



California Desert Water Rights Training

February 26-27, 2002

Hilton Palm Springs Resort

Background:

Water is a scarce resource in the California deserts, and its availability in sufficient quantities is critical to management of both natural and human environments. The recent trend in water development for growing populations and their related energy needs is adding stress on desert water resources. If managers are to be effective in securing additional water supplies for consumptive use needs or protecting water resources insitu, they must understand the systems of water law that apply to water rights. This course will provide general descriptions of the various doctrines of water rights and how those doctrines are applied. Additionally, desert water systems are continuous across the jurisdictions managed by DMG members and managers must be aware how their goals and practices may affect their neighbors. This workshop will include presentations on water rights policies and practices of the organizations involved in the DMG.

Workshop Purpose:

1. To provide a substantive overview of state and Federal laws related to ground water in the California desert.
2. Identify common or conflicting water rights goals and practices among DMG agencies

Agenda: Attached

Intended Audience: DMG Federal and State agency managers and supervisors and professional field staff. The training facility limit is approximately 60 people.

Course Instructors – DOD and DOI water rights staff; DOI and DOJ water rights attorneys; and State of California water rights program staff and/or attorneys.

Date/Time: Tues, Feb 26, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wed, Feb 27, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location/Lodging:

Hilton Palm Springs Resort
400 East Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Reservations: 1-800-522-6900
Hotel Switchboard: 1-760-320-6868
Guest Fax Machine: 1-760-320-2126

The cut-off date for reservations is **February 8, 2002**. Ask for rooms reserved for the "Desert Managers Group"

Each reservation must be accompanied by a first night's room deposit. No-shows or cancellations within 72 hours of arrival will be charged the first night's room revenue charge. Room charges for one king or two queens is \$122.00 +City Occupancy Tax 12.55%, \$1.00 City Utility Charge, and \$7.00 resort fee.

Shuttle service from airport available. Check-in time is normally 3 p.m. -- however, any guest wishing to check in earlier will be accommodated if rooms are available. The hotel would appreciate receiving flight arrival times for group members as they become available.

Registration: To register for the workshop, complete and return the attached registration form by **February 15** to:

Cyn LeFever
Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program
222 E Main Street Suite 215
Barstow, California 92311
760-255-8886 - Voice
760-256-6863 - Fax

There is no cost for attending the workshop.

For More Information Contact:

Chuck Pettee, Chief Water Rights Branch
Water Resource Division
Fort Collins, Colorado
(970) 225-3505; Fax 9965
email: chuck_pettee@nps.gov (currently not working due to law suite restrictions)

John Hamill, DMG Coordinator
Department of the Interior
222 E Main Street Suite 202
Barstow, California 92311
760-255-8888 Fax 8809
email: john_hamill@dmg.gov



California Desert Water Rights Training Draft Agenda

February 26, 2002

9:00 am - Registration

9:30 am - Convene

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Purpose and Objective of the Course
3. The Definition and History of Water Law
4. Water Rights Legal “Tools”
 - a. State of California Water Law (CALIF)
 - i. Riparian Doctrine
 - ii. Prior Appropriation Doctrine
 - iii. Ground Water Doctrine
 - iv. Protection of Instream Flows
 - v. Public Trust Doctrine

Noon Lunch

- b. Federal Water Law (SOL/USDOJ)
 - i. Federal Reservation Doctrine,
e.g., the California Desert Protection Act,
the Wilderness Act, and Public Water Resources
5. Application of Water Rights “Tools”
 - a. Adjudications (USDOJ)
 - b. State Administrative Process (CALIF.)
 - c. Protection Actions (SOL)

5:00 pm Adjourn

Evening Social Event – To be Announced

February 27, 2002

8:00 am Convene

6. Managing with both State and Federal “Tools”
 - a. NPS Policy and Practice
 - b. BLM Policy and Practice
 - c. FWS Policy and Practice
 - d. DOD Policy and Practice

Noon – Lunch

7. Consideration of Water Rights in Lands Actions (BLM)
 - a. Right-of-way Permits
 - b. Land Exchanges
8. Consideration of Water Rights in NEPA/CEQA documents (SOL)
9. Open Discussion - questions and answers (All)
10. Course Summary (All)

4:00 pm Adjourn



Registration Form

California Desert Water Rights Training

February 26-27, 2002

Palm Springs, CA

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Telephone and Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please send or FAX the registration form by **February 15, 2002** to:

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Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program
222 E Main Street Suite 202
Barstow, California 92311
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