



Raven Work Group Conference Call
September 3, 2013
Meeting Notes

Attendees

Bill Boarman, Consultant
Brian Henan, MCAGCC
Chris Mullen, FWS
Eric Covington, WS
Gerry Hillier, SBC

Larry LaPre, BLM
Nora Hotch, MCAGCC
Russell Scofield, DMG
Wendy McIntyre, Redlands

Meeting Goals

- Review and revise as necessary priority areas for survey and removal activities in 2014
- Discuss integration of educational activities into the 2014 work plan

Meeting Notes

- Bill recommended inclusion of Ward Valley and Chemehuevi DWMA due to historically high raven predation rates and relatively high tortoise densities. *There was consensus from the group this good idea.*
- Russell asked if we should include DTNA in 2014's work plan due to the high number of commuters and the fact the surveyors found little in 2013. After discussion, *it was decided that surveys should occur on DTNA but with a revised protocol that includes roost sites.* The idea of tagging ravens and tracking was also discussed but implementability is an issue.
- There was a question as to what raven surveys the renewable energy developers at Ivanpah are conducting and the need to ensure there is no redundancy. *Russell will follow up on this.*
- After discussion, *it was decided that surveys should occur in Superior-Cronese DWMA using a revised protocol that focuses more on roost sites.* Work group members felt we need data that demonstrates evidence of wider spread predation beyond the USGS study site and that we needed effectiveness data. Eric also said that roost site data would help target removal activities.
- Work group members will review the current raven educational brochure to see if they have any suggested changes. *Russell will send a pdf version to the group.*
- Russell said that the documentary is proceeding and thanked everyone for the comments on the first draft. It was reiterated that the target audience was lay people and that while the film had to be accurate and convey a message, it also should not be so heavy as to make it unmarketable and unentertaining. The plan is to market it to Southern California PBS stations and beyond. Russell will send out the next draft for comments when it is available.
- It was decided *we need to include an educational component to the 2014 work plan that includes outreach to local governments and environmental education.* This will create a balanced approach to raven control that includes surveys, removal activities, and education.

NFWF could issue RFPs for education activities as well surveys. Larry, Russell, and Chris will develop an educational component to the work plan.

- Russell will set up a meeting for the survey RFP with those team members. A work group meeting will be scheduled for the winter.