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Desert Tortoise Council Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

January 11, 2025 Zoom Online Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Mari Quillman at 10:03 a.m. (PST). Action items are in blue, with responsible parties in red. **Motions made, seconded, and approved (or not) are shown in bold red font.**

Attendees: Board members: Kristin Berry, Peter Woodman, Judy Hohman, Ken MacDonald, Maggie Fusari, Mari Quillman, Bruce Palmer, Michael Tuma, Ed LaRue, Max Havelka, Luke Basulto, Rick Applegate, and Operations Manager: David Hedrick. **Absent**: Becky Jones, Mary Lane Poe. **Guests**: None.

- **A. Welcome/Announcements/Introductions**: Treasurer, Joe Probst, passed away on 12/27/2024, so this is the first meeting since he was elected to this position in 2014 that Joe is not with us.
- **B. Review Agenda**: New issues were incorporated as needed.
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes of 11/9/2024: Ken MacDonald prepared draft minutes of the most recent virtual Board meeting, which were edited by Ed LaRue, distributed to the Board, reviewed, and approved today as final. Motion made (Ken MacDonald), seconded (Judy Hohman), and unanimously approved to accept the draft minutes as final.
- D. Review of Board Actions since Last Board Meeting:
- 1. Travel expenditure for David Hedrick: On 12/9/2024, Judy Hohman made the motion to provide up to \$1,500 for David Hedrick to travel to California and buy necessary hardware to help Joe Probst with some of his Council financial responsibilities, which was seconded by Maggie Fusari, and unanimously approved by 10 additional Board members.
- **2. Edison International (EI) Grant**: On 12/20/2024, Mari Quillman circulates an email stating that the Council was awarded an Edison International grant for \$15,000 today, with thanks to Michael Tuma for overseeing the grants program that has led to receiving this grant for multiple years.
- **E. Special Discussion Items**: None.
- **F. Next Meeting Date**: The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be the Annual Business Meeting at Palace Station, Las Vegas, NV from 08:00 to 09:00 a.m. on 2/25/2025. The next virtual Board meeting after the Symposium will be on 3/23/2025 beginning at 10 a.m. (PDT).

OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

G. Treasurer's Report: In Joe's absence, there is no treasurer's report. Mari reported that the IRS had given us an extension through 1/15/2025 for the audit they are conducting of the Council's 2023 tax return, asking that we demonstrate progress on providing their requested information. Mari has spoken to several certified public accountants (CPAs) to address financial concerns and IRS requests. Mari provided financial documents to the same CPA that the Mohave Ground Squirrel Conservation Council (MGSCC) uses, and is willing to help us address issues (at a billing rate of \$275/hour). A major concern is that 1099 forms need to be issued by the end of January for, among other things, the office we've been renting with Joe's friend in Acton. Mari said that we must begin using Quick Books Online, which will give access to specific individuals. We need to amend financial statements back through 2023, which would cost \$3,250. Among the first tasks after she is retained, the CPA will see that Mari is given power of attorney and will ask the IRS for an additional extension. The CPA will also be reviewing financial documents back through 2021. We also need to better understand the difference between gaming and raffles to address one of the IRS's concern. Rick Applegate motioned to make \$20,000 available, seconded by Maggie Fusari, to pay for a CPA and other factors¹ to both update and go forward with financial accounting.

We are also not current with the State of California, which shows Bruce, Ken, and Pete as existing officers, so Mari changed an official filing document identifying her as Chief Operations Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Becky Jones as Secretary, and Ed LaRue as Assistant Secretary. Mari is working with Becky to acquire all available hard copy and electronic financial records. Some of the missing data may be on hard drives or on an old computer. Ed LaRue made a motion, seconded by Ken MacDonald to provide up to \$3,000 for Mari Quillman and other Board members to travel to Palmdale to secure all important financial documents. • Mari Quillman will work with Ed LaRue, Judy Hohman, and Rick Applegate to plan this visit. Rick and Ken are currently on the Finance Committee and may need to assume some of the treasurer's responsibilities until a new treasurer can be identified. Rick has Joe's Excel spreadsheets, but would like to have additional information, including the IRS correspondences. We obviously need to find a new treasurer and will likely need to enlist a long-term bookkeeper once the initial concerns given above are resolved. Ed LaRue made a motion, seconded by Kristin Berry to remove Jochen Probst as the Primary Account Holder on the California Bank and Trust Account, the U.S. Bank Account, and the Edward Jones Account; to Make David Hedrick the Primary Account Holder on those three accounts; to retain Becky Jones on those three accounts; and add Mari Quillman to those three accounts. Mari is currently identified as a user on the Edward Jones account.

H. Corresponding Secretary's Report: Ed met with Becky on 12/27/2024 and picked up some materials from her to help with her Corresponding Secretary responsibilities. Among these materials was a \$500 scholarship from Dudek, a \$100 donation from Anna Posther, a \$500 sponsorship from Defenders of Wildlife, and a \$500 scholarship from The Desert Tortoise Conservancy. On 12/28/2024, Becky provided Ed with an example letter acknowledging donations and scholarships. Ed LaRue will draft acknowledgement letters for these four sponsorships and any others until which time Becky resumes writing letters.

Final Minutes of Board of Director's Meeting of the Desert Tortoise Council on 11 January 2025

 $^{{\}color{blue} \textbf{1} \underline{\textbf{https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/6q8hcee71y6pnowa0vxlm/Re_-Inquiry-Regarding-Bookkeeping_Accounting-Services-EMAIL.pdf?rlkey=g1e4tijqzv3hxr14ryh25ysg8\&dl=0} \underline{\textbf{1}} \underline{\textbf{1}} \underline{\textbf{1}} \underline{\textbf{2}} \underline{\textbf{1}} \underline{\textbf{2}} \underline{\textbf{2}} \underline{\textbf{3}} \underline{\textbf{2}} \underline{\textbf{3}} \underline{\textbf{3}} \underline{\textbf{2}} \underline{\textbf{3}} \underline{\textbf{3}}$

Additional letters Ed received from Becky were a notice of a proposed decision for a categorical exclusion for the Hidden Valley allotment grazing permit in Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, AZ; a notice of proposed decision for the Aqua Dulce Water Distribution project in Pima County, AZ; and a solicitation of scoping comments for the Eagle Eye Solar Project in La Paz County, AZ, which has today's due date of 1/11/2025. Ed LaRue is willing to serve as the interim Corresponding Secretary, pending Becky's input, and to have Council correspondence including checks forwarded from the Acton postal box to him. • David Hedrick will determine how online deposits can be made. • David Hedrick will have Sky forward all electronic correspondence to Ed. • The Board also needs to get copies of all acknowledgement letters sent in 2023 and 2024 to donors and sponsors. For 2025, we need to be sure that individuals making raffle donations fill out a donor form. Judy Hohman will review the donation form online for raffle items and suggest changes as needed.

- **I.** Membership Committee's Report: In an electronic report dated 1/11/2025, Mari Quillman reported there are a total of 1,024 members including 365 who are active (David shared this number is now at 390), 656 with overdue renewals, and various other categories. The chair position is open and needs to be filled, either by an existing Board member or new person.
- **J. Nominating Committee's Report**: Ken MacDonald is pursuing new Board members particularly with skills in social media, finance, etc. Elections this year are for Recording Secretary (Ed is willing to stand), Membership Coordinator, Chairperson-elect, and Treasurer. We will certainly make announcements at the Symposium but should also have David Hedrick send out eblast(s) to fill these Board member positions, with a write-up of skills required, particularly for the Treasurer and Membership Coordinator. Since the Treasurer's position is not open until 2026, Michael Tuma suggested that the Treasurer should be an interim position to be re-elected in 2026 for the full two-year term, if they are willing. Mari Quillman is willing to serve as Chairperson-elect.
- **K. Ecosystems Advisory Committee's (EAC) Report**: In an electronic version of his report (see attachment), Ed LaRue reported that there were 13 projects identified and nine reviewed by the Board in the reporting period between 11/9/2024 and 1/11/2025. No comment deadlines were missed and we expect to comment on the remaining four projects in a timely manner. The Western Mojave Route Designation ruling was issued in October 2024, which was mostly favorable to our concerns. The Center for Biological Diversity (CBD), Lisa Belenky, is taking the lead on drafting a list of remedial actions that we can propose to address conservation actions that we feel were undermined by the BLM and USFWS decisions in the 2019 supplemental environmental impact statement (e.g., opening Cuddeback Lake to unrestricted OHV activities). Kristin emphasized the importance of law enforcement. Ed LaRue will forward an email from Lisa Belenky to the Board concerning the next few dates they may be involved. Ed had a meaningful visit with the Gopher Tortoise Council in mid-November 2024 where he was invited to be a featured, 30-minute speaker and to meet in a working lunch with pertinent members to advise them how to form their own conservation committee after the EAC structure.
- L. Media Committee's Report: See discussion under Item V, Operations Manager regarding social media.

M. Strategic Planning Committee Report: On 1/9/2025, Bruce Palmer provided the Board with a draft of the 2025-2030 Five-year Strategic Plan with recommended revisions to the 2020 plan and a 2023 review of progress made under the 2020 plan. Bruce summarized the process, including the last two five-year strategic planning efforts. The strategies are basically the same, so Bruce has produced a track changes version of the 2020 plan asking us for specific input regarding our goals and current versus future functions. The committee report, dated July 2023, identified what has and has not been accomplished as of that date. Judy pointed out that the word, "recovery," has a specific meaning applicable to listed species, so she recommended that "conservation" be supplemented and "recovery" be replaced in most places in the plan. Michael asked that metrics gauging success be inserted in the plan. For example, rather than "provide funding" add "for at least one project per year provide funding." Bruce then went through the plan, page by page, and captured input from the Board. Those numerous specific changes are not all reiterated here, but will appear in Bruce's next iteration of the latest strategic plan document. Michael Tuma will facilitate getting Leslie DeFalco's recent annotated bibliography on the website. • Bruce Palmer will soon circulate the draft document and solicit Board input in a timely manner.

N. Grants Committee's Report: In his report dated 12/20/2024, Michael Tuma reported that the Morafka Award was made at the 2024 Symposium, awarded to Sean Sutor from Texas Tech University (\$2,500). No one applied for the Morafka Award for 2025. Ken Nagy is retiring from the selection committee. The Leeward Award, also presented at the 2024 Symposium, was awarded to Tianyi Xu from University of Texas at Austin (\$2,500). The Allison Award was not offered in 2024, but a generous donation will allow the Council to offer it in 2025 and 2026 (\$2,500). Sean Suitor was awarded first place for the Best Student Paper at the 2024 Symposium and Adrian C. Slade was awarded second place. The Edison International Funding grant was awarded to The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens (\$9,000), and a report was received from them in December 2024.

Funding in the amount of \$15,000 was secured and is available in 2025. Michael Tuma will release a request for proposal for the \$15,000 Edison International Funding grant. There have been requests from three students in Texas who are presenting at the Symposium, requesting about \$4,000 for the student travel fund. Kristin Berry motioned to provide a total of \$3,000, to provide \$1,000 to each of three Texas students, seconded by Rick Applegate, and unanimously approved by the Board. A Mexican student, who plans to present a paper on Bolson tortoises, asked that her registration be waived, which depends on Kristin receiving her abstract. Judy Hohman will add to the planning calendar that student travel fund requests should be received by November 15. • Michael Tuma will assemble a review team (including at least Maggie Fusari and Max Havelka) for a proposal to study wild populations of the African spurred tortoise, which is listed as "vulnerable," not "imperiled," by the IUCN.

- **O.** Agency Coordinating Committee's Report: Judy Hohman is preparing an agenda for the Agency Coordination Meeting scheduled with USFWS on January 16, and David Hedrick will send out a new invitation to all participants.
- **P.** Mexican Tortoise Conservation Committee (MTCC): There will be a Bolson tortoise working group hybrid meeting on January 16 that Max, Judy, and perhaps others will be able to attend.

Q. Training Program Committee Report:

- 1. Introductory Training Course Committee's Report: In her year-end summary report dated 12/16/2024, Maggie Fusari shared that the 2024 Introductory Course was completed with lectures on October 25 and 26, with a field day on either November 1 or November 2. The 2025 indoor virtual portion of the course will be October 24 and 25 with the field days on November 2 and 3, 2025. There were 200 students, including 100 students on each of the field days, and 23 people audited the course. The fees in 2024 were \$300 (\$200 for students) for early registration, \$400 (\$250 for students) for late registration, and audit-only option for the lectures for \$25. Organization members are entitled to register two people at the student rate. We offer a complete course with audits welcome for the lectures but with no certification and the caveat that if they want to full course in future years, they will need to retake the lectures. People complete the lectures online, take a brief and simple online quiz, and then travel to Ridgecrest, CA for the field exercises (or workshop if you prefer that term for the field training). Lectures are via Zoom (managed by David Hedrick) on a Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. The field days in Ridgecrest are given twice to accommodate up to 100 people each day (managed by Pete Woodman). They will be given on a Sunday and a Monday in 2025. Online evaluations are collected prior to sending out letters certifying completion of the complete course.
- 2. Advanced Training Courses Committee's Report: In an email from Mary Lane received during the Board meeting, she reported that she and David met with Desert Tortoise Recovery Office (DTRO) staff on 12/12/2024 and has another meeting scheduled 1/14/2025. The DTRO will host a closed session Health Assessment Training (HAT) refresher kick-off meeting at the Symposium on Wednesday 2/26 from 5:30-6:30. This session will only be available to health assessors who are eligible to participate in the HAT refresher, although attendance is not mandatory. This will be a discussion and a chance for course organizers to engage with course participants and answer questions/ask questions to help guide the structure/topics of the virtual course. The HAT refresher will be hybrid with a virtual component, combining PowerPoint and/or video modules, and will be available later in the spring season. There will be a virtual-based test component, but no demonstrated field skills component. Some themes the DTRO wants to focus on are (1) What has changed since the last HAT training? (2) How are we using data differently? (3) What new information, research, and/or techniques are now available? (4) How can we use the information we are collecting to benefit tortoises, data collection standards, etc. which are always evolving. The refresher will be open to anyone who has previously taken the HAT and is actively performing health assessments in the field. The DTRO would like to ensure that anyone performing health assessments in the coming seasons may participate in this course. The DTRO was supposed to provide information for an announcement to David before the holidays, but it was not forthcoming. Mary Lane Poe and/or David Hedrick may contact the DTRO this week to emphasize the importance of announcing this HAT opportunity. DTRO is contacting veterinarians and others who are willing help us present and build content for the virtual modules.
- **R.** Education and Outreach Committee's Report: There was no specific discussion on this committee.
- **S.** Annual Symposium Program Committee's Report: We are meeting on a weekly basis to plan for the Symposium, so there was limited discussion today. The lists of speakers and posters has been completed and a list of exhibitors is being developed by Maggie Fusari and David Hedrick. Kristin is now working on how to align the sessions for 58 presentations. Judy Hohman and Mari Quillman are working on logistics for a panel of past Morafka Awards presentations, which they will provide to Kristin Berry as soon as it is complete.

T. Fundraising Committee Report: In an electronic version of his report, Ken MacDonald shared that the Flight Line Tap Room had an above average turn out on 11/1/2024 in Ridgecrest, donating \$150 to the Council, and that Joe sold \$750 in swag at the event, which corresponded with the Introductory Course. On 11/2/2024 in Henderson, NV, Mojave Brewing Company donated \$200 for that Drink Beer, Save Tortoises event and Sarah Mortimer from Tortoise Group sold \$288 in Council merchandise during the event. This year's Giving Tuesday campaign via eblast and social media on 12/3/2024, netted nearly \$400. The end of the year push pulled in nearly \$900. The current donations in honor of Joe Probst are \$2,195. Richard Lyons, a friend of Joe and Becky, has been a Symposium sponsor in the past, made a donation and asked that his \$5,000 donation from last month, also be in honor of Joe. This would make the total \$7,195. David Hedrick will contact Richard Lyons and ask if we can list his gift as a Platinum Sponsorship in honor of Joe because that is where most of the community interacted with Joe. Symposium sponsorships, including the Richard Lyons gift, are currently over \$50,000, with a few more to go. Ken continues to use the Just Write Grants program.

U. Awards Committee's Reports: Kristin Berry, with input from Bruce and Ed, has identified all the awardees for the 50th Symposium. Ed LaRue will produce paper certificates for the various awards, and Kristin Berry will acquire a plaque for the Kristin H. Berry Annual Award.

V. Operations Manager Report: In his electronic report of 1/11/2025, David Hedrick shared that preparation for the Symposium is going well, with planning meetings each week. We have around \$50,000 in sponsorship funds so far, including about \$25,000 (which is likely to increase to about \$35,000) for the special Tuesday evening event being provided by donor Vita Sheehy, who is working with the Todd Michael Creative production company. David Hedrick will create a specific folder on the Google Drive that will include 2025 finances associated with this and other donors, including invoices, W9 forms, and other financial documents. Vita Sheehy is donating \$100,000 to establish a Foundation Grant administered by the DTC. Tim Shields and Craig Sherwood of OrniLogic will present the "check" on her behalf and say a few words during the Thursday night banquet. We currently have 20 exhibitor tables registered in addition to our own five tables with four remaining spots. Currently, we have 131 registrants for the Symposium (126 registered and 5 guests).

In December 2024, David traveled to Palmdale, CA to copy Joe's files and secure additional account access. Social media continues to grow with 4,219 followers on Facebook, 2,487 on Instagram, 900 on LinkedIn, 509 on Twitter (which continues to drop as people are leaving that platform), and 653 on Threads. He recently joined a new platform called "Blue Sky," which is an alternative to Twitter. David will be overseeing financial concerns until we find a new Treasurer, so any reimbursements can be sent to him. He is currently not the primary on the account, but it is likely that he and Mari will be added to the account and retain Becky (see detailed discussion above under Item G, Treasurer's Report). In the meantime, David is facilitating various financial functions, like receiving invoices. The Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee (DTPC) has asked David if he can help them with some social media issues.

NEW BUSINESS

W. Large-Scale Translocation Site (LSTS): In a recent report, Peter Woodman provided a spreadsheet that shows his tracking results of 12 tortoises at the LSTS in each month of 2024. The year began well, tracking 12 desert tortoises on the LSTS with one additional tortoise missing. In April, one additional tortoise disappeared and was not encountered the remainder of the year. Fall was bad with five tortoises dying in September, October, and November.

- X. Pursuing Lawsuit for the Federal Listing of Sonoran Desert Tortoise: On May 22, 2024, the Council and Tucson Herpetological Society joined Western Watersheds Project and WildEarth Guardians in a sixty-day notice of intent to sue the USFWS over its 2022 decision that the Sonoran desert tortoise did not warrant Endangered Species Act protections. Maggie reported that Western Environmental Law Center, a 501(c)(3) public-interest law firm, has asked if the Council wants to join the lawsuit, and asked for \$500 to support filing fees. Maggie made a motion, seconded by Judy Hohman, for the Council to join in the lawsuit and provide \$500 to Western Environmental Law Center to represent the environmental groups. Maggie Fusari will continue to serve as the primary contact for the issue.
- **Y. Designation of the New Chuckwalla National Monument**: Luke Basulto shared that the new monument will be designated by President Biden in Washington, D.C. next Tuesday, January 14.
- **Z. Bylaws Revisions**: There are two recommended changes regarding the authority of the Board Chairperson. In one case, the Chairperson is given discretion to make unilateral decisions in emergency situations that would not allow for a vote by the Board and the Chairperson may assume the position of any officer, again on an emergency basis, to accomplish a given action. Bruce Palmer will immediately provide the Board with suggested Bylaws changes in an email so that Board members can vote in a timely manner.
- **AA. Master Calendar**: Judy continues to work on and amend the calendar, which includes an agenda for the Annual Business Meeting to be posted within 30 days of the event.
- **BB. Personnel Review**: Judy is summarizing the Board's performance review of David Hedrick, which will soon be made available to David and all Board members.
- **CC. Development of an Employee Manual, Position Handbooks, and Committee Handbooks**: Except for stating that some of these materials have been completed and others ongoing, there was no substantive discussion of these documents.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson, Mari Quillman, at 2:40 p.m. (PST).

These draft minutes were recorded and respectfully submitted for approval to all Board members on January 11, 2024 by Ed LaRue, Recording Secretary.

Edward L. LaRue, Jr.

6022RA

Desert Tortoise Council, Recording Secretary

Ecosystems Advisory Committee Report DTC Board Meeting of 11 January 2025

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

1. Bonanza Solar Project Draft EIS (Clark and Nye Cos, NV)

On 9/6/2024, the BLM provides us with the notice of this Draft EIS, which has a 90-day comment period, ending on 12/5/2024. The draft letter is distributed on 12/1/2024 and submitted on 12/5/2024 with five endorsements.

2. Copper Rays Solar Project Draft EIS and RMP Amendment (Nye County, NV)

On 9/20/2024, we receive a link from the BLM, with a due date of 12/19/2024. See Aardahl's email of 9/24 where tortoises are mapped. LaRue attends the webinar on 10/24/2024. Comments are due on 12/19/2024. The draft letter is circulated on 12/15/2024 and submitted to the BLM on 12/19/2024 with nine endorsements and one recusal.

3. Ranegras Plains Energy Center Project (La Paz Co, AZ)

On 9/11/2024, we receive a notice from the project proponent, with a suspected due date of 10/22/2024. An email from proponent Jennifer Skulstad on 9/27/2024 said the draft EIS will be available in "late 2024."

4. USFWS General Conservation Plan DEIS for Desert Tortoise (CA)

On 10/11/2024, we receive notices from two third parties that this GCP is available for review, with a due date of 12/10/2024. USFWS's direct notice was received on 10/15/2024. The draft letter is circulated on 12/9/2024 and submitted to the USFWS on 12/10/2024 with 10 endorsements.

5. Overnight Solar Project (San Bernardino Co., CA)

On 11/2/2024, San Bernardino County sends a notice on this date, with a due date of 2/19/2025. There is a Teams meeting presentation scheduled for 1/31/2025.

6. <u>Larrea Solar Project, Mosey Solar Project, and Rock Valley Energy Center Projects (Clark and Nye Cos, NV)</u>

On 10/30/2024, the BLM contacts us with information for this project, which has a due date of 11/29/2024. The draft letter is distributed on 11/24/2024, and submitted on 11/27/2024 with seven endorsements and one recusal.

7. Rough Hat Clark Solar Project Final EIS (Clark Co, NV)

On 11/1/2024, the BLM sends us a notice that the final EIS has been published. On 11/20/2024, Lisa Belenky with Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) invites us to join a formal protest of this project. The draft protest letter is circulated to the Board on 11/26/2024, and submitted to BLM on 11/30/2024 with seven endorsements.

8. Petition to State-list the burrowing owl (CA)

On 11/14/2024, Roger Dale of the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee send us a notice where CDFW is soliciting information for this species, due 2/15/2024. Given the overlap of burrowing owls with tortoises, this seems like a project worthy of comment.

9. Purple Sage Energy Center (aka Golden Currant Solar Project) (Clark Co, NV)

On 11/15/2024, the BLM informs us of a notice of this project, which is due on 2/13/2025.

10. Red Cliffs Warner Valley Land Exchange EA (Washington Co, UT)

On 11/15/2024, we receive a notice from the BLM for this project, which has a due date of 12/16/2024. The draft letter is distributed on 12/12/2024 and submitted to the BLM on 12/12/2024 with seven endorsements.

11. Cosign letter opposing the Cadiz Pipeline (San Bernardino Co, CA)

On 12/4/2024, we receive a letter from Luke Basulto representing National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) asking us to cosign their letter opposing the latest attempt to promote the Cadiz Pipeline, which has a due date of 12/11/2024. With five endorsements, Ed lets NPCA know on 12/5/2024 that we support the letter as cosigners.

12. Support for establishing ACEC in the Picacho Mountains (AZ)

On 12/9/2024, we receive a letter from The Wildlife Society (TWS) asking us to endorse their letter nominating a region encompassing the Picacho Mountains as a new Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in southern Arizona, which is circulated to the Board on 12/9/2024, and with eight endorsements, Ed lets TWS know on 12/10/2024 that we are willing cosigners.

13. Petition to protect "Moe's Valley" (Washington Co., UT)

On 12/20/2024, Conserve SW Utah sends a message saying, "Earlier this year, SITLA announced plans to develop their Zone 6 lands if the Northern Corridor Highway is rejected, making this an important moment to seek permanent protections for the Greater Moe's Valley Area." On 12/20/2024, Ed circulates the proffered petition to the Board and signs the petition on 12/21/2024 with seven endorsements.

Ecosystems Advisory Committee Summary Table from 11/9/2024 to 1/11/2025

Current date for this latest table revision is: 12/27/2024

Dates are for 2024 (or 2025)								Board Member Responses												
								Codes: Y = Vote of Yes; N = Vote of No; PI = Provided input; Blank = No Response; R = Recused; A = Authors/Lead Board member; NA - Replied they were not able to respond by indicated date												
#	Title	Rec'd	Dist	Due	Sent	BJ	BP	EL	JH	JP	LB	КВ	KM	MF	MH	MP	MQ	MT	PW	RA
1	Bonanza Solar	9/6	12/1	12/6	12/5				A 12/1				Y 12/2	Y 12/1		R 12/2	Y 12/2	Y 12/2		Y 12/4
2	Copper Rays	9/20	12/15	12/19	12/19	Y 12/18		A 12/15	PI/Y 12/18		Y 12/18	PI/Y 12/18	R 12/18	Y 12/18		Y 12/18		Y 12/18		Y 12/18
3	Ranegras Plains	9/11		Late 2024																
4	Tortoise GCP	10/11	12/9	12/10	12/10	Y 12/9		PI/Y 12/9	A 12/9	Y 12/9			Y 12/9	Y 12/9		Y 12/10		PI/Y 12/10	Y 12/9	Y 12/9
5	Overnight Solar	10/2		2/19																
6	3 solar sites	10/30	11/24	11/29	11/27				A 11/24	Y 11/25				Y 11/24		R 11/25	Y 11/26	Y 11/25	Y 11/26	Y 11/26
7	Rough Hat Solar	11/1	11/26	N/A	11/30	Y 11/26			A 11/26				R 11/26	Y 11/26			Y 11/26	Y 11/26	Y 11/30	Y 11/26
8	BUOW listing petition	8/14		2/15																
9	Purple Sage Solar	8/15		2/13																
10	Red Cliffs land exchange	11/15	12/12	12/16	12/12	Y 12/13		A 12/12		Y 12/13				Y 12/12				Y 12/13	Y 12/13	Y 12/13
11	Cadiz Pipeline	12/4	12/4	12/11	12/5	Y 12/8		PI/Y 12/4	Y 12/4	Y 12/7				Y 12/4				Y 12/4	Y 12/4	
12	Picacho Mtns. ACEC	12/9	12/9	12/12	12/10			PI/Y 12/9	Y 12/9	Y 12/13		Y 12/10		Y 12/10		Y 12/10		Y 12/10	Y 12/10	Y 12/10
13	Moe's Valley Petition	12/20	12/20	ASAP	12/21	Y 12/21		PI/Y 12/21	Y 12/20				Y 12/21	Y 12/21		Y 12/20		Y 12/20	Y 12/21	Y 12/20

BJ = Becky Jones, **BP** = Bruce Palmer, **EL** = Ed LaRue, **JH** = Judy Hohman, **JP** = Joe Probst, **KB** = Kristin Berry, **KM** = Ken MacDonald, **LB** = Luke Basulto, **MH** = Max Havelka, **MF** = Maggie Fusari, **MP** = Mary Lane Poe, **MQ** = Mari Quillman, **MT** = Michael Tuma, **PW** = Pete Woodman, **RA** = Rick Applegate

Note: Although it does not constitute a typical EAC project, Ed spoke with L.A. Times reporter, Alex Wigglesworth, for about 30 minutes on 12/10/2024 concerning head starting and translocation. At that time, he recommended that Alex contact Kristin Berry and Michael Tuma about head starting.