



Briefing Statement

Date: December 1, 2010

Title: DMG Restoration Work Group

Issue: Reformation of a DMG restoration work group and hosting of a work group meeting

Background/Discussion

Habitat restoration, which is especially challenging in the desert environment, has long been a priority for DMG members. In the past, DMG has had an active restoration work group and has hosted two restoration conferences. There has been significant turnover in agency restoration staff since the last conference held in 1995. Additionally, there has been new research that has helped to develop new restoration techniques.

Many DMG agencies currently have restoration programs/projects that are loosely coordinated at best. By coordinating those programs, to the extent necessary, a greater efficiency will be realized and knowledge will be shared.

Proposed Action

- Host a two-day meeting of restoration staff working within the California Desert and the greater Mojave Desert. Purpose of the meeting will be to:
 - Provide technology transfer with the current state of the art for arid lands restoration.
 - Discuss agencies' restoration programs and resources
 - Identify areas for collaboration among agencies to share resources, knowledge, and opportunities.
 - Develop an on-going forum among restoration staff can be used to coordinate projects and share knowledge
- The meeting would be “low budget” and would occur in a central location to avoid unnecessary travel. The meeting would also be webcast for the benefit of those with travel restrictions.

Contact

Russell Scofield, DOI Coordinator russell_scofield@ca.blm.gov

760-365-0955