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

PROGRESS OF WEEK 31
12 – 18 MAR 2012
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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Summary:

This week saw the resumption of clearance surveys for desert tortoises on the project. Two individuals are now known to live in the western most portion of the project, Block 8. The surveys made to locate nesting birds were continued but as time passes without much sign of birds they will be reduced. To date there are still no known bird nests on the project.

Monday 12 Mar:

The crews from Soil Tech returned to install tortoise fence along the west side of the project and all tortoises are being checked daily, to better understand their activities.

Tuesday 13 Mar:

Ironwood monitors accompany the Soil Tech crews as they install tortoise fence in Block 8. Other surveys also made, no unusual findings noted.

Wednesday 14 Mar:

The Soil tech fencing work is nearly complete. A pair of kestrels were noted on and around a construction crane, the first raptors to show nesting interest on the project.

Thursday 15 Mar:

Kit-foxes and tortoise were checked again today. All animals seem to be in good health with normal activity patterns.

Friday 16 Mar:

The first tortoise clearance surveys were begun today. Soil Tech finished the last few fencing details on their most recent assignment.

Saturday 17 Mar:

Ironwood biologists continued surveys and also made regular checks of other resources and wildlife. No construction activity on site.

Sunday 18 Mar:

No construction activity on site. The known kit-fox natal dens were encircled with tortoise fencing.