



desert conservation  
PROGRAM  
respect, protect and enjoy our desert!

## Quarterly Administrator Update

July 1 - December 31 2009

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## Desert Conservation Program Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Quarterly Administrator Update

December 2009

### Contract & Interlocal Agreement Management

- Awarded a contract to Partners in Conservation for monitoring Bureau of Land Management (BLM) roads and coordinating volunteer support for road designation, Project No. 577.
- Awarded an Interlocal Agreement to National Park Service to conduct threats research and monitoring on Sahara mustard, Project No. 532.
- Awarded an Interlocal Agreement to University of Nevada, Las Vegas for analysis of gypsum soils, Project No. 609F.
- Awarded a contract to Global 360 for application enhancement services, Project No. 711AN.
- Awarded a contract to Enduring Conservation Outcomes for science advice, Project No. 801A.
- Terminated an Interlocal Agreement with the University of North Texas to study the impact of nutritional stress on upper respiratory tract disease and immune function in desert tortoise, Project No. 602A.
- Awarded a contract to Tri-State Surveying through the Clark County Department of Real Property Management to provide a field survey of lands for potential expansion of the Boulder City Conservation Easement (BCCE).
- Amended a contract with PBS&J to decrease the hourly rate for the project manager, Project No. 1011B.
- Awarded an Interlocal Agreement to BLM for roads monitoring on BLM lands, Project No. 503.
- Awarded a contract to Pinyon Environmental for butterfly monitoring and inventories, Project No. 570C.

### Project Management

The Program currently shows an approximate dashboard of:

Project Status	# of Projects
Green	46
Yellow	8
Red	2

Four metrics are tracked: 1) budget, 2) schedule, 3) scope, and 4) quality. Green indicates that the project is currently within accepted tolerances for each metric. Yellow signifies there may be or is a problem, but



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is recoverable. Red signifies that a problem exists that requires immediate attention. For more information on our projects, please visit our website at:

<http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcpactiveprojects.aspx>

### **Other Administrative Accomplishments**

- Automated project progress reporting to the Global 360 application and began converting the invoice tracking log to the Global 360 application as well.
- Developed conceptual design for the amendment module for the Global 360 application.
- Recruited and hired to backfill an Administrative Specialist position to support project management and document management for the Program. Please help us welcome Shelli Schumer to the DCP's staff.
- Reviewed Environmental Assessment for the Clark County Shooting Park and provided comments to the BLM.
- Reviewed Goodsprings Trails Master Plan for impacts to the Large Scale Translocation Site and provided comments to the consulting team.
- Met with Nevada Division of Forestry on master permit for Las Vegas bearpoppy and its correlation to compliance activities for Nellis Air Force Base.
- Provided comments to the U.S. Forest Service on the Middle Kyle Canyon Complex Environmental Impact Statement.
- Completed and distributed the 2007-2009 Biennial Progress Report. To view the report, please visit:  
[http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Documents/DesertConservationProgram%20BienniumReportForThe2007-2009\\_Biennium.pdf](http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Documents/DesertConservationProgram%20BienniumReportForThe2007-2009_Biennium.pdf)

### **Boulder City Conservation Easement**

- Met with BLM regarding reserved rights corridor through the easement to clarify its status and ownership and coordinated with the City of Boulder City on this issue.
- Reviewed materials related to the proposed Eldorado-Ivanpah Energy corridor and provided comments.
- Completed four days of signage maintenance and repair on the 180+ signs on the easement.
- Provided 880 hours of law enforcement patrol on the easement through the City of Boulder City Municipal Police Department.
- Completed a Management Plan for the easement and transmitted the plan to the City of Boulder City. Staff has reviewed and assessed priorities for implementing actions recommended in the recently completed Management Plan the next step is to meet with the City on coordinating implementation actions.
- Completed review and documentation of the 58 rights-of-ways that occur on the easement.



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- Visited Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) pull sites with BLM and Fish and Wildlife Service to view damage from recent project and gained commitment from WAPA to restore damaged areas.
- Continued working with Clark County Department of Real Property Management on updated surveys of BCCE-expansion boundaries.

## Desert Tortoise Hotline and Pick up Service July 1 - December 31, 2009

Category	No. of Animals
Non-desert tortoise	26
Surrendered domestic desert tortoise	330
Stray domestic desert tortoise	194
Unknown origin desert tortoise	38
Wild desert tortoise	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>608</b>

## Domestic Desert Tortoise Task Force

- The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) met on September 22, 2009 and decided not to seat a task force regarding pet and stray desert tortoises. Instead, the BCC directed staff to cease efforts related to the pick up and care of pet and stray desert tortoises effective 12/31/09. Staff has finalized and implemented a transition plan and ended DCP pick-up of pet and stray tortoises in Clark County effective January 1, 2010. Staff has established an exclusionary boundary and pick up policy. Staff is working with Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, The Tortoise Group and San Diego Zoo to make the transition as smooth as possible. San Diego Zoo will take over pick-up and care responsibilities for pet tortoises moving forward.

## Public Information and Education

- Released a new Public Service Announcement on CCTV4 educating the public to not touch tortoises in the wild and to call the Hotline should they see a tortoise wandering in harm's way.
- Made final preparations for 2010 Mojave Max Emergence Contest and elementary school assemblies. Sent an invitation to Process Management Group and Community Advisory Committee.
- Lincoln County hired a Mojave Max coordinator through GBI to implement the program in Lincoln



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County beginning in 2010. Continuing to coordinate with Lincoln County, Nye County, Washington County Utah and Southern California representatives to support implementation of the Mojave Max Education Program in these areas.

- Continued Stay on the Trails ad campaigns with BLVDS magazine and KNPR Radio Station. Initiated purchase order for ad campaign with Las Vegas Review Journal which will include advertisements in Business Press, Las Vegas Review Journal Sports Page, Mesquite Local News and El Tiempo.
- Conducted media interviews on the amendment and pet tortoise issue with City Life, Las Vegas Sun, Las Vegas Review Journal and Henderson Home News.

### **Desert Tortoise Fencing**

- Retro-fit of fencing along Interstate 15 in the northwest part of Clark County is completed from approximately milemarker 66 to 98 on both sides of the highway (approximately 64 linear miles) under contract with Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF).
- Monitoring and Maintenance of Fencing – NDF completed north and south boundaries of the Large Scale Translocation Site and the south side of Nipton Road in October 2009.
- NDOT Interlocal Contract (Project 737) – NDOT submitted a letter to the county stating that they were foregoing the funding for this project and would explore other options for funding monitoring and maintenance of tortoise-proof fencing along NDOT right-of-ways in Clark County.

### **Land Disturbance & Mitigation Fees**

- See attached land disturbance and mitigation fee quarterly report.
- Met with Clark County Internal Audit to request an audit of acres exempted from fee collection under the MSHCP.

### **Adaptive Management Program**

- Hosted the 2010 MSHCP Project Progress Report Symposium at the US Geological Survey office in Henderson, NV. Presentations from 31 MSHCP projects and the agenda from the symposium can be found on our website:  
[http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcp\\_independent.aspx](http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcp_independent.aspx)
- Selected a new Science Advisor for the program - Enduring Conservation Outcomes. Staff have provided them all the data we had at that time. Science Advisor is preparing the 2010 Adaptive Management Report (AMR) for the MSHCP.



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- Requested data from each of the federal and state Implementing Agreement Agencies in order to update our MSHCP database and to provide new data to Science Advisor.
- Completing data entry into an Implementation Database that tracks accomplishments of funded projects (number of grazing rights acquired, number of acres restored, miles of fencing installed, etc.).
- Prepared land use and habitat loss trend reports in December and provided them to Science Advisor for their use in preparing the 2010 AMR.
- Received written peer reviews from various independent reviewers of three MSHCP written products as well as written comments on the 31 project progress presentations made during the 2009 Symposium.
- Received riparian vegetation imagery (data) of the Virgin River and Muddy River floodplains from the Southern Nevada Water Authority.

### **Permit Amendment**

- The Notice of Intent to Conduct Scoping (NOI) published in the Federal Register on September 30, 2009. Scoping meetings were held on October 19 (Las Vegas), 21 (Searchlight), 22 (Henderson) and 26 (Moapa).
- Held 5 meetings of the Desert Conservation Program Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC developed draft recommendations on projected take for an amended incidental take permit and revised covered species list.
- Negotiated a tentative agreement with the USFWS to receive credit for providing start-up funding for the state off-highway vehicle registration program.
- Continue to coordinate permit amendment progress with Permittees on a monthly basis.
- Worked with PBS&J and ICF to finalize revisions to the species accounts and ecosystem accounts for development of an amended MSHCP.
- Worked with PBS&J and ICF to begin developing a framework for a comprehensive conservation and mitigation strategy for an amended MSHCP.
- Draft amended MSHCP projected to be completed Spring 2011.

LAND DISTURBANCE - TORTOISE MITIGATION ACREAGE/FEEES REPORT

1/21/2010

	CC-Civil	CC-Dev Svcs	Boulder City	Henderson	Las Vegas	Mesquite	NDOT	NLV	Yr Totals
2001 Acres	152.70	3,171.52	36.18	1,030.84	1,064.33	89.49	6.85	740.55	6,292.46
2001 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2001 Fees	\$84,041.60	\$1,727,378.56	\$19,919.00	\$566,948.47	\$585,436.00	\$28,543.66	\$3,767.50	\$402,055.50	\$3,418,090.29
2002 Acres	251.95	3,296.95	19.68	1,299.75	1,848.38	162.51	11.40	1,584.96	8,475.58
2002 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2002 Fees	\$137,603.40	\$1,802,376.26	\$10,824.00	\$709,254.00	\$1,013,806.15	\$89,382.00	\$6,270.00	\$871,757.00	\$4,641,272.81
2003 Acres	382.62	3,374.55	17.63	1,391.89	1,492.50	364.17	4.12	2,105.20	9,132.68
2003 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.94	0.00	0.00	2.75	11.69
2003 Fees	\$209,642.75	\$1,855,402.45	\$8,944.50	\$774,022.15	\$710,889.83	\$171,940.68	\$2,266.00	\$1,157,870.50	\$4,890,978.86
2004 Acres	412.01	4,062.93	9.81	1,856.55	1,621.89	518.21	0.00	2,039.21	10,520.61
2004 Exempt	0.00	0.00	1,644.95	0.00	110.97	13.41	0.00	8.28	1,777.61
2004 Fees	\$225,165.31	\$2,239,261.90	\$5,381.50	\$1,005,598.05	\$891,828.23	\$265,492.00	\$0.00	\$1,121,631.05	\$5,754,358.04
2005 Acres	243.27	4,339.36	12.36	1,995.51	1,175.01	408.62	46.80	1,498.52	9,719.45
2005 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.65	0.00	0.00	13.65
2005 Fees	\$127,892.06	\$2,392,014.00	\$6,798.50	\$959,898.90	\$636,019.43	\$198,824.62	\$25,740.00	\$824,191.50	\$5,171,379.01
2006 Acres	105.41	3,365.42	530.50	3,831.64	1,157.47	1,244.43	0.00	739.65	10,974.52
2006 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.26	37.34	0.00	0.00	108.60
2006 Fees	\$54,970.45	\$1,851,016.68	\$291,643.50	\$2,092,211.09	\$636,955.65	\$680,664.35	\$0.00	\$406,807.00	\$6,014,268.72
2007 Acres	107.63	2,275.45	32.11	798.60	664.51	395.72	0.00	435.20	4,709.22
2007 Exempt	0.00	115.84	0.00	89.77	2.16	27.93	0.00	0.00	235.70
2007 Fees	\$58,373.80	\$1,251,497.50	\$17,661.00	\$439,047.95	\$365,470.08	\$191,207.00	\$0.00	\$219,627.65	\$2,542,884.98
2008 Acres	27.75	949.71	34.10	847.39	218.83	148.26	0.00	390.10	2,616.14
2008 Exempt	0.00	193.66	0.00	19.30	23.75	41.19	0.00	0.00	277.90
2008 Fees	\$15,269.95	\$521,653.88	\$18,756.50	\$473,711.70	\$120,356.50	\$74,585.50	\$0.00	\$214,553.35	\$1,438,887.38
2009 Acres	5.64	173.33	30.17	57.13	72.53	28.82	43.70	17.85	429.17
2009 Exempt	0.00	18.50	28.23	41.19	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	88.62
2009 Fees	\$3,102.00	\$95,331.50	\$16,593.50	\$31,421.50	\$39,291.50	\$15,851.00	\$24,035.00	\$9,817.50	\$235,443.50
Total acres disturbed to date=			62,869.83						
Total fee Exempt acres disturbed to date (reconciled)=			2,513.77 **						
Total fees collected to date=			\$34,107,563.59						
**15,000 acres is exempt from the \$550 per acre mitigation fee for government use.									
Number of acres allowed for disturbance under current multiple species permit					145,000.00				
Less number of acres reported for which fees have been paid under current permit					62,869.83				
Less number of fee exempt acres under current permit **					15,000.00 **				
Number of disturbable acres remaining under current permit					67,130.17				

\*\* Note: Clark County Department of Internal Audit is currently conducting an audit of the exempt acreage and as a result, fee exempt acres is subject to change. Amount shown (15,000) is the maximum number of fee exempt acres allowed under the current permit.

**CLARK COUNTY DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
SUMMARY  
2005-2007 BIENNIUM**

**Section 7**

**Allocated to spend: \$2,952,883.50**

S7 Conservation Project Expenditures	\$1,252,759.78		
Section 7 Refunds	\$111,602.58		
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<b>Amount Spent:</b>	\$1,364,362.36	<b>% Spent:</b>	46.20%
<b>Amount Remaining:</b>	\$1,588,521.14	<b>% Remaining:</b>	53.80%

**Section 10**

**Required to spend: \$3,817,775.00**

S10 Administrative Expenditures	\$1,446,477.87		
S10 Conservation Project Expenditures	\$2,776,552.66		
S10 Other Program Expenditures	\$8,437.97		
Section 10 Refunds	\$20,545.50		
<hr/>			
<b>Amount Spent:</b>	\$4,252,014.00	<b>% Spent:</b>	111.37%
<b>Amount Remaining:</b>	(\$434,239.00)	<b>% Remaining:</b>	-11.37%

**SNPLMA**

**Allocated to spend: \$26,532,248.00**

SNPLMA Administrative Expenditures	\$1,997,037.68		
SNPLMA Conservation Project Expenditures	\$11,796,698.32		
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<b>Amount Spent:</b>	\$13,793,736.00	<b>% Spent:</b>	51.99%
<b>Amount Remaining:</b>	\$12,738,512.00	<b>% Remaining:</b>	48.01%

**DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS**

**TOTAL FUNDING: \$33,302,906.50**

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$19,410,112.36**

**% SPENT: 58.28%**

**TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$13,892,794.14**

**% REMAINING: 41.72%**

**CLARK COUNTY DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
SUMMARY  
2007-2009 BIENNIUM**

**Section 7**

**Allocated to spend: \$0.00**

Section 7 Refunds	\$10,469.04		
<b>Amount Spent:</b>	\$10,469.04	<b>% Spent:</b>	0.00%
<b>Amount Remaining:</b>	(\$10,469.04)	<b>% Remaining:</b>	100.00%

**Section 10**

**Required to spend: \$4,500,000.00**

S10 Administrative Expenditures	\$2,690,546.69		
S10 Conservation Project Expenditures	\$1,251,902.26		
S10 Other Program Expenditures	\$171,981.62		
Section 10 Refunds	\$39,701.70		
<b>Amount Spent:</b>	\$4,154,132.27	<b>% Spent:</b>	92.31%
<b>Amount Remaining:</b>	\$345,867.73	<b>% Remaining:</b>	7.69%

**SNPLMA**

**Allocated to spend: \$2,972,487.00**

SNPLMA Administrative Expenditures	\$483,590.66		
SNPLMA Conservation Project Expenditures	\$80,043.28		
<b>Amount Spent:</b>	\$563,633.94	<b>% Spent:</b>	18.96%
<b>Amount Remaining:</b>	\$2,408,853.06	<b>% Remaining:</b>	81.04%

**DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS**

**TOTAL FUNDING: \$7,472,487.00**

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$4,728,235.25**

**% SPENT: 63.28%**

**TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$2,744,251.75**

**% REMAINING: 36.72%**

**CLARK COUNTY DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
SUMMARY  
2009-2011 BIENNIUM**

**Section 10**

**Required to spend: \$4,813,567.00**

S10 Administrative Expenditures \$676,923.56

S10 Conservation Project Expenditures \$62,730.39

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<b>Amount Spent:</b>	<b>\$739,653.95</b>	<b>% Spent:</b>	<b>15.37%</b>
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<b>Amount Remaining:</b>	<b>\$4,073,913.05</b>	<b>% Remaining:</b>	<b>84.63%</b>
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**DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS**

**TOTAL FUNDING: \$4,813,567.00**

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$739,653.95**

**TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$4,073,913.05**

**% SPENT: 15.37%**

**% REMAINING: 84.63%**