



desert conservation
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Boulder City Conservation Easement Restoration Efforts

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Objectives

Presentation Objectives:

- Background
- Management Context
- Incursion Control
- Restoration Activities
- Future Activities



- Clark County purchased the easement in 1995 as a permit condition
- Purpose:
“...ensure that the property is retained in a natural condition, and to prevent any uses that will impair the conservation, protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural resource values, especially those values associated with habitat for the desert tortoise and other indigenous flora and fauna.”



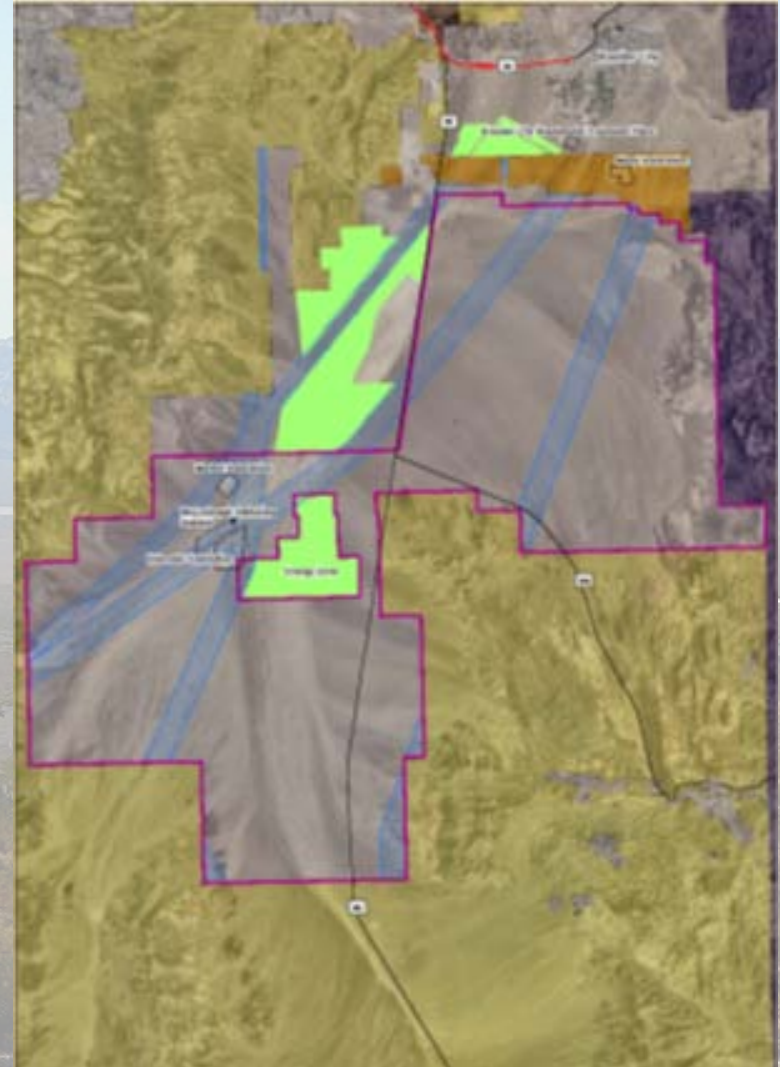
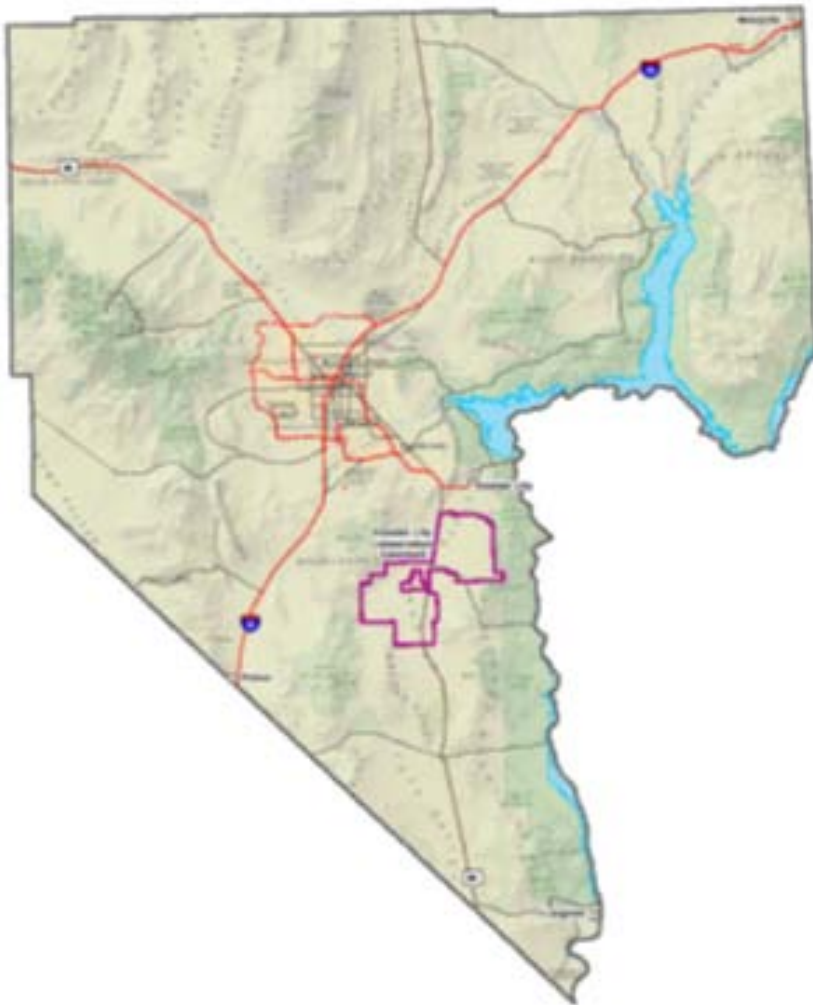
- Approximately 86,423 acres
- Bisected by U.S. 95 and S.R. 165
- Energy Zone, substations, and switching yards
- 58 Rights-of-way
- New solar and transmission lines
- Boulder City bypass (Corridor I-11)
- Highly accessible to the public (95 miles of open roads)



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Management Context





- Law enforcement (>17,000 miles)
 - 600 contacts, 105 warnings
 - 422 brochures
- Road designations
- Signage updates (137)
- Fenced pet cemetery (~2600 feet)
- Tortoise guards (3)
- Closed and fenced cattle guards (7)
- Locked gates (8)



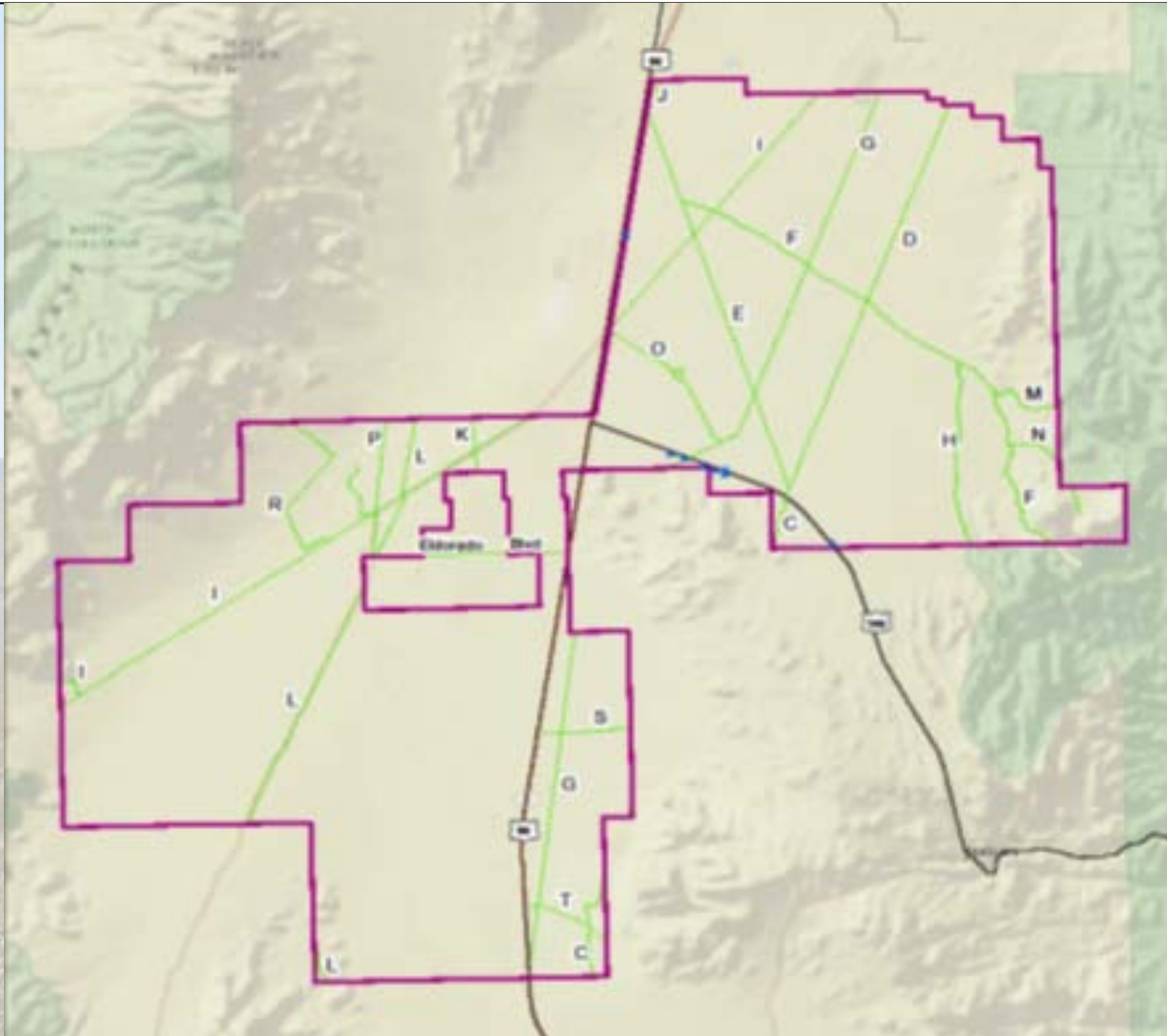
- Trash cleanup (19.5 miles of open roads and 14 acres in and around the pet cemetery)
- Walked and repaired tortoise fencing along US95/SR165 (25 miles)
- Restoration phase 1 (10 sites)
- Restoration phase 2 (20 sites)



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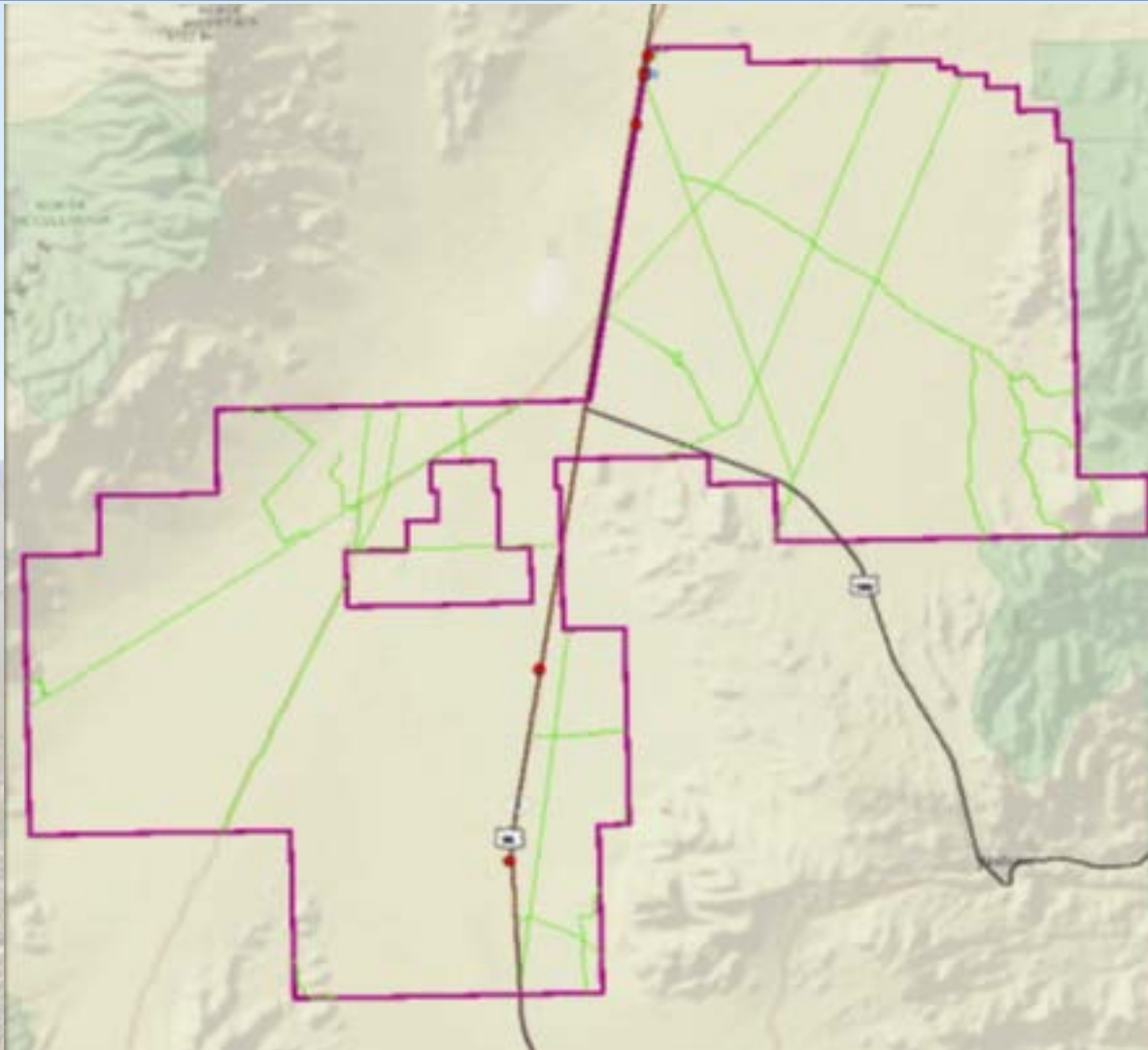
Incursion Control





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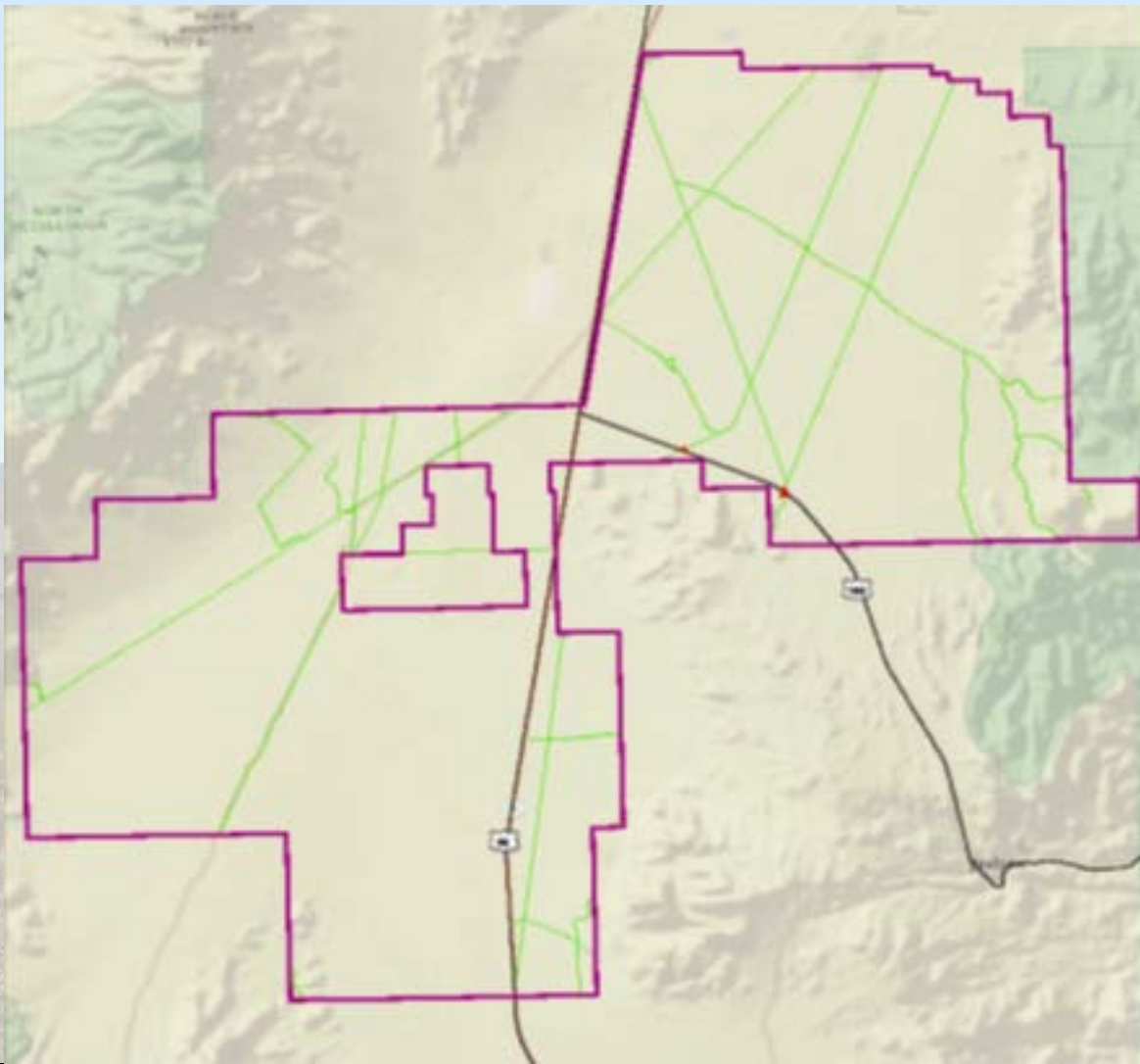
Incursion Control





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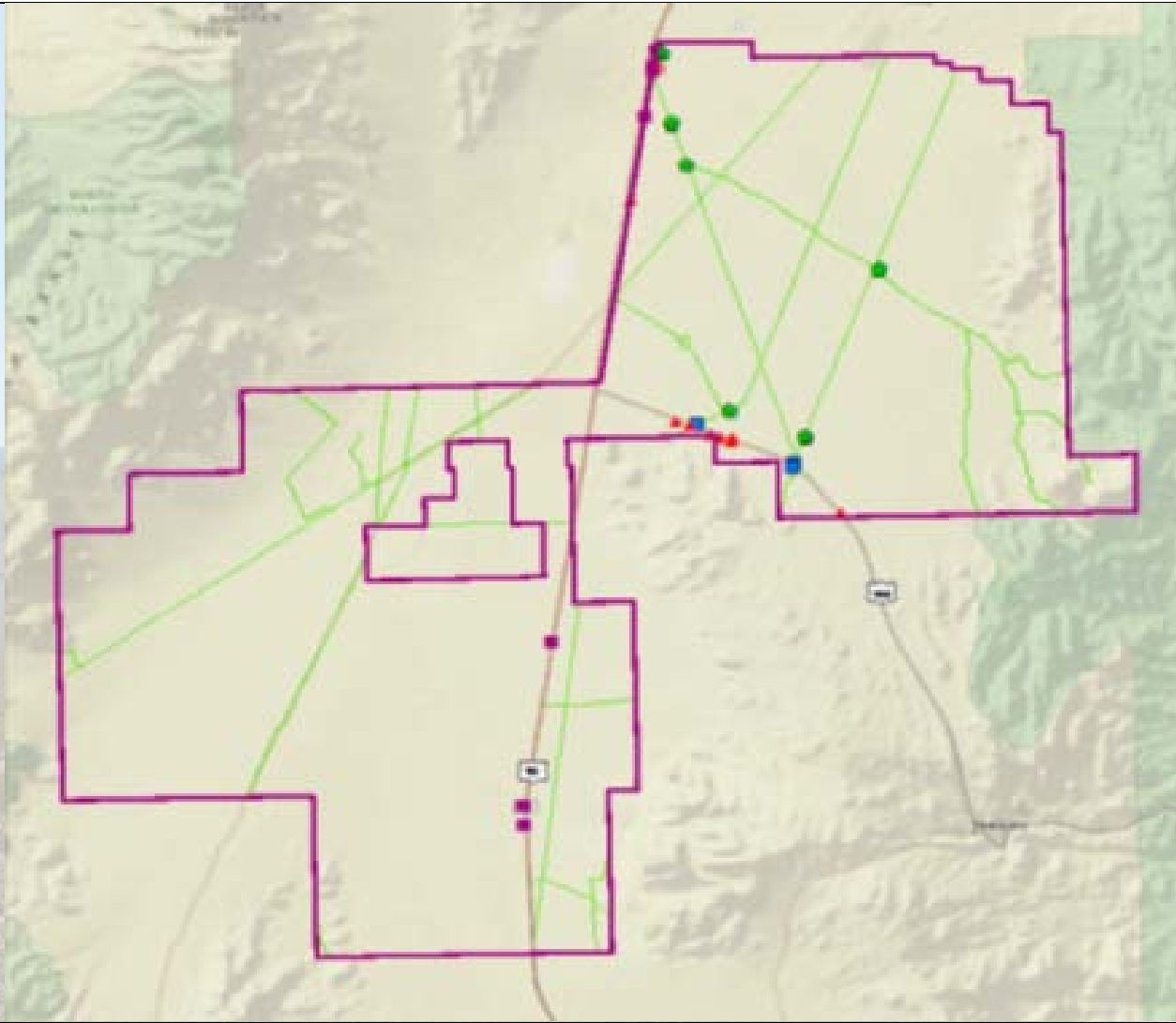
Incursion Control





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Incursion and Restoration Activities Phase 1





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Restoration of Linear Disturbances

- 10 sites were restored



Before



After



- 10 sites were restored



Before

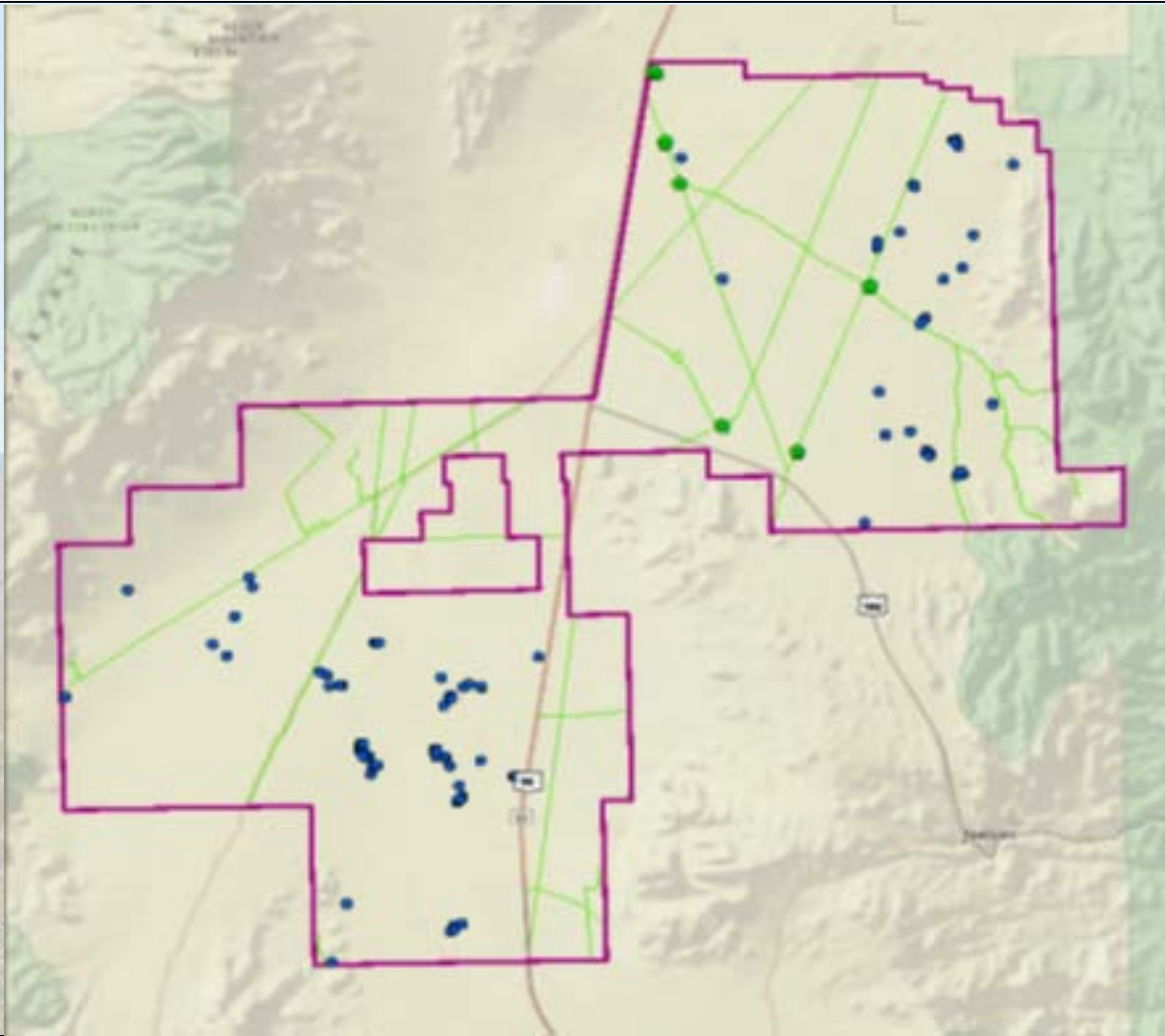


After



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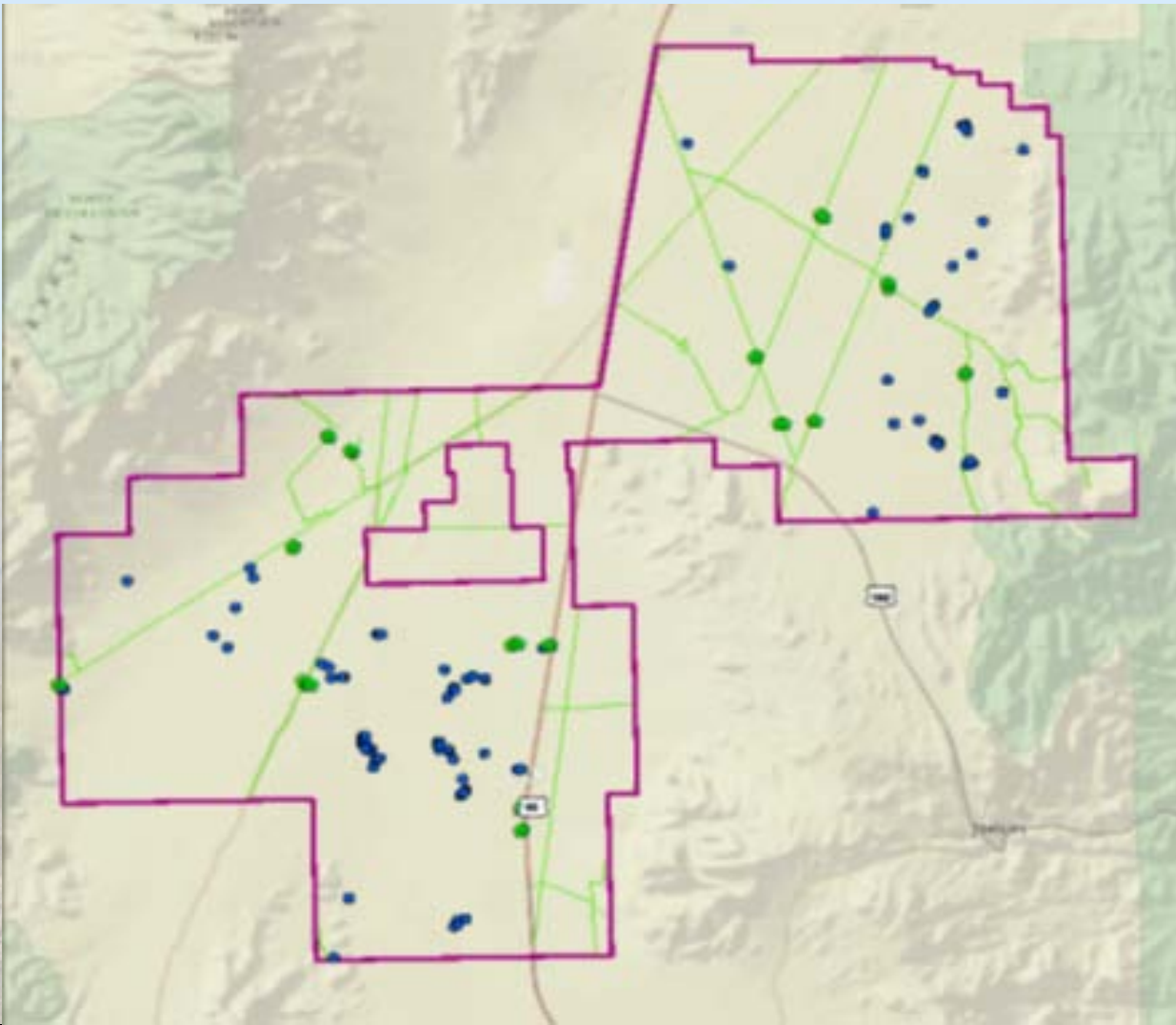
Restoration Activities Phase 1





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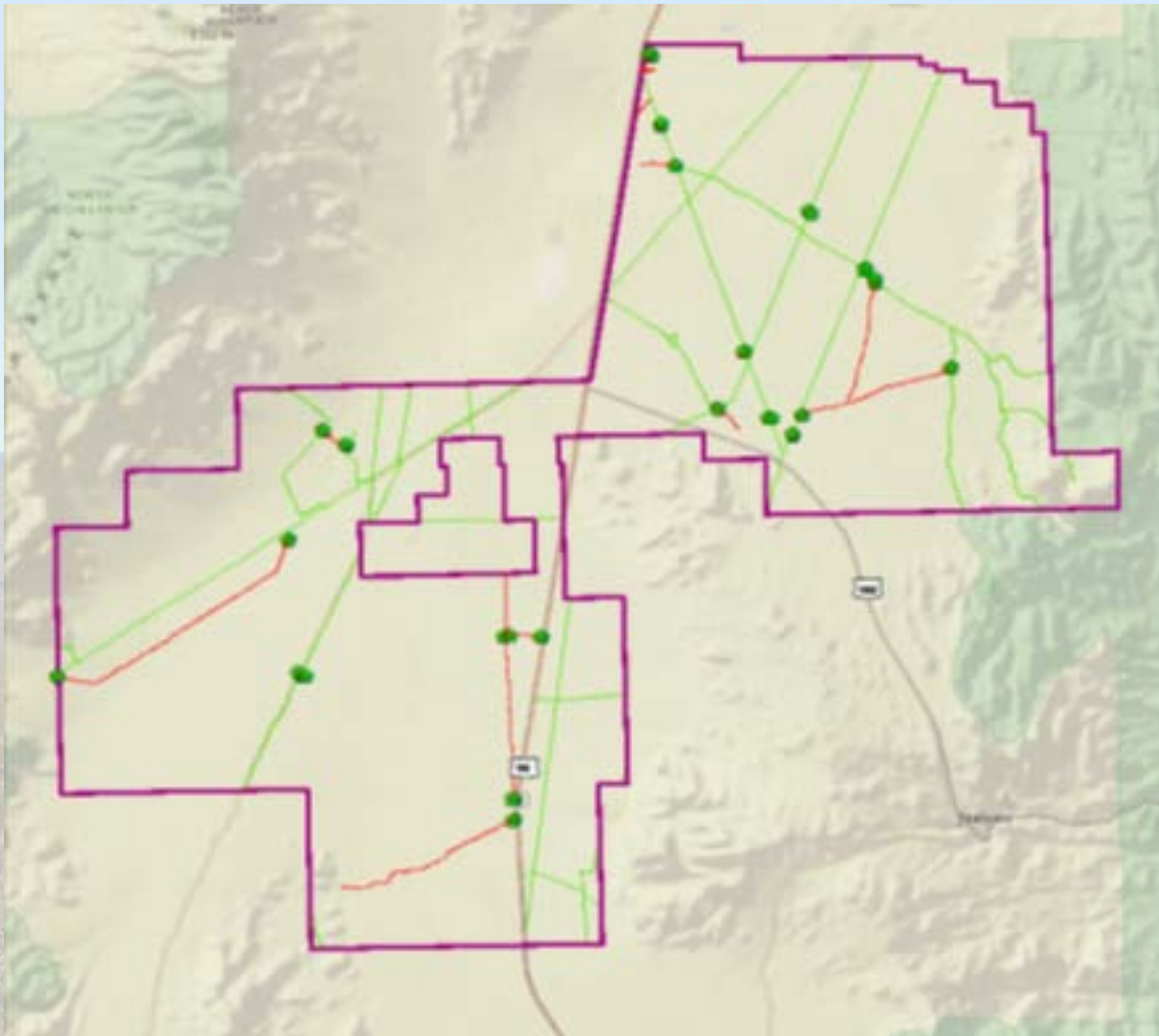
Restoration Activities Phase 2





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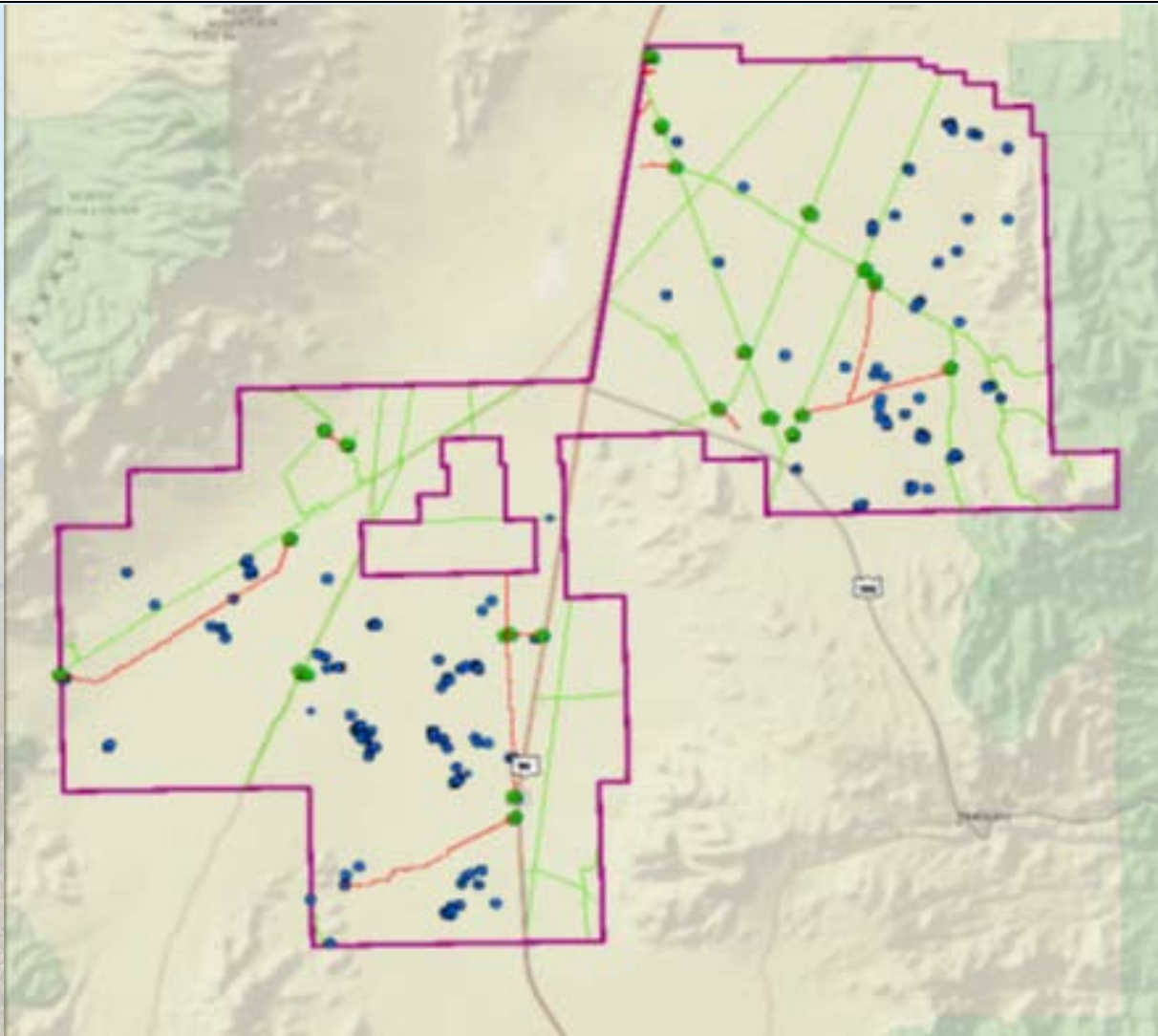
Restoration Activities Phase 1 and 2





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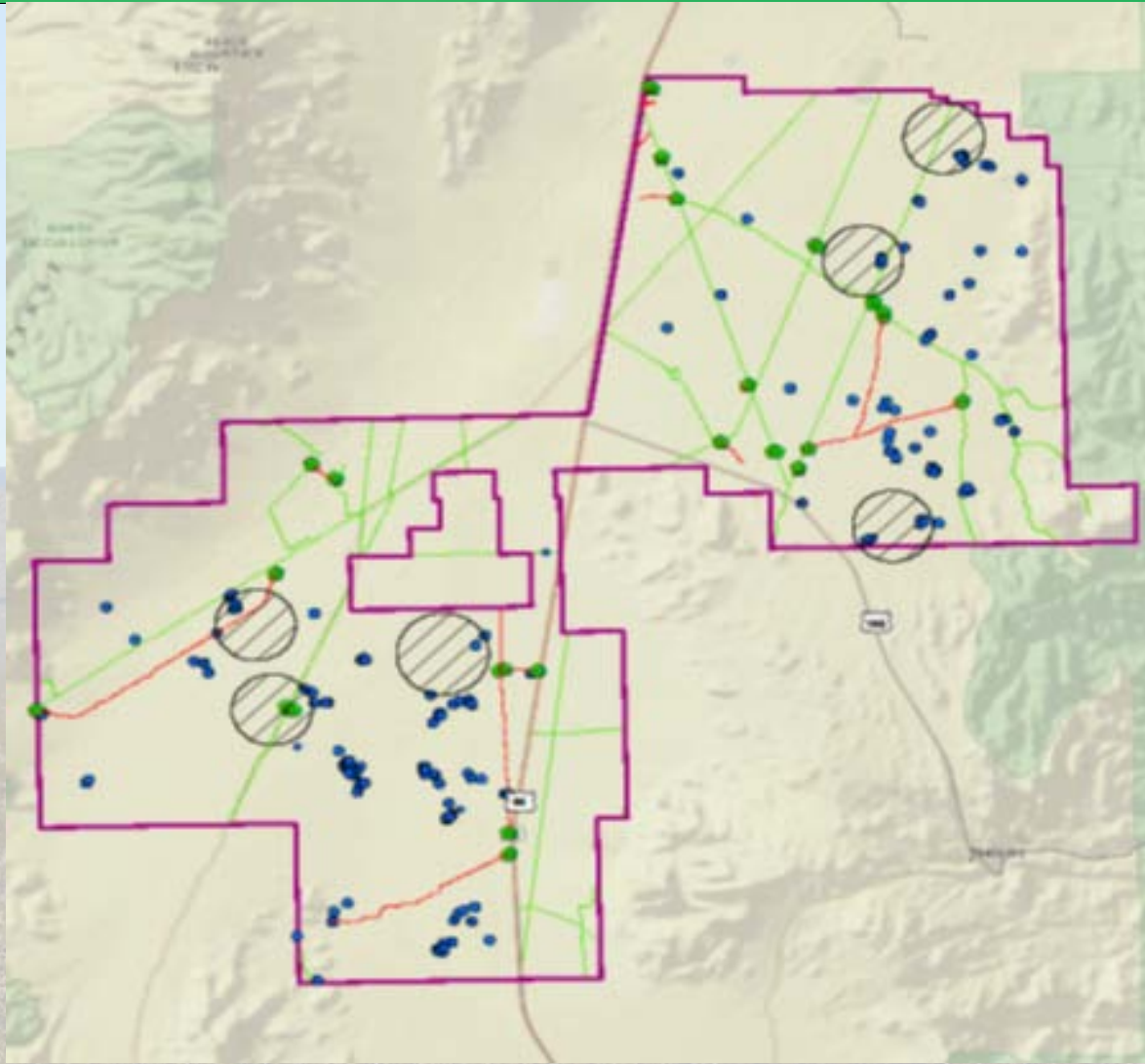
Restoration Activities Phase 1 and 2





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Future Restoration Activities





- Phase 3 restoration will use tortoise data
- Continue weed inventory and treatment
- Installation of additional desert tortoise guards at select road openings to the BCCE
- Installation of large rock barriers
- Design and installation of informational gateway signage at key access points to the BCCE from Boulder City



- Research into possible tortoise threats from ravens and other predators
- Monitor culverts for tortoise movements
- Vegetation project on the easement
- Continue law enforcement
- Finalize BCCE Management Plan
- Tortoise fencing of the energy zone
- Traffic monitoring



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Questions?



Covered Species Present:

- Desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*)
- Desert iguana (*Dipsosaurus dorsalis*),
- Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*)
- Mojave green rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus scutulatus*)
- Speckled rattlesnake (*C. mitchelli*)
- Arizona bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii arizonae*)
- Many other sensitive plants and animals