

**DESERT SUNLIGHT SOLAR PROJECT  
WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT  
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
DESERT CENTER, CALIFORNIA**

**JANUARY 21, 2013 – JANUARY 27, 2013  
PUBLIC INFORMATION**



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## **Summary:**

The previously on-site kit fox family has been continually tracked to their off-site den location. Behavior and health appear to be normal for all the foxes. Kit fox deterrence around the new MSA fence and gate was completed and removal of the older southern MSA fence commenced.

The tortoises were all tracked to their last known locations. Activity was very low even with the warmer weather and precipitation.

Pre-construction surveys were completed for all on-site areas with remaining vegetation and nothing of significance was found. Two potential burrowing owl burrows of concern along the gen-tie line were found to be inactive after several consecutive checks and collapsed. One more potential burrow of concern remains, still showing some sign of activity and will continue to be checked.

Cacti removal began on the gen-tie line at pull pad locations. Cacti were removed and placed under shade to callus before potting for later translocation.

Nesting bird surveys began this week. Surveys were completed in the remaining vegetation on-site and no active nests were detected. Surveys began on the southern end of the gen-tie line and will continue through the following week.

Aggregate continued basin and vault work, with only minor removal of vegetation due to equipment difficulties. Some vegetation removal occurred for a new yard area. Beta continued erecting steel structures at the substation and poles along the west side of the site.

## **Monday:**

Pre-construction surveys were completed in the remaining vegetation east of the site. Kit foxes were tracked through Friday and found in the same off-site den location. Potential burrowing owl burrows were checked and one inactive burrow was collapsed. Aggregate worked on basins throughout the week. Beta erected steel structures and poles throughout the week. MSA kit fox deterrence around the new fence continued through Thursday.

## **Tuesday:**

Cacti removal at pull pads began along the gen-tie line. Burrowing owl burrows were checked and a second inactive burrow was collapsed. Aggregate continued vault work and some vegetation removal for the remainder of the week.

**Wednesday:**

Cacti removal continued along the gen-tie through the remainder of the week. All tortoises were tracked and found in their previous locations. Vegetation removal occurred for a new yard.

**Thursday:**

Pre-construction surveys for the gen-tie access roads were completed. Some of the MSA bird netting was checked. All kit fox deterrence around the new southern MSA fence and gate was completed.

**Friday:**

Nesting bird surveys were completed in the western vegetation of the site. The remainder of the MSA bird netting was checked and the perimeter tortoise fence was checked without issue. Removal of the older southern MSA fence began.

**Saturday:**

Nesting bird surveys were completed in the remaining areas of vegetation on-site and began on the gen-tie line. Nothing of significance was found. The perimeter tortoise fence was inspected after the rains and remains in good condition.

**Sunday:**

Nesting bird surveys began on the gen-tie line. No construction activities requiring a biological monitor occurred.