

Reduce Common Raven Predation on the Desert Tortoise in the California Desert

Status of the Project

Status of EA

- Based on public comments the preferred alternative was changed to a phased approach of Alternatives B, C, and D
- Reviewed by Regional Solicitor's office
- Comment – Add an alternative that describes the phased approach

Status of EA (cont'd.)

- **Added Alternative F (Preferred Alternative)**
 - Phased approach of Alternatives B, C, and D
 - Implement Alternative B – 100 pairs of ravens removed and non-lethal actions implemented
 - If effective, continue implementation
 - If not effective, implement Alternative C
 - Alternative C – remove ravens in the Desert Tortoise Management Areas and non-lethal actions implemented
 - If effective, continue implementation
 - If not effective, implement Alternative D
 - Alternative D – remove ravens from concentration areas and non-lethal actions implemented

Status of EA (cont'd.)

- FONSI signed by FWS's regional office (Region 8 - Sacramento)
- FONSI and EA are in Sacramento
- Once signed
 - Post documents on VFWO's web site
 - Send copies to all commentors
 - Send copies to agencies

Implementation of EA

- Actions in the EA that do not require NEPA compliance
- Issued a contract to develop protocols for evaluation of raven use at landfills
 - Draft protocols due mid-March

Implementation of EA

- Next steps