

DMG Accomplishments

24 May 2005



DMG Goal Categories

- **Resource Conservation and Management**
- **Visitor Services**
- **Science and Data Management**
- **DMG Program Management**



Resource Conservation and Management

- **Participated in development of the Mojave Weed Management Area**
- **Conducted scoping meetings to determine the feasibility of establishing a Low Desert Weed Management Area**
- **Developed the “*California Desert Riparian Challenge: A strategic plan for restoration of riparian habitats in the California Deserts*”**
- **Developed a Memorandum of Agreement among interested DMG agencies for the restoration of the San Felipe Creek-San Sebastian Marsh Watershed**
- **Sponsored the Arid Southwest Lands Habitat Restoration Conference**
- **Sponsored an annual desert restoration workshop**
- **Cleaned up 12 illegal dump sites on public lands**
- **Conducted an illegal dumping enforcement Workshop**





Resource Conservation and Management

- **Removed burros and horses from the California deserts for placement in adoption programs**
- **Finalized reports that summarize completed and ongoing recovery, monitoring and research actions for the desert tortoise**
- **Initiated a study to evaluate the effectiveness of desert tortoise recovery actions related to vehicle management, cattle and sheep grazing, and construction of tortoise fencing**
- **Began development of a Raven Management Environmental Assessment**
- **Began development of a multifaceted desert tortoise education and outreach program**
- **Initiated feral dog surveys**
- **Began process of developing desert tortoise recovery action plans**





Resource Conservation and Management

- **Published proceedings for *The Millennium Conference: Human Journey and Ancient Life in the California Deserts***
- **Continued development of the Mojave Desert Historic Resources Geographic Information System**
- **Conducted interagency training**



Visitor Services

- **Developed interpretive exhibits/posters for use in Caltrans roadside rest areas**
- **Continued to operate the Lancaster Gateway visitor center**
- **Maintained the California deserts website**
www.californiadesert.gov
- **Published an Overflight brochure**



Science and Data Management

- **Sponsored and conducted the Mojave Desert Science Symposium**
- **Developed a research inventory database for the California deserts**
- **Supported implementation of rangewide desert tortoise monitoring**
- **Developed protocols for inventorying hydrological and biological characteristics and quality of desert springs**
- **Conducted a multi-agency monitoring workshop**



DMG Program Management

- **Coordinated with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Resource Law Group to develop a California Desert Fund**
- **Developed and adopted stakeholder guidelines**



Challenges

- **Development of long term funding support for the Desert Tortoise Information and Outreach Program**
- **Desert Tortoise**
 - monitoring – long term stable funding
 - Blood sampling – protocols
 - Methodology – LDS vs permanent study plots
 - Resolution of scientific disputes
 - Data management and required funding
 - Reporting
- **Population and maintenance of program databases**
 - Dump database
 - Research inventory database
 - Recreation information database
 - Desert springs database



Challenges

- **Natural resource monitoring**
 - Funding/staff support
 - Top down programs
- **Stakeholders**



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