Acquisition of Unprotected Habitat: Desert Tortoise & Flat-tailed Horned Lizard

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CRTR 2012 Laughlin, Nevada
LCR MSCP Conservation Measures

• Flow Related Covered Activity
  – Applies only to applicable LCR MSCP stakeholders
    • i.e. (ongoing water diversions, return flows, hydro power generation and transmission)

• Non-Flow Related Covered Activity
  – Applies only to applicable LCR MSCP stakeholders
    • i.e. (OM&R: Operations, Maintenance and Repair)
    • 234 miles of canals in Yuma Valley
    • Facilities and equipment by which hydro power is transmitted
    • Service roads, comm lines, docks, boat ramps and rip rap
Conservation Measure DET01

“DET01-Aquire and protect 230 acres of existing unprotected occupied habitat.”

- Land must be undisturbed & inhabited
- Acquire and transfer lands to appropriate wildlife/land management agency.
- Lands within existing MA preferred for management
- Project completed is Spring 2011
- 7 Parcels purchased for a total of 260 acres
Riverside County, CA
Chuckwalla Bench ACEC
Desert Tortoise Acquisition Process

• Working w/ Coachella Conservancy, land owners prioritized
• Contact local BLM office ensuring property to be transferred is consistent w/ BLM’s management goals
• Right of Entry letters mailed to land owners
• Hazmat, Cultural and Species Surveys administered
• Federal Appraisal Conducted to establish fair market value
• Title review demonstrating a clear title
• BLM Solicitor reviews title and associated documents
• LCR MSCP Program Manager makes formal offer to land owner
• Funding is transferred electronically to a local escrow company
Conservation Measure FTHL01

“FTHL01 - Acquire and protect 230 acres of existing unprotected occupied flat-tailed horned lizard habitat.”

- Land must be undisturbed and inhabited
- Acquire and transfer lands to appropriate wildlife/land management agency
- Forecasted completion is Spring 2012
Imperial County, CA
Yuha Desert ACEC
Acquisition Process

- FTHL management is coordinated through BLM’s El Centro Field Office
- Yuha Desert ACEC is smallest management area and least prone to development due to impact restrictions
- Landowners are identified using county tax records & GIS maps
- Right of Entry letters mailed and due diligence performed
- Species Surveys conducted by contractors; 3 FTHLs on parcels
- Two parcels purchased for a total of 240 acres
Questions?

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