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## Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program: Helping Hands Across Public Lands – Phase II: Annual Progress Report, Period Covering July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

Margaret N. Rees

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## **ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Period Covering July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

Cooperative Agreement Number H8R07060001  
Task Agreement Number J8R07070001

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

### **Executive Summary**

- The Interagency Volunteer Program (IVP) completed a total of 25 volunteer events contributing a total of 7,270.5 volunteer hours.
- A total of 186 volunteers completed orientations and trainings with the IVP.
- In January, the database manager updated and archived records in the Volgistic data base.
- Since January, the Volgistic database has increased the number of records by 15% containing a total 5,171 records.
- The first annual IVP bus tour has been completed.
- The first event assistant training has been completed. A total of five event assistants have assisted event coordinators at six different volunteer events.
- Website activity this year averaged 88,670 hits per month, with an average of 8,881 pages viewed per month.
- The first Interagency Volunteer Program Open House has been completed.
- New Blackbrush seed collection events have been completed this year for May and June 2008.

### **Summary of Attachments**

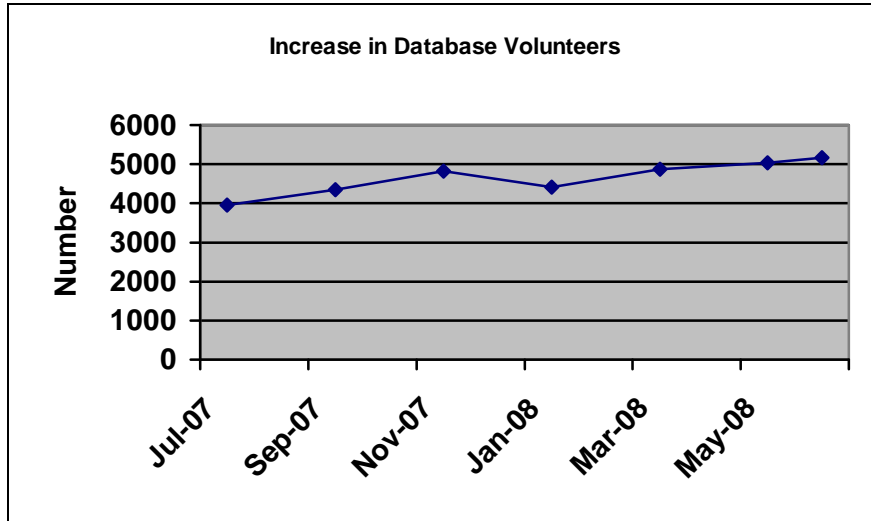
- Fall/Winter 2007 and Spring/Summer 2008 volunteer event schedule.
- Pictures of volunteer events.

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

- On January 1, 2008 the Volgistics volunteer database was updated by deleting volunteers who were on the mailing list for two years and had no volunteer hours. Active records with no volunteer hours were also archived from the past three years. A total of 521 records were removed leaving a total of 4,416 records in the database. The Volgistics volunteer database is now populated with 5,171 records,

representing an increase of 1,195 individuals from July 1, 2007. (See Figure 1 on next page).

**Fig. 1**



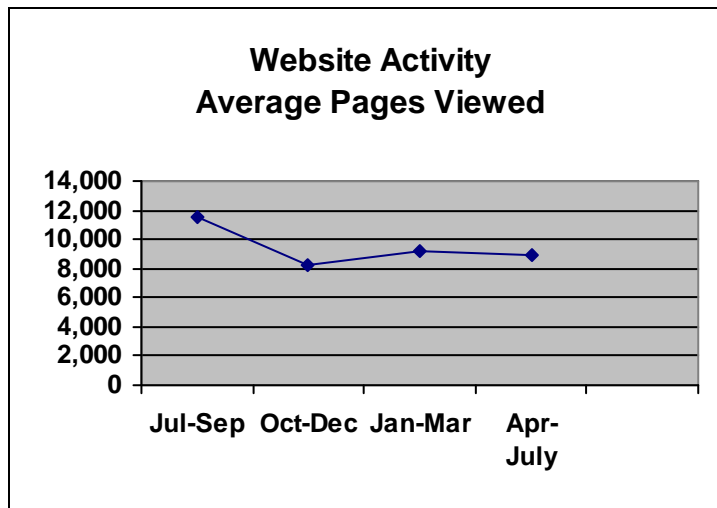
**Fig. 1 above shows increase in number of records in the database of volunteers.**

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

Website activity tends to fluctuate depending on the time of year. Website averages for July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 are as follows:

- An average of 88,670 hits per month.
- An average of 8,881 pages viewed per month. (See Fig. 2 below)

**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 twice each month with its primary focus on scheduling volunteer events, organizing the Bus Tour, volunteer trainings, and developing a work plan.

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

- The IVP Website, [www.getoutdoorsnevada.org](http://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.
- The Bus Wrap is now displayed on two different public buses.
- In fall of 2007, Get Outdoors Nevada conducted their first annual open house.
- Amy Ansari presented to six different classes at UNLV and connected with over 200 students.
- Marketing Specialist, LaNelda Rolley, used media release flyers and newspaper advertising to promote three National Public Lands Day events and the Make a Difference Day event.
- Get Outdoors Nevada was represented at a variety of out reach events including the following:
  - UNLV Community Service Fair, where over 1,500 faculty and students attended
  - Henderson Trails Days
  - HSBC World Environment Day
  - UNLV Nevada Spring Volunteer Fair
  - 2008 Summerlin Earth Day Festival

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

The Interagency Volunteer Program collaborated with the Take Pride Interagency Program (Don't Trash Nevada) to promote and recruit for a total of 23 events during the annual project period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. A total of 1,532 people volunteered for these events. The following groups attended these events:

- Ernst and Young
- HSBC
- Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council
- Several Boy Scout Troops
- Several Girl Scout Troops
- Harrahs
- Corral Academy School
- UNLV's Outdoor Programs
- UNLV's Community Services
- REI

The following is a compilation of all volunteer events from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008:

- **August 18, 2007 – Spring Mountains NRA- USFS-Archery Range Clean-up**  
Thirty-four volunteers contributed 136 hours to clean-up the Archery Range area of the Spring Mountains. Volunteers collected 30 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **September 8, 2007- Spring Mountains NRA-USFS- National Public Lands Day Event**  
Twenty-five volunteers contributed 75 hours in seed collection efforts to restore the Lee Meadow's Area. Native plants and grasses collected included Squirrels Tail, Cinquefoil, Snowberry, Currents, and Nodding Brome.

- **September 22, 2007-Sloan Canyon NCA- BLM- National Public Lands Day Event**  
Sixty-five volunteers contributed 195 hours to clean-up Sloan Canyon of litter and debris. Volunteers cleared two square miles of road and collected 55 cubic yards of litter and debris at this event.

- **September 29, 2007 – Lake Mead National Recreation Area - NPS- National Public Lands Day Event**  
A total of 248 volunteers contributed 992 hours to clean-up the Government Wash Area. Volunteers collected 30 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **October 13, 2007- National Wildlife Refuge- USFWS- National Wildlife Refuge Week**

Eleven volunteers contributed 44 hours to help clean-up and restore the National Wildlife Refuge. Volunteers collected 15 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **October 10, 2007- Rainbow Gardens- BLM- Rainbow Gardens Clean-up**

A total of 46 volunteers contributed 138 hours to clean-up and help restore Rainbow Gardens. Volunteers collected 12 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **October 27, 2007- Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area – BLM-Make a Difference Day**

A total of 309 volunteers contributed 1,967 hours. The following seventeen projects were completed:

- Reconstruction of approximately three mile 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.
- Children's projects with thirty-nine children and parents who participated in seed collection and painting. This new facet of volunteering was spearheaded by event co-sponsor, REI, as part of their P.E.A.K. (Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids) program.

- **November 17, 2007- Conservation Transfer Area- BLM**

Sixty-four volunteers contributed at total of 256 hours to removed 84 cubic yards of litter and debris to help restore the Conservation Transfer Area.

- **January 12, 2008 – Conservation Transfer Area – BLM**

A total of 78 volunteers participated in a litter clean-up at the Conservation Transfer Area. Volunteers contributed 312 hours and collected 168 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **February 23, 2008- Conservation Transfer Area- BLM**

A total of 61 volunteers participated in a litter clean-up at the Conservation Transfer Area. Volunteers contributed 244 hours and collected 84 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **February 26, 2008- Kraft Mountain- BLM**

A total of 40 volunteers participated in a litter clean-up at Kraft Mountain. Volunteers contributed 320 hours and collected 60 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **March 8, 2008- Government Wash Area- NPS**

A total of 130 volunteers participated in the Great American Clean-up at the Government Wash. Volunteers contributed 520 hours and collected 20 cubic yards of litter and debris.

- **April 5, 2008- Boulder Beach-NPS**

A total of 11 volunteers participated in an invasive weed removal at Boulder Beach with the Restoration, Education, and Volunteer Program. Volunteers contributed at total of 40 hours and collected 10 cubic yards of Saharan Mustard.

- **April 12, 2008- Thirty-three Hole- NPS**

A total of 13 volunteers removed 30 cubic yards of litter from Thirty-three Hole Overlook. Volunteers contributed 52 hours.

- **April 18, 2008- Spring Mountains- USFS-Earth Day Event**

A total of nine volunteers contributed 36 hours to restore an old OHV road. Volunteers added slash to the ground and planted native Joshua Trees to a half mile of road that was quite steep.

- **April 19, 2008- Ash Springs- BLM- Earth Day Event**

A total of 38 volunteers collected 30 cubic yards of litter and debris and removed graffiti from an old foundation. Volunteers contributed 154 hours.

- **April 19, 2008- Thirty-three Hole- NPS**

A total of 40 volunteers removed 30 cubic yards of litter from Thirty-three Hole Overlook. Volunteers contributed 160 hours.

- **May 3, 2008- Near the Great Unconformity- BLM-Join Hands Day**

A total of 20 volunteers removed 50 cubic yards of litter and debris near the Great Unconformity. Volunteers contributed 80 hours.

- **May 10, 2008- Spring Mountains- USFS/Spring Mountain Volunteer Association- Spring Mountains Spring Cleaning**

A total of 175 volunteers removed litter and debris in both the Lee Canyon and Kyle Canyon Areas. Volunteers collected 310 cubic yards of litter and contributed 875 hours.

- **May 31, 2008-Near Christmas Tree Pass-NPS**

A total of 23 volunteers collected 100 lbs of wet Blackbrush seed for restoration efforts. Volunteers contributed 138 hours.

- **June 7, 2008- Spring Mountains-USFS-National Trails Day**

A total of 32 volunteers helped preserve the South Loop Trail on Mount Charleston by creating six water bars and cutting one tree that had fallen in the trail. Volunteers also collected 8 cubic yards of litter contributing 149.5 hours.

- **June 7, 2008- Lee Canyon- NPS**

A total of 19 volunteers collected 30 gallons of wet black brush seed. Volunteers contributed a total of 123 hours.

- **June 14, 2008- Wee Thump Wilderness- NPS**

A total of 19 volunteers collected 30 gallons of wet seed and 8 cubic yards of litter. Volunteers contributed 114 hours.

- **June 21, 2008- Lovell Canyon- NPS- Seed Collection Day**

A total of 30 volunteers collected 50 gallons of wet black brush seed. Volunteers contributed a total of 150 hours.

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

Volunteer training sessions composed of numerous educational events are offered three times each year: fall, winter and spring. The IVP team completed a total of 16 successful training events. The trainings are as follows:

- 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.
- Two volunteers completed a Map and Compass training on January 3, 2008.
- Two volunteers completed ATV training on January 17, 2008.
- Twenty-three volunteers completed First Aid/CPR/AED training on January 19, 2008 and February 1, 2008.
- Five volunteers completed Event Assistant training on February 9, 2008. Each volunteer that attended this training has already signed up to attend a spring or summer event.
- Ten volunteers completed First Aid/CPR/AED training on April 1, 2008.
- Thirteen volunteers completed Native Plant training in the Spring Mountains on June 14, 2008.
- Eight volunteers completed Cultural Resource training on June 18, 2008.

The first Annual IVP Bus Tour was held on May 16, 2008. Fifty volunteers attended the tour and visited Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area and Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Highlights of the tour:

- Specialists discussing a variety of topics including wild horse and borrows, sub-merged cultural resources, and lake levels



- A boat tour of Lake Mead on the Desert Princess
- An interpretive talk at Willow Springs in Red Rock Canyon
- Positive feedback from volunteers

It is also important to note that registration for this training was full three days after it posted on the Get Outdoors Nevada website.

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

The following are public relations and outreach activities, as well as opportunities to develop new collaborative community partnerships and relationships that were accomplished:

- Developed a new partnership with Friends of Nevada Wilderness. We are now posting their upcoming restoration projects that are in the southern Nevada area through the Get Outdoors Nevada website.
- Developed new partnerships with other organizations such as, the Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council and the Mountaineers Club. These organizations now promote Get Outdoors Nevada events internally. In addition, the president of the Native Plant Society, Joseph Betzler presented a native plant training in Lee Meadows on June 14, 2008.
- Developing relationship with Regional Transportation Commission to create carpool program for volunteer events.

**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.

- Ten undergraduate students from the College of Hotel Administration coordinated logistics with Amy Ansari and Tyra Jenkins.
- Feedback from volunteers and federal land managers was positive.
- National Park Service Superintendent Bill Dickinson was the guest speaker.
- Five awards were presented in the following categories: Volunteer of the Year Award, Volunteer Group of the Year Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, Volunteer Supervisor of the Year Award, and the Special Service Award.
- Get Outdoors Nevada “Static Cling” stickers were sent to all active volunteers for Volunteer Recognition Week (March 23-29, 2008).

Submitted by:

Date: June 30, 2008

Margaret N. Rees, Principal Investigator



**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>
<b>2008</b>						
<b>Saturday, January 12</b> 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+
<b>Saturday, March 1</b> 8:00am – 2:00pm	Bureau of Land Management	Mormon Mountains Wilderness Volunteer Day	Mormon Mountain Wilderness	Various projects including trail restoration and litter clean up	Individuals under 18 must be accompanied by a parent	20
<b>Saturday, March 8</b> 8:45am – 3:00pm	U.S Forest Service	Rainbow Mountain Volunteer Day	Rainbow Mountain Wilderness Area	Erasing vehicle tracks, vertical mulching, and transplanting native plants	Must be 18 years old or accompanied by parent/legal guardian	8
<b>Saturday, March 8</b> 8:00 am – 12:00 pm	National Park Service	Great American Clean Up	Lake Mead NRA Government Wash	Litter/Debris Cleanup	Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision	100+
<b>Saturday, March 29</b> 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	25-40
<b>Saturday, April 5</b> 8:00am- 12:00pm	National Park Service	Restoration, ,Education and Volunteer Project	Lake Mead NRA Boulder Beach	Invasive Weed removal and education project	Individuals under 18 must have adult supervision	35
<b>Saturday, April 12</b> 8:30 am – 12:00 pm	National Park Service	Thirty-three hole Litter Clean Up	Lake Mead NRA Thirty-three Hole Overlook	Litter/Debris Cleanup	Individuals under 18 must have adult supervision	30-50
<b>Friday, April 18</b> 8:30 am – 12:00 pm	U.S Forest Service	Earth Day Celebration	Spring Mountains NRA Mt Charleston Lee Meadows	Restoration	Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision	20
<b>Saturday, April 19</b> 7:30 am – 1:00 pm	Bureau of Land Management	Earth Day Celebration	Red Rock Canyon NCA			

<b>Saturday, May 3</b> 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
<b>Saturday, May 10</b> 9:00am – 1:00pm Lunch at 1:30pm	U.S Forest Service	Spring Mountains Spring Cleaning	Spring Mountains NRA	Litter Cleanup	Minimum age- 12 yrs. with adult supervision	300
<b>Friday, May 16</b> 8:00 am – 4:00pm	National Park Service / Bureau of Land Management	Public Lands Bus Tour	Lake Mead NRA and Red Rock Canyon NCA	Bus Tour	Individuals under 18 must have adult supervision	50
<b>Saturday, May 16-18</b> Overnight trip Meeting time TBD	Bureau of Land Management	Invasive Weed Removal Volunteer Project	Please contact Pat Bruce with Friends of Nevada Wilderness for more information 775-324-7667 or <a href="mailto:pbruce@nevadawilderness.org">pbruce@nevadawilderness.org</a>	Invasive Weed Removal	Must be 18 years old or accompanied by parent/legal guardian	8
<b>Monday, May 31</b> 8:00am – 3:00 pm	U.S Forest Service	Griffith Peak Trailhead Project	Griffith Peak Trailhead- Spring Mountains Please register by calling Friends of Nevada Wilderness at (775) 324-7667	Restoring areas degraded by motorized vehicles	Individuals under 18 must be accompanied by a parent. Need 4WD vehicle to drive to project location, otherwise carpool	8
<b>Saturday, June 7</b> 8:30 am – 12:00 pm	U.S Forest Service	National Trails Day	Spring Mountains NRA Mt Charleston South Loop Trail Head	Trail Maintenance and Restoration	Minimum age- 6 yrs. with adult supervision	40
<b>Saturday, May 31</b>	National Park Service	Restoration Event	Please contact Nancy Bernard at NPS 293-8714	Seed Collection	Individuals under 18 must be accompanied by adult	Greater than 4 people
<b>Saturday, June 7</b> Contact Nancy Bernard	National Park Service	Restoration Event	Please contact Nancy Bernard at NPS 293-8714	Seed Collection	Individuals under 18 must be accompanied by adult	Greater than 4 people

<b>Saturday, June 14</b> 7:00am – 1:30pm Work stops at 12:00pm to drive back to carpool location.	National Park Service	Restoration Event	Between Nipton and Searchlight. Volunteers will meet at a common location and carpool (location subject to change depending on if seeds are ready)	Seed Collection	Individuals under 18 must be accompanied by adult	Greater than 4 people
<b>Saturday, June 21</b> 7:00am – 1:30pm Work stops at 12:00pm to drive back to carpool location.	National Park Service	Restoration Event	Lee Canyon Spring Mountains NRA location subject to change depending on if seeds are ready	Seed Collection	Individuals under 18 must be accompanied by adult	Greater than 4 people
<b>Saturday, June 28</b> 7:00am – 1:30pm Work stops at 12:00pm to drive back to carpool location.	National Park Service	Restoration Event	Red Rock Canyon NCA (location subject to change depending on if seeds are ready)	Seed Collection	Individuals under 18 must be accompanied by adult	Greater than 4 people

**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.**

National Public Lands Day 2007  
Sloan Canyon



National Trails Day 2008



Black Brush Seed Collections 2008

