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MORONGO BASIN CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
POSITION STATEMENT AND VIDEO REGARDING SHORT TERM RENTALS

Morongo Basin, CA – May 14, 2022

MBCA has been active in following and commenting on the housing crisis within the communities of the Morongo Basin over the last several years. In an effort to bring more awareness to this important issue, MBCA is releasing the following:

Morongo Basin Conservation Association Position Statement on Short-Term Rentals (STRs)

MBCA Mission Statement:

MBCA advocates for the healthy desert environment that nurtures our rural character, cultural wealth, and economic well-being.

Safe and stable housing provides the foundation for our economic well-being and is the backbone of a strong community. This foundation is being undermined by the massive influx of STRs in the Morongo Basin. The unchecked conversion of existing housing and construction of new STRs by investor LLCs and companies has both displaced long-time residents and overwhelmed our housing market affecting residents of all levels of income.

For our communities to thrive, an adequate and balanced mix of housing types is necessary to meet the needs of the community. MBCA supports locally owned, operated and managed STRs with regulations that prioritize opportunities for our residents and that benefit our tourism-based economy.

MBCA supports the imposition of a temporary ‘pause’ in the issuance of new STR permits to allow study and consideration so that policies can be adopted and regulations enacted that balance the needs of the community with the interests
of STR owners along with the protection of the environment upon which we all depend.

In tandem with the position statement, MBCA has released an 8-minute video production of interviews with local residents, business owners and housing advocates describing the impacts of the local housing shortage on the community. The video may be viewed by visiting MBCA’s website: www.mbconservation.org