Work Task C2: Sticky Buckwheat and Threecorner Milkvetch Conservation

FY09 Estimates	FY09 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY09	FY10 Approved Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate
$11,000	$10,000.00	$40,000.00	$11,000	$11,000	$11,000	$11,000

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Start Date: FY06

Expected Duration: FY30

Long-term Goal: Support existing conservation programs for covered plant species.

Conservation Measures: STBU1 and THMI1

Location: Reach 1, Nevada

Purpose: Provide funding to support existing conservation programs for sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): These are stand-alone conservation measures described in the HCP.

Project Description: Sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch are covered species within the Clark County MSHCP, as well as the LCR MSCP. Funding in the amount of $10,000 per year will be provided to the NPS to support implementation of conservation measures for these two plant species, which are beyond the permit requirements of the Clark County MSHCP. Funding may be advanced for up to five years, depending on availability, to keep administrative costs at a minimum.

Previous Activities: In FY07 and FY08, $10,000 was provided each year to the NPS via a five-year agreement between Reclamation and the NPS. A pilot year study was implemented in 2007 to determine an effective monitoring protocol for sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch.

FY09 Accomplishments: In FY09, $10,000 was provided to the Clark County MSHCP Rare Plant Workgroup via a five-year agreement between Reclamation and the NPS. The pilot year monitoring data were evaluated and the experimental design was modified in order to increase the statistical power of the data. The objective of the monitoring was to assess the status of select populations of sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch and to gain a greater understanding of the important abiotic and biotic factors that influence

population condition. The monitoring objectives for the monitored populations occurring on NPS and BLM lands within Clark County are:

1. Maintain the current density (within 30% of the baseline measurement calculated from a year of average to above average rainfall) over the next 10 years. The sampling objective is to be 80% sure of detecting a 30% change in density of sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch in average or above average rainfall years.
2. Correlate the abiotic factors of rainfall, temperature, relative humidity, and soil chemistry with the density (measured in average to above average rainfall years) of sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch.
3. Detect changes in species richness and cover of native and non-native plant species over the next 10 years. The sampling objective is to be 80% sure of detecting a 30% change in species richness and cover of native and non-native plant species in average or above average rainfall years.

FY10 Accomplishments: Funds in the amount of $10,000 were transferred to the NPS through a five-year agreement. An annual report will be provided to Reclamation summarizing the current monitoring of threecorner milkvetch and sticky buckwheat.

Proposed FY11 Activities: Funds in the amount of $10,000 will be transferred to the NPS through a new five-year agreement. A report will be provided to Reclamation summarizing the current monitoring of threecorner milkvetch and sticky buckwheat.

Pertinent Reports: The scope of work is available upon request. The 2009 report on results of monitoring *Astragalus geyeri* var. *triquetrus* (threecorner milkvetch) and *Eriogonum viscidulum* (sticky buckwheat) will be posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.