

Community Focus Statement A: Maintain the rural character of the community.

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Action Statement A.3: Partner with organizations and land trusts to protect and conserve Lucerne Valley’s unique natural desert habitats and wildlife corridors, and to maintain the balance between the human and natural communities to maintain a functioning desert/mountain transitional ecosystem.

Benchmark: Working closely with the Mojave Desert Land Trust and a broad range of community members and visitors, as well as governmental agencies, to offer hands-on learning experiences and volunteer opportunities.

Champion: Volunteer group or person or can be identified by the community

Estimated Cost: \$3,000–\$5,000



The Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy (CVMC) is a state agency that protects the natural and cultural resources of the Coachella Valley: the scenic, wildlife, cultural, geologic, and recreational resources that make the valley such a splendid place for people and all the other life forms. The CVMC is an example of local communities, state and federal agencies, elected officials, nonprofit organizations, and business and environmental interests working together for the good of all. For more information, visit: <http://cvmc.ca.gov/>. Photo source: Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy.

The desert landscape of Lucerne Valley serves as a vital habitat for plants and animals and greatly contributes to the quality of life in the community. Organizations like the Mojave Desert Land Trust (MDLT) strive to help everyone who lives, works, and plays in the California desert to support the significance of desert conservation through outreach and education. The MDLT works closely with a broad range of desert community members and visitors, as well with governmental agencies, to offer hands-on learning and volunteer opportunities.

Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association (LVEDA) is currently working with MDCT on a land conservation project. In addition, LVEDA has been serving as a “Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee” in order to project the environment and land use integrity from industrial-scale solar projects. Natural conservation opportunities often include the following:

- Provide outdoor education opportunities and guided hikes to explore the nature resources and beautiful desert landscape in the community.
- Engage the community by conducting outreach at local fairs and festivals and hosting lectures and workshops on understanding the relationships and processes necessary to support a healthy desert habitat and wildlife corridor.
- Identify various forms of natural resources including native plants and animals in the area, and show how different forms can change over time and climate.



- Purchase lands that have strategic conservation value, and work to ensure that all acquired land is properly maintained.

By showcasing conservation efforts to other organizations and groups in the community, Lucerne Valley can be committed to protecting conservation investments that have been made in the desert.

Action	Action Leader	Timeline	Resources
1. Contact leaders from community organizations such as the Lucerne Valley Lions Club and Wolf Mountain Sanctuary to join the Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee to organize conservation efforts. Hold a public meeting to get interested community members involved.	Champion with Community leaders and members	Month 1	Lucerne Valley Lions Club http://www.lvionsclub.com/ Wolf Mountain Sanctuary http://www.wolfmountain.com/
2. Select a member to serve as desert conservation plan lead to provide leadership to the committee and be the contact person for related topics and issues.	Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee	Month 1	Mojave Desert Land Trust https://www.mdlt.org/
3. Partner with the Mojave Desert Land Trust and other related organizations to develop a desert conservation plan for efforts to protect the desert habitat and its native plants and wildlife.	Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee, with support from Mojave Desert Land Trust, and other related organizations	Month 2	Coachella Valley Mountain Conservancy http://cvmc.ca.gov/ Wildlands Conservancy
4. Identify the desert habitats, wildlife corridors, and native plants and animals in the Lucerne Valley community to be listed in the desert conservation plan.	Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee, with support from Mojave Desert Land Trust, other related organizations	Months 2–3	
5. Develop key partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies as well as community members and visitors to promote the desert conservation plan to the community.	Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee, with support from Mojave Desert Land Trust, other related organizations, local, state, and federal agencies, community members, visitors	Months 3–5	
6. Draft and adopt the desert conservation plan that outlines proposed goals and policies to protect the desert environment.	Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee, with support from Mojave Desert Land Trust, other related organizations	Months 3–8	
7. Continue partnerships and relationships with organizations, agencies, community members, and visitors to promote knowledge and awareness of the desert habitat.	Lucerne Valley Conservation Committee, with support from Mojave Desert Land Trust, other related organizations	Ongoing	