



DESERT RENEWABLE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN

DRECP Overview

The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) is an innovative, landscape-scale renewable energy and conservation planning effort covering more than 22 million acres in the California desert. The DRECP planning area covers private, state and federal lands in seven counties--Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego.

The DRECP uses best available science to identify development focus areas that may accommodate up to 20,000 megawatts of power from renewable energy projects and associated transmission over the next 25 years. The plan also identifies conservation areas, sensitive plant and wildlife species and a strategy for their management into the future.

The draft DRECP, released in September 2014, was prepared by a team of state and federal agencies which include the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Energy Commission (CEC) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). The DRECP consists of three components, a BLM Land Use Plan Amendment, USFWS General Conservation Plan, and CDFW Natural Communities Conservation Plan.

The plan has two overarching sets of goals:

- **Renewable Energy and Transmission:** The plan identifies specific development focus areas with high-quality renewable energy potential and access to transmission in areas where environmental impacts can be managed and mitigated.
- **Desert Conservation:** The plan specifies species, ecosystem and climate adaptation requirements for 37 covered species and 31 natural communities, well as the protection of recreation, cultural and other desert resources.

The DRECP will...

- ▶ Help California and the nation meet renewable energy and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals.
- ▶ Identify areas appropriate for renewable energy development and coordinate state and federal environmental review and permitting process.
- ▶ Identify conservation areas for sensitive cultural resources, plant and wildlife species and provide a framework for adaptive management in the face of climate change.

DRECP Plan Area

