

AGENCY: United States Forest Service

BUDGET ITEM: Species Protection-Law Enforcement - *Final Report*

BUDGET BREAKDOWN: Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) \$200,630

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES: District paid LEO for working Holidays and scheduled overtime; estimated funding is \$5,000. District paid for satellite phone due to poor radio coverage, estimated cost \$1,000.



(From Left to right, trash dumped in Lovell wash, Illegal cutting of live trees on Lovell trout summit)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: For the two years of this contract the LEO has covered the west side of the SMNRA. The LEO has made over 10,758 public contacts during these two years. The LEO has driven over 67,000 miles to accomplish the goals and objectives set forth in the MSHCP agreement. The LEO has issued 256 warnings for resource based violations and issued 84 violation notices for non compliance of rules and regulations. The warnings and violations consisted of illegal fuel wood cutting, driving off-road, damaging natural resources, cutting or damaging trees, illegal campfires, litter, dumping of household waste, blocking or restricting a roadway, driving in a careless/reckless manner, driving without a license, underage drinking. 90 percent of the violations are resourced based and the 10 percent of non resource based still have an impact on the natural resources. The majority of the non-resource based violations came from investigating resourced based violations.

It is the Leo's belief that the more presence and contacts made with the users of the SMNRA are key to promoting the uniqueness of the SMNRA and how to enjoy without damaging this unique area.

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CD by Sanja Kokas*



(From left to right, 20 plus live trees cut down to make this illegal structure in CC springs, stolen vehicle driven approx ½ mile across undisturbed ground and dumped off of Lovell wash)

The LEO has made several large group contacts that have stressed the importance of the SMNRA and the unique features and opportunities that the SMNRA has to offer. Some of the groups are Spring Mountain Free Trappers, Pahrump/Las Vegas Boy Scouts, Las Vegas/Henderson/Pahrump Father-Son campouts, Iron Cross motorcycle group, UNLV astronomy class and miscellaneous user groups.



(From left to right, resource damage due to off road way travel in Clark Canyon. Oil runoff from illegal dumping oil pooled along tortoise fence on wheeler pass rd)



(From Left to right, day after large party in Clark canyon, violation of wood permit traveling off forest road in wheeler pass)

LEO Bi-weekly reports are attached which will show how time was spent and what function it was under.

EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The west side of SMNRA as seen the number of Forest users increase do to the population increase in the surrounding areas (Pahrump, Las Vegas). It is imperative to continue Law Enforcement coverage on the West side. Law Enforcement is a continuing project that uses Education, Prevention and Enforcement to increase public awareness and compliance in preserving the unique features and recreational experience. This project enabled the Forest Service to manage bio diversity hot spots that otherwise would have little to no Law Enforcement coverage.



Public Contacts made in Willow Creek to inform public of Spring Snail and the effects of driving through water way.