

Final                      Final                      Final

**Desert Tortoise Council  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**10 January 2015  
Sam's Town, Las Vegas, Nevada**

The meeting was called to order by Bruce Palmer at 09:50 a.m. **Action items are in blue, with responsible parties in red. Motions made, seconded, and approved (or not) are shown in bold red font.**

**Attendees:** Kristin Berry, Glenn Stewart, Pete Woodman, Jason Jones, Ken MacDonald, Cristina Jones, Scott Abella, Maggie Fusari, Mari Quillman, Bruce Palmer, Becky Jones, Joe Probst, Ed LaRue. **Absent:** Michael Tuma and Chris Noddings. **Guests:** Sam's Town representative; two young ladies from Southern Nevada Environmental, Inc.

**A. Introductions:** The three individuals listed above made presentations after lunch.

**B. Review Agenda:** New issues were incorporated as needed.

**C. Meeting Minutes of 15 November 2014:** Ed LaRue prepared draft minutes at the last Board meeting in Ontario, CA, which were distributed, reviewed, and were approved today as final with minor changes. **Motion made (Ken MacDonald), seconded (Cristina Jones), and approved to accept the draft minutes as amended to be final.**

**D. Review of Board Actions Since Last Board Meeting:** There were no formal actions since the last Board meeting that required votes or expenditure of funds.

**1. Bonsai Trees:** Bruce Palmer provided bonsai trees to Chris Noddings and Michael Tuma, at the cost of \$200, to wish them well in their recent recoveries. The Board unanimously approved reimbursement of \$200 plus shipping costs to Bruce Palmer.

**E. Officer Reports:**

**1. Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report was distributed by Joe Probst. The Council has \$279,451.99 total assets, as per Joe's report. Joe is looking for anyone who would like to serve on the 2015 audit committee. On 11/20/2014, Joe sent a check for \$3,000 to Sierra Club in support of the Desert Report. **Motion made (Glenn Stewart), seconded (Mari Quillman), and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report as final.**

**2. Corresponding Secretary's Report:** Becky Jones reported receiving four registrations for the Symposium. Otherwise there has been very little correspondence.

**3. Membership Coordinator's Report:** Mari Quillman distributed a report today. A few memberships are being renewed through the Postal Service, but most are electronic. **Mari will develop a memo that will be part of the packet encouraging people to register online and describing a few website issues.** Currently registration for the Symposium and membership are separate on the website, which has some disadvantages; e.g., need to register as a member first in order to get the membership rate for the Symposium; also will not let you renew your membership if you are currently a member. We now have 428 active members and 519 total members, which includes members who have recently lapsed, including 84 in her report. Next week, **Mari will send out an email blast announcing the Symposium, and will contact Michael Tuma to see if a newsletter blurb has been prepared for the newsletter.** • **Kristin Berry will provide Mari with additional information.** Several Board members have provided Mari with contact lists for agencies; **Mari will add universities and educational groups to this list.** • **Mari will also insert a memo in the Symposium packets to solicit member involvement.**

## **F. Committee Reports:**

### **1. Ecosystems Advisory Committee Report:**

**a. Review of EAC Table for 11/15/2014 to 1/10/2015:** There have been 11 EAC actions since the last Board meeting, with significant projects described below.

**b. Dragonfly/Glacial Minerals Mine Site:** On 12/17/2014 we sent an email to BLM thanking them for adopting all our recommendations. On 1/7/2015, Ed LaRue responded to Center for Biological Diversity that we are not willing to join the “review and stay” of exploratory activities but that we would like to participate in an upcoming conference call. We should check to see how close the proposed mine is to wilderness, golden eagle nesting, and Red Rock Canyon State Park.

**c. DRECP:** The comment deadline for the DRECP is 2/23/2015. Since the last Board meeting, Ed LaRue sent out a second round of comments on 12/21/2014, representing about 50% review of the entire document. Ed and Glenn Stewart have been sharing comments and discussion with Jeff Aardahl of Defenders of Wildlife. There are many concerns, with the following considered outstanding: Designation of Special and Extensive Recreation Management Areas throughout the desert including critical habitat; disposal of public lands from all Development Focus Areas (DFAs), which could affect 2.4 million acres even though development would be on 177,000 acres; allowing competitive events in critical habitats; eliminating BLM multiple use classes, etc.

There was a consensus that we provide our preliminary draft comments to other environmental organizations so that they can be aware of our concerns, including Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee (Mosheh Wolf), Center for Biological Diversity (Ileene Anderson), etc. **Maggie Fusari has agreed to review the existing comments for grammar, tone, and other issues to be sure comments are presented in a professional manner.** Ed needs feedback from as many Board members as possible because this may be the most significant programmatic threat to tortoise conservation in California in decades. We need to identify those things that do not focus on renewable energy development that open the desert to so many other uses.

**d. Las Vegas Resource Management Plan Revision:** Bruce Palmer and Scott Abella have been working on this, including a recent a conference call. The comment period has been extended to 6 February 2015. Issues include wind energy in critical habitat, connectivity, land disposals, and Special/Extensive Recreation Management Areas, etc. **Bruce Palmer is taking the lead on this and will begin drafting comments next week.** He will recommend that habitat restoration BMPs be implemented in Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

**e. Cosigning Letters:** Since the last Board meeting, we joined Basin and Range Watch on signing a letter encouraging distributed rooftop solar in lieu of DRECP impacts, and joined another group in endorsing National Conservation Land status for the Juniper Flats area in San Bernardino Mountains. Cosigning letters and requests to endorse political candidates has led to the need for a new, revised policy statement for these types of EAC activities (see item “i” below).

**f. Dry Lakes Solar Energy Zone Environmental Assessments:** We recently sent comment letters on EAs for three proposed solar facilities in the Dry Lakes Energy Zone area located north of Las Vegas. We asked to be considered an Affected Party and receive follow-up documents.

**g. Soda Mountain Letter:** Yesterday, National Park Conservation Association asked that we cosign a letter to Secretary of Interior, Sally Jewell, to oppose the location of the Soda Mountain solar facility. This is similar to two letters we have already signed. The following members recused themselves from the vote to endorse this letter: Cristina Jones, Jason Jones, Kristin Berry, Pete Woodman, and Becky Jones. **The other eight members in attendance unanimously voted to endorse this letter.** Ed LaRue will inform Seth Shteir of this endorsement before 1/12/2015.

**h. West Mojave Plan Route Designation:** Public meetings next Tuesday 5-7, Wednesday 5-7, etc. A member will provide the meeting schedules to Ed LaRue, Pete Woodman, and others who may be able to attend.

**i. Revised Ecosystem Advisory Committee Policy:** Bruce Palmer recently circulated proposed revisions that address endorsements of political candidates, cosigning letters, etc. There was discussion among Board members, but more review and input is needed. The new revision date needs to be added, and new point #9 needs to state the number of people necessary to endorse a letter. **All Board members are asked to review these proposed revisions and provide comments back to Bruce Palmer.**

**2. Awards Committee Report:** Glenn Stewart passed out a Grants and Awards Committee report that lists research awards (Ken Nagy and his team), Special Award to Al Muth, Pat von Helf Award to Mary Cohen, and Service Awards to seven individuals, mostly whom have supported the Workshops. Judy Hohman was added to the list of Service Award recipients. At this time, the David J. Morafka Memorial Research Award has not been finalized (Glenn Stewart, Ken Nagy, Bob Murphy, and Michael Tuma comprise the selection committee). Bruce Palmer suggested that we make a formal presentation during the Symposium of “The Matriarch” to Solution Strategies International Inc. for facilitating our June 2014 retreat.

### 3. Workshop Committee Report:

**a. 2015 Workshop Schedule:** Maggie Fusari plans to have the acknowledgement letters out to the 2014 students in early February 2015. Given difficult weekend time frames, this year we plan to have the two Workshops during the week. So, the intended dates will be November 2-3 (Monday-Tuesday) and 4-5 (Wednesday-Thursday) 2015. **Motion made (Maggie Fusari), seconded (Joe Probst), and unanimously approved to have two Workshops between November 2 and 4, 2015.** There was discussion about attracting different groups (e.g., desert users, local governments) and maybe even have a reduced price for those people not necessarily looking to work with tortoises as consultants. Maggie Fusari will develop informational cards about the Workshop that can be put into Symposium packets. • Maggie is also working on audio-visual needs and will get back to us via email.

**b. New Workshop Development:** Ken MacDonald met with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which agreed to cooperate with us to develop the advanced health techniques workshop; they don't want wholesale changes over what has been offered; rather that it is updated. Ken MacDonald and Jason Jones will provide USFWS with information they requested to update their forum. One workshop is a one-day "refresher course" for those biologists who have already attended this training. The other workshop is a three-day course to train experienced people in assessing tortoise health in the field, which will include a session on recognizing shell disease. The same two workshops would first be provided in Nevada (March 30-April 3, 2015) then in Arizona (the week of August 23, 2015).

**4. Grants Committee Report:** There have not been any new grant requests since the November 2014 Board meeting. Glenn Stewart provided a report that was combined with awards. We discussed a current list of grant priorities, those that should be dropped, and those retained. Board members agreed that we would drop the sterilization techniques of captive tortoises and analysis of range-wide population data. Referring to the list, we would retain measures addressing predation, translocation efficacy, implementation of conservation measures, best management practices, and monitoring recovery actions. Glenn Stewart will look back at Michael Tuma's proposals in December 2014 and revise the list so that it will be available at the Symposium.

**5. Information, Outreach, and Social Media Committee Report:** In Chris Noddings' absence, Bruce Palmer reviewed Chris' email from last night. Chris will try to have Facebook operational by the time of the Symposium, and continue to work with Michael Tuma on developing this program and Twitter accounts.

**6. Newsletter Editor's Report:** In Michael Tuma's absence, Bruce Palmer indicated Michael is hoping to have the next newsletter out by mid-January.

**7. Web Master's Report:** Mary Cohen has been very responsive and works well with Board members.

**8. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium:** Will be 20-22 February 2015 at Sam's Town, Las Vegas, Nevada.

**a. Local Host Committee:**

**i. Meeting with Sam's Town event coordinator:** Today's tour answered many questions and helped determine facilities set up.

**ii. Registration fees and process (credit card payment device):** Joe Probst will acquire this device in time for the Symposium.

**iii. Facilities/meals/schedule:** We are currently set up with the "Chuck Wagon" meal option, which is the same as two years ago. This is a little more expensive (little more than \$30/meal) but has been well-received. There will be coffee, cookies, and various other snacks for the breaks. Agreed it would be best to have two full breakfasts and not the continental breakfast.

**iv. Equipment/audio visual (wireless microphone):** Agreed during the tour to set up two screens, 250 seats with half tables, and another 50 seats without tables across the back of the room. Ken MacDonald will work with David Carr to see that each presentation will be projected onto two screens. • Kristin Berry will bring a backup projector. David Carr will buy the splitter that allows dual projection. • Joe Probst will look for our podium light. • Kristin Berry will have Mary Cohen change the ending time on the website from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**v. Field trips:** Pete Woodman will continue to oversee the field trip, which is to Trout Canyon led by Roy Averill-Murray and already posted on the website. Attenders are to meet at 07:30 a.m. on February 19 so the group can leave by 08:00 a.m. Expect more than 20 attenders.

**vi. Photo contest:** Joe Probst will oversee this event, as usual.

**vii. Vendors:** Jason Jones is working with Ken MacDonald and Chris Noddings to facilitate local vendors' attendance. • Kristin Berry will contact Doug Duncan and invite him to sell books again this year.

**viii. Sponsors:** As identified in the next subsection, Southern Nevada Environmental Inc. (SNEI) will be identified as a sponsor. Ironwood Consulting and ECORP have indicated they will be sponsors.

**ix. Hosted mixer:** SNEI, a local consulting group, has agreed to provide a mixer on Thursday night, February 19, between 7:00 and 9:00, which means we need to start stuffing packets at 4:00 p.m. in the Carson Room. Ken MacDonald will order the 300 folders to hold the materials. The mixer will be in the Red Rock room (where breakfast is usually served). SNEI will provide a blurb to Mari Quillman so she can include it in her email blast; in return, we will identify them as a sponsor.

**x. Raffle/auction/silent auction:** We agreed to display auction items with the vendors in a highly visible area to stimulate more input, particularly on the silent auction, and because this room can be locked in the evening. **Motion made, seconded, and approved to authorized expenditure of \$500 to Ken MacDonald and Jason Jones to purchase raffle and auction items, and to reimburse Mari Quillman approximately \$150 for recent Zuni items she purchased for the auction.**

**xi. Donation tracking/thank you letters:** There is a form on the webpage for donating raffle items and sponsorships. Like last year we will have forms people could fill out to identify donations given during the Symposium. **Auction committee should be sure that we acknowledge donations and sponsors.**

**xii. Volunteers:** Glenn Stewart confirmed that Molly Peters and Par Singhaseni will again be here to work the registration table and do other chores, as necessary. **Kristin Berry will ensure they receive a comp room.** • **Ken MacDonald will provide Kristin Berry with a list of volunteers helping him.** Cristina Jones has two interns who are volunteering Thursday through Sunday, who will have one of the 10 comp rooms, leaving Kristin eight rooms for various speakers. These two interns may be assigned to managing lights during presentations.

**xiii. Fliers/announcements/web/newsletters/social media:** This is covered in other sections with action items identified for Mari Quillman.

**ix. Thursday evening folder stuffing session:** Because of the Thursday night mixer, the packet stuffing session will begin at 4:00 p.m. in the Carson Room.

#### **b. Program Committee:**

**i. Program facilitators/session chairs:** Kristin Berry likes to ensure that new Board members are highly visible, and often uses them as session chairs. So, she will be sure that Chris Noddings, Michael Tuma, Jason Jones, and Ken MacDonald are highlighted.

**ii. Plenary session:** This will likely be the session by Ken Nagy.

**iii. Featured speakers:** The Saturday night featured speaker is Scott Abella, who will be presenting on habitat restoration. **Kristin Berry will write up a brief itinerary of Saturday evening activities to help keep us in order and on time.**

**iv. Major session topics:** These include nutrition, chaired by Ken Nagy; Mexico studies, chaired by Mercy Vaughn; and 12 papers on many aspects of ravens, both inside and outside tortoise habitats. Arizona studies, hosted by Cristina Jones, will include 10 papers. Five or six headstarting and translocation papers will be presented, chaired by Michael Tuma. Habitat recovery and restoration, chaired by Scott Abella, includes four papers. The agency session will be chaired by Becky Jones. There are four student papers. There are several papers on predators, including one on American badgers. Kristin Berry and/or Glenn Stewart will present on the history of the Council, which could be the first presentation of the 40<sup>th</sup> Symposium. Tortoise Group, Center for Biological Diversity, and the Council will be in the non-governmental organization session.

**v. Poster session:** **Kristin Berry is encouraging several conservation groups to present posters on their histories and accomplishments.**

**vi. Evening presentation:** The Saturday evening speaker will be Scott Abella. David Rostal will be available on both Friday and Saturday nights to sign the book, "Conservation of North American Tortoises." Banquet is in the large "Sam's Town Live" room as in previous years.

**vii. Special anniversary events/materials (“Swag”):** Give away items/special merchandise may include coffee mug/pint glass/insulated cup/water bottle; flash drive; visor cap; T-shirt (men and women’s sizes); portfolio/pen/magnet; lapel pin/belt buckle/shoulder bag. These need to be ordered within the next week or so. Any leftover materials could be taken to the Workshops. **Mari Quillman will help Michael Tuma, with help from her office staff, to begin to order these materials.** • **Kristin Berry will contact Laura Stockton about custom USB flash drives.** • **Jason Jones will send recent information to Mari Quillman.** • **Jason Jones and Mari Quillman will convert and distribute the recent logo(s) as a useable form to all Board members.** We’ll also want to start using new logos on letterheads for comment letters and other correspondence.

**viii. Reach out to past Board members:** **Mari Quillman will provide Ed LaRue with contact information for past Board members so he can invite them.** Current Board members and speakers will have some type of name tag that helps people identify them. Bruce Palmer would like to see Ed LaRue (EAC), Mari Quillman (Membership), and Chris Noddings (Social Media) highlighted so that members can meet with them to facilitate communication for these committees. Good idea to have past Board members stand up to be recognized during the Saturday night program.

**ix. Necessary committee reports:** Committee reports are required by the Bylaws. **Each committee chair needs to provide Bruce Palmer with their respective committee reports by about the end of January.**

## **G. Discussions of Old and New Business:**

**1. Election of Board Members At Large:** Ken MacDonald serves as the head of the Nominations Committee, and reported there are four members whose terms expire, including Kristin Berry, Glenn Stewart, Pete Woodman, and Maggie Fusari. These four members were asked to step out of the room as each was considered for reinstatement. **Kristin Berry, Glenn Stewart, Pete Woodman, and Maggie Fusari were then reinstated by vote of members remaining in the room.** Officers that are up for re-election at the Annual Business Meeting are Ed LaRue for Recording Secretary, Mari Quillman as Membership Coordinator, and Michael Tuma as the Chair-elect. **Elections will be run by Corresponding Secretary (Becky Jones) this year.** Bylaws amendments and revisions will also be brought before the general membership attending the Annual Business Meeting.

**2. Policy Statements and Best Management Practices:** Michael Tuma previously submitted clarification on some of the BMPs we have discussed.

**a. Format/problem statement:** Everyone likes Scott Abella’s proposal to start out with a problem statement and baseline discussion, and work from there into proposals and specific BMPs.

**b. Habitat Restoration BMPs:** Scott Abella and Kristin Berry have been working on these BMPs, based on a grant provided by the Council in 2014. As the first of the BMPs, the structure for subsequent BMPs will likely be determined with issuance of this first one.

**c. Habitat Connectivity BMPs:** Not clear what these BMPs would look like.

**d. Captive tortoise management:** May deal with sterilization of pet tortoises, disease, release of captives into the wild, Closure of Desert Tortoise Conservation Center, etc.

**e. Translocation BMPs:** Kristin Berry is taking the lead on these, which could include moving wild tortoises (particularly into critical habitat), removing fences at the long-term translocation site (depends on status of the proposal to remove the fence at Jean, Nevada), genetic integrity, disease, etc.

**f. Other BMPs previously discussed include:** Disease; maintenance of genetic diversity; terms and conditions (Pete Woodman is taking lead and may have a draft in spring; should include top soil replacement, mowing rather than blading shrubs, etc.); exclusionary fencing (which is identified in the 1994 Recovery Plan, being required of project proponents, already depicted in USFWS diagrams, etc.); subsidized predator management; and development planning and project siting (recently suggested by Michael Tuma).

**3. Five-year Strategic Plan:** This draft plan is based on documentation from the June 2015 retreat. Bruce Palmer has received comments from Chris Noddings and Kristin Berry. [All Board members are asked to provide Bruce Palmer with feedback by 23 January 2015.](#)

#### **4. Miscellaneous Items and Updates:**

**a. Providence Mountains State Recreational Area:** State Parks expressed their appreciation that we offered to help. They would like to work with us in the spring or fall when tortoises are active and most likely to be encountered. [Becky Jones continues to coordinate this effort.](#)

**b. Management Oversight Group Meeting:** Ken MacDonald and Cristina Jones attended the MOG meeting on 12/18/2014. Managers discussed who should attend MOG meetings, and who would be allowed to vote by proxy. They also agreed to have two annual MOG meetings, probably in June and December. They also talked about the Recovery Implementing Teams' recommendations and how they would interface with the Scientific Advisory Committee.

**c. Additional Retreats?** Chris Noddings has suggested we have an additional focused meeting, since there's not enough time at Board meetings to discuss specific issues in depth.

**H. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Board will be at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting and Symposium in Las Vegas, Nevada on 20 February 2015 at 08:00 a.m.

**I. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson, Bruce Palmer, at 16:00.

Draft minutes were recorded, later distributed and modified with board member review and input, then respectfully submitted as this final version by Ed LaRue, Recording Secretary.



Edward L. LaRue, Jr.  
Desert Tortoise Council, Recording Secretary



## **Ecosystems Advisory Committee Report DTC Board Meeting of 10 January 2014**

Note: The table attached to this report on the last page follows the **bold red** numbered outline given below.

### **1. Cosign Letter Endorsing Juniper Flats Area as National Conservation Lands**

**11/18/2014** – Having received the initial request on **10/1/2014**, Ed LaRue suggested changes to the letter from the Alliance for Desert Preservation (ADP), and received the revised draft on 11/18/2014. He immediately circulated it to the Board for review and consideration that the Council cosign the letter. Based on input from Glenn Stewart, Ed provides Steve Mills with a list of animals that would not occur in the area, and a statement that the Council will endorse the letter if these changes are made. On **12/2/2014**, after two calls to Ed, Neil Nadler of ADP sends an email asking to keep several species on their list, which Ed forwards to Glenn Stewart. On **12/5/2014**, with 9 of 15 members voting yes, Ed sends confirmation that the Council will endorse the letter.

### **2. Harper Lake Road Fencing Issue**

**11/22/2014** – Ed LaRue took the opportunity on 11/22/2014 to tally 32 breaches along the southern 2.8-miles of the fence, which compares to 37 breaches over the southern 3.0 miles in May 2014. On **11/23/2014**, Ed sends this information to Jun Lee of the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee and Kristin Berry.

### **3. Solar/Wind Competitive Leasing Proposed Rule**

**11/26/2016** – A board member provides Ed LaRue with a notice for this project, which has an extended deadline until 12/16/2014. Ed sends an email out on 11/30/2014 announcing a webinar on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and asking for help from anyone who can access the webinar. On **12/3/2014** Ed LaRue sits in on the webinar and records minutes, which he distributes to the board. He feels inclined to not comment on this proposal, pending input from any board members.

### **4. Habitat Conservation Plan for Red Cliffs Desert Reserve**

**11/26/2014** – Ed LaRue receives an informational email about the latest on an HCP for the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve. Ashley Gilreath of Citizens for Dixie sent the email, which states that the HCP could be renewed in February 2016. On 12/2/2014, Ed distributes the update to the board, but there are no action items at this time. Ed returns email on 12/2/2014 asking that Ashley continue to keep us informed.

### **5. Las Vegas BLM Resource Management Plan**

**12/16/2014** – After a few correspondences with Daniel Patterson of Center for Biological Diversity, Bruce Palmer and Ken MacDonald participate in a conference call on 12/16/2014.

### **6. Dry Lake Energy Zone – Three Proposed Solar Projects**

**12/10/2014** – Jeff Aardahl of Defenders of Wildlife sends an email to Ed LaRue indicating there are three proposed solar plants in the Dry Lakes SEZ of Nevada. Ed sends email to Jeff on **12/16/2014** asking for the status at this point. On **12/28/2014**, Ed distributes draft comments on the Harry Allen Solar facility (**6a** in the table) and the Playa Solar Project (**6b**), which are two of the three proposed projects for which comments are due on 1/8/2015. Comments for the third EA – Dry Lake Solar Energy Center (**6c**) – were drafted by Ed and distributed on the afternoon on **1/2/2015**. With five endorsements for the Harry Allen project, six endorsements for the Playa Lakes project, and five endorsements for the Dry Lake Solar Energy Project, Ed sends pdf versions of the three comment letters to Nancy Christ of the Las Vegas office of the BLM on **1/7/2015**.

**7. Dragonfly Exploratory Drilling by Glacial Minerals, Inc. in El Paso Mountains, Kern Co.**

**12/8/2014** – (Note: We provided formal comments on 6/16/2014 as “”Glacial Minerals Gold Mine”). Ed LaRue receives a notice from the BLM, including links to the Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI), Record of Decision (ROD), and appeal period, for the exploratory activities in the El Paso Mountains. After a quick review of the FONSI and ROD, we find that all of our suggestions from June 2014 were incorporated in the Conditions of Approval. On **12/17/2014**, Ed sends a letter to the BLM thanking them for conscientiously adopting all our recommended protective measures. On **1/7/2015**, Ed sends an email to Lisa Belenky of Center for Biological Diversity, which is filing a formal petition seeking a review and stay for the project. The email says we would not formally join the action but that we would like to be involved in future conference calls regarding the project.

**8a. Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP)**

**11/15/2014** – At the Board meeting in Ontario, CA, Ed LaRue distributes an overview and guide to the DRECP, which outlines those portions of the DRECP that are most likely to affect tortoises. On **12/21/2014**, Ed sends “Installment #2” to the Board, which comments on Alternatives 1, 2, 3, and 4; biological resource impacts under the preferred alternative; comparisons among the alternatives; and Appendix M, which is the USFWS’ General Conservation Plan.

**8b. Basin and Range Watch Letter to DRECP**

**12/29/2014** – Kristin Berry receives a letter from Jim Andre of Granite Mountains Research Center that she forwards to Ed LaRue. The letter from Basin and Range Watch presents a new alternative to the DRECP that stresses rooftop solar. After receiving comments from Glenn Stewart, Maggie Fusari, and Scott Abella supporting Council endorsement of the letter, Ed distributes it to the other Board members for their consideration on **1/1/2015**. After seven endorsements, on **1/7/2015**, Ed lets Jim Andre know that the Council supports the letter as a signatory.

**Ecosystems Advisory Committee  
Summary Table from 11/15/2014 to 1/10/2015**

**Current date for this latest table revision is: 1/7/2015**

No.	Reference	Dates (2014 & 2015)				Board Member Responses														
		Rec'd	Dist.	Due	Sent	Codes: <b>Y</b> = Vote of Yes; <b>N</b> = Vote of No; <b>PI</b> = Provided input; <b>Blank</b> = No Response; <b>R</b> = Recused; <b>A</b> = Authors/Lead Board member; <b>NA</b> – Replied they were not able to respond by indicated date														
						BJ	BP	CJ	CN	EL	GS	JJ	JP	KB	KM	MF	MQ	MT	PW	SA
<b>1</b>	Cosign Letter endorsing Juniper Flats as NCL	11/18	11/18	11/25	12/5	Y 11/20 12/5			Y 11/19	Y 11/18 12/5	PI/Y 11/19 12/2		Y 11/19	PI 11/19	Y 12/3	Y 11/19		Y 12/3	Y 11/19	
<b>2</b>	Harper Lake Road Fence	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					PI 11/23										
<b>3</b>	Solar/Wind Competitive Leasing on BLM lands	11/26	11/30	12/16	N/A					PI 12/3										
<b>4</b>	Red Cliffs Desert Reserve	11/26	12/2	N/A	N/A					PI 12/2										
<b>5</b>	Las Vegas BLM RMP	12/16	N/A	2/6/15			PI 12/16								PI 12/16					
<b>6</b>	Dry Lakes SEZ EAs	12/10	12/28	1/8/15	1/7	There are three separate EAs, which are tracked below														
<b>6a</b>	Harry Allen Solar	12/10	12/28	1/8/15	1/7		Y 1/5			A/Y 12/28	Y 12/30		Y 1/3	NA 12/29	R 1/2	PI/Y 1/3		R 1/1		
<b>6b</b>	Playa Solar Project	12/10	12/28	1/8/15	1/7		Y 1/5			A/Y 12/28	PI/Y 12/30		Y 1/3	NA 12/29	R 1/2	PI/Y 1/3		R 1/1	Y 12/29	
<b>6c</b>	Dry Lake Solar Energy Center	12/10	1/2	1/8/15	1/7		Y 1/5			A/Y 1/2	Y 1/2		Y 1/3	NA 12/29	R 1/2	PI/Y 1/3		R 1/1		
<b>7</b>	Dragonfly Exploratory Drilling	12/8	12/17	1/8/15	12/17					PI 12/17										
<b>8a</b>	DRECP Comments	12/10	12/28	2/23/15						A 12/21										PI 11/20
<b>8b</b>	Basin and Range Watch DRECP letter	12/29	1/1/15	1/10/15	1/7		Y 1/5		Y 1/5	PI/Y 1/1	PI/Y 12/31		Y 1/2			PI/Y 12/31				PI/Y 12/31

**BJ** = Becky Jones, **BP** = Bruce Palmer, **CJ** = Cristina Jones, **CN** = Chris Noddings, **EL** = Ed LaRue, **GS** = Glenn Stewart, **JJ** = Jason Jones, **JP** = Joe Probst, **KB** = Kristin Berry, **KM** = Ken MacDonald, **MF** = Maggie Fusari, **MQ** = Mari Quillman, **MT** = Michael Tuma, **PW** = Pete Woodman, **SA** = Scott Abella