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

9 JULY – 15 JULY 2012 PUBLIC INFORMATION



PREPARED BY
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Summary:

Telemetry and den observations for kit foxes continued through the week, with the animals becoming more active after periods of rainfall. Weekly telemetry compliance duties for all project related desert tortoises continued as well without incident. Mitigation measures to deter birds from utilizing the reservoir on-site were put in place, and consisted of reflective tape being hung on the netting, and an owl statue posted at one of the corners. Daily checks on the reservoir after the measures were put into place yielded no sightings of birds.

Biologists monitored Aggregate activites, escorted construction personnel in environmentally sensitive areas, and completed all daily and weekly compliance requirements on site without incident.

Monday:

Three of the kit foxes were tracked. The perimeter desert tortoise fencing was inspected, as well as the on-site desert tortoise fencing that contained project tortoises. Monitoring continued for Aggregate, and all daily on-site compliance checks were completed.

Tuesday:

All four kit foxes were tracked and located, as well as all project related desert tortoises including: the two remaining on site, translocatees, and site host tortoises. Aggregate monitoring continued, all daily on-site compliance checks were completed, and the Ironwood office trailer was delivered on-site by Williams Scottsman.

Wednesday:

All four kit foxes were tracked, and kit fox den observations took place in the morning and evening. An owl statue and reflector tapes were placed at the water reservoir to deter birds from visiting and trying to get into the pond. Aggregate monitoring continued, all on-site compliance checks were completed, and the interior tortoise fencing was walked.

Thursday:

Three of the four kit foxes were tracked today before all site related work was shut down due to lightning. All daily on-site compliance checks were completed. Any on-site work that would require a biological monitor would be continued on Monday.

Friday:

All four kit foxes were tracked today, as well as some of the project related desert tortoises. Daily compliance checks were completed, and the site was again shut down due to lightning.

Saturday:

Three of the four project related kit foxes were tracked, with den observations taking place in the mornings and evenings. After a big rainfall the day prior, all project related tortoises were tracked to check activity, and found that all of the translocatees and project

related tortoises were active. All daily on-site compliance checks were completed without incident.

Sunday:

Three of the four project related kit foxes were tracked, the perimeter desert tortoise fence was inspected due to the prior storm events of the weekend, and all daily on-site compliance checks were completed.