



## **Briefing Statement**

**Date:** April 17, 2013

**Title:** Raven Workgroup Update

### **Discussion**

- The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) let contracts for raven nest and predation surveys in four tortoise conservation areas. The contractors are:
  - Superior-Cronese DWMA- Ecorp Consulting
  - Ivanpah DWMA excluding Mojave National Preserve- Ecorp Consulting
  - Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area- Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee
  - Chuckwalla DWMA- Corvus Biological Consulting

Thanks to the team who evaluated contract proposals: Chris Mullen, Liana Aker, Larry LaPre, Ashleigh Blackford.

- Mojave National Preserve is being surveyed by staff
- Joshua Tree National Park, a secondary priority, will not be surveyed this year but could be surveyed next year.
- NFWF and Wildlife Services (WS) have established a programmatic agreement to transfer larger amounts of funding to accommodate more field staff.
- To date, one offending raven pair has been identified and one of the offending animals was removed.
- Reports of tortoise predation should be reported to Chris Mullen as soon as possible.

### **Contact**

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