



desert conservation
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Quarterly Administrator Update

January - March 2009



Desert Conservation Program Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Quarterly Administrator Update

April 2009

Contract & Interlocal Agreement Management

- Awarded contract to PBS & J for biological consulting to support permit amendment, Project No. 1011B.
- Awarded an Interlocal Agreement to University of North Texas for the Impact of Nutritional Stress on Upper Respiratory Tract Disease and Immune Function in Desert Tortoise, Project No. 602A.
- Awarded a contract to Jones and Stokes for Rare Plant Inventories, Project No. 497B.
- Awarded a contract to Jones and Stokes for Las Vegas Buckwheat and Las Vegas Bearpoppy Inventories, Project 606A.
- Met with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to negotiate Interlocal Agreement language to move forward with Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) Round 6 and 8 projects.

Invoice Metrics:

	Invoices Processed This Quarter (January 1-March 30)
Reviewed	78
Processed	75
Awaiting Review	3

Project Management

The Program currently shows an approximate dashboard of:

Project Status	# of Projects
Green	54
Yellow	4
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>



Deliverable Review Metrics:

No. of Deliverables Reviewed This Quarter	No. of Deliverables Rejected This Quarter	Percent of Deliverables Rejected This Quarter	Percent of Deliverables Reviewed by DCP on Schedule (within 30 days of submittal)	Average DCP Review Time This Quarter (days)
47	0	0%	100	3

Other Operational Accomplishments

- Received an assessment of the action taken to implement recommendations from the 2005 Program Management Analysis. Assessment was overwhelmingly positive. For more information visit: http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcp_reports.aspx
- Prepared an analysis of invoice acceptance and payment metrics in response to feedback provided by the federal land managers to the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act Partners Working Group. Results:
 - Sampled 441 invoices
 - DCP accepts 85% of invoices submitted on first submission
 - Non-federal contractors make up 9% of all invoices rejected on first submission
 - Federal agencies make up 6% of all invoices rejected on first submission
 - Average processing time from invoice submission to payment is 30 days
 - DCP accepts 80% of deliverables received on first submission
- Began prioritization of parcels along the Virgin River for acquisition in support of Permit Condition K.
- Prepared letter to The Nature Conservancy regarding ownership status and intent for water rights acquired in the Gold Butte area. Discrepancies have since been resolved.
- Updated project charter for the Program's Document Management Plan and worked on reorganizing the electronic file directory.
- Worked on website enhancements and a reorganization of information and content for an upcoming DCP website update.
- Reviewed Southwest Lincoln County Habitat Conservation Plan for implications to the Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.
- Reviewed Walking Box Ranch development concept and provided comment letter to Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Potential impacts to Paiute-Eldorado Area of Environmental Concern and MSHCP Intensively Managed Area.
- Reviewed Searchlight Wind Energy Project and provided comment letter.
- Provided GIS and data support for Clark County Comprehensive Planning's Trails Projects (Searchlight/Goodsprings/Moapa Valley)
- Reviewed and provided comments on Clark County Comprehensive Planning's Land Use Update for Enterprise. Enterprise contains the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center and Management Area.
- Provided technical guidance to Clark County Department of Aviation

Boulder City Conservation Easement



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- Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) repair of tortoise fencing along Highway 95 ceased due to issues between NDOT and Nevada Department of Forestry (NDF). Clark County, as Plan Administrator, met with NDOT to resolve issues and fencing repairs along the highway have resumed.
- Reviewed Boulder City Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharge Permit, Fact Sheet and Maintenance Plan and submitted comments to Nevada Department of Environmental Protection requesting clarifications in the permit.
- Continued to negotiate with the City of Boulder City and Boulder City Municipal Police Department to provide law enforcement services in the BCCE. Law enforcement is a requirement of the conservation easement agreement between Clark County and the City of Boulder City.
- Participated in an open house in Searchlight regarding the Searchlight Trails Study, which could impact the BCCE by identifying and advertising a trail system within a 20-mile radius around Searchlight.
- Reviewed a proposed Right of Way application.
- Submitted the work order to the Clark County Department of Real Property Management for the expansion of the Boulder City Conservation Easement and are awaiting approval of the proposed legal description from City of Boulder City.
- Created and posted a new web page about the conservation easement. Please visit: http://www.accessclarkcounty.com/depts/daqem/epd/dcp/Pages/dcp_bcce.aspx
- Boulder City Conservation Easement Patrol Statistics:
 - 369 hours of patrol and administrative time
 - Made contact with 268 visitors
 - Distributed 162 maps to visitors
 - Distributed 96 maps to all terrain vehicle dealers in Clark County
 - Issued 4 citations for violations within the easement
 - Issued 20 warnings for minor violations
 - Assisted other law enforcement agencies 12 times
 - Installed 4 new signs
 - Reinstalled 15 vandalized or removed signs



Desert Tortoise Hotline and Pick-up Service

Category	No. of Animals
Non-desert tortoise	2
Surrendered domestic desert tortoise	15
Stray domestic desert tortoise	1
Unknown origin desert tortoise	20
Wild desert tortoise	2
Total	40

Public Information and Education

- Mojave Max Education Program – Completed 12 Mojave Max school assemblies providing contest and program information to 3,188 students. Prepared media release for Mojave Max Emergence Contest. Held coordination meeting with the BLM regarding preparations for Max's emergence at the Desert Tortoise Conservation Center. Conducted interview about the emergence contest and Mojave Max with the Las Vegas Review Journal.
- Mass Media Campaign – Produced additional Stay on the Trails print ad and published it in BLVDS magazine. Developing two display signs for outreach and public display.

Desert Tortoise Fencing

- Retro-Fencing – Continued contracted work with NDF to retrofit high priority roads with tortoise-proof mesh. As of April 1, 2009, NDF had completed a total of 48 miles along I-15 (from 93 turnoff going north) under this contract. Project is expected to be completed by July, 2009,
- Monitoring and Maintenance of Fencing – Completed monitoring and maintenance (by walking entire fence line) of all tortoise-proof fencing along the north and south boundaries of the Large Scale Translocation Site and along Nipton Road in March 2009. Also provided monitoring and maintenance of 80% of tortoise proof fencing in the Boulder City Conservation Easement. Remainder of easement is expected to be completed by May 2009.
- NDOT Interlocal Contract – Negotiating scope of work for 2007-2009 Desert Tortoise Fencing, Project No. 737, which would provide NDOT funding to monitor and maintain tortoise-proof fencing along NDOT right-of-ways in Clark County.



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Land Disturbance & Mitigation Fees

- Issued draft report to the City of Boulder City on reconciliation of mitigation fees and acres and met with the City of Boulder City regarding the draft report and how resolve findings and implement recommendations.
- See attached.

Financial

- See attached.

Permit Amendment

- Initiated contract with PBS&J for biological work associated with permit amendment process. Received revised project schedule, EIS outline and draft species list from PBS&J. Anticipate final species list recommendation during the next quarter.
- Continue to meet with permittees monthly to review operational status and continue permit amendment process. Permittees are currently reviewing covered activities and anticipated take estimates.
- Continue to meet with FWS monthly regarding permit amendment. Currently working to finalize scoping notice, resolve issues related to transition from current MSHCP to amended plan and permit, and evaluate alternatives for covering NDOT activities related to operations and maintenance.
- Board of County Commissioners created a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in February 2009. CAC has met three times since it was created.
- Finalized Notice of Intent to conduct scoping and submitted to FWS for Federal Register publication. Anticipate 6-8 weeks before publication in Federal Register.
- Met with BLM to discuss permit amendment issues and receive input regarding mitigation strategy.

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

Revised:
4/15/09 7:50 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

\$ 3,059,767.38
\$ 1,385,314.03
\$ 581,661.23
\$ 20,545.50

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT

\$ 5,047,288.14 TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ (1,229,513.14)

% SPENT

132.20%

% AMOUNT REMAINING

-32.20%

SNPLMA REIMBURSEMENT FROM ROUND 6 IS

\$ 4,123,038.42 AMOUNT REMAINING AFTER REIMBURSEMENT = \$ 2,893,525.28

SECTION 7

ALLOCATED TO SPEND:

\$ 2,952,893.50

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

\$ 747,235.26
\$ 390,487.40
\$ 111,602.58

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT

\$ 1,249,325.24 TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 1,703,568.26

% SPENT

42.31%

% AMOUNT REMAINING

57.69%

SNPLMA ROUND 6

ALLOCATED TO SPEND:

\$ 26,532,248.00

TOTAL SNPLMA CONSERVATION PROJECT EXPENDITURES YTD
TOTAL SNPLMA ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES YTD

\$ 7,209,774.94
\$ 261,790.64

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT

\$ 7,471,565.58 TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 19,060,682.42

% SPENT

28.16%

% AMOUNT REMAINING

71.84%

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRAND TOTALS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$ 33,302,906.50

TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT \$ 13,768,178.96

TOTAL AMOUNT REMAINING \$ 19,534,727.54

%SPENT 41.34%

% AMOUNT REMAINING

58.66%

LAND DISTURBANCE - TORTOISE MITIGATION ACREAGE/FEEES REPORT

4/13/2009

	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	412.33	46.80	1,498.52	9,723.16
2005 Exempt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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	0.00	847.39	218.83	148.26	0.00	390.10	2,582.04
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	0.83	47.41	4.58	27.39	14.52	24.96	0.00	0.00	119.69
2009 Exempt	0.00	3.50	8.30	36.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.60
2009 Fees	\$456.50	\$26,075.50	\$15,526.50	\$15,064.50	\$7,986.00	\$13,728.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$78,837.00
Total acres disturbed to date=									
Total fee Exempt acres disturbed to date (audited)=			62,410.27						
Total fees collected to date=			2,411.50 **						
***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									
Less number of acres reported for which fees have been paid under current permit									
Less number of fee exempt acres under current permit **									
Number of disturbable acres remaining under current permit **									

** Note: We are 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.