Mr. James Kenna,
State Director, California,
Federal Bureau of Land Management
2800 Cottage Way, # W1834
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Kenna,

I am writing to urge permanent conservation status for the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTRA) by protecting it in perpetuity as a natural area free from the "pollutions" of mining, vehicle use, grazing, oil and gas leasing, which make it more difficult for the already struggling natural flora and fauna still remaining.

Beyond that, as you probably know, DTRA also has served as a highly significant wildlife research and education laboratory.

The DRECP "Preferred Alternative" is not a true conservation-based measure and would undermine DTRA's 50 years of hard, dedicated work to save and preserve irreplaceable desert ecoenvironments.

Sincerely yours,

Richard E. Kettler, M.D.
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Response to Comment Letter F212

Richard Kettler
February 23, 2015

Thank you for your comment. See response E37-2; the BLM LUPA and Final EIS addresses activities on BLM-administered lands only. See also Volume II, which includes revised descriptions and mapping for the range of alternatives considered for the BLM LUPA. Under the Preferred Alternative of the BLM LUPA and Final EIS, DFAs have been removed entirely from the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTRNA). See also Volume II, Section II.3.4.2 for the revised CMAs that apply to activities on BLM-administered lands.