



**Clark County Desert Conservation Program and  
Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan  
Plan Administrator Update  
July 1 – September 30, 2008**



**Contract & Interlocal Agreement Management**

- ✓ Awarded an amendment to Global 360 for additional scope and services for the development of the Contract Management and Project Tracking System, Project No. 544E.
- ✓ Awarded a contract to Nicholson Facilitation for Meeting Facilitation and Process Management Consultation, Project Nos. 1011A and 1014A.
- ✓ Awarded a contract to Ebbin, Moser and Skaggs for Specialized Legal Counsel to support permit and plan amendment, Project No. 1014B.
- ✓ Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved the cooperative agreement to receive Round 8 Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) funds for Road Designation and Monitoring, Project No. 705.
- ✓ BCC approved the cooperative agreement to receive Round 8 SNPLMA funds for Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and Permit Amendment, Project No. 1011.
- ✓ BCC approved the cooperative agreement to receive Round 8 SNPLMA funds for Desert Tortoise Monitoring (Field Season 2010), Project No. 1012.
- ✓ Awarded a contract to Knight and Leavitt Associates to operate the Desert Tortoise Hotline and Pick-Up Service, Project No. 719L.
- ✓ Issued a Request for Quote for the Preparation of a Management Plan for the Boulder City Conservation Easement.
- ✓ Issued a Request for Proposals for Biological and Environmental Consulting in support of plan and permit amendment.
- ✓ Processed 81 professional services and goods invoices during the quarter.

**Project Management**

- ✓ The Program currently shows an approximate dashboard of:

<b>Project Status</b>	<b># of Projects</b>
	52
	5
	0

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 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/Air\\_Quality/DCPActiveProjects/DCPActiveProjects.htm](http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/Air_Quality/DCPActiveProjects/DCPActiveProjects.htm)

**Other Administrative Accomplishments**

- ✓ Completed Department of Interior/Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance Review required for SNPLMA funds.
- ✓ Continued to close out SNPLMA Round 4.
- ✓ Coordinated with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to de-obligate 13 SNPLMA Round 6 projects based on the following criteria: 1) agencies were no longer interested in pursuing or couldn't pursue project, 2) project was no longer

- urgent or important to the program or 3) project would be irrelevant given plan and permit amendment.
- ✓ Converted business system to allow for BLM's required ASAP electronic financial forecasting and reimbursement system for Round 6 and Round 8 projects.
  - ✓ Completed amendment process required by BLM for 56 Round 6 cooperative agreements for ASAP/BLM reporting and reimbursement process.
  - ✓ Attended training for BLM's required change to an Access database for quarterly status and financial reporting and forecasting.
  - ✓ Developed Access database for tracking of direct labor hours.
  - ✓ Continued work on Contract Management and Project Tracking System. The current module for tracking milestones and deliverables is 75% complete and in the testing phase.
  - ✓ Developed a process for electronic submission of deliverables.
  - ✓ Completed assessment of record types for County-wide records retention and management effort.
  - ✓ Completed quarterly reporting on 63 Round 4 projects, 44 Round 6 projects, and three (3) Round 8 projects.

### **2009-2011 Implementation Plan and Budget Process**

- ✓ Held public meeting on July 15, 2008 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm to present draft plan and budget and receive public comments.
- ✓ Provided public comment period from July 15, 2008 – July 29, 2008.
- ✓ Prepared meeting minutes and responses to public comment that will be provided in the final 2009-2011 Implementation Plan and Budget Report and presented to the BCC on 11/18/08 for its adoption.

### **Boulder City Conservation Easement**

- ✓ Patrol Statistics:
  - Made contact with 163 visitors to the easement
  - Handed out 93 maps, 78 brochures, and 72 refrigerator magnets
  - Issued three (3) citations
  - Issued five (5) warnings for minor violations
  - Installed 18 signs
- ✓ Continued review of City of Boulder City's temporary wastewater permit and its application for a five-year wastewater discharge permit for review and comment to avoid and minimize impacts to the easement.
- ✓ Provided additional information to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for its review of Western Area Power Administration's minimization and mitigation measures conducted in the easement as a result of its Davis-Mead 230-kV Transmission Line Reconductor Project.
- ✓ Issued a Request for Quote for the Preparation of a Management Plan for the Boulder City Management Easement.
- ✓ Completed field work to determine if a possible swap of acres currently configured in the energy zone for equivalent acres outside of energy zone and in the easement was appropriate. Overarching criterion: If the survey results showed either a net benefit or a net neutral comparison of habitat value gained, then the benefit of a wider corridor justified proposing the swap to USFWS. The fieldwork did not support or justify the proposed swap.
- ✓ Worked with City of Boulder City Police Department to clarify roles and authorities for law enforcement in the easement.

### **Public Information and Education**

- ✓ **Mojave Max Education Program** – Successor to Mojave Max was chosen. A news release was sent out on October 9, 2008 announcing the successor. The

new Mojave Max will reside at the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center until the remodeling of the visitor's center at Red Rock is complete in 2010.

- ✓ **Off Highway Vehicle Video Project** – Finalized two videos targeting teen and pre-teen OHV use. Videos used teen and pre-teen talent to better inform those target audiences. Videos highlight responsible use and the *Respect, Protect and Enjoy our Desert* theme. Videos are being shown on Channel 4, Clark County Television and are available at:

[http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/public\\_communications/Pages/video\\_library.aspx](http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/public_communications/Pages/video_library.aspx)

- ✓ **Mojave Max Assembly Video Project** – Finalized Mojave Max Assembly Video. This product will bring the Mojave Max assembly to additional classrooms, youth groups, and public. Video is being shown on Channel 4, Clark County Television and are available at:

[http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/public\\_communications/Pages/video\\_library.aspx](http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/public_communications/Pages/video_library.aspx)

### **Desert Tortoise Fencing**

- ✓ **Retro-Fencing** – Continued contracted work with Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) to retrofit high priority roads with tortoise-proof mesh. As of October 1, 2008, NDF had completed a total of 42 miles along I-15 (from 93 turnoff going north) under this contract.
- ✓ **Monitoring and Maintenance of Fencing** – Completed maintenance and repair of tortoise-proof fencing along the north and south boundaries of the Large Scale Translocation Site and along Nipton Road. Initiated a purchase order with NDOT to monitor and repair all the fencing along roadways within the Boulder City Conservation Easement. Complete walk and repair of this fencing is expected to occur in November 2008.

### **Desert Tortoise Hotline and Pick-Up Service**

- ✓ Operated the desert tortoise hotline and pick-up service with staff for part of the quarter.
- ✓ Transitioned the operation of the hotline and pick-up service to Knight and Leavitt Associates.
- ✓ Delivered a total of 312 tortoises to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center:
  - 151 surrendered pet desert tortoises
  - 61 stray pet desert tortoises found in urban areas
  - 5 stray pet tortoises or turtles that are not desert tortoises
  - 84 tortoises of unknown origin
  - 11 wild tortoise
- ✓ Received letters of clarification from the USFWS and Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) on the legal status of pre-act tortoises, their progeny and stray tortoises. Next step: Meet with USFWS and NDOW to reach consensus on interpretations of federal law and regulations and state law and determine the best use of a Pet Tortoise Task Force.

### **Adaptive Management Program**

- ✓ Held 2008 Project Progress Symposium on August 14-15, 2008 with 22 projects presenting and great attendance. A panel of six biological scientists served as panelists (Phil Medica, Drs. Earl McCoy, Henry Mushinsky, James Reveal, Daniel Rosenberg and Eric Simandle). We anticipate holding the next Project

Progress Symposium in August 2009. Thank you to all who presented or attended.

- ✓ Received and commented on Draft 2008 Adaptive Management Report. Final report is forthcoming in early November, and will be sent to the mailing list and posted to the website.

#### **Plan Amendment**

- ✓ Continued with key stakeholder briefings:
  - Southern Nevada Agency Partnership Board
- ✓ Awarded a contract to Ebbin, Moser and Skaggs for Specialized Legal Counsel to support permit and plan amendment, Project No. 1014B.
- ✓ Held meeting with City and County executive managers to provide a status report on the process and solicit feedback on process, work plan and timeline.
- ✓ Held meeting with USFWS and introduced Sean Skaggs from Ebbin, Moser + Skaggs who will serve as negotiator and specialized legal counsel to the Plan Administrator.
- ✓ Issued a Request for Proposals for Biological and Environmental Consulting in support of plan and permit amendment.

#### **2005-2007 Biennium Progress Report**

- ✓ Completed 2005-2007 biennium progress report.
- ✓ Please take a moment to review the report:

<http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/Documents/2005-2007BnRptFinal2.pdf>

#### **Land Disturbance and Mitigation Fees Report**

- ✓ See attached.
- ✓ Received and reconciled monthly land disturbance and mitigation fee reports from permittee entities, with the exception of Boulder City.

#### **Financial Report**

- ✓ See attached.



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

Revised:  
10/13/08 9:54 AM

**SECTION 10**

**REQUIRED TO SPEND:**  
\$ 3,817,775.00

**COMMENTS**

TOTAL SECTION 10 CONSERVATION PROJECT EXPENDITURES YTD  
TOTAL SECTION 10 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES YTD  
TOTAL SECTION 10 OTHER PROGRAM EXPENDITURES YTD  
TOTAL SECTION 10 REFUNDS

\$ 2,862,720.72  
\$ 1,373,426.27  
\$ 476,802.59  
\$ 20,545.50

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT

\$ 4,733,495.08 TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ (915,720.08)

% SPENT

123.99%

\$ 3,672,239.20 % AMOUNT REMAINING

-23.98%

SNPLMA REIMBURSEMENT FROM ROUND 6 IS

\$ 2,756,519.12 AMOUNT REMAINING AFTER REIMBURSEMENT= \$

**SECTION 7**

**ALLOCATED TO SPEND:**

\$ 2,952,853.50

TOTAL SECTION 7 CONSERVATION PROJECT EXPENDITURES YTD  
TOTAL SECTION 7 OTHER PROGRAM EXPENDITURES YTD

\$ 768,006.21  
\$ 1,975,704.15

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT

\$ 2,743,710.36 TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 209,173.14

% SPENT

92.92%

% AMOUNT REMAINING

7.08%

**SNPLMA ROUND 6**

**ALLOCATED TO SPEND:**

\$ 30,706,816.00

TOTAL SNPLMA CONSERVATION PROJECT EXPENDITURES YTD  
TOTAL SNPLMA ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES YTD

\$ 1,866,134.06  
\$ 261,790.64

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT

\$ 2,127,924.70 TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 28,578,891.30

% SPENT

6.93%

% AMOUNT REMAINING

93.07%

**DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS**

**TOTAL FUNDING:** \$ 37,477,474.50

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT** \$ 9,605,130.14

**TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING** \$ 27,872,344.36

**%SPENT** 25.63%

**% AMOUNT REMAINING**

74.37%

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

Revised:  
10/13/08 12:54 PM

**SECTION 10**

**REQUIRED TO SPEND:**

**\$ 4,500,000.00**

**COMMENTS**

TOTAL SECTION 10 CONSERVATION PROJECT EXPENDITURES YTD

\$ 141,287.23

TOTAL SECTION 10 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES YTD

\$ 2,015,082.78

TOTAL SECTION 10 OTHER PROGRAM EXPENDITURES YTD

\$ 106,047.27

TOTAL SECTION 10 REFUNDS

\$ 36,473.20

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT**

**\$ 2,288,890.48**    **TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 2,201,109.52**

**% SPENT**

**51.09%**

**% AMOUNT REMAINING**

**48.91%**

**SNPLMA REIMBURSEMENT FROM ROUND 8 IS**

**\$ -**

**AMOUNT REMAINING AFTER REIMBURSEMENT=**

**\$ 2,201,109.52**

**SNPLMA ROUND 8**

**ALLOCATED TO SPEND:**

**\$ 4,317,301.00 PENDING SNPLMA APPROVAL**

TOTAL SNPLMA CONSERVATION PROJECT EXPENDITURES YTD

\$ -

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT**

**\$ -**

**TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 4,317,301.00**

**% SPENT**

**0.00%**

**% AMOUNT REMAINING**

**100.00%**

**DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS**

**TOTAL FUNDING: \$ 8,817,301.00**

**TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT \$ 2,288,890.48**

**TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 6,518,410.52**

**%SPENT**

**26.07%**

**% AMOUNT REMAINING**

**73.93%**