

## Work Task C3: Multi-Species Conservation Program Covered Species Profile Development

FY07 Estimates	FY07 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY07	FY08 Approved Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate
\$15,000	\$34,848	\$244,140	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000

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**Start Date:** FY05

**Expected Duration:** FY55

**Long-term Goal:** Species research.

**Conservation Measures:** AMM1, AMM2, AMM3, AMM5, AMM6, MRM1, MRM2, MRM3, CLRA1, CLRA2, WIFL1, WIFL2, DETO1, DETO2, BONY2, RASU2, WRBA1, WRBA2, WYBA1, WYBA3, DPMO1, CRCR1, CRCR2, YHCR1, YHCR2, LEB11, BLRA1, BLRA2, YBCU1, YBCU2, ELOW1, GIFL1, GIWO1, VEFL1, BEV11, YWAR1, SUTA1, FTFL1, FTFL2, FLSU1, MNSW1, MNSW2, CLNB1, CLNB2, PTBB1, PTBB2, CRTO1, CRTO2, CRTO3, LLFR1, LLFR2, AND LLFR3.

**Location:** System-wide.

**Purpose:** Assess existing knowledge for each LCR MSCP covered species to determine research needs and habitat requirements for current and future habitat creation projects.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** Information collected during this literature review is currently being used to develop future work tasks, design monitoring programs, design habitat creation projects, and implement the adaptive management process. Information from this work task will be utilized under E15 and E16.

**Project Description:** To successfully create habitat for LCR MSCP covered species, species accounts have been developed. Extensive literature searches were conducted to accumulate existing knowledge on each covered species. Species accounts were written for both covered and evaluation species, including known habitat requirements and management concerns. Data gaps were identified to direct covered species research priorities.

**Previous Activities:** FY05 activities were designed to provide information for the development of backwater rating criteria for LCR MSCP covered species. These data and models were used to prioritize backwater restoration projects.

Species accounts were completed for nine LCR MSCP covered species that use backwater, marsh, or riparian/marsh interface habitats. Species accounts for RASU, BONY, and FLSU

included sections on distribution, historical habitat modifications, systematics and morphometrics, hybridization, habitat, reproduction, diet, age, and growth.

Data on distribution, migration, habitat, nesting, food habits, and conservation and management were incorporated for California black rail, Yuma clapper rail, western least bittern, southwestern willow flycatcher, and western yellow-billed cuckoo. The species account for Colorado River cotton rat included data on distribution, systematics, habitat, nesting, food habits, and conservation and management.

Species accounts for the 25 covered species and 5 evaluation species listed in the HCP that utilize terrestrial, marsh, and riparian habitats have been developed. A species account was not developed for humpback chub as there is neither critical habitat nor occupied habitat for this species within the LCR MSCP program area.

These species accounts were based on extensive literature searches for each species and include the most recent scientific information. These accounts include current knowledge about each species' legal status, life history, distribution, habitat requirements, behavior, and LCR MSCP conservation measures as it relates to the creation and management of the species' habitats. Reclamation will use these species accounts to identify information needed for the creation and management of covered species habitats, enabling the successful completion of conservation measures. The LCR MSCP research and monitoring data needs have been identified for each covered and evaluation species, where appropriate. These needs have been prioritized in a draft 5-year plan and will be completed according to importance, urgency, and cost. Other potential research and monitoring opportunities, either identified through this process or by other scientists or conservation programs, that are outside of the scope and purpose of the LCR MSCP have also been listed to further non-LCR MSCP conservation activities.

**FY07 Accomplishments:** Additional staff time was necessary to complete literature searches, literature acquisition, data compilation, and cataloging information in a database. The draft species accounts were completed in FY07.

**FY08 Activities:** The species accounts will be finalized in FY08. Species accounts will be updated as new information is collected through monitoring and research.

**Proposed FY09 Activities:** Each year, information gathered from recent literature will be incorporated into the species accounts.

**Pertinent Reports:** *Species Accounts for the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Covered Species* will be posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.