

CVMSHCP MONITORING PROGRAM FY2008/2009 ACTIVITIES & PRODUCTS

July 22, 2009

Key Dates

- 10/08 – Permits Issued
- 11/08 – Monitoring Team Contract Approved
- 12/1/08 -12/1/11 – Term of Contract
- 12/1/08 – 6/30/09 – Term of First Task Order

FY08/09 Scope of Work

- Based on MSHCP and Permits
- Eight Primary Tasks
 - ▣ Prepare work plan
 - ▣ Initiate baseline surveys
 - ▣ Develop monitoring/survey protocols and methodologies
 - ▣ Coordinate with CVCC, agencies, committees, Land Manager, etc.
 - ▣ Identify and pursue monitoring grants
 - ▣ Identify options for managing invasive species at Dos Palmas
 - ▣ Identify options for minimizing/monitoring avian impacts of overhead power lines
- Other (Work Initiated Prior to Monitoring Team Contract)

Work Plan

Activities/Products

- FY08/09 Scope of Work
- Process for setting FY priorities
- FY09/10 Scope of Work
- Discussions regarding scope/focus of program (after start-up phase)

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Funding constraints and permit mandates directly affect scope of work in a given FY

Baseline Surveys

Activities/Products

- Surveys of sand dune covered species and natural communities
- Master schedule of fieldwork
- Map of survey plots
- Survey results (data)

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Need updated access authorizations or blanket authorization through CVCC
- Analysis and reporting of survey results carries over into next FY.

Methodologies/Protocols

Activities/Products

- Survey methods for sand dune covered species and communities
- Monitoring protocols for
 - ▣ sand dune covered species and communities
 - ▣ desert wetland covered species and communities

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Need to integrate the plan/permit and science requirements for the protocols
- Need to integrate testing of the protocols into the scope of work

Coordination

Activities/Products

- Meetings/Conference Calls
 - ▣ CVCC and CVCC staff
 - ▣ USFWS and DFG
 - ▣ RMOC
 - ▣ CVWD staff
 - ▣ IID staff
 - ▣ Dos Palmas RMUC
 - Also San Diego County Water Authority

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Land Manager selected but not yet under contract
- RMUC formation still in process
- Need to coordinate further with other conservation and mitigation programs

Monitoring Grants

Activities/Products

- Compendium of sources
 - ▣ Traditional sources
 - ▣ Federal Recovery funds
 - ▣ LCR Program
- Projects for 2009 LAG application
- Research Proposals (UCR)
 - ▣ NSF (2)
 - ▣ BLM
 - ▣ DOD Research & Engineering

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Need to track short-term prospects for FY budget augmentation as well as long-term prospects for work related to monitoring program

Dos Palmas Invasive Species

Activities/Products

- Report on options for managing invasive species affecting pupfish and pupfish habitat at the Dos Palmas ACEC (3 drafts)
- Memo with a summary of comments on the report and recommendations regarding next steps

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Mandated task, time-specific (6 months after permit approval)
- Need to address issues in RMU plan; further research also needed.
- Need to further coordinate with CVWD, BLM, CNLM, SDCWA, etc

Power Line Avian Impacts

Activities/Products

- Draft report on options for minimizing and monitoring the avian impacts of overhead power lines in MSHCP conservation areas

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Mandated task
 - ▣ time-specific (1 year)
 - ▣ two components
 - IID maintenance plan
 - component of monitoring program
- Will further coordinate with IID in FY09/10

Other Work

Activities/Products

- UCR final report on Palm Springs Pocket Mouse Corridors
- UCR winter surveys of levees, berms, etc for burrowing owl (part of project that continues in FY09/10)

Issues/Lessons Learned

- Tasks initiated prior to Monitoring Team contract.
- Results will be integrated into monitoring program reports and strategies
- Burrowing owl project is part of a mandated task; LAG funded.