



United States Department of the Interior

RECEIVED

Bureau of Land Management

MAY 11 2006

A.M.

NEVADA STATE OFFICE
RENO, NEVADA

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office

1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234

Reno, Nevada 89502

Ph: (775) 861-6300 ~ Fax: (775) 861-6301



May 8, 2006

File No.1-5-06-SP-499

Memorandum

To: Project Manager, Nevada Groundwater Projects, Bureau of Land Management,
Reno, Nevada

From: Field Supervisor, Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, Reno, Nevada

Subject: Species List for the Proposed Kane Springs Valley Groundwater Development
Project, Lincoln County, Nevada

In response to your letter received on April 10, 2006, the following federally listed species may occur in or near the subject project area:

- Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), endangered
- Moapa dace (*Moapa coriacea*), endangered
- Desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) (Mojave population), threatened
- Designated critical habitat for the desert tortoise
- Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) (Western U.S. distinct population segment), candidate

This list fulfills the requirement of the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to provide information on-listed species pursuant to section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended, for projects that are authorized, funded, or carried out by a Federal agency. If it is determined by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) that a listed species may be affected by the proposed project, then formal consultation should be initiated pursuant to 50 CFR § 402.14. The written request for formal consultation is typically submitted once a Biological Assessment (BA) has been prepared for the project. Formal consultation is initiated by the Service on the date the written request and BA is received, if the Service determines the information received is sufficient. Informal consultation may be utilized prior to a written request for formal consultation to exchange information and resolve conflicts with respect to listed species. Please note that candidate species receive no legal protection under the Act, but could be proposed for listing in the near future. Consideration of these species during project planning may assist species conservation efforts and may prevent the need for future listing actions.

TAKE PRIDE
IN AMERICA 

Project Manager

File No. 1-5-06-SP-499

The Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office no longer provides species of concern lists. Most of these species for which we have concern are also on the sensitive species list for the State of Nevada maintained by the Nevada Natural Heritage Program (Heritage). Instead of maintaining our own list, we have adopted Heritage's sensitive species list and partnered with them to provide distribution data and information on the conservation needs for sensitive species to agencies or project proponents. The mission of Heritage is to continually evaluate the conservation priorities of native plants, animals, and their habitats, particularly those most vulnerable to extinction or in serious decline. Consideration of these sensitive species and exploring management alternatives early in the planning process can provide long-term conservation benefits and avoid future conflicts.

For a list of sensitive species by county, visit Heritage's website (www.heritage.nv.gov). For a specific list of sensitive species that may occur in the project area, you can obtain a data request form from the website or by contacting Heritage at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 5002, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5245; 775-684-2900. Please indicate on the form that your request is being obtained as part of your coordination with the Service under the Act. During your project analysis, if you obtain new information or data for any Nevada sensitive species, we request that you provide the information to Heritage at the above address. Furthermore, certain species of fish and wildlife are classified as protected by the State of Nevada (<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NAC/NAC-503.html>). Before a person can hunt, take, or possess any parts of wildlife species classified as protected, they must first obtain the appropriate license, permit, or written authorization from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (<http://www.ndow.org>; 702-486-5127).

Please reference File No. 1-5-06-SP-499 in future correspondence concerning this species list. We will be providing scoping comments in the near future that will outline in more detail our concerns regarding the project and the potential affect to species and their habitat. In the mean time, if you have any questions regarding this correspondence or require additional information, please contact me or Annalaura Averill-Murray at (775) 861-6300.


for Robert D. Williams