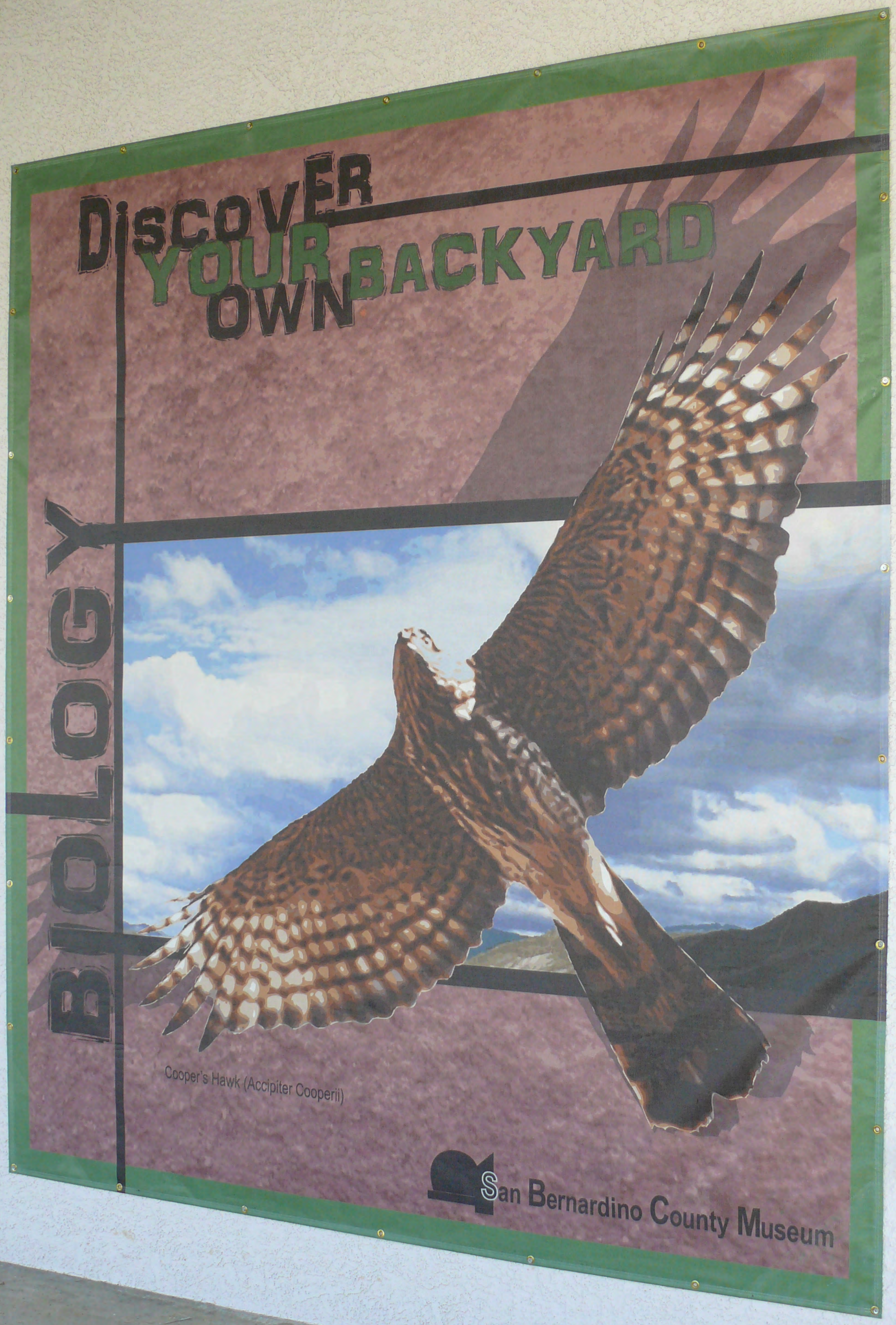
The San Bernardino County Museum has many programs that promote learning and awareness through community outreach, partnerships with educational institutions, and research that enhances both the collections and educational services. The main facility in Redlands contains an encyclopedic collection of approximately 2.3 million permanent and loaned objects from the greater Southwest. Some of these objects are on display here in this office. This collection of the region's natural, historical, and cultural heritage is preserved for the benefit of the public and the scientific community.

The County Museum has seven regional historic sites which it preserves and maintains: Agua Mansa Pioneer Cemetery in Colton, the John Rains House in Rancho Cucamonga, The Stone Hotel in Daggett, Assistencia Mission in Redlands, The Mousley Museum of Natural History in Yucaipa, the Yorba & Slaughter Families Adobe in Chino, and the Yucaipa Adobe.

The County Museum received accreditation from the American Association of Museums on February 23, 1973 and in 2002, it received its decennial accreditation that will continue through 2012. The San Bernardino County Museum continues to rank among the top regional museums in California.

Robert McKernan
Director
San Bernardino County Museum

VICTOR VALLEY MUSEUM


DISCOVER
YOUR
OWN
BACKYARD
BIOLOGY
Cooper's Hawk (Accipiter Cooperii)
San Bernardino County Museum

Welcome to the California Desert
Sequoia National Forest
Death Valley National Park
China Lake Naval Air Station
Ridgecrest
Spangler OHV Area
China Lake Naval Air Station
Fort Irwin National Training Center
Dumont Dunes OHV Area
Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Mojave National Preserve
Razor OHV Area
Mojave
Edwards Air Force Base
Lancaster
Palmdale
El Mirage OHV Area
Stoddard Valley OHV Area
Johnson Valley OHV Area
Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Base
Angeles National Forest
San Bernardino National Forest
Joshua Tree National Park
Los Angeles Basin
Inland Empire
Points of Interest for Recreational Activities in the California Desert
1 Kelso Depot
2 Kelso Dunes
3 Hole in the Wall
4 Jumbo Rocks
5 Furnace Creek
6 Afton Canyon Natural Area
7 Desert Tortoise Natural Area
8 Amboy Crater
9 Trona Pinnacles
10 Red Rock Canyon State Park
11 Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve
12 Antelope Valley Indian Museum
13 Saddleback Butte State Park
14 Providence Mountains SRA & Mitchell Caverns
15 Calico Ghost Town
16 Mojave Narrows
17 Moabi Park
18 Morongo Wildlife Reserve
19 Mojave River Forks
20 Rainbow Basin Natural Area
21 Salt Creek Historical Mining District
Map Key
Activity Key
NV
UT
CA
AZ
FIJI

California Deserts: Know before you go

Tread lightly

tread lightly!
LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION

Travel and recreate with minimum impact.

Respect the environment and the rights of others.

Educate yourself. Plan and prepare before you go.

Allow for future use of the outdoors leave it better than you found it.

Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.

Protect the desert tortoise

Never pick up or harass a tortoise.

Check under your vehicle before driving away. Tortoises enjoy the shade under your car.

Keep vehicles on established roads. Vehicles crush burrows, tortoises and eggs within.

Do not release captive tortoises. They may carry diseases that can be transmitted to wild tortoises.

Travel safe in the desert

A life-threatening emergency can quickly develop if you become stuck, lost, or injured. Be prepared!

Safety checklist:

Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return.

Take plenty of water: a minimum of one gallon per person per day.

Check tires and gas gauge before you leave the pavement.

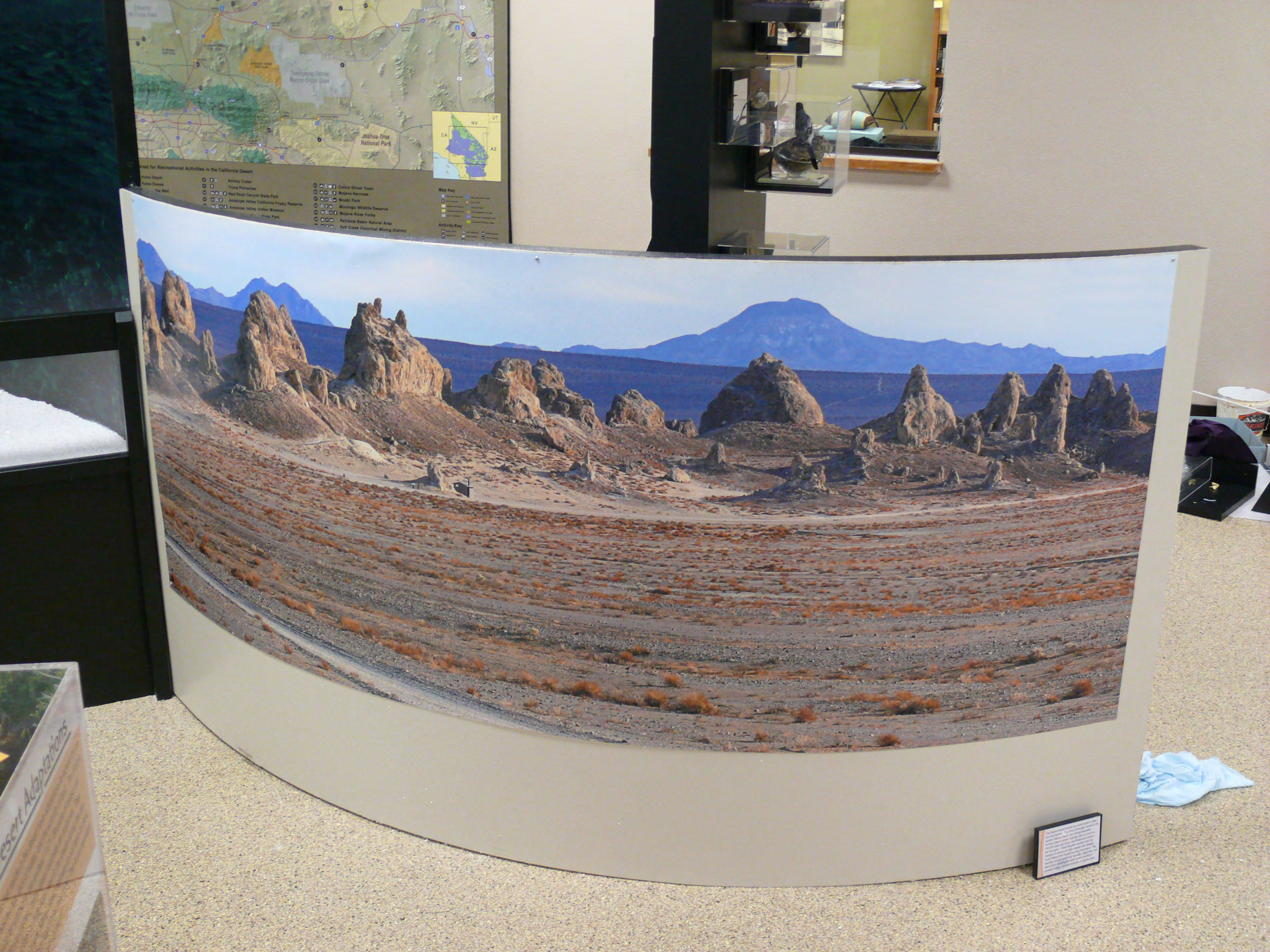
If you get lost, stay with your vehicle - its easier to spot than a person.

DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

Caltrans

HISTORY
COMMUNITY


Joshua Tree
National Park
NV
UT
CA
AZ
Map Key
Activity Key
esert Adaptations

Travel and recreate with minimum impact.
Respect the environment and the rights of others.
Educate yourself. Plan and prepare before you go.
Allow for future use of the outdoors leave it better than you found it.
Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.
Travel safe in the desert
A life-threatening emergency can quickly develop if you become stuck, lost, or injured. Be prepared!
Safety checklist:
Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return.
Take plenty of water: a minimum of one gallon per person per day.
Keep vehicles on established roads. Vehicles crush burrows, tortoises and eggs within.
Do not release captive tortoises. They may carry diseases that can be transmitted to wild tortoises.
MOJAVE DESERT
PROGRAM

Allow for future use of the outdoors leave it better than you found it.

Discover the rewards of responsible recreation.

Do not release captive tortoises. They may carry diseases that can be transmitted to wild tortoises.

Travel safe in the desert

A life-threatening emergency can quickly develop if you become stuck, lost, or injured. Be prepared!

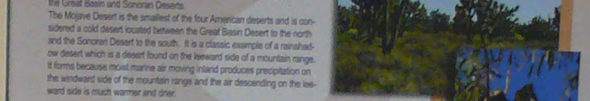
Safety checklist:

Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return.

Take plenty of water: a minimum of one gallon per person per day.

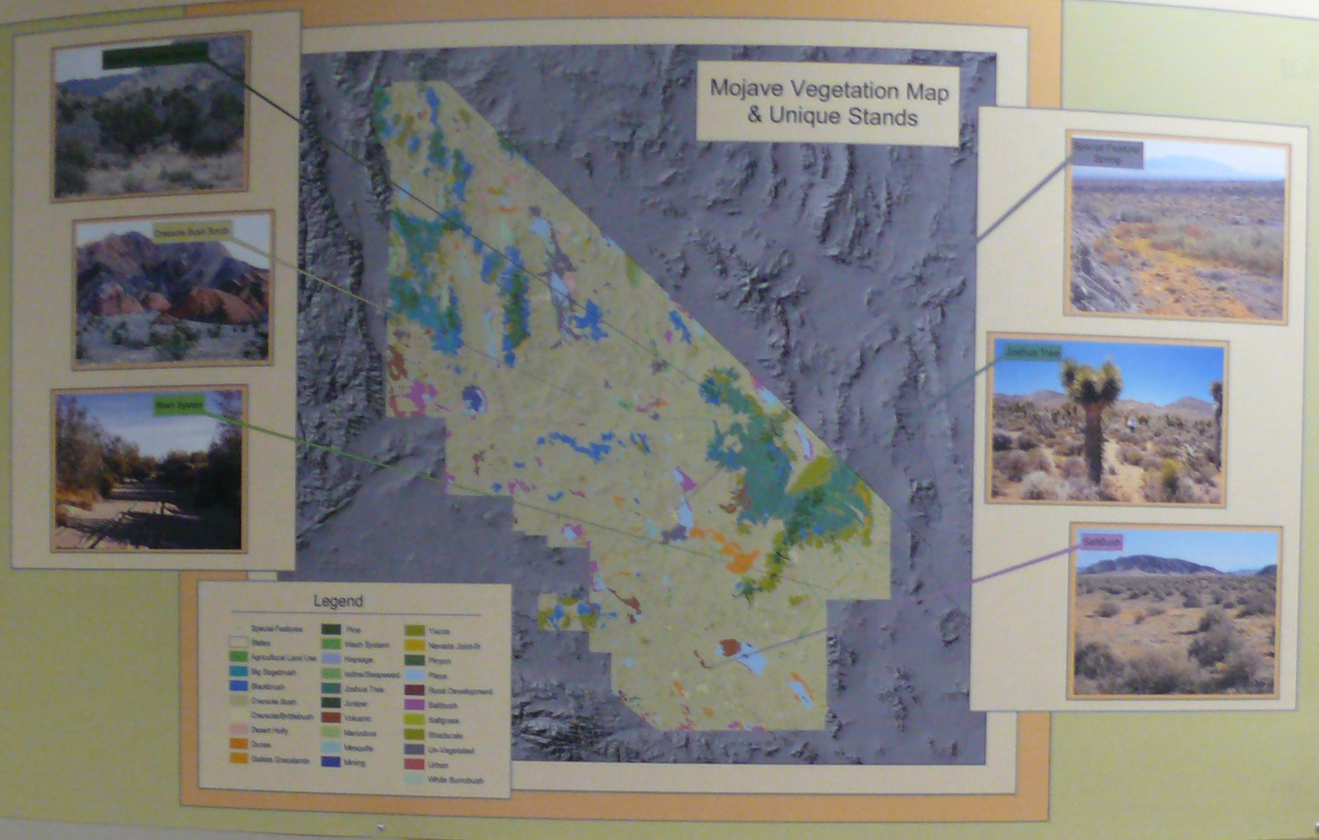
Check tires and gas gauge before you leave the pavement.

If you get lost, stay with your vehicle - its easier to spot than a person.

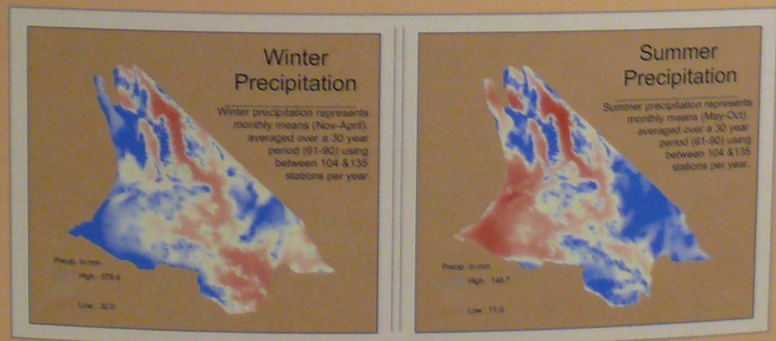


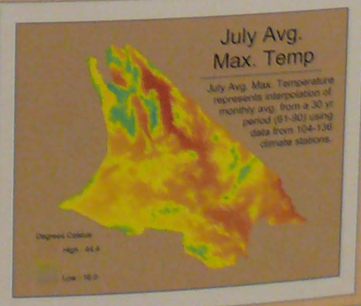
Daggett
WESTERN FILM FESTIVAL
e Manix
t tan and green silts and clays bear
at once filled the low-lying basins of
This lake, named Lake Manix, cov-
200 feet deep in some places. Fed by
drainage, Pleistocene Lake Manix pro-
amels, ground sloths, and bison near
8,000 years ago. The fossil remains of
e ancient lake sediments. The richness
esignation of the dry lake basin as an
Bureau of Land Management.
MOJAVE DESERT
ECOSYSTEM PROGRAM

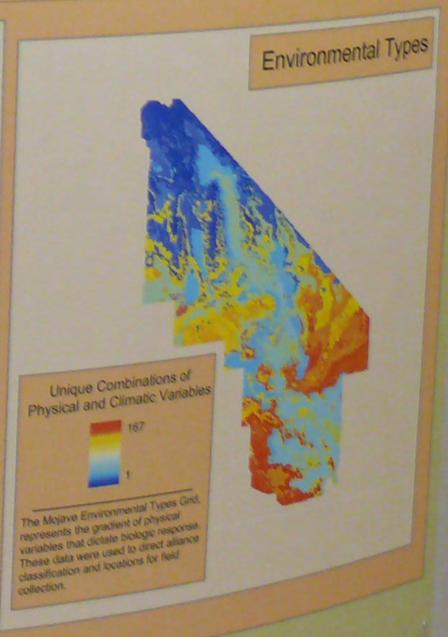
Mojave Vegetation Data



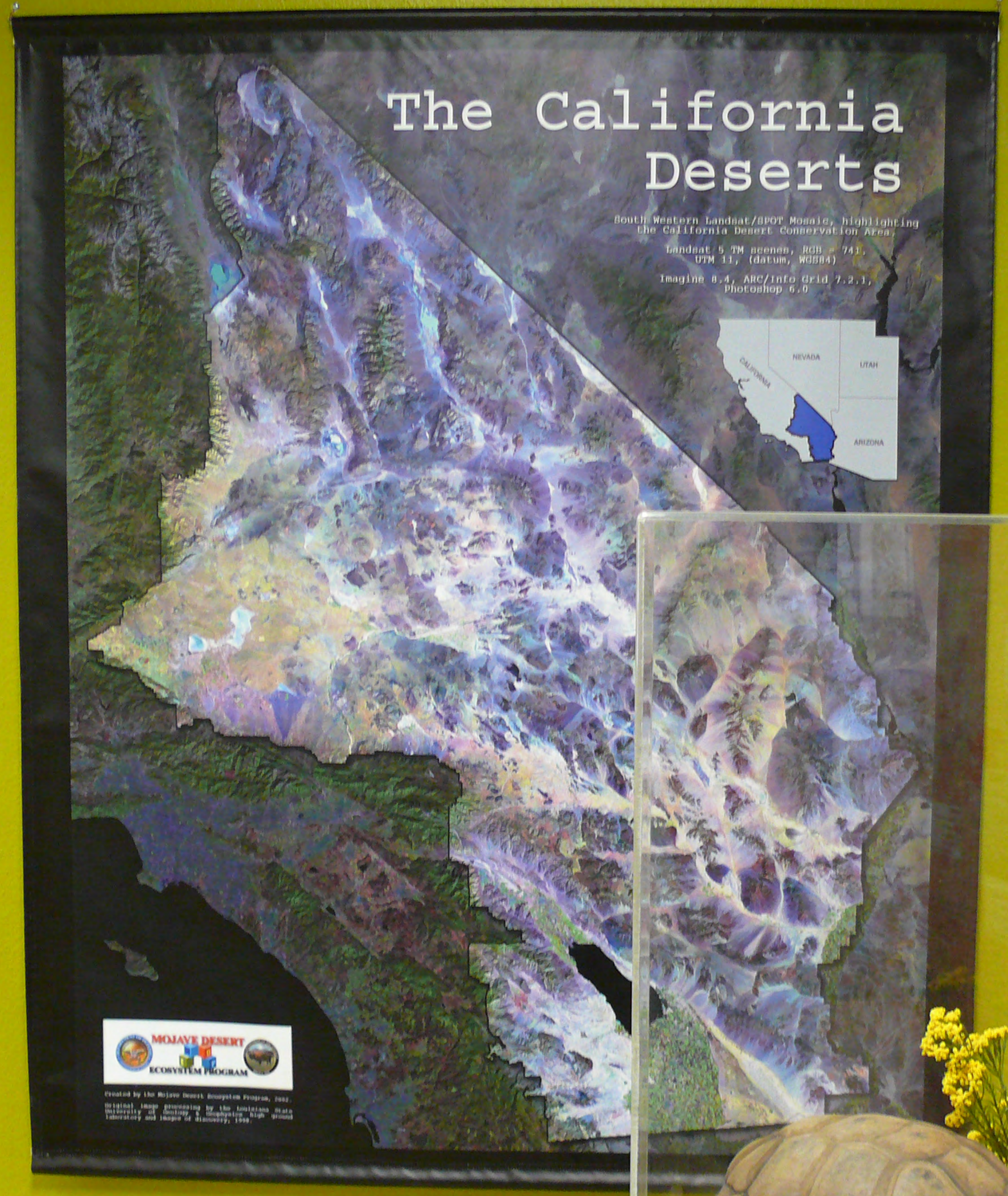
Response of Vegetation to Environmental Variables

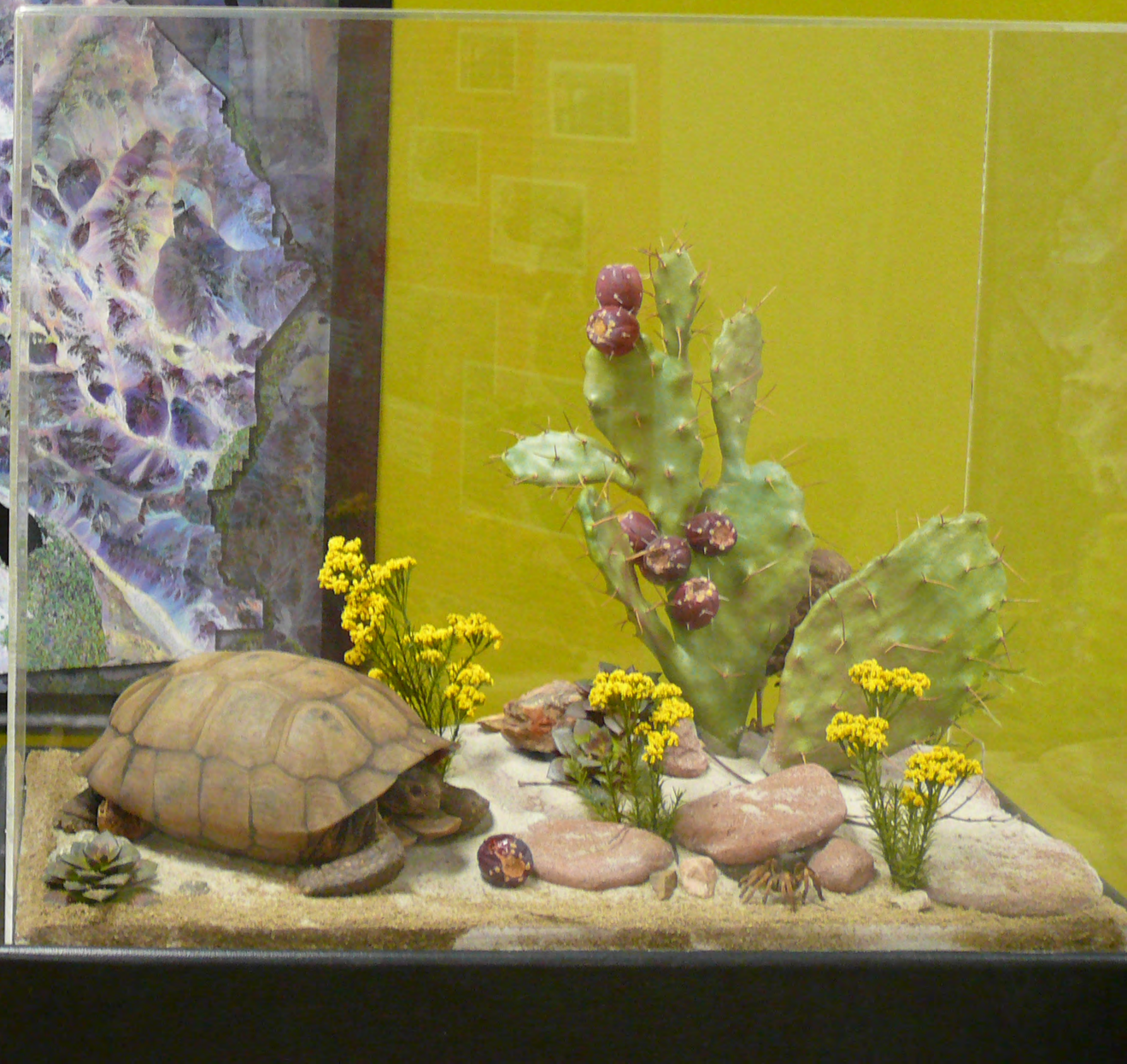






EXIT
The California Deserts


The California Deserts
South Western Landsat/SPOT Mosaic, highlighting the California Desert Conservation Area.
Landsat 5 TM scenes, RGB = 741, UTM 11, (datum, WGS84)
Imagine 8.4, ARC/Info Grid 7.2.1, Photoshop 6.0
CALIFORNIA
NEVADA
UTAH
ARIZONA
MOJAVE DESERT
ECOSYSTEM PROGRAM
Created by the Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program, 2002.
Original image processing by the Louisiana State University of Geology & Geophysics High ground laboratory and Images of discovery, 1998.



General George S. Patton Jr. Memorial

Desert Training Center Museum

The Desert Training Area sprawled over most of Southern California, Arizona, and Nevada and included 10 camps in addition to Camp Young.

It's the unconquerable soul of man, not the nature of the weapon he uses, that insures victory.
-George S. Patton Jr.

In the earliest days of World War II, it was evident that a suitable area would be needed to train American Soldiers to combat the German Afrika Korps. The area would need to allow large-scale maneuvers in an environment similar to the harsh terrain and climate of the North African Desert.

General George S. Patton Jr. established the need for desert training in a speech he gave at his first staff meeting with the 1st Armored Corps, "We cannot train troops to fight in the desert of North Africa by training in the swamps of Georgia. I sent a report to Washington requesting a desert training center in California. The California desert can kill quicker than the enemy. We will lose a lot of men from heat, but the training will save hundreds of lives when we get into combat."

The Desert Training Center, established in 1942, originally consisted of a portion of the Mojave Desert stretching roughly east of Indio to the Colorado River, and from Yuma north to Searchlight. The facility was not only designed for training troops and creating tactical doctrine, but also for developing new techniques and testing equipment and weapons for desert warfare.

Colonel E.W. Piburn reflected on the success of training in the desert at the facility, "The terrain at the Desert Training Center is far worse than anything in Libya or Mesopotamia. American troops at the center are more competent to go into battle today than any unit with which I have served…"

Conditions at the training center remained primitive. They did have wooden floors for their tents, but no electricity, no sheets for their cots, none of the amenities common to other stateside military installations. Lt. Colonel William Heidman (retired), commented about the camp, "All personnel were housed in pyramidal tents mounted on wooden platforms, two officers to a tent, except for the high rankers, the enlisted men five to a tent… We did sleep under blankets since the drop in temperature was about 40 degrees. Going to the latrine at night was a daunting task since there were frequently rattlers crawling about."

General George S. Patton Jr., in spite of the hardships to which he put them through and the harshness of his manner, was respected, admired, and even loved by most of his troops. They felt bitter when the War Department designated the Desert Training Center Command Post as "Camp Young", this was after all Patton country and the camp should have been named after him.

When the direction of the war shifted to the Allies' favor in 1944, the camps were closed, ending the largest simulated theater of operations in the history of military maneuvers. Although most of the structures were removed, much of the infrastructure remains, including rock-lined streets, staging areas, flag circles, and tent areas.

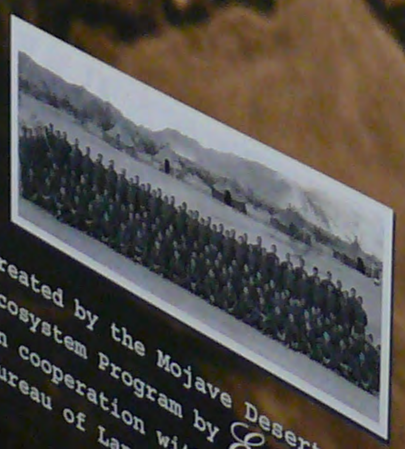
Although General George S. Patton Jr. was at the Desert Training Center for less than four months and only a fraction of the approximate one million men who eventually trained there were under his direct command, his impact has been lasting. The techniques developed from the desert training center was crucial to the Allied victory in the North African campaign.

For more information about the General Patton Memorial Museum, please contact them at:
#2 Chiriaco Rd.
Chiriaco Summit, CA 92201
1-760-227-3483

Some of Our Many Supporters

President Gerald Ford
U.S. Senator Pete Wilson
Congressman Al McCandless
Congressman Jerry Lewis
Congressman Duncan Hunter
Congressman Victor Veysey
Senator Robert Presley
Senator John Foran

Bureau of Land Management
George Patton Memorial Inc.
George S. Patton Historical Society
George S. Patton Family
Coachella Valley Historical Society
American Legion
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Disabled American Veterans



Created by the Mojave Desert
Ecosystem Program by &
In cooperation wi
Bureau of La

Desert Survival
Mountain Slopes
Desert Floor
Sand Dunes
Sea Level
Desert Wildflowers
Leaf It to Nature
Native People of Death Valley

Brontothere (a.k.a. Titanothere) skull

Death Valley, 1.8 Billion Years Young
Mudflats
(Latest Precambrian and Early Cambrian)
Death Valley
(Middle Cambrian to Permian)
Earthquakes and Withdrawal of the Sea
(Mesozoic)
Paleozoic
250 mya (millions of years ago)
Mesozoic
100 mya
Southern California's Newest Venue for Teaching
Earth System Science:
The San Bernardino County Museum's Hall of Geological Wonders
Shake Out. Don't Freak Out.
Are you living on the edge?
What is a Desert?
All deserts share common characteristics based on climate and location.

Dining at Apple Valley Inn
Valley
Inn
CALIFORNIA
Vacations
APPLE VALLEY INN
APPLE VALLEY INN'S
WESTERN STEAK FRY
CAMPFIRE BOOK
OF SONGS
NEWT

The High Desert's Royal Family: King of the Cowboys, and Queen of the West

Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, who started out as Lucille Smith and Leonard Slye, created a life for themselves through both their professional work as actors and singers, and in their personal lives, as parents, and eventually, as members of the Apple Valley community.

Both Roy and Dale were musicians and stars of film, radio, and television. They embodied Hollywood's version of the singing cowboy and cowgirl of the American west. In the 1960s, they purchased Bud Westlund's home in Apple Valley and named it the Double R Bar Ranch. For a time, they leased the Apple Valley Inn, and it became Roy Rogers' Apple Valley Inn. Roy Rogers' Riding Stables was another of their local ventures, along with their world-famous museum.

Over the years, Roy and Dale were benefactors of children's charities, and contributed much to the local community. In 1994, Highway 18 was named Happy Trails Highway in their honor.

prehistory
analysis

ANTHROPOLOGY

Cow Cove Petroglyphs

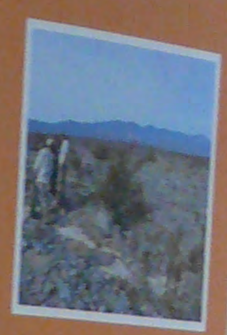
Many of the mountains and canyons of the Mojave Desert contain petroglyphs similar to the ones found in Black Canyon. The Cow Cove Petroglyph District is one of these places. It is located about 8 miles southwest of Halloran Springs and about 10 miles north of the Mojave Trail. Thus, the district is closer to the Mojave Trail than are the Black Canyon and Inscription Canyon petroglyphs.

Compare the replicated petroglyphs and photographs from this site with those from Black Canyon and Inscription Canyon. Do they appear to have been made by the same ancient people or by a different group?

ANTHROPOLOGY

Desert Tortoise Monitoring Effort

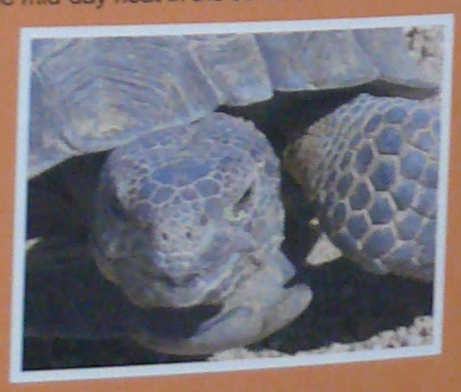
Since the Desert Tortoise has been listed as a threatened species under the federal Endangered Species Act, population numbers have been closely monitored in the Mojave Desert Eco-Region by the Fish & Wildlife Service. Every spring researchers scour the desert in search of these animals noting the location and health of each tortoise.



Starting in 2001 the Management Oversight Group (MOG) adopted line distance sampling as the accepted method to estimate tortoise populations in a given area. Transect lines are selected at random from year to year within designated Critical Habitat Areas and Desert Wildlife Management Areas.

Each transect is comprised of 4 segments equaling 3,000 meters each for a total of 12,000 meters. (Roughly 7.5 miles) Once a transect is started all segments must be completed within a specified time. This is sometimes a difficult task given the remote locations and rugged terrain.

The Desert Tortoise is an extremely reclusive animal. They are only active in the spring months and again in the fall. The Desert Tortoise is a burrowing animal. They dig out spots in the desert to protect themselves from both the cold in the winter and as a spot to escape the mid-day heat in the summer.



The Desert Tortoise's diet consists of wildflowers, grasses and cacti. Most of the water the tortoise consumes also is provided by these plants.

About MDEP

The Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) is a DoD and DoI resource supported program designed as a data repository for geospatial data for Mojave Desert. MDEP fulfills several key roles in the effort towards the recovery of the Desert Tortoise. The program acts as the data repository for the majority of information collected during the monitoring season and performs QAQC services. MDEP also performs map creation for crews in the field. All services performed are under the leadership and review by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Desert Tortoise Recovery Office.

On top of MDEP's role as a data repository and as a partner with the Desert Tortoise Recovery Office, MDEP is continuing to investigate emerging geospatial technologies and developing processes that can be used by organizations to operate in the Mojave Desert.

MOJAVE DESERT ECOSYSTEM PROGRAM

11873
Discover Your Own Backyard
PALEONTOLOGY
Ancient Camel (Michebe) Cajon Pass, CA
San Bernardino County Museum
Discover Your Own Backyard
Anthropology
San Bernardino County Museum
Discover Your Own Backyard
History

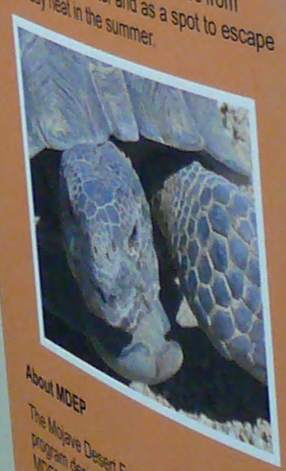
Desert Tortoise Monitoring Effort

Since the Desert Tortoise has been listed as a threatened species under the federal Endangered Species Act, population numbers have been closely monitored in the Mojave Desert Eco-Region by the Fish & Wildlife Service. Every spring researchers scour the desert in search of these animals noting the location and health of each tortoise.

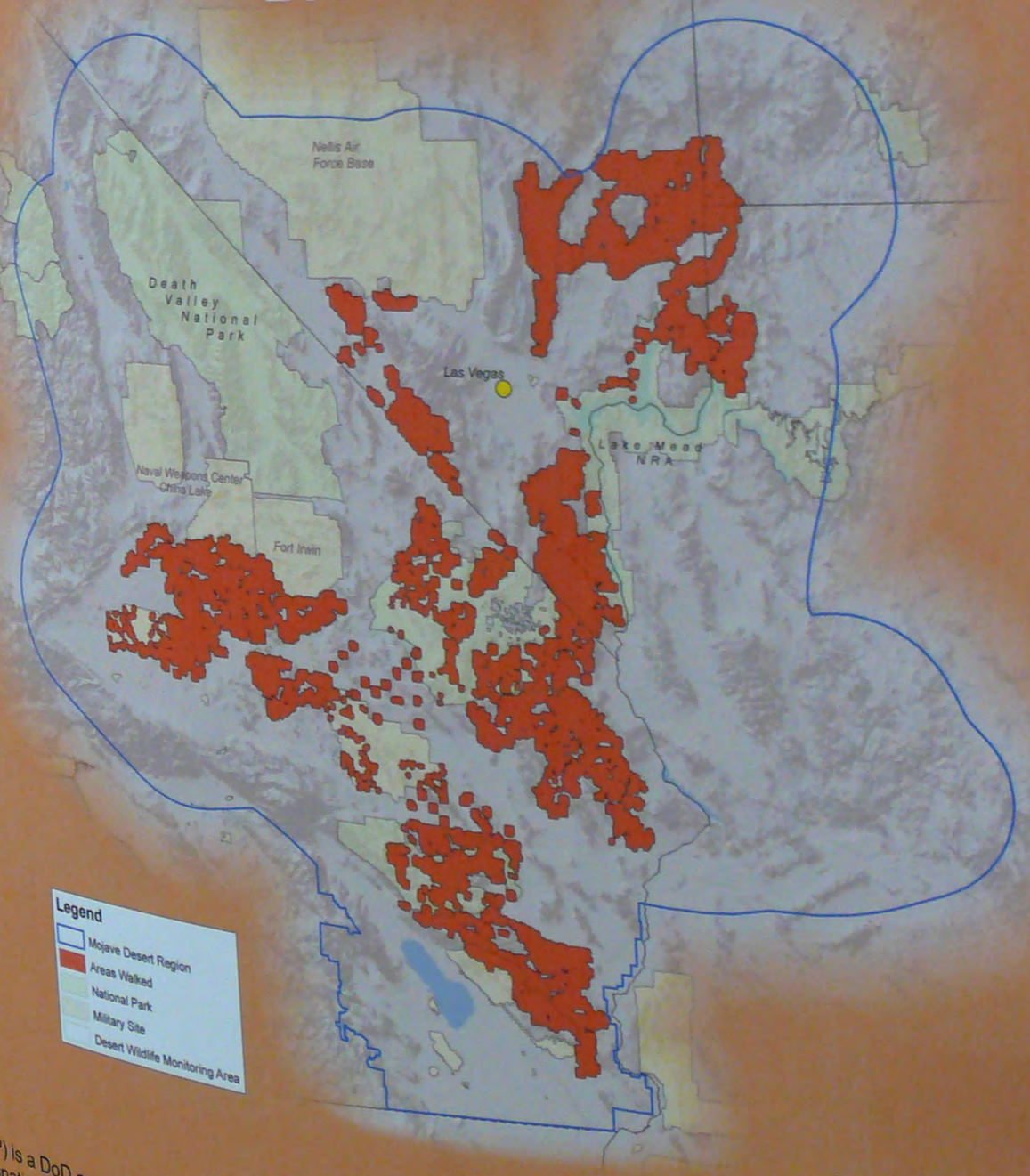
Starting in 2001 the Management Oversight Group (MOG) adopted line distance sampling as the accepted method to estimate tortoise populations in a given area. Transect lines are selected at random from year to year within designated Critical Habitat Areas and Desert Wildlife Management Areas.

Each transect is comprised of 4 segments equaling 3,000 meters each for a total of 12,000 meters. (Roughly 7.5 miles) Once a transect is started all segments must be completed within a specified time. This is sometimes a difficult task given the remote locations and rugged terrain.

The Desert Tortoise is an extremely reclusive animal. They are only active in the spring months and again in the fall. The Desert Tortoise is a burrowing animal. They dig out spots in the desert to protect themselves from both the cold in the winter and as a spot to escape the mid-day heat in the summer.



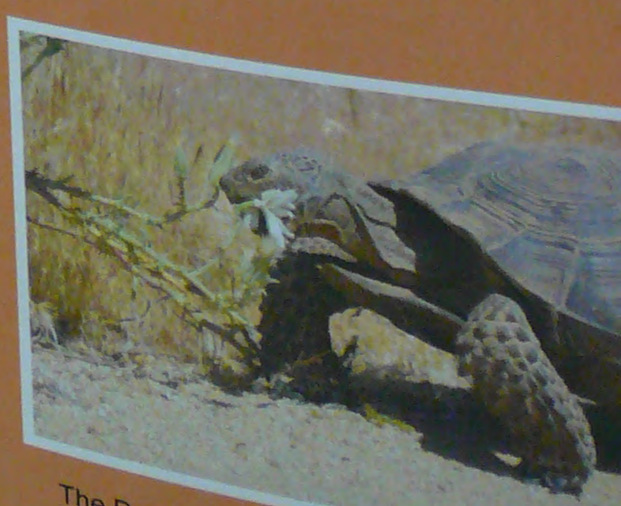
Desert Tortoise Monitoring in the Mojave Desert 2001-2009



About MDEP

The Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) is a DoD and DoI resource supported program designed as a data repository for geospatial data for Mojave Desert. MDEP fulfills several key roles in the effort towards the recovery of the Desert Tortoise. The program acts as the data repository for the majority of information collected during the monitoring season and performs QAQC services. MDEP also performs map creation for crews in the field. All services performed are under the leadership and review by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Desert Tortoise Recovery Office.

On top of MDEP's role as a data repository and as a partner with the Desert Tortoise Recovery Office, MDEP is continuing to investigate emerging geospatial technologies and developing processes that can be used by organizations to operate in the Mojave Desert.



The Desert Tortoise's diet consists of wildflowers, grasses and cacti. Most of the water the tortoise consumes also is provided by these plants.

The Heat is On
Desert Tortoises & Survival
PLAY
USGS
Length 30 Minutes

NTOLOGY
Ice Age
HISTORY
Farming and Agriculture
of the Cowboys, and Queen of the
MOJAVE DESERT