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Update on the Permit Amendment Process

August 11, 2009

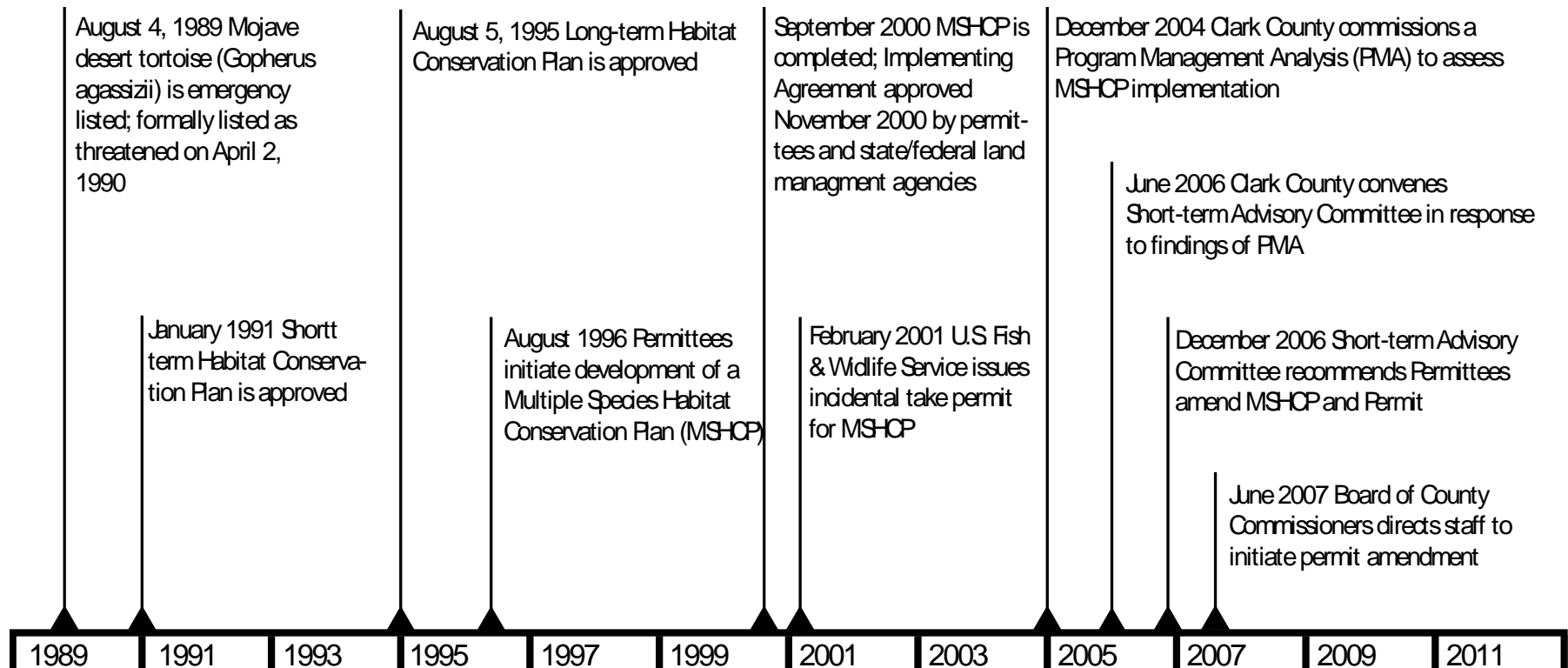




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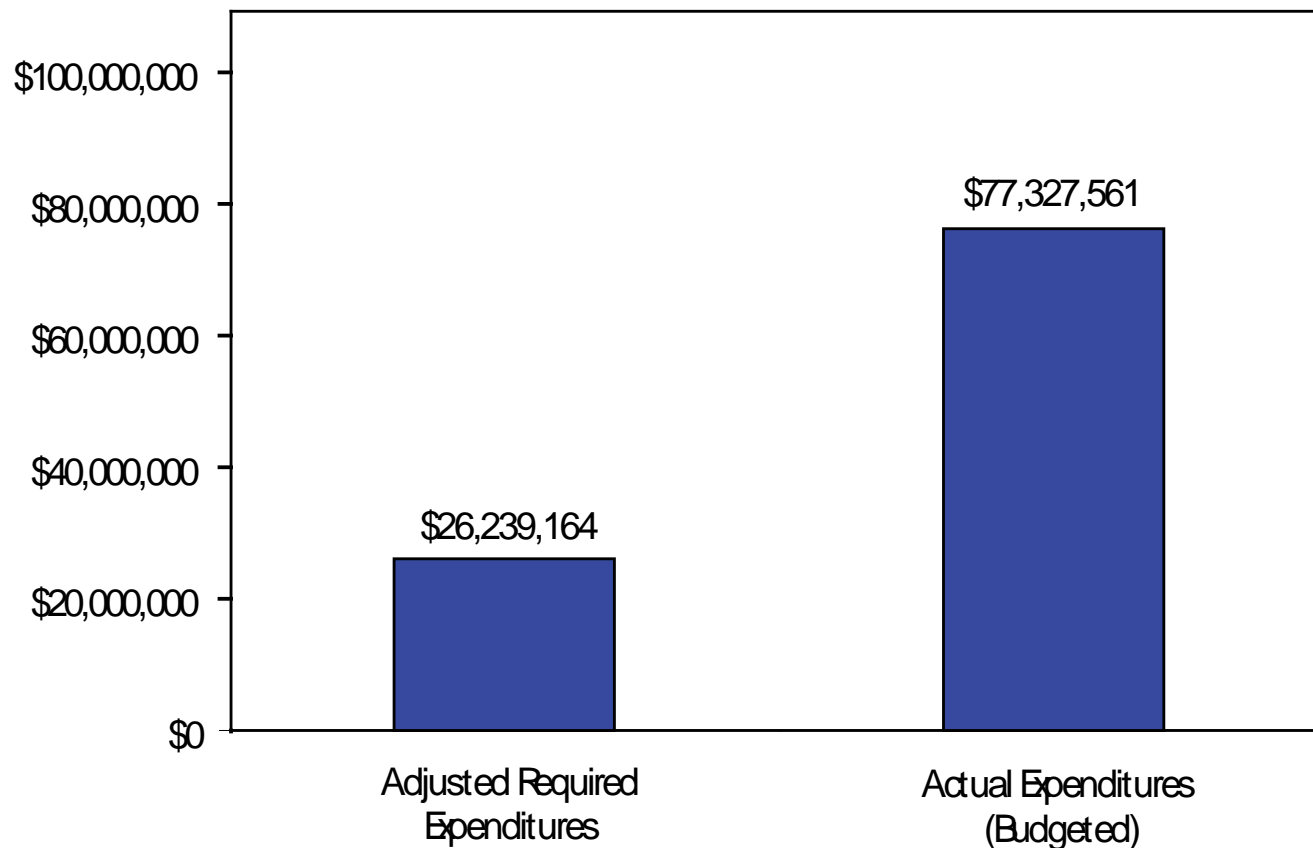
History





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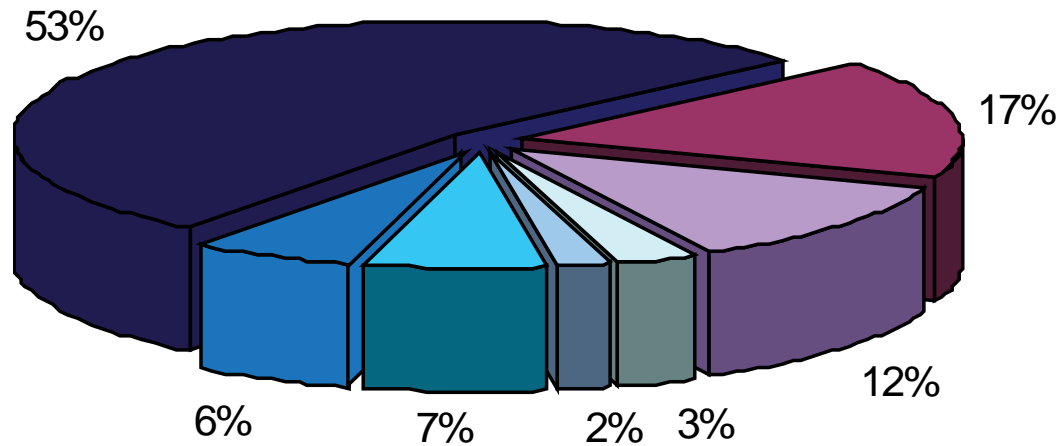
Required vs. Actual Expenditures



53% SNPLMA
47% Section 10



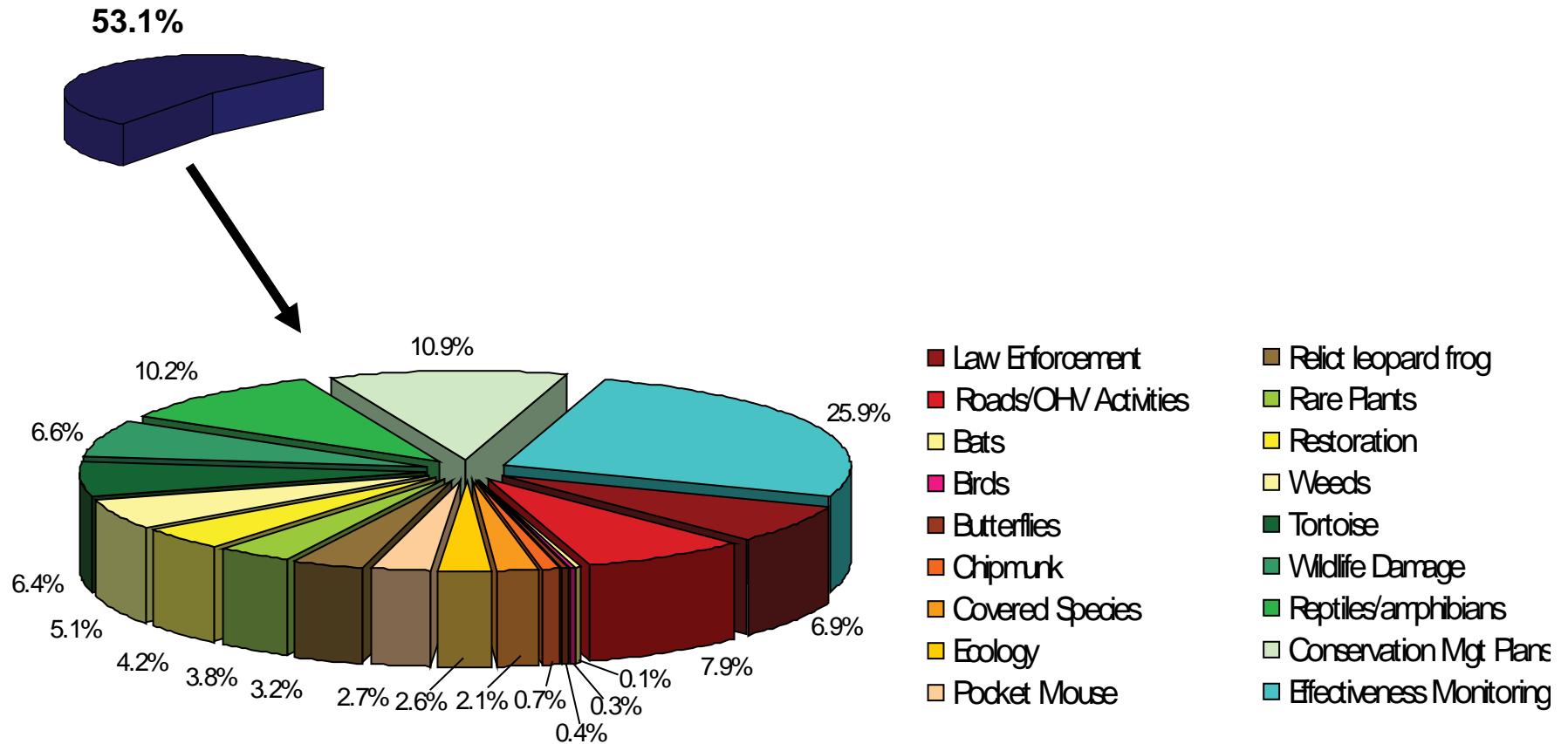
Funding By Category



- Administration
- Public Information and Education
- Purchase and Maintenance of Grazing Allotments and Water Rights
- Desert Tortoise Fencing
- Desert Tortoise Hotline, Pick-up and Translocation
- Restoration and Rehabilitation Projects
- Adaptive Management Program



Funding By Sub-Category





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Accomplishments

- **Since 1999, DCP has authorized 285 conservation projects totaling more than \$77 million**
- **Roughly equivalent to \$1,000 per acre disturbed**
- **Implemented 459 of the 604 conservation actions identified in the MSHCP**
- **Have initiated or completed all of the 22 conditions specifically identified in the permit (four of which are ongoing policies)**



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Accomplishments

- **Managed an 85,000-acre conservation easement in Eldorado Valley**
- **Constructed more than 300 miles of desert tortoise fencing (roughly 1.6 million linear feet) at a cost of more than \$5.9 million**
- **Transferred more than 10,000 desert tortoises to the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center and Holding Facility**
- **Translocated more than 4,000 desert tortoises to the Large-Scale Translocation Site in Ivanpah Valley**



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Accomplishments

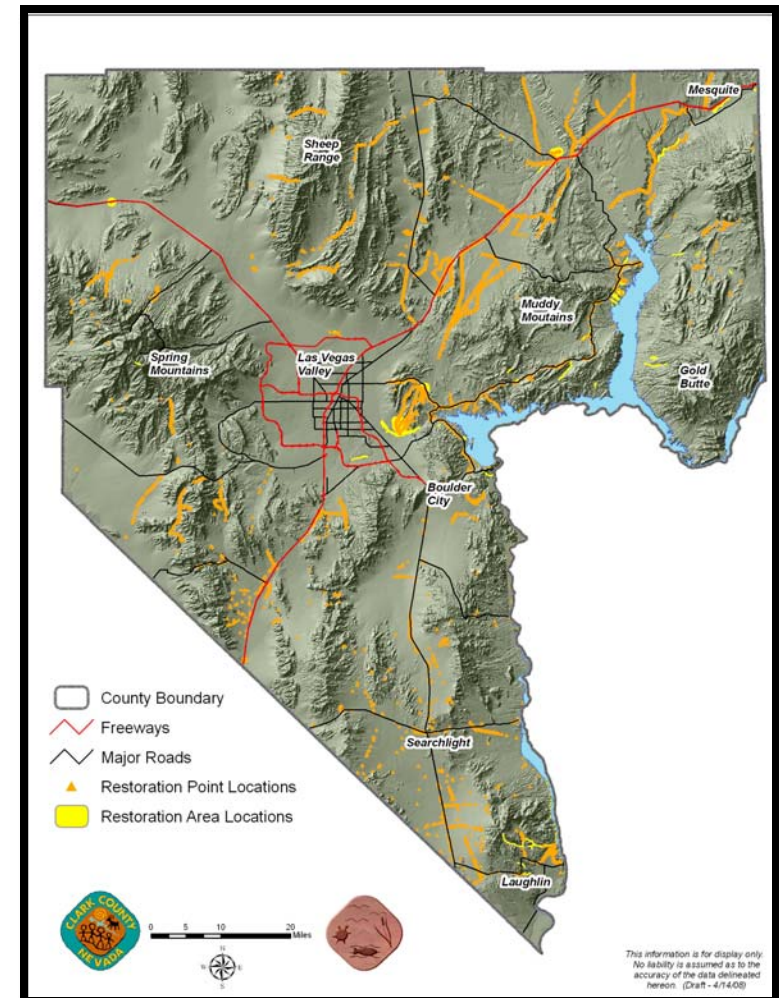
- **Retired more than 1.9 million acres of grazing allotments and associated water rights**
- **Spent more than \$6 million for law enforcement and resource protection on federal land**
 - **Roughly 30 FTEs (assuming \$200,000/year)**
- **Spent approximately \$3 million to survey, close and/or restore illegal OHV roads on federal land**
- **Purchased more than 100 acres of riparian habitat**



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Accomplishments

- Identification, assessment, restoration and monitoring of desert tortoise habitat
- Invasive plant management
- Habitat restoration along the Las Vegas Wash
- Habitat restoration and management of Knapweed and Tamarisk on the Muddy River





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Accomplishments

- **Received more than 36,200 entries for the Mojave Max Emergence Contest**
- **Presented to more than 10,000 Clark County School District students via Mojave Max assemblies**
- **Developed media and PSAs to educate broad community about the purpose and value of the program**
- **Participate in numerous regional community outreach and education programs and events**



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MSHCP Amendment



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Permit Amendment

On June 19, 2007, the Board of County Commissioners directed staff to initiate permit and plan amendment process based on:

- **A recommendation from the 2005 Southern Nevada Growth Task Force to address the acreage cap**
- **The 2006 DCP Advisory Committee recommendation to pursue permit amendment as a high priority**
- **Nationwide, large, regional, multi-party, MSHCPs are being reassessed**



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Permit Amendment

Permit Amendment Purpose.

1. Address acreage cap
2. Re-evaluate the list of covered species to refocus attention on those species most at risk and most directly impacted by take
3. Re-evaluate covered activities and overall conservation/ mitigation strategy
4. Re-evaluate structure and implementation of the permit and plan

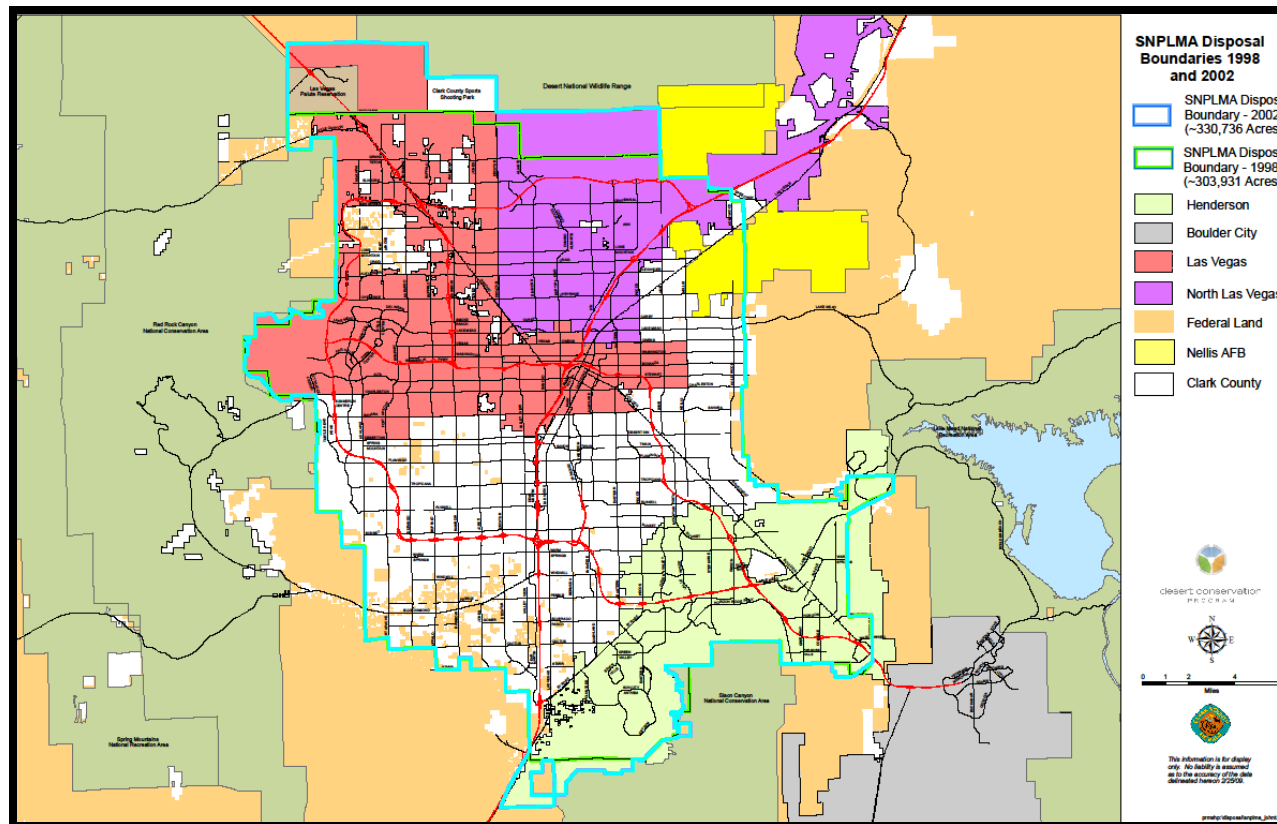




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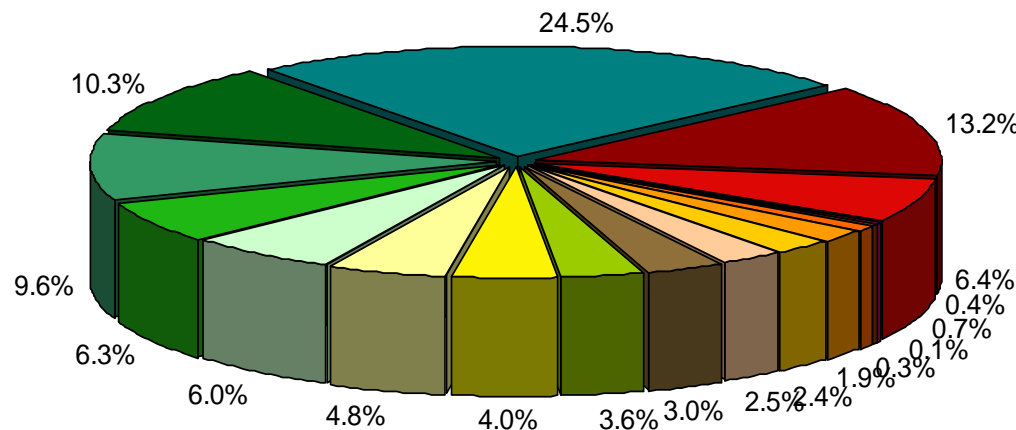
Permit Acreage Cap

There are approximately 215,000 acres of undeveloped land in Clark County that are not currently covered for take.





- Many at-risk species are short-changed as a result of the large number of species currently covered in the MSHCP
- Refocus mitigation on those species most at-risk

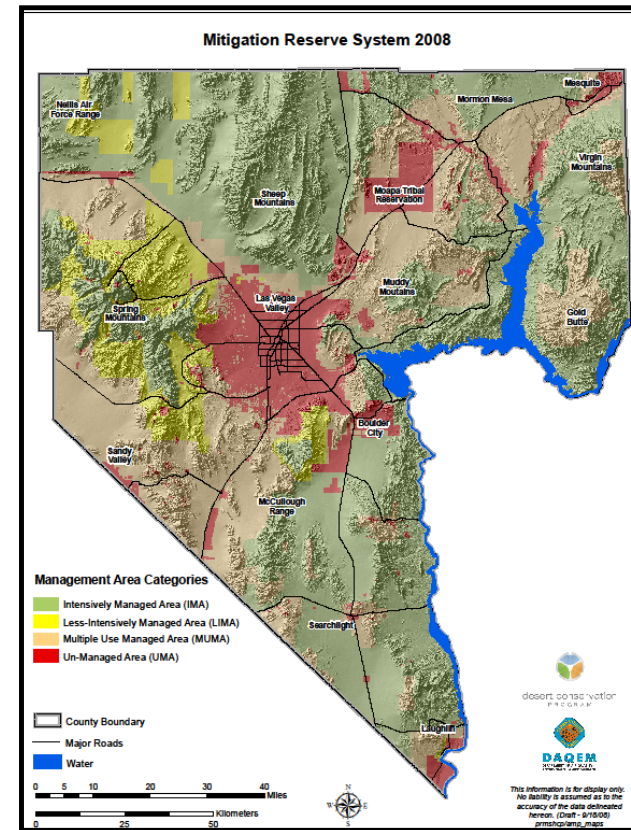




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Revise Conservation Strategy

- Review options for reducing permittees' dependence on federal land for mitigation
- Re-structure MSHCP to more closely mirror traditional HCPs
- Provide the permittees greater control over mitigation





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Permit Amendment

Who is involved?

- **Permittees (applicant)**
- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (regulator)**
- **Community Advisory Committee (stakeholders)**
- **Bureau of Land Management**
- **Consultants**
 - **Nicholson Facilitation & Associates, LLC (facilitation)**
 - **Ebbin, Moser + Skaggs, LLP (outside counsel)**
 - **PBS&J (biological/environmental analysis)**



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Advisory Committee

Stakeholder Groups

- Environmental (2)
- Developer/Homebuilder (2)
- Education (2)
- Gaming (1)
- Off-Highway Vehicle (1)
- Banking/Finance (1)
- Nevada Taxpayers Association (1)
- Business/Small Business (2)
- Rural community (1)
- Senior (1)
- Tribal representative (1)
- Union (1)
- Southern Nevada residents (5)



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Project Milestones

February 2009 – First CAC meeting

September 2009 – NEPA Scoping

May 2010 – Final CAC recommendations report

June 2010 – Draft MSHCP/EIS

January 2011 – Amended MSHCP and Incidental Take Permit



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Questions?