

Desert Tortoise Sterilization Clinic

August 29 & 30, 2017

The US Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Clark County and Tortoise Group are again sponsoring a 2-day, desert tortoise sterilization clinic and wet lab **on AUGUST 29 & 30, 2017 at the Oquendo Center in Las Vegas, NV**. This workshop is being offered to veterinary practitioners of desert tortoises to address the unregulated backyard breeding of desert tortoises and to ensure that all tortoises that are adopted are unable to breed. We encourage both veterinarians and their technicians attend.

The workshop is being offered to Veterinarians and their technicians free of charge: all participants are responsible for the cost of travel, lodging and meals. Lunch during the workshop will be provided through the Oquendo Center's catering service. Menus will be sent out prior to the workshop and payment will be accepted during registration.

Last year's participants encouraged to attend: We are encouraging veterinarians and their technicians that attended last year are encouraged to attend again this year as a refresher and opportunity to increase your knowledge and experience with these techniques.

Continuing Education Credit: we are currently working with the Nevada Board of Veterinary Medicine to allow participants to obtain Continuing Education Credit for attending. We will provide additional details once we obtain approval for CEC. Full attendance for both days is required to receive CEC. No partial CEC will be offered.

Non-endoscopic ovariectomy technique: Veterinarians will be trained on how to perform this surgery without the use of an endoscope.

Expand your practice: our intent is that once trained you will be able to offer these sterilization procedures in your clinic. Lectures on assessment of general tortoise health, basic medicine, common procedures, anesthesia and surgery will be provided prior to the hands-on wetlab/clinic.

Other techniques: physical examination, choanal flush, how and where to administer injections safely, ultrasound evaluation of ovaries, endoscopic sexing of sub-adult tortoises, anesthesia and other procedures associated with ovariectomy and phallectomy will be taught.

A limited number of slots are available for veterinarians and one of their technicians, please reserve your spot by July 26th with an RSVP to Flo Gardipee, flo_gardipee@fws.gov or (702) 515-5243.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding the clinic.