

Senate Bill 855 (Resources Budget Trailer Bill)

Existing law provides for a state park system, of which the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area are units, and authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation, with the consent of the Department of Finance, to acquire title to, or any interest in, real property that the department deems necessary or proper for the extension, improvement, or development of the state park system.

This bill would, notwithstanding any other law, authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into any transaction for the acquisition of land known as the “Freeman Property” and would exempt the acquisition from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), except as specified. The bill would require the department, among other things, to annex specified portions of the “Freeman Property” to the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area upon completion of transfer of title to the department.

Section 5016.2 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

5016.2. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the Department of Parks and Recreation may enter into an agreement for the acquisition of the “Freeman Property,” as identified in subdivision (d). The acquisition of the “Freeman Property” pursuant to this authorization and identified in this map is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Division 13 commencing with Section 21000)).

(b) The exemption under subdivision (a) does not apply to any general plan that is required for the management of the “Freeman Property,” or any portion thereof, pursuant to Section 5002.2, or to any subsequent project approved for the “Freeman Property,” or any portion thereof.

(c) The acquisition of the “Freeman Property” by the department is subject to all of the following conditions:

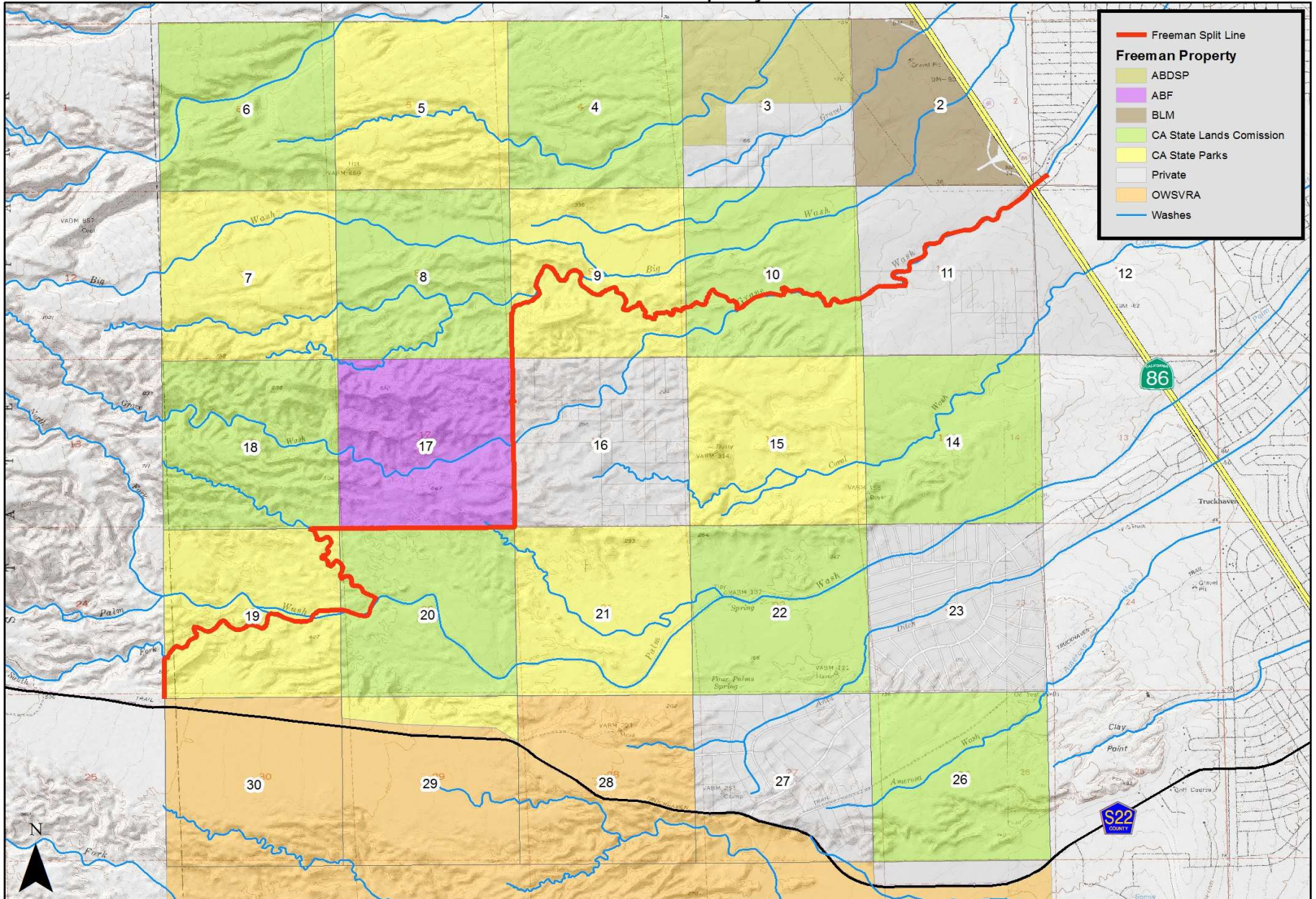
(1) The boundary between the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park and the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area shall be in substantial conformance to the dividing line among Sections 8, 9, 10, 11, 19, and 20, of Township 10 South, Range 09 East, S.B.B.M., as identified on the map.

(2) Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, and 20, of Township 10 South, Range 09 East, S.B.B.M., as identified on the map above the dividing line, shall be annexed to the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park upon completion of transfer of title to the department.

(3) Sections 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, of Township 10 South, Range 09 East, S.B.B.M., as identified on the map below the dividing line, shall be annexed to the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area upon completion of transfer of title to the department.

(d) The following map describes the “Freeman Property.”

Freeman Property



Freeman Split Line
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Freeman Property

- ABDSP
- ABF
- BLM
- CA State Lands Comission
- CA State Parks
- Private
- OWSVRA
- Washes