



desert conservation PROGRAM

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Quarterly Administrator Update

April through June, 2011





Desert Conservation Program Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Quarterly Administrator Update

July 2011

Contract & Interlocal Agreement Management

- Awarded contract to Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) for Desert Tortoise Fencing Installation and Maintenance, Project 804A
- Amendment to contract with Pinyon Environmental to add two additional butterfly survey areas, Project 570C
- Awarded contract to City of Boulder City (CBC) for Law Enforcement on the Boulder City Conservation Easement (BCCE), Project 910A
- Entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for Virgin River Cadastral Survey work, Project 805H

Project Management

The Program currently shows an approximate dashboard of:

Project Status	# of Projects
Green	28
Yellow	1
Red	0

Four metrics are tracked: 1) budget, 2) schedule, 3) scope, and 4) quality. Green indicates that the project is currently within accepted tolerances for each metric. Yellow signifies there may be or is a problem, but is recoverable. Red signifies that a problem exists that requires immediate attention. For more information on our projects, please visit our website at:

<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/dcp/Pages/CurrentProjects.aspx>

Other Administrative Accomplishments

- Processed 82 invoices: 68 were accepted (83%), 14 were rejected (17%)
- The Desert Conservation Program (DCP) Fiscal Year (FY) 12 budget was accepted by County.
- Established a new cost center for enhanced tracking of budgets.
- Continued preparation of FY11 Schedule of Expenditures of Financial Awards (SEFA) documentation for County Comptroller.



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- Prepared response to Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) staff for project status and barriers to implementation in preparation for the June SNPLMA Executive Committee meeting.
- Participated in Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) presentation to the June SNPLMA Executive Committee meeting.
- Prepared response to proposed modifications to SNPLMA Implementation Agreement submitted to SNPLMA Executive Committee.
- Requested SNPLMA reconsider both Round 12 project submittals and subsequently both were accepted by the SNPLMA Executive Committee who will recommend approval by the Secretary of the Interior.
- Received approval by SNPLMA of indirect cost reimbursement model.
- Received reimbursement for 11 SNPLMA Round 6 projects for a total of \$254,930, and two Round 8 projects for a total of \$36,745.
- Status of SNPLMA change requests:
 - GBBO 581 Developing Habitat Models and Monitoring: request for time extension was approved and we are awaiting revised cooperative agreement.
 - CC 1012 Desert Tortoise Monitoring: SNPLMA denied our submission of a request for a change of scope and reduction of dollar amount. Further information will be submitted regarding technical review by United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).
- Completed and de-obligated the following SNPLMA Round 6 projects:
 - NPS 537 Interagency Weed Sentry
 - TNC 572 Effectiveness Monitoring for Salt Cedar
 - UNR 576 Movements and Barriers to Movement for Desert Tortoise
 - USGS 582 Population Status and Reproductive Ecology of Western Burrowing Owl
 - UNR/USFWS 585 Desert Tortoise Monitoring
 - NTU 602 Impact of Stress on Upper Respiratory Tract Disease
- Previously completed and currently awaiting de-obligation on the following SNPLMA Round 6 projects:
 - NPS 526 Monitoring of Illegal Ground Disturbance
 - NPS 529 Monitoring Road Conditions and Signs
 - NPS 535 Inventory, Research and Monitoring for Covered Plant Species
 - UNLV 575 Connectivity of Leopard Frog Populations
 - UNLV 597 Habitat Manipulations for Relict Leopard Frog
- Conducted closeout site visits of the following SNPLMA Round 6 projects. Final completion and de-obligation are currently in process:
 - CC 497 Rare Plant Inventories
 - NSHE 502 Sediment Transport Study for White Margined Penstemon
 - NPS 542 Historical & Current Assessment of 6 Covered and 3 Evaluation Bird Species



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- USGS 580 Long Term Conservation Strategy for Palmer’s Chipmunk in Spring Mountains National Recreation Area
- Preparing closeout packets for the following SNPLMA Round 6 projects:
 - NPS 476 Relict Leopard Frog Monitoring and Management
 - NPS 549 Peregrine Falcon Monitoring in Clark County
 - PIC 577 Volunteer Support for BLM Roads Monitoring
- Submitted SNPLMA FY11 project status and financial projections reporting for quarters 2 and 3.
- Continued design process for desert tortoise specialty license plate (13th on the Department of Motor Vehicle waiting list).

Document Reviews & External Agency Coordination

- Received peer review comments on final report for UNR 578 Ecosystem Indicators.
- Provided comment letter on the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Draft Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.
- Provided comment letter on the TransWest Express Transmission Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Acquisition & Management of Acquired Easements, Property, Grazing Rights & Water Rights

- Completed creation of fire breaks and non-native tree removal on the Alamo property borders on the Clark County Muddy River Reserve (CCMRR) parcels A and B.
- Worked with Moapa Valley Water District to get a 2” water meter on the Alamo property disconnected, which resulted in a savings of \$115 per month.
- Worked with Moapa Valley Water District to get an exemption from installation of a backflow valve on the Alamo property, which resulted in a savings of \$1,500.
- Completed creation of fire breaks on Henrie property CCMRR parcels G, H and I.
- Issued purchase order for installation of a timer which controls the water pump that is used to maintain the level of water in the pond on the Perkin’s property.
- Maintained and managed the properties with regular weekly tasks.
- Managed the contract for maintenance work on all CCMRR properties.
- Received 21 acre parcel previously managed by Clark County Public Works on the Virgin River Reserve. The parcel includes riparian habitat, river frontage, and documented Southwest willow flycatcher sightings.



Boulder City Conservation Easement (BCCE)

- Finalized signage locations using GPS along the BCCE border south of the dry lake bed.
- Attended several coordination meetings for Southern California Edison's Eldorado to Ivanpah Transmission Project that crosses the BCCE.
- Presented proposed finalize roads to City of Boulder City and National Park Service (NPS).
- Sent letter to NV Energy, Inc. requesting copies of the BLM environmental impact statement for the new right-of-way in the BCCE.

BCCE Law Enforcement Statistics for April – June 2011:

Patrol Hours	440
Patrol Miles	6,436
Contacts	100
Warnings Given	0
Citations Issued	0

Wild Desert Tortoise Assistance Line

- The line logged 31 calls.
- Eight wild tortoises were collected and transferred to the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center (DTCC).
- There were no non-desert tortoises picked up and taken to the DTCC.

Public Information and Education (PIE)

- Mojave Max Education Program – Announced the winner of the 2011 Mojave Max emergence contest - Abigail Lemus, third grader at Elaine Wynn Elementary School on April 14, 2011. Held winner's field trip with winner and her class on May 5, 2011 at Red Rock National Conservation Area with pizza party held at Red Spring Conservation Area. Developed new Mojave Max products (plush toy, t-shirts, socks, hat and pens) to be sold at the Red Rock National Conservation Area Visitor's Center with 100% of the proceeds contributed to the Mojave Max Education Program.
- Mass Media Campaign – Completed "Stay on the Trails" print advertising campaigns with BLVDS magazine, Nevada Public Radio (print and radio advertisements) and the Las Vegas Review Journal (LVRJ). Advertisements were placed in the Business Press, LVRJ Sports Page, Mesquite Local News and El Tiempo publications.



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- Pet/Wild Tortoise Campaign – Completed print advertising campaigns in the following LVRJ publications: The Views, Boulder City Review, Mesquite Local News, El Tiempo and CERCA (travel) publications.
- Contractors/Developers Outreach Effort – Contracted work with Joshua Tree Productions, Inc. on collection of videos and photos for Desert Tortoise Construction Worker Training courses.

Desert Tortoise Fencing

- New contract with Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) for fencing installation and maintenance (Project 804A) was awarded; NDF will provide fence installation, maintenance and data collection of fencing on public and private lands within Clark County for future DCP projects.

Financial

- Due to fiscal year end processing, there are no quarterly financial reports for this reporting period.

Land Disturbance and Mitigation Fees

- See attached summary

Adaptive Management Program (AMP)

- Finalized the agenda for the August 17, 2011 Annual Project Symposium. The agenda may be viewed on our website: <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/dcp/Pages/Symposium.aspx>
- Continued refinement of the Desert Tortoise occupancy monitoring protocol for the BCCE with Science Advisor. Science Advisor engaged the services of Dr. Darryl I. MacKenzie to review and refine the statistical analyses proposed in this protocol.
- Met with BLM, Science Advisor and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to discuss BLM's recent updates to the regional rare plant habitat models. The new iteration of these models will be used for current MSHCP, reviews of proposed disturbances to MSHCP reserve areas, and the MSHCP amendment analyses.
- Updated structure and contents of the DCP Reports webpage: <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/depts/dcp/Pages/DCPReports.aspx>
- Amended Science Advisor contract to remove 2012 Adaptive Management Report (AMR) due to slowdown in development and lack of compelling new data. Will continue to receive science advice on an ongoing and as needed special projects basis. See the latest Science Advisor quarterly report for recent activities: <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/dcp/Pages/CurrentProjects.aspx>



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Permit Amendment

- Continued to prepare draft Amended MSHCP; preparing drafts of Chapter 6, Plan Implementation; Chapter 7, Implementation Costs and Funding Sources.
- Continued process development for centralized fee collection of tortoise fees for permit amendment.
- Received comments on Chapter 4 (Conservation Strategy) of the MSHCP from the USFWS; consultant delivered chapters 5-7 of the EIS.
- Received comments from Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) and BLM on Chapter 4 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); received comments on Chapters 4 & 5 of the draft Amended MSHCP from NDOW and BLM.
- Continued developing Species Handling Workshop in conjunction with USFWS.
- Continued developing Desert Tortoise Construction Worker Training class.
- Continue to coordinate permit amendment progress with Permittees on a monthly basis.
- Continue meetings with BLM and USFWS to discuss permit amendment and related issues, including a proposed Reserve System; developed draft Cooperative Management Agreement for management of the proposed Reserve System and provided to BLM and USFWS for comment.
- Completed economic analysis of proposed conservation strategy.
- Prepared for July 14, 2011 Community Advisory Committee meeting to review draft Amended MSHCP and the results of financial analysis.
- Received feedback from the USFWS Region 9 Migratory Bird Office on the draft minimization package for burrowing owl; working to review and provide response back to USFWS.

LAND DISTURBANCE - TORTOISE MITIGATION ACREAGE/FEEES REPORT

1/12/2012

	CC-Civil	CC-Dev Svcs	Boulder City	Henderson	Las Vegas	Mesquite	NDOT	NLV	Yr Totals
2001 Acres	152.70	3,171.52	36.18	1,030.84	1,064.33	89.49	6.85	740.55	6,292.46
2001 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2001 Fees	\$84,041.60	\$1,727,378.56	\$19,919.00	\$566,948.47	\$585,436.00	\$28,543.66	\$3,767.50	\$402,055.50	\$3,418,090.29
2002 Acres	251.95	3,296.95	19.68	1,299.75	1,848.38	162.51	11.40	1,584.96	8,475.58
2002 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2002 Fees	\$137,603.40	\$1,802,376.26	\$10,824.00	\$709,254.00	\$1,013,806.15	\$89,382.00	\$6,270.00	\$871,757.00	\$4,641,272.81
2003 Acres	382.62	3,374.55	17.63	1,391.89	1,492.50	364.17	4.12	2,105.20	9,132.68
2003 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.94	0.00	0.00	2.75	11.69
2003 Fees	\$209,642.75	\$1,855,402.45	\$8,944.50	\$774,022.15	\$710,889.83	\$171,940.68	\$2,266.00	\$1,157,870.50	\$4,890,978.86
2004 Acres	412.01	4,062.93	9.81	1,856.55	1,621.89	518.21	0.00	2,039.21	10,520.61
2004 Exempt	0.00	0.00	1,644.95	0.00	110.97	13.41	0.00	8.28	1,777.61
2004 Fees	\$225,165.31	\$2,239,261.90	\$5,381.50	\$1,005,598.05	\$891,828.23	\$265,492.00	\$0.00	\$1,121,631.05	\$5,754,358.04
2005 Acres	243.27	4,339.36	12.36	1,995.51	1,175.01	408.62	46.80	1,498.52	9,719.45
2005 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.65	0.00	0.00	13.65
2005 Fees	\$127,892.06	\$2,392,014.00	\$6,798.50	\$959,898.90	\$636,019.43	\$198,824.62	\$25,740.00	\$824,191.50	\$5,171,379.01
2006 Acres	105.41	3,365.42	530.50	3,831.64	1,157.47	1,244.43	0.00	739.65	10,974.52
2006 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.26	37.34	0.00	0.00	108.60
2006 Fees	\$54,970.45	\$1,851,016.68	\$291,643.50	\$2,092,211.09	\$636,955.65	\$680,664.35	\$0.00	\$406,807.00	\$6,014,268.72
2007 Acres	107.63	2,275.45	32.11	798.60	664.51	395.72	0.00	435.20	4,709.22
2007 Exempt	0.00	115.84	0.00	89.77	2.16	27.93	0.00	0.00	235.70
2007 Fees	\$58,373.80	\$1,251,497.50	\$17,661.00	\$439,047.95	\$365,470.08	\$191,207.00	\$0.00	\$219,627.65	\$2,542,884.98
2008 Acres	27.75	949.71	34.10	847.39	218.83	148.26	0.00	390.10	2,616.14
2008 Exempt	0.00	193.66	0.00	19.30	23.75	41.19	0.00	0.00	277.90
2008 Fees	\$15,269.95	\$521,653.88	\$18,756.50	\$473,711.70	\$120,356.50	\$74,585.50	\$0.00	\$214,553.35	\$1,438,887.38
2009 Acres	5.64	173.33	419.54	57.81	72.53	28.82	43.70	17.85	819.22
2009 Exempt	0.00	18.50	28.23	41.19	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	88.62
2009 Fees	\$3,102.00	\$95,331.50	\$230,747.00	\$31,795.50	\$39,291.50	\$15,851.00	\$24,035.00	\$9,817.50	\$449,971.00
2010 Acres	1.02	397.06	0.00	84.88	46.82	1.85	0.00	101.31	632.94
2010 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2010 Fees	\$561.00	\$218,383.00	\$0.00	\$46,557.50	\$25,751.00	\$1,017.50	\$0.00	\$55,720.00	\$347,990.00
2011 Acres	1.20	300.49	3.15	24.11	37.59	2.53	0.00	266.69	635.76
2011 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2011 Fees	\$660.00	\$165,269.50	\$1,732.50	\$13,260.50	\$20,674.50	\$1,391.50	\$0.00	\$146,679.50	\$349,668.00

Total acres disturbed to date=	64,528.58
Total fee Exempt acres disturbed to date (reconciled)=	2,513.77 **
Total fees collected to date=	\$35,019,749.09

**15,000 acres is exempt from the \$550 per acre mitigation fee for government use.

Number of acres allowed for disturbance under current multiple species permit	145,000.00
Less number of acres reported for which fees have been paid under current permit	64,528.58
Less number of fee exempt acres under current permit **	15,000.00 **
Number of disturbable acres remaining under current permit	65,471.42

** Note: Clark County Department of Internal Audit is currently conducting an audit of the exempt acreage and as a result, fee exempt acres is subject to change. Amount shown (15,000) is the maximum number of fee exempt acres allowed under the current permit.