Office of the Western Regional Environmental Coordinator
Office of Governmental and External Affairs
Marine Corps Installations West

Sustainability in the Western Region: Looking to 2050

Desert Managers Group
20 August 08

Forging the MAGTF: Installations - the 5th Element

SUPPORT
GROUND
AIR

MCAS Yuma
Barry M.
Goldwater Range

Air Warfare
Training

MCAS Yuma
Chocolate Mt.
Range

DEPLOYING
FORCES

MCLB
Barstow

Logistics,
Repair &
Maintenance

Recruiting &
Basic Training

MCB Camp
Pendleton

Amphibious &
Land Warfare
Training

MC MWTC
Bridgeport

MAGTF TC
29 Palms

MCRD San
Diego

Evolving Doctrine: The Sea is Still Our Gateway

- From the Sea
- Forward from the Sea
- Operational Maneuver from the Sea
- Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare
- Distributed Operations

DEPLOYING FORCES

Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center Bridgeport

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Center 29 Palms

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton

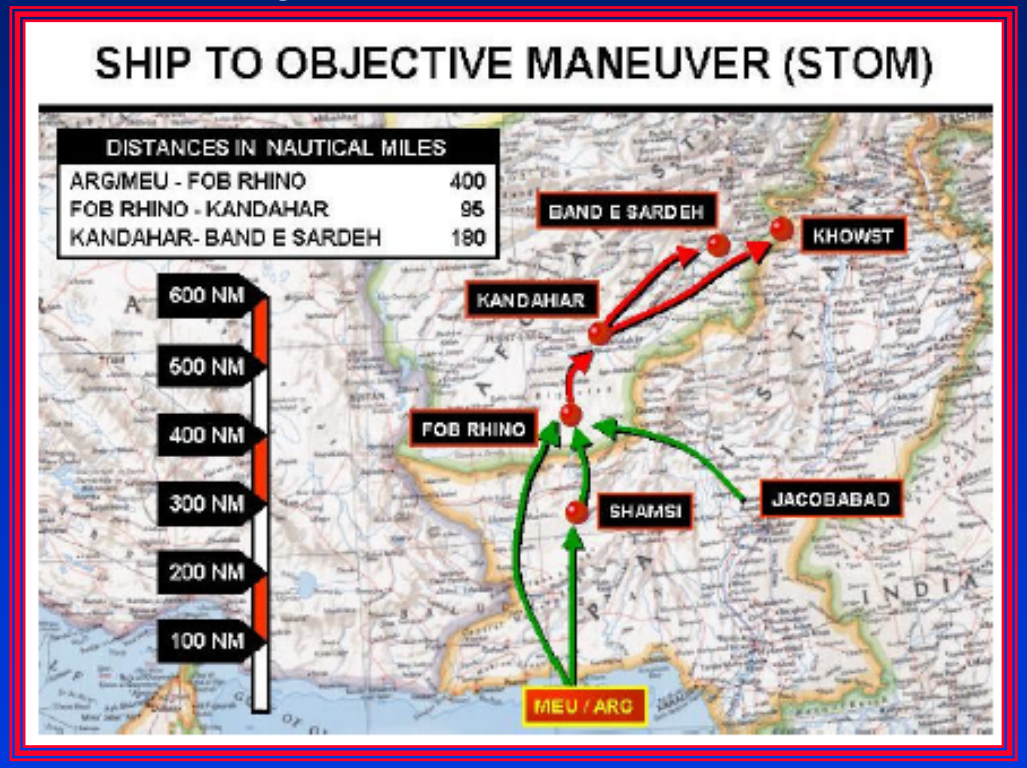
Chocolate Mt. Range

Barry M. Goldwater Range

Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare

"…Innovative technologies will provide Marines enhanced mobility to cross greater distances and reduce the limitations imposed by terrain, weather, and access denial."

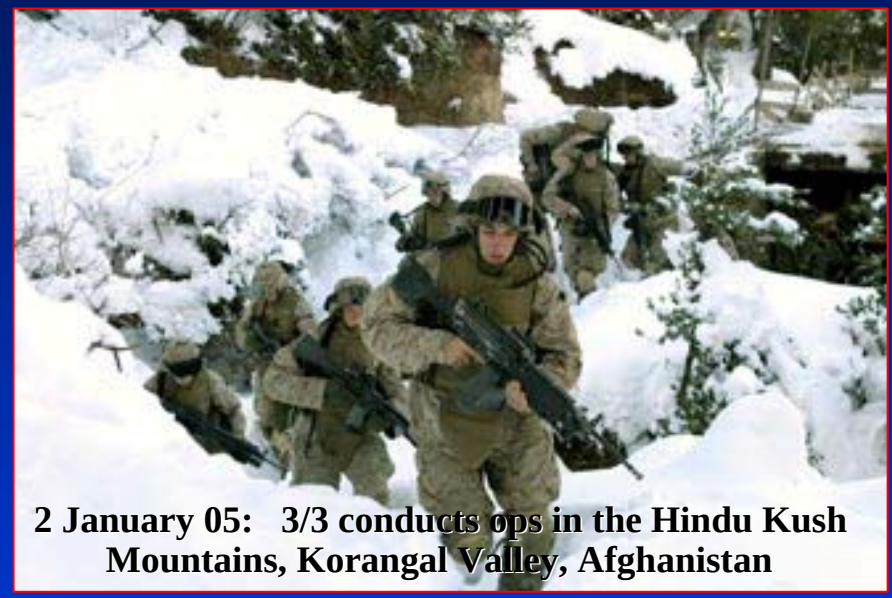
Afghanistan 2001 - 2002



"…The result will be an expanded maneuver space, both seaward and inland..."

How Public Lands Contribute to Readiness: Hawaii to California to Afghanistan

1 Oct 2004: 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines (3/3) (Hawaii) conducts operational training in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Sierra Nevada Mountains, USMC Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, CA



2 January 05: 3/3 conducts ops in the Hindu Kush Mountains, Korangal Valley, Afghanistan

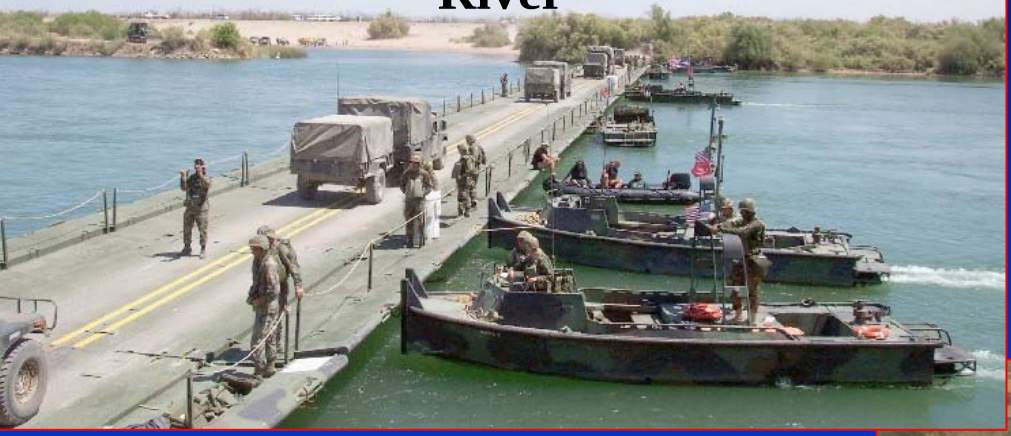
Army CH-47 Chinook helicopter supports 3/3 Marines in the Korangal Valley

"…The enemy we fight has lived in the snow and harsh weather of the Hindu Kush all of his life…. if we didn't prepare for the terrain, altitude and weather before getting here - then he might have a chance to get away from us…" **CPL Mattingly 3/3**

Afghanistan Relational Map

We Must *"Train As We Fight"*

EX DESERT SCIMITAR 2001, 2002: 1st Marine Division crossing the Colorado River



200 Miles across CA to AZ

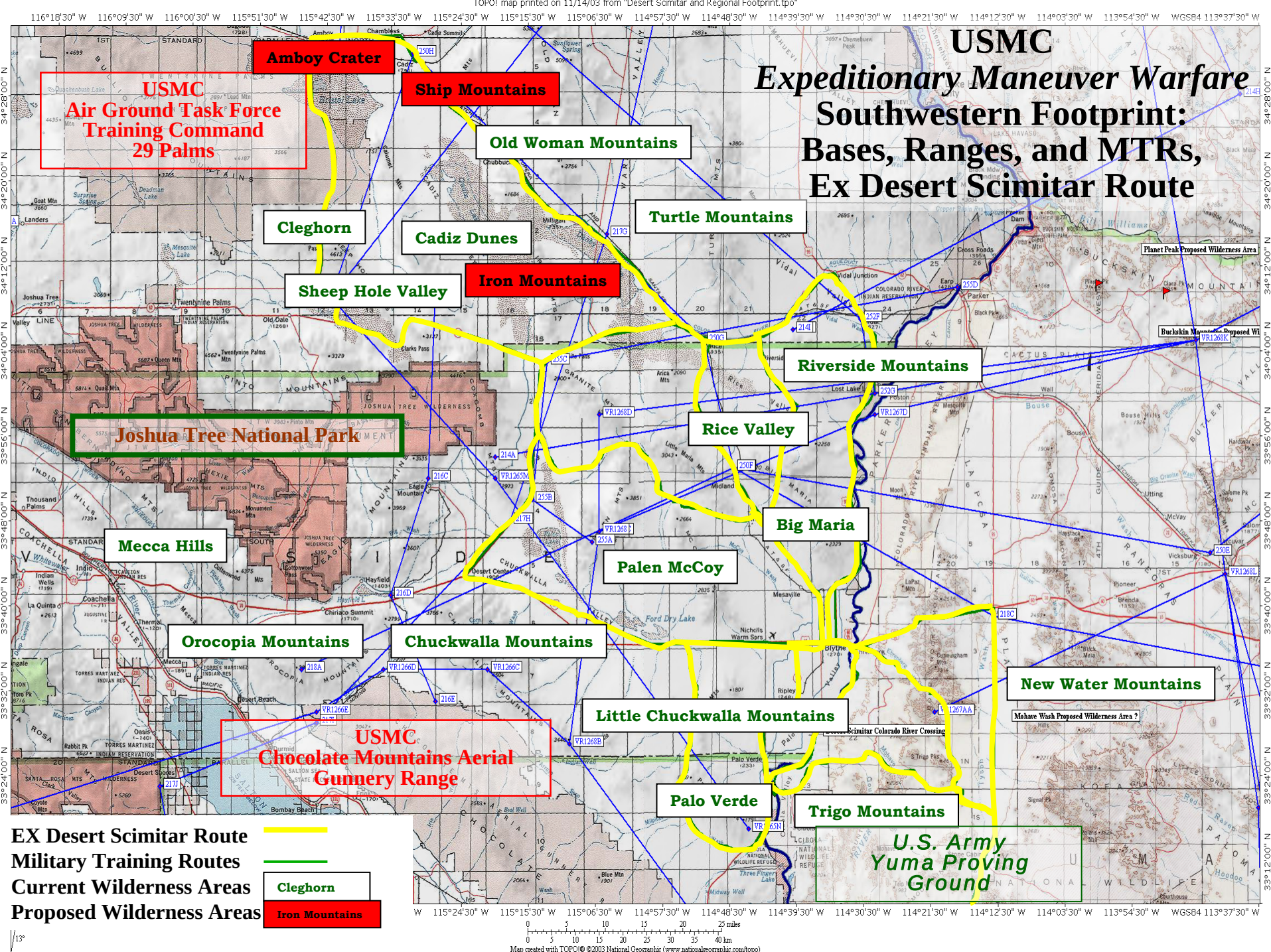
592 Vehicles

2700 Marines

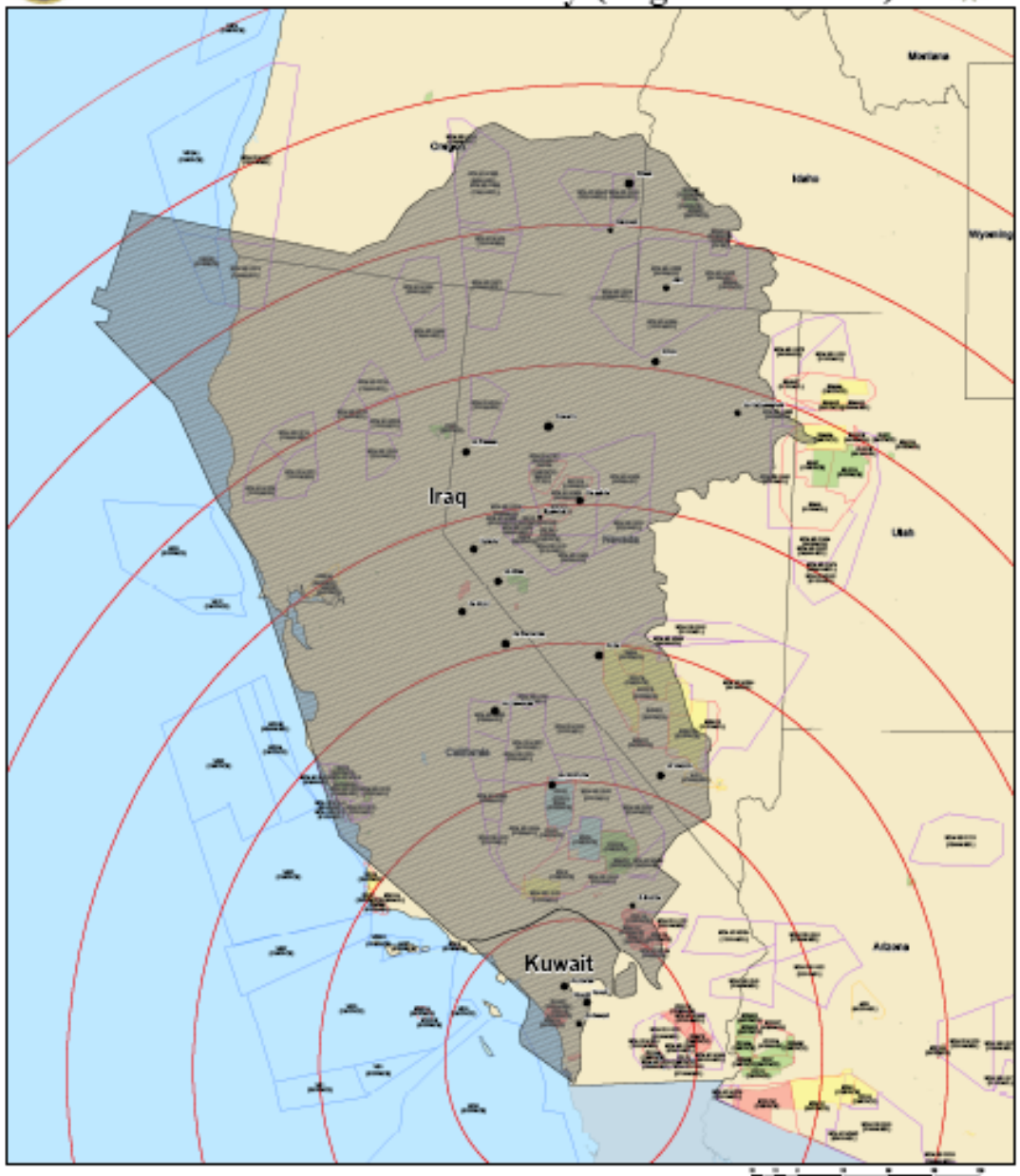
450' expeditionary bridging

DoD does not possess the range of conditions needed to fully rehearse current operational plans unless complemented by public lands

2003: 1st Marine Division crossing Southern Bridge into Baghdad


TOPO! map printed on 11/14/03 from "Desert Scimitar and Regional Footprint.tpo"
USMC
Expeditionary Maneuver Warfare
Southwestern Footprint:
Bases, Ranges, and MTRs,
Ex Desert Scimitar Route
USMC
Air Ground Task Force
Training Command
29 Palms
Amboy Crater
Ship Mountains
Old Woman Mountains
Turtle Mountains
Cleghorn
Cadiz Dunes
Iron Mountains
Sheep Hole Valley
Riverside Mountains
Joshua Tree National Park
Rice Valley
Big Maria
Mecca Hills
Palen McCoy
Orocopia Mountains
Chuckwalla Mountains
New Water Mountains
Little Chuckwalla Mountains
USMC
Chocolate Mountains Aerial
Gunnery Range
Palo Verde
Trigo Mountains
U.S. Army
Yuma Proving
Ground
Planet Peak Proposed Wilderness Area
Mohave Wash Proposed Wilderness Area ?
EX Desert Scimitar Route
Military Training Routes
Current Wilderness Areas
Cleghorn
Proposed Wilderness Areas
Iron Mountains
Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

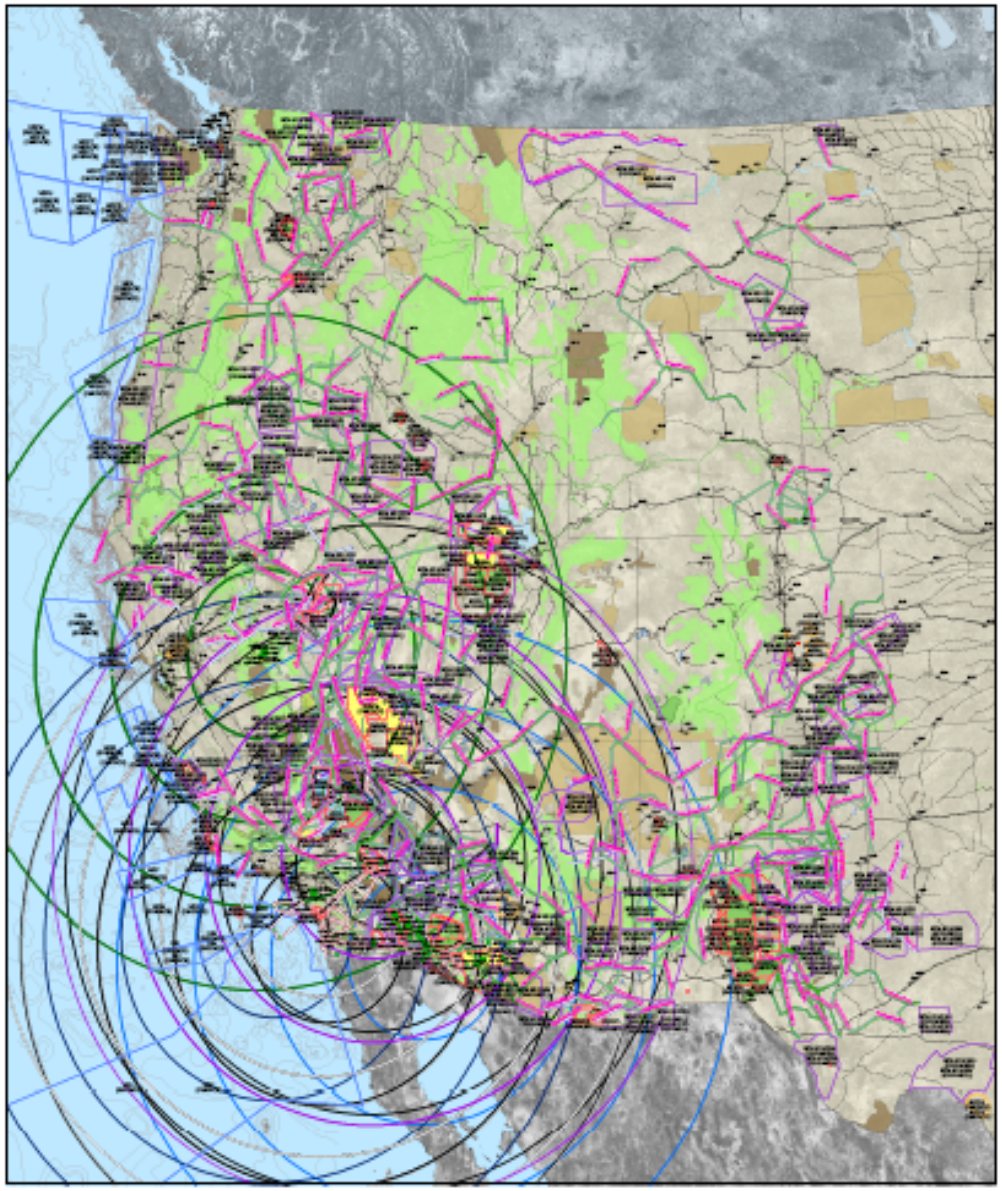
Southwest US with Iraq and Kuwait Relational Overlay (aligned with CA)



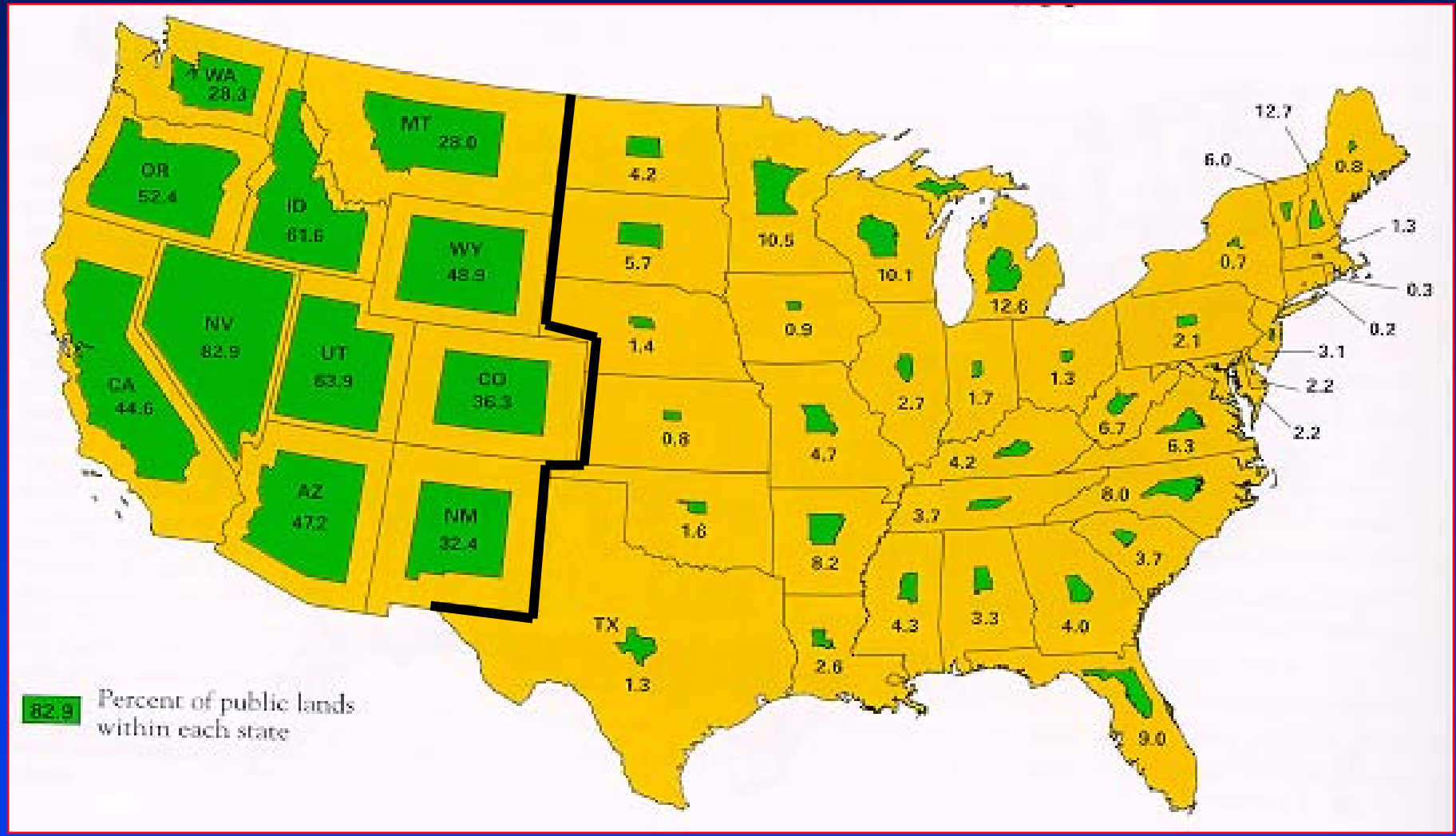
MV22 Osprey Training NEPA Study: White Space (Public Lands)

MV-22 Combat Radius,

MTR's, Helo Routes, Landing Zones and SUA's



Public Lands in the “West”



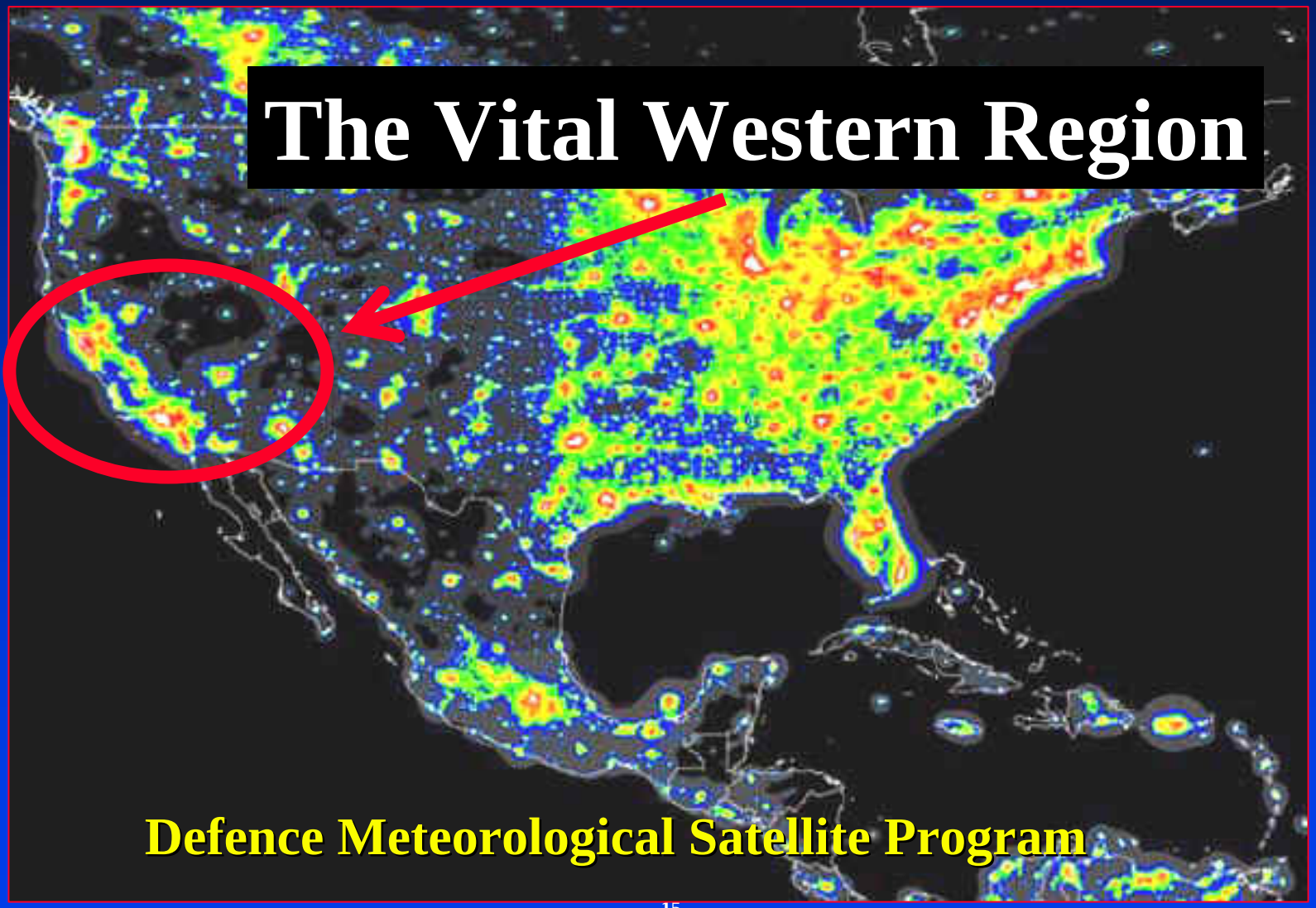
*Atlas of the New West, Portrait of a Changing Region, 1997

Western Region

White Space

- The 3 dimensional space that connects geographically fixed USMC assets: bases, ranges, stations, other training and operating areas, including research, development, testing and evaluation (RDT&E).

Urban Development



California Population Changes (1990 – 2000) & Projections (2000 – 2020) for Critical USMC Counties*

- **Imperial:**
  - Chocolate Mt. Range
    - Pop. Change +30%;
    - Pop. Proj. +103%
- **Riverside:**
  - MCB Camp Pendleton
  - Chocolate Mt Range
    - Pop. Change +32%;
    - Pop. Proj +13%
- **San Bernardino:**
  - MCAGCC 29 Palms
  - MCLB Barstow
    - Pop. Change +20.5%
    - Pop. Proj. +16%
- **San Diego:**
  - MCB Camp Pendleton
  - MCAS Miramar
  - MCRD
    - Pop. Change +13%
    - Pop. Proj. +28%
- **Orange:**
  - MCB Camp Pendleton
    - Pop. Change +18%
    - Pop. Proj. +4%
- **Mono:**
  - Mountain Warfare Training Center
    - Pop. Change +29%
    - Pop. Proj. +3%

*California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit

Required Capabilities Document 1 June 06

MAGTF MEB Level Training Range

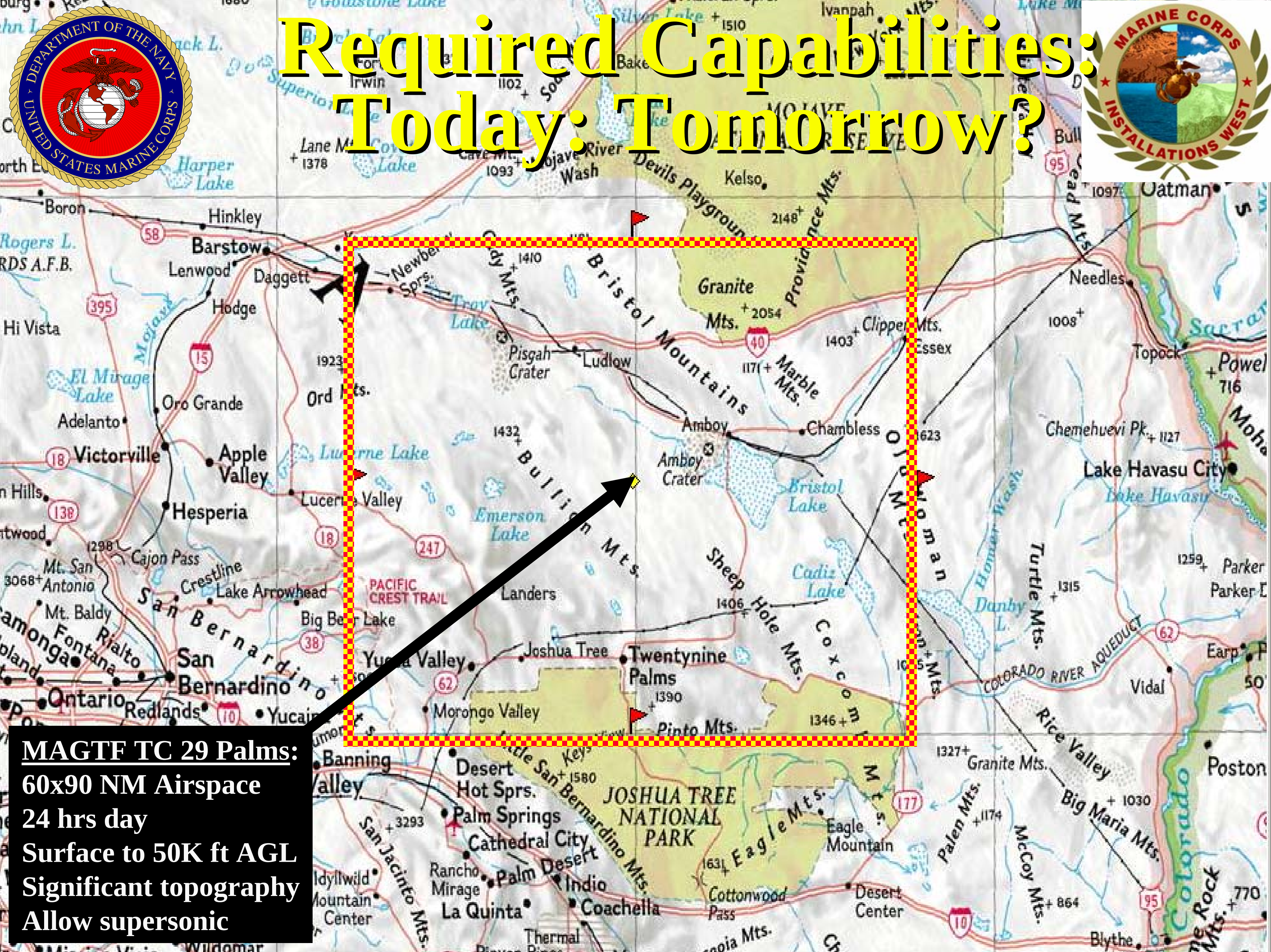
A 24-hour day-night period on a 50 nm x 80 nm range with Airspace that extends from surface to 50,000 feet AGL. At least some portion of the Airspace must allow supersonic operations. At least some portion of the Airspace should also overlay land area with significant topography. Where the Airspace overlays the training range Land Area, the horizontal limits of the Airspace should extend at least 10 nm beyond the horizontal limits of the Land Area.

Required Capabilities: Today

Sustainable Planning: Large Scale Regional GIS Mapping

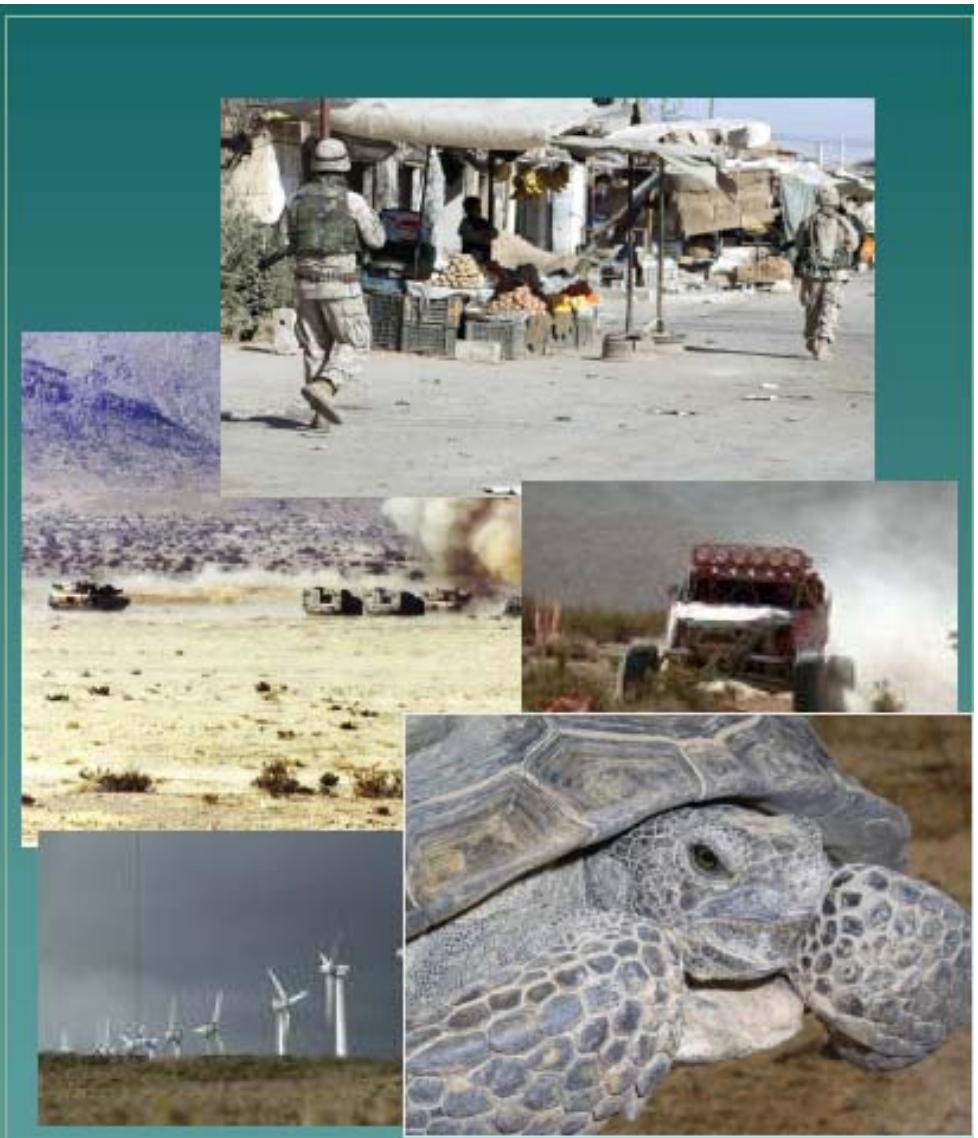
- Composite of all maps + Project Population Growth (2020 & 2050):
  - Basic background: Geographic, infrastructure, environmental, political data
  - Thematics
    - Military Footprint (land & airspace)
    - Conservation: critical habitat, wildlife corridors, desert wildlife management areas, current and proposed wilderness
    - Cultural: Native American tribal interests
    - Recreation: Off-highway vehicle (OHV)
    - Mining: existing surface/sub-surface mining claims
    - Energy: solar, wind, geothermal, proposed transmission corridors, renewable energy zones
    - Planning: General Plans and zoning plans

Required Capabilities: Today: Tomorrow?



MAGTF TC 29 Palms:
60x90 NM Airspace
24 hrs day
Surface to 50K ft AGL
Significant topography
Allow supersonic

Proposed Land Acquisition/Airspace Establishment in Support of Large-Scale MAGTF Live-Fire and Maneuver Training



at
Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command/ Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MAGTFTC/MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms, CA

We Must Train As We Fight

MCAGCC Twentynine Palms – Range 215

AL SAQLAWIYAH, Iraq-- Marines with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, patrol through urban streets during Operation Saqlawiyah.

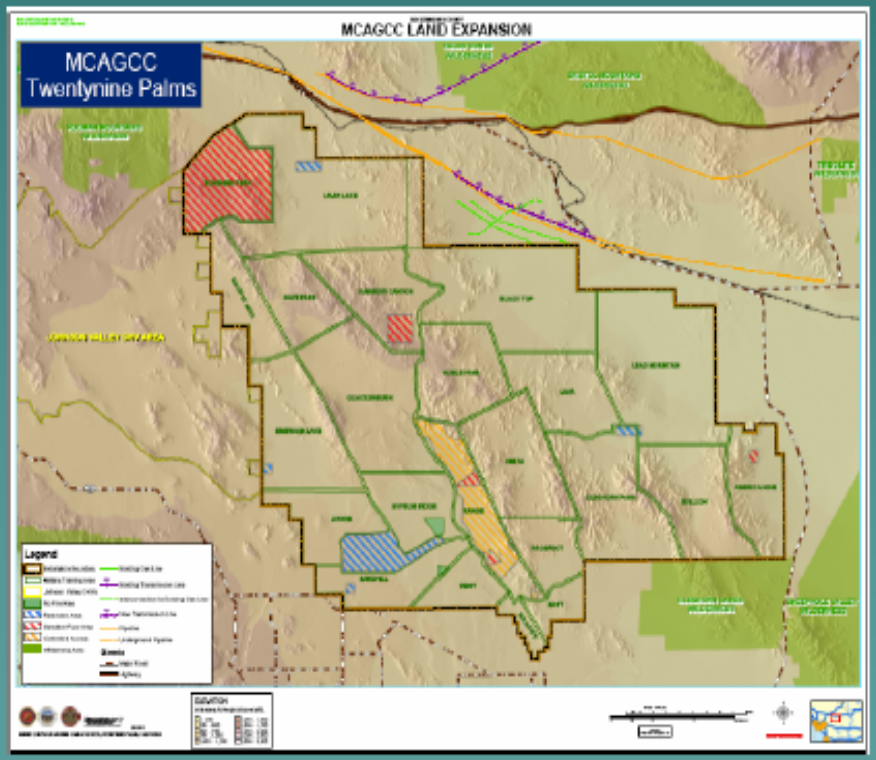
Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

Operational Requirement

- Marines Must Deploy Globally as Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF), including as Large-Scale MAGTF
- Marines Must "Train as We Fight" to Respond Immediately to the Range of Global Contingencies
- Training Requires Sustained (48-72 hours) Combined-Arms, Live-Fire and Maneuver for Marine Expeditionary Brigades (MEB)
- Military Ranges in DoD Inventory Currently Insufficient to Conduct MEB Sustained Combined Arms, Live-Fire and Maneuver Training
  - Existing training area at 29 Palms can only accommodate 2 battalions
  - Need space to accommodate 3 battalions to meet training requirement
- Special Use Airspace Also Needed to Meet MEB Sustained Combined Arms, Live-Fire and Maneuver Training

Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

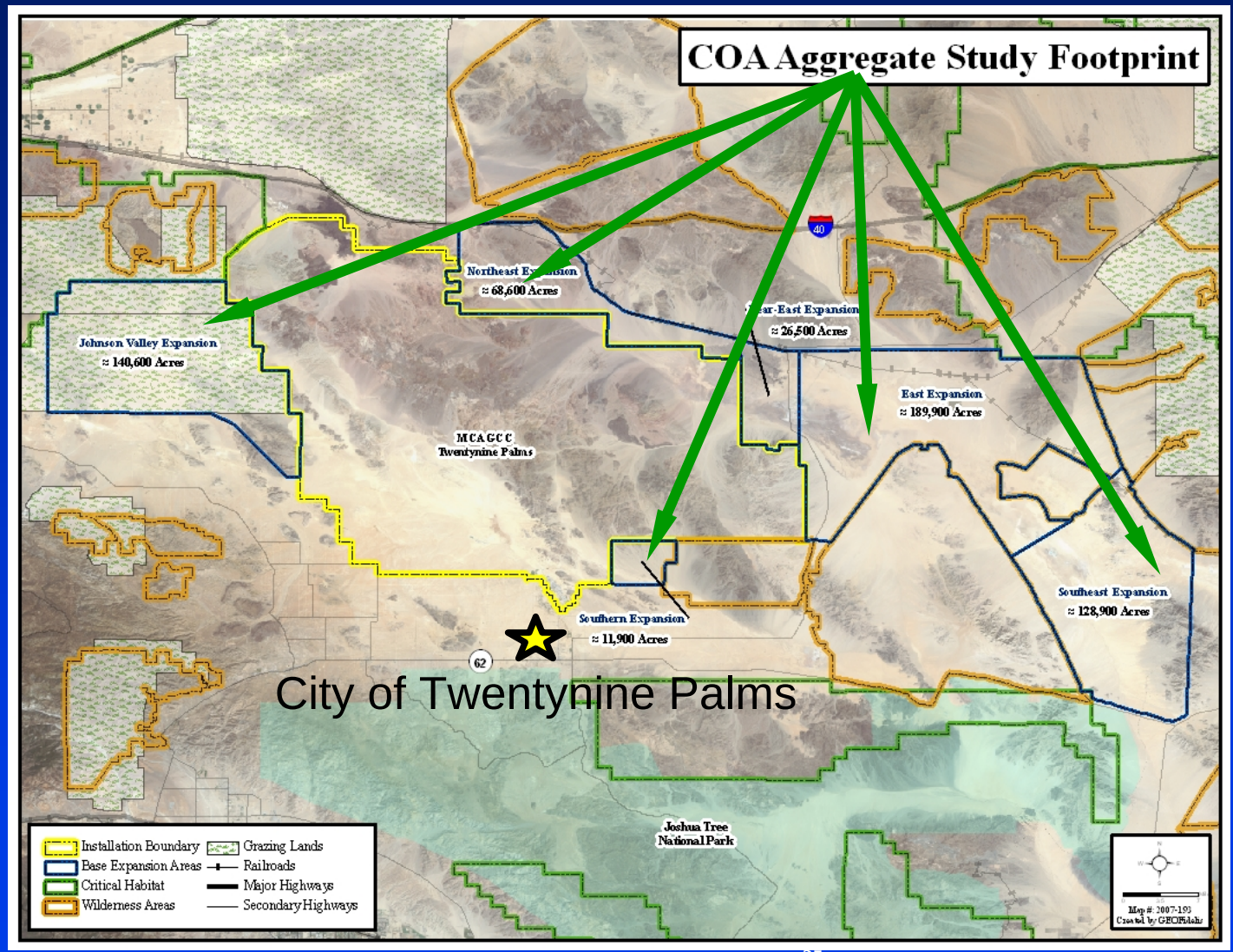
Lands to the north, south, east and west of the base were evaluated for potential land acquisition to meet Marine Corps training requirements. Land areas for study will include land for safety buffers.



Project Inception

- TECOM Formulates MEB Training Requirement from Lessons Learned from Combat
- USMC *Required Capabilities Document* and *Land Use Requirements Study* Show Need
- Center for Naval Analyses Studies Nationwide Training Options and Recommends 29 Palms
- Marine Requirements Oversight Council (MROC) Validates Training Requirement and Approves Study for Land Acquisition at 29 Palms
- ~90% of Potential Lands Are Managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the Balance Are Privately Owned or Held by the State of California
- Undersecretary of Defense Waives DoD Land Acquisition Moratorium – Alternatives Study Moves Forward

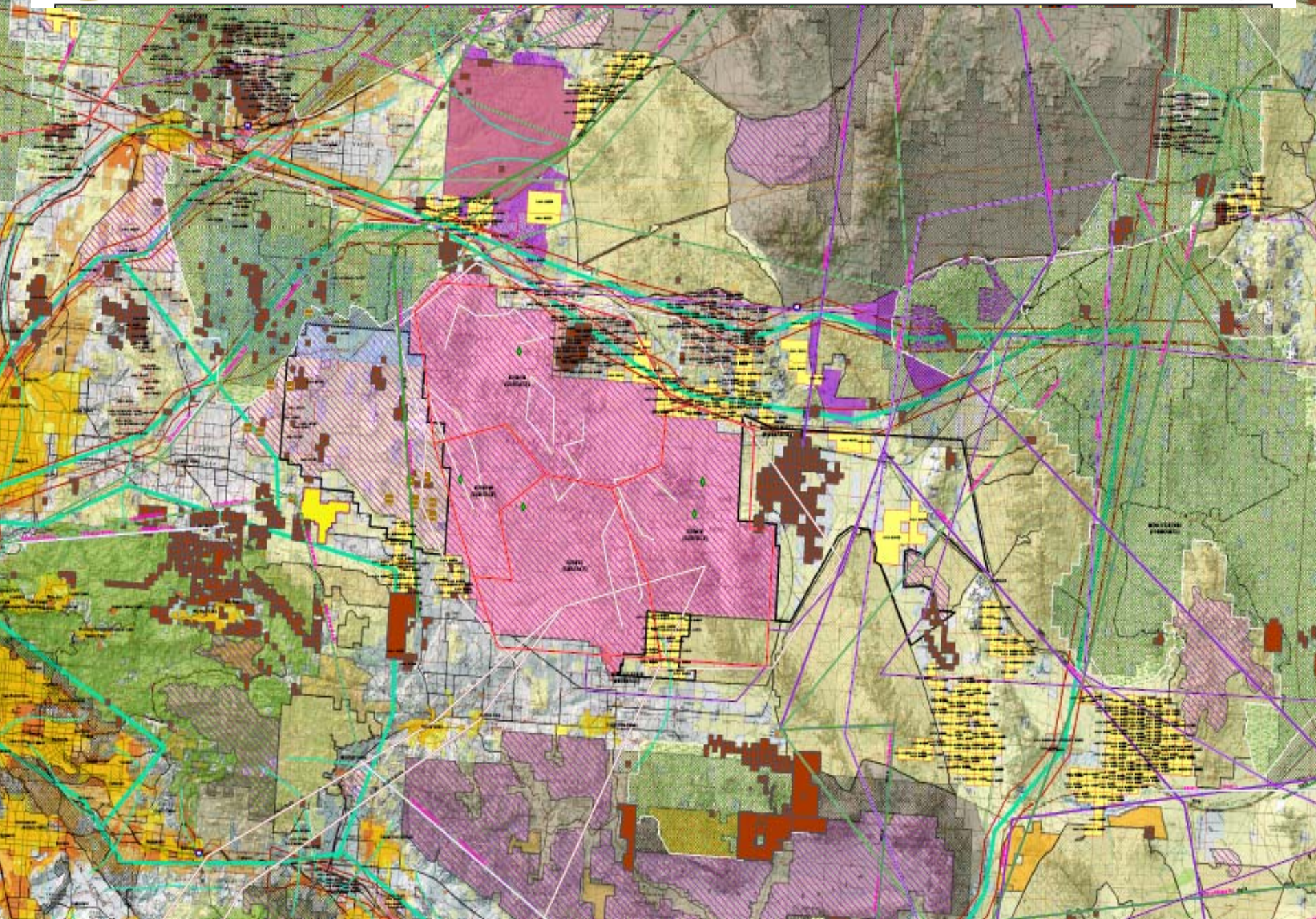
Screening at Twentynine Palms



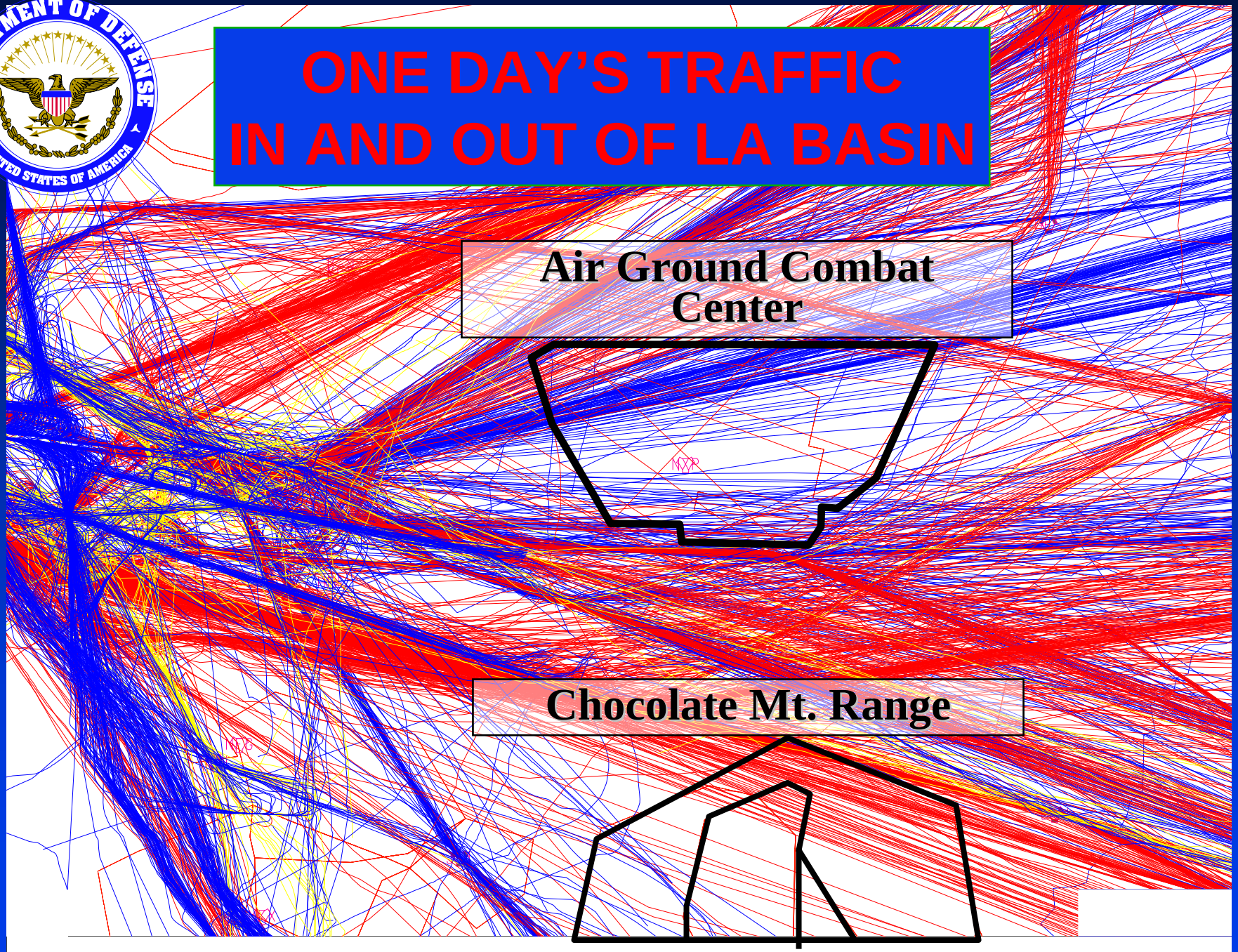
- Many potential Courses of Action (COA) studied.
- Lands north, south, east and west of the base were studied for their training potential.
- Total COA screening study area: 566,400 acres

Mojave Sub-Region: Twentynine Palms and Barstow Extent

with DOD Footprint, Composite Map and Projected Population

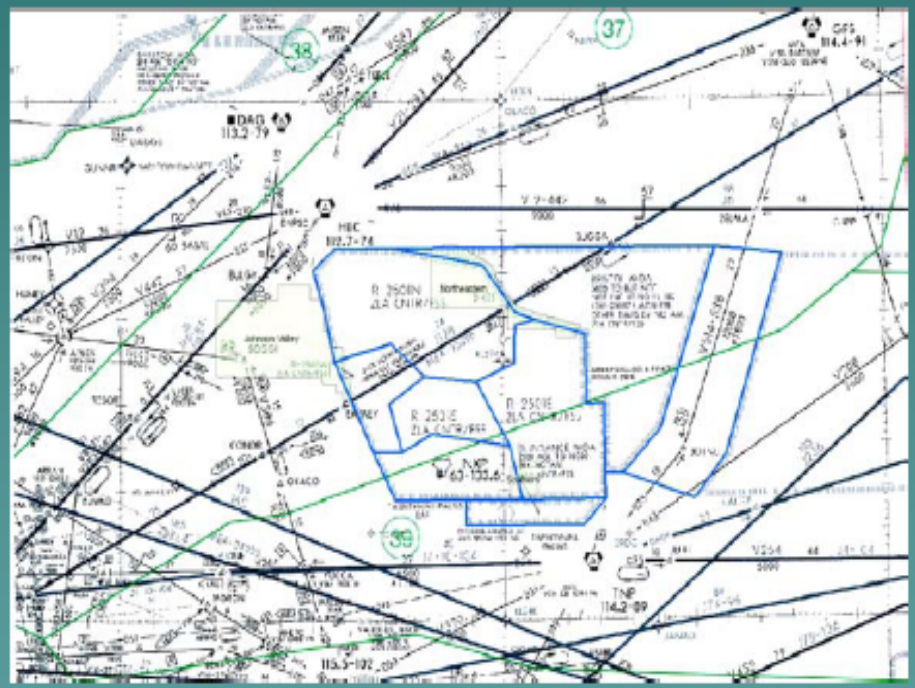


ONE DAY'S TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF LA BASIN



Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

Current 29 Palms Special-Use Airspace and Major Air Traffic Routes

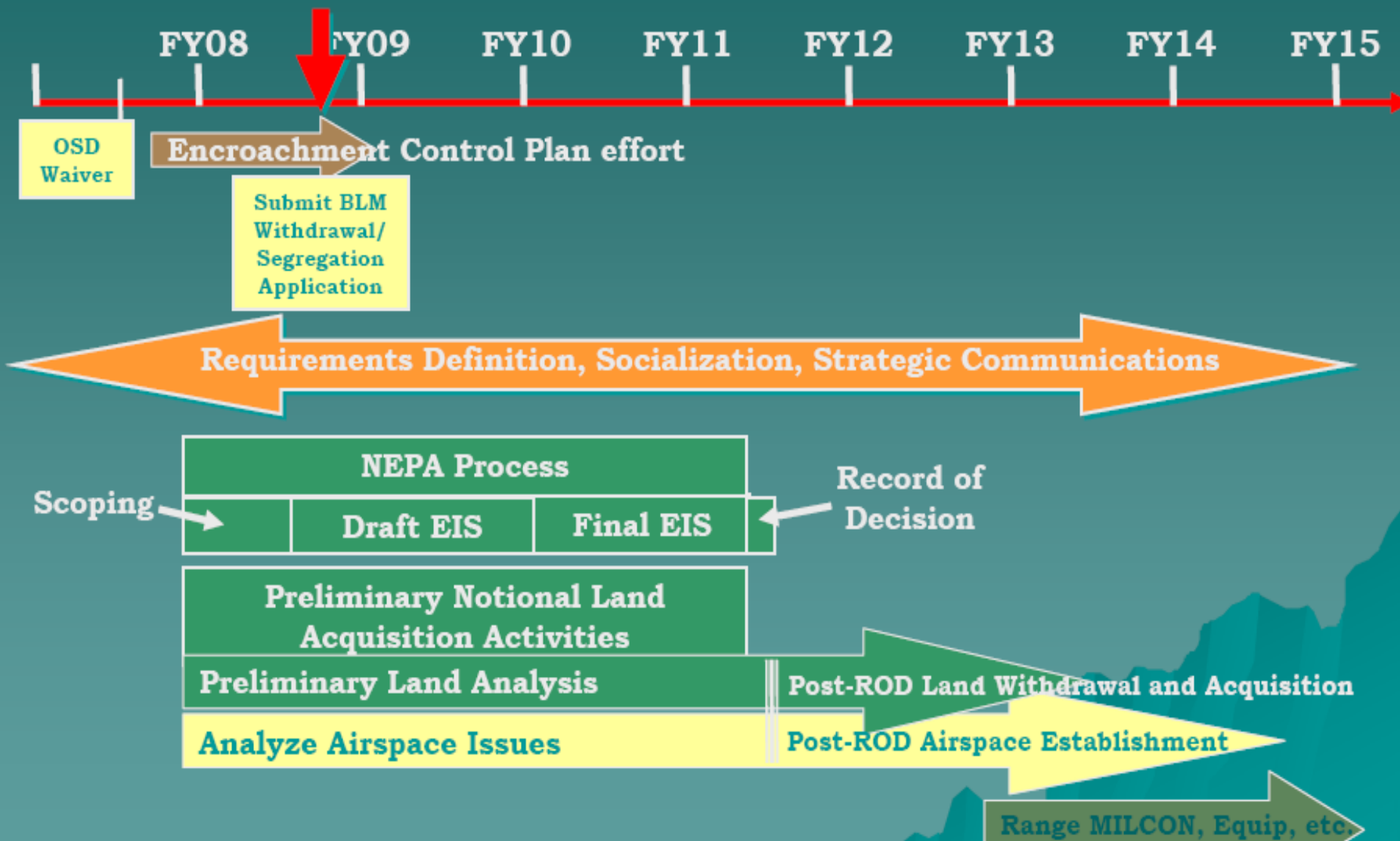


Proposed Airspace Requirements Would Also Be Studied

- **Airspace Requirements to be Studied for Alternatives**
- **Proposed Land Acquisition Alternatives May Require Change of Airspace Status to Meet Requirements for Marine *Air Ground* Task Force Training**

Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

Path Forward – Project Timeline



Stakeholder Engagement

- USMC has met with and continues to work with
  - State, regional and local political leaders regarding all issues of concern in these jurisdictions
  - ORV industry and enthusiasts to hear their interests and ideas
  - USMC has met with and continues to work with energy interests regarding potential energy developments in the region
  - environmentalists about ways to protect and conserve natural resources
    - USMC has an outstanding environmental stewardship record
  - film industry representatives
  - FAA and the aviation industry
- **USMC is committed to public engagement and will work with all stakeholders to avoid unnecessary impacts and identify potential mitigation where appropriate.**

A country worth defending…
… is a country worth preserving.

Major General "Mike" Lehnert
Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West