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

PROGRESS OF WEEK 27
13 – 19 FEB 2012
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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Summary:

Two of the four translocated tortoises reemerged from hibernation this week. Temperatures and humidity are beginning to go up which probably spurred them to emerge. Surveys for nesting birds was the main biological interest, this week; again. Bird netting has been installed over and around most of the project stored materials, to keep birds from nesting there.

Monday 13 Feb:

Nesting bird surveys are conducted off the south side of the project. A burrowing owl was located there but he soon left. The translocated tortoises and the control group are checked upon; none have moved since early December.

Tuesday 14 Feb:

Two coyotes appeared on the project. They were observed but not approached and will probably wander off in a few days. The MSA is checked for bird netting integrity and the last few trees are checked for bird nests, none were found.

Wednesday 15 Feb:

The coyotes seen yesterday were seen again today; one of them caught a jackrabbit while project personnel watched.

Thursday 16 Feb:

Kit-fox observations continue as do the nesting bird surveys and additional checks are made of the bird netting details in the MSA yard.

Friday 17 Feb:

A fast moving storm soaked the region overnight, negating any future dust issues. The fences are checked including the one around the reservoir, daily.

Saturday 18 Feb:

No construction activity on site; biologists make kit-fox and tortoise checks.

Sunday 19 Feb:

No construction activity on site again today; the usual wildlife observations were made again today.