

TC Assignments 1/11/2024

Assignment 1 – Ivins Detention Basin 6

Background:

There are several locations within debris/detention basin #6 located in Ivins where the sediment has accumulated in the basin to the point where maintenance needs to occur to remove the excess sediment. Each of these locations is relatively located where an existing wash discharges into the basin. The haul trucks will be restricted to the current access road located in the bottom of the basin. Disturbance areas will be staked off to help the contractor understand the limits of disturbance. Temporary impacts include heavy earth moving equipment working within the areas of removal. There will also be hauling trucks working within the areas of removal using the existing access road located at the bottom of the basin. The areas of disturbance will be cleared, grubbed, and excavated to remove sediment; therefore, all existing vegetation will be removed across approximately 4.55 acres. It is anticipated that the disturbance area will be cleared of tortoise before the work begins. The work will also be done during the inactive season of the tortoise. The area will be reseeded to encourage revegetation.

TC Assignment:

Please fill out the TC evaluation form to track project impacts and recommend any other avoidance and minimization measures as necessary to assist in this project.

Assignment 2 – Comprehensive Fire Management Plan

Background:

At the November HCAC meeting, BLM, UDWR and County officials presented new information regarding fire prevention and restoration activities in the Reserve. Through its Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI), and in collaboration with HCP funds, UDWR recently treated state lands with Rejuvra to reduce the threat of fire from Green Springs and east towards I-15. In recent months the BLM also approved a new weeds management plan for NCA. With these new tools available, HCAC members felt inclined to address the ongoing fire threat by shifting fire management funds higher than the typical annual average. The purpose of additional funding is in support of greater fuels management across a broader landscape and in support of a long-term strategy that will complement the new BLM weeds management plan. While access to increased funding has been made possible for the 2024 HCP budget, this increased level of funding may not be sustainable in the long-term.

TC Assignment:

Please review the RCDR Habitat Fire Management Guidelines. Incorporate any necessary changes to the plan to address developing science, data or new resources such as the BLM weeds management plan.

1. Develop a long-term strategy (5-10-year plan) to treat various sub-sections of the Reserve on an annual basis. Identify the potential best methods to reduce fuels, improve restoration success and estimate costs for desired treatments in each area. Consider how

these activities can be integrated to utilize funds from WRI, BLM and HCP. Add this strategy as an appendix or as a separate chapter in RCDR Habitat Fire Management Plan.

2. Provide a recommendation to the HCAC regarding the best use of the 2024 fire budget. In particular, please advise if the extra HCP funds should be used next year verses consideration of saving the extra funds for implementation efforts in later years (ie front-loading the plan vs back-loading).