

# Management Plan for Developed Water Sources

## Mojave National Preserve

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### ERRATA SHEET

#### September 2018

An errata sheet is necessary when factual corrections need to be made to the Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA, together with the FONSI and this errata sheet comprise the full and complete record of the environmental impact analysis/conservation planning for this project. The corrections in this errata sheet do not change the project activities or the degree of impact described in the EA.

This section itemizes clarifications, corrections, and changes made to the Mojave National Preserve Management Plan for Developed Water Resources EA (plan/EA) following publication in April 2018, and public review ending in July 2018. These errata should be maintained with all copies of the plan/EA for a complete record of the completed environmental impact analysis. The changes and corrections incorporate responses to public, agency, and internal review comments received on the plan and additional National Park Service (NPS) staff analysis. Revised or new language is underlined. Deleted text is marked by ~~striketrough~~.

#### EDITS TO THE EA

Executive Summary, page iii: under Groundwater and Surface Water Resources heading, the following changes to the text have been made to reflect the correct number of water features:

Within the broad valleys of the Preserve are deep alluvial groundwater basins that contain centuries-old aquifers. Some of these deep aquifers are associated with perennial springs such as Piute Springs and Soda Springs, which support small riparian ecosystems. The more common types of springs or seeps are those located along the slopes and edges of mountain ranges and fed by small, localized perched aquifers. These small aquifers have limited groundwater storage, resulting in highly variable spring discharge that is correlated with annual precipitation rates. 317 ~~344~~ springs, lakes, ponds, seeps, and wells and 137 guzzlers (big and small) are known to exist in the Preserve.

Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action, page 2: Under Project Location heading, the following text has been added:

Located in Southern California, the Preserve is a 1.6-million-acre unit of the national park system, established by Congress on October 31, 1994, by the California Desert Protection Act (CDPA). The Preserve is located in San Bernardino County, about halfway between Barstow, California, and Las Vegas, Nevada. The Preserve is bounded to the north and south by major interstate highways, I-15 and I-40, while the Nevada–California state line makes up most of the eastern boundary (Figure 1). The Preserve also includes a detached unit, Clark Mountain, which lies west and north of I-15. The Preserve headquarters are located in Barstow.

1 Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action, page 6: under Groundwater and Surface Water  
2 Resources heading, the following changes to the text have been made to reflect the correct  
3 number of water features:

4 ~~An estimated 314~~ 317 springs, ~~seeps, lakes, ponds,~~ and wells and 137 guzzlers (big and  
5 small) are known to exist in the Preserve.

6 Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action, page 7: under Wildlife Conservation and Management  
7 heading, the following changes to the text have been made to reflect the correct scientific name  
8 for desert tortoise:  
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- 10 • The desert tortoise, Mojave population (*Gopherus agassizii mohavensis*), is a  
11 federally and state-listed threatened species with habitat found at lower elevations in  
12 the Preserve. Critical habitat was designated in 1994 before the passage for the  
13 California Desert Preservation Act (CDPA).

14 Chapter 2: Water Resource Management Alternatives, page 27; Under Big Game Guzzlers  
15 heading, the following changes to the text have been made:

16 Big game guzzlers (also known as “guzzlers”) are large water developments that are  
17 specifically intended to support desert bighorn sheep populations. Six big game guzzlers are  
18 located in the Preserve: Kerr, Old Dad, Vermin, Clark, Piute, and Kelso. The Clark guzzler is  
19 also referred to as the Bicket-Landells guzzler in the sportsman community. All of these  
20 guzzlers are in wilderness. None of the alternatives include the removal of all big game  
21 guzzlers in the Preserve, and none involve the construction of new guzzlers in wilderness  
22 (Table 2).

23 Chapter 2: Water Resource Management Alternatives, page 49: Under Springs, Wells, Lakes  
24 and Ponds heading, the following changes to the text have been made to reflect the correct  
25 number of water features:

26 The Preserve contains a wide variety of springs, wells, and other water developments. The  
27 condition, water reliability, and wildlife use of these features varies from site to site. A total of  
28 ~~244~~ 317 springs, ponds, lakes, and wells, ~~seeps, and water development features~~ have  
29 been identified in the Preserve (Table 8). These include a broad range of surface water  
30 expressions, ranging from intermittent seeps, resulting in moist soil, to highly modified  
31 human developments and perennially flowing natural springs. These water features also  
32 include a few hand-dug wells and two ponds in abandoned open pit mines (see “Water  
33 Features” in Chapter 3: Affected Environment).

34 Chapter 2: Water Resource Management Alternatives, page 49: In the heading for Table 8, the  
35 following changes to the text have been made to reflect the correct types of water features:

36 Table 1. Characteristics of Known Springs, Ponds, Lakes, and Wells ~~and Water Developments~~

37 Chapter 3: Affected Environment, page 66: Under Military Land and Expansion heading, the  
38 following text has been changed to reflect the correct common name for desert tortoise:

39 Since 2000, the U.S. Army has been working to expand Fort Irwin by about 110,000 acres.  
40 The 2008 EA and Finding of No Significant Impact authorized the translocation of ~~Mojave~~

1 ~~Desert tortoise~~ desert tortoises from Fort Irwin to adjacent BLM lands (BLM 2008). As of  
2 2016, translocation of tortoises is complete.

3 Chapter 3: Affected Environment, page 88: Under Bighorn Habitat in the Preserve heading, the  
4 following text has been deleted:

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6 Desert bighorn sheep show preference for rugged topography with sparse vegetation and  
7 seasonal access to water. Key factors in determining favorable habitat include proximity to a  
8 perennial water source, rugged topography with steep slopes (more than 25 percent and  
9 sometimes greater than 60 percent), and accessible escape terrain (with slopes greater than  
10 80 percent) (~~Darby 2015~~; Bristow et al. 1996; Turner et al. 2004). Areas with dense or tall  
11 shrub and forest vegetation communities (such as pinyon juniper, Joshua tree, chaparral,  
12 and creosote) are less preferred by bighorn. ~~The importance of water is seasonal, as it is~~  
13 ~~most important during the months of June, July, and August (dry season) or during droughts~~  
14 ~~(Darby 2015).~~

15 Chapter 3: Affected Environment, page 106: In Table 16, in the Scientific Name column,  
16 Mohave tui chub row, the following text has been changed to reflect the correct scientific name  
17 for Mohave tui chub:

18 ~~*Gila Siphateles*~~ *bicolor mohavensis*

19 Chapter 4: Environmental Consequences, page 124: In Table 17, in the Wilderness Character  
20 column, Preserve and Project Plans row, the following text has been changed to reflect the  
21 correct common name for desert tortoise:

22 Restoration of native species habitat and populations (Mohave tui chub and ~~Mojave Desert~~  
23 desert tortoise)

## 24 REFERENCES

25 The following edits to reference have been made:

26 Bureau of Land Management (BLM). ~~2015~~ 2012b. Western Solar Plan. Available at:  
27 <http://blmsolar.anl.gov/>. Last accessed: January 2017.

28 ~~Darby, N. 2015. Bighorn Sheep Guzzler Ranking Model. Internal GIS analysis performed by~~  
29 ~~Neil Darby, Wildlife Biologist, Mojave National Preserve.~~

30 Department of Defense (DOD). ~~2012~~ 2016. Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement  
31 (SEIS) for Land Acquisition and Airspace Establishment to Support Large-Scale Marine  
32 Air Ground Task Force Live-Fire and Maneuver Training at Marine Corps Air Ground  
33 Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms, California (Combat Center). Available at:  
34 <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G5-Government-and-External-Affairs/SEISforLAA/>.  
35 Last accessed: January 2017.

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