

WHY ON THE AIR FORCE?

It is suspected that the rough-tailed gecko was transported here from the Middle East on cargo. We want to see if the gecko prefers urban habitat over natural, so we are comparing the gecko's populations on both.



WHAT WE ARE DOING



We are counting gecko populations

There is an invader on NAFB! It's common name is the rough-tailed gecko. They're small but could have detrimental effects. To assess their impact, we are collecting the gecko's body metric information, along with the metrics of a native gecko, the western banded gecko

WHY ARE THERE PEOPLE COLLECTING GECKOS??

A GECKO STUDY ON NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE



HOW WILL THIS EFFECT ME?



As you can see the gecko is very small and both look quite similar. This is the western banded gecko.

There will be no effects on the people at NAFB. You'll just notice us walking around the base in the evenings. If you see a gecko that you suspect might be in this study, just leave it alone as to not effect the results.

WHY IS THIS HELPFUL?

What CEMML does

CEMML supports resource conservation on military lands. They employ professionals with expertise in natural resources and research. [1]

How this could stop the invasion

After the population counts are conducted, we will assess if the invasive gecko is causing enough damages to environment to create a management plan.

What do invasives do?

The Mojave Desert is already a limited resource environment. These animals have evolved to adapt to what little they already have. With an invasive added to the competition, they could have a broad habitat tolerance and consume the resources that the native populations require[2]. This could be detrimental to the native's populations and breeding resource requirements.

Citations:

- 1.Center for Environmental Managment of Military Lands (About - CEMML (colostate.edu))
2. Invasive Species Extension (Invasives in the Southwestern U.S. – Invasive Species (extension.org))