

Stipulations DARPA Grand Challenge

A number of protective measures have been identified to minimize effects of the event on resource values and uses, which the BLM is imposing as mitigation measures, or conditions of the approved action. The event involves a temporary activity, primarily using BLM open routes, and does not involve any construction or installation of long-term facilities. Therefore, these protective measures focus on event operations, and are temporary in nature.

In the measures that follow, a 'desert tortoise monitor' is defined as a trained wildlife biologist who is knowledgeable concerning desert tortoise biology, protective measures, habitat requirements, identification of desert tortoise sign, and procedures used to survey for desert tortoises, and has been approved by the BLM to conduct pre-sweep and event monitoring activities. An 'authorized desert tortoise biologist' is a desert tortoise monitor who has been authorized by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) to handle desert tortoises.

1. Event staff will include a BLM and Service-approved Field Contact Representative who will be an authorized desert tortoise biologist. The Field Contact Representative will coordinate with all biologists to ensure compliance with protective measures for the desert tortoise.
2. All Event operational staff will receive desert tortoise training. The training will include information on the species distribution, general behavior and ecology, protection afforded by the State and Federal Endangered Species Acts, procedures for reporting encounters, and the importance of following the protective measures. Staff will be instructed that they are not authorized to handle tortoises encountered on the Event course but to report all tortoise sightings to the Field Contact Representative.
3. DARPA will provide a sufficient number of authorized biologists or monitors to ensure the proper removal of species from the Event course if encountered before, during or after the Event.
4. Authorized biologists and monitors will provide rolling sweeps of the entire Event course before and during the Event. The authorized biologists, monitors, and Event staff will monitor all operations (i.e., route marking, administrative sweeps, recreational and road closures, communication trucks, route monitor locations, media observation points, and spectator viewing areas) to minimize impacts to desert tortoises.
5. To reduce the likelihood that desert tortoises will be killed or injured during the Event, the authorized biologist will implement one or more measures. Because specific situations (e.g., burrows located in unusual places or other unpredictable occurrences) may arise that DARPA could not anticipate beforehand, the lead authorized biologist will have the discretion to use a combination of measures that he or she deems most appropriate to protect desert tortoise. These measures are:
 - a. One or 2 days prior to the event, authorized biologists will conduct surveys for burrows in areas along the Event route that have been identified as having high, moderate, and low densities of desert tortoises. Burrows that contain desert tortoises during these surveys may be fenced the day before the Event. The fencing will prevent desert tortoises from leaving the immediate area of their burrows during the Event and wandering into the path of vehicles used during the Event. Fences that are erected around

desert tortoise burrows will be removed no more than one day after the completion of the Event.

- b. Less than one hour prior to the start of the Event, authorized biologist will sweep the entire Event course and clear the route of all desert tortoises found on or immediately adjacent to the route. Any desert tortoise that is at risk will be moved approximately 100 feet off the course by an authorized biologist, in the same direction it was heading when found, or moved into a clean cardboard box using sterile handling procedures and at an appropriate temperature. The desert tortoise will later be removed from the box and placed in the same location after all the Event vehicles have left the area.
6. Only authorized biologist who have been approved by the Service will be allowed to handle desert tortoises and solely for the purpose of moving them out of harm's way. Any desert tortoise that needs to be moved will be moved the minimum distance to ensure its safety. If a desert tortoise is discovered by Event staff to be in imminent danger, the staff person will move the tortoise from harm's way in accordance with procedures briefed in the desert tortoise training program.
7. Prior to moving any vehicle that stops on the course, an Event official or authorized biologist or monitor will check under the vehicle for desert tortoises. Any desert tortoises found will be moved by an authorized desert tortoise biologist as previously described herein.
8. Support vehicles will not exceed the legal speed limits (posted or unposted) of the road(s) used during the event. Speed limits for robotic and monitor vehicles will be preprogrammed into the onboard computer.
9. To ensure that desert tortoises do not re-enter the route, a desert tortoise monitor will track desert tortoises found until all participants have passed.
10. Not later than 48 hours after completion of each Event, DARPA, in cooperation with the BLM, will conduct a post-sweep review to determine if Event staff complied with the conservation and protective measures described herein, and the terms and conditions describe in the Biological Opinion issued by the Service.
11. To reduce the attractiveness of the event route to the common raven (*Corvus corax*) and other desert tortoise predators, DARPA will implement a "pack-it-in, pack-it-out" strategy for trash and food items. No food or trash will be left by event participants on the route. All trash and food items must be removed.
12. A mitigation fee based on the amount of acreage disturbed during the Event will be paid by DARPA as determined by the BLM during its post event sweep. The BLM will determine the required steps and associated costs, including the use of ground crews such as the California Conservation Corps, to mitigate all identified disturbances. DARPA will provide the necessary funding for the BLM to implement these measures.
13. The specific route to be used for the Grand Challenge Event will not be announced until 2 hours prior to the start of the Event to reduce the potential that large numbers of people will congregate along the route.
14. The Event will include a maximum of nine designated access points to be used by the media, participants, participant teams, and the public. If these locations reach capacity, additional

spectators will be turned away. A designated DARPA security representative will be assigned to each public viewing area to enforce the restricted access and occupancy limits and to ensure that vehicles are parked only on existing roadways and previously disturbed areas.

15. Six to twelve weeks prior to the Event, areas of the Stoddard Valley OHV, the Johnson Valley OHV area and the Camp Rock Road/power line area, which will be used by the Event, will be surveyed for suitable habitat for the Mojave monkey flower. GPS locations will be recorded for areas that provide suitable habitat. Within one week of the Event these areas will be surveyed for the presence of Mojave monkey flower. Areas which have this species present will be staked and flagged so that they can be avoided by all vehicles associated with the event.
16. A spill prevention plan has been prepared and will be implemented to prevent, contain, and clean up spills of hazardous materials.
17. Site-specific field investigations (Class II or III inventories) will be conducted for any segments warranted by the results of cultural records review, prior to the use of any such segments for the event. These investigations are warranted under two circumstances:
 - When the records search indicates that previous investigations are altogether lacking or are insufficient to determine the potential impacts to cultural resources, or achieving substantial avoidance to resources.
 - When the records search indicates the presence of highly sensitive resources the location of which should be field verified to determine the best means of achieving substantial avoidance to cultural resources.
18. Archeological monitors shall be used in locations of substantial archeological sensitivity, as determined by the BLM archeologist in light of the Cultural Resources Assessment and site specific field investigations.
19. Tribal monitors shall be used in locations of substantial cultural sensitivity as determined by the Ft. Mojave Tribe in light of their assessment of potential impact.
20. Biological and event monitors (pedestrian monitors) will be provided information on historic and prehistoric artifacts indicating the potential for contact with such resources, and emphasizing that they should be left undisturbed.
21. For routes that would result in PM_{10} emissions in excess of 15 tons/year, the following measures will be imposed:
 - A soil amendment will be applied at the start area and two spectator areas to minimize fugitive dust from vehicles and pedestrians.
 - At spectator areas, vehicle traffic, including parking will be strictly controlled by DARPA staff to minimize the distance over which vehicles travel on unpaved surfaces, thereby minimizing fugitive dust emissions.

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