

Working together to conserve our desert lands

# OVERVIEW 2013

Desert Managers Group

Overview, Strategic Plan, Charter and MOU



**Cover Photo: Afton Canyon**

Afton Canyon is designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern to protect plant and wildlife habitat, and to preserve scenic values of the riparian area within the canyon.



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# 1.0 OVERVIEW

## Mission:

- Develop coordinated and complementary management guidelines, practices, and programs.
- Coordinate and integrate efforts in the California Desert to:
  - Conserve and restore desert resources;
  - Provide high quality recreation, public education, and visitor services;
  - Provide for safety of desert users.
- Develop and integrate the databases and scientific studies needed for effective resource management and planning.
- Promote compatibility in the application of each agency's mission.

## Participants:

- **Department of the Interior**
  - Bureau of Land Management
  - Fish and Wildlife Service
  - National Park Service
  - Geological Survey
  - Bureau of Indian Affairs
- **State of California**
  - Department of Fish and Game
  - Department of Parks and Recreation
  - Department of Transportation
  - California Energy Commission
- **Department of Agriculture**
  - Forest Service
- **Department of Defense**
  - Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake
  - Edwards Air Force Base
  - National Training Center, Fort Irwin
  - Marine Corps Air Combat Center, Twenty-nine Palms
  - Marine Corps Logistical Base, Barstow
  - Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma
- **Counties**
  - San Bernardino County
  - Imperial County
  - Kern County
  - Inyo County

## Authority:

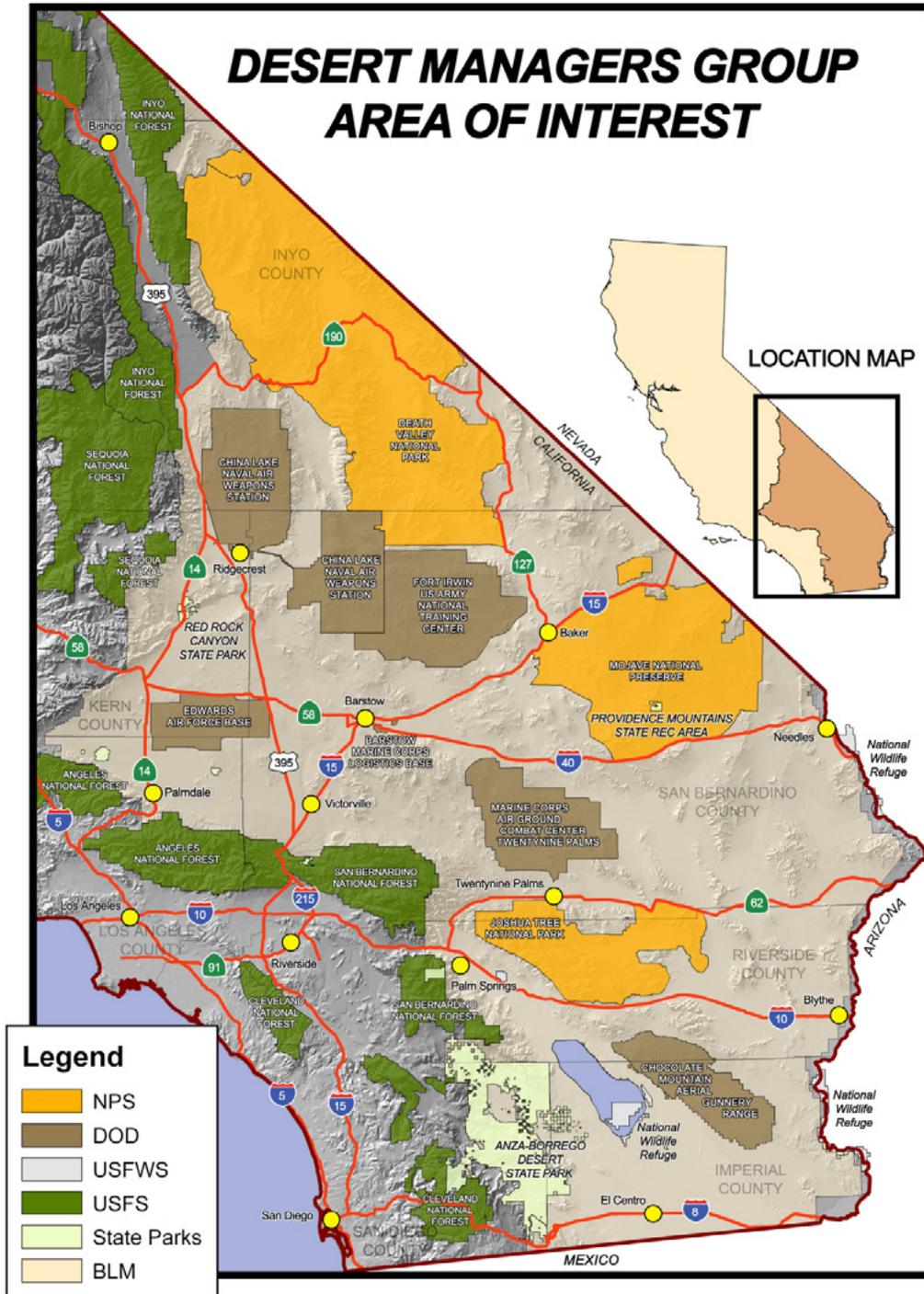
The DMG was formally established in September 2000 pursuant to a **Memorandum of Understanding** among DOI, DOD, and the California Resources Agency. The MOU and DMG Charter were updated in 2005 and membership was expanded to include the Forest Service, Indian Affairs, and three counties. Additional members have been added upon agreement to the charter.

## Contacts:

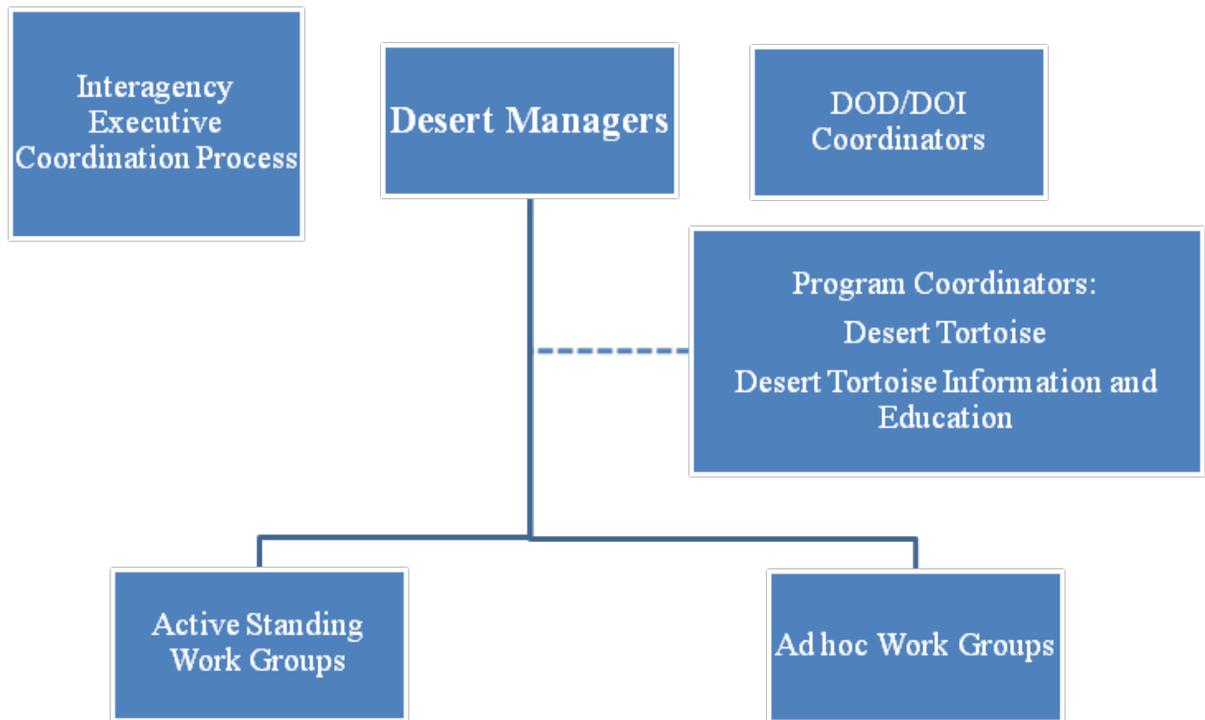
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## 1.3 ORGANIZATION



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## 1.4 Recent Highlights and Accomplishments

1. Desert Tortoise Information and Youth Education (DTIYE)
  - 1.1. The DOI Coordinator and Desert Tortoise Information and Youth Education (DTIYE) Coordinator planned and hosted a Range-wide Desert Tortoise Education and Outreach Coordination Summit in Henderson, Nevada. Fourteen tortoise education programs from throughout the four-state range of the tortoise participated. Participants of the summit continue to share information and ideas via a MDEP hosted SharePoint site.
  - 1.2. The DTIYE Coordinator reprinted two existing brochures: and
    - *You're in Desert Tortoise Country*
    - *Invasion of the Tortoise Snatchers* (Raven)
  - 1.3. The DTIYE Work Group developed two new brochures
    - Desert Tortoise Pet Owners Brochure
    - Educators' Brochure
  - 1.4. The DTIYE Work Group and a group of elementary school teachers developed a kindergarten through second grade standards-based teaching curriculum and tortoise trunks.
  - 1.5. The Living Desert (TLD) and the DTIYE Coordinator hosted the Mojave Maxine Contest, which received a record 1600 entries. Thirteen classroom visits were made to winners.
  - 1.6. The DTIYE Coordinator developed Facebook and Twitter pages for Mojave Maxine to utilize social media to better target youth.
  - 1.7. Elementary school children from San Diego developed one desert tortoise podcast.
  - 1.8. The DTIYE Coordinator hosted three teacher training workshops for the tortoise trunks.
  - 1.9. The DTIYE Coordinator attended twenty-one public events promoting tortoise education.
2. Raven Control
  - 2.1. The DTIYE Work Group produced three radio and one television public service announcements related to raven control.
  - 2.2. USDA Wildlife Services opportunistically removed two ravens known to predate upon tortoise.
  - 2.3. A treatment for a 30-minute raven documentary was developed and approved. Production will occur in FY 2013.
  - 2.4. The MOA with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to establish the California Desert Program to manage non-renewable energy raven impact mitigation was finalized by DMG managers and is undergoing legal review.
3. Amargosa Basin Coordination (ABC)
  - 3.1. The DOI Coordinator facilitated two in-person meetings to coordinate water usage, water rights protection, conservation actions, and science between the DOI agencies in the Death Valley Regional Flow System (DVRFS) and the DOJ Federal Family. The work group elected to discontinue a regular schedule of conference calls.
  - 3.2. Through the Amargosa Basin Coordination, water monitoring in the former Yucca Mountain monitoring network and throughout the DVRFS was continued.
  - 3.3. BLM (NV and CA), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Amargosa Conservancy, Nye County Nevada, and USGS worked to develop a better knowledge of the groundwater characteristics in the lower Amargosa (Shoshone-Tecopa area).

## 1.4 RECENT HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 3.4. USGS continued development of the Southern Amargosa Embedded Groundwater Model. (SAMM) for the area surrounding Devils Hole, Ash Meadows, and Carson Slough.
- 3.5. The DOI Coordinator coordinated Amargosa vole research and recovery between USGS, FWS, CDFG, BLM, TNC, UC Davis, UC Berkeley, and the Amargosa Conservancy.
4. Mohave Ground Squirrel (MGS)
  - 4.1. The DOI Coordinator managed implementation of the DMG's Mohave ground squirrel (MGS) research strategy. FY 2012 components included:
    - Development and finalization of the USGS habitat suitability model
    - Expansion of the current DNA library at the University of Nevada Reno
    - Camera trapping
    - Volunteer live trapping
  - 4.2. DOD Sponsored a MGS scientific workshop that focused on the development of better detection protocols and methods of determining density and distribution of MGS as part of a long-term conservation strategy.
  - 4.3. The DOI Coordinator coordinated with California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) to support development of a MGS conservation strategy for the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP).
5. Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) continued to share data via [mojavedata.gov](http://mojavedata.gov). In FY 2013, the site had almost 5000 unique visitors.
6. Restoration
  - 6.1. The DOI Coordinator provided interim facilitation and support for the continuance of the Low Desert Weed Management Area<sup>1</sup>.
  - 6.2. DMG member offices participated in the Mojave Weed Management Area.
7. Coordinate Desert Tortoise Monitoring
  - 7.1. DTRO coordinated range-wide desert tortoise monitoring in California and is developing a preliminary trend analysis for previous years' monitoring.
  - 7.2. Desert Tortoise Recovery Office (DTRO) and MDEP coordinated the dissemination of desert tortoise line distance monitoring data to DMG members, academia, and the public.
8. Mojave Tui Chub Recovery
  - 8.1. FWS, CDFG, and NPS established one new population of Mojave tui chub in Mojave National Preserve.
9. Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative (DLCC)
  - 9.1. The DOD and DOI Coordinators participated in the DLCC and its work groups for the purpose of representing DMG/manager interest and needs in the Colorado and Mojave Deserts. The DOI Coordinator assembled a selection of DMG projects for funding by the LCC but none were selected.
  - 9.2. MDEP provided web support to the DLCC.
10. Conservation Land Acquisition Work Group (CLAWG)
  - 10.1. MDEP provided GIS services to agencies and NGO partners to support conservation acquisitions.

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- 10.2. MDEP developed a database of potential willing sellers for use by members of the CLAWG.
- 10.3. The DOI Coordinator facilitated a collaborative SB34 and Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) acquisition project in Black Mountain Supersonic Corridor.
- 10.4. The CLAWG began an analytical process to prioritize land acquisition projects based on conservation values and agency needs.

## 11. Energy

- 11.1. MDEP constructed a web viewer that host DRECP for the public.
- 11.2. The DOI Coordinator hosted a webinar for DMG managers on the Final Solar PEIS and the July DRECP alternatives.
- 11.3. The DOI Coordinator hosted a science webinar with USGS on two studies related to renewable energy impacts to wildlife.

## 12. Desert Tortoise Recovery Implementation Teams (RITs)

- 12.1. DTRO Established the California Desert Tortoise Recovery Implementation Team (RIT).
- 12.2. DTRO Coordinated the development and refinement of the spatial decision support system for desert tortoise recovery, project evaluation and mitigation.

13. MDEP Maintained [californiadesert.gov](http://californiadesert.gov). The site received almost 60,000 unique visitors during FY 2012.

14. The DOI Coordinator attended one CA/NV Golden Eagle Work Group meeting and hosted a DMG Golden Eagle meeting.

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<sup>1</sup>The LDWMA was coordinated by the Southern Low Desert RC&D. The RC&D no longer has the capacity to coordinate or support LDWMA.

## 1.5 FY 2013 Annual Work Plan

The California Desert is seemingly vast, limitless, and harsh. In reality, this fragile treasured landscape supports a diverse, unique, and sensitive biota, provides recreational opportunities to millions, serves as training grounds for military activities, and has renewable energy potential. Approximately eighty-percent of the California Desert, or twenty-million acres, is publicly owned and includes two national parks, one national preserve, six military installations, seventy-two designated federal wildernesses, twelve state parks, and the Bureau of Land Management's California Desert Conservation Area. The area also includes eight county jurisdictions, about one- hundred communities, and thirty-seven federally recognized American Indian tribes.

Conflicting demands for use of California's desert resources make it imperative for governmental agencies to work cooperatively in support of agency missions, protection of desert resources, and public use. The Desert Managers Group (DMG) is the forum for government agencies to address and discuss issues of common concern relative to the California Desert. Through cooperative management, each agency achieves greater operational efficiency, enhances resource conservation, and more effectively serves the American public.

The purpose of this document is to guide the collaborative work of the agencies participating in the DMG for the Federal 2012 fiscal year<sup>1</sup> (FY2012). This annual work plan (AWP) implements the DMG's 2010 Strategic Plan will assist DMG agencies in their pursuit of DMG goals.

# 1.5 FY 2012 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

## DMG Mission Statement

The mission of the Desert Managers Group is to:

- A. Develop coordinated and complimentary management guidelines, practices, and programs.
- B. Coordinate and integrate efforts in the California Desert to:
  - 1. Conserve and restore desert resources
  - 2. Provide high quality recreation, public education, and visitor services
  - 3. Provide for safety of desert users
- C. Develop and integrate the databases and scientific studies needed for effective resource management and planning.
- D. Promote compatibility in the application of each agency's mission.

	Action Item	Relationship to Strategic Plan	Funding Source(s)	Lead(s)
<b>1</b>	<b>Desert Tortoise Information and Youth Education (DTIYE)</b>			
1.1	Distribute Brochures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>You're in Desert Tortoise Country</i></li> <li>• <i>Invasion of the Tortoise Snatchers</i> (Raven)</li> <li>• Educators' brochure</li> <li>• Desert Tortoise Pet Owners brochure</li> </ul>	Task 3.2.1	base	DTIYE members
1.2	Check out K-6 standards-based teaching curriculum tortoise education trunks	Task 3.1.3	base	The Living Desert, Edwards, Barstow BLM, Joshua Tree, San Diego Zoo
1.3	Work with San Diego Zoo to develop a high school standards-based teaching curriculum	Task 3.1.3	unfunded	DTIYE members
1.4	Host Mojave Maxine Contest	Task 3.1.3	base	The Living Desert/BLM
1.5	Utilize social media for tortoise education targeting youth	Task 3.1.1	base	The Living Desert
1.6	Attend events to promote tortoise education	Task 3.1.2	base	DTIYE members
1.7	Distribute PSAs via the desert tortoise webpage	Task 3.1.2	base	MDEP
<b>2</b>	<b>Raven Control</b>			
2.1	Inventory raven nests and survey for tortoise predation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Priority                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ivanpah Valley- contractor</li> <li>○ Chuckwalla DWMA- contractor</li> <li>○ Mojave National Preserve- NPS staff and intern if needed</li> <li>○ Superior-Cronese DWMA and Fort Irwin's Southeast Conservation Area- contractor</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Second Priority                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Joshua Tree National Park- NPS staff and intern if needed</li> <li>○ Desert Tortoise National Area- contractor</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Task 1.1.3	Raven Mitigation Fund	Raven Work Group

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2.2	Opportunistically remove suspected offending ravens identified by surveys, agencies, or the public through a variety of humane means.	Task 1.1.3	Raven Mitigation Fund	Raven Work Group/ Wildlife Services
2.3	Develop a 30-minute raven documentary to be used as an educational tool	Task 1.1.3	Raven Mitigation Fund	DOI Coordinator
2.4	Establish California Desert Program with NFWF to manage non-renewable energy raven impact mitigation	Task 1.1.3	Raven Mitigation Fund	DOI Coordinator/ FWS/NFWF
<b>3</b>	<b>Amargosa Basin Coordination (ABC)</b>			
3.1	Facilitate two in-person meetings to coordinate water usage, water rights protection, conservation actions, and science between the DOI agencies in the Death Valley Regional Flow System (DVRFS) and the DOJ Federal Family	Tasks 1.5.1 and 1.5.2	DOI Coordinator	DOI Coordinator
3.2	Coordinate water monitoring in the former Yucca Mountain monitoring network and throughout the DVRFS	Tasks 1.5.1, 1.5.2, and 2.1.6	FWS, BLM, NPS, USGS, Nye County	USGS Nevada Water Science Center
3.3	Develop a better knowledge of the groundwater characteristics in the lower Amargosa (Shoshone-Tecopa area)	Tasks 1.5.1, 1.5.2, and 2.1.6	BLM, USGS, TNC	USGS Nevada Water Science Center/DOI Coordinator/BLM CA and NV
3.4	Continue development of the Southern Amargosa Embedded Groundwater Model (SAMM) for the area surrounding Devils Hole, Ash Meadows, and Carson Slough.	Tasks 1.5.1, 1.5.2, and 2.1.6	FWS, BLM, NPS, USGS, Nye County	USGS Nevada Water Science Center
3.5	Coordinate Amargosa vole research and recovery between USGS, FWS, CDFG, BLM, TNC, and the Amargosa Conservancy	Tasks 1.5.1, 1.1.5, and 1.1.6	BLM, FWS, CDFG, USGS, UC <sup>2</sup>	DOI Coordinator/CDFG/BLM
<b>4</b>	<b>Mohave Ground Squirrel (MGS)</b>			
4.1	Collect MGS survey information and genetic samples	Task 2.1.4	BLM, CDFG, Fort Irwin, CERL <sup>3</sup>	DOI Coordinator/CDFG/CERL
4.2	Coordinate with the Desert Renewable Energy Plan (DRECP) to develop a MGS conservation strategy	Task 1.1.5	CDFG	CDFG/DOI Coordinator
4.3	Store data from the CERL MGS survey project	Task 2.2.1	MDEP	CERL/MDEP
4.4	Publish the MGS habitat suitability model	Task 2.1.4	USGS	USGS
4.5	Publish MGS Science Workshop results	Task 2.1.4	CERL	CERL
<b>5</b>	<b>Data Management Work Group</b>			
5.1	Continue to share data via <a href="http://mojavedata.gov">mojavedata.gov</a>	Tasks 2.2.1 and 2.2.3	Fort Irwin	MDEP
5.2	Meet once a year to develop data needs and identify opportunities to develop data products that benefit agencies operating in the Mojave and Colorado Deserts.	Goal 2.2	Base	GIS Work Group
5.3	Develop and implement standardized digital content platform for species management	Task 2.2.1	MDEP	MDEP
<b>6</b>	<b>Restoration</b>			
6.1	Develop an online library for restoration practitioners	Task 1.3.2	unfunded	DOI Coordinator
6.2	Co-host one restoration workshop with the Mojave Desert Initiative (MDI)	Goal 1.3	base	DOI Coordinator
6.3	Participate in the Mojave and Low Desert Weed Management Areas	Task 1.3.3	base	Mojave and Low Desert Agencies

# 1.5 FY 2012 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

<b>7</b>	<b>Coordinate Desert Tortoise Monitoring</b>			
7.1	Fund interagency desert tortoise line distance monitoring in California	Task 1.1.4	Fort Irwin/ CMAGR	DTRO
7.2	Coordinate the dissemination of desert tortoise line distance monitoring data to DMG members	Tasks 1.1.4 and 2.1.2	FWS	DTRO/MDEP
<b>8</b>	<b>Science/ Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative (DLCC)</b>			
8.1	Participate in the DLCC for the purpose of representing DMG/ manager interest and needs in the Colorado and Mojave Deserts	Task 2.1.1	DOI and DOD Coordinators	DOI and DOD Coordinators
8.2	Provide web support to the DLCC	Task 2.1.1	MDEP	MDEP
8.3	Provide leadership to the DLCC GIS work group	Task 2.1.1	DOD Coordinator	DOD Coordinator/MDEP
8.4	Coordinate with Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP) to develop a Mojave science strategy and needs assessment	Task 2.1.3	DOI Coordinator/ USGS	DOI Coordinator/USGS
8.5	Explore redeployment and ecoregional expansion of the DMG science database.		MDEP	DOI COordinator/MDEP/SNAP <sup>4</sup>
<b>9</b>	<b>Conservation Land Acquisition Work Group (CLAWG)</b>			
9.1	Meet three times to coordinate conservation acquisitions among various programs	Task 1.2.1	base	CLAWG
9.2	Provide GIS services to agencies and NGO partners to support conservation acquisitions	Task 1.2.1	MDEP	MDEP
9.3	Facilitate a collaborative SB34 and Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) acquisition project in Black Mountain Supersonic Corridor	Task 1.2.1	CDFG/Navy	DOI and DOD Coordinators/ Edwards/Navy/CDFG
9.4	Establish a Southern Priority CLAWG Subteam	Tasks 1.2.1 and 2.1.5		DOI Coordinator, JOTR, MCAGCC, CMAGR, MOJA
9.5	Develop a joint services REPI proposal for FY14	Tasks 1.2.1 and 2.1.5	DOD	MCAGCC, EAFB, MCLB, Fort Irwin, NAWS, Coordinators
<b>10</b>	<b>Energy</b>			
10.1	Host DRECP spatial data and construct agency and public interfaces	Tasks 2.2.1, 2.2.3, and 5.5.1	CEC/MDEP	CEC/MDEP
10.2	Ensure that agency research, monitoring, and assessment is incorporated into DRECP	Tasks 2.1.2 and 5.5.1	DOI Coordinator	DOI Coordinator/USGS
10.3	Coordinate information from the DRECP with agencies not otherwise directly engaged	Task 5.5.1	DOI and DOD Coordinator	DOI and DOD Coordinators
10.4	Coordinate a pilot study of the fossorial wildlife impacts from renewable energy generation.	Goal 2.1	BLM/NPS/USGS	DOI Coordinator
<b>11</b>	<b>Desert Tortoise Recovery Implementation Teams (RITs)</b>			
11.1	Support the California RIT	Task 1.1.1	DTRO	DTRO
11.2	Develop the California Recovery Action Plan (RAP)	Task 1.1.1	DTRO	DTRO

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11.3	Coordinate development and refinement of the spatial decision support system for desert tortoise recovery, project evaluation and mitigation.	Task 1.1.1	FWS, CEC, BLM	DTRO
11.4	Seek funding for out-year RIT and SDSS support	Task 1.1.1	DTRO/Fort Irwin	DTRO
<b>12</b>	<b>Provide Interagency Recreation Information</b>			
12.1	Maintain californiadesert.gov	Task 3.2.1	MDEP	MDEP
12.2	Maintain and host mobile recreational mapping application	Task 3.2.1	MDEP	MDEP
<b>13</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
13.1	Explore a partnership with the Sonoran Joint Venture to enhance migratory bird conservation throughout the region	Tasks 1.1.4 and 1.1.6	DOI Coordinator	DOI Coordinator
13.2	Seek funding for spring inventory and monitoring on lands not already surveyed	Goal 1.5 and Task 2.1.6	DOI Coordinator	DOI Coordinator

- 1 October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012
- 2 University of California Davis and Berkeley campuses
- 3 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Construction Engineering Research Lab
- 4 In partnership with the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP)

## 2.0 STRATEGIC PLAN

### 2.1 Mission Area 1: Maintain a healthy, sustainable California Desert landscape that ensures adaptability and resilience to the effects of change.

A key to the continued use of the California Desert resides in our ability as land and resource managers to adequately conserve sensitive resources. The effects of climate change, associated changes in fire regimes and increased invasions of exotic species, will exacerbate the sensitivity of this already fragile biota. Collaborative efforts will be required to successfully recover and conserve wide-ranging species such as the federally and state threatened desert tortoise, state endangered and federally petitioned Mohave ground squirrel and more localized endemics such as Lane Mountain milkvetch and Mohave tui chub. A key to recovery and conservation success will be focused education that targets youth and ensures future generations will have an appreciation of the desert ecosystem. As climate change causes desert ecosystems to shift, it will be imperative for plants and animals to be able to migrate and adapt. Habitat restoration and conservation, protection from unnatural catastrophic wildfire, exotic species control, and the management of impacts from burros will all improve the desert's resiliency to change. Protection of the region's ground water resources will help maintain the unique and often endemic aquatic biodiversity and riparian systems.

Goal	1.1	Recover federal and state-listed species and conserve sensitive species in order to avert the need for additional Endangered Species Act listings in the California Desert.
Tasks	1.1.1	Coordinate and implement the California desert tortoise recovery implementation teams.
	1.1.2	Coordinate recovery of the Mojave tui chub to achieve downlisting from endangered to threatened.
	1.1.3	Coordinate the implementation of a raven management program in the California Desert.
	1.1.4	Coordinate the monitoring of listed and sensitive species populations in California.
	1.1.5	Plan and implement collaborative conservation measures that benefit the Mohave ground squirrel.
	1.1.6	Coordinate the management of wide-ranging sensitive species that cross multiple jurisdictional boundaries
Goal	1.2	Restore and maintain habitat connectivity in order to preserve the desert's genetic diversity and ability to adapt to change.
Task	1.2.1	Coordinate conservation land acquisitions and management actions to ensure key habitat corridors are placed in conservation or public status.

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Goal	1.3	Restore degraded habitats.
Tasks	1.3.1	Provide coordination and support for interagency restoration projects.
	1.3.2	Facilitate technology transfer on the current state-of-the-art restoration techniques and resources.
	1.3.3	Participate in the Low Desert and Mojave Weed Management Areas to prevent and control invasive weeds.
Goal	1.4	Maintain burro populations to appropriate management levels and in appropriate locations.
Tasks	1.4.1	Reduce burro populations to appropriate management levels.
	1.4.2	Monitor habitat within the three remaining herd management areas located in the California Desert.
Goal	1.5	Protect water resources.
Tasks	1.5.1	Coordinate among DOI agencies and Department of Justice's <i>Nevada Federal Family</i> to gain a better understanding of the Death Valley Regional Flow System.
	1.5.2	Take proactive steps to protect federal water rights and interests.

## **2.2 Mission Area 2: Provide land and resource managers with a relevant understanding and knowledge of natural resources, ecosystems, and processes within the California Desert and how changing environments will affect long-term sustainability and adaptability.**

In order to manage sustainability in the California Desert, agencies must base all decisions upon sound, unbiased science. New research will elucidate the potential effects of climate change and other local and global changes on sensitive desert resources, allowing managers to implement adaptive management strategies that ensure future sustainability. Common protocols and data sharing platforms such as the Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) will result in a common language for desert scientists and managers as well as presenting a cost saving to the taxpayer.

Goal	2.1	Facilitate and promote high quality research that provides a scientific basis for resource management decisions.
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## 2.0 STRATEGIC PLAN

Tasks	2.1.1	Utilize the Landscape Conservation Cooperative framework to form government, academic, and NGO partnerships that develop scientific investigations that have management applications for the California Desert and Greater Mojave Desert Ecoregion.
	2.1.2	Provide a forum for technology transfer between researchers and resource managers.
	2.1.3	Gain a more complete understanding of how global change will affect desert ecosystems, in particular habitat migration, the movement of species, and their adaptability (e.g., develop predictive models for sensitive species).
	2.1.4	Coordinate research and knowledge to gain a better understanding of Mohave ground squirrel habitat requirements, ecology, range, and distribution.
	2.1.5	Coordinate research and knowledge to identify the key habitat corridors required to preserve the desert's genetic diversity and resilience.
	2.1.6	Gain a better understanding of desert aquifers and how global change will affect water availability and related impacts to aquatic/riparian species.
Goal	2.2	Collaborate and improve the use of technology for the savings of tax dollars and greater efficiency in knowledge dissemination to DMG members and the public.
Tasks	2.2.1	Maintain and expand current common language electronic knowledge sharing resources at MDEP.
	2.2.2	Develop data standards and protocols shared among DMG agencies that will facilitate more seamless data transfer among agencies.
	2.2.3	Build and maintain central data sharing platforms.
	2.2.4	Support data collection through enterprise level solutions and support

### **2.3 Mission Area 3: Promote a greater understanding of the desert and its resources so that citizens can make informed choices about land use in this unique and often misunderstood region.**

The California Desert is within a day's drive for over forty-million people and by 2020, the residing population of the California Desert is predicted to exceed one-million. In 2009, over ten-million people visited the California Desert for its recreational opportunities. Californiadesert.gov, the DMG's public recreation website received 2.4 million hits in 2009. Recreational experiences in the California Desert vary widely from the extremes of off-highway vehicle use to wilderness hiking. Often, families pass these recreational experiences from generation to generation, with today's youth enjoying the same types of activities as their parents or grandparents. A key to recovery and conservation for the California Desert's sensitive species is focused education that targets youth and ensures future generations will appreciate the desert ecosystem. Because desert use is multi-generational, introducing youth to an understanding of desert ecosystems provides them with a basic understanding that they can build on as future stakeholders.

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Goal	3.1	Implement a multifaceted public information and youth education program to aid in the recovery of listed species and desert conservation.
Tasks	3.1.1	Utilize internet resources that engage youth in activities with a learning purpose.
	3.1.2	Develop and distribute brochures, public service announcements, and other materials that inform the public how their personal actions affect desert conservation and why desert conservation is important.
	3.1.3	Utilize classroom educational settings to deliver desert conservation messages.
Goal	3.2	Promote recreational opportunities and experiences in the California Desert.
Tasks	3.2.1	Develop and maintain interagency outlets (including the internet) for distribution of California Desert recreational information.
	3.2.2	Provide desert conservation experiences to youth.
	3.2.3	Provide desert interpretive information at California highway rest areas.
	3.2.4	Promote ecotourism and sustainable desert use.

## 2.4 Mission Area 4: Protect cultural resources

The California Desert has a long been occupied by humans with some assemblages that may date from the Pleistocene, prior to twelve-thousand years ago. More recent native peoples left reminders, such as rock art and artifacts, of their desert occupation. Today, tribes continue their rich heritage in the California Desert. Emigrants, fortune seekers, traders, and bandits also left their mark in California Desert History. The Old Spanish National Historic Trail and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail both cross the California Desert.

Goal	4.1	Provide agency archaeologists with a regional perspective of cultural resources in the California Desert.
Task	4.1.1	Facilitate technology transfer and information sharing on the current state of knowledge of the cultural resources within the California Desert.

## 2.5 Mission Area 5: Promote collaboration among DMG members and with stakeholders

Successful wide-ranging species conservation, reduction of range-wide threats, integrated science, and seamless recreation opportunities all require cooperation and communication among the California Desert's many land and resource management agencies. To achieve landscape level goals, it is important for California's Desert Managers to coordinate actions with partnerships from other states such as the Southern Nevada Agency Partners, Mojave Desert Initiative, and Western Regional Partnership. The DMG functions to provide a forum for managers to discuss common issues and build collaborative programs.

## 2.0 STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal	5.1	DMG agencies work to resolve conflicts in each agency's mission on mutual interests goals.
Tasks	5.1.1	Gain a better understanding of partner agency missions and potential impacts to that mission.
	5.1.2	Consider long-term consequences of management decisions upon partner agency missions.
Goal	5.2	Ensure orderly and efficient operation of the DMG.
Tasks	5.2.1	Develop long-term and short-term work plans to implement the DMG mission and its strategies.
	5.2.2	Provide leadership and support to DMG work groups and activities.
	5.2.3	Keep federal, state, and local agencies, Congressional representatives, and interested parties informed of DMG strategies, priorities, needs, and activities as requested.
Goal	5.3	Coordinate DMG actions with other regional partnerships.
Task	5.3.1	Exchange information between the DMG and other regional partnerships regarding strategies, goals, activities, and opportunities.
Goal	5.4	Demonstrate more efficient use of public tax dollars.
Tasks	5.4.1	Minimize duplication of effort between agencies and utilize the best capabilities of each organization, staff, facilities, and equipment.
	5.4.2	Seek additional collaborative programs and projects among DMG members and stakeholders that contribute to the DMG mission.
	5.4.3	Provide economical, high quality, interagency training opportunities for employees.
Goal	5.5	Coordinate renewable energy planning with other lands uses in the California Desert.
Tasks	5.5.1	Actively participate in the California Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan and Solar Programmatic EIS.
	5.5.2	Coordinate DMG activities and DMG supported research with desert land use planning activities.

# DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

## Charter<sup>1</sup>

### Introduction

The California Deserts are vast, seemingly harsh yet fragile lands within a day's drive of 40 million people. Approximately 80 percent of the desert, or 20 million acres, is publicly owned and includes two national parks, one national preserve, six military bases, 72 wilderness areas, 10 state parks, and the California Desert Conservation Area managed by the Bureau of Land Management. In addition, the area includes 8 county jurisdictions and 37 federally recognized Native American Indian tribes. Conflicting demands for use of California desert lands make it imperative for governmental agencies to work cooperatively in support of agency missions, protection of desert resources, and public use. The Desert Managers Group (DMG) was established as the forum for government agencies to address and discuss issues of common concern. Through cooperative management each agency achieves greater operational efficiency, enhances resource conservation, and more effectively serves the public.

### Vision Statement

To work together to conserve and enhance the California Deserts for current and future generations.

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Desert Managers Group is to:

- A. Develop coordinated and complimentary management guidelines, practices, and programs.
- B. Coordinate and integrate efforts in the California deserts to:
  - Conserve and restore desert resources
  - Provide high quality recreation, public education, and visitor services
  - Provide for safety of desert users
- C. Develop and integrate the databases and scientific studies needed for effective resource management and planning.
- D. Promote compatibility in the application of each agency's mission.

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1 For the entire, charter please visit [www.dmg.gov](http://www.dmg.gov) and click on documents

## 3.0 CHARTER

### **Governing Principles for the DMG**

The DMG operates under the following principles:

- A. Participation in the DMG does not diminish an agency's autonomy or authority to conduct/ accomplish their mission.
- B. Agencies participating in the DMG will work to create opportunities and develop partnerships to effectively and efficiently manage resources.
- C. Participating agencies recognize the diverse uses of the California deserts and their responsibility to the American people for being good stewards of desert resources.
- D. Participants in the DMG agree to make decisions by consensus. Consensus for the DMG is defined to mean a proposed solution or decision that participants can support or live with.
- E. Participating agencies recognize their responsibility to keep the public informed and provide opportunities for comment on DMG activities and initiatives.
- F. DMG activities will be consistent with and/or designed to provide for the coordinated implementation of agency resource management plans (e.g., National Park Service General Management Plans; Bureau of Land Management Resource Management Plans; Department of Defense Integrated Natural Resource Plans).

### **Geographic Scope**

The geographic scope of the DMG is the Mojave Desert and Colorado Desert ecoregions within the state of California. The DMG will coordinate its activities with affected/interested parties throughout the Mojave and Colorado deserts and surrounding areas to provide a consistent ecosystem approach.

### **Membership**

The DMG is comprised of managers from agencies and county governments with land and resource management or regulatory responsibilities in the California Deserts, and the U.S. Geological Survey, which serves in a scientific support role to the managers. Current members of the DMG include:

# DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

## **Department of the Interior**

- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- Geological Survey

## **State of California**

- Department of Fish and Game
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- Department of Transportation
- California Energy Commission

## **Department of Defense**

- Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake
- Edwards Air Force Base
- National Training Center, Fort Irwin
- Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms
- Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow
- Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma

## **Department of Agriculture**

- Forest Service

## **County Governments**

- Imperial County
- Kern County
- San Bernardino County
- Inyo County

Additional government agencies/offices may be added to the DMG based on the consensus of the group. Federal, state, local, and tribal government agencies that are not members of the DMG may serve as members of DMG Work Groups, subject to approval of the DMG. The DMG will promote and facilitate constructive public and stakeholder involvement in the DMG process. Current Stakeholder Involvement Guidelines are contained in Annex 8.

## 3.0 CHARTER

### DMG Organization

The DMG consists of a body of Desert Managers, interagency work groups, and a small coordination staff.

#### Desert Managers

This Charter establishes a body of Desert Managers to carry out the vision and mission of the DMG. Members include managers or their officially designated representative with delegated authority, on behalf of their agency, for land and resource management and/or scientific investigations in the California Deserts. Members are listed in Annex 1. The DMG Coordinators will chair DMG meetings. However, the Manager(s) hosting the meeting will serve as Honorary Chair for that meeting and will be actively involved in planning and running the meeting in coordination with the DMG Coordinators.

Specific responsibilities of the Desert Managers include:

- A. Identify opportunities for innovative and cooperative management of California desert resources;
- B. Establish and review annually: cooperative goals, objectives, and a five year plan;
- C. Coordinate agency budgets to implement the five-year plan;
- D. Promote public, agency, and Congressional awareness and support for the DMG and its initiatives;
- E. Develop and issue appropriate agency guidance to implement DMG goals, objectives, plans, and initiatives;
- F. Within the scope of their authority, manage resources in accordance with decisions, principles, goals, and objectives of the DMG;
- G. As needed, establish interagency work groups/ad hoc committees to implement DMG goals, objectives, plans, and initiatives. Current work groups and their mission/duties are described in Annexes. 4-7.
- H. Provide clear and timely direction to allow coordinators/work groups/ad hoc committees to accomplish their tasks and responsibilities;

# DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

- I. Provide sufficient staff support, expertise, and resources to allow coordinators/work groups/ad hoc committees to accomplish their tasks and responsibilities;
- J. Evaluate progress and effectiveness of DMG initiatives and the activities of interagency work groups/ad hoc committees and coordinators; and
- K. Facilitate resolution of significant conflicts and issues among the participants and develop consistent direction on desert-wide issues within and between participating agencies.

## **Coordinators**

The Department of the Interior and the Department of Defense will each appoint a DMG Coordinator who will provide staff support to the DMG and coordinate its agencies' involvement in the DMG. Specific duties and responsibilities are listed in Annex 2. In addition, DMG agencies may hire or designate staff to coordinate specific programs or activities on behalf of the DMG. Current DMG Program Coordinators are identified in Figure 2. General responsibilities of the Program Coordinators are identified in Annex 3.

## 3.0 CHARTER

### Interagency Executive Coordination Process

This Charter establishes an Executive Coordination Process to provide for coordination with and guidance from agency executives. The DMG will periodically hold a meeting of the Desert Managers and the following agency executives:

- A. Bureau of Land Management - California State Director
- B. Bureau of Indian Affairs – Pacific Regional Director
- C. Fish and Wildlife Service - Region 8 Director
- D. Geological Survey - Western Regional Director
- E. National Park Service – Pacific West Regional Director
- F. Forest Service – Regional Forester
- G. Military Installations
  - Commanding Officer, Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake
  - Commander, Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base
  - Commander, National Training Center, Fort Irwin
  - Commanding General, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms
  - Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow
  - Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, AZ
  - Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Installations West
- H. State of California - Secretary, State Resources Agency
- I. County Governments – Chairperson, Board of Supervisors (of participating counties)

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- A. Provide policy direction and support in achieving DMG goals and objectives;
- B. Review and approve DMG goals, objectives, five year plan, and associated budget initiatives;
- C. Review, approve, and seek agency and Congressional support for the DMG and its initiatives;  
and
- D. Resolve issues and/or impasses raised by the Desert Managers.

## **Annex 2. Department of Defense and Department of the Interior DMG Coordinators' Duties and Responsibilities**

- A. Provide advice and assistance to managers on specified matters.
- B. Provide administrative services and support for Desert Managers Group meetings:
  - 1. make meeting arrangements
  - 2. develop meeting agenda
  - 3. distribute pre-meeting briefing materials
  - 4. facilitate meeting conduct
  - 5. prepare and distribute meeting summaries
- C. Facilitate interagency coordination/communication.
- D. Ensure lines of communication are maintained with all DMG elements, agencies, offices, and organizations associated with the DMG.
- E. Develop/revise DMG goals, objectives, work plans, and budget requests for review and approval by the Desert Managers.
- F. Review topics and materials prior to submittal to the full group of managers.
- G. Draft, review, and endorse correspondence on behalf of the DMG.
- H. Monitor agency progress on implementing DMG activities and work to ensure that agency commitments and responsibilities are met in a coordinated manner.
- I. Serve as spokespersons for the DMG.
- J. Pursue funding sources to accomplish DMG goals and objectives in coordination with Managers and agency executives.
- K. Interface/coordinate with Department of the Interior and Department of Defense offices.

## 3.0 CHARTER

### Annex 8. Stakeholder Involvement Guidelines

**Purpose and Background:** To promote and facilitate constructive stakeholder involvement in the Desert Managers Group (DMG). The primary purpose of the DMG is to provide managers of government agencies working in the California Deserts a forum to share information and discuss and collaborate on issues of common interest. DMG meetings are not part of any legally mandated environmental or administrative hearing process (Federal Advisory Committee Act or Brown Act) that requires public involvement. For the purposes of these guidelines, a “stakeholder” is defined as an officially designated representative or member of a local government, tribe, federal or state agency who is not a member of the DMG, the general public, or a non-governmental organization (NGO).

#### Guidelines and Procedures

DMG meetings are working interagency staff meetings and are not required to be open to attendance by stakeholders. However, DMG agencies recognize that involving stakeholders will foster support and understanding of the DMG and help meet their agencies’ responsibility to keep interested parties informed and provide opportunities for comment on DMG activities and initiatives.

Stakeholder involvement in DMG meetings will be conducted in accordance with the following procedures and guidelines:

1. As a general rule, the first day of the DMG meeting will be open to stakeholders. The second day of the meeting will be restricted to DMG members, agency staff and invited guest speakers. The meeting chair will determine what topics will be presented during open session in consultation with the DOI/DOD Coordinators and other members of the DMG. Exceptions to this general rule may be approved by the meeting chair in consultation with the DOI and DOD Coordinators.
2. Stakeholders will be invited to provide comments at designated times identified on the meeting agenda. Stakeholder comments will generally be limited to three minutes unless agreed to otherwise with the meeting organizers prior to the start of the meeting. Stakeholder comments should be relevant to a topic on the agenda or a goal or objective identified in the DMG 5 year plan.
3. Stakeholders who wish to attend a DMG meeting will be required to contact the DOI or DOD Coordinator prior to the meeting. Stakeholders may also suggest topics for discussion on the DMG meeting agenda to the DOI/DOD Coordinators.
4. Notification of DMG meetings will be posted on the DMG Website ([www.dmg.gov](http://www.dmg.gov)) at least 30 days prior to the meeting. (Direct notification will not be provided.) Meeting announcements,

# DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

a calendar of events, the DMG 5 Year Plan, and various reports, etc., will be posted and available to all interested parties through the website. Summaries of DMG meetings will be posted approximately two weeks after each meeting.

5. The goals and activities of the DMG will be identified in the DMG 5 Year Plan. The 5 Year Plan will be updated annually and broadly distributed (including via the website).
6. The DMG may invite certain federal, state, local and tribal government agencies that are not members of the DMG to participate on DMG work groups. Stakeholders who have expertise in the mission of the work group may also attend DMG work group meetings and comment on work group activities. Stakeholders interested in participating in a work group must submit a request to do so in writing to either the DOI or DOD Coordinator for DMG approval.

## **Additional Public Involvement Opportunities**

Stakeholders are encouraged to also participate in:

1. The agency land and resource management planning process related to specific projects or areas of interest;
2. Meetings of the BLM Desert Advisory Council; and
3. Appropriate NEPA and CEQA compliance activities as specified in the guidelines for those processes.

All actions implemented or coordinated by the DMG are subject to appropriate NEPA/CEQA compliance as applicable.

## 3.0 CHARTER

### Annex 9. DMG Meeting Management Rules and Procedures

**Purpose:** To enhance the productivity and effectiveness of Desert Manager Group (DMG) and associated work group meetings.

#### Meeting Rules

The following rules apply to the operation of the Desert Managers Group and all associated work groups established by and reporting to the DMG.

1. The primary means of communication within the DMG will be via e-mail. Each Group will establish an e-mail list server that allows sharing of information among group members using one e-mail address. Each group participant and interested party is expected to regularly check and read their e-mail.
2. The DOD Coordinator will be responsible for establishing and maintaining the list server for the DMG and work groups.
3. Each Group shall maintain a current list of Group members and interested parties (i.e., anyone who wants to keep apprised of the Group's activities). The DOD and DOI coordinators shall be included on the Interested Parties list. The Chair is responsible for insuring that an accurate and complete list of group participants and interested parties is provided to the DOD coordinator for inclusion in the list server.
4. Paper copies of information shall be mailed or FAXED to those individuals who are not subscribed to the list server (e.g., invited guests).
5. A final agenda with location and time of meeting shall be posted on the list server 2 weeks in advance of the meeting by the chair. Action or decision items will be clearly noted on the agenda.
6. Background information shall be sent to the chair of the Group 14 days in advance of the meeting for distribution by the chair. If it is less than 14-days before the meeting, information shall be sent directly to the group members and interested parties. If background materials are not provided prior to the meeting, the presenter shall provide copies to all meeting attendees.
7. The Chair will develop the meeting agenda in coordination with other group members. Agenda items/issues/topics will be those relevant to the group and presented in way that generates discussion. Group members shall be provided 5 working days to review recommendations/decision items in advance of the meeting. Recommendations/decision items shall be identified in

# DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

the review materials. Whenever appropriate, alternative courses of action will be described and clear recommendations presented.

8. Presenter's are encouraged to utilize visual aides to enhance the quality of their presentation. Needed audio/visual equipment should be coordinated with the chair at least 7 days before the meeting.
9. Issues discussed at meetings should be brought to closure and conclusions/decisions documented.
10. Meeting summaries shall be prepared according to the following rules:
  - a. The meeting summary should objectively and concisely summarize the topics discussed and conclusions/decisions reached (Meeting minutes are not required).
  - b. The meeting summary should include a list of action items, the individual or individuals to whom the tasks have been assigned, and the due dates for these tasks.
  - c. The meeting summary should include a list of attendees.
  - d. Key documents should be referenced and dated.
  - e. The summary should be sent out for review within 10 working days of the meeting, and distributed to all Group members and interested parties, meeting participants and the DOD and DOI coordinators. The meeting summary should include notification of the next meeting of the Group (location, date, and tentative agenda)
  - f. Any changes to a meeting summary should be discussed and approved at the next meeting of the Group and documented in that meeting summary.

## 4.0 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### A. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to set forth the intentions of the parties, insofar as they are compatible with each agency's primary mission, to participate in and carry out the mission of the California Desert Managers Group (DMG) as provided for in its Charter dated September 2005. The purpose of the DMG is to provide a forum for government agencies to work together to conserve and enhance the California Deserts for current and future generations. Through cooperative management, each agency achieves greater operational efficiency, enhances resource protection, and better serves the public. The mission of the DMG is to:

1. Develop coordinated and complementary management guidelines, practices, and programs.
2. Coordinate and integrate efforts in the California Desert to:
  - a. Conserve and restore desert resources;
  - b. Provide high quality recreation, public education, and visitor services;
  - c. Provide for safety of desert users.
3. Develop and integrate the databases and scientific studies needed for effective resource management and planning.
4. Promote compatibility in the application of each agency's mission.

It is agreed that the DMG may modify its Charter from time to time as experience is gained in carrying out its mission. The DMG will conduct a formal review of the Charter every 5 years.

This MOU is intended as a guide to carrying out the intentions of the parties and does not commit funding for any project.

### B. Geographic Scope

The geographic scope of the DMG is the Mojave Desert and Colorado Desert ecoregions within the State of California. The DMG will coordinate its activities with affected/interested parties throughout the Mojave/Colorado deserts to provide for a consistent ecosystem approach.

### C. Amendment

This MOU may be extended, amended, or terminated by agreement of the parties or any party may withdraw from this MOU upon 30 days written notice to the other parties.

## **D. Authorities**

1. Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 USC 1701 et seq)
2. Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 USC 1531-1544, 87 Stat.884)
3. Sikes Act of 1960 (16 USC 670a-670, 74 Stat. 1052), as amended
4. National Park Service Organic Act (16 USC 1 et seq)
5. Omnibus Consolidated Parks Act, 1997
6. State of California Public Resources Code
7. California Fish and Game Code (Section 1802)
8. Forest Service Organic Administration Act of 1897, 16 U.S.C. §§ 473-478, 479-482 and 551, June 4, 1897, as amended 1905, 1911, 1925, 1962, 1964, 1968 and 1976
9. The National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.)
10. County Government Code Section 23004.
11. County Government Code Section 25207.5
12. County Government Code Section 25208.5
13. County Government Code Section 26600.

## **E. Relationship to Land Management Plans**

Activities of the DMG are intended to be consistent with and support the coordinated implementation of approved plans that have been developed for lands managed by the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department of Defense, and the State of California.

## **F. No Delegation or Abrogation**

Parties to this MOU recognize that they each have statutory responsibilities that cannot be delegated, and that this MOU does not and is not intended to abrogate any of their statutory responsibilities.

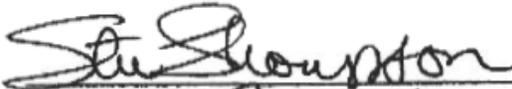
## **G. Funds**

Insofar as it is compatible with each agency's primary mission and statutory responsibilities, all parties shall use their best efforts to secure the funding needed to carry out DMG-approved projects. Each project that requires specific funding to be implemented shall be the subject of a separate project-specific agreement between the agencies responsible for its funding and implementation. All parties agree and understand performance under this MOU is dependent upon the lawful appropriation, authorization, and allocation of funds. All parties agree to develop efficient means for transferring funds among said parties for the purpose of carrying out the mission of the DMG.

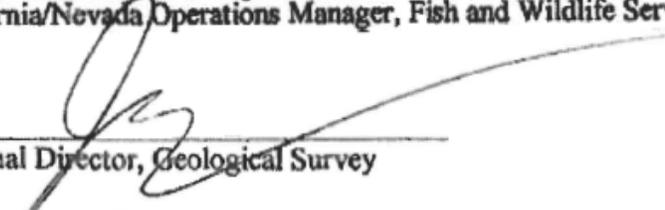
## 4.0 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

  
California State Director, Bureau of Land Management

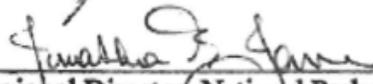
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Date

  
California/Nevada Operations Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service

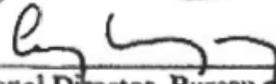
10/25/05  
Date

  
Regional Director, Geological Survey

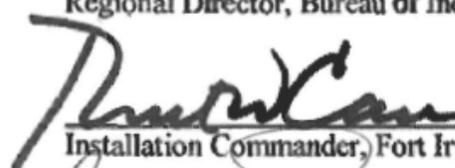
10/28/05  
Date

  
Regional Director, National Park Service

10/26/2005  
Date

  
Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

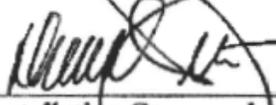
Nov. 10, 05  
Date

  
Installation Commander, Fort Irwin

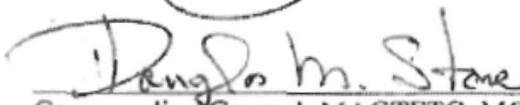
29 NOV 05  
Date

  
Commander, Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake

July 31, 06  
Date

  
Installation Commander, Edwards Air Force Base

00 MAR 2006  
Date

  
Commanding General, MAGTFTC, MCAGCC, Twentynine Palms

10 Feb 2006  
Date

# DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

Col Steven J. Thompson  
Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

19 Jan 2006  
Date

Don D. Hancock  
Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma

5 Dec 05  
Date

Bernie Weingardt  
Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region,  
Forest Service, USDA

11.7.05  
Date

Keith Coleman  
Director, California Department of  
Parks and Recreation...

11-29-05  
Date

Alfred Broddick  
Director, California Department of  
Fish and Game

27 MARCH 06  
Date

Will Kempthorn  
Director, California Department of  
Transportation

11-16-05  
Date

Wally Bergquist  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors,  
Imperial County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Ray Watson  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors,  
Kern County

11/1/2005  
Date

Bin  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors,  
San Bernardino County

10/17/05  
Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
Office of County Counsel  
Kern County  
By: Steve D. Schen

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**D E S E R T**  
**M A N A G E R S G R O U P**

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