

**San Diego Association of Governments  
West Bernardo Mountain HMA  
Enhancement & Restoration  
San Dieguito River Park, JPA.  
Quarterly Progress Report  
Reporting Period: JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31, 2026  
Submission Date: APRIL 2026  
SANDAG Contract Number: S1125509**

## **Quarterly Status Report Overview**

**PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE OR ALTER THE FORMATTING OF THIS DOCUMENT!**

SANDAG has developed a standardized grant monitoring and tracking program for the Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Land Management Grant Program. The purpose is to collect information on individual projects and the grant program as a whole for reporting to the Regional Habitat Conservation Taskforce, SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees, and the SANDAG Board of Directors. SANDAG monitors grantees through invoices, progress reports, performance measures, and designated photograph points. These standardized reporting templates and instructions for submittal are included below.

**Work Performed this Period:**

1. **Task 1- INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL: 90% done year 3**
  - a. **Monitoring for invasive species control work.**
  - b. **Two sites: 15.33 acres.**
    - i. **2.83 acres: West/planting site.**
    - ii. **12.5 acres: Original site.**
  - c. **Comprehensive weed control occurred January through March.**
  - d. **Remaining grant funds (\$22,115.31) should be used for invasive species control and watering in years 4-5 of grant.**
  
2. **Task 2- HARVEST, GROW, DELIVER CACTI : 100% done year 3**
  - a. **575 cacti delivered February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**
  - b. **2,775 cacti have been delivered to date.**
  - c. **Task is complete.**
  - d. **Special note: \$3,993.62 of the cost of cactus was transferred from TASK 3 (Install Rooted Prickly pear cactus). \$135.90 was remaining in line item. This was approved by grantor.**
  
3. **Task 3 – INSTALL ROOTED CACTUS (2,775 project total). 100% done year 3**
  - a. **West Site: primary planting site.**
    - i. **2,375. cacti installed.**
      1. **763 installed in November and December 2024.**
      2. **237 installed in January 2025**
      3. **800 installed October and November 2025.**
      4. **575 installed in February and March 2026.**
  - b. **Original Site.**
    - i. **400 cacti installed in the original site in April (upper section) and December (dethatched area) 2024.**
  - c. **Task is complete.**
  
4. **TASK 4 – Maintain and Monitor**
  - a. **No water was imported to the site in 2026.**
  - b. **Remaining grant funds (\$22,115.31) should be used for invasive species control and watering in years 4-5 of grant**

Provide the exact work start date, a description of the work completed under each task, and percent complete. Add additional tasks as necessary

**Work Anticipated Next Period**

This does not need to be task specific but should include a short paragraph or bullet point list of activities anticipated for next quarter.

## **EMP Land Management Grants**

### *Quarterly Progress Report Template*

- **Next work period: April, May, June 2026. 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Year 3.**
- **Monitor invasive species and cactus health.**
- **Address invasive plant species as needed.**
- **Water as needed.**
- **Purchase hoses as needed.**
- **Encourage volunteer projects at the site such as hand pulling weeds and planting additional cacti.**

### Issues to Note

Please provide a brief description of any issue(s) encountered during the reporting period and any steps taken to address the issue(s).

### **Photographs & Figures**

[SEE BELOW](#)

### **SDMMP Project Page**

[Updated April 2025](#)

### **Performance Measures**

Please include the Project's Performance Measures for each Quarterly Invoice and Progress Report in order to receive reimbursement.

**EMP Land Management Grants**  
*Quarterly Progress Report Template*



**February 2, 2026:** The area upslope from the hose was treated with herbicide approximately one week prior. The image demonstrates the height of the invasive species when they were treated and the effectiveness of the crew. Crews are encouraged to be cautious near natives. Some of the missed weeds can be later spot treated by experienced applicators. Spraying invasives early requires less herbicide and opens up space for native plants. Blue dicks (*Dipterostemon capitatus*), California four o'clock (*Mirabilis laevis* var. *crassifolia*), deer weed (*Acmispon glaber*), and other natives were observed in areas that received invasive species control.

**EMP Land Management Grants**  
*Quarterly Progress Report Template*



**FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup>:** Some cacti were installed to fill gaps in the 2025 planting areas. Crews were given directions for spacing and proximity to existing plants.

In general:

- 6 feet from coastal sage scrub species to allow for expansion of this habitat and allow wildlife and people to more easily pass through the site.
- 4 feet from previously installed container cacti.
- 12 feet from existing mature cacti to allow for expansion and volunteer cactus pad planting projects.

**EMP Land Management Grants**  
*Quarterly Progress Report Template*



**March 19<sup>th</sup>:** This image features a south-facing slope and future cactus scrub habitat. The foreground marks the eastern boundary of the project site, while the red arrow in the background highlights the area of densest planting (see below). Crucially, the adjacent coastal sage scrub will serve as a vital food source for the wrens, supporting the goal of establishing a new territory at this location.

**EMP Land Management Grants**  
*Quarterly Progress Report Template*



**March 19<sup>th</sup>:** This image captures the central portion of the project site, where many of the cacti were installed. Based on data from previous projects on Bernardo Mountain, these cacti typically require 8 to 10 years of growth to reach the height (>3') necessary to provide viable nesting habitat