

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Battle Mountain District Office 50 Bastian Road

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http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle mountain field.html

In Reply Refer To: 4120 (LLNVB0000)

JUL 2 7 2011

STORM-OV, Inc. ATTN: Mr. David Spicer, President P.O. Box 238 Beatty, Nevada 89003-0238

This letter is in support of the continued efforts by you and STORM-OV to remove tamarisk/salt cedar, a State of Nevada listed noxious weed, from the Oasis Valley/Amargosa River system to meet the goals and objectives identified in the 2000 multi-agency, *Conservation Agreement for the Amargosa toad (Agreement)*.

The Bureau of Land Management-Battle Mountain District entered into this Agreement to "carry out management consistent with the principles of multiple use, for the conservation of candidate species and their habitats and shall ensure that actions authorized, funded or carried out do not contribute to the need to list any of the species as threatened or endangered (BLM Manual section 6840.06C)."

Conservation Goals of the Agreement specific to the removal of noxious weeds:

- To identify and eliminate threats to the continued existence of the species or substantially minimize those threats which cannot be completely eliminated.
- To maintain habitats on key parcels through implementation of proposed actions to protect, restore and enhance toad habitat.

Conservation Objectives of the Agreement specific to the removal of noxious weeds:

- Protect Amargosa toad and their habitat on public lands through implementation of land use controls that minimize adverse effects to the Amargosa toad.
- Develop and implement control methods for non-natives as appropriate

STORM-OV was identified by the Southern Nye Conservation District, an authorized Bureau cooperator since 2006, as an organization that could help facilitate the removal of tamarisk/salt cedar in the Oasis Valley/Amargosa River system through the cost sharing of equipment and labor to meet the goals and objectives of the *Conservation Agreement for the Amargosa toad*. To date, the Southern Nye Conservation District and STORM-OV has directly assisted in the control and/or removal of 664 acres of tamarisk/salt cedar. These actions have helped make progress in meeting the goals and objectives set forth under the Agreement, and will continue to do so in the future.

Sincerely

Doyglas W. Furtado

District Manager

Battle Mountain District