

Incidental Take Permit Renewal

HCAC Meeting – July 28, 2015

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMITMENTS UNDER THE HABITAT
CONSERVATION PLAN**

Washington County Commitments under the Habitat Conservation Plan

EXPENSE	COMMITMENT	CURRENT EXPENDITURE
FENCING	\$500,000; 71.2 MILES	\$804,104; 83 MILES
LAW ENFORCEMENT	\$650,000 OVER 5 YRS	\$1,271,941 OVER 19 YRS
EDUCATION	\$500,000	\$709,301
TRANSLOCATION	\$240,000	\$212,461
FACILITATION OF LAND ACQUISITION & EXCHANGE	\$500,000	\$442,579
LWCF GRANT MATCH	\$1,000,000	N/A—LWCF FELL THROUGH
HCP ADMINISTRATOR	\$1,080,000	\$1,662,450
HCP BIOLOGIST	\$760,000	\$1,132,909
OFFICE EXPENSES AND SECRETARIAL SUPPORT	\$400,000	\$1,318,339

Washington County Commitments under the Habitat Conservation Plan

EXPENSE	COMMITMENT	CURRENT EXPENDITURE
RESERVE MANAGEMENT- BLM FUNDING	\$250,000 OVER 10 YRS	\$250,000 FOR PUBLIC USE PLAN
RESERVE MANAGEMENT – UDNR FUNDING	\$50,000	\$50,000 TO SCSP TORTOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN
RESERVE MONITORING	\$1,000,000	\$1,199,004
GRAZING PERMITS	\$175,000 TO ACQUIRE 4 GRAZING PERMITS	ALL 4 PERMITS ACQUIRED AT \$157,005
OTHER SPECIES	1,950,000	\$1,371,966
TOTAL COMMITMENTS	\$9,055,000	\$10,582,059

Sources: HCP, Ch. 5, Sec.s 5.2.1-5.4, pp. 93-100; Ch. 6, sec.s 6.2.1-6.5 & Tbl. 6.3, pp. 103-111; Robert Sandberg HCP Expenditure Figures (2015)

Additional Measures Taken by Washington County

- Implementation of County Trail Steward program within the Reserve
- Outreach coordinator who educates schools, community groups, media, etc.
- In-kind contributions including fencing plant reserves under the Other Species Program

Tortoise Translocation Success

- Of the 703 tortoises taken under the permit, 460 tortoises have been translocated to Zone 4 of the Reserve
- They were not expected to survive, but are alive and reproducing.

PROGRESS IN ACQUIRING INHOLDINGS SINCE 1996

Progress in Acquiring Inholdings Since 1996

- In 1996, 7,671 municipal and private acres were located within the Reserve boundaries.
- Since then, 5,219 of those acres have been acquired by the BLM and UDNR.
- Of the remaining 2,452 acres, only 1,288 acres are held by private land owners.
- The other 1,164 acres are held by municipalities and utilities.
 - None of these are likely to be developed
 - Some are encumbered by conservation easements for the purposes of the HCP
 - Some are anticipated by the Habitat Conservation Plan to remain permanently in the Reserve for utility purposes

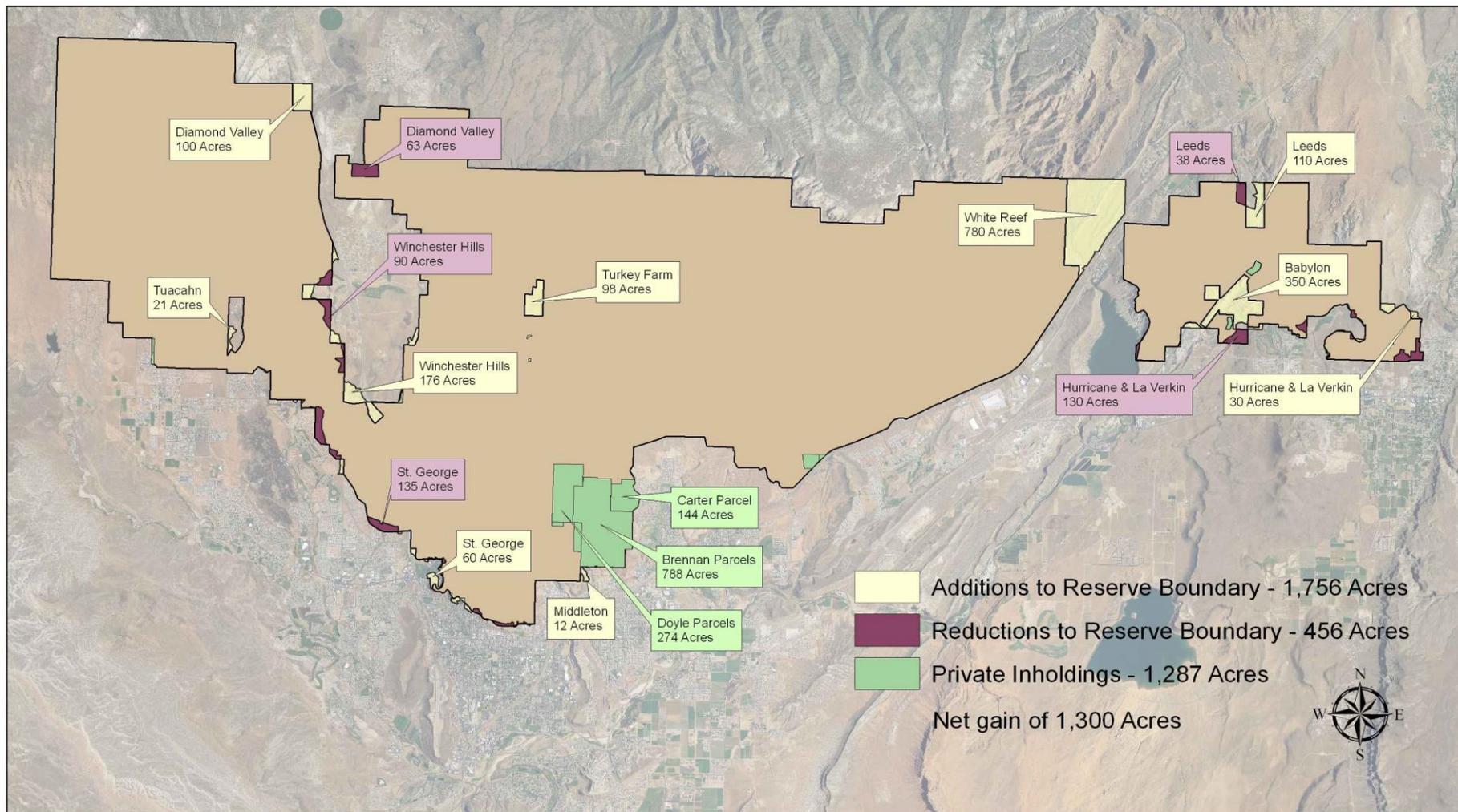
Progress in Acquiring Inholdings Since 1996

- In 1996, 10,938 SITLA acres were located within the Reserve boundaries.
- Since then, 4,443 acres have been acquired by the BLM and UDNR, leaving 6,495 acres within the Reserve.
 - None are likely to be developed
 - SITLA has found that its acreage within the Reserve is a valuable investment as SITLA makes other land exchanges with the BLM and is in need of additional acreage to exchange value for value

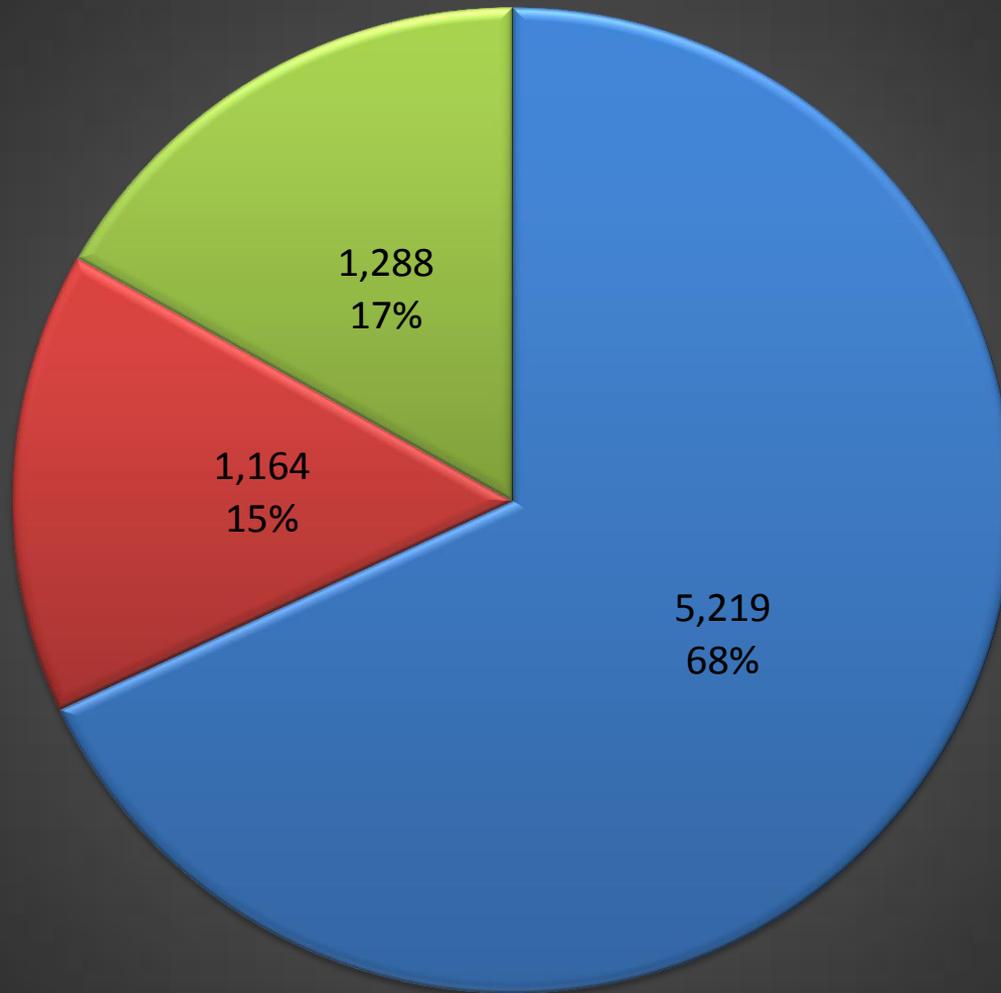
Additions to the Reserve

- In addition to the inholdings within the Reserve boundaries that have been acquired, 1,300 acres in or adjoining the Reserve that were not originally identified in the Reserve have also been acquired and added to the Reserve.

Red Cliffs Desert Reserve Boundary 1996 vs 2015



Land Acquisition (7671 acres)



BLM & UDNR

other municipalities & utilities

Private land owners

Recent County Efforts to Facilitate Land Exchanges and Acquisition

- MOU with BLM for land exchanges
- Payment for appraisals
- Payment for Archeological Resources Inventory
- Acquiring Section 6 Funding for Reverse Auction

RENEWING THE PERMIT

Renewing the Permit

- On January 30, 2015, the County submitted its application for renewal of the permit for a twenty year period.
- The FWS acknowledged receipt of the application on March 24, 2015.
- The renewal would extend the life of the permit without changing the terms of the HCP:
 - Commitments of signatories remain the same
 - Number of tortoises that can be taken remains the same (1,169 total)
 - Number of acres of habitat that can be developed remain the same (12,264 total)

Sources: Washington County Permit Application (1/29/15) and Letter (1/30/15); Larry Crist, Letter of Acknowledgment (3/24/15); Incidental Take Permit (2/22/96)

Renewing the Permit

- The County is working closely with the FWS regarding what additional steps may be necessary and will update the HCAC on a regular basis.
- Meanwhile, a contractor is conducting a review of the actual HCP document to help determine if/what additional information may be needed. We are anticipating an initial product in the next month to two months.

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

Where to from here?

- Although the current permit is set to expire on March 14, 2016, now that the permit renewal application has been submitted, the activities authorized in the permit can be continued pending the FWS taking action on the application for renewal.
- County wants to make sure that any additional steps do not constitute a plan amendment.

Sources: Incidental Take Permit (2/22/96); 15 CFR § 13.22; Larry Crist, Letter of Acknowledgment (3/24/15)