

## RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this document is to present public comments and responses to comments received on the Recirculated Draft Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The Final Recirculated EIR/Supplemental Final EIS is a joint programmatic document with the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) serving as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) serving as the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

CVAG, the lead agency for the EIR, released the Recirculated Draft EIR for public review and comment on March 26, 2007. The public review period ended on May 9, 2007.

The USFWS, the lead agency for the EIS, released the Supplemental Final EIS for public review and comment on March 30, 2007. The public review period ended on May 29, 2007.

Responses have been provided to comments on significant environmental points, describing the disposition of issues, explanations of the EIR/EIS analysis, supporting EIR/EIS conclusions, and clarifications, as appropriate.

This Responses to Comments document has been organized as five sections. Section 1 provides the Introduction, Section 2 provides the List of Respondents, Section 3 provides the Comments Received, Section 4 provides the Responses to Comments, and Section 5 provides clarifications and revisions to the MSHCP.

### Explanation Regarding the Organization of the Responses to Comments Document

The Lead Agencies received approximately 67 comment letters. Of those comments received, there were nine common issues which have been termed “Major Issues.” In this Responses to Comments document, the Major Issue Responses section (see Section 4) contains a comprehensive, complete analysis of the nine identified Major Issues. The Individual Responses section contains a response to each of the individual comments. Where an Individual Response could best be addressed by reference to a Major Issue Response, the Lead Agencies have so indicated.

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