

## Work Task D13: Elf Owl System-Wide Surveys

FY11 Estimate	FY11 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY11	FY12 Approved Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000

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**Start Date:** FY13

**Expected Duration:** FY55

**Long-term Goal:** To detect trends in population estimates and distribution of elf owls within the LCR MSCP project area and adjacent upland area and on LCR MSCP Habitat Conservation Areas until FY55 (end of LCR MSCP program).

**Conservation Measures:** ELOW1, ELOW2, MRM1, MRM2, AMM1, AMM3.

**Location:** Habitat within and adjacent to the LCR MSCP Project area and LCR MSCP Habitat Conservation Areas.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the project is to provide information on trends in elf owl population and distribution within the LCR MSCP project area and adjacent areas and on LCR MSCP habitat conservation areas. This data can be used for a variety of purposes: 1) to determine location of new habitat conservation areas; 2) to assess effectiveness of habitat conservation areas in providing habitat for the elf owl; 3) to determine if there is an increase in the elf owl population within the project area as the LCR MSCP program progresses in time; 4) to identify populations of elf owls that can be used for the habitat modeling study (2014-2016) and 5) to contribute information to status assessments for the species across its range.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** Baseline exploratory surveys for elf owls were implemented in 2008-2010 under D6. A long term monitoring plan for the elf owl is being developed in FY2012 under D6. A field protocol based on quantitative data is being developed under C36. Information obtained through this work task will be used in conjunction with data collected during post-development monitoring of habitat conservation areas (F2).

**Project Description:** Single-species surveys for the elf owl are necessary due to the nocturnal nature of this species and its rarity along the LCR. Species specific surveys for elf owls will be implemented in FY2013 following the standardized monitoring plan and field protocol that will be finalized in FY2012. Surveys will continue until FY2055 on an incremental basis. Surveys will not necessarily need to be conducted every year but they will need to be conducted periodically throughout the program until FY55. The monitoring plan finalized under C36: Elf Owl Detectability Study in FY12 will determine how often surveys need to be conducted.

**Previous Activities:** New start in FY13.

**FY11 Accomplishments:** New start in FY13.

**FY12 Activities:** New start in FY13.

**Proposed FY13 Activities:** System-wide surveys will be implemented for the elf owl according to the field protocol and monitoring plan finalized under C36: Elf Owl Detectability Study. Surveys will take place in habitat within the LCR MSCP project area and adjacent upland habitat.

**Pertinent Reports:** N/A