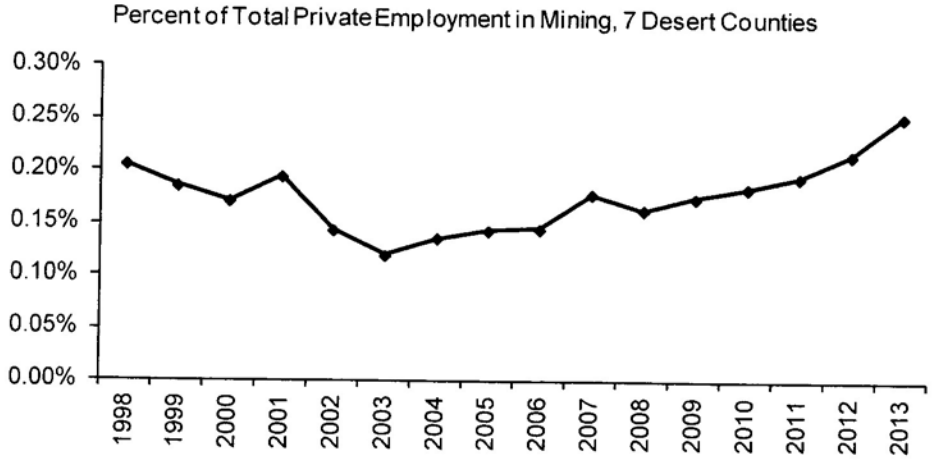

Figure 8a. 7 desert counties.

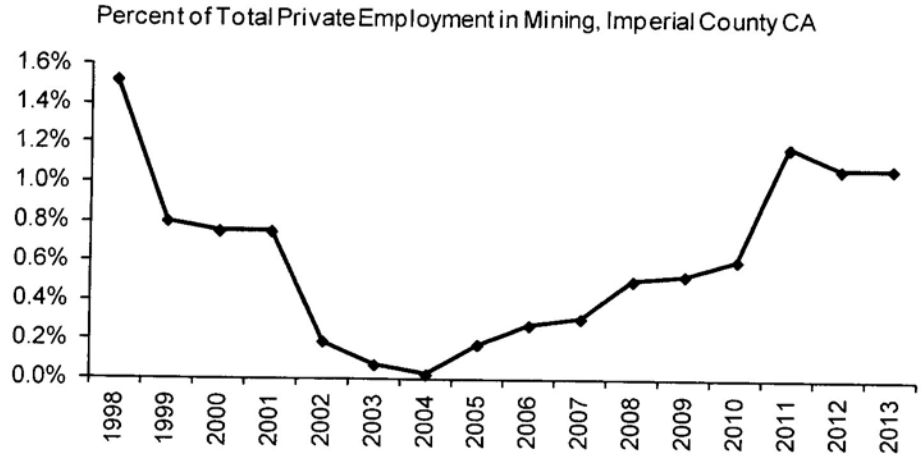

Figure 8b. Imperial County.

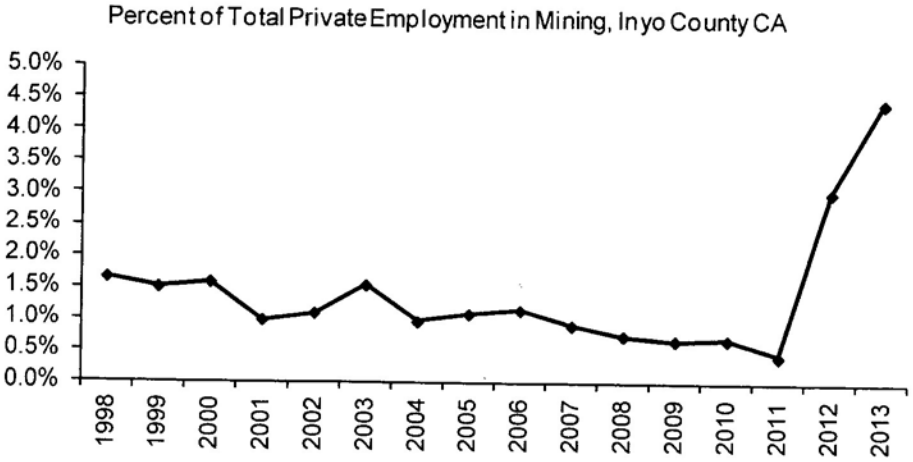

Figure 8c. Inyo County.

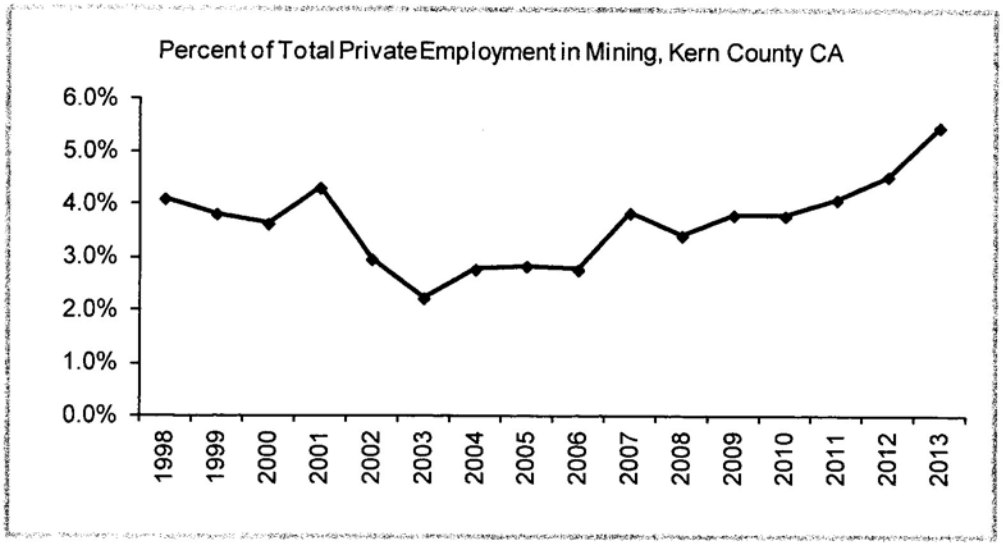

Figure 8d. Kern County.

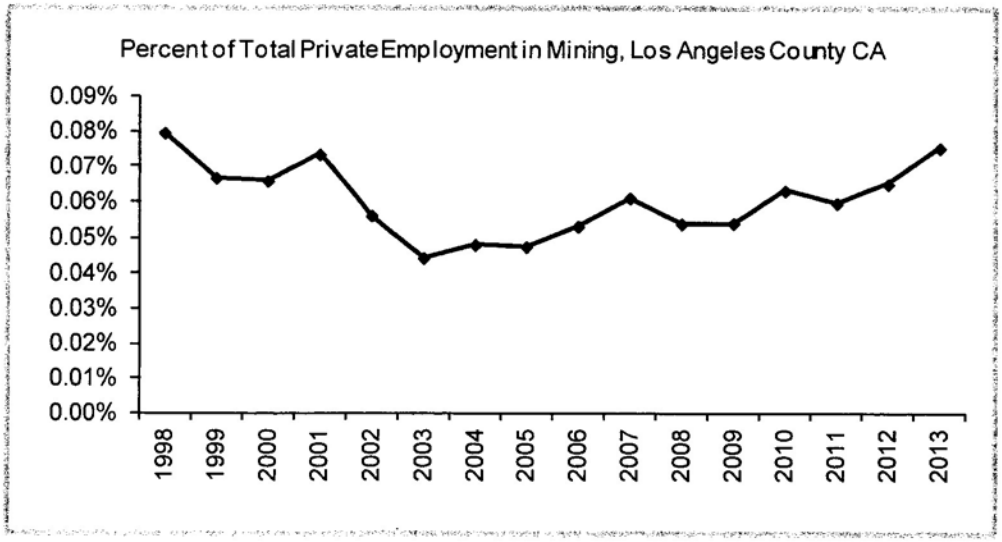

Figure 8e. Los Angeles County.

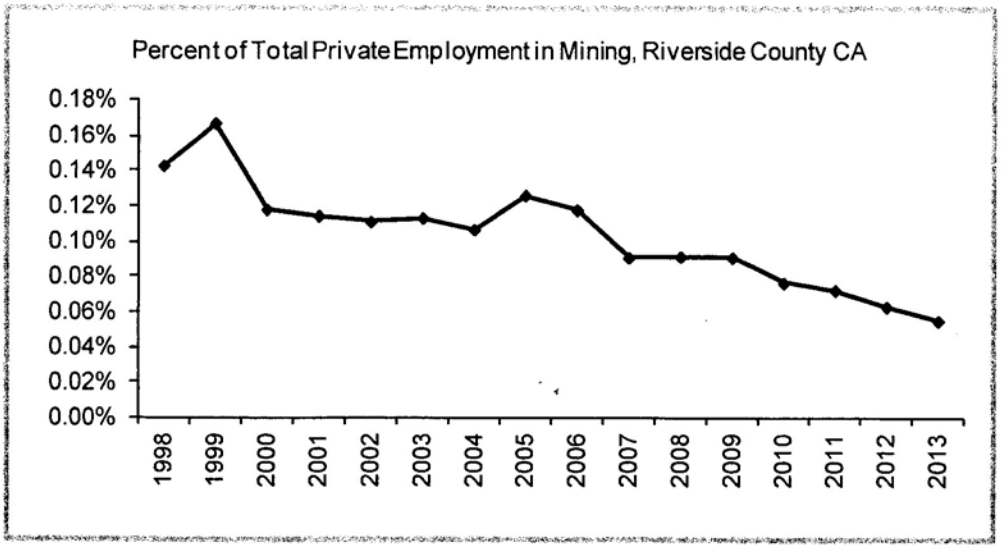

Figure 8f. Riverside County.

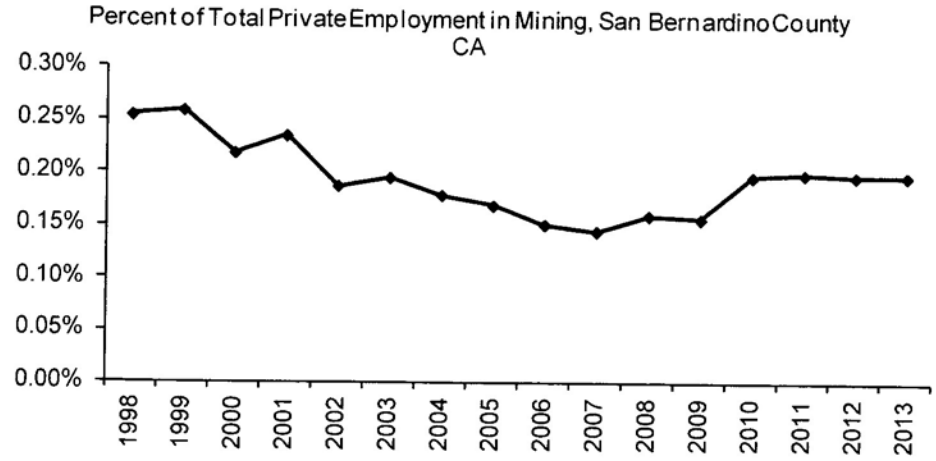

Figure 8g. San Bernardino County.

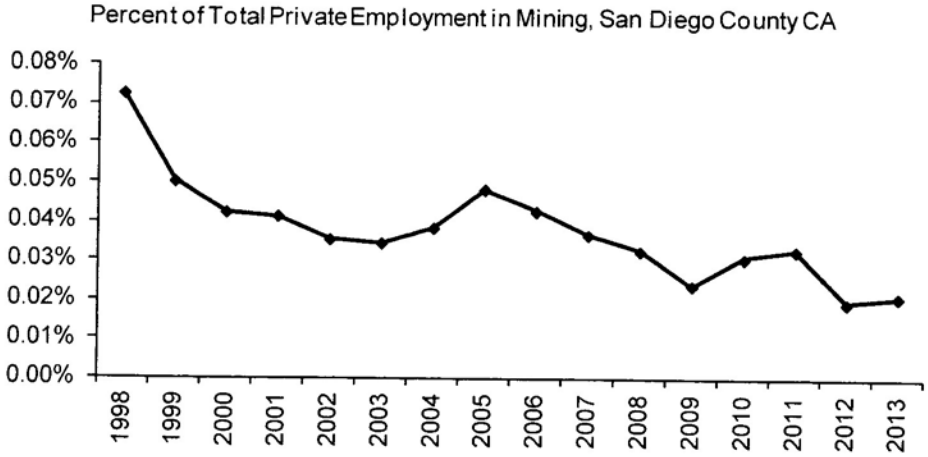

Figure 8h. San Diego County.

Figure 8. *a – h.* Percent of total private employment in all mining (includes oil and gas), in each of seven desert counties and all 7 desert counties combined, between 1998 and 2013. *Source:* US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2015.

When mining sector jobs are broken down further, the oil and gas extraction portion of the mining economy appears to drive the majority of the observed fluctuations in mining sector employment between 1998 and 2013, while non-metallic and metallic ore mining jobs have been relatively flat. Figure 9 breaks down jobs in the mining sector for all of the 7 counties combined, by detail using the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS),[10] for 1998 - 2013. Jobs in non-metallic minerals

[10] The mining sector reports economic measures based on NAICS classes for Mining (NAICS code 21) include: Oil and Gas Extraction (NAICS 211), Mining except Oil and Gas (NAICS 212) and Support Activities for Mining (NAICS 213). Mining except Oil and Gas can be further divided into Coal Mining, Metal Ore Mining and Non-Metallic Mineral Mining and Quarrying. Mining concerns in the California desert counties are focused in Metal Ore Mining (NAICS 2122) and Non-Metallic Mineral Mining and Quarrying (NAICS 2123).

mining for all 7 counties trended between 2,000 and 4,000 total jobs across the entire 7-county region. Even smaller numbers of jobs, less than 2,000 in each of the years 1998 – 2013, were attributed to metal ore mining.

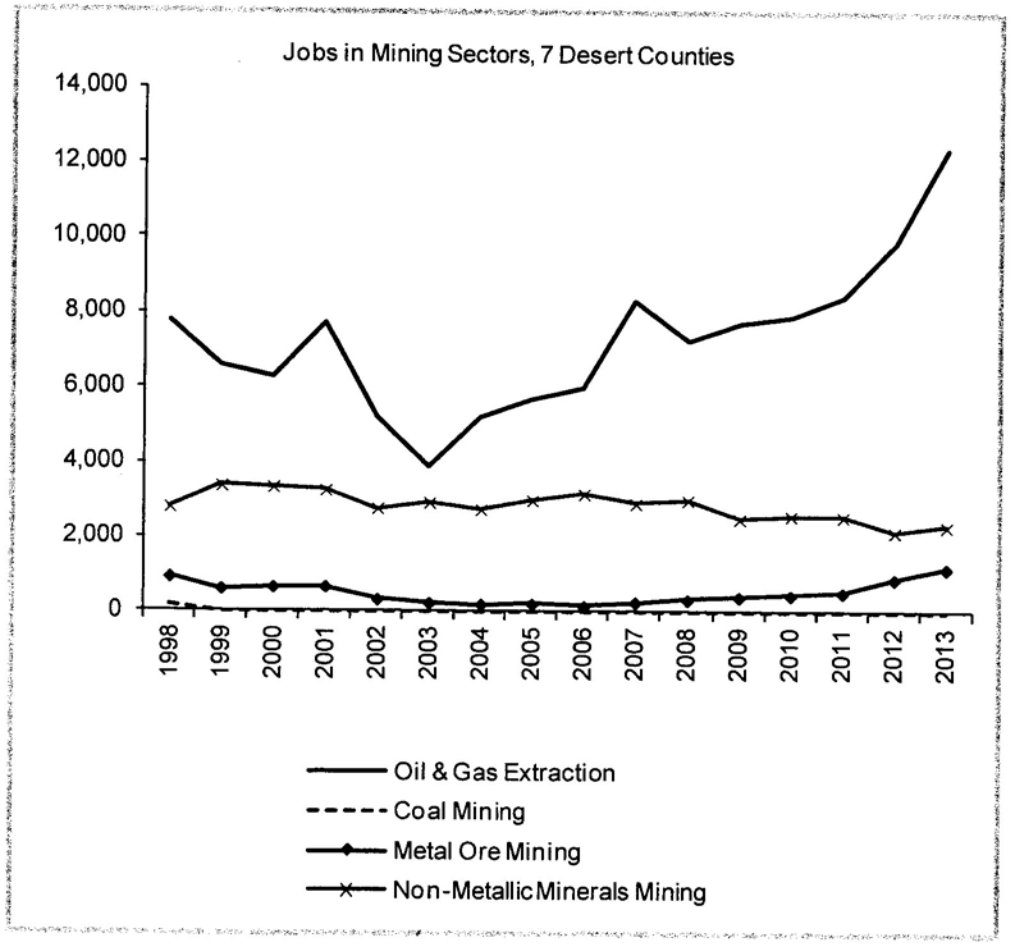

Figure 9a. 7 desert counties.

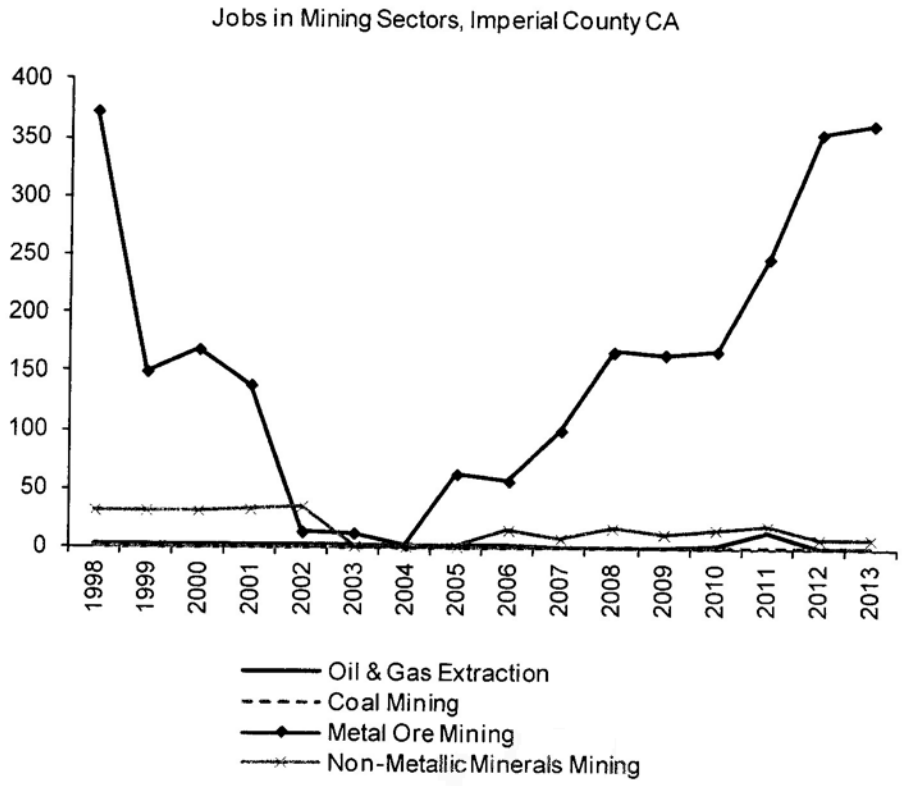

Figure 9b. Imperial County.

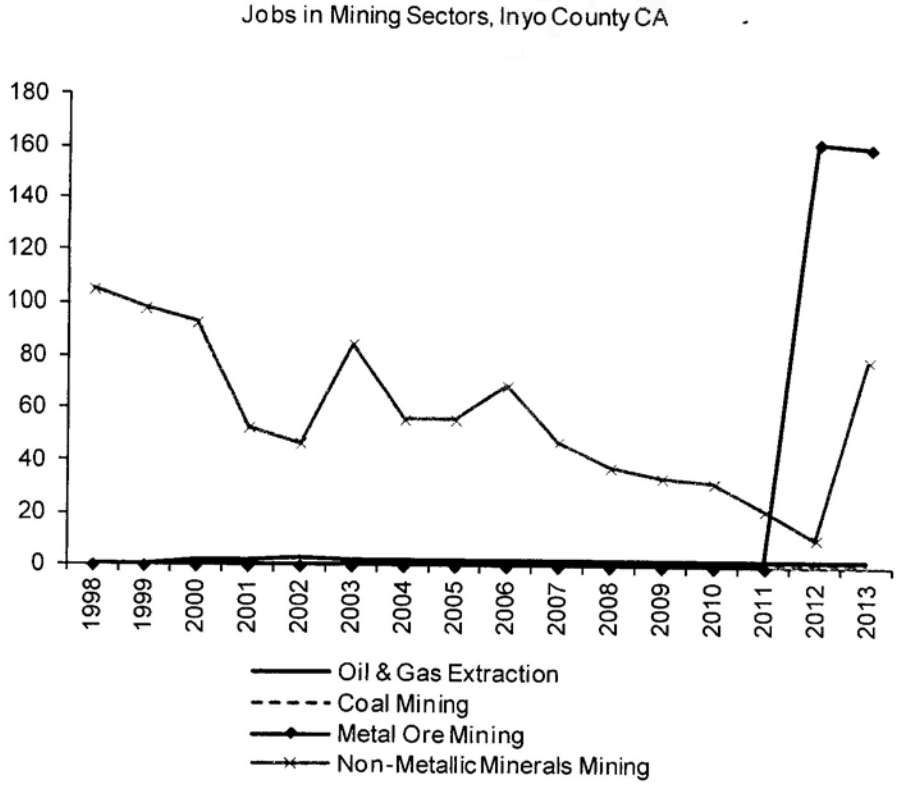

Figure 9c. Inyo County.

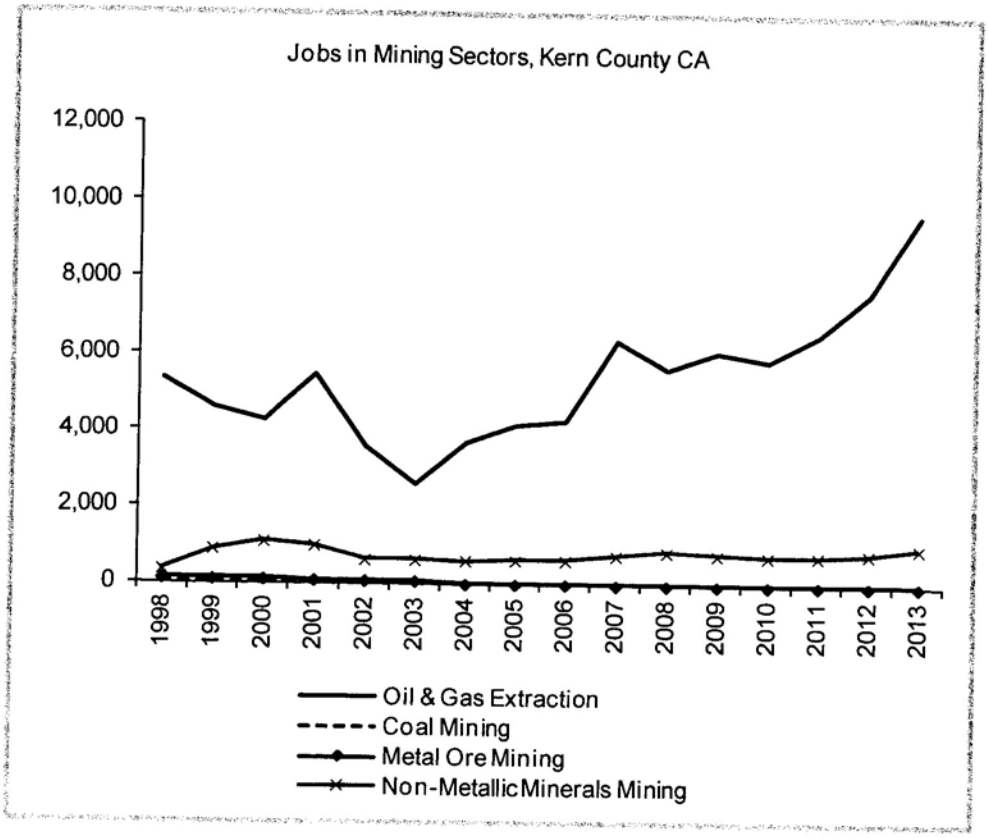

Figure 9d. Kern County.

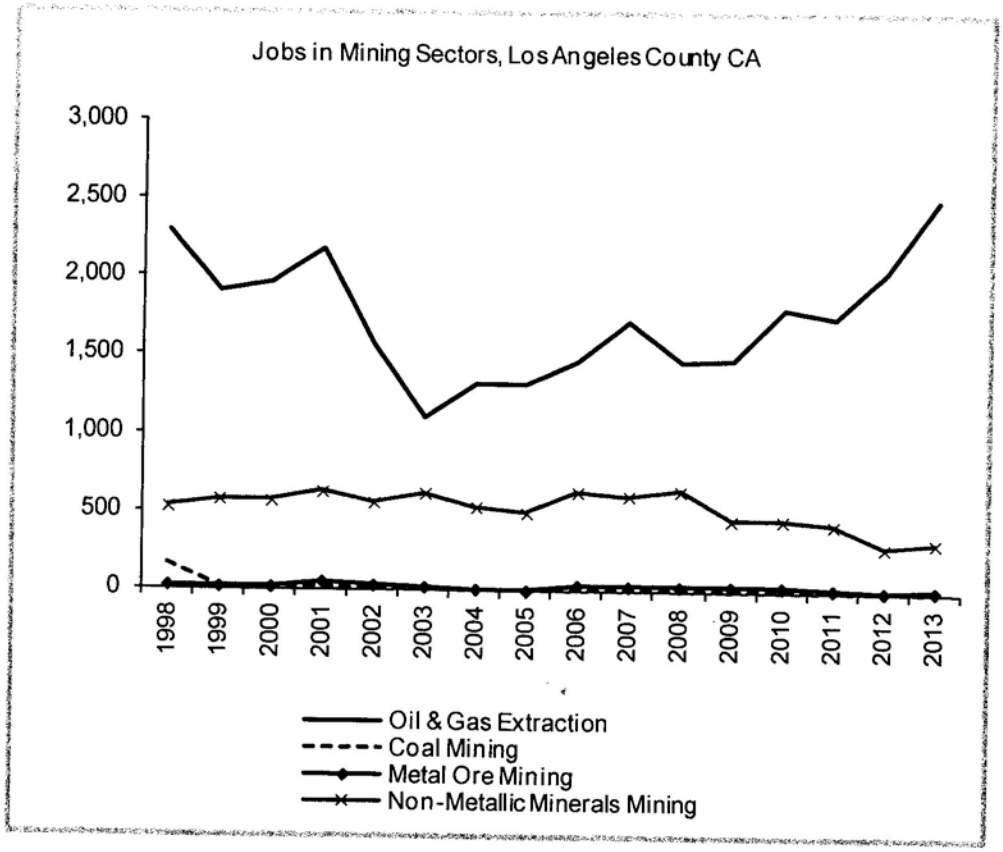

Figure 9e. Los Angeles County.

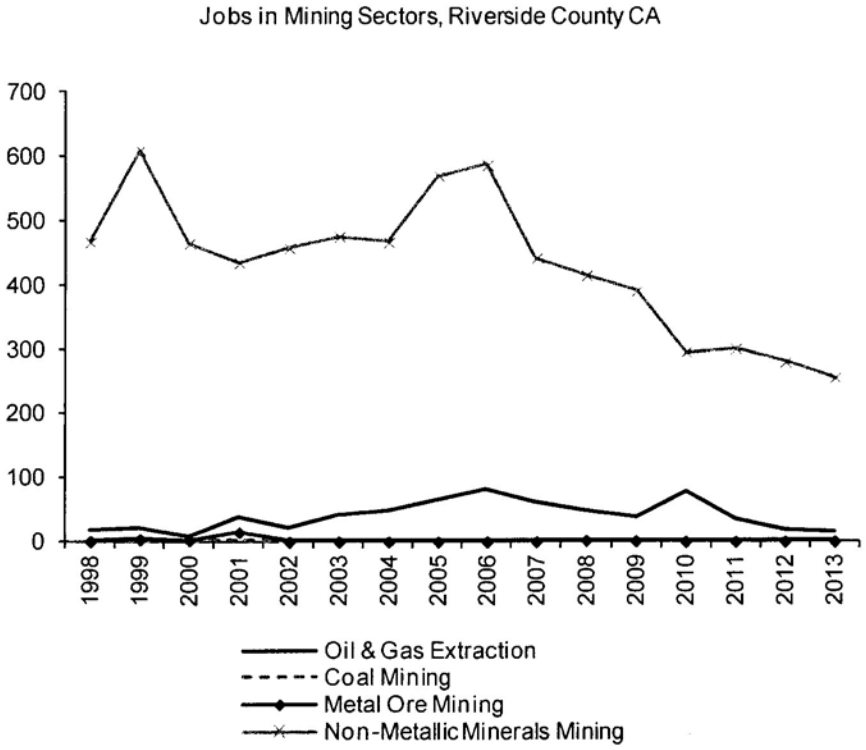

Figure 9f. Riverside County.

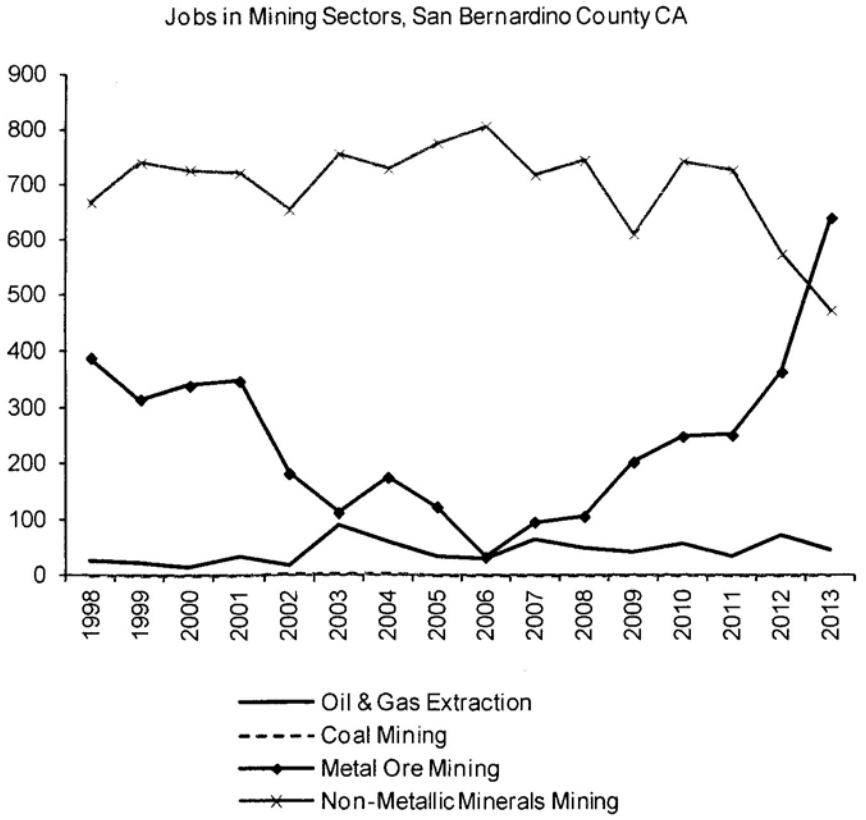

Figure 9g. San Bernardino County.

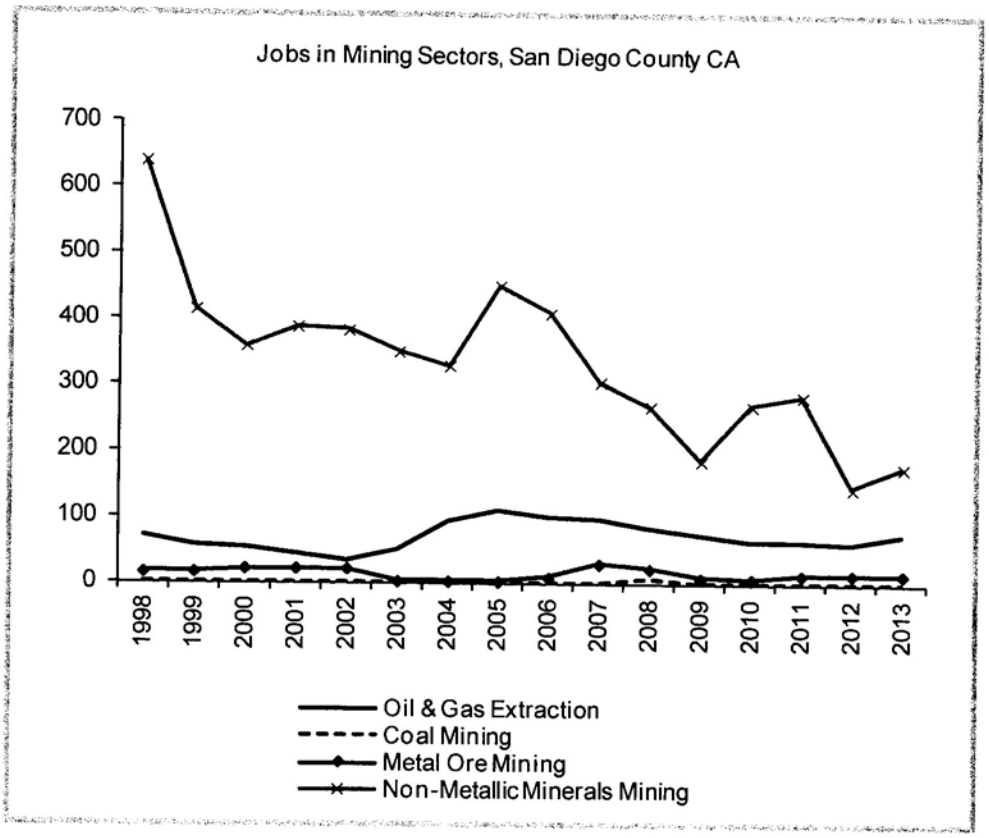

Figure 9h. San Diego County.

Figure 9. *a-h.* Jobs in mining sectors, all 7 desert counties combined and each of the 7 counties, 1998 – 2013. *Source*: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2015.

Figure 10 shows the percentage of employment in mining-related jobs across the 7-county region for the year 2013, the most recent year for which figures are available; mining, not including oil and gas, accounted for only 0.03% of all jobs; with 0.14% of jobs attributed to support activities for mining (including oil and gas).

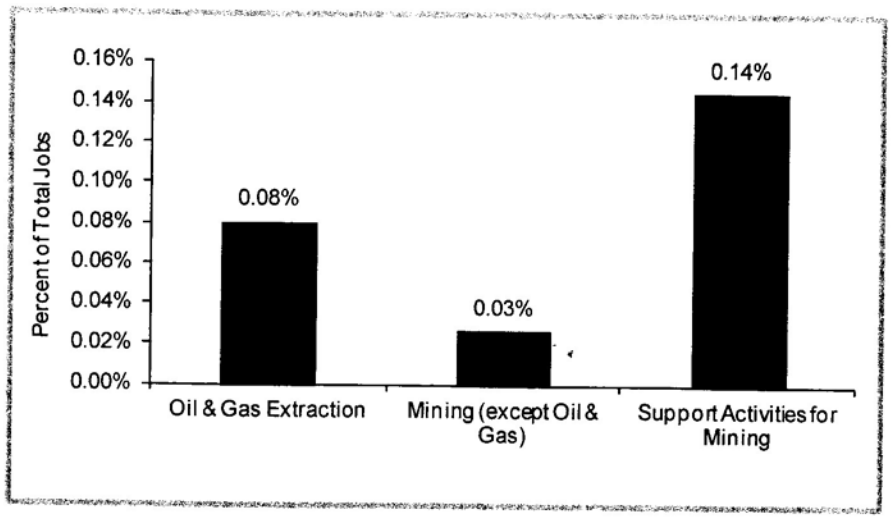

Figure 10. Percentage of total jobs in the 7 desert counties that is mining-related in 2013. *Source:* US Department of Labor, 2014, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

County Business Patterns Reported Mining Employment

In 2013, according to US Census Bureau County Business Patterns (CBP), Kern County (5.5%) and Inyo County (4.4%) had the highest percentage of total private employment in mining. Imperial County had 1.1% total private employment in mining, and the next highest county was San Bernardino County with 0.2% of total private employment in mining (Figure 11).

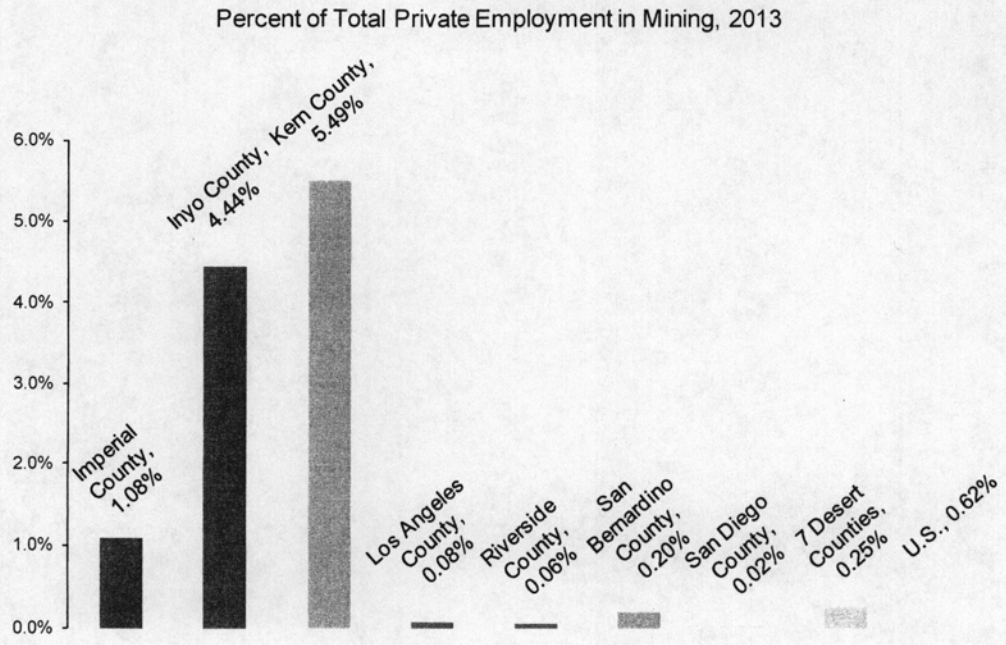

Figure 11. Percent of total private employment in all mining, 2013. *Source*: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2015.

Data collected during the week of March 12, 2013 were used to update the most recent CBP data set (made available in April 2015), and incorporated into Tables 1 and 2 below. These data demonstrate the modest contribution of mining to the *overall* economy of the seven counties in terms of employment, payroll, and number of mining establishments for this most recently available time period. The tables show employment in the NAICS categories Metal Ore Mining (2122) and Non-metallic Mineral Mining and Quarrying (2123).

METAL ORE MINING 2122							
County	***Imperial***	***Inyo***	***Kern***	***Los Angeles***	***Riverside***	***San Bernardino***	***San Diego***
Number of Paid Employees	E (250-499)	C (100-249)	A (0-19)	No Data	No Data	F (500-999)	A (0-19)
First-Quarter Payroll ($1,000)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)			D (withheld)	D (withheld)
Annual Payroll ($1,000)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)			D (withheld)	D (withheld)
Total Establishments	1	1	1			2	1
# Establishments by Employment-Size Class (Persons Employed)							
'1-4'	0	0	1			0	1
'5-9'	0	0	0			1	0
'10-19'	0	0	0			0	0
'20-49'	0	0	0			0	0
'50-99'	0	0	0			0	0
'100-249'	0	1	0			0	0
'250-499'	1	0	0			0	0
'500-999'	0	0	0			1	0
'1000 or more'	0	0	0			0	0

Table 1. California Desert Counties 2013. Employment in Metallic Ore Mining (NAICS 2122) by business size. *Source*: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, March 12, 2013. http://www.census.gov/econ/cbp/overview.htm.

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NON-METALLIC MINERAL MINING AND QUARRYING 2123							
County	***Imperial***	***Inyo***	***Kern***	***Los Angeles***	***Riverside***	***San Bernardino***	***San Diego***
Paid Employees	A (0-19)	B (20-99)	G (1,000-2,499)	303	256	472	C (100-249)
First-Quarter Payroll ($1,000)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)	5,752	3,863	7,248	S (withheld)
Annual Payroll ($1,000)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)	D (withheld)	26,869	17,048	28,596	10,516
Total Establishments	2	4	7	21	20	19	16
# Establishments by Employment-Size Class (Persons Employed)							
'1-4'	1	2	3	6	8	5	7
'5-9'	1	1	0	4	4	5	1
'10-19'	0	0	0	6	3	2	5
'20-49'	0	0	2	4	4	4	3
'50-99'	0	1	1	1	1	2	0
'100-249'	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
'250-499'	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
'500-999'	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
'1000 or more'	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2. California Desert Counties 2013. Employment in Non-Metallic Mining (NAICS 2123) by business size. *Source*: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, March 12, 2013. http://www.census.gov/econ/cbp/overview.htm.

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Business Register data for metal ore mining (NAICS code 2122) economic activity in the 7 counties for 2013 revealed only 6 reported establishments engaged in the activity during that time period (Table 1). Using the lower and upper end of the range of employees who were employed,[11] this dataset indicates *between 850 and 1785 paid direct employees in this economic activity in 2013.* Metal ore mining operations tend to employ larger numbers of persons, but there are only a few of them operating in the desert area.

Numbers for employment in non-metallic mineral mining and quarrying (NAICS 2123) for the 2013 reporting cycle include mining of construction aggregate, which tends to be a localized economic activity. There are a relatively small number (89) of establishments reported to be engaged in this type of activity (Table 2). These activities tend to employ smaller numbers of persons per establishment, with the vast majority of operations employing fewer than 50 persons. Using the lowest and highest end of the paid employees' data categories, estimates indicate there were *between 2,151 and 3,897 employees* across the 7 counties reported as employed in non-metallic mineral mining and quarrying.

As demonstrated by the magnitude of these CBP numbers, the mining sector has not likely had a profound influence on other economic sectors or the combined economies of the desert counties. However, individual mining operations have economic impacts in the local communities in which they operate, which are often small communities where mining operations that employ 25, 50, or 100 persons are considered major employers.

Comparing CBP Employment Estimates to MSHA and ACS Data

In the interest of trying to better understand the contributions of mining employment to the economies of the 7 desert counties, estimates for mining employment from 3 different sources were compared:

1. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) employee numbers; and
2. County Business Patterns (CBP) NAICS employment numbers for metal ore mining and non-metallic mineral mining and quarrying (reported above in Tables 1 and 2).

The comparisons are not direct; i.e., each of the two different sources is reporting a somewhat different aspect of employment (see explanations in Table 3). However, these comparisons do serve as a benchmark for estimating likely employment numbers for the area of interest. The data were further disaggregated to examine employment in only the desert portions of the 7 counties for the MSHA;[12] these data are also presented in Table 3. The US Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) data have been referenced by the mining industry as a reliable source of data on mining employment, and those data were obtained for use in this report.[13] The most recent reported number of employees from MSHA

[11] Some CBP data are "withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies" due to the small numbers of establishments. Exact numbers of employees are not revealed, however the *data ranges* are indicated in Table 1.

[12] Since the CBP data is reported at the county level it was not possible to attribute employment to particular geographic portions of the county, as was possible with the MSHA data.

[13] MSHA data were downloaded from the Open Government Initiative Data Portal, mines.txt dataset, accessed June 2015, http://www.msha.gov/OpenGovernmentData/OGIMSHA.asp

mines that are active, temporarily idled, or intermittently operated in the 7 counties is 4,434. This number is bracketed nicely by the CBP estimated range of between 3,001 and 5,682 employees engaged in metal ore and non-metallic minerals mining in the 7 counties.

COMPARISON OF NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES REPORTED IN MINING AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES, FOR ENTIRE COUNTY AND DESERT CENSUS TRACT PORTIONS				
	Entire County		*Desert Census Tracts portions of County*	
	MSHA mine employees	**CBP** metallic and non-metallic mining employees	**MSHA** mine employees	**CBP** metallic and non-metallic mining employees
Imperial	332	250-518	332	*Not available*
Inyo	47	120-348	45	*Not available*
Kern	1,661	1,000-2,518	1,424	*Not available*
Los Angeles	274	303*	66	*Not available*
Riverside	528	256*	57	*Not available*
San Bernardino	1,418	972-1,471	1,263	*Not available*
San Diego	174	100-268	0	*Not available*
Totals	*4,434*	*3,001-5,682*	*3,187*	*Not available*

Table 3. Comparison of numbers of employees involved in mining and extractive industries in desert counties and the desert census tract areas of the counties, as reported in two different sources.
Sources: Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration and US Census Bureau Community Business Patterns for March 12, 2013.

Contributions of Mining to the Regional Economy - Income

A reflection of its modest contribution to regional employment in the 7-county region in 2013, mining's contribution (including oil and gas) to overall labor-related income is small, approximately 0.8%. Between 1970-2013, that contribution has fluctuated between 0.3% and 1.0%, with no defined trend, while overall labor-related earnings between 1970 and 2013 increased by 132%. Non-labor income increased even more in that time period in the region, changing by 287%.

Another key economic indicator, total personal income, includes both labor (employment-related) and non-labor income (earned from investments or payments associated with retirement, disability, medical, or unemployment insurance). In examining trends in labor-related personal income, it is useful to assess total labor income (wages) per sector and average annual wages per sector (per capita) in order to understand

each sector's relative economic contribution. A review of non-labor personal income trends is valuable as growth in non-labor income is often an indication of a particular location's appeal as a place to live or retire.

Overall total personal income and per capita personal income rose in all 7 desert counties between 1970 and 2013. Both labor earnings and non-labor personal income grew, with labor income increasing 132% between 1970 and 2013, and non-labor income growing 287% in that time period (Figure 12). The proportion of total personal income represented by non-labor income also grew, from 26% in 1970 to 37% in 2013 (Figure 13).

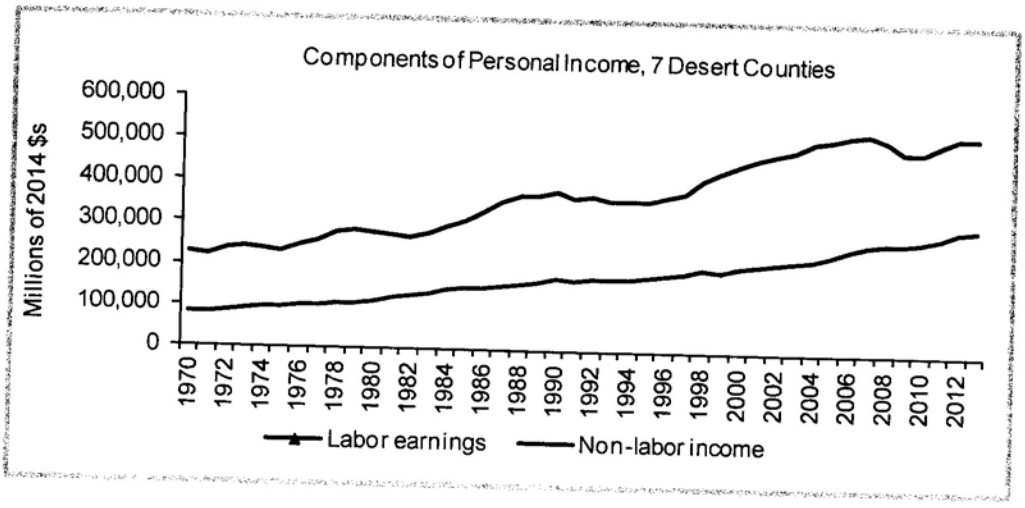

Figure 12. Labor and non-labor components of personal income for 7-county desert region, 1970 – 2013. *Source:* US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Tables CA05 and CA05N.

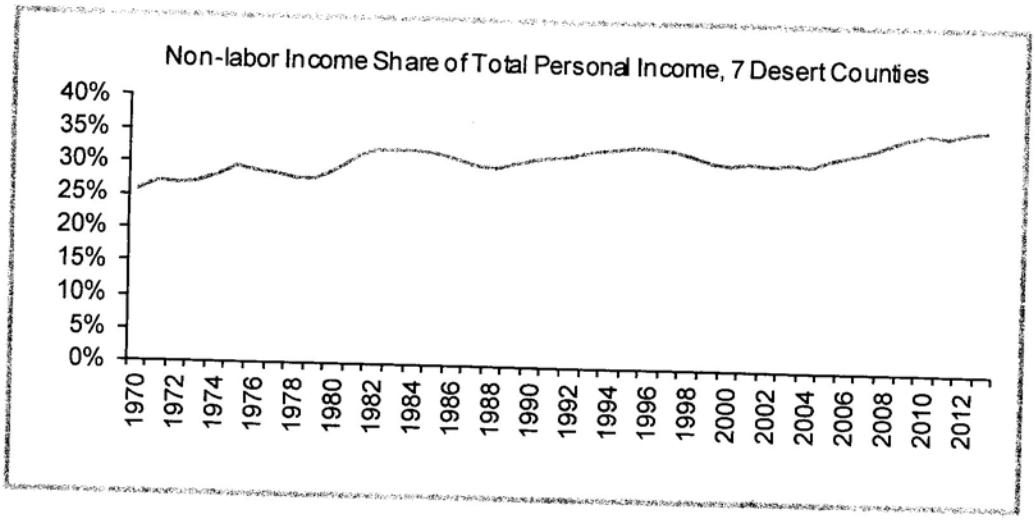

Figure 13. Non-labor share of total personal income for 7-county desert region, 1970-2103. *Source:* US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Tables CA05 and CA05N.

Personal income in the 7 desert counties can be examined by industry sector, in a manner similar to the consideration of employment.[14] Between 2001 and 2013, the sectors adding the most new personal income were health care/social assistance, government, and professional/scientific/technical; mining (including fossil fuels) played a very small role in personal income across the region (Figure 14).

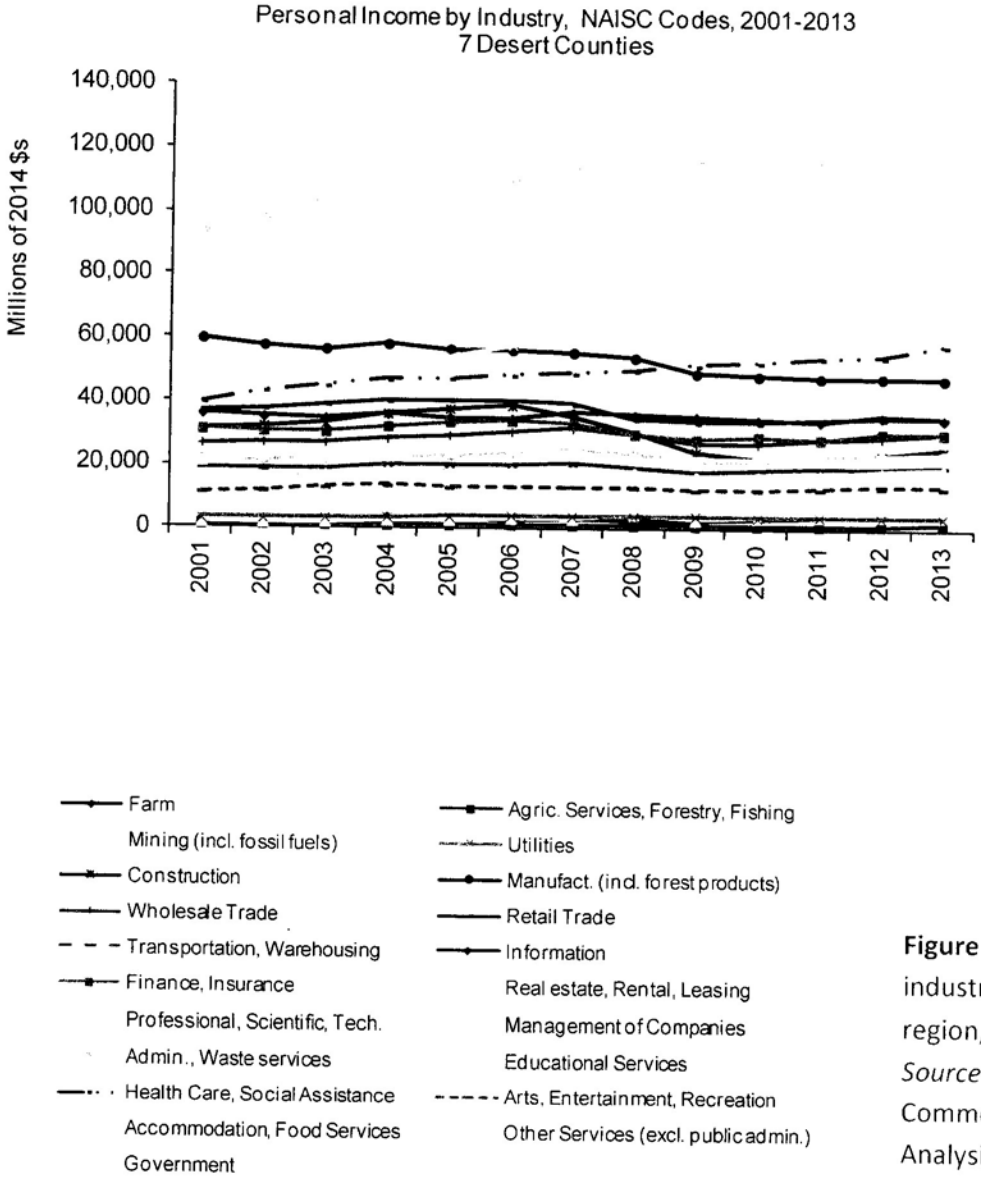

Figure 14. Personal income by industry for 7-county desert region, 2001 – 2013.
Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA05N.

[14] Two appendices provide more detailed county-level personal income trend data. Appendix B provides extensive detail on personal income labor earnings trends for the periods 1970-2000 and 2001-2013 for each of the 7 desert counties. The break in time frames is due to the shift by the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis from using the SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) coding system of reporting employment sectors to the NAICS (North American Industrial Classification System). Appendix C combines the time frames from 1969 – 2013 by consolidating personal income industry numbers into common classes, and includes non-labor income for each county for that time period.

For 2013, mining (including oil and gas) only accounted for 0.6% of the $813 million in personal income earned across the 7-county region.[15] The small percentage of total personal income resulting from mining employment in the desert region reflects the relatively small role that mining has played in overall local employment, even though jobs in the mining industry tend to pay more than other jobs.

While average annual wages for jobs across all industries averaged $52,485 in 2013 (Figure 15), mining industry jobs of the type most common in the desert region, those not related to oil and gas, averaged a higher annual wage of $84,325 in 2014$s (Figure 16).

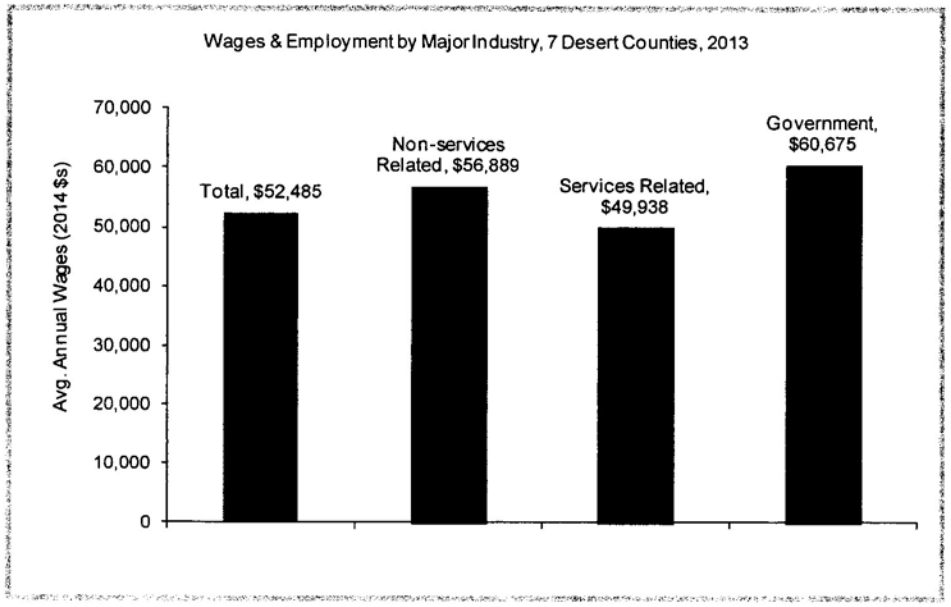

Figure 15. Wages and employment by major industry, for the 7-county desert region, 2013. *Source:* US Department of Labor, 2014, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

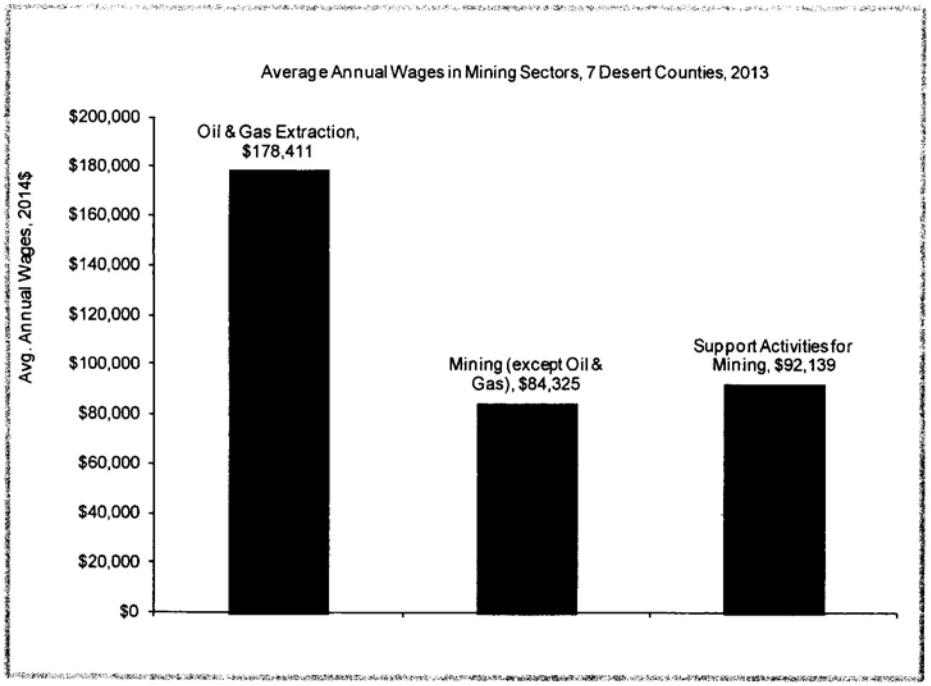

Figure 16. Mining sector wages, 2013, 7-county region. *Source:* US Department of Labor, 2014, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

[15] US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA5.

Estimating Broader Economic Impacts of Mining Activities

Even when direct, indirect, and induced impacts on GDP are considered, the contribution of mining activities to nominal GDP in the 7-county region in 2014 is estimated between 0.04% and 4.12%. When only desert portions are considered, those of Kern, Inyo, and San Bernardino counties showed highest contribution to GDP due to mining activities with 25%, 8%, and 5% contributions, respectively. These impacts likely represent upper limits to impacts, as the multipliers used were developed for use at the state level and likely overestimate impacts at the county and sub-county levels.

While employment and income measures can be used to directly assess the inputs that mining activities have to local economies, there are broader economic impacts that result from employees spending earnings in their local economies, as well as dollars that the mining industry spends locally. Using information on county-level GDP from National Association of Counties and multipliers developed by the National Mining Association, the broader impacts of mining activities on county GDP were examined at the scale of the entire county as well as at the scale of the desert portions of the counties.

In the context of the region's economy overall, the economic impacts of mining on the economies of the desert counties are modest, as reflected by the dollars generated by employment in the sector. Given mining employment numbers for an area, it is possible to make some general estimates of the broader impacts of mining employment on the economies of the area of interest. One way of doing this is to look at industry estimates of the economic contributions of mining at the state level, and use those to estimate contributions in the desert area of interest to local income, employment, and nominal GDP.

The National Mining Association (NMA) produced a report in September 2014 titled *The Economic Contributions of U.S. Mining (2012).*[16] Their analysis looked at contributions at the state level, and for each state further broke out the analysis to consider coal, metal, and non-metal mining contributions. The information from that report on state-level contributions of metal and non-metal mining is used in this analysis to help understand the influence of mining on the counties and the desert portions of the counties.

Results of this analysis (Tables 4 and 5), using NMA state-level multipliers,[17] indicate that the potential influence of mining on income and nominal GDP of the counties ranges between 0.04% and 4.12%.

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[16] The Economic Contributions of U.S. Mining (2012), National Mining Association, 2014.

[17] Methodologies used in the NMA study to evaluate the overall economic contribution of mining to US economies in 2012 included *state-level* estimates made using the IMPLAN model and data inputs from the Bureau of Economic Analysis and data from MSHA. IMPLAN is an input-output model that produces economic multipliers to calculate overall economic contributions. For this analysis, we made use of the NMA state-level multipliers and applied them at the *county level*, in the absence of county-level multiplier information. Since the multipliers were developed for a larger geography, i.e., state vs. county, this cross-scale application will have the effects of *inflating* the values resulting from using the multipliers at a different scale then for which they were developed. Thus, the results obtained using these multipliers will likely indicate a *greater* economic impact on local economies from mining activities than may actually occur. For purposes of planning, however, this possible overestimation can provide a likely upper limit for impacts.

This analysis also indicates that mining's broader economic impact is highest for Kern and Inyo counties, and next highest for San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial counties (whose somewhat different economic structure than the other counties includes a significant agricultural component). The economies of San Diego and Los Angeles counties appear much less influenced by economic impacts of mining activities.

In Table 4, mining employment is considered in two classes: (1) mine workers only, and (2) employment that is either a direct, indirect, or induced effect from mining employment, including mine workers. This second class of direct effect employment includes support activities and transportation. Then, as a result of mining employment, labor income and contribution to GDP are estimated based on multipliers derived from the NMA data. These numbers are then compared to countywide values for total employment, labor income, and nominal GDP, to estimate the contributions made by metal and non-metal mining employment in these counties.

A corresponding analysis, shown in Table 5, was performed for the desert portions of the 7 counties, with values for labor income and nominal GDP adjusted for those areas using population proportions, as explained in the table footnotes.

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Estimated Economic Contributions from Metal and Non-metal Mining Employment in State of California and All Areas of Desert Counties, Using MSHA Reported Employment and National Mining Association Estimates (Derived from State-Level Estimates)

	Mining Employment (persons)				Mining Labor Income** ($millions)				Mining Contribution to GDP*** ($millions)			
	Mine Workers	% of 2013 Total Employment	Direct, Indirect, and Induced Workers*	% of 2013 Total Employment	Labor Income of Mine Workers	% of Labor Income	Labor Income of Direct, Indirect, and Induced Workers	% of Labor Income	GDP Inputs by Mine Workers	% of Nominal GDP 2014	GDP Inputs by Direct, Indirect, and Induced Workers	% of Nominal GDP 2014
California	11,200	0.052	81,200	0.38	727	0.053	5,271	0.388	1,323	0.060	9,595	0.44
Imperial	332	0.425	2,407	3.08	22	0.560	156	3.972	39	0.565	284	4.12
Inyo	47	0.453	341	3.29	3	0.573	22	4.198	6	0.606	40	4.04
Kern	1,661	0.414	12,042	3.00	108	0.374	782	2.709	196	0.445	1,423	3.23
Los Angeles	274	0.005	1,987	0.03	18	0.005	129	0.036	32	0.005	235	0.04
Riverside	528	0.059	3,828	0.42	34	0.085	248	0.617	62	0.080	452	0.58
San Bernardino	1,418	0.159	10,281	1.15	92	0.212	667	1.538	168	0.208	1,215	1.50
San Diego	174	0.009	1,262	0.07	11	0.009	82	0.068	21	0.010	149	0.07

* Total employment contribution multiplier from direct, indirect, and induced employment (includes mine workers) as a result of mining: 7.25 per mining employee; ** Labor income multiplier: $64,914 based on NMA estimates; *** GDP multiplier: $118,165 based on NMA estimates

Table 4. Estimated economic contributions from metal and non-metal mining employment in desert counties, using county employment numbers from MSHA reported employees and NMA state-level multipliers applied at county level. *Sources:* MSHA reported employment numbers, US Department of Commerce, Mine Safety and Health Administration; NMA, *The Economic Contributions of U.S. Mining (2012)* state- level estimates, used to infer multipliers for county-level data; 2013 employment from US Dept of Commerce, BEA, REA, Table CA30; 2014$s labor income (in real terms) from US Dept of Commerce, BEA, REA, Tables CA05 and CA05N as reported by Headwaters Economics; GDP for counties from National Association of Counties, County Explorer, 2014 nominal GDP, http://explorer.naco.org/; GDP for California from NMA estimates.

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Estimated Economic Contributions from Metal and Non-metal Mining Employment in Desert Portions of Desert Counties, Using MSHA Reported Employment and National Mining Association Estimates (Derived from State-Level Estimates), Adjusted by Proportion of Population in Desert Portions of Counties

	Mining Employment (persons)				Mining Labor Income** ($millions)				Mining Contribution to GDP*** ($millions)			
	Desert Mine Workers	% of 2013 Desert Total Employment †	Desert Direct, Indirect, and Induced Workers*	% of 2013 Desert Total Employment †	Labor Income of Desert Mine Workers ($millions)	% of Desert Labor Income ††	Labor Income of Desert Direct, Indirect, and Induced Workers	% of Desert Labor Income ($millions) ††	GDP Inputs by Desert Mine Workers ($millions)	% of Nominal Desert GDP 2014 †††	GDP Inputs by Desert Direct, Indirect, and Induced Workers ($millions)	% of Nominal Desert GDP 2014 †††
Imperial	332	0.43	2,407	3.08	22	0.56	156	3.98	39	0.57	284	4.12
Inyo	45	0.99	326	7.14	3	1.27	21	9.19	5	1.22	39	8.85
Kern	1,424	3.23	10,324	23.39	92	2.91	670	21.11	168	3.48	1,220	25.21
Los Angeles	66	0.03	479	0.20	4	0.03	31	0.01	8	0.03	57	0.22
Riverside	57	0.03	413	0.23	4	0.05	27	0.33	7	0.04	49	0.31
San Bernardino	1,263	0.57	9,157	4.10	82	0.76	594	0.34	149	0.74	1,082	5.35
San Diego	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00

* Total employment contribution multiplier from direct, indirect and induced employment (includes mine workers) as a result of mining: 7.25 per mining employee; ** Labor income multiplier: $64,914 based on NMA estimates; *** GDP multiplier: $118,165 based on NMA estimates

† Desert total employment was estimated by adjusting countywide employment numbers using % of population from each county in desert portion;

†† Labor income for desert portion was estimated by adjusting countywide labor income using % of population from each county in desert portion;

††† Nominal GDP for desert portion was estimated by adjusting countywide nominal GDP using % of population from each county in desert portion

Table 5. Estimated economic contributions from metal and non-metal mining employment in desert portions of desert counties, using county employment numbers from MSHA reported employees and NMA state-level multipliers applied at county level. County values for total employment, labor income, and nominal GDP were adjusted by proportion of population residing in desert portion of each county (see Figure 4).

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Sources: MSHA reported employment numbers, US Department of Commerce, Mine Safety and Health Administration; National Mining Association, *The Economic Contributions of U.S. Mining (2012)* state-level estimates, used to infer multipliers for county-level data; 2013 employment from US Dept of Commerce, BEA, REA, Table CA30; 2014$s labor income (in real terms) from US Dept of Commerce, BEA, REA, Tables CA05 and CA05N as reported by Headwaters Economics; GDP for counties from National Association of Counties, County Explorer, 2014 nominal GDP, http://explorer.naco.org/; GDP for California from NMA estimates. County population estimates for desert portions from US Census American Community Survey 2013 estimates.

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Tax Payments

The NMA report also discusses economic contributions that can be attributed to tax payments as a result of mining activities. While not available at this time at the county level, contributions made by mining activities at the national and state levels (for California) can be reported for perspective. Tax payment economic contributions include income taxes on company profits and employee wages, property taxes on equipment and structures, and excise taxes on output. Using the IMPLAN model, NMA estimates that in 2012 mining activity in the US generated $46 billion in tax revenues: $28 billion in federal taxes and $18 billion in state and local taxes. This model includes both *direct* contributions and *indirect and induced* contributions, such as effects of upstream suppliers to mining and spending by mining and supplier employees.

For California, the *direct* tax contributions as a result of mining activities are estimated as $404 million (15% of total contribution) and *indirect and induced* contributions as $2,285 million (85% of total contribution). Of mining's reported total contribution of $2,689 million to taxes in California, 38% ($1,026 million) went to state and local taxes, and 62% ($1,664 million) to federal taxes. Working backwards to elucidate the multiplier used, approximately *$ 9,300 in state and local taxes* and *$15,000 in federal taxes* paid per employee were attributed to the mining economy in the state for each of the 110,750 mining employees in California in 2012. These values can be multiplied by the number of mining employees in an area to estimate tax contributions at the state and local levels. For example, using this formula, the 1,418 mine workers in San Bernardino County contributed $13 million in state and local taxes and $21 million in federal taxes for 2012.

Mining Vis-à-Vis Other Economic Sectors

Mining's contribution to the California Desert's economy is overshadowed by growth in other economic sectors that track closely with economic trends throughout the interior West. These trends reflect the increasing importance of regional amenities, notably natural and cultural attractions, and are defined by growth in services, professional, and government sectors, and non-labor income. These sectors and income sources have grown over the past 4 decades—serving as the key economic drivers throughout the region. These trends also have profound implications for the economic role of public lands, where protected public lands become an important economic asset. Tourism and recreation remains one of the bright spots of the region's economy, having rebounded to pre-recession levels: total direct travel spending in the desert region in 2013 reached $6.2 billion.

Over the last 4 decades, the economy of the California Desert, similar to most of the interior West, has become much more diversified, with a mix of service-sector businesses joining traditional extractive resource industries. (The service sector encompasses both high- and low-wage employment, including hospitality, food service, engineering, management, finance, real estate, and health care professionals.) The growth in the service industries is generally characterized as amenity driven; that is, tied to a region's natural and cultural attractions, including the quality of life provided by smaller-sized communities.

As noted in prior sections, mining operations are historically and locally significant in the California Desert, but the industry's contributions are overshadowed regionally and at the county level by other sectors' economic performance. A consideration of the implications of mining's relative performance to other sectors underscores broader economic trends consistently experienced throughout the West and reflects the growing economic role of the region's amenities and the evolving economic role of public lands. As seen above (Figure 14), the sectors adding the most new personal labor income between 2001 and 2013, were health care/social assistance, government, and professional/scientific/technical. Mining (including fossil fuels) played a very small role in personal income across the region. As well, non-labor income is becoming a larger component of the economies of the desert counties.

This amenity-driven growth is generally defined by the following trends, which have been relatively uniform across the interior West since 1970:

- Growth in services and professional-related employment and income that reflects the emergence of amenity-driven jobs tied to quality of life concerns, including the diverse recreational opportunities a region provides; the increasing contribution of tourism to the local economy; and the role that the communications technology plays in allowing "footloose" businesses to locate in areas with high amenities. Like mining, these economic sectors have their attendant "spillover" economic impacts.[18]

- Growth in government-related employment and income, which reflects the relatively large expanse of public lands in the West that are managed by multiple federal and state agencies and, in the California Desert, also includes significant military facilities and operations.

- Growth in non-labor income that highlights the role that federal transfer payments (i.e., social security) and other sources of income (i.e., returns on financial investments) play in boosting the local economy. These speak to the presence of retirees, owners of second homes, and other residents whose contributions are not captured in jobs and labor income data.

These trends have profound implications for the economic role of public lands. Traditionally, that role has focused on resource extraction: mining, grazing, and logging being the most prominent. But in the past four decades, that role has evolved. Protected public lands, where resource extraction is limited or prohibited, have emerged as an important economic asset.

[18] For example, the latest figures from the report *2014 National Park Visitor Spending Effects: Economic Contributions to Local Communities, States, and the Nation* attribute contributions to local economies from National Park Service 2014 visitor spending of $89 million, $73 million, and $31 million from Death Valley National Park, Joshua Tree National Park, and Mojave National Preserve, respectively, with visitor spending supporting over 2,700 jobs.

A 2012 study by Headwaters Economics titled *West is Best: How Public Lands in the West Create a Competitive Economic Advantage*[19] found that western counties with protected federal lands—such as national parks, monuments, and wilderness—enjoy a competitive economic advantage that results in more jobs and increased per capita income. A statistical analysis done as part of the report shows that, for non-metro counties in the West with protected federal lands, per capita income in that county was on average $436 higher for every gain of 10,000 acres of protected public land. Other analysis showed that western non-metropolitan counties that have greater than 30% of their land base in federally protected lands increased jobs by 345% over the last 40 years, while by contrast counties with no protected federal public land increased jobs by 83%.

Trends in the desert region are consistent with trends in other regions, states, and communities in the West, and speak to a broader economic transformation that has been ongoing over the last 4 decades. Headwaters Economics' analysis shows that industries that include travel and tourism comprised over 15% of total private employment in all 7 desert counties in 2013, with Inyo County employment over 33% in those industries.

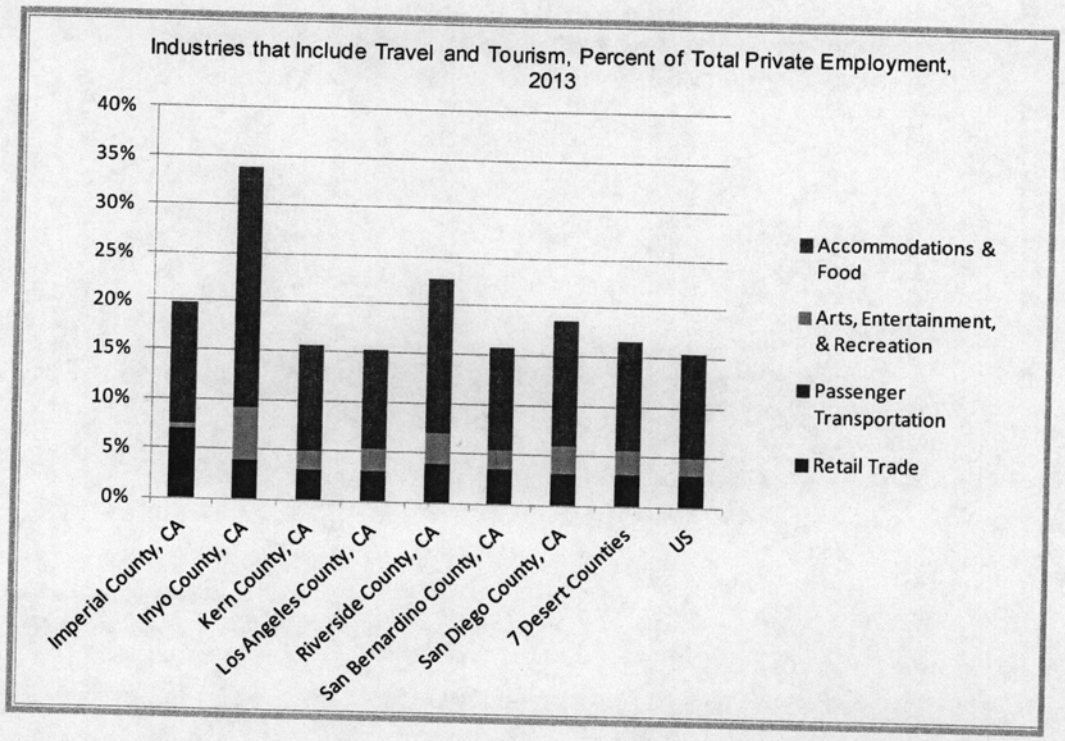

Figure 17. Industries that include travel and tourism as percent of total private employment in 2013 for 7 desert counties. *Source:* Headwaters Economics, US Department of Commerce, County Business Patterns 2015.

[19] The study, "*West is Best: How Public Lands in the West Create a Competitive Economic Advantage*," found that, from 1970 to 2010, western non-metro counties with more than 30 percent of their land base in federal protected status increased jobs by 345%. As the share of federal lands in protected status goes down, the rate of job growth declines as well. Western non-metro counties with no protected federal land increased jobs by 83%. Accessed at http://headwaterseconomics.org/economic-development/trends-performance/west-is-best-value-of-public-lands-release.

In fact, tourism and recreation remains one of the bright spots of the region's economy, having rebounded to pre-recession levels. A recent review of travel impacts on California's economy shows that total direct travel spending in the desert region in 2013 reached $6.2 billion (preliminary figures for 2014 indicated continued growth totaling $6.3 billion).[20]

But the economic role of protected public lands is not limited to tourism and recreation. Several key military installations are located in the California Desert, including the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Fort Irwin National Training Center, China Lake Naval Weapons Center, Edwards Air Force Base, and the Chocolate Mountain Gunnery Range. The Combat Center at Twentynine Palms is one of the largest employers in San Bernardino County, and the estimated contribution to the local economy is $1.7 billion annually.[21]

These facilities depend on surrounding public lands to carry out their operations, most notably flight training programs. Additionally, as major land managers in their own right with a long-standing tradition of environmental stewardship, these facilities depend on adjacent public lands to serve as key corridors and linkages to habitat and wildlife under their purview. Protecting adjacent lands can help ensure the ongoing viability of military facilities while ensuring that their environmental programs are effective.

Finally, protected public lands continue to be part of the overall draw for retirees, young entrepreneurs, and urban refugees who are looking to relocate primarily for quality-of-life considerations. These include amenities such as clean air, outdoor recreational opportunities, low real estate prices, low crime rates, and a pleasant climate, among others. Interestingly, as a recent article in *Travel and Leisure* underscores, some are moving to the desert because of these amenities first and are then looking for employment opportunities or creating their own.[22] This more recent trend may speak to the value of place-based economic development strategies that some communities in the California Desert may wish to pursue.[23]

Influences on Mining in the California Desert

Mining activity is influenced by many factors, depending on the specific commodity. Industrial minerals currently being mined in the California desert, such as construction aggregate and cement inputs, are influenced by local and regional demand and supply. Mining for most metals such as gold, base metals, and rare earth elements is affected by global supply/demand factors. The availability of public lands for mineral exploration and mining has a much smaller influence on mining activity than regional and global economic forces.

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[20] California Travel Impacts, 1192-2014p, Dean Runyan Associates, April 2015, p.37.

[21] Community Impact Report, 2013. Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center.

[22] See: http://www.travelandleisure.com/articles/joshua-tree-travel.

[23] For examples see the Sonoran Institute's recent report on place-value community development.

Mineral extraction in the California desert has a range of influences, depending on the resource, from the health of the regional economy and the performance of other economic sectors to global markets and prices.

For example, mining for commodities such as construction aggregate and the inputs to cement manufacturing (primarily limestone and silica) is influenced primarily by regional economic factors, particularly the construction industry, and fluctuates according to the demand for residential, commercial, and infrastructure construction.

Metals mining, such as gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, molybdenum, and rare earth elements, is influenced primarily by global demand and prices determined in global markets. When global prices increase, exploration mining for metals increases; when global demand wanes and prices decrease, mineral exploration and mining of these metals slows down or stops completely in some instances.

Recent developments at the rare earth mine at Mountain Pass provide a good example of how global market forces affect metals mining, sometimes in highly volatile fashion. When rare earth prices surged in 2010 as a result of Chinese export controls, Molycorp, Inc. restarted mining and processing at Mountain Pass. As China subsequently decreased its constraints on exports, prices plummeted. In June 2015, Molycorp filed for bankruptcy and in late August 2015 announced that it would cease production at Mountain Pass. It appears likely that most of the employees at the facility will be laid off.

It is worth noting that, in the context of the proposed California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015, there does not appear to be a relationship between public lands conservation and mining activity. As can be seen in Figures 18 and 19 (the 7-county summaries from Figures 8 and 9), percent of private employment in mining and numbers of jobs in non-oil and gas mining sectors have not changed appreciably over the last 15 years. During this time period, many portions of the California Desert have received conservation designations.

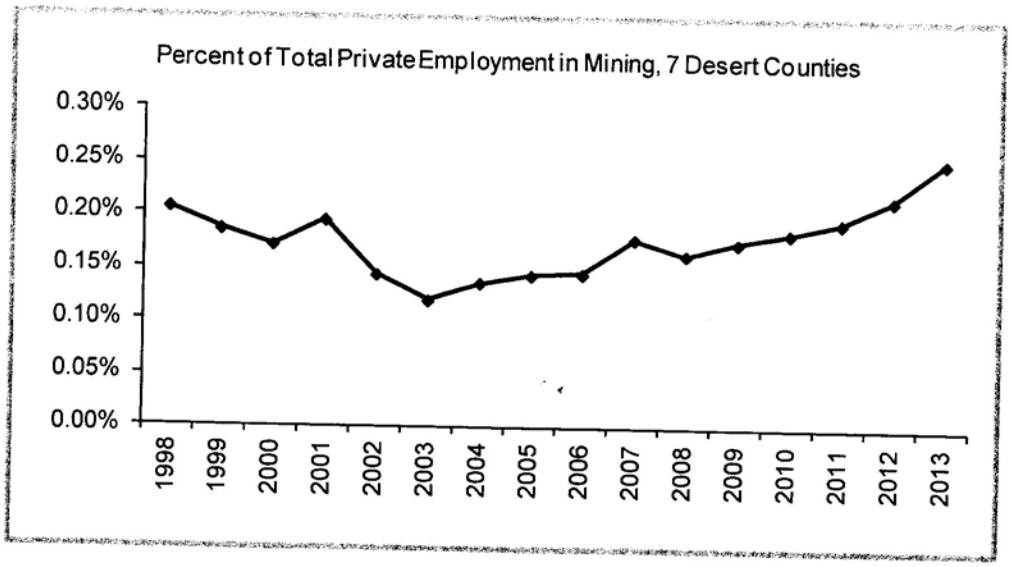

Figure 18. Percent of total private employment in all mining (includes oil and gas) in all 7 desert counties combined, between 1998 and 2013. *Source:* US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2015.

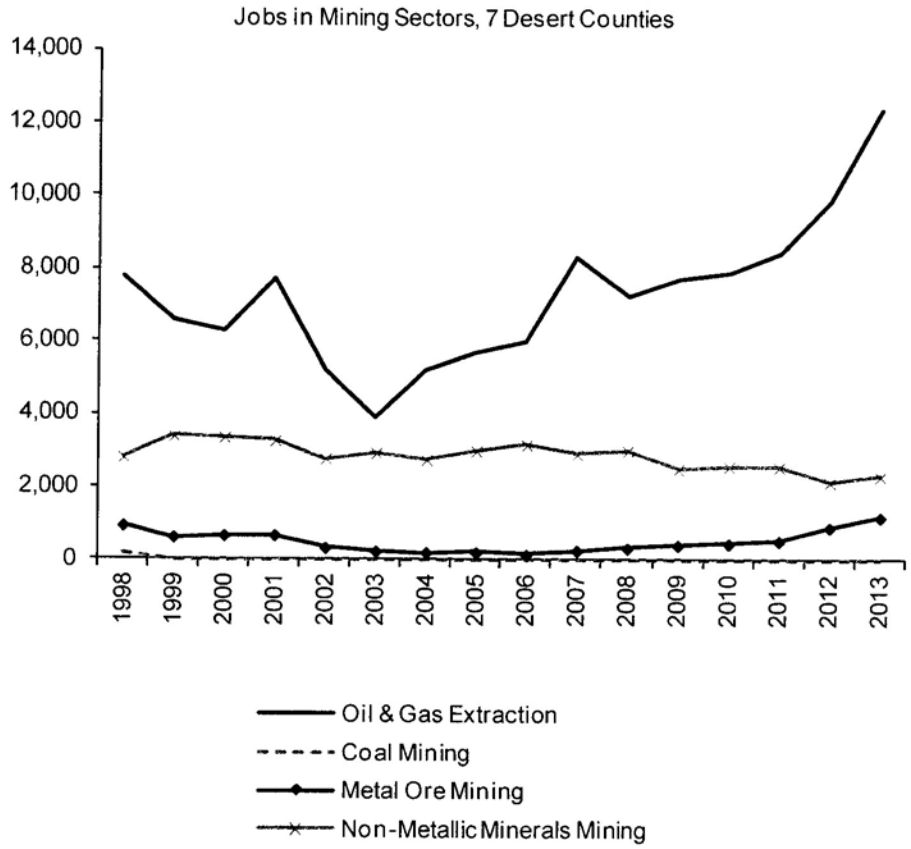

Figure 19. Jobs in mining sectors, all 7 desert counties combined, 1998 – 2013. *Source:* US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns, 2015.

The California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act

The California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 (CDCRA) is proposed legislation that would provide for conservation, recreation, and renewable energy development in the California Desert. This section of the report examines the interaction between the proposed conservation designations and existing and potential future mineral resource development.

Provisions of the CDCRA

Through its extensive conservation designations, the legislation seeks to preserve the region's natural and cultural attractions, which have fueled much of the region's growth and prosperity. Protected public lands such as designated wilderness, national parks, national preserves, and national monuments protect key amenities that serve as the foundation for the region's tourism and recreation businesses, military operations, real estate development, and other economic sectors.

Introduced in February 2015 by Senator Dianne Feinstein with Senator Barbara Boxer as co-sponsor, the proposed legislation builds on 1994 legislation that established Death Valley and Joshua Tree national parks and protected more than 7.6 million acres of California Desert as Wilderness Areas. Subsequent

legislative efforts, going back to 2009, have sought to expand upon this conservation legacy, but have been unsuccessful to date.

The CDCRA would create two new national monuments:

- The **Mojave Trails National Monument**, which would encompass 965,000 acres of land, including former Catellus-owned lands that were donated to the US government with the intention of preservation; and
- The **Sand to Snow National Monument**, which would encompass 135,000 acres of land from the desert floor of the Coachella Valley to the peak of Mount San Gorgonio.

The proposed legislation also would designate:

- 6 new **BLM Wilderness Areas** covering 250,000 acres;
- 18,610 acres of BLM land in Inyo County as the **Alabama Hills National Scenic Area**, preserving it for continued recreational use;
- 77 miles of waterways as **Wild and Scenic Rivers**; and
- 5 existing **BLM Off-Highway Vehicle areas** (covering approximately 142,000 acres of California desert) as permanent Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) recreation areas, providing off-highway enthusiasts certainty that these uses of the desert will be protected in a manner similar to conservation areas.

Additionally, the CDCRA would **expand national park units,** including: Death Valley National Park by 39,000 acres, Joshua Tree National Park by 4,500 acres, and the Mojave National Preserve by 22,000 acres.

The proposed legislation also includes several provisions related to **renewable energy development**. It encourages development of new renewable energy in Solar Energy Zones established by the federal government. It requires the exchange of isolated state parcels currently surrounded by national parks and wilderness, providing the state with lands that could be used for renewable energy, recreation, or conservation; and allows for upgrades to transmission lines necessary to bring renewable energy to urban areas. Figure 20 shows the area of study.

The focused and relatively permanent nature of current large mining operations allows for proposed and future conservation proposals to accommodate these operations' site-specific needs. Moreover, in certain instances, future mineral resource needs can be readily considered when drafting public lands protection proposals.

As noted in prior sections, much of the region's economic growth has been in service-related sectors. When combined with growth in non-labor income, these trends underscore economic and demographic changes that are strongly connected to the region's amenities, its natural and cultural attractions. The CDCRA's extensive conservation designations align with key sectors of the region's economy that have experienced growth in jobs and income over the past 4 decades, including the tourism and recreation businesses, military operations, real estate development, and other economic sectors. These sectors have a direct stake in preserving the desert.

Overall Impact on Existing Mineral Operations and Mining Claims

As currently drafted, the proposed CDCRA recognizes and protects existing mining claims and minimizes impacts on current mining operations. A careful screening of the location of current activities and operations indicates minimal potential impacts in a few areas. Any effort to address these impacts would need to take into consideration the broad range of resource values in these areas.

Given the robust mineral and management analysis conducted by the DRECP team, the study area used for our analysis of mineral resource data coincides with the DRECP boundary (Figure 20). The DRECP boundary is largely similar to the CDCA boundary, with minor variations in their western boundary. Both boundaries also fully contain the bulk of the Feinstein legislation proposals, with the exception of the Alabama Hills NSA and a Death Valley wilderness addition in Inyo County.

Various types of mining occur widely across the region, as can be seen in Figure 21, derived from MSHA data. The great majority of the current and recently operating mines in the desert portion of the region are extracting sand, gravel, and stone for use as construction aggregate. Although there are relatively few mines extracting metals or non-metallic commodities in the desert portion of the region, those mines include the top 3 mining employers, Rio Tinto (boron compounds), Molycorp (rare earth elements), and New Gold (gold). See Appendix D for details on the top 5 employers by number of employees, and Appendix E for more detail and maps showing the geographic distribution of mining employment in the desert region.

In drafting the proposed CDCRA, provisions were included to ensure that existing mining claims are protected. As currently written, the proposed the CDCRA would recognize all existing valid mining claims and mineral rights within the proposed boundaries. As such, it would not interfere with current or future mining activities on these claims.[24] The CDCRA specifically states that non-wilderness activities (which includes mining) on areas adjacent to boundaries of wilderness areas designated by the act will not be restricted or precluded.[25]

[24] See language from CDCRA on pages 22, 48, 49, 71, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 108, 117, 122, 128, 129 and 130. https://www.congress.gov/114/bills/s414/BILLS-114s414is.pdf

[25] CDCRA, page 141.

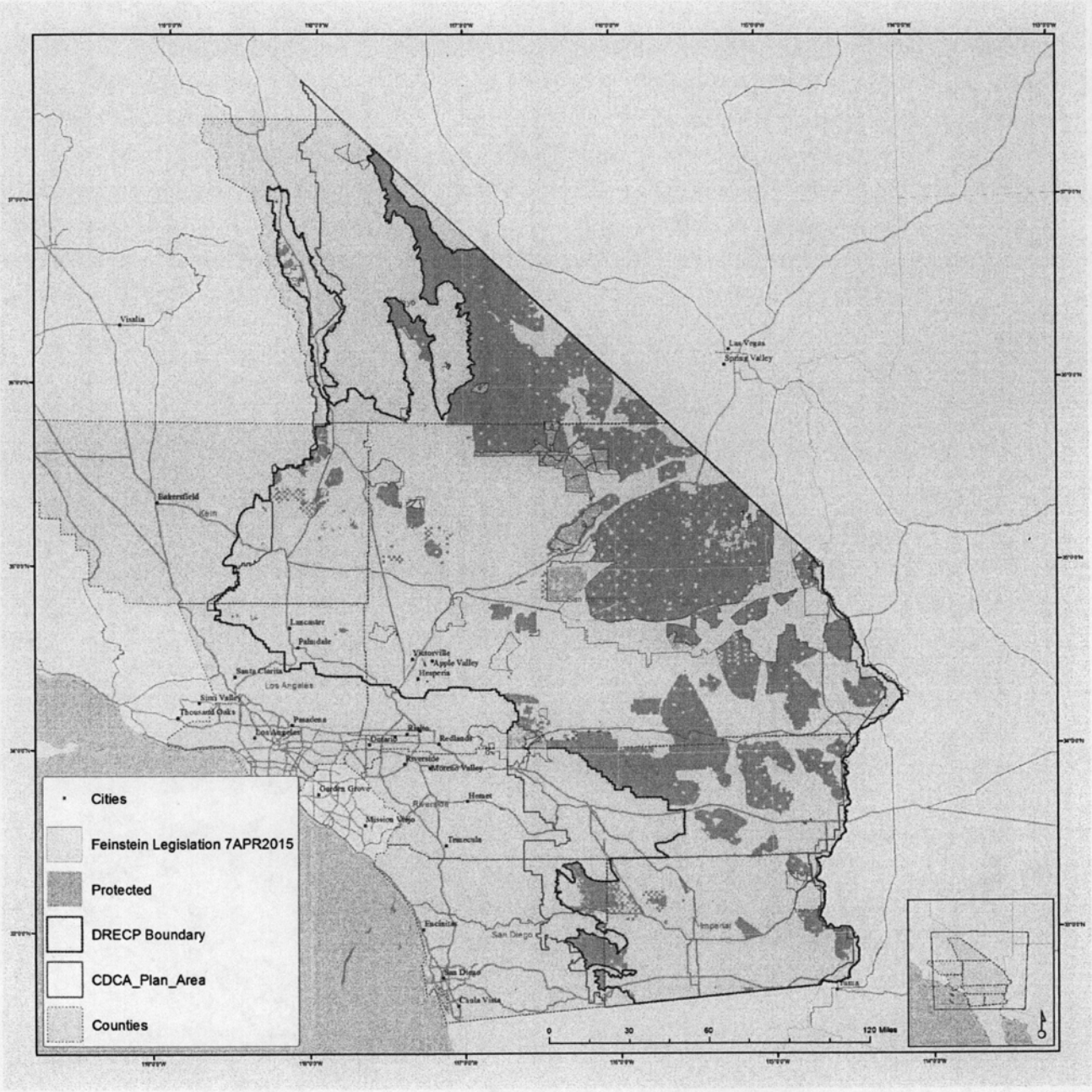

Figure 20. Study area for GIS mining analysis.

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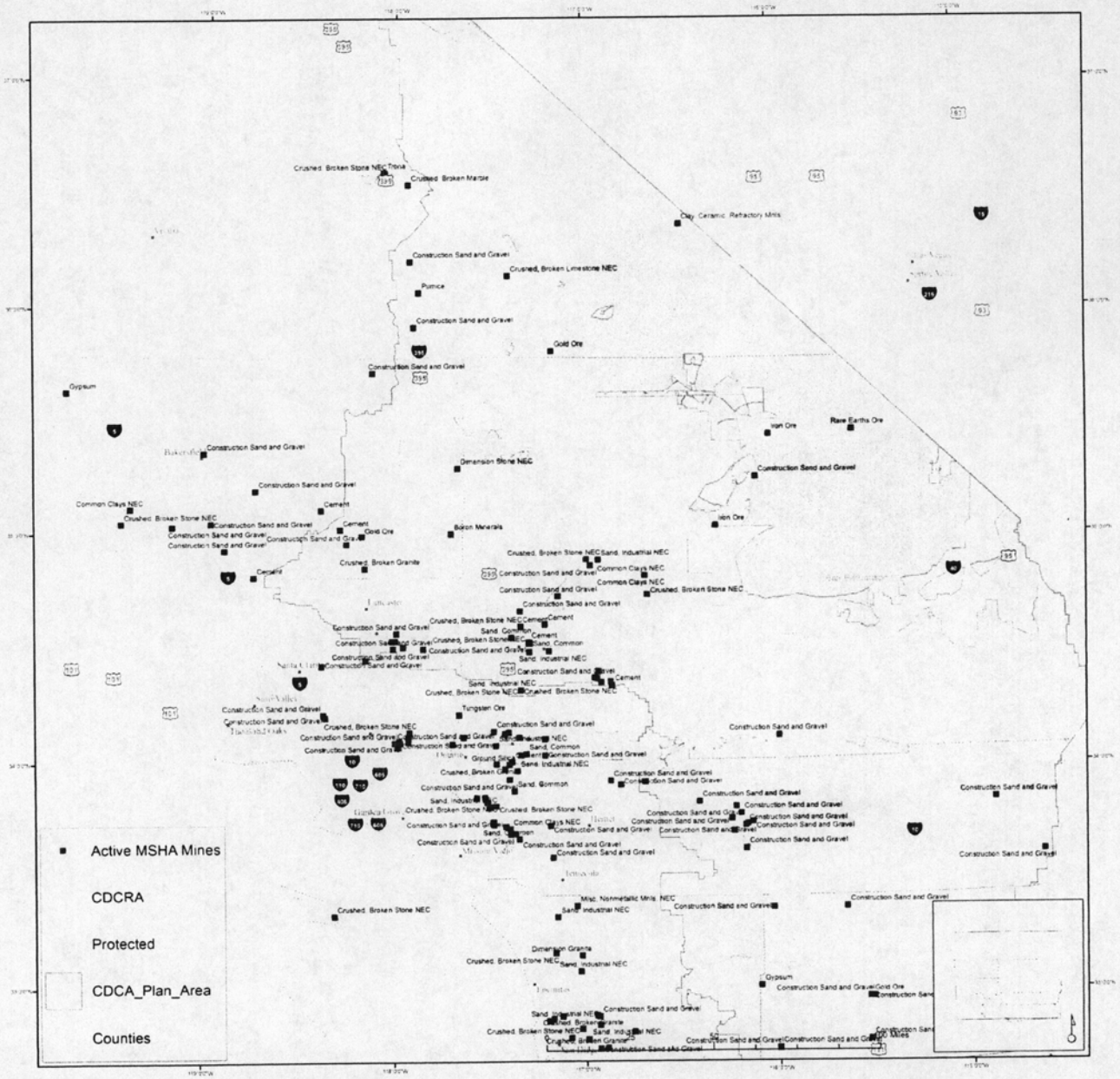

Figure 21. Current mining operations in the desert region. *Source:* US Department of Commerce, Mine Safety and Health Administration.

In addition, existing operating mines have been excluded from the proposed CDCRA boundaries, as can be seen in Figure 21. For example, rare earth elements, which are mined and processed at facilities in the Mountain Pass area, are important because of their use in technologies such as satellites, electric cars, wind turbines, and photovoltaic panels. Military uses of these elements include guided missile systems and unmanned drones. Magnets made with rare earths are used in smart phones, computers, headphones, and other forms of information technology. The CDCRA boundaries specifically exclude the area surrounding the rare earth element mine at Mountain Pass. Furthermore, the recognition of valid existing mining rights within the proposed boundaries allows for potential future development of rare earth mineral deposits on known prospective formations within the boundaries.

Another example is construction aggregate, which is an important mineral resource present in extensive deposits within the study area (see Figure 22), sourced from alluvial sand and gravel deposits as well as from bedrock outcrops. Essential for construction of infrastructure, particularly transportation infrastructure (highways, high-speed rail), construction aggregate is a bulk commodity that is economic to haul up to approximately 50 miles by truck. As such, it is critical that adequate deposits are present and minable close to transportation corridors for use in new construction and maintenance of existing roads and associated bridges, overpasses, drainage ways, and other structures. The CDCRA boundaries include buffers around key transportation corridors and existing aggregate mining operations.

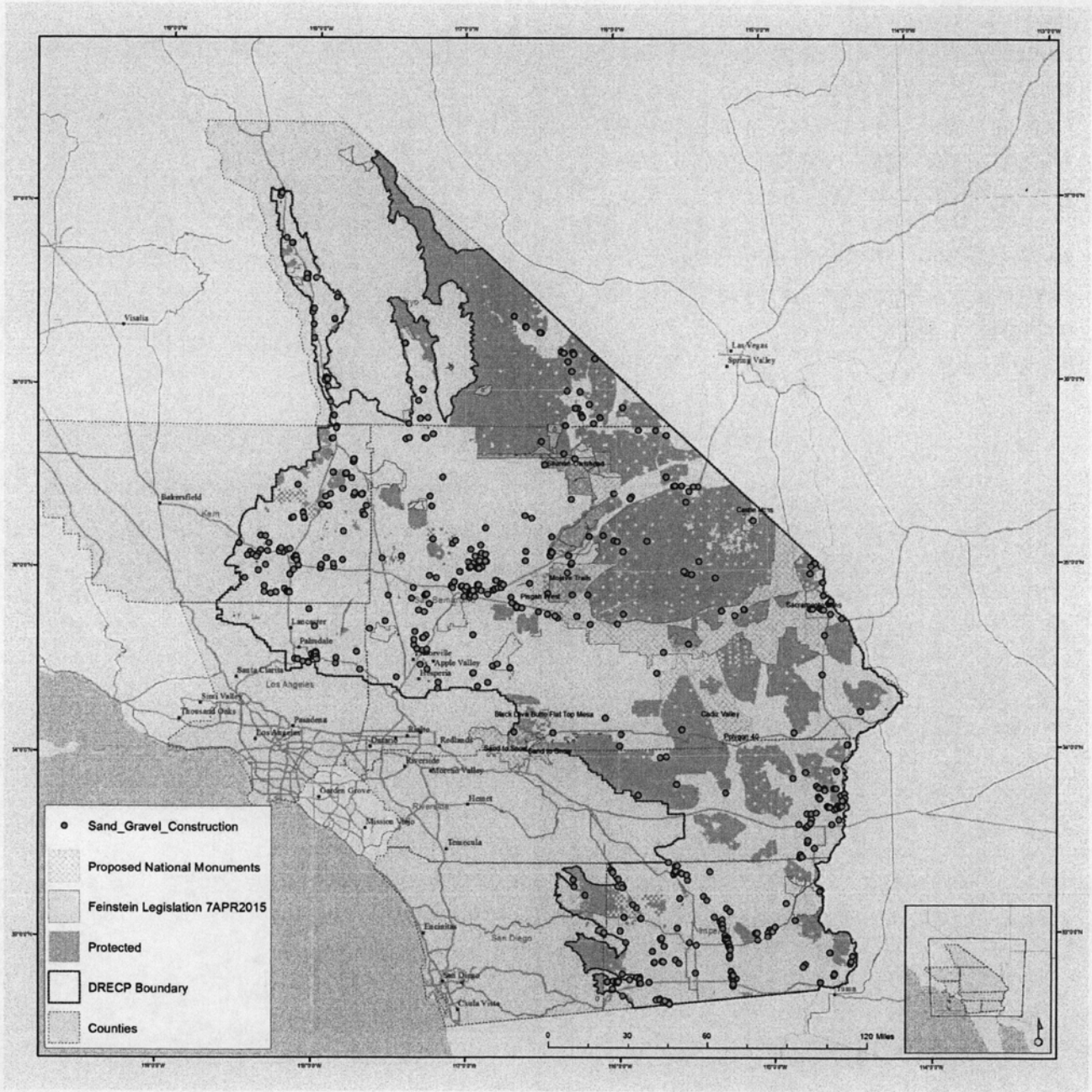

Figure 22. Sand and gravel locations and proposed conservation designations.

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To determine locations with potential impacts between CDCRA conservation designated areas and mining, a geographic information system (GIS) analysis was conducted that highlighted areas with the conjunction of known mineral occurrence, currently active mining claims, and high mineral potential. These areas were then overlain on the proposed boundaries of the CDCRA to identify locations with potential conflicts with current and potential future mining activities.[26]

Our assessment identified 12 areas where some impacts may occur, discussed below. Any effort to address these impacts would need to take into consideration the broad range of natural, cultural, and other resource values in these areas. The extents of the detailed area maps are shown on the index map in Figure 23, with reference to Figure 24 that shows mining clusters in the region.

An explanation of terms used in the site-specific descriptions and maps included below is provided in the sidebar, to aid in their interpretation.

High, Medium and Low Density of Active Mining Claims

Low Active Mining Claim Density: less than 18 active claims per section

Medium Active Mining Claim Density: between 18 and 46 active claims per section

High Active Mining Claim Density: more than 46 active claims per section

High-Potential Mineral Zones

Areas with existing or historic mineral activity and an increased likelihood of future mineral development. From the DRECP EIS analysis, http://www.drecp.org/draftdrecp.

Known Mineralization

Based on Mineral Resources Data System dataset. http://mrdata.usgs.gov/mrds/

High Value

Materials with a high unit value.

Significant Deposit

Large tonnage and/or high-grade mineral deposit.

Mining claim data

Originates from the Bureau of Land Management's Land & Mineral Legacy Rehost 2000 System (LR2000 System), which is updated daily and mapped at the section level. http://www.blm.gov/lr2000/

[26] Appendix C contains a detailed description of the datasets and processing used for this analysis.

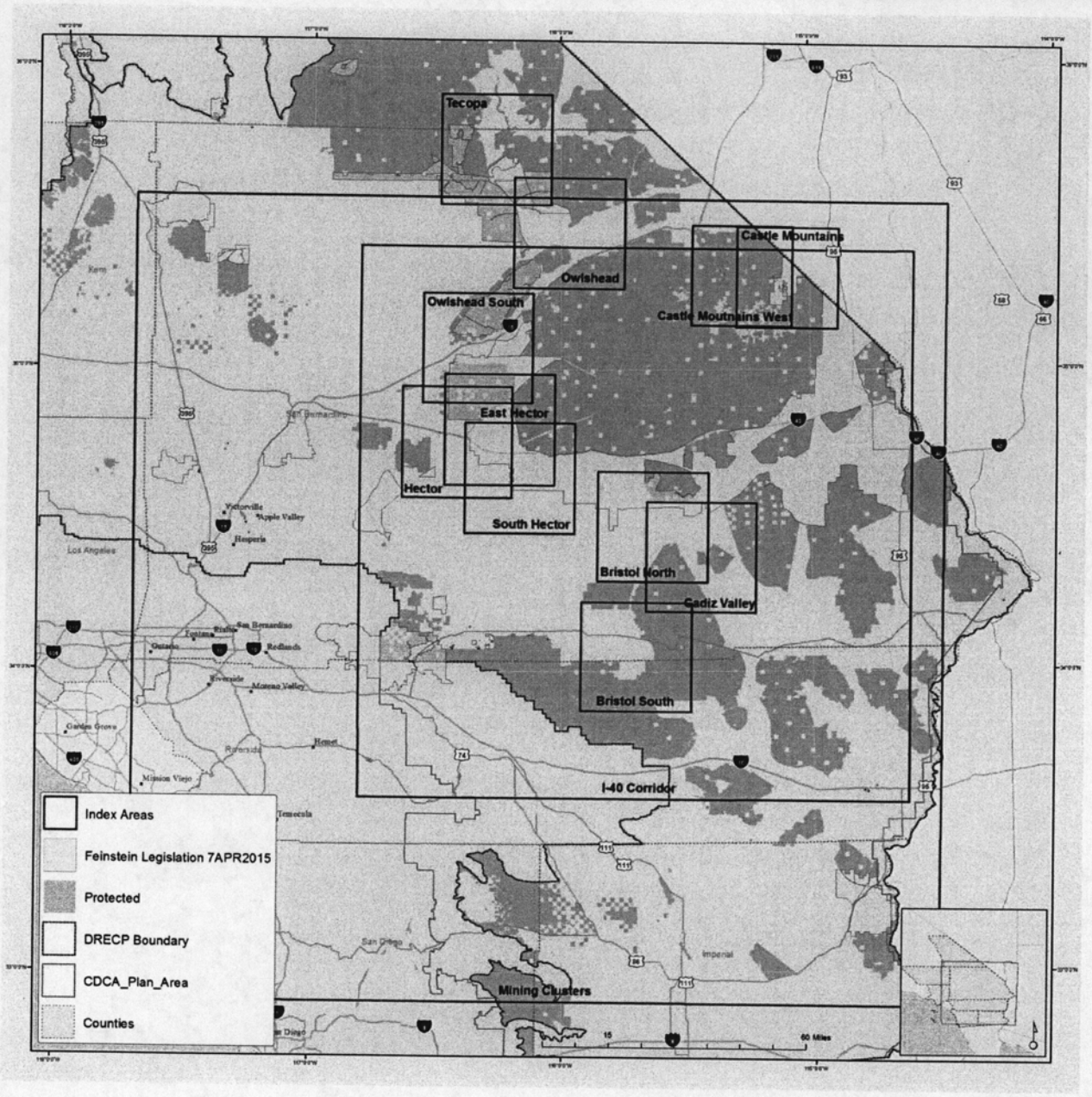

Figure 23. Index map for area detail shown in Figures 24 – 37.

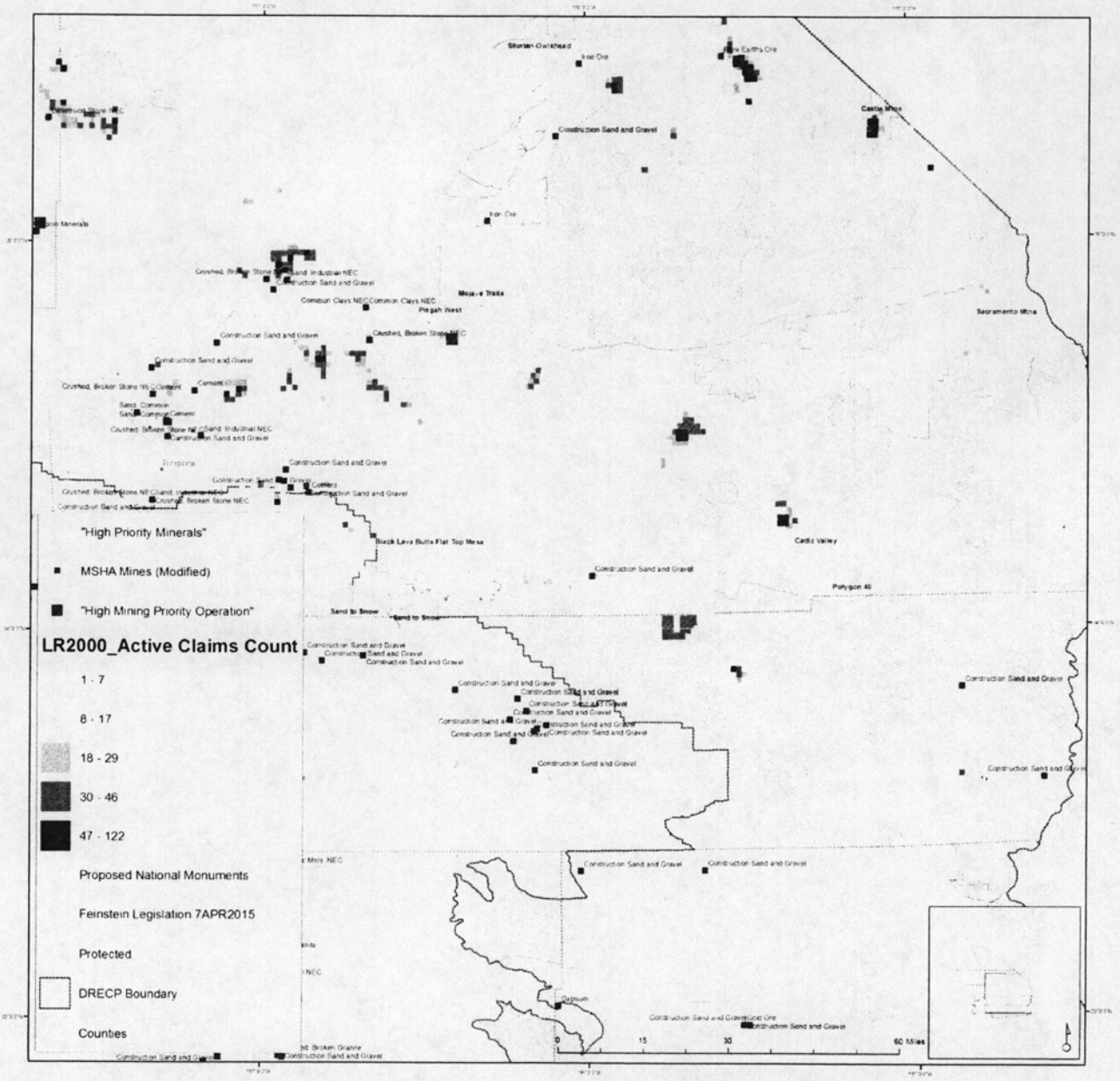

Figure 24. Mining clusters.

The following sections provide brief summaries of areas with potential impacts shown on the accompanying maps.

Area 8 (Tecopa)

This area has an extensive area with a low density of active mining claims, high-potential mineral zones, and known mineralization for the commodities of talc, decorative rock, and construction aggregate. Many of these resources have been abundantly identified as occurring elsewhere in the region; see for example Figure 22 showing sand and gravel locations.

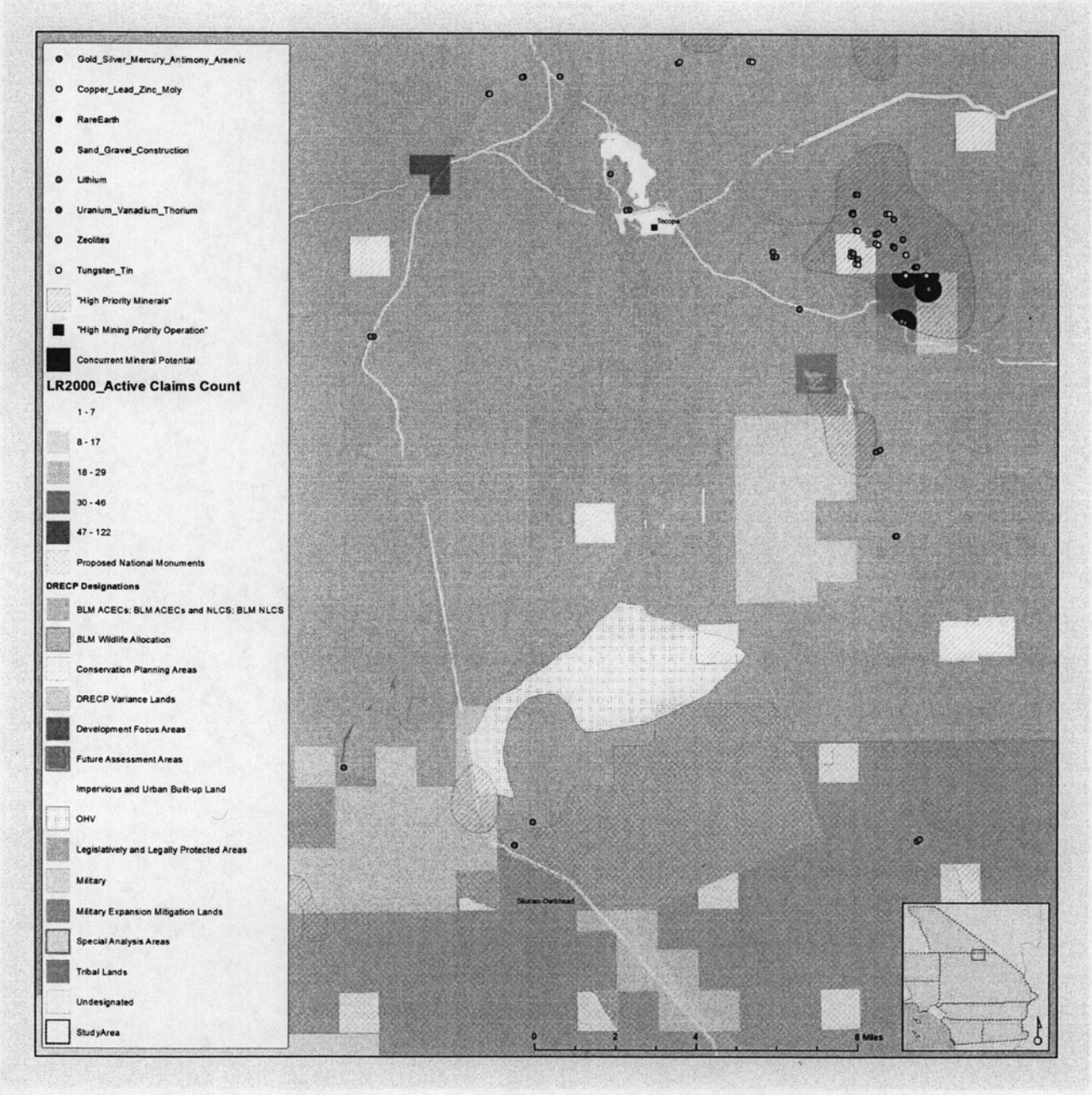

Figure 25. Area 8, Tecopa.

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Area 7 (Owlshead)

This is a small area with low-density active mining claims, several small high-potential mineral zones, and known base and precious metal mineralization, along with decorative rock deposits. The decorative rock is too distant from potential markets to be economically viable, and the base and precious metals present are widely available in other deposits in the region and elsewhere.

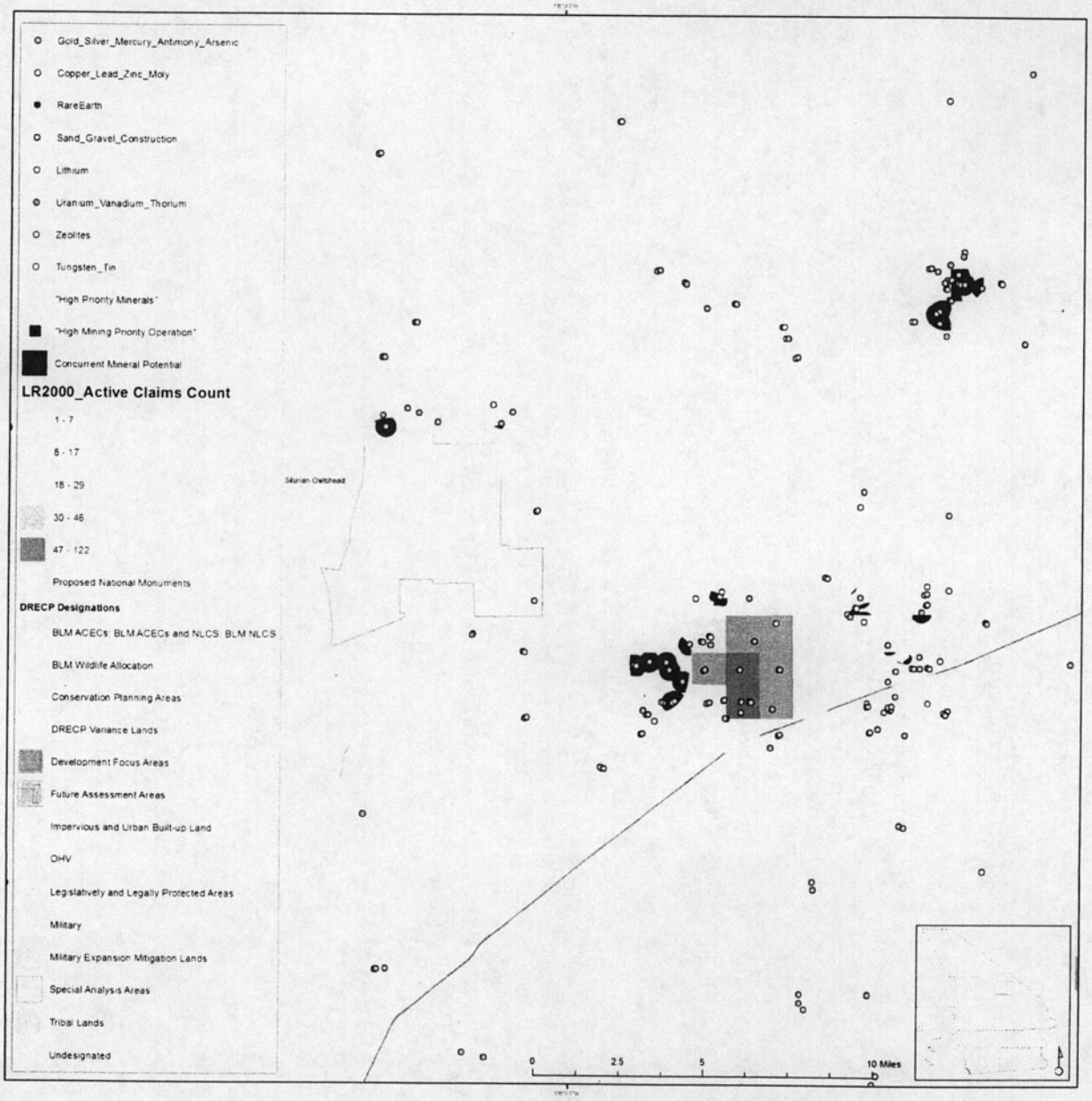

Figure 26. Area 7, Owlshead.

Area 25 (Checkerboard)

This is a small area with a low density of active mining claims, two small high-potential mineral zones, and known mineralization that includes manganese, decorative rock, barite, limestone, and construction aggregate. The decorative rock is distant from potential markets. The construction aggregate in this area is outside of the proposed CDCRA boundary.

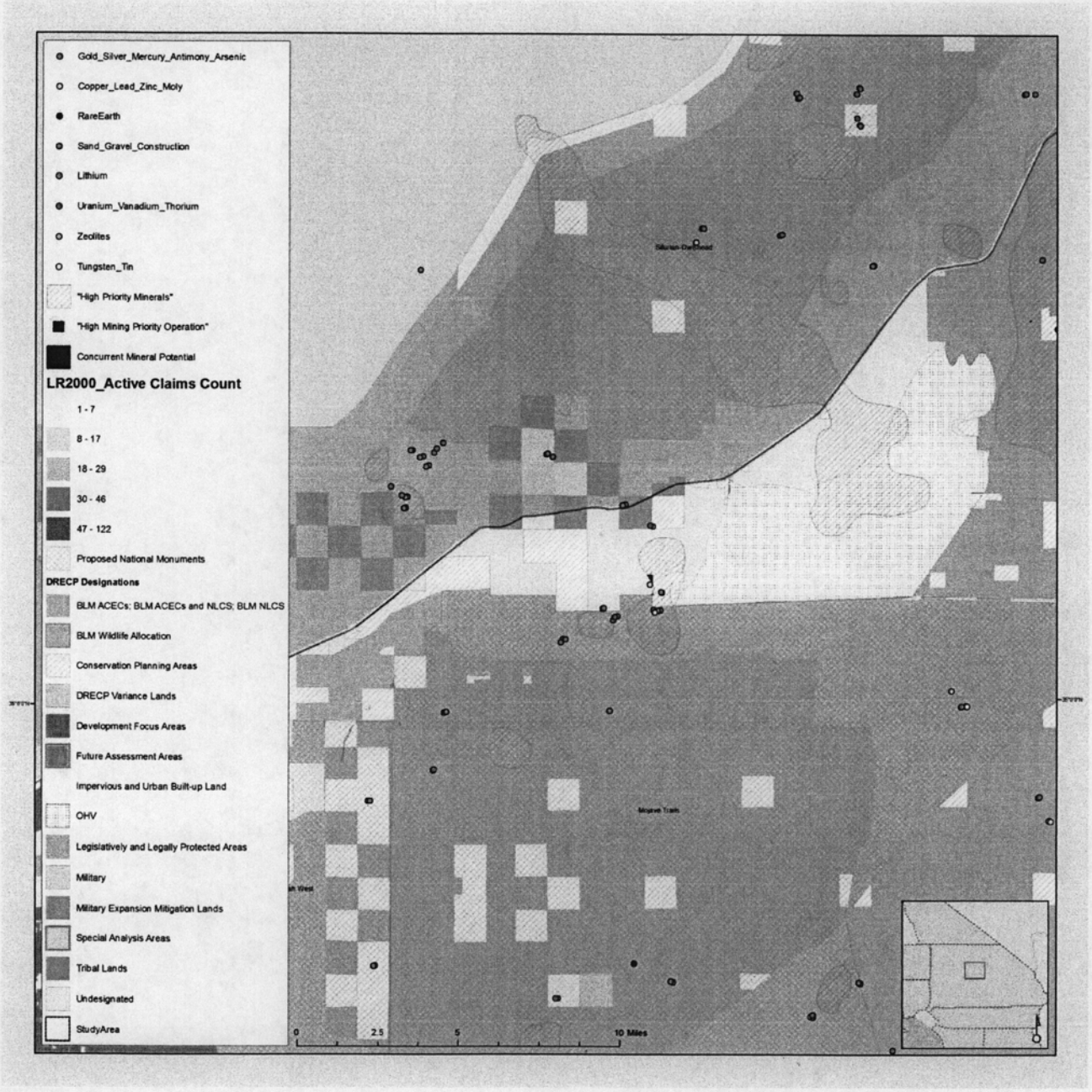

Figure 27. Area 25, Checkerboard.

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Area 21 (Hector)

This is an extensive area of active mining claims at a moderate density. The Hector Clay Mine produces hectorite, a high-value lithium clay used in an array of chemical and industrial products. The mine has been operating for more than 60 years. The deposit also contains zeolites; both lithium and zeolites are high-value products with extensive markets.

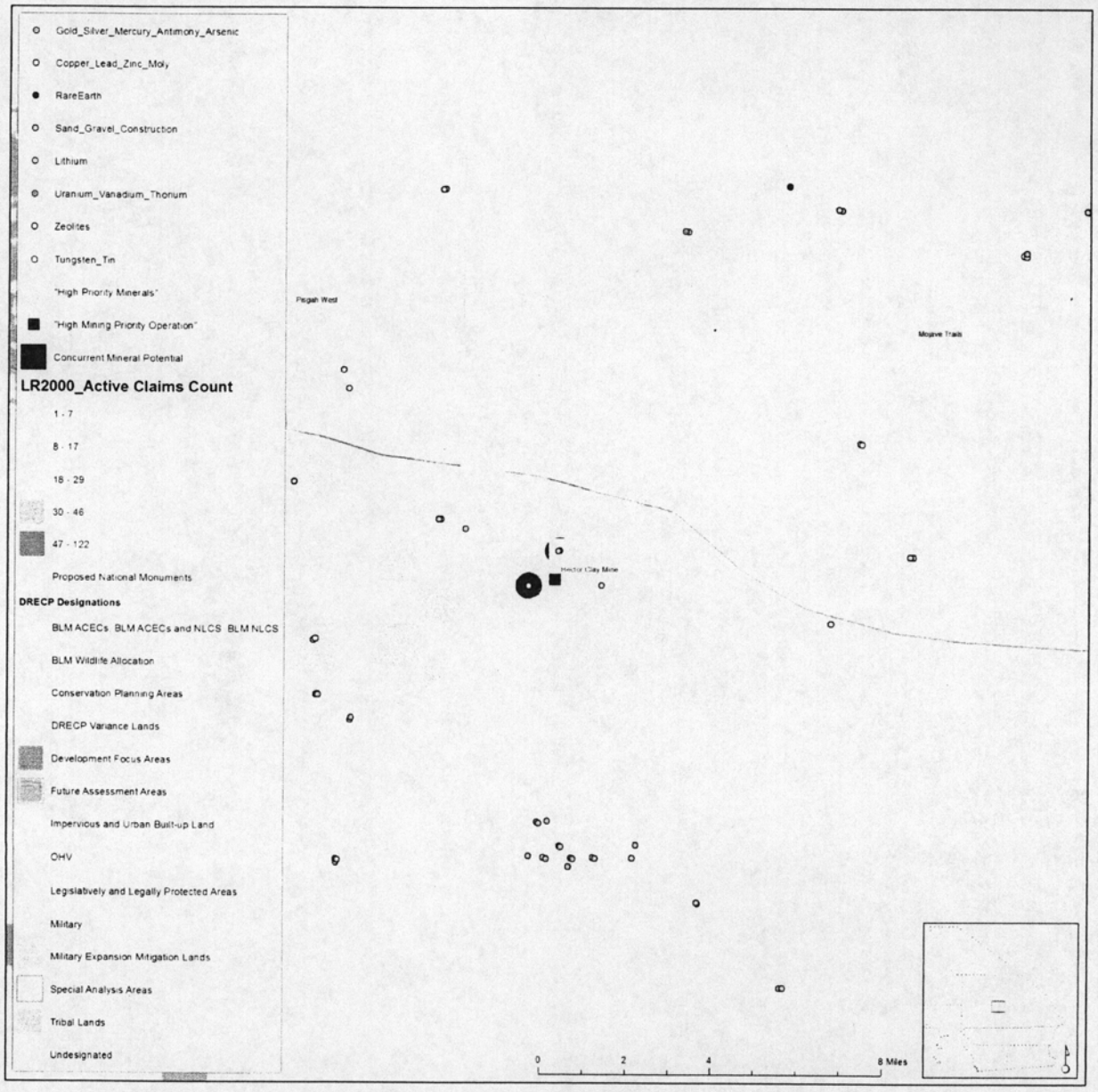

Figure 28. Area 21, Hector.

Area 24 (East Hector)

This is a small area with a high density of active mining claims, a high-potential mineral zone, and known mineralization that includes construction aggregate, manganese, gypsum, barite, and strontium. The strontium is in a potentially significant deposit, and the construction aggregate is adjacent to the Interstate 40 transportation corridor.

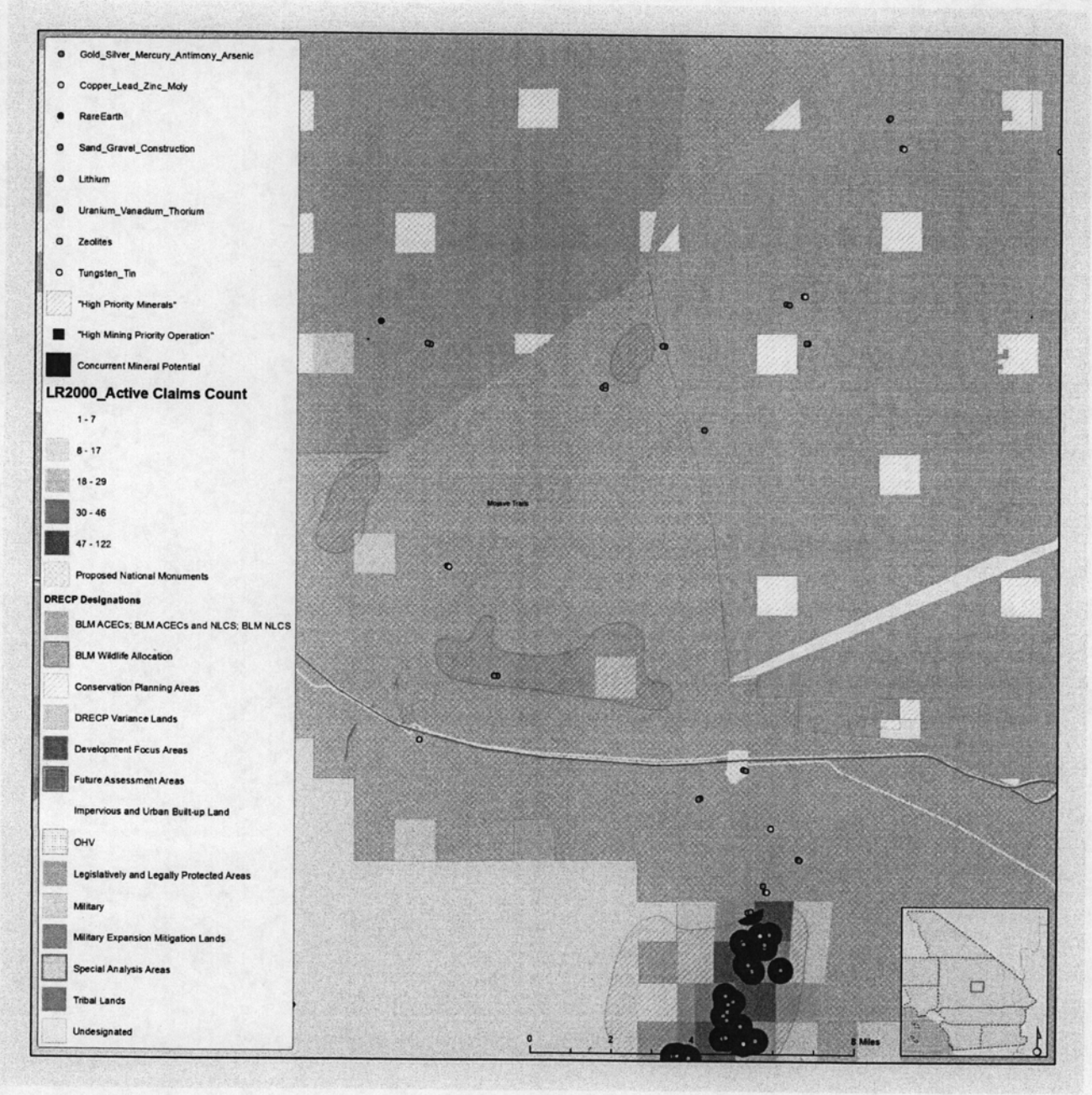

Figure 29. Area 24, East Hector.

Area 20 (South Hector)

This includes an extensive area with a high density of active mining claims, a high-potential mineral zone, and known mineralization that includes gold. The gold is present in a potentially significant deposit. The area is contiguous with and overlapping the military base boundary.

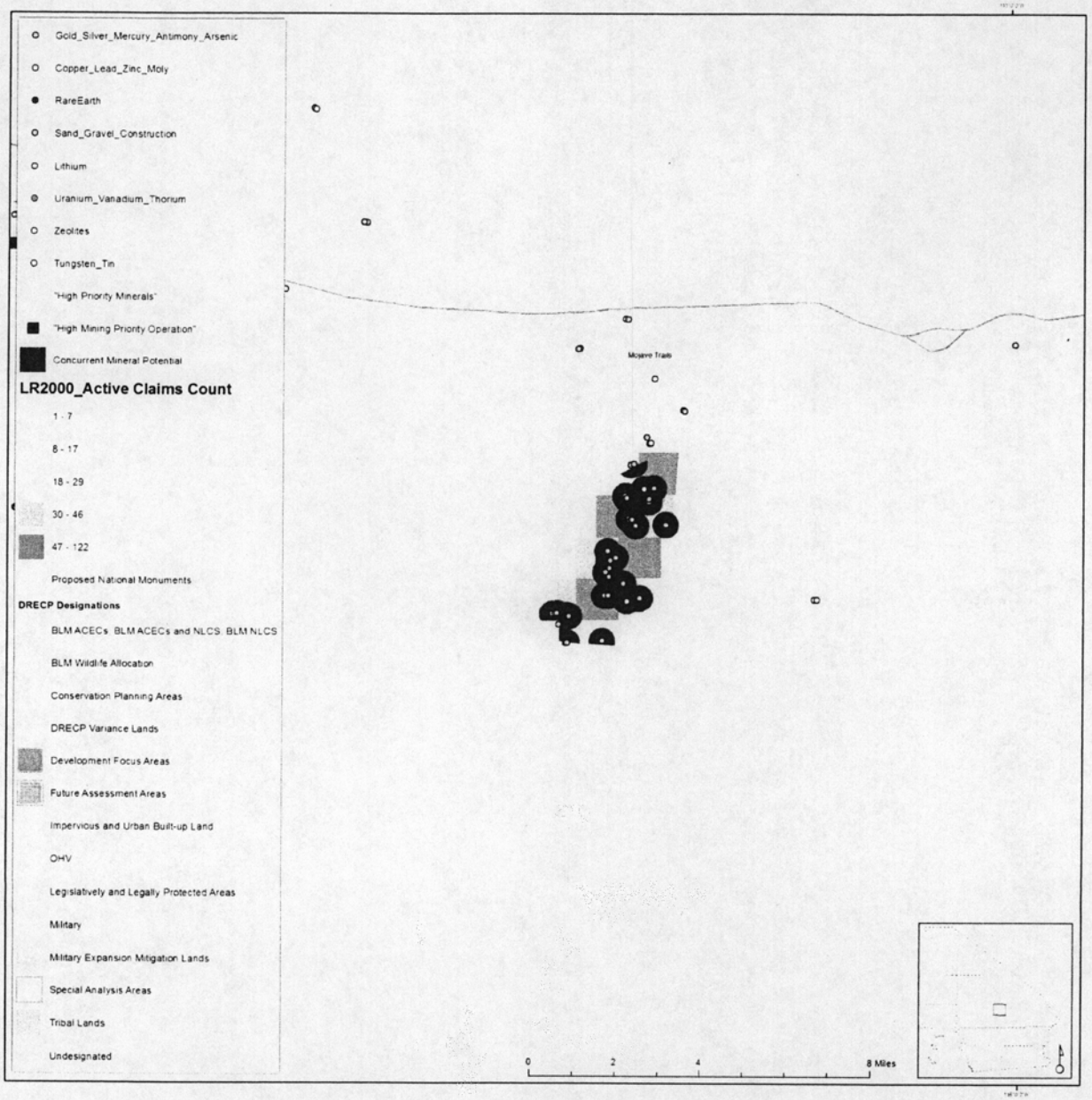

Figure 30. Area 20, South Hector.

Area 4 (Bristol South)

This area includes the Bristol Dry Lake and has extensive active mining claims with areas of high and low claim density. The Bristol Dry Lake salt mine is located on the northern portion of the lake bed. The mine is owned by Tetra Technologies and produces sodium chloride and calcium chloride. The salt deposit extends across the lake bed. The lake bed also has mineral potential for lithium, strontium, and gypsum.[27]

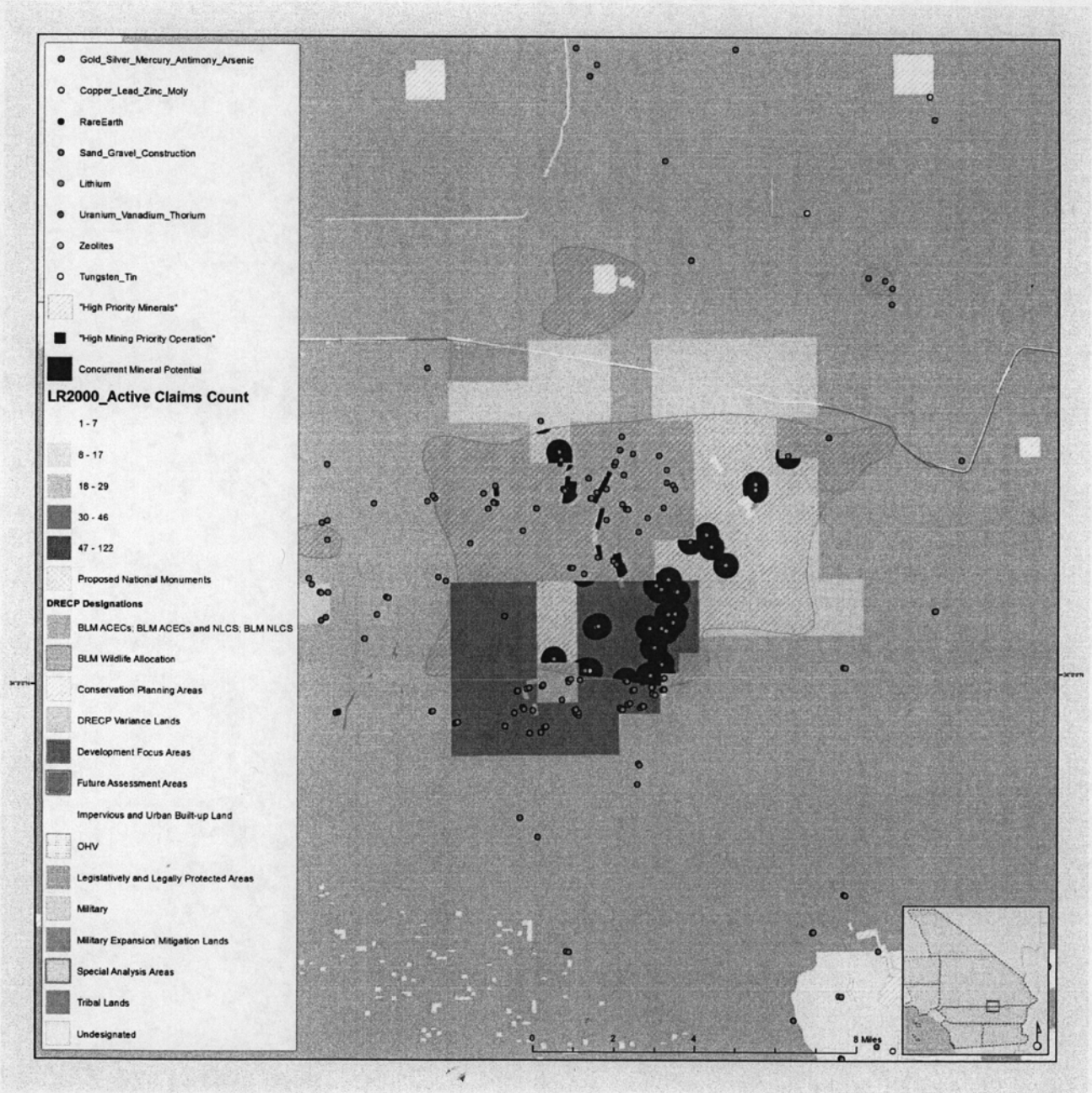

Figure 31. Area 4, Bristol South.

[27] As noted on maps from the 1980 CDCA Final EIS, available at http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015022247806;view=1up;seq=7

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Area 13 (Bristol North)

This area includes a small area with a low density of active mining claims, a high-potential mineral zone, and known mineralization that includes construction aggregate, pumice, and perlite. The construction aggregate is located outside of the CDCRA boundary. Pumice and perlite are available in several deposits elsewhere in the area.

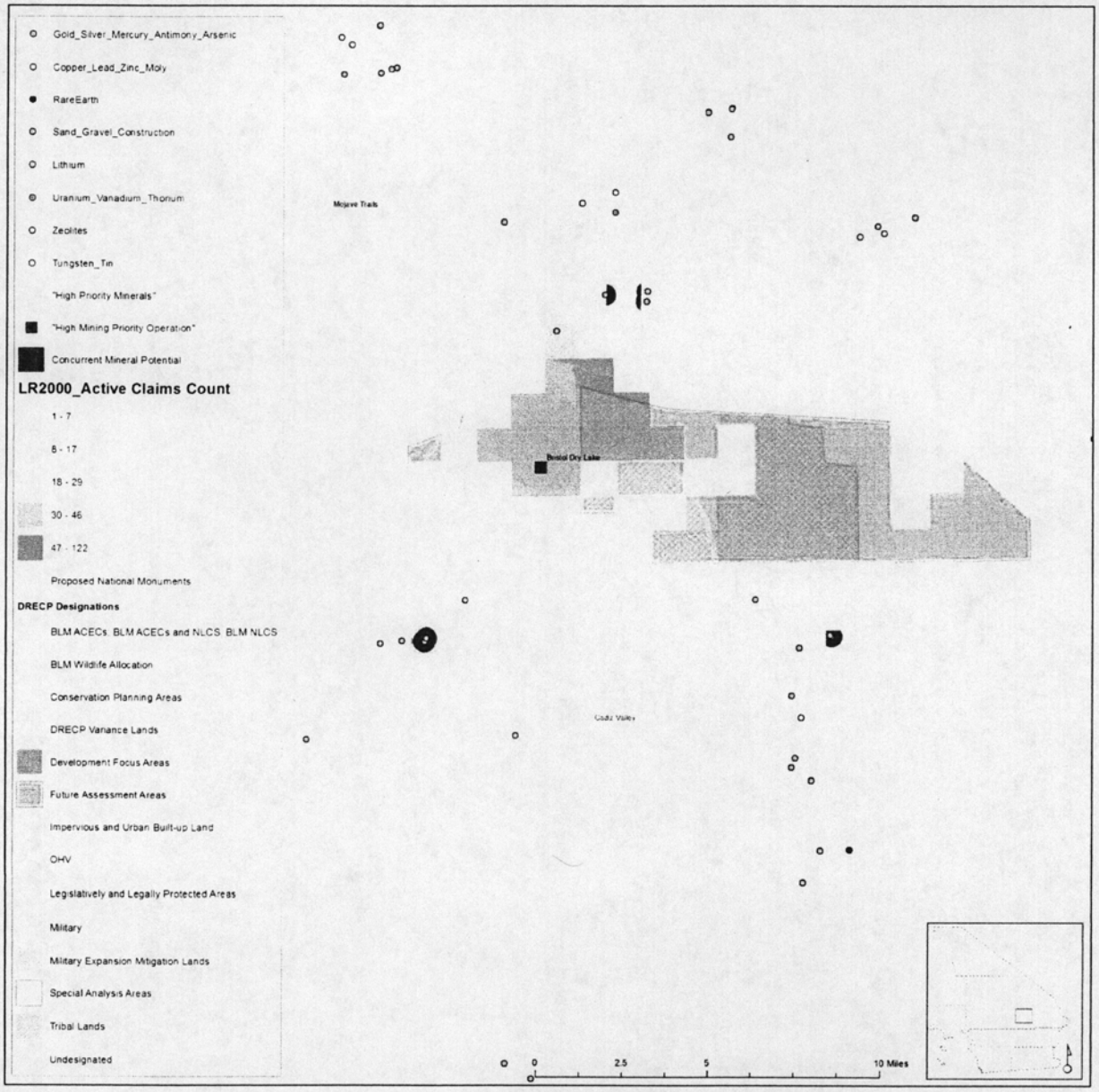

Figure 32. Area 13, Bristol North.

Area 23 (Cadiz Valley)

This includes an extensive area with moderate- to high-density active mining claims, a high-potential mineral zone, and significant potential for lithium deposits. The area with lithium potential has been excluded from the CDCRA boundary.

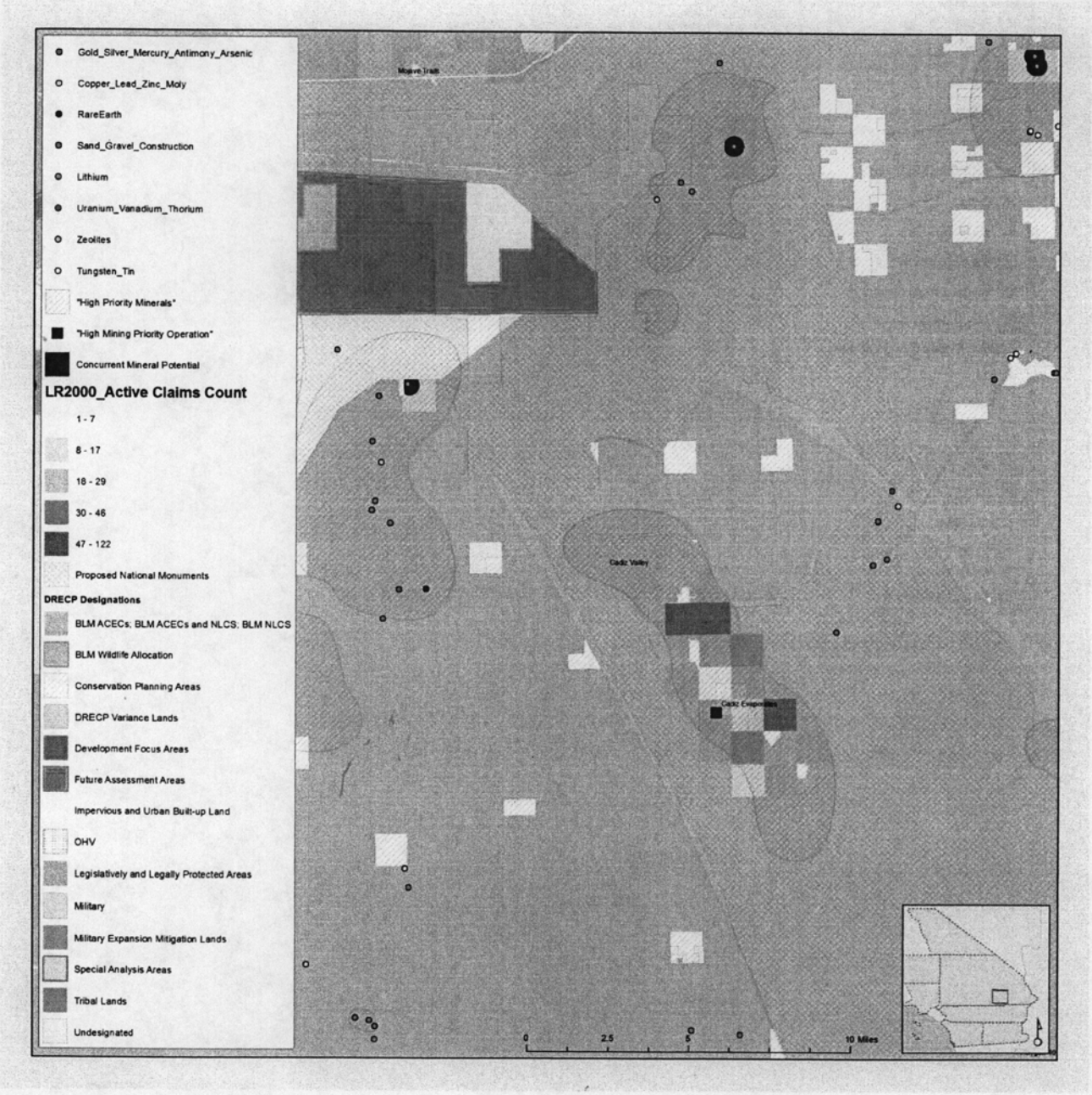

Figure 33. Area 23, Cadiz Valley.

Area 14 (Castle Mountains)

This includes an extensive area with high-density active mining claims, a high-potential mineral zone, and a potential for gold mineralization. Gold deposits are widely present in the region and elsewhere.

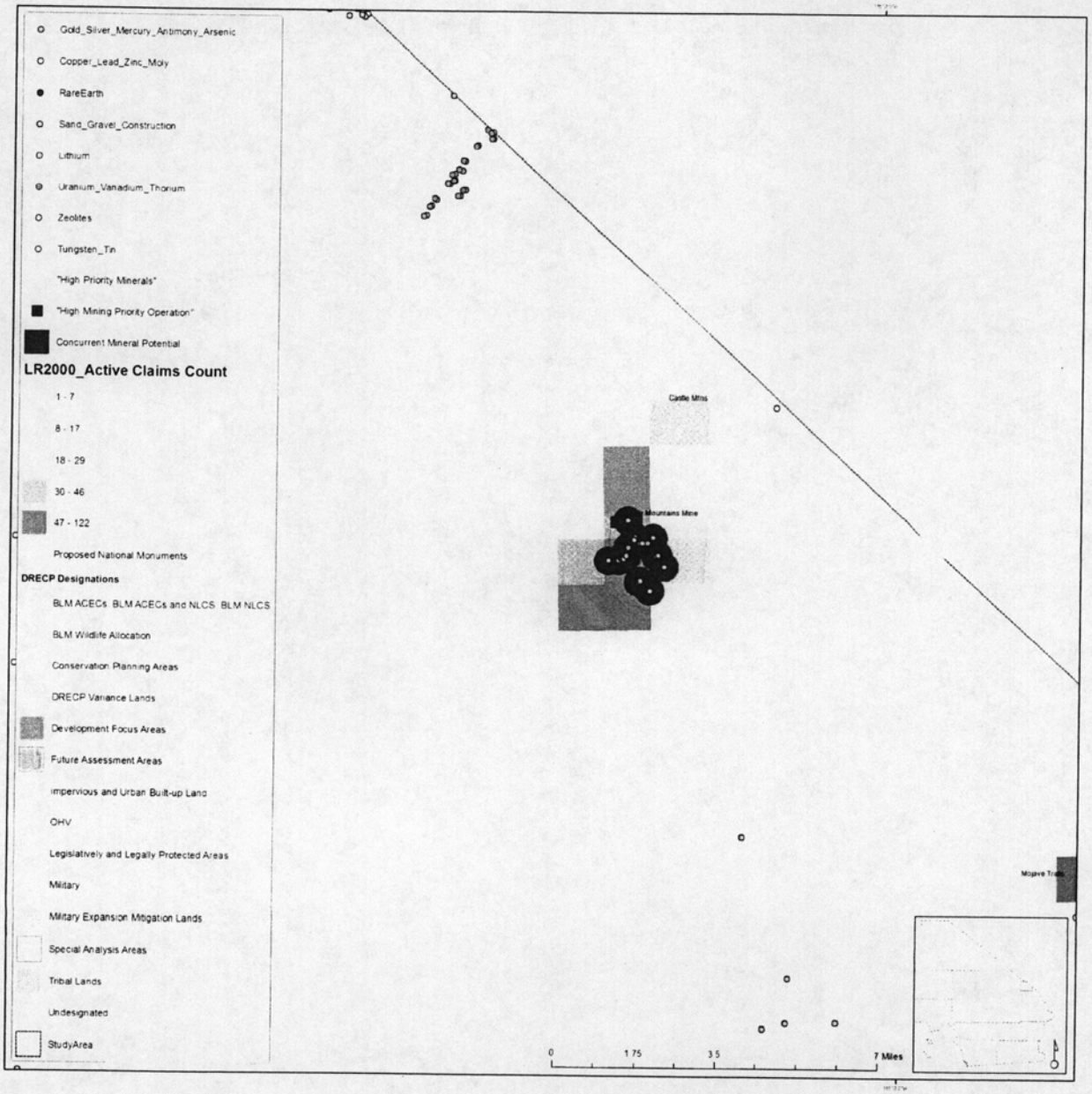

Figure 34. Area 14, Castle Mountains.

Area 6 (Castle Mountain Mine)

This includes an extensive area of moderate- to high-density active mining claims, a high-potential mineral zone, and known mineralization in the forms of precious and base metals, pumice, construction aggregate, and clay. All privately held lands (patented and unpatented lands) associated with a proposed gold mine have been excluded from the CDCRA boundary.

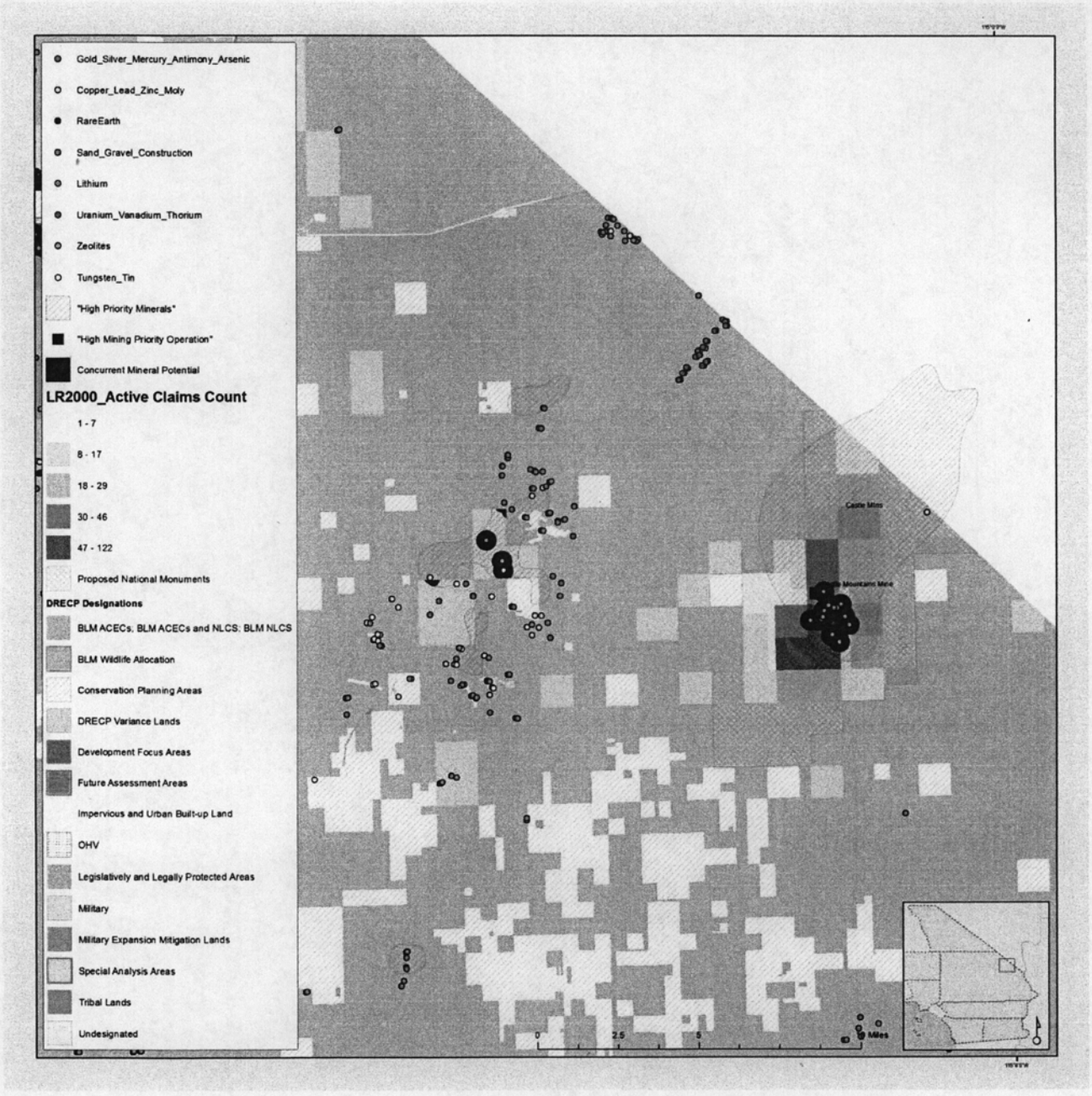

Figure 35. Area 6, Castle Mountain Mine.

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Area 22 (Interstate 40 Corridor)

This area is located along Interstate 40 from its junction with Interstate 15 to its junction with US 95. Construction aggregate pits, deposits, and potential exist along much of this important transportation corridor. Ongoing maintenance and new infrastructure construction in this corridor may require additional aggregate resources.

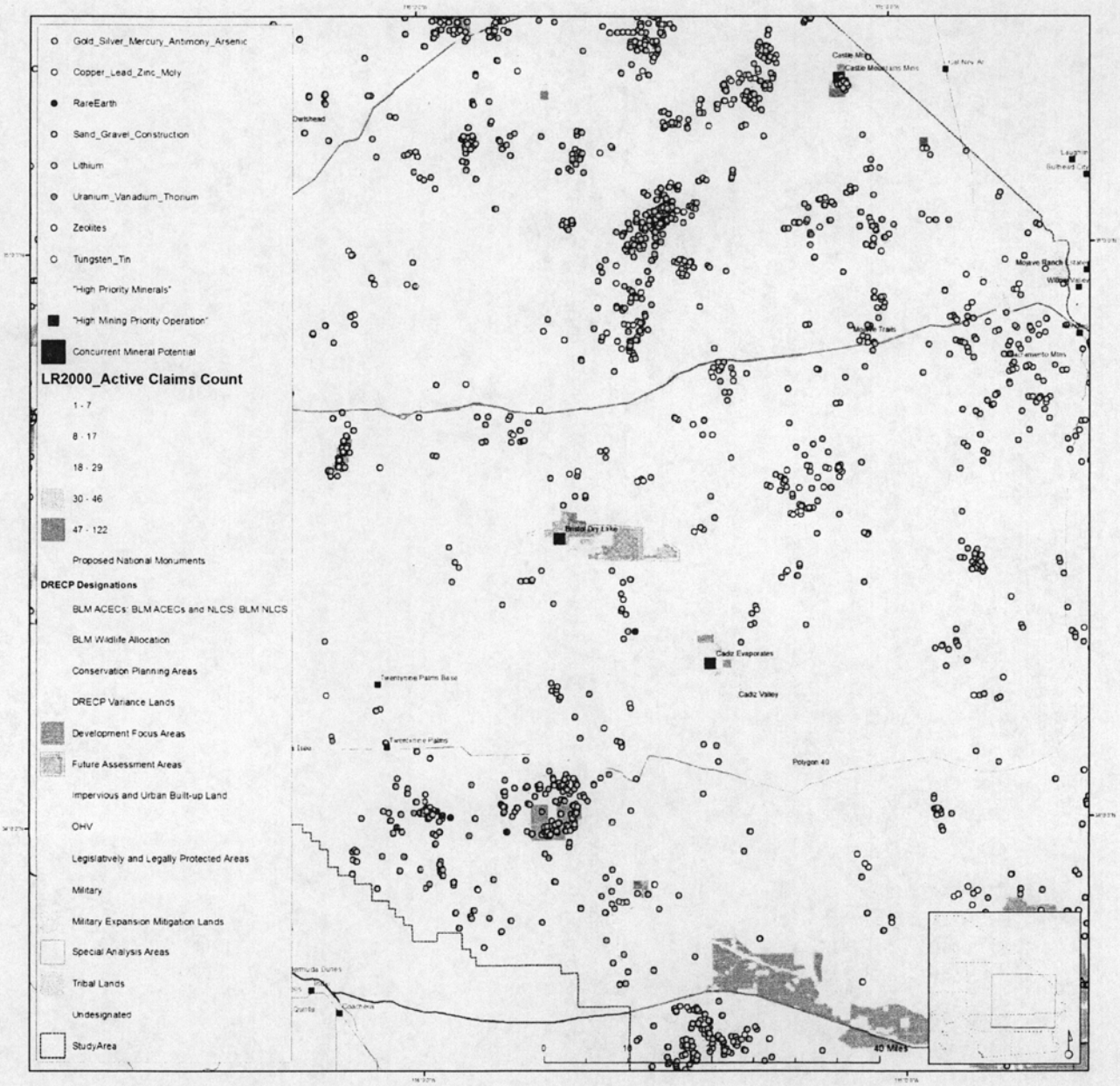

Figure 36. Area 22, Interstate 40 Corridor.

Potential Impacts on Future Mining Activities

The CDCRA will have minimal impacts on future mining activities in the California Desert due to the existence of extensive mineral potential outside of the proposed boundaries and the Act's preservation of existing valid mineral rights (many coinciding with high mineral potential zones. Uncertainty regarding additional mineral potential in the proposed CDCRA, juxtaposed with the clearly identified environmental and cultural values of these lands, argue that the tradeoffs between these two sets of values in favor of conservation would be a wise societal choice.

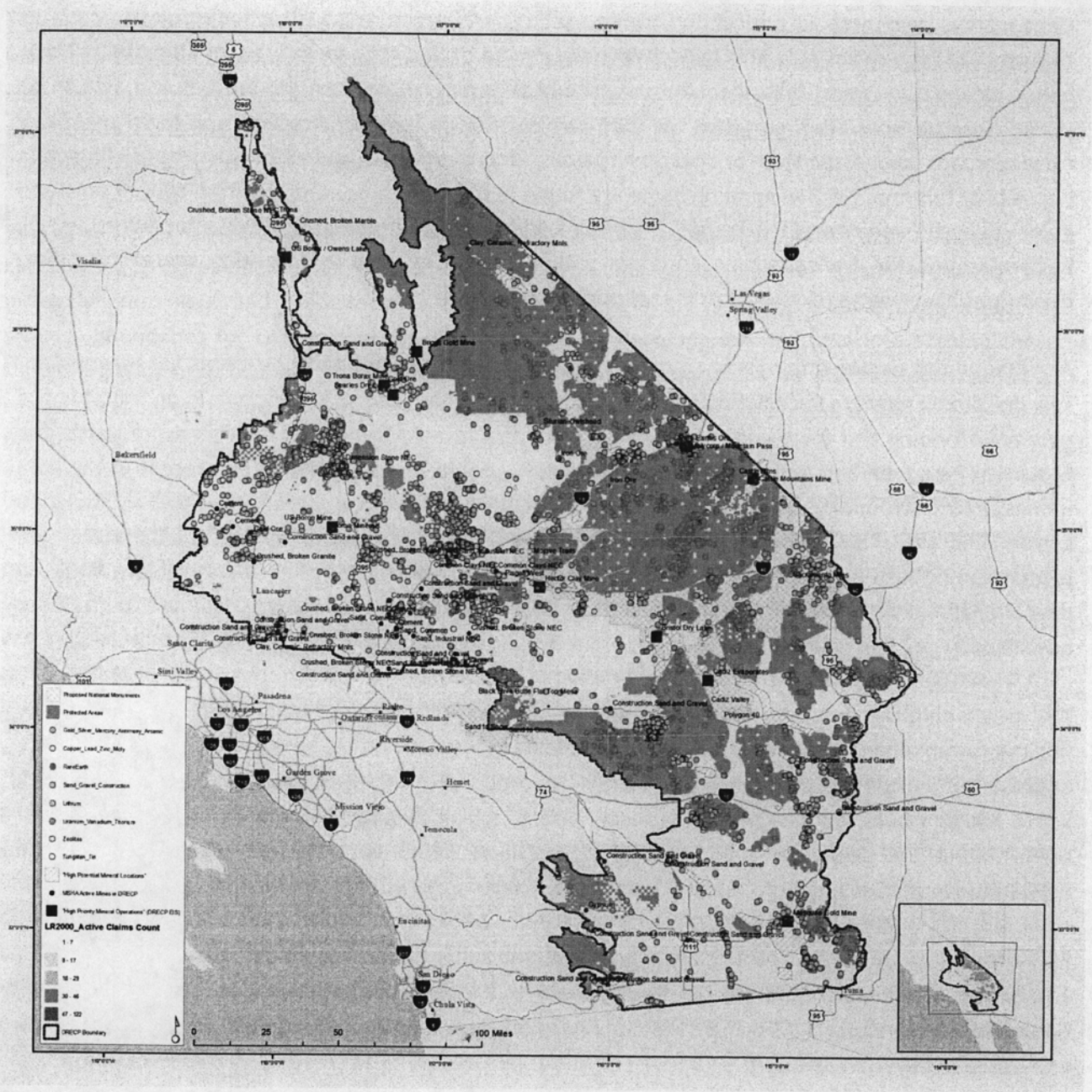

Figure 37. Areas of known mineralization, active mining claims, and high-potential mineral zones in study area.

As identified by known mineralization, active mining claims, and high-potential mineral zones (see Figure 37), extensive and abundant mineral potential exists outside of the proposed CDCRA boundaries in areas where mineral exploration and mining are allowed. This potential includes a wide range of mineral commodities, allowing for future mineral resource development to occur across the region where economic mineral deposits are discovered.

Construction aggregate and rare earth minerals are two commodities worthy of additional consideration regarding potential future mining impacts due to their importance locally and nationally.

Construction aggregate is critical for transportation infrastructure construction projects, such as highway and high-speed rail. This bulk commodity can be hauled economically up to 50 miles by truck, which means it is critical that adequate deposits of this mineral resource are present and able to be mined near transportation corridors, so they can be used in new construction and maintenance of existing roads and associated bridges, overpasses, drainage ways, and other structures. Extensive deposits of this important mineral resource are found in the study area, sourced from alluvial sand and gravel deposits and bedrock outcrops. To ensure adequate construction aggregate for future needs, buffers around the transportation corridors within the CDCRA area and existing aggregate mining operations have been excluded from the proposed boundaries.

As noted in the section on impacts on current mining operations, rare earth elements are essential for key industrial, energy, information, and military technologies. As such they are important for the national economy and for security reasons. A significant rare earth mineral deposit is present in the Mountain Pass area and has been mined extensively. Additional deposits may be present in the area immediately surrounding the existing mine. The CDCRA boundaries specifically exclude the area surrounding the mine, allowing for additional mineral exploration and mining. Furthermore, the recognition of valid existing mining rights within the proposed boundaries allows for potential future development of rare earth mineral deposits on known prospective formations within the proposed boundaries.

The area within the proposed boundaries for the CDCRA likely includes additional potential for other mineral commodities, including limestone, clay, zeolites, decorative rock, base metals, precious metals, and rare earth elements, among others. A large proportion of this mineral potential exists in areas with active mining claims. As the CDCRA specifically recognizes all existing valid mining claims and mineral rights within the proposed boundaries, the legislation would not interfere with future mineral exploration or mining activities on these claims.

Furthermore, extensive prospective areas for these and other mineral commodities exist elsewhere in adjacent locations in the California Desert, regionally, and in neighboring states (see for example the US Geological Survey Circular 1178, *1998 Assessment of Undiscovered Deposits of Gold, Silver, Copper, Lead and Zinc in the United States*).

These facts along with the uncertainty regarding additional mineral potential in the proposed CDCRA, juxtaposed with the clearly identified environmental and cultural values of these lands, argue that the tradeoffs between these two sets of values in favor of conservation would be a wise societal choice.

Summary/Conclusions

Mining plays a small economic role in the 7 desert counties of California, and that role has remained relatively constant for the past 4 decades. Mining does appear to play a somewhat more important economic role in the desert portions of the 7 counties considered in this analysis, where the direct and indirect economic effects of mining employment are experienced by a smaller total desert population. Using industry multipliers, the potential influence of mining on income and nominal GDP is deemed highest for Kern and Inyo counties, and next highest for San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial counties (Imperial County's economic structure is somewhat different than the other counties, in that it includes a significant agricultural component). Kern, Inyo, and San Bernardino counties likely experience the most contributions and impacts to their economies, and may have most potential for possible conflicts with conservation and resource initiatives. The economies of San Diego and Los Angeles counties appear much less influenced by the economic impacts of mining activities, and these counties could potentially be excluded from further study.

The locations of larger, site-specific mining operations (such as the large rare earth mine and the numerous aggregate operations) tend to concentrate mining employment in certain areas that are relatively permanent and predictable, allowing the potential for planning to proactively adjust or propose boundaries for conservation or renewable energy development that take into account these known areas of concentration. Less easily planned for are considerations for less locatable resources whose potential for future extraction is uncertain based on unknown future global trends influenced by demand and supply.

Further investigations into the ways in which proposed initiatives such as the CDCRA have the potential to impact areas in the California Desert with mineral resource potential can utilize the information presented in this report and the mapped locations of existing, active mining operations to look specifically at the potential of a proposal's impact on: (1) existing mining activities (mining operations and claims); and (2) where possible, on future mining activities. Future activities can be assumed in some instances where well-established, existing mining operations have access to decades of resources; in other instances, such prediction is difficult.

While all attempts were made to present the most accurate and precise data here, caveats about data and data use remain in place. Aggregation and disaggregation of mining employment data and data unavailable due to privacy concerns at the county level made inference of some of the economic impacts of mining difficult or impossible. Where appropriate, mapping of locations and known population distribution proportions were used to supplement tabular data to allow better visualization of the extent of known mining operations. The state level multipliers derived from the National Mining Association report that were used at the county level will have the tendency to overemphasize the economic impacts of mining activities on the county; thus, the values presented in Tables 4 and 5 are likely a bit overinflated. However, the trends they reflect in terms of the economic impacts on the different counties are likely valid, and should assist in informing decision making and policy in desert areas where development or conservation activities are proposed.

Our assessment of the CDCRA's impact on current and future mining activities indicates that the CDCRA provides ample opportunities for mineral resource development. As noted, past conservation designations of the California Desert, which have been significant, have had little impact on mining and the region's economy. This lack of impact is due in large part to the conservation legislation's alignment with past and current economic trends, which are tied to amenity-based growth.

The study finds that mining plays a small economic role in the 7 desert counties of California and that role has remained relatively constant for the past 4 decades. Conversely, over the same time period, the California Desert has experienced steady growth in population, employment, and personal income. This growth is largely driven by businesses and demographic changes that benefit directly from preserving the desert.

The study concludes that the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 is compatible with ongoing mining activities and allows for future development of critical and competitive mineral resources. Consequently, the protective designations proposed under the legislation likely represent the highest and best economic use of those public lands.

Appendix A. Employment Growth Trends for 7 Desert Counties.

Detail on employment growth trends for the periods 1970-2000 and 2001-2013 for each of the 7 desert counties are provided in Appendix A. Employment is reported by place of work. The break in time frames is due to the shift by the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis from using the SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) coding system of reporting employment sectors to the NAICS (North American Industrial Classification System).

Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Tables CA25 and CA25N. Headwaters Economics county measures reports.

Note: Missing data on some charts is due to data that is not disclosed at that reporting level due to privacy reasons.

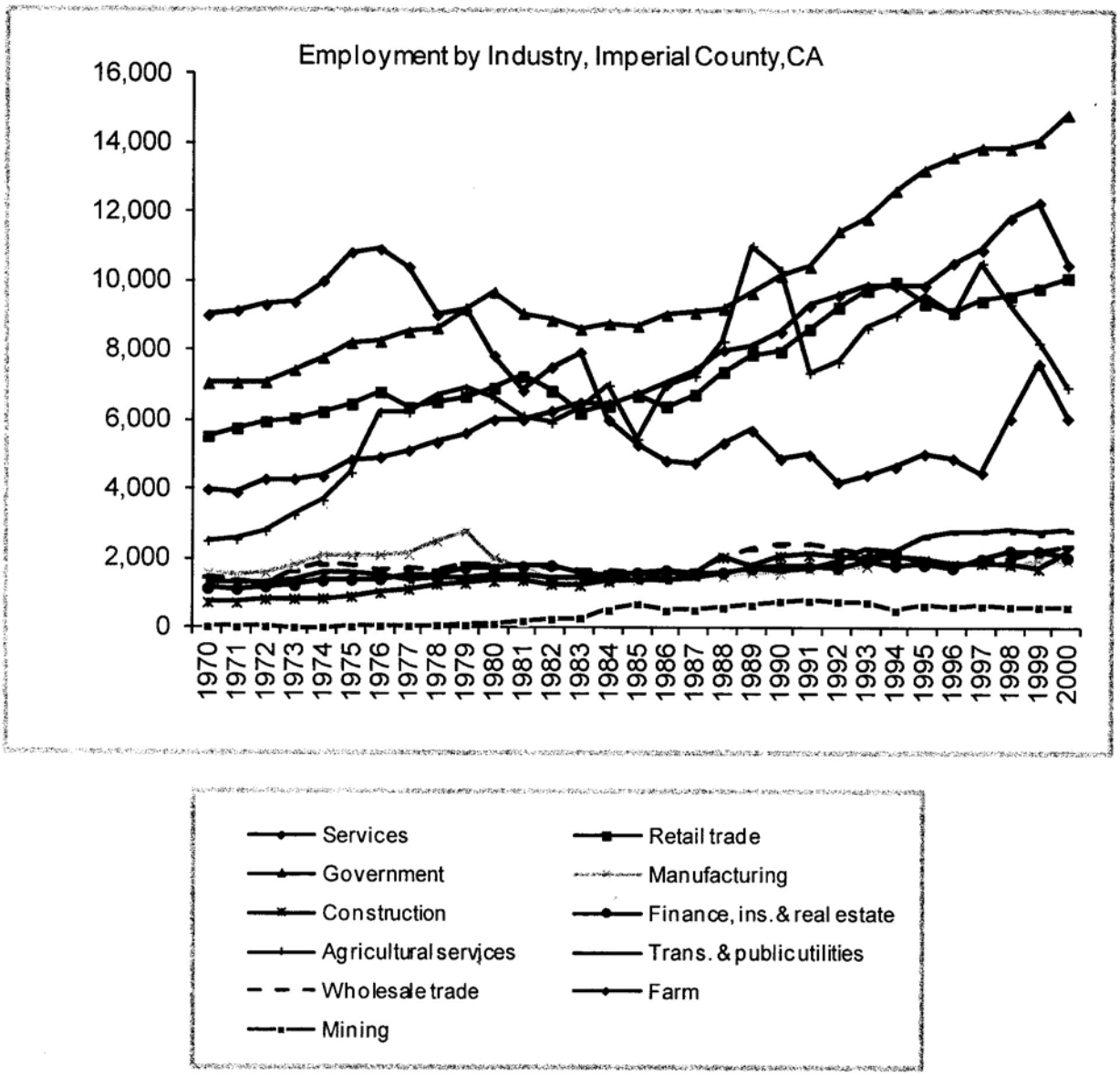

Figure A1. Imperial County Employment Trends, 1970-2000.

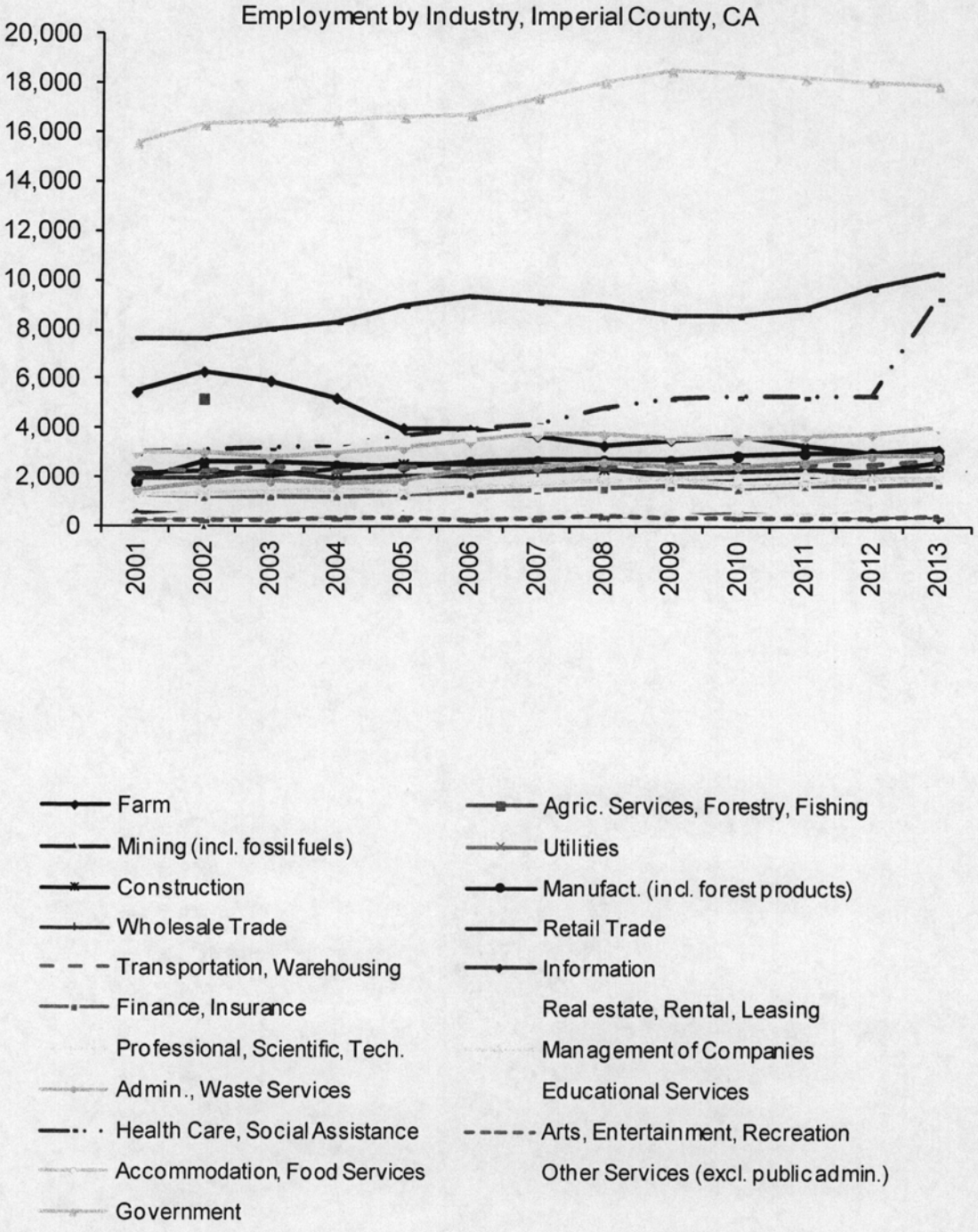

Figure A2. Imperial County Employment Trends, 2001-2013.

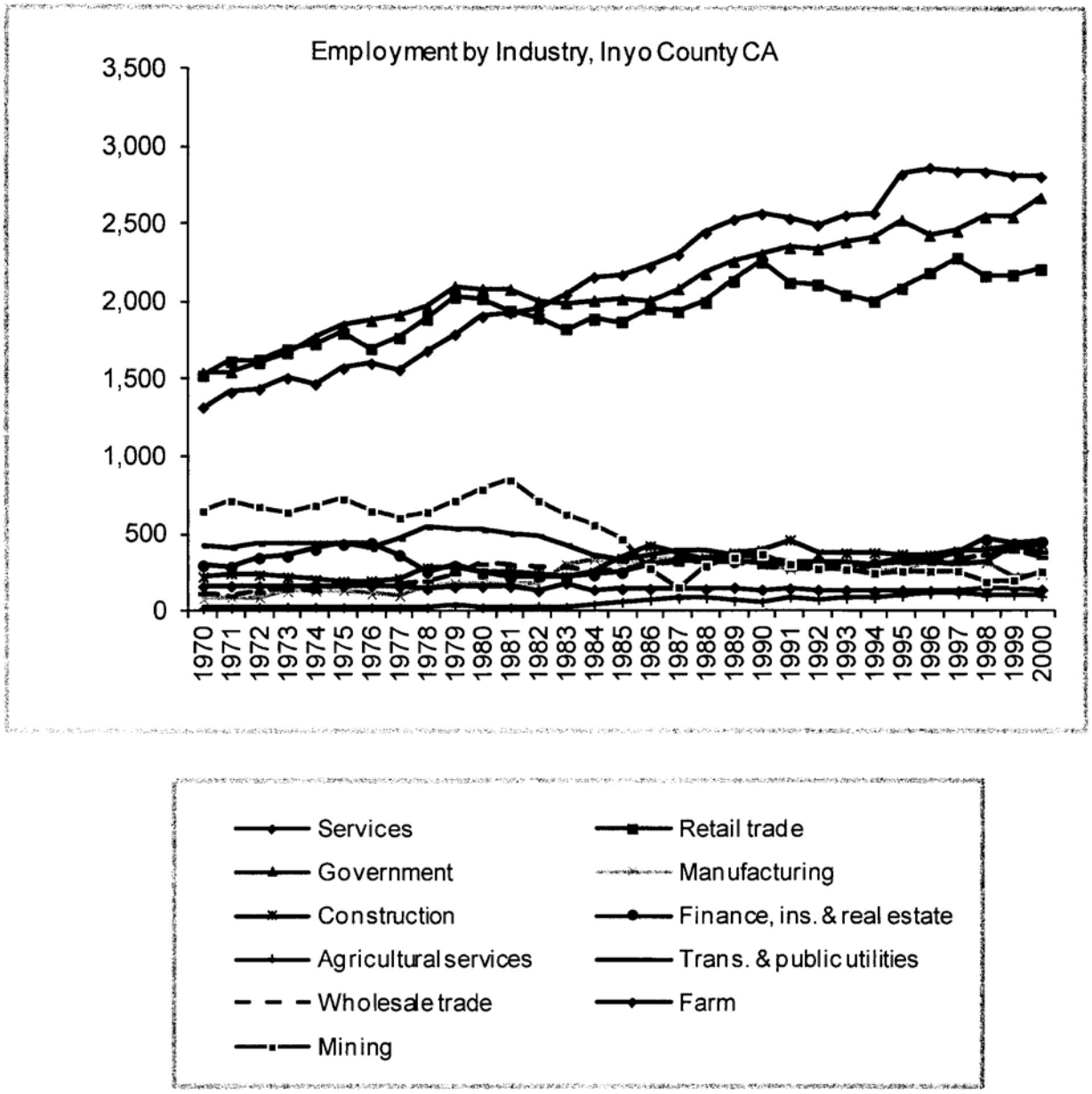

Figure A3. Inyo County Employment Trends, 1970-2000.

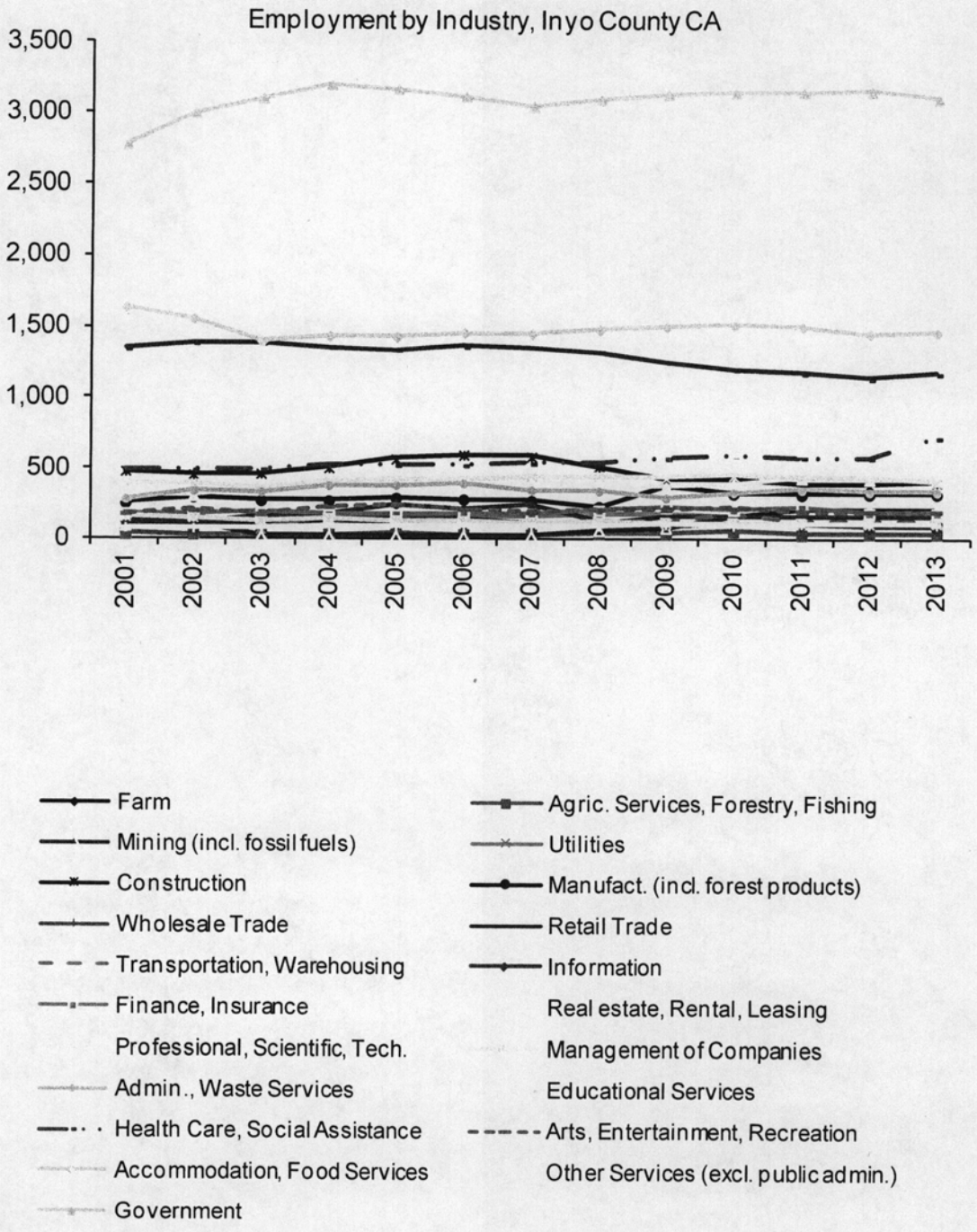

Figure A4. Inyo County Employment Trends, 2001-2013.

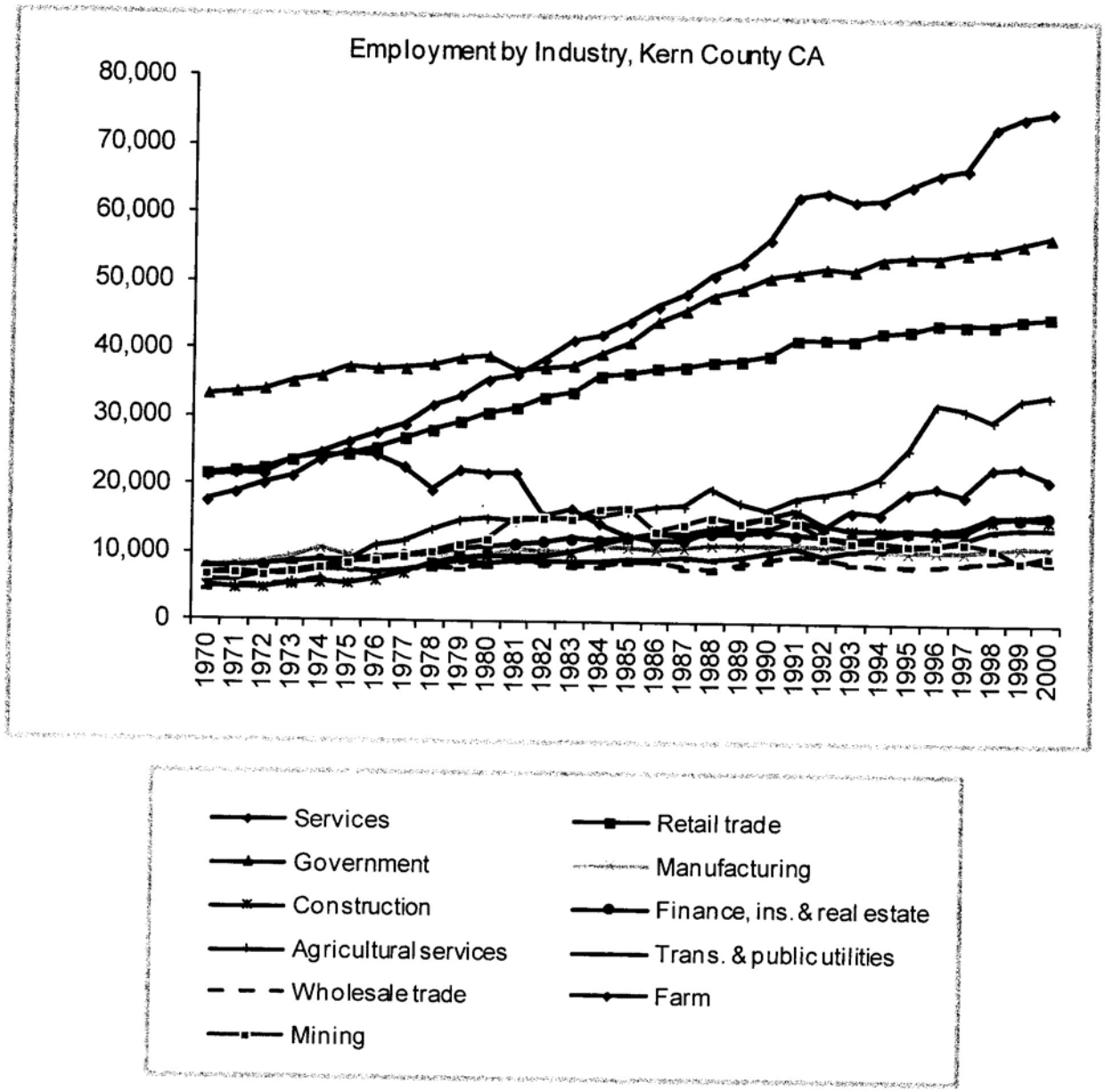

Figure A5. Kern County Employment Trends, 1970-2000.

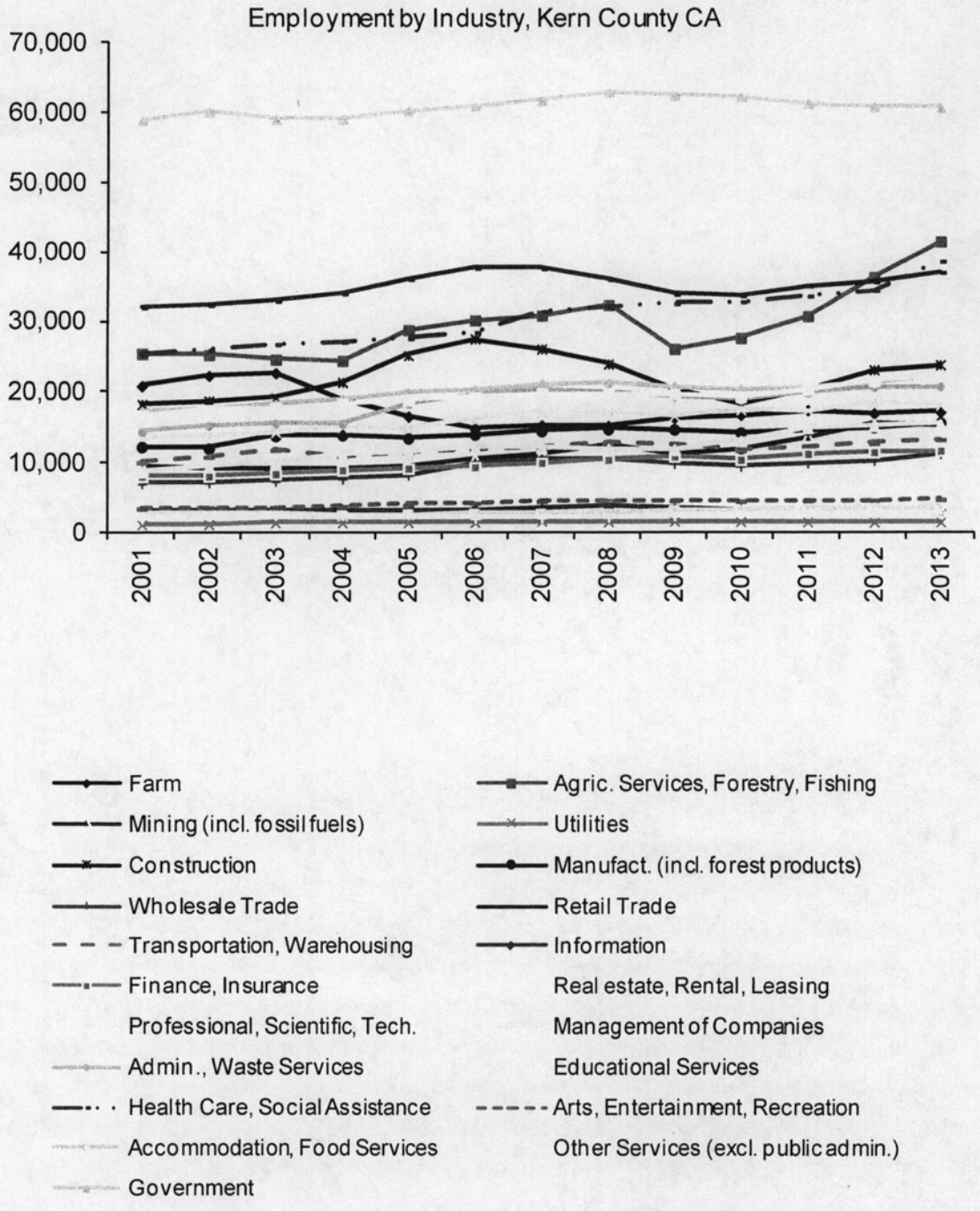

Figure A6. Kern County Employment Trends, 2001-2013.

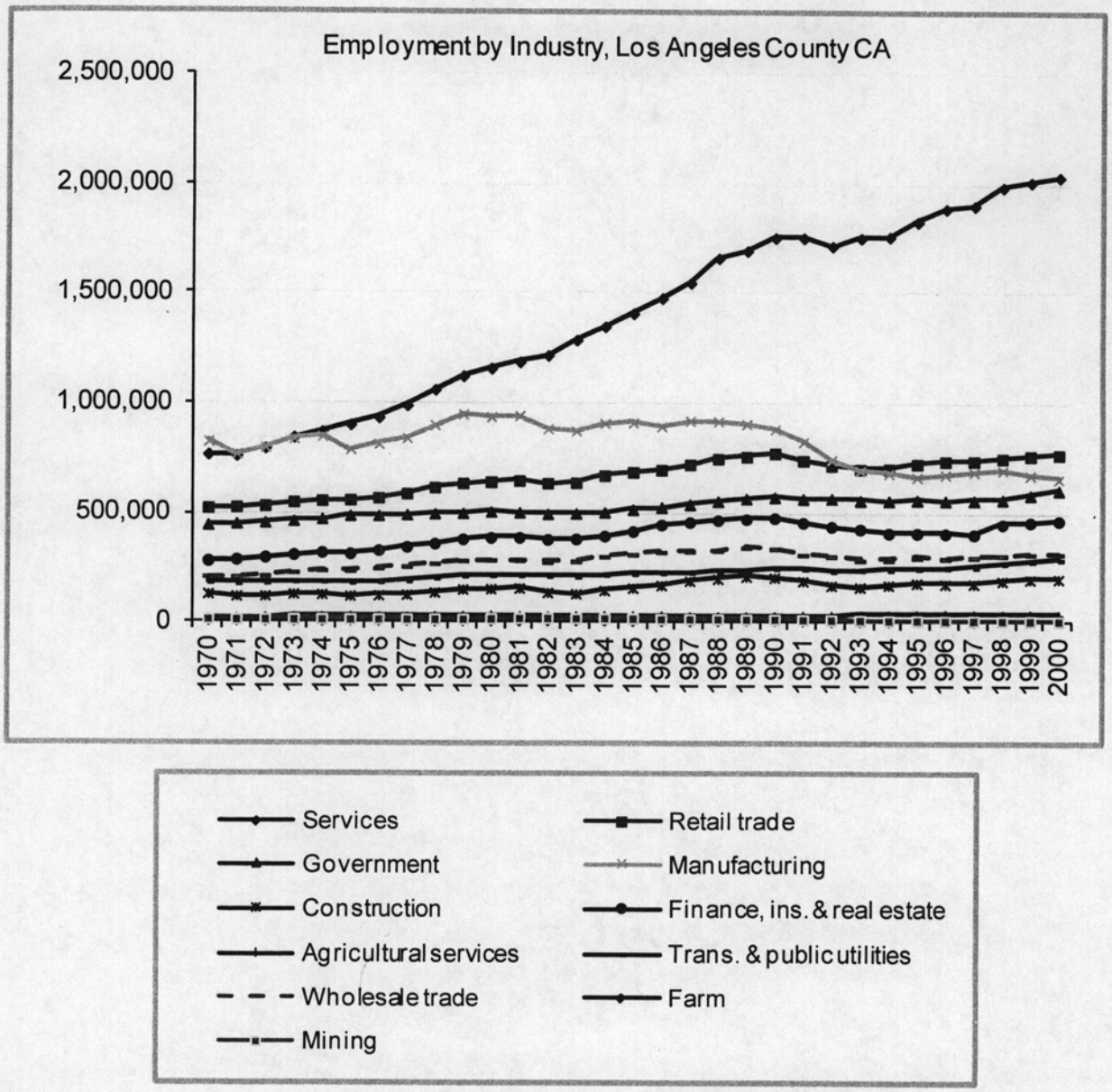

Figure A7. Los Angeles County Employment Trends, 1970-2000.

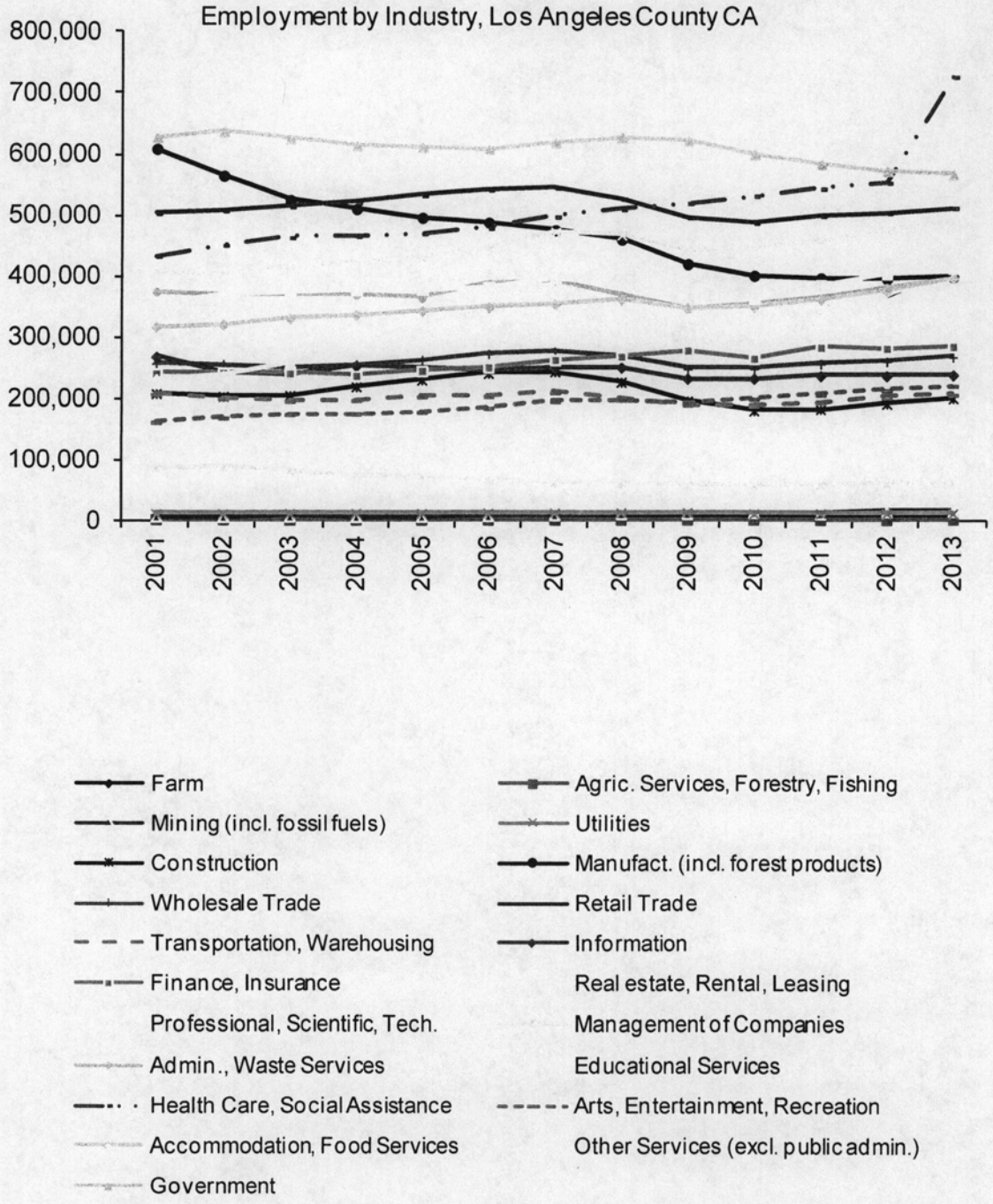

Figure A8. Los Angeles County Employment Trends, 2001-2013.

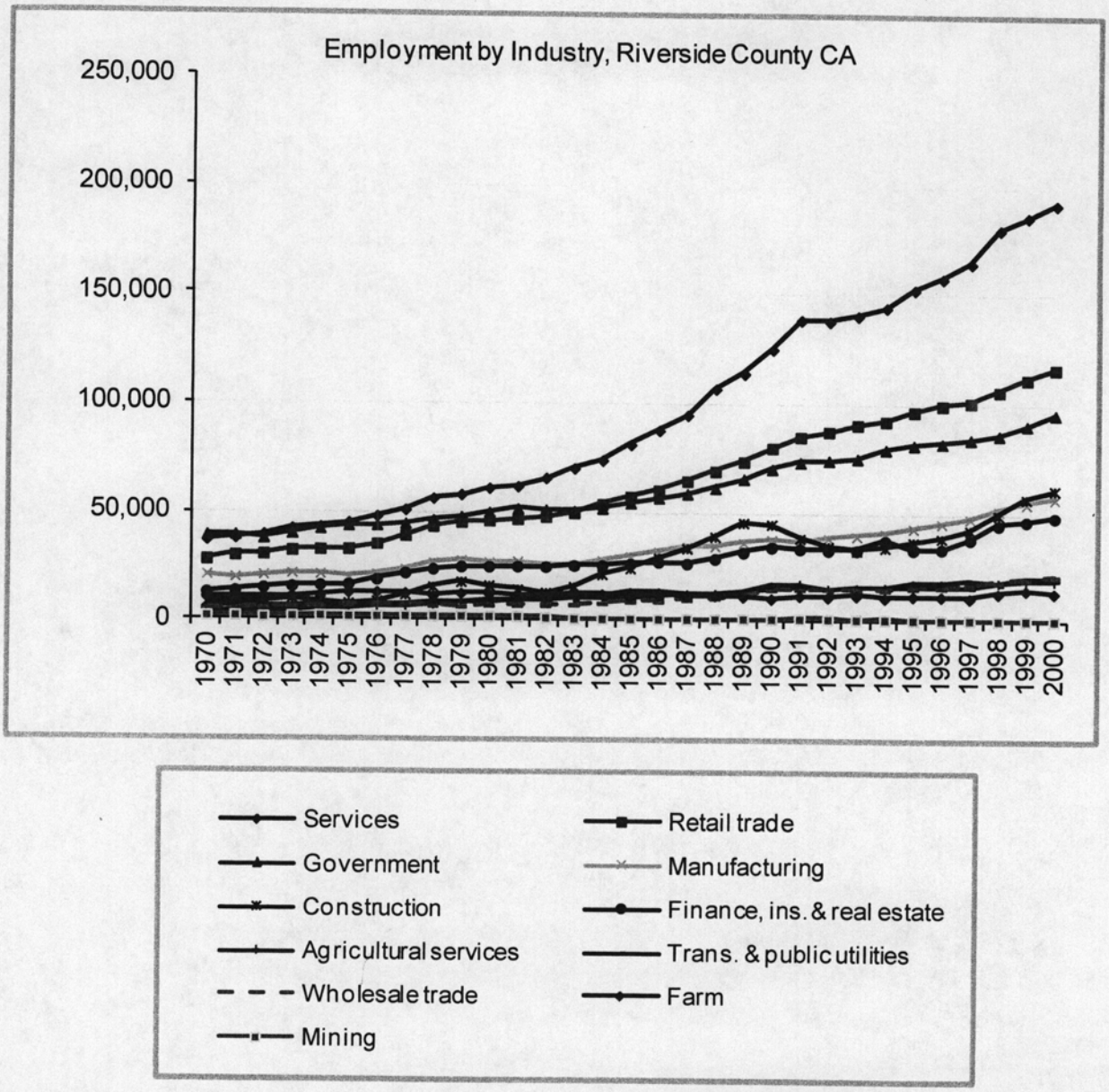

Figure A9. Riverside County Employment Trends, 1970-2000.

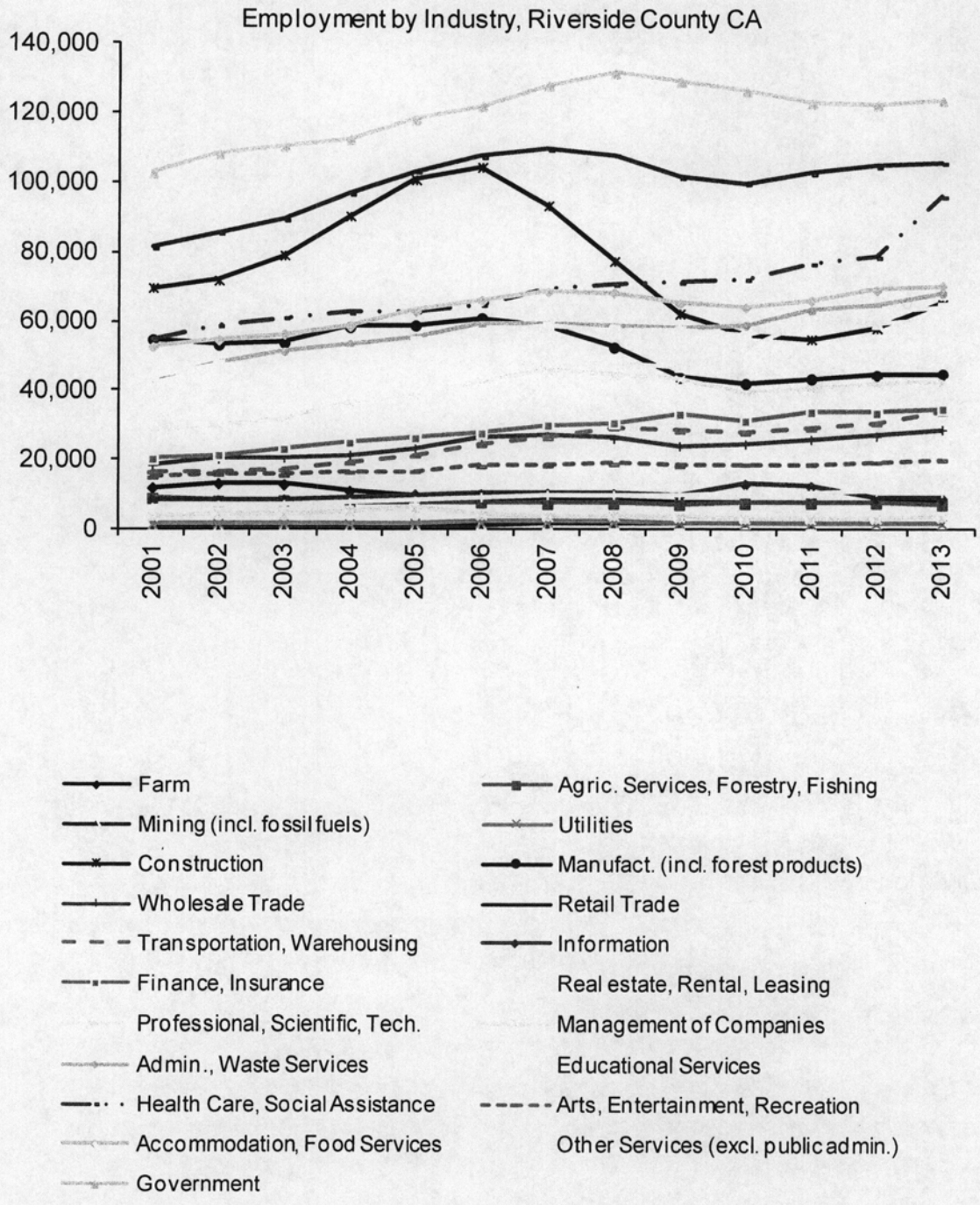

Figure A10. Riverside County Employment Trends, 2001-2013.

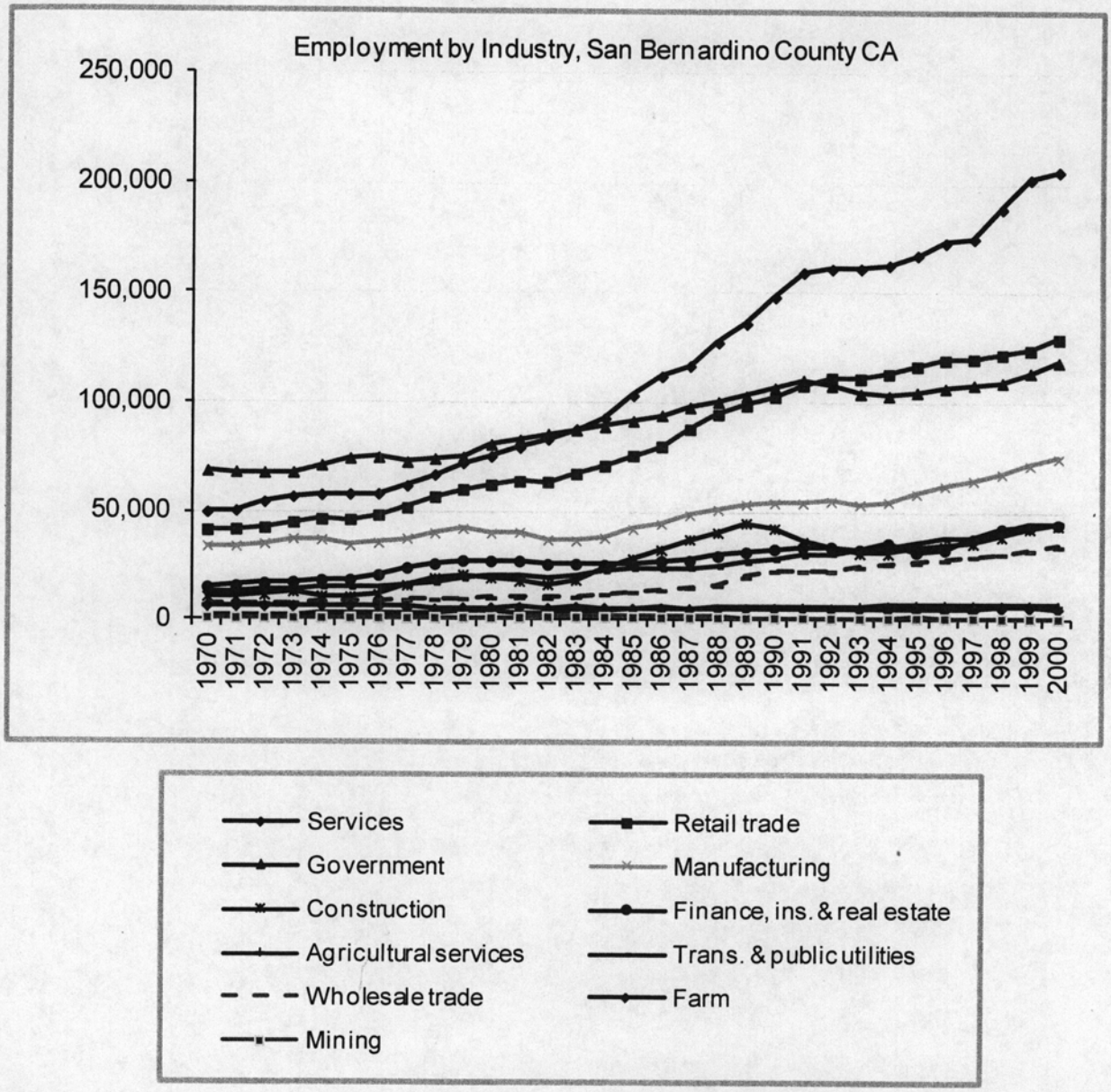

Figure A11. San Bernardino County Employment Trends, 1970-2000.

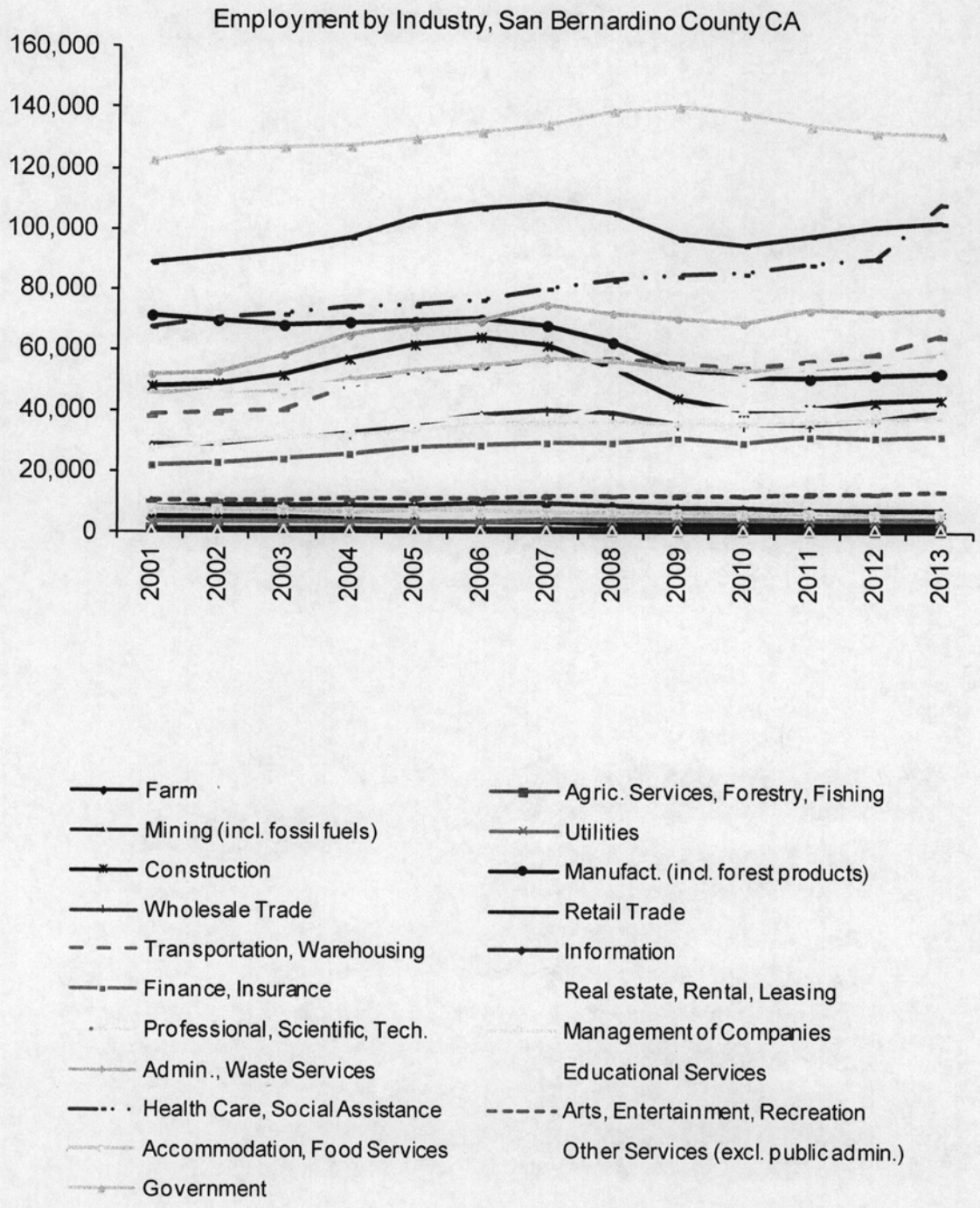

Figure A12. San Bernardino County Employment Trends, 2001-2013.

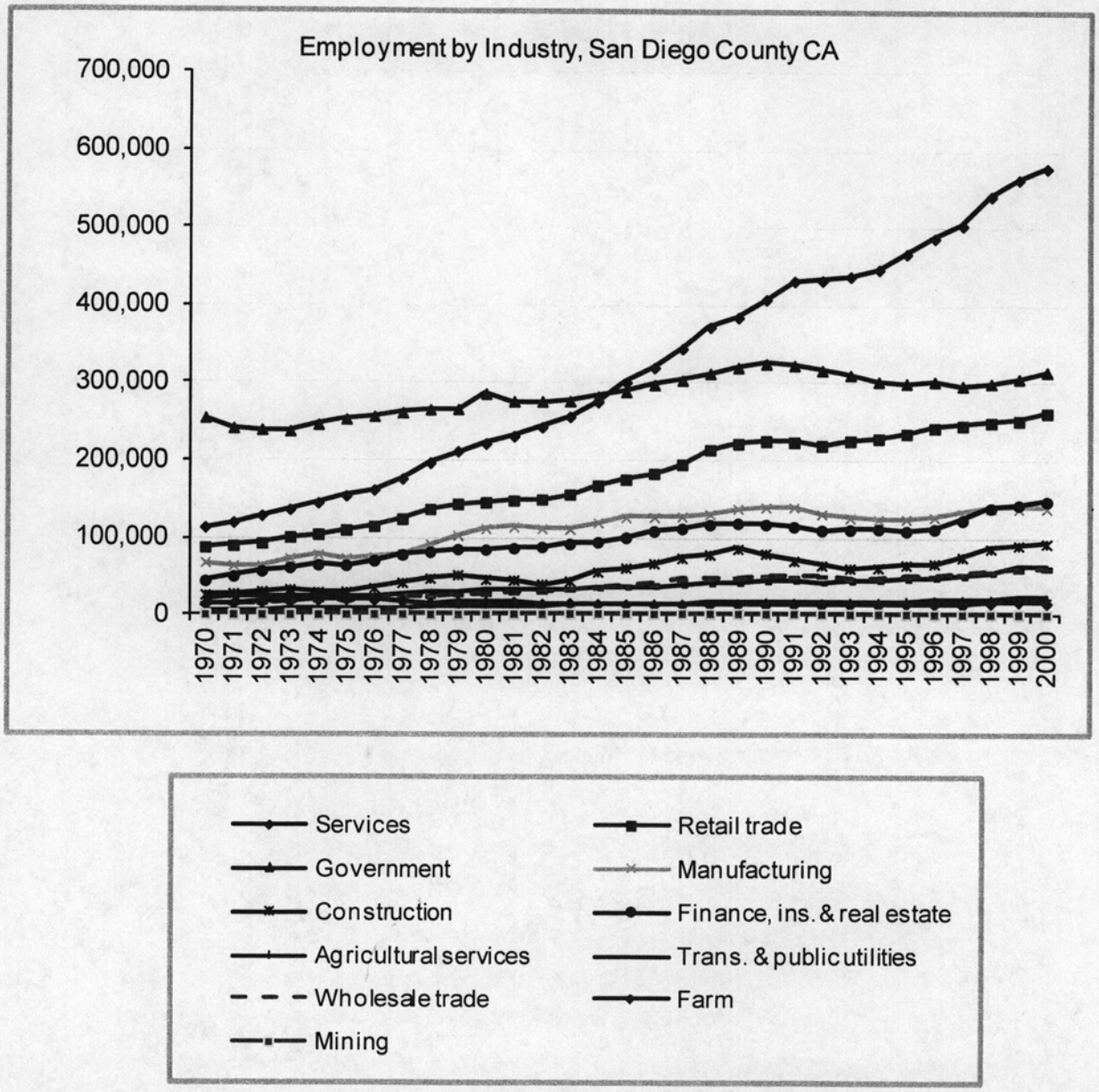

Figure A13. San Diego County Employment Trends, 1970-2000.

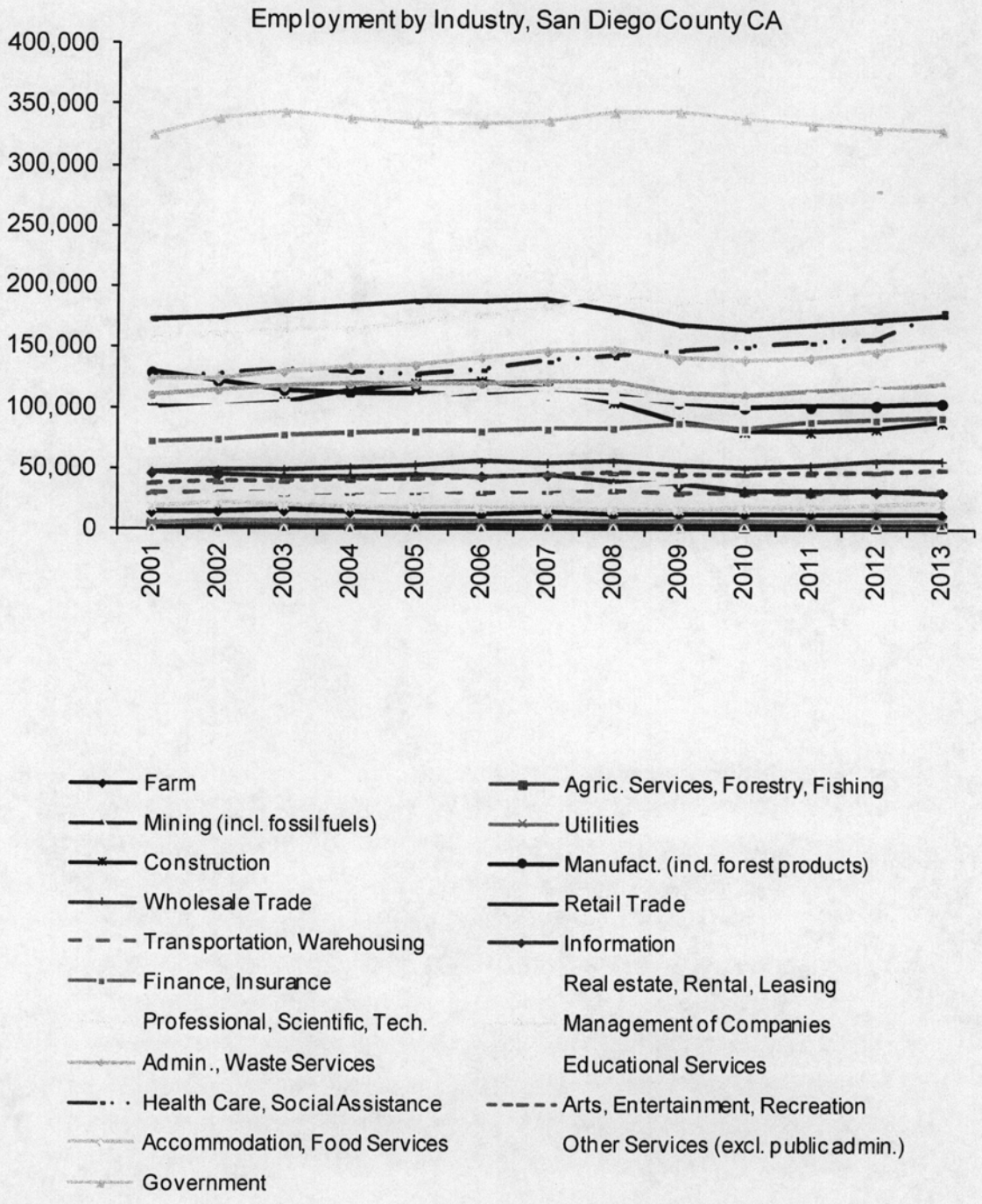

Figure A14. San Diego County Employment Trends, 2001-2013.

Appendix B. Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends and Income Sources for 7 Desert Counties.

Detail on personal income trends for the periods 1970-2000 and 2001-2013 for each of the 7 desert counties are provided in Figures B1 – B14. These graphs reflect personal income labor earnings for these two time periods. The break in time frames is due to the shift by the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis from using the SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) coding system of reporting personal income sectors to the NAICS (North American Industrial Classification System).

Note: Missing data on some charts is due to data that is not disclosed at that reporting level due to privacy reasons.

Personal Income by Industry Trends Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Tables CA05 and CA05N. Headwaters Economics county measures reports.

To get a better idea of which sectors were contributing to employment and income, the income sources including non-labor income for each of the seven counties were examined over the period 1969 – 2013 and are shown in Figures B15 – B21.

Income Sources Data Source: Derivations from US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts.

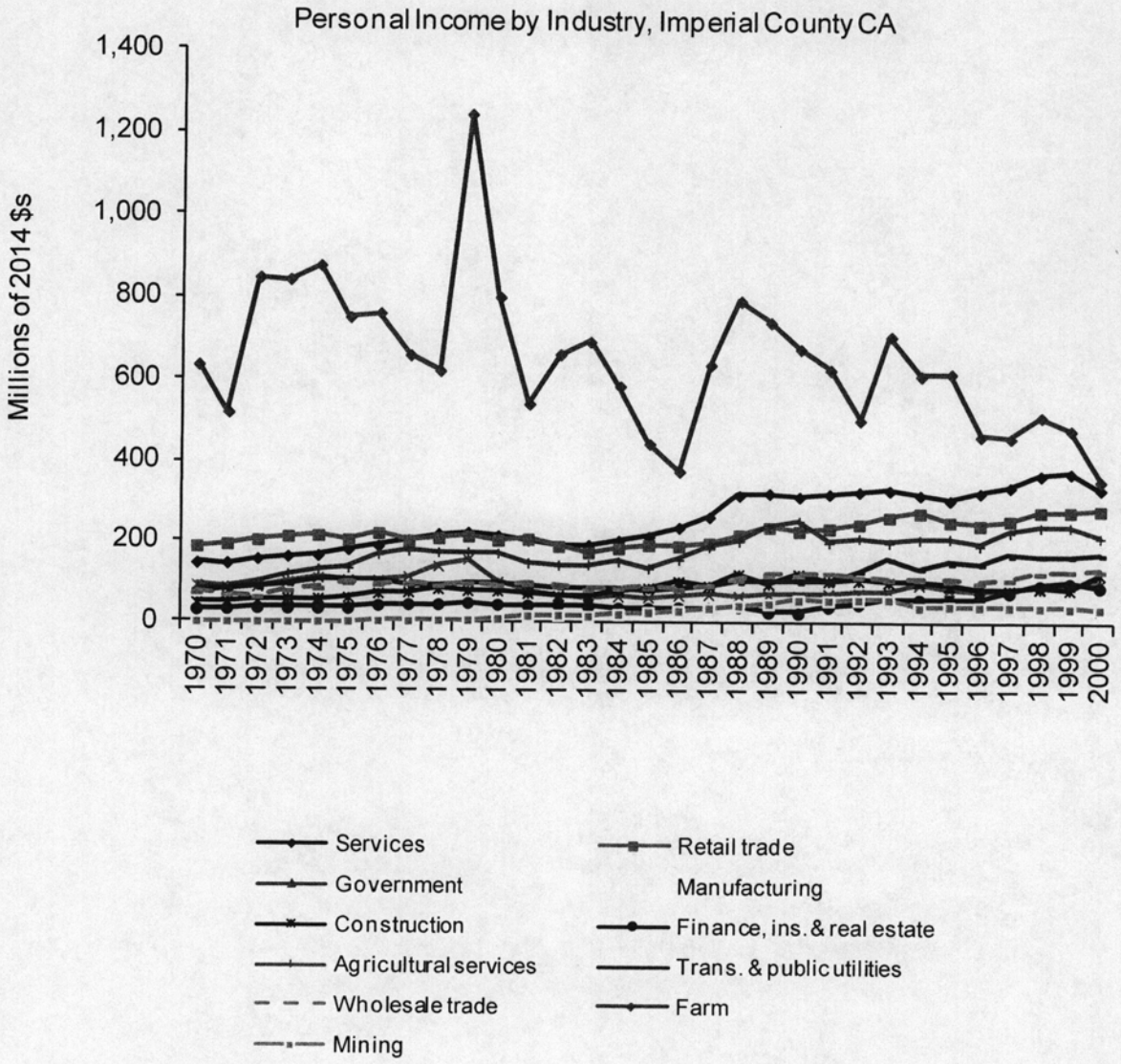

Figure B1. Imperial County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 1970-2000.

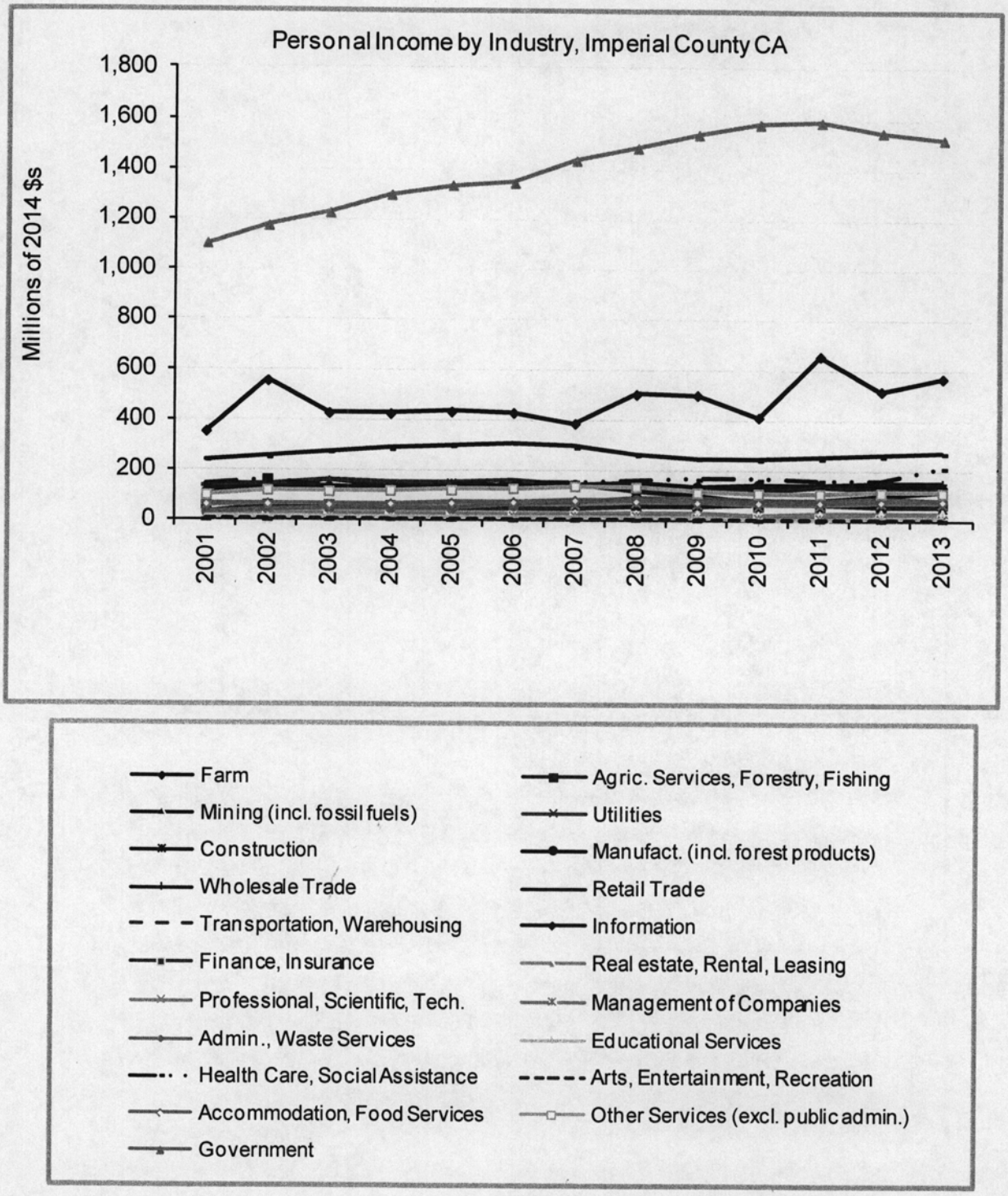

Figure B2. Imperial County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 2001-2013.

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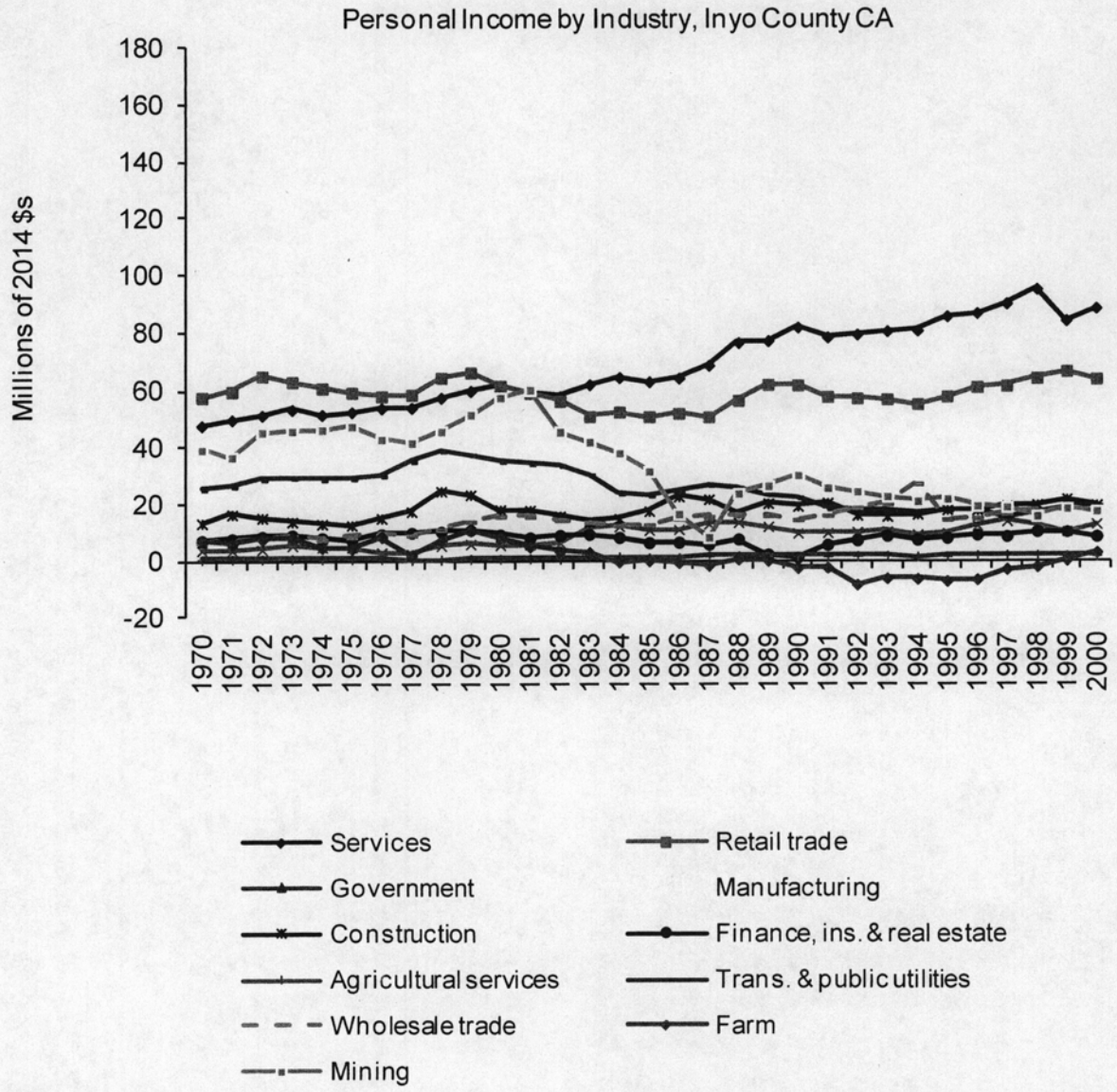

Figure B3. Inyo County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 1970-2000.

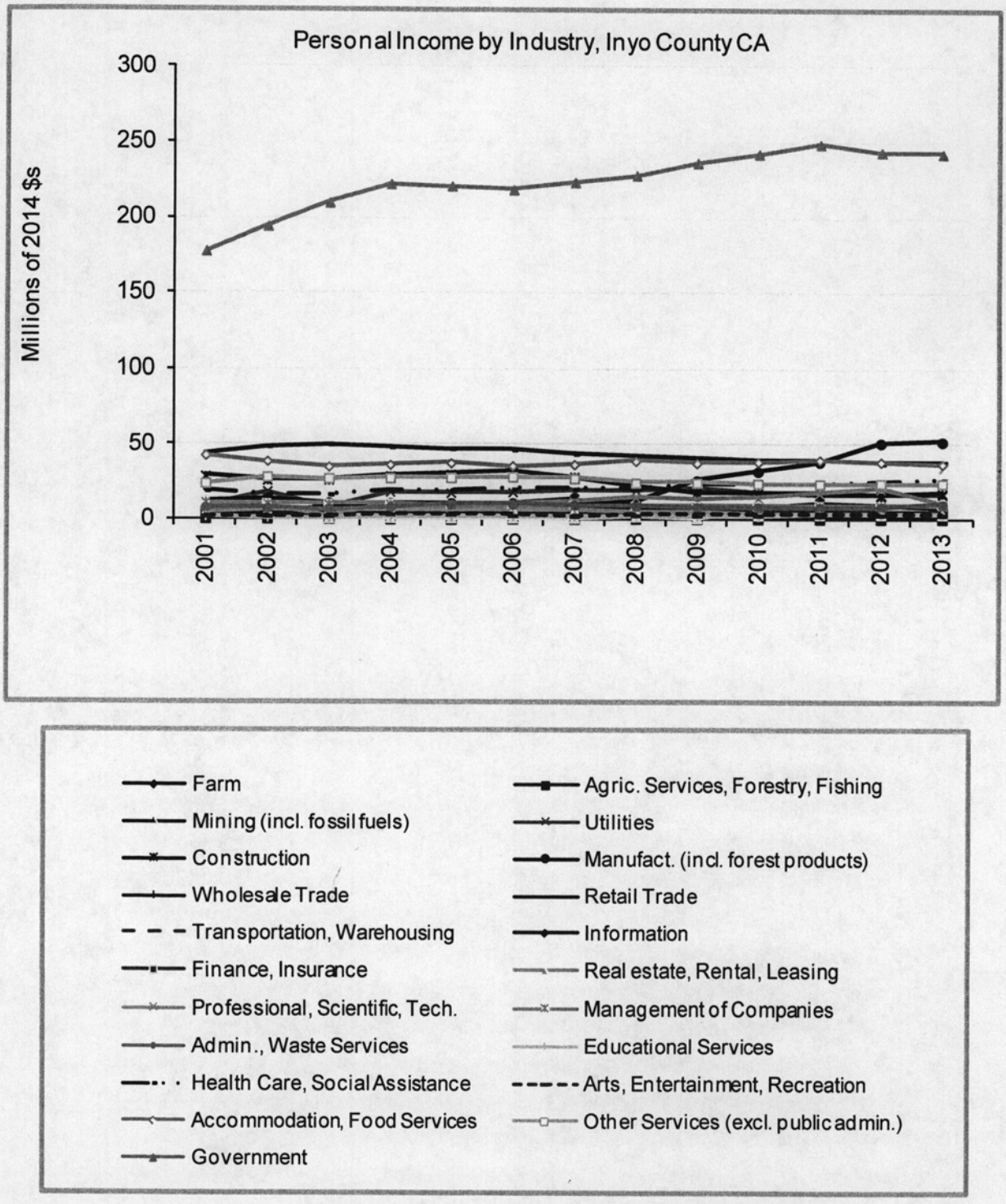

Figure B4. Inyo County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 2001-2013.

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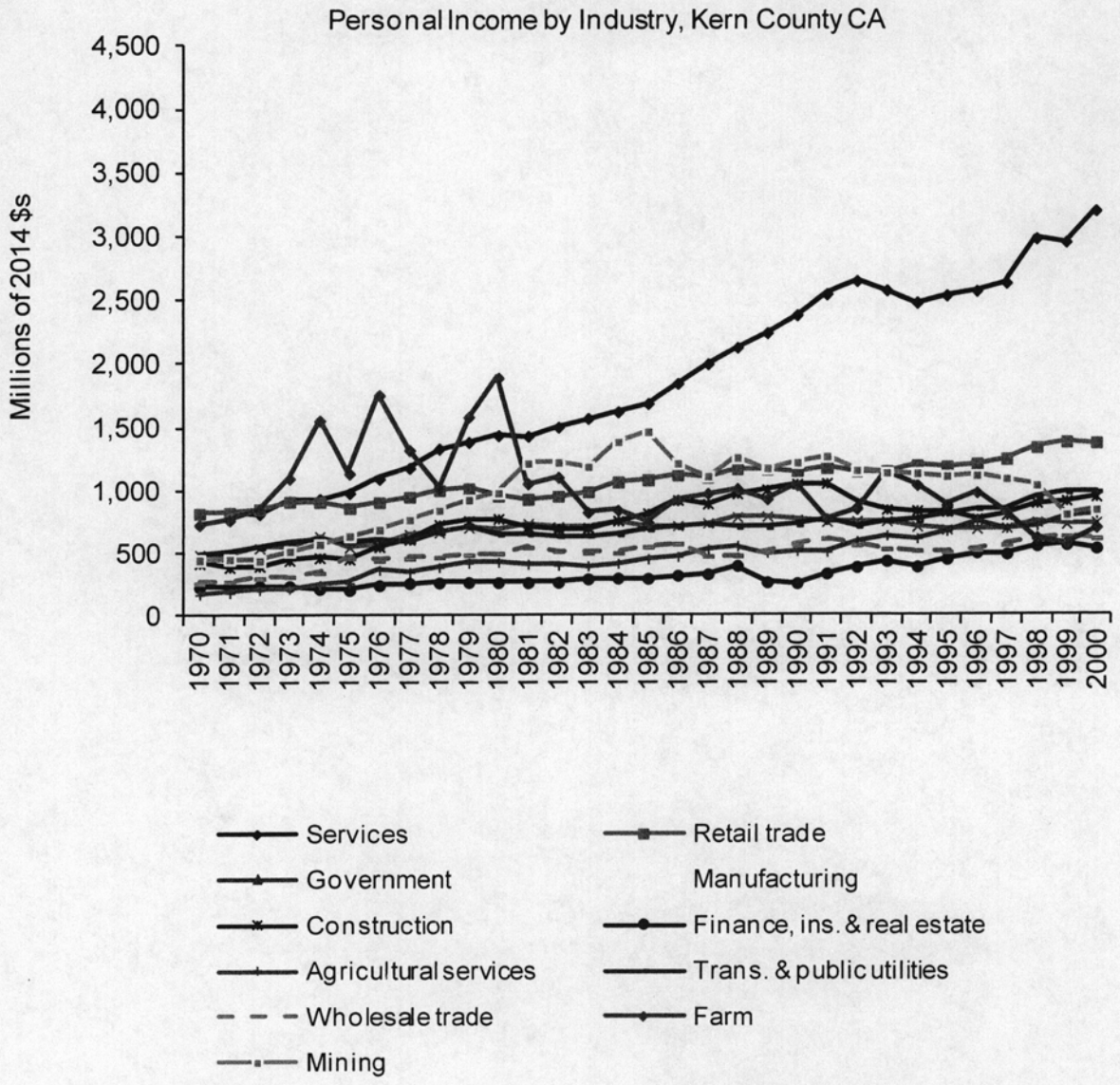

Figure B5. Kern County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 1970-2000.

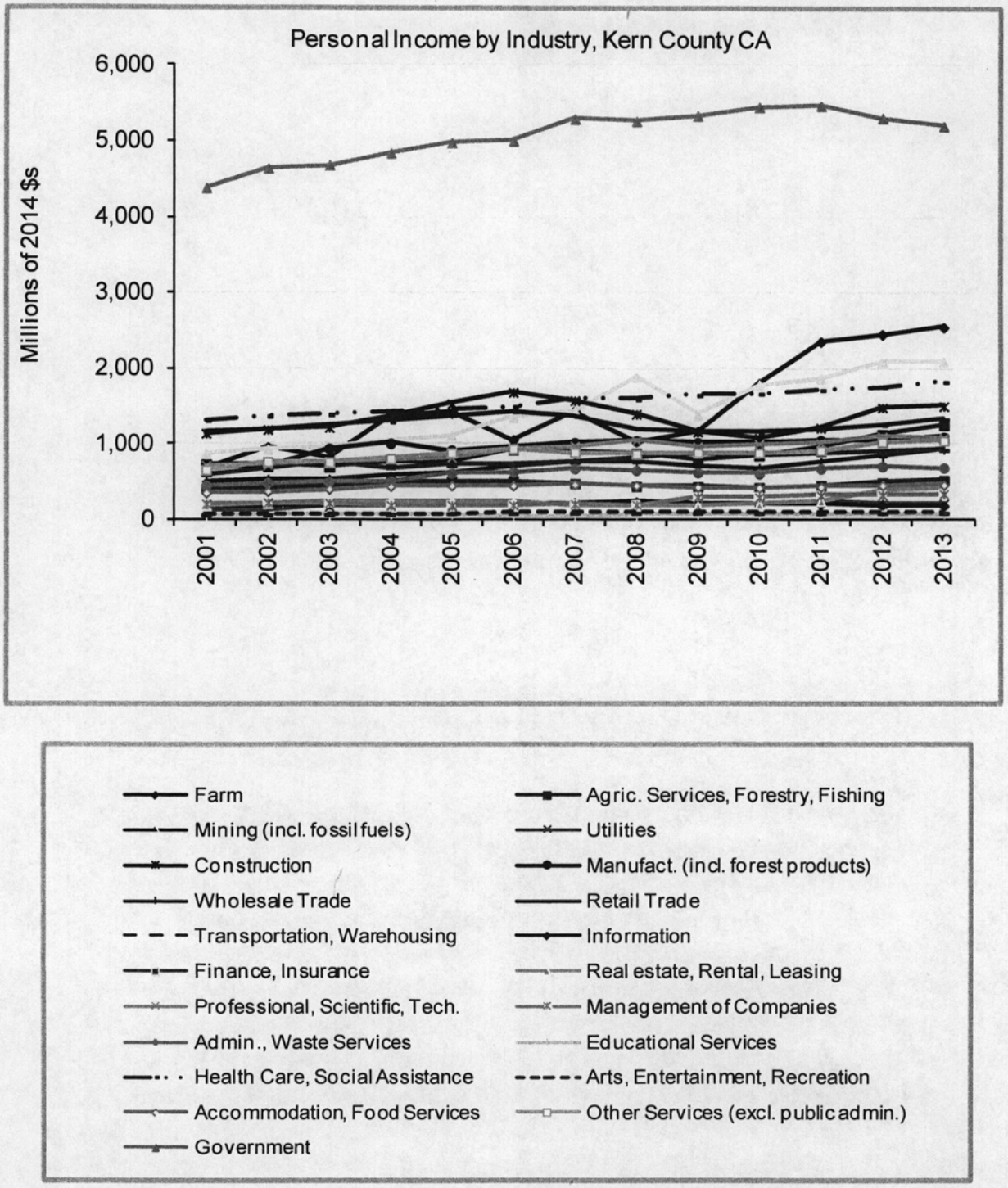

Figure B6. Kern County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 2001-2013.

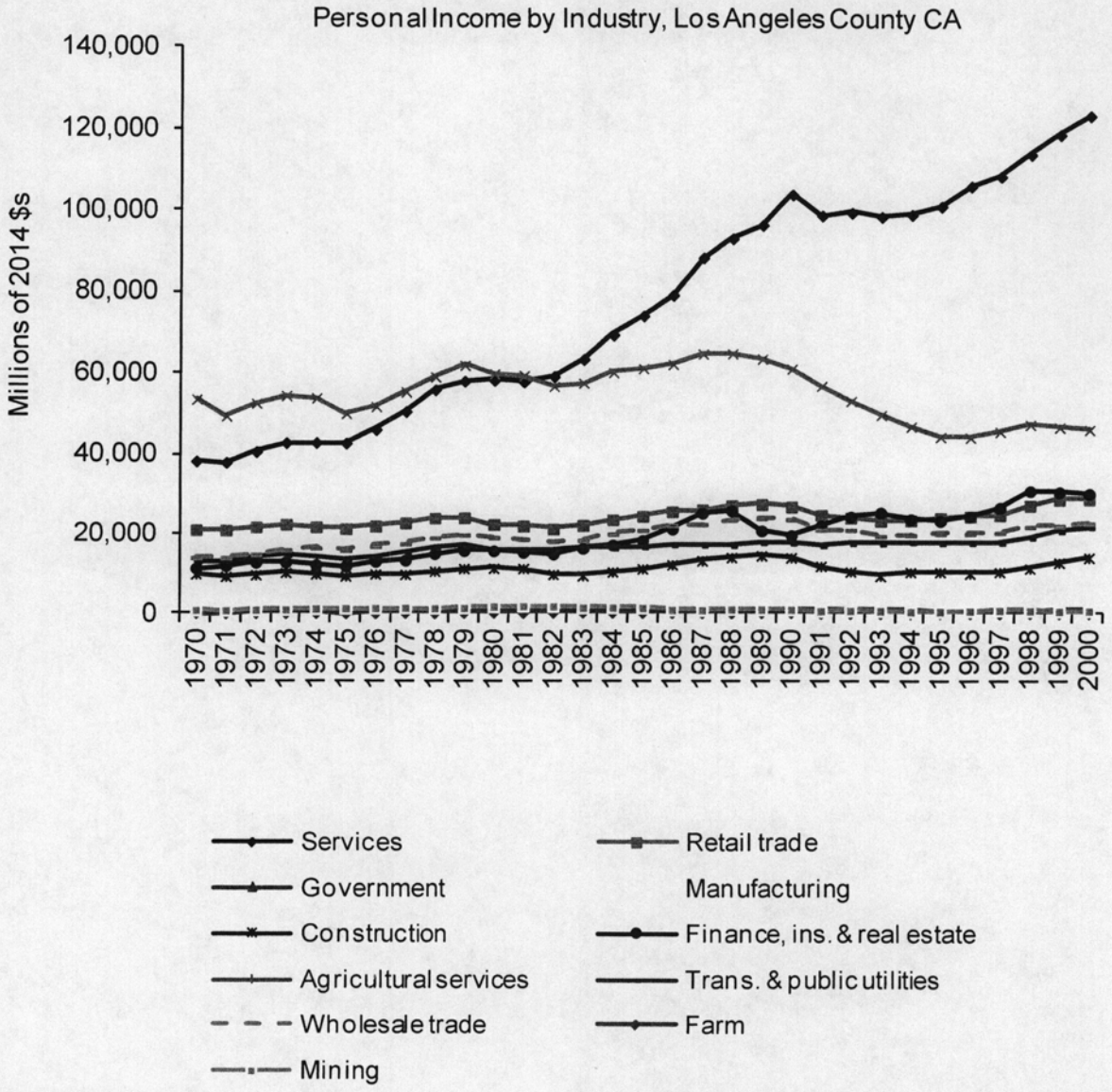

Figure B7. Los Angeles County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 1970-2000.

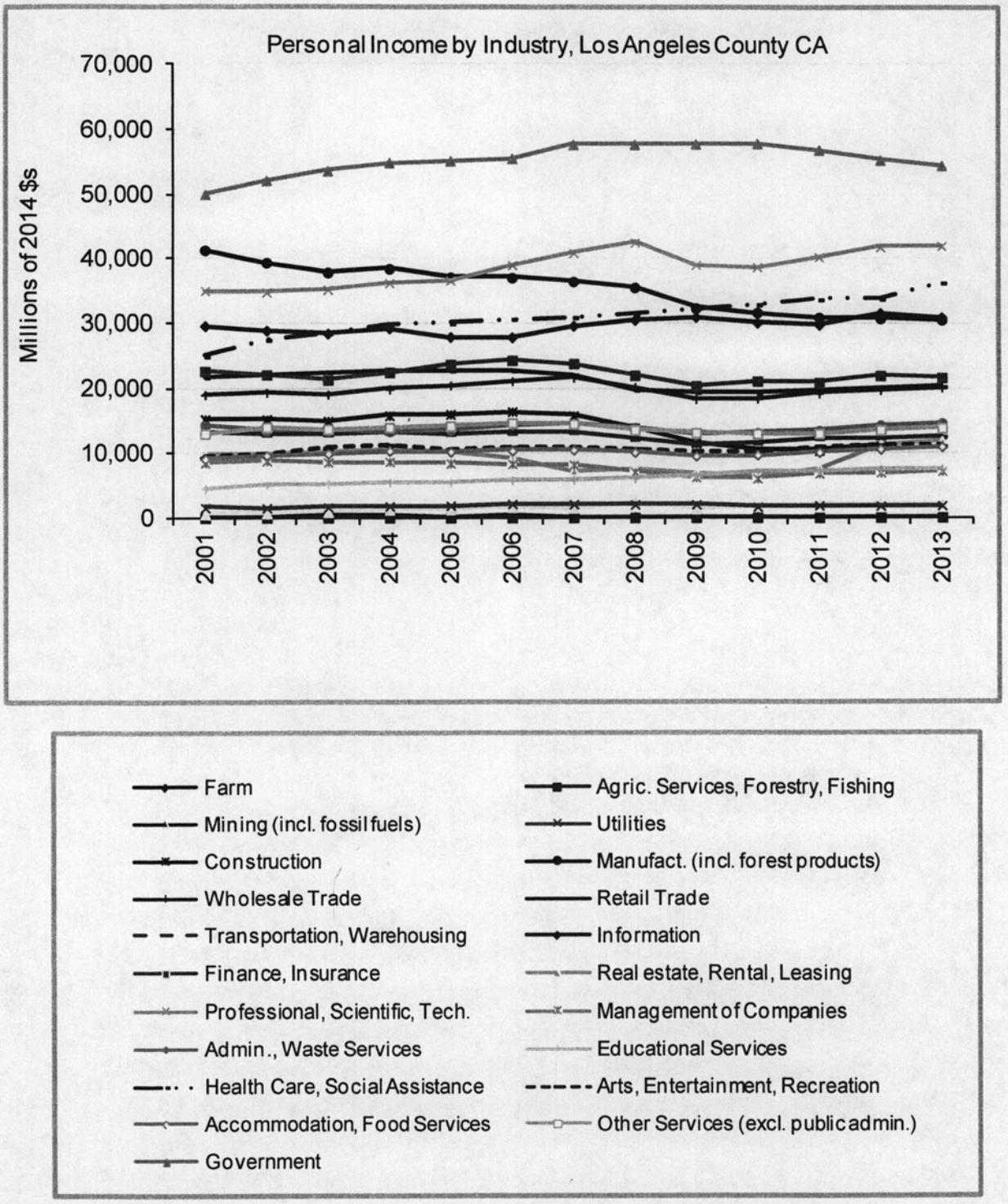

Figure B8. Los Angeles County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 2001-2013.

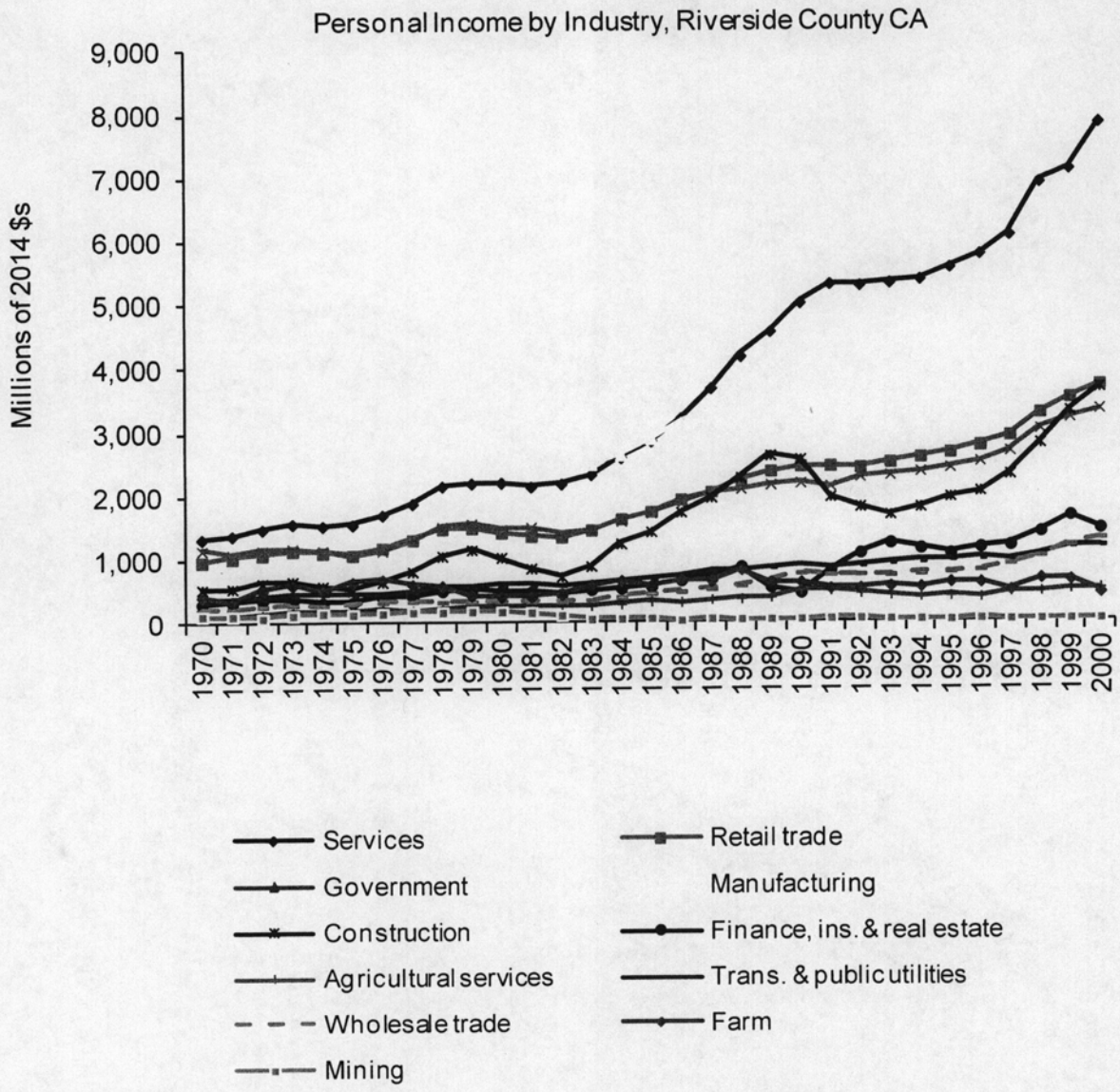

Figure B9. Riverside County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 1970-2000.

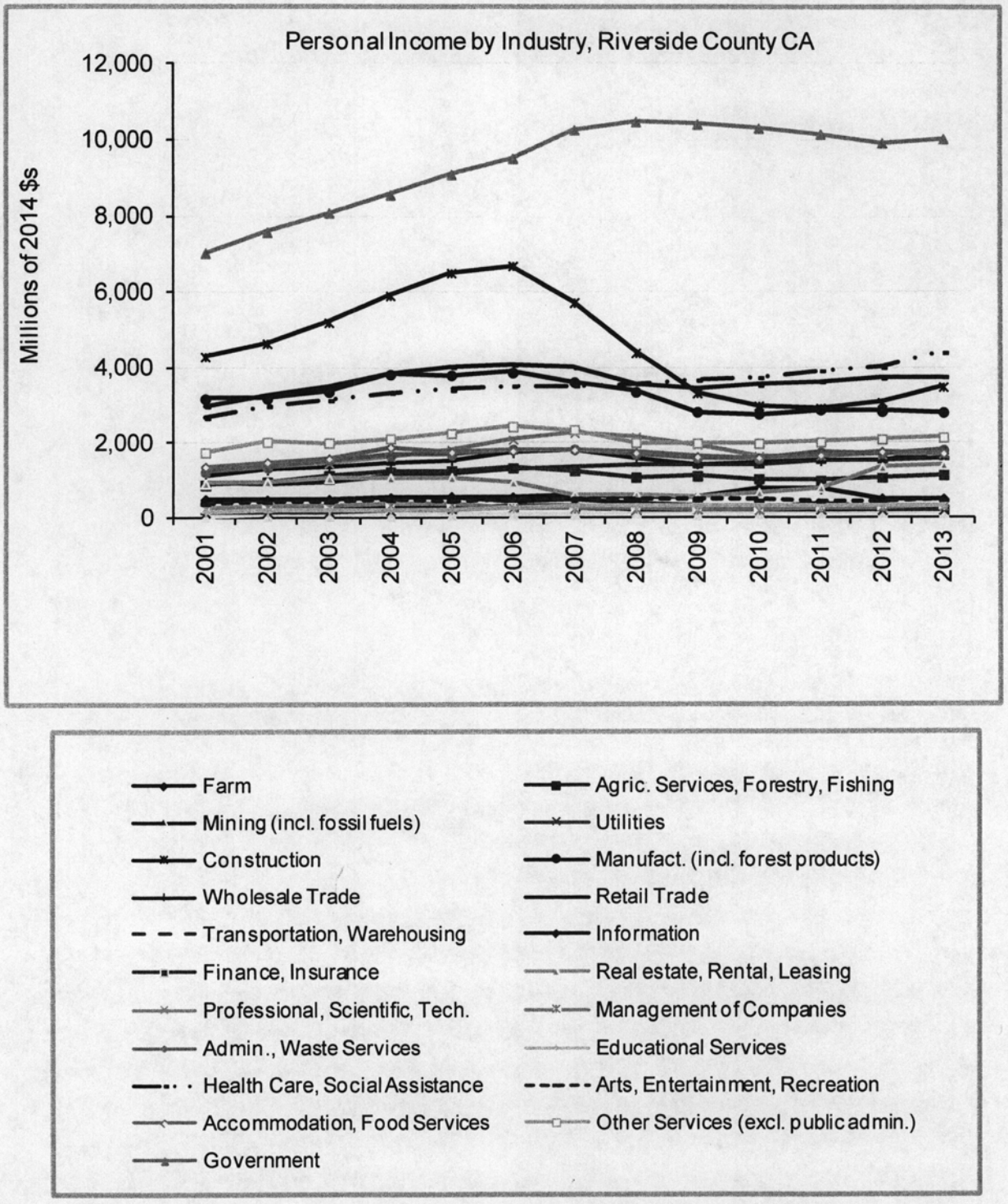

Figure B10. Riverside County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 2001-2013.

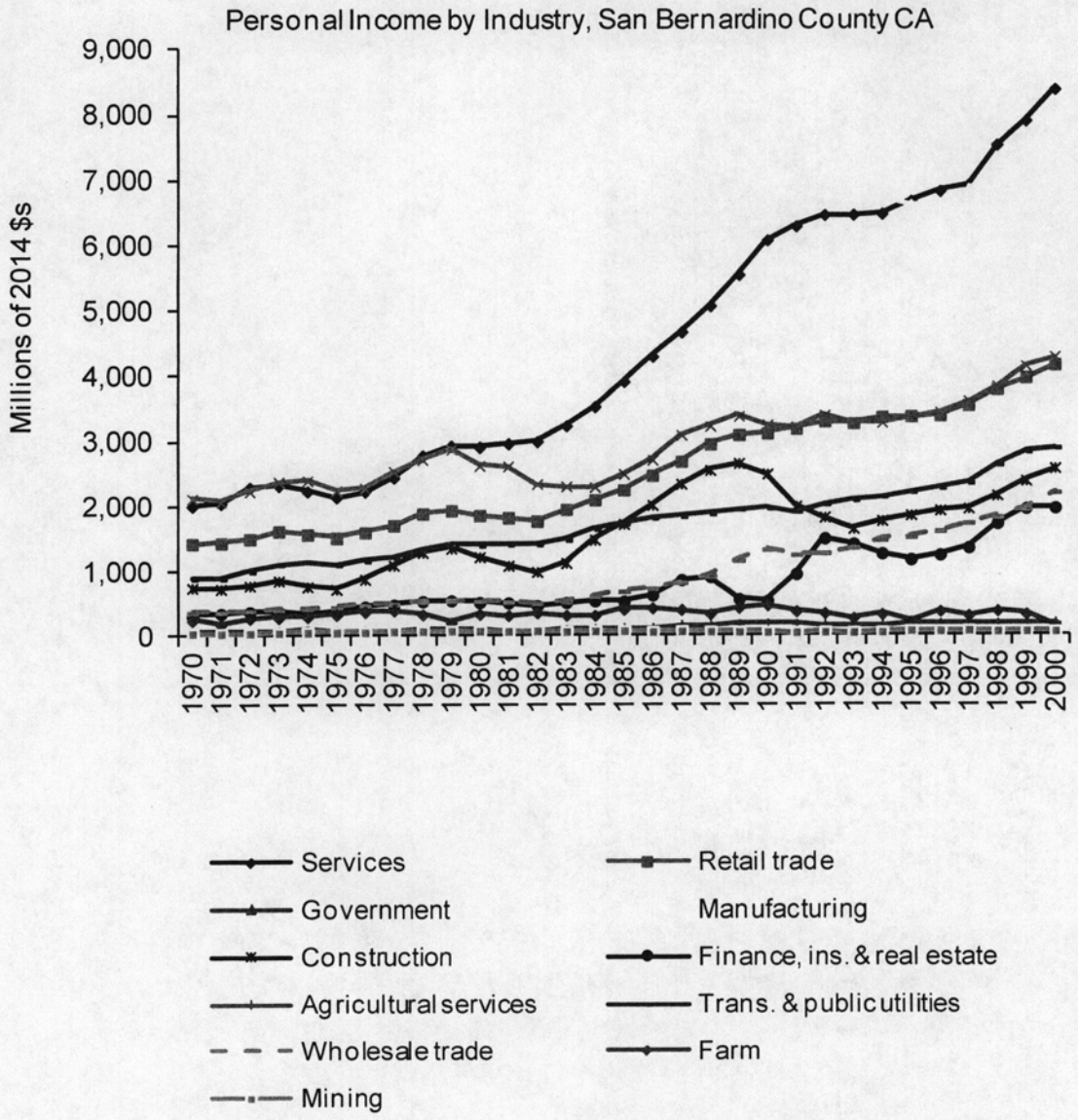

Figure B11. San Bernardino County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 1970-2000.

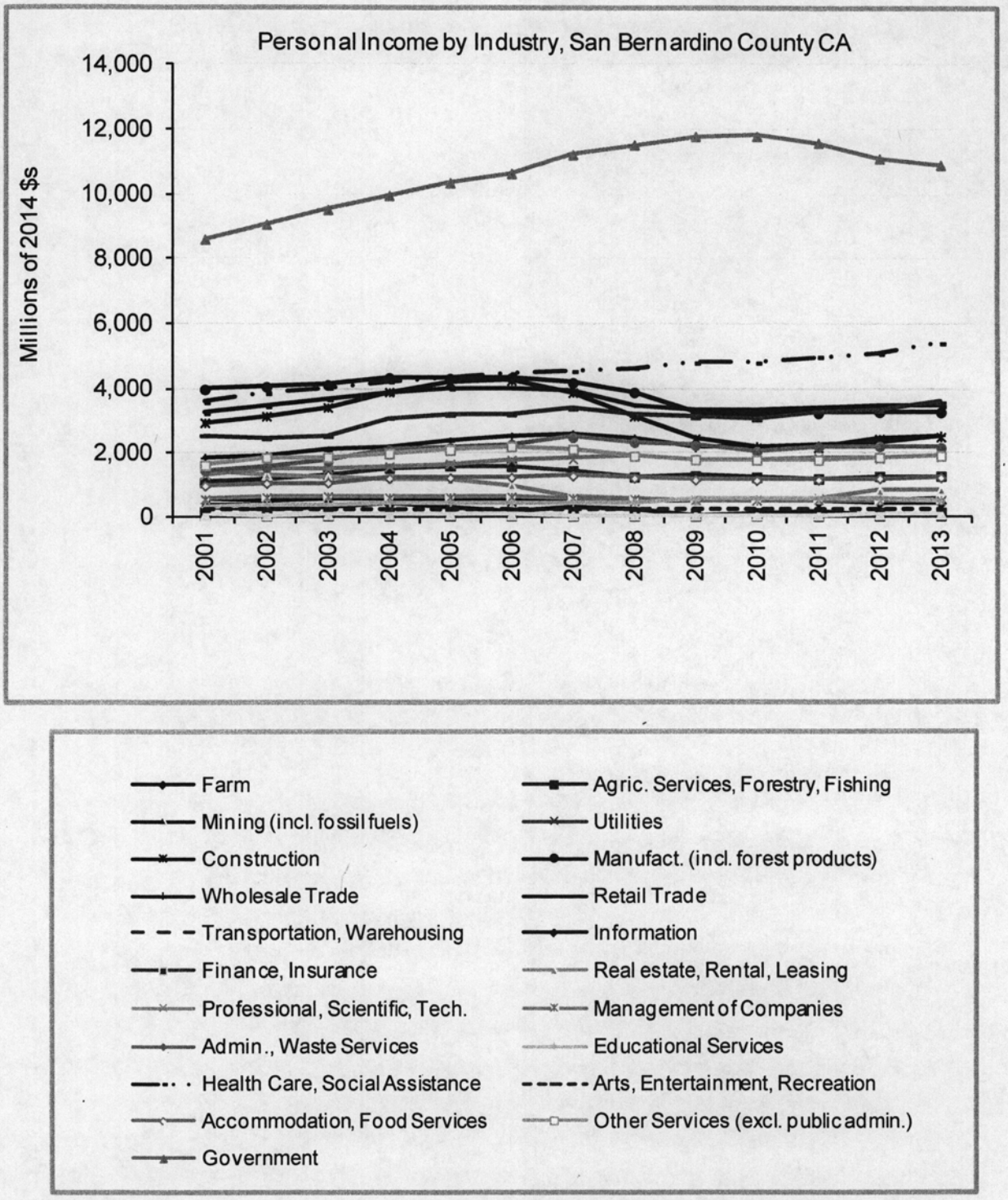

Figure B12. San Bernardino County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 2001-2013.

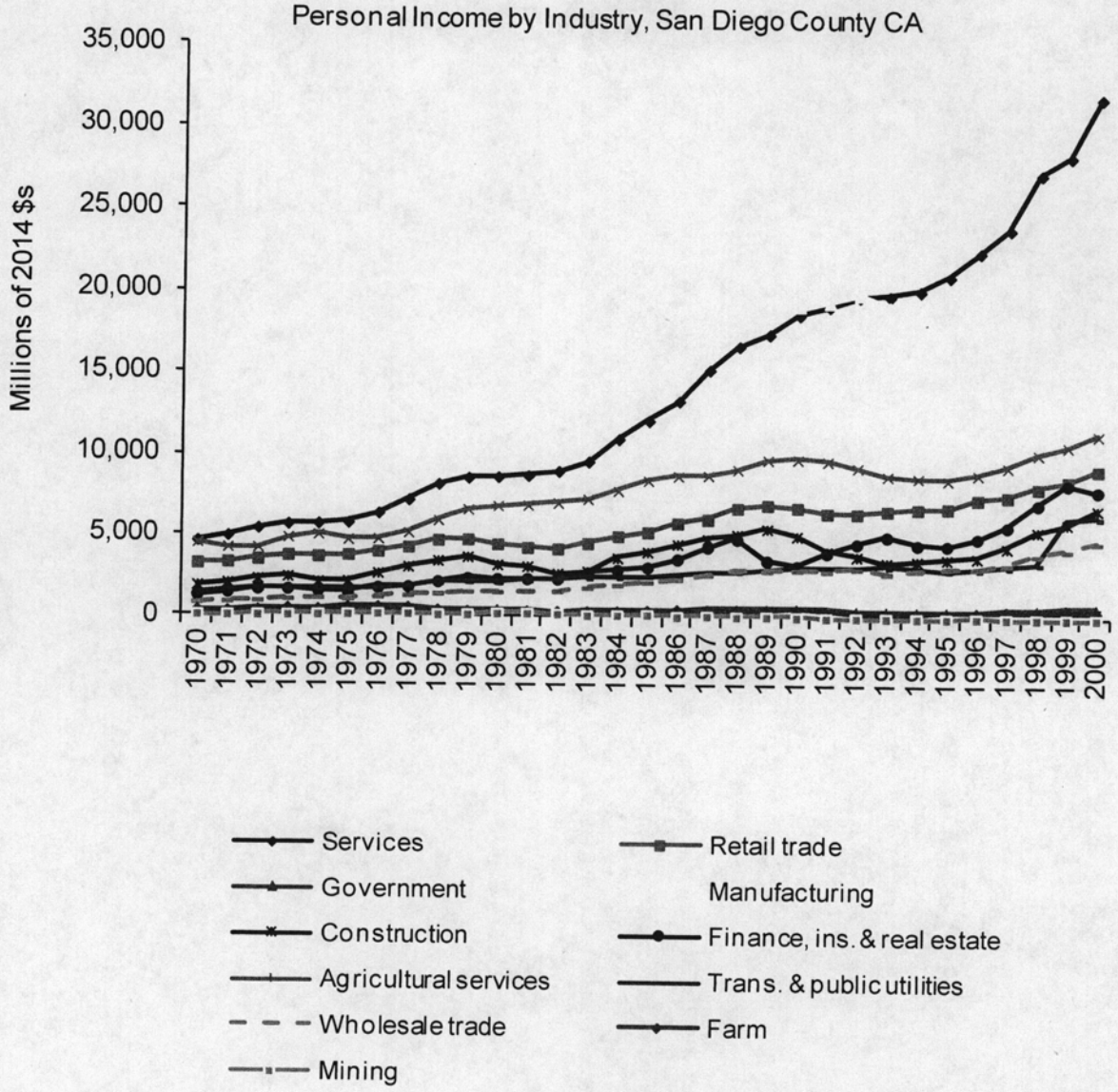

Figure B13. San Diego County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 1970-2000.

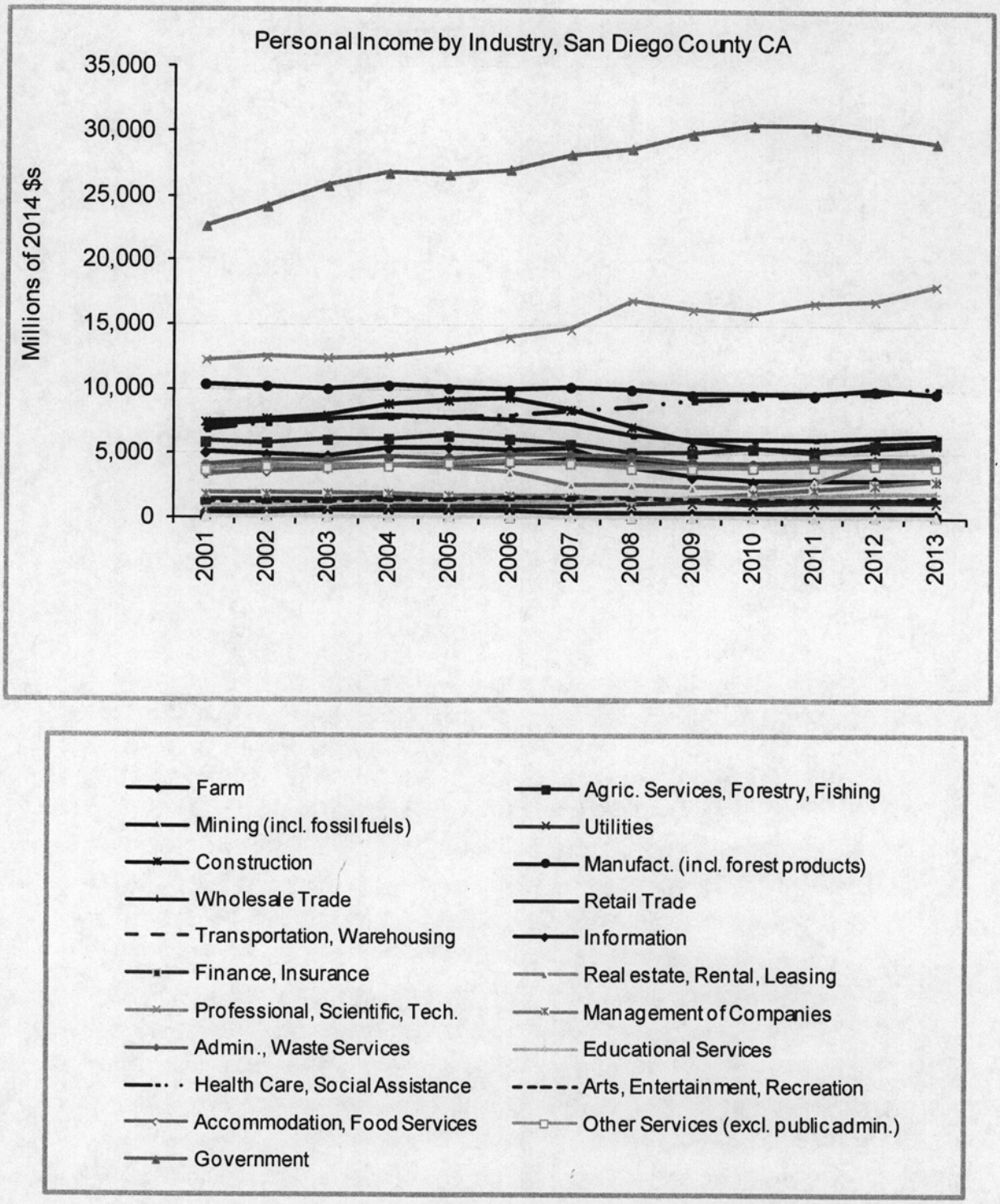

Figure B14. San Diego County Personal Income Labor Earnings Trends, 2001-2013.

Income Sources

To get a better idea of which sectors were contributing to employment and income, the income sources for each of the seven counties were examined over the period 1969 – 2013. Sectors were classed using the categories shown in Table B1 below by grouping data available from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). Note that this data source does not disaggregate oil and gas income sources from other mining activities.

INCOME SOURCE CATEGORIES
Non-labor Income
Services and Professional
Government
Construction
Manufacturing
Farming
Mining, Oil & Gas
Transportation & Utilities
Ag Services, Forestry & Fishing

Table B1. Income Source categories used to derive Figures B15 – B21. *Source:* Derivations from US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts.

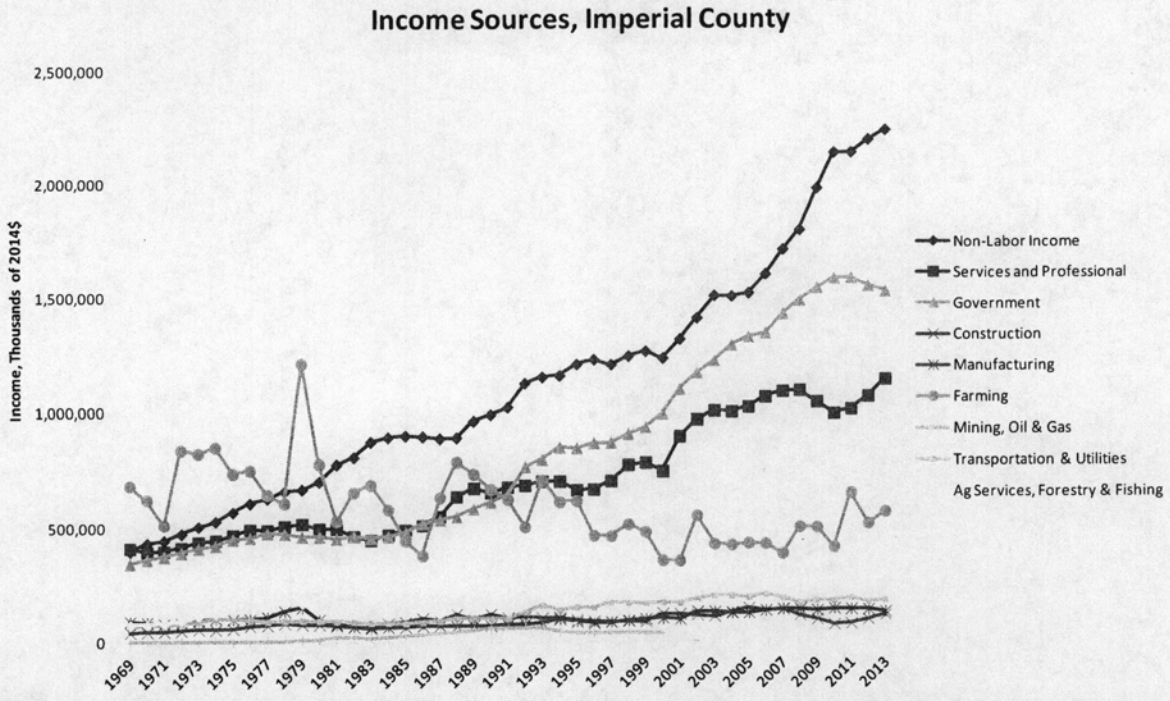

Figure B15. Income sources for Imperial County, 1969-2013. *Source:* Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA5, adjusted for 2014$s.

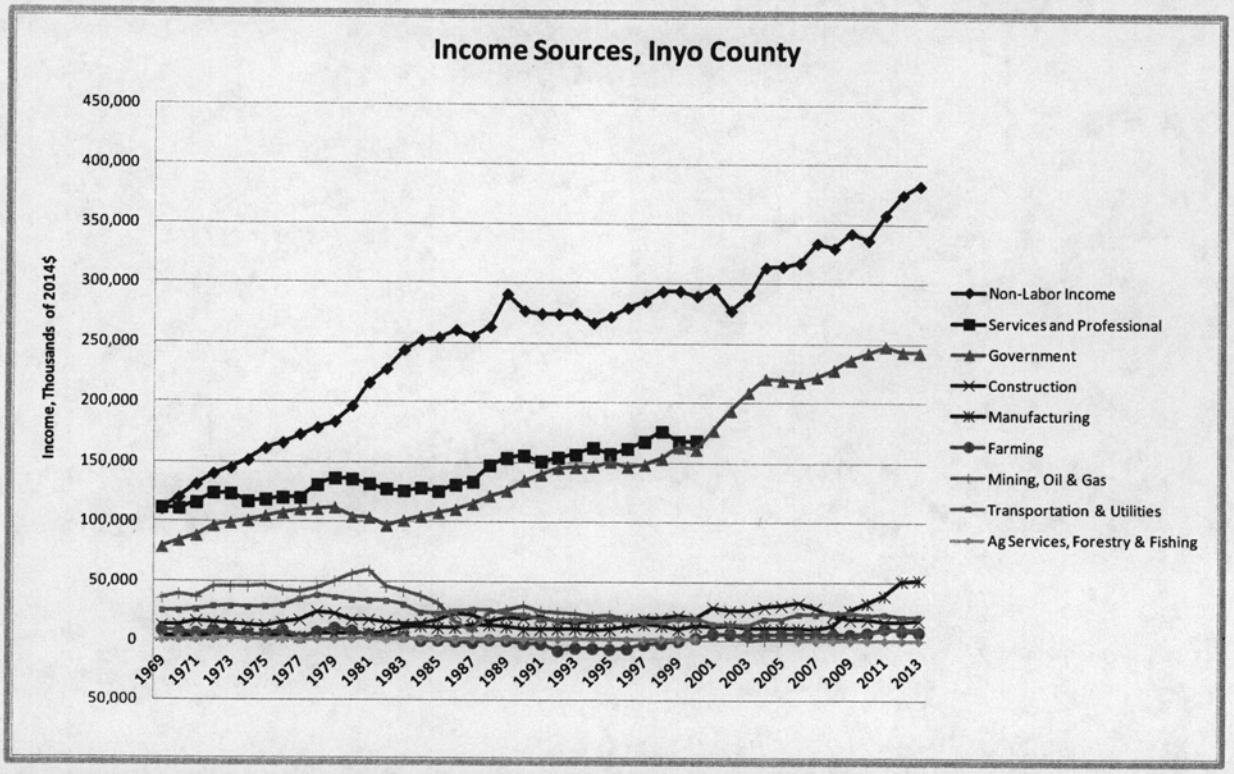

Figure B16. Income sources for Inyo County, 1969-2013. *Source:* Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA5, adjusted for 2014$s.

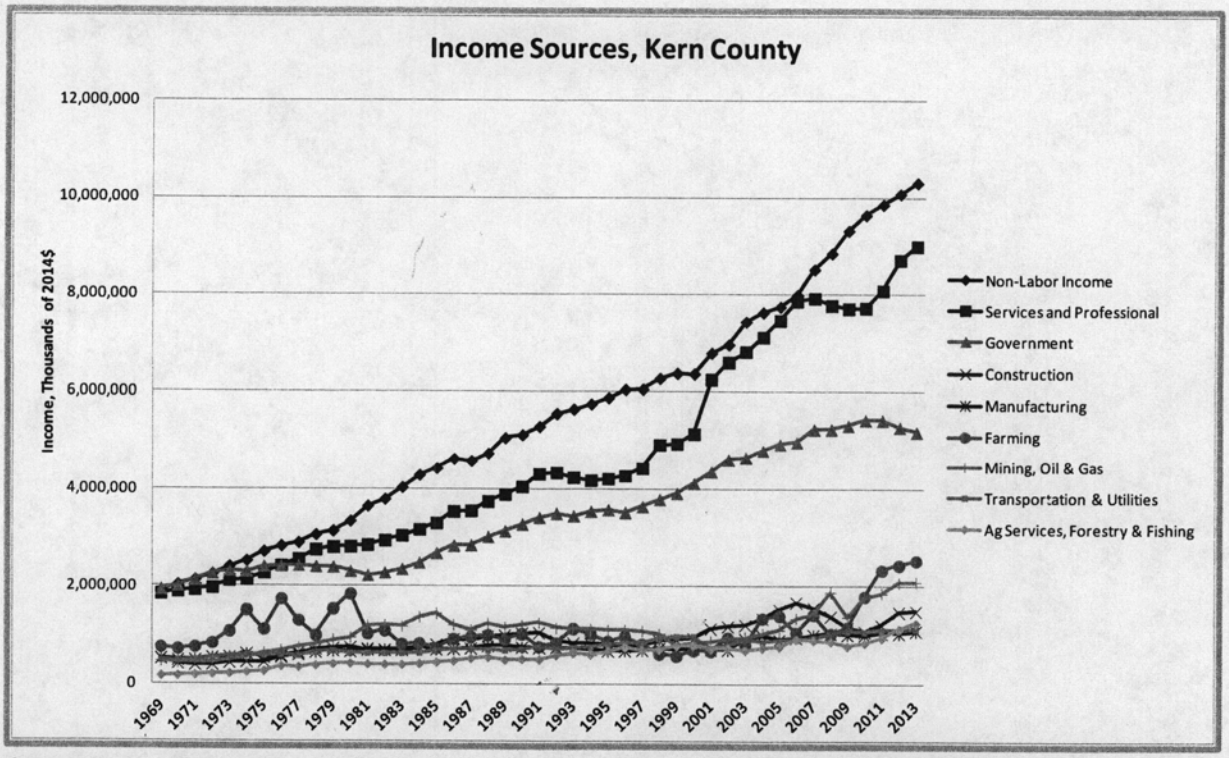

Figure B17. Income sources for Kern County, 1969-2013. *Source:* Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA5, adjusted for 2014$s.

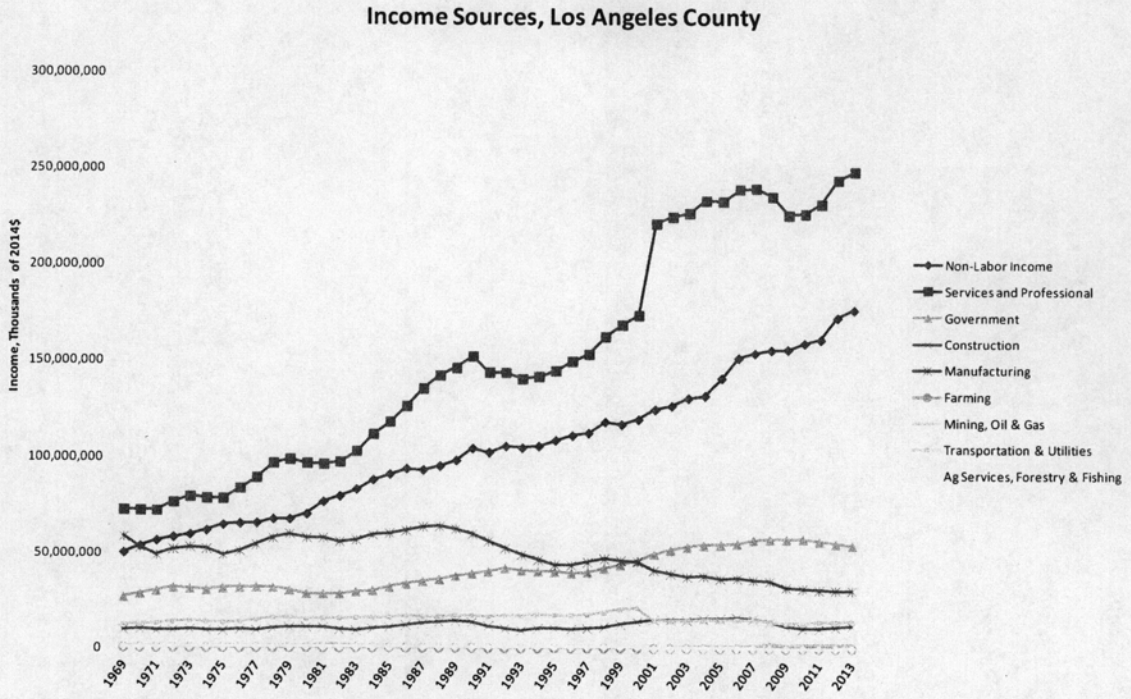

Figure B18. Income sources for Los Angeles County, 1969-2013. *Source*: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA5, adjusted for 2014$s.

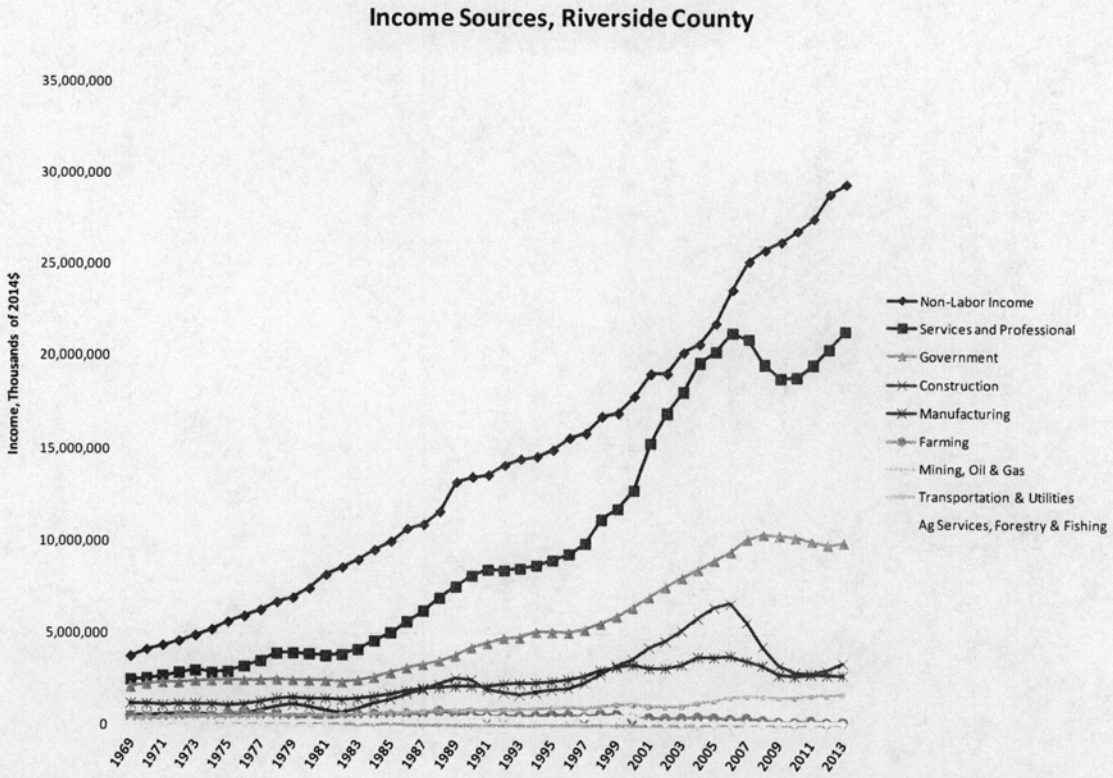

Figure B19. Income sources for Riverside County, 1969-2013. *Source*: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA5, adjusted for 2014$s.

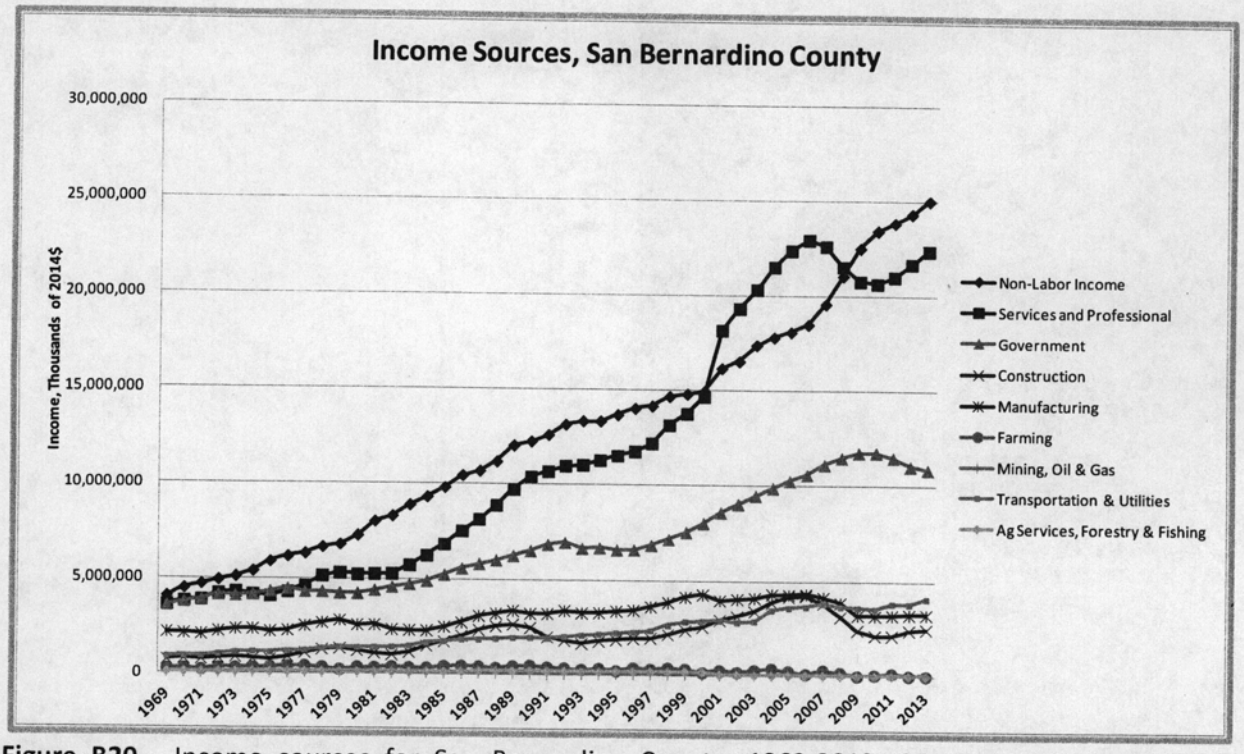

Figure B20. Income sources for San Bernardino County, 1969-2013. *Source*: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA5, adjusted for 2014$s.

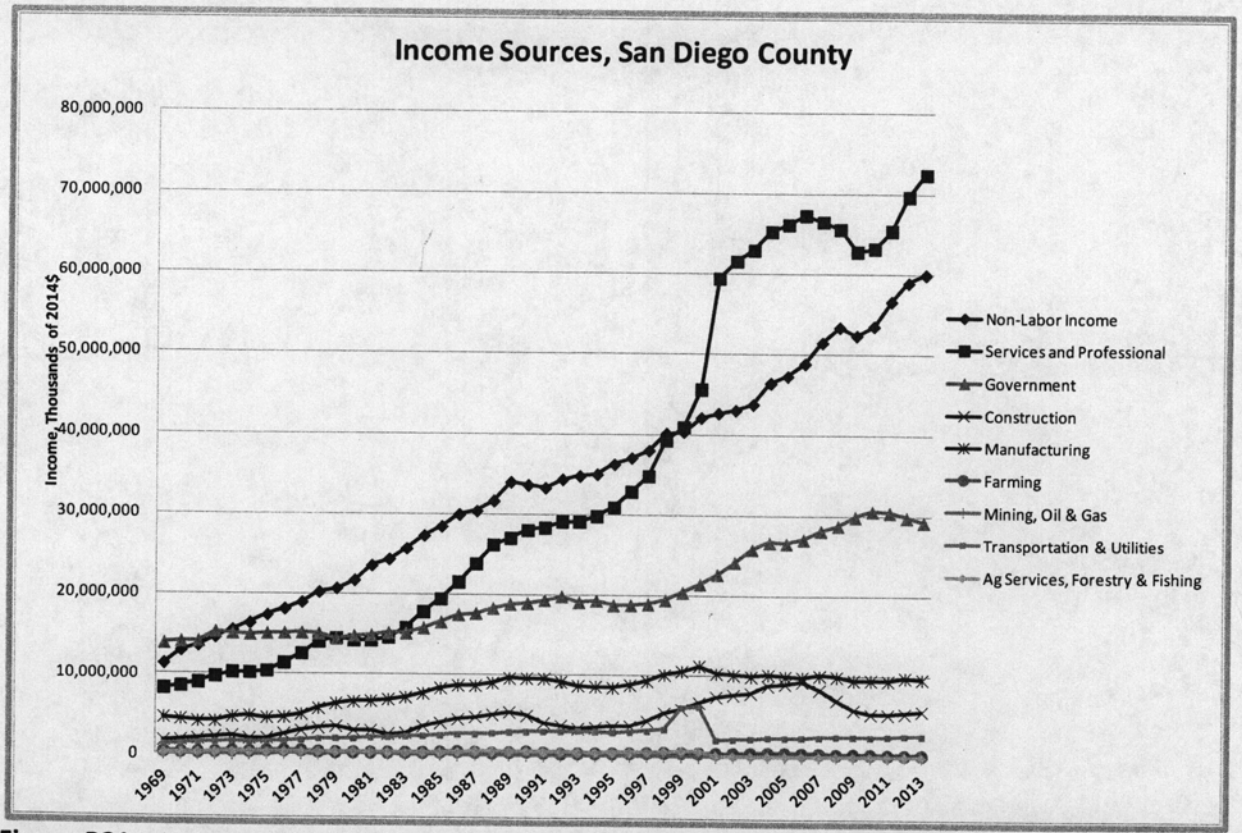

Figure B21. Income sources for San Diego County, 1969-2013. *Source*: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, Table CA5, adjusted for 2014$s

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Appendix C. Data and Methods for GIS Data Analysis

Spatial data used in this report came from a variety of sources. This section describes the origin and processing steps executed on each data set.

Study Area: Given the large size, complete polygon and extensive GIS data developed for the DRECP, we decided to use the DRECP as the primary study area. All GIS data was clipped and processed to this boundary.

Terminology and references used in this analysis included:

High, medium and low density of active mining claims

Low Active Mining Claim Density: less than 18 active claims per section
Medium Active Mining Claim Density: between 18 and 46 active claims per section
High Active Mining Claim Density: greater than 46 active claims per section

High-potential mineral zones

High Potential Mineral Zones are areas with existing or historic mineral activity and an increased likelihood of future mineral development. From the DRECP EIS analysis, http://www.drecp.org/draftdrecp.

Known mineralization

Based on Mineral Resources Data System dataset. http://mrdata.usgs.gov/mrds/

High value

Materials with a high unit value.

Significant deposit

Large tonnage and/or high-grade mineral deposit.

Mining claim data

Originates from the Bureau of Land Management's Land & Mineral Legacy Rehost 2000 System (LR2000 System), which is updated daily and mapped at the section level. http://www.blm.gov/lr2000/

Mineral Occurrences: These data came from two original sources: the Mineral Resources Data System (http://mrdata.usgs.gov/mrds/) and the California Bureau of Mines and Geology. Both data sets are similar in format and content, describing individual mineral occurrences at several thousand locations across the study area. Each point is associated with up to three different minerals, which were parsed into thematic layers and mapped.

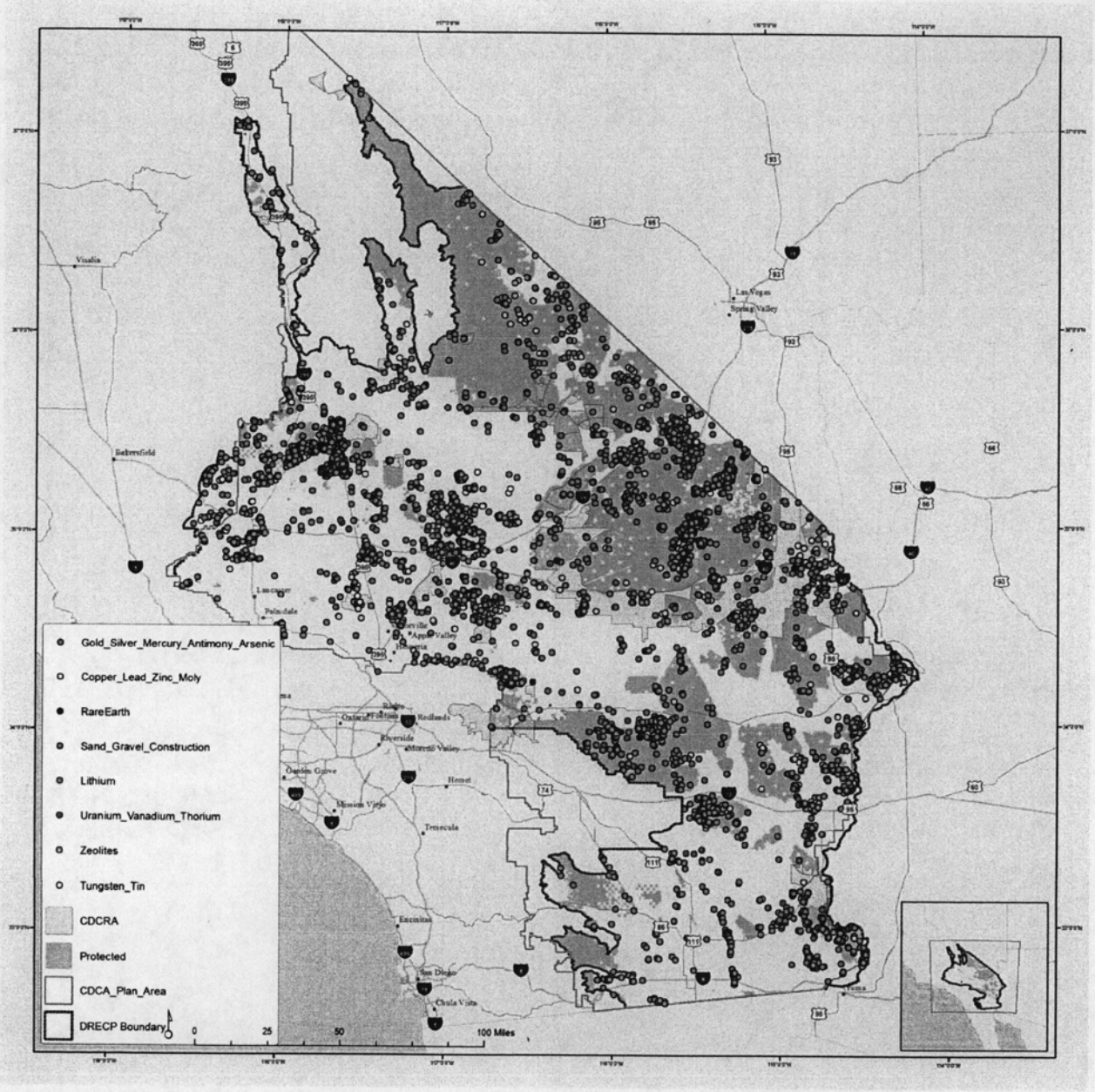

Figure C1. Mineral Occurrences.

Active Mining Claims: The BLM maintains an up-to-date database of active mining claims in their LR2000 system (http://www.blm.gov/lr2000/). The LR2000 was queried for "Active Claims" for each of the counties within the study area and the results were mapped at the section level (the resolution of most of the LR2000 data). Data was symbolized to represent the number of active claims per section. The highest density of mining claims (over 100 claims per section) occur in the Castle Mountains area.

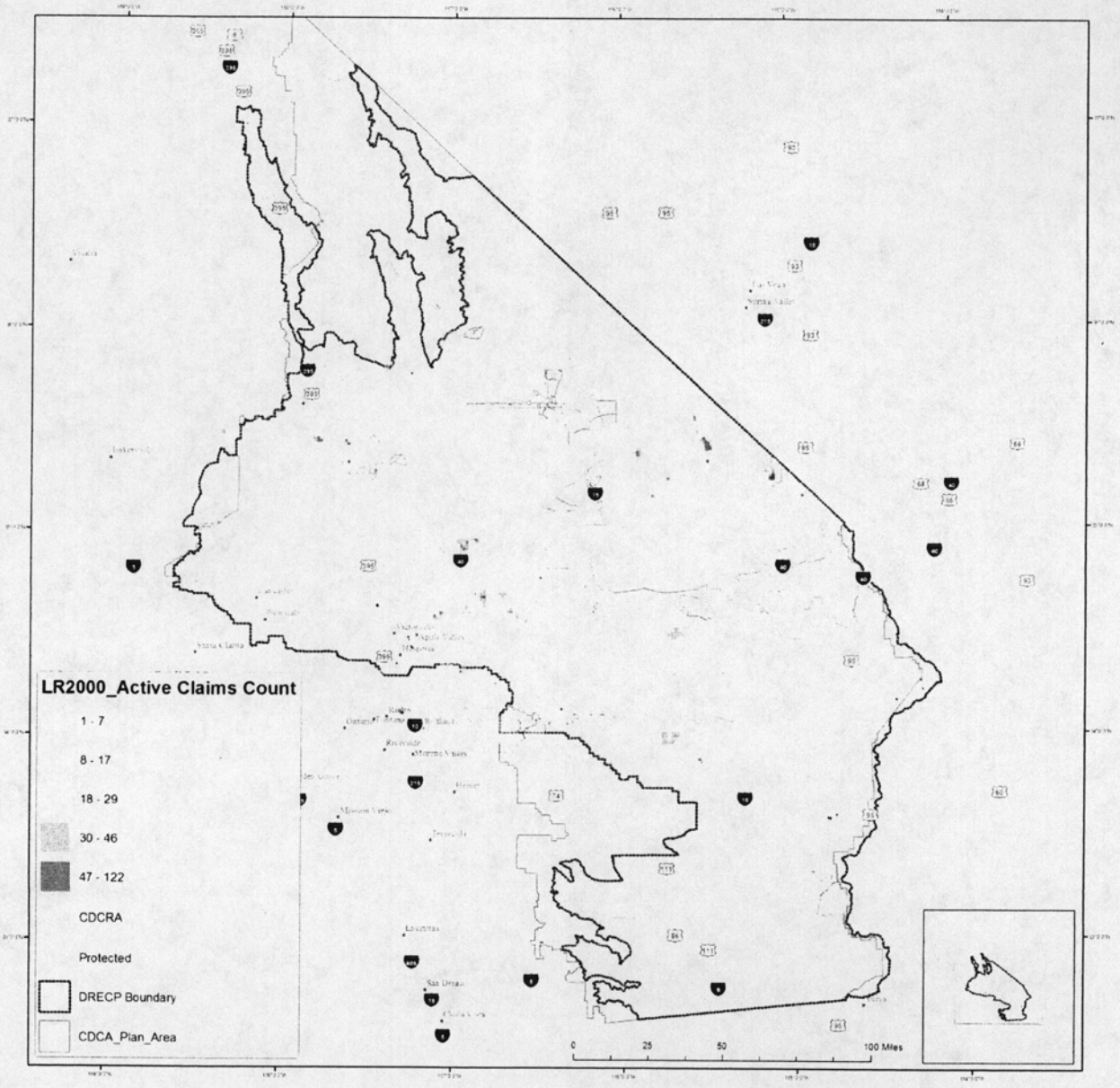

Figure C2. Active Mining Claims.

High Potential Mineral Locations: "High Priority Minerals" data were created for the DRECP draft EIS, and are described in Appendix R1.15 of that document. Unfortunately, we were not granted access to the GIS shapefiles, so we digitized these data from the PDFs contained in the EIS. The description of these data is contained in Volume III.15.2.3 of the report:

> "High-potential mineral areas are lands with existing and/or historic mining activity and a reasonable probability of future mineral resource development. Within the Plan Area, specific geographic areas have been defined as areas with the potential for recoverable high-priority and high-potential mineral resources, including rare earth element areas, as identified in BLM's California Geology, Energy, and Mineral Resource GIS Data (2013)."

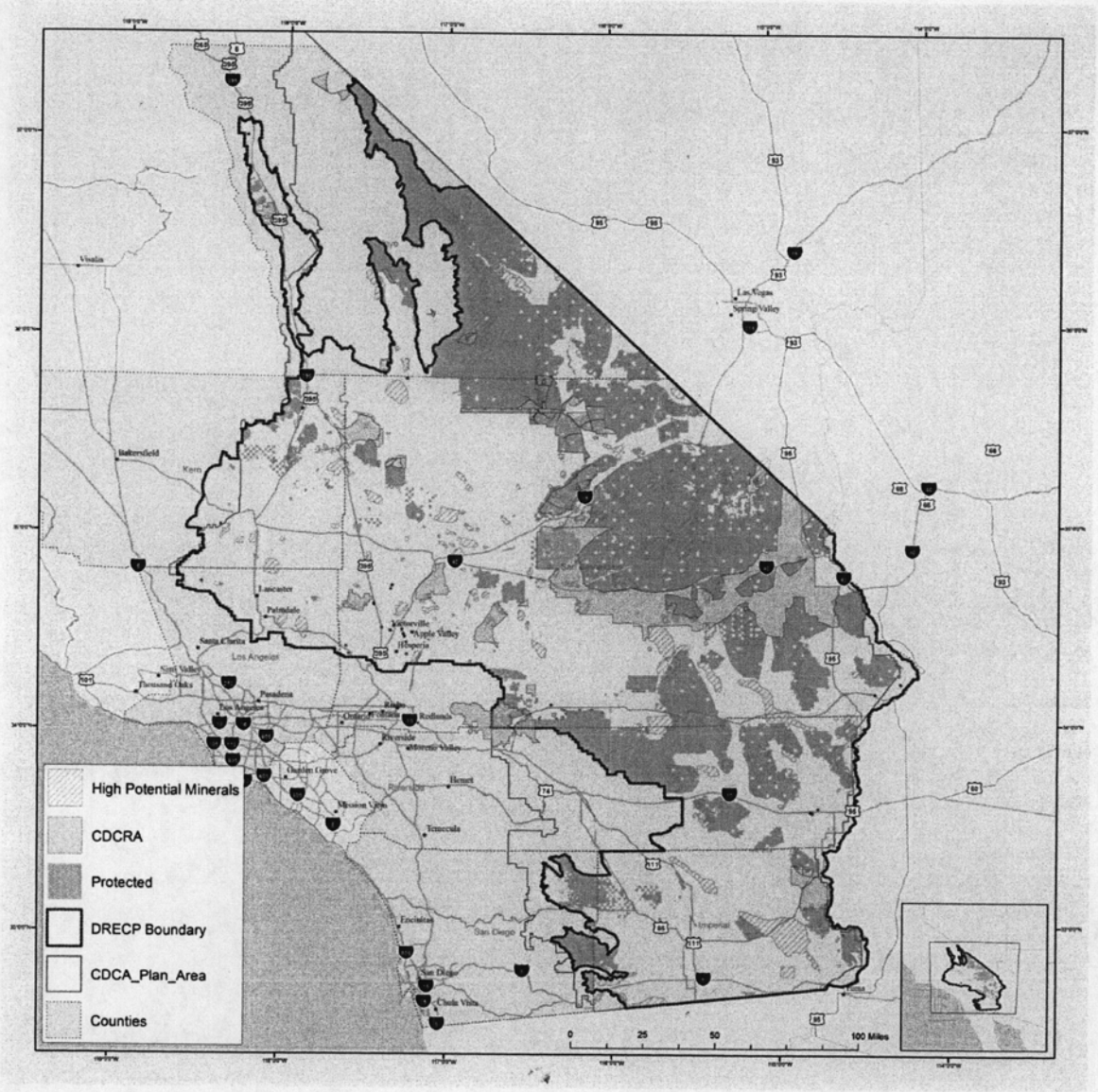

Figure C3. High Potential Mineral Locations.

High Priority Mining Operations: Similar to "High Potential Mineral Locations" these data were derived from the DRECP DEIS, and include the mining operations considered "High Priority" within the study area.

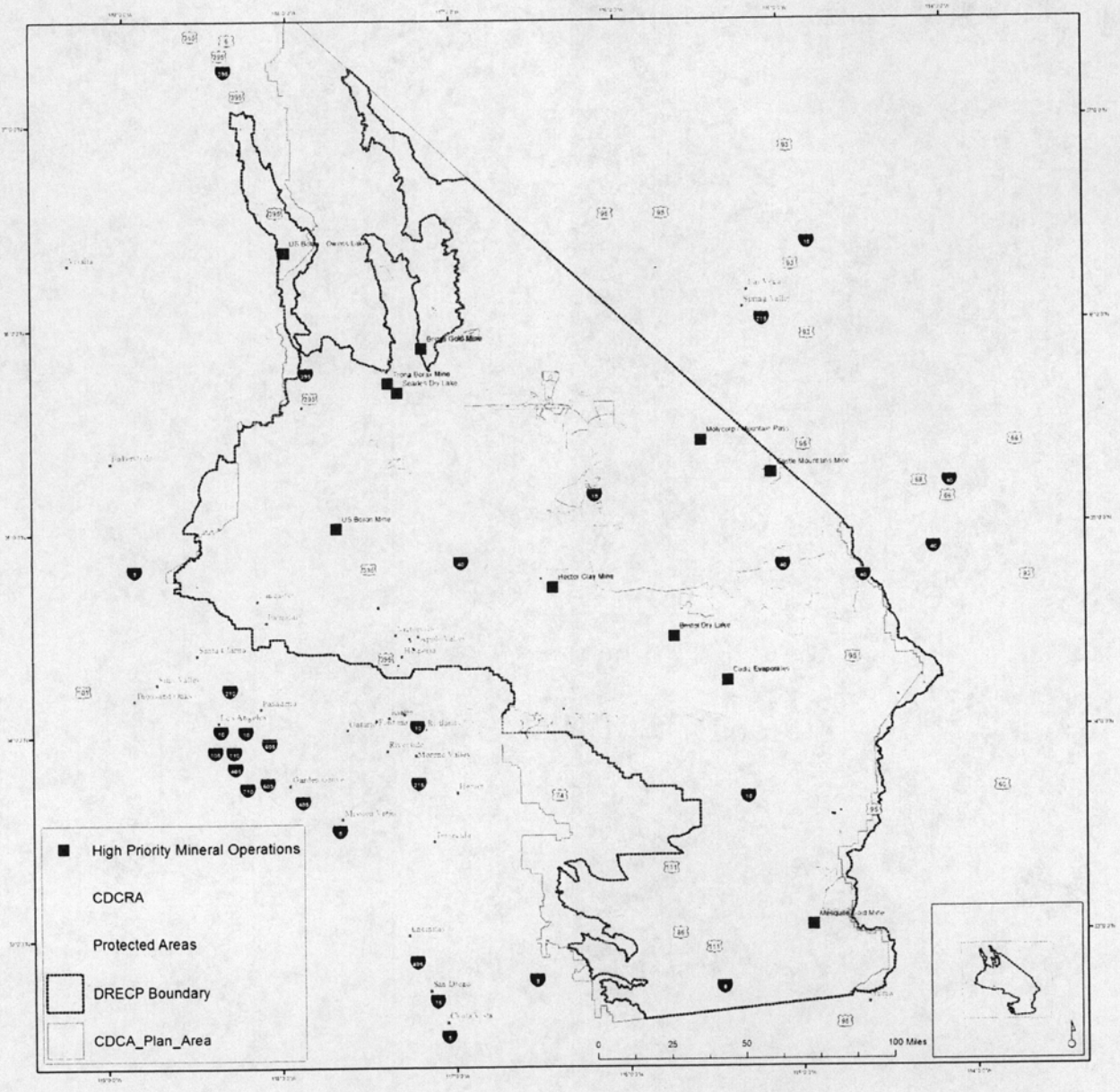

Figure C4. High Priority Mining Operations.

MSHA Mines:

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is a division of the US Department of Labor MSHA is a division of the US Department of Labor charged with protecting miners' safety and health. Data reported by mining operations are compiled by MSHA and are accessible through the Open Government Initiative Data Portal (http://www.msha.gov/OpenGovernmentData/OGIMSHA.asp). Location information in the *mines.txt* dataset, accessed June 2015, was used to generate a GIS shapefile containing the data associated with each mining location. The *mines.txt* dataset also contained information on employment and commodity type which was used in mapping analyses. Some modification and cleanup of the data locations was necessary to generate the GIS data; Google Earth and Internet searches were used to verify locations of some of the mining operations.

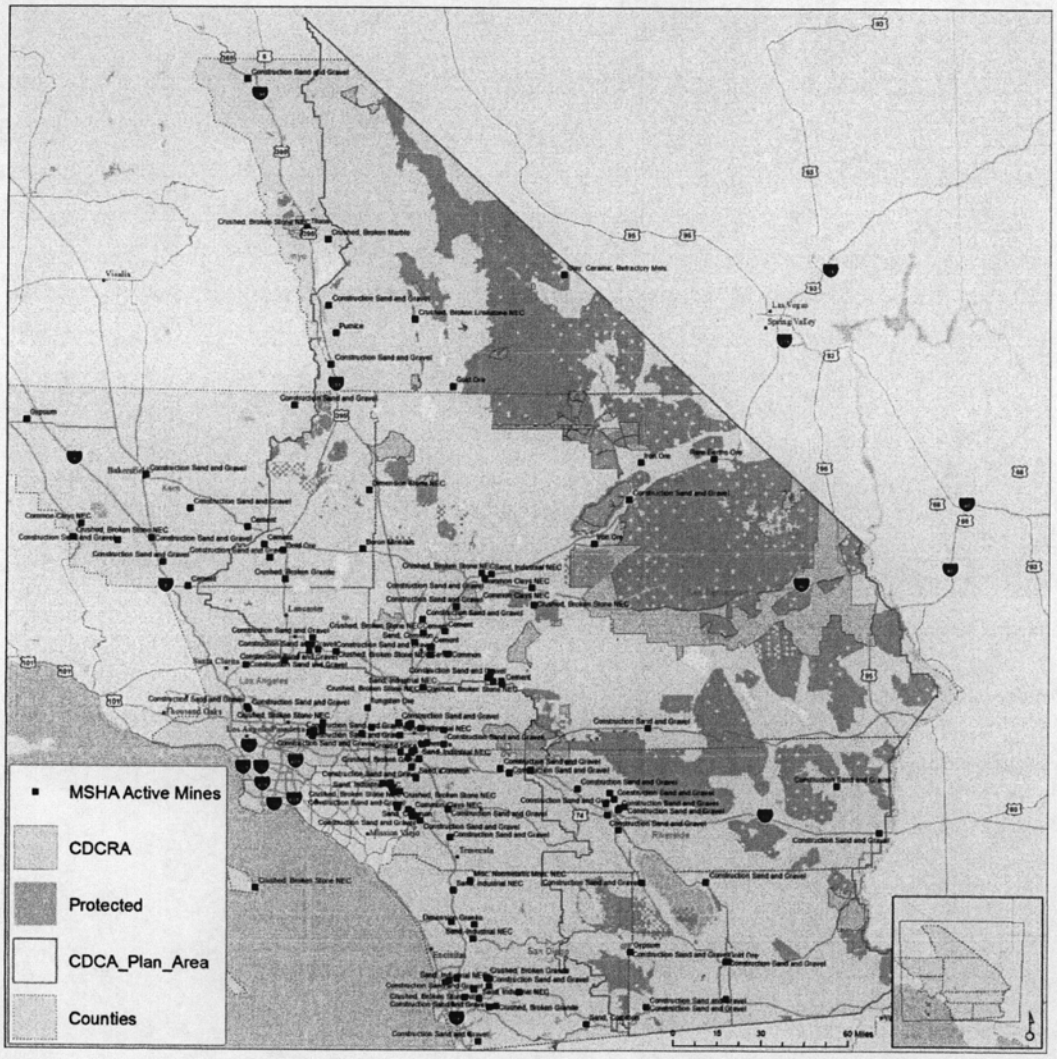

Figure C5. Mine Safety and Health Administration Mines.

Concurrent Mineral Potential: This layer was produced by buffering the *Mineral Occurrences* data by 500 meters, and overlaying it with the *Active Mining Claims* data and the *High Potential Mineral* Locations data. Locations where all three layers coincided became the *Concurrent Mineral Potential* layer, which describes areas where multiple indicators of mineral activity and potential coexist.

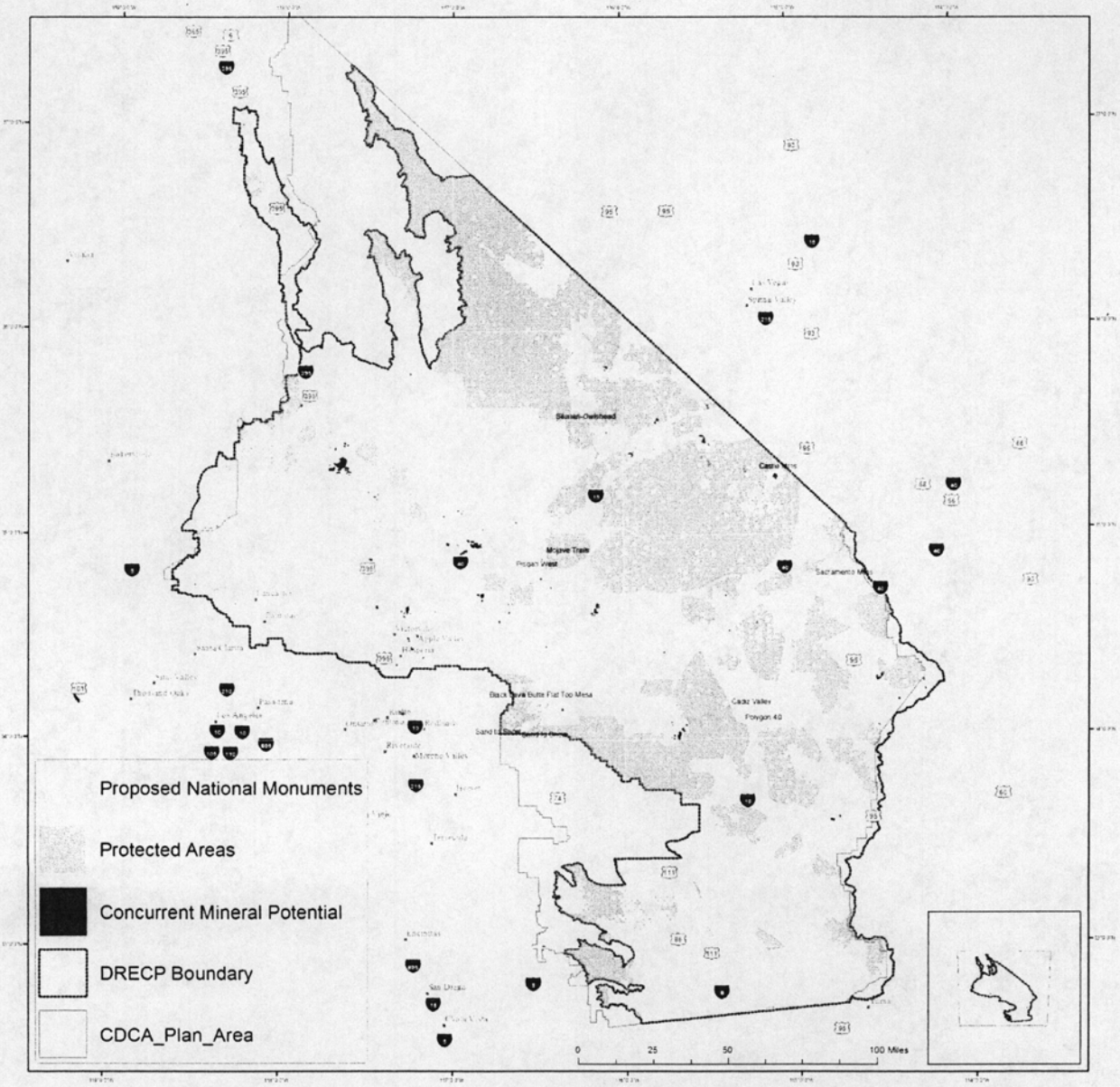

Figure C6. Concurrent Mineral Potential

Appendix D. The California Desert's Top 5 Mining Operations

The region's top five mining operations employ between 1,696 and 1,786 employees (based on the most recent reporting by mine ownership), approximately 40% of the mining sector's total workforce in the desert. This underscores that a relatively few operations comprise the bulk of the economic impacts to the regional economy.

The contributions, direct and indirect, made by mining to the economies of the desert counties are focused on a relatively few operations and resources. Table D1 summarizes characteristics of the top 5 mining operations, based on persons employed, using information from the Mine Safety and Health Administration and data reported by the mine owners as part of annual reports or publicly available data on their websites. These top 3 mining operations include the nation's only rare earth elements mine in Mountain Pass, the large boron operations in Boron, and a gold mine in Imperial County. The Mountain Pass mine is scheduled to close operations in October 2015.

The next 7 top employers are all cement plants that report employment between 100 and 200 persons, and, except for the Black Mountain Quarry in Apple Valley, are named for their location in the California desert: Mojave Plant and Quarry, Black Mountain Quarry, Victorville Cement Plant, Lebec Cement Plant, Tehachapi Plant, Lucerne Valley Plant and Quarry, and Maricopa Plant.

Reminder that the numbers contained here are based on MSHA-reported data. Earlier in the report (Tables 1 and 2) data collected by the US Census Bureau County Business Patterns for mining employment was also reported. Table 3 in the report compares the two sources for mining employment data to each other, for reference.

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Mine Name	*Boron Operations*	*Mt Pass Mine & Mill*	*Mesquite Mine*	*Cushenbury Plant*	*Oro Grande Quarry*
Owner	Rio Tinto Group	Molycorp Inc	New Gold Inc	Mitsubishi Corp	Martin Marietta Materials Inc**
Primary Material	Boron Minerals	Rare Earths Ore	Gold Ore	Cement	Cement
Employees	750-800	380-420*	255	174	137
Estimated Mine Life	45 - 70 years (estimates vary in 2010-2014 reports)	30+ years(2013 estimate)	8 years + residual leach (2015 website)	120 years with South Pit approval (2012 estimate)	41 years (2008 TXI estimate)
Year Reserves End	2050 - 2080	2043	2023	2132	2056
Contribution to Economy as Reported by Owner	Annual: $150 million in local goods and services, $4.5 million local taxes; more than $100,000 to support local community organizations (Rio Tinto)	$108 million dollars in state revenues from corporate and worker income tax and applicable severance taxes; $4.5 billion in increased economic development	Local expenditures reported for 2011 of $40 million includes both Yuma County, AZ and Imperial County, CA	$1.3 million per year in property taxes to San Bernardino County; $15 million per year in employee salaries; $ 20 million is spent each year with High Desert suppliers for materials and services.	*Report not available*
Location	Boron	Primm	Brawley	Lucerne Valley	Oro Grande
County	Kern	San Bernardino	Imperial	San Bernardino	San Bernardino
Status	Active	*Closing Oct. 2015, bankruptcy filing	Active	Active	**Active, reportedly being acquired by Taiheiyo Cement
MSHA Mine ID	400743	402542	404614	400157	400011

Table D1. Top 5 mines by persons employed in the California Desert. *Sources:* Corporate websites, MSHA, NCPA (http://www.ncpa.org/pdfs/st348.pdf).

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Appendix E. Geographic Distribution of Mining Employment

While county-level analyses such as those presented earlier in this report provide a perspective on mining employment, local and regional resource planning necessitates an understanding of the specific areas where mining employment occurs. When visualized on a map, relatively compact areas of concentrated mining employment become prominent, allowing for the potential to adjust proposed boundaries for conservation proposals that would address impacts to current and potentially future mining activities.

To better understand current mining operations in the desert area beyond the top employers (see Appendix D), Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) data were used to look more closely at the locations that recently reported employment to MSHA. Mines considered "active" for this mapping exercise were those reported to MSHA as "active", "intermittent", or "temporarily idled." Reported operations were mapped in a GIS to display the following characteristics of mining employment, shown in Figures E1 – E3:

- Class of commodity reported for each MSHA location that reported employment (Figure E1). *Of the 167 mines indicated on the map, the vast majority (101) are sand and gravel operations. Other commodities are stone (33), non-metal (25), metal (7) and rare earth elements (1). The rare earth elements (REE) mine at Mountain Pass is indicated as both a metal and REE on the map. The Mountain Pass mine is scheduled for non-operation in October 2015. The commodities of the five largest employers are non-metal (boron), metal (gold and REE) and stone (cement).*
- Employees reported at each mine or plant to MSHA, classed using Jenks natural breaks method (Figure E2). *The preponderance of mines employ smaller numbers of employees. The number of mines (in parentheses) associated with each class of employees is as follows: 1 – 15 employees (124); 16-62 employees (28); 63-146 employees (11); 147-420 employees (2); and 421 – 987 employees (1, the borax mine in Boron).*
- Names of mines that reported more than 25 employees to MSHA (Figure E3). *Of the 166 mines reporting employment to MSHA, 35 of the mines (21%) provide jobs for 25 or more persons.*

While the associated economic benefits of mining activity accrues and is reported at the level of the county, these activities are concentrated primarily in the desert areas within these 7 counties. For that reason, US Census Bureau census tracts were used to approximate the desert region (as defined by the California Desert Protection Act) so as to look more closely at activity in the desert portions of the 7 counties. Figures E4 – E5 focus on MSHA mines and mining employment in the desert census tracts in each county. These maps illustrate:

- Locations of MSHA mines reporting recent employment, by desert census tract (Figure E4). *Of MSHA reporting mines, approximately half of the mines 49% (81 of 166) are located in*

desert census tracts. Breakdown of mine locations by county indicated on map. There are many gravel operations outside of the desert areas, providing aggregate needed for construction projects.

- Numbers of employees reported to MSHA, by desert census tract (Figure E5). *In contrast to the fairly equal distribution of mine operations in desert and non-desert locations, almost three-quarters (72%) of mining employment occurs in desert census tract portion of desert counties.*

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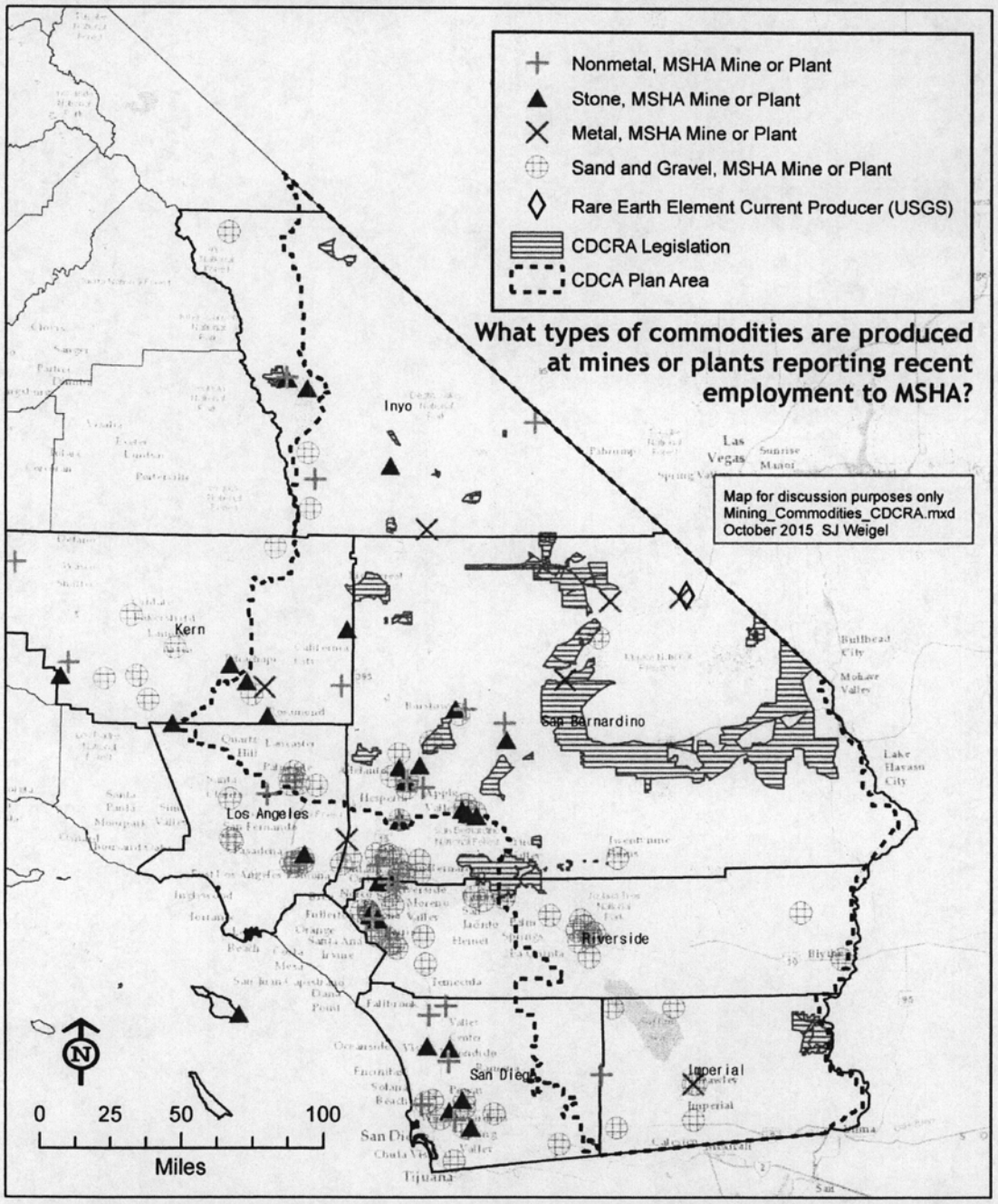
1. Locations of MSHA Active, Intermittent or Temporarily Idled Mines Reporting Employee Numbers to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA, US Dept. of Labor). *Classed by type of commodity.*
2. U.S.G.S. Rare Earth Element Current Producer Mine (Molycorp-Mountain Pass).



Data Sources: MSHA data from Mines.txt dataset, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Admininstration, accessed June 2015. Rare Earth Elements Mines from USGS.

Figure E1. Mining commodities produced at plants reporting recent employment to MSHA.

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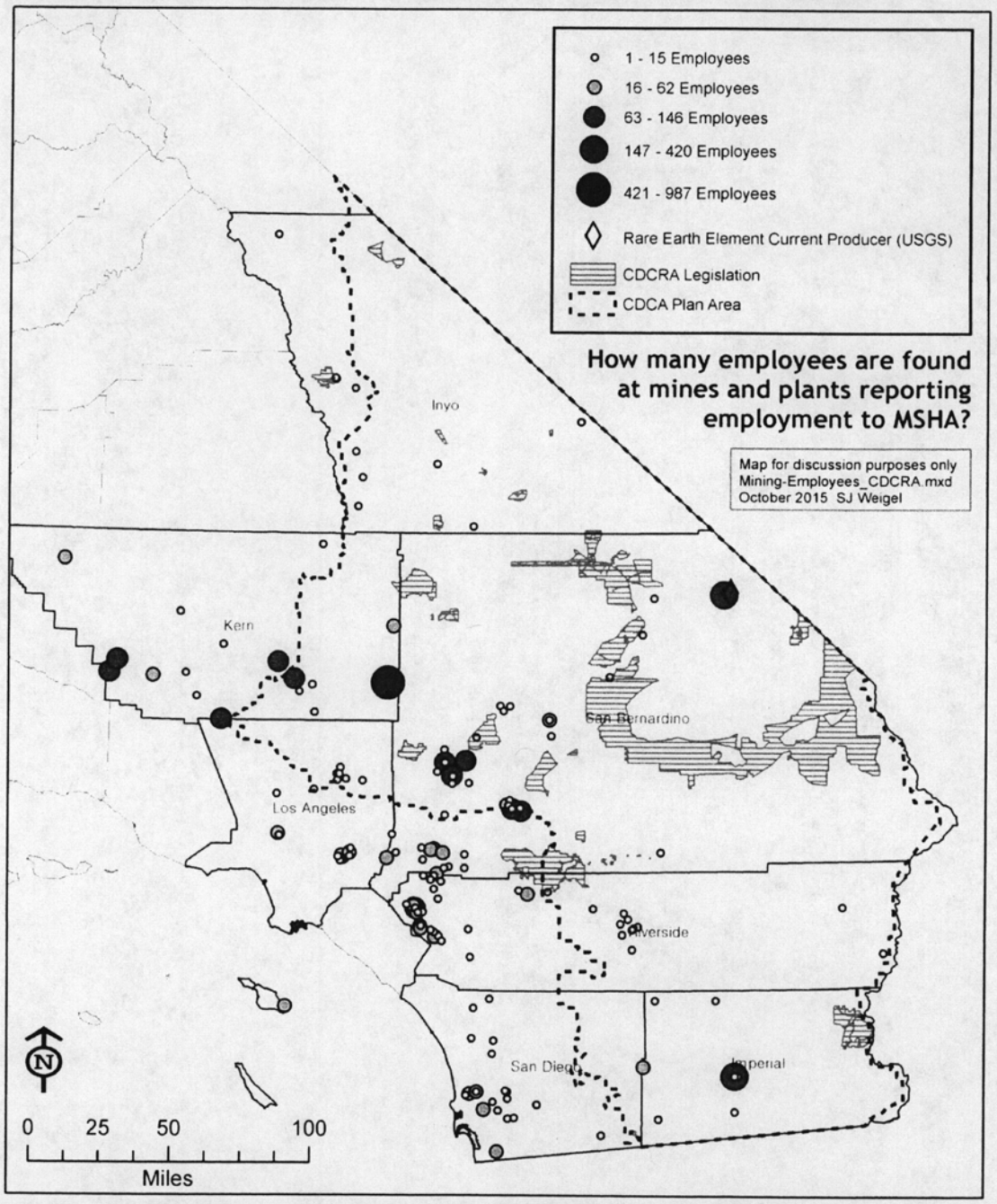
1. Locations of MSHA Active, Intermittent or Temporarily Idled Mines Reporting Employee Numbers to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA, US Departent of Labor). *Classed by number of employees.*
2. USGS Rare Earth Element Current Producer Mine (Molycorp-Mountain Pass)



Data Sources: MSHA employment numbers from U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Admininstration, Mines.txt data set. Data accessed June 2015. Rare Earth Elements Mines from USGS.

Figure E2. Employees at mines and plants reporting recent employment to MSHA.

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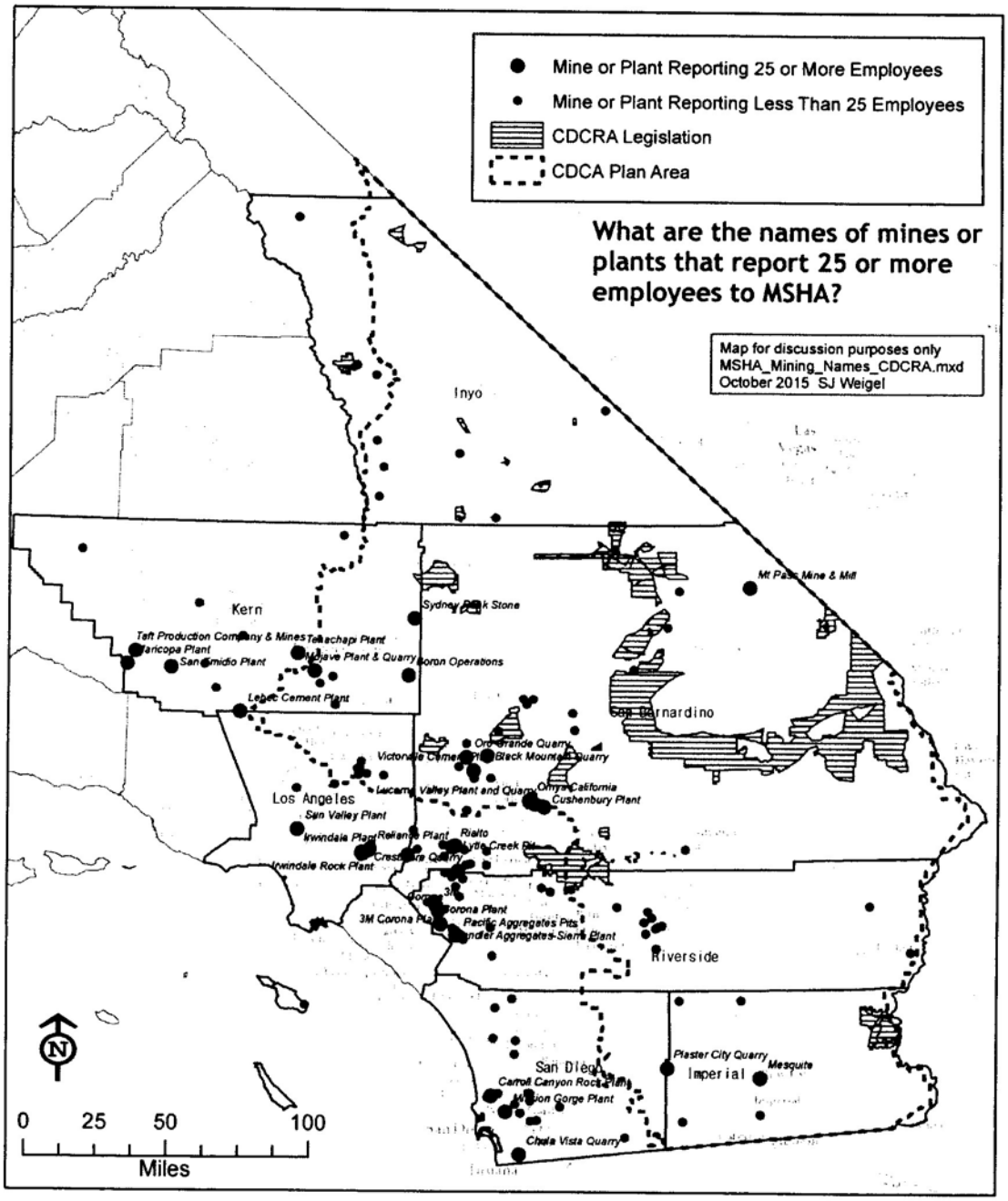
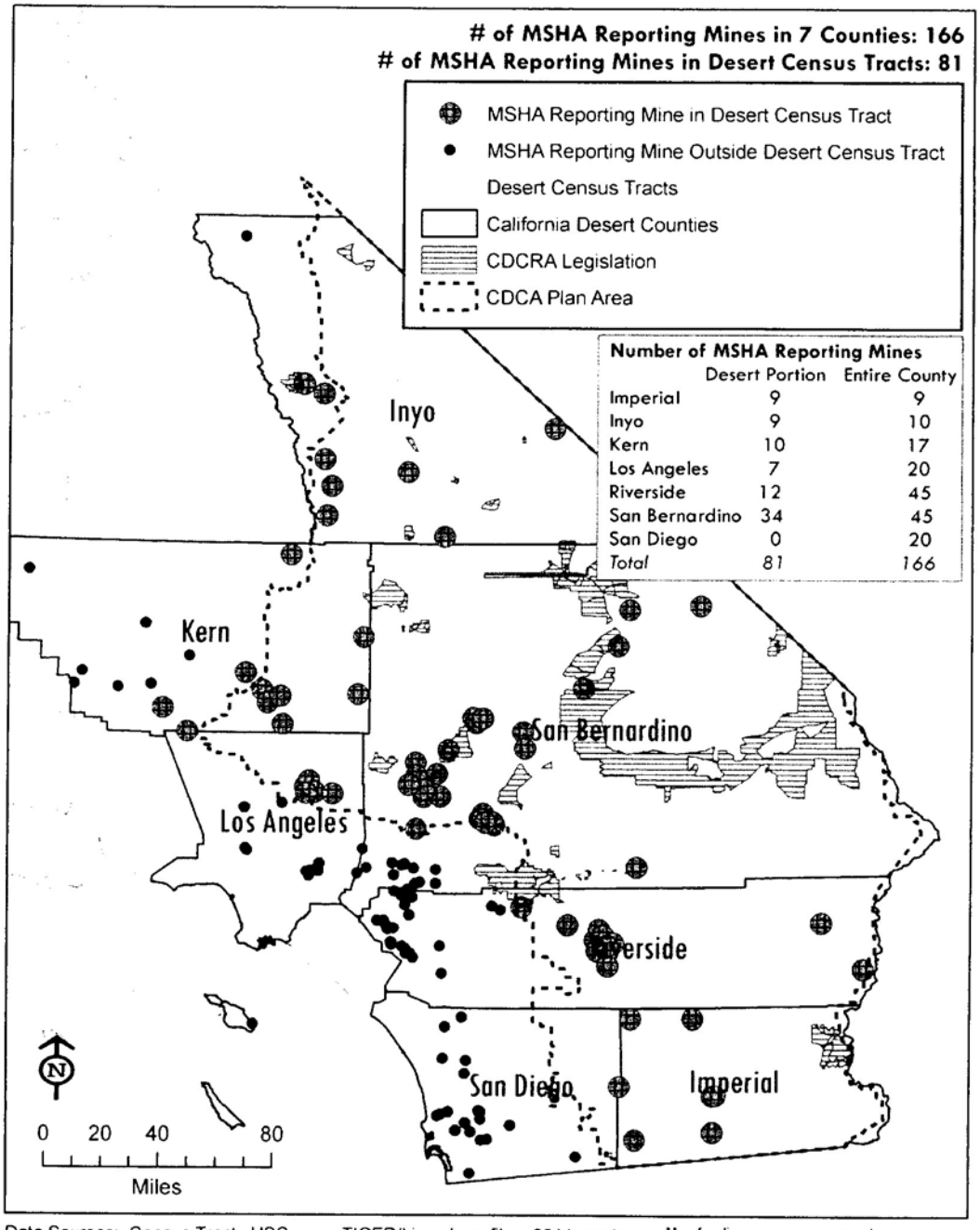
Locations of MSHA Active, Intermittent or Temporarily Idled Mines Reporting 25 or More Employees to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA, US Dept. of Labor)



Data Sources: MSHA data from Mines.txt dataset, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Admininstration, Data accessed June 2015.

Figure E3. Names of mines reporting over 25 employees to MSHA.

California Desert Counties Showing MSHA Reporting Mines Located in Desert Census Tracts



Data Sources: Census Tracts:USCensus TIGER/Line shapefiles, 2014 version; MSHA data from Mines.txt dataset, U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Admininstration, accessed June 2015.

Map for discussion purposes only
MSHAinTracts_CDCRA.mxd
October 2015 SJ Weigel

Figure E4. Locations of MSHA mines reporting recent employment, in desert and non-desert census tracts. Of MSHA reporting mines, 49% are located in desert census tracts. Breakdown of mine locations by county indicated on map.

Employment in MSHA Reporting Mines Located in Desert Census Tracts in 7 Desert Counties. ***Numbers in parentheses after county names indicate mining employees reported in desert census tracts and total mining employees in each county.***

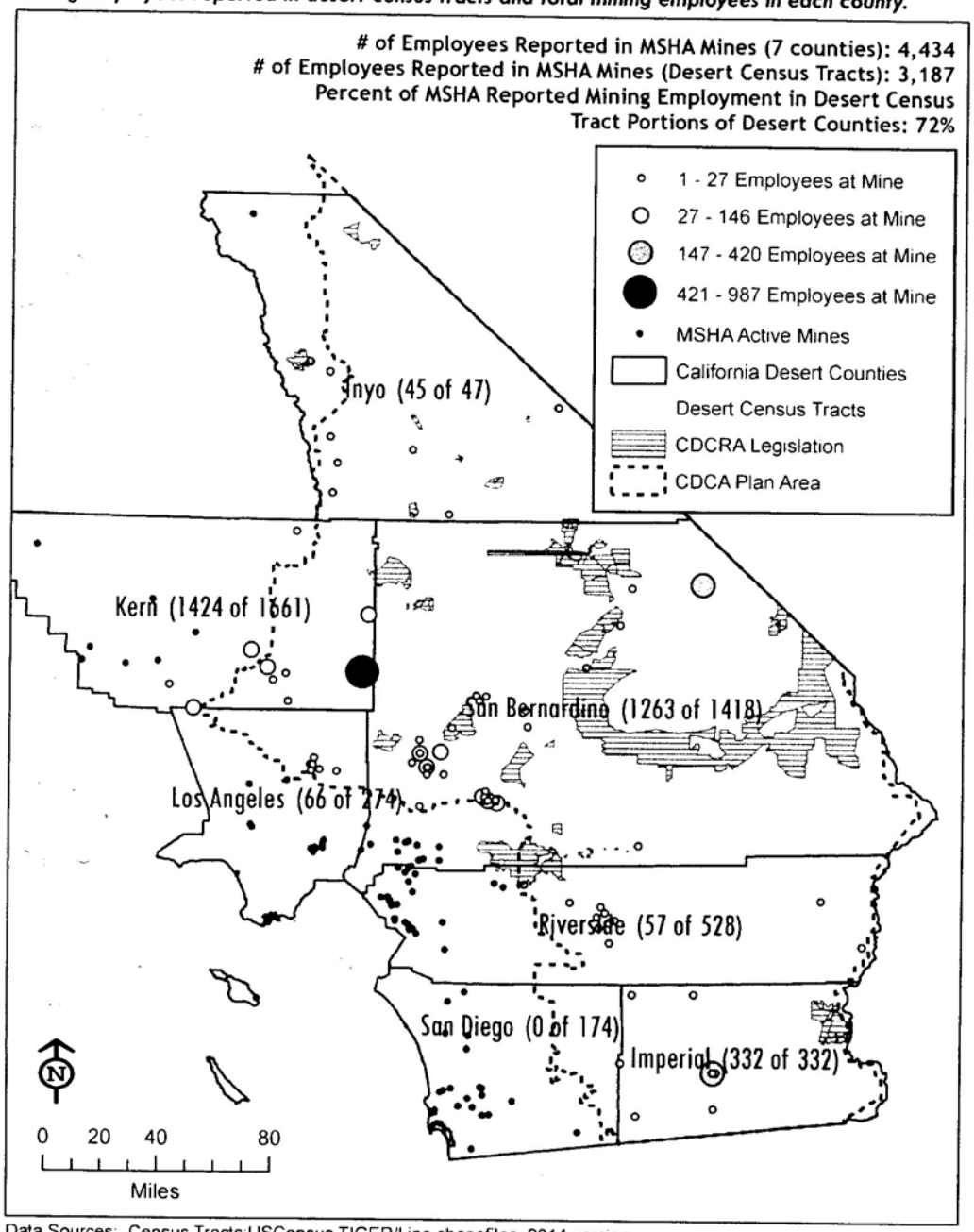


Figure E5. Employment in MSHA mines reporting recent employment in desert census tracts. Seventy-two percent of mining employment occurs in desert census tracts across the seven counties. Numbers in parentheses indicate numbers of employees reported in desert census tracts, of total mining employees in that county.

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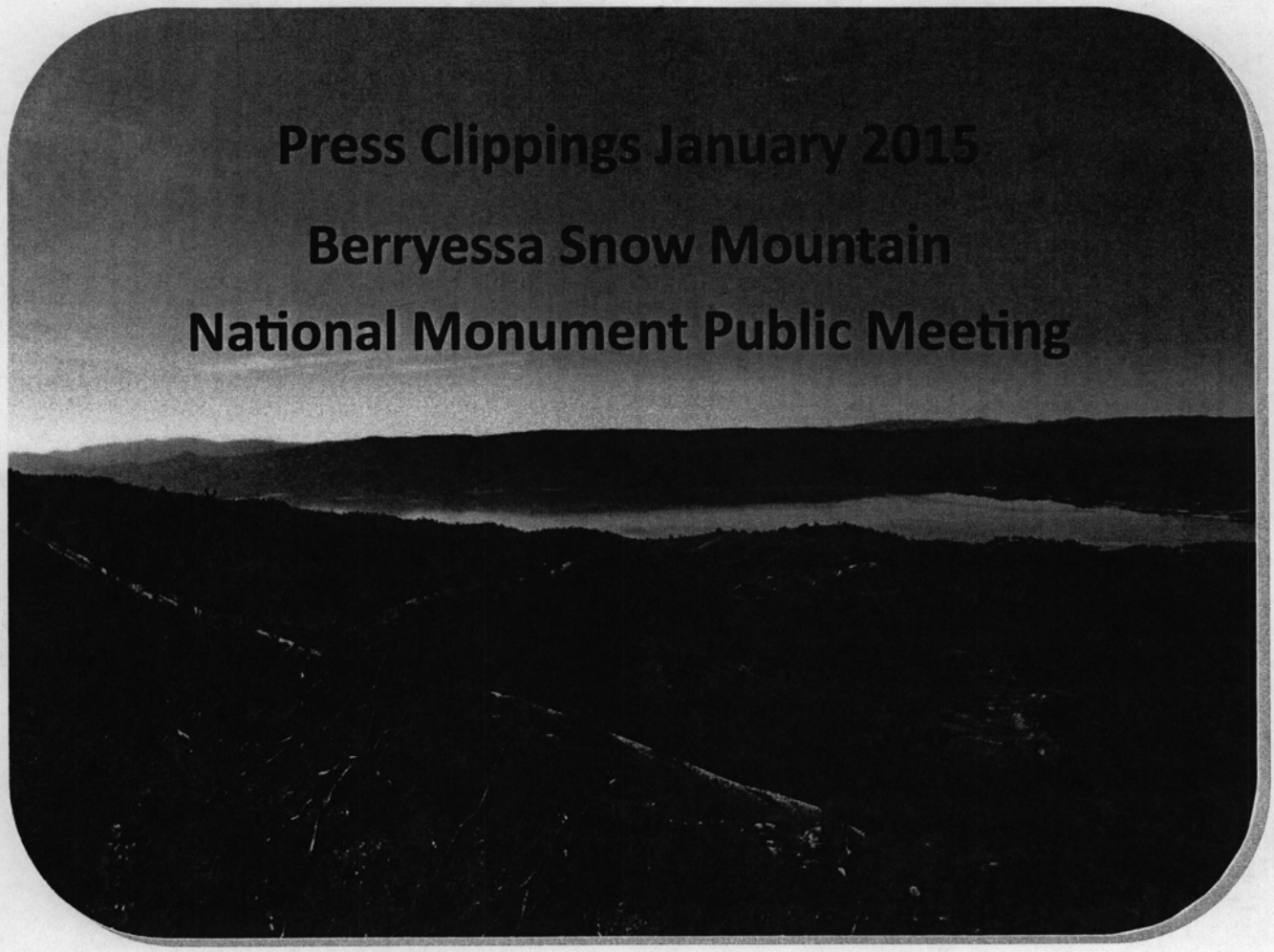
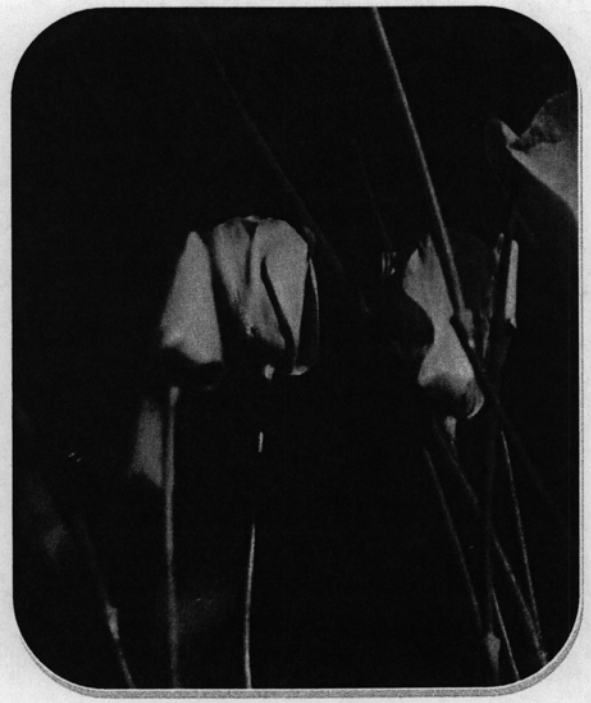
Press Clippings January 2015

Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Public Meeting





Photos by Jim Rose.

Compiled by C.M. Orr for Tuleyome.

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THE DAVIS enterprise

Latino Outdoors supports protection for Berryessa Snow Mountain region

By Special to The Enterprise
From page A6 | January 14, 2015 |

By José Gonzales

Ya es tiempo — it's time.

People who care about the outdoors have had several reasons to celebrate recently in regards to public land protection. For the first time in about five years, Congress has passed a land-protection bill and several national monuments have been designated by President Obama, from Point Arena-Stornetta to the San Gabriel Mountains.

It is now time to add the Berryessa Snow Mountain region to that list.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild Inner Coast Range. These public lands stretch nearly 100 miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain in the Mendocino National Forest. It is a diverse ecosystem that serves diverse communities, both in the natural and human landscape — and the time is now to better protect this region with a national monument designation.

¿Por qué?

This is an opportunity to protect a hidden gem enjoyed by many. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is just two to three hours from the Bay Area and Sacramento — and is full of scenic wonders. This includes waterfalls, serpentine soils, iconic native California plants and wildlife such as bears, osprey, butterflies, dragonflies, river otters, tule elk and California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles.

In addition to the natural beauty, there are many outdoor recreation opportunities that include hunting, fishing, camping, boating, nature viewing, photography, horseback riding, hiking and riding off-road vehicles on legally designated routes.

Permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region will provide for well-managed recreation opportunities and user education while safeguarding the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants — and, of course, there is economic sense to it as well. We need to protect this treasure so that it can be enjoyed by future generations.

Juntos — together

Much like in other recent national monument designations, there is a wide community of support behind protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. This is not just one story that includes a monolithic or generalized conservation community.

We already know that Latino communities in the West support public land protection. Locally, this designation has support from many Latino business owners and some Hispanic Chambers of Commerce. Though the Latino story may not initially seem as apparent as in the San Gabriel Mountains or the Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks, it's there, from the farmworker communities in Winters to the schoolchildren I took on weekend hikes to Cold Canyon when I was as school teacher in Woodland.

Ahí estamos, we're there — with our stories to be woven in this conservation narrative as well.

Vamos — let's go

Latino Outdoors, along with other local, regional, and national communities, supports permanent protection for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region and hopes to see a national monument designation of this important ecosystem in the New Year. Ya es tiempo.

— José Gonzales is the founder of Latino Outdoors, a growing community as a network and volunteer-run organization. Latino Outdoors exists to "connect cultura with the outdoors." The focus is on promoting a network of like-minded professionals, supporting outdoor leadership capacity-building opportunities for youth and young adults, and serving as a storytelling platform for defining the ambicultural identity connecting Latino communities and the outdoors.

Los Angeles Times

Activists choose broad path to preserve Berryessa-Snow Mountain area

Boaters were promised the proposal would continue to allow motorized boats in Lake Berryessa. (Allen J. Schaben, Los Angeles Times)

By Julie Cart
January 10, 2015

Nature has no rival when it comes to patience. It took millions of years for the gnashing of tectonic plates to form the magnificent riot of rocks that is home to the unspoiled rivers and rolling oak woodlands of California's inner Coast Range.

For a group of residents here determined to provide federal protections for this lesser-traveled region, their campaign has only felt like millions of years, but the effort has required no less endurance.

After a conservation bill stalled out in Congress, the methodical, decade-long effort to permanently protect 350,000 acres in the Berryessa-Snow Mountain region that hosts some of the most biologically diverse landscape in California may finally become reality.

The preservation campaign headed by the Woodland-based conservation group Tuleyome is bypassing Capitol Hill and going straight to the White House. A public meeting at Napa Valley College last month with Interior Secretary Sally Jewell has fueled speculation that President Obama may soon use his executive powers to create the Berryessa-Snow Mountain National Monument.

It would, with the stroke of a pen, afford permanent protection for the area's scientifically rich and often overlooked patchwork of land managed by more than a dozen federal, state and local agencies.

In his last State of the Union address, Obama pledged that if Congress continued to balk at legislation creating new protected areas, he would use his authority to set aside "pristine federal lands for future generations." The authority Obama referred to is found in the Antiquities Act, a 1906 law that gives the president the option to preserve public land without consulting Congress.

While the president's critics find his increasingly frequent use of independent executive action distasteful, Obama and Jewell have made protecting public lands a priority, invoking the law to preserve overlooked gems.

Last year, the president expanded the California Coastal National Monument with the addition of 1,665 acres at Point Arena-Stornetta. In October, he designated 350,000 acres of national forest land as the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

Tuleyome's carefully choreographed — and patient — effort to preserve this portion of the Coast Range has become a model for how to accomplish conservation goals in the realpolitik of the moment.

Working steadily since 2002, the group has painstakingly stitched together a network of unlikely supporters. Initially, the goal was to ask Congress to approve legislation that would create a Berryessa-Snow Mountain Conservation area, a designation that generally allows a wide range of recreation.

LA TIMES CONTINUED...

The group quickly learned it had to pivot on major issues to keep the loose coalition together. When hunters at early public meetings indicated they were worried about losing their privileges, the group launched community outreach campaigns reassuring them that hunting would not be excluded.

Off-roaders weighed in, too, insisting that motorized recreation not be shut out from the proposed conservation area. The bill was rewritten to include ATV trails. Boaters were also promised that they could still motor around Lake Berryessa.

Don Amador, the western representative for the national off-road organization Blue Ribbon Coalition, said his group would not normally support executive action. But he praised Tuleyome and other supporters for their perseverance and collaborative approach.

"I think we are past the days when you had blood feuds between environmental groups and off-road organizations," Amador said. "This is more or less the model for how to conserve these places and some to agreement."
Despite Tuleyome's efforts to gain support in the region, legislation introduced by Rep. Mike Thompson (D-St. Helena) languished in Congress, alongside dozens of bills proposing wilderness or other protections that have floundered as low priorities.

Seeing the mood of legislators, Thompson began to advocate publicly for monument designation. And the Tuleyome group made an economic case for monument status in an area that serves as a playground for residents of dense urban centers in the Bay Area and Sacramento. They wooed county supervisors with studies and forecasts suggesting a national monument would bring a surge of eco-tourism to a struggling region.

The Winters Chamber of Commerce commissioned a report projecting that a Berryessa-Snow Mountain National Monument could generate revenue of $50 million over five years.

To Winters Mayor Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, the potential economic boon was only one reason to support the monument. "My goal is to have economic development and save what's in my backyard," she said. "I've lived in Winters 56 years. That mountain range is my home."

Many scientists agree the region is worthy of special status. Geologists, in particular, hold this section of the Coast Range in high regard. Steeply uptilted rock faces testify to a past of violent tectonic head-butting. Here, the North American plate rears up against the Pacific plate in a battle that, over hundreds of millions of years, has created striking escarpments and deposited the contents of ancient sea beds into a region that avid geology buffs keep as their outdoor laboratory.

The place is rich with rocks and rock types: sedimentary, volcanic and the delicate green- and black-flecked serpentine, California's state rock. It also supports a luxurious plant world. The flanks of the region's high country are swathed in classic plein-air scenes: chaparral communities with bristling shrubs giving way to a smoky blue oak woodland, blue-tinged trees clinging to slopes shot through with silvery ghost pines.

Speaking at last month's public meeting, UC Davis environmental professor Susan Harrison compared the region to both a cradle and a museum — a birthplace for new species and a living compendium for millions of years of natural process.

Sara Husby, Tuleyome's executive director, said it's a place worth patiently preserving.
"We've been careful and, we hope, broad-based" she said, "and we think that that approach will be successful."

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LAKE COUNTY NEWS

Assemblyman Dodd introduces resolution to protect Berryessa wilderness

January 9 ,2015

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA – Assemblyman Bill Dodd (D-Napa) on Thursday introduced a resolution petitioning President Obama to create the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

The establishment of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument would help safeguard the area that stretches from the shores of Lake Berryessa in Napa County to the flanks of Snow Mountain, and includes portions of Lake, Mendocino, Solano, and Yolo counties.

"The designation of this unique area as a national monument will help preserve the region's natural splendor for future generations. The national monument will provide continued recreational opportunities and will bring enhanced visitation," said Dodd. "This is a great example of how we can protect our environment and support our local economy."

Dodd was joined in supporting the national monument by the region's other legislative representatives – Senators Lois Wolk and Mike McGuire and Assemblyman Jim Wood – all of whom are principal co-authors of the Assembly joint resolution, AJR 4.

"I want to recognize Congressman Mike Thompson and the broad coalition of environmental and outdoor recreation groups, hundreds of local businesses, and local governments that have been working diligently to support the national monument designation," Dodd said.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain area includes some 350,000 acres of existing public lands and is a rich in wildlife, providing habitat for bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions, tule elk, river otters and the rare Pacific fisher.

The area's proximity to the Bay Area and Sacramento makes it an outdoor recreation destination easily accessible to millions of Californians.

Each year tens of millions of Californians participate in outdoor recreation, supporting over 700,000 jobs and creating more than $6 billion in economic activity.

Studies have shown that local economies expand around newly created national monuments.

Assemblyman Bill Dodd represents the Fourth Assembly District, which includes all or portions of Yolo, Napa, Sonoma, Lake, Solano and Colusa counties.

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Daily Democrat

Dodd introduces resolution to protect Berryessa Snow Mountain

By Democrat staff

news@dailydemocrat.com @WoodlandNews on Twitter

Created: 01/08/2015

SACRAMENTO >> Assemblyman Bill Dodd introduced a resolution Thursday petitioning President Barack Obama to create the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

The establishment of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument would cover the area that stretches from the shores of Lake Berryessa in Napa County to the flanks of Snow Mountain, and includes portions of Lake, Mendocino, Solano and Yolo counties. All five counties within the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region have endorsed permanent protection for the area.

"The designation of this unique area as a national monument will help preserve the region's natural splendor for future generations. The national monument will provide continued recreational opportunities and will bring enhanced visitation," said Dodd, D-Napa, in a statement. "This is a great example of how we can protect our environment and support our local economy."

Dodd was joined in supporting the national monument by the region's other legislative representatives — Sens. Lois Wolk and Mike McGuire and Assemblyman Jim Wood — all of whom are principal co-authors of the Assembly joint resolution, AJR 4.

"I want to recognize Congressman Mike Thompson and the broad coalition of environmental and outdoor recreation groups, hundreds of local businesses, and local governments that have been working diligently to support the national monument designation," Dodd said.

In May 2013, Thompson introduced H.R. 1025, the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area Act. U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer introduced S.483 the companion bill in the Senate. Congress declined to pass the legislation, thus prompting supporters to push for a national monument.

The difference revolves primarily around who does the authorizing. Congress approves new national conservation areas, while presidents can protect wildland and historical sites as national monuments.

In December, Thompson and Congressman John Garamendi hosted a visit to the area by Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and United States Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie in a push for the national monument.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain area includes some 350,000 acres of existing public lands and provides habitat for bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions, tule elk, river otters and the Pacific fisher.

The region also includes numerous trails, open spaces, lakes and rivers. These resources provide recreation opportunities for hikers, bikers, hunters, campers, off-highway vehicle users, and both motorized and non-motorized boaters.

THE HUFFINGTON POST

Trending in the New Year: Americans' Love for Public Lands

Posted: 01/08/2015

Dan Chu, Director, Sierra Club 'Our Wild America' campaign

Hello 2015! At the start of the New Year I often find myself looking ahead to what may come, eagerly anticipating new opportunities and preparing for new challenges. Looking ahead also requires celebrating victories in 2014.

Last year nearly 900,000 acres of public lands were permanently protected by the President alone. President Obama designated three new national monuments -- Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands in California, Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks in New Mexico, and the San Gabriel Mountains just outside Los Angeles. He also greatly expanded the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument in the Pacific Ocean by over 250 million acres. All of these designations were widely supported and praised.

Yet lost in the holiday shuffle were two other important signs of conservation progress. The Obama administration held public hearings to discuss adding two very special places to our nation's legacy of protected public lands. The first, Browns Canyon in Colorado, is one of the country's most popular white-water rafting and premiere trout fishing destinations. Its breath-taking combination of rushing water, upland ridges, and dry valleys provide a beautiful backdrop for all types of outdoor experiences year-round. The area is also important for elk, deer, and bighorn sheep.

The second special place, California's Berryessa Snow Mountain, although much different in topography, is also a haven for wildlife and recreationists. Visitors can encounter more than eighty species of butterfly, hike or ride horses through the scenic beauty, or enjoy a wetter perspective from a kayak on the water. The area's proximity to the Bay Area and Central Valley provide important opportunities for a diversity of people to connect with nature.

It's unsurprising that both of these spectacular places have broad and diverse support ranging from local officials and community leaders to conservationists and business groups. Hundreds of people turned out for the public hearings held by the Administration and overwhelmingly spoke in favor of protecting these places as national monuments.

That's a trend I expect to continue throughout 2015. There is tremendous and growing demand from Americans across the country for our leaders to take action to safeguard our public lands. The healthy recreation opportunities and the clean air and water these lands provide support a high quality of life for many who visit or live near these natural wonders. They are places that are also increasingly important for the growing outdoor recreation economy -- an economy not subject to the boom and bust cycles associated with dirty fuel development.

While a small but vocal minority continues to push for selling off our public lands to fossil fuel interests and developers it's clear that the vast majority of Americans value our outdoor legacy and would like to see more done to protect our public lands. Unfortunately it doesn't appear that the new Congress will be ready to heed that desire. In fact, it is poised to do the opposite.

President Obama however has shown that he is willing to respond to the will of the people. During his tenure so far he's designated 13 new national monuments. As 2015 gets underway I look forward with hope to additional designations. Browns Canyon and Berryessa Snow Mountain are good places to start.

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The Times Herald

Pamela Flick: Berryessa Snow Mountain should be a National Monument

Posted: 01/07/15

During his tenure President Obama has designated 13 national monuments, and the next one on his list should be California's Berryessa Snow Mountain. Berryessa Snow Mountain is a national treasure – the region's natural beauty, cultural history and economic significance place it among the most special places in the country – and it should be permanently protected.

Stretching nearly 100 miles from north to south, the Berryessa Snow Mountain region is a hidden gem of northern California's wild Inner Coast Ranges, home to a wide variety of California wildlife, including mountain lions, bears, deer, osprey, native trout, bald eagles and elusive Pacific fishers. The region is also teeming with blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, and unique plants found nowhere else on Earth. At least four linguistically distinct Native American tribes lived within the region, with ancient archaeological sites included on the National Register of Historic Places.

Permanent protection for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region isn't just good for the environment and wildlife; it's also good for the economy. The outdoor recreation industry supports more than 400,000 California jobs and generates $46 billion of economic activity in the Golden State annually. Less than 100 miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, Berryessa Snow Mountain is an outdoor wonderland loaded with recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Public lands in the region are favored for hiking, horseback riding, camping, wildlife watching, enjoying water sports and more.

I've been lucky to experience this incredible area firsthand, from admiring rare butterflies high atop Goat Mountain in the Mendocino National Forest to Walker Ridge's amazing spring wildflower display; watching Tule elk roaming the oak woodlands near Highway 20 and cooling off in Cache Creek's clear waters.

This area truly has something for everyone.

Studies have consistently demonstrated the benefits that protected public lands bring to local economies. Counties with protected public lands like national monuments have been more successful at sustaining property values, attracting high wage employers, and securing entrepreneurial investment. Protecting our special places like Berryessa Snow Mountain encourages tourism, supports local businesses and creates desirable places to live and work.

But the future of Berryessa Snow Mountain is uncertain. This magical mountainous region is facing increasing threats from the impacts of climate change and ever-expanding development. Water pollution, inadequate fire planning, invasive species and poorly managed recreation pose risks for habitat, wildlife and the sensitive areas that we enjoy.

It is critical that President Obama designate Berryessa Snow Mountain as a national monument to permanently protect its unique treasures. The President should follow in the footsteps of his predecessors who have used the authority granted by the Antiquities Act, enacted by Theodore Roosevelt in 1906, to proclaim "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures and other objects of historic or scientific interest" as national monuments.

Establishment of Berryessa Snow Mountain as a national monument would be an all-around win. It would safeguard important areas for wildlife and rare plants to adapt to a changing climate; protect our clean water; encourage tourism and support local businesses; and ensure that suitable public lands remain open to varied forms of outdoor recreation.

It's no wonder that all five counties that comprise the region have passed resolutions supporting its designation as a national monument, and more than 200 business and 65,000 individuals and businesses have advocated for its permanent protection.

National monuments recognize and protect cultural and ecological wonders all over the United States for future generations.

Berryessa Snow Mountain should be among them.

Pamela Flick

California Representative

Defenders of Wildlife, based in Sacramento

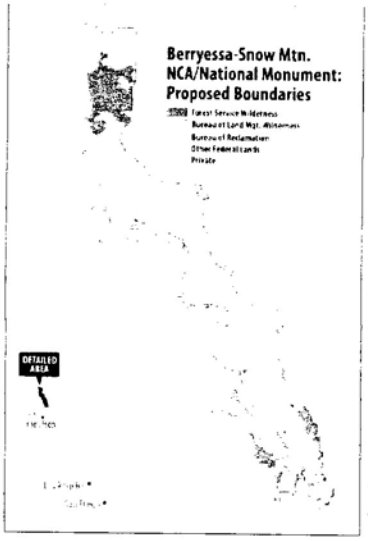
KQED Science

Future of Berryessa-Snow Mountain Lands in Limbo

Craig Miller, KQED Science | January 5, 2015

Hikers traverse Snow Mountain during a summer trip led by the conservation group Tuleyome. (Charlotte Orr/Tuleyome)

It could become California's largest national monument — or not.



The future of about 350,000 acres of federal lands north of the Bay Area likely now rests in the hands of President Obama and his Interior Secretary, Sally Jewell.

Proponents of special protections for the huge, biologically diverse tract of land have changed their strategy. For years they've been pushing Congress to create a national conservation area that includes a mishmash of federal landsstretching from Lake Berryessa, 100 miles north to Snow Mountain in the Mendocino National Forest.

But as bills from Democrats Mike Thompson and Barbara Boxer have languished in the House and Senate, respectively, the call has gone out for President Obama to use his executive power and designate the lands instead as a national monument. That status would create similar protections from development. It could also become the largest national monument in California, rivaling the newly created San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in area.

For guidance on the matter, Obama will look to Jewell, who was in the region lately attending town meetings and even slogging across creeks to get a sense of the landscape and the range of opinions surrounding its future.

"I'm not prepared to make a recommendation," Jewell told me following a recent public meeting in Napa. "I've just been absorbing the information here." Jewell admits that there's "a lot of complexity here — different landowners, a man-made lake, there's a lot of factors that need to be taken into account."

The "man-made lake" to which she refers is Berryessa, created in the 1950s with the construction of Monticello Dam, near the town of Winters. Local opponents to the designation say the lake, while picturesque, doesn't merit special protections. They fear that national monument status would curtail activities like hunting and motorized watercraft on the lake. Thompson has repeatedly assured them that it would not.

Ultimately, the specific restrictions put in place for national monuments and conservation areas depend on how the management plan is eventually written by federal land managers.

Thompson said by his own count of comment cards at the Napa town meeting, sentiment was running about 80/20 in favor of a national monument or national conservation area. The state of California (via its Natural Resources Agency) has joined area legislators and conservationists in calling on the president to use his pen to put protections in place.

Jewell says her preference is still to protect the area by legislation, but "in a number of instances the president has used his executive authority because Congress has failed to act, not because they have disagreed, they just have failed to act, and that is the case here."

"I don't care how we get it done," added Thompson in a separate interview, "just so we protect it."

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THE DAVIS enterprise

Support a national monument

By Letters to the Editor
From page A10 | December 30, 2014 |

I had the honor and privilege of attending the hearing on protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument. I am deeply grateful to all of the people and groups who have worked on this designation. There is broad-based support for heightened protection, which speaks volumes to both the quality of the organizers and the beauty of the region to be protected.

The beneficiaries of this act will be native peoples, hikers, bikers, hunters, off-road enthusiasts, hang gliders, cattle ranchers, swimmers, horseback riders and the general public who want to enjoy the wild, scenic and biologically diverse area.

Berryessa Snow Mountain is considered a biological hotspot, home to badgers, black bears, falcons, bald eagles, rare fish, butterflies and bats. National monument status also will be good for local economies, as more people would discover the beauty of the region. The photos on the websitehttp://berryessasnowmountain.org are worthy of any travel magazine.

The above website also has a link to a letter to President Obama, to encourage him to sign this act. I added my name to the growing list of supporters.

Elizabeth Lasensky
Davis

SCVtv
Local Television for Santa Clarita

Boxer Urges National Monument Status for Nor Cal Mountain
SCVNews.com | Friday, Dec 26, 2014

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer

[Sen. Boxer] – U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer recently urged the Obama Administration to use its executive authority to designate the Berryessa-Snow Mountain region as a National Monument. A public meeting about the future of the area is taking place in Napa today with federal, state and local officials including Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, USDA Under Secretary Robert Bonnie, Representatives Mike Thompson (D-CA5) and John Garamendi (D-CA3), and Lake County Supervisor Denise Rushing.

"This region is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California," Boxer, D-Calif., said in a statement. "By raising its profile, a Monument designation will boost tourism and increase business opportunities in the region's gateway communities."

Boxer first introduced legislation with Congressman Thompson to provide the Berryessa-Snow Mountain region with additional protections in 2012. Her full statement, which will be read at today's public meeting, is below:

"Madame Secretary, Under Secretary Bonnie, Congressmen Thompson and Garamendi, special guests, and members of the panel. First, I want to thank you for coming here today to hear from those who care the most about this wonderful part of the Golden State. I was pleased to introduce the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area Act, a companion to Congressman Mike Thompson's legislation to bring heightened protections to this region. I thank him for his tireless work he has done in advancing this initiative.

"Our legislation protects over 300,000 acres of public lands in Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Solano, and Yolo Counties as National Conservation Area – as this area is a haven for hiking, camping, rafting, and horseback riding, and is home to a diverse array of unique plant life and wildlife including black bears and bald eagles. A National Monument designation by President Obama would recognize the national importance of these lands while at the same time fulfill the goals of our legislation. I strongly support and urge the President to proclaim this area a National Monument.

"All of the areas under consideration are federally-owned and managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Forest Service. A National Monument designation will require multi-agency coordination on wildlife preservation, habitat restoration, and recreational opportunities. Creation of the National Monument will also help the agencies take a more coordinated approach to preventing and fighting wildfires, combating invasive species, and water pollution.

"By unifying these individual places under one banner, a National Monument helps put the Berryessa Snow Mountain region on the map as a destination for new visitors. This region is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. By raising its profile, a Monument designation will boost tourism and increase business opportunities in the region's gateway communities. Additionally, the region will become recognized by more people as uniform signage and publications are created to reach a wider audience.

"Creation of this proposed National Monument has strong support from a large coalition of local governments, elected officials, business owners, landowners, farmers, private individuals, and many conservation and outdoor industry groups. This impressive grassroots effort of concerned citizens taking the initiative to care for the beautiful areas in their communities shows the best in public involvement in the future of their public lands' future, and I am proud to support their work and commitment. I particularly applaud Tuleyome, a local nonprofit active in protecting wilderness and agriculture in the western Sacramento Valley and Inner Coast Range, for their leadership on this effort. They have worked with an incredibly diverse collection of people who deeply care about this very important part of our natural heritage. I also want to commend the people who work for the BLM, Forest Service and the Bureau of Reclamation, whose job it is every day to watch over, manage, and protect these lands.

"Again, I want to convey my strong support for this effort, and I urge the President to establish the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, as it so richly deserves heightened national status."

SFGate
San Francisco Chronicle

Berryessa Snow Mountain region deserves presidential action

By Mike Thompson
Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Photo: Mike Thompson / Mike Thompson

Rep. Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, seeks to add Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area.

President Obama recently used his executive authority to permanently safeguard two of California's natural treasures. He officially expanded the California Coastal National Monument to include the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands, and he designated 346,000 acres of public land in Southern California as the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

The president should be applauded for these actions, and I am proud to have worked with our local communities and the White House to make sure the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands received the permanent protection they deserved.

However, our state has many national treasures, and while some of them have been preserved, other areas are still in need of protection. One such area is the Berryessa Snow Mountain region.

Since 2012, I have introduced legislation in the House of Representatives that would designate the 350,000-acre Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area. Under this designation, the region would be permanently protected, ensuring continued recreational opportunities while safeguarding the region's beauty, wildlife, rare plants and waters — which include important sources of drinking water and irrigation for nearby communities. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., has introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

However, despite bicameral support, the legislation has not been voted on in either the House or the Senate. If Congress will not act to protect this area, then President Obama should use his executive authority to designate the region as a national monument. Such action would achieve the goals of my legislation.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region stretches nearly 100 miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. It encompasses more than 350,000 acres across Napa, Mendocino, Lake, Solano and Yolo counties. The area is rich in wildlife, including bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions, tule elk, and rare plants found nowhere else on Earth. The area provides habitat to so many kinds of plants and animals that it has been named a biodiversity hotspot.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region also includes numerous trails, open spaces, lakes and rivers. These resources provide recreation opportunities for hikers, bikers, hunters, campers, off-highway vehicle users, and both motorized and non-motorized boaters.

That's why many nationally recognized recreation and sportsmen groups support a national monument designation, including the International Mountain Bicycling Association, Back Country Horsemen and the Equine Land Conservation Resource. The Blue Ribbon Coalition, a national group that champions responsible off-road recreation, is also supportive as long as the monument designation allows for the same recreational access that my legislation provides.

A national monument designation would also provide a boost to our local economies. Protected public lands are major contributors to our country's $646 billion outdoor recreation economy. In California alone, more than half of all residents participate in outdoor recreation each year, supporting more than 700,000 jobs and generating more than $6 billion for our state's economy.

And, recent studies have shown that local economies surrounding national monuments expanded after the creation of a new national monument. Employment, personal income and per capita income either continued or improved in each of the regions surrounding the national monuments studied. That's why more than 100 businesses in areas surrounding the Berryessa Snow Mountain region support a national monument designation.

Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region will help boost tourism, grow the local economy, improve recreation opportunities and protect important species. We do not want to lose out on these benefits because Congress will not act — and we do not have to. Through executive action, President Obama can protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region in the same way he protected the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands and the San Gabriel Mountains.

President Obama should step up where Congress hasn't and permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument.

Mike Thompson represents portions of Napa, Contra Costa, Lake, Solano and Sonoma counties in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Berryessa Snow Mountain project could benefit Winters

December 25, 2014

By Margaret Burns

In May 2013, U.S. representative Mike Thompson introduced H.R. 1025, the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area Act. Barbara Boxer, U.S. Senator from California simultaneously introduced Senate Bill 483, the companion bill in the senate.

The legislation would designate the 350,000-acre Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area. This would enable the region to be "permanently protected, ensuring continued recreational opportunities while safeguarding the region's natural beauty, wildlife, rare plants and waters – which include important sources of drinking water and irrigation for nearby communities," according to a press release from Thompson's office.

The legislation was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. In July 2013, house hearings were held in which both Thompson and the current Winters U.S. Representative, John Garamendi, testified to the benefits of protecting these largely untouched lands. "The National Conservation Area designation has a proven track record of increasing tourism and creating jobs," said Garamendi. Despite hearings in both the House and Senate, the bill has not received a bote.

Now Thompson is taking a different track. He has called for President Barack Obama to use his executive authority to designate the region as a national monument, which does not require congressional action. Thompson wrote in a late November article in the San Francisco Chronicle, "President Obama recently used his executive authority to permanently safeguard two of California's natural treasures. He officially expanded the California National Monument to include the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands, and he designated 346,000 acre of public land in Southern California as the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

"If Congress will not act to protect this area, then President Obama should use his executive authority to designate the region as a national monument. Such action would achieve the goals of my legislation."

Snow Mountain is a peak of 7,055 feet, located in the Snow Mountain Wilderness of Mendocino National Forest. It is the highest peak in both Colusa and Lake counties. The peak is visible from Arbuckle on Interstate 5. The proposed protected area stretches more than 100 mile, from north of Snow Mountain, south past Goat Mountain, the North Fork of Cache Creek, Indian Valley Reservoir, Walker Ridge, the Cache Creek Wilderness, ZimZim Canyon, Pope Canyon, Lake Berryessa to Cold Canyon at the southern edge.

The entire region is largely unoccupied territory that already has a wide range of outdoor activities which would be unchanged if it became a National Monument. These include hunting and fishing, hiking, rafting and boating mountain biking, camping and backpacking and off-road vehicle riding on designated routes.

The region is home to a diverse wildlife population, including bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions, and tule elk. The large amount of serpentine rock in the Coast Range provides a habitat for unusual plants, such as rare species of wildflowers or the coast whiteleaf manzanita. They have adapted to the unusual mineral composition of these rocks. The rocks and soil have low calcium to magnesium ratios, lack of essential nutrients such as nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus and high concentrations of nickel and chrominum.

The region has a rich cultural diversity At least four linguistically distinct Native American tries lived within the region: the Yuki, Patwin, Pomo, and Lake Miwok. The Cache Creek Wilderness has archaeologist sites dating back at least 5,000 years.

There is widespread county and city government support for designating this as a national monument. The local businesses and Chambers of Commerce are particularly excited about establishing a national monument because it has been repeatedly shown that the economy improves in areas with protected natural sites.

For example, a study showed that counties with more than 30 percent of the county's land base in federal protected status such as national parks, monuments, or wilderness increased jobs at four time the rate of similar counties with no protected federal public lands (345 percent compared to 83 percent during the last 40 years). Personal income was nearly $5,000 higher per year in counties with protected public lands. Pristine scenery and wildlife help sustain property values and attract new investment.

In an opinion piece written by Buckhorn restaurant owner John Pickerel, (page A-6) "a recent student commissioned by the Winters Chamber of Commerce showed the increased visitation would create a cumulative impact of up to $50 million in economic benefits to the local economy over the course of five years following a national monument designation.

"Winters is the eastern gateway to the proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. The city is the last jumping-off point before folks enter this respite filed with natural wonders and miles of outdoor recreation."

COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

Protection sought for scenic California region

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

WASHINGTON (AP) — A contingent of California environmental groups, business representatives and politicians will use a visit Friday from Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to push for permanent protection of some 350,000 acres of picturesque federal land near the state's famous wine country.

Congress declined this session to pass legislation from Democratic Rep. Mike Thompson that would have designated the land as a national conservation area, and companion legislation by U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer also faltered. That prompted Thompson and other supporters to push the Obama administration to act on its own and designate it a national monument.

The difference revolves primarily around who does the authorizing.

Congress approves new national conservation areas, while presidents can protect wildland and historical sites as national monuments.

Officials said the practical effect is the same — permanent protection of federal land that can lead to greater recreational opportunities but also restrictions on new mining and other commercial activities.

Three separate federal agencies now manage land in the region that Thompson wants to set aside: the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; and Bureau of Reclamation.

Supporters said the myriad recreational activities now allowed, including hunting, fishing, hiking, camping and mountain biking, would continue if the area were designated a national monument. Land already designated as wilderness would continue to be managed under the government's highest form of protection.

The region lies generally to the east of the famous Napa-Sonoma wine country and stretches north from the area around Lake Berryessa, a major recreation reservoir, to just beyond the Mendocino National Forest's Snow Mountain Wilderness, which includes two 7,000-foot peaks.

Posted in News, Wire on *Wednesday, December 24, 2014*

THE DAVIS enterprise

Thompson leads Snow Mountain push

By San Francisco Chronicle
From page A2 | December 23, 2014 |

SAN FRANCISCO — There may be better ways to see beautiful scenery, but Rep. Mike Thompson believes dragging the U.S. secretary of the interior on a vigorous slog through the driving rain was as good a way as any to show off the Berryessa Snow Mountain wilderness.

Thompson, D-St. Helena, led Sally Jewell, the secretary, and several other federal officials on a soggy 3-mile hike Friday through mud, ankle-deep water, past mountain lion tracks and coyote scat and up a steep, slippery hillside just to make a point.

He wants the head of the Interior Department to talk President Obama into declaring the 350,000 acres that stretch from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain a national monument.

"There was some mud that was a pain and we had to ford a creek, but it was very very pretty," Thompson said as he prepared for an afternoon public hearing during which locals also made their case to the interior secretary.

"We saw elk coming in and we saw some red-tailed hawks, mountain lion tracks and a real cool-looking salamander. It's a beautiful area and a biodiversity hot spot. Seeing is believing, and she saw it."

Thompson has been pushing legislation since 2012 to have the 100-mile swath of wilderness designated a National Conservation Area, but the idea has, like many environmental efforts lately, languished in Congress despite widespread local support. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., introduced a companion bill in the Senate, but that, too, has gotten nowhere.

Although Thompson plans to reintroduce the legislation in the next session, Obama might very well be his best hope. The president recently used his executive authority to incorporate Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands into the California Coastal National Monument and create the 346,000-acre San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. The sprawling Berryessa Snow Mountain area, which falls within Napa, Mendocino, Lake, Solano and Yolo counties, is home to a rich array of wildlife, including bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions and tule elk. Rare plants found nowhere else on earth grow throughout the region, according to conservationists.

The problem is, it's now a jurisdictional mishmash, with the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Forest Service governing various tracts. Having it all under one agency, Thompson said, would make the area easier to protect and manage.

It is important in a region that has seen sharp economic declines in recent years. The Lake Berryessa resorts, which once attracted 1.3 million visitors a year and brought in as much as $15 million in revenue, now bring in far fewer people and revenue, according to the Bureau of Reclamation.

The idea, Thompson said, is to protect the wildlands and natural resources, including local sources of drinking water and irrigation, and preserve hiking, bicycling, hunting, camping, off-road vehicle use, boating and other recreational activities.

Jewell hiked up the Redbud Trail on the north fork of the Cache Creek Wilderness Area, the second-most-used trailhead in the BLM system. Her willingness to endure the elements could be a good sign, as her endorsements have in the past led to executive action.

A national monument designation is supported by more than 100 local businesses, Thompson said. That's because recent studies have shown that tourism, job grown and per-capita income increase in communities where national monuments have been established.

"One of the real beauties of this is its proximity to people," Thompson said. "This is real close to Interstate 5 and real close to where people go, which makes this really valuable to the taxpayers of the state."

By Peter Fimrite

Napa Valley Register

Ag support for Berryessa Snow Mountain

December 22, 2014 • Dan Desmond

It was good to hear about the strong attendance at the public hearing for the proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain national monument in Davis recently. As a small farmer and educator, I follow public lands and natural resource issues closely. As such, I join many others in our community in supporting national monument designation for this area. Agricultural producers like myself see firsthand how protecting our shared public spaces benefits not only agriculture and citizens, but local businesses as well.

National monument protections for Berryessa Snow Mountain would ensure better management of the natural resources and working landscapes of this area, while also ensuring the continued multiple uses that define our way of life in Northern California.

For decades, local stakeholders, elected officials and members of Congress from both sides of the aisle have been attempting to protect this area. While these efforts, upon which the national monument proposal is based, would have brought needed, common-sense protections, they have stalled in Congress. A Berryessa Snow Mountain national monument is now our best shot at a permanent solution.

Dan Desmond
Lower Lake

SonomaValley, CA Patch

Boxer Urges President Obama to Designate Berryessa Snow Mountain As National Monument. Federal, state and local officials rallied for the cause last week in Napa.

By Susan C. Schena (Patch Staff)
December 22, 2014

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) on Friday urged the Obama Administration to use its executive authority to designate the Berryessa-Snow Mountain region as a National Monument.

A public meeting about the future of the area took take place in Napa with federal, state and local officials including Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, USDA Under Secretary Robert Bonnie, Representatives Mike Thompson (D-CA5) and John Garamendi (D-CA3), and Lake County Supervisor Denise Rushing.

[Previous: Your Thoughts On 'Permanent Protection' for Berryessa Snow Mountain.]

"This region is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California," Senator Boxer said in a statement. "By raising its profile, a Monument designation will boost tourism and increase business opportunities in the region's gateway communities."

Senator Boxer first introduced legislation with Congressman Thompson to provide the Berryessa-Snow Mountain region with additional protections in 2012.

"The Berryessa Snow Mountain Region is a natural treasure at the heart of the 3rd District. This region's rugged beauty helps sustain outdoor recreation businesses, serves as a valuable source of water, and provides critical habitats for our wildlife," **Congressman Garamendi said.** "It was vitally important to hear from our friends and neighbors in the community on how we can best preserve Berryessa Snow Mountain now and into the future. I look forward to translating these ideas into sound public policy."

"Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region will help boost tourism, grow the local economy, improve recreation opportunities and protect important species found nowhere else on earth," **said Congressman Thompson.**

"That is why I've proposed legislation that would permanently safeguard this important region. However, Congress has refused to consider this bill. If Congress won't act, then I look forward to continuing to work with Secretary Jewell, Undersecretary Bonnie and the Obama Administration on plans to permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument," he said.

Congressmen Garamendi is the leading cosponsor of Congressman Thompson's H.R. 1025, the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area Act, legislation that would establish the Berryessa-Snow Mountain National Conservation Area.

They were also joined by USDA Undersecretary for Environment and Natural Resources Robert Bonnie and Chief of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Tom Tidewell. H.R. 1025 would conserve and enhance scenic, recreational and culturally significant lands and waters that are managed by Interior's Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation, as well as lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service, under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The legislation includes protections for 350,000 acres of land including three federally-recognized wilderness areas, Lake Berryessa, Berryessa Peak and other key areas.

As part of their visit, Congressmen Thompson took Jewell, USDA officials, and other state and local community members to portions of the proposed national conservation area within BLM's Cache Creek Wilderness.
The 27,245-acre wilderness contains spectacular scenery, including steep canyons, scenic rivers, rolling oak woodlands and elaborate springtime wildflower displays.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region provides significant recreation opportunities for people in the 3rd District and nearby San Francisco and Sacramento metropolitan areas, as well as visitors from around the world. The area contains opportunities for hiking, camping, boating, fishing, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle use and other types of recreation.

The area is known as a botanical 'hotspot' for its rich diversity of plant species like the Sargent's cypress and serpentine willow and provides habitat for dozens of iconic California birds and animals including bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions and herds of wild tule elk.

The landscape rises from near sea level in the south to over 7,000 feet in the north, supporting such diverse ecosystems as the blue oak woodlands near Putah Creek in the south and the sub-alpine habitat within the Snow Mountain Wilderness.

Boxer's full statement, which was read at the Napa meeting, is below:

Madame Secretary, Under Secretary Bonnie, Congressmen Thompson and Garamendi, special guests, and members of the panel. First, I want to thank you for coming here today to hear from those who care the most about this wonderful part of the Golden State. I was pleased to introduce the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area Act, a companion to Congressman Mike Thompson's legislation to bring heightened protections to this region. I thank him for his tireless work he has done in advancing this initiative.

Our legislation protects over 300,000 acres of public lands in Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Solano, and Yolo Counties as National Conservation Area - as this area is a haven for hiking, camping, rafting, and horseback riding, and is home to a diverse array of unique plant life and wildlife including black bears and bald eagles. A National Monument designation by President Obama would recognize the national importance of these lands while at the same time fulfill the goals of our legislation. I strongly support and urge the President to proclaim this area a National Monument.

All of the areas under consideration are federally-owned and managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Forest Service. A National Monument designation will require multi-agency coordination on wildlife preservation, habitat restoration, and recreational opportunities. Creation of the National Monument will also help the agencies take a more coordinated approach to preventing and fighting wildfires, combating invasive species, and water pollution.

By unifying these individual places under one banner, a National Monument helps put the Berryessa Snow Mountain region on the map as a destination for new visitors. This region is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. By raising its profile, a Monument designation will boost tourism and increase business opportunities in the region's gateway communities. Additionally, the region will become recognized by more people as uniform signage and publications are created to reach a wider audience.

Creation of this proposed National Monument has strong support from a large coalition of local governments, elected officials, business owners, landowners, farmers, private individuals, and many conservation and outdoor industry groups. This impressive grassroots effort of concerned citizens taking the initiative to care for the beautiful areas in their communities shows the best in public involvement in the future of their public lands' future, and I am proud to support their work and commitment. I particularly applaud Tuleyome, a local non-profit active in protecting wilderness and agriculture in the western Sacramento Valley and Inner Coast Range, for their leadership on this effort. They have worked with an incredibly diverse collection of people who deeply care about this very important part of our natural heritage. I also want to commend the people who work for the BLM, Forest Service and the Bureau of Reclamation, whose job it is every day to watch over, manage, and protect these lands.

Again, I want to convey my strong support for this effort, and I urge the President to establish the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, as it so richly deserves heightened national status.

--Information courtesy of Rep. John Garamendi and Boxer Press Office

--Photo courtesy of Berryessa Snow Mountain on Facebook.
http://patch.com/california/sonomavalley/boxer-urges-president-obama-designate-berryessa-snow-mountain-national-monument

Napa Valley Register.com

Our View: Napa Valley Register Editorial Board

President should create Berryessa Snow Mountain monument

December 20, 2014

The Napa Valley Register Editorial Board

Much angst and angry rhetoric has been generated by the notion of creating something called the "Berryessa Snow Mountain" region, stretching from Lake Berryessa far north into the Mendocino National Forest.

To critics, it is, at best, an added layer of unnecessary government bureaucracy, at worst a sinister conspiracy to drive out commerce and recreation – possibly to drive out human habitation entirely – from a broad swath of federally owned and managed land.

Fortunately, none of this doomsaying is true.
Rather, the concept is to give the region a unified management plan – the three federal agencies that manage these public lands are notorious for failing to coordinate their planning. Supporters of the new region, particularly Rep. Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, say forcing the agencies to coordinate would improve both conservation and recreational planning throughout the area.

It would affect only public lands and would not impose any federal mandates on private property.

Creating a unified, named region would also give the remote lands a cohesive identity, Thompson and other backers say, making whole area a higher-profile destination for hikers, bikers, and other tourists.

We support creation of such a region. The boards of supervisors of the five affected counties, including Napa County, support the plan, as do chambers of commerce and conservation groups across Northern California.

A recent study by the Chamber of Commerce in Winters, a city that thrives on tourism in and around Lake Berryessa, estimated that creating a named destination could add at least 20 percent to annual visitation and pump about $50 million more per year into the regional economy.

The main obstacle to this plan, however, is Congress. The Republican leadership has refused to embrace Thompson's bill, particularly after former Rep. Richard Pombo of Tracy started amping up fears that the move represented an expansion of federal power. Thompson says, and we agree, that there seems little chance of a thaw on the bill in the next session of Congress.

That leaves another possibility: the president could invoke his authority to declare the region a "national monument" under the Antiquities Act, a law dating from the presidency of Teddy Roosevelt. It allows the chief executive to designate monument status to "objects of historic or scientific interest."

The power has been invoked dozens of times, most recently in this area to designate a swath of the North Coast to create the "California Coastal National Monument."

Such a designation would give the administration most of the key powers that Thompson's bill would have granted, particularly forcing the various federal agencies to coordinate their management and creating public advisory panel to assist in planning.

The protection afforded by monument status is strong enough that Thompson said there would be no need for him to reintroduce his bill creating a national conservation area.

The White House declined last week to say specifically where the president is in considering such a monument, but the administration gave a strong implicit signal of approval by sending Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to tour the area on Friday.

We support this regional concept. And while we would have preferred Congress to have taken the lead, we urge the president to make the monument designation as soon as possible since legislators seem unlikely to do so anytime soon.

The lurid fears of critics – that this is a grab of private land, or an effort to ban recreation or drive out residents – are too fantastic to take seriously.

Continued on next page...

Our View: Continued...

Nor is there any substance to the argument that the move is illegal since Lake Berryessa is an artificial body of water devoid of scientific or natural interest. Thompson said he fully expects that the lake itself will never be part of a monument or national conservation area – it is included in his bill, but he said he expects the president to exclude the lake and its banks from any monument.

The remaining lands in the proposed monument, including those near Lake Berryessa, are of more than sufficient historical and scientific value to warrant the designation.

Having protected lands nearby will help attract attention and visitation to the lake itself, whether or not it is within the boundaries of the monument.

To be clear, nobody expects a monument or conservation area designation to solve the serious problems at Lake Berryessa, which are the result of years of mismanagement and neglect by federal authorities and the contractors they employed. The lake needs far more help and attention than it has gotten.

We support Thompson's ongoing efforts to switch management of the lake from the Bureau of Reclamation to the Bureau of Land Management, which is better in tune with the needs of campers, hikers and boaters. We also look forward eagerly to the bidding for the new long-term contracts for the resorts around the lake, which is expected to start in the spring.

In the meantime, however, we believe that a monument designation by the president would be a solid first step toward elevating the lake to the kind of attraction that it should have been from its creation.

Times-Herald

Thompson hosts federal officials to push for Berryessa Snow Mountain protection

By Rachel Raskin-Zrihen, Vallejo Times-Herald 12/19/2014

NAPA >> Pushing forward with plans to get the Berryessa Snow Mountain region federal protection despite years of congressional inaction, U.S. Reps. Mike Thompson and John Garamendi on Friday hosted a visit to the area by Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and United States Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie.

A panel of ranching, recreation, conservation, academic and elected leaders spoke in support of protecting the region following a tour.

"Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region will help boost tourism, grow the local economy, improve recreation opportunities and protect important species found nowhere else on earth," Thompson said. "That is why I've proposed legislation that would permanently safeguard this important region. However, Congress has refused to consider this bill. If Congress won't act, then I look forward to continuing to work with Secretary Jewell, Undersecretary Bonnie and the Obama administration on plans to permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument."

Jewell expressed support for Thompson's efforts to recognize this "beautiful area with cultural history and great opportunities for outdoor recreation and wildlife viewing," as "a National Conservation Area, which could also lead to additional economic benefits to the region."

The Forest Service also met with tribal leaders to discuss the proposal earlier this month, Bonnie said, adding that agency also supports Thompson's "efforts to solicit public comment on his proposal."

Garamendi said "the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region ... "helps sustain outdoor recreation businesses, serves as a valuable source of water, and provides critical habitats for our wildlife."

Thompson has introduced legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives that would designate the 350,000 acre Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area since 2002, his office said. That designation would keep the area permanently protected, ensuring continued recreational opportunities while safeguarding the region's wildlife, rare plants, and waters.

Sen. Barbara Boxer has introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region encompasses more than 350,000 acres across Solano, Napa, Mendocino, Lake and Yolo counties. All five counties within the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region have endorsed permanent protection for the area.

SFGate
San Francisco Chronicle

Legislator leads push to make Berryessa lands a national monument

By Peter Fimrite
Friday, December 19, 2014

Photos: Michael Macor / The Chronicle

There may be better ways to see beautiful scenery, but Rep. Mike Thompson believes dragging the U.S. secretary of the interior on a vigorous slog through the driving rain was as good a way as any to show off the Berryessa Snow Mountain wilderness.

Thompson, D-St. Helena, led Sally Jewell, the secretary, and several other federal officials on a soggy 3-mile hike Friday through mud, ankle-deep water, past mountain lion tracks and coyote scat and up a steep, slippery hillside just to make a point.

He wants the head of the Interior Department to talk President Obama into declaring the 350,000 acres that stretch from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain a national monument.

"There was some mud that was a pain and we had to ford a creek, but it was very, very pretty," Thompson said as he prepared for an afternoon public hearing during which locals also made their case to the interior secretary. "We saw elk coming in, and we saw some red-tailed hawks, mountain lion tracks and a real cool-looking salamander. It's a beautiful area and a biodiversity hot spot. Seeing is believing, and she saw it."

Wide variety of wildlife

Thompson has been pushing legislation since 2012 to have the 100-mile swath of wilderness designated a National Conservation Area, but the idea has, like many environmental efforts lately, languished in Congress despite widespread local support. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., introduced a companion bill in the Senate, but that, too, has gotten nowhere.

Although Thompson plans to reintroduce the legislation in the next session, Obama might very well be his best hope. The president recently used his executive authority to incorporate Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands into the California Coastal National Monument and create the 346,000-acre San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

The sprawling Berryessa Snow Mountain area, which falls within Napa, Mendocino, Lake, Solano and Yolo counties, is home to a rich array of wildlife, including bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions and tule elk. Rare plants found nowhere else on Earth grow throughout the region, according to conservationists.

The problem is, it's now a jurisdictional mishmash, with the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Forest Service governing various tracts. Having it all under one agency, Thompson said, would make the area easier to protect and manage.

It is important in a region that has seen sharp economic declines in recent years. The Lake Berryessa resorts, which once attracted 1.3 million visitors a year and brought in as much as $15 million in revenue, now bring in far fewer people and revenue, according to the Bureau of Reclamation. The idea, Thompson said, is to protect the wildlands and natural resources, including local sources of drinking water and irrigation, and preserve hiking, bicycling, hunting, camping, off-road vehicle use, boating and other recreational activities.

Jewell hiked up the Redbud Trail on the north fork of the Cache Creek Wilderness Area, the second-most-used trailhead in the BLM system. Her willingness to endure the elements could be a good sign, as her endorsements have in the past led to executive action.

'Valuable to the taxpayers'

A national monument designation is supported by more than 100 local businesses, Thompson said. That's because recent studies have shown that tourism, job growth and per-capita income increase in communities where national monuments have been established.

"One of the real beauties of this is its proximity to people," Thompson said. "This is real close to Interstate 5 and real close to where people go, which makes this really valuable to the taxpayers of the state."

Peter Fimrite is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer. E-mail: pfimrite@sfchronicle.com Twitter: @pfimrite

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insideBayArea

Thompson hosts federal officials to push for Berryessa Snow Mountain protection

By Rachel Raskin-Zrihen
rzrihen@timesheraldonline.com @RachelVTH on Twitter

12/19/2014

NAPA >> Pushing forward with plans to get the Berryessa Snow Mountain region federal protection despite years of congressional inaction, U.S. Reps. Mike Thompson and John Garamendi on Friday hosted a visit to the area by Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and United States Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie.

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The Berryessa Snow Mountain region encompasses more than 350,000 acres across Solano, Napa, Mendocino, Lake and Yolo counties. All five counties within the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region have endorsed permanent protection for the area.

StarTribune

Groups push national monument status for scenic region near Northern California wine country

Article by: KEVIN FREKING , Associated Press
Updated: December 19, 2014

WASHINGTON — A contingent of California environmental groups, business representatives and politicians will use a visit Friday from Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to push for permanent protection of some 350,000 acres of picturesque federal land near the state's famous wine country.

Congress declined this session to pass legislation from Democratic Rep. Mike Thompson that would have designated the land as a national conservation area, and companion legislation by U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer also faltered. That prompted Thompson and other supporters to push the Obama administration to act on its own and designate it a national monument.

The difference revolves primarily around who does the authorizing. Congress approves new national conservation areas, while presidents can protect wildland and historical sites as national monuments.

Officials said the practical effect is the same — permanent protection of federal land that can lead to greater recreational opportunities but also restrictions on new mining and other commercial activities.

Three separate federal agencies currently manage land in the region that Thompson wants to set aside: the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; and Bureau of Reclamation.

Supporters said the myriad recreational activities now allowed, including hunting, fishing, hiking, camping and mountain biking, would continue if the area were designated a national monument. Land already designated as wilderness would continue to be managed under the government's highest form of protection.

"Right now, you have all these different agencies that manage their specific parcels differently," said Matthew Kirby of the Sierra Club, which supports the heightened federal protections. "This allows for a more cohesive, unified vision for the entire monument."

The region lies generally to the east of the famous Napa-Sonoma wine country and stretches north from the area around Lake Berryessa, a major recreation reservoir, to just beyond the Mendocino National Forest's Snow Mountain Wilderness, which includes two 7,000-foot peaks.

The hilly region of rivers and scenic canyons is home to black bears, mountain lions, tule elk and several rare plants species. Areas now open for cattle grazing will remain that way, even with a national monument status, Thompson has said.

Lake Berryessa, already popular with water skiers, anglers and house boaters, would not be included in the national monument designation because it is not of historic or scientific value, an aide to Thompson said.

President Barack Obama already has shown his willingness to designate federal lands in California as national monuments when Congress declines to offer additional protections.

Two months ago, Obama designated a similarly sized swath of land near Los Angeles as San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. A spokesman for Jewell, Jessica Kershaw, said the secretary will underscore her support for Thompson's legislation and listen to the "community's vision for further protections, conservation and management."

Thompson testified in support of his bill during a subcommittee hearing over the summer.

"The real important thing is its proximity to population," he said. "... It's not property we're putting at arm's length from folks and disallowing their easy access."

The Friday afternoon hearing at Napa Valley College will include officials from the departments of Interior and Agriculture, as well as those from local interest groups.

Matt Rexroad, a Republican on the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, voted against a resolution endorsing a national monument designation. He said the federal government already administers all the land, which makes it easy to stop any unwanted commercial development.

He said he has never seen proof the designation is necessary.

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Protection sought for scenic California region

By KEVIN FREKING, Associated Press
Friday, December 19, 2014

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Napa Valley Register.com

Thompson rallies support for Berryessa Snow Mountain conservation

J.L. Sousa, Napa Register
United States Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, left, was part of a public hearing hosted by U.S. Rep. Mike Thompson, right, at Napa Valley College on Friday afternoon. The subject of the hearing was the proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain national monument.

December 19, 2014 BARRY EBERLING beberling@napanews.com

United States Interior Secretary Sally Jewell heard plenty of opinions Friday on a proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, but gave no hints as to what the idea's fate might be.

Jewell is a key figure in a regional effort to have President Barack Obama bestow national monument status on 350,000 acres of public lands, including those in eastern Napa County near Lake Berryessa. She sits on Obama's Cabinet.

Rep. Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, organized a public event with Jewell and other federal officials at Napa Valley College. For several years, Thompson has tried to pass legislation in Congress to create the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area. Those attempts have failed, but only Obama's approval is needed for a national monument.

"I would say Congressional action is my preference," Jewell told the gathering of more than 200 people. "I think it's probably the congressman's preference."

Obama has used the Antiquities Act of 1906 to designate or expand 13 national monuments, bringing the total in the nation to 110. The latest came about in October when Obama designated the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in Southern California.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain area stretches from the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area in the Mendocino National Forest 100 miles south to mountains separating eastern Napa and Solano counties. The proposed national monument would include public lands only, including 62,000 acres in Napa County.

On stage with Jewell and other panelists was a large poster that read, "Hiking, camping, horseback riding, mountain biking, hunting and fishing, motorized vehicle use, grazing, logging."

Jewell described a hike she took in the Berryessa Snow Mountain area earlier that day. She talked about fording Cache Creek in knee-high water and seeing tule elk and salamanders. Clearly, she said, this is a beautiful area with treasures.

"We are here to listen to what you want in your region," she told the audience.

Then the speakers came forward, 36 over the two hours that Jewell was present. Thompson said he had requested speaking cards from more than 80 people favoring national monument status, 18 opposed and six undecided. Thompson chose the speakers.

Several supporters said national monument status would lead to a cohesive management plan among the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation for the various lands they oversee. They said having the area under the national monument banner would raise its visibility and lead to more tourism and economic growth.

Assemblyman Bill Dodd of Napa County was among the speakers. He whole-heartedly supports anything that can be done to protect these valuable resources, he said.

Local resident Ginny Simms agreed. "I think this is a place that people from all over the United States will learn to treasure," she said.

Some speakers wanted to make sure a national monument would still allow them to use the public lands for such recreational pursuits as hang gliding and dirt biking. Some were skeptical.

Craig Morton of the Lake Berryessa area said certain uses such as motorized boating and hunting might be allowed at first, but things could change. He said Lake Berryessa used to have a thriving economy with tourists before the Bureau of Reclamation decided to renovate the lake's resorts, an effort that has yet to come to fruition.

Lake Berryessa is a man-made lake and doesn't fall under the criteria for a national monument, he said.

Before leaving, Jewell said she values everyone's perspectives. She realizes Lake Berryessa is a man-made lake and that the area has certain geological features and archeological features. All of this will be factored into decisions, she said.

"As a visitor myself to the region, I will say you have a great place," she said.

But a national monument or national conservation area? That remained undecided after the Friday afternoon event.

Also on a panel at the event with Jewell and Thompson were Rep. John Garamendi, U.S. Department of Agriculture Under Secretary Robert Bonnie, Tom Bohigian representing U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, Tuleyome Executive Director Sara Husby, Napa County rancher Judy Ahmann, Susan Harrison of UC Davis, Lake County Supervisor Denise Rushing and Austin McInerny of the National Interscholastic Cycling Association.

The Press Democrat

Close to Home: Berryessa Snow Mountain should be a national monument

Christina Roberts and her son Darren hike to the top of the ridge line by her family's property at Running Deer Ranch by Lake Berryessa on Friday, July 26, 2013. Robert's mother Judy Ahmann recently testified to Congress to consider a bill to create a Snow-Mountain-Berryessa National Conservation Area helping preserve the land for her family. (Conner Jay/The Press Democrat)

BY PAMELA FLICK
December 19, 2014

During his tenure President Barack Obama has designated 13 national monuments, and the next one on his list should be California's Berryessa Snow Mountain. Berryessa Snow Mountain is a national treasure — the region's natural beauty, cultural history and economic significance place it among the most special places in the country — and it should be permanently protected.

Stretching nearly 100 miles from north to south, the Berryessa region is a hidden gem of Northern California's wild Inner Coast Ranges, home to a wide variety of California wildlife, including mountain lions, bears, deer, osprey, native trout, bald eagles and elusive Pacific fishers. The region is also teeming with blue oak woodlands, red fir forests and unique plants found nowhere else on Earth. At least four linguistically distinct Native American tribes lived within the region, with ancient archaeological sites included on the National Register of Historic Places.

Permanent protection for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region isn't just good for the environment and wildlife, it's also good for the economy. The outdoor recreation industry supports more than 400,000 California jobs and generates $46 billion of economic activity in the Golden State annually. Berryessa Snow Mountain is an outdoor wonderland loaded with recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

I've been lucky to experience this incredible area firsthand, from admiring rare butterflies high atop Goat Mountain in the Mendocino National Forest to Walker Ridge's amazing spring wildflower display; watching Tule elk roaming the oak woodlands near Highway 20 and cooling off in Cache Creek's clear waters. This area truly has something for everyone.

Studies have consistently demonstrated the benefits that protected public lands bring to local economies. Counties with protected public lands have been more successful at sustaining property values, attracting high wage employers and securing entrepreneurial investment. Protecting our special places like Berryessa Snow Mountain encourages tourism, supports local businesses and creates desirable places to live and work.

It is critical that Obama designate Berryessa Snow Mountain as a national monument to permanently protect its unique treasures. The president should follow in the footsteps of his predecessors who have used the authority granted by the Antiquities Act, enacted by Theodore Roosevelt in 1906, to proclaim "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures and other objects of historic or scientific interest" as national monuments.

It's no wonder that all five counties that comprise the region have passed resolutions supporting its designation as a national monument, and more than 200 business and 65,000 individuals and businesses have advocated for its permanent protection. National monuments recognize and protect cultural and ecological wonders all over the United States for future generations. Berryessa Snow Mountain should be among them.

Pamela Flick is California representative with Defenders of Wildlife, based in Sacramento.

The Press

Interior Secretary hears pleas to make Berryessa-Snow Mountain land national monument

Rep. Mike Thompson laughs when Winters student Emily Aguiar, 10, reads her letter to President Obama asking him to approve the proposed 350,000-acre Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national conservation area. The panel discussion on the proposal was held at Napa Valley College on Friday, December 19, 2014. (photo by John Burgess/The Press Democrat)

BY GUY KOVNER
THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

December 19, 2014, 9:03

Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said she would prefer to see Congress grant permanent protection to a 350,000-acre swath of land from Lake Berryessa in Napa County to Snow Mountain in the Mendocino National Forest, but that President Barack Obama's administration will consider the impassioned pleas she heard Friday for executive action.

"As a visitor to this region, I will say you do have a special place," Jewell told a crowd of about 250 people at a Napa Valley College auditorium.

"I'm a lover of the landscape myself," the secretary said, departing early from a public meeting hosted by Rep. Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena.

Jewell said she would take all the public comments back to Washington and "work with members of Congress to figure out a path forward."

Earlier in the day, Jewell, Thompson and other officials soaked their boots fording storm-swollen Cache Creek on a hike in the Berryessa Snow Mountain area, which runs through Napa, Lake, Mendocino, Solano and Yolo counties.

"It was great to see water," the secretary said, acknowledging California's prolonged drought.

Thompson introduced a bill in 2013 to place the Berryessa Snow Mountain region in a national conservation area, and California Sen. Barbara Boxer offered a companion bill in the Senate.

But the legislation has not come to a vote in either chamber, and local advocates are now focused on urging Obama to declare it a national monument. Either step would accomplish the same objectives, Thompson has said.

An executive order by Obama would parallel the president's decision in March to add the 1,665-acre Point Arena-Stornetta Lands on the Mendocino County coast to the California Coastal Monument. That decision followed a bill calling for the designation by Rep. Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael, and a subsequent visit by Jewell.

An aide to Boxer read a letter from the senator urging Obama to act and saying a national monument designation would put the area "on the map" as a tourist destination. Thompson opened Friday's meeting by describing the sprawling lands, home to diverse wildlife, vegetation and topography as "a piece of real estate we all think is pretty incredible."

His point was emphatically underscored by eight members of a panel seated on a stage to the right of Jewell, and by people who have hiked, mountain biked, camped, hunted, fished and run whitewater rapids in the region that stretches north-to-south for 100 miles, located between Clear Lake and Interstate 5.

The area's array of mountains, valleys and streams are "not found anywhere else in the world," said Rep. John Garamendi, D-Fairfield, a panelist.

Continued on next page..

Press Democrat: Interior Secretary hears pleas to make Berryessa-Snow Mountain land national monument continued...

Susan Harrison, a professor of environmental science and policy at UC Davis, said the area's varied geology, climate and elevation enable it to host "a huge portion of what makes California so biologically special."

The area hosts 1,700 native plant species, providing a "living laboratory" for scientists studying the processes that create diversity, Harrison said. It's also a "land of great antiquity," she said, referring to archaeological sites dating back 7,000 years.

One of six children from Winters, a small Yolo County city east of the area, read a letter to Jewell saying that "from badgers to frogs, all these animals can't stand up for themselves so we have to stand up for them." Jewell shook hands with the kids, and took an envelope holding their letters.

The Winters Chamber of Commerce commissioned an economic study that calculated national monument designation would increase annual visitation to the Berryessa Snow Mountain area by 20 to 30 percent, contributing up to $50 million to the local economy over five years. The boards of supervisors of all five counties have endorsed the designation.

"I've looked down on Snow Mountain from 10,000 feet and it is an awesome vision," said a woman who said she has piloted a nonmotorized hang glider over the area. Of nearly 100 cards turned in by audience members, 80 expressed support for protecting the area, 11 were opposed and six were "unsure," a Thompson aide said. Not everyone who spoke was enamored by what some described as a government overreach that threatened existing recreational and commercial activities in the area.

Kirk Wilbur, director of government relations for the California Cattlemen's Association, said his organization opposes any added protection for the area, asserting that grazing rights have been diminished in other national monuments." We've seen this time and time again," he said.

Thompson replied that since the area is all federally owned land, regulations could be changed at any time under the current management, shared by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation. Steve Brink of the California Forestry Association said the national monument status would not provide the vegetation density management he said is needed to reduce wildfire hazards. More than 400,000 acres of national forest land burned in California this year, he said.
A woman who said she camped with her family at Lake Berryessa for years said the lake is now a "ghost town." "Our economy tanked, Mike, it breaks my heart," she said.

Thompson said later in an interview that some Lake Berryessa residents are unhappy with the Bureau of Reclamation's delay in approving new concessions for the lakeshore.

David Jackson Ingraham of Napa said the land is well-protected under current federal management and that national monument status might preclude what he said was gold mining potential.

"Do not crucify our rights and liberties under the green cross of environmentalism," he said.

Asked if he had any assurances that the Obama administration would ultimately grant national monument status, Thompson said the White House "sent them (Jewell and other federal officials) out to look at it."

You can reach Staff Writer Guy Kovner at 521-5457 or guy.kovner@pressdemocrat.com.
On Twitter @guykovner.

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THE SACRAMENTO BEE

Capitol Alert
The go-to source for news on California policy and politics

AM Alert: California politicians push Obama for national monument designation

By Alexei Koseff akoseff@sacbee.com
12/19/2014

The view from the top of Berryessa Peak on Jan. 27, 2013. Pia Lopez The Sacramento Bee

California congressional delegates are lobbying President **Barack Obama** for protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, a nature and recreation area in Northern California.

A legislative effort to declare the 346,000-acre stretch of Napa, Mendocino, Lake, Solano and Yolo counties a "national conservation area" – led by Rep. **Mike Thompson**, D-St. Helena, and Democratic Sen. **Barbara Boxer** – has stalled in Congress for several years running. So now proponents are changing tactics and asking Obama for an executive action naming Berryessa Snow Mountain a national monument, similar to his declaration for the San Gabriel Mountains this fall.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior **Sally Jewell** will be in Napa today to attend a public meeting discussing permanent protection for Berryessa Snow Mountain, 2 p.m. at the Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center.

Read more here: http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article4653246.html#storylink=cpy

REPORTER

Secretary of the Interior to visit, hold public meeting on Berryessa

POSTED: 12/17/14

City and county officials from Napa welcomed news that Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, and Under Secretary of Agriculture for Natural Resources and the Environment Robert Bonnie will attend a public meeting in Napa County to discuss permanent protection for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held on Friday, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center.

Legislation to protect Berryessa Snow Mountain as a National Conservation Area was introduced in 2011, but has been stuck in Congressional gridlock. The legislation is supported by Senator Barbara Boxer and Representatives Mike Thompson, John Garamendi and Jared Huffman.

Representative Mike Thompson has asked President Obama to use his authority under the Antiquities Act to designate the area as a national monument. This action would protect the same access and protections as a National Conservation Area.

"This is the right way forward for the region and our communities," said Bill Dodd, the new Assembly member for the 4th District, a resident and former county supervisor in Napa. "Designating the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Monument will preserve the land, help our local economies, and protect a wide variety of plants and animals."

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes public lands that stretch one hundred mile starting in Yolo County's wild backyard to the sub-alpine habitat of Snow Mountain Wilderness in the Mendocino National Forest to the north. The region supports an incredible diversity of wildlife habitat and rare plants found nowhere else on earth.

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U-T San Diego

Protection sought for scenic California region

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press Dec. 19, 2014

WASHINGTON (AP) — A contingent of California environmental groups, business representatives and politicians will use a visit Friday from Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to push for permanent protection of some 350,000 acres of picturesque federal land near the state's famous wine country.

Congress declined this session to pass legislation from Democratic Rep. Mike Thompson that would have designated the land as a national conservation area, and companion legislation by U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer also faltered. That prompted Thompson and other supporters to push the Obama administration to act on its own and designate it a national monument.

The difference revolves primarily around who does the authorizing. Congress approves new national conservation areas, while presidents can protect wildland and historical sites as national monuments.

Officials said the practical effect is the same — permanent protection of federal land that can lead to greater recreational opportunities but also restrictions on new mining and other commercial activities.

Three separate federal agencies currently manage land in the region that Thompson wants to set aside: the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; and Bureau of Reclamation.

Supporters said the myriad recreational activities now allowed, including hunting, fishing, hiking, camping and mountain biking, would continue if the area were designated a national monument. Land already designated as wilderness would continue to be managed under the government's highest form of protection.

"Right now, you have all these different agencies that manage their specific parcels differently," said Matthew Kirby of the Sierra Club, which supports the heightened federal protections. "This allows for a more cohesive, unified vision for the entire monument."

The region lies generally to the east of the famous Napa-Sonoma wine country and stretches north from the area around Lake Berryessa, a major recreation reservoir, to just beyond the Mendocino National Forest's Snow Mountain Wilderness, which includes two 7,000-foot peaks. The hilly region of rivers and scenic canyons is home to black bears, mountain lions, tule elk and several rare plants species. Areas now open for cattle grazing will remain that way, even with a national monument status, Thompson has said.

Lake Berryessa, already popular with water skiers, anglers and house boaters, would not be included in the national monument designation because it is not of historic or scientific value, an aide to Thompson said.

President Barack Obama already has shown his willingness to designate federal lands in California as national monuments when Congress declines to offer additional protections.

Two months ago, Obama designated a similarly sized swath of land near Los Angeles as San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. A spokesman for Jewell, Jessica Kershaw, said the secretary will underscore her support for Thompson's legislation and listen to the "community's vision for further protections, conservation and management."

Thompson testified in support of his bill during a subcommittee hearing over the summer.

"The real important thing is its proximity to population," he said. "... It's not property we're putting at arm's length from folks and disallowing their easy access."

The Friday afternoon hearing at Napa Valley College will include officials from the departments of Interior and Agriculture, as well as those from local interest groups.

Matt Rexroad, a Republican on the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, voted against a resolution endorsing a national monument designation. He said the federal government already administers all the land, which makes it easy to stop any unwanted commercial development.

He said he has never seen proof the designation is necessary.

Daily Democrat

WASHINGTON >> 12/13/2014

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FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

The Washington Post

Protection sought for scenic California region

By Associated Press December 18 at 7:25 PM

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LAKE COUNTY Record-Bee

Officials support Snow Mountain protection

Staff reports
Updated: 12/18/2014

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public news service.
NEWS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Venture Capital Meets Conservation in New Coalition

Public News Service - CA | December 2014 | Download audio
| Public Lands/Wilderness | Environment | Cultural Resources

PLAY

PHOTO: A new coalition of venture capitalists has formed to encourage more protected public land. Its members say beautiful places with recreational opportunities are attracting entrepreneurs and skilled workers that boost local economies. Photo of Lake Berryessa courtesy U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Dept. of the Interior.

December 18, 2014

SAN FRANCISCO — There's a link between successful start-ups and the great outdoors - and members of a new national coalition say it's a profitable one that should be encouraged.

Some of the investment and venture capital firms in the "Conservation for Economic Growth Coalition" are California-based. The list includes DBL Investors, where founder and managing partner Nancy Pfund says today's business owners know that to attract and keep workers - and for virtual companies, with workers who can live wherever they want - research has shown quality of life and access to public land are key components."

People that work for these companies pay a lot of attention to the recreational availability around them," says Pfund. "And so, it's not just a 'want to have' or a 'nice to have' - it's quite important to the ecosystem that is our entrepreneurial economy."

Tomorrow (Friday), U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell is in Napa for a visit that could help underscore that point. She and Forest Service leadership meet with Congressmen Mike Thompson (CA-05) and John Garamendi (CA-03)to drum up support for protecting 350,000 acres of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region.

Pfund says the coalition isn't suggesting edging out more traditional, extractive industries - but sees those resources as finite, and their markets as fickle.

Particularly in the West, she says, many areas have found they can capitalize on their natural beauty or even their remoteness, as different types of assets that allow them to diversify."

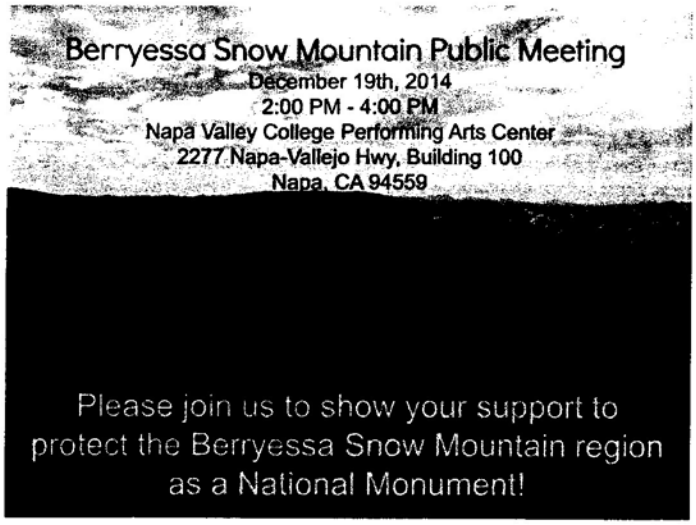
We are able to balance our need for minerals, for timber rights, with the growing need we have for recreational, preserved areas," she says. "And with a prudent management approach, you don't need to give up any kind of economic growth.

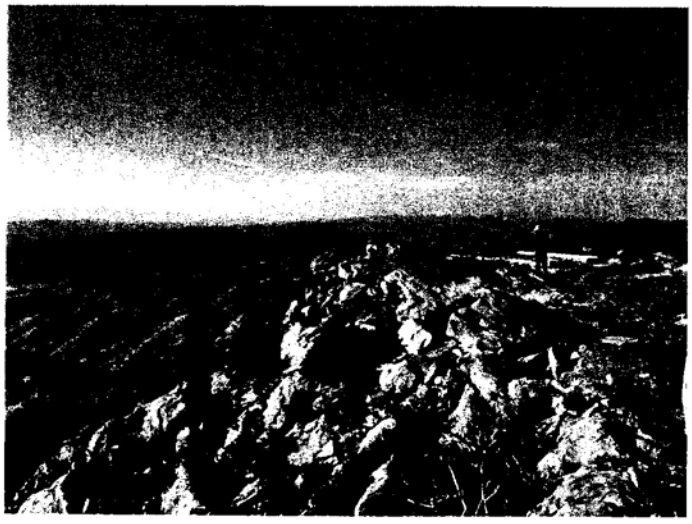
"The Conservation for Economic Growth Coalition includes a dozen high-profile investors and CEOs who say they will work together to encourage Congress and the president to step up public land protection, through national park, national monument and wilderness designations - and to reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund next year.

Chris Thomas, Public News Service - CA

See more at: http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2014-12-18/public-lands-wilderness/venture-capital-meets-conservation-in-new-coalition/a43524-1#sthash.1scs2jmw.dpuf

Napa Valley Patch





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Thompson will be joined at the meeting by Congressman John Garamendi (CA-3), United States Department of the Interior (DOI) Secretary Sally Jewell, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie, and a representative for Senator Barbara Boxer.

The purpose of the event will be to speak with the public about the Congressman's conservation proposal for Berryessa Snow Mountain and what it means to the local communities.

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This meeting follows efforts to bring the administration to visit the Berryessa Snow Mountain region and urging the President to use his authority to designate the federal public lands within the region as a national monument.

WHO:
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· Congressman John Garamendi
· Interior Secretary Sally Jewell
· USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie
· Tom Bohigian, State Director for Senator Barbara Boxer
· Lake County Supervisor Denise Rushing
· Sara Husby, Executive Director of Tuleyome
· Judy Ahmann, Private Land Owner and Rancher from Napa
· Dr. Susan Harrison, University of California, Davis
· Austin McInerny, Executive Director of the National Interscholastic Cycling Association

WHEN:
Friday, December 19th, 2014
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

WHERE:
Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center
2277 Napa-Vallejo Hwy, Building 100
Napa, CA 94559

Photos/images courtesy of Berryessa Snow Mountain on Facebook. Information courtesy of Congressman John Garamendi (CA-03) and advocates for Berryessa Snow Mountain.

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

The Reporter
VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Secretary of the Interior to visit, hold public meeting on Berryessa

POSTED: 12/17/14

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CONTRA COSTA TIMES
CONTRACOSTATIMES.COM

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Suisun City Patch

Berryessa Snow Mountain Public Meeting
December 19th, 2014
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
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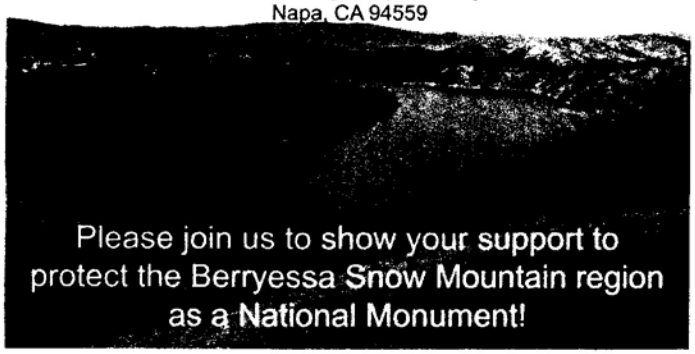
Napa, CA 94559



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Napa Valley Register.com

Protect Berryessa-Snow Mountain area

December 17, 2014 Bob Schneider

The Berryessa-Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild Inner Coast Range. Residents and tourists alike flock to the region to enjoy the dazzling natural features including waterfalls and lakes and rocky outcrops with views of Sacramento far in the distance. The geological and biological settings of the Berryessa region form parts of an important scientific story to share with existing and future generations. People also are attracted to the region to pursue a diversity of recreation opportunities from hunting and fishing to OHV riding on designated routes to boating and rafting. It is for these reasons that Berryessa-Snow Mountain region deserves to be designated as a National Monument.

Some folks have raised questions about Lake Berryessa being a part of a potential national conservation area or national monument. Rep. Thompson's bill (H.R. 1025) states there will be no impact on lake management and operations or recreational uses.

Rep. Thompson and national monument proponents are advocating that Lake Berryessa itself should not be included in a national monument and there be no impact on lake management and operations or recreational use. We are also advocating that existing federal public lands surrounding the lake that have important values should be protected as part of a national monument.

The efforts to protect Berryessa-Snow Mountain region as a national monument has the support of the Mendocino, Napa, Lake, Yolo and Solano counties' boards of supervisors and 52 other local officials as well as over 200 businesses throughout the region and user groups such as IMBA, Blue Ribbon Coalition and Back Country Horsemen of America. We hope this community developed and supported proposal will move forward and protect the Berryessa-Snow Mountain region for current and future generations as a national monument.

Bob Schneider
Davis

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Napa Valley Register.com

Thompson holds meeting on Snow Mountain conservation plan

December 16, 2014 • FOR THE STAR

Mike Thompson

Rep. Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, will host a public meeting Friday to discuss a proposed conservation area for the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region covering 500,000 acres of federal land in six Northern California counties.

A delegation of federal officials will attend the meeting at Napa Valley College. Thompson will be joined by Rep. John Garamendi, D-Fairfield, U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, U.S. Department of Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie, and a representative for Sen. Barbara Boxer.

Panelists will talk about Thompson's conservation proposal for Berryessa Snow Mountain and what it means to local communities. There will be a public comment period.

Thompson and Garamendi have failed to get Congress to designate the area as a national conservation area. More recently, Thompson proposed that President Obama declare it a national monument so that federal lands can be better managed.

The Napa County Board of Supervisors is supporting this effort, which would encompass 55,000 acres in Napa County around Lake Berryessa.

The meeting will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday at the Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center, 2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway, Building 100, Napa.

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Greenwire
THE LEADER IN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY NEWS

Jewell to travel to Calif. to discuss protection of Berryessa Snow Mountain

Phil Taylor, E&E reporter
Published: Tuesday, December 16, 2014

Interior Secretary Sally Jewell on Friday will visit Northern California to discuss possible protections of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, a recreation hot spot for residents in nearby San Francisco and Sacramento that the Bureau of Land Management calls an "outdoor wonderland."

Jewell and Robert Bonnie, the Agriculture Department's undersecretary of natural resources and environment, will meet with California Democratic Reps. Mike Thompson and John Garamendi, local officials, and conservationists at the Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center in Napa.

Their visit suggests the Obama administration is seriously thinking about protecting the 350,000-acre area as a national monument under the Antiquities Act. The lands are currently managed by the Forest Service, BLM and Bureau of Reclamation.

Thompson since 2012 has proposed legislation to protect 350,000 acres of Berryessa Snow Mountain as a national conservation area. Late last month, he published an op-ed in the *San Francisco Chronicle* calling on President Obama to designate the area a national monument using his powers under the Antiquities Act.

"Despite bicameral support, the legislation has not been voted on in either the House or the Senate," Thompson said. "If Congress will not act to protect this area, then President Obama should use his executive authority to designate the region as a national monument. Such action would achieve the goals of my legislation."

Obama's past designations of landscape-scale monuments, including the Rio Grande del Norte and Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks in New Mexico and the San Gabriel Mountains in Southern California, have all followed visits from high-level administration officials.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region begins near sea level at Putah Creek below Lake Berryessa and stretches about 100 miles northwest to the Snow Mountain Wilderness, rising about 7,000 feet. It includes diverse ecosystems ranging from blue oak woodlands to sub-alpine habitat and supports native and rare plants such as Sargent's cypress and serpentine willow. It is also home to bald and golden eagles, black bears, mountain lions, and herds of wild tule elk, according to the Interior Department.

"The area is an outdoor wonderland, rich in natural and cultural features," BLM said in testimony to Congress a year ago. Thompson said the area contains numerous trails, open spaces, lakes and rivers that offer respite for city dwellers to hike, bike, hunt, camp and ride off-highway vehicles.

Sam Goldman, California program manager for the Conservation Lands Foundation, said conservationists are hoping Obama will exercise his monument powers, as he did earlier this fall to protect the 350,000-acre San Gabriel Mountains National Monument outside Los Angeles. "We're hopeful we'll have a victory here soon," he said.

Daily Democrat

Snow Mountain monument designation could benefit region's economy

Woodland Daily Democrat
12/13/2014

A new report finds that creating a Snow Mountain National... (MediaNews Group file photograph)

A national monument designation for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region in Northern California is likely to have significant economic benefits for the local economy, according to a new independent study by Economic & Planning Systems, Inc.

The increase in annual visitation to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument — estimated at 20 to 30 percent — would have a cumulative effect of up to $50 million for the local economy over five years.

"Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument will bring tremendous opportunity to our community and greatly benefit our economy," said Matt Archibeque, board president of the Winters Chamber of Commerce. "This study makes clear that a national monument designation would be good for business and good for our community. That's why more than 200 businesses support this designation, on top of the widespread community support we're seeing from residents. We urge President Obama to listen to the local community and permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region."

Researchers studied the projected economic benefits for the seven counties that surround the Berryessa Snow Mountain region (Yolo, Solano, Napa, Lake, Mendocino, Glenn and Colusa counties) and estimated that local tax revenues would increase by up to $800,000 over the first five years following a national monument designation.

The report also indicates that the increase in visitors and economic activity could grow provide a 30 percent increase in the number of jobs already supported by the lands.

"As a local business owner, I want to see our economy grow and our business community thrive," said John Pickerel, owner of the Buckhorn Steakhouse. "That's why I support designating a Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. The increased visibility of a national monument will be good for our community. It will lead to more visitors, keeping the doors of our businesses open with a stream of customers."

Designating the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument has widespread community support, including from business owners, local governments and residents.

Congressman Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, has introduced legislation to create a National Conservation Area for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, but that effort has stalled in Congress. With input from the local community, Thompson has called on President Obama to designate the area a national monument.

More than 225 businesses, along with Napa County and the North Valley Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, support a national monument designation for Berryessa Snow Mountain. The effort has received resolutions of support from the counties of Yolo, Napa, Lake and Solano.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region stretches from Putah Creek below Lake Berryessa across remote stretches of Cache Creek north to Snow Mountain. The public lands of the proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain region include nearly 350,000 acres of national public lands in California's inner Coast Range.

These lands currently support a range of outdoor recreational activities, provide habitat and migration corridors for wildlife, and contain much plant diversity. The estimated one million visitors to the region could enjoy outdoor adventures like hiking, fishing, boating, horseback riding, mountain biking and camping.

National monument designation will ensure that the public lands remain open to hunting, fishing, off-road vehicle riding on designated routes, and other outdoor recreation activities.

Grazing will also continue on the lands. Public input, which has guided the process of calling for a national monument, would continue to be a key component after a designation. Local residents would be involved in the planning and management of the region and have the ability to review and provide comments about management plans before they are put into action.

The Reporter
VACAVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Proponents seek Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument designation

POSTED: 12/12/14

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The Berryessa Snow Mountain region stretches from Putah Creek below Lake Berryessa across remote stretches of Cache Creek north to Snow Mountain. The public lands of the proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain region include nearly 350,000 acres of national public lands in the heart of California's inner Coast Range, north of San Francisco and west of Sacramento. These lands currently support a range of outdoor recreational activities, provide habitat and migration corridors for wildlife, and contain unique and rich plant diversity. The estimated one million visitors to the region enjoy outdoor adventures like hiking, fishing, boating, horseback riding, mountain biking and camping.

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The study, "Economic Impact Analysis of Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Designation," by Economic & Planning Systems, Inc. was commissioned to assess the economic impact of designating the Berryessa Snow Mountain region a national monument. The study can be found at http://winterschamber.com.

The increase in annual visitation to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument — estimated at 20 to 30 percent — would have a cumulative impact of up to $50 million for the local economy for five years, according to the study.

"Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument will bring tremendous opportunity to our community and greatly benefit our economy," said Matt Archibeque, board president of the Winters Chamber of Commerce. "This study makes clear that a national monument designation would be good for business and good for our community. That's why more than 200 businesses support this designation, on top of the widespread community support we're seeing from residents. We urge President Barrack Obama to listen to the local community and permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region."

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The report also indicates that the increase in visitors and economic activity could provide a 30 percent increase in the number of jobs already supported by the lands.

"As a local business owner, I want to see our economy grow and our business community thrive," said John Pickerel owner of the Buckhorn Steakhouse in a press release. "That's why I support designating a Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. The increased visibility of a national monument will be good for our community. It will lead to more visitors, keeping the doors of our businesses open with a stream of customers."

Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument has widespread community support, including business owners, local governments and residents.

Representative Mike Thompson (CA-5) has introduced legislation to create a National Conservation Area for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, but that effort has stalled in Congress. With input from the local community, Thompson has called on Obama to designate the area a national monument.

More than 225 businesses along with Napa County and the North Valley Hispanic Chambers of Commerce support a national monument designation for Berryessa Snow Mountain. The effort has received resolutions of support from the counties of Yolo, Napa, Lake and Solano. In addition, local farmers, ranchers, landowners, and recreation groups have called for the area's protection.

Public input, which has guided the process of calling for a national monument, would continue to be a key component after a designation. Local residents would be involved in the planning and management of the region and have the ability to review and provide comments about management plans before they are put into action.

Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Designation Could Boost Local Economy by up to $50MIL

WINTERS DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - December 10, 2014

Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Designation Could Boost Local Economy by up to $50 Million

Effort to protect region as national monument supported by more than 200 businesses

Winters, CA – A national monument designation for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region in Northern California is likely to have significant economic benefits for the local economy according to a new independent study by Economic & Planning Systems, Inc. The increase in annual visitation to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument – estimated at 20% to 30% – would have a cumulative impact of up to $50 million for the local economy over five years.

"Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument will bring tremendous opportunity to our community and greatly benefit our economy," said Matt Archibeque Board President of the Winters Chamber of Commerce. "This study makes clear that a national monument designation would be good for business and good for our community. That's why more than 200 businesses support this designation, on top of the widespread community support we're seeing from residents. We urge President Obama to listen to the local community and permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region."

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Protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument has widespread community support, including from business owners, local governments, and residents. Representative Mike Thompson (CA-5) has introduced legislation to create a National Conservation Area for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, but that effort has stalled in Congress. With input from the local community, Congressman Thompson has called on President Obama to designate the area a national monument.

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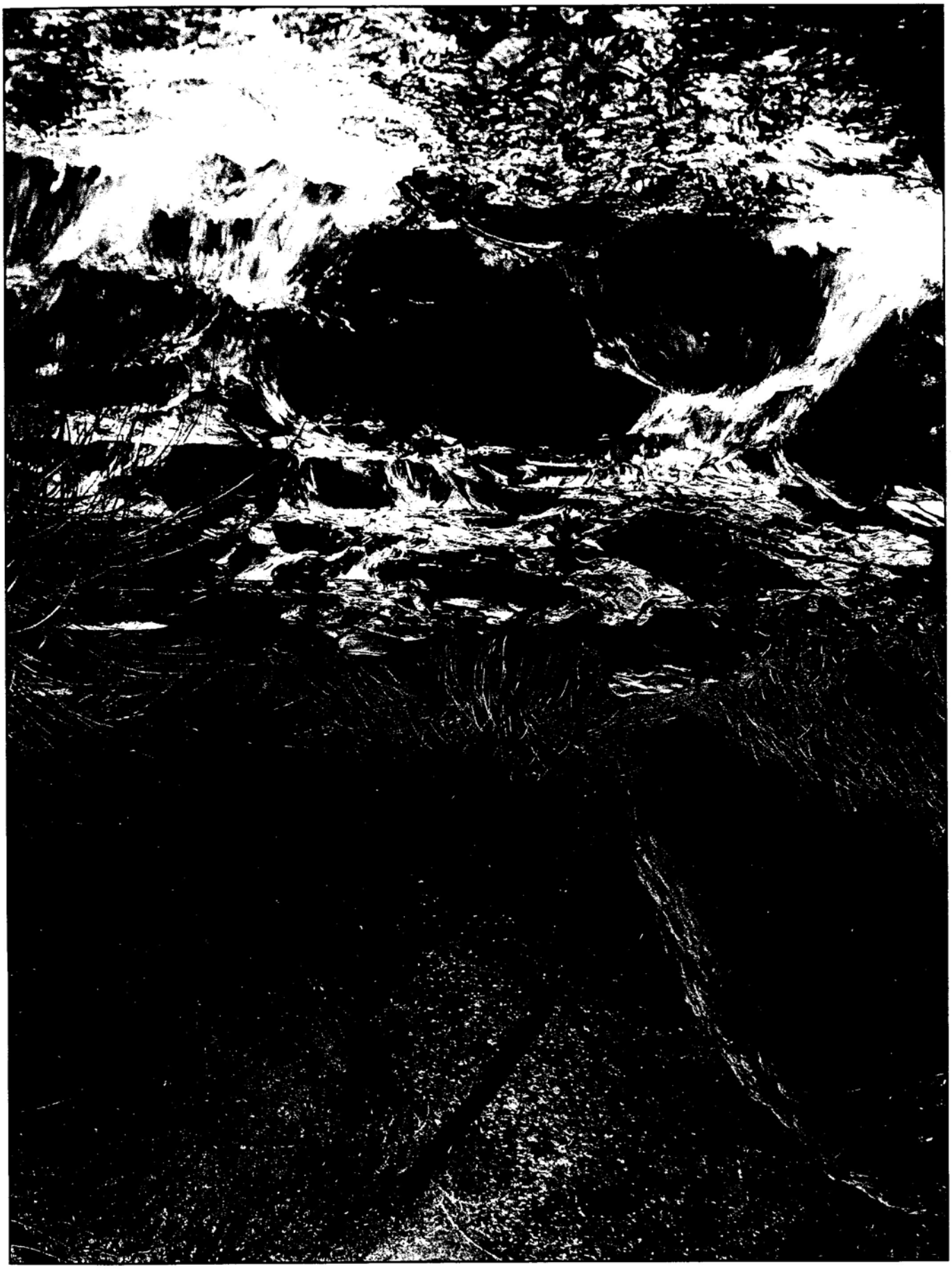
About the Proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument: The Berryessa Snow Mountain region stretches from Putah Creek below Lake Berryessa across remote stretches of Cache Creek north to Snow Mountain. The public lands of the proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain region include nearly 350,000 acres of national public lands in the heart of California's inner Coast Range, north of San Francisco and west of Sacramento. These lands currently support a range of outdoor recreational activities, provide habitat and migration corridors for wildlife, and contain unique and rich plant diversity. The estimated one million visitors to the region enjoy outdoor adventures like hiking, fishing, boating, horseback riding, mountain biking and camping.

National monument designation will ensure that the public lands remain open to hunting, fishing, off-road vehicle riding on designated routes, and other outdoor recreation activities. Grazing will also continue on the lands. Public input, which has guided the process of calling for a national monument, would continue to be a key component after a designation. Local residents would be involved in the planning and management of the region and have the ability to review and provide comments about management plans before they are put into action.



FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

LAKE COUNTY HORSE COUNCIL

Lake County Horse Council

Serving Equine Enthusiasts in Beautiful Northern California

January 15, 2015

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Lake County Horse Council strongly supports the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Located less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is a dazzling outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and loaded with recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use off road motorized vehicles in designated areas, mountain bike, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

This area includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreation opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

The Lake County Horse Council is a 501c3 non-profit with a mission to promote and preserve the horse as agriculture, industry, and recreation, inform the public about horse community goals, projects, and events, promote educational programs for the horse industry, support private

and public equine facilities and activities, serve as liaison between the horse industry, the community, and government agencies, and promote all aspects of the equine industry. The California horse industry produces goods and services valued at $4.1 billion a year. California is home to an estimated 698,000 horses with more than 70 percent involved in showing and recreation.

The Lake County Horse Council strongly supports permanent protection for the federal public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Monument.

Sincerely,

Carol Maxwell, PhD,
President, Lake County Horse Council

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

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November 13, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf of Performance Mechanical Ent., Inc, located in Clearlake, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Denise Nyholm
Performance Mechanical Ent., Inc.

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

Scientific and Conservation Values of the Berryessa Region

By Eldridge and Judy Moores, Susan Harrison, and Chad Roberts

The Berryessa region of the inner northern Coast Range is part of a scientifically important region in California and North America. This region clearly demonstrates geological processes that were central to the formation of California's landscape: processes that continue to shape the land and the geography of the state today. In addition, the Berryessa region plays an important role in maintaining the conditions that make the California landscape one of the most conservationally significant environments in the United States.

Geologically, the Berryessa region incorporates deposits formed along the North American continental margin by interaction of three tectonic plates: the North American, Farallon, and Pacific plates. This region thus represents the geological history of more than 140 million years of plate activity, beginning with subduction (descent) of the Farallon plate beneath North America, followed by the mostly horizontal movement of the San Andreas transform fault system along the boundary between the North American and Pacific plates. During the years of subduction, a "mélange" of oceanic sediments, igneous, and metamorphic rocks, and exotic terranes from far-distant places accreted along the North American continental margin.

The Berryessa region includes the Coast Range Ophiolite, a remnant of ocean crust and mantle formed at an oceanic spreading center and emplaced on the western edge of North America. This ophiolite includes ocean crust made up of pillow basalts and bits of the upper mantle that typically include "serpentine" rocks, which are associated with some of California's resplendent biological diversity.

A dynamic story unfolds as one explores the Berryessa region. West of Winters, the sharply rising Blue Ridge and Vaca mountains contain nearly vertical layers of the "Great Valley Sequence," sandstone and shale rocks that overlie the Coast Range ophiolite, containing debris shed from the North American continent to the east, deposited in ocean depths of about 3000 feet. Only a few places on the planet illustrate this scientific process as clearly as does the Berryessa region. Oil companies fly their geologists to California just to see and study the outcrop south of Monticello Dam. The layers exposed in the cliff along Highway 128 are similar to those found under hundreds to thousands of feet of water in the Gulf of Mexico and other deep-sea environments.

About 140 million years ago the ocean crust then west of the area that now holds Lake Berryessa (the Farallon plate) began to subduct under the North American continent. The subduction process in the Berryessa region continued for a very long time, adding an enormous amount of material (now called the Franciscan complex) to the western edge of the continent. About 30 million years ago, the spreading center between the Farallon and Pacific plates reached the subduction zone, and for the first time, the Pacific plate came into contact with North America. Subduction ceased along that intersection and horizontal motion (transform faulting of the San Andreas Fault system) began between the North American and Pacific plates, in the area that's now southern California. Over the eons, the transform fault has extended northward and continues today as far north as Cape Mendocino. The Wragg Canyon Fault, extending south from Lake Berryessa, is an active branch of the northern part of the San Andreas Fault system.

The former subduction zone, now known as the Coast Range Fault, passes through the Lake Berryessa valley, northward along the Eticuera Creek valley, and then continues northward to the western Klamath Mountains. The North American plate lies east of the fault, while west of the fault the Franciscan complex was formed by material scraped off the down-going Farallon plate.

Journeying around the west side of Lake Berryessa and northward along Eticuera Creek, one encounters outcrops of the shiny bluish-green rock known as serpentine and scattered areas of submarine volcanic rock ("pillow basalt"). These rocks represent part of the ancient ocean crust and mantle of the Coast Range ophiolite, now folded by tectonic movements related to the San Andreas Fault system.

The 140-million-year story told by the Great Valley Sequence, the Coast Range Ophiolite, the Franciscan complex, and the subsequent conversion of a subduction zone into a transform fault system provides a uniquely clear portrayal of the geological history not only of North America but also of many comparable plate boundaries around the world. This exemplary exhibition of world-class geology has been made available to the public, as well as to technical specialists, by existing access improvements in the Lake Berryessa region. These rocks are of *profound importance* for our historical and current cultural understanding of the geological processes that have led to the California landscape in this region.

The geological past affects the biological present in the Berryessa region. The variegated landscape, with its ever-changing elevation and differential exposures to sun, rain, and wind, and the range of geological substrates created by the accretion of a variety of rock types, have provided an opportunity for species occurring in California to develop significant diversity. This is particularly true for plants, including plant species that occur on serpentine substrates. This mineral is rich in iron and magnesium and poor in calcium, potassium, and phosphorus, and adaptation to serpentine substrates has led to the development of numerous species or subspecies of plants specifically adapted to these substrates.

The diversity of plant species in California, in part a result of the adaptations of plants to serpentinitic substrates, has led to the identification of the California Floristic Province as internationally important from a conservation perspective. While California's Mediterranean climate has played a dominant role in the evolution of this extraordinary diversity, regional topographic and substrate variations are a contributing factor. In the Berryessa region, the roles of Cedar Roughs and the serpentine outcrops in the Eticuera Creek basin are particularly noteworthy, but smaller serpentine outcrops are themselves often important conservationally. The widespread occurrence and overall distribution of serpentine exposures in the Berryessa region mean that the region is an important contributor to statewide biological diversity.

The diversity of habitat types in the Berryessa region supports a high diversity of wildlife species. Wildlife scientists universally recognize the significance for wildlife of riparian areas associated with aquatic areas (including streams, lakes, and ponds) and wetlands, including such sensitive species as Bald Eagle and red-legged frog. Studies suggest that as many of 75 percent of wildlife species in California are linked to aquatic areas and associated riparian zones. The Berryessa region also provides an abundance of oak woodland habitat areas, widely acknowledged by ecologists as among the most important habitat types in California, with more than 300 wildlife species directly associated with oak woodland habitat areas.

The greatest biological significance of the Berryessa region may arise from its location. The inner Coast Range, including the Berryessa region, forms part of the least-disturbed landscape framework north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for linking together natural conservation areas in California. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and other agencies have identified the Berryessa region as an essential habitat connectivity link in California, bridging together natural areas in the southern inner Coast Range and the eastern Bay Area with the extensive protected areas farther north and west in the Coast Range. Connectivity in the regional landscape is expected to be a significant factor in maintaining ecological resiliency in the Coast Range as climate change drives plant and animal species to adapt to altered temperature and moisture conditions. The

conservation importance of the aquatic and riparian areas, the oak woodlands, and the habitat linkages in the Berryessa region cannot be overstated.

The geological and biological settings of the Berryessa region form parts of a scientific story to share with existing and future generations. The designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Monument gives permanent protection of the Berryessa region and its important story. Our support for National Monument status for this special region and its story can and should be our legacy for future generations.

Dr. Eldridge Moores is Professor Emeritus of Geology at UC Davis, Judy Moores is Past President of the Cool Davis Foundation, Dr. Susan Harrison is Professor of Environmental Science and Policy at UC Davis, and Dr. Chad Roberts is a private conservation ecologist in Davis.

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Proposed Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument
List of Supporters

State Governments

- California Natural Resources Agency

Local Governments

- Lake County – Resolution of Support
- Napa County – Resolution of Support
- Solano County – Resolution of Support
- Yolo County – Resolution of Support
- Mendocino County – Letter of Support
- Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District – Resolution of Support
- Davis City Council – Resolution of Support
- Winters City Council – Resolution of Support
- West Sacramento City Council – Resolution of Support

Elected Officials

- Pete McCloskey – U.S. Congressman (ret)
- Vic Fazio – U.S. Congressman (ret)
- Mike McGuire – State Senator, Senate District 2
- Noreen Evans – State Senator, Senate District 2 (ret)
- Lois Wolk – State Senator, Senate District 3
- James Wood – State Assemblymember, Assembly District 2
- Bill Dodd – State Assemblymember, Assembly District 4
- Mariko Yamada – State Assemblymember, Assembly District 4 (ret)
- Mike McGowan – Yolo County Supervisor (ret)
- Jim Provenza – Yolo County Supervisor
- Don Saylor – Yolo County Supervisor
- Oscar Villegas – Yolo County Supervisor
- Diane Dillon – Napa County Supervisor
- Keith Caldwell – Napa County Supervisor
- John Vasquez – Solano County Supervisor
- Linda Seifert – Solano County Supervisor
- Erin Hannigan – Solano County Supervisor
- Jim Spering – Solano County Supervisor
- Skip Thomson – Solano County Supervisor
- Ed Robey – Lake County Supervisor (ret)
- Denise Rushing – Lake County Supervisor (ret.)
- Jim Steele – Lake County Supervisor
- Anthony Farrington – Lake County Supervisor
- Jeff Smith – Lake County Supervisor
- Carre Brown – Mendocino County Supervisor
- John McCowen – Mendocino County Supervisor
- John Pinches – Mendocino County Supervisor (ret)
- Dan Gjerde – Mendocino County Supervisor
- Dam Hamburg – Mendocino County Supervisor
- Joe Krovoza – Davis Mayor, Yolo County (ret)
- Dan Wolk – Davis Mayor, Yolo County
- Robb Davis – Davis City Council, Yolo County
- Rochelle Swanson – Davis City Council, Yolo County
- Lucas Frerichs – Davis City Council, Yolo County
- Brett Lee – Davis City Council, Yolo County
- Cecilia Aguiar-Curry – Winters Mayor, Yolo County
- Woody Fridae – Winters Vice-Mayor, Yolo County
- Harold Anderson - Winters City Council, Yolo County
- Bruce Guleden – Winters City Council, Yolo County (ret)
- Wade Cowan – Winters City Council, Yolo County
- Christopher Cabaldan – West Sacramento Mayor, Yolo County
- Christopher Ledesma – West Sacramento Mayor Pro Tem, Yolo County
- Mark Johannessen – West Sacramento City Council, Yolo County
- William Kristoff – West Sacramento City Council, Yolo County
- Beverly Sandeen – West Sacramento City Council, Yolo County
- Bruno Sabatier – Clearlake City Council, Lake County
- Jeri Spittler – Clearlake City Council, Lake County (ret.)
- Karen Bower – Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Director
- Tony Norris – Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Director
- Michael Haley – Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Director
- Dave Finigan – Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District Director
- Peter White – St. Helena Vice-Mayor, Napa County
- Greg Pitts – St. Helena City Council, Napa County
- Wanda Quitiquit – Upper Lake School Board Trustee, Lake County
- Herb Gura – Konocti Unified School Board Trustee

Tribal Groups

- Elem Indian Colony Pomo Tribe

Editorial Boards

- Sacramento Bee
- The Davis Enterprise
- Napa Valley Register
- The Modesto Bee

Business Groups

- Napa Valley Vintners
- National Latino Farmer and Rancher Trade Association
- Rural Coalition/Coalición Rural
- The Conservation Alliance

Business Owners

Yolo County

- Abba Salon & Day Spa, Susan Soonhee Lee, Davis
- Adry's Fiesta Boutique, Maria Gutierrez, Winters
- Angel Eyecare, Laila Niyati, Davis
- Angie's Hair Salon, Angie Zeniga, Davis
- Anytime Fitness, Gwen Pisani, Winters
- Apex Cycles, Aaron Curtin, Davis
- Artery-Davis Artists Cooperative, Diana Fong, Davis
- Barney's Good Time Music, Gail Moss, Woodland
- Berryessa Sports, Mitch Felter, Winters
- Buckhorn Steakhouse, John Pickerel, Winters
- Capitol Bowl, Ross Amin, West Sacramento
- Cigarettes Stop, Ashish Shagma, Woodland
- Cloth Carousel, Adina Schwerdtfeger, Winters
- Cocco's Coutoure, Reyna Flores, Woodland
- Common Grounds Coffee, Son Chong, Davis
- Custom Cleaners, Sun Song, Winters
- David's Haircutting, David Howard, Davis
- Davis Cleaners, Teddy Kim, Davis
- Davis Sport Shop, Aaron Patella, Davis
- De Luna Jewelers, Dick Luna, Davis
- Dixie's Paws & Claws, Martin Ng, Woodland
- Edward Jones, Michelle Spaulding, Davis
- El Charro Restaurant, Denise Garcia, Woodland
- El Macero Cleaners, Myong Son, Davis
- Emil's Shoes, Ivan Schmauder, Woodland
- Executive Alterations & Formalwear, Lydia Chu, Davis
- F&F Multi-Print, Jon Lindo, Woodland
- Family Barber Shop, Joshua Arias, Woodland
- Foys Bike Shop, Jim Dachtler, Woodland
- Freewheeler Bike Shop, Jeffery Hein, Davis
- Fresh Cutz Barbershop, Omar Herrera, Woodland
- Generations Family Footwear, Steven Downs, Davis
- Indigo Architecture, Jonathan Hammond, Davis
- Jackson Medical, Chao Wigmore, Woodland
- Katherine's Bookkeeping Service, Katherine Hartwen, Winters
- La Bodega, Jamie Quintero, Winters
- Las Milpas, Jose Perez, Woodland
- Lorenzo Town & County Market, Barbara Perez
- Lulus Luxe, Lori Cleland, Woodland
- Outdoor Davis, Leia Matern, Davis
- Putah Creek Café, John Pickerel, Winters
- Quetzal Mexican Food, Miguel Amador, Woodland
- Remember When Emporium, Cheryl Bromer, Woodland
- Smoke Hut Smoke Shop, Ever Tema, Davis
- Sord Boards, Shelby Smith, Woodland
- Super Tortas Chilangas, Rosalia Olvera, Woodland
- Sweet Potato Pie, Janelle Dwyer, Woodland
- Tacos El Jalisciense, M. Diaz, Woodland
- The Book Garden, Anne McCabe, Woodland
- The Burger Saloon, James Lombardi, Woodland
- The White Barn, Shiela LaMoureaux, Woodland
- Top Cat Computing, Michael Marchese, Woodland
- True Value, Jorge Santana, Winters
- VeloCity Bicycle Center, Myke Berna, Winters
- Wayfarer's B2B, Eric Banvelos, Woodland
- Winters Country Market, Angelica Mendez, Winters
- Winters Food Mart & Liquor, Jazz, Winters
- Woodland Travel, Mimi Cassidy, Woodland

Solano County

- Beads on Main, Jessica Lindeman, Vacaville
- Bello Fiore Salon, Jan Fricke, Vacaville
- Chancellor Printing and Graphics, Lenore Moriarity, Vacaville
- Custom Cleaners, Soo Y Jeong, Dixon
- Dixon Florist & Gift Shop, Courtney Kert, Dixon
- El Patron Mexican Food, Daniel Barba, Vacaville
- Every Baking Moment, Janis Luzzo, Dixon
- In the Mix Boutique, Darci Chadwick, Vacaville
- Jalisco Mexican Food, Maria Vizcarra, Dixon
- Massage & Tanning, Juanita Luna, Dixon
- Pampered Pet Salon, Sherie Smith, Dixon
- Paradise Tan & Spa, Carley Batye, Dixon
- Pro Clips Salon, Lisa Hoang, Dixon
- Solano Baking CO., Kendra Benz, Dixon
- The UPS Store, Chad Ward, Dixon
- Vasquez Deli, George & Tracy Vasquez, Vacaville

Napa County

- 5T wealth management, Hein Scozzafava, Napa
- A Healing Place, Leresa Bobst, Calistoga
- A Man's Supply, Scott Hermann, Calistoga

- All Seasons Bistro, Gayler Keller, Napa
- Amelia Claire Shoes, Rene Sculatti, Napa
- Artissimo, Alexander Rafiee, Napa
- Back Room Wines, Dan Dawson, Napa
- Baksheesh Fair Trade, Candi Smucker, St. Helena
- Billco's Billards & Darts, Bret McCulloch, Napa
- Boho Lifestyle, Indra Fortney, Napa
- Bounty Hunter Wine Bar & Smokin BBQ, William Wright, Napa
- Brannan Cottage Inn, Eden Umble, Calistoga
- Café Sarafornia, Drake Dzezkhisir, Calistoga
- Calistoga Kitchen, Ren Ta, Calistoga
- Calistoga Village Inn, Edward J. Long, Calistoga
- Calistoga Wine Stop, Tom Pelter, Calistoga
- Casa Design Napa Valley, Eliza Mitchele, Calistoga
- CE Estate Furnishings & Consignment, Catherine E. Farris. Calistoga
- Centerpiece NV, Amy Fasone, St. Helena
- Christie George Design, Christine George, Napa
- Crate Expectations, Rosalie McDonough, Calistoga
- Devine Paint Center, Robert McAdams, Napa
- Euro Spa & Inn, Bill Clazmer, Calistoga
- Freckles Children's Boutique, Jennifer Bozzini, St. Helena
- Funke's, Lilia Ticen, Calistoga
- Furniture 4 Less, Louis Salem, Napa
- Hydro Grill, Gayle Keller, Calistoga
- Imelda Resale Boutique & Alterations, Imelda Contreras, Napa
- Jodie's Design, Jodie Nieman, St. Helena
- Julie's Hair and Nail Spa, Julie Garcia, Calistoga
- King's X Haircuts, Mory Chavez, St. Helena
- La Prima Pizza, Aldo Nunez, St. Helena
- Lee Youngman Galleries, Lee Love Youngman, Calistoga
- Lincoln Ave. Spa, Deanna Wieskamp, Calistoga
- Luxe Calistoga, Chris Johansen, Calistoga
- Marie Lyall Shoes, Marie Lyall, Napa
- Mario's, Nick Roman, St. Helena
- Michael Holmes Design, Michael Holmes, Napa
- Napa River Velo, Inc., Duke Tuchman, Napa
- Napa Valley Casual, Lisa Jones, Napa
- Napa Valley Vintage Home, Michael Danner
- Nature Select Foods, Ivo Matitaca, St. Helena
- Nieman's Motorcycle Rentals, Mike Nieman, St. Helena
- North Star Gift Shop, Carol Bush, Calistoga
- Rico's Auto Detailing, Ricardo Medina, Napa
- Ristoranted Allegria, Boris Yilidiz, Napa
- Scoops & Swirls, Brian Sereni, Calistoga
- Shackford's Kitchen Supplies, Laura Lewis, Napa
- Smith's Pharmacy, Jeff Hansen, St. Helena
- Soluna Boutique, Aurelia Villegas, Yountville
- Sportago, Ahren Trumble, St. Helena
- The Roost Napa, Patricia Trimble, Napa
- Toy B. Ville, Darren Turbeville, Napa
- Turley Wine Cellars, Larry Turley, St. Helena
- Vermeil Wines, Mary Sue Trediari, Calistoga
- WH Smith Wines, T'anne Butcher, Calistoga
- Wine Way Inn, Nick Kite, Calistoga

Lake County

- 2nd Time Around, Marge LaFlam, Upperlake
- Affordable Travel, John M. Puccti, Kelseyville
- Animal Hospital of Lake County, Jerri Waddington, Clearlake
- Bark Avenue Pet Salon, Lori Wilson, Clearlake
- Beulah's Kitchen, Esther Rosales, Middletown
- Blue Flame Glass, Jay Buecher, Kelseyville
- Catfish Coffeehouse, Gloria DeLaCruz, Clearlake
- Cactus Grill, Robert Reyes, Clearlake
- Clearlake Bait & Tackle, Janet Ghiorso, Clearlake
- Clearlake Pet Center, Arlene Martin, Clearlake
- Clearlake Veterinary Clinic, Debra Sally, Clearlake
- Clearlake Yoga Studio, Roslyn Griffin, Clearlake
- Community Acupuncture Center, Vanessa Hajje, Middletow
- Copy Cat, Tiffany Oswalt, Clearlake
- CTD Enterprises, Charles Dean Wolfenspergen, Middletown
- Cycle Path Bike Shop, Larry Turner, Clearlake
- Daymakers Skincare & massage, Deborah Frank, Lakeport
- Disney's Boat Rentals, Kory Disney, Lakeport
- Disney's Trophies and Awards, Kory Disney, Lakeport
- DJ's Pizza, Kyle Fehr, Lower Lake
- Ed & Linda's Place, Linda Hiel, Clearlake
- EdB Co. Real Estate, Thomas Delfino, Middletown
- Envy Salon, Nicole Worth, Lakeport
- Envy Tanning Boutique, Veronica Baylor, Lakeport
- Flowers By Jackie, Patricia L. Tyrrell, Lakeport
- From Me 2 U, Rita Doyle, Clearlake
- Funtopia, Lorri MacDonald, Middletown
- Girlfriends Salon, Jeri Spittler, Clearlake
- Griffin's Furniture Outlet, Dan Griffin, Clearlake
- Hepcat Styles & Accessories, Christy Murch, Clearlake
- Highlands Bookkeeping & Tax, Jamee Schadlick, Clearlake
- Hi-Way Grocery, Pat Lynch, Upper Lake
- Kevin Ness Jewelers, Kevin Ness, Clearlake
- La Monarca Market, Juan Ramos, Lower Lake
- Lake County Furniture Consignment, Geri Todd, Clearlake
- Lake County Wine Studio, Susan Feiler, Upper Lake
- Lightning Rod Gallery, Susan Sanders, Upper Lake
- Lovie's Garden Emporium, Margaret Greenlay, Middletown

- Massage & Acupuncture Collective, Rory Skuce, Middletown
- Olive Tree Spa & Salon, Cyndi Henderson, Middletown
- Performance Mechanical Ent., Inc., Denise Nyholm, Clearlake
- Pogo's Pizza, Peter Ogo, Clearlake
- Puesta Del Sol, Veronica Velasquez, Kelseyville
- Rosa D'Oro Vineyards, Nick A. Buttitta, Kelseyville
- Rosales Market, Armando Rosales, Middletown
- Self-Help Law Center, Herb Gura Clearlake
- Serenity Day Spa, Tara Cossey, Kelseyville
- Shannon Ridge Vineyards and Winery, Clay Shannon, Clearlake Oaks
- Studio 175 A Salon, Jill Graham, Middletown
- Tapia White T, Jose Tapia, Clearlake
- The Game Hub, Kyle Fehr, Lower Lake
- The Game Shop, Sarah Kraft, Lakeport
- Tri-Valley Carpets, Angel Telles, Clearlake
- Virtuous Woman Boutique, Margaret Retherford, Upper Lake
- Watershed Books, Cheri Holden, Lakeport
- Windrem Law Firm, Peter Windrem, Kelseyville
- Yia Yia's Coffeehouse, Shelby Barron, Clearlake
- Zephyr Zen Antiques, Vincent Metzger, Clearlake

Sacramento County

- A&P Liquor, Rafael Martinez, Sacramento
- Adobe Imports, Oscar Hernandez, Sacramento
- Baja Insurance Services, Inc., Fredy Duran, Sacramento
- Beauty World Salon, Stephanie Ma, Sacramento
- Big Brother Comics, Kenny Russell, Sacramento
- California Upholstering Co. Walters Combs, Sacramento
- City Bicycle Works, J. Polakoff, Sacramento
- Dickey's BBQ, Angela Donegan, Sacramento
- DRJ Performance Automotive, Denis Jiron, Sacramento
- Engine, Fuel, & Emissions Engineering Inc., Christopher Weaver, Sacramento
- Fred Loya Insurance, Jaime Cornejo, Sacramento
- Fruitridge Vacuum & Sewing Inc., Terry Conrad, Sacramento
- Hip Hop Jeans, Suh Kim, Sacramento
- Identity Boutique, Stephanie Bozzalla, Sacramento
- Ikon Cycles, Adrian Moore, Sacramento
- J's Beauty Supply, Jeff Kim, Sacramento
- Ladybug Ladybug, Sheila Istvanied, Sacramento
- Lofing's Lighting Inc., Max Lofing, Sacramento
- Lyon Real Estate, Nicole Montoya, Sacramento
- Marbo Ginseng Co., Ivy Kong, Sacramento
- Moppet Shoppe, Carolee Nevonde, Sacramento
- Paws and the Palette, Lisa Spurry, Sacramento
- Peace Market, Sacramento
- Pera Dice, Jim Wagner, Sacramento
- Red Star International Groceries, Inc., Kaiton Wong, Sacramento
- Saqqara International, Kathleen Mikulin, Sacramento
- Scout Living, Erin Boyle, Sacramento
- Shop Cuffs, Lacadia Johnson, Sacramento
- Sunlight of the Spirit Books, Richard Glass, Sacramento
- The American Tradition, Ryan Tanton, Sacramento
- The Book Collector, Joanne Reeves, Sacramento
- Tootsie's Deli, Madhu Prasad, Sacramento
- TVM Floral Shop, Tran Nguyen, Sacramento
- University Art, David Saalsaa, Sacramento
- Zajic Appliance Service and Sales, BJ Martin, Sacramento
- ZAP Creative Group, Julie Knidsey, Sacramento
- Zia's Delicatessen Sacramento, Inc., Angela Sizemore, Sacramento

Other Counties

- Brook Hopper Consulting, Brook Hopper, Ventura
- Patagonia, Inc, Hans Cole, Ventura
- CLIF Bar & Company, Ryan Mayo, Emeryville
- Juniper Ridge, Obi Kaufmann, Berkeley
- The North Face, Aaron Carpenter, Alameda
- Camelbak Products, LLC, Sally McCoy, Petaluma
- prAna, Sean O'Brien, Carslbad
- STM Bags, Adam Ziegleman, Poway
- Horny Toad, Gordon Seabury, Santa Barbara
- Klean Kanteen, Jeff Creswell, Chico
- Elemental Herbs, Caroline Duell, Morro Bay
- The Mountain Lab, Scott McGuire, Mammoth Lakes
- The Forest Group, Adam Forest, Lotus
- Tributary Whitewater Tours, Daniel Buckley III, Placer
- Belinda Sanda Sales, Belinda Sanda, Redding

Landowners/Farmers

Sierra Orchards – Craig McNamara
Conaway Preservation Group – Kyriakos Tsakopoulos
Perini Ranch – Dan Desmond
Richard Traverso
John and Judy Ahmann
Brien and Marie Brennan
Tuleyome

Recreation Groups

Blue Ribbon Coalition
Back Country Horsemen of America
International Mountain Bicycling Association
Lake County Horse Council
Latino Outdoors

Conservation Groups

American Rivers
Californians for Western Wilderness
California Native Plant Society
California Wilderness Coalition
Conservation Lands Foundation
Defenders of Wildlife
Elder Creek Center for the Land
Environment California
Environment America
Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS)
Equine Land Conservation Resource
California League of Conservation Voters
League of Conservation Voters
Natural Resources Defense Council
Sierra Club
The Wilderness Society
Tuleyome
Yolo Audubon Society

Individual Supporters

Abby Hamilton
Ajay Rajamani
Alan Carlton
Alan Pryor
Alan Sugiyama
Alexandra LaBouff
Alfonso Almendariz
Alice Rosenthal
Alisha Rodriguez
Alyssa Obester
Amanda Platt
Amani Redd
Amy George
Andrea Segar
Andrew Fulks
Andrew Tom
Andy Tomaselli
Anita Alexander
Ann Crane
Ann-Marie Murphy
Anne Henry
Anne Tart
Antoinette Nolan
Ariane Pinson
Arlene Blum
Arno Hesse
Audrey Wottrich
Autumn Buss
B Anderson
Barry Oselett
Bernard Butcher
Beth Katherine Kaiman
Bill Hagen
Bob Schneider
Bob Wallin
Brandon Lam
Brian Kie Weissbuch
Bryan Ristow
Candice Schaer Johnson
Cari Butler
Carl Weidert
Carol Cole-Lewis
Carol Hanson
Carol Kirk
Carolyn Ruttan
Carrie Shepard
Cassandra Harrah
Cassie Barr
Caterina Flores
Cathy Forkas
Charlotte Griswold
Charlotte Orr
Charlotte Xanders
Chris Barnett
Chris Erichsen
Chris Rubald
Christina Craig-Veit
Christine Coil
Christine Long
Christopher Yorddranjun
Cindy Lanier
Cindy Schneider
Corey Jaseph
Craigh Dvorkin
Cynthia Bates
Dan-Thanh Nguyen
Danielle Craig
Daphne Eagleman
Dario Bobadilla
David Evans
David Hartz
David Link
David L. Johnson
David Michalski
David Palestrant
David Segar
David Zelinsky
Davis Middlemas
Deb Ford
Deb Moore
Debi Sally
Deborah Hickerson
Deborah Stewart
Debra Banes
Debra Weistar
Deborah Ross
Deborah Walker
Deirdre Hanners
Denise Lyons
Deon Pollett
Delia Taylor
Delmar Janson
Diana Koeck
Diana Walsh
Diane Beck
Diane Carney
Diane Del Signore
Dianne Grenland
Dina Fisher
Don Morrill
Donna Anderson
Donna Cuff
Dorian Toy
Edward Forsyth
Edward Sullivan
Eleanor Gilchrist
Elisabeth Johnson
Elise Brewin
Elissa Gordon
Elizabeth Lasensky
Elizabeth Milliken
Elizabeth Montgomery
Elizabeth Ramsey
Elizabeth Sacco
Ellen Karnowski
Emily Kotcher
Enoch Baldwin
Eric Barnett
Eric Buell
Ethan Jaffe
Evelia Genera
Evelyn Zlomke
Everardo Villalobos
Fernando Huerta
Filomena Yeroshek
Francesca Verdier
Frank B. Anderson
Frank Verstraete
Fred Rinne
G.P. Avery
Gae Henry
Garett Peterson
Gary Patton
Gene Trapp
Georgie Waugh
Glen Holstein
Grace Emery
Grace R. Harris
Hans-Georg Mueller
Henry Bornstein
Ian Taylor
Ilan Moyer
Iris Craig
Jack Young
Jack Taylor
Jackie Humphers
Jackie Mucha
Jacqueline
Jacqueline Clemens
Jacqueline Shulters
James Jackson
James Knox
James Mapes
James Taylor
Janet Segar
Jason Meggs
Jay Kamar
Jean Crossley
Jeannie Vierra

Jeff Long
Jeffrey J. Smith
Jennifer Cardoza
Jenny McAllister
Jia Ma
Jill Hunter
Jillian Wilkowski
Jim Cramer
Jim Eldon
Jo Crescent
Joan Moss
Joanne Bateni
Joe Miller
Joe Naab
Joe Vzaiski
John Bacon
John Bronsnan
John Hunter
John Kolarik
John Natelli
John Spearman
John Zweifler
Jon Schwedler
Jordan Power
Jose Cardenas
Jose Jara
Joseph Issel
Joseph Klein
Joyce Burk
Joyce Lashbrook
Judith Nychay
Judy Gilchrist
Judy Hemingway
Judy Merry
Judy Plank
Julia Crane
Julia Hunter-Blair
Julie Alcon
Julie Kreis
Justine Davis
Kaili Brande
Karen Urbano
Kate Mawdsley
Kate Pearl
Katelyn Peterson
Katherine Lin
Kathleen McCabe
Kathleen Windrem
Kay Bohren
Kaye Hall
Kayla Beltran
Keala Fung
Keith Kaulum
Kelly F. Cox
Ken Celli
Ken Gonzalez
Ken Roberts
Ken Stanton
Kevin NaPien
Kevin Wolf
Kim Atkinson
Kim Moreno
Kim VanHorn
Kimberly West
Kirk Peterson
Kirsten Larson
Kristen Farrar
Kyle Rich
Lanier Sleuter
Larry Denk
Laura Koeninger
Lenny Matthews
Leonard Holt
Lewis Lawyer
Lianna Winkler-Pring
Lincoln Chu
Linda Grubbs
Linda Schreiber
Linda Selover
Linda Trull
Lindy Rice
Lisa Togni
Lisa Trace
Lloyd Knox
Lori Hewitt
Lou Leet
Lubra Mohammed
Lucy Zane
Luke Petersen
Lydia Guadarrama
Maggie Fillmore
Marc Vayssieres
Marcos Perez
Margaret Cassero
Margaret Ingalls
Margaret Koren
Margaret Miller
Mark Lehnhoff
Maria Sanders
Marie Claire DeLuna
Marina Vedovi
Mark Norman
Mark Orr
Mark Willett
Marta Lin
Martha Myles
Martie Weidert
Mary Ellen Strote
Mary Hanson
Mary Schiedt
Mary Walsh
Matt Keller
Matthew Baker
Matthew Reid
Melissa Rothstein
Mercedes Williams
Merita Whatley
Merry Maloney
Michael Baills
Michael Bybee
Michael Dobrinski
Michael Kauffman
Michael Keesee
Michael Porter
Michael Rodriguez
Michael White
Michael W. Evans
Mike Maghakian
Miles Ryan
Mo Xu
Monica Rosenthal
Muhammad Raza
Murray Nguyen
Nadine Scott
Nancy Helsley
Nancy Tamarisk
Nathan Allshouse
Neha White
Nicole Perez
Nora Glick
Noralee Sherwood
Norene Charnofsky
Pam Pappone
Pamela Speight
Pat Barron
Patricia Chuda
Patricia Greene
Patricia Lambert
Paul Gepts
Paul S. Towers
Penelope Curtis
Penny Leff
Phil Burton
Phil Matheasson
Philip Rohrbough
Phillip Tran
Phyllis Bala
R Kramer
Rachel Lutz
Ralph Anderson
Ralph Devoto
Ramon Urbaud
Randeep Bhasin
Raven Jackson
Ray Gu
Rebecca Mills
Rebecca White
Rena Renush

Rene Suarez
Renee Sullaway
Richard Jackson
Richard Schatzman
Richie Winn
Rick Macala
Ricky Gomez
Robert Bonner
Robert Hess
Robert Miyashiro
Robert Zomer
Robs Muir
Roger L. Duba
Roger Rehm
Ron Glick
Ron Oertel
Ross Wright
Roy Misayitta
Russell J. Rubin
Ruth Coleman
Ruth Fankushen
Ryan Fong
Sam Foster
Samantha Harris
Sami LaRocca
Sandy Hopkins
Sarah Brown
Sarah Epstein
Sarah Tuttle
Sarah Williams
Savannah Davis
Scott Strait
Sean McMahon
Sharon Weeks
Shaun Mustafa
Sherry Harris
Shoshana Zeldner
Stephanie Conway
Stephanie Reader
Stephanie Yu
Steve Birdlebough
Steve Hackett
Stu Nussbaum
Sue Grissom
Sue Stiles
Susan Bronstein
Susan Draffan
Susan Emery
Susan Fawcett
Susan Gloystein
Susan Koo
Susan Mills
Sylvia Wright
Tammy Truong
Tanya Horlick
Tara Mueller
Ted Judah
Teresa Allen
Teri Shore
Terrance Steele
Terrill Kelly'Barrows
Terry Smiley
Thomas Florek
Thomas D. Beamish
Thomas Davis
Thomas Handley
Thomas McNellis
Thomas Reynolds
Tiffany Delloue
Tim Henke
Tim Keenan
Timothy Orr
Tom Downing
Tom Goliber
Tom Koski
Tom McFarling
Tom Rusert
Tom Stallard
Tom Vardaman
Tom White
Tomas Riley
Tonya Sanders
Victoria Brandon
Victoria Lau
Warren Parks
Wendy B
Wendy Overin
Wiley Martin
William Bennett
William McConnell
Win Stiles
Ximena A. Bustamante
Yu Li
Yu-An Lay
Yuriko Oto
Yvonne Robertson
Z Ali
Zmilion Coolas

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January 23rd, 2014

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

We are writing to thank your Administration under the leadership of the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture for participating in the public meeting on December 19, 2014, in Napa, California to discuss the need to permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is a unique landscape that is treasured for its scenic, recreational, natural, and economic values. As was clearly witnessed during this meeting, overwhelming local support from multiple segments of the surrounding communities exists for the creation of a national monument. We encourage you to use your authority under the Antiquities Act to designate the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain area stretches 100 miles from blue oak woodlands near Putah Creek and the shores of Lake Berryessa in the south to the sub-alpine habitat of the Snow Mountain Wilderness in the Mendocino National Forest to the north. The proposed national monument would protect several diverse habitats that are home to a wide array of plants and animals including river otters, Tule elk and black bears, mountain lions, bald eagles and rare and native plants found nowhere else.

A national monument would not only protect these vital natural resources, but it is also good business. A recent economic report released by the Winters Chamber of Commerce found that a national monument would increase visitation to the region by 20-30 percent and generate of up to $50 million for local economies over a five year period following a designation. The importance of the monument for both conservation and the local economy is reflected in the broad and deep list of monument supporters. The Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument proposal is supported by the Boards of Supervisors in Yolo, Solano, Napa, Lake, and Mendocino counties; the state of California; Senators Boxer and Feinstein; and Representatives Mike Thompson, John Garamendi and Jared Huffman, as well as over 200 businesses and numerous stakeholder groups representing sportsmen, ranchers, off-road vehicle enthusiasts, mountain bikers, equestrians and conservation groups.

We thank Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, Agriculture Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment Robert Bonnie as well as other members of your administration for participating in this valuable public meeting to engage local communities about the importance of protecting the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. Protecting this area as a national monument would provide valuable economic benefits while simultaneously protecting biologically rich habitat and preserving it for current and future generations to enjoy. We urge you to use your authority under the Antiquities Act to designate the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a national monument in response to the wishes of the local community.

Sincerely

Jamie Williams, President, The Wilderness Society

Michael Brune, Executive Director, Sierra Club

Gene Karpinski, President,
League of Conservation Voters

Wm. Robert Irvin, President and CEO,
American Rivers

Brian O'Donnell, Executive Director
Conservation Lands Foundation

Margie Alt, Executive Director, Environment America

Peter Lehner, Executive Director
Natural Resources Defense Council

CC:

Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Tom Tidwell, Forest Service
Neil Kornze, Bureau of Land Management
Senator Diane Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Mike Thompson
Michael Boots, Acting Chair, Council on Environmental Quality

The Conservation Alliance

Outdoor Business Giving Back to the Outdoors

December 16, 2014

Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Establishing the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument

Dear President Obama:

On behalf of The Conservation Alliance and the undersigned member businesses, we are writing to convey our strong support for the protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region in Northern California. Unfortunately, the gridlock in Congress has stalled the locally supported effort to protect this unique and underappreciated landscape and the time to act is now.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region stretches from Putah Creek below Lake Berryessa across remote stretches of Cache Creek north to Snow Mountain. The area is a wonderful outdoor playground easily reachable from Sacramento and the Bay Area. This largely undiscovered national treasure is home to a wealth of recreation opportunities, a wide range of plants and animals and beautiful scenic views.

Protecting Berryessa Snow Mountain will reap benefits for California and the nation's outdoor recreation economy. Each year, the outdoor industry supports more than six million American jobs, generates $646 billion in direct consumer spending and contributes $80 billion in federal, state and local taxes. Designating the Berryessa Snow Mountain region a national monument would help strengthen the local economy and further bolster California's active outdoor recreation economy that generates $85.4 billion in consumer spending, 732,000 jobs, $27 billion in wages and salaries, and $6.7 billion in state and local tax revenue.

There is a long history of public support for protecting Berryessa Snow Mountain, locally and statewide. Years of attempts by California's Congressional Delegation, including Representatives Thompson and Garamendi and Senator Boxer, have demonstrated the overwhelming public interest in protecting Berryessa Snow Mountain, but have not succeeded due to a gridlocked Congress. Accordingly, we are asking that you use your authority under the Antiquities Act to designate Berryessa Snow Mountain as a National Monument.

Sincerely,

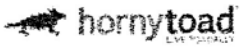
cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Representative Mike Thompson
Representative John Garamendi
Tom Vilsack, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Sally Jewell, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality

PO Box 1275, Bend, OR 97709 | (541)389-2424

John Sterling
Executive Director
The Conservation Alliance
Bend, OR

Aaron Carpenter
Vice President, Marketing
The North Face
Alameda, CA

Sally McCoy
CEO
CamelBak Products, LLC
Petaluma, CA



Gordon Seabury
CEO
Horny Toad
Santa Barbara, CA

Adam Ziegleman
VP of Global Marketing
STM Bags
Poway, CA

Scott McGuire
President
The Mountain Lab
Mammoth Lakes, CA

Adam Forest
Managing Partner
The Forest Group
Lotus, CA

Daniel J. Buckley III
Founder
Tributary Whitewater Tours
Weimar, CA

Hans Cole
Environmental Campaigns Manager
Patagonia, Inc.
Ventura, CA

Ryan Mayo
Marketing Manager
CLIF Bar & Company
Emeryville, CA

Sean O'Brien
Senior Marketing Manager
prAna
Carlsbad, CA

Jeff Creswell
Co-Owner
Klean Kanteen
Chico, CA

Caroline Duell
President
Elemental Herbs
Morro Bay, CA

Obi Kaufmann
Director
Juniper Ridge
Berkeley, CA

Brook Hopper
Owner
Brook Hopper Consulting
Ventura, CA

Belinda Sanda
President
Belinda Sanda Sales
Redding, CA

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TURLEY

October 28, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Turley Wine Cellars, located in St. Helena, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Larry Turley
Turley Wine Cellars

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

3358 ST. HELENA HWY ST. HELENA, CA 94574 (707) 963-0940 FAX (707) 963-8683
2900 VINEYARD DRIVE TEM

Yolo Audubon Society
P.O. Box 886 Davis, CA 95617

19 November 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Subject: Support for National Monument Designation for the Berryessa-Snow Mountain Region

Dear President Obama,

The Board of Directors of the Yolo Audubon Society (YAS) enthusiastically endorses the proposal to designate the public lands in the Berryessa-Snow Mountain area as a National Monument. These existing public lands include Lake Berryessa in the south, near sea level, and Mendocino National Forest lands in the Snow Mountain Wilderness in the north, at over 7000 feet elevation. There is a tremendous range of ecological conditions within these 100 miles, including oak woodlands, chaparral, mixed-conifer forests, rare high-elevation red fir forests, and alpine scrublands.

Conservation scientists have identified this ecological landscape as an Essential Habitat Connectivity linkage for the State of California. The conifer forests in the northern portion of the proposed NM include late-seral forests important for Northern Spotted Owls and Pacific Fishers under the Northwest Forest Plan. The overall diversity of landscape elements supports high plant species richness in the proposed NM, contributing to the status of the California Floristic Province as the only "biological hotspot" identified by Conservation International in the United States. The proposed NM includes serpentine-dominated landscape areas that are a haven for numerous rare plant species.

The lands included in the proposed NM will enable the plants and wildlife species in the region to respond to the effects of climate change as temperatures increase and precipitation changes. Evidence indicates that climate change has already altered forested landscapes throughout the western United States, and scientific projections indicate likely future changes because of increased fire frequency and altered precipitation. Protecting the proposed NM will help the ecosystems in the region adapt to climate change by facilitating adaptive shifts northward and upslope, providing refugia for species whose ranges are affected by climate change.

Establishing a National Monument will improve coordination among federal agencies, providing coherent approaches and additional funding. The future holds important challenges for federal land managers. Existing conservation management approaches may require adjustment, or even potentially significant changes, resulting from altered climate and changed cultural settings. Adjusted approaches may be needed to meet increased demands for water downstream. Increased fire frequency may change management concerns for wildlands and the wildland-urban interface.

A National Monument designation will improve federal agency responses to all of these conservation concerns. For these reasons we support the Berryessa-Snow Mountain National Monument.

Sincerely,

Chad Roberts

Chad Roberts
Conservation Chair

Roger Adamson

Roger Adamson
President

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BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
CHAIR

COMMITTEES

HEALTH

LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT & RETIREMENT

JOINT COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

WOMEN'S CAUCUS

ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUS

RURAL CAUCUS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY
CHAIR

California State Senate

SENATOR
NOREEN EVANS
SECOND SENATE DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 651-4002

DISTRICT OFFICES
50 D STREET
SUITE 120A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 576-2771

710 E STREET
SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 445-6508

200 SOUTH SCHOOL STREET
UKIAH, CA 95482
(707) 468-8914

3501 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE
SUITE 425
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

401 AMADOR STREET
VALLEJO, CA 94590
(707) 648-5312

October 10, 2014

Congressman Mike Thompson
Cannon House Office Building Room 231
Washington, D.C. 20515
Fax: 202.225.4335

Re: Permanent Protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region

Dear Congressman Mike Thompson,

As you know, the Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. Teeming with biological diversity, this lesser known region of California is located less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions. Extending protection to this dazzling outdoor recreational wonderland is of utmost importance.

Among the wide array of wildlife this area calls home are nearly half of California's dragonfly species, California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, and an annual explosion of wildflowers. The botanical biodiversity of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region makes it the center of California's global "hot spot."

Safeguarding nature is also good for business. Permanent protection of this region will enhance favorable economic circumstances for our local communities; provide well-managed recreation opportunities; increase coordination between federal agencies; preserve the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I urge you to move forward to permanently protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Monument** or **National Conservation Area**. You have my support and any help I can offer.

Sincerely,

Noreen Evans

Noreen Evans

Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

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Mariko Yamada ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FOURTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
CHAIR: AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE
AGRICULTURE
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
VETERANS AFFAIRS
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

California Legislature

October 7, 2014

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
Office of U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Thompson
United States House of Representatives
231 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senators Feinstein, Boxer, and Congressman Thompson:

As the Assemblymember representing the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, I write in strong support of preserving this crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. Designating this biologically diverse region as a National Conservation Area or National Monument will enhance economic opportunities for our local communities while ensuring the use and enjoyment of these beautiful lands for future generations.

Located less than one hundred miles from Sacramento and the Bay Area, this captivating outdoor wonderland is rich in unique natural features with many recreational options. These public lands stretch from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region boasts botanical biodiversity, including thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat and wildflowers. Nearly half of California's dragonfly species, butterflies, river otters, trout, tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears and osprey may be found here. The region also provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. Additionally, opportunities for activities like hiking, horseback riding, fishing, hunting, camping, bird watching, kayaking and other water recreation will generate increased interest.

These precious lands and fauna cannot advocate for themselves, so it is our responsibility to speak on their behalf. For the generations yet-to-come, I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area or National Monument.

Sincerely,

MARIKO YAMADA
Assemblymember, 4th District

cc:
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

CAPITOL OFFICE: STATE CAPITOL, P. O. BOX 942849, SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0004 • (916) 319-2004 • FAX (916) 319-2104
WOODLAND OFFICE: 725 MAIN STREET, SUITE 2

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

CALIFORNIA natural resources AGENCY

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., *Governor*
JOHN LAIRD, *Secretary for Natural Resources*

December 10, 2014

The Honorable Mike Thompson
231 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Thompson:

I write to again share California's strong support for the establishment of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. While your legislation, H.R. 5545, was an important legislative effort, action by the Obama Administration seems to be the next logical step to protect this vital area.

As you know, the region encompassing Berryessa Snow Mountain is of unique biologic diversity and significance to California and the nation. The designation of Berryessa Snow Mountain as a National Monument will provide much needed permanent protection in terms of its management, public access and long-term protection of environmental resources.

It is important to underscore that the efforts to designate these lands as a National Monument is widely supported by a diverse group of interests, including local businesses, nearby cities and all five counties within the region, private landowners, citizens, farmers, conservationists and recreation groups. In addition to the economic boost to the local economy estimated up to $50 million, there seems to be broad support in ensuring that the region would be permanently protected for its recreation, habitat and watershed values.

Thank you for your leadership on the protection of Berryessa Snow Mountain. If your office should have any questions, please contact Todd Ferrara, Deputy Secretary for External Affairs in my office at (916) 653-5656.

Sincerely,

John Laird
Secretary for Natural Resources

cc: The Honorable Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Barbara Boxer, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Jared Huffman, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable John Garamendi, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Lois Wolk, California State Senate

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311, Sacramento, CA 95814 Ph. 916.653.5656 Fax 916.653.8102 http://resources.ca.gov

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

September 26, 2014

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,
The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild Inner Coast Range where public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities for our members to explore, research, hike, and enjoy unique lands rich in biodiversity.

This area includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers - many of them extremely rare, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, birds, and wildlife, including habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global hot spot.

Establishment of a National Monument will improve coordination between federal agencies, help adjustments to climate change, keep our water clean and provide additional federal funding opportunities for conservation management, invasive species eradication, and recreational enhancement.

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) supports permanent protection for the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, and we ask your help to designate these lands as the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

Most respectfully,

Greg Suba

Greg Suba
Conservation Program Director, CNPS

The mission of CNPS is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants. CNPS is a California non-profit organization whose nearly 10,000 members work to promote native plant appreciation, research, education, and conservation through 34 regional chapters in California and Baja California, MX.

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Funke's
Lilia Ticen
1417 Lincoln Avenue
Calistoga, CA 94515
(707) 942 - 6246
(707) 942 - 6235 Fax
www.FunkesNapaValley.com

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Lilia TICEN Signature: Lilia Ticen

Business: FUNKE'S

Street: 1417 Lincoln ave.

City: Calistoga Zip Code: 94515

Email:_____ Phone:_____

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Mory Chavez Signature: [signature]

Business: King's X Barbershop

Street: 1225 MAIN ST.

City: St. Helena Zip Code: 94574

Email: k.chavez@att.net Phone: 707-963-0663

cc:

Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA

Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

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NAPA VALLEY
VINTAGE
HOME

MICHAEL DANNER
MANAGER

MICHAEL@NAPAVALLEYVINTAGEHOME.COM
WWW: NAPAVALLEYVINTAGEHOME.COM
1201 MAIN STREET ST. HELENA CALIFORNIA 94574
PHONE 707.963.7423 FAX 707.963.8038

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Michael Danner Signature: [signature]

Business: Napa Valley Vintage Home

Street: 1201 Main St.

City: St. Helena Zip Code: 94574

Email: michael@napavalleyvintagehome.com Phone: (707)9637423

cc:

Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Amy R. Fasone Signature: Amy R. Fasone

Business: Centerpiece NV

Street: 1286 Vidovich

City: St. Helena Zip Code: 94574

Email: amyrose@centerpiecenapavalley.com Phone: 707-963-5700

cc:

Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Nick Roman Signature: _____

Business: Mario's

Street: 1223 Main St.

City: St. Helena Zip Code: 94574

Email: Roman151@hotmail.com Phone: 707-963-1603

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA

Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

December 13, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I, Greg Pitts a St. Helena Council Member, strongly support the proposal to designate the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area or a National Monument.

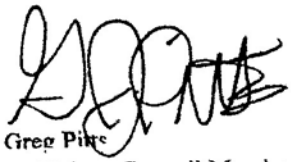
The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more. A National Conservation Area or National Monument designation will increase our region's visibility and accessibility and add to our important outdoor recreation and tourism industries.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that contributes to the status of the California Floristic Province as a "biological hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will increase economic opportunities for our local economies; improve coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**



Greg Pitts
St. Helena Council Member

cc:

Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

December 10, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I, Peter White, the City of St. Helena Vice Mayor; strongly support the proposal to designate the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area or a National Monument.

Also, as a former Bureau of Reclamation Concessionaire and lifetime resident of the Region, I firmly believe the Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more. A National Conservation Area or National Monument designation will increase our region's visibility and accessibility and add to our important outdoor recreation and tourism industries.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that contributes to the status of the California Floristic Province as a "biological hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will increase economic opportunities for our local economies; improve coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Peter G. White
Vice Mayor, City of St. Helena

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Elem Indian Colony
A Sovereign Nation

PO Box 757 ✦ Lower Lake, CA 95457
Phone (707) 994-3400✦ Fax (707) 994-3408
www.elemindiancolony.org

COPY

August 29, 2014
President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Elem Indian Colony Pomo Tribe strongly supports the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Located less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is a dazzling outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and loaded with recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use off road motorized vehicles in designated areas, mountain bike, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

This area includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreation opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

Elem Indian Colony Pomo Tribe is a Federally Recognized Indian Tribe by Congress under the 1934 Re-Organization Act. Our Tribe continues to provide ceremonial songs, dances, and blessings for the water, earth, natural resources, animals, and spirit of the lands. As this Berryessa Snow Mountain continues to carries these sacred spirits for the goodness of all the people who respect and honor the beauty of this Mountain.

Our Ancestors always believed the earthly well beings of these sacred lands and mountains protect our environment for a healthier life of peace and harmony.

The Elem Indian Colony Pomo Tribe strongly supports permanent protection for the federal public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Monument.**

Sincerely,

Thomas Leon Brown,
Tribal Administrator

cc:
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA Congressman
Mike Thompson, District 5, CA Congressman Jared Huffman,
District 2, CA Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

16170 Main St. Suite I✦ Lower Lake. CA 95457

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
PO Box 9257
Missoula, MT 59807
406-370-4325
www.backcountryhunters.org

For Immediate Release:
December 19, 2014

Contact:
Land Tawney, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, (406)370-3243 or
tawney@backcountryhunters.org

J.R. Young, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers-California, 408-761-8238

Sportsmen Welcome Conversation about Protecting Berryessa Snow Mountain

Napa, Calif. – Backcountry Hunters & Anglers today welcomed the Interior Secretary and Under Secretary of Agriculture to California for a public meeting about the opportunities to protect Berryessa Snow Mountain as a national monument.

"Hunting and angling are inextricably linked to healthy habitat. It is our responsibility as sportsmen to protect our wild country and public lands," said J.R. Young, a volunteer leader of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers-California and resident of Los Gatos. "The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is a national treasure worthy of permanent protection for all visitors to enjoy."

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region provides many places for outdoor recreation, including hunting and fishing. Blacktail deer, wild turkey, black bears, mountain lions and herds of wild tule elk call the region home. Trout streams in the region include the trophy trout fisheries of Putah Creek and the headwaters of the Eel River. The Middle Fork of Stony Creek in the Snow Mountain Wilderness is now state-designated wild trout water, and a segment of Putah Creek is proposed for this designation as well. The bass fishing in Clear Lake and Lake Berryessa is world-class.

Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, USDA Under Secretary Robert Bonnie and US Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell will join Congressmen Mike Thompson and John Garamendi at the Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center for a community meeting about the potential to protect the existing public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain as a national monument.

Thus far, President Obama has protected 13 national monuments, including the San Gabriel Mountains in California, and the Rio Grande del Norte and the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks in New Mexico, all of which allow hunting and fishing.

"It is significant that President Obama's monument designations have protected access for hunters and anglers," said Backcountry Hunters & Anglers Executive Director Land Tawney. "Conservation of and access to our natural heritage is critical for our economy, and the way of life that sportsmen and women intend to pass along to the next generation."

The Chamber of Commerce of Winters, California, commissioned an economic study which indicated that a monument designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region could generate up to $50 million for local economies over a five year period. Already, California's more than 1.8 million recreational anglers contribute $2.3 billion to the state's economy annyually, while the state's 287,000 licensed hunters generate more than $964 million in economic impact (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation).

###

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers seeks to ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting, through education and work on behalf of wild public lands and waters. Online at http://www.backcountryhunters.org/

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

October 30, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Top Cat Computing, located in Woodland, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Michael Marchese
Top Cat Computing

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

TOPCAT COMPUTING
725 Main Street, Suite 9
Woodland, CA 95695
530-668-8006
Michael Marchese
Owner
michaelm@topcatcomputing.n
www.topcatcomputing.net

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

November 6, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Nieman's Motorcycle Rentals, located in St. Helena, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Mike Nieman
Nieman's Motorcycle Rentals

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

November 6, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Northstar, located in Calistoga, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Carol Bush

Carol Bush
Northstar

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

November 6, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Julie's Hair and Nail Spa, located in Calistoga, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Julie Garcia
Julie's Hair and Nail Spa

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

JULIE'S HAIR AND NAIL SPA

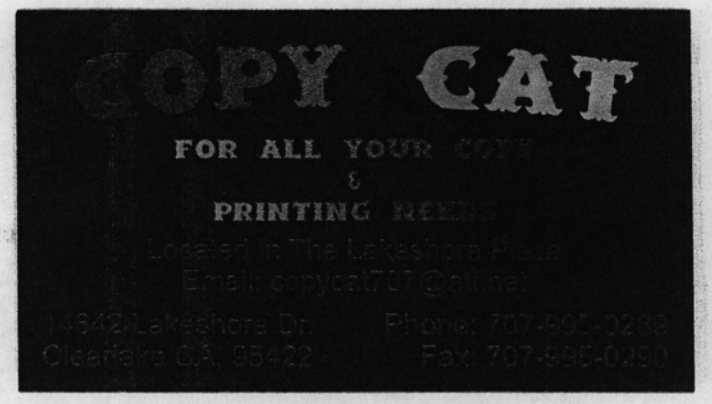
OWNER/ HEAD COSMETOLOGIST

JULIE'S HAIR AND NAIL SPA

JULIE GARCIA 707-942-1067

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY



President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

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Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Tiffany Oswalt Signature: Tiffany Oswalt

Business: Copy Cat

Street: 14642 Lakeshore dr

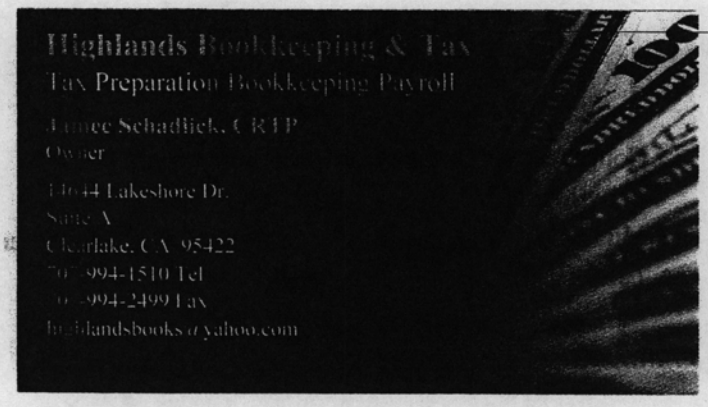
City: Clearlake CA Zip Code: 95422

Email: copycat707@att.net Phone: 707-995-0289

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY



President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: JAMEE SCHADLICK Signature: Jamee Schadlick

Business: HIGHLANDS BOOKKEEPING & TAX

Street: 14664 LAKESHORE DR.

City: CLEARLAKE Zip Code: 95422

Email: highlandsbooks@yahoo.com Phone: 707-994-1510

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Eden Umble Signature: Eden Umble

Business: Brannan Cottage Inn

Street: 109 Wappo Ave

City: Calistoga Zip Code: 94515

Email: eden@brannancottageinn.com Phone: 707-9424200

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

November 6, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Jodie's Design, located in St. Helena, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Jodie Nieman
Jodie's Design

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

November 6, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Calistoga Wine Stop, located in Calistoga, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

T. Pelter

Tom Pelter
Calistoga Wine Stop

CALISTOGA WINE STOP
www.calistogawinestop.net
1458 Lincoln Ave. #2, Calistoga, CA 94515
(707) 942-5556 • (800) 648-4521
Fax (707) 942-4528

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

TOM & TAMMY PELTER 10-6 Daily

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: T'Anne Butcher Signature: [signature]

Business: W.H. Smith Wines

Street: 1367 Lincoln Ave

City: Calistoga CA Zip Code: 94515

Email: tanne.whsw@gmail.com Phone: 707-942-1194

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Aurelia Villegas Signature: Aurelia Villegas

Business: Soluna Boutique

Street: 6525 Washington #A2

City: Yountville Zip Code: 94599

Email: solunaspa2@aol.com Phone: (707) 944 8589

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

CLEARLAKE PET CENTER
FULL LINE PET STORE
(707) 994-0317
OWNER: DON MARTIN
HOSTING: VIP PETCARE
14816 OLYMPIC DR. CLEARLAKE, CAL. 95422

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: DON MARTIN Signature: Don Martin

Business: Clearlake Pet Center

Street: 14816 Olympic Drive

City: Clearlake CA Zip Code: 95422

Email: Phone: 707-994-0317

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

November 13, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf of Clearlake Veterinary Clinic, located in Clearlake, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Debra Sally

Debra Sally
Clearlake Veterinary Clinic

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

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I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: LORI WILSON Signature: Lori Wilson

Business: BARK Avenue Pet Salon

Street: Lakeshore

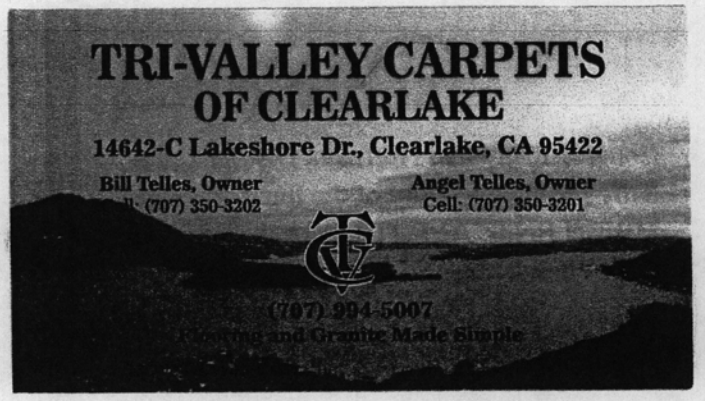
City: Clearlake Zip Code: 95422

Email: _____ Phone: 994-7837

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY



President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is the crown jewel of Northern California's wild inner Coast Range. It is one of the most biologically diverse, yet least known regions of California. Less than one hundred miles from the Sacramento and Bay Area metropolitan regions, the area is an outdoor wonderland rich in unique natural features and recreational opportunities.

These public lands stretch nearly one hundred miles from the shores of Lake Berryessa to the flanks of Snow Mountain. This region provides wonderful opportunities to hike, horseback ride, hunt, camp, fish, bird watch, use motorized vehicles in designated areas, enjoy both motorized and non-motorized boating and water recreation, and more.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region includes thriving blue oak woodlands, red fir forests, creek side habitat, an annual explosion of wildflowers, nearly half of California's dragonfly species, a wealth of butterflies, river otters, trout, Tule elk, deer, mountain lions, bears, osprey, and provides habitat to California's second largest population of wintering bald eagles. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region has botanical biodiversity that makes it the center of the California global "hot spot."

Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economies; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreational opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

I support permanent protection for the public lands of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a **National Conservation Area** or **National Monument!**

Name: Angel Telles Signature: Angel Telles

Business: Tri-Valley Carpets

Street: 14642 Lakeshore Dr

City: Clearlake Zip Code: 95422

Email: _____ Phone: 707-994-5007

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

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Name: Jeri Spittler Signature: Jeri Spittler

Business: girlfriends salon

Street: 14510 Lakeshore Dr

City: Clearlake Zip Code: 95422

Email: girlfriends268@MCHSI.com Phone: 707 994-6303

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

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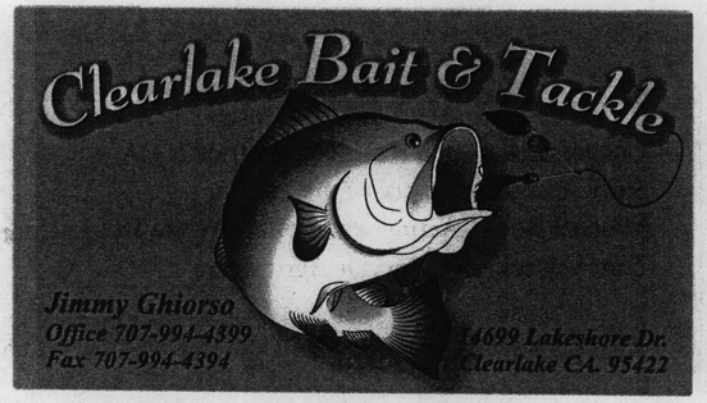

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Name: Jan Ghiorso Signature: Jan Ghiorso

Business: Clearlake Bait + Tackle

Street: 14699 Lakeshore Dr

City: Clearlake Zip Code: 95422

Email: janetghiorso@sbcglobal.net Phone: 707-994-4399

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
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Name: Shelby Barron Signature:

Business: Viatta's Coffeehouse

Street: 4812 Olympic Dr.

City: Clearlake, CA Zip Code: 95422

Email: shelbybarron1991@live.com Phone: 707-995-2200

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

November 13, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf of Catfish Coffeehouse, located in Clearlake, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

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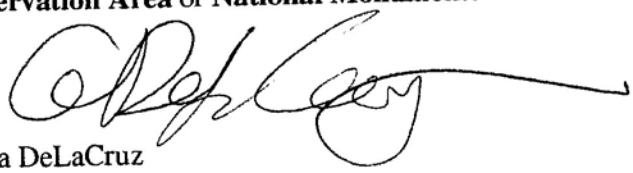

Gloria DeLaCruz
Catfish Coffeehouse

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture

November 6, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to express my support of the permanent protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region. On behalf Scoops & Swirls, located in Calistoga, a city near the proposed designation, we recognize the value of protecting this region close to where we live and work.

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Brian & Lynne Sereni
Scoops & Swirls

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer

scoops & swirls
1473 Lincoln Avenue
Calistoga, CA 94515
707.341.3132

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA
Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
Michael Boots, Acting Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality
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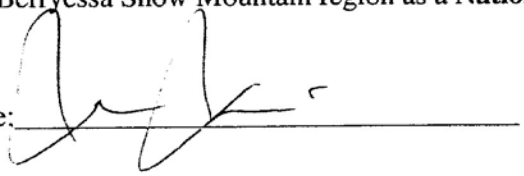
Name: Jose Tapia Signature: 

Business: Tapia White. T

Street: Shoreview Plaza

City: Clear lake Zip Code: 95422

Email: _____ Phone: _____

cc:
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Congressman Mike Thompson, District 5, CA
Congressman John Garamendi, District 3, CA

Congressman Jared Huffman, District 2, CA
Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior
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