Mojave National Preserve, California
Identifying Abandoned Materials Using Unmanned Aerial Systems

April 2-4, 2013

During the 1920’s and 1930’s homesteading in the Lanfair Valley was the primary land use. Drought and hardship during the 1930’s triggered a reverse migration of homesteaders.

The pilot study prototypes the methodologies for an aerial search for abandoned materials, many of which are considered solid waste.

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The Department of the Interior – U.S. Geological Survey and The National Park Service, in coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration, performed Unmanned Aerial Surveys as a proof-of-concept operation for detection of foreign materials within the National Preserve. For more information: http://uas.usgs.gov