



## **Briefing Statement**

**Date:** April 19, 2012

**Title:** Raven Management Actions for FY 2012 and FY 2013

The Raven Management Work Group has identified the following implementation actions under the Raven EA for FY 2012 and FY 2013:

- Utilization of USDA Wildlife Services (WS) to conduct opportunistic lethal removal of offending ravens in FY 2012. An offending flock of ravens has been identified at Fort Irwin and WS is working on removal. There seems to be an increase on raven attacks to adults tortoises this year. To report offending ravens for removal, contact Chris Mullen with DTRO.
- Conduct raven nest surveys in the priority areas of Chuckwalla DWMA, Joshua Tree National Park, Mojave National Preserve, Ivanpah, and the Desert Tortoise Natural Area to identify offending ravens. Surveys would be generally be contracted but NPS units may conduct their own surveys with support from interns. Ideally, surveys would begin next month but that might be an unreasonable expectation with the current REAT Account process. Surveys will certainly occur in early CY 2013 to identify nest locations.
- Develop a programmatic agreement with WS to transfer enough funding from the renewable energy National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF; REAT Account) for systematic removal of offending ravens based upon survey results. A programmatic agreement will allow WS to hire dedicated staff for the project.
- Chris Mullen is developing a database that will house raven attack, nest, and removal data.
- Funding for the Raven Film is currently approved from the REAT Account and a release of funds is imminent. Once funds are released, NFWF will establish a contract with Topic Productions to create the film. Milestones will be the script, a draft film, and the final film.
- REAT Account funding for the DTIYE Program was requested was not approved. The raven message comprises approximately twenty-five percent of the overall DTIYE message. Approximately fifty percent of the coordinator's time is spent delivering the raven message.

## **Contacts**

Russell Scofield, DOI Coordinator [russell\\_scofield@blm.gov](mailto:russell_scofield@blm.gov)

760-365-0955

Chris Mullen, DTRO

[chris\\_mullen@fws.gov](mailto:chris_mullen@fws.gov)

760-322-2070 x214