

Work Task E19: Needles-Topock (AZ RM 240) Stabilization

FY05 Estimate	FY05 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY05	FY06 Approved Estimate	FY07 Proposed Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate
\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Contact: Gail Iglitz, (702) 293-8138

Start Date: FY05 **Expected Duration:** Closed in FY05

Long-term Goal: Habitat creation

Conservation Measures: CLRA1, WIFL1, WRBA2, WYBA3, CRCR2, YHCR2, LEBI1, YBCU1, ELOW1, GIFL1, GIWO1, VEFL1, BEVI1, YWAR1, SUTA1, and MNSW2

Location: Reach 3, Havasu National Wildlife Refuge, River Miles 240-244, AZ

Purpose: Integrate Reclamation's river stabilization responsibilities with LCR MSCP habitat restoration goals to stabilize a section of river and provide quality habitat. The combining of resources is expected to benefit both programs.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): This Work Task was previously included in the Draft FY05 Work Tasks as Needles-Topock (Az Rm 240) Stabilization, Havasu National Wildlife Refuge (E2). Work Task E19 has been closed.

Project Description: Located on Havasu NWR, the Needles-Topock bankline has seen an increasing amount of erosion and shelving due to increased recreational use. The increased use of motor-driven boats and personal watercraft created a significant amount of wave action against the sandy bankline, which intensified the loss of land due to erosion and increased the sediment load in the river.

The opportunity existed to incorporate the development of various habitats, such as marsh, riparian, and backwater environments, with stabilization techniques of the bankline. Along with the stabilization techniques, a passive flood irrigation system would have been utilized. The intent of this type of system was to decrease the costs associated with maintenance and personnel to operate irrigation systems. The passive irrigation system would allow water to flood the site when river flows exceed 12,000 cubic feet per second. These flows are generated during the seasons (spring, summer and fall) of high water demand downstream. They also coincide with both the growing season for trees/vegetation, and the migration and breeding season of the SWFL.

The site would be contoured to create elevation changes which would allow low areas to be saturated or filled pockets of standing water. Areas of contouring would allow for the creation of marsh. Approximately 50 acres of a long linear mosaics of habitats would be created and serve

as a connection to other restoration sites along the LCR.

FY05 Accomplishments: Initial discussions determined that this joint project could meet the LCR MSCP objectives of minimum cottonwood-willow habitat patch size identified in the LCR MSCP HCP.

FY06 Activities: The project was significantly scaled back to use a different approach for stabilizing a small portion of the bankline. It was determined the modified design will not accommodate minimum LCR MSCP habitat objectives. Therefore, LCR MSCP involvement in the project was discontinued.

FY07 Proposed Activities: This Work Task is closed.