

Date of Issuance: June 8, 2022

DESERT CONSERVATION PROGRAM PROJECT COMPLETION SUMMARY:

**DESERT TORTOISE NESTING STUDY ON THE BCCE**

**2019-UNR-1985A**

The work for the above reference project has been completed. Below is a summary of project related information.

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

The purpose of this project was to document whether reproduction of translocated male and female desert tortoises (*G. agassizii*) is occurring at the BCCE, and to compare reproduction rates between translocated and resident individuals.

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

- Documented clutch frequency and clutch size of *G. agassizii* at the BCCE in 2021.
- The fall of 2020 and the nesting season of 2021 were unusual in that the site experienced extreme to exceptional drought conditions. Thus, we cannot consider our results from this year to be “typical” of individuals at this site in any given year.
- Both translocated and resident females appeared to respond similarly in terms of the proportion of individuals in either group that possessed follicles and that reproduced.
- We collected some blood samples for future paternity analyses. Our sample size of 2021 hatchlings was extremely low because of unusual drought conditions.
- We were successful, however, in collecting blood samples from all known 2021 mothers and all other monitored translocated and resident females, as well as all live monitored males and additional incidentally encountered individuals.

For more information about this project and/or for other Project Reports or Symposium Reports, please visit our [website](#)

If you have any questions about this project please contact DCP Project Manager Scott Cambrin at (702) 455-3859.