

**City of San Diego  
Multiple Species Conservation Program**

**Summary of Monitoring Results for  
*Deinandra conjugens***

**June 2004**

## **Introduction**

Otay tarplant (*Deinandra conjugens*) is an endangered plant species found only in the Otay Mesa area. This plant species is considered a narrow endemic species under the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). Monitoring for this plant was conducted on June 16, 2004, within City-owned land in the Proctor Valley area (see attached map) by City of San Diego staff Holly Cheong, Betsy Miller, Khalil Martinez, and Chad Kane. The methodology and results of the monitoring are detailed below. The goal of the effort was to continue the annual collection of data for long-term monitoring of Otay tarplant under the MSCP.

## **Methodology**

Monitoring for this species was conducted in accordance with the Biological Monitoring Plan for the MSCP (Monitoring Plan), dated January 25, 1996. The location of each sampling site was determined by field level surveys and then depicted on aerial photographs. Due to low numbers of this species this year at this site, every individual was counted.

## **Results**

Surveyors counted a total of 25 flowering plants. Non-flowering individuals were not identifiable since this species co-occurs with common tarplant (*Deinandra fasciculata*) which is indistinguishable from Otay tarplant without flowers. It is assumed that all individuals were flowering at the time of survey.

## **Recommendations**

Surveys should be continued annually at the Proctor Valley location. Off-road vehicle (ORV) use is a problem at this location and continued monitoring will help to assess the impacts ORV activity is having on the Otay tarplant in Proctor Valley. Low numbers of this species this year may be attributed to low rainfall. These surveys should be combined with any annual surveys being conducted by the USFWS on adjacent refuge lands in order to determine the regional status of this species.