

# Coordinated Natural Resource Monitoring in the California Deserts

by

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# *Future Challenges*

- Increased Population
- Increased Development
- Increased Demand for Consumptive and Resource Protection
- Increased T&E Species Listing
- Increased Restrictions
- Increased Litigation



# *Why Monitor?*

- Measure and/or avoid human impacts
- Provide early warning of problems
- Meet regulatory or legal requirement
- Enhance scientific understanding
- Evaluate effectiveness of management actions
- Measure progress towards societal goal

# *Is Monitoring a Good Investment?*

- Essential to staying on the right track
- Investing in initiatives that don't work is generally more costly than monitoring
- **But**, monitoring must be done “right” to be cost effective

# *Elements of Monitoring Programs* (Boyle 1998)

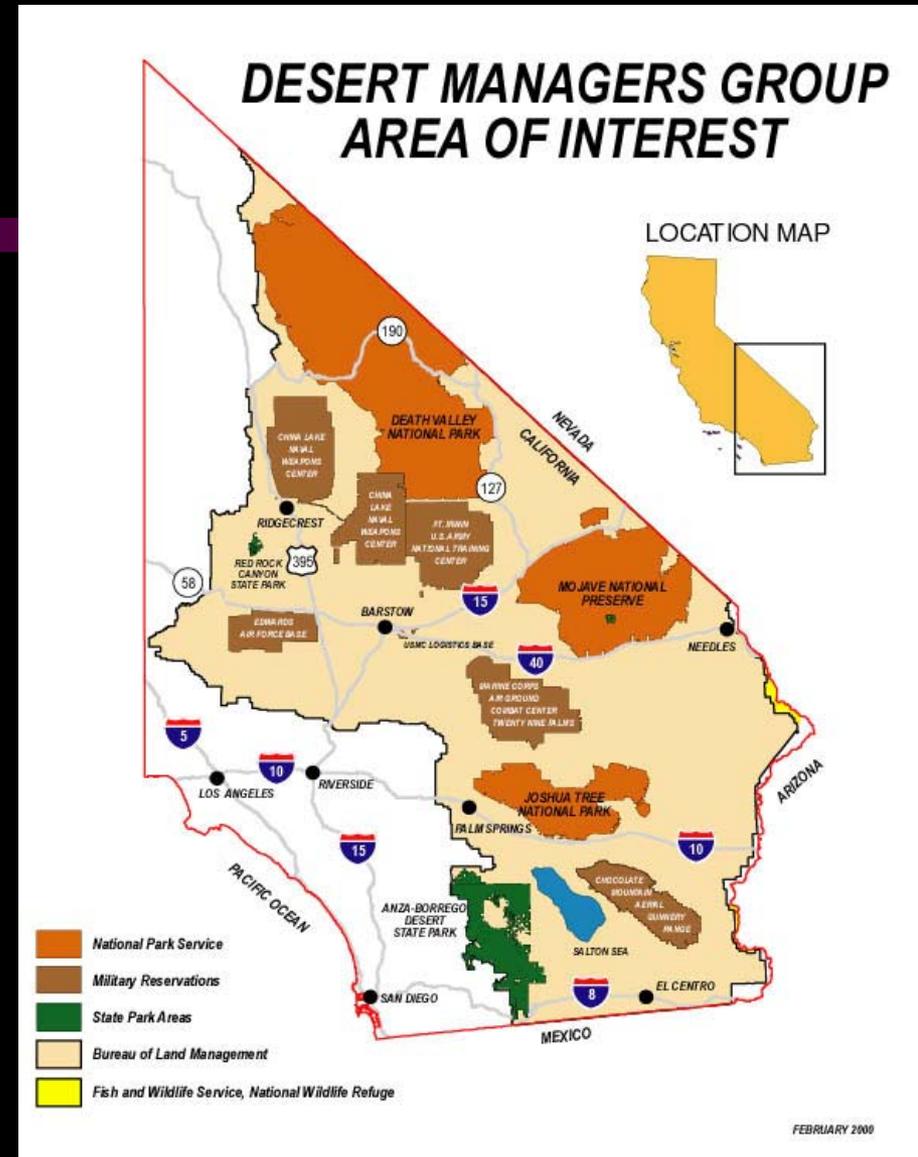


- Set of human goals
- Conceptual model of the world
- Set of indicators
- Method of data collection
- Method of calculating indicators
- Process of synthesis
- Method of reporting

# *Attributes of a Good Monitoring Program* (Boyle 1998)

- Relevant and decision supportive
- Based on relationship between society and the environment
- Allows for integrated evaluation of the system
- Adaptive and flexible
- Practical (cost-effective)

- 25 million acres – 80% public
- Multi-jurisdictions
  - 3 national parks
  - 10 state parks
  - 7 military bases
  - 4 National Wildlife Refuges
  - 11 million acres BLM land
  - 37 Native American tribes
  - 100 communities



# *Workshop Goals*



- Increase awareness
  - scope/objectives/status of ongoing/planned monitoring efforts in Cal Deserts
  - other's efforts and approaches
- Identify common goals and information needs
- Develop recommendations for the DMG
- Network and have fun!!

# *Workshop Agenda*

- Reports on ongoing/planned monitoring efforts in the Cal deserts
- Reports from outside the Cal deserts
- Data management needs and capabilities
- Identification of common goals/info needs
- Management recommendations
- Field Trip