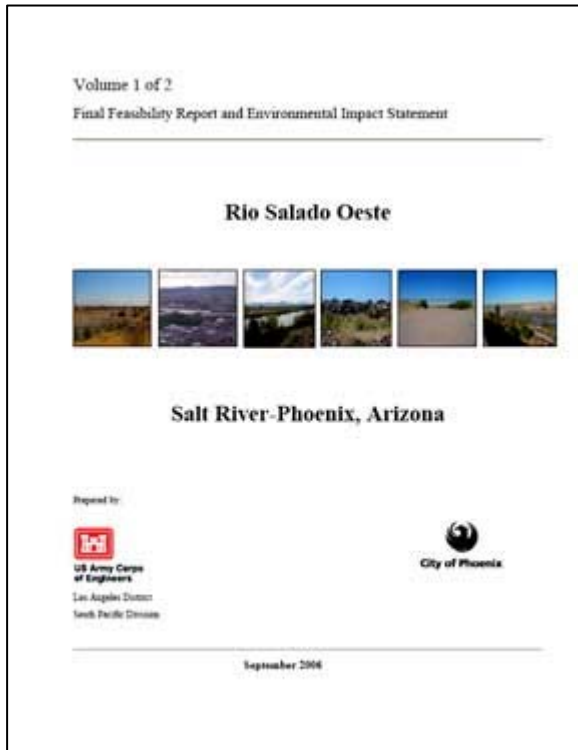


Salt River (Rio Salado Oeste), Phoenix, Maricopa County, Arizona

18 October 2006



Abstract: The Rio Salado Oeste study area is located in Maricopa County, Arizona, and is entirely within the City of Phoenix encompassing eight miles of the Salt River from 19th to 83rd Avenues on the southwest side of the city. The recommended plan would restore approximately 1,500 acres of riverine habitat throughout the 8-mile study area returning the river channel to a more natural state by grading and terracing the channel from 19th to 83rd Avenues. Stormwater outfalls would be modified to improve water retention and cottonwood/willow, mesquite, and wetland cover types restored throughout the project area. Two old gravel pit lakes would also be restored to wetland and riparian complexes. The plan also includes control of invasive species such as saltcedar and arundo throughout the life of the project. Water supply and distribution for the alternative is to be provided through a combination of 8 million gallons per day (mgd) of reclaimed effluent from the 23rd Avenue Waste Water Treatment Plant, and by harvesting of storm water. Recreation features includes 16 miles of multipurpose trails, access points and parking, shelters, utilities and restroom facilities as well as access control and signage.

The estimated first cost of the recommended plan is \$164,950,000. The project cost will be shared between the Federal government and the city of Phoenix. The estimated Federal share of the total project cost would be approximately \$105,540,000 and the estimated non-Federal share would be approximately \$59,410,000. The estimated total first cost of the ecosystem restoration portion of the recommended plan is \$153,770,000. The recreation features have an estimated first cost of \$11,180,000. The total estimated annual operation and maintenance costs for the project, which are the responsibility of the non-Federal sponsor, are estimated to be \$2,880,000. The non-Federal sponsor will also provide for an associated water cost of \$817,000 annually.

In Arizona, over ninety percent of riparian areas have been lost due to impacts from historical settlement and urbanization. Restoration of these areas is significant because riparian areas in the Southwest represent only one percent of the landscape yet contribute to the survival of seventy-five to ninety percent of wildlife in the arid West. The recommended plan would restore a significant ecosystem resource along the Pacific Flyway for neo-tropical birds, reconnect wildlife corridors, and restore wildlife habitat for species significant to Arizona.

Report Documentation: Pertinent documentation on the project, the results of the CWRB, and subsequent Washington Level Review Actions are linked below.

- [CWRB Agenda](#)
- [Project Summary](#)
- [CWRB Briefing Slides](#)
- [CWRB Lessons Learned](#)
- [CWRB Meeting Record](#)
- [Comment Letters](#)

- [Documentation of Review Findings](#)
- [Signed Chief of Engineers Report](#)
- ASA (CW) Review Initiated
- Transmittal to OMB
- OMB Clearance
- Congressional Notification
- Signed Record of Decision
- Authorization
 - [Section 1001 \(5\) WRDA 2007](#)
 - [Full WRDA Text](#)

Additional Information:

[South Pacific Division](#)

[Los Angeles District](#)

[Rio Salado Oeste Ecosystem Restoration
Feasibility Study and Project Contacts](#)