

### Work Task F3: Small Mammal Colonization of Restoration Sites

FY06 Estimates	FY06 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY06	FY07 Approved Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate
\$45,000	\$10,384	\$37,761	\$50,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000

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**Start Date:** FY05

**Expected Duration:** FY55

**Long-term Goal:** Conduct pre- and post-development monitoring for small mammal species.

**Conservation Measures:** AMM1, AMM5, AMM6, MRM2, DPMO1, CRCR1, CRCR2, YHCR1, and YHCR2.

**Location:** Beal Lake, Havasu NWR; PVER, California; CVCA, Cibola Nature Trail, Hart Mine Marsh

**Purpose:** Monitor small mammal populations within habitat creation sites. Data will be used in the adaptive management process to guide the design of future habitat creation projects targeting covered small mammal species.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** Post-development small mammal monitoring will be conducted at habitat creation sites listed in Section E. In addition, information obtained from this work task, in conjunction with C27, will be used to define habitat requirements for future habitat creation projects.

**Project Description:** Reclamation will conduct presence/absence surveys in restoration demonstration and habitat creation sites to determine small mammal occurrence. These efforts will be focused on detecting the presence of Yuma hispid cotton rats and Colorado River cotton rats at these sites. The data will be used to guide the design of habitat restoration for covered small mammal species.

**Previous Activities:** Small mammal surveys have been conducted at the Cibola Nature Trail site and at the Pratt Agricultural site. Several animals from the genus *Sigmodon* have been captured at each site. At the Pratt Agricultural site *Sigmodon* spp. Was captured in dense habitat of *Baccharus* spp., and at the Cibola Nature Trail site they were captured in dense habitat dominated by Johnsongrass.

**FY06 Accomplishments:** Presence/absence live trapping surveys were conducted at several sites during FY06, but only one *Sigmodon* spp. Was captured at the Beal restoration site. The one *Sigmodon* individual was captured in dense arrowweed habitat. The following numbers of trap-

nights were conducted at each site: Beal Lake restoration site, 1,104; Pratt Agricultural site, 270; CVCA, 775; Imperial NWR nursery site, 75; and PVER, 180.

Pre- and post-development small mammal surveys were conducted in conjunction with other monitoring programs in an effort to keep costs to a minimum. As the habitat creation projects listed in Section E become established, additional surveying effort will be required.

**FY07 Activities:** Presence/absence live trapping surveys will continue as part of the post development monitoring efforts at LCR MSCP habitat creation sites. Any *Sigmodon* spp. Captured will have small tissue samples collected and these samples will be analyzed to determine species and subspecies.

**Proposed FY08 Activities:** Post-development monitoring activities for small mammals at habitat creation sites will continue.

**Pertinent Reports:** A summary of mammal trapping results at LCR MSCP restoration sites for 2006 will be posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.