



## Series of Wildlife Studies Come to an End



A cactus mouse is released after being inspected during the small mammal survey.

Bat surveys, a small mammal study and large mammal study have recently concluded at the Las Vegas Wash, providing valuable information on how stabilization and revegetation activities impact the local wildlife populations. The studies are action items from the Wildlife Management Plan.

The bat capture survey, dated back to 2008, was designed to complement the five years of acoustic monitoring data previously collected. This two-year study used mist nets to capture bats at four sites along the Wash. A second capture study occurred in 2010 and focused on bat and insect communities at revegetation sites to better understand food web dynamics. A total of nine species were identified during these studies. These reports are currently in review and will be available online in the near future.

The small mammal survey used arrays of Sherman live traps to sample eight sites over an approximate 18-month period. The study compared the number of species and density of small rodent species between riparian and upland habitats. A total of nine small mammal species were identified during the study and data is currently being analyzed and will be posted on the website when complete.

The year-long large mammal survey used video cameras, triggered to record when movement was detected, at 12 sites along the Wash. Since desert wildlife tends to be most active between dusk and dawn, the camera stations proved valuable in observing a total of eight species, including the spotted skunk and ring-tailed cat, which had previously gone undetected at the Wash. The report for this study is currently being drafted and is expected to be delivered to the Research and Environmental Monitoring Study Team in July. All of the above studies were funded in part by the Bureau of Reclamation.

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Administrative Study Team

April 6, 2011  
8:30 a.m.

#### Operations Study Team

April 6, 2011  
10:30 a.m.

#### Research and Environmental Monitoring Study Team

April 6, 2011  
1:30 p.m.

#### Las Vegas Valley Watershed Advisory Committee

April 12, 2011 3 p.m.

#### Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee Annual Tour

April 26, 2011  
8:30 a.m.

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## Reserve Your Spot for Wash Annual Tour

Have you reserved your spot on the bus for the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee annual tour? This year's tour will take place on Tuesday, April 26 and will start with a short briefing at 100 City Parkway before heading to the Las Vegas Wash.

The annual tour has proven to be a good opportunity for committee members to see the many activities at the Las Vegas Wash over the past year. Participants will tour current construction projects such as the Lower Narrows and Homestead weirs, visit the Spring Green-Up site to be planted at the beginning of April, and receive updates on educational outreach, wildlife surveys and water quality monitoring efforts, just to name a few.

The tour is anticipated to end by 2:30 p.m. and a box lunch will be provided. To accommodate all committee member agencies, it is requested that no more than two representatives from your agency attend. To secure your spot, please contact **Sandra Harris** at [sandra.harris@snwa.com](mailto:sandra.harris@snwa.com) or **(702) 822-3390**.