

Work Task E30: Flat-tailed Horned Lizard

FY09 Estimates	FY09 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY09	FY10 Approved Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$195,000	\$50,000	\$50,000

Contact: Jed Blake, (702) 293-8165, jblake@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY11

Expected Duration: FY2013

Long-term Goal: Acquisition and protection of unprotected occupied habitat

Conservation Measures: FTHL1

Location: The Dos Palmas Conservation Area, within the Salt Creek Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), is located on the northeastern side of the Salton Sea in Riverside County, California.

Purpose: Acquire and transfer to the Bureau of Land Management, 230 acres of unprotected occupied flat-tailed horned lizard habitat for permanent protection of the species' habitat.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Dos Palmas Conservation Area was identified in the FY07 RFP issued under Conservation Area Site Selection (E16).

Project Description: The HCP requires the LCR MSCP to acquire and protect 230 acres of existing unprotected occupied flat-tailed horned lizard habitat.

The Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy proposed the acquisition of 230 acres of flat-tailed horned lizard habitat within the Dos Palmas Conservation Area, which is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In 2007, the BLM's California Desert District Office was contacted to determine the transfer of ownership process. Discussions indicate that private parcels acquired by the program will be transferred to the BLM after purchase at no additional cost to the program.

Previous Activities: In 2007, the LCR MSCP solicited potential habitat areas for acquisition from Steering Committee members. Coachella Valley Water District, in conjunction with the Conservancy, proposed the acquisition of private in-holdings within the Dos Palmas Conservation Area. Funding for coordination meetings and administrative costs were previously charged to Conservation Area Site Selection (E16).

With the help of the Conservancy, individual landowners within the ACEC were identified using county records and tax assessor information.

FY09 Accomplishments: This is a new start in FY11.

FY10 Activities: At the October 2009 Steering Committee meeting, Program Decision Document 10-001: Land Approval was passed, which directed Reclamation to evaluate unprotected properties within the Salt Creek ACEC for inclusion into the program for the protection of flat-tailed horned lizards. Private in-holding landowners have been contacted by the LCR MSCP and the Conservancy. With the landowners' permission, a federal appraisal will be conducted to establish fair market value. Funding for coordination meetings and administrative costs were previously charged to E16. This is a new start in FY11.

Proposed FY11 Activities: Acquisition is scheduled to commence in FY11. Acquisition will continue until the target of 230 acres of flat-tailed horned lizard habitat is acquired and transferred to the BLM.

Pertinent Reports: N/A