

**MOHAVE DESERT
NATIVE PLANTS FOR REVEGETATION
SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP**

**MOHAVE DESERT NATIVE PLANT MATERIALS SYMPOSIUM
Tuesday, April 18, 2006**

**MOHAVE DESERT NATIVE PLANT MATERIALS WORKSHOP
Wednesday, April 19, 2006**

ORGANIZED BY THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY,
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, AND FOREST SERVICE

**SUNCOAST HOTEL AND CASINO
April 18-19, 2006
Las Vegas, NV**

MOHAVE DESERT NATIVE PLANTS FOR REVEGETATION SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP
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Monday, April 17, 2006

- 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. Registration
- 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Welcome Reception (*cash bar and appetizers provided*)

Tuesday, April 18, 2006

MOHAVE DESERT NATIVE PLANT MATERIALS SYMPOSIUM

Plenary Session

- 8:00 – 8:20 a.m. Welcome and Overview of Symposium and Workshop
- 8:20 – 8:30 a.m. Introduction of Honorable Harry Reid, Nevada
- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Address by Senator Harry Reid, Nevada
- 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. National Native Plant Materials Program – *Peggy Olwell, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D.C.*
- 9:30 – 9:45 a.m. **Break**
- 9:45 – 10:30 a.m. Threats to Mohave Desert Ecosystems and the Needs for Revegetation – *Dr. Matt Brooks, U.S. Geological Survey, Henderson, Nevada*
- 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Revegetation Methods in the Mohave Desert – *Dr. Lesley DeFalco, U.S. Geological Survey, Las Vegas, Nevada*
- 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Meeting the Needs for Native Plant Materials: Issues of Scale, Materials Selection, and Availability – *Steve Caicco, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reno, Nevada*
- 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch** (*on your own*)

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Afternoon Session A

The Great Basin Native Plant Development Model

- 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. The Great Basin Restoration Initiative: Setting the Stage for Native Plant Development and Use – *Mike Pellant, BLM, Boise, Idaho*
- 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Great Basin Native Plant Selection and Increase Project – *Dr. Nancy Shaw, U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, Boise, Idaho*
- 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Bureau of Land Management Native Seed Needs – *Scott Lambert, National Seed Coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, Boise, Idaho*
- 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Break**

Afternoon Session B

Existing Efforts in the Mohave Desert

- 3:00 – 3:25 p.m. The Challenge of Collecting and Propagating Native Seed for the Mohave Desert – *Ed Kleiner, Comstock Seed, Gardnerville, Nevada*
- 3:25 – 3:50 p.m. Mohave Desert Native Grass Studies – *Dr. Ramona Garner, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Tucson Plant Materials Center, Arizona*
- 3:50 – 4:15 p.m. Native Plant Restoration at Las Vegas Springs – *Dr. Von Winkle, Las Vegas Springs Preserve, Las Vegas, Nevada*
- 4:15 – 4:40 p.m. Revegetation Strategies in the Mohave Desert – *Dr. Kent Ostler, Bechtel Nevada, Nevada Test Site*
- 4:40 – 5:00 p.m. Instructions for Wednesday Workshop – *Steve Caicco, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Reno, Nevada*

Wednesday, April 19 , 2006

MOHAVE DESERT NATIVE PLANT MATERIALS WORKSHOP

Wednesday's workshop will build on the knowledge and expertise shared by yesterday's speakers. It features four breakout sessions, each focused on a major aspect of an integrated native plant materials development program for the Mohave Desert. Each session will be facilitated to encourage a collaborative process that ensures the interests of land managers, natural resource specialists, researchers, and the private sector are addressed. In the interest of time and efficiency, two concurrent breakout sessions are scheduled; this also allows individuals to participate more broadly by attending two sessions. After lunch, the outcomes of the individual breakout sessions will be reported to the entire group. The products of each session will be used to develop a detailed 10-year plan for the native plant materials development project for the Mohave Desert as a component of an interagency conservation initiative to be submitted for funding through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act.

08:00 – 9:30 a.m. **Breakout Session 1A: Priority Native Plant Species**

The goal of this session is to develop a preliminary list of priority grasses, forbs, and shrubs for potential development or, in the case of most shrubs, commercial collection. While each agency can be expected to have somewhat differing needs, the emphasis will be on identifying common needs among Mohave Desert land management agencies, as well as with adjacent ecoregions. These might include such species as widespread and/or dominant taxa, those for which some research is already in progress, and plants for specific uses such as those known to be important to desert tortoise dietary needs.

Breakout Session 1B: Existing and Needed Facilities and Equipment

The purpose of this session is to compile a list of existing facilities that can contribute to an overall strategy to increase the supplies of native plant materials for the Mohave Desert, and to identify additional facilities that are needed. Facilities include research nurseries and greenhouses, common gardens, research sites, seed storage facilities, etc. Equipment needs are various but include such things as combines, harvesters, transport trailers, precision spray units, field wheel transplanters, weather stations, irrigation supplies and nursery materials. A cost estimate for these items will also be developed.

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Breakout Session 2A: Native Plant Research and Development**

This session will build on the general strategy outlined by symposium speakers, the list of priority native plant species developed during Breakout Session 1A and the list of existing facilities identified in Breakout Session 1B.. Two work products are expected. The first product will be a table showing the types of research that are needed for each of the priority species. The second work product will be a list of individuals with known or potential interested in conducting this research.

Breakout Session 2B: Seed Increase Strategies

This session will focus on the critical link between research and development of native plant materials and the increase of selected plant materials to the quantities needed by land management agencies. Several innovative technology transfer programs were described by yesterday's speakers. The primary outcome expected from this session is an open exchange of information between land managers and current or potential growers (and/or collectors) of native seed. The work product will be a list of growers and/or seed collectors with an interest in being involved in a long-term program to increase the availability of native seed.

- 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch (on your own)**
- 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Breakout Group Report
- 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Closeout

Registration: This is no fee for this conference, but attendees are asked to register by sending their contact information (Name, E-mail address, Organization/Affiliation, and Telephone Number) to Steve_Caicco@fws.gov. Registration will facilitate our planning for the symposium and workshop, and ensure that you receive any additional information or materials.

Lodging: A block of rooms has been reserved at the Suncoast Hotel & Casino at a special group rate of \$79.99 (plus applicable taxes) per room/per night from April 17-19, 2006. This rate is well under the Federal *per diem* for lodging. This rate applies for single or double occupancy; triple occupancy will be surcharged an additional \$15.00 per room, per night. Reservations may be made by calling (877) 677-7111, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., Pacific Time. You must identify yourself as a member of a group with Reservation ID: **MOHAVE DESERT NATIVE PLANT SYMPOSIUM** to get the above rate. The first night's room and tax will be required at the time of booking.

Check-in for individual arrivals begins at 3:00 p.m. **Check-out time is 12:00 noon. Photo identification will be required upon check-in.**

The cut-off date for room reservations is March 18, 2006. However, the Suncoast will try to accommodate late or last minute reservations on a space available basis at the prevailing rate.

Location: The Suncoast Hotel & Casino is located at 9090 Alta Drive, which is about 7 miles due west of the Las Vegas Strip.

Transportation: The Suncoast offers a complimentary scheduled Airport Shuttle Service (reservations are required) as well as complimentary scheduled Shuttle Service to the Las Vegas Strip.

For further information on the symposium and workshop, e-mail Steve_Caicco@fws.gov or by telephone at (775) 861-6341.