

Work Task F3: Small Mammal Colonization of Restoration Sites

FY07 Estimates	FY07 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY07	FY08 Approved Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate
\$50,000	\$30,038	\$67,799	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000

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Start Date: FY05

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-term Goal: Conduct pre- and post-development monitoring for small mammal species.

Conservation Measures: AMM1, AMM5, AMM6, MRM2, DPMO1, CRCR1, CRCR2, YHCR1, and YHCR2.

Location: Beal Lake, Havasu NWR; PVER, CA; CVCA, Cibola Nature Trail, Hart Mine Marsh.

Purpose: Monitor small mammal populations within habitat creation sites. Data will be used in the adaptive management process to guide the design of future habitat creation projects targeting covered small mammal species.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Post-development small mammal monitoring will be conducted at habitat creation sites listed in Section E. In addition, information obtained from this work task, in conjunction with C27, will be used to define habitat requirements for future habitat creation projects.

Project Description: Reclamation will conduct presence/absence surveys in restoration demonstration and habitat creation sites to determine small mammal occurrence. These efforts will be focused on detecting the presence of Yuma hispid cotton rats (*Sigmodon hispidus eremicus*) and Colorado River cotton rats (*Sigmodon arizonae plenus*) at these sites. These data will be used to guide the design of habitat restoration for covered small mammal species.

Previous Activities: In previous years, small mammal surveys have been conducted at the Cibola Nature Trail site and at the Pratt Agricultural site. Several animals from the genus *Sigmodon* have been captured at each site. At the Pratt Agricultural site, *Sigmodon* spp. were captured in dense *Baccharis* spp., and at the Cibola Nature Trail site, they were captured in dense Johnsongrass. No *Sigmodon* spp. have been captured at Pratt Agricultural since 2005. Presence/absence live trapping surveys were conducted at several habitat creation sites during FY06, but only one *Sigmodon* spp. was captured at the Beal Lake Riparian Restoration site.

FY07 Accomplishments: Trapping was conducted at several habitat creation sites, both in the fall and the spring. Efforts were focused on areas most likely to have *Sigmodon* spp. *Sigmodon*

spp. were captured at two sites: 6 individuals were captured at Imperial NWR (E14) and 13 individuals were captured at the Cibola Nature Trail site (E24).

FY08 Activities: Presence/absence live trapping surveys will continue as part of the post-development monitoring efforts at LCR MSCP habitat creation sites. Any *Sigmodon* spp. captured will have small tissue samples collected and these samples will be analyzed to determine the species and subspecies of the animal from which the sample was collected.

Proposed FY09 Activities: Continue post-development monitoring activities for small mammals at habitat creation sites.

Pertinent Reports: A summary of mammal trapping results at LCR MSCP restoration sites 2007 will be posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.