

APPLICANT PROPOSED CONSERVATION MEASURES

Most projects in the Reserve result in impacts to the desert tortoise or its habitat. With your request form submission, please include a description of temporary and permanent impacts anticipated by your project and any proposed conservation measures or mitigation to offset these impacts. Guidance for filling out this section is provided on the following pages: "*Guidance for Proposing Conservation Measures,*" and *Washington County HCP Technical Committee Review Form.*

The Utility Development Protocols (UDP) may also be of assistance in preparing conservation measures for your project. They can be found at:

<http://www.redcliffsdesertreserve.com/wp-content/uploads/2006/02/UDP-2006.pdf>

General description of avoidance, minimization and mitigation efforts proposed by your project:

Anticipated temporary impacts: _____

Proposed conservation measures to offset temporary impacts: _____

Anticipated permanent impacts: _____

Proposed conservation measures to offset permanent impacts: _____

* Please include maps or shapefiles of affected areas and potential mitigation sites.

GUIDANCE FOR PROPOSING CONSERVATION MEASURES

In support of utility development and recreational use, Washington County's HCP and incidental take permit authorizes up to 200 acres of permanent habitat loss in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve. Project proponents wishing to utilize a portion of the 200-acre take authorization must receive approval from the Washington County Commission. Prior to this approval, the County generally seeks recommendations from its Habitat Conservation Advisory and Technical Committees (HCAC and TC). As project proponents submit their application to the County, please consider the following guidance to assist you in preparing conservation measures which will aid in seeking approval of your project. Although each project is unique and may require additional input or review from the HCAC and TC, this guide provides applicants with an overview of what to expect and how to be better prepared for the formal HCP review and approval process.

AVOID, MINIMIZE & MITIGATE

Since projects often result in impacts to the tortoise and its habitat, mitigation may be required to offset the impacts. Mitigation may include the following:

- avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
- minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation;
- rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;
- reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; and
- compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments

Chapter 5.3 of the HCP provides the following options to which may qualify as mitigation:

1. The acquisition and permanent protection of tortoise habitat outside of the Reserve at impact-to-protection ratios consistent with the DTMOG (generally between 1:1 – 6:1).
2. Case-by-case consideration for conservation credit generated by actions that enhance connectivity of the tortoise habitat, restore degraded habitat, prevent wildfire, control invasive species, or contribute to head-start or other population augmentation strategies in the Reserve.
3. Conservation credit acquired from in-lieu fee programs or third-party conservation banks, if such program becomes available in the future.

TEMPORARY IMPACTS

Temporary impacts are those that effect tortoises and/or habitat during the project implementation or may occur a short time after. Generally, temporary impacts may be offset by minimization measures or rectifying the impact through habitat restoration. Option 2 and 3 above provide other possible measures that may offset temporary impacts.

PERMANENT IMPACTS

Permanent impacts are those that result in permanent loss of habitat or tortoises either during or after project implementation. Generally, permanent impacts may be offset by compensatory mitigation as described above in Option 1. Washington County HCP strives to maintain a no net loss goal for tortoise habitat in the Reserve.

**** This Form does not need to be completed by project proponents. It is provided to illustrate how the HCP Technical Committee may review your project when preparing a recommendation for the HCP Advisory Committee.***

Washington County HCP Technical Committee Review Form

Proposed Project:

Review Date:

Project Description:

Effects Analysis:

Reserve Values	Impacts	Benefits	Net Outcome
<i>Animals (tortoises)</i>			
<i>Size (acres)</i>			
<i>Reserve Connectivity</i>			
<i>Range Intactness</i>			
<i>Condition (habitat quality)</i>			
<i>Other Considerations</i>			

Feedback should be provided relative to a 'No Action' alternative.

Summary of Net Outcomes

Other Recommended Conservation Measures (if net outcome is not neutral or beneficial):