



DESERT MANAGERS GROUP

January 21, 2002

Memorandum

To: California Desert Managers Group
California Desert Managers Group Interagency Working Group Team Leaders

From: Executive Coordinator, California Desert Managers Group
DOD Coordinator, California Desert Managers Group

Subject: December 13 – 14, 2001 California Desert Managers Group Meeting Summary

Attached is the draft meeting summary, action items, and assignments for the California Desert Managers Group meeting conducted December 13 – 14, 2001. Please review these items and follow through on any assignments or action items for which you are responsible. Please contact either John Hamill (760-255-8888) or Clarence Everly (760-255-8896) if you have any questions.

Attachments

1. Action Items and Assignments
2. Meeting Summary
3. DMG Meeting Outline
4. DMG Priority Goals and Projects
5. DMG Illegal Dumping Project FY 02 Annual Work Plan
6. DMG HAZMAT Work Group FY 02 Annual Work Plan
7. California Desert Wild Burro Management Final FY 2002 Annual Operating Plan

Desert Mangers Group Meeting
December 13 – 14, 2001
Death Valley National Park, California

Action Items and Assignments

1. The DMG Managers recommended they serve as ceremonial chairs for DMG meetings. The DMG Coordinators would retain functional chair roles.
2. Managers are tasked to discuss with their respective state/regional manager their thoughts on the Chair of the DMG and how the regional managers can best support the DMG process.
3. The Coordinators are tasked to conduct a review of commitments, action items and agreements made during the course of the meeting at the end of each meeting. Managers with commitments, action items, and agreements will provide an update on the status of these items at subsequent meetings. Additionally, prior to the close of each meeting, a host will be determined for the next upcoming meeting and a theme for the meeting selected.
4. The DMG will consider sponsoring a team building class, for Managers and key staff, to improve communications, build trust, and improve collaboration skills. The Managers recommended this class be conducted in conjunction with an existing meeting. The Coordinators were charged to look into course options and whether a course can be taught over the course of the normal two-day DMG meeting.
5. By March 2002, the Manager representatives for the Data Management, Restoration, Desert Information Resources, Wilderness, and Law Enforcement work groups will meet with Work Group members to determine if there is sufficient value and work for the group to remain active. If so, Managers will submit a work plan for the work group at the next DMG meeting. If not, Managers will recommend their Work Group be formally placed in an inactive status at the next DMG meeting.
6. The Superintendent of Joshua Tree National Park will meet with members of the Website subgroup and representatives of the DIRT Work Group to review the value of the DMG website and make a determination as to whether the DMG has the ability and the will to keep it current and of value to the public.
7. The Mojave National Preserve volunteered Debra Hughson as chair of an ad hoc group that will address the coordination of science and research programs in the desert. USGS volunteered Len Gaydos to support this effort. The group is tasked to develop a list of existing studies followed by development of a statement of need for additional studies.
8. Death Valley National Park agreed to develop subtasks for the protection of water resources goal in the DMG 5 year plan. All involved agreed to become more responsive

in using and submitting the Water Project field forms, developed by the Water ad hoc work group, to MDEP.

9. BLM agreed to continue support for the Dump/Restoration Coordinator position. Based on national budget priorities, California BLM may not be able to fully fund the dump program in FY 02.
10. The DOD Coordinator was tasked to develop a list of what data are required from each of the DMG agencies. The status of data received and data still owed will be briefed at each DMG meeting until all commitments are fulfilled.
11. Pacrat was tasked to identify the specific scope, purpose, and focus of a cultural resources action plan and to articulate what benefit doing this will provide. The Managers indicated the plan should be focused on priority issues where interagency cooperation is needed. Pacrat was directed to stay involved in the State CHRIS system in terms of long-term implementation, management, and maintenance.
12. Dave Sjaastad, along with Kitty Jensen for the Park Service, will establish an ad hoc group to discuss issues and develop recommendations related to burro monitoring protocols.
13. The managers directed Clarence, John Hamill, and Phil Medica draft a memo from the DMG to the Univ. of Redlands stating the DMG's interest in the Univ. of Redlands project and outlining the DMG's priorities for tortoise research/recovery. The managers also selected Phil Medica as the DMG representative to the Univ. of Redlands project.
14. John Hamill, Phil Medica, and Clarence Everly were directed to review all anticipated cost requirements, analyze contractors participating in FY 02 and their projected costs, and determine cost per kilometer for FY 02 line distance sampling.
15. Managers invited representatives from the Mojave Desert Weed Management Area to attend the April DMG meeting.
16. Bruce Shaffer, BLM, was volunteered to be the Vice Chair for the Overflight Work Group. Approved by the managers.
17. The managers agreed to make staff available to USFWS to assist in the review of agency land management plans.
18. Managers were requested to review the Overflight brochure for content/substance and provide comments to the Overflight Work Group by 15 January 2002.

Meeting Summary

1. **Effectiveness of the DMG.** The Desert Managers Group (DMG) reviewed and discussed the precepts, methodologies and processes by which the DMG would continue to operate and how it would handle priority projects within the group. The following paragraphs represent the discussions conducted by the managers.
 - a. John Hamill began the discussion with an overview of Paul Ideker's recommendations followed by a presentation of comments from Managers solicited during pre-meeting interviews.
 - b. John Hamill articulated the desire of the DOI Regional Managers (BLM State Director, Park Service Regional Director, USFWS CA/NV Operations Manager) to have a DOI Manager serve as Chair of the DMG versus the DOI and DOD Coordinators serving as Co-Chairs of DMG meetings. They also proposed the DOI Coordinator report to the regional executives (as opposed to the DOI Assistant Secretary) and be their representative at DMG meetings. They believe this realignment will improve coordination and collaboration among DOI agencies by providing a direct link between field managers and the DOI Executive Coordinator. Managers at the meeting expressed concern that, with only a DOI Chair for the group, a perception of unequal representation (no equal DOD Chair) would develop. Managers also felt it was their responsibility to coordinate with their respective regional/state managers on interagency activities and issues. Overall the Managers recommended that they establish a rotating ceremonial chair for DMG meetings with the Coordinators maintaining the role of functional chair. All DMG managers agreed to review and discuss this issue with their respective regional managers. The DOI Regional Executives will attend the April DMG meeting to express their thoughts and participate in general discussion on this issue.
 - c. DMG effectiveness underlying assumptions/facts.
 1. Most if not all the Managers believe that the DMG plays a valuable role in fostering better management of the California Desert.
 2. A majority of the desert managers believe that the primary value of participating in the DMG is:
 - To meet people with shared professional interests and responsibilities.
 - To network contacts made by participation in the group in a way that is valuable to them professionally.
 - To build relationships that help them address issues or collaborative projects that are important to their agency's mission.
 3. Many managers believe identifying and/or facilitating collaborative projects is a major benefit of the DMG. Collaborative projects are defined to include interagency training/workshops, establishing common data collection protocols

and databases, and working cooperatively to achieve specific management objectives (burro removal, tortoise recovery, etc). A collaborative project may involve two or more DMG members who have a shared interest and have a commitment to achieve a common goal.

4. It is unlikely that significant additional funding for DMG collaborative projects will be forthcoming from either the federal or state government in the foreseeable future. Consequently, new initiatives must be funded from existing agency budgets or non-traditional sources (e.g., grants).
5. The ability of the DMG to achieve common goals comes exclusively from the member agencies and the leadership they provide. The DMG as an entity has no independent authority to design or direct work in the California desert. Consequently, there is no such thing as “DMG projects” or “DMG work” — it is all agency work that is managed collaboratively by DMG participants and facilitated by the small DMG support staff.

d. DMG methodologies and processes.

1. DMG meetings will be structured to foster a broader level of networking among the Managers and key stakeholders in the California deserts. This will be accomplished by the following:
 - A portion of each regular DMG meeting will be devoted to having manager’s report on work within their organization/office that could be useful to other members of the group. This includes sharing scientific reports/information, introducing new or emerging issues of regional significance, and reviewing initiatives started/completed. It will also include sharing information concerning the addition of new personnel with special expertise, sharing information concerning useful or not so useful training experiences, sharing information concerning consultants and other resources. Manager reports will be concise and focused on topics of interagency interest.
 - Outside speakers will be invited to make presentations about technical, scientific, political topics of value and interest to the group. The Coordinators will regularly solicit suggestions from the Managers/Executives on topics that would be of interest or conduct periodic surveys to give Managers choices of topics for discussion and ask about their interests.
 - Managers will encourage their respective agency executives to attend one regular DMG meeting each year in addition to the DMG’s annual executive coordination meeting. Agency executives will also be encouraged to send their senior staff to attend at least one regular DMG meeting each year.
 - It remains unclear as to whether DMG meetings will be open to selected representatives of other State, federal, and local governments, NGOs with a

shared interest in work described in the DMG Charter, and Native Americans that are identified/invited by DMG Managers. This issue will be further discussed at the next DMG meeting.

2. The DMG will encourage but not manage interagency collaborative projects. Project management will be provided by a lead agency, directly involved in the project, agreed to by the Managers. Progress on collaborative efforts will be reported to the full DMG membership on a regular basis. Barriers to progress will be reported and requests for assistance and advice along the way freely sought and provided. DMG Coordinators will provide guidance and assistance to the agencies, as requested.
3. The DMG Coordinators will chair and facilitate DMG meetings and serve as the principal spokespersons for the DMG. However, the manager who hosts the quarterly DMG meeting will plan a segment of the meeting. The focus of this segment will be on areas of known common interest, potential collaborative projects, and on providing the Managers with the opportunity to put faces together with names and titles for their respective management area. This responsibility will be rotated among the Managers. **Note:** The role of the Managers in chairing DMG meetings will be reviewed with DOI Agency Executives at the next DMG meeting.
4. A general outline for future DMG meetings is found at Attachment 3. The managers requested that, at the conclusion of each meeting, the Coordinators conduct a review of commitments, action items and agreements made during the course of the meeting. Managers with commitments, action items, and agreements will provide an update on the status of these items at subsequent meetings. Additionally, prior to the close of each meeting, a host will be determined for the next upcoming meeting and a theme for the meeting selected.
5. The DMG will continue to coordinate and/or sponsor training programs that meet the special needs and interests of its members. This may include technical training and organizational development skills (i.e. strategic planning, partnering skills, communications, etc.). Each fiscal year, the Managers will identify the specific training needs or opportunities that will be sponsored/coordinated by the DMG. Ad hoc groups will be established to plan these events as needed.
6. The DMG will consider sponsoring a team building class, for Managers and key staff, to improve communications, build trust, and improve collaboration skills (e.g. the National Conservation Training Center course: Collaboration in Resource Management—an interagency approach). The Managers recommended this class be conducted in conjunction with an existing meeting. The Coordinators were charged to look into whether this course could be taught over the course of the normal two-day DMG meeting.

7. The goals and projects identified in the DMG 5-Year Plan are too ambitious to complete given the current level of staff, funding, and agency support. The goals and projects at Attachment 4 have support from two or more DMG members and have the resources needed to make significant progress. These goals and projects will be pursued by DMG agencies. Other projects included in the 5-Year Plan will be maintained as long-term goals and pursued as time/resources permit.
8. Managers will provide adequate time and appropriate performance incentives for their staffs work on collaborative projects.
9. The PACRAT, HAZMAT, and Overflight Work Groups will continue as active standing DMG committees as long as they are regularly attended, have active leadership, and have clear work assignments. By March 2002, the Managers will evaluate the Data Management, Restoration, Desert Information Resources, Wilderness, and Law Enforcement work groups to determine if they will remain active or be formally placed in an inactive status. The Science Team will be placed in an inactive status. Ad hoc work groups will provide coordination of science related goals. Members who have actively contributed to the successes/accomplishments of the work groups will be formally acknowledged by the DMG.
10. As needed, the Managers will establish ad hoc work groups to address specific goals/projects in the DMG 5-Year Plan. Upon completion of their assignment, ad hoc work groups will be disbanded and participants who actively contributed formally recognized by the DMG.
11. The DMG agencies have no coordinated strategy for securing funds to implement the 5-Year Plan. Each agency will evaluate and determine the best strategy for securing the resources needed to support its participation in DMG collaborative projects. The agencies will then discuss how best to secure funding in a coordinated and timely manner.
12. The DMG agencies will work cooperatively to actively seek partnerships and grants for collaborative projects. The DMG Coordinators will assist by coordinating ad hoc teams to develop grant proposals.
13. A California Desert field trip should be conducted every other year for high level state and national executives, Congressional representatives/staff, and key stakeholders. The goal will be to raise the visibility of Desert issues, projects, and funding needs among people who do not have it as their primary management/policy focus. DMG Executives and the Managers will be involved in inviting the right people and planning the field trips.

e. DMG 5-Year Plan priority goals and projects.

1. Goal 6: Recover the Desert Tortoise. There is no clear support from USFWS to review and compare land management plans for tortoise recovery activities. Phil Medica agreed to discuss the issue with Bob Williams and report back to the Managers at the next DMG meeting. Phil believes completion of this task requires hiring an additional person for a focused effort. Some managers recommended deletion of reference to the recovery plan and that the DMG focus on common desert tortoise efforts for collaboration. The managers agreed to make staff available to USFWS to assist in the review of agency land management plans.
2. Goal 10: Coordinate Science and Research Programs. This effort needs a dedicated staff. The Mojave Preserve volunteered Debra Hughson as chair of an ad hoc group that will take this effort on. USGS volunteered Len Gaydos to support this effort. The focus of the ad hoc group is to develop a list of existing studies followed by developing a statement of need for additional studies. The first task for the two volunteers is to put together the ad hoc group then determine how to approach the task assigned the group. Both were instructed to bring any issues to the managers.
3. Goal 11: Coordinate Natural Resource Monitoring. All agree that this is an important goal. The major concern is one over long term funding to coordinate and sustain agency efforts.
4. Goal 13: Protection of Water Resources. This goal is considered low priority by the majority of managers. Death Valley National Park and Mojave National Preserve place great importance on this effort and will work together with others interested. It is anticipated this project will receive varying degrees of support depending on each involved agencies needs. Death Valley National Park agreed to develop subtasks for this goal. All involved agreed to become more responsive in using and submitting the Water Project field forms, developed by the Water ad hoc work group, to MDEP.
5. Goal 2: Clean up and prevent illegal dumps. BLM agreed to continue support for the Dump/Restoration Coordinator position and clean-up effort. Based on national budget priorities, California BLM may not be able to fully fund the program in FY 02.
6. Goal 14: Share data. The DOD Coordinator was tasked to develop a list of what data is required from each of the DMG agencies. The status of data received and data still owed will be briefed at each DMG meeting until all commitments are fulfilled.
7. Goal 5: Protect cultural resources. Pacrat was tasked to identify the specific scope, purpose, and focus of a cultural resources action plan and to articulate what

benefit doing this will provide. The Managers indicated the plan should be focused on priority issues where interagency cooperation is needed. Pacrat was directed to stay involved in the State CHRIS system in terms of long- term implementation, management, and maintenance.

2. **Long-term sustainability of military operations in the desert.** Steven Evanko from the Marine Corps Western Environmental Coordination Office provided a presentation on several suspected threats to long term sustainability of military operations in the desert. Disagreement exists among the managers as to the nature and extent of these threats and how they should be addressed. This topic warrants additional discussion to clarify these issues.
3. **Natural Resource Monitoring.** John Hamill provided an overview of the upcoming natural resource monitoring workshop to be held at the end of January in Palm Springs. John stressed this workshop is not a training session. Rather, it is an effort to bring the various DMG agencies together and provide an opportunity for each agency to discuss what monitoring they are conducting and how it is being conducted. The results will be used to evaluate where collaboration among the DMG agencies can occur in their monitoring programs. Kristine Heister presented a slide show outlining the Park Service's desert park cluster monitoring program. Jim Weigand provided an overview of the BLM California desert monitoring plan.
4. **Burro Management.** Dave Sjaasted presented the FY 02 Annual Burro Operations Plan (attachement 7). He reported there is a reduction of 200 burros from the planned burro gather numbers for FY 02. Dave will continue to work with the national BLM office to make up this shortfall of collected burros. The Managers approved the plan. Dave discussed the results of the California-Arizona meeting on burro issues. Dave, along with Kitty Jensen, will establish an ad hoc group to discuss issues and develop recommendations to deal with burro impacts, burro populations, and burro monitoring protocols. The goal is to develop a universally accepted protocol for burro monitoring and census taking.
5. **DMG Updates.**
 - a. Tim Read announced that Russell Scoffield was selected as the DMG Dump/Restoration Coordinator. Tim thanked all those involved in the selection and evaluation process.
 - b. Tim Salt provided a quick overview of the status of actions related to the BLM lawsuit. He also gave an overview of the recently held Desert Advisory Council meeting. Eight resolutions resulted from the meeting. One of these resolutions involved statements to the effect that the BLM land management plans should not be finalized until a review of the population status of the desert tortoise is complete.
 - c. Clarence Everly provided an overview of the meeting held by the University of Redlands articulating their plan for expenditure of the \$4 million they have for desert

tortoise research. The managers directed Clarence, John Hamill, and Phil Medica draft a memo from the DMG to the Univ. of Redlands stating the DMG's interest in the Univ. of Redlands project and outlining the DMG's priorities for tortoise research/recovery. The managers also selected Phil Medica as the DMG representative to the Univ. of Redlands project.

- d. John Hamill announced the upcoming Salton Sea symposium.
- e. John Hamill introduced Michael Davis. Michael attended the DMG meeting at the behest of the Secretary of the Interior. His assignment is to evaluate the DMG and provide a report to the Secretary on the value/benefits of the DMG to Department of Interior agencies and how effective it was in establishing collaborative efforts. (Note: Michael resigned his position before submitting his evaluation to the Secretary.)
- f. John Hamill provided an overview of the status of the Millennium Conference Proceedings. There is a lack of funding to complete and publish this document. John stated certain agencies had not fulfilled their funding commitments for the conference. These agencies were urged to provide the promised funds and they would be used to complete and publish the conference proceedings.

6. Work Group Reports/FY 02 Work Plans.

- a. HAZMAT Work Group.
 - Hazwopper, emergency response team, site assessment, and sampling training will be offered over the course of the upcoming fiscal year.
 - Training is free to all federal and state agencies
 - The next Desert Dumps tour is tentatively scheduled for the first week of April 2002.
 - Hazmat annual plan approved.
- b. Desert Tortoise Monitoring.
 - Phil Medica provided an FY 02 cost overview for line distance sampling.
 - John Hamill, Phil Medica, and Clarence Everly were directed to review all anticipated cost requirements, analyze contractors participating in FY 02 and their projected costs, and determine cost per kilometer for FY 02 line distance sampling.
- c. Dumps.
 - Russell Scoffield reported the contractor who will populate the dump database will start work in January 2002.
 - The Dump Program will continue to develop partnering opportunities and leverage partnerships to continue to clean up dump locations.
 - Annual dump clean-up work plan approved.

d. Restoration

- John Hamill provided an overview of the most recent Weed Management Area (WMA) meeting.
- Managers invited representatives from the WMA to attend the April DMG meeting.
- An MOU for agencies to participate in the WMA process is under development.
- The Restoration Work Group has no annual work plan.
- The Restoration Work Group manager representative will meet with key members of the group to discuss objectives and goals for the group and evaluate what needs to be done to re-energize the Restoration team.
- Managers will address the annual work plan following the outcome of discussions with members of the group.

e. Overflight

- Overflight Work Group members recommend the group go to two meetings per year.
- The group wants to put all existing agency MOUs dealing with airspace on the DMG website.
- The group will develop a training session on airspace targeted at field level personnel with the focus of educating them on airspace topics.
- Group will develop items dealing with military operations in the desert for the Caldeserts website.
- Group needs to provide the DMG with its annual work plan. Proposed work group issues approved.
- The group is working on development of an airspace emergency contacts list.
- The next work group meeting will occur in May 2002.
- Bruce Shaeffer, BLM, volunteered as Vice Chair for the Overflight Work Group. Approved by the managers.
- The Overflight brochure was shown to the managers. Managers were requested to review the brochure for content/substance and provide comments to the Overflight Work Group by 15 January 2002. The group would like to publish the final version of the brochure NLT 31 January 2002.

7. **Desert Water Resources.** Don Sada provided a presentation on the biological importance of desert water resources. Terry Fisk and Jim Roche from Death Valley National Park provided an overview of the importance of instituting a long range program for the protection of desert water resources. Chuck Pettee gave a brief discussion of the legal aspects regarding the protection of desert water resources. He also announced a desert water rights training session to be held in Palm Springs 26-27 February 2002. John Hamill closed the session with an overview of actions to date in the DMG Water Resources Program and stressed the need for collaboration among the DMG agencies in order to conduct effective outreach and obtain necessary funding.

Attachment 3
General DMG Meeting Outline

Day 1

1. Introductions and Administration (10 Minutes)
2. Agency/Coordinator Reports (100 minutes)
3. Status of commitments/action items from previous meeting (20 minutes)
4. Break (30 minutes)
5. Outside Speaker (60 minutes)

Lunch (90 minutes)

6. Project/Work Group reports and updates (120 minutes)
7. Break (30 minutes)
8. Outside Speaker (60 minutes)

Evening Social event

Day 2

1. Manager(s) presentations (3 hours)
2. Review of meeting commitments/action items (15 minutes)
3. Designate next meeting location, host, and meeting theme (10 minutes)

Noon - adjourn

Attachment 4
Priority Goal and Projects from the DMG 5-Year Plan

Goal 6: Recover Desert Tortoise

1. review/compare land management plans and recovery plan
2. review and prioritize budget needs
3. implement recovery actions

Note: assumes lead by FWS Desert Tortoise Coordinator

Goal 12: Monitor Desert Tortoise Populations

1. implement LDS
2. establish/maintain interagency database

Note: assumes lead by FWS Desert Tortoise Coordinator and data management support by MDEP

Goal 10: Coordinate Science and Research Programs

1. identify research needs and review existing studies

Note: requires identification and commitment of staff to lead this task and formation of ad hoc work group

Goal 11. Coordinate Natural Resource Monitoring Programs

1. review agency monitoring programs and plans
2. coordinate/integrate agency monitoring programs

Note: 2, requires identification and commitment of staff to lead this task and formation of ad hoc work group

Goal 13: Protection of Water Resources

Death Valley NP and the Mojave NP should work collaboratively on this effort with the FWS National Wetlands Inventory project; BLM should consider refocusing its funding for Habitat Restoration (Goal 1) on inventory and restoration of desert springs and wetlands in partnership with NPS, FWS. GS (BRD and WRD) needs to determine its ability to participate in the effort. After Greg Lines retires, GS/NPS/BLM should assign a new lead to coordinate this effort.

Goal 2: Clean-up and prevent illegal dumps

1. develop/implement a dump prevention plan
2. develop and maintain partnerships
3. develop dump database
4. clean-up dumps

Note: assumes lead by BLM Restoration Coordinator and continued funding by BLM.

Attachment 4 (continued)
Priority Goal and Projects from the DMG 5-Year Plan

Goal 14: Share Data

1. establish a data clearinghouse
2. populate the clearinghouse with data

Notes: a. assumes lead by MDEP

- b. requires management commitment to provide data. NPS data will be provided through the NPS inventory and monitoring program.

Goal 5: Protect Cultural Resources

1. develop cultural resources action plan
2. implement CHRIS

Notes:

- 1. requires identification/commitment of staff to lead the task
- PACRAT should serve as a forum to discuss issues related to CHRIS maintenance and implementation

Goal 1: Habitat Restoration

1. restore sites
2. develop partnerships

Notes: a. assumes lead by BLM Restoration Coordinator and continued BLM funding

- b. BLM should consider focusing this effort on inventory and restoration of desert springs and wetlands in partnership with NPS and FWS (Goal 5)

Goal 4: Manage wild burros

1. identify and implement management actions to control burros
2. standardize census techniques
3. monitor burro populations
4. remove burros

Notes: assumes lead by BLM Burro Coordinator (Dave Sjaastad) and continued BLM and NPS funding

Other:

1. The DMG needs to decide the future of the *Californiadesert.gov* website. Over 300,000 people visit the site each month. However, user visits to the site will decline rapidly unless the site is updated and expanded with new information. Repeated efforts by the DIRT and the Website Team have been unsuccessful at getting agencies to submit new or more complete information to the site on a regular basis. Joshua Tree NP has provided a webmaster (half time) for the site for the past two years assuming that other agencies would share the cost of the position. So far that has not happened.

Attachment 5
DMG Illegal Dumping Project
FY 2002 Annual Work Plan

Goals and Objectives

The goal of this project is to promote conservation through the clean up and restoration of illegal dump sites that pose a public health, safety or environmental threat and to reduce the incidence of future illegal dumping with an anti-dumping prevention program.

Task Description

1. Inventory illegal dump sites and populate DMG Dump Database using a contractor (\$20,000 of FY 01 money is obligated phase I of this project). After the completion of phase I, a determination will be made as to whether or not there should be a phase II if funds are available. Population of the database will allow for better cleanup planning, the establishment of baselines, and better justify additional funding. The database will also be rank sites to establish better prioritization.
2. Select high priority sites for cleanup based on established criteria by December DMG meeting.
3. Clean up and restore ten illegal dump sites:
 - a. Indio Hills- PSSC
 - b. Continuation of Berdoo Canyon- PSSC/JOTR/partnership with MWD/CDF
 - c. High Vista- RFO partnership with CIWMB
 - d. Continuation of Farm and Ranch Grant sites- BFO
 - e. Sandy Valley- BFO/need to form partnership with Clark County, NV
 - f. Fargo Canyon- PSSC/JOTR/partnership with MWD/CDF
 - g. Andre Road- ECFO/possible partnership with Imperial County
 - h. Border sites- ECFO/ongoing project due to Mexican dumping
 - i. Vidal - NFO/partnership with CIWMB
 - j. Provide support for volunteer cleanups
 - k. Provide coordination support for agency-funded cleanups
4. Implement a program to prevent illegal dumping by:
 - a. Development of a site-specific prevention plan for each dump cleaned up.
 - b. Educating the public by implementing and refining the Illegal Dumping Prevention Plan. The Yucca Valley-Twenty-nine Palms area will serve as a pilot market for out-reach and education.
 1. Development of an illegal dumping message, logo, and artwork
 2. Production and distribution of public service announcements and outdoor advertising
 3. Development of educators' fact sheets about illegal dumping and recycling
 4. Development of illegal dumping brochure
 5. Development of illegal dumping/DMG CD

- c. Enforcing laws related to illegal dumping. DOI and local law enforcement officers will be encouraged to make illegal dumping cases.
 - 1. Meet with Law Enforcement Work Group to discuss strategies to control illegal dumping.
 - 2. Training will be developed to heighten officers' awareness of the problem.
 - d. Exploring viable alternatives to illegal dumping.
 - e. Protecting sites that have been restored.
 - f. Continue outreach with schools, groups, and local governments
5. Partnerships with counties, the state, nonprofit organizations and other federal agencies will be continued or created. Funds will be leveraged to the maximum extent possible.
- a. Continue existing partnerships with California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) and local governments
 - b. Establish memorandums of understanding (MOU's) and interagency agreements (IA's) with local government (cities and counties) for the use of Farm and Ranch Grant monies.
 - c. Continue development of partnership with Metropolitan Water District (MWD)
 - d. Continue partnership with USEPA and CalEPA
 - e. Develop partnership with Clark County, Nevada to address dumping along the Nevada-California border
 - f. Create partnerships with the California counties that we are not currently partnered with.
 - g. Create partnerships with the railroads.
 - h. Create partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGO's)
 - i. Seek grants

Budget

DMG Coordinator	\$27,000	14%
Project Coordinator	\$50,000	25%
Outreach/Prevention	\$25,000	13%
Project Work	\$98,000	48%
Total	\$200,000	100%

Attachment 6
DMG HazMat Workgroup
FY 02 Annual Work Plan

1. Have four meetings during the fiscal year to discuss trends, common issues, training needs, and share information.
2. Host three DMG sponsored training events
 - a. OSHA Hazwoper yearly update- not yet scheduled
 - b. USEPA Sampling Course- April 30-May 2, 2002
 - c. OSHA Basic Site Worker (Forty-hour Hazwoper)- February 4-8, 2002
3. Host a Dumps of the Desert Tour as an outreach tool for partners, Washington, executives, and Congressional staff.
4. Support the DMG's Illegal Dumping Work Plan.
5. Support other DMG goals as resources become available.

Attachment 7
CALIFORNIA DESERT WILD BURRO MANAGEMENT
FINAL FY 2002 ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

The Strategic Plan for the Management of Wild Burros, signed in January, 1999, established Goals and Objectives to work collaboratively in sharing staff and resources to manage wild burros in the most effective and efficient manner possible. This Annual Operating Plan is the product of the first goal and objective to coordinate the use of staff and resources for all scheduled field activities for the up-coming year.

The second goal to "Manage wild burro populations at current existing AMLs as identified in the BLM's California Desert Conservation Area Plan, signed in 1980 (and subsequent Amendments), until land use planning for the various agencies is completed, through aggressively removing existing excess burros to reach AMLs within the next two years." The FY2002 removal target is 878 animals desert-wide, as indicated in the following table:

FY2002 Gather Summary - Remove 878 Wild Horses and Burros

<u>Area</u>	-	<u>Number of Animals (Cooperating Agencies)</u>
Clark Mountain	-	62 burros (BLM, NPS) <i>completed</i>
Chemehuevi	-	400 burros (BLM) <i>partial completed - 313</i>
Lee Flat	-	15 burros (BLM, NPS) <i>partial completed - 7</i>
Panamint	-	75 burros (BLM, NPS) <i>completed - 75</i>
Centennial	-	40 horses/100 burros (BLM, NAWS, NPS)
Slate Range	-	25 burros (BLM, NPS)
Waucoba-Hunter Mtn	-	31 burros (BLM, NPS) <i>completed - 31</i>
Death Valley NP	-	30 burros (NPS)
Outside HMAs	-	100 burros (BLM, NPS, other agencies/land owners)
<u>Total</u>		<u>838 Burros and 40 horses</u>

The third Goal established in the Strategic Plan for the Management of Wild Burros is to "Manage populations of burros where appropriate as an integral part of the natural system of the BLM managed lands; control their numbers where they threaten to alter natural ecosystems, seriously restrict or compete with native flora or fauna, or present a hazard to human health and safety; and achieve zero burro populations on all non-BLM lands." To achieve this goal, three objectives were identified; 1, Determine viable Herd Management Areas (HMAs) from the Herd Areas (HAs) remaining on BLM managed lands within the California Desert District; 2, Identify long term management objectives and actions, and animal population levels within the remaining viable HMAs. These management objectives will recognize that for agencies managing other than BLM lands, animal prescription levels in excess of zero animals are not appropriate; and 3, Conduct scientific research to better understand wild burro behavior and the magnitude and direction of movement patterns for the remaining viable HMAs. This critical information has significant implications for burro management along shared agency boundaries.

FY2002 MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

1. Remove 878 animals from the California desert. Of these, 848 animals will be placed into the BLM's National Adoption Program. Of the 848 animals (808 burros and 40 horses) from the California desert entering into the BLM adoption program, 121 will be from lands within Death Valley National Park, 100 animals from lands within the Mojave National Preserve, 100 from Military lands, and 487 burros will be from BLM lands. The remaining 30 animals (removed from within the interior of Death Valley) will be placed with private contractors. These 878 animals will be removed throughout the year, so not to overflow the adoption system at any one time.

2. BLM and California Fish & Game have radio collared and are tracking burros and deer in the Picacho and Chocolate-Mule Mountain HMAs. The objective of this cooperative effort is to collect data on the migratory patterns of these two animals to better understand their movement patterns and relationship. This is a long-term study, tracking 25 burro's location weekly for 4 years. During this period, BLM and California Fish & Game are collecting vegetation production, composition data, as well as grazing use levels.

3. BLM has hired a botanist who is assessing and monitoring riparian and rangeland health in the remaining HMAs, and along common administrative boundaries where burro management occurs. A second position will be hired this FY to speed up the assessment process. BLM will monitor and/or conduct population census on Clark Mountain, Waucoba-Hunter, Piper Mountain, Chemehuevi, Picacho, Chocolate-Mule Mountain, and Chicago Valley this fiscal year.

4. Through these monitoring efforts, specific actions will be identified to reduce animal drift off BLM managed lands and improve animal distribution within the remaining HMAs. These possible recommended actions may include fencing of common boundaries, fencing of springs, riparian areas, and sensitive resources, and developing additional watering sources.