August 2012 **Email Update PDF** version

## **LVWCC Receives More Grant Funding**

The Bureau of Reclamation has recently contributed grant funding to the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee (LVWCC), which is being divided between water quality monitoring and revegetation projects, two of the longest ongoing projects.

The long-term water quality monitoring program began in August 2000, measuring a variety of parameters including pH, nutrient levels, selenium, organics and suspended solids.



the Las Vegas Wash.

Evaluating baseline conditions over the last 12 years has provided the LVWCC with the ability to measure water quality impacts over time with the installation of the weirs and bank protection. Data collected is coordinated and shared among LVWCC member agencies, as well as made available online.

Funds used for revegetation projects will help in the design, procurement and maintenance of areas needing revegetation due to construction or other program needs. The revegetation program works in tandem with engineering stabilization efforts (weir construction and rock stabilization) as an important resource in securing soils and meeting permit requirements.

The first Las Vegas Wash revegetation activities began in 1999, when it was determined that less than 10 percent of the historic Las Vegas Wash wetlands remained. Since then, the LVWCC has revegetated approximately 340 acres, 77 of which are wetlands.

The Bureau of Reclamation has partnered with the LVWCC over many years, resulting in many successful programs and studies. In addition, the LVWCC also receives funding from other state and federal agencies to help mitigate program costs to the local agencies. To learn more, visit lvwash.org.

## Help Keep the 'Wild' in Wildlife

Summer provides a great opportunity to experience an abundance of wildlife activity throughout the Clark County Wetlands Park, especially along the Las Vegas Wash.

The trees tend to be full of birds and if you're lucky, you'll catch a glimpse of a swimming beaver or a scampering coyote. These animals are attracted to the Las Vegas Wash due to its high productivity in both vegetated habitat and food sources. But food sources should never be provided by us.



A barn owl peers down from a tree at the Las Vegas Wash

When wild animals begin to depend on humans for food, this can have a direct negative effect on the ecosystem. Feeding wildlife can attract more predators to an area, adding more pressure to vulnerable species like the desert tortoise.

Artificial food sources also can cause serious health issues for many species that are not accustomed to it. To read more, visit Ivwash.org.

Connect With Us

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