

## AMANDA SCHEIB

Henderson, Nevada

### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**USFWS Desert Tortoise Health Assessments  
for Translocation Projects:** 2011

**Desert Tortoise Council Handling Workshop:** 2009

### QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

A competent, skilled and results-driven professional with over 12 years of experience and a strong record of achievement in providing the necessary Desert Tortoise expertise to ensure streamlined operations of threatened species while ensuring high-level survival-ability. Expertise includes:

- 12 Years of Project and Personnel Management
- 13 Years Working with Desert Tortoises including Monitoring, Surveys, Telemetry, Transmitter and iButton Attachment/Removal, and Health Assessments
- More than 2350km of Desert Tortoise Surveys
- Radio Telemetry (encountered over 7500 tortoises)
- Attachment/Removal of Transmitters (>300 completed)
- Health Assessments (>400 completed)
- Radiography (>100 completed)
- Monitoring Project Equipment and Activities (>1000 Hours)

### SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

**Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System (ISEGS):** October 2010 - Present

**Client:** NRG Energy Services, LLC

**Contact:** Tim Sisk – Environmental Business Manager – (760) 710-2129

#### **Designated Biologist**

ISEGS is a solar thermal facility located in the Ivanpah Valley of southern California on approximately 3600 acres of BLM land. During construction and operations, Solar Partners maintained quarantine pens and a head start facility prior to translocation of tortoises into the recipient areas. To date, there have been three translocations and ongoing research to characterize conditions that influence survival of translocated desert tortoises, in accordance with the monitoring requirements outlined in the 2011 Biological Opinion.

- Responsible for implementation of the California Energy Commission (CEC) biological conditions of certification, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) right of way stipulations, and United States Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) biological opinion
- Communicate with representatives of California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), USFWS, BLM and CEC, regarding all biological matters
- Supervise, conduct, and coordinate mitigation, monitoring, and all biological field activities
- Supervised and organized 150 biologists to complete USFWS Desert Tortoise clearance surveys on approximately 2200 acres

### EDUCATION

**M.S. Secondary Science Education**

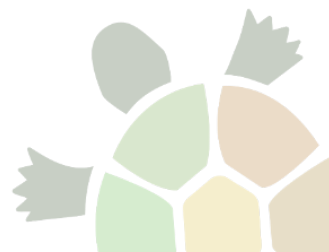
University of Tennessee - 2003

**B.S. Biology**

Lee University - 2000

**12 YEARS PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE**

**13 YEARS DESERT TORTOISE EXPERIENCE**



- Led, organized and supervised three desert tortoise translocations (58 short-distance, 17 long-distance, and 97 juvenile tortoise) and managed a crew of 13 biologists ensuring proper protocols were followed to translocate tortoises
- Supervised and organized 7 field crews to complete USFWS health assessments and blood draws on over 400 tortoises during each fall and spring from September 2012 – Spring 2017
- Implemented all USFWS methods the from Desert Tortoise Field Manual

**Hidden Hills Main Site & Mitigation Lands:** April - May 2011

**Client:** Sunday Biology, Inc.

**Contact Person:** Mercy Vaughn – Owner – (928) 380-5507

**Authorized Biologist**

Hidden Hills Main site is approximately 3300 acres of privately-owned land in Inyo County, California. Pre-Project surveys determined vegetation, desert tortoise presence/absence, and other wildlife species status at this particular location.

- Managed crew of up to 6 biologists throughout main site surveys and crew of 9 biologists during mitigation land surveys
- Served as lead field biologist conducting presence/absence surveys for desert tortoise
- Implemented all USFWS presence and absence survey guidelines
- Created site-specific data forms and QAQC for all incoming data
- Collected and entered all tortoise, wildlife, and vegetation data into database
- Managed database for project

**Line Distance Focal Sites:** March 2009 - Present

**Client:** Kiva Biological Consulting

**Contact Person:** Peter Woodman – Owner – (760)-861-3961

**Authorized Biologist**

USFWS line distance focal sites act as control sites for the annual line distance sampling. Focal site tortoises are monitored monthly, have a visual health assessment during spring or fall, and transmitter replaced close to battery end date.

- Performed radio telemetry of desert tortoises, replaced tortoise radio transmitters, performed USFWS health assessments, and completed field surveys to locate new tortoises.

**Soda Mountain Solar Project:** October 2014

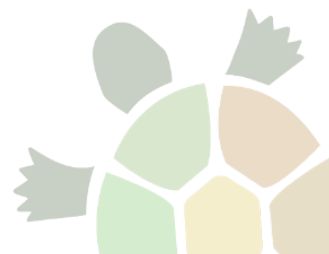
**Client:** Kiva Biological Consulting

**Contact Person:** Peter Woodman – Owner – (760)-861-3961

**Biological Monitor**

Initial installation of a monitoring well located in the valley between North and South Soda Mountains in southern California.

- Discussed potential wildlife impacts with workers prior to start of work.
- Completed field surveys for desert tortoises and other wildlife species before and during well drilling and production.
- Observed well discharge to ensure no physical changes to condition of the ground.



**Silver State Solar:** February – April 2011

**Client:** Kiva Biological Consulting

**Contact Person:** Peter Woodman – Owner – (760)-861-3961

**Biological Monitor**

Silver State Solar Project is located in Ivanpah Valley but in unincorporated Clark County on BLM land. This project was the initial groundbreaking activities, which included installation of a water well, temporary utilities, and desert tortoise exclusion fence.

- Completed preconstruction surveys for desert tortoises prior to fence installation
- Completed USFWS clearance surveys of project area for desert tortoises
- Assisted with USFWS health assessments.
- Responsible for managing and QA/QC of all incoming data.

**Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) 29 Palms:** October - November 2010

**Client:** Kiva Biological Consulting

**Contact Person:** Peter Woodman – Owner – (760)-861-3961

**Authorized Biologist**

This project located on MCAGCC encompassed recruitment of new tortoises into an ongoing tortoise monitoring program. Health assessments were completed on all new and existing desert tortoises.

- Completed ground searches for desert tortoises
- Performed health assessments on desert tortoises

**Fort Irwin Western Expansion Area:** September - October 2009

**Client:** Kiva Biological Consulting

**Contact Person:** Peter Woodman – Owner – (760)-861-3961

**Desert Tortoise Biologist**

Fort Irwin National Training Center was considering expanding its operational grounds west of the main base. Desert Tortoise clearance surveys were performed in Fall 2009.

- Served as lead biologist coordinating ground surveys for desert tortoises
- Managed all incoming data including QAQC
- Submitted weekly reports of all field data
- Performed field surveys to locate desert tortoises
- Attached transmitters to tortoises
- Completed radio telemetry of desert tortoises

**Fort Irwin Southern Expansion Area and Translocation Sites:** March - September 2011

**Client:** Kiva Biological Consulting

**Contact Person:** Peter Woodman – Owner – (760)-861-3961

**Desert Tortoise Biologist**

Fort Irwin National Training Center's expansion in 2006 - 2007 entailed desert tortoise clearance surveys.

- Conducted 420 hours of field surveys for the federally threatened desert tortoise
- Reconciled written and electronic data collected on tortoises
- Coordinated field workers to complete bi-weekly tracking and managed incoming data
- Performed radio telemetry on desert tortoises and collected burrow data
- Trained personnel on permanent attachment of transmitters on tortoises

