



desert conservation
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Quarterly Administrator Update

January 1 - March 30, 2010



Desert Conservation Program Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Quarterly Administrator Update

April 2010

Contract & Interlocal Agreement Management

- Approved Amendment No. 1 to contract with PBS&J for biological consulting services for permit amendment. Amendment consisted of reducing the hourly rate of the Project Manager.
- Awarded an Interlocal Agreement to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to monitor road use in areas of critical environmental concern, 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	45
Yellow	6
Red	3

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/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcpactiveprojects.aspx>

Other Administrative Accomplishments

- Completed quarterly reporting required for Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA)-funded projects.
- Began a review and reconciliation of all awarded, encumbered and expended funds from 1999 to present against the General Ledger for the purposes of calculating the minimum required expenditure and mitigation credits earned for the 2011-2013 biennium and to use in a 10-year summary report.
- Reviewed Clark County's proposed Cost Allocation Plan charges to the DCP for internal services



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for the 2011 fiscal year. Updated or corrected the allocation basis for several categories of expenditures. It is anticipated that Clark County will charge the DCP approximately \$69,525 for internal services for the 2010 fiscal year.

- Continued discussions with the Department of Air Quality and Environmental Management regarding charges to the DCP for centralized departmental services and ways to reduce costs of department services.
- Requested permittees transmit mitigation fees from hard copy check to automated clearing house (ACH) transfer. All permittees will remit payment of mitigation fees via ACH by May 2010. This will eliminate staffing costs associated with handling and processing paper checks and making paper bank deposits and will significantly reduce departmental charges to the DCP for centralized services.

Document Reviews & External Agency Coordination

- Reviewed and provided comments to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) during its National Environmental Policy Act scoping process for the revision to the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan Update.
- Reviewed and provided comments to the BLM on its Conservation Transfer Area Environmental Impact Statement.
- Reviewed and provided comments to the Clark County Department of Comprehensive Planning on the Winchester/Paradise land use plan update.
- Provided burrowing owl surveys and clearances to the Clark County Department of Public Works on a flood control project near Range Road and Nellis Air Force Base.

Acquisition & Management of Acquired Easements, Property, Grazing Rights & Water Rights

- Prioritized stretches of the Virgin River to have the BLM cadastral survey corrected in order to move forward on land acquisition.
- Initiated Grant of Options to purchase the Perkins Property from The Nature Conservancy (TNC).
- Initiated an amendment to the contract with TNC for the management of properties along the Muddy River set for acquisition by the DCP, Project No. 561. Amendment would consist of reducing scope and preparation of property for transfer to DCP.
- Initiated an Interlocal Agreement with the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) for NDOW to use the pond on the Perkins property as a refugia for relict leopard frogs.
- Continued working with Clark County Department of Real Property Management on updated surveys of Boulder City Conservation Easement (BCCE) expansion boundaries.



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- Initiated title search to resolve title issues on MacClanahan Spring and disputed water rights that the DCP acquired during the purchase of a grazing allotment.
- Continued meetings with the City of Boulder City and the BLM regarding disputed corridors in the BCCE.
- Provided 461 hours of law enforcement patrol in the BCCE.
- Travel 6525 miles patrolling the BCCE.
- Made contact with 94 visitors to the BCCE.
- Issued four (4) warnings for illegal activities; issued no citations.

Pet Desert Tortoises

- Began implementing transition plan and ended DCP pick-up of non-wild domestic tortoises in Clark County effective January 1, 2010.
- Established an exclusionary boundary and pick up policy.
- Mailed informational materials to over 220 veterinarians, pet stores and other stakeholders.
- Mailed informational postcards to over 5900 previous tortoise pick-up callers.
- Participating in USFWS and NDOW working group to develop solutions to pet desert tortoise issues.
- San Diego Zoo has assumed management of pick-up and care responsibilities for pet tortoises.
- Distributing outreach materials including post cards, magnets and advertisements to make key stakeholders aware of transition.
- Call (702) 488-9422 for pet and stray desert tortoise pick up.
- Call (702) 593-9027 for wild desert tortoise questions and assistance.

Wild Desert Tortoise Assistance Line

- The line logged 16 calls.
- Four (4) wild tortoises were collected and transferred to the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center.

Public Information and Education

- Mojave Max emerged on March 30, 2010. The winner, fourth grader Fernando Ponce of Fredrick Watson Elementary School, was announced on April 14, 2010. The field trip for winner's entire class will be held May 6, 2010. The class will go to Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, have a pizza party and see the live Mojave Max. 6,100 students entered the contest this year.
- Continued "Stay on the Trails" ad campaigns with BLVDS magazine and KNPR and the Las Vegas



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Review Journal (Business Press, LVRJ Sports Page, Mesquite Local News and El Tiempo publications.).

- Developed new print ads for the pet tortoise transition: “leave it wild”, “I’m back in the wild because you dialed” and “pets don’t belong in the wild”. Initiated advertising campaign running these advertisements in the Las Vegas Review Journal (The Views, Boulder City Review, Mesquite Local News, El Tiempo and CERCA publications.)

Desert Tortoise Fencing

- Negotiated interim monitoring and maintenance plan with Clark County, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), and USFWS. Clark County to use current contract with Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) to walk and repair all existing tortoise-proof fencing (350 miles). NDF will provide ARCGis Shape files of all fencing walked, points where maintenance occurred, type of repair made, materials used and any other special incidents. NDF intends to complete entire project. NDF will proceed on a prioritized basis so the most important areas are completed first.

Financial

- See attached financial summary.

Land Disturbance and Mitigation Fees

- See attached summary.

Adaptive Management Program

- SAVE THE DATES: 2010 Annual Progress Report Symposium will take place the week of August 9 – 13, 2010.
- Provided USFWS and NDF with information and data generated by the DCP on Las Vegas Buckwheat (*Eriogonum corymbosum var. nilesii*).
- Received draft Adaptive Management Report from Science Advisor (2007-ECO-801A) and sent it out for external peer review.
- Received peer review comments on five (5) final reports:
 - 2005-NSHE-502A - Sediment Transport of Source Materials to White-Margined Penstemon Habitat
 - 2005-USGS-582 - Population Status and Reproductive Ecology of the Western Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) in Clark County, NV



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- 2005-NPS-537 - Interagency Weed Sentry Project
- 2005-NPS-609A - Historical and Current Assessment of Six Covered and Three Evaluation Bird Species (technical conditions)
- 2005-GBBO-581 - Developing Habitat Models and Monitoring Techniques for Nine Rare Bird Species of the Clark County MSHCP

Permit Amendment

- Held two (2) meetings of the DCP Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC has been working towards developing recommendations for revising the overall conservation strategy, including draft minimization measures and a draft Reserve System.
- Developed a draft agreement regarding the establishment of an off-highway vehicle licensing program and forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles for their review.
- Continue to coordinate permit amendment progress with Permittees on a monthly basis.
- Worked with PBS&J and ICF to develop draft proposals for minimization and mitigation in preparation for presentation to the CAC.
- Met with BLM and FWS to discuss permit amendment and related issues, including a proposed revision to the Reserve Strategy.
- Draft amended MSHCP projected to be completed Spring 2011.

LAND DISTURBANCE - TORTOISE MITIGATION ACREAGE/FEEES REPORT

4/19/2010

	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	1,157.47	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	419.54	57.81	72.53	28.82	43.70	17.85	819.22
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	\$230,747.00	\$31,795.50	\$39,291.50	\$15,851.00	\$24,035.00	\$9,817.50	\$449,971.00
2010 Acres	0.00	14.18	0.00	13.94	17.24	0.00	0.00	27.01	72.37
2010 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2010 Fees	\$0.00	\$7,799.00	\$0.00	\$7,667.00	\$9,482.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,855.50	\$39,803.50
Total acres disturbed to date=									
Total fee Exempt acres disturbed to date (reconciled)=			63,259.88						
Total fees collected to date=			2,513.77 **						
**15,000 acres is exempt from the \$550 per acre mitigation fee for government use.			\$34,322,091.09						
Number of acres allowed for disturbance under current multiple species permit									
Less number of acres reported for which fees have been paid under current permit						145,000.00			
Less number of fee exempt acres under current permit **						63,259.88			
Number of disturbable acres remaining under current permit						15,000.00 **			
						66,740.12			

** 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	\$1,253,125.74		
Section 7 Refunds	\$111,602.58		
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Amount Spent:	\$1,364,728.32	% Spent:	46.22%
Amount Remaining:	\$1,588,155.18	% Remaining:	53.78%

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		
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Amount Spent:	\$4,252,014.00	% Spent:	111.37%
Amount Remaining:	(\$434,239.00)	% Remaining:	-11.37%

SNPLMA

Allocated to spend: \$26,532,248.00

SNPLMA Administrative Expenditures	\$2,150,696.44		
SNPLMA Conservation Project Expenditures	\$12,675,825.40		
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Amount Spent:	\$14,826,521.84	% Spent:	55.88%
Amount Remaining:	\$11,705,726.16	% Remaining:	44.12%

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$33,302,906.50

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$20,443,264.16

% SPENT: 61.39%

TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$12,859,642.34

% REMAINING: 38.61%

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

Section 7

Allocated to spend: \$0.00

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

Section 10

Required to spend: \$4,500,000.00

S10 Administrative Expenditures	\$2,729,786.69		
S10 Conservation Project Expenditures	\$1,652,477.04		
S10 Other Program Expenditures	\$200,858.14		
Section 10 Refunds	\$39,701.70		
Amount Spent:	\$4,622,823.57	% Spent:	102.73%
Amount Remaining:	(\$122,823.57)	% Remaining:	-2.73%

SNPLMA

Allocated to spend: \$2,972,487.00

SNPLMA Administrative Expenditures	\$658,350.33		
SNPLMA Conservation Project Expenditures	\$165,809.58		
Amount Spent:	\$824,159.91	% Spent:	27.73%
Amount Remaining:	\$2,148,327.09	% Remaining:	72.27%

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$7,472,487.00

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$5,457,452.52

% SPENT: 73.03%

TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$2,015,034.48

% REMAINING: 26.97%

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

Section 10

Required to spend: \$4,813,567.00

S10 Administrative Expenditures \$1,265,742.50

S10 Conservation Project Expenditures \$141,511.32

Amount Spent:	\$1,407,253.82	% Spent:	29.24%
Amount Remaining:	\$3,406,313.18	% Remaining:	70.76%

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$4,813,567.00

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$1,407,253.82

% SPENT: 29.24%

TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$3,406,313.18

% REMAINING: 70.76%