

WEST MOJAVE (WEMO) SITE VISIT ITINERARY

February 12-14, 2013

Purpose:

In accordance with the October 2012 Court Order regarding enforcement of remedies, a site visit of illustrative areas of the WEMO is being conducted for the Magistrate Judge, accompanied by representatives of Plaintiff's and BLM.

An overview flight is planned followed by two days of a ground tour. The ground tour will include site visits to the following areas: El Paso, Rands, Red Mountain, Coolgardie Mesa, Juniper Flats, and Edwards Bowl.

Overview Flight Participants:

Nandor J. Vadas, Magistrate Judge
Linn Van Meter, Law Clerk
Illene Anderson, Plaintiff
Sky Stanfield, Plaintiff's Attorney
Lisa Belenky, Plaintiff's Attorney
Erica Niebauer, Solicitor's Office Attorney
Teri Raml, District Manager
Carl Symons, Ridgecrest Field Manager
Craig Beck, Recreation Branch Chief, Ridgecrest
Katrina Symons, Barstow Field Manager
Mickey Quillman, Resources Branch Chief, Barstow

Additional Assistance for Flight:

Derrek Hartman, Flight Manager
Tom Sherman, Unit Aviation Manager
Rob Berger, Project Manager

Additional Assistance for Ground Tour:

Law Enforcement and Recreation staff from both field offices

Additional Ground Tour Participants:

Jenny Wilder: Feb 14 meet at 8:00 AM, Barstow Field Office
Ed Patrovsky: Feb 13 meet at 10:15 AM (approx.), intersection of Hwy 395 and
Garlock Road
Feb 14 meet at 8:00 AM, Barstow Field Office
Doug Parham: Feb 14 meet at 3:00 PM (approx.), Edwards Bowl Kiosk

ATTIRE: Comfortable hiking shoes, wide brimmed hat, pants, layered shirts, and jacket.

BRING: Sunscreen and sunglasses.

BLM will provide bottled water and ground transportation

WEMO SITE VISIT

FLIGHT

Tuesday, February 12

Various AM Arrive at Ontario Airport

Transportation provided by BLM from Ontario Airport to the San Bernardino Tanker Base.

Noon San Bernardino Tanker Base

Lunch; Safety briefing and aircraft orientation

1:15 PM DHC-6 Twin Otter plane leaves San Bernardino Tanker Base

Overview of 29 Palms, Juniper Flats, Johnson Valley, Edwards Bowl, Coolgardie, Red Mountain, Rands, El Paso, Jawbone and Kelso Valley.

Note: After a couple of hours the plane will refuel at Inyo-Kern Airport and there will be a bathroom break

5:45 PM DHC-6 Twin Otter plane lands at Inyo-Kern Airport

Transportation provided by BLM from Inyo-Kern Airport to hotel(s) in Ridgecrest

6:30 PM Dinner

WEMO SITE VISIT

**RIDGECREST
Wednesday, February 13**

- 7:45 AM: Transportation provided by BLM from Ridgecrest hotel(s) to Ridgecrest Field Office.**
- 8:00 AM: Arrive at Ridgecrest Field Office, 300 South Richmond, Ridgecrest**
Orientation
- 8:15 AM Leave Ridgecrest Field Office**
- 8:30 AM Arrive at Subway**
Sack lunches
- 9:00 AM Depart Subway**
Discuss management strategies (i.e., restoration, maintenance, enforcement, and outreach/education) for improved compliance
- 9:45 AM Arrive at EP454**
El Paso sub-region overview and discuss compliance issues, signing, and CAPA for Ridgecrest/El Paso.
- 10:15 AM Depart EP454**
- 10:45 AM Arrive at Willis Well Road (R43)**
Rand Mountain sub-region overview and limited use.
- 11:15 AM Depart Willis Well Road**
- 11:30 AM Arrive at R50**
Discuss need for R50 and R5 to allow for connectivity and the mitigation work completed in the Rands
- Noon Depart R50**
Discuss “nuts and bolts” of restoration, including costs
- 1:00 PM Arrive at Randsburg**
Lunch and restroom break
- 1:30 PM Depart Randsburg**
- 2:15 PM Arrive at Golden Valley Wilderness**
Red Mountain sub-region overview and restoration
- 3:00 PM Depart Golden Valley Wilderness**
Discuss management actions taken to provide for authorized uses
- 5:00 PM Arrive at Barstow – BLM transport to Barstow hotel(s)**

WEMO SITE VISIT

BARSTOW

Thursday, February 14

- 7:15 AM:** **Transportation provided by BLM from Barstow hotel(s) to Barstow Field Office.** Also, purchase sack lunches at Subway.
- 8:00 AM:** **Arrive at Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Road, Barstow**
Orientation
- 8:15 AM** **Leave Barstow Field Office**
- 9:00 AM** **Arrive at Coolgardie Mesa (Kiosk and 6 mile loop)**
Discuss Desert tortoise and Lane Mountain milk-vetch critical habitat; unauthorized routes that originate from Open routes; staging areas and rehabilitation (post and cable fencing).
- 10:30 AM** **Depart Coolgardie Mesa**
Discuss changes in OHV use (e.g., Rhinos), “backdoor riders”, Stoddard Valley OHV area and potential loss of Johnson Valley OHV area.
- Noon** **Arrive at Juniper Flats**
Discuss urban interface, route proliferation, limited use routes, and restoration
- 12:45 PM** **Lunch at Tahiti Falls**
- 1:45 PM** **Depart Juniper Flats**
Discuss El Mirage OHV Area
- 3:00 PM** **Arrive Edwards Bowl (Kiosk and 2 mile loop)**
Discuss compliance issues and restoration
- 4:30 PM** **Depart Edwards Bowl and travel to Barstow Field Office**
On the return trip to the location of the Magistrate’s request, we will discuss BLM’s budget limitations, including OHV grants.
- 5:30 PM** **Arrive Barstow Field Office**
Close-out

Transportation will be provided by BLM from Barstow Field Office to Barstow hotel(s) and/or Ontario.