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Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program: Helping Hands Across Public Lands – Phase II: Quarterly Progress Report, Period Covering October 1 – December 31, 2007

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QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Period Covering October 1 – December 31, 2007

Cooperative Agreement Number H8R07060001
Task Agreement Number J8R07070001

Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program: Helping Hands Across Public Lands – Phase II

Executive Summary

- The number of records in the volunteer database increased 12% over last quarter. The database now contains 4,937 records.
- Website activity decreased, recording an average of 82,859 hits per month, a decrease of 31% from last quarter, with an average of 8,191 pages viewed per month.
- Volunteer fall training has been completed.
- Three National Public Land Day Events have been completed.
- Two hundred and ten people attended the Volunteer Recognition Event.

Summary of Attachments

- Spring 2008 volunteer training schedule
- Spring/Summer 2008 volunteer event schedule

Task 1. Refine and maintain a quality Web-based volunteer database.

The Volgistics volunteer database is now populated with 4,937 records, representing an increase of 594 individuals from last quarter. (*See Figure 1 on next page*). The number of volunteers will drop on January 1, 2007 due to archiving records and deleting volunteers who signed up more than two years ago and never volunteered.

Fig. 1

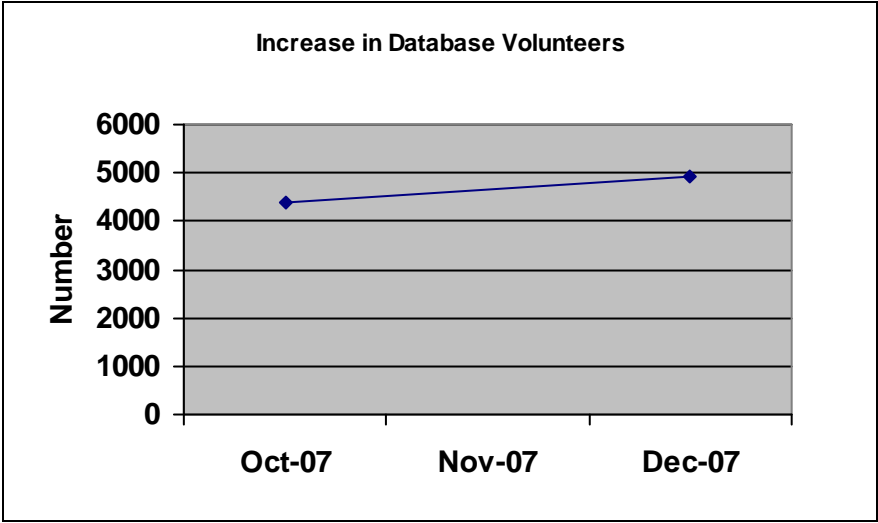


Fig. 1 above shows increase in number of records in the database of volunteers.

Task 2. Manage, update, and administer an IVP Website.

During this quarter, Website activity decreased; results are as follows:

- An average of 82,859 hits per month, a decrease of 31%.
- An average of 8,191 pages viewed per month. (See Fig. 2 below.)
- Website activity decreased in November and December due to fewer events.

Fig. 2

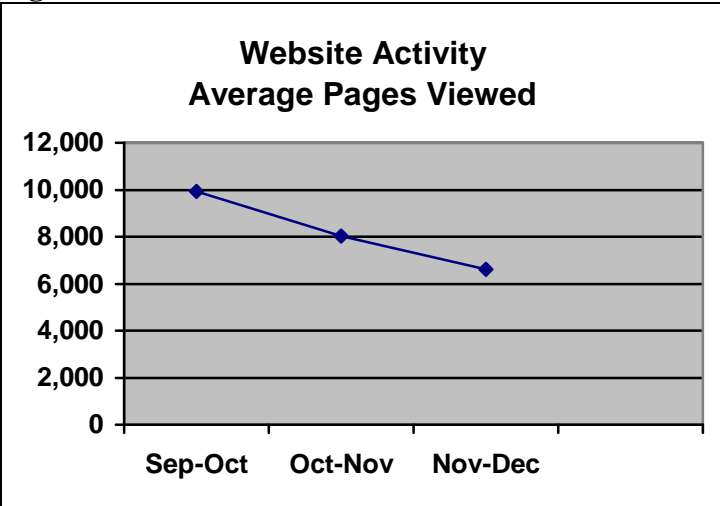


Fig. 2 illustrates activity on the Website.

Task 3. Evaluate and revise, as appropriate, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for all areas of interagency volunteer management.

The Interagency Volunteer Team (IVP) met several times during the quarter, with its primary focus on the Volunteer Recognition Banquet, National Public Lands Day Events, developing a work plan for the next three years, and planning for spring trainings and events.

Task 4. Evaluate and update strategies and tools for volunteer recruitment.

The IVP Website, www.getoutdoorsnevada.org, in combination with the Volgistics volunteer database, continues to be a highly effective tool for recruiting and pre-registering volunteers needed for conservation events.

Task 5. Support Agency Departments and SNAP Teams with conservation projects that require volunteer workforce on the public lands.

National Public Lands Day Event:

September 29, 2007 – Lake Mead National Recreation Area – National Park Service

The Interagency Volunteer Program collaborated with the Take Pride Interagency Program (Don't Trash Nevada) to promote and recruit 248 volunteers for a litter clean up at the Government Wash Area. Volunteers contributed 992 hours and collected 30 cubic yards of litter and debris.

National Wildlife Refuge Week Event

October 13, 2007- National Wildlife Refuge- National Fish and Wildlife Service

The Interagency Volunteer Program collaborated with the Take Pride Interagency Program (Don't Trash Nevada) to promote and recruit eleven volunteers for a litter clean up to help restore the National Wildlife Refuge. Volunteers contributed 44 hours and collected 15 cubic yards of litter and debris.

Rainbow Gardens Clean Up

October 10, 2007- Rainbow Gardens- Bureau of Land Management

The Interagency Volunteer Program collaborated with the Take Pride Interagency Program (Don't Trash Nevada) to promote and recruit 46 volunteers for a litter clean up to help restore Rainbow Gardens. Volunteers contributed 138 hours and collected 12 cubic yards of litter and debris.

Make a Difference Day Events

October 27, 2007- Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area - Bureau of Land Management

Three hundred and nine volunteers contributed 1,967 hours. Seventeen projects completed include:

- Reconstruction of approximately three miles trails
- Graffiti removal at five locations
- Litter and debris collection at Calico I, Calico II and Sandstone Quarry.
- Rehabilitation of the tortoise habitat (Mojave Max) with new native vegetation.
- Sanding and weather sealing of the Lost Creek and Willow Spring Boardwalks
- Created children's projects; 39 children with parents participated in seed collection and painting projects. This new facet of volunteering was spearheaded by event co-sponsor, REI, as part of its P.E.A.K. (Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids) program.

November 17, 2007- Conservation Transfer Area- Bureau of Land Management

The Interagency Volunteer Program collaborated with the Take Pride Interagency Program (Don't Trash Nevada) to promote and recruit 64 volunteers for a litter and debris clean-up to help restore the Conservation Transfer Area. Volunteers contributed 256 hours and collected 84 cubic yards of litter and debris.

2007 Summer/Fall Events

Table 1.

| <u>Date/Time</u> | <u>Agency</u> | <u>Event Name</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Nature of Work</u> | <u>Special Requirements</u> | <u>Volunteers Needed</u> | <u>To Register for Event</u> |
|---|---------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2007 | | | | | | | |
| Sat., Aug. 18 8:30 am - Noon | USFS | Archery Range Cleanup | Spring Mountains NRA, Mt. Charleston, Deer Creek Hwy. | Litter/Debris Cleanup | Minimum age – 8 yrs. | 35 | Sign up here |
| Sat., Sept. 8 8:30 am- Noon | USFS | National Public Lands Day | Spring Mountains NRA Mt Charleston | Seed Collection | | 50 | Registration opens 8/3/07 |
| Sat., Sept. 22 8:00 am – 1:00 pm | BLM | National Public Lands Day | Sloan Canyon NCA | Litter/Debris Cleanup | Minimum age – 12 yrs. | 200 | Registration opens 8/3/07 |
| Sat., Sept. 29 8:00 am – 11:30 am | NPS | National Public Lands Day | Lake Mead NRA | Litter/Debris Cleanup | | 100+ | Registration opens 8/3/07 |
| Sat., Oct. 13 8:30 am – 1:00 pm | USFWS | National Wildlife Refuge Week | National Wildlife Refuge (Decatur, approximately 5 miles north of 215) | Litter/Debris Cleanup | Minimum age – 18 yrs. | 50 | Registration opens 9/7/07 |
| Sat., Oct. 27 8:00 am - 1:00 pm | BLM | Make a Difference Day | North of 215 – on Jones | Paintball Course Removal | Minimum age - 12 yrs. | 50 | Registration opens 9/7/07 |

Table 1 shows the details of the types of events that were scheduled by agencies in summer and fall.

Task 6. Evaluate, refine, enhance, and deliver interagency volunteer orientation and training program.

Nine training were completed this fall.

- Seventeen volunteers completed the volunteer Orientation training on October 6 and 8, 2007.
- Ten volunteers completed the Submerged Cultural Resource training on October 10, 2007.
- Eight volunteers completed the Fall Colors training on October 13, 2007.
- Four volunteers completed the ATV training on October 19, 2007.
- Seven volunteers completed the “St. Thomas Inundation, Resurrection, and the Ebb and Flow of History” training on October 24, 2007
- Four volunteers completed the birding training on October 31, 2007
- Six volunteers completed the Map and Compass training on November 7, 2007
- Seven volunteers completed the Astronomy training on November 10, 2007
- Ten volunteers completed the “Hiking on Public Lands” training on November 17, 2007

Task 7. Identify possible grant and donation opportunities to help support and sustain the program.

Public relations and outreach activities, as well as opportunities to develop new collaborative community partnerships and relationships include the following:

- Used media release flyer, newspaper advertising and mass e-mail to promote three National Public Lands Day events and Make a Difference Day events.
- Promoted interagency events and trainings in environmental science courses at UNLV.
- Participated in Henderson Trails Days.

Task 8. Plan and implement volunteer recognition initiatives and events.

Two hundred and ten volunteers attended the third annual Volunteer Recognition Awards Ceremony on November 3, 2007 at the Renaissance Hotel in Las Vegas.

- Ten undergraduate students from the College of Hotel Administration coordinated logistics with IVP Volunteer Program Associate Amy Ansari and IVP Volunteer Program Assistant Tyra Jenkins.
- Feedback from volunteers and federal land managers was positive.
- National Park Service Superintendent Bill Dickinson was the guest speaker.
- Six awards were presented in the following categories: Volunteer of the Year Award (Ken Kingsley), Volunteer Group of the Year Award (The Goings Family), Lifetime Achievement Award (Bob and Betty Davenport), Volunteer Supervisor of the Year Award (Virginia Crowe), Special Service Award (Wen Baldwin), and the Sponsor of the Year (City of Henderson).

- Former IVP Project Manager Donna Grady also was recognized for her contributions to the program.

Submitted by:

Margaret N. Rees, Principal Investigator

Date: Dec. 31, 2007



Southern Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program Spring 2008 Training Schedule

The following training classes are open to all active volunteers for the
Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and U.S. Forest Service

| DATE | TIME | SUBJECT | LOCATION | INSTRUCTOR | CLASS HOST | CLASS SIZE |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Thursday, January 3 | 9:00am - 2:00pm | Map & Compass | Las Vegas Field Office – Conf. Rm. A (includes outdoor experience) | Amy Meketi, USFS | Amy Meketi | 10 |
| Thursday, January 17 | 9:00am - 3:00pm | ATV Training | Meet at Indian Springs Casino | Larry Benham, USFS | Amy Meketi | 8 |
| Saturday, January 19 | 8:00am - 4:00pm | First Aid/CPR/AED | Lake Mead NRA, Water Safety Center, | Mr. Guy Nelson, AED Response | Nancy Bernard | Minimum 10 |
| Wednesday, January 23 | 8:00am - 12:30pm | Graffiti Removal Training | Red Rock Canyon NCA- Meet at visitor center | Jim Cribbs, BLM Ranger | Jim Cribbs | 20 |
| Wednesday, January 16 | 9:00am – 12:00pm | Wild Horse and Burro | Red Rock Canyon NCA- Meet at visitor center | Jim Cribbs, BLM Ranger | Jim Cribbs | 12 |
| Saturday, February 9 | TBA | Team Lead Training | TBA | TBA | Nancy Bernard | TBA |



Southern Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program



Spring 2008 Training Schedule

The following training classes are open to all active volunteers for the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and U.S. Forest Service

Alphabetical list and descriptions of Training Classes:

First Aid/CPR/AED: Upon completion of this class volunteers will be certified to administer first aid/CPR.

Graffiti Removal Training: Learn how to properly and safely remove graffiti. Volunteers will first learn how to use the equipment and then will remove graffiti in Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area.

Map/Compass/GPS: Learn the basics of using a map and compass together and how these basics relate to your GPS unit. The course will be held in a classroom and field environment. **If you have your own compass and/or GPS unit, please bring with you.** *Recommended for anyone working in the field.*

ATV Training: Learn how to maneuver an ATV safely and become ATV Certified. Certification is required to volunteer using an ATV with some government agencies. If you have an ATV, please bring it with you. Participants will meet at the Indian Springs Casino on I-95.

Event Assistant Training:

Wild Horse and Burro: Learn about the condition and management of the wild horse and burro herds during this field trip to Red Rock Conservation Area.

2008 Spring/Summer Events

| <u>Date/Time</u> | <u>Agency</u> | <u>Event Name</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Nature of Work</u> | <u>Special Requirements</u> | <u>Volunteers Needed</u> | <u>To Register for Event</u> |
|--|---------------------------|--|--|--|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2008 | | | | | | | |
| Saturday, January 12 8:30 am – 12:00 pm | Bureau of Land Management | Conservation Transfer Area Litter Clean up | Las Vegas Wash/ Losse | Litter/Debris Cleanup | Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision | 250+ | Registration opens 12/02/07 |
| Saturday, February 23 8:30 am – 12:00 pm | Bureau of Land Management | BLM Beautification Litter Clean Up | College and Paradise Hills | Litter/Debris Cleanup | Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision | 30-100 | Registration opens 1/21/08 |
| Saturday, March 8 8:00 am – 11:30 am | National Park Service | Great American Clean Up | Lake Mead NRA (Specific location TBD) | Litter/Debris Cleanup | Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision | 100+ | Registration opens 2/04/08 |
| Saturday, March 29 8:30 am – 1:00 pm | Bureau of Land Management | Gypsum Cave Graffiti Removal and Litter Clean Up | Near Gypsum Cave | Litter/Debris Cleanup and Graffiti Removal | Minimum age- 12 yrs. with adult supervision | 40-80 | Registration opens 2/11/08 |
| Saturday, April 19 7:30 am – 1:00 pm | Bureau of Land Management | Red Rock Day | Red Rock Canyon NCA | TBD | TBD | TBD | Registration opens 3/03/08 |
| Friday, April 25 8:30 am – 12:00 pm | U.S Forest Service | Earth Day Celebration | Spring Mountains NRA Mt Charleston (Specific location TBD) | Restoration | Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision | 20 | Registration opens 3/10/08 |
| Saturday, May 3 8:30 am – 12:00 pm | Bureau of Land Management | Join Hands Day | Near Sunrise (Henderson) | Litter Cleanup | Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision | 50-100 | Registration opens 3/17/08 |
| Saturday, June 7 8:30 am – 12:00 pm | U.S Forest Service | National Trails Day | Spring Mountains NRA Mt Charleston (Specific location TBD) | Trail Maintenance and Restoration | Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision | 40 | Registration opens 4/21/08 |

Please note:

Start time for all events includes a 30 minute check –in period

All volunteers under the age of 18 must provide a signed parental approval form.