



United States Department of the Interior

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In reply refer to:
AESO/SE
22410-2004-F-0161

August 18, 2011

DATE	INITIALS	COUNT
8/21/11	[Signature]	800

Memorandum

To: Program Manager, Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Plan, Bureau of Reclamation, Boulder City, Nevada (LC-8451)

From: Field Supervisor

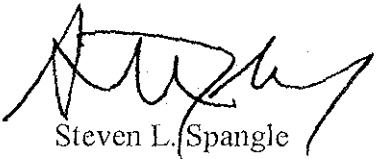
Subject: Completion of Conservation Measure DET01 under the LCR MSCP for the Desert Tortoise, Riverside County, California

This memorandum responds to your July 21, 2011, request for Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) concurrence with the completion of the requirement under DET01 to acquire, protect, and transfer 230 acres of unprotected, occupied desert tortoise habitat to offset effects of the proposed actions covered under the LCR MSCP.

The material provided with your request documents that the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has purchased 260 acres of private land within the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) Chuckwalla Desert Wildlife Area (DWA) of the Chuckwalla Bench Area of Critical Environmental Concern and title to these properties was transferred to the BLM. The BLM manages the public lands within the DWA to protect resource values and habitat for Federally-listed plant and animal species such as the desert tortoise.

The FWS concurs with Reclamation that the acquisition of this 260 acres and its transfer to BLM for long-term management for desert tortoises meets the requirements of DET01 in the LCR MSCP. Reclamation should document the completion of this conservation action in the appropriate annual report for LCR MSCP covered activities.

We congratulate Reclamation and the other LCR MSCP partners on this accomplishment. The LCR MSCP has accomplished significant conservation benefits in the six years since it was signed in 2005. We look forward to our continuing involvement with this important program. If there are other questions, or we may assist in any way, please contact Ms. Lesley Fitzpatrick of my staff at (602) 242-0210 (x236) or me (x244).


Steven L. Spangle

cc: Chief, Habitat Branch, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix, AZ