

Work Task D11: Vegetation Type Mapping

FY05 Estimate	FY05 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY05	FY06 Approved Estimate	FY07 Proposed Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate
\$327,000	\$325,873	\$725,873	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Contact: John Swett, (702) 293-8574

Start Date: FY04 **Expected Duration:** FY05

Long-term Goal: System monitoring

Conservation Measures: AMM1, AMM3, AMM5, AMM6, MRM1, and MRM2

Location: System-wide

Purpose: Determine the extent and distribution of land cover types that provide habitat for covered species by mapping riparian plant community, marsh plant community, and structure type along the LCR and its tributaries. Information will be used as a basis for the existing habitat maintenance program, as a basis to help determine survey areas for system-wide surveys such as SWFL and YBCU, for use in determining habitat development, and as a base layer in GIS mapping.

Connections with other Work Tasks (past and future): This Work Task was previously included in the FY04 Work Task as Vegetation Type Mapping and Backwater Evaluation (C1) and Draft FY05 Work Tasks as Vegetation Type Mapping (D1). Information obtained during this project will be used for the existing habitat maintenance program (H1); in mapping and monitoring/research site placement for system-wide studies such as D1, D2, D3, D4, D6, D7, D8, D9, and D10; and for habitat development mapping in Section E.

Project Description: Riparian and marsh communities have been delineated along the LCR since 1976, using the Anderson and Ohmart classification system. Periodic updates have been conducted along the LCR to help monitor changes in the riparian and marsh communities. The most recent vegetation type maps were created using imagery acquired in 1997. These acreage figures were used throughout the LCR MSCP planning process. This project will enable Reclamation to document changes in vegetation community and structure type.

FY05 Accomplishments: Digital aerial photography was acquired and triangulation, orthorectification, color balancing/image mosaicing, and draft vegetation type mapping was completed. This vegetation type mapping project utilized new digital technology that will provide comparable data for future system-wide habitat monitoring. All information will be stored in Reclamation's Lower Colorado Regional Office.

FY06 Activities: Accuracy assessment, final type maps, and the final report will be completed in FY06. While funding for this Work Task was authorized in FY05, the final products will not be completed until 2006 due to delays caused by using this new digital technology.

Proposed FY07 Activities: This project will be completed in FY06, with updates on an intermittent basis throughout the life of the program.

Pertinent Reports: *2004 LCR Vegetation Type Mapping, Backwaters Delineation, Orthophotography, and GIS Development* will be posted on the LCR MSCP website.