

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

FY07 Estimates	FY07 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY07	FY08 Approved Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate
\$76,000	\$71,105	\$201,808	\$78,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

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Start Date: FY05

Expected Duration: FY08

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.

FY07 Accomplishments: The Hualapai Tribe surveyed 12 sites on tribal lands within the Grand Canyon between Separation Canyon and 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 8 to July 26, 2007. A single singing male was found at Bradley Bay, a new site on the Lake Mead delta, on the third survey (June 5, 2007). The individual was singing intermittently, but banding status was unknown, and this bird was not

encountered during subsequent surveys. No other birds were located in 2007. Habitat qualities have declined in several sites with many trees falling down, and dry conditions under the stands. Other areas, where water was available from springs or falls such as Columbine Falls, remained in good condition.

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.

Proposed FY09 Activities: After the 2008 field season, Reclamation and the Hualapai Tribe will determine whether further SWFL surveys are required on Tribal lands within the Grand Canyon. Habitat degradation and recent survey results may preclude the need for additional surveys in FY09. Surveys may be initiated again in future years as conditions change or additional data is required.

Pertinent Reports: *Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys in Lower Grand Canyon, FY2007* is available upon request from the LCR MSCP.