Yuma East Wetlands Update

Heidi Trathnigg
FPC 2013
Project Background

- Dominated by saltcedar, phragmites, arundo
- Illegal dumping
- Hobos and meth labs
- Poor habitat quality
- Community disconnected
Implementing the Restoration Plan

- YEW Restoration Plan 2001
- 18 stakeholders
- 1,418 acres proposed
- Primary goal to recover wildlife
- Currently, over 350 acres of restoration
MSCP and YEW

- MSCP entered into negotiation to enter the YEW into the program
- Agreement was signed by both Tribe and COY for 50 year maintenance
- 2012 initiated MSCP Post-Development and Riparian Obligate Bird protocols
- Continued marsh bird and SWFL surveys
Riparian Habitat (150 acres)
Post-Development Habitat

¾ plots (40 plots) were reduced effort and ¼ plots (14 plots) were intensive
Post-Development Habitat

Average Height (m)

Species

Populus fremontii
Proposis glandulosa
Prosopsis pubescens
Salix gooddingii
Salix exigua
Tamarix spp.

Total Percent Cover

Species

L. uninervia 0.4%
P. fremontii 0.75%
S. pungens 0.86%
P. pubescens 1%
Riparian Obligate Bird Plots

- North Channel
- South Channel
- Aha
# Riparian Obligate Birds

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Total Potential Breeders: 82
Total Confirmed Breeders: 27
Willow Flycatcher

- Migrating, no breeding evidence
- Many detected outside of surveys in 2012
Bats

- Yellow and red bat detected
Marsh Habitat (Approximately 150 acres)
Marsh Bird Surveys

Number of YCRA

Year

Number of Least Bittern

Year

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Grassland

- Planted alkali sacaton by seed as understory species
- Inland saltgrass plugs
- First sighting of Yuma cotton rats in restored areas occurred 2012
- Two were detected
Surveys for 2013

- Intensive vegetation surveys
- Intensive riparian obligate birds
- Small Mammal trapping
- Sootywing skipper searches
- SWFL
- Marsh Bird
Acknowledgements

QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE
CITY OF YUMA
YUMA CROSSING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
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NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION
NORTH AMERICAN WATERFOWL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
SONORAN JOINT VENTURE
ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION
ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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YUMA FARM BUREAU
ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
CAL STATE LOS ANGELOS
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NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
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JOHN MCCAIN
YUMA COUNTY
BILL OGRAM
HEADSTREAM FAMILY
MCKVEY FAMILY
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THUNDERBIRD
VLA PROJECT
696 PROJECT
DRIFTWOOD

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STEVENS ECOLOGICAL CONSULTING
SHEPPARD WESNITZER ENGINEERING
Natural Channel Design
E JOE HUDSON CONSULTING
ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT INT.
JSA Inc.
REVEGETATION AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT CENTER
SOUTHWEST RECYCLING
SOUTHWEST RECYCLING
DOWNRIVER PRODUCTIONS
Water tech ag supply
El Pato nursery