



Call for Volunteers

It's time to start preparing and planning for the fast approaching fall Wash Green-Up. The Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee (LVWCC) is hosting the semi-annual volunteer event on **Saturday, Oct. 16**. The LVWCC is looking for approximately 500 volunteers from the public to help plant more than 5,000 trees and shrubs at a 13.25-acre area located just upstream of the Historic Lateral Weir and the City of Henderson's C-1 Channel bridge crossing.

Upcoming Meetings

Las Vegas Valley Watershed Advisory Committee

Sept. 14, 2010 3
p.m.



Two young volunteers work together at the Spring 2010 Green-Up event.

The location of the fall Wash Green-Up was cleared of non-native tamarisk trees earlier this year by Bureau of Reclamation construction crews. The site also borders the area of a Green-Up event held in 2008.

To register for the 17th volunteer Wash Green-Up event, please go to LVWash.org.

To date, more than 5,000 volunteers have revegetated nearly 125 acres of the Las Vegas Wash previously dominated by invasive plants. Replacing a monoculture of non-native plants with a more diverse native plant community increases the potential habitat for local and migrating wildlife.

LVWCC Members Receive Bioassessment Presentation

At its regular meeting in July, the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee's (LVWCC) Research and Environmental Monitoring Study Team received a report from Erin Snyder of Total Environmental Solutions, Inc. summarizing the results of the most recent collection of bioassessment data from the Las Vegas Wash. This was the third round of collections, which identifies the presence of organic and inorganic contaminants of potential concern (COPC) in water, soil sediment, fishes and bird eggs to determine if there are any that exceed the established levels.



Green sunfish was one of the analyzed species for the 2007-2008 bioassessment study.

Any report of this magnitude is usually data heavy; however, Snyder's presentation provided the survey results and compared them to the two previous rounds. Although many of the 36 organic and 22 inorganic contaminants are present in the water analyses at very low concentrations, most were not found in the soil, fish tissue or bird eggs sampled. Also of note, Duck Creek, Burns Street Channel and Monson Channel seemed to be the main contributors of most COPC due to the concentrated levels of shallow groundwater and urban runoff in these systems before being diluted by the lower Las Vegas Wash. Selenium continues to be of moderate concern in water and fish tissue samples, and the LVWCC continues to monitor selenium concentrations in the Wash. Arsenic, lead, and copper concentrations in sediment were determined to be of moderate concern. Additionally, DDT and mercury also were determined to be of moderate concern in bird eggs.

The draft report has already provided valuable data and modifications to the current 2010 bioassessment collections. The full 2007-2008 bioassessment report is expected to be available at LVWash.org in the coming months.