CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM

Issue: 2015-2017 Implementation Plan and Budget for the Clark County Desert Conservation Program

Petitioner: Nancy A. Amundsen, Director Comprehensive Planning

Recommendation:
That the Board of County Commissioners approve, adopt, and authorize the 2015-2017 Implementation Plan and Budget Report (IPB Report) for the Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan; approve the conversion of four limited permanent positions to full-time permanent positions; and authorize the Plan Administrator to submit the IPB Report to the US Fish and Wildlife Service; or take other action as appropriate. (For possible action)

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fund #: 2360.000
Fund Center: 1090750050
Description: 2015-2017 IPB

Fund Name: Habitat Conservation
Funded Pgm/Grant: TBD
Amount: $8,206,407

BACKGROUND:

On January 9, 2001, Clark County along with the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Boulder City, Henderson, Mesquite and the Nevada Department of Transportation (Permittees) were issued a Section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit for 78 species in Clark County by the Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The permit operates in conjunction with the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), approved by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) on July 16, 1999 and is known as the Desert Conservation Program. Clark County is responsible for administering this Program and the Assistant Director of the Department of Comprehensive Planning serves as the Plan Administrator.

The County and Permittees must expend Section 10 funds in cooperation with the USFWS for the conservation of species and habitats. These funds can only be used for the purpose of implementing the MSHCP. From March through October 2014, staff conducted budget discussions with the Permittees, Science Advisor, and the USFWS to develop project concepts and finalize the proposed Implementation Plan and Budget (IPB). The IPB was posted for public comment in September 2014.

The attached 2015-2017 IPB Report describes the development process and provides the proposed biennial budget of $8,204,407. This includes conversion of four limited permanent positions to permanent positions: one Administrative Specialist (PID#10042749) and three Environmental Specialists (PID#10042752, PID#10042751, and PID#10042753). These limited permanent positions have been consistently maintained since 2006 and are necessary to maintain critical daily operations. As such, the Department has determined these positions are needed on a permanent basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Amundsen, Director Comprehensive Planning

11/5/2014
Agenda Item #