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

PROGRESS OF WEEK 9
10 – 16 OCTOBER 2011
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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Summary:

The successful translocation of the four Desert tortoises from The Project to the Sunlight Translocation Site went well. An additional Desert tortoise began to wander across the Eastern tip of the project site. Desert tortoise fencing continues to be installed as quickly as possible to as to isolate smaller portions of the project for the biologists to survey and clear.

Monday 10 Oct:

Unoccupied Kit-fox dens were excavated and more cactuses were transplanted. Soil Tech fencing crews finished work along Keiser road.

Tuesday 11 Oct:

Ongoing close monitoring of the Phase 1B tortoises continues. The initial work to add another lane to Keiser road, where it approaches The Project, began this morning.

Wednesday 12 Oct:

Clearance of the Phase 2A area began this morning even as the Phase 2B was encircled by Tortoise-proof fencing. Observations of Kit-fox and burrowing owl shelters continue.

Thursday 13 Oct:

The Phase 2A was fully cleared by the biologists today. No sign of Desert tortoises was seen. Preparations to widen Keiser road continued, also monitored by the biologists.

Friday 14 Oct:

The four resident tortoises residing in the Phase 1B were moved to the Sunlight Translocation Site this morning.

Saturday 15 Oct:

A Desert tortoise never seen before wandered into the Phase 2 area about 800 meters from the Eastern side of the project. It was observed. Kit-fox hazing begins and unoccupied Kit-fox dens are collapsed.

Sunday 16 Oct:

The newly discovered Desert tortoise resumed moving Southeast, and he continued to be observed by the biologists but not touched.