

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

**FEBRUARY 4, 2013 – FEBRUARY 10, 2013  
PUBLIC INFORMATION**



**PREPARED BY  
L. CHOW, DESIGNATED BIOLOGIST  
IRONWOOD CONSULTING INC.  
20 NEVADA STREET, SUITE 300  
REDLANDS, CA 92373**

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## **Summary:**

The previously on-site kit fox family has been continually tracked to their off-site den location. From den photos, the entire family appears to be in good health and the juvenile has not returned to the site since the MSA gate was repaired.

The tortoises were all tracked to their last known locations. There has been some increase of activity with the warmer weather as a few tortoises were found in new burrow locations.

Nesting bird surveys continued on the gen-tie. Cacti removal along the gen-tie line also continued with several cacti left underneath shade to callus prior to potting them for possible donation. Quarterly weed surveys began on the gen-tie line. All weeds were documented and Sahara mustards were removed by hand.

Monthly raven surveys were conducted this week – raven numbers reflected the numbers from the previous year. Raptor surveys were also completed – all previous nest locations were checked and new nests were verified as either raven or red tail hawk nests. Golden Eagle surveys began over the weekend.

All yards were checked throughout the week due to the possible increase of nesting bird activity. Pipes and poles onsite were also inspected for any avian activity. Nothing to note was found.

Construction on the gen-tie began this week with steel plates placed for entrance access and part of the access road completed a few structures were drilled and foundations poured. Onsite, 24 hour drilling for the second well began – proper lighting was checked in the evening. Aggregate began pre-wetting the southern portion of the remaining vegetation earlier in the week prior to beginning grubbing later in the week. Basin work and keyways along the basins continued in the northern portion of the site. Work at the substation and the collections system erecting structures continued throughout the week

## **Monday:**

Kit foxes were tracked daily through Friday and found at their regular off-site den. Baseline quarterly weed surveys began on the gen-tie line and continued through Friday. Aggregate continued basin work in the northern blocks through Wednesday. The western portion of block 3 was pre-watered in preparation for grubbing through Tuesday. 24 hour drilling began for the second well. Work at the substation erecting steel structures and conduit work continued through Friday and work along the collections system continued through Saturday.

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**Tuesday:**

Gen-tie construction began with entrance approaches created in three areas.

**Wednesday:**

Bird netting in the MSA was inspected. Vegetation removal began in the remaining vegetation in the west through the next day. Cacti salvage began again on the gen-tie through Friday. On the gen-tie, an access road was created on the northern portion.

**Thursday:**

Work on the second well was completed until the following week. On the gen-tie, the access road were worked on and drilling began for one of the structures.

**Friday:**

All tortoises were tracked. The perimeter tortoise fence was inspected. Raven surveys and raptor surveys were completed. On the gen-tie, a two-track road was made and drilling occurred at another structure.

**Saturday:**

Golden Eagle surveys began. Nesting bird surveys on the gen-tie continued. Beta continued work on the collections system on the western portion of the site.

**Sunday:**

Golden Eagle surveys continued. Nesting bird surveys on the gen-tie continued. No construction activities requiring a biological monitor occurred.

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