

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

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A. Statement of Activity or Product

Educating OHV recreationists who use the California deserts will equip users with knowledge to make informed decisions about their safety and how to enjoy OHV recreation while having a lower impact upon the environment in which they recreate.

In the California deserts, many of the designated OHV areas and routes are within desert tortoise habitat. The Mojave population of the desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) includes the California deserts and was listed as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) in 1989 and the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1990. Development and implementation of environmental education programs aimed at the tortoise is identified in the Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan (FWS 1994). The coordinated implementation of recovery actions for the tortoise is a high priority for the Desert Managers Group (DMG).

Improper OHV recreation has been identified as a threat to the tortoise. There are, however, a variety of behavioral changes recreationists (OHV and) can make that will cause a lower impact to the tortoise and other sensitive desert resources.

The Desert Managers Group (DMG) is a partnership of Department of Interior (Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and, U.S. Geological Survey), all four branches of military service, State of California (Caltrans, Department of Fish and Game, and State Parks), and county governments (Kern, San Bernardino, and Imperial). The DMG has the vision of working together to conserve and enhance the California Deserts for current and future generations. The DMG's area of interest is parallel to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) California Desert Conservation Area (i.e. the California deserts).

In 2005 the DMG established the Desert Tortoise Information and Education Program. The goal of the Program is to create awareness among OHV recreations and the general public about the desert tortoise and how individual actions can affect the tortoise's survival. While reaching many audiences, the program targets OHV recreationalists who use public lands.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

Two of the many activities that are considered to impact the desert tortoise and its habitat quality are livestock grazing and improper off-road vehicle use. Improper OHV use can destroy, degrade, and fragment large areas of desert tortoise habitat. California contains the majority of the habitat for the threatened Mojave population of desert tortoise and about seventy-three percent of the federally designated critical habitat. Many of the designated OHV areas and routes within the California deserts are within desert tortoise habitat. OHV recreation occurs around and within each of the designated critical habitat units. It is essential that California OHV recreationist understand how their personal actions can impact the survival of the tortoise. The need is especially urgent as use of the desert by OHV recreationists increases and the population in the desert expands.

The goal of the DMG Desert Tortoise Information and Education Program is to create awareness among OHV recreationists and the general public about the desert tortoise and how one's individual actions can affect the tortoise's survival. While reaching many audiences, the interagency program targets OHV recreationists who use public lands.

Education and information interprets the value of why riders should practice safe riding habits and environmental awareness. The Program is an investment in the future because a healthy desert environment will sustain land use for future generations of OHV users and the general public. OHV recreationist behaviors that lead to positive effects on desert tortoises increase the likelihood that future desert land use restrictions will not be needed and that OHV recreation opportunities will be maintained.

C. Identification of Needs

This project will educate OHV users and general recreationalists how to enjoy the desert while having a lower impact on the tortoise, its habitat, and the desert environment. How OHV vehicles are used and what riders do while in the desert

has specific, quantifiable impacts on the environment. Obeying the laws and practicing conservation insures a healthy desert ecosystem that can support future generations of desert OHV enthusiasts and viable populations of desert tortoises.

The Program provides general information on the tortoise and why we as a generation should care about the tortoise and the tortoise's survival. It also teaches how individual actions can impact the tortoise and negatively affect its survival. The project has a set of messages that include why it is important to:

- Stay on the designated trail or within a designated OHV area;
- Pack out all litter;
- Keep hands off wildlife;
- Respect the land; and
- Enjoy OHV recreation safely.

In 2005, the DMG commissioned a study contacted by Dr. Jerry Vaske, Ph.D. of the Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources at Colorado State University to determine the baseline public knowledge of desert tortoise issues and how the public would react to desert tortoise information. The study found that residents of desert communities were more knowledgeable about the tortoise than those not living in the desert. The study also found that a significant number of individuals in the low knowledge category (54%) owned OHVs. The study also found that a more knowledgeable public would generally better support agency management actions designed to benefit the tortoise and would also generally be more willing to accept changes in personal behavior to benefit the tortoise.

D. Location of Training Services

The National Park Service is the host agency for the DMG Desert Tortoise Information and Education Program, employing the Program's coordinator and managing the Program's budget and activities. The Program, however, is truly interagency in its scope and focus.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages about 10.9 million acres of public land within its California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA). Over 7 million acres of CDCA lands are open to some form of open or limited OHV use. The CDCA includes ten designated OHV open areas and thousands of miles of designated routes available to OHV recreation. BLM is a strong partner in the DMG and a strong partner for the Desert Tortoise Information and Education Program. Program materials are distributed by BLM employees and volunteers upon the public lands that BLM manages.

All four branches of military service are DMG and Program partners. Military members stationed within the California deserts enjoy desert recreation and are an integral part of the social tapestry of the desert communities. Program products are distributed upon the desert's military installations and certain products target military members.

Environmental education programs at Joshua Tree National Park reached approximately 22,000 school students annually within the Morongo Basin and Coachella Valley. In 2008 the DMG partnered with the Living Desert Museum in Palm Desert to host a California-based version of the Mojave Max Emergence Contest. In the contest, participating students in southern California's eight desert counties guess when a real live tortoise named Max will emerge from hibernation. By guessing in the contest, students learn about desert tortoise ecology and behavior. California's Mojave Max lives at The Living Desert Museum in Palm Desert. The Living Desert Museum engages over sixty thousand students annually.

Program products are also distributed to the public at the desert's three National Park units and eleven State Parks. The DMG's county government partners plan to distribute Program materials to teach building contractors how to avoid impacts to the tortoise.

Public service announcements and media outreach is occurring in desert media markets. In 2008, more than 1.2 million desert residents and recreationists were reached through the desert tortoise outreach program. In 2009, the Program hopes to expand into the Los Angeles and San Diego media markets.

E. OHV Safety, Environmental Responsibility, and Respect Private Property

Since the program's establishment in 2005, the program coordinator, partners, and volunteers have developed a number of products which increase the public's awareness of desert tortoise issues. Products the Program has produced include:

- Production and distribution of radio and video public service announcements.
- Three Brochures: You're In Desert Tortoise County, Invasion of the Tortoise Snatchers, and Builders Guide.
- The newsletter, Tortoise Times.
- Primary school education kits which are tied to California State education standards.
- Media outreach news print stories, press kits, and press releases.
- The website www.deserttortoise.gov
- The Mojave Max Emergence Contest
- A Mojave Max costume worn at public events.
- Public events were attended in: Apple Valley, Lancaster, Joshua Tree, Yucca Valley, Barstow, Victorville, and Palm Desert.
- A scientific survey was conducted to gather baseline data on public knowledge about the desert tortoise and how human activities can impact the tortoise. Information from the survey helps guide the Program and its activities.

During the 2009 State fiscal year, the Desert Tortoise Information and Education Program Coordinator will, in consultation with the interagency Desert Tortoise Information and Education Work Group and Program stakeholders will develop, produce, distribute and market specific deliverables which educate OHV users, recreationalists, and the general public about the desert tortoise, its importance to desert ecology, and how individual actions can help protect the desert tortoise and its habitat. Program materials are developed using grants obtained from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Specific Program activities during State fiscal year 2009 include, but are not limited to:

- Presence at twenty general interest and OHV related widely attended public events in Southern California
- Development of eight additional radio public service announcements and distribution and marketing of existing radio and television public service announcements within all Southern California media markets
- Hosting two media field days and production and marketing of media material and press releases.
- A continuance of the Mojave Max Emergence Contest
- Develop and produce a desert tortoise coloring book for distribution to children throughout the desert region.
- Design of additional multimedia material to be hosted on www.deserttortoise.gov.
- Work with DMG partners on production of desert tortoise wayside signage for key desert locations.
- Reprint and continued distribution project brochures (3 titles)
- Produce two new issues of the Tortoise Times newsletter
- Coordinate distribution of desert tortoise education trunks to regional schools.
- Conduct two teacher workshops for use of tortoise education materials.
- Produce monthly press releases on tortoise topics.

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: National Park Service - Joshua Tree
 Application: Education & Safety, Desert Tortoise Outreach & Education

3/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	National Park Service - Joshua Tree		
PROJECT TITLE :	Education & Safety, Desert Tortoise Outreach & Education	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Planning		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>Educating OHV recreationists who use the California deserts will equip users with knowledge to make informed decisions about their safety and how to enjoy OHV recreation while having a lower impact upon the environment in which they recreate.</p> <p>In the California deserts, many of the designated OHV areas and routes are within desert tortoise habitat. The Mojave population of the desert tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>) includes the California deserts and was listed as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) in 1989 and the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) in 1990. Development and implementation of environmental education programs aimed at the tortoise is identified in the Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan (FWS 1994). The coordinated implementation of recovery actions for the tortoise is a high priority for the Desert Managers Group (DMG).</p> <p>Improper OHV recreation has been identified as a threat to the tortoise. There are, however, a variety of behavioral changes recreationists (OHV and) can make that will cause a lower impact to the tortoise and other sensitive desert resources.</p> <p>The Desert Managers Group (DMG) is a partnership of Department of Interior (Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and, U.S. Geological Survey), all four branches of military service, State of California (Caltrans, Department of Fish and Game, and State Parks), and county governments (Kern, San Bernardino, and Imperial). The DMG has the vision of working together to conserve and enhance the California Deserts for current and future generations. The DMG's area of interest is parallel to the Bureau of Land Managements' (BLM) California Desert Conservation Area (i.e. the California deserts).</p> <p>In 2005 the DMG established the Desert Tortoise Information and Education Program. The goal of the Program is to create awareness among OHV recreations and the general public about the desert tortoise and how individual actions can affect the tortoise's survival. While reaching many audiences, the program targets OHV recreationalists who use public lands.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Other-Outreach Coordinator Notes : The Desert Managers Group -through the National Park Service has a full time term position for a Desert Tortoise Outreach Coordinator. The position was filled October of 2005 until the	1.000	93240.000	FTE	93,240.00	0.00	93,240.00

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Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
present. Funding for this position has been through a series of grants. We have applied for a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Grant. This application will be the third phase of the project. Project funds have been received from NFWF grants for the past three years. We expect grant funding to continue for the desert tortoise information and outreach project through 2010.						
Other-Event Support	160.000	14.600	HRS	0.00	2,336.00	2,336.00
Park Ranger	200.000	57.000	HRS	0.00	11,400.00	11,400.00
Administration Officer	40.000	55.000	HRS	0.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
Other-Education Specialist	200.000	48.900	HRS	0.00	9,780.00	9,780.00
Other-DMG Coordinator-DOI	100.000	60.000	HRS	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Park Ranger	50.000	50.000	HRS	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Other-DMG Coordinator-DOD	40.000	60.000	HRS	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Other-Defenders of Wildlife Associate	375.000	25.000	HRS	0.00	9,375.00	9,375.00
Total for Staff				93,240.00	45,991.00	139,231.00
2	Contracts					
Other-Conduct Media Days	2.000	5000.000	EA	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Other-Web site design	250.000	50.000	HRS	0.00	12,500.00	12,500.00
Other-Multimedia marketing piece	2.000	1000.000	EA	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Other-TV Ad placement	8.000	1500.000	EA	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Other-Radio Ad Placement	135.000	75.000	EA	0.00	10,125.00	10,125.00
Total for Contracts				0.00	46,625.00	46,625.00
3	Materials / Supplies					
Brochures	30000.00	0.120	EA	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
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3/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : Approximate GPO printing cost Three Brochures at 10,000 copies each brochure You're In Desert Tortoise Country Builders Guide Invasion of the Tortoise Snatchers	0					
	Other-Tortoise literature	10000.00 0	0.150	EA	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Other-Officesupplies	1.000	1000.000	MISC	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Other-Tortoise coloring book	20000.00 0	0.500	EA	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				1,000.00	15,100.00	16,100.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Vehicle Operations and Maintenance	12.000	400.000	MOS	4,800.00	0.00	4,800.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
	Other-Tortoise Costume Notes : graphic software	1.000	3600.000	EA	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00
6	Others						
7	Administrative Costs						
	Administrative Costs-Travel to events/mt	8.000	300.000	EA	2,400.00	0.00	2,400.00
	Administrative Costs-Training	2.000	1000.000	EA	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Total for Administrative Costs				4,400.00	0.00	4,400.00
	Total Program Expenses				103,440.00	111,316.00	214,756.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				103,440.00	111,316.00	214,756.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				103,440.00	111,316.00	214,756.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: National Park Service - Joshua Tree
 Application: Education & Safety, Desert Tortoise Outreach & Education

3/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	93,240.00	45,991.00	139,231.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	46,625.00	46,625.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	1,000.00	15,100.00	16,100.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	4,800.00	0.00	4,800.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	3,600.00	3,600.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	4,400.00	0.00	4,400.00	
Total Program Expenses		103,440.00	111,316.00	214,756.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		103,440.00	111,316.00	214,756.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		103,440.00	111,316.00	214,756.00	

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1. Evaluation Criteria - Q 1.

The Applicant is applying for the following type of Project: (Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- Education – Applicants shall only respond to items 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 []
 Safety – Applicants shall only respond to items 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, and 15

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 76% or more (10 points) 51% - 75% (5 points) []
 26% - 50% (3 points) 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Evaluation Criteria - Q 2.

2. For Applicant's OHV Grant Projects which reached the end of the Project performance period within the last two years, the percentage of all deliverables accomplished 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 100% of Deliverable accomplished (5 points) []
 75% to 99% of Deliverables accomplished (3 points)
 Less than 75% of Deliverables accomplished (No points)
 First time Applicants and past Applicants with no active Grant projects within the last two years (2 points)

3. Evaluation Criteria - Q 3. (FOR DIVISION USE ONLY)

3. Previous Year Performance

(FOR DIVISION USE ONLY) (Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- In the previous year the Applicant has been responsive and communicated effectively with the assigned OHMVR Grant Administrator by phone, email or personal visit (3 points)
 First time Applicants and past Applicants with no active Grant projects within the last two years (2 points)
 In the previous year the Applicant has not been responsive (No points)

4. Evaluation Criteria - Q 4.

4. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- 4 or more (4 points) [] 2 to 3 (2 points)
 1 (1 point) None (No points)

List partner organization(s)

Defenders of Wildlife

The Living Desert

CA4WDC

DMG (NPS, BLM, NFS, USFWS, California Dept Parks Recreation, California Dept Fish and Game

Joshua Tree National Park Association

5. Evaluation Criteria - Q 5.

5. The Project addresses the following types of OHV Recreation 4

(Check all that apply.) Scoring: 1 point each (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ATV [] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4X4 [] |
| <input type="checkbox"/> M.C. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation Utility Vehicle (RUV) [] |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobile | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dune buggy, rail [] |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | |

6. Evaluation Criteria - Q 6.

6. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point) []
- Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point) []
- Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point) []

Explain each statement that was checked

Desert Managers Group 4 meeting per year desert tortoise outreach presentation open to public
Desert Tortoise Information and Education workgroup 4 meeting per year open to stakeholders
Conference calls to stakeholders for workgroup meetings

7. Evaluation Criteria - Q 7. (Education Project ONLY)

7. The Project incorporates the following, clearly identifiable and/or measurable, elements 6

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Process of researching issues and audience (2 points) []
- Objectives (2 points) []
- Testing process to ensure actions are effective (2 points)
- Plan to implement the Project (2 points) []
- Evaluation and feedback of the process (2 points)

8. Evaluation Criteria - Q 8. (Education Project ONLY)

8. Total number of points of contact the Project is anticipated to reach 4

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- Greater than 10,000 (4 points) []
- 1,000 to 10,000 (3 points)
- 100 to 1,000 (2 points)
- 20 to 100 (1 point)
- 0 to 20 (No points)

9. Evaluation Criteria - Q 9. (Education Project ONLY)

9. Total time a participant will have exposure to the Project's message or training 3

(Check the one item of highest point value that applies.) (Please select one from list)

- Greater than 2 hours (4 points)
- 1 hour to 2 hours (3 points) []
- 5 minutes to less than 1 hour (2 points)
- 1 minute to less than 5 minutes (A Project for maps will fall under this category) (1 point)
- Less than 1 minute (No points)

10. Evaluation Criteria - Q 10. (Education Project ONLY)

10. The Project will utilize the following methods of education 14

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 point each up to a maximum of 14 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hands on training [] | <input type="checkbox"/> Tool kits |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Handouts [] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Events [] |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internet messaging/CDs [] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signage [] |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advertising [] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radio/TV [] |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community involvement [] | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public relations/media | |

11. Evaluation Criteria - Q 11. (Education Project ONLY)

11. The Project provides direct support for delivery of ATV Safety Institute and/or Motorcycle Safety Foundation training 0

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- No (No points) [] Yes (2 points)

12. Evaluation Criteria - Q 12. & 13. (Safety Project ONLY)

12. The Project will utilize personnel trained to the following level

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- Emergency Medical Technician level, or higher (5 points) First Responder level (2 points)
 First Aid and CPR (1 points) No training (No points)

13. The Project will provide search and rescue as follows

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 24 hours, 7 days per week (5 points) Less than 24 hours, 7 days per week (4 points)
 Less than 24 hours, less than 7 days per week (2 points) On special occasions/events only (No points)

13. Evaluation Criteria - Q 14. (Safety Project ONLY)

14. The Project will have the majority of personnel trained in the following areas

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each up to a maximum of 16 points (Please select applicable values)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Tracking skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avalanche rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swift water rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> ATV certification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog handling | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle certification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rope skills | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 x 4/Off-Road training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness search and rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |

14. Evaluation Criteria - Q 15. (Safety Project ONLY)

15. The Project will have resources that are equipped and trained for rescue in the following environmental conditions*

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Type 1 – Extreme Condition (including but not limited to): Altitude (generally 7000 feet+) or Snow, Ice, Desert, Heat, Heavy ground cover, Steep difficult terrain. (2 points)
 Type 2 – Rugged Terrain. Rugged conditions, Altitude (generally under 7000 feet), Heat, Cold concerns, Moderate to heavy ground cover. (2 points)
 Type 3 – Moderate/Gentle Terrain. Gently rolling terrain, Open spaces, Maintained trailheads, and Agricultural areas. (2 points)
 Type 4 – Urban. High traffic, Urban office complexes, man-made surfaces, Public interaction and Park trails.

(2 points)

*** From the Governor's Office of Emergency Services – Mutual Aid Guidelines, Search and Rescue, Off-Highway Vehicles**