

September 18, 2002

John Hamill
DOI Coordinator
Desert Managers Group
222 East Main Street, Suite 215
Barstow, CA 92311

Dear Mr. Hamill,

I would like to invite the Department of Interior and the Desert Managers Group to serve as a sponsor for the *Desert Spotlight on Conservation Regional Workshops*, to be held by the California Resources Agency, California Legacy Project in conjunction with University of California Extension, Davis. Madelyn Glickfeld, Assistant Secretary for Resources is directing the California Legacy Project. The Legacy Project is a multi-year initiative of the Resources Agency designed to develop a suite of web-based tools and maps to assist in making important decisions about conserving California's many landscapes and natural resources.

Given the extensive work the DMG does in this region I can't imagine not having the DMG as a co-sponsor of this workshop. By having the DMG as a co-sponsor we hope to demonstrate to participants that we are eager to work with existing efforts and respect local and regional authorities and missions. The Legacy Project's goal is to add value to the conservation and planning efforts of entities such as the DMG. The Desert workshop will be held on January 16 and 17.

These workshops are designed to:

- put a spotlight on land and water conservation throughout the state,
- introduce the Legacy Project to regional conservation stakeholders,
- solicit information about regional conservation plans, existing priorities, available data sets, condition of resources, monitoring, and management and stewardship preferences, and
- gain a sense of the participant's highest priorities for conservation, the criteria they might use for investing in conservation of various resources, and the tools they believe most applicable to their region and interests.

The purpose of the workshops is to solicit information and input from key stakeholders in a variety of ways on issues related to conservation in nine sub-regions of the state. Every effort will be made to identify a balanced representation of interests and stakeholders in the region and ensure their attendance.

The first four *Spotlight on Conservation Regional Workshops* have generated a lot of energy among participants and good information. The workshops combine large-group interactive discussions; small-group breakouts; presentations; and a substantial amount of time to interact informally and to provide detailed information or input during an open house component. These workshops are not designed to reach a consensus. They are to educate, stir interest, enthusiasm, and support, and to gain a sense of how regional priorities and needs might inform a statewide vision.

Sponsorship funding will help defray some direct costs for meeting rooms, meals, handout materials. The Resources Agency is already devoting substantial funding toward these workshops and is the primary convener. However, to be able to ensure consistent coverage across the State, additional funds are needed. For details about how to submit sponsorship funds, please refer to the enclosed sponsorship form.



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I appreciate your consideration in helping to support conservation efforts in California. Extensive partnership opportunities exist between the information exchange components of the California Legacy Project and the DMG. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Jeff Loux
Director, Natural Resources and Land Use
University of California Extension, Davis

cc Clarence Everly, DOD Coordinator, DMG

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Mary D. Nichols
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CALIFORNIA LEGACY PROJECT SPOTLIGHT ON CONSERVATION REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

Goals

- Put a spotlight on natural resource and working landscape conservation throughout the state;
- Introduce the Legacy Project to regional conservation stakeholders;
- Elicit information about existing regional conservation plans and priorities; monitoring, management and stewardship projects; and available data sets and;
- Gain a sense of the participant's high priorities for conservation: the criteria they might use for investing in conservation of various resources, and the conservation strategies that can serve as next steps towards reaching conservation priorities.

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Outcomes

Information gathered from each of the workshops will be carefully managed to inform all relevant aspects of the Legacy Project, most notably:

- Identify criteria for investing in conservation of various resource types. These criteria will result in map layers displayed in the Legacy Project's web-based conservation decision support tools;
- Digital catalogue and map of existing regional/local conservation efforts. This catalogue will also be accessible on the Project's web-based tools and;
- Summarized results of information from the regional workshops will contribute to the Project's second annual Conservation Priorities Report.

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Workshop Design

- Large-group interactive discussions; small-group break-outs; presentations; and substantial amounts of time to interact informally and provide detailed information or input during an Information Exchange component.
- One and a half days (one afternoon plus the next day).
- 85 invited and pre-registered participants.
- Every effort will be made to identify a balanced representation of interests and stakeholders in the region.
- These workshops are not designed to reach a consensus. We want to educate, be educated, stir interest and enthusiasm, rally support and active participation and gain a sense of how regional priorities and needs might be incorporated into a statewide vision.

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Sponsorship Options

Platinum - Sponsor Cash donation of \$5,000 or more	Organization receives representation at the workshop, acknowledgement as workshop sponsor on the <u>front</u> of printed materials, speeches and reports; two highly visible tables at the open house session of the workshop and a recognition plaque.
Gold - Sponsor Cash donation of \$3,000 or more	Organization receives representation at the workshop, acknowledgement on the <u>front</u> of printed materials, speeches and reports; and one table at the open house session of the workshop.
Silver – Co-Sponsor Cash donation of \$1000 or more	Organization receives representation at the workshop, acknowledgement <u>in</u> printed materials, speeches and reports; and one table at the open house session of the workshop.

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