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Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program: Helping Hands Across Public Lands – Phase II: Quarterly Progress Report, Period Covering July 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011

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QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Period Covering July 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011

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 5% from last quarter. The database now contains 8,918 records.
- Results show an average of 1,170 visits per month, and with an average of 2,681 pages viewed per month.
- Six National Public Lands Day events have been completed.
- The Interagency Volunteer Standard Operations Manual has been updated and made available to all other SNAP teams.
- Get Outdoors Nevada supported 16 volunteer events in a variety of ways. These events utilized approximately 600 volunteers whom contributed approximately 2,500 hours of service.
- Preparations for the 11/5/11 volunteer recognition banquet continued.

Summary of Attachments

- IVP team meeting agendas

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

- The Volgistics volunteer database is now populated with 8,918 records, representing an increase 5% of individuals since last quarter. (*See Figure 1 on next page*).

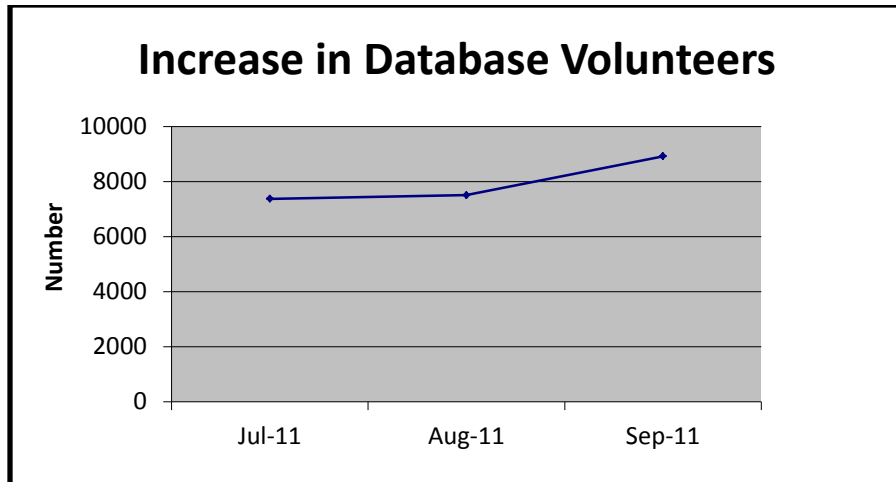


Fig. 1 above shows increase in number of records in the database of volunteers.

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

The new tracking method continues to provide a more in depth look at the IVP Website. Results are as follows:

- The tracking method monitors the number of visits, page views as well as average time spent on the site and the first time visits each month. (See table below)
- The majority of the page visits and page views occur between the 12th and 23th of each month. This is also the time the newsletter is mailed out.
- An average of 1,170 visits per month, an average of 2,681 page views per month. (See Table 1 below.)

Table 1. Number of Website Visits

Period	Number of visits	Number of page views	Average time spent on site	First time visits
July 1, 2011-July 31, 2011	963	2,127	00:01:20	55.35%
Aug 1, 2011- Aug 31, 2011	987	2,156	00:01:28	53.08%
Sept 1, 2011-Sept 31, 2011	1,560	3,760	00:02:02	59.36%

Table 1 shows the number of visits to the website, pages viewed, time spent and first time visitors.

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

The Interganecy Volunteer Team (IVP) revised their SOP's and made them availbale to all SNAP teams.

The Interagency Volunteer Team (IVP) met 3 times during the quarter, with its primary focus on the Volunteer Recognition Banquet, National Public Lands Day Events, and planning for fall events and training schedule.

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

The IVP team continues to create and send out a monthly newsletter, which includes information on how to volunteer for upcoming volunteer opportunities. These opportunities include episodic volunteer opportunities, as well as operation volunteer opportunities. The IVP team also continues to recruit volunteers through *volunteer.gov* and their own agency websites.

Two community outreach events were attended. Staffed by the Public Lands Institute, these events are an opportunity to personally meet and recruit new people to volunteering with Get Outdoors Nevada. Table 2 contains a summary of the contacts made.

Table 2. Community Outreach Attendance July - September 2011

Event Name	Number of Direct Contacts	Number added to Mailing List
City of Las Vegas Recreation Centers	97	0
Roy Martin Middle School	31	0

In addition, the IVP team supported 16 volunteer events. Table 3 below highlights the number of volunteers recruited through Get Outdoors Nevada as well as the number of volunteers attending the events. For many of the events in which attendance was greater than the number of volunteers registered through Get Outdoors Nevada reflects additional recruitment efforts by the four agencies.

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

The IVP team continues to work with other SNAP teams to provide logistical support for volunteer events. The Public Lands Institute provided support for the following events which are summarized in Table 3 below.

Sweep the Peak

July 2, 2011- Spring Mountains- Kyle Canyon- USFS
7 volunteers removed 250 lbs of trash.

Step Ladder Trail Days

July 6, 2011- Spring Mountains- USFS
Rained out

Outdoor Leadership Program

July 19, 2011- Upper Meadows, Mt. Charleston- USFS
43 Students from Stupak, Veterans Memorial, and Doolittle Recreation centers removed two cubic yards of trash

Desert Pass Road Restoration Plus

July 23, 2011- Desert Wildlife Refuge- USFWS

16 volunteers donated 120 hours to channel the Mormon Well road recreation travel to designated sites by removing two disbursed campsites and reclaiming 320 meters along the course of three illegal roads.

Sweep the Peak

July 30, 2011- Ski Resort, Mt. Charleston- USFS

48 volunteers removed about 550 lbs of waste.

Seed Collection

August 20, 2011- Griffith Peak, Mt. Charleston- USFS

Seed Collection

September 10, 2011- Corn Creek, DWR- USFWS

14 volunteers collected 281.2 oz of seeds.

Sweep the Peak

September 17, 2011- Spring Mountains- USFS

Not reported

South Hollywood Clean-up

September 17, 2011- South Hollywood- BLM

129 volunteers removed 130 cubic yards of trash

Making Seed Balls for Griffith Peak

September 17, 2011- BLM Office- USFS

Not reported

NPLD- Seed Ball Planting

September 24, 2011- Griffith Peak- Mt. Charleston- USFS

Not reported

NPLD- Davenport Trail Construction

September 24, 2011- Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge- USFWS

Not reported

NPLD- Cattail Cutting

September 24, 2011- Ash Meadows- USFWS

Not reported

NPLD- Government Wash Clean-Up

September 24, 2011- Government Wash- Lake Mead, NRA- NPS

Not reported

NPLD- Seed Ball Making

September 24, 2011- Corn Creek- Desert National Wildlife Refuge- USFWS

Not reported**NPLD- Sloan Canyon**

September 24, 2011- Dutchman Pass- Sloan Canyon- BLM

103 volunteers

Table 3. 2010 IVP Volunteer Events – July to August, 2011

Date	Agency	Location	Nature of Work	Number of Volunteers	Accomplishments	Total Volunteer Hours
07/02/11	USFS	Spring Mountains	Clean-Up	7	Removed 250 lbs of trash.	28
7/6/11	USFS	Spring Mountains	Trail Work	0	Rained Out	0
07/19/11	USFS	Spring Mountains	Clean- Up	43	Students from Stupak, Veterans Memorial, and Doolittle Recreation centers removed two cubic yards of trash	86
07/23/11	USFWS	Desert National Wildlife Refuge	Restoration	16	16 volunteers donated 120 hours to channel the Mormon Well road recreation travel to designated sites by removing two disbursed campsites and reclaiming 320 meters along the course of three illegal roads	120
07/30/11	USFS	Spring Mountains	Clean-Up	48	removed about 550 lbs of waste	192
08/20/11	USFS	Spring Mountains	Seed Collection	2	Not reported	56
9/10/11	FWS	Corn Creek	Seed Collection	14	14 volunteers collected 281.2 oz. of seeds	56
9/17/11	USFS	Sweep the Peak	Clean-up		Not reported	

9/17/11	BLM	S. Hollywood Clean-up	Clean-up	129	129 Volunteers removed 130 cu. yds. of trash	516
9/17/11	USFS	IVP office	Seed Ball Making	5	Not reported	
09/24/11	USFWS	Pahranagat NWR	NPLD-Davenport Trail Construction		Not reported	
9/24/11	USFS	Griffith peak	Seed Ball planting	6	Not reported	
09/24/11	USFWS	Ash Meadows	NPLD-Cattail Cutting		Not reported	
09/24/11	NPS	Lake Mead NRA	NPLD-Government Wash Clean-Up		Not reported	
09/24/11	USFWS	Desert NWR	NPLD- Seed Ball Making		Not reported	
09/24/11	BLM	Sloan Canyon-Dutchman Pass	NPLD- Planting		Not reported	
		<u>16 events</u>				
TOTALS						

Table 3 shows the details of the types of events that were conducted with the assistance of the IVP team from July to September, 2011

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

The IVP team has contracted UNLV's Division of Educational Outreach, Office of Distance Education to create an automated version of the IVP volunteer orientation training. This project will allow the IVP team to deliver the orientation training to a wider audience using fewer staff. The first draft of the automation project is complete and currently under review by the IVP team.

The final version will be completed in October 2011. Upon completion the IVP team will resume orientation trainings using the newly created DVD's.

No trainings were held this quarter.

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 included the following:

- Partnered with Roy Martin Middle School administration to develop an afterschool leadership program focused on caring for public lands
- Partnered with the city of Las Vegas leisure services department to develop 3 out of school time leadership programs. Students from the 3 programs conducted a large scale clean up in Lee Meadows.
- Reached out to several for-profit businesses seeking donations for the annual recognition banquet. To date the following businesses have donated:
 - Fremont Flightline Experience: 4 free admissions
 - REI: combination of \$15 gift cards and equipment (value less than \$200)
 - Whole Foods: 1 \$20 gift card
 - Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf: free coffee coupons
 - Chipotle: 5 dinner for two coupons
 - Paddles to the core: 2 free paddle lessons
 - Bootleg canyon zipline: 2 free passes
- National Public Lands Day was advertised in the Review Journal as well as KNPR and other radio spots. This encouraged individuals to visit getoutdoorsnevada.org for more information.
- Researched various leads on possible grant opportunities based on innovative environmental programs and neighborhood builders.

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

Final preparations for the 7th Annual Interagency Volunteer Program Recognition Banquet continued. The banquet is scheduled for 11/5/11 at UNLV grand ballroom.

- Over 450 invitations have been sent out; more than 10 RSVP's have been returned.
- Volunteer award banquet winners will be chosen at the next team meeting.

Submitted by:

Margaret N. Rees, Principal Investigator

Date: September 30, 2011

AGENDA -IVP Meeting

Date: September 8, 2011
Meeting Location: Fish and Wildlife Conference Room
Meeting Called By: Nancy Bernard (NPS) and Dan Chase (PLI)
Attendees: Angelina Yost & Harry Konwin (USFW), Bob Loudon & Susanne Hicks (USFS), and Jim Cribbs (BLM)

-
- 9:00 – 9:30** **Round Table**
Everyone
Catch up on what team members are doing
-
- 9:30 – 9:45** **Orientation Training Status**
Dan
Set timeline for review process, so we can have a final product for Fall Training.
-
- 9:45 – 10:30** **Banquet Update**
Dan/Harry
Brief team on the latest happenings and team to review the following:
- Date/Time/Location
 - Review mock invitations
 - Decide on a volunteer gift ideas
 - Decide on what types of centerpieces
 - Any other decisions that need to be made- are made
-
- 10:30 – 10:45** **Break**
-
- 10:45 – 11:00** **Award Nominations**
Nancy
Team to determine process of how to recruit for nominations for awards portion of the banquet.
-
- 11:00 – 11:45** **Fall/Spring Events and training needs**
Dan
Team to bring their Fall/Spring events/training needs that they and the other SNAP teams have planned for the seasons.
-
- 11:45 – 12:00** **Fall recruitment Strategy**
Dan/Nancy
Determine needs for the IVP team, other SNAP teams, and agencies and look at a short term strategy for the fall season. For example, NPLD advertisement.
-
- 12:00 – 1:00** **Lunch**
-
- 1:00 – 2:45** **IVP Sustainability**
-

Nancy

Determine strategy for IVP sustainability. Answer questions, such as...

1. Overall – do we want to continue, once SNPLMA funds are gone, to work together? If so, at what level?
 2. Sustainability – Phase I, II, and III
 - a. Phase I – FY2012
 - b. Phase II – FY 2013 w/o the assistance of a project manager and PLI
 - c. Phase III – Long term (FY2014 and beyond)
 3. Explore each of the areas of the program and determine the level of commitment during each phase (I, II, & III)
 - a. Training and Orientation
 - b. Website and recruitment
 - c. Event coordination
 - d. Recognition - spring and fall
 - e. Awards program
 - f. Volgistics
 4. Strategic planning –
 - a. Develop a strategic plan
 - i. What do we need to sustain our program at the various phases (II & III)
 - b. Long term sustainability
 - i. Are we in the market for partners? Pros and cons
 - ii. What are we looking for in a partner?
 5. Next steps
-
-

2:45 – 3:00

Proposal – Go to two meetings per month until we are done with sustainability planning

Nancy

We need to have set dates for sustainability planning. Trying to survey team to find a set date is not fun; therefore, let us look at dates of future meeting and targets goals related to sustainability.

Bring with you:

- Calendar for setting future dates for meetings
- Bring event calendar and training needs

Meeting Locations:

Angelina/Harry (FWS)	Nancy (NPS)	Bob (FS)	Jim (BLM)
January 13	February 10	March 10	April 14
May 12	June 9	July 14	August 11
September 8	October 13	November 10	December 8

Newsletter - Month listed below is the month the articles will appear. Articles are due on the first of the month of the previous month.

NPS	BLM	FWS	FS
January	February	March	April
May	June	July	August
September	October	November	December