



Department of the Interior Recovery Investments

Investing in America's Economic Recovery



Mojave Desert Initiative (MDI)

Need

In recent years, one million acres of the Mojave Desert have been destroyed by fire. The goal of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Mojave Desert Initiative (MDI) is to restore 3.5 million acres of lands across Arizona, Nevada, and Utah and protect this non-fire adapted ecosystem, including critical habitat for the threatened Mojave Desert Tortoise.

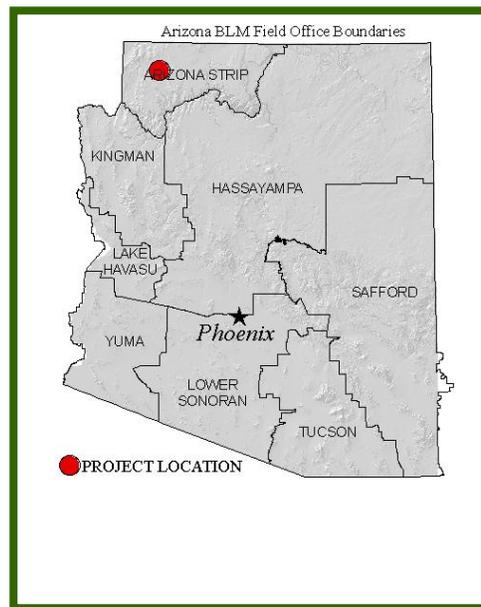
The MDI project includes improving a remote fire station and installing highway fencing to prevent tortoise mortality and monitoring the success of these improvements.

Recovery Act Funding

A contract for a fencing project was awarded to Bronze Star, Inc. for \$179,000. Bronze Star is a service disabled veteran owned small business. The last project for construction at the Pakoon fire station was awarded in late June to C3, LLC in the amount of \$718,769. The work on this project began in April, 2010 and will be completed by December, 2010.

Benefits

This initiative is intended to protect the bio-diversity of the fragile Mojave Desert ecosystem and improve ecological function. Native plant communities and animal species, including the threatened Mojave Desert Tortoise, will benefit from habitat protection and rehabilitation efforts.



More Information

For more information about this BLM-Arizona ARRA project, contact Linda Johnson, at 602-417-9576 or linda_johnson@blm.gov.