

**Work Task B2: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (SWFL) Prey Base Study**

**Partners:** University of California-Davis (UCD)  
Bureau of Reclamation

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**Purpose:** Investigate southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) diet by acquiring fecal samples and sampling insects within occupied SWFL breeding sites along the lower Colorado River. Knowledge of the SWFL prey base utilized will be used in the development of habitat and the criteria by which habitat will be judged suitable for the species.

**Conservation Measure:** MRM1

**Long-term Goal:** A report on SWFL diet will be completed in FY05. Further studies will be implemented as needed, and in conjunction with other similar studies, to determine potential differences in prey species and abundance between occupied and unoccupied SWFL breeding sites. This information will be used in the development of habitats under the LCR MSCP for this species.

**FY04 Obligation:** \$41,032 was obligated for the agreement.

**FY04 Accomplishment:** Insect and fecal samples were obtained and delivered to UCD during the 2004 field season. UCD provided Reclamation with the analysis of insect and fecal samples.

**Project description:** Reclamation obtained insect samples from four sites used as demography study sites by SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) under the contract initiated in 2003. In addition, fecal samples were obtained from SWFLs captured by SWCA during banding at these demography study sites. Insects and fecal samples were sent for identification. While this is similar to other research carried out at higher elevations in Arizona, this research is more specific to the LCR MSCP planning area.