

Work Task F2: Avian Use of Restoration Sites

FY05 Estimate	FY05 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY05	FY06 Approved Estimate	FY07 Proposed Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate
\$50,000	\$77,571	\$77,571	\$125,000	\$150,000	\$175,000	\$200,000

Contact: John Swett, (702) 293-8574

Start Date: FY05 **Expected Duration:** FY55

Long-term Goal: Post-development monitoring

Conservation Measures: AMM1, AMM3, MRM1, MRM2, CLRA1, WIFL1, LEBI1, BLRA1, YBCU1, ELOW1, GIFL1, GIWO1, VEFL1, BEVI1, YWAR1, SUTA1, and CMM2

Location: Beal Lake, Havasu NWR; PVER, California; CVCA, Cibola Nature Trail, Hart Mine Marsh, Cibola NWR, Cibola, Arizona; Imperial Ponds, Imperial NWR; Arizona, and Pratt Restoration, Yuma, Arizona.

Purpose: Monitor avifauna use of habitat creation sites to provide data for the adaptive management process and to develop management guidelines for created habitat sites.

Connections with other Work Tasks (past and future): Post-development avian monitoring will be conducted at habitat creation sites listed in Section E. In addition, information obtained from this Work Task may be used to provide data to avian system monitoring Work Tasks D1, D2, D5, D6, and D7.

Project Description: Riparian habitat creation will benefit nine LCR MSCP covered avian species, including SWFL and YBCU. Habitat creation and restoration demonstration sites will be monitored for bird activity, using a variety of techniques including point counts, area searches, and species-specific survey protocols. Protocols will be developed to monitor habitat creation sites as the LCR MSCP evolves. Data gathered will be used to guide the design of future riparian habitat creation projects to provide covered species habitat.

FY05 Accomplishments: Monitoring for avian covered species occurred at three restoration sites: Pratt, Beal Lake, and the Cibola Nature Trail. Mean relative abundance of individual birds was highest at the Cibola Nature Trail site. The Cibola Nature Trail site contained more habitat generalists than Pratt due to its small patch size, open habitat, and surrounding agricultural fields. Riparian associated species, such as song sparrow and common yellowthroat, benefit from adjacent water sources, as occurred at the Beal Lake site. Avian use was summarized and evaluated for each site and compared between sites. Conclusions can not be derived after one year of data collection as bird populations fluctuate too dramatically. Monitoring needs to be conducted for multiple years to provide the data necessary for worthwhile conclusions.

In addition, SWFL surveys were conducted at the Pratt and Cibola Nature Trail restoration demonstration sites by Reclamation biologists during the 2005 breeding season. No breeding SWFL were detected at these two sites.

FY06 Activities: Conduct pre-development monitoring at habitat creation sites identified in Section E, including CVCA, PVER, and Hart Mine Marsh. Conduct post-development monitoring at existing restoration sites, including Beal Lake, Cibola Nature Trail, Imperial Ponds, CVCA, and PVER. Starting in 2006, SWFL surveys will be conducted under D2 for the Cibola Nature Trail and the Beal Lake Riparian and Marsh.

Proposed FY07 Activities: Conduct pre-development monitoring at restoration sites identified in Section E, including CVCA, PVER, and Hart Mine Marsh. Conduct post-development monitoring at existing restoration sites, including Beal Lake, Cibola Nature Trail, Imperial Ponds, CVCA, and PVER.

Pertinent Reports:

*Avian Post-Development Monitoring at the Beal Lake Restoration Site, Breeding Season, 2005, Results of the 2005 Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) Surveys on the Pratt and Cibola Nature Trail Restoration Sites,*

Avian Post-Development Monitoring of the Restoration Sites along the LCR, Breeding Season, 2005,

Avian Post-Development Monitoring at the Pratt Restoration Site, Breeding Season, 2005,

Avian Post-Development Monitoring at the Cibola Nature Trail Restoration Site, Breeding Season, 2005 will be posted on the LCR MSCP website.

Restoration Plans will be written for each habitat creation project listed in Section E including a monitoring section.