Members of the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee (LVWCC) loaded up the bus on Tuesday, April 27, for the annual tour of the Las Vegas Wash. Although it may seem like the year went by in a flash, the annual tour, which historically occurred in October, was recently changed to April to take advantage of more dependable weather and spring growth.

As the tour moved along the 12-mile stretch of the Las Vegas Wash, Elsie Sellars, Wetlands Park Coordinator for Clark County Parks & Recreation, discussed several of the current and upcoming projects at the Clark County Wetlands Park.

Additionally, the Las Vegas Wash Project Coordination Team provided updates on the Bureau of Reclamation’s construction work, public outreach efforts and wildlife monitoring activities currently taking place at the Las Vegas Wash. The tour also offered a fantastic view of the Lower Narrows and Homestead weirs, which are currently under construction and will be featured in an upcoming episode of Southern Nevada Water Authority’s Water Ways.

The annual tour provides a firsthand look at all of the work being coordinated and conducted along the Las Vegas Wash by the LVWCC, its members and its partners. Tour participants also received copies of the newly completed 2009 Year-End Report, which will be available online.

Invasive Weed Field Guide Published

The Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee (LVWCC) has recently published the Invasive Weed Field Guide for the Las Vegas Wash. The pocket-sized field guide identifies approximately 30 species of noxious weeds to help LVWCC partners and users of the Clark County Wetlands Park identify and report invasive weeds to the Las Vegas Wash Project Coordination Team. The guide not only identifies invasive weeds currently found along the Las Vegas Wash, but also other potential weed species that may be detected in the future. Identifying and eradicating invasive weeds early is important, as it prevents them from taking hold and becoming unmanageable.

The field guide contains photos of each species and a brief description highlighting several identifying characteristics, including relative size, flower color and leaf shape. Additionally, a glossary of terms associated with botany and an introduction to plant anatomy are included. In recognition of the diverse users of the Las Vegas Wash, the field guide has English and Spanish sections.

If you would like a copy of the field guide, please call (702) 822-3300. Funding for the Invasive Weed Field Guide was provided through a grant from the Bureau of Reclamation.