## Work Task: C51 Vermilion Flycatcher Detectability and Distribution Study

FY11 Estimate	FY11 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY11	FY12 Approved Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000

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## Start Date: FY12

## **Expected Duration:** FY15

**Long-term Goal:** Determine current distribution and abundance of VEFL on LCR by conducting species specific, non-random surveys.

Conservation Measures: MRM1, MRM2 (Vermilion Flycatcher).

Location: Various sites from Lake Mead to Yuma, yet to be determined.

**Purpose:** To determine best field method for surveying and determine the current population abundance and location of VEFL within the LCR MSCP boundary.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** Information obtained through this work task will be used in conjunction with data collected during post-development monitoring of habitat conservation areas (F2) and system-wide surveys conducted under D6. Information obtained through this work task will also be used in association with C24 to help define habitat requirements for riparian obligate bird species.

**Project Description:** General bird surveys conducted under D6 in habitats recently occupied by VEFL (Bill Williams River NWR) have not detected them in numbers expected. Species-specific surveys conducted non-randomly, and much earlier than the surveys begin, may be required to determine current LCR population numbers and locations. Literature reviews will be conducted, a species-specific survey design will be developed, and potential survey site locations will be determined. Species specific surveys will be conducted based on survey design and data will be used to determine population abundance and distribution. Vegetation data may also be collected at detection sites to determine suitability of habitat for VEFL.

**Previous Activities:** New start in 2012.

FY11 Activities: New start in 2012.

**FY12 Activities:** A literature review will be conducted to examine Christmas Bird Count Data and other information. Areas where VEFL have been documented previously will be visited to

determine whether they are still there and if they remain through the breeding season. The information gathered during this period will assist in determining the initial study design and field protocols.

**Proposed FY13 Activities:** A study design and field protocol will be developed and tested for targeted surveys in FY13. Surveys will take place utilizing the protocol that was developed in FY 2012 at targeted locations that are potential vermilion flycatcher habitat. Locations within the LCR MSCP area that have a potential to support vermilion flycatchers will be surveyed. This is needed so quality distribution and population abundance data can be obtained.

Pertinent Reports: N/A