



desert conservation
PROGRAM

Date: March 29, 2012

TO: DISTRIBUTION

RE: DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION NOTIFICATION:
BUTTERFLY MONITORING AND INVENTORIES
2005-PINYON—570C

The work for the above referenced project has been completed. Please see the attached for all project related information.

The purpose of the above referenced project was:

To develop and implement a strategy to estimate butterfly relative abundance for the Mt. Charleston Blue butterfly (*Plebejus [Icaricia] shasta charlestonensis*) and the Spring Mountains Checkerspot (*Chlosyne acastus robusta*) at specific sites over a two year period and identify and map potential butterfly habitat within target areas. The population monitoring and habitat mapping will contribute to understanding of the range, distribution, and temporal changes associated with these rare endemic butterfly species.

The major accomplishment or findings of this project include:

Surveys for the Spring Mountains Checkerspot and the Mt. Charleston Blue butterfly were completed for 2010 and 2011 field season. Species reports were submitted. For the Mt. Charleston Blue butterfly, between 2010 and 2011, there was an observed decrease in numbers and in the occupied habitat area. For the Spring Mountains Checkerspot in 2010, only two adult Checkerspot were observed during the survey. In 2011, the most Spring Mountains Checkerspot observed in one day/survey repetition was 13 on July 1. Numbers on the six other days/survey repetitions ranged from two to twelve.

Habitat assessments were performed for both the Spring Mountains Checkerspot and the Mt. Charleston Blue butterfly. The assessments identified additional habitat for the rare Spring Mountain butterflies, including Mt. Charleston Blue butterfly habitat and potential colonies that could be part of the South Loop Trail subpopulation.

For more information about this project and/or for other Project Reports or Symposium Reports, please visit our website at: <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/dcp/Pages/default.aspx>

respect, protect and enjoy our desert!

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Mata at (702) 455-3964.

Sincerely,



Marci D. Henson
Program Manager

cc:

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Board of County Commissioners (7)
Permittees' Executive Committee
Permittees' Process Management Group
John Hill, Purchasing
Catherine Jorgenson, District Attorney – Civil Division
Desert Conservation Program Community Advisory Committee
Desert Conservation Program Interested Parties List
Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Implementing Agencies
Science Advisor
SNPLMA Office (for SNPLMA projects)
Congressional Office
All Environmental Management Staff Distribution