

October 10, 2000

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: September 27 - 28, 2000 California Desert Managers Group Meeting Summary

Attached are the draft action items and assignments for the California Desert Managers Group meeting conducted September 27-28, 2000. Please review these items and contact either John Hamill (760-255-8888) or Clarence Everly (760-255-8896) by October 27, 2000, if you have any changes.

In the meantime, please follow through on any assignments or action items for which you are responsible.

Attachment

Desert Mangers Group Meeting

September 27 - 28, 2000

San Diego, California

Action Items and Assignments

1. The Memorandum of Understanding to formally establish the DMG and adopt the DMG Charter was signed by David Hayes (Deputy Secretary of the Interior), Mary Nichols (Secretary, California Resources Agency), and Sheri Goodman (Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Environmental Security).
2. DOD requested to add Naval Air Field, El Centro as a member of the DMG. The initial reaction was generally positive. However, the Managers requested that the NAF, El Centro come to the next DMG meeting, discuss their desire to attend, and then formalize their request to participate in the DMG.
3. During review of the current status of DMG Work Group Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Manager representatives the following actions were taken:
 - a. BLM Ridgecrest will find someone to serve as Chair of the Restoration Work Group
 - b. Anza Barrego State Park will provide the Vice Chair for the Restoration Work Group
 - c. Managers agreed to task the DIRT Work Group with developing a list of candidates for the Vice Chair of their group.
 - d. Confirmed Tim Read as a Manager Representative to the DIRT Work Group
 - e. Confirmed Mary Risser as Chair of the Overflight Working Group (the military installations are looking for someone to fill the Vice Chair position).
 - f. Confirmed Dave Van Cleve as a Manager Representative to the Science Work Group.
4. Following a presentation on the Science Work Group's Desert Water Project, the Managers requested that invertebrates be added to those items that would be surveyed for in the project's work plan. With this change, the Managers approved the work plan and established an ad hoc group to examine funding/implementation options for the project. The Group consists of Mary Martin, Molly Brady, Greg Lines, Becky Jones, Dave Van Cleve, John Hamill, and Clarence Everly.
5. The Managers agreed to establish several teams to develop a Desert Tortoise line-distance monitoring implementation plan for each recovery unit in California. The plans and funding options will be presented to the Managers for approval at the December DMG meeting. Major milestones for the DT monitoring effort include:
 - Choose team members for Recovery Units (early October 2000).
 - Teams complete draft Recovery Unit implementation plans (November 22, 2000).
 - Choose strata to be sampled and prepare plan outlines.
 - Prepare a list of equipment on hand and equipment required.
 - Determine the number of transects needed per recovery unit.

- Prepare a draft budget and identify the source of funding or potential funding (11/22/00).
- MOG/TAC meeting (November 2000).
- DMG approval of the draft Recovery Unit implementation plans and funding commitment (12/05/00).
- Line distance sampling workshop (January 9-11, 2001).
- Determine the number of personnel required. (mid-January 2001 after workshop).
- MOG meeting to solidify plans for sampling in spring 2001 (3/01).
- Initiate training and field sampling in at least 2 or more Recovery Units (3-5/01).

Identified team members are attached. The managers agreed to contact Phil Medica to identify/confirm team representatives by early October. DOD installations agreed to provide a central point of contact to Phil Medica. (Mickey Quillman was selected as the POC for the West Mojave Planning area. A POC is still required for the Chocolate Mountains Gunnery Range area).

6. The Managers supported using the BLM West Mojave Coordinated Management Plan (WMCMP) as a pilot for determining the utility of the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) Alternative Futures Project. Ed LaRue from the WMCMP, Jeff Foisy from MDEP, and a representative from Edwards AFB will go to Utah State University to input WMCMP data and evaluate products produced by the Alternative Futures model. A report/recommendations on the pilot will be provided at the next DMG meeting.
7. The Managers agreed to implement the illegal dump database, establish a point of contact for each office and issue a memo instructing their staff to enter data on illegal dumps in their area by May 2001. The Hazmat Work Group was requested to draft a memo to all DMG Managers asking them to assign a POC to collect dump site data within their agency/office and enter their collected data into the Hazmat dump site database.
8. The next DMG meeting will be held on December 5-6, 2000 either at Twenty Nine Palms or Palm Springs. The Managers accepted the Science Work Group's proposal for hosting one day of the meeting. The focus of this portion of the DMG meeting will be on the DMG's proposed integrated ecological monitoring program and will include a field trip/discussion of existing BLM/NPS monitoring programs. The Science Team will determine the meeting location that best accommodates a field trip.
9. All Work Groups were tasked to develop a list of FY 2000 accomplishments for their group and update/recommend changes to the 5-year plan. Each Work Group will include a discussion of these two items in their presentation to the Managers at the December DMG meeting. Other topics that will be discussed at the next meeting include:
 - a. Results/recommendations of alternative future pilot study
 - b. Approve Desert Tortoise Monitoring Implementation Plans
 - c. Identify funding to implement the DMG water Study
 - d. Approve FY 01 Burro Management Plan

10. The Managers agreed to focus the June 2001 DMG meeting on the results of the Millenium Conference in order to capitalize on interest and momentum generated from the conference for cultural resource issues.
11. Joe Zarki agreed to draft a letter to the Managers and Work Groups for DOI/DOD Coordinator signature that requests each DMG Work Group and DMG participating agency to submit articles for the Cal Desert Website Emagazine.
12. The DIRT work Group was tasked to develop recommendations for use of the DMG logo by the next meeting.
13. The Managers agreed to review (and have their staffs review) the data standards developed by the Data Management Team and come to the December DMG meeting prepared to accept these standards or discuss any issues they have with the articulated standards. The DOD/DOI coordinator will draft an agreement that will be signed by the managers to formally adopt these data standards.
14. John Hamill agreed to formally send the FY 01 Burro Management Plan to the Mangers for review and comment. BLM will review the proposed FY 01 plan at the December DMG meeting for concurrence.

Attachment 1. Members of the Desert Tortoise Line Distance Sampling Implementation Teams

Western Mojave Recovery Unit

- Mickey Quillman, Department of Defense
- Ed LaRue, Bureau of Land Management
- Hassan Basagic, Joshua Tree National Park
- TBN, California State Parks

Eastern Mojave Recovery Unit

- Kitty Jensen, Mojave National Preserve
- Tom Egan, Willow Yomeko, Sid Slone Bureau of Land Management (CA and NV)
- National Park Service (Death Valley and Lake Mead)
- Phil Medica, Fish & Wildlife Service
- Ron Marlow, University of Nevada, Reno

Eastern Colorado Recovery Unit

- TBN, BLM
- TBN, DOD
- Hassan Basagic, Joshua Tree National Park

Northern Colorado Recovery Unit

- TBN, BLM
- TBN, DOD

TBN=To Be Named