



desert conservation
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Quarterly Administrator Update

July through September, 2010



Desert Conservation Program Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Quarterly Administrator Update

October 2010

Contract & Interlocal Agreement Management

- Awarded Amendment No. 1 to the Interlocal Agreement with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for Expert Advice, Project No. 574B. The amendment provided a no cost extension of the term of the agreement to October 31, 2011.
- Awarded Amendment No. 1 to the Interlocal Agreement with the University of California, Santa Barbara for Effectiveness Monitoring of Springfed Wetland and Riparian Restoration, Project No. 552. The amendment requested additional scope to monitor the establishment and dispersal of *Diorhabda*, vegetation community response and wildlife response to colonization by the beetle.
- Awarded Amendment No. 1 to the Contract for Muddy River Property Management with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Project No. 561. The amendment requested that the house on the Alamo Property along the Muddy River be demolished and removed and made other minor changes to the scope of work.
- Awarded Amendment No. 1 to the Contract for the Desert Tortoise Hotline and Pick Up Service, Project No. 719M. The amendment changed the term of the agreement to February 15, 2012 and made other necessary changes to the scope of work due to the Desert Conservation Program (DCP) discontinuing the pick-up of pet desert tortoises.

Project Management

The Program currently shows an approximate dashboard of:

Project Status	# of Projects
Green	37
Yellow	1
Red	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/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcpactiveprojects.aspx>



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Other Administrative Accomplishments

- Notified agencies and vendors that the DCP can pay invoices and claims via Automated Clearing House (ACH). This is a cost-saving measure for the DCP and allows faster payments to agencies and vendors.
- Converted the responsibility for cash receipts processing from Department of Air Quality and Environmental Management to DCP. This is a cost-saving measure for the DCP.
- Received reimbursement from Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) for 19 Round 6 projects for a total of \$788,521 and three Round 8 projects for a total of \$109,654.
- Applied to close out the following SNPLMA Round 6 projects:
 - NPS 475 – Peregrine Falcon Monitoring
 - NPS 540 – Bald Eagle Monitoring
 - UNR/USFWS 585 – Desert Tortoise Monitoring
 - CC 606 – Buckwheat and Bearpoppy Inventory
- Submitted SNPLMA Quarter 4 project status and financial projections reporting.
- Application approved for desert tortoise specialty license plate with Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles. We are currently 16th on waiting list.
- Notified by County Internal Audit they will be commencing the DCP-requested audit of desert tortoise fees and exempt acreage.

Document Reviews & External Agency Coordination

- Provided data for the Eldorado-Ivanpah Transmission Project.
- Reviewed and provided a comment letter on the Desert Xpress High Speed Rail Project.
- Reviewed and provided a comment letter on the Silver State Solar Project.
- Participated in a conference call on the Gateway South Transmission Project.
- Provided maps and data for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) amendment to the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan.
- Reviewed and provided comments on the Whitney Ranch Land Use Update.

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

- Completed the Grant of Options for the purchase of Perkins Property from TNC.
- Initiated the Grant of Options for the purchase of the Henrie Property from TNC.
- TNC had the house on the Alamo Property demolished.
- Initiated the Grant of Options for the purchase of the Alamo Property from TNC.
- Maintained and managed the Muddy River properties with regular weekly tasks.
- Initiated Phase I of a task to have Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) prepare a Fire Prevention Plan



for the Muddy River properties and accomplish the fire prevention work by end of 2010.

- Contributed to the conservation of relict leopard frog at the Perkins Property by maintaining pond water level, pump and ditch.

Boulder City Conservation Easement

- Conducted sign repair and replacement for two days on Boulder City Conservation Easement (BCCE).
- Completed amendment to the BCCE agreement between Boulder City and Clark County.
- Confirmed Western Area Power Administration pull site restoration is on schedule and progressing.
- Alerted Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) to damage to a gate on the BCCE and followed up to see repair was made.
- Alerted NDOT to the washed out desert tortoise fence along US 95 and currently monitoring the status.
- Updated a GPS/GIS Repository to include 461 hours of Law Enforcement Patrols on the BCCE.
- Met with Boulder City Police Department to review patrol routes and schedules.
- Digitized all 180+ signs on maps of the BCCE for future monitoring and maintenance activities

BCCE Law Enforcement Statistics for July – September 2010:

Patrol Hours	461
Patrol Miles	7778
Contacts	69
Warnings Given	4
Citations Issued	1

Wild Desert Tortoise Assistance Line

- The line logged 19 calls.
- Four (4) wild tortoises were collected and transferred to the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center

Public Information and Education

- Mojave Max Education Program – Initiated planning for 2011 Mojave Max Emergence Contest. Scheduled school assembly dates, updated student entry database, updated and re-organized website (www.mojavemax.com). Created and began posting program information on new Mojave Max page and Twitter page. Revised volunteer education handbook, teacher education handbook and school assembly presentation.



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- Mass Media Campaign – Initiated 2010-2011 advertising campaigns with BLVDS magazine and KNPR and the Las Vegas Review Journal (Business Press, LVRJ Sports Page, Mesquite Local News and El Tiempo publications).
- Pet/Wild Tortoise Campaign – Ordered additional magnets (1,000) and postcards (500) with pet and wild tortoise messages. Continued print advertisements providing messages: “leave it wild”, “I’m back in the wild because you dialed” and “pets don’t belong in the wild”. Print advertisements continue to run in these Las Vegas Review Journal publications: The Views, Boulder City Review, Mesquite Local News, El Tiempo and CERCA publications. Evaluating future advertisement campaigns, postcards and development of a pet tortoise video.
- Future Funding – Developing funding request for SNPLMA Round 12 funding.

Desert Tortoise Fencing

- Monitoring and Maintenance of Fencing (Existing Contract) – Completing one-time walk and repair of all tortoise-proof fencing in Clark County under current contract with NDF and with the approval of Nevada Department of Transportation. NDF will provide ARC Gis Shape files of all fencing walked, points where maintenance occurred, type of repair made, materials used and any other special incidents. All work encompassed under the current NDF contract will be completed or will cease by the end of the current contract, November 15, 2010.
- BLM/Kern River Pipeline Issue - Researched and preparing response to request from BLM regarding access to pipeline along tortoise fencing in the Large Scale Translocation Site (LSTS).
- Monitoring and Maintenance of Fencing (Future Work) – Developing contract for continuation of fencing monitoring and maintenance for the north and south boundaries of the LSTS and Nipton Road. Evaluating assuming monitoring and maintenance of BCCE roadway fencing.

Financial

- See attached financial summary

Land Disturbance and Mitigation Fees

- See attached summary

Adaptive Management Program



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- Completed independent peer review of seven products generated from conservation projects.
- Hosted the 2010 symposium. Science Advisor and five additional expert reviewers attended and provided written comments. All presentations and agenda can be found on the symposium web-page: http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcp_independent.aspx
- Science Advisor and DCP staff are developing a desert tortoise monitoring protocol for the Boulder City Conservation Easement. It will receive peer review in the next quarter.
- BLM has secured matching funding for further refinement of the rare plant habitat model, and DCP staff are assisting with this effort.

Permit Amendment

- Continued developing Species Handling Workshop in conjunction with USFWS.
- Continued developing Desert Tortoise Construction Worker Training.
- Prepared agreement and BCC item for \$500,000 to fund Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles OHV Titling and Registration Program. Approved at 10/19 BCC meeting.
- Held three (3) meetings of the DCP Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC completed its work in October of 2010. CAC Final Report scheduled to be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on November 16, 2010. Report and Recommendations will subsequently be presented to the each of the Permittees in November and December following the BCC. The CAC will reconvene for one meeting prior to public release of the draft MSHCP in 2011.
- Continue to coordinate permit amendment progress with Permittees on a monthly basis.
- Met with BLM and USFWS to discuss permit amendment and related issues, including a proposed revision to the Reserve Strategy.
- Drafting amended MSHCP; projected to be completed Spring 2011

LAND DISTURBANCE - TORTOISE MITIGATION ACREAGE/FEEES REPORT

1/12/2012

	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	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	1.02	172.17	0.00	48.33	39.70	1.85	0.00	82.68	345.75
2010 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2010 Fees	\$561.00	\$94,693.50	\$0.00	\$26,581.50	\$21,835.00	\$1,017.50	\$0.00	\$45,473.50	\$190,162.00
2011 Acres	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2011 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2011 Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Total acres disturbed to date= 63,605.63
Total fee Exempt acres disturbed to date (reconciled)= 2,513.77 **
Total fees collected to date= \$34,512,253.09

**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 63,605.63
Less number of fee exempt acres under current permit ** 15,000.00 **
Number of disturbable acres remaining under current permit 66,394.37

** 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	\$1,295,046.96		
Section 7 Refunds	\$111,602.58		
Amount Spent:	\$1,406,649.54	% Spent:	47.64%
Amount Remaining:	\$1,546,233.96	% Remaining:	52.36%

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		
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	\$2,523,643.39		
SNPLMA Conservation Project Expenditures	\$14,329,454.99		
Amount Spent:	\$16,853,098.38	% Spent:	63.52%
Amount Remaining:	\$9,679,149.62	% Remaining:	36.48%

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$33,302,906.50

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$22,511,761.92

% SPENT: 67.60%

TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$10,791,144.58

% REMAINING: 32.40%

**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	\$2,745,716.69		
S10 Conservation Project Expenditures	\$1,765,812.79		
Section 10 Refunds	\$39,701.70		
Amount Spent:	\$4,551,231.18	% Spent:	101.14%
Amount Remaining:	(\$51,231.18)	% Remaining:	-1.14%

SNPLMA

Allocated to spend: \$2,972,487.00

SNPLMA Administrative Expenditures	\$440,731.91		
SNPLMA Conservation Project Expenditures	\$1,018,733.53		
Amount Spent:	\$1,459,465.44	% Spent:	49.10%
Amount Remaining:	\$1,513,021.56	% Remaining:	50.90%

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$7,472,487.00

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$6,021,165.66

% SPENT: 80.58%

TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$1,451,321.34

% REMAINING: 19.42%

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

Section 10

Required to spend: \$7,179,827.00

S10 Administrative Expenditures	\$1,531,474.43		
S10 Conservation Project Expenditures	\$454,145.75		
Amount Spent:	\$1,985,620.18	% Spent:	27.66%
Amount Remaining:	\$5,194,206.82	% Remaining:	72.34%

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$7,179,827.00

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT: \$1,985,620.18

% SPENT: 27.66%

TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING: \$5,194,206.82

% REMAINING: 72.34%