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Nevada Interagency Volunteer Program: Helping Hands Across Public Lands - Phase II: Quaterly Progress Report, Period Covering July 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012

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QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Period Covering July 1, 2012 to September 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 is 8,511, an increase from 8,308 in July.
- Results show an average of 1,094 visits per month, and an average of 2,729 pages viewed per month.
- Get Outdoors Nevada supported 6 volunteer events in a variety of ways. These events utilized 214 volunteers whom contributed approximately 856 hours of service.
- The team continues planning an alternative bus tour.
- The team rolled out their media plan.
- The IVP team has continued planning for the annual volunteer recognition banquet.
- No volunteer trainings were conducted this quarter, but two are planned for next quarter.

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

The Volgistics volunteer database is now populated with 8,511 records an increase from 8,308 in July. (See Figure 1)

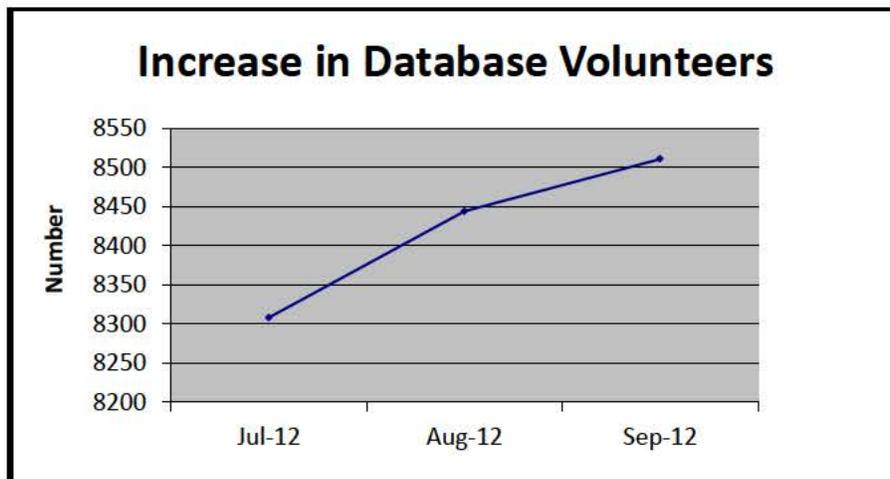


Fig. 1 above shows the number of records in the database of volunteers.

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

Average website activity increased; results are as follows:

- An average of 1,094 visits per month, a increase from an average of 956 visits per month last quarter.
- An average of 2,729 pages viewed per month, a increase from an average of 2,177 visits per month last quarter (See Fig. 2 below.)

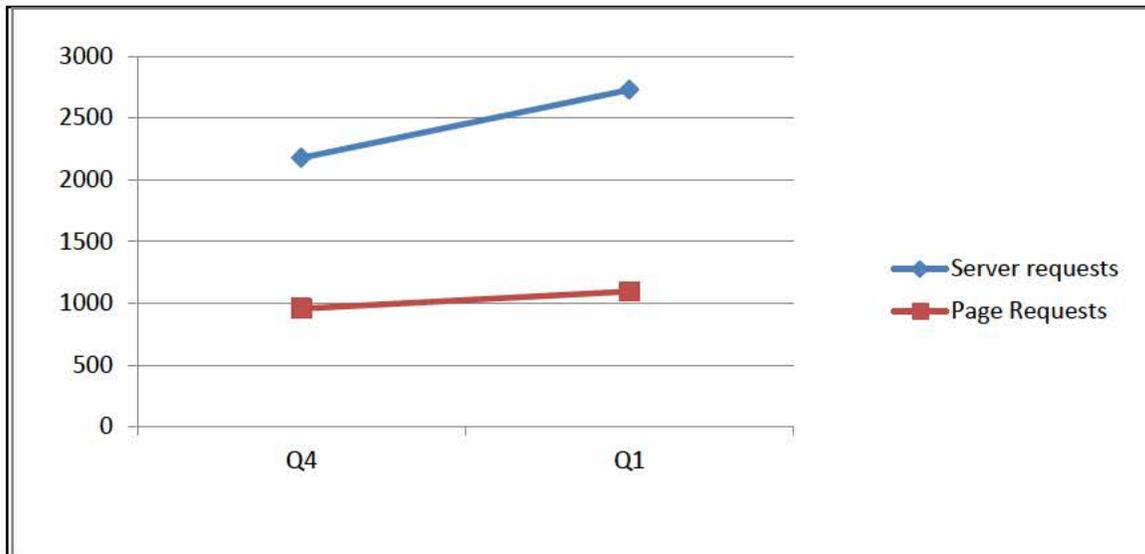


Fig. 2 Get Outdoors Nevada Website Activity

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 attended two community outreach events.

Table 1. Community Outreach Attendance July 1, 2012 – September 30, 2012

Event Name	Number of Direct Contacts	Number added to Mailing List
UNLV Graduate Student Involvement Fair and Orientation	67	32
UNLV Student Involvement Fair	87	24

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 6 events which are summarized in Table 2.

Bonanza Extravaganza

July 4, 2012- Bonanza Trail from Cold Creek- USFS

13 volunteers spent their morning maintain the Bonanza Trail near Cold Creek, NV. In total 14 water bars were maintained and about 120 ft of switchback cuts were removed. This is all within the first 2 miles from the trailhead.

Stewardship Saturday Cattail Cutting

July 7, 2012- Ash Meadows NWR- USFWS

Members of the Las Vegas Hiking & Outdoors Meet-up, UNLV Service Club Omega Delta Phi, and citizens from Las Vegas, Henderson, Amargosa Valley, Pahrump and Olympia, WA(!) joined together on a beautiful day for habitat improvement work. The event began as 2 refuge staff members welcomed the 32 volunteers who participated. After a refuge orientation and captivating safety briefing led by volunteer event assistants, the attendees split into teams and then gingerly eased into various points along the Crystal Springs outwash channel. Once in the water, these intrepid souls safely used hedge clippers and carpet knives to trim cattails down to about an inch above their base. In total about 18 cubic yards of cattail clippings were removed from 440 linear feet of channel.

Science at the Lake

August 8, 2012- Boulder Island- NPS

11 volunteers from a teen science program paddled to Boulder Island on kayaks and removed 2 cubic yards of trash. Despite the 116 degree weather, the teens were determined to help out their public lands.

Clean Up at Deer Creek

August 9, 2012- Deer Creek parking area-USFS

9 volunteers for the Hectors Helper program removed 80lbs of trash from the Deer Creek parking lot.

Clean Up at Sloan

September 8, 2012- Sloan Canyon NCA-BLM

Three groups of people worked to remove at total 150 cubic yards of trash from Sloan Canyon. 27 Eagle scouts removed 60 cubic yards from one area, 50 volunteers removed 60 cubic yards from another area, and a group of shooters removed 30 cubic yards.

National Public Lands Day- Bell Vista Shooting Area Clean-up

September 22, 2012- Bell Vista Shooting Range, Pahrump- BLM

91 volunteers removed 84 cubic yards of trash from the Bell Vista Shooting Area.

Table 2. 2012 IVP Volunteer Events from July 1 – September 30, 2012

Date	Agency	Location	Nature of Work	Number of Volunteers	Accomplishments	Total Volunteer Hours
July 4, 2012	USFS	Bonanza Trail from Cold Creek	Restoration	13	13 volunteers spent their morning maintain the Bonanza Trail near Cold Creek, NV. In total 14 water bars were maintained and about 120 ft of switchback cuts were removed. This is all within the first 2 miles from the trailhead.	52
July 7, 2012	FWS	Ash Meadows	Restoration	13	13 volunteers spent their morning maintain the Bonanza Trail near Cold Creek, NV. In total 14 water bars were maintained and about 120 ft of switchback cuts were removed. This is all within the first 2 miles from the trailhead.	52
August 8, 2012	NPS	Boulder Island, Lake Mead	Litter Clean-up	11	11 volunteers from a teen science program paddled to Boulder Island on kayaks and removed 2 cubic yards of trash. Despite the 116 degree weather, the teens were determined to help out their public lands.	44

August 9, 2012	USFS	Deer creek	Litter Clean-up	9	9 volunteers for the Hectors Helper program removed 80lbs of trash from the Deer Creek parking lot.	36
September 8, 2012	BLM	Sloan Canyon	Litter Clean-up	77	Three groups of people worked to remove at total 150 cubic yards of trash from Sloan Canyon. 27 Eagle scouts removed 60 cubic yards from one area, 50 volunteers removed 60 cubic yards from another area, and a group of shooters removed 30 cubic yards.	308
September 22, 2012	BLM	Bell Vista	Litter Clean-up	91	91 volunteers removed 84 cubic yards of trash from the Bell Vista Shooting Area.	364
TOTALS	<u>6</u>			<u>214</u>		<u>856</u>

Table 2 shows the details of the types of events that were conducted with the assistance of the IVP team from July to September 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.

No volunteer trainings were held this quarter.

Table 3. July- September 2012 Trainings

<u>Date/ Time</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Number of Volunteers Attended</u>

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 has decided on a “get to know your public lands” bus tour. Specifically, the team has planned a bus trip to the wetlands and then a tour of the atomic museum on October, 20th.
- The IVP annual volunteer recognition banquet is scheduled for October 13th. Final preparations will be completed this week.

Submitted by:

Margaret N. Rees, Principal Investigator

Date: September 30, 2012