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## Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program: Helping Hands Across Public Lands: Phase II: Period Covering April 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012

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## QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Period Covering April 1, 2012 to June 30, 2012

Cooperative Agreement Number H8R07060001  
Task Agreement Number J8R07070001

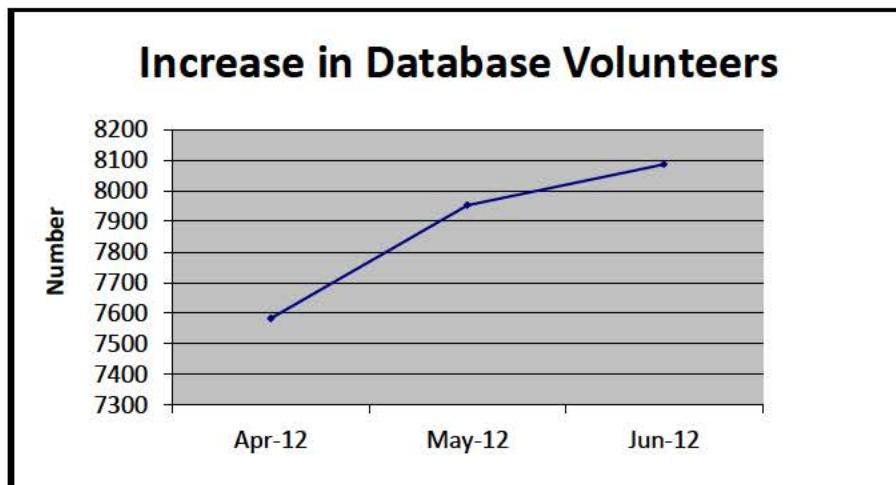
Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program: Helping Hands Across Public Lands – Phase II

### Executive Summary

- The number of records in the volunteer database increased by 14.4% over the last quarter. The database now contains 8,087 records.
- Results show an average of 956 visits per month, and an average of 3,015 pages viewed per month.
- Get Outdoors Nevada supported 11 volunteer events in a variety of ways. These events utilized 388 volunteers who contributed approximately 1,351 hours of service.
- The team continues planning an alternative bus tour.
- The team is negotiating a media plan, to be rolled out in July.
- The IVP team has started planning for the annual volunteer recognition banquet.
- One volunteer training was conducted.

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

The Volgistics volunteer database is now populated with 8,087 records. (See Figure 1). The number of volunteers in the database increased by 14.4 % over the quarter.



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

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

Average website activity decreased; results are as follows:

- An average of 956 visits per month, a decrease from an average of 1,259 visits per month last quarter.
- An average of 2,177 pages viewed per month, a decrease from an average of 3,015 visits per month last quarter (See Fig. 2 below.)

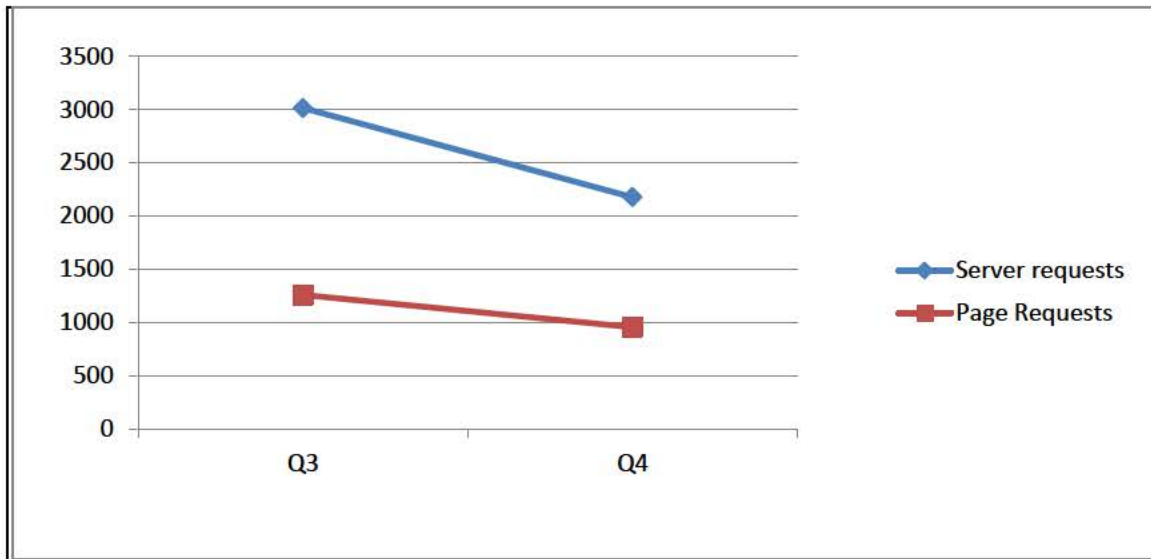


Fig. 2 Get Outdoors Nevada Website Activity

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

The Interagency Volunteer Team (IVP) met four times during the quarter, with its primary focus on sustainability, annual volunteer recognition banquet, media campaign, updating charter & workplan, 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.

During this quarter the IVP team did not attend any community outreach events.

**Table 1. Community Outreach Attendance April 1, 2012 – June 30, 2012**

Event Name	Number of Direct Contacts	Number added to Mailing List

**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 11 events which are summarized in Table 2.

**From Road to Wild: Lovell Canyon Road Restoration**

April 5, 2012- Lovell Canyon- USFS

On March 31st and April 5th a total of 23 volunteers helped the crew restore an old vehicle disturbance. Volunteers and crew restored 414 linear feet of old road bed by decompacting and installing vertical mulching. They also reinforced the rock barricade that prevents vehicles from entering wilderness. In addition 3 campfire rings were removed and 3 bags of trash hauled out.

**Red Rock Days**

April 14, 2012- Red Rock Canyon NCA- BLM

40 volunteers arrived and removed 1 mile of dangerous overgrowth from the Scenic Drive.

**National Wildlife Week: Habitat Restoration Weed Pull**

April 14, 2012- Desert NWR- USFWS

On a drizzly day perfect for removing invasive species on the Desert NWR, 28 volunteers led by FWS staff and SNAP SCAs enthusiastically cleared 2 species of intruding weeds from 2.23 acres of newly created wetland near Corn Creek Station Headquarters. The groups consisted of volunteers from Nevada Conservation Corps, Boy Scout Pack 132, Cub Scout Pack 204 and local citizens.

Photos:<https://picasaweb.google.com/WildStewards/PullingWeedsAtCornCreekDNWR?authuser=0&authkey=Gv1sRgCMetu8r7sfWduAE&feat=directlink>

**Celebrate Earth Day**

April 21 and 22, 2012- Lovell Canyon- USFS

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than to get boots on the ground and do some restoration work. That's what our southern Nevada crew did with the help of 6 volunteers over Earth Day weekend. On Saturday they worked in the La Madre Wilderness naturalizing an illegal road by decompacting and vertical mulching. The afternoon was spent in picking up nearly 500 pounds of trash that mostly consisted of glass, shell casings and long left targets. The next morning more restoration work was to be done on yet another illegal road. In all 872 feet of two-track road was actively restored not to mention the passively restored road that will return to nature on its own due to the lack of new trespass.

Photos:<https://picasaweb.google.com/110338301146228699074/EarthDayWeekend?authkey=Gv1sRgCKeHz7-cjai7EA>

### **Carp Rodeo**

April 28, 2012- Paharanagat NWR- USFWS

On an excellent day for fishing, volunteers helped stage and staff the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pahrnagat Carp Rodeo. Southern Nevada family anglers removed 47 carp from Upper Pahrnagat Lake. Volunteers included members of the Nevada Naturalists and local Alamo and Las Vegas citizens.

### **Great American Clean-Up**

April 28, 2012- La Madre Area- BLM

62 volunteers removed 60 cubic yards of trash.

### **Joining Hands Seed Collection**

May 5, 2012- Lake Mead NRA- NPS

Eight volunteers showed up to collect approximately three gallons of seeds near the Boulder Beach Picnic Area. Volunteers worked for 3 hours each using either a racket or their hands to collect seeds. Seeds were collected from brittlebush and the sweetbush. High winds made seed collection very difficult as the seeds would blow out of the containers.

### **South McCullough Trash Rodeo**

May 5, 2012- South McCullough Wilderness- BLM

On Saturday May 5th a group of 23 hardworking volunteers from southern Nevada generously donated their Saturday to improve the wilderness character in the South McCullough Wilderness. By the end of the day the volunteers had picked over 85 cubic yards of trash not to mention 20 old tires that someone thoughtlessly dumped in the desert.

Photos:<https://picasaweb.google.com/110338301146228699074/SouthMcCulloughRubbishRodeo?authkey=Gv1sRgCJ-Io87Zo4GCHw>

### **Pick Up Nevada**

May 6, 2012- Sunrise Manor- BLM

23 volunteers, including 5 Pick Up America artists <http://pickupamerica.org/#/about/tour>, removed 40 cubic yards of trash and debris from Sunrise Manor.

### **Spring Cleaning 2012**

May 12, 2012- Spring Mountains NRA- USFS

169 volunteers removed 2,230 pounds from Lee and Kyle Canyons and Deer Creek Hwy in the Spring Mountains NRA.

### **Cache In Trash Out**

May 19, 2012- Desert NWR- USFWS

Six volunteers traveled from Corn Creek to the Desert Pass Campground along the Mormon Well Rd. Between the campground and the Mormon Well area these volunteers and partners removed 344ft of pipe. This pipe will be recycled as deep water irrigation pipes in restoration areas around Corn Creek. They also removed 5 cubic yards of trash from a back country spring in mule deer habitat. Much of this debris was plastic which can have deleterious affects to deer that consume it. Metal debris was collected at Corn Creek to be recycled as scrap in the future.

**Table 2. 2012 IVP Volunteer Events – April 1 – June 30, 2012**

Date	Agency	Location	Nature of Work	Number of Volunteers	Accomplishments	Total Volunteer Hours
04/05/12	USFS	Lovell Canyon	Restoration	23	Volunteers and crew restored 414 linear feet of old road bed by decompacting and installing vertical mulching. They also reinforced the rock barricade that prevents vehicles from entering wilderness. In addition 3 campfire rings were removed and 3 bags of trash hauled out	92
04/14/12	BLM	Red Rock Canyon	Restoration	40	Removed 1 mile of dangerous overgrowth from the Scenic Drive.	160
04/14/12	USFWS	Desert NWR	Restoration	28	Cleared 2 species of intruding weeds from 2.23 acres of newly created wetland near Corn Creek Station Headquarters. The groups consisted of volunteers from Nevada Conservation Corps, Boy Scout Pack 132, Cub Scout Pack 204 and local citizens.	112
04/21-22/12	USFS	Lovell Canyon	Restoration	6	Removed 500 pounds of trash that mostly consisted of glass, shell casings and long left targets. The next morning more restoration work was to be done on	

					yet another illegal road. In all 872 feet of two-track road was actively restored not to mention the passively restored road that will return to nature on its own due to the lack of new trespass.	
04/28/12	USFWS	Pahranagat NWR			On an excellent day for fishing, Volunteers helped stage and staff the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Pahranagat Carp Rodeo. Southern Nevada family anglers removed 47 carp from Upper Pahranagat Lake. Volunteers included members of the Nevada Naturalists and local Alamo and Las Vegas citizens.	
04/28/12	BLM	La Madre Area	Clean-up	62	Removed 60 cubic yards of trash	248
05/05/12	NPS	Lake Mead NRA	Restoration	8	collected approximately three gallons of seeds near the Boulder Beach Picnic Area	24
05/05/12	BLM	South McCullough	Clean-up	23	Removed over 85 cubic yards of trash not to mention 20 old tires that someone thoughtlessly dumped in the desert.	92
05/06/12	BLM	Sunrise Manor	Clean-up	23	Removed 40 cubic yards of trash and debris	92

05/12/12	USFS	Spring Mountains NRA	Clean-up	169	Removed 2,230 pounds of trash from Lee and Kyle Canyons and Deer Creek Hwy.	507
05/19/12	USFWS	Desert NWR	Clean-up	6	Between the campground and the Mormon Well area these volunteers and partners removed 344ft of pipe. This pipe will be recycled as deep water irrigation pipes in restoration areas around Corn Creek. They also removed 5 cubic yards of trash from a back country spring in mule deer habitat.	24
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>11</u></b>			<b><u>388</u></b>		<b><u>1,351</u></b>

Table 2 shows the details of the types of events that were conducted with the assistance of the IVP team from April to June 2012.

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

The IVP team will resume interagency volunteer orientation training using the newly created DVD's.

In addition, one training was held this quarter. The following table highlights the training.

**Table 3. January- March 2012 Trainings**

<u>Date/ Time</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Number of Volunteers Attended</u>
May 19, 2012 9:00 AM	First Aid/CPR	Lake Mead Water Safety Training Building	Volunteer Enrichment	1



**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:

- Reached out to several for-profit businesses seeking donations for event snacks and water
- 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.**

- The IVP team is considering a variety of options for a “get to know your public lands” bus tour. The team is in early discussions and should arrive at an answer within the next meeting.
- The IVP team received positive feedback on the thank you cards sent during national volunteer week.
- The IVP team is in the early stages of planning for the annual volunteer recognition banquet.

Submitted by:

Date: June 30, 2012

Margaret N. Rees, Principal Investigator