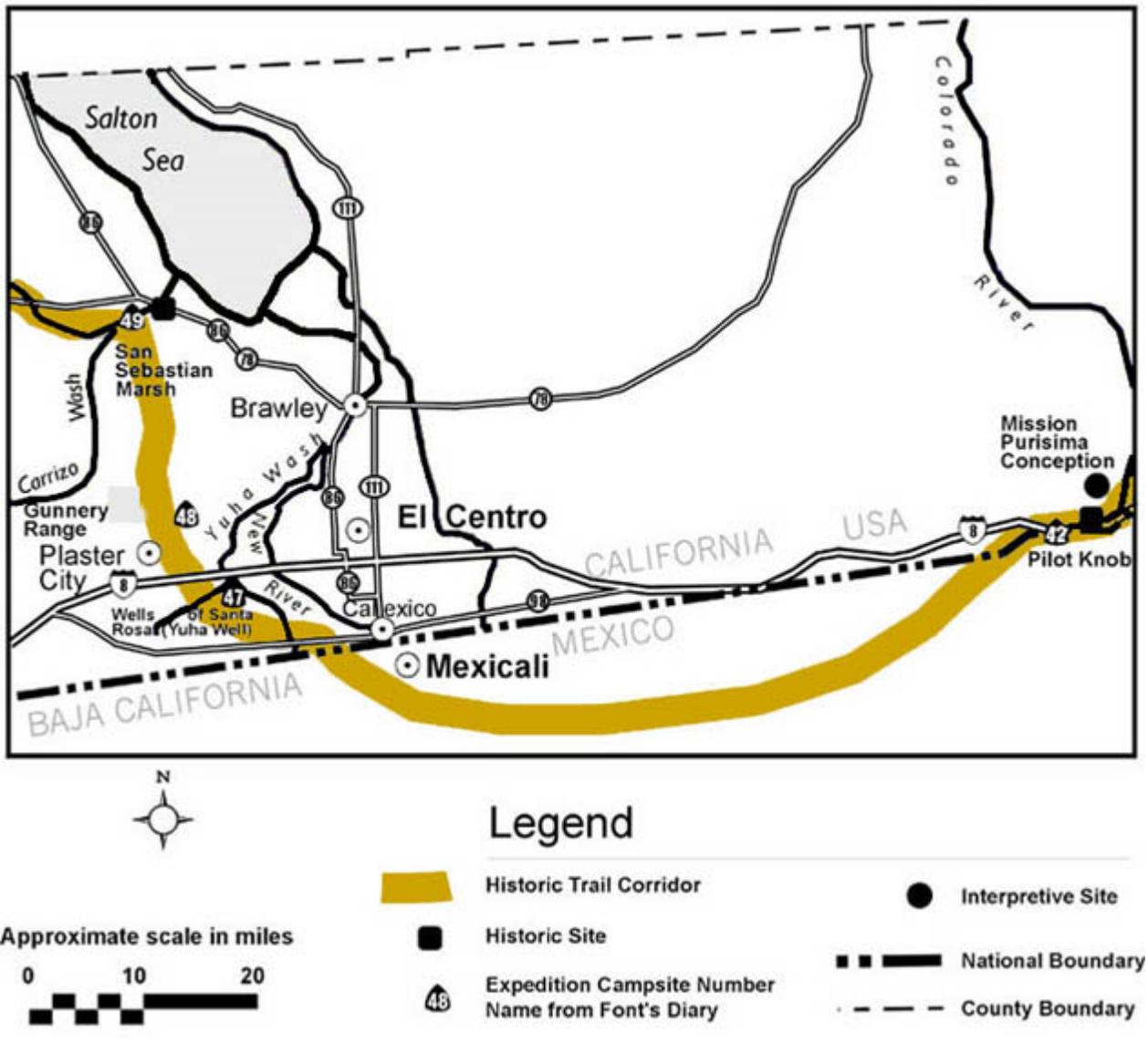


## California - Imperial County



**Historic Route.** The location of the crossing of the Colorado River and the subsequent route of the expedition down the river is not accurately defined because of changes in the river channel over the past 200 years. The Anza party did generally follow the Colorado River south into what is now Mexico. The expedition remained south of the present border for several days before crossing back into the U.S. today southwest of El Centro. The route then continues north through BLM and Navy administered lands for about 35 miles to San Sebastian Marsh, then turns west, following San Felipe Creek into San Diego County.

### Federal Components

Camp #42, Pilot Knob (BLM)

Camp # 47, Yuha Well (BLM)

Camp #49, San Sebastian Marsh/San Felipe Creek (BLM)

### **High Potential Route Segments**

BLM proposes to mark the Anza Trail on or parallel to the historic corridor; diversions from the historic route avoid areas of military activity (El Centro Naval Air Facility) and private lands.

### **Interpretive Sites**

Site of Mission Purísima Concepcion

Anza Monument Overlook (BLM)

Camp # 48, north of Plaster City

### **Recreational Trail**

The portion of eastern Imperial County traversed by the Anza group is a mixture of American Indian reservation and private lands in intensive agricultural use. Because of these land uses, and the extended portion of the route below the border, recreational trail continuity between Yuma and the route's reentry into the U.S. would require an international agreement or the use of a route removed from the historic alignment. During the Bicentennial reenactment, the service roads of the All American Canal were used between the Yuma vicinity and El Centro. This canal, and others in the area, may offer a potential for an off-highway recreational route.

Should an international trail become a reality, the historic route can be retraced more accurately.

### **Auto Route (marked)**

Interstate 8 to State 98 roughly parallels the historic route from Yuma through Calexico to Mt. Signal and the intersection with the Anza Trail in the Yuha area. State Highway 86 could be followed north although it is several miles east of the historic corridor. As 86 turns west and joins State Highway 78, it again approximates the historic route.

Approved routes of travel provide 4-wheel drive vehicle access across several segments of the historic corridor on BLM land.

### **Agency/Organization Coordination**

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

City of El Centro

El Centro Naval Air Facility

Fort Yuma Quechan Tribal Council

Imperial County

- Planning Department
  - Parks & Recreation Department
- State of California
- Caltrans
  - Department of Fish and Game
  - Native American Heritage Commission
  - Office of Historic Preservation
  - Office of Tourism
- US Fish and Wildlife Service

US Gypsum Corporation

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