



Community Profile

Purpose

The community profile is a summary of the social, cultural, economic, and historic dimensions of the North Desert Communities. It presents data collected through secondary sources to inform future actions. The profile, with information gathered from general sources, highlights essential facets and “tells the story” of the North Desert Communities of Red Mountain, Kramer Junction, Hinkley, Hodges, Lenwood and Barstow Heights.

History

Early 1900s: Railroad junction created in Kramer Junction to support the mines in the area

1960s-1980s: Contaminated water in Hinkley catches the attention of Erin Brockovich



Many of the High Desert Communities have historical roots as Mining Towns. Red Mountain was established as Osdick in 1919 due to the silver deposits in the area. Kramer Junction, sprang up due to its unique location and acted as a transportation hub, and there was also gold deposits in the area. Hinkley is recognized for its historical environmental justice issues from the 1960s-80s which was depicted in the 2000 movie “Erin Brockovich”.

Location & Geography

The North Desert Communities are located within the northwest section of the County. Red Mountain is located on the border of Kern and San Bernardino County approximately 32 miles south/southwest of Trona. Kramer Junction is located around the intersection of Highway 395 and Route 58. Hinkley is located along Route 58 approximately 14 miles northwest of Barstow.

Source(s): Google Maps

Existing Land Use

The Land Use Zoning Designation in these areas is primarily Resource Conservation (RC) and Rural Living (RL), with some commercial designations located around the major transportation corridors in Kramer Junction, Hinkley and Red Mountain. Some of the area is federally owned land of which the County has no jurisdiction over.

