

Lower Duchesne Wetlands Project

Questions & Answers

MOSQUITOES AND WEST NILE VIRUS

Q: Will the Lower Duchesne Wetlands Project (LDWP) increase the risk of mosquito-borne West Nile Virus?

A: No. In fact the risk may be reduced.

- Under the Project's Proposed Action all potential mosquito-breeding habitat within project boundaries will be treated for mosquitoes in accordance with a Mosquito Control Plan (outlined in Appendix G of the Final Environmental Impact Statement - FEIS).

Q: What are the mosquito habitat "baseline conditions"?

A: The following are the "baseline conditions", which are the existing conditions and the conditions that would prevail **if the project were NOT implemented:**

- Within the total 4,807 acres of the Project, 2,082 acres (43%) currently provide mosquito-breeding habitat.
 - 421 acres (9%) provide primarily habitat for the type of mosquito species capable of carrying West Nile Virus.
 - 1,619 acres (33%) provide primarily habitat for "nuisance mosquitoes" - not known to carry West Nile Virus in Utah.
 - 42 acres (1%) provide habitat for both mosquito types.
- Of the 2,082 acres of potential mosquito-breeding habitat, only 636 acres are privately owned and subject to mosquito control. The remaining 1,446 acres are Tribally owned and only sporadically treated.

Q: How will the LDWP affect mosquito-breeding habitat?

- A:**
- Within the total Project area of 4,807 acres, the Proposed Action would result in an increase of 497 acres of mosquito-breeding habitat, all of which would be treated under the Mosquito Control Plan.
 - Of the 497 acres, slightly more than half (271 acres) would provide primarily habitat for the type of mosquito species capable of carrying West Nile Virus.
 - The balance (226 acres) would provide primarily habitat for "nuisance mosquitoes".
 - Within the Uresk site, near Myton (see map on reverse side of this page), there would be a net increase of 124 acres of potential mosquito-breeding habitat (of which 68 acres would be of the West Nile Virus type and 56 acres would be of the "nuisance mosquitoes" type), all of which would be treated under the Mosquito Control Plan.
 - The Proposed Action would result in a less than 0.4 percent increase in mosquito-breeding habitat within the Uinta Basin.

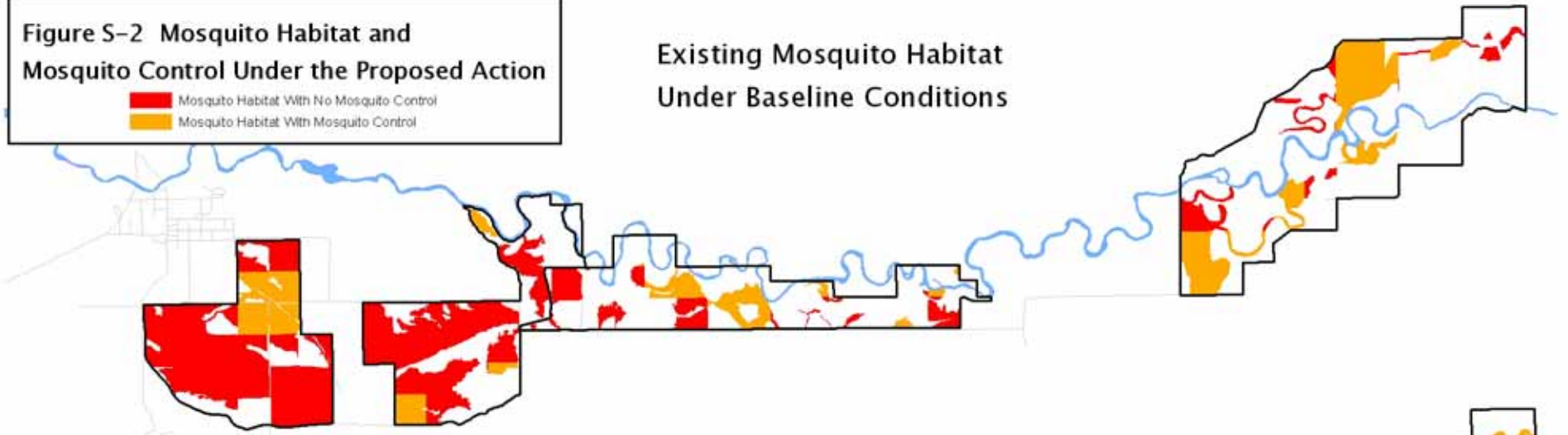
Q: How and when would the Mosquito Control Plan be implemented?

- A:**
- All 2,579 acres of mosquito-breeding habitat would be treated, a significant increase over baseline conditions.
 - The Ute Tribe would implement the program, using federal funds, during project construction and continuing through project operation.

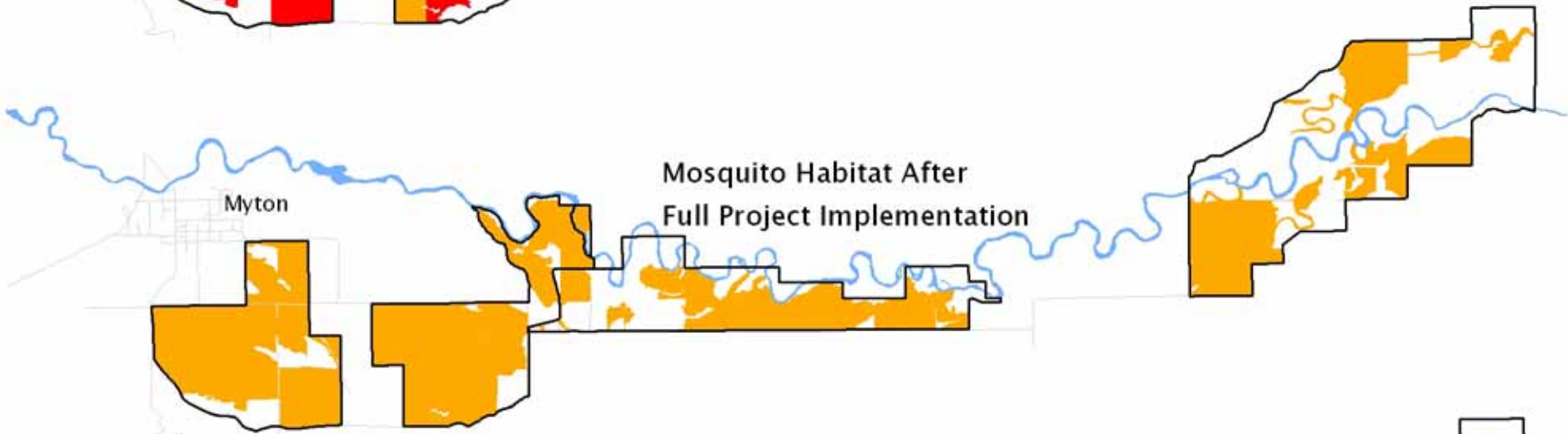
Figure S-2 Mosquito Habitat and Mosquito Control Under the Proposed Action

- Mosquito Habitat With No Mosquito Control
- Mosquito Habitat With Mosquito Control

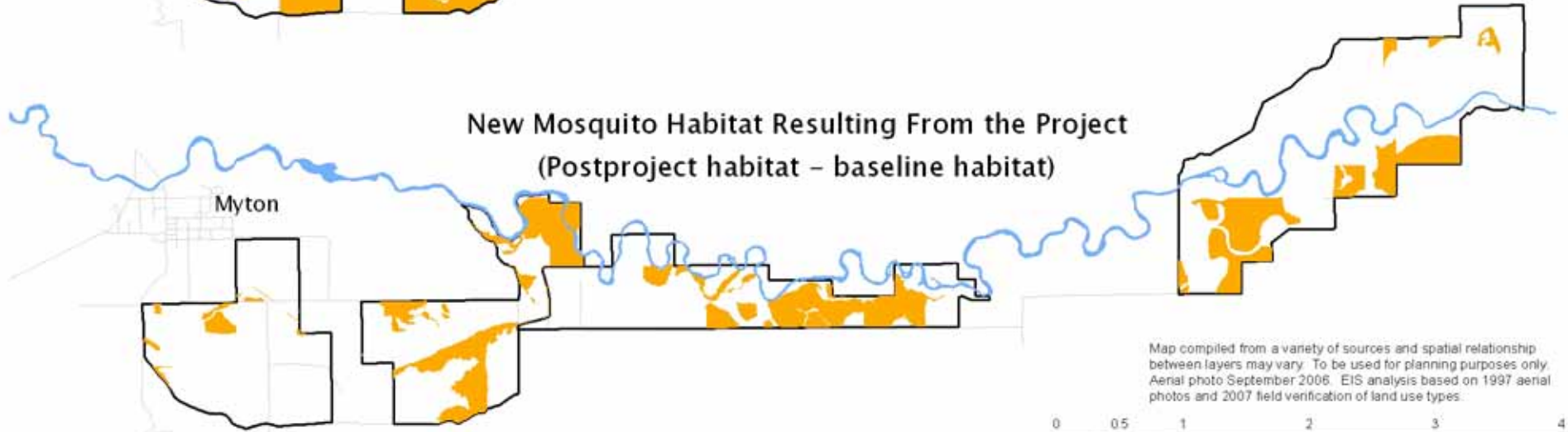
Existing Mosquito Habitat Under Baseline Conditions



Mosquito Habitat After Full Project Implementation



New Mosquito Habitat Resulting From the Project (Postproject habitat - baseline habitat)



Map compiled from a variety of sources and spatial relationship between layers may vary. To be used for planning purposes only. Aerial photo September 2006. EIS analysis based on 1997 aerial photos and 2007 field verification of land use types.

