



desert conservation
PROGRAM

March 31, 2011

TO: DISTRIBUTION

RE: DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION NOTIFICATION:
**Conceptual & Habitat Models of Six Covered
and Three Evaluation Bird Species
2005-NPS-609A**

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 provide habitat suitability models that predicts the occurrence of the targeted species across Clark County. This project is intended to identify critical components of suitable habitat of nine covered/evaluation bird species within Clark County – the southwestern willow flycatcher, blue grosbeak, phainopepla, summer tanager, vermilion flycatcher, Arizona Bell's vireo, Bendire's thrasher, Le Conte's thrasher, and gray vireo. The main efforts focus on developing predictive habitat suitability models and maps using environmental variables available in spatially explicit data layers. In addition, conceptual models have been developed depicting the relationship between each species, its habitat and stressors.

The major accomplishment or findings of this project include:

- Conceptual models, and spatially explicate habitat suitability models and maps were delivered for each of the nine bird species. The conceptual models used a 'traditional' approach to depict relationships between each species, its habitat, and potential stressors.
- The habitat suitability models (also known as species distribution models) and maps were generated using a maximum entropy approach in Maxent. Based on the conceptual models, available data layers were selected for modeling that best represented the important environmental features for each species.

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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/CurrentProjects.aspx>

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Mata, Project Manager 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

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