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## Opportunities for new collaborative projects

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# Mojave Applied Ecology Notes

## Opportunities for new collaborative projects

The Research Group is currently working in successful partnerships with Lake Mead National Recreation Area, BLM Las Vegas, Desert National Wildlife Refuge (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), Joshua Tree National Park, and in collaboration with the Ecological Restoration Institute, the U.S. Forest Service (Region 3). We are conducting a wide variety of collaborative projects with resource managers:

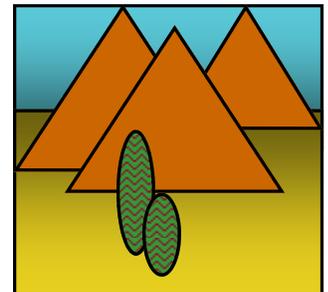
- Establishing a long-term network of monitoring plots along an elevation gradient in the Newberry Mountains at Lake Mead to assist the Park Service in understanding potential effects of climate change on unique park resources;
- Identifying candidate native species for burn revegetation through a nationally competitive Joint Fire Science grant;
- Assessing vegetation change and invasibility of low- and high-elevation springs at Desert National Wildlife Refuge;
- Synthesizing past revegetation data with Joshua Tree National Park to efficiently learn from earlier management trials; and
- Monitoring post-fire plant succession and exotic grass abundance on desert burns with BLM Las Vegas.

We seek to build on our track record of product-oriented collaborations with resource managers by developing new projects. Our work and approach distinctly differs from that of consulting companies and similar organizations. We produce publications in a variety of media (management-oriented outlets such as U.S. Forest Service serials and scientific journals), which provide permanent documentation of projects and lessons learned benefitting from high-quality scientific interpretation. We also deliver workshops and presentations to directly share research findings with managers, co-author publications with managers for special projects, and further disseminate scientific advances through conference presentations. Managers profit from this variety of scientific publicity by making their management areas better appreciated, leveraging political support for further project funding based on the documented successes, and having high-quality technical information at their fingertips. In addition to providing the benefit of accepted science for supporting management decisions, working with a university provides access to state-of-the-art libraries, lab facilities, and students who can become involved in the work at little or no cost to managers.

We seek new projects that both build ecological knowledge and are directly relevant to immediate or longer term information needs for supporting resource management decision-making. Projects in the areas of invasive species ecology and management, fire ecology and monitoring, restoration, data and literature synthesis, and landscape monitoring and management are well covered by our publication performance and record of successfully completed projects.

Please contact us if you have projects for which technical assistance and science support would be desirable. We enjoy making trips to meet face to face with managers and have a keen interest in management activities that are being undertaken and the issues that managers are grappling with.

Further information about our group is available from [www.unlv.edu/staff/cengel/DDFRGHome.htm](http://www.unlv.edu/staff/cengel/DDFRGHome.htm), with publications from <http://faculty.unlv.edu/abellas2/>, or through email ([scott.abella@unlv.edu](mailto:scott.abella@unlv.edu)) or phone (702-895-5163).



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