

Work Task D4: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Presence/Absence Survey — Hualapai Tribal Lands

FY06 Estimates	FY06 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY06	FY07 Approved Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate
\$68,000	\$66,046	\$130,703	\$76,000	\$78,000	\$0	\$0

Contact: Theresa Olson, (702) 293-8127, tolson@lc.usbr.gov

Start Date: FY05

Expected Duration: FY08 decision point

Long-term Goal: System monitoring for the SWFL on Hualapai tribal lands within the Grand Canyon.

Conservation Measures: AMM1, AMM3, MRM1, MRM2, and WIFL2

Location: Hualapai Tribal Lands in the Grand Canyon downstream of Separation Canyon; AZ.

Purpose: Conduct SWFL surveys on Hualapai tribal lands in the Grand Canyon as part of the system monitoring program. Identify SWFL population, breeding sites, and specific threats to SWFL habitat on tribal lands.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Surveys conducted under this work task provide system monitoring coverage for SWFL in areas not covered by D2. Protocols used in D2 are replicated under this work task to provide comparable data.

Project Description: Reclamation provided the Hualapai Tribe funding to conduct presence/absence surveys for SWFL on tribal lands within the Grand Canyon. These surveys are conducted on sensitive tribal lands not included in the system-wide SWFL monitoring program. These surveys enable the Tribe to manage occupied SWFL by avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting SWFL, as well as providing data to the system monitoring program.

Previous Activities: Reclamation has funded SWFL surveys on Hualapai tribal lands since 1997.

FY06 Accomplishments: The Hualapai Tribe surveyed 11 sites on tribal lands within the Grand Canyon between Separation Canyon and the river delta with Lake Mead. Important recreational areas, such as Spencer Creek, were surveyed and appropriate management actions have been undertaken to minimize impacts to SWFL breeding sites (limiting visitor access, changing helicopter flight patterns). Surveys were conducted from May 9 to July 20, 2006. Three pairs and two additional singing males were located during the breeding season. Although habitat has

declined in quality in many areas, suitable habitat was still present in 2006. However, areas nearer to Lake Mead have developed into denser higher quality habitat.

FY07 Activities: Hualapai Tribal biologists will conduct presence/absence surveys on sensitive Hualapai tribal lands below Separation Canyon and will continue to coordinate with other banding and nest-monitoring activities.

Proposed FY08 Activities: Hualapai Tribal biologists will conduct presence/absence surveys on sensitive Hualapai tribal lands below Separation Canyon. The current agreement between Reclamation and the Hualapai Tribe extends through 2008. Reclamation will re-evaluate the need for future studies and surveys.

Pertinent Reports: *Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys in Lower Grand Canyon, FY2006* is available upon request from the LCR MSCP.