

Summary of Changes to Western Joshua Tree Conservation Plan – June 2025

Chapter 1 - Introduction

- No substantive changes to content
- Minor edits:
 - Clarifying language on the Fish and Game Commission's role "approval" to "final action", "approve" to "approval" (pgs. 1-6, 1-7, 1-8, 1-17).
 - Updated language to include February 2025 inter-Tribal community workshop (pgs. 1-12, 1-13).
 - Updated language to include March 2025 public workshop (pg. 1-14).
 - Minor formatting, grammatical, and punctuation edits

Chapter 2 – Planning Influences

- No substantive changes to content
- Minor edits:
 - Updated figure and table source format for consistency (pgs. 2-11, 2-17, 2-21, 2-23, 2-25, 2-28, 2-31, 2-34, 2-40, 2-42, 2-45, 2-46, 2-50, 2-51, 2-56, 2-57, 2-65, 2-66).
 - Updated some in-text references in response to correction of order of references in Chapter 9 (pgs. 2-35, 2-37, 2-38).
 - Added in-text edits for references that were missing (pgs. 2-49, 2-60).
 - Reverted to citing 2015 SWAP citation since 2025 version is not yet available (pg. 2-54).
 - Added Antelope Valley Conservancy and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) lands to Land Ownership table 2-1 (pg. 2-2).
 - Updated State Wildlife Action Plan information (pg. 2-54).
 - Added short discussion (1 paragraph) on Water Districts in "Utilities and Special Districts" (pg. 2-69).
 - Minor formatting, grammatical, and punctuation edits

Chapter 4 – Summary of Resources

- Added information on clonal growth habitat of western Joshua trees (pg. 4-30).
- Climate refugia data edits:
 - Added climate refugia maps (pg. 4-39).

- Added brief explanation of the emissions scenarios where climate refugia maps are first referenced (pg. 4-38).
 - Made corresponding edits to text (including updates to figure numbering) and updated in-text references to climate refugia data (pgs. 4-43, 4-44, 4-47, 4-49, 4-50, 4-51, 4-52, 4-53, 4-54, 4-55, 4-58, 4-59, 4-60, 4-64, 4-67, 4-70, 4-72).
- Minor clarifications and grammatical and punctuation edits

Chapter 5 – Management Actions

- Action A&M 1.2, Implement Avoidance Buffers edits:
 - Clarified purpose of zones/what each zone is aiming to protect (pg. 5-10),
 - Removed buffer measurements and simplified language (pgs. 5-10, 5-11).
- Updated language in Action A&M 2.2 on low-conflict siting for large development projects (pgs. 5-12, 5-13).
- Clarified language in Action A&M 2.4 on where seed could be useful (pg. 5-14).
- Updated language in LC&M 1 on protecting unoccupied future suitable habitat (short-distance, stepping-stone habitat) (pgs. 5-18, 5-19, 5-20, 5-21).
- Added section LC&M 4.4, Assisted Migration through Connectivity Corridors (pg. 5-30).
- R&I 1.12, Investigate Assisted Migration edits:
 - Added additional discussion of, and references to, assisted migration (pg. 5-41).
 - Edited the title for Figure 5.2, "Potential Assisted migration areas where natural migration is unlikely" (pg. 5-42).
- Updated Effectiveness Criteria language (pgs. 5-46, 5-47).
- Updated Priority Actions for Management Units language (pg. 5-49).
- Updates related to assisted migration action added in LC&M section (pg. 5-7).
- Updated in-text references to climate refugia data (pgs. 5-3, 5-7, 5-19, 5-30, 5-41, 5-42, 5-53).
- Minor grammatical and punctuation edits

Chapter 6 - Implementation

- No substantive changes to content
- Updated Permitting language how WJTCA controls permitting, not the WJTCP (pgs. 6-11, 6-12).
- Updated In Lieu Fees language about fee adjustment and how fees set forth in

WJTCA may disproportionately affect low-income residents and single-family homeowners (pgs. 6-16, 6-17).

- Minor edits:
 - In-text references correction (pg. 6-9).
 - Minor grammatical and punctuation edits

References

- Updated reference for climate refugia data (pgs. 9-26, 9-36).
- Additional references added and deletion of reference not referenced in text in Chapter 5 (pgs. 9-3, 9-4, 9-5, 9-6, 9-7, 9-8, 9-9, 9-10).
- Edits to website links that were no longer active and including links (pgs. 9-6, 9-9, 9-10, 9-20, 9-31, 9-32).
- Minor edits to grammar, chronological order, and punctuation, and updating document names that have been finalized, author name clarification

Appendix C – Tribal Input Summary

- Clarified how contact list of Tribes was generated (pg. 2).
- Added information on which emails were sent to which Tribes (pg. 4).
- Added attendees and presentation topics for the February two-day workshop (pg. 4).
- Minor clarifications and grammatical and punctuation edits.

Appendix D – Avoidance and Minimization

- Updated link in reference (pg. D-8).

Appendix E – Relocation Guidelines and Protocols

- Updated bare root and tree spade relocation percentages in Table 1
- Updated “WJT Salvage Requirement Calculator spreadsheet”
- Updated “CDFW’s Relocation Plan template”
- Relocation Requirement Considerations edits:
 - Simplified thresholds for when relocation will be required.
 - Included exemptions for single, single-family residential projects.
 - Reduced recommended relocation percentages.
- Relocation Distance and Selection Criteria edits:
 - Updated language to prioritize relocation locations within 16 kilometers, but no more than 50 kilometers from the salvage tree’s original location.
 - Updated language for relocation distance to be within 200 meters of the salvage tree’s original elevation.

- Added language that assisted migration opportunities will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- Added “Evaluation of Legal and Technical Limitations” section.
- Clarified language that site visits can be conducted by a technician with relevant experience; a Desert Native Plant Specialist is not necessarily required.
- Minor clarifications and grammatical and punctuation edits.

Appendix F – Conservation Lands Prioritization Assessment

- Updated in-text reference and full reference to climate refugia data (pgs. F-2, F-6).
- Removed “2.5 kilometer” from criteria referencing the buffered climate refugia category for consistency with the Conservation Plan (pg. F-3).