Desert Tortoise Management Oversight Group Meeting

October 11, 2022 | 10:00am – 1:30pm | Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85929897259

Phone: 346 248 7799 | Meeting ID: 859 2989 7259

Agenda

Meeting Goals

- Develop a shared understanding of the 2022 Mojave Desert Tortoise 5-year review
- Find out what high-priority actions MOG members have been implementing, as well as their needs for achieving recovery goals
- Hear an update on the BLM Strategic Plan and learn how it will help to address desert tortoise management issues
- Learn about the Clark County highway camera monitoring project and the implications of highway fencing on desert tortoise populations
- Share progress of the Recovery and Sustainment Partnership (RASP) toward implementing high-priority recovery actions in the western Mojave
- Discuss raven predation mitigation effectiveness efforts and adaptive management

Time	Topic, Presenter, and Goals
10:00am	**Welcome, introductions, and meeting protocols**
10:10	**Meeting purpose and agenda review** - *Glen Knowles, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Southern Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office*
10:15	**2022 Mojave Desert Tortoise 5-Year Review** - *Kerry Holcomb, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office* ● Goal: Develop a shared understanding of the Desert Tortoise 5-year review; discuss implications and the need to step up high-priority actions.
10:40	**MOG Executive Member Report Out / Updates -** *MOG Executives* ● Goal: Find out what high-priority actions MOG members have been implementing related to restoration, predator management, highway fencing, ● and needs for accomplishing goals. *Each MOG member will discuss:*

	● Current and planned actions related to priority recovery actions: restoration, predator management, and/or highway fencing. ● Your needs from partners to help accomplish your goals on desert tortoise.
11:15	**Break**
11:20	**BLM Strategic Plan Update** *Laura Romin, Bureau of Land Management and Bryan Wallace, Conservation Science Partners* ● Goal: Share plan progress and learn how the Plan will help to address issues.
11:50	**Use of Wildlife Underpasses by Mojave Desert Tortoises along U.S. Highways 93 and 95 in Clark County, Nevada** *Scott Cambrin, Clark County Desert Conservation Program* ● Goal: Share the effects of highway fencing on desert tortoise populations.
12:10	**Lunch break (30 minutes)**
12:40	**Recovery and Sustainment Partnership Initiative (RASP) Update** *Brian Croft, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office* ● Goal: Provide update on RASP progress toward implementing high-priority recovery actions in the western Mojave.
1:00 (15 min)	**Raven Update** *Kerry Holcomb, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Palm Springs Fish and Wildlife Office* ● Goal: Discuss raven predation mitigation effectiveness efforts and adaptive management.
1:15 (5 min)	**Action item review** ● Goal: Review action items from today and progress on action items from past meetings.
1:20 (10 min)	**Closing comments and wrap up** ● Goals: ○ Hear closing comments from MOG members and the public ○ Discuss suggestions for future agenda items, meeting frequencies, date and location ○ Evaluate this MOG meeting
1:30PM	**Adjourn**

Action Item Tracking Report

Item Date / No.	ACTION ITEM	Assigned To / Due Date	Status
Item 2017 Sep#01	Provide list of RIT projects/descriptions/budgets to MOG	DTRO	Suspended
Item 2018 Jun#01	Let FWS know about proposals that could use mitigation funds	All	Ongoing
Item 2019 Feb #02	Report annually on range-wide line distance sampling surveys	Glen Knowles	Ongoing
Item 2020 Oct#03	Provide verbal commitment for monitoring funding to FWS by end of December; transfer funds NLT end January	All	Open
Item 2021 Oct#01	Provide refined proposal for MOG coordination of regional recovery efforts, based on RASP model	Glen Knowles, Brian Croft	Ongoing

Suggestions from participants of Spring 2022 MOG Meeting and Adjustments to MOG Agenda

Area of Improvement	Planning Team's agreed upon improvement
Consolidate the updates ahead of time.	Focus updates on priority actions for recovery, having participants write "feel good updates" in the chat to

	make timing more efficient. Ask MOG members ahead of time to prepare this update.
Presentations sometimes too technical.	Share abstracts ahead of time when possible.
Expand the session on Technical updates (if we have any). Presentations on key research or projects that help in the focus of recovery or conservation action needs or priorities would be great. This almost fits "project updates", but could see this highlighting topics that have "lessons learned" or future focal needs for the species.	Targeted the technical updates on priority recovery actions for MDT, and requested that presenters discuss lessons learned, future needs, and suggested actions.
Include in agenda: efforts to establish and protect areas that have good populations where habitat can be improved to increase the population.	This topic will be covered in by several presentations on this agenda.
Include in agenda: anything "new or emerging" that is beneficial to the group.	MOG updates will include upcoming activities related to priority recovery actions, and RASP presentation will discuss upcoming actions that MOG members should be aware of.
In-person meetings with pre-meeting opportunities to network.	Discussion within meeting about preferences for in-person versus virtual meetings and how networking can be incorporated.