

Work Task F7: Post-Development Monitoring of Marsh Birds

FY09 Estimates	FY09 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY09	FY10 Approved Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000

Contact: Joe Kahl, (702) 293-8568, jkahl@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY11

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-term Goal: The purpose of this work is to determine whether marsh land cover types created under the LCR MSCP are suitable habitat for use by California black rails, Yuma clapper rails, and western least bitterns.

Conservation Measures: MRM1 AND MRM2 (CLRA, BLRA, LEBI), LEBI1, BLRA1, CLRA1

Location: Presence/absence surveys will be conducted at newly developed marsh habitat sites.

Purpose: Monitor the use of created marsh habitat by covered marsh bird species.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Hart Mine Marsh, Big Bend, and portions of Imperial NWR have been surveyed for marsh birds prior to development. System-wide marsh bird surveys have been conducted by Reclamation on existing marsh habitat since 1996. Previous surveys, both system-wide and those associated with pre-development, were conducted under D1.

Project Description: Surveys for Yuma clapper rail in existing habitat have been conducted in Topock Gorge by Reclamation since 1996. Since 2006, Reclamation has participated in the National Marsh Bird Monitoring Program, which involves surveying for several species, including the LCR MSCP covered marsh species, simultaneously using taped recordings of the species calls. Surveys of marsh habitat created under the LCR MSCP utilize this same protocol. Marsh bird survey data on the LCR is utilized by the USFWS for baseline population estimates and habitat suitability analysis.

All Reclamation personnel involved with post-development marsh bird surveys have attended and successfully completed the Marsh Bird Training Workshop and Reclamation possesses all permits required for these surveys.

Previous Activities: None, this is a new start in 2011.

FY09 Accomplishment: None, this is a new start in 2011.

FY10 Activities: None, this is a new start in 2011.

Proposed FY11 Activities: Marsh bird surveys will be conducted on conservation areas once the marsh vegetation has developed in sufficient acreage, vegetation type, and suitability. These sites will include Hart Mine Marsh (Cibola NWR), Field 16 and the Imperial Ponds (Imperial NWR), Big Bend Conservation Area, and the Laguna Division Conservation Area.

Pertinent Reports: Results of surveys will be reported in the annual reports for each associated restoration site.