

Clarence Everly  
DOD Coordinator



DESERT  
MANAGERS GROUP

John Hamill  
DOI Coordinator

DMG 05-08

21 January 2005

Mr. Wally Leimgruber, District 5 Supervisor  
Imperial County Board of Supervisors  
940 Main Street, Suite 212  
El Centro, CA 92243

Dear Supervisor Leimgruber:

Thank you for your January 11, 2005 letter requesting local government be included as a partner in the Desert Managers Group (DMG). We appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to attend the January 12, 2005 DMG meeting in Borrego Springs.

The DMG was established as a forum for government agencies to work together to conserve and enhance the California deserts for current and future generations. As pointed out in your letter, county governments play an important and direct role in many of the goals currently being addressed by the DMG including weed management, illegal dumping cleanup and prevention, raven and feral dog management, public environmental and natural resource education and outreach, desert tortoise recovery, law enforcement on public lands, and others.

Current DMG members (with the exception of the US Forest Service (USFS)) participate in the DMG pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed in the fall of 2000. The MOU commits each agency to participate in and carry out the mission of the DMG as provided for in the June 2000 DMG Charter (attached). The USFS was granted membership upon receipt of a letter from the Regional Forester which committed the USFS to participate on the same terms required by the MOU. The USFS also indicated their intention to become a formal signatory when the MOU is renewed in the fall of 2005.

At its January 13, 2005 meeting, the DMG agreed by consensus to welcome Imperial County and other counties in the California deserts (San Bernardino, Kern, Riverside, Los Angeles, Inyo and San Diego) as full members of the DMG under the same conditions that apply to current members. These conditions include each county provide the DMG a letter or resolution from the County Board of Supervisors committing the County to participate in and carry out the mission

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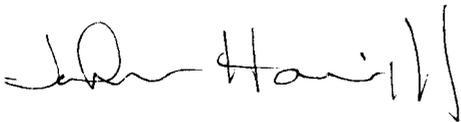
of the DMG as provided for in the June 2000 DMG Charter. Each County is also expected to become a signatory to a new/updated MOU and Charter that will be revised and executed later this year.

As provided for in the Charter, the DMG is composed of agency managers with direct authority for land and resource management in the California deserts. Your letter or resolution should identify an elected County Supervisor to serve on the DMG who can speak for and make commitments on behalf of the County.

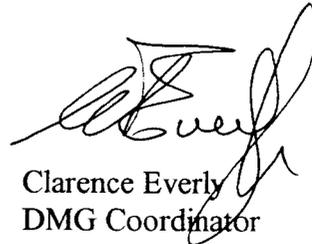
Please contact us with any questions you may have about the DMG or the DMG's decision to welcome your county as a member of the DMG. In particular we request that you contact us to review DMG operating practices and work out specific details of your membership, including the County's participation in the DMG's Executive Coordination Process and various DMG Work Groups. The next DMG meeting is scheduled for April 27-28, 2005 in Ridgecrest, CA.

We look forward to your participation in the DMG.

Sincerely,



John Hamill  
California Deserts Coordinator  
Department of the Interior



Clarence Everly  
DMG Coordinator  
Department of Defense

Attachment

cc Desert Managers Group  
Mike Pool, CA State Director, Bureau of Land Management  
Steve Thompson, CA/NV Operations Manager, Fish and Wildlife Service  
Jon Jarvis, Regional Director, National Park Service  
Wes Ward, Regional Geologist, Geological Survey

CE/cal