

State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) 2015

**Colorado Desert Region
Desert Wash Habitat**

What are the sensitive species found in the desert wash habitat? The following 15 desert wash species from this region are found to be sensitive:

Amphibian

Couch's Spadefoot

Reptile

Desert Tortoise

Colorado Fringe-toed Lizard

Flat-tailed Horned Lizard

Coachella Valley Fringe-toed Lizard

Red Diamond Rattlesnake

Bird

Loggerhead Shrike

Cooper's Hawk

Burrowing Owl

Crissal Thrasher

Le Conte's Thrasher

Mammal

Desert Bighorn Sheep

Burro Deer

American Badger

Kit Fox

What do we find important for recovering and sustaining healthy desert wash habitat? Ecological conditions that are found to be most critical to sustain healthy desert wash habitat in this region are:

- Area and extent
- Community structure and composition
- Connectivity
- Sediment erosion-deposition regime
- Surface Water Flow Regime
- Groundwater level

Degraded ecological conditions that are found to be impacting the desert wash habitat in this region are:

- Change in temperatures
- Change in temp extremes

- Change in precipitation
- Altered spatial distribution
- Habitat fragmentation
- Change in sediment erosion-deposition regime
- Change in fire regime
- Change in Runoff/River flow
- Change in water levels/Hydroperiod
- Change in Flooding
- Change in Functional Processes
- Loss or change in biotic interactions
- Change in community structure or composition
- Change in succession processes and ecosystem development

Human related activities and issues that are found to be sources of potential impacts to the desert wash habitat are:

- Commercial and Industrial Areas
- Mining and Quarrying
- Renewable Energy
- Utility and Service lines
- Incompatible recreational activities
- Military Exercises and Base Expansions
- Housing and Urban Areas
- Tourism & Recreation Areas
- Dams & Water Management/Use
- Roads and Railroads

More questions?

1. Come talk to us and ask questions at scoping meetings!
2. Check our Website: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/SWAP/>
3. Provide written comments

By email to: SWAP@wildlife.ca.gov

By mail: Armand Gonzales
 California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1341-B
 Sacramento, CA 95814