

Raven EA Project

- Status of the EA
- FWS Migratory Bird Office Coordination
- Population Survey Project Status
- EA Implementation Planning Status
- Education and Outreach

Status of the EA

- ▶ Lead for FWS is Robert McMorran
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- ▶ Received files for the project
 - organizing and compiling the administrative record
 - reviewing scoping letters

Status of the EA (cont'd.)

- reviewing scoping letters
 - identified unaddressed concerns submitted by the public (e.g., implement non-lethal methods first; ensure lethal methods target the appropriate individuals)

Status of the EA (cont'd.)

- awaiting sections of EA from working group members
- researching past efforts for raven management and legal challenges that halted efforts

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FWS Migratory Bird Office Coordination

- ▶ requested clarification of definition of “take” under MBTA
- ▶ submit the draft EA to MB Office and NEPA coordinator
- ▶ MB Office does not anticipate major concerns issuing a take permit when looking at taking a small number of ravens

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Population Survey Project Status

- ▶ FWS contracted 2 studies
 - surveys along transmission lines for raven nest locations and desert tortoise remains under nests
 - analysis of breeding bird survey data for ravens to determine population trend in California desert

Population Survey Project Status

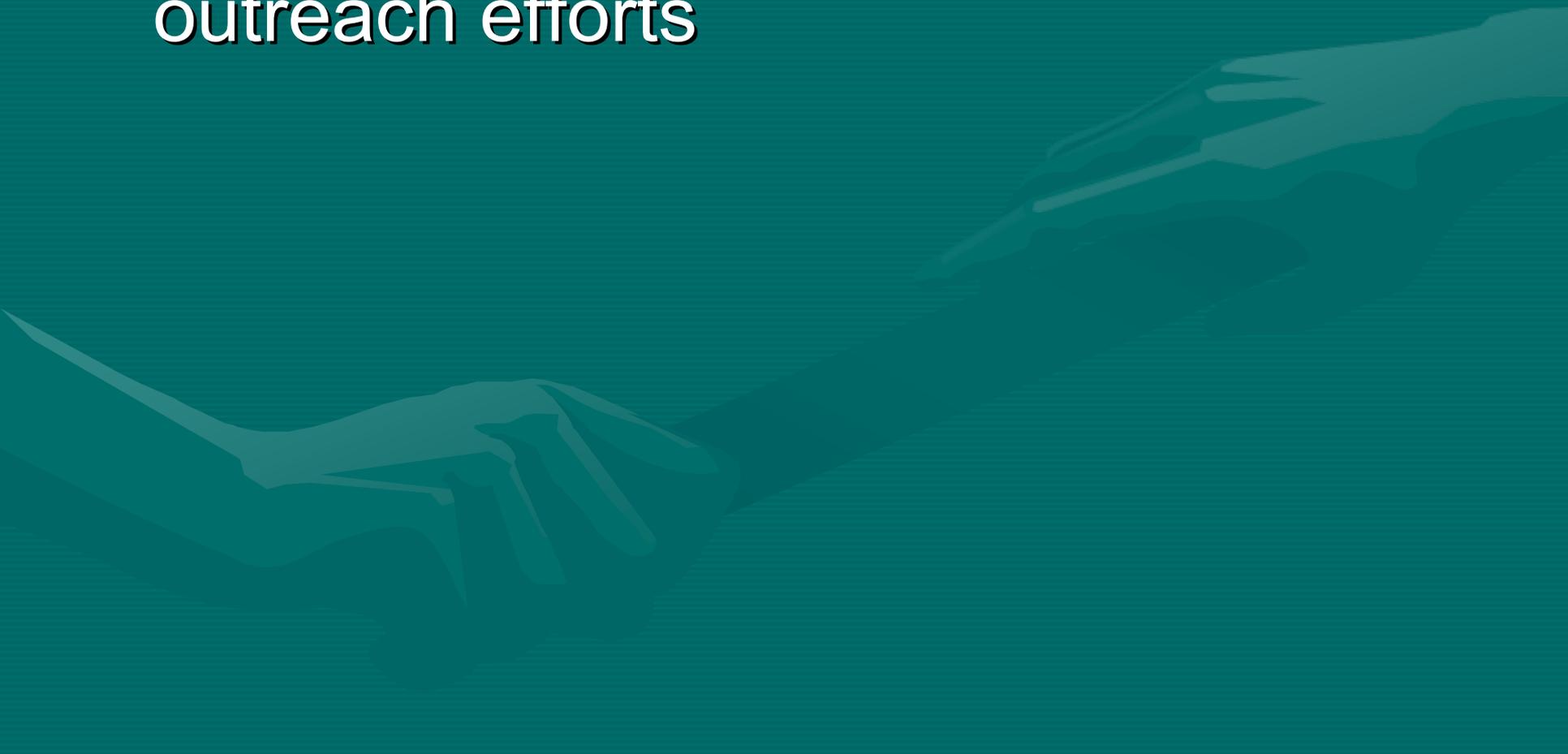
- ▶ Contracted 2 studies (cont'd.)
 - received the reports within the past week

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EA Implementation Planning Status

- ▶ Combining this with education and outreach efforts

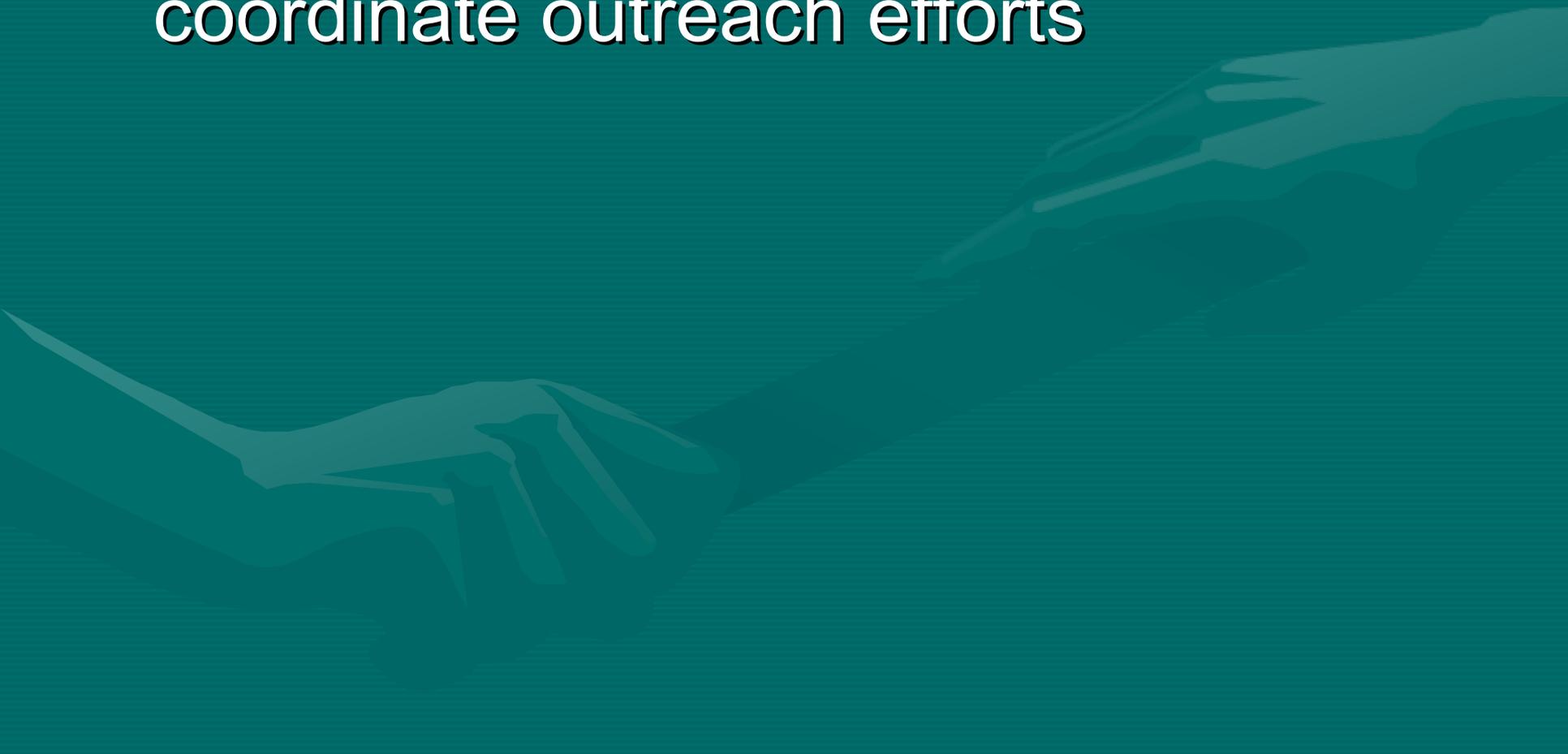


Education and Outreach

- ▶ Scheduling meeting within next few weeks
- ▶ Requesting confirmation of members in the working group
- ▶ Compiling a list of activities to implement that do not need NEPA compliance (e.g., covered trash containers at public and private facilities, etc.)

Education and Outreach (cont'd.)

- ▶ Contact Defenders of Wildlife to coordinate outreach efforts



Summary

- ▶ Completing the admin record
- ▶ Learning from past efforts
- ▶ Including information from the contracts in the EA

Summary (cont'd.)

- ▶ Putting more effort into moving the process forward (e.g., working group meetings, coordination with outreach groups and groups affected by outreach efforts, and finishing the draft EA)
- ▶ Once tasks identified, developing a time line for tasks and project completion