

## Work Task E22: Pratt Agricultural Lease

FY05 Estimate	FY2005 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY05	FY06 Approved Estimate	FY07 Proposed Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate
\$15,000	\$0	\$5,088	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Contact:** Barbara Raulston, (702) 293-8788

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

**Long-term Goal:** Restoration research

**Conservation Measures:** YHCR2, WIFL1, YBCU1, ELOW1, GIFL1, GIWO1, VEFL1, BEVI1, YWAR1, and SUTA1

**Location:** Reach 6, Bureau of Land Management managed lands, River Mile 44, AZ

**Purpose:** Demonstrate restoration and management techniques with native riparian vegetation to create habitat for SWFL and other covered riparian bird species.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** This Work Task was previously included in the FY04 Work Tasks and Draft FY05 Work Tasks as Pratt Agricultural Lease (D6) and Imperial Ponds (E14) respectively.

**Project Description:** The 12-acre Pratt site was planted with cottonwood and willow in 1999. Five years of growth have produced a healthy stand of riparian habitat and migrating SWFL have been observed using the site. However, the willow and cottonwood trees are maturing into a gallery forest, making it largely unsuitable habitat for SWFL. The intent of this project is to monitor avian use of the site while implementing a selective harvesting program coupled with an irrigation schedule that create conditions for breeding SWFL. Selective harvesting involves periodic cutting within stands to create a mosaic of uneven aged, structurally diverse habitat. Bird surveys and banding are being conducted, in conjunction with management actions, to determine when and if SWFL use the site and if other LCR-MSCP species are present.

**Previous Activities:** In 1999, BLM removed 12 acres from a contiguous 58-acre agricultural lease. BLM and Reclamation restored the area with cottonwood and willow. Reclamation funded an irrigation contract and conducted monitoring activities.

**FY05 Accomplishments:** Selective harvesting was implemented by BLM in FY05. Irrigation was accomplished through a contract with a local farmer. However, irrigation delivery conflicts led to a decision to discontinue funding for this site. This Work Task was closed.

**Proposed FY06 Activities:** This Work Task is closed.

**Pertinent Reports:** Final report will be completed and posted on the LCR MSCP website.