Siting and Permitting Solar Development on BLM-managed Lands

Gregory Miller, Supervisory Energy Projects Manager, California Desert District, BLM

Bureau of Land Management

- Largest Land Owner in US
- More than 240 M acres
- 12 Western States
- Multiple Use Mission
- 27 million acre National Landscape Conservation System
  - 221 Wilderness Areas – 8.7M acres
  - 16 National Monuments – 4.8 M acres

Current Guidance/Policy

- **The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976**
  - **Title V Rights of Way - BLM Authorization**

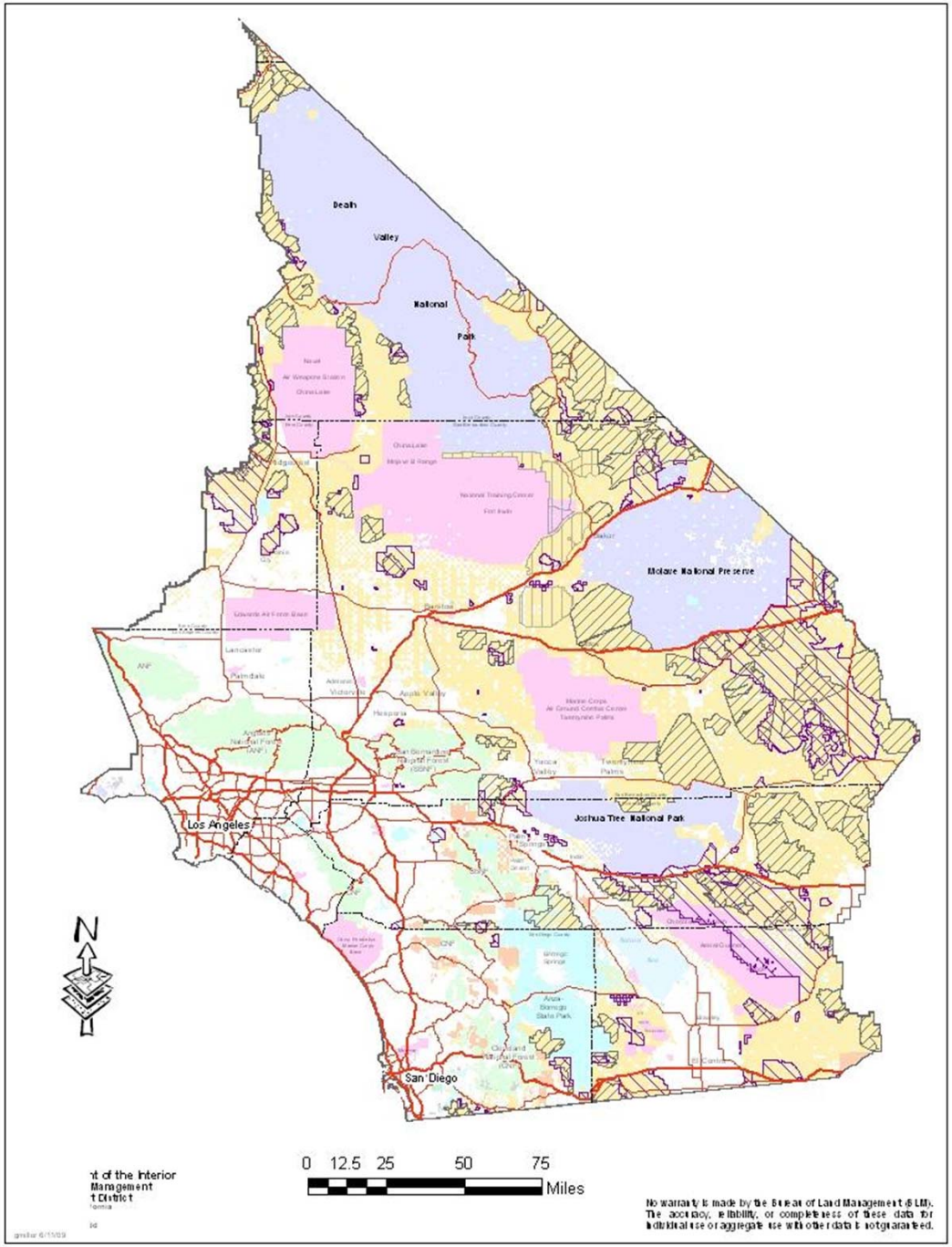
- **The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Title II, Sec. 211)**
  - **requires the DOI to approve at least 10,000 MW of renewable energy on public lands by 2015**

- **Executive Order 13212, *Actions to Expedite Energy-Related Projects***
  - **requires Federal agencies to expedite review of energy project applications**

- **Secretarial Order 3285**
  - **identify and prioritize specific locations best suited for large-scale renewable energy production**

Current Guidance/Policy

- Nation Environmental Policy Act
  - Sec 106 under Nat. Hist. Pres. Act
    - Consult with tribes throughout process; especially regarding historic properties to which they attach religious or cultural significance
  - Endangered Species Act
    - Consultation under Sec 7
- Solar Energy Policy
  - IM 2011-003 Solar Energy Development
  - IM 2010-041 Solar Rental
  - IM 2011-060 Due Diligence
  - IM-2011-061 Pre-Application and Screening
- 43 CFR 2800 Regs. Rights-of-Way under FLPMA



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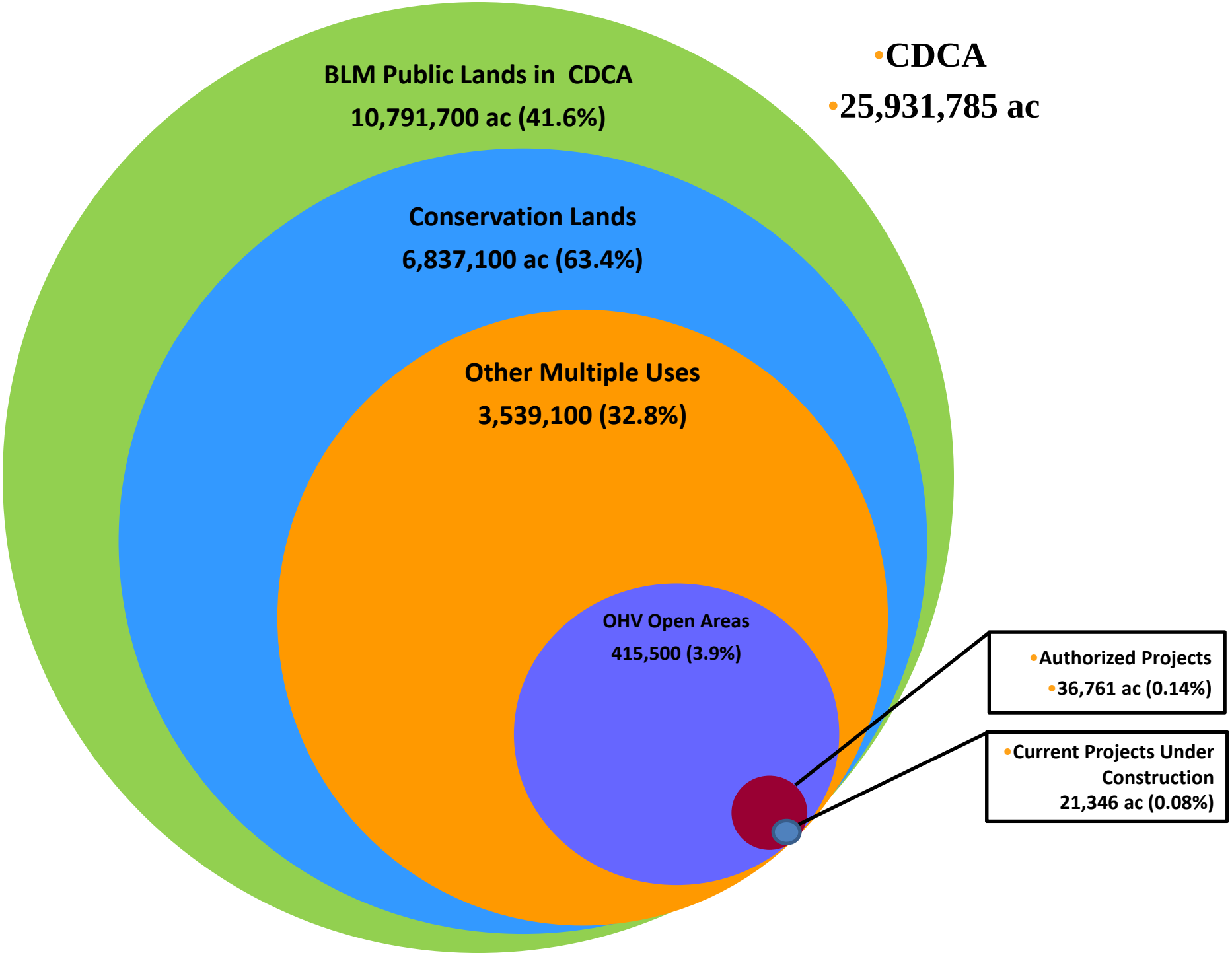
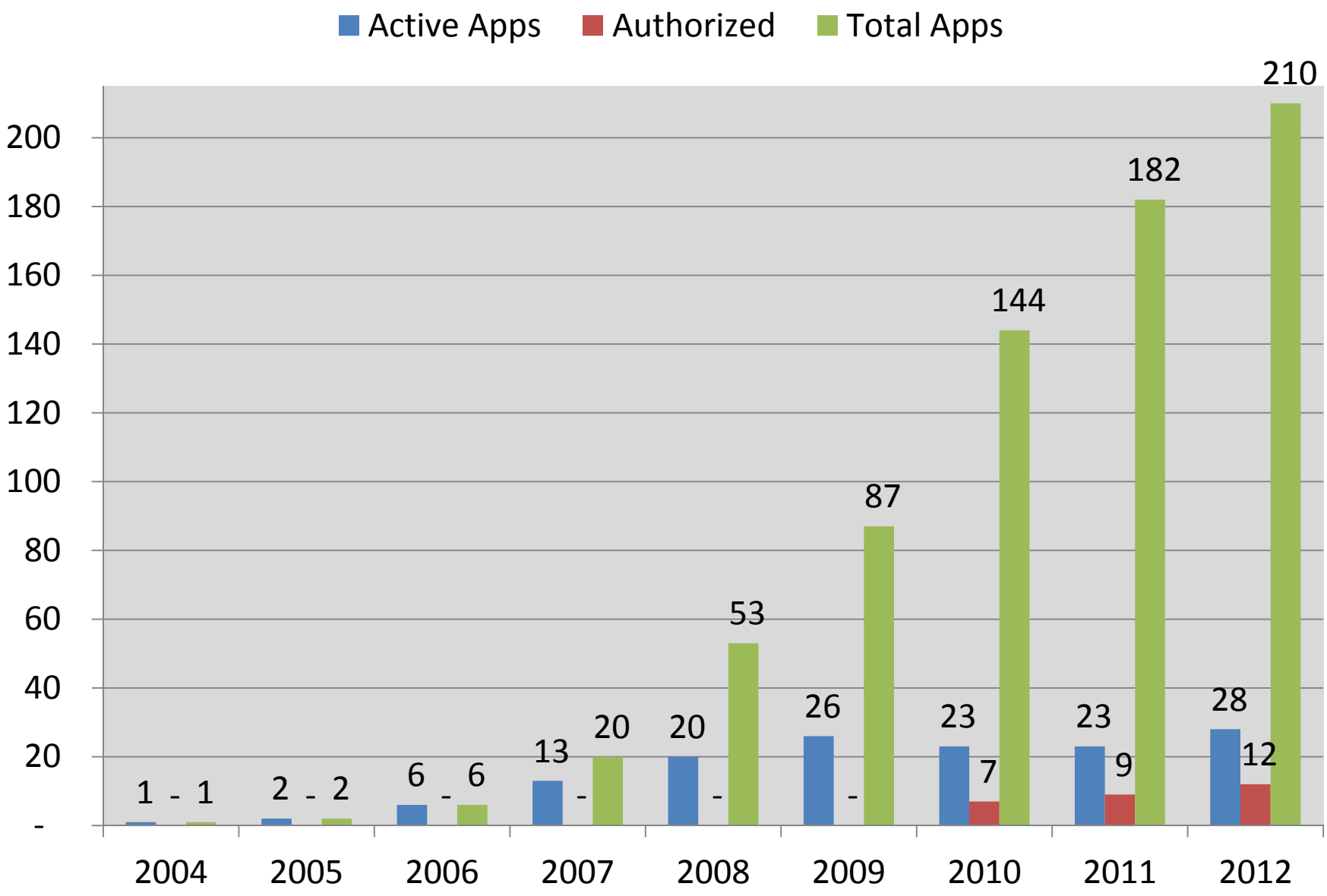
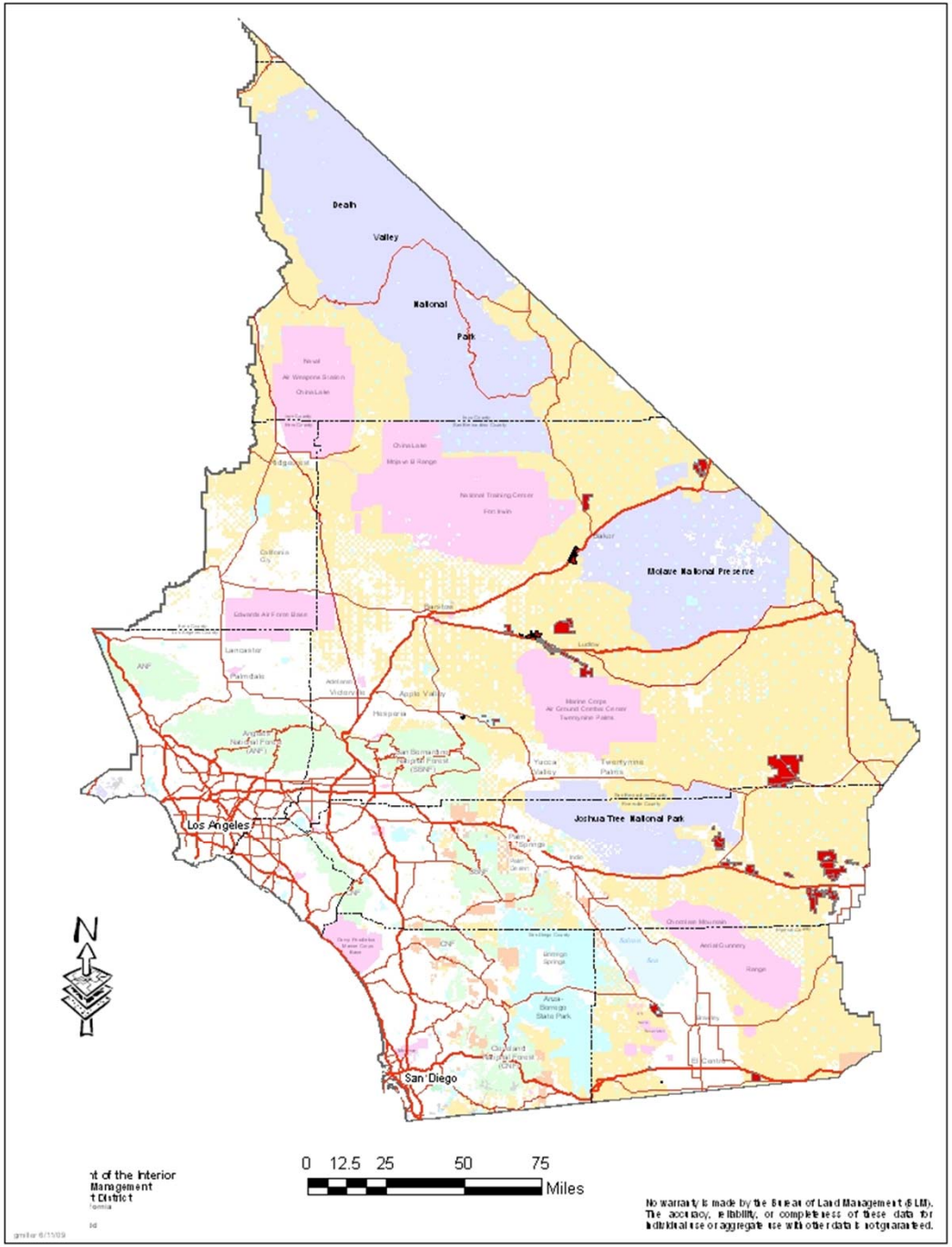
No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.


BLM Public Lands in CDCA
10,791,700 ac (41.6%)
Conservation Lands
6,837,100 ac (63.4%)
Other Multiple Uses
3,539,100 (32.8%)
OHV Open Areas
415,500 (3.9%)
•CDCA
•25,931,785 ac
•Authorized Projects
•36,761 ac (0.14%)
•Current Projects Under Construction
21,346 ac (0.08%)

Number of Solar applications over time





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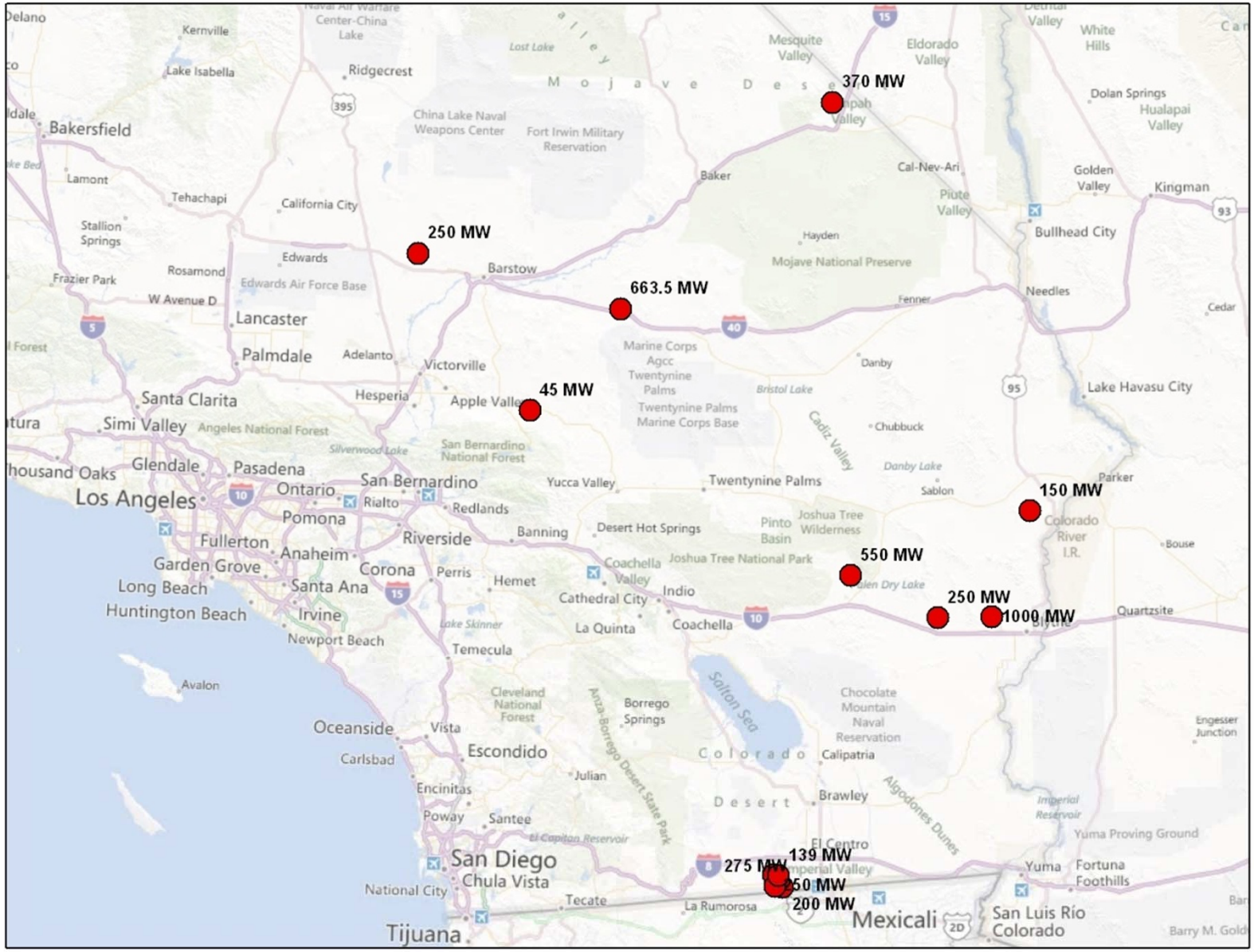
Approved Solar Facilities and Gen-Ties



Approved Solar Development on BLM lands

- Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System - 370 mW
  - Under construction ~50% complete
- Calico Solar Project - 633.5 mW
  - Technology change; updated POD
- Blythe Solar Power Project - 968 mW
  - Change in technology and grant holder
- Chevron Lucerne Valley Solar Project - 45 mW
  - Change in technology and grant holder
- Genesis Solar Energy Project - 250 mW
  - Under construction 25% complete
- Desert Sunlight Solar Project – 250 mW
  - Under construction 25% complete

Approved Gen-ties to Solar on Private

- Rice Solar – 150 mW
- Abengoa Solar – 250mW
- Centinela Solar – 275mW
- C Solar West – 250mw
- C Solar South – 200mW
- Campo Verde Solar – 140mW

- Total MW approved – 3781.5mW

FES 12-24 • DOE/EIS-0403

July 2012

Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for

Solar Energy Development in Six Southwestern States

Volume 1
Executive Summary
Chapters 1–7, 14–16

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DOE

BLM

Developable Area for the Proposed Riverside East SEZ

Map Prepared July 2012

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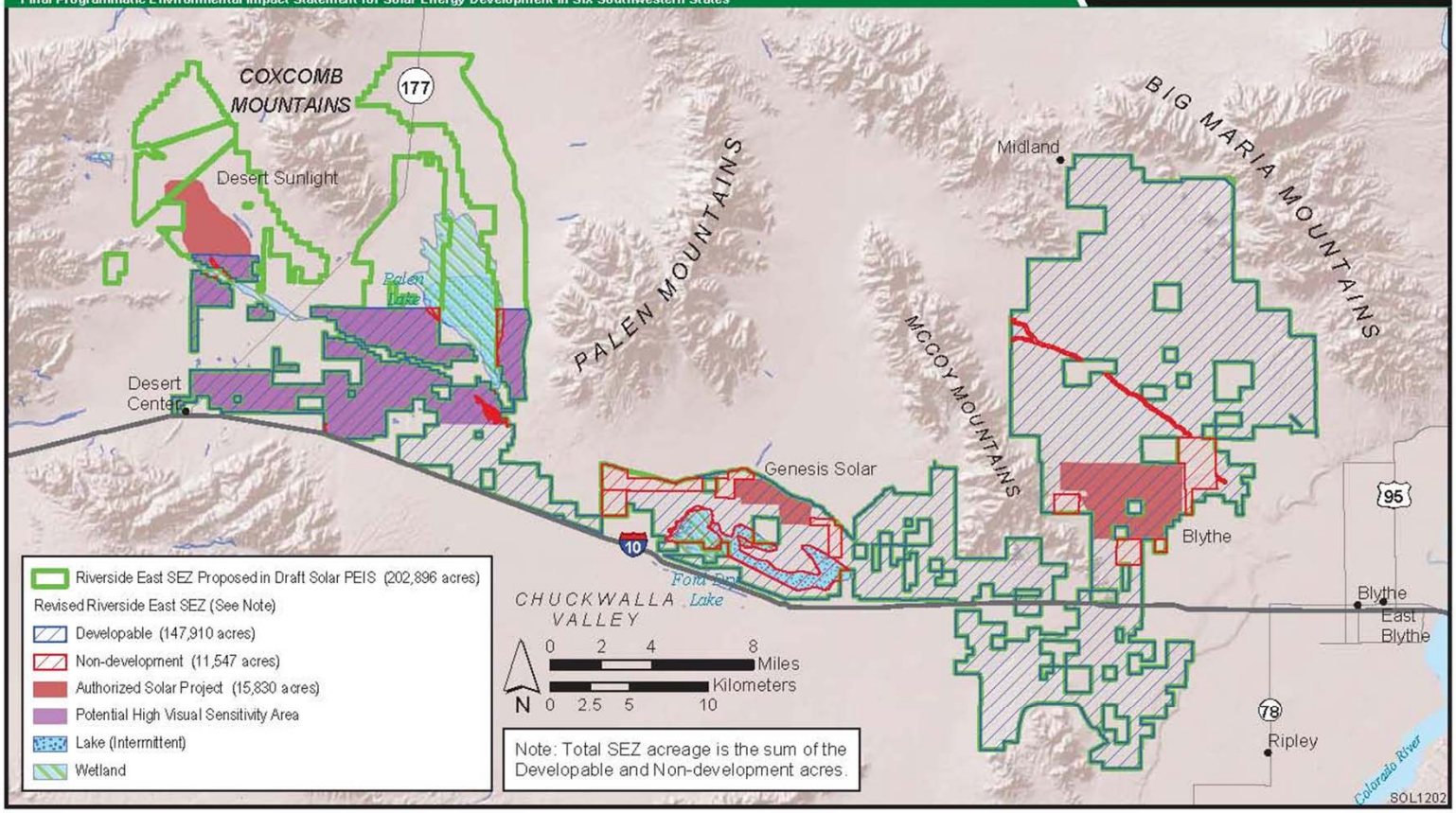
Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Solar Energy Development in Six Southwestern States



Developable Area for the Proposed Imperial East SEZ

Map Prepared July 2012

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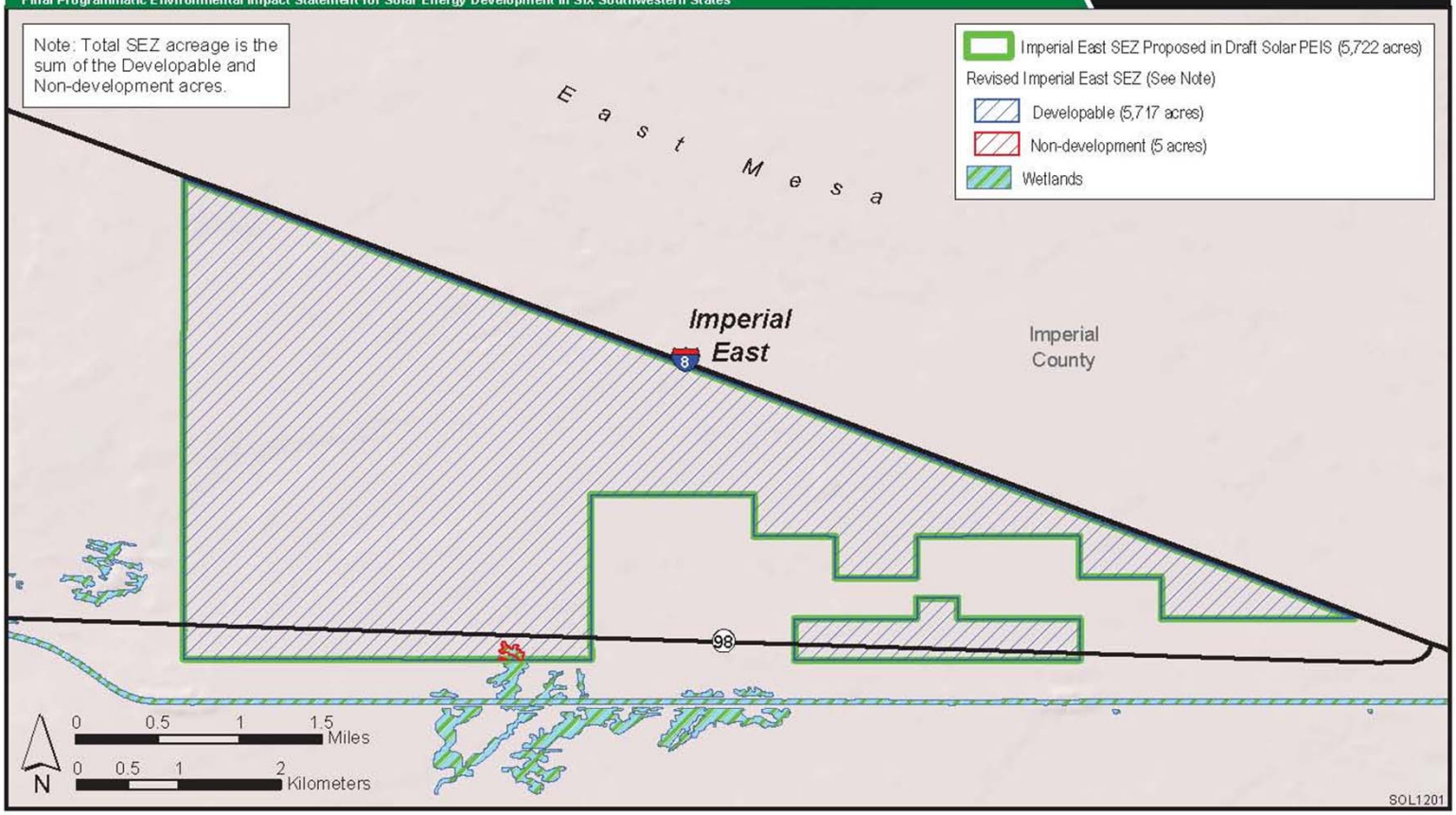

More Information?

- **General BLM info:**
  - **http://www.blm.gov**
- **California Desert District Renewable Energy Website:**
  - **http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/cdd/alternative_energy.html**
- **Solar Energy Development EIS Website**
  - **http://solareis.anl.gov/index.cfm**
- **Greg Miller, California Desert District, BLM**
  - **gmiller@blm.gov (951) 697-5200**