

## DMG Goals

**Goal 1. Restore selected upland and riparian habitats identified for restoration.**

**Goal 2. Cleanup and restore illegal dumps that pose a public health or environmental threat, and reduce the incidence of illegal dumping in the future.**

**Goal 3. Recover the desert tortoise in the California recovery units.**

**Goal 4. Reduce and maintain burro populations to appropriate management levels and in appropriate locations.**

**Goal 5. Protect cultural resources and enhance public awareness of the sensitivity and value of paleontological and cultural resources in the California deserts.**

**Goal 6. DMG agencies will strive to understand and work collaboratively to resolve conflicts in each agency's mission.**

**Goal 7. Develop a coordinated interagency system for delivering useful, comprehensive, and consistent information about desert resources and recreation opportunities.**

**Goal 8. Coordinate scientific studies and monitoring programs needed for effective resource management.**

**Goal 9. Monitor desert tortoise population status in relation to recovery goals for the California deserts' recovery units.**

**Goal 10. Integrate and share data and database management systems needed for effective resource management and planning.**

**Goal 11. Ensure the orderly and efficient operation of the DMG and its work groups.**

**Goal 12. Garner support for the DMG, its mission, activities, and funding initiatives.**

***Goal 1. Restore selected upland and riparian habitats identified for restoration.***

1. The DMG will work with the Mojave Desert Weed Management Area to coordinate weed management activities in the Mojave Desert and implement the WMA long-range plan including assisting the MWMA with coordination of restoration activities in the Mojave River watershed. **(FY 05, BLM, ongoing).**
2. The DMG will host a meeting and/or provide information via the DMG's restoration webpage to review new/current restoration techniques; sources of labor and material; partnership opportunities; ongoing restoration projects; and monitoring **(FY 05, BLM, MDEP, on track).**
3. A list and status report of ongoing restoration activities in the desert will be compiled and made available through the DMG website **(FY 05, USGS, MDEP, languishing).**
4. The DMG will provide guidance and recommendations to USGS researchers within the Mojave Desert, including the Recoverability and Vulnerability of Desert Ecosystems project, aimed at improving the management applicability of research efforts **(FY 05, BLM/NPS, ongoing).**
5. In cooperation with various federal, state and local agencies, the DMG will work with the Low Desert RC&D to establish the Coachella Valley/Southern Desert Weed Management Area (WMA). **(FY05, BLM/ABDSP/FWS, on track).**
6. BLM, GS, State Parks, and CDFG will implement the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the conservation and restoration of the San Felipe Creek-San Sebastian Marsh Watershed **(FY05 BLM/ABDSP, ongoing).**
7. The DMG will finalize the *Riparian Habitat Restoration Challenge for the California Deserts* effort, secure grant funding, and implement the following high priority riparian restoration projects:
  - Amargosa River
  - San Sebastian Marsh/San Felipe Creek
  - Mojave River
  - Dos Palmas
  - East Mojave desert**(FY05, BLM/NPS/CDFG/ABDSP, on track)**
8. The DMG will update and reprint the beginners guide to upland habitat restoration in the California deserts. **(FY05, NPS/USGS, funding dependant)**
9. The DMG will sponsor and conduct Introductory Wilderness Training for non wilderness professional at various DMG office locations throughout the California desert **(FY05, BLM, NPS, USFS, USMC)**

***Goal 2. Cleanup and restore illegal dumps that pose a public health or environmental threat, and reduce the incidence of illegal dumping in the future.***

1. The illegal dump database will be maintained and high priority sites will be identified for cleanup based on threats to public health, safety or the environment. A report of priority dumpsites will be provided to the managers **(FY 05, BLM/NPS, dependent on staff support)**.
2. The DMG will clean up and restore illegal dumps by leveraging budgets with grants and partnerships, and sponsoring community/volunteer illegal dump cleanups on public lands **(FY 05, BLM, ongoing)**.
3. The DMG will coordinate and implement actions to prevent illegal dumping in the California deserts. The DMG's focus will be on
  - sponsoring an illegal dumping enforcement workshop (IDEW) in San Bernardino County
  - implementing a 1-800 number to report incidences of littering
  - cooperating with state and local government to increase the awareness of illegal dumping and its environmental consequences, create prevention solutions, and improve illegal dumping laws **(FY 05, BLM, on track)**.
4. DMG agencies will sponsor or provide regional technical training for participating agencies.
5. The Hazmat Work Group will provide information to the Raven Work Group/EA team concerning solid waste disposal as needed/requested **(FY 05, BLM, on track)**.

**2 Votes**

***Goal 3. Recover the desert tortoise in the California recovery units.***

1. USGS will finalize and distribute their Effectiveness of Desert Tortoise Recovery Actions for OHV vehicle management, cattle and sheep grazing, and construction of tortoise fences report **(FY 04, GS, on track)**.
2. FWS will establish a Desert Tortoise Science Advisory Committee to provide scientific guidance to the DTRO, DMG Desert Tortoise Recovery Action Planning and Implementation Work Group, and other tortoise recovery efforts for DT recovery and monitoring activities **(FY05, FWS, on track)**.
3. FWS will establish an in house repository for all desert tortoise data via a “no cost” MOU with the Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program, University of Redlands, and the University of Nevada, Reno. The MOU will outline protocols for the structure and maintenance of the data repository and accessing data in the repository **(FY 04, FWS, on track)**.
4. As a condition of any new or renewed Endangered Species Act (ESA) and/or California Endangered Species Act (CESA) research permit, the FWS DTRO and CDFG will require all agencies/institutions/researchers to abide by established data management protocols and submit to the desert tortoise data repository a brief annual report along with a complete copy of their field data **(FY 04, FWS/DFG, on track)**.
5. The DMG will implement a multi-faceted education and outreach campaign aimed at increasing public support of and involvement in desert tortoise recovery in California. Required actions include:
  - Hire Tortoise Outreach Coordinator **(FY 05-07, NPS)**
  - Media Campaign
    1. Radio PSAs **(FY05-07, NPS)**
    2. Media Kit **(FY06-07, NPS)**
    3. News releases **(FY05-08, NPS)**
    4. Television PSAs/Programming **(FY06-07, NPS)**
    5. Desert Tortoise Summit **(FY06, NPS)**
    6. Media Field Days **(FY05-07, NPS)**
  - Desert Tortoise Education Component **(FY05-07, NPS)**
  - Desert Tortoise Newsletter **(FY05-07, NPS)**
  - Desert Tortoise Color Brochure **(FY05/07, NPS)**
  - Desert Tortoise Pet Owners Brochure **(FY06-07, NPS)**
  - Public attitude and effectiveness study **(FY05/08, NPS)**
  - Raven Management **(Defenders of Wildlife, FY05-06)**
  - Desert Tortoise website **(MDEP, FY05-08)**
  - Desert Tortoise Merchandise **(Joshua Tree NP Association, FY05-08)**
6. The DMG will complete appropriate NEPA compliance and secure the necessary permits required by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to implement a raven management program in the California deserts **(FY 04, FWS, on track)**.

7. The DMG, in cooperation with University of Redlands, USGS, and interested stakeholders, will initiate an inventory of raven nests **(FY05, all)**.
8. The DMG will implement raven management actions in selected Desert Wildlife Management Areas (DWMAs), critical habitat, and/or NPS units **(FY 05, FWS, funding dependent)**.
9. In conjunction with land use management plans, the CDFG will work with FWS, BLM, DOD, county animal control agencies, and other applicable local entities to develop a Feral Dog Management Plan. The plan will articulate control/management measures, a method for assessing the effectiveness of control/management measures, and provide an agreed upon implementation time line **(CDFG, funding dependent)**.
10. Develop a Coordinated Desert Tortoise Headstarting and Translocation Plan **(FY 05, DOD, USGS, FWS, CDFG)**.
11. The DMG will identify and implement actions to help control the spread of disease and allow for collection of information that will lead to a better understanding of diseases that affect desert tortoise **(FY05, no lead, funding dependent)**.
12. The DMG will establish a Desert Tortoise Recovery Action Planning and Implementation Work Group. The work group will develop, with input from local stakeholders and FWS's Desert Tortoise Recovery Office, a recovery action plan for all desert tortoise recovery units in the California desert which identify and cost share high priority DT recovery, monitoring, and research actions **(DT Implementation and Planning Work Group/FWS, FY 05)**
13. The DMG will explore and identify opportunities for increasing funding to support DT recovery and effectiveness monitoring **(DMG Ad hoc work Group, FY 05)**

**2 Votes**

*Goal 4. Reduce and maintain burro populations to appropriate management levels and in appropriate locations.*

1. BLM, FWS, DOD and the State will continue work to reduce burro populations to appropriate management levels (AML); NPS will work to eliminate burros entirely from Death Valley National Park and the Mojave National Preserve (**FY 04, BLM/NPS, on track**). The targets for FY 05 are:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Number of Animals (Cooperating Agencies)</u>
Clark Mountain	
Centennial	
Slate Range	
Picacho	
Saline Valley	
Panamints	
Mojave NPS	
Outside HMAs	
<b>Total</b>	

**0 Votes**

***Goal 5. Protect cultural resources and enhance public awareness of the sensitivity and value of paleontological and cultural resources in the California deserts.***

1. Complete development of a functional Mojave Desert Historical Resources GIS; provide DMG agency training on use of the system(OHP/PACRAT, FY 05)
2. Develop an MDHRGIS implementation plan to be executed upon delivery of the system by the California Office of Historic Preservation in the fall of 2005 (FY05, PACRAT/MDEP).
3. The DMG will provide support for the Three Corners Conference, a one-day archaeological meeting to be held at UNLV on October 15, 2005 (FY05, PACRAT) .
4. The DMG will conduct the first annual 2-day PACRAT Workshop, designed as a forum for sharing new information/methods and identifying high priority regional research questions, during the summer of 2005 (FY05, PACRAT).
5. The DMG will seek funding to create/update general overviews, including the ethnography, rock art, and historic and prehistoric archaeology, of the California deserts (FY06, PACRAT).
6. The DMG will create a means for disseminating information on new archaeological/paleontological work in the desert through short (abstract length) written discussions utilizing the DMG website (FY06, PACRAT/MDEP).
7. The DMG will develop an annual outreach program that contributes to other statewide events during California Archaeology Week (FY06, PACRAT).
8. The DMG will devote effort towards scoping and implementing consistent regional standards in archaeological recording and reporting (FY06, PACRAT).
9. The DMG will consider organizing a session on desert archaeology, ethnography, and cultural resources management for presentation at the Society for California Archaeology's Annual Meeting (FY06, PACRAT).

*Goal 6. DMG agencies will strive to understand and work collaboratively to resolve conflicts in each agency's mission.*

1. Each agency will actively consider DMG partner agency mission requirements in their land and resource management and planning activities and analyze/consider potential impacts of their proposed land management decisions/actions on other agencies (**ongoing**).

**0 Votes**

*Goal 7. Develop a coordinated interagency system for delivering useful, comprehensive, and consistent information about desert resources and recreation opportunities.*

1. The California deserts website, [www.californiadesert.gov](http://www.californiadesert.gov), will be maintained by the Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) (ongoing, MDEP, on track).
2. Agency webmasters will input information on recreation opportunities and sites in the California deserts on [www.caldesert.gov](http://www.caldesert.gov) and update their information as needed (ongoing, agency webmasters, on track).
3. DMG agencies and San Bernardino County will design and install interpretive exhibits at Caltrans roadside rest areas in the California deserts (FY 05, Caltrans, State Parks, NPS, BLM, MDEP).
4. DMG agencies (Caltrans, State Parks, NPS, BLM, MDEP) and San Bernardino County will complete the preliminary design for the exhibits at the Valley Wells rest area (FY 05, NPS/MOJA)
5. Construct and maintain the environmental exhibits at the Valley Wells rest area (FY06-07, Caltrans).
6. Maintain and operate the interagency "gateway" visitor center at Lancaster, California (ongoing, State Parks, on track).

***Goal 8. Coordinate scientific studies and monitoring programs needed for effective resource management.***

1. Selected papers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mojave Desert Science Symposium will be written up and published (FY 05, NPS, on track).
2. Continue to support desert tortoise monitoring (Goal 9) (FY05+, FWS, ongoing)
3. Coordinate and develop standard protocols for monitoring of climate and precipitation patterns in the desert (USGS, 05-06)
4. Develop a framework or conceptual model to tie multiple agency efforts together across desert ecosystems and jurisdictional boundaries (FY05, NPS)
5. Mine existing data on high priority monitoring needs (FY05-06, NPS, USGS, CDFG, BLM, DOD)
6. Use DMG developed Level 1 spring survey protocols to inventory/characterize spring/wetlands in the desert (FY04-05, NPS, BLM, DOD, funding dependent)
7. Develop a web accessible database for spring and wetland data (FY04-05, MDEP, on hold)
8. The Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) will maintain and update the web accessible Research Inventory Database. An inventory of existing resource, research and monitoring studies will be initiated to populate the database. Managers will implement protocols to encourage scientists to input data and/or update the database (FY 05, NPS, on track).

***Goal 9. Monitor desert tortoise population status in relation to recovery goals for the California deserts' recovery units.***

1. Continue Line Distance Transect sampling to assess desert tortoise density, habitat quality, and threats (**FWS, MDEP, on track**).
2. Sample selected desert tortoise Permanent Study Plots (PSP) in Californian. (**FWS, funding dependent**).
3. FWS will identify opportunities to integrate LDS and PSP efforts to:
  - produce the best data in the most cost effective manner possible
  - provide a method by which managers can prioritize funding for PSPs and LDS.

This action is on hold pending review of the Recovery Plan Assessment Committee recommendations and further direction from FWS (**FWS, on hold**).

4. Publish a report of desert tortoise LDS monitoring results for FYs 01 - 04 (**FY 04-08, FWS, on track**).
5. The DOD Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) will coordinate with the FWS to develop a single master database for all desert tortoise data. MDEP will transition all of its desert tortoise data to the master database. Management of the master desert tortoise database and all data collected will facilitate a regional, multi-state assessment of the status of desert tortoise populations, its habitat, and the effectiveness of implemented recovery actions (**FY 04-08, FWS/MDEP, on track**).

*Goal 10. Integrate and share data and database management systems needed for effective resource management and planning.*

1. The Mojave Desert Ecosystem Program (MDEP) will maintain its GIS database ([www.mojavedata.gov](http://www.mojavedata.gov)) of natural and cultural resources in the California deserts (ongoing, MDEP, on track).

0 Votes

***Goal 11. Ensure the orderly and efficient operation of the DMG and its work groups.***

1. The DMG will initiate a Charter and MOU review process to update both documents to reflect current priorities and policies **(FY05, DOD/DOI Coordinators)**.
2. Update the DMG Work Plan to reflect FY05 priorities and FY04 accomplishments. Work groups will develop annual work plans for specific initiatives as needed **(ongoing, DOI/DOD Coordinators, on track)**.
3. The BLM Natural Resources Restoration Coordinator will coordinate implementation of dump clean up and habitat restoration efforts on behalf of the DMG **(ongoing, BLM, on track)**.
4. The FWS Desert Tortoise Recovery Office (DTRO) will coordinate implementation of various tortoise monitoring, research and recovery activities on behalf of the DMG **(ongoing, FWS, on track)**.
5. MDEP will maintain the DMG website (**www.dmg.gov**) to allow for the efficient dissemination of information about DMG and work group activities **(ongoing, MDEP, on track)**.
6. The DMG will coordinate its desert tortoise activities with the Clark County HCP and the SNPLMA Conservation Initiative where there is program overlap **(ongoing, DOI, on track)**.
7. DMG member agencies will encourage the use of and provide incentives/time for appropriate staff to attend and actively participate in standing and ad hoc DMG Work Groups **(FY05, Managers, ongoing)**
8. DMG member agency Managers will participate in and provide management guidance to standing DMG work Groups.
  - Pacrat **(Thomsen, Wood and Reynolds)**
  - HAZMAT **(Martin and Trost)**
  - DT Information and Education **(Sauer,??)**
  - DT Planning and Implementation Work Group **(??)**

**0 Votes**

*Goal 12. Garner support for the DMG, its mission, activities, and funding initiatives.*

1. DMG representatives will brief federal and state agencies, Congressional representatives, and interested parties about DMG activities and initiatives, as requested (**ongoing, DOI/DOD, on track**).
2. The DMG will cooperate with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to secure funding for DMG initiatives and establish a California Desert Conservation Fund (**ongoing, DOI**).

**0 Votes**