

#### **A. List of Restoration Activities**

California has two stands of saguaro cactus, one within the Whipples Mountain area another further south near Yuma, AZ. To our knowledge, the only healthy population of majestic saguaros cactus is the one located within San Bernardino County starting west of Parker Dam at the base of the Whipple Mountains, and with historical reference extending west to the eastern slopes of the Turtle Mountains. These spectacular symbols of the Sonoran Desert are failing to reproduce in California because the major pollinator for the saguaros is the Federally Endangered, Lesser Long-nosed Bat, which is believed to have disappeared from the region in the 1990s. In addition, the saguaros are further affected by human impacts such as target shooting, root and trunk damage through vehicle use, and illegal harvesting for private use in landscaping. The Saguaro Cactus Restoration Project encompasses public lands within this small geological area managed by BLM Lake Havasu, AZ and Needles, CA Field Offices. This will be a collaborative effort. Beginning in FY 2010, the BLM Needles Field Office (FO) in collaboration with the BLM Lower Colorado River Working Group would close and restore unauthorized OHV routes to accelerate natural restoration processes. Inventory location of isolated stands and view for possible pollination by other unknown vectors. The proposed OHV restoration project would be a cooperative effort involving the BLM Lower Colorado River Working Group, including the BLM Needles (as lead) and Lake Havasu Field Offices and other agencies such as the Bureau of Reclamation.

This project would approach saguaro restoration in multiple ways:

- Placing barriers on unauthorized OHV routes within the fragmented saguaro Cactus habitat and adjacent to the eastern Whipple Mountains and Turtle Mountain Wilderness units.
- Restoration of trails adjacent to barriers would utilize techniques such as raking, pitting and mulching.
- Research and Complete an inventory of know saguaros stands within the vicinity of the Whipples Mountains and survey for possible individual cactus adjacent to the eastern edge of Turtle Mountains. Survey would include identifying young saguaros under "nurse" plants and bloom studies for other possible pollinating vectors.
- Dedicate Law enforcement and resource staff to monitor the integrity of restoration sites and prevent saguaro disturbance from vehicles and vandalism
- Establish long-term monitoring to learn and adapt new knowledge about saguaro growth, mortality, predation by animals, and habitat enhancement and factors affecting the possible reintroduce of the lesser Long-nosed Bat, the primary pollinator to the saguaro within the region.

Each site would have a long-range restoration prescription for follow-through to successful re-establishment of saguaros. In areas were unauthorized trails, first efforts would be to disguise routes with vertical mulching techniques and create micro sites for naturally germinating grasses, annual herbs, shrubs, and legume trees. Other restoration would include, but not be limited to, placing gabions in locations where the OHV tracks have caused soil erosion around an existing saguaro.

#### **B. How the Proposed Project Relates to OHV Recreation**

This Saguaro restoration project will enhance scenic quality and values, which OHV recreationalists seek. The visiting public can observe the differences in the plant and wildlife habitat as they travel the existing roads and trails from the Mojave into the Sonoran Desert habitat. The Mojave/Sonoran interface is quite striking and the views from traveling on these roads are spectacular. When the OHV enthusiasts observe the Yuccas mixed with giant saguaros they can quickly understand that they are traveling into a unique desert. Saguaros are an excellent indicator species to the OHV enthusiast that this area is within the Sonoran Desert. These majestic Saguaros viewed through natural stone arches create spectacular photographic experiences, which can be shared with those, unable to drive to these vistas. Today, some of the Saguaros need assistance to continue their growth cycle and this grant will provide opportunities to restore the natural environment with a full complement of species, some of which are currently considered endangered. Sustaining the species found in the area will improve and sustain OHV recreational opportunities for years to come.

The existing dirt road heading north from the Black Meadow Road has several challenges for OHV enthusiasts and promotes visual opportunities not found anywhere else along the lower Colorado River. This dirt road parallels the Whipple

Wilderness area and provides an opportunity for OHV enthusiasts to explore new less traveled routes outside the wilderness area. This dirt road interconnects the Needles and Lake Havasu field offices designated routes. Several four wheeling groups have mentioned that this area provides a great adventure for the entire family and is a full day excursion when taking the entire loop from Lake Havasu City, Arizona to Needles, California. There are no amenities along this route and the isolation is remarkable. If driving in the area during the sunrise or sunset the sky is spectacular with the ever-changing colors of the Whipple Mountains.

The paved route through the California side of the Parker Strip area (Parker Dam Road) also has isolated saguaros, which need protection from erosion caused by OHV and various other activities. Parker Dam Road is a designated Scenic Byway and the saguaros are an important aspect of that designation. All of these existing saguaros are within the lower Colorado River Valley and are isolated to these spectacular regions along the Colorado River.

The Lost Arch Area located within the Historic Mining District of the Turtle Mountains is a highly visited recreational site. Early mining reports describe the Saguaro as having existed approximately 100 years ago within the area. Due to the extremely long life span of the Saguaro, individual cactus may still occupy isolated niches. A survey to locate these saguaros would be beneficial to understanding the extent of the Saguaro range into the California Sonoran desert and could provide OHV enthusiasts with future opportunities to view these beautiful cacti.

### **C. Size of Project Site**

This project will cover approximately 30 square miles all of which to be surveyed for this grant. This would equal approximately 19,200 acres studied to understand the health of the cacti in the area. Currently, there are only a few locations identified within the Needles and Lake Havasu field offices. Along the Parker Strip, the saguaros are located in washes and on the rocky northern slopes. The known locations of this population is understood to extend from Emerald Cove Campground to the large Whipple Wash and over to Black Meadow landing. Several of the saguaros in this area are not doing well and seem to be dying with no known recruitment. The other known population on BLM lands is located on the southern side of Copper Basin a survey of the existing plants also shows that there are no young saguaros in this location at this time. This indicates that the saguaros will eventually become extinct within this area, thus degrading the scenic qualities of the area for OHV enthusiasts. The Metropolitan Water Company owns a large parcel of land at Gene Wash. This area has the largest population of these majestic saguaros known to exist in California, but their lands are off limits and heavily patrolled and protected. Observations of the saguaro population within Gene Wash, also shows that there are no small saguaro growing to sustain this cacti forest. Currently, the only opportunity for OHV enthusiasts to view these cacti in their Californian natural setting is on the BLM lands. The population, of which there is a historical record, in the Turtle Mountains is unknown at this time as are the few individuals that may exist along the lower Colorado River near Palo Verde and Imperial Dam. The locations that the restoration would take place are in the known existing populations near the Whipple Mountains Wilderness area, along the Parker Strip, near Copper Canyon and on the eastern edge of the Turtle Wilderness unit.

To date only seven saguaros have been properly recorded and are included in a Saguaro-Palo Verde UPA – Copper Basin Interim Report on the Occurrence of Saguaro dated April 2005.

### **D. Monitoring and Methodology**

OHV compliance and restored natural conditions improve long-term plant diversity and critical wildlife habitat. Restored sites will receive monitoring for overall effectiveness using GIS-based data collection and photo-point methods established by a of BLM staff from the California Desert District and the State Office in September 2004. Success criteria implemented will measure site improvement to natural conditions and increased OHV compliance as determined by a reduction in OHV trespass and site damage. BLM will sustain site integrity through routine maintenance, staff monitoring, and law enforcement patrols. This grant will fund short-term monitoring and repairs of restored sites; permanent BLM staff will provide long-term site care.

Law Enforcement monitoring will occur on a weekly basis. They will report the number of tracks going off the existing trails near saguaros. They will also report on the restoration sites and activity that has occurred within these sites. These Law Enforcement monitoring reports will be included into a larger status report, which will include information regarding general saguaro conditions, disturbance or destruction by humans, burros, or natural damage. It will also record the number of

Violations issued for OHV intrusions and theft of vegetation within the Law-net database.

Once the Saguaro have been recorded by GPS all will receive annual measurements (height, width, number of arms, overall condition and photo Identified). Flowering dates will be recorded and artificially pollinated flowers/fruits will be identified and recorded in relation to parent plant.

Saguaro nurse plants will be monitored and if necessary planted near saguaros with viable seed production. Future propagation sites with healthy nurse plants will be identified. Any noxious and/or invasive species near young Saguaro plants will be pulled to eliminate competition for future growth of the Saguaro.

Nurse plants as well as all Saguaros will be monitored annually for grazing by burro, rabbit and other species. To eliminate future damage to these plants the addition of a fence will ensure the safety of the nurse plant and/or saguaro. Birds will be observed during the breeding season to determine which species are using the nurse plants and saguaros as nest sites.

This project will support the raking of OHV intrusions off designated roads and trails and the construction of barriers at intensive sites.

Rainfall amounts received from the MET will be included in the report.

#### **E. List of Reports**

#### **F. Goals, Objectives and Methodology / Peer Reviews**

#### **G. Plan for Protection of Restored Area**

A biological tech will monitor the condition of the area weekly. The tech will work on a Tuesday to Saturday routine. This will increase BLM visibility in the area when visitors are most likely to be present. The responsibility of the tech will be to check for animal or human caused damage, OHV incursions, be familiar with designated routes from both Field Offices, raking out trails off designated routes, and advise Field Office of summertime bloom events. For large-scale damage to an area, the tech will be responsible for reporting to dispatch and having a Law Enforcement officer responding immediately. For low-level impacts, both the LE and the Ecologist will respond within 48 hours. Both parties will visit the site to examine the situation and to provide immediate protection with barriers and/or fencing. If a saguaro is damaged action will be taken to protect the plant from further degradation.

Either LHFO or NFO Law Enforcement officers will patrol within the Saguaro Restoration project on Sunday. Their responsibility will be to report any minor damages to the resource branch for repairs (restoration or barrier impacts), to monitor for possible illegal cactus harvesting, and OHV impacts off designated routes. Law Enforcement will also report and repair any sign damage along designated routes and wilderness boundaries. At the end of each month law enforcement will report on the number and types of citations entered into the Law Net database for the restoration locations. This information will be incorporated in the annual status report with a final report to be completed at the end of the three years of this project.

At old mining routes leading into wilderness, both Wilderness boundary signs and carsonite markers will be used. Signs and carsonites may be removed from areas where restoration is so successful the agencies do not wish to draw the eye of the observer to the site. There will be barriers placed at locations where illegal OHV incursions occur into the wilderness area on a regular basis. Barriers will protect saguaros at risk from motor vehicles. There will be a restoration demonstration site at the Rock House Information Center for the public to view. This Information Center has just opened and has been drawing over 1,000 visitors a month. It has all of the CA OHV regulation information available for the public and is an excellent interpretive center for the visiting public.

Additional protection measures are:

-The interpretive sites and BLM kiosks throughout the area will have information promoting the no shooting of saguaros. The information will include the damage that cacti experience when used for target practice.

-Saguaros at risk from stream erosion will be protected by gabions and/or straw wattles.

-Vehicle counters will be installed along the routes that have the largest population of Saguaros.

-Maps developed under this project will include GPS locations of all known saguaros, GPS locations of all barriers,

gabions/wattles, and route restoration sites.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700209

**1. Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[Saguaro Populations Map](#)

**2. Project-Specific Photos**

Attachments:

[Saguaro Photos](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Restoration

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	BLM - Needles Field Office		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Restoration	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>California has two stands of saguaro cactus, one within the Whipples Mountain area another further south near Yuma, AZ. To our knowledge, the only healthy population of majestic saguaros cactus is the one located within San Bernardino County starting west of Parker Dam at the base of the Whipple Mountains, and with historical reference extending west to the eastern slopes of the Turtle Mountains. These spectacular symbols of the Sonoran Desert are failing to reproduce in California because the major pollinator for the saguaros is the Federally Endangered, Lesser Long-nosed Bat, which is believed to have disappeared from the region in the 1990s. In addition, the saguaros are further affected by human impacts such as target shooting, root and trunk damage through vehicle use, and illegal harvesting for private use in landscaping. The Saguaro Cactus Restoration Project encompasses public lands within this small geological area managed by BLM Lake Havasu, AZ and Needles, CA Field Offices. This will be a collaborative effort. Beginning in FY 2010, the BLM Needles Field Office (FO) in collaboration with the BLM Lower Colorado River Working Group would close and restore unauthorized OHV routes to accelerate natural restoration processes. Inventory location of isolated stands and view for possible pollination by other unknown vectors. The proposed OHV restoration project would be a cooperative effort involving the BLM Lower Colorado River Working Group, including the BLM Needles (as lead) and Lake Havasu Field Offices and other agencies such as the Bureau of Reclamation.</p> <p>This project would approach saguaro restoration in multiple ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Placing barriers on unauthorized OHV routes within the fragmented saguaro Cactus habitat and adjacent to the eastern Whipple Mountains and Turtle Mountain Wilderness units.</li> <li>•Restoration of trails adjacent to barriers would utilize techniques such as raking, pitting and mulching.</li> <li>•Research and Complete an inventory of know saguaros stands within the vicinity of the Whipples Mountains and survey for possible individual cactus adjacent to the eastern edge of Turtle Mountains. Survey would include identifying young saguaros under "nurse" plants and bloom studies for other possible pollinating vectors.</li> <li>•Dedicate Law enforcement and resource staff to monitor the integrity of restoration sites and prevent saguaro disturbance from vehicles and vandalism</li> <li>•Establish long-term monitoring to learn and adapt new knowledge about saguaro growth, mortality, predation by animals, and habitat enhancement and factors affecting the possible reintroduce of the lesser Long-nosed Bat, the primary pollinator to the saguaro within the region.</li> </ul> <p>Each site would have a long-range restoration prescription for follow-through to successful re-establishment of saguaros. In areas were unauthorized trails, first efforts would be to disguise routes with vertical mulching techniques and create micro sites for naturally germinating grasses, annual herbs, shrubs, and legume trees. Other restoration would include, but not be limited to, placing gabions in locations where the OHV tracks have caused soil erosion around an existing saguaro.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
1	<b>Staff</b>						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Restoration

6/2/2009

Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
Other-LH Law Enforcement Notes : LHFO LE - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	550.000	53.000	HRS	29,150.00	0.00	29,150.00
Ecologist Notes : CASO Ecologist - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	550.000	57.000	HRS	15,000.00	16,350.00	31,350.00
Archeologist Notes : LHFO Archaeologist - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	1040.000	49.000	HRS	25,480.00	25,480.00	50,960.00
Recreation Planner Notes : NFO - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	550.000	49.000	HRS	5,390.00	21,560.00	26,950.00
Other-LH Wilderness Coordinator Notes : LHFO - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	550.000	49.000	HRS	0.00	26,950.00	26,950.00
Ecologist Notes : NFO Resourse Specialist - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	550.000	49.000	HRS	13,475.00	13,475.00	26,950.00
Other-NFO Wilderness Coordinator Lead Notes : NFO project mgr - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	1040.000	49.000	HRS	25,480.00	25,480.00	50,960.00
Other-NFO Law Enforcement Notes : NFO LE - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	1040.000	53.000	HRS	55,120.00	0.00	55,120.00
Other-LH GIS Specialist Notes : LHFO - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	250.000	49.000	HRS	12,250.00	0.00	12,250.00
Botanist Notes : NFO - Hours will be spread over a three year period.	340.000	25.000	HRS	4,250.00	4,250.00	8,500.00
Other-Biologist Saguaro Specialist Notes : Saguaro in Lower Colorado River Subdivision of the Sonoran Desert Specialist	170.000	47.000	HRS	7,990.00	0.00	7,990.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Restoration

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Resource Manager Notes : NFO Supervisor	100.000	56.000	HRS	0.00	5,600.00	5,600.00
	Other-Volunteers	1200.000	19.510	HRS	0.00	23,412.00	23,412.00
	Other-NFO Biological Tech Notes : Crew Lead and Inventory	6120.000	27.000	HRS	165,240.00	0.00	165,240.00
	<b>Total for Staff</b>				358,825.00	162,557.00	521,382.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
	Other-Restoration Crew 1 Notes : Year one.	1.000	24000.000	EA	24,000.00	0.00	24,000.00
	Other-Restoration Crew 2 Notes : Year two.	1.000	24000.000	EA	24,000.00	0.00	24,000.00
	Other-Restoration Crew 3 Notes : Year three.	1.000	24000.000	EA	24,000.00	0.00	24,000.00
	Other-Horticulturalist Notes : Saguaro Identification expert.	1.000	500.000	EA	500.00	0.00	500.00
	Other-Volunteers Notes : Volunteer reimbursements camping/travel and per diem	1.000	3000.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	<b>Total for Contracts</b>				75,500.00	0.00	75,500.00
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
	Fencing Cable	6.000	100.000	EA	600.00	0.00	600.00
	Steel Post	50.000	13.000	EA	325.00	325.00	650.00
	Rakes and Showels	30.000	15.000	EA	225.00	225.00	450.00
	Other-Gabion	6.000	100.000	EA	600.00	0.00	600.00
	Signs	100.000	30.000	EA	1,000.00	2,000.00	3,000.00
	Other-Route Marker/Decals	300.000	5.000	EA	500.00	1,000.00	1,500.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Restoration

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Reflective Material	3.000	25.000	EA	75.00	0.00	75.00
	Other-Traffic Counters	4.000	500.000	EA	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Other-Trail Camera	5.000	400.000	EA	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Other-Supplies (batteriers, bulbs, etc.)	1.000	750.000	EA	750.00	0.00	750.00
	<b>Total for Materials / Supplies</b>				8,075.00	3,550.00	11,625.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	4x4 Vehicle Notes : LE Vehicle	6.000	1250.000	MOS	0.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
	4x4 Vehicle	36.000	550.000	MOS	0.00	19,800.00	19,800.00
	Other-Tires	2.000	1300.000	SET	2,600.00	0.00	2,600.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Use Expenses</b>				2,600.00	27,300.00	29,900.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
	Other-GPS Units	4.000	1500.000	EA	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
	Other-Satellite Phones	5.000	2000.000	EA	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
	Other-Night Vision Notes : Night Vision to be utilized by biologist for viewing vector pollination of Saguaro Cactus	2.000	4300.000	EA	8,600.00	0.00	8,600.00
	Other-Video Monitoring System Notes : To be utilized by biologist for viewing vector pollination of Saguaro Cactus	1.000	1500.000	EA	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
	Other-Bat Echolocation Device Notes : To be utilized by biologist for viewing vector pollination of Saguaro Cactus	1.000	3000.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Purchases</b>				29,100.00	0.00	29,100.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Restoration

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Training	3.000	800.000	EA	2,400.00	0.00	2,400.00
	Other-Travel Expenses	3.000	1000.000	EA	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	<b>Total for Others</b>				<b>5,400.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,400.00</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Administrative Costs</b>						
	Administrative Costs-Administrative Cost	1.000	30000.000	EA	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
	<b>Total Program Expenses</b>				<b>509,500.00</b>	<b>193,407.00</b>	<b>702,907.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>				<b>509,500.00</b>	<b>193,407.00</b>	<b>702,907.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>509,500.00</b>	<b>193,407.00</b>	<b>702,907.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Needles Field Office  
 Application: Restoration

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	358,825.00	162,557.00	521,382.00	Detailed description of how public comments affected the Restoration Application.  The NFO corrected section E in the Project Description to no response and provided explanations in the PCD line item note section on cost of the GPS and Satellite Phones considered excessive. Evaluation Criteria Items # 7 (Meetings not supported in the explanation) was addressed by entering meeting data into the explanation and description. Evaluation Criteria Items # 9 (Not appearing to involve scientific and cultural studies) not applicable, data cleared from section and re-saved.
2	Contracts	75,500.00	0.00	75,500.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	8,075.00	3,550.00	11,625.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	2,600.00	27,300.00	29,900.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	29,100.00	0.00	29,100.00	
6	Others	5,400.00	0.00	5,400.00	
7	Administrative Costs	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		<b>509,500.00</b>	<b>193,407.00</b>	<b>702,907.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		<b>509,500.00</b>	<b>193,407.00</b>	<b>702,907.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>509,500.00</b>	<b>193,407.00</b>	<b>702,907.00</b>	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:	Version # _____	APP # 700209
----------------------	-----------------	--------------

**ITEM 1 and ITEM 2**

**ITEM 1**

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project?  Yes  No  
(Please select Yes or No)

**ITEM 2**

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378?  Yes  No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

**ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands**

**ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project**

**ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts**

**ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources**

**ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials**

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

**ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources**

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No)  Yes  No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

**ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**

Attachments:

[Best Management Practices](#)  
[NEPA Saguaro Habitat Restoration EA](#)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Version # \_\_\_\_\_ APP # 700209

**1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)**

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 76% or more (10 points)  
 51% - 75% (5 points)  
 26% - 50% (3 points)  
 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

**2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2.**

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Failure to fund the Project will result in adverse impacts to: 24

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Domestic water supply (4 points)  
 Archeological and historical resources identified in the California Register of Historical Resources or the Federal Register of Historic Places (3 points )  
 Stream or other watercourse (3 points)  
 Soils - Site actively eroding (2 points)  
 Sensitive areas (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of sensitive habitats [3]  
 Threatened and Endangered (T&E) listed species (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of T&E species [3]  
 Other special-status species- Number of special-status species (1 point each, up to a maximum of 3) Enter number of special-status species [3]

Describe the type and severity of impacts that might occur relative to the checked item(s):

The project area receives summer monsoonal rains, which move massive amounts of water through the desert environment. Vegetation and root development is crucial for soil stabilization, the elimination of vegetation removal and the reduction of OHV intrusion will reduce soil erosion within this fragile landscape. A robust Saguaro population will support BLM implement of the recovery of the extirpated pollinator bats that depend on saguaros for survival. Saguaros also provide nesting sites for Endangered Elf Owl, Gila Woodpecker, and Gilded Flicker. This area is also habitat for the Federally Threatened Desert Tortoise and the State Endangered Arizona Bells Vireo. Target shooting, root and trunk damage through vehicle use, and illegal poaching also affect Saguaros.

**3. Reason for Project - Q 3.**

3. Reason for the Project 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- Protect special-status species or cultural site (4 points)  
 Restore natural resource system damaged by OHV activity (4 points)  
 OHV activity in a closed area (3 points)  
 Alternative measures attempted, but failed (2 points)  
 Management decision (1 point)  
 Scientific and cultural studies (1 point)  
 Planning efforts associated with Restoration (1 point)

Reference Document

Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan 2002  
Lake Havasu Field Office Resource Management Plan 2006  
California Native Plant Society 2008

**4. Measures to Ensure Success - Q 4.**

4. Measures to ensure success –The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation 12

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each (Please select applicable values)

- Site monitoring to prevent additional damage
- Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
- Use of native plants and materials
- Incorporation of universally recognized 'Best Management Practices'
- Educational signage
- Identification of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

Explain each item checked above:

1. Law Enforcement and Resource Staff will be monitoring for both impacts and propagation sites, present monitoring has identified the need for this project.
2. Barriers will be constructed at routes and washes with continuous incursions.
3. Use of native plants and material from local areas will be utilized during vertical mulching of restoration site.
4. BLM through consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service has implemented a list of Best Management Practices.
5. Educational Signing will be placed within the resource area, at the Rock House Visitor Center and through Kiosk Panels located at the Turtle Mountain Recreation Site and Chemehuevi Wash.
6. Kiosk panels will contain an OHV Primary Route Map. Needles Field Office is in the process of developing a series of designated route system brochures.

**5. Publicly Reviewed Plan - Q 5.**

5. Is there a publicly reviewed and adopted plan (e.g., wilderness designation, land management plans, route designation decisions) that supports the need for the Restoration Project? 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- No (No points)  Yes (5 points)

Identify plan

Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan 2002  
Lake Havasu Field Office Resource Management Plan 2006  
California Native Plant Society 2008

**6. Primary Funding Source - Q 6.**

6. Primary funding source for future operational costs associated with the Project will be: 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
- Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
- Other Grant funding (2 points)
- OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s):

Monitoring actions within our field office are cornerstones of our resource management program. Funding for these actions is included within the BLM State Annual Work Plan. All monitoring prior to project development and following completion will be supported through internal sources.

The 1980 California Desert Conservation Area Plan designated the Saguaro population as a Unique Plant Assemblage (UPA).

**7. Public Input - Q 7.**

7. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)  
 Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)  
 Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

1. Sierra Club expressed interest in health of Saguaros.
2. Multiple BLM offices participated in conference calls within the Lower Colorado River Working Group.
3. Wilderness Coordinators and Management participated in wilderness meetings with interest groups bi-annually at the California Desert District Office.

**8. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 8.**

8. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- 4 or more (4 points)  2 to 3 (2 points)  
 1 (1 point)  None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Sonoran Desert Museum  
Colorado River Indian Tribes  
Sierra Club  
Lake Havasu Field Office  
California Trail Users Coalition  
Havasu 4 Wheelers

**9. Scientific and Cultural Studies - Q 9.**

9. Scientific and cultural studies will

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- Determine appropriate Restoration techniques (2 points)  
 Examine potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources (2 points)  
 Examine methods to ensure success of Restoration efforts (1 point)  
 Lead to direct management action (1 point)

Explain each item checked above

**10. Underlying Problem - Q 10.**

10. The underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration Project has been effectively addressed and resolved 0

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

No (No points)

Yes (3 points)

Explain 'Yes' answer

**11. Size of sensitive habitats - Q 11.**

11. Size of sensitive habitats (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) within the Project Area which will be restored 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

Greater than 10 acres (5 points)

1 – 10 acres (3 points)

Less than 1 acre (1 points)

No sensitive habitat within Project Area (No points)