



desert conservation  
PROGRAM

Date: February 12, 2014

TO: DISTRIBUTION

RE: DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION NOTIFICATION:  
**ASSESSMENT OF POST-FIRE REHABILITATION OF DESERT TORTOISE HABITAT  
2009-USGS-808A**

The work for the above referenced project has been completed. Please see the attached for all project related information.

**The purpose of the above referenced project was:**

The primary purpose of this project was to rehabilitate desert tortoise habitat with specific goals to:

- Predict areas where exotic annual grasses create high fine fuels that may require control
- Determine the post-fire treatments that are appropriate for re-vegetating burned tortoise habitat
- Identify native Mojave Desert plant species that will be suitable for re-establishment in extreme post-fire environments

**The major accomplishments or findings of this project include:**

1) Developing a spatial model of fine fuels based on monthly rainfall and fine fuel production across multiple fire locations, 2) relating the success of post-fire treatments on plant establishment as a function of local climate, and 3) determining which native species persist in the soil seed bank and rapidly produce canopy cover for tortoise forage and cover sites.

Aside from the final project summary report three separate reports were also produced:

- A Spatial Model for Estimating Annual Plant Biomass and Prioritizing Fine Fuels Management in Desert Tortoise Habitat in Clark County, Nevada
- Evaluation of Rehabilitation Techniques for Burned Mojave Desert Tortoise Habitat in the Northeast Mojave Desert

**respect, protect and enjoy our desert!**

333 North Rancho, Suite 625, Las Vegas, NV 89106 • Phone (702) 455-0374 • Fax (702) 382-4593

- Evaluation of Native Mojave Desert Species for Rehabilitating Burned Habitat for the Mojave Desert Tortoise

For more information about this project and/or for other Project Reports or Symposium Reports, please visit our website at: <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/Depts/dcp/Pages/default.aspx>  
If you have any questions, please contact Larry Mata at (702) 455-3964.

Sincerely,



Marci D. Henson  
Assistant Director, Department of Comprehensive Planning

cc:

- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Board of County Commissioners (7)
- Permittees' Executive Committee
- Permittees' Process Management Group
- Thomas Boldt, Purchasing
- Catherine Jorgenson, District Attorney – Civil Division
- Desert Conservation Program Community Advisory Committee
- Desert Conservation Program Interested Parties List
- Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Implementing Agencies
- Science Advisor
- SNPLMA Office (for SNPLMA projects)
- Congressional Office
- DCP Staff