## Common Raven Monitoring and Management within Desert Tortoise Conservation Areas

## 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP) Proposals are Due Tuesday, January 17, 2023 (5:00 pm PST)

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Contact for Technical Questions:** Kerry L. Holcomb, Senior Endangered Species Biologist, Email kerry\_holcomb@fws.gov, Office 442-222-4300

**Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Contact for Technical Questions:** Mark Massar, District Wildlife Biologist, Email <a href="massar@blm.gov">mmassar@blm.gov</a>, Office 760-898-5367

Superior-Cronese Critical Habitat Unit (CHU) within Fort Irwin National Training Center Contact for Technical Questions: David H. Davis, Certified Wildlife Biologist-Directorate of Public Works, Email david.h.davis44.civ@army.mil, Office 760-380-6435

Fremont-Kramer CHU within Edwards Air Force Base Contact for Technical Questions: Wes King, Biological Scientist, Email <a href="wesley.king.2@us.af.mil">wesley.king.2@us.af.mil</a>, Office 661-277-6298

Ord-Rodman CHU within Barstow Marine Corps Logistics Base Contact for Technical Questions: David Houseman, Environmental Protection Specialist, Email <a href="mailto:david.housman@usmc.mi">david.housman@usmc.mi</a>, Office 760-577-6318

Joshua Tree National Park Contact for Technical Questions: Michael Vamstad, Wildlife Ecologist, Email <a href="mailto:michael-vamstad@nps.gov">michael-vamstad@nps.gov</a>, Office 760-367-5562

## National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Contact for Administrative Questions:

Primary: Eliza Braendel, Senior Manager, Impact-Directed Environmental Accounts, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Email Eliza.Braendel@nfwf.org, Office 415-593-7628

#### **Alternate NFWF Contact for Administrative Questions:**

Anne Butterfield, Senior Manager, Impact-Directed Environmental Accounts, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Email <u>Anne.Butterfield@nfwf.org</u>, Office 415-243-3106

\*Proposals will be disqualified and not reviewed if they are either incomplete or not by the specifications detailed below. PROPOSALS NEED TO BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH STRATUM SEPARATELY AND CAN NOT BE COMBINED. If anything in the proposal is optional, it must be specifically noted as an option, with a separate budget; otherwise, if the proposal is selected, all actions detailed in the proposal will be required to fully satisfy the funding agreement. If the proposal references this RFP, the RFP needs to be included as an Appendix and a reference to that Appendix must be added wherever the RFP is mentioned.

## Introduction

This marks the 11<sup>th</sup> year of efforts to monitor and manage Common Raven (*Corvus* Corax; raven or CORA) depredation on Mojave desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*; tortoise) populations within California's Warm Deserts Ecoregion (Level II, Omernik and Griffith 2014). Management efforts are enacted pursuant to the Raven Predation Control Environmental Assessment (USFWS, 2008). Depredation control efforts have been and will continue to be implemented in the high-quality, sensitive tortoise habitat of southern California based on our adaptive management protocol (Holcomb et al. 2021), within designated tortoise critical habitat units as well as other areas of importance as identified by the Raven Sub-group and Renewable Energy Action Team (CORA Monitoring & Management Areas; Map 1). Starting in 2022, monitoring and management actions were prioritized within Tortoise Recruitment Priority Areas, which are 10 km² hexagons that contain >0.3 live tortoise observations per transect walked between 2001 and 2019 and buffered by 1.8 km (USFWS unpublished data, Map 1; hereafter Tortoise Recruitment Priority Areas or TRPA).

Work during 2023 will focus on locating active raven nests, determining the raven nest stage, and carefully timing the application of food-grade oil to a target number of raven eggs in each CORA Monitoring and

Management Area (Table 1). The goal this year is to addle or recommend to Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services (WS) all raven nests within Tortoise Recruitment Priority Areas (TRPAs). We will also conduct 50-point counts in each CORA Monitoring and Management Area to refine our estimates of raven density trends and monitor our progress towards our goal of restoring raven and raven nest density back to levels compatible with Mojave desert tortoise recovery.

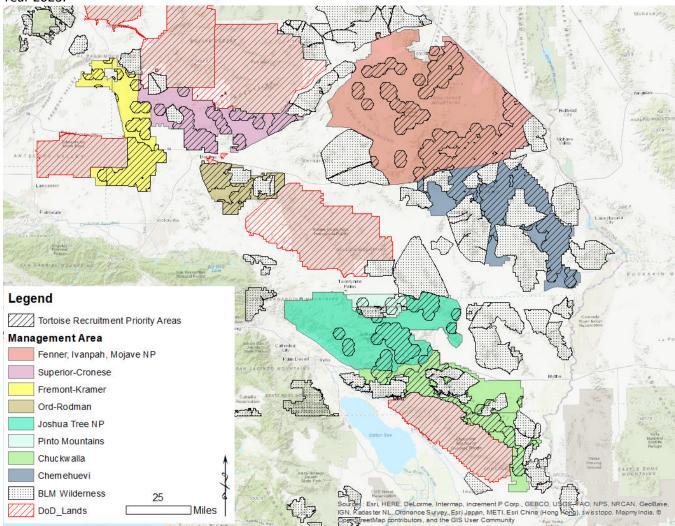
Locating active raven nests, determining raven nest stage, and carefully timing the application of food grade oil (i.e., addle) to a target number of raven eggs must be done as efficiently as possible, in terms of cost per unit effort—i.e., cost per egg oiled. Frugality is necessitated here by our limited budget and the likely need to continue this program in perpetuity. As such, the nest stage (aka, phenology) will only be monitored to the extent necessary to plan oiling efforts. As such, all planning efforts should consider nest phenology data collected during previous seasons, indicating a mean oiling date of May 1, 2020, with a standard deviation of 19.49 days. This predicts that 95% of raven nests in our CORA Monitoring and Management Areas are available to be oiled between the last seven days of March and the first seven days of June, according to 2020 oiling records.

**Table 1** CORA Monitoring and Management Area specific 2023 Egg Take Targets, based on 2022 or the most recent density point estimate. Please note that on average, each raven nest contains 4 eggs, but egg counts vary with fall precipitation, spring warming rate, and proximity to subsidies (Hanley et al. 2021, Currylow et al. 2021). (Green text indicates mean common raven density estimates less than the 0.89 ravens km<sup>-2</sup> adaptive management threshold (Holcomb et al. 2021), the orange text indicates mean common raven density estimates with an upper 95<sup>th</sup> percent confidence limit that exceeds 0.89 ravens km<sup>-2</sup>, and the red text indicates mean common raven density estimate that exceeds 0.89 ravens km<sup>-2</sup>)

CORA Monitoring & Management Strata	km²	2020 Mean Density Estimate (ravens km <sup>-2</sup> )	2022 (or most recent) Mean Density Estimate	Percent Difference	2022 Mean Abundance Estimate	2022 Egg Take Target	
*Chemehuevi	2,328.34	0.27	0.18	-33%	418.0	0.0	
Fenner, Ivanpah, MNP	4,040.54	0.62	0.26	-58%	1,047.0	0.0	
Fremont-Kramer	1,701.40	2.44	1.77	-27%	3,010.0	536.0	
Ord-Rodman	702.44	1.08	0.49	-55%	343.0	0.0	
Superior-Cronese	2,215.36	1.56	2.38	53%	5,271.0	1,182.0	
JTNP, Pinto Mountains	736.59	1.37	0.61	-55%	464.0	132.8	
*Chuckwalla	1,797.89	0.70	0.10	-86%	179.0	0.0	
	13,522.56				10,732.0	1,850.8	

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates that a management area will not receive egg-addling treatments during Calendar Year 2023.

**Map 1** California CORA Monitoring and Management Areas, each color-coded to reflect individual areas named in the legend. Chemehuevi, Fenner-Ivanpah-Mojave National Preserve, Ord-Rodman, and Chuckwalla are included in this map but will not receive funding from this RFP for egg-addling treatments during Calendar Year 2023.



## 1) Performance Period and Total Survey Effort per Priority Area

Nest surveys and oiling will be performed over an approximately two-month period, between March 24 and June 9, 2023, in each CORA Monitoring and Management Area (see Table 1 for further details regarding area-by-area "2023 Egg Take Targets"). Additionally, each crew should include up to three weeks for data curation, image analysis, report writing, and editing based on comments received for each management strata, resulting in a performance period that will not exceed June 30, 2023.

For each management area, the total effort required to locate and oil the target number of eggs will be clearly detailed in the proposal by person-day and the estimated cost per raven egg oiled (partial nests will be oiled and nests will not be monitored for phenology or offending status outside of an initial sweep to calibrate this year's specific nest phenology). This person-day estimate should also include conducting fifty ten-minute two-kilometer radius point counts (between sunrise and 1400h, with sustained winds of <40km/h, and no more than light precipitation) in Ord-Rodman, Fremont-Kramer, Superior-Cronese, and Joshua Tree-Pinto Mountains monitoring and management areas.

Project administration and fieldwork efforts will be separated and described clearly by total personday for each category. Project administration and fieldwork person-day will be further broken down by specific tasks such as but not limited to, database management, bait station image review and analysis, initial nest monitoring, oiling effort, and point count effort.

## 2) Budget

The Budget should be organized into cost-type categories. Budget Categories should be further itemized into distinct line items. Budget descriptions need to be estimated clearly and itemized by tasks such as but not limited to: raven egg oiling, point counts, database management, project administration, tortoise decoy bait station photographic data review, hotel rate (cost per day and number of days, these should be kept to a minimum), camp rate (cost per day and number of days), mileage (cost per mile by the number of estimated miles), equipment/supplies (total cost), and overhead (percent of labor).

Monthly financial reports will be accepted in either one of two formats. The first option that will be accepted is an estimated daily cost per person day with the total person days for that month as well as an estimate of the cost per egg oiled. The first option must include an attached memo each month with a detailed description of how the person-day cost was estimated from expenses and tasks. The memo can be reused each month. The second option that will be accepted is an estimated cost for each task that month such as, but not limited to, fieldwork (days multiplied by a fixed rate per day), accommodation rates (cost per day), mileage (cost per mile by the number of miles), equipment/supplies (total cost), project administration (days multiplied by a fixed rate per day), and overhead (percent of labor).

## 3) Nest Location and Egg Oiling

Nest searching and egg oiling will be conducted during daylight hours by slowly driving established open routes and by walking to monitoring points or known nest points (Maps 3 through 8) while scanning suitable raven nesting substrates with and without binoculars. Nests can also be located by watching raven behavior from a vantage point that enables the use of either a rangefinder or compass to map possible nests throughout Joshua tree forests within identified priority areas. Reaching addling targets may require more intensive searching in hard-to-reach locations during some breeding seasons because of environmental conditions depressing raven reproductive output. Safely, searches and addling will be conducted by one to two personnel (preference determined by personnel) in a vehicle with the individual(s) observing, navigating, preparing to addle, and driving.

Speeds on dirt roads will not exceed 20 miles per hour. On paved roads, a balance will be made between safety and raven nest search effectiveness but posted speed limits will not be exceeded.

Upon sighting a potential raven nest, the vehicle or pedestrian will stop. The crew member(s) will then take a closer look at the birds/nest in question with a high-power spotting scope. In cases of a raven nest or highly suspected raven nest, surveyors will then use a pole-mounted camera sprayer to determine whether or not eggs are present in the nest. If eggs are present, oil should be applied. The basic nest data will be collected on the provided datasheets and according to the provided data dictionary—note that this project's data formats are specific to our analysis process and data not conforming to these supplied data dictionaries will not be accepted (e.g., see Attachment Six).

The vehicle or pedestrian survey will re-commence when the observer's full attention is again on the landscape.

## 4) Identification of Desert Tortoise Remains

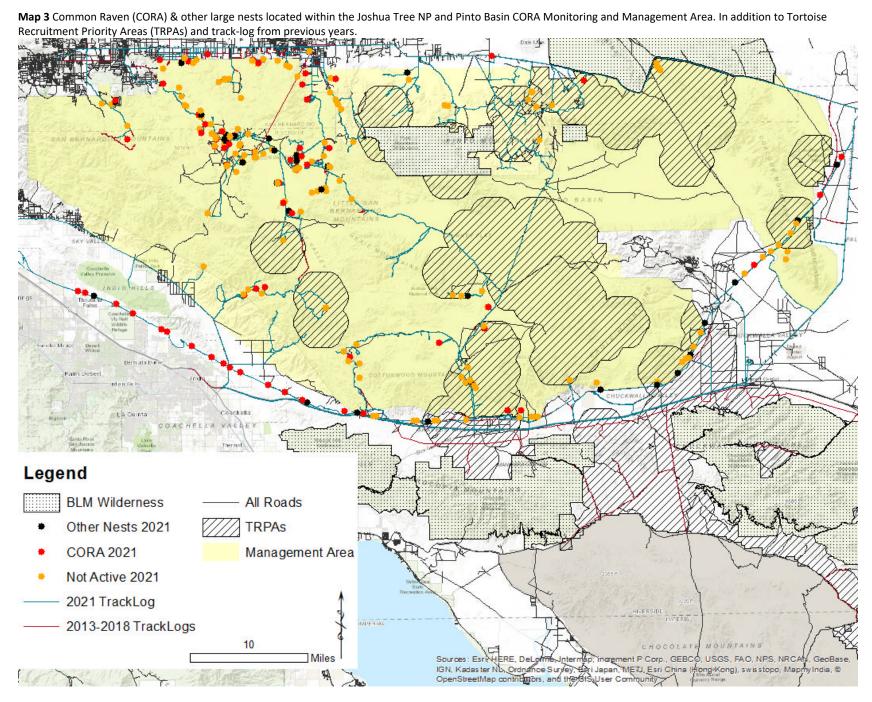
Any observed tortoise remains will be cataloged and photographed on a white background with a standard scale to clearly show the composition of identified remains. Record details on the provided datasheets and according to the provided data dictionary (e.g., number of individuals present and length(s) of carapace; see Attachment Three). Time since death will be based upon a standardized key from Berry and Woodman 1984 (modified in 2000; Attachment Two). Desert tortoise remains will be removed from the sample plot, labeled in separate bags after being dried, and mailed to USFWS contact at end of the season.

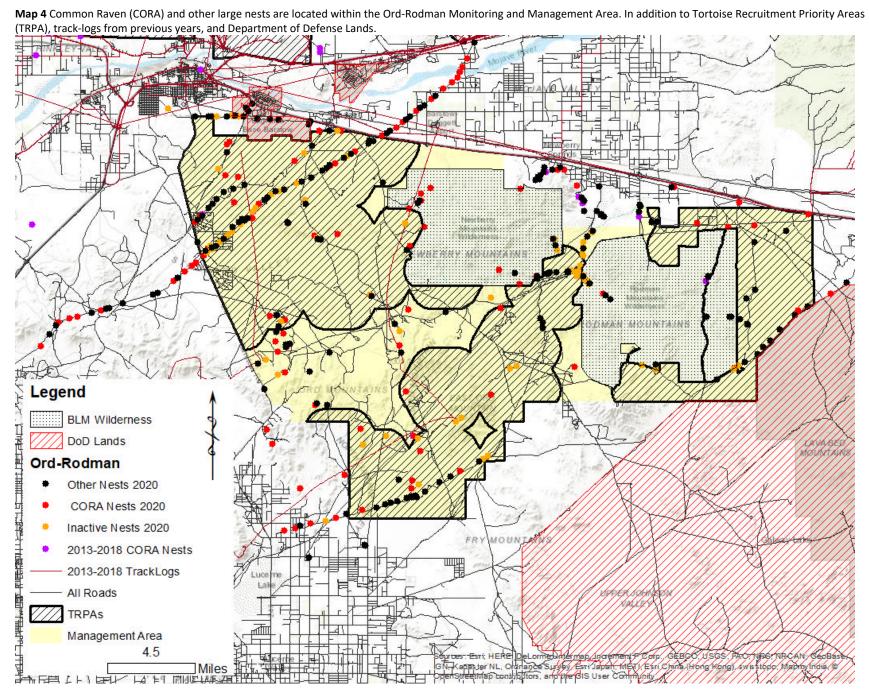
#### 5) Notification of Desert Tortoise Remains

If desert tortoise remains are positively identified at a nest or perch sites, surveyors will notify USFWS and either the BLM, National Park Service (NPS), or military installation (depending on land ownership) point of contact immediately by electronic mail, if possible, or if internet coverage is limited, no later than 72 hours after the observation. Surveyors will follow Attachment Three guidelines and provide USFWS with Critical Habitat Unit (CHU), nest ID, substrate, GPS site location (NAD 1983 Zone 11, Easting and Northing in meters), species occupying nest, breeding development stage, number of carcasses, description of remains, age class, time since death, and date remains were found. The identified USFWS contact will notify WS, and WS will coordinate with appropriate recipients to facilitate the removal of offending ravens.

Immediately notify USFWS and either the landowner contacts if any desert tortoises are found hit or dead along any of the survey routes. Include the location of remains (UTM coordinates), time since death, age class of tortoise, and any other pertinent information. This information is being used to further the efficiency of USFWS's and BLM's efforts to manage road mortality across the range of the tortoise.

Map 2 Common Raven (CORA) and other large nests are located within the Fremont-Kramer CORA Monitoring and Management Area. In addition to Tortoise Recruitment Priority Areas (TRPA), track-logs from previous years, and Department of Defense Lands. PERFLESS VALLEY Legend **BLM Wilderness** Other Nest 2021 CORA Nest 2021 Inactive Nest 2021 2013-2018 CORA Nests 2013-2018 TrackLogs **TRPAs** Management Area 1.5 Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, G DoD Lands IGN:/Kadaster NLC ordinances urvey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, Mapmy India S OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community Miles





Map 5 Common Raven (CORA) and other large nests are located within the Superior-Cronese Monitoring and Management Area. In addition to Tortoise Recruitment Priority Areas (TRPA), track-logs from previous years, and Department of Defense Lands. Legend **BLM Wilderness** Other Nest 2021 CORA Nest 2021 Inactive Nest 2021 2013-2018 CORA Nests 2013-2018 TrackLogs **TRPAs** Management Area DoD Lands

#### 6) Deliverables

The recipient will provide the following deliverables (all GPS locations will be in UTM NAD83 datum). All electronic files will be compatible with Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Office (i.e., Word, Excel), and all electronic data will be compatible with ESRI ArcMap version 10 (e.g., shapefile or geodatabase). Data files will also be mailed via FedEx or USPS to the USFWS contact identified in the funding agreement.

## 1. Monthly:

- 1. Number of eggs oiled
- 2. Number of nests with a potential for oiling
- 3. GPS track logs (as ArcGIS shapefile) of all routes driven within the study areas
- 4. GPS locations of all desert tortoise remains that cannot be associated with a specific raven nest orperch
- 5. GPS locations of all desert tortoise sightings (including roadkill)
- 6. See bullet point #2 "Budget" for Monthly Financial Requirements

#### 2. At the end of the funding agreement:

- 1. A summary Excel spreadsheet that contains (see Attachment Five):
  - a. Nest ID
  - b. Nesting substrate
  - c. Locations in UTMs (Easting, Northing)
  - d. Breeding status of occupied nest
  - e. Description of desert tortoise remains associated with a nest or nearby perch site
  - f. The estimated time since death for the tortoise remains
  - g. Date found
  - h. Most recent date of observation
  - i. Location and number of raven food pellets positive for tortoise remains (optional)
  - j. Notification of desert tortoise remains if applicable
  - k. Results of WS actions (optional)
- 2. NFWF Final Programmatic Report:
  - a. Executive summary
  - b. Methodology
  - c. Results
    - i. Nest locations in UTMs
    - ii. Dollars per egg oiled
    - iii. Separate maps of:
      - 1. CHU boundary with land ownerships, survey routes, and powerlines
      - 2. nest sites (include key indicating active nests, inactive nests, and bird species) and incidental live desert tortoise encounters and carcass locations (include raven predated and roadkill tortoises)
    - iv. Summary tables detailing:
      - 1. Desert tortoise carcasses by age class (i.e., adult, sub-adult, juvenile, and hatchling)
      - 2. Oil application actions at Common Raven nest sites and effect on nest success and fledging (optional)
    - v. QA/QC process and assurances for data and reports

#### d. Discussion

- i. Compare results to 2021 egg-addling efforts for the respective strata
- ii. Summary page of recommendations for future raven monitoring and management actions (*Optional*)
- 3. All photographs and recorded details of desert tortoise remains encountered; photographs need to be GPS tagged
- 4. All photographs and recorded details of live desert tortoise observations; photographs need to be GPS tagged
- 5. All photographs and recorded data of nests; photographs need to be GPS tagged
- 6. Scanned field datasheets as pdf's
- 7. ArcGIS shapefile or geodatabase (i.e., shapefile, GPS track-log files) needs to be mailed electronically and physically on a flash drive to the USFWS contact
- 8. NFWF Final Financial Report

#### 7) References

- Hanley, B., Currylow, A., Holcomb, K. L., Shields, T., Boland, S., Boarman, W., and Vaughn, M. 2021. StallPOPdV4 Web Interactive: Software to compute population control treatments of a subsidized predator [Online Software: <a href="https://cwhl.vet.cornell.edu/tools/stallpopd#collapse5">https://cwhl.vet.cornell.edu/tools/stallpopd#collapse5</a>]. DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.7298/sk2e-0c38.4">https://doi.org/10.7298/sk2e-0c38.4</a>.
- Currylow, A., Hanley, B., Holcomb, K. L., Shields, T., Boland, S., Boarman, W., and Vaughn, M. 2021.

  Identifying population management strategies for avian predators: a decision tool. Human-Wildlife Interactions.
- Holcomb, K. L., Coates, P. S., Prochazka, B. G., Shields, T., and Boarman, W. I. 2021. A desert tortoise-common raven viable conflict threshold. Human-Wildlife Interactions, 15(3).
- Omernik, J.M. and Griffith, G.E., 2014. Ecoregions of the conterminous United States: evolution of a hierarchical spatial framework. Environmental management, 54(6), pp.1249-1266.
- USFWS, 2008. Environmental Assessment to Implement a Desert Tortoise Recovery Plan Task: Reduce Common Raven Predation on the Desert Tortoise. US DOI, Ventura, California. Available at: www.fws.gov/carlsbad/PalmSprings/DesertTortoise/Raven%20EA%20Final%203-08.pdf

# Attachment One Priority Management Actions by CHU and NPS Unit for 2023

- 1. Joshua Tree National Park and Pinto Mountains CHU
  - Initial phenology check survey of the nest to best time oiling efforts in elevation-latitude classes, (coordinate routes with NPS contact) (see Item 3, "Nest Location and Egg Oiling", beginning on page 5). NOTE: Management actions are prohibited throughout BLM Wilderness while a Minimum Tools Analysis is completed by the Bureau. Pole-mounted and handheld oil applicators are permitted in Wilderness Areas managed by Joshua Tree National Park.
  - II. Apply oil to CORA eggs to Addle (see #3)
  - III. Remove offending ravens (coordinate with USFWS, BLM, NPS contact, and WS)
  - IV. Conduct 50, 10-minute variable radius point counts between sunrise and 1400 hours when sustained winds are less than 40km/h and there is no more than light precipitation at previously determined random points.
- 2. Ord-Rodman CHU (includes a portion within Barstow Marine Corps Logistics Base)
  - Conduct 50, 10-minute variable radius point counts between sunrise and 1400h, when sustained winds are less than 40km/h and there is no more than light precipitation at previously determined random points.
- 3. Fremont-Kramer CHU (includes a portion within Edwards Air Force Base and Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area)
  - Initial phenology check survey of the nest to best time oiling efforts in elevation-latitude classes, (coordinate routes with NPS contact) (see Item 3, "Nest Location and Egg Oiling", beginning on page 5). NOTE: Management actions are prohibited throughout BLM Wilderness while a Minimum Tools Analysis is completed by the Bureau.
  - II. Apply oil to CORA eggs to Addle (see #3)
  - III. Remove offending ravens (coordinate with USFWS, BLM, NPS contact, and WS)
  - IV. Conduct 50, 10-minute variable radius point counts between sunrise and 1400h when sustained winds are less than 40km/h and there is no more than light precipitation at previously determined random points.
- 4. Superior-Cronese CHU and Fort Irwin's southeast conservation area
  - Initial phenology check survey of the nest to best time oiling efforts in elevation-latitude classes, (coordinate routes with NPS contact) (see Item 3, "Nest Location and Egg Oiling", beginning on page 5). NOTE: Management actions are prohibited throughout BLM Wilderness while a Minimum Tools Analysis is completed by the Bureau.
  - II. Apply oil to CORA eggs to Addle (see #3)
  - III. Remove offending ravens (coordinate with USFWS, BLM, NPS contact, and WS)
  - IV. Conduct 50, 10-minute variable radius point counts between sunrise and 1400 hours when sustained winds are less than 40km/h and there is no more than light precipitation at previously determined random points.

#### **Attachment Two**

## Protocol adapted from:

Berry, K.H., and A.P. Woodman. 1984. Methods used in analyzing mortality data for most tortoise populations in California, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah. Appendix 7 in Berry, K.H. (ed.), The Status of the desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) in the United States. Report to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from the Desert Tortoise Council on Order No. 11310-0083-81.

A) Shell <50 mm MCL B
B) Scutes may be fading slightly, and/or bone may be slightly porous with <75% bone surface pitted<1 year
BB) Scutes more weathered than above; bone, if still present, extremely porous with >75% bone surface pitted
C) Scutes faded, curling, maybe breaking1-2 years
CC) Scutes breaking apart, very faded, curled; growth rings peeling and cracking>2 years
AA) Shell >50 mm MCL D
D) Shell 51-120 mm MCL E
E) Scutes not fading, and/or bone solid<1 year
EE) Scutes and/or bone more weathered than above F
F) Scutes fading, growth rings beginning to peel, and/or bone solid or slightly porous1-2 years
FF) Scutes faded; growth rings peeling, cracking, and brittle. and/or bone slightly to extremely porous
G) Scutes faded, usually curling; growth rings peeling and cracking; <75% bone porous
GG) Scutes very faded, curling, usually breaking, and/or bone extremely porous (>75%)>4 years
DD) Shell >120 mm MCLH
H) Scutes not faded, and/or bone solid<1 year

HH) Scutes and/or bone m	ore weathered than above
I) Scutes of both th	ne plastron and carapace faded J
K)	rn with depressed scutes
КК	() Scutes and bone are more weathered than aboveL
	L) Some peeling and cracking of growth rings on scutes, and/or bone solid 2-4 years
	LL) Growth rings peeling and cracking, and/or bone peeling, cracking, or showing
II) C	mosaic cracking>4 years
JJ) Scutes (	on shell not depressed M
	) Growth rings not peeling or cracking, and/or one solid 1-2 years
	M) Scutes and/or bones more weathered than oveN
	N) Growth rings beginning to crack and peel on scutes, and/or bone solid 2-4 years
	NN) Growth rings peeling and cracking on scutes, and /or bone peeling, cracking, or showing mosaic cracking>4 years
II) C I	·
	the plastron or the carapace faded, but not both O
O) Shell w	orn with depressed scutes P
-	Some peeling and cracking of growth rings, usually the vertebral scute, and/or bone solid
	1-2 years
PP	) Scutes and/or bone more weathered than aboveQ
	Q) Growth rings on scutes peeling and cracking, usually not curled, and/or bone solid or beginning to crack and peel
	2-4 years

QQ) Growth rings on scutes peeling, cracking, and curled; and/or bone solid if scutes still cover it, or peelin cracking if exposed	
,	
R) Growth rings may be beginning to crack and	
peel, and/or bone solid1-2 years	
pos., aa, o. 20 20 2 - , care	
RR) Scutes and/or bone more weathered than aboveS	
,,	
S) Scutes may be curling at edges; growth rings	
cracking and peeling; and/or bone solid if still	
covered by scutes, or may show	
some cracking and peeling if exposed2-4 years	
Jours J. Jours	
SS) Scutes may be curling and/or breaking, growth	
rings cracking and peeling, and/or	
bone solid if still covered by scutes>4 years	

# Attachment Three Desert Tortoise Remains Notification Guidelines

Date Found	DTMA	Nest ID	Nesting Substrate	Easting	Northing	Species	Breeding/ Development Stage	Number of Carcasses	Description of Remains	Age Class	Time Since Death
5/30/2016	Ord-Rodman	ON051418-P059	Wooden Utility Support Structure	545314	3848714	CORA	Fledgling	3	Disarticulated	Hatchling (<60)	1-2 yrs

<sup>\*</sup>Please copy and paste cells in electronic correspondence from a Microsoft Excel document. Do not change the order of cells above.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Describe extra details, if needed, in electronic correspondence that may aid WS to find and/or remove offending ravens such as the level of difficulty in finding the nest, preferred route of travel to reach the nest, compass bearings, etc.

## Attachment Four Proposal Guidelines

The work described in this RFP for the CHUs and NPS units will be performed over a two-and-a-half-month period (Oiling: March 24 and June 9, 2023, Reports: June 10 to a maximum of June 22, 2023). Once recipients are selected, the funding agreements will be between each recipient and NFWF. All proposals should be sent via email to Eliza Braendel at Eliza.Braendel@nfwf.org by Tuesday, January 17, 2023 (5:00 pm PST).

Proposals should include the following information:

- 1. A description of how your organization plans on completing the work described in the RFP.
- 2. Information about the qualifications, experience, and past performance of the Project Director/Principal, as well as all other staff that would contribute.
- 3. Your detailed budget for the activities described in the RFP.
- 4. Your detailed survey effort by person days and hours.
- 5. The tax ID number for your organization.
- 6. The mailing address for your organization (not a P.O. Box).
- 7. Financial information for your organization, as described below in Attachment Six.
- 8. Insurance information for your organization. If selected, please be prepared to add the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as additional insured.

## Attachment Five Required Financial Documents

To consider your proposal, the Foundation requires non-Federal applicants to submit specific financial documents. ALL FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS MUST BE NO MORE THAN 2 YEARS OLD AND FROM THE SAME YEAR.

#### **State/Local Government Agencies**

- Certificate of Insurance. A Certificate of Insurance (COI) is a document issued by an insurance company that verifies the existence of insurance coverage. Specifically, the COI lists the effective date of the policy, the type of insurance coverage purchased, and the types and dollar amount of applicable liability. If funds are awarded, your organization must agree to obtain and maintain all appropriate insurance against liability for injury to persons or property from any and all activities undertaken by your organization and associated with the funding agreement in any way and must have NFWF named as an additional insured on all such policies and provide NFWF with appropriate Certificates of Insurance reflecting such additions within sixty (60) days after a funding agreement is fully executed.
- Most recent GAAP Audited Financial Statements (with Auditor's Opinion)
- A-133 Audit (if applicable for entities that expend more than \$750,000 in federal financial assistance funds in a given fiscal year)

## **Non-Profit Organizations / Universities**

- Certificate of Insurance. A Certificate of Insurance (COI) is a document issued by an insurance company that verifies the existence of insurance coverage. Specifically, the COI lists the effective date of the policy, the type of insurance coverage purchased, and the types and dollar amount of applicable liability. If funds are awarded, your organization must agree to obtain and maintain all appropriate insurance against liability for injury to persons or property from any and all activities undertaken by your organization and associated with the funding agreement in any way and must have NFWF named as an additional insured on all such policies and provide NFWF with appropriate COI reflecting such additions within sixty (60) days after a funding agreement is fully executed.
- Most recent IRS Form 990 (Income Tax Return)
- Most recent GAAP Audited Financial Statements (with Auditor's Opinion)
- A-133 Audit (if applicable for entities that expend more than \$750,000 in federal financial assistance funds in a given fiscal year)
- Certificate of Good Standing. A Certificate of Good Standing, sometimes called a Certificate of
  Existence or Certificate of Authorization, is a state-issued document used to demonstrate that a
  corporation, limited liability company, or non-profit entity exists, is authorized to do business in the
  state, and has complied with all state-required formalities. More information on requesting a
  California Certificate of Good Standing can be found here: http://kepler.sos.ca.gov/ For other states,
  please visit the Secretary of State website for the applicable state.
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure. On a separate piece of paper, state whether your organization, or any
  individuals or organizations associated with your organization, has an actual or potential conflict of
  interest with respect to NFWF, the Scope of Work, or the subject matter of your proposal and, if so,
  the nature and specific details of that conflict.
- Statement of Litigation. On a separate piece of paper, state any litigation (including bankruptcies) involving your organization and either a federal, state, or local government

agency as parties. This includes anticipated litigation, pending litigation, or litigation completed within the past twelve months. If your organization is not involved in any litigation, please state.

#### **Businesses**

- Certificate of Insurance. A Certificate of Insurance (COI) is a document issued by an insurance company that verifies the existence of insurance coverage. Specifically, the COI lists the effective date of the policy, the type of insurance coverage purchased, and the types and dollar amount of applicable liability. If funds are awarded, your organization must agree to obtain and maintain all appropriate insurance against liability for injury to persons or property from any and all activities undertaken by your organization and associated with the funding agreement in any way and must have NFWF named as an additional insured on all such policies and provide NFWF with appropriate COI reflecting such additions within sixty (60) days after a funding agreement is fully executed.
- Businesses are not required to submit financial documents.
- Certificate of Good Standing. A Certificate of Good Standing, sometimes called a Certificate of
  Existence or Certificate of Authorization, is a state-issued document used to demonstrate that a
  corporation, limited liability company, or non-profit entity exists, is authorized to do business in
  the state, and has complied with all state-required formalities. More information on requesting
  a California Certificate of Good Standing can be found here: http://kepler.sos.ca.gov/ For other
  states, please visit the Secretary of State website for the applicable state.
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure. On a separate piece of paper, state whether your organization, or any individuals or organizations associated with your organization, has an actual or potential conflict of interest with respect to NFWF, the Scope of Work, or the subject matter of your proposal and, if so, the nature and specific details of that conflict.
- Statement of Litigation. On a separate piece of paper, state any litigation (including bankruptcies) involving your organization and either a federal, state, or local government agency as parties. This includes anticipated litigation, pending litigation, or litigation completed within the past twelve months. If your organization is not involved in any litigation, please state.

#### **Individuals**

- A Certificate of Insurance (COI) is a document issued by an insurance company that verifies the
  existence of insurance coverage. Specifically, the COI lists the effective date of the policy, the
  type of insurance coverage purchased, and the types and dollar amount of applicable liability. If
  funds are awarded, you must agree to obtain and maintain all appropriate insurance against
  liability for injury to persons or property from all activities undertaken by you and associated
  with the funding agreement in any way and must have NFWF named as an additional insured on
  all such policies and provide NFWF with appropriate COI reflecting such additions within sixty
  (60) days after a funding agreement is fully executed.
- Individuals are not required to submit financial documents.
- Conflict of Interest Disclosure. On a separate piece of paper, state whether you, or any individuals or organizations associated with you, have an actual or potential conflict of interest with respect to NFWF, the Scope of Work, or the subject matter of your proposal and, if so, the nature and specific details of that conflict.
- Statement of Litigation. On a separate piece of paper, state any litigation (including bankruptcies) involving you and either a federal, state, or local government agency as parties. This includes anticipated litigation, pending litigation, or litigation completed within the past twelve months. If you are not involved in any litigation, please state.

**Attachment Six Required Datasheets** 

					,		5	.qa ca bat							
Who Found Nest: Initial Detail			Initial Detec	tial Detection Date: / / 201_ Study Area							-	(Sketch the nest location on the reverse side of this sheet.)  Comments			
Waypoint ID N11				UTM (NAD83) Zone 11S			Easting: Nortl			hing:					
Best viewed from Easting Northing				Habitat			Topography			Route					
<sup>1</sup> Nest Location: <sup>2</sup> Nest Heig			<sup>2</sup> Nest Heig	ght (m): <sup>3</sup> Nest Aspec			t: Photo ID (s)								
o be filled out at	the end of the	season					I								
Nest Fate			Cause of F				Total Young Observed			Total Young Observed Fledged			# Tort Remains Found		
WS Action Tak	en?			Carc IDs of Tort					# Pellets Co						
Observer	Date MM/DD/YY	Start Time (12hr am/pm	Time (12hr	<sup>4</sup> Species Use	# Adults Present	SBreeding/ Develop.	Stage # of Young	Descr of Yo (Age, behav	ung vior)	Tortoise Carcass & # ( <sup>6</sup> #/N/Unk)	Raven Pellets (²Y/N/Unk)	Dir of Carcass Search Transects (N-S, etc)	Expanded Search <sup>8</sup>	Comments: Cause of Failure or why chose B/D Stage (use back, too)	