

Agency/Organization:

Southern Utah University

Project Name:

Edaphic Components of Las Vegas Bearpoppy Habitat

Project Number:

2023-SUU-2380A

Reporting Period:

January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024

Project Contact Name and Information:

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QUESTION 1:**What did you accomplish during this reporting period?**

- We completed the following this period: 1) Completed work and data management plans; 2) Secured the necessary research permits to carry out spring field work; 3) Tested and refined our sampling methodology and finalized our field data sheet; 4) Completed field crew training; 5) Began spring field work at Lake Mead.

How did these accomplishments help you reach the goal of your project?

- Each of these accomplishments furthered our project goals as laid out in the SOW document. The work and data management plans were essential to organizing and streamlining the project and will be extremely useful for the duration of the project. We would not have been able to proceed with the project without the necessary permits, so that step was essential to accomplishing our project goals. Refining our field methods will enable our crews to be more effective in collecting and processing the soil and tissue samples, and data.

If relevant, what indicators or benchmarks were used to determine your progress?**QUESTION 2:****What, if any, problems were encountered? Briefly describe those problems and the manner in which they were dealt.**

- Obtaining research permits required significantly more time/labor than was expected. This varied from agency to agency, but overall, it was incredibly cumbersome to obtain the permits. The main hurdle with securing the permits was the species status of the California bear poppy, as a candidate for endangered species listing, as well as a Nevada Division of Natural Heritage sensitive plant species. Fortunately, we only had to go through this process one time, so there will not be additional issues with securing permits throughout the remainder of the project.

QUESTION 3:

What, if any, proposed activities were not completed? Briefly describe those activities, the reasons they were not completed and your plans for carrying them out.

- All planned activities were completed, though we had to get two additional deadline extensions on the "Permits" deliverable (D04).

QUESTION 4:

What is the calculated percent of work completed?

- 5/17 deliverables completed, including D04 (Permits) and D05 (current Quarterly Report) which are both presently being completed, equals 29.4% work completed.

QUESTION 5:

Do you foresee any upcoming problems with future project activities? If so, how do you propose to overcome those problems?

- The only issue we currently foresee as potentially problematic is locating live poppies to take leaf samples from at each site. If this is the case, outside of revisiting the study sites in subsequent seasons, there isn't a solution to this problem (as noted in our work plan). This is inconvenient for our project, but it is not unusual or necessarily alarming that the poppies aren't present in all previously known occupied habitat, given the timeframe of the last major poppy recruitment event. We don't currently know if this will be an issue, but there is that possibility.

QUESTION 6:

Is there anything else you want to tell the DCP about this project?

- Nothing specifically. Outside of the permitting issues discussed previously, everything is proceeding smoothly and according to the plan.

QUESTION 7:

What was produced during the reporting period?

1. Work Plan
2. Data Management Plan
3. Field data sheet
4. Sampling frame (built)
5. Various maps (mostly to fulfill agency requirements for permitting)