

Work Task D6: **System Monitoring for Riparian Obligate Avian Species**

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| Contact: | John Swett, LC-8220 |
| Purpose: | Monitor riparian obligate bird species covered under the LCR MSCP. |
| Conservation Measures: | MRM1 and MRM2 |
| Long-term Goal(s): | Surveys will continue throughout the LCR MSCP period in order to monitor long-term trend of riparian, obligate, LCR MSCP covered bird species. |
| FY2006 Estimate: | \$100,000. Reclamation biologists will conduct point count transects along the LCR. Cost includes Reclamation staff, travel, and miscellaneous supplies. |
| FY2007 Estimate: | \$100,000. Same as previous year. |
| FY2008 Estimate: | \$100,000. Same as previous year. |
| Project Description: | <p>The LCR MSCP lists 26 covered species and 5 evaluation species. It is inefficient to monitor every covered species individually throughout the entire LCR MSCP project area, and through the point count protocol, monitoring bird populations is an effective way to monitor ecosystem health, especially neo-tropical migratory birds within riparian habitats.</p> <p>Reclamation has worked with Great Basin Bird Observatory (GBBO), U.S. Geological Survey, and other state and federal agencies to develop a point count system monitoring design for the State of Nevada, through Partners-in-Flight. By utilizing a</p> |

similar monitoring plan, data from the LCR can be incorporated into a larger, regional database to make these data more powerful during analysis. Population trends can be derived over time, thus enabling Reclamation to monitor riparian habitat health and effectiveness of the LCR MSCP Habitat Conservation Plan. A study plan is available.

Specific FY2006 Work Tasks:

- a) Set up and conduct point count transects system wide within the LCR MSCP planning area. Point counts will be conducted approximately three times during the breeding season.
- b) Enter all data into Reclamation's database and incorporate into the regional database with GBBO. A summary report will be prepared at year-end.