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APPENDIX B
Species Profiles

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APPENDIX B - Species Profiles

B.1 Covered Species

The 48 species profiles completed to date represent a subset of the Working List for proposed Covered Species as of September 2011. An additional 46 species are on the Working List and species profiles for these additional species will need to be completed. It should be noted that two species for which profiles had been submitted for review to the REAT agencies and the stakeholders—California red-legged frog and mountain yellow-legged frog—have subsequently been proposed for removal from the Covered Species list, with the red-legged frog being potentially retained as a Planning Species. The 48 species for which profiles have been completed are listed in Table B-1. It should be noted that 14 species profiles were submitted as part of the Framework Conservation Strategy Report (FCSR). Changes to these 14 profiles since their inclusion in Appendix A of the FCSR appear in this appendix in ~~strike through~~/underline. Since the submittal of these 14 profiles, an additional 34 draft species profiles have been completed and are presented herein.

Table B-1 Covered Species Profiles Completed: Review Summary

Species info			Status
Taxa	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments Received from Stakeholders
<i>Species Profiles Submitted in FCSR</i>			
Bird	golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Audubon 5/31/11, CBD 5/28/11, Defenders et al. 5/31/11)
Bird	burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Audubon 5/31/11
Bird	Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	—
Bird	southwestern willow flycatcher ¹	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	Audubon 5/31/11, Defenders et al. 5/31/11
Bird	California condor	<i>Gymnogyps californianus</i>	CBD 5/28/11
Bird	bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Defenders et al. 5/31/11
Mammal	Nelson's bighorn sheep	<i>Ovis canadensis nelsoni</i>	CBD 5/28/11
Mammal	Mohave ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus [Xerospermophilus] mohavensis</i>	CBD 5/28/11, Defenders et al. 5/31/11
Plant	desert cymopterus	<i>Cymopterus deserticola</i>	—
Plant	Barstow woolly sunflower	<i>Eriophyllum mohavense</i>	—
Plant	Mojave	<i>Mimulus mohavensis</i>	—

¹ A southwestern willow flycatcher account was submitted with the Framework Conservation Strategy Report but has subsequently been incorporated in a more general willow flycatcher profile.

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APPENDIX B (Continued)

Table B-1 Covered Species Profiles Completed: Review Summary

Species info			Status
Taxa	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments Received from Stakeholders
	monkeyflower		
Reptile/ Amphibian	arroyo toad	<i>Anaxyrus (Bufo) californicus</i>	—
Reptile/ Amphibian	desert tortoise	<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>	CBD 5/28/11
Reptile/ Amphibian	flat-tailed horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma mcallii</i>	CBD 5/28/11
Additional Species Profiles (Not Submitted in FCSR)			
Bird	mountain plover	<i>Charadrius montanus</i>	—
Bird	western yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	—
Bird	gilded flicker	<i>Colaptes chrysoides</i>	—
Bird	American peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	—
Bird	California black rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus</i>	—
Bird	Gila woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes uropygialis</i>	—
Bird	Elf owl	<i>Micrathene whitneyi</i>	—
Bird	Inyo California towhee	<i>Pipilo crissalis eremophilus</i>	—
Bird	Yuma clapper rail	<i>Rallus longirostris yumanensis</i>	—
Bird	Bank swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	—
Bird	Bell's vireo	<i>Vireo bellii</i>	—
Mammal	Amargosa vole	<i>Microtus californicus scirpensis</i>	—
Plant	Cushenbury oxytheca	<i>Acanthoscyphus parishii</i> var. <i>goodmaniana</i>	—
Plant	Cushenbury milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus albens</i>	—
Plant	Lane Mountain milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus jaegerianus</i>	—
Plant	Coachella Valley milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>coachellae</i>	—
Plant	Sodaville milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus lentiginosus</i> var. <i>sesquimetralis</i>	—
Plant	Peirson's milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus magdalenae</i> var. <i>peirsonii</i>	—
Plant	triple-ribbed milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus tricarinatus</i>	—

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APPENDIX B (Continued)

Table B-1 Covered Species Profiles Completed: Review Summary

Species info			Status
Taxa	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments Received from Stakeholders
Plant	Wiggins' croton	<i>Croton wigginsii</i>	—
Plant	Red Rock tarplant	<i>Deinandra arida</i>	—
Plant	Mojave tarplant	<i>Deinandra mohavensis</i>	—
Plant	Tracy's eriastrum	<i>Eriastrum tracyi</i>	—
Plant	Parish's daisy	<i>Erigeron parishii</i>	—
Plant	Cushenbury buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum ovalifolium</i> var. <i>vineum</i>	—
Plant	Thorne's buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum thornei</i>	—
Plant	Ash Meadows gumplant	<i>Grindelia fraxinipratensis</i>	—
Plant	Algodones Dunes sunflower	<i>Helianthus niveus</i> ssp. <i>tephrodes</i>	—
Plant	Amargosa niterwort	<i>Nitrophila mohavensis</i>	—
Plant	Owens Valley checkerbloom	<i>Sidalcea covillei</i>	—
Reptile/ Amphibian	Tehachapi slender salamander	<i>Batrachoseps stebbinsi</i>	—
Reptile/ Amphibian	barefoot gecko	<i>Coleonyx switaki</i>	—
Reptile/ Amphibian	California red-legged frog	<i>Rana draytonii</i>	—
Reptile/ Amphibian	mountain yellow-legged frog	<i>Rana muscosa</i>	—

B.2 Comments Received

As described in Sections 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 of the Preliminary Conservation Strategy, the consultant team has received comments on several of the 14 species profiles submitted in the FCSR and on the 34 additional species (see Table B-1). Comments received on these profiles are summarized in matrix format in Attachment B-1. Based on these comments, species profiles have been revised and are included in Attachments B-2 and B-3. The 14 profiles included in the FCSR appear in this appendix in ~~strike through~~/underline.

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APPENDIX B (Continued)

In addition, the consultant team has received comments on 13 of the 34 additional species profiles not included in the FCSR. These comments are summarized in Attachment B-1. The consultant team has incorporated comments from the stakeholders and REAT agencies on these species profiles and they are included herein (clean, not ~~striketrough~~/underline).

B.3 Species Profiles

Species profiles are presented in the order they appear in Table B-1 (14 profiles submitted in the FCSR (Attachment B-2), followed by the 34 additional species profiles (Attachment B-3)).

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ATTACHMENT B-1

*Comments from REAT Agencies and Stakeholders on
Species Profiles*

Attachment B-1

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Species Profiles Comment Tracking Matrix: Stakeholders					
Comment Date	Commenter Group	Commenter	Species Profile	Subsection, Paragraph, Sentence	Comment or Issue
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Audubon, Garry George	Burrowing Owl	Framework Conservation Strategy A3.4, page 96	In California, the CDFG is preparing a conservation strategy for burrowing owls (Burkett and Johnson 2007) Can you get and provide this document to include in this document? Conservation recommendations will inform the DRECP.
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Audubon, Garry George	Burrowing Owl	Framework Conservation Strategy, A3.4, page 98	"Though populations remain stable in areas such as the Imperial Valley and throughout the western Mojave Desert," This is outdated. Please update with latest statistics on BUOW in Imperial Valley which show declines.
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Audubon, Garry George	Golden Eagle	Framework Conservation Strategy, A3.6, paragraph 6	"Though there are only two nesting occurrences on record for this species within the Plan Area in the California Natural Diversity Database....." BLM, USFW Service, County DEIRs, utilities, wind project applications have better and more up to date data on GOEA nesting in the Plan area and on species distribution. DFG CNDD is the weakest source. Since this is a REAT effort, this baseline could be compiled with cooperation, and this aerial habitat (GOEA nesting sites and surrounding flight areas) is a good example of why landscape level conservation alone will not be adequate for a conservation plan that includes renewable energy such as wind energy that directly and indirectly impacts aerial habitat. Dave Bittner can give nests in San Diego County. Tule Wind project in Easter SD County in DRECP boundary reported Eagle nests. Distribution map is inadequate and should be removed until updated. p. 107 - Within Plan Area: Apparently stable (Remsen 1978) USFW March 2010 Protocol has citations for decline of Eagle in western U.S., and Remsen 1978 is a very long time ago. This should be updated or status should be "unknown". Has USFW Service reviewed this document? p.108 "There are no conservation actions in the Plan Area directed specifically at the golden eagle." Eagle Conservation Plan is directed at Bald and Golden Eagle
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Audubon, Garry George	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	Framework Conservation Strategy, A3.11, paragraph 2	Collisions with wind turbines during migration may be a threat as willow flycatchers have been recorded in migration on at least one wind project site (NextTera North Sky River Project, 2011, Kern County, DEIR) although not identified to subspecies.
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Audubon, Garry George	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	Framework Conservation Strategy, A3.11, paragraph 5	"Protection and management of the Kern River Preserve, California" should read "Protection and management of the Audubon Kern River Preserve, California" – this section could be reviewed by Dr. Barbara Kus of USGS.
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	General?	Framework Conservation Strategy, General	Please include a discussion of and maps of Unusual Plant Assemblages (UPAs) as identified by BLM in the 1980 CDCA Plan.
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	General?	Framework Conservation Strategy, General	Some of the plant communities seem wrong, and are likely a factor of the land cover map being used as a vegetation community map. For example, A1.2.4 Rocky Mountain Subalpine Mesic Spruce-Fir Forest and Woodland or A1.5.1 California Central Valley and Southern Coastal Grassland or A1.8.1 Mediterranean California Southern Coastal Dune
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	General?	Framework Conservation Strategy, General	A number of the species in Appendix A have federal recovery plans or management plans that include recovery strategies. These strategies should be included as goals for the DRECP and should be clearly laid out in the text of the document.
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	Desert Tortoise	Framework Conservation Strategy, Figure A3.2-1	There is more current distribution maps for the tortoise which need to be included.

Attachment B-1

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Species Profiles Comment Tracking Matrix: Stakeholders

Comment Date	Commenter Group	Commenter	Species Profile	Subsection, Paragraph, Sentence	Comment or Issue
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	General	Framework Conservation Strategy, Figures S-2 through S-14	As mentioned with the plants above, occurrence maps are a factor of where someone has looked. Maps indicating habitat are more appropriate.
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	Desert Tortoise	Framework Conservation Strategy, Figure A3.2-2	The USFWS – Desert Tortoise Recovery Office has a much more sophisticated model of tortoise threats/stressors, and although it is not yet comprehensive, it is more appropriate than this figure
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	Desert Tortoise	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section 59, paragraph 4	The 2008 Recovery Plan update is deeply flawed and has not been adopted. We strongly advise that the current existing final Recovery Plan (1994) goals be incorporated into this section and be used as a basis for desert tortoise recovery in the DRECP
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	California Condor	Figure S-5	USFWS has data on condor use of the DRECP areas
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	Golden Eagle	Figure S-6	BLM/CEC has much more data on golden eagle nests and territories.
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	Mojave Ground Squirrel	Framework Conservation Strategy, A3.7, paragraph 1	The information from the MGS conservation strategy should be included in this section.
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	Peninsular Bighorn Sheep	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section A3.8	Clarity needs to be provided between the strategies for the listed population of peninsular bighorn sheep and desert bighorn
5/28/2011	Stakeholders	CBD, Ilene Anderson	Flat-Tailed Horned Lizard	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section A3.9	The most recent version of the FTHL Rangewide Management Strategy is 2003.
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Defenders of Wildlife, NRDC, California Council of Land Trusts, California Audobon, and Friends of the Desert Mountains; Kim Delfino and Jeff Aardahl	Bald Eagle	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section A3.3	Bald Eagle: CDFG has unpublished observations of winter season Bald Eagles at Haiwee Reservoir, and possibly other locations in the Owens Valley region. Also contact the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (Brian Tillemans, Biologist, at 760.873.0214 or mailto:Brian.Tillemans@water.ladwp.com)
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Defenders of Wildlife, NRDC, California Council of Land Trusts, California Audobon, and Friends of the Desert Mountains; Kim Delfino and Jeff Aardahl	Golden Eagle	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section A3.6	Golden Eagle: Potential foraging territories are displayed on Map No. 4 of the 1980 CDCA Plan. Helicopter surveys of raptors, including Golden Eagle, were conducted by BLM in 1977-1978 in support of the CDCA Plan of 1980. Contact Dr. Larry LaPre at BLM for site specific locality data. BLM surveyed portions of the Western Mojave for raptors in about 1984 as an update to the 1977-1978 survey. Focus was on Red Mountain-El Paso Raptor Breeding Area. Contact Dr. Larry LaPre for site specific data. More recent Golden Eagle nesting territory surveys were conducted under contract in support of environmental reviews of proposed renewable energy projects: Solar-Calico, Ivanpah, Genesis, Palen, Desert Sunlight, Blythe; and Wind-Granite Mountains, Tule, Ocotillo, Daggett Ridge, Sand Ridge. Contact Dr. Larry LaPre for site specific data.

Attachment B-1

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Species Profiles Comment Tracking Matrix: Stakeholders

Comment Date	Commenter Group	Commenter	Species Profile	Subsection, Paragraph, Sentence	Comment or Issue
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Defenders of Wildlife, NRDC, California Council of Land Trusts, California Audobon, and Friends of the Desert Mountains; Kim Delfino and Jeff Aardahl	Mojave Ground Squirrel	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section A3.7	Mohave Ground Squirrel: Unpublished BLM data based on live trapping studies in the Western Mojave conducted from 1974 through 1980 should be included in the species account. Contact Shelley Ellis, BLM Biologist at 760-384-5426, or Dr. Larry LaPre. Site specific live trapping data for the Coso and Rose Valley area of Inyo County are contained in the FEIS for Coso Geothermal Development, published by Rockwell International under BLM contract (Field Ecology Technical Report on the Coso Geothermal Study Area-Survey of Small Mammals and Carnivores in the Coso Geothermal Study Area, July 1979, by Philip Leitner. Contact Jeff Aardahl for electronic copy of this report. BLM published considerable information about this species in the West Mojave Plan and FEIS/EIR in January 2005 (See pages 3-144 through 3-169, and Appendix M-Mohave Ground Squirrel Background Data. Contact Jeff Aardahl for additional data on age and sex of individual Mohave Ground Squirrels trapped in the BLM 1980 field study. CONTINUED BELOW
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Defenders of Wildlife, NRDC, California Council of Land Trusts, California Audobon, and Friends of the Desert Mountains; Kim Delfino and Jeff Aardahl	Mojave Ground Squirrel	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section A3.7	CONTINUED FROM ABOVE... Among the most recent publications on this species is a report published by CDFG: "West Mojave Desert Ecological Reserve, Final Biological Report, Sections 17 (Area 1), 5 (Area 2) and 3 (Area 3), Saddleback Mtn. and The Buttes Topographic Maps." The report documents studies on three square miles of CDFG reserve habitat in the Western Mojave for the Mohave Ground Squirrel, Desert Tortoise and rare plants. Contact Jeff Aardahl for an electronic copy of the report.
5/31/2011	Stakeholders	Defenders of Wildlife, NRDC, California Council of Land Trusts, California Audobon, and Friends of the Desert Mountains; Kim Delfino and Jeff Aardahl	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher	Framework Conservation Strategy, Section A3.11	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher: BLM contracted for surveys of Willow Flycatchers and Bell's Vireos in 2001-2003 in support of a lawsuit settlement in the CDCA. Formal reports were submitted to BLM and protocol field surveys were conducted in many areas of the CDCA such as Indian Wells Canyon, Sand Canyon, Surprise Canyon, north slope San Bernardino Mountains, and some eastern Mojave locations. Contact Dr. Larry LaPre for copies of the reports.
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Cushebury Oxytheca	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profiles.
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Cushebury milk-vetch	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profile.
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Lane Mountain milk-vetch	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profile.
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Tripple-Ribbed milk vetch	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profiles.
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Desert Cymopterus	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profile.
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Barstow woolly-sunflower	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profile.

Attachment B-1

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Species Profiles Comment Tracking Matrix: Stakeholders					
Comment Date	Commenter Group	Commenter	Species Profile	Subsection, Paragraph, Sentence	Comment or Issue
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Mojave monkeyflower	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profiles.
6/24/2011	Stakeholders	CNPS, Greg Suba	Owen's Valley checkerbloom	Literature Review	CNPS provided literature to review for species profiles.