# PUBLIC INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Audrie Locke

Public Education, Outreach, and Volunteer Coordinator | Project Manger Audrie.Locke@ClarkCountyNV.Gov 702.455.2705











#### PURPOSE







Public Information and Education is one of the conservation actions identified in the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)

Biological Goal 3: Foster community and stakeholder engagement to maintain or improve covered species populations and their habitat.

- Share messages about the desert tortoise,
   native species, and responsible desert use
- Encourage people to RESPECT, PROTECT, and ENJOY our desert ecosystem

#### ADMINISTRATION





#### Some of the ways that we do this:

- Mojave Max Education Program
- Participate in community outreach events to promote responsible recreation and overall awareness of MSHCP covered species
- Produce and distribution of printed materials and videos
- Share message via Mojave Max and DCP websites and various social media platforms
- Educate construction site personnel about reporting and collecting wild desert tortoises for pick-up by DCP staff



#### **MOJAVE MAX EDUCATION PROGRAM**





- Started in 2000
- Since its inception, over half a million students have been reached directly through school assemblies, Tortoise Talks and community engagement
- Receive requests through the Mojave Max website for Mojave Max assemblies, individual Tortoise Talks, and outreach events
- The Mojave Max team presents school assemblies and Tortoise Talks to elementary school students

- Throughout 2025 we are celebrating 25 years of the Mojave Max education program.
- The Clark County Board of Commissioners presented our team with a proclamation, and for the first time in the history of the program we opened the Mojave Max Emergence Contest to all Clark County.

#### CELEBRATING 25 YEARS





www.ClarkCountyNV.gov



togetherforbetter

# THROUGH THE YEARS...



#### MOJAVE MAX EDUCATION PROGRAM





#### 2024-2025 Highlights

- Expanded in-class education to middle and high school students
- Expanded reach of elementary education program to include:
  - Mojave Max Assemblies for nearly 300 homeschooled students
  - Additional after-school programs received Tortoise Talks through the After School All Stars and the YMCA
- Participated in multiple youth summer camps with programs focusing on conservation and STEM education
- '24-'25 school year, nearly 10,000 students were reached through school assemblies and Tortoise Talks
- Over 3,600 students submitted their guesses for the emergence contest
- Completed our 8<sup>th</sup> year with Get Outdoors NV (formerly Outside Las Vegas Foundation)







#### MOJAVE MAX EMERGENCE





Mojave Max emerged from his burrow at Springs Preserve on May 8, 2025, at 2:09 p.m.

The winner of the Annual Mojave Max Emergence Contest was a fourth grader from Elaine Wynn Elementary School.

CONTEST GUESS: May 8, 2025 @2:00 p.m. ACTUAL EMERGENCE: May 8, 2025 @ 2:09 p.m.

Late emergence caused us to pivot from our usual field trip to Springs Preserve.

Mojave May 8, 2

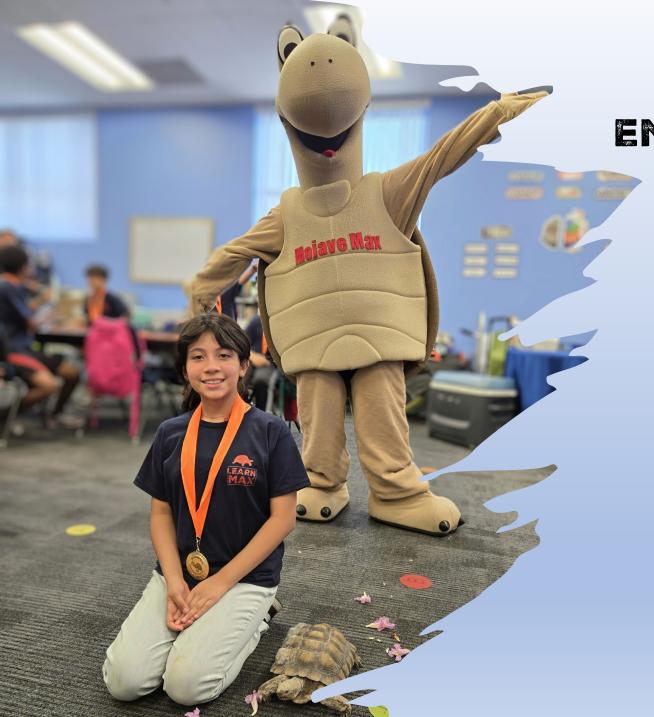


0:02









2025
MOJAVE MAX
EMERGENCE CONTEST WINNER

JOANA, 4TH GRADE

ELAINE WYNN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



### MOJAVE MAX EMERGENCE





Countywide contest to celebrate 25 years of Mojave Max generated over 1,500 guesses from the community.

The winner of the first-ever countywide Mojave Max Emergence Contest was the Soranaka family.

This family participated in a homeschool Mojave Max Tortoise Talk and submitted their guess as a family.

CONTEST GUESS: May 8, 2025 @2:00 p.m.

ACTUAL EMERGENCE: May 8, 2025 @ 12:33 p.m











# 2025 MOJAVE MAX EMERGENCE CONTEST WINNER (COUNTYWIDE)

THE SORANAKA FAMILY

CLARK COUNTY RESIDENTS



#### OUTREACH HIGHLIGHTS





- DCP hosted a series of community engagement meetings to educate get feedback from stakeholders and residents regarding the anticipated changes to the MSHCP and permit amendment
- Added engagement activities for education tables to further highlight the many species covered by our program
- Commissioned 3D models of our specimens from Ornilogic, allowing us to retire our beautiful specimens and prevent further damage
- Connected with a wide variety of new communities interested in engaging with our program in the coming year (including Allegiant Stadium, Grand Prix Plaza, Desert Wranglers off-road group, Ultra X 5-day run event, Southern NV Mountain Bike Association, and large homeowners' associations like Inspirada)



### OUTREACH EVENTS





Participation in a variety of outreach events ensures accessibility to residents from all areas within Clark County's jurisdiction.

DCP is typically directly invited to participate with an education table and the Mojave Max mascot.

In addition to 30 school assemblies and over 100 Tortoise Talks, DCP participated in over 30 additional outreach events.



#### MOVING FORWARD...







#### PLAN TO THE MAX

DCP is developing tools to provide clear and actionable data to improve future conservation and development.

John Ellis will share more about this later in the day—you won't want to miss that presentation and demonstration.

#### TEACH TO THE MAX

We are developing additional resources to make available to teachers for K-12<sup>th</sup> grade to allow our desert conservation messaging to be properly administered even when our team cannot personally present.

#### **INCREASED OUTREACH ACTIVITY**

With the addition of a new part-time outreach team member (welcome Kathleen), and additional resources through our Ambassador and Volunteer programs, we will be increasing our presence even more in the community.



# CONSERVATION desert conservation CO E E

#### **Species Spotlight**

**Species Name** 

Info on species and direct link to specific Species Manual Page



**Project Spotlight** 

**Project Name** 

Info on current DCP projects



In The Field

DCP staff in action

DYK (or Fun Fact)

Fun fact about DCP



**MAX Volunteers** 

The latest info on volunteer efforts and opportunities



**Education & Outreach** 

What's new in our education program?









#### VOLUNTEER TO THE MAX





The Volunteer to the Max program was successfully rolled out in October 2023. We continue to recruit for a variety of volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

#### Looking for volunteers to:

- Participate in community outreach events (working an education table or participating in school assemblies and Tortoise Talks)
- Participate in scheduled DCP and Mojave Max events, including desert cleanups and restoration projects (setup/tear down, basic event support, restoration activities, material handout, manning registration tables, etc.)
- Photograph events where DCP and Mojave Max are present (photos/videos to be used by DCP for social media posts and future presentations)

## VOLUNTEER TO THE MAX







### JOIN OUR TEAM...







# NOW HIRING

**Environmental Specialist** (Restoration)

Visit GovernmentJobs.com or scan the QR to apply



APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED UNTIL 5PM, SEPTEMBER 2, 2025



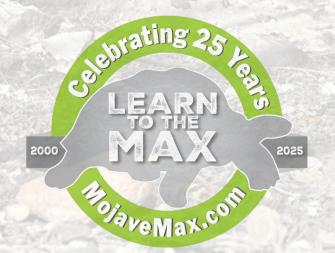








# QUESTIONS?



Audrie Locke
Public Education, Outreach & Volunteer Coordinator | Project Manger
Audrie.Locke@ClarkCountyNV.Gov