

## Work Task E4: Palo Verde Ecological Reserve

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| <b>Partners:</b>              | California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)   |
| <b>Contact:</b>               | Terry Murphy, LC-8400   |
| <b>Purpose:</b>               | Habitat creation  |
| <b>Conservation Measures:</b> | CLRA1, WIFL1, WRBA2, WYBA3, CRCR2, YHCR2, LEBI1, BLRA1, YBCU1, ELOW1, GIFL1, GIWO1, VEFL1, BEVI1, YWAR1, SUTA1 and MNSW2  |
| <b>Long-term Goal(s):</b>     | To create as much viable habitat as possible on these approximately 1,300 irrigable acres.  |
| <b>Location:</b>              | Within Palo Verde Irrigation District, just north of Blythe, California.  |
| <b>FY2006 Estimate:</b>       | \$310,000 for contracts and Reclamation staff costs to evaluate and plan the overall habitat creation project, and to implement Phase I to develop a 20-acre native plant nursery.  |
| <b>FY2007 Estimate:</b>       | \$800,000 for contracts and Reclamation staff costs to restore 80 acres of habitat.   |
| <b>FY2008 Estimate:</b>       | \$810,000. Same as previous year.   |
| <b>Project Description:</b>   | <p>Portions of the Palo Verde Valley, owned by the CDFG are being evaluated as a potential habitat creation project. The intent of the assessment is to determine possible restoration research projects and accomplish as much viable habitat creation as possible on the site.</p> <p>Phase I, a 20-acre parcel, will be developed with cottonwood and willow in FY2006 to initiate the</p> |

habitat creation process. Discussions with CDFG are in process and should define future restoration actions on the reserve. A study plan is available.