



Date of Issuance: June 8, 2022

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION SUMMARY:

DESERT TORTOISE RANGE-WIDE MONITORING

2015-GBI-1541B

The work for the above reference project has been completed. Below is a summary of project related information.

The purpose of the above referenced project was:

The purpose of this project was to conduct desert tortoise monitoring in the form of line distance sampling (LDS) in six Tortoise Conservation Areas (TCAs) located in the eastern Mojave Desert of southern Nevada and northwestern Arizona including: Piute Valley, Gold Butte, and Mormon Mesa.

The major accomplishments or findings of this project include:

Surveys were spread across 5 years and 6 different TCAs. The project located 510 tortoises and 346 carcasses while surveying 1,114 transects over the life of the project. Density estimates ranges from 1.3 tortoises/km² in Beaver Dam Slope in 2017 to 8.1 Tortoises/km² in Piute Valley in 2021 (table 1).

Four sites were surveyed for focal telemetry to help adjust density estimates based on the number of tortoises visible above ground. During the duration of all the surveys the telemetry crews recorded 2,410 observations at the Piute-mid site, 312 observations at the Coyote Springs site, 1990 observations at the Halfway Wash site, and 825 observations at the Gold Butte site.

For more information about this project and/or for other Project Reports or Symposium Reports, please visit our [website](#)

If you have any questions about this project please contact DCP Project Manager Scott Cambrin at (702) 455-3859.

