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

PROGRESS OF WEEK 12
DATE: 31 OCT – 6 NOV
PUBLIC INFORMATION

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Summary:

The weather became decidedly cooler this week. The areas dubbed E and F of the Phase 2 part of The Project were partially surveyed this week. Unoccupied Kit-fox and Burrowing owl shelters were excavated this week also. The translocated tortoises and the resident/control population were also checked on. The Integrated Weed Management Plan stipulations continue to be implemented.

Monday 31 Oct:

The last few transects of the Phase 2 area were fully completed this morning. The translocated and control tortoises continued to be active, probably as expected.

Tuesday 1 Nov:

An adult Desert tortoise was spotted outside the Western boundary fence. The tortoise did not appear to be stressed by the presence of the newly installed fence. Tortoise fencing on the East side is ongoing and rapidly proceeding the Northwest.

Wednesday 2 Nov:

Biologists surveying the “Nose Area” (Block 8) in Phase 2 found a tortoise. All other usual monitoring duties are being done.

Thursday 3 Nov:

The widening of Keiser road got underway today to provide turn and merge lanes serving the project. More Kit-fox and Burrowing owl observations were also made.

Friday 4 Nov:

Biologists monitored ahead of the initial vegetation clearing as Aggregate crews began work on the Safe Harbor Materials Storage Area (the access road and the main part).

Saturday 5 Nov:

Surveys of the Phase 2F area continue searching for Burrowing owls, Kit-foxes, and plants that need to be salvaged. Monitoring of the Aggregate activities continued also.

Sunday 6 Nov:

Monitoring of the translocated tortoises continues. Checking of the tortoise fencing also took place today.