

Agency/Organization: US Geological Survey

Project Name: Development of Resilient Plant Materials for Desert Restoration

Project Number: 2023-USGS-2382A

Reporting Period: April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

Project Contact Name and Information: Lesley DeFalco, Ph.D.; USGS, Western Ecological Research Center; 500 Date St., Boulder City, NV; 89005. (702) 294-6591. ldefalco@usgs.gov

QUESTION 1: What did you accomplish during this reporting period? How did these accomplishments help you reach the goal of your project? If relevant, what indicators or benchmarks were used to determine your progress?

We received seeds of both FORB (M05) and SHRUB (M08) species that we requested from BLM and the Germplasm Resources Information Network for collection locations that are geographically and climatically similar to the USGS Searchlight, Nevada common garden (seed transfer zone 25, "STZ25"). This common garden is where we will be evaluating seed and nursery stock during the field trials that will follow our greenhouse pre-conditioning trials to develop drought- and herbivore-resistant plant materials. We completed viability testing on FORB species (M07) and started (M10) and concluded (M12) viability testing on SHRUB species.

We implemented dormancy break treatments on FORB species (M09) and began pre-conditioning and stress treatments on FORB species in our greenhouse (M11).

These Milestones are instrumental in our greenhouse pre-conditioning trials and in our garden evaluations of plant materials so we can develop our final deliverables for this project.

QUESTION 2: What, if any, problems were encountered? Briefly describe those problems and the manner in which they were dealt.

None.

QUESTION 3: What, if any, proposed activities were not completed? Briefly describe those activities, the reasons they were not completed and your plans for carrying them out.

None.

QUESTION 4: What is the calculated percent of work completed?

We are approximately 7% toward project completion.

QUESTION 5: Do you foresee any upcoming problems with future project activities? If so, how do you propose to overcome those problems?

None anticipated.

QUESTION 6: Is there anything else you want to tell the DCP about this project?

We have nothing additional to note concerning this project.

QUESTION 7: What was produced during the reporting period?

During the reporting period, we produced a Biennium Progress Summary Report (D05) and this Quarterly Progress Report (D06).