



**Town of Marana Habitat Conservation Plan
Stakeholder Working Group Update
Update August 25, 2011**

1. Meeting regarding Programmatic Agreement with US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Corps of Engineers, Pima County, and Town of Marana will be meeting September 7th to discuss HCP-covered projects and Clean Water Act compliance.

2. Species Listing Update

The Wild Earth Guardians (WEG), Center for Biological Diversity (CBD), and USFWS reached negotiated settlements, whereby the USFWS has agreed to publish either a proposed listing rule or a not-warranted finding for the 251 species on the Candidate Notice of Review (CNOR) list by 2016. A listing decision for the pygmy-owl is expected this year, and the Sonoran desert tortoise listing decision is expected by the end of 2015. Three other species included in the Marana HCP; the Mexican garter snake, Tucson shovel-nosed snake, and western yellow-billed cuckoo, are species on the CNOR list that are covered by the settlement. WEG agreed not to bring lawsuits challenging warranted but precluded by higher priority or to meet deadlines for listings or critical habitat decisions by the USFWS. They also agreed not to submit petitions to list more than ten species in any fiscal year. The agreement with the CBD also includes commitments regarding petition findings, all of which were also included in the multi-year work plan submitted to the District Court for the District of Columbia on May 10, 2011.

In July 2011, WEG and the USFWS mutually submitted the multi-year work plan that the Service had filed in the U.S. District Court in May. The USFWS is moving ahead with the agreed upon tasks and schedules in anticipation of approval by the Court.

The USFWS will be meeting with Town Management on September 27th for a briefing on the Multi-District Settlement, and its implications for species included in the Marana HCP.

3. HCP Revision Progress

Marana has incorporated public and government comments in the 2009 public draft HCP. The Town's capital improvement project impacts and potential private development impacts are currently being updated. Maps have been revised and include the new version of the wildlife corridor. Some EIS revisions remain to be completed. A new draft should be completed for publishing in the Federal Register for public comment later this year. The Town will also hold public meetings on the revised documents.