

Work Task D1: Marsh Bird Surveys

FY08 Estimates	FY08 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment FY08	FY09 Approved Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate
\$35,000	\$20,146.27	\$118,830.27	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000

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Start Date: FY05

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-term Goal: System monitoring for marsh birds.

Conservation Measures: MRM1 AND MRM2 (CLRA, BLRA)

Location: Havasu National Wildlife Refuge, AZ and CA.

Purpose: Monitor Yuma clapper rail (CLRA), California black rail (BLRA), and western least bittern (LEBI) along designated reach of the LCR as part of the inter-agency system monitoring program.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Data obtained from F2 may also be used in the marsh bird system monitoring program described in D1. Protocol developed for D1 will also be used for F2.

Project Description: Yuma clapper rail surveys have been conducted annually since the 1980s. Prior to implementation of the LCR MSCP, a study was conducted to determine if CLRA surveys could be expanded to a multi-species protocol without compromising CLRA detection rates. Information obtained from this study has produced a multi-species protocol for all marsh birds, including the LCR MSCP covered species (CLRA, BLRA, and LEBI). Marsh bird surveys will continue at designated survey points to track detections of covered species utilizing the multi-species protocol.

Previous Activities: Reclamation has monitored CLRA within Topock Gorge since 1995.

FY08 Accomplishments: Marsh bird surveys were conducted between the I-40 bridge, near Needles, California, and Lake Havasu during March, April, and May 2008. Total CLRA detections ranged from 35 to 58 individuals per survey period. Total LEBI detections ranged from 3 in March to 23 during the May survey period. No BLRA were detected during the 2008 survey. Data were compiled and sent to the USFWS in August 2008.

FY09 Activities: Marsh bird surveys are being conducted in Topock Gorge and the upper reaches of Lake Havasu using the multi-species marsh bird survey protocol. Data will be submitted to the USFWS. Information obtained through this work task may be used in planning

future marsh bird habitat creation activities. Also, Reclamation will enter historical CLRA survey data, currently stored by the USFWS, into the LCR MSCP database.

Proposed FY10 Activities: Marsh bird surveys will be conducted in Topock Gorge and the upper reaches of Lake Havasu using the multi-species marsh bird survey protocol. Data will be submitted to the USFWS. Information obtained through this work task may be used in planning future marsh bird habitat creation activities.

Pertinent Reports: *Yuma Clapper Rail Surveys along the LCR at Topock Gorge, 2007* will be posted to the LCR MSCP Web site.