

Stop The Wonder Inn Project www.stopwonderinn.org

Let's Preserve What Makes Wonder Valley Special

HOME

WHY WE ARE OPPOSED

TAKE ACTION NOW

PROJECT INFORMATION

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MEDIA



After analyzing the provided studies, the S.B. County Wonder Inn Project Planner published a NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION. Wonder Valley residents are responding asking for a complete Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under CEQA to fully inform the public and decision makers .

The Planner originally gave 21 days to read and respond to the 1000 pages of studies. Approximately 145 residents called fowl (wrote letters) and the time was increased to 31 days.

The Wonder Inn



From This to This



Will it erase much of what makes Wonder Valley Special?

YES YES YES



106 rooms – 210 parking places and



3:54 38%

Wonder Valley Inn

tomsfinds.getwondervalleyinn.com

We're **launching soon!** Enter your email and **receive** an exclusive discount! [Reserve >](#)

Sound baths and yoga under stretching skies

Stunning heated pool with full bar & food service

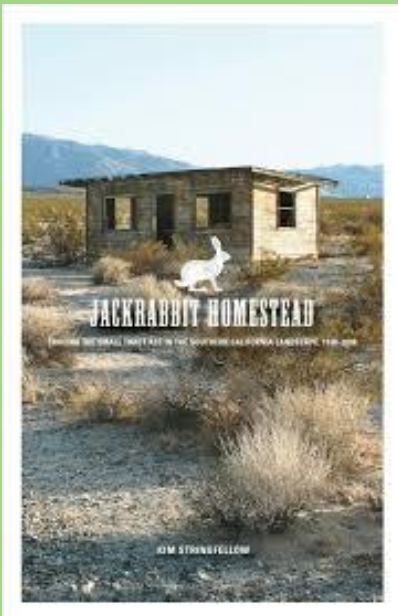
Adventure walking/hiking/horseback riding

Live music around fire features

Wonder Valley

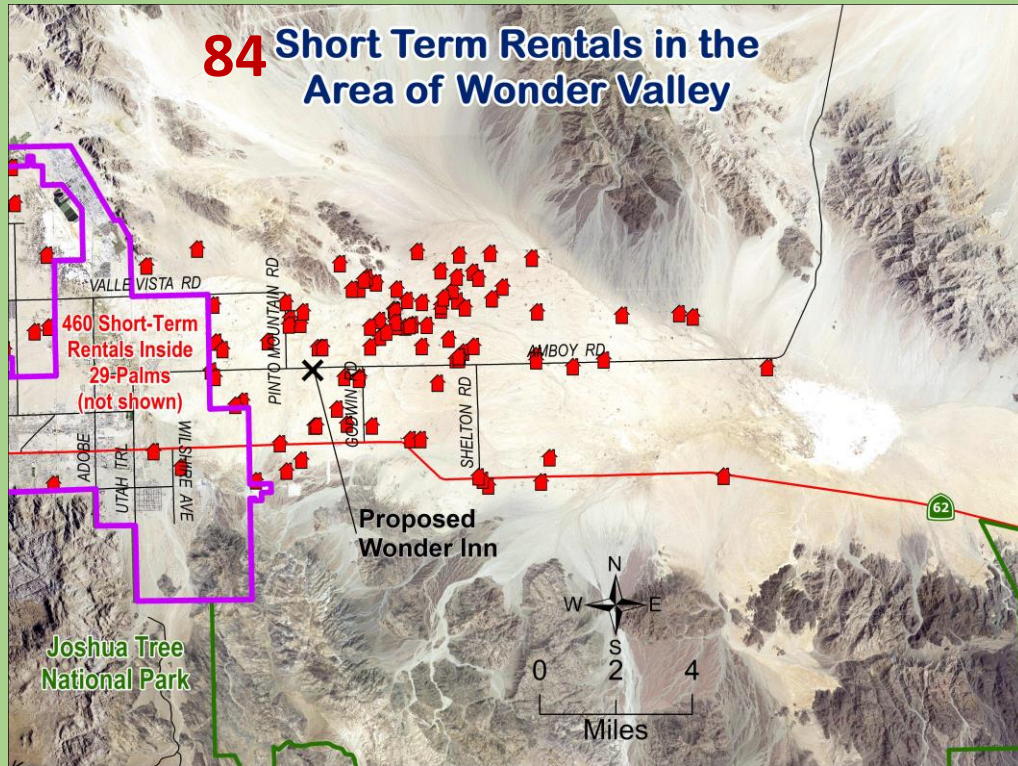
Land Use and development was based on the 5-acre Small Tract Act 1938-1976

It is famous for the Jackrabbit Homesteads which include many falling down cabins as well as many that have been refurbished.



More recently, Wonder Valley has earned a reputation for being a fashionable destination for artists. <https://jackrabbithomestead.com/>

Economy of Wonder Valley – individual initiative and opportunity



The Wonder Inn would extend the hospitality industry east from Twentynine Palms where there are currently 600 rooms before the new Hilton is built with 95 rooms.

The Wonder Inn 106 rooms would be the largest hotel in the area after the Motel 6 with 124 rooms.



The Palms Wonder Valley

The only brick and mortar business in Wonder Valley open to the public except the

Glass Outhouse Gallery

Community Service Area 70M

Wonder Valley Community Center & Park

USDA Food Distribution

Dale Basin Well Owners Association
(DBWOA), formed in 1988



About the Wonder Valley Community

Disadvantaged Community (DAC)

Wonder Valley

Population 818

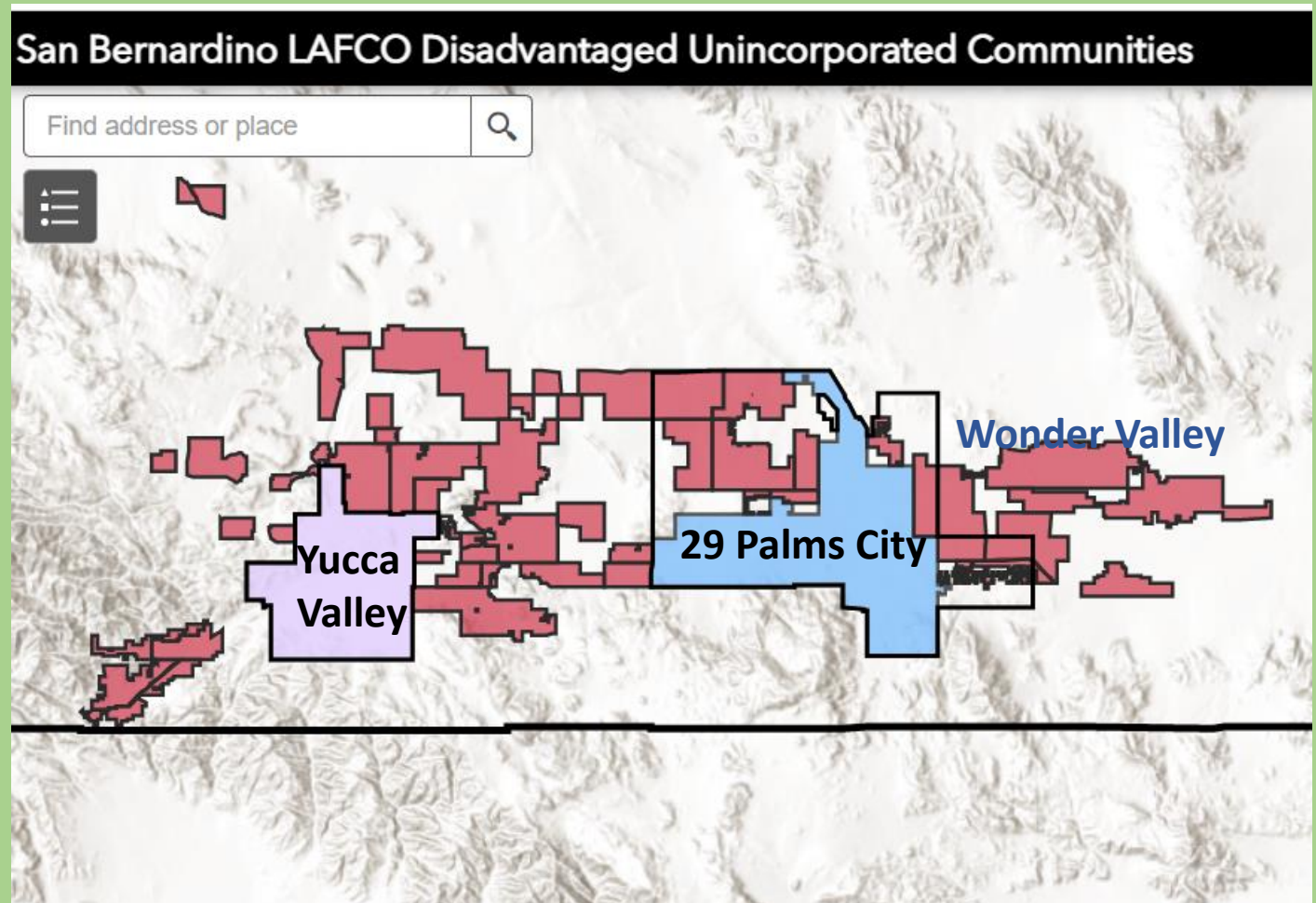
Households 412

Median Household Income (MHI) \$32,679

Disadvantage Communities are <80% of
State MHI \$86,165

Super Disadvantaged Communities
(SDAC) are <60% of State MHI

Wonder Valley is a Super – Super – Super
DAC (if there was such a label)

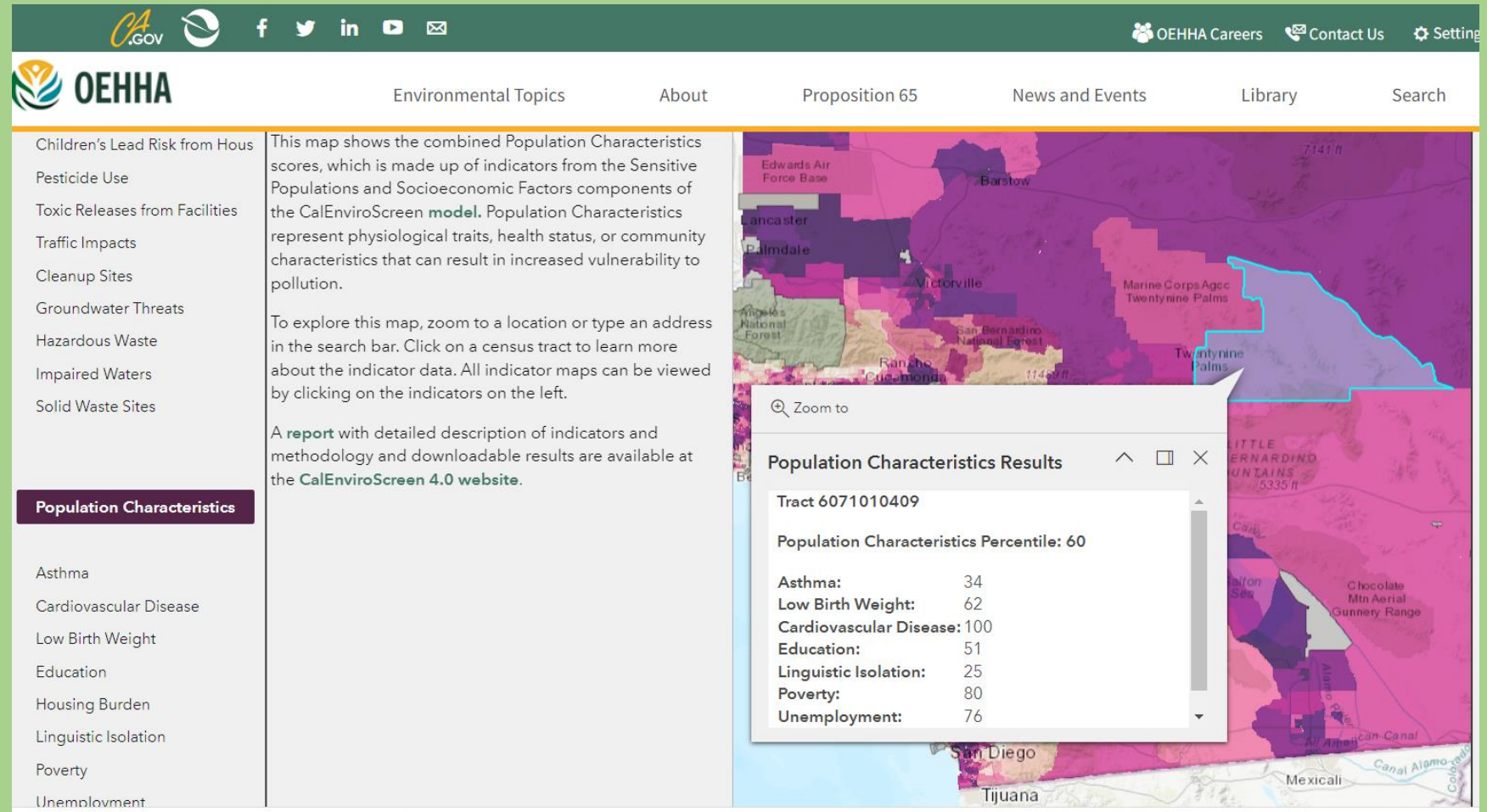


Environmental Justice – Wonder Valley Population Characteristics

On May 8, 2012, the California Attorney General’s office released a report entitled “Environmental Justice at the Local and Regional Level – Legal Background” which interprets existing law to impose environmental justice obligations that local governments must consider when approving specific projects and planning for future development

“Environmental justice” is defined in the Government Code as “the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.”

“Fairness” means that “the benefits of a healthy environment should be available to everyone, and the burdens of pollution should not be focused on sensitive populations or on communities that already are experiencing its adverse effects.”



Environmental Justice – Wonder Valley Drinking Water Pollution

<https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40>

Community

No Water Board or Agency governs the wells and water purity in Wonder Valley. Care is up to each well owner.

Wonder Inn

The approved Transient non-community water system (TNC) allows guests to stay no more than 60 days with **no more than 20 employees**.

Hmmm

The DIY Inn

The Do-It-Yourself Inn

The screenshot displays the OEHHa CalEnviroScreen 4.0 report for Wonder Valley, CA. The report is organized into several sections:

- Environmental Topics:** Includes PM2.5, Diesel Particulate Matter, Drinking Water Contaminant, Children's Lead Risk from Houses, Pesticide Use, Toxic Releases from Facilities, Traffic Impacts, Cleanup Sites, and Groundwater Threats.
- Population Characteristics:** Includes Asthma, Cardiovascular Disease, Low Birth Weight, Education, Housing Burden, Linguistic Isolation, Poverty, and Unemployment.
- Drinking Water Indicator Results:** A table showing the following values:

Contaminant	Value
1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCTP)	0.00
Arsenic	96.61
Cadmium	97.20
Chromium, Hexavalent	95.98
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP)	0.00
Ethylene Dibromide	0.00
Gross Alpha	99.54
- What are drinking water contaminants?** A section explaining that most drinking water in California meets health standards, but some sources can be contaminated with chemicals or bacteria. It lists natural sources (rocks, soil, wildlife, fires) and human sources (factories, sewage, runoff from farms). It also mentions that arsenic occurs naturally in some rocks and soil and can cause cancer, while nitrate from fertilizer or manure can leach into groundwater and contaminate wells, potentially causing a blood disorder in infants called blue baby syndrome.
- Map:** A map of the Wonder Valley area, showing the Pinto Mountains, Little San Bernardino Mountains, Pinto Basin, and Joshua Tree National Park. The map includes a zoom-to feature and a scale bar.

Wonder Inn

Accommodation

- 106 modular pods that will serve as the hotel rooms
- 210 vehicle parking stalls

Amenities: Serviced by 20 employees

- Lobby, restaurant, kitchen, clubhouse
- Administration/Back of House
- One Swimming Pool – 6,300 SF.
- Wellness Area - Spa
- A 3,300 SF multi-purpose tent for gatherings
- Astronomy pergola –to set up telescopes or sit and watch the stars.

Utilities:

- Potable Water: Well water (with chromium 6 and arsenic)
- Potable Water Storage tank: 36 ft wide by 35 ft high water tank
- Electricity: Service by Southern California Edison.
- Propane Gas: 6,500-gallon propane tank and propane generator within fenced area.
- Sewer/Wastewater: Septic tank with 0.3 acre leach field located approximately 300 feet east of the parking lot.

Legend

- Feature 1
- Wonder Inn

Wonder Inn

Amboy Rd

Amboy Rd

Amboy Rd

Amboy Rd

Amboy Rd

Godwin Rd

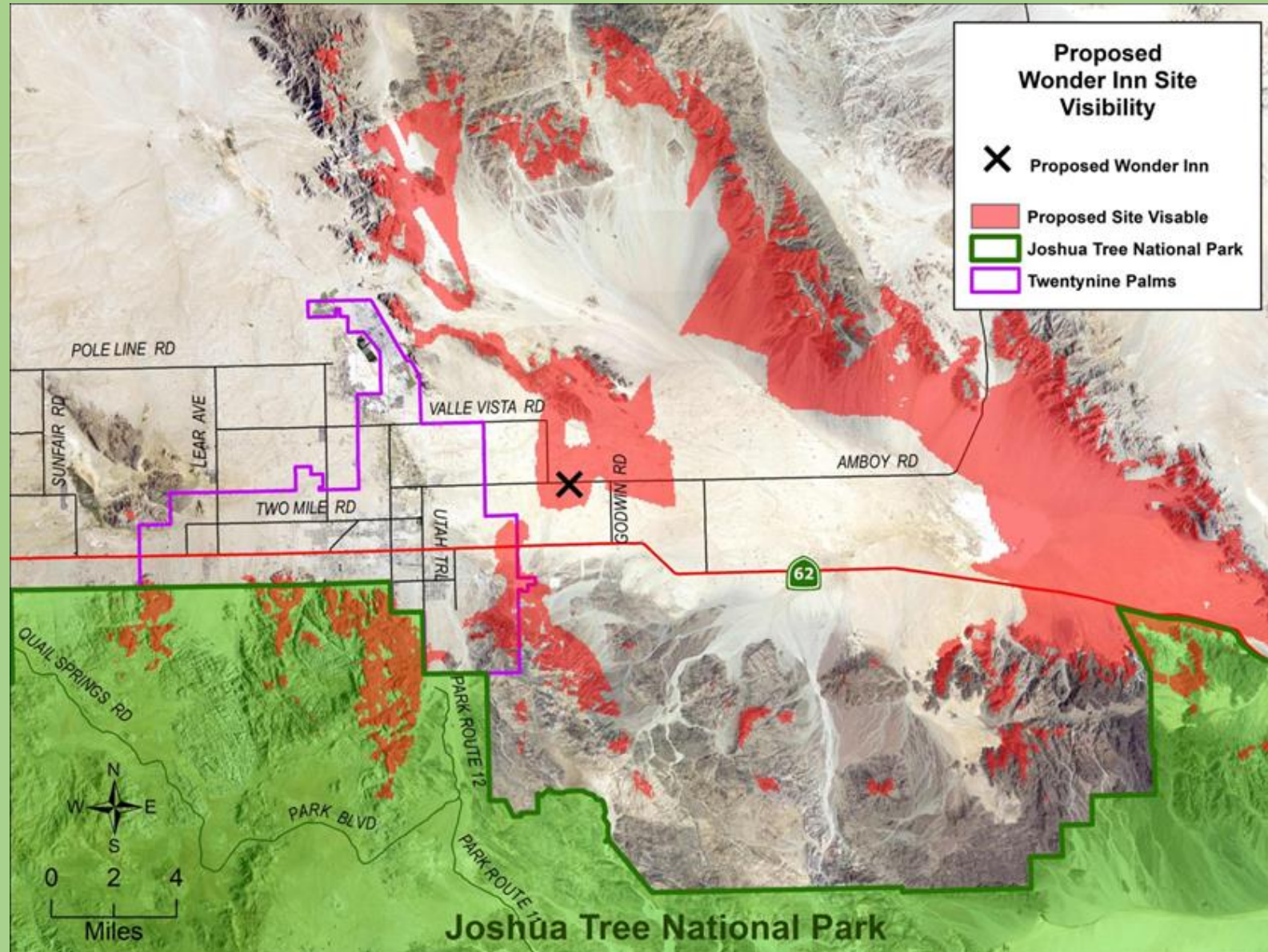
Godwin Rd

Google Earth

1 mi



Daytime Site Visibility



Dark Sky Area

<https://darksitefinder.com/maps/world.html#4/39.00/-98.00>

Mojave National Preserve

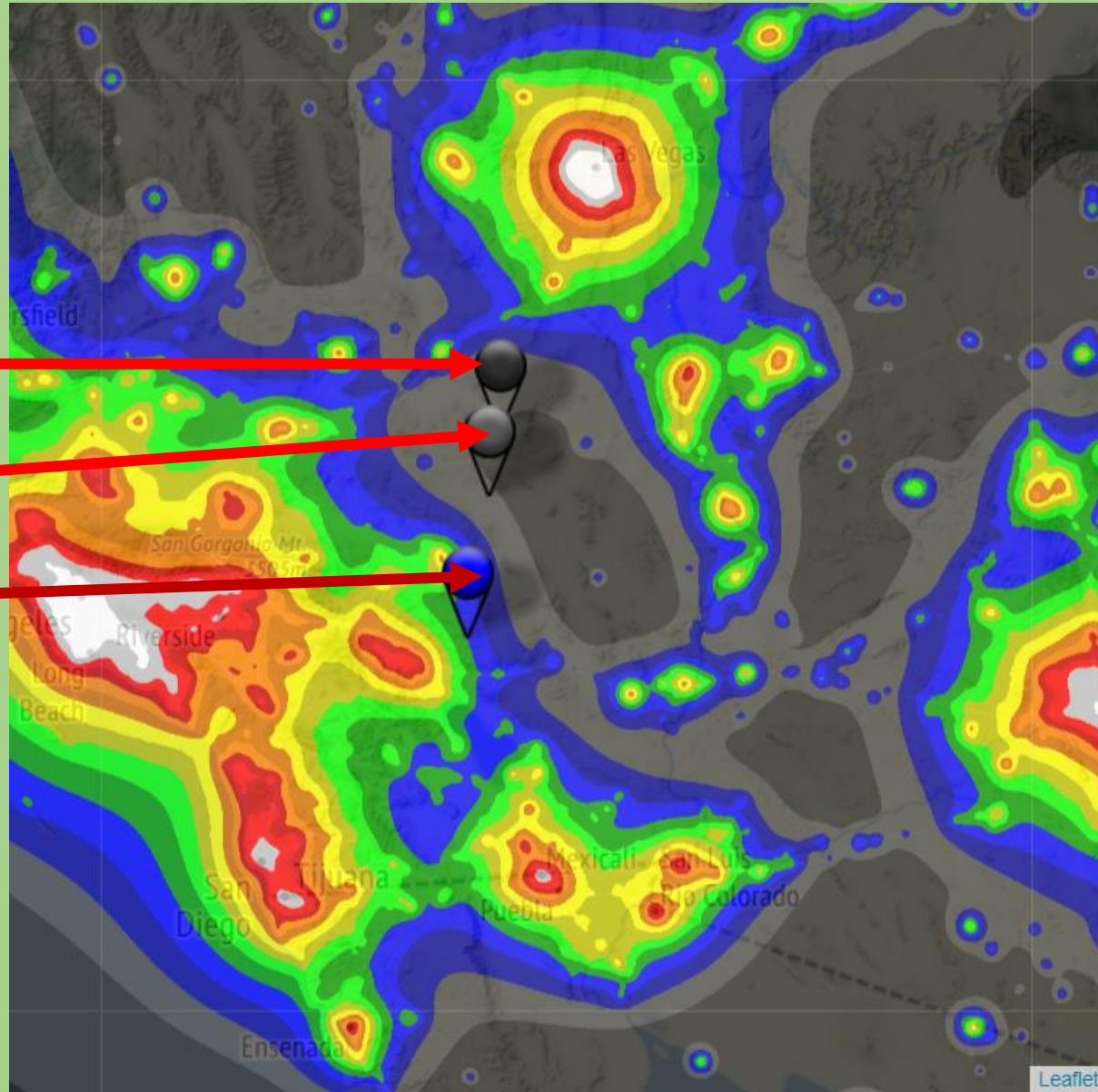
Amboy Crater

**Joshua Tree NP
International Dark Sky Park**

Light Pollution

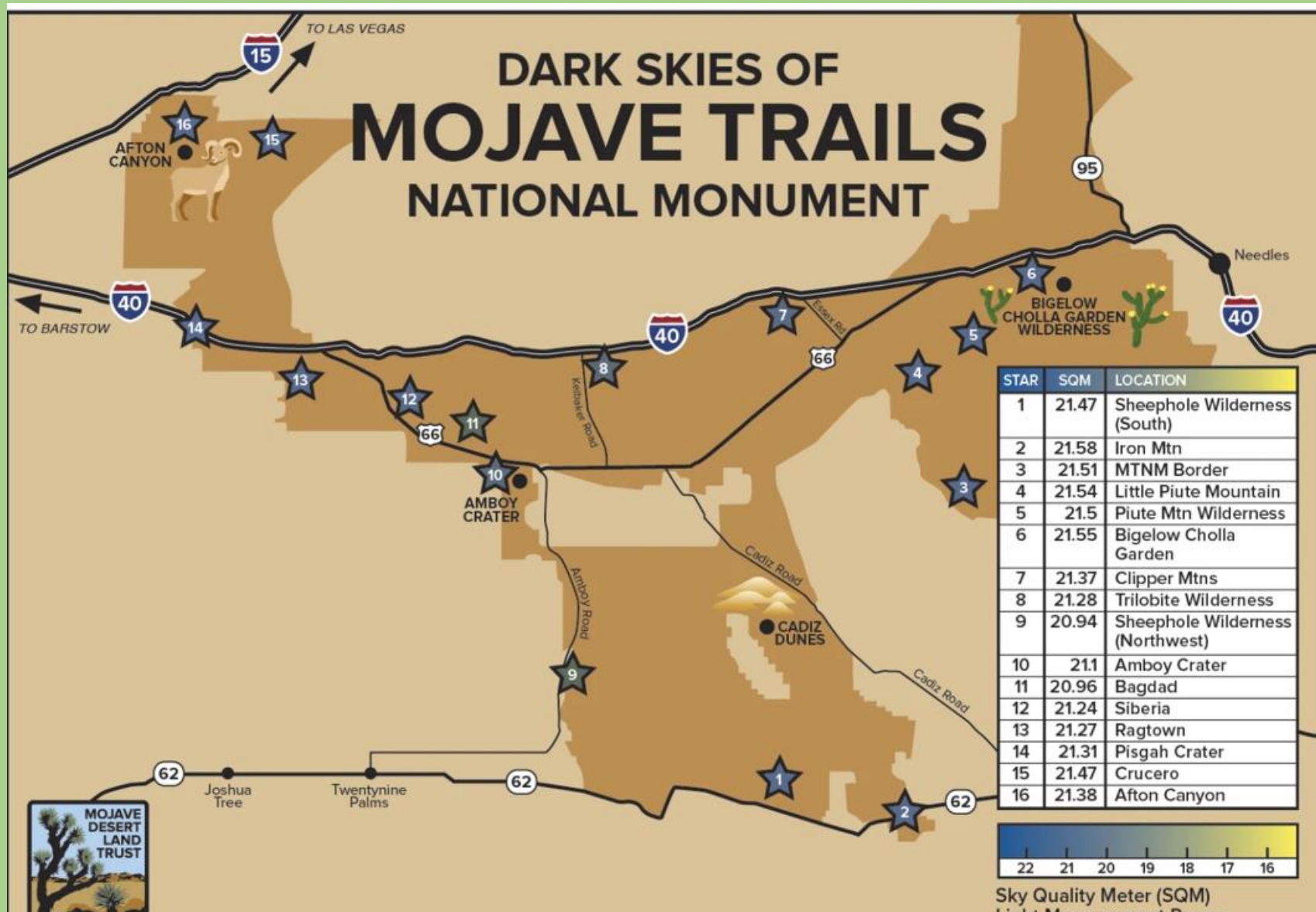
...light pollution is increasing, not withstanding the countermeasures purportedly put in operation to limit it.

Science, 20 January 2023 • Vol 379 Issue 6629

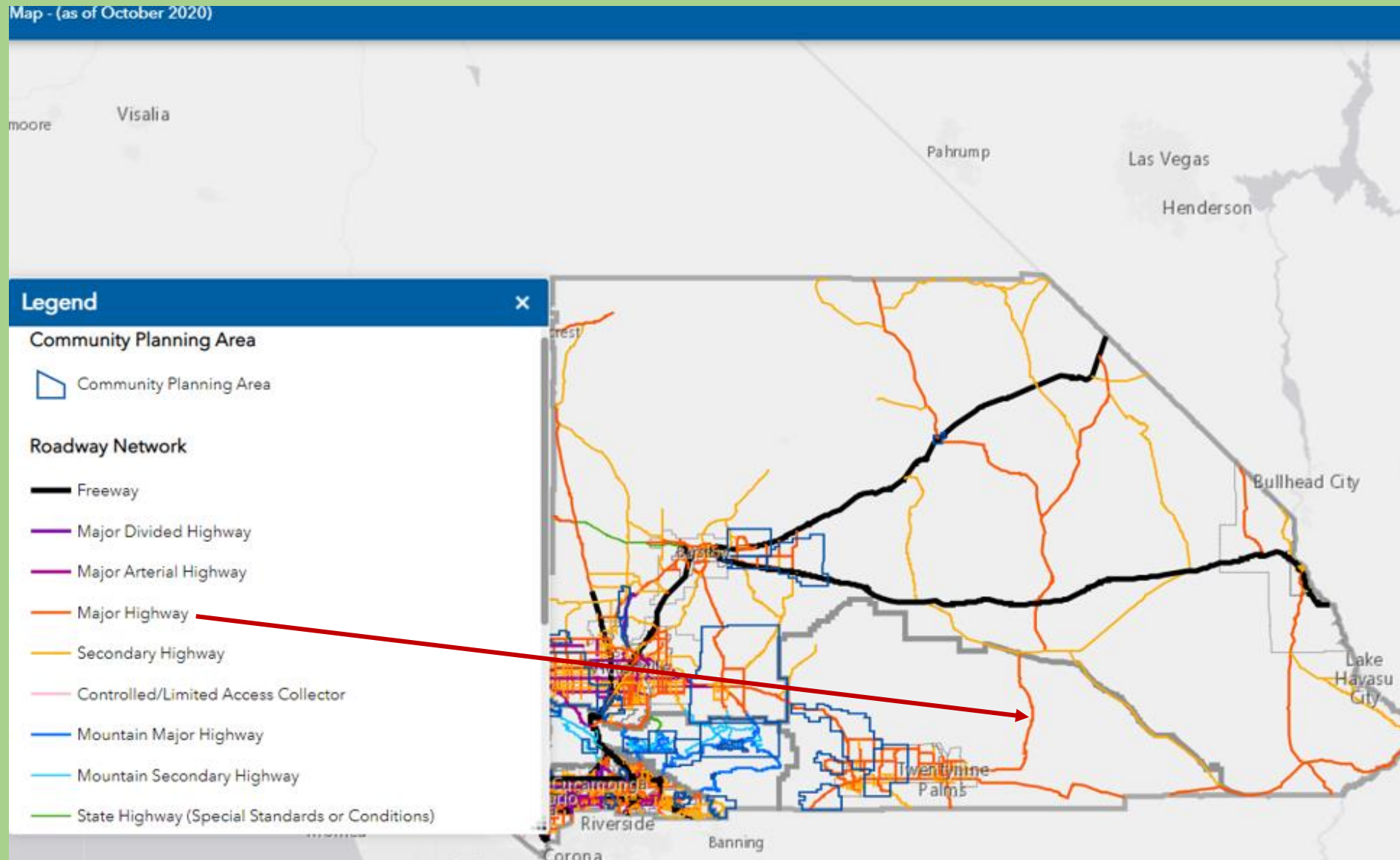


Wonder Valley is between JTNP and Amboy Crater

The glow from the 106 rooms and lights within the 24 acres would glow diminishing the dark sky for the residents and those traveling through Wonder Valley on their way west to Joshua Tree NP and east to the Mojave Trails NM, Mojave National Preserve, Death Valley, or Las Vegas.

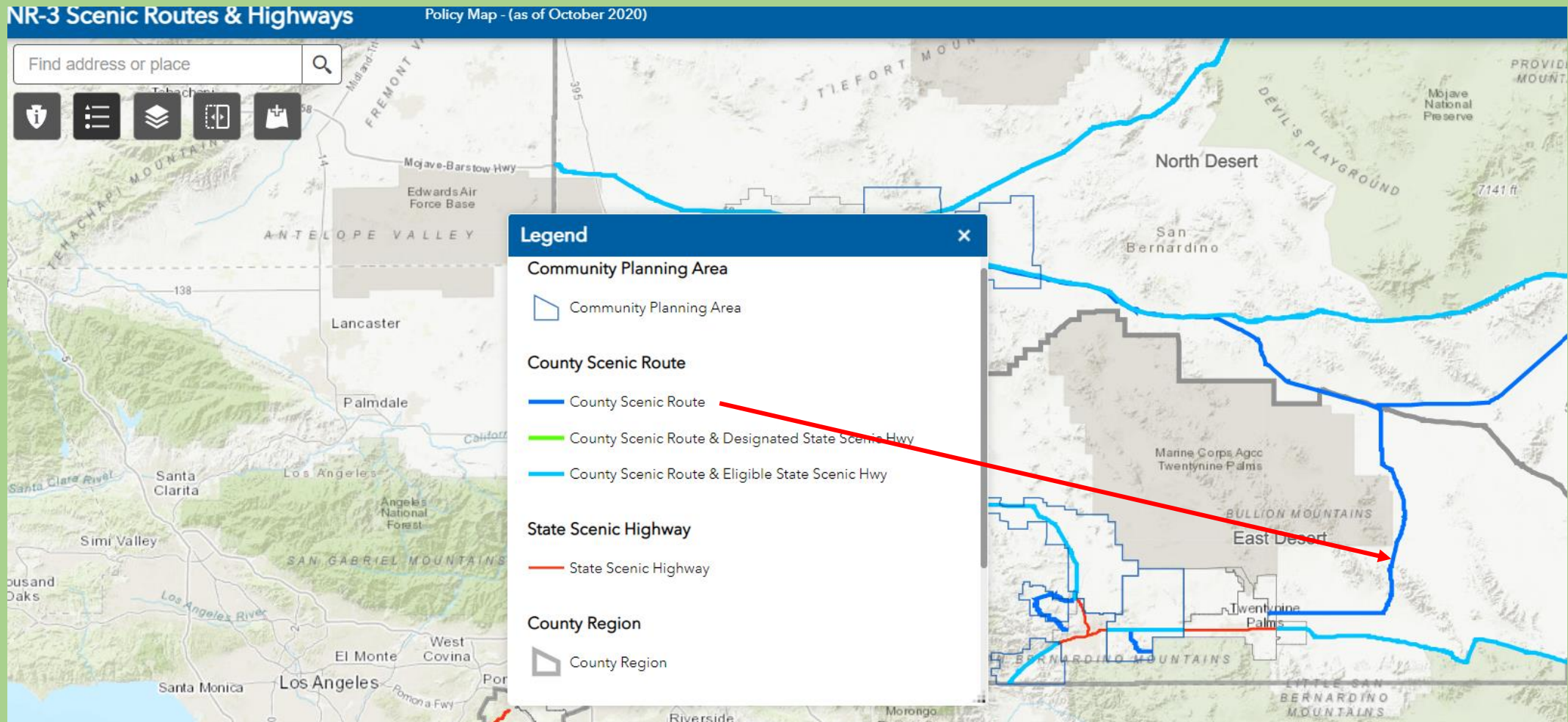


Wonder Valley Gateway to Mojave Trails – Mojave Preserve & Death Valley or Las Vegas



Why is Amboy Rd not eligible as a State Scenic Hwy ?

Ask the County



3:54

38%

X
Wonder Valley Inn
tomsfinds.getwondervalleyinn.com

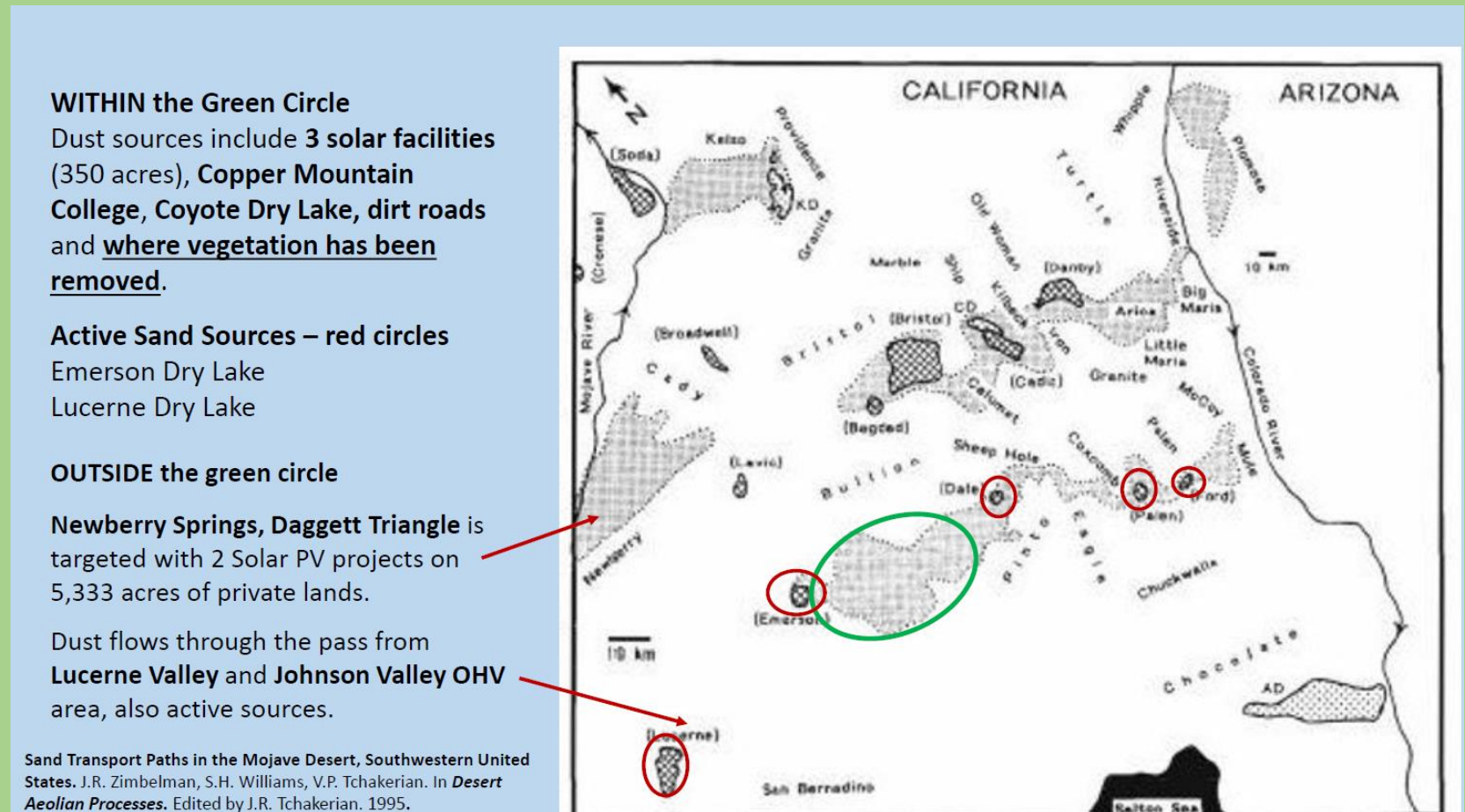
We're launching soon! Enter your email and receive an exclusive discount!
Reserve >

Perched upon 160 pristine acres within the picturesque Wonder Valley, this one-of-a-kind, 5-star luxury resort offers a tranquil retreat you need to escape the chaos and reset.


- Unique Adventure Tours (ATV, Hot Air Balloon)
- Massage therapies
- Spiritual wellness experiences
- Fitness & Movement Studio
- Pool and Natural Hot Spring Spa Facilities
- Full-Service hotel
- On-site restaurant and bar

Wonder Valley Inn – Facebook advertises ATV Adventures

The site is located on a Sand Transport Path.



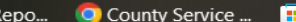




Wonder Valley CSA 70M maintains, for a \$50 service fee on 4,634 parcels, **178 miles of dirt roads**, very attractive to adventure seeking tourists.

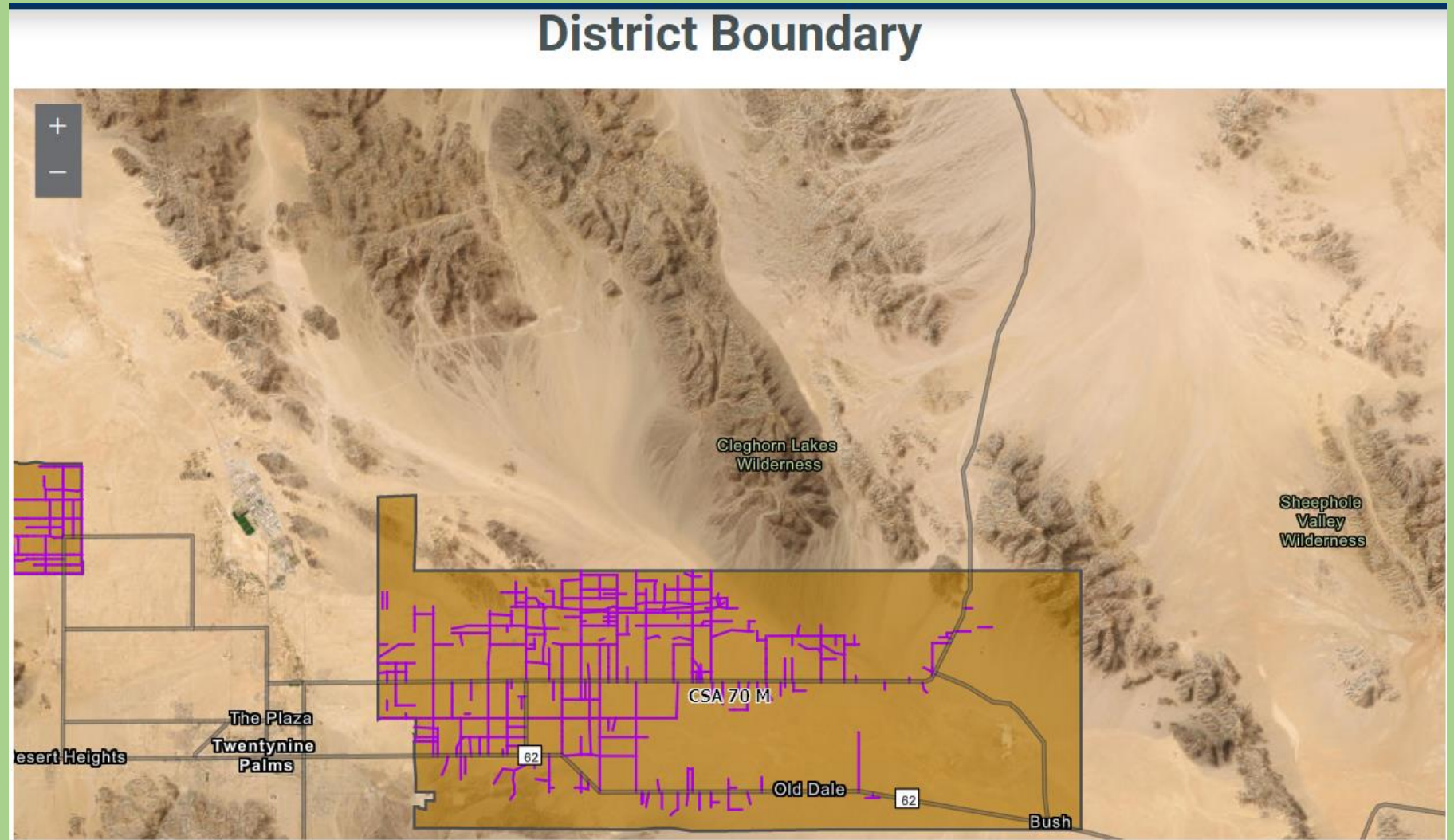


Special Districts

Facts

CSA 70 M WONDER VALLEY was established by an act of the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors on August 14, 1972 to provide road maintenance for 178.41 miles of road to the community of Wonder Valley. This road zone is located 10 miles east of Twenty-Nine Palms and receives a \$15 service charge currently billed on 4,634 parcels of land to fund its maintenance service. This zone has a Board appointed Advisory Commission and utilizes the Wonder Valley Community Center for meetings.





Major dust and road problems come from adventure seeking tourists.

4WD is not required to get up close to the beckoning mountains.

Environmental Justice

Residents with asthma and cardiovascular conditions suffer from dust. The regulated speed to keep the dust down and preserve the road grading is 15 to 25 mph.



Desert Tortoise - YES

Circle Mountain Biological Consultants (CMBC) Focused Survey for Agassiz's Desert Tortoise, Habitat Evaluation for the Burrowing Owl, and General Biological Resource Assessment for a 40-acre+/- Site (APN 0625-071-04 & 09) in the community of Wonder Valley, San Bernardino County, California Job#: 20-012 April 2020 – Ed LaRue

“Based on the presence of tortoise signs found onsite, as depicted in Figure 3, CMBC concludes that Agassiz’s desert tortoise occurs onsite, both in undeveloped creosote bush scrub habitats to the south and the adjacent, centrally located jojoba field. Based on the size and freshness of scats, we conclude that the one subadult tortoise observed near the east-central portion of the site is currently resident and an adult tortoise is using scrub areas to the south and the central jojoba field.”

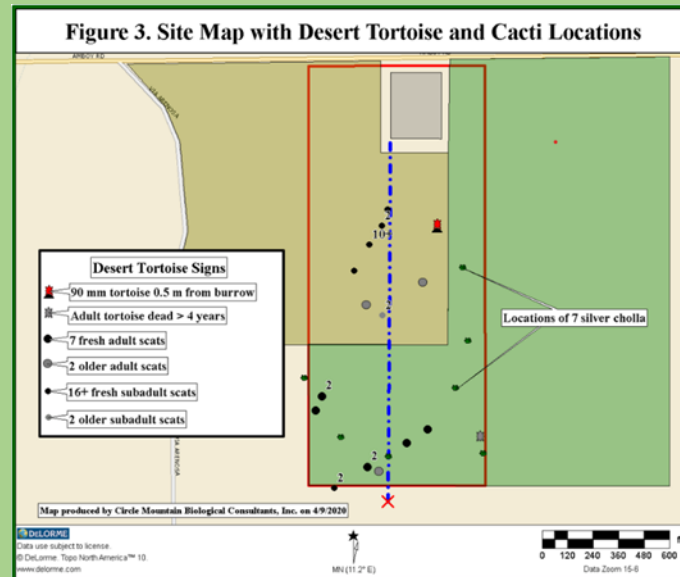


Exhibit 8. View of 90 mm subadult tortoise near the center of the site, in jojoba field.

However,

ELMT Consulting /Wonder Inn Joshua Tree Habitat Assessment submitted for the Project.



***“Despite a systematic search of the project site, no live tortoises, suitable burrows or signs was observed on the project site during the site investigation.** Based on the results of the field investigation and lack of suitable burrows and no observed sign, desert tortoise was determined to have a low potential to occur onsite.” March 25, 2021*

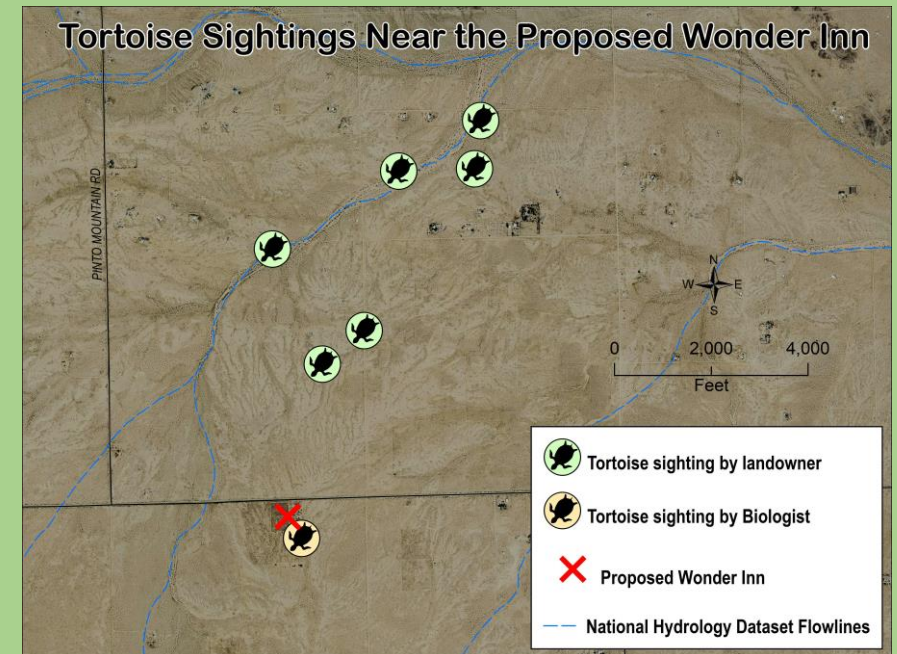
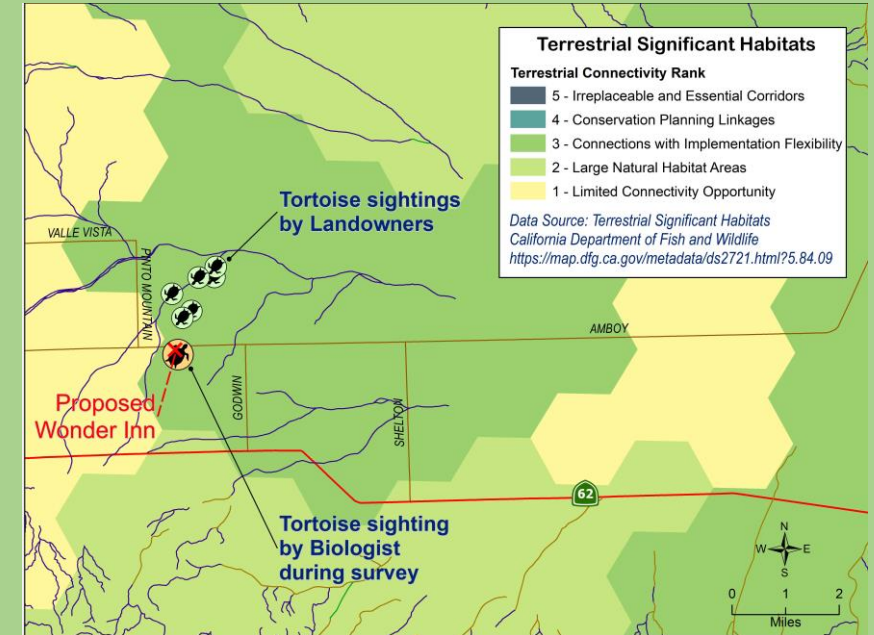
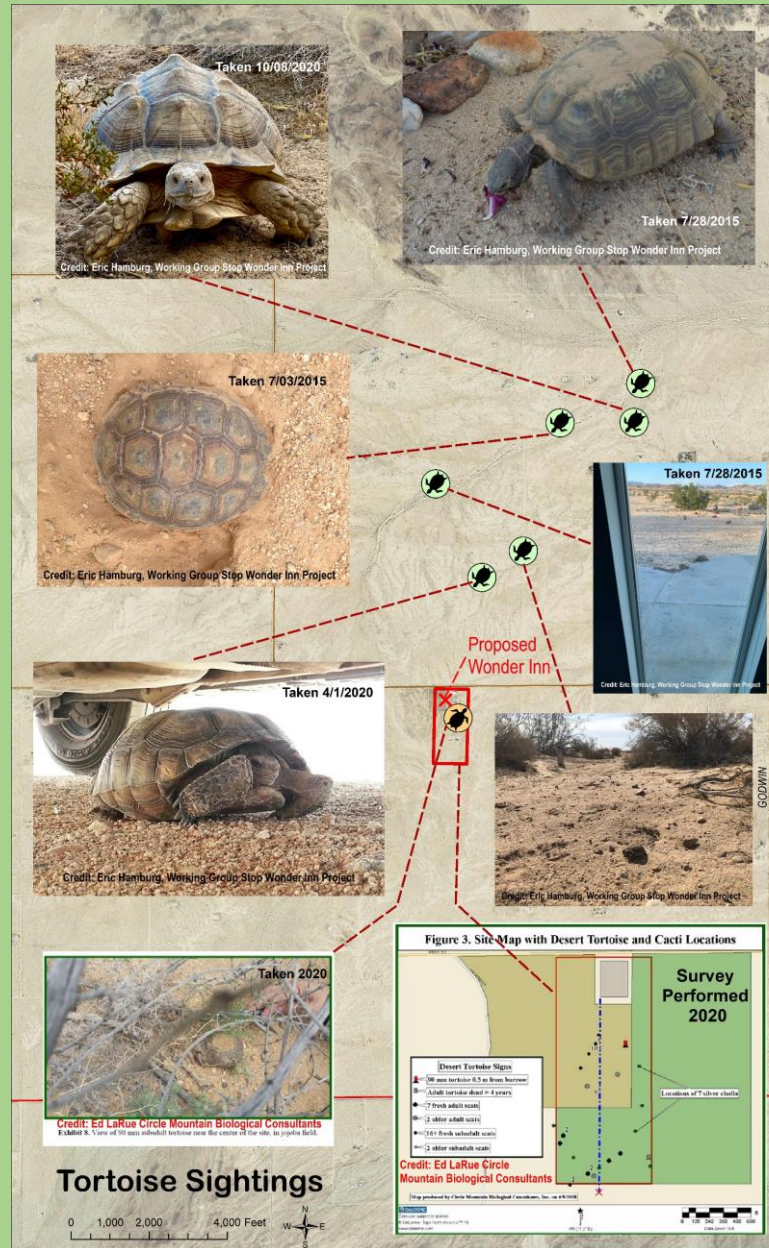
The CMBC survey was not submitted to S.B. Co. Land Use for analysis of the project. Pat Flanagan sent the survey to the Wonder Inn Planner and others including Ed LaRue, CMBC. His reply to the email:

*Thank you for ccing me. I have not had a chance to review the survey subsequent to ours, which was performed in 2020, but I understand from you that no tortoise sign was found during the subsequent survey performed in July 2021. **I've been surveying for tortoises for 33 years, since 1989, and don't see any way, whatsoever, that we would find tortoise signs in 2020 and they not persist there one year later, in 2021, particularly since there was a wealth of juvenile tortoise signs; juveniles are an age class that is less likely to travel long distances as subadults and adults may be prone to do. Even if there had not been any new tortoise scats deposited, the ones we found in 2020 should still be visible, even in 2023, three years later.** I've attached a map of the signs we found in 2020. It's probably apropos of nothing, but my partner, Sharon Dougherty who is cc'd, informed me yesterday that we were never paid for the 2020 biological survey we performed.*

Wonder Valley is **TORTOISE HABITAT** and must be protected

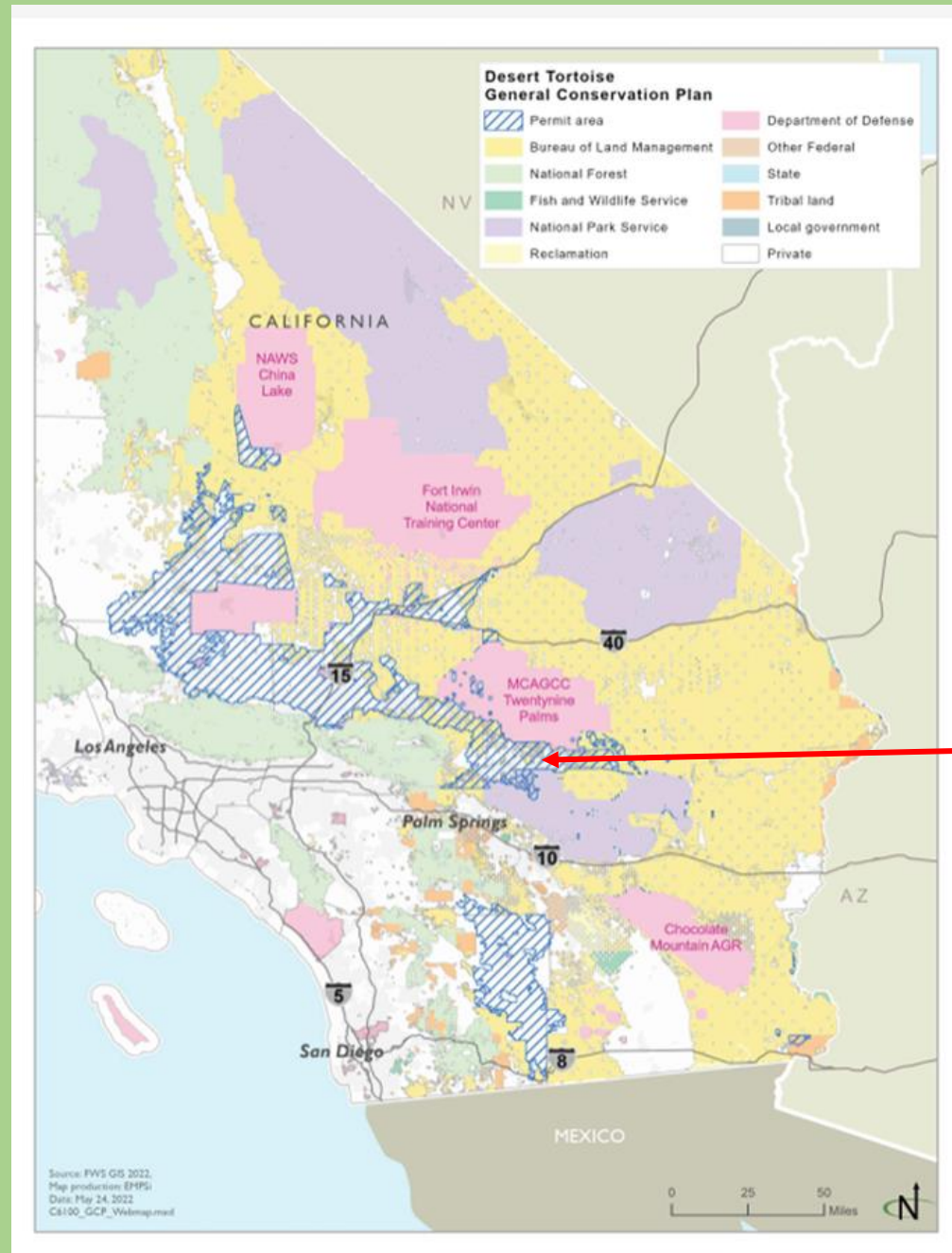
Residents of Wonder Valley are familiar with tortoise on their property. With geolocated pictures, it was possible to map their presence in the area.

**Always check under
your car before
driving off.**



Desert Tortoise General Conservation Plan

Currently the US FWS is in the process of developing a Desert Tortoise General Conservation Plan to include lands outside the federally protected tortoise lands. The published map shows that the new permit area will include the Morongo Basin and Wonder Valley.



Wonder Valley