

Work Task E17: Topock Marsh Pumping

FY09 Estimates	FY09 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY09	FY10 Approved Estimate*	FY11 Proposed Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate**	FY13 Proposed Estimate
\$5,000	\$7,711.94	\$24,076.60	\$800,000	\$270,000	\$2,570,000	\$70,000

*The FY10 approved budget was revised with the concurrence of the Steering Committee in October of 2009.

**The FY12 budget was revised with the concurrence of the Steering Committee in April of 2010.

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Start Date: FY06

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-term Goal: Avoid impacts of flow-related covered activities on covered species habitats at Topock Marsh.

Conservation Measures: AMM2

Location: Reach 3, Havasu NWR, river miles 235-244, Arizona

Purpose: To avoid flow-related covered impacts on covered species habitats at Topock Marsh by constructing a reliable and manageable water control structure that diverts water both gravitationally and through pumping.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): N/A

Project Description: Topock Marsh has been identified as an important area for LCR MSCP covered species such as Yuma clapper rail and the southwestern willow flycatcher. At times, flow-related activities could lower river elevations to levels that will disrupt existing gravity diversions of water from the river to the marsh. Construction of a new control structure that diverts water through both gravitational and pumped means ensures the delivery of water to the marsh even when river elevations are low. It is anticipated that the gravity diversion of river water, paired with supplemental pumping to maintain the water surface elevation of the marsh, would avoid negative effects on the groundwater elevation.

Previous Activities: The *Final Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Water Management Plan* has been drafted by the USFWS and is posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.

FY09 Activities: A review of alternatives and preliminary costs for management of Havasu refuge occurred in late FY09, as well as a discussion of water accounting issues between USFWS, Arizona Department of Water Resources, and Reclamation, who all

supported the ongoing technical reviews, discussion of water accounting issues, and determining the feasibility of implementation.

The USFWS secured funding to begin implementation of the initial phases of the Final Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Water Management Plan. Options for the integration of USFWS funds and LCR MSCP funds (specifically targeted to fulfill AMM2) began. A decision was reached that MSCP would provide funds to construct a dual-purpose gravity flow and pumping control structure. The technical workgroup of the Steering Committee was briefed on the options to satisfy portions of AMM2. The culmination of these presentations was passing of resolution 10-003 by the Steering Committee in October of 2009 to increase the budget for this work task and proceed with implementation of Phase 1 of the Havasu Water Management Plan, which would satisfy the construction portion of AMM2.

Proposed FY10 Activities: Interagency Acquisitions between the USFWS and Reclamation are being composed and will transfer funds from the LCR MSCP to the USFWS for the construction of a new water control structure at the western terminus of the Fire Break Canal. In return for funding construction of the new control structure, correspondence will be issued to Reclamation by USFWS releasing the LCR MSCP from any further construction obligations under AMM2. These funds will be joined with USFWS ARRA dollars to complete the initial phases of the Topock Marsh Water Infrastructure Improvement Project. The transfer of \$1,000,000 to the USFWS has been completed and fulfills the construction obligation. Once completed, USFWS will have the ability to more efficiently and effectively transfer water into the marsh even under low flow conditions.

Upon transfer of \$2,500,000, expected in FY12 depending on available funding, the LCR MSCP will have satisfied its long-term operation and maintenance requirements of AMM2 and the work task would be closed. Long-term maintenance of the entire water management system will be the responsibility of the USFWS and the LCR MSCP would be permanently relieved from all maintenance responsibilities.

Proposed FY11 Activities: Funding continues to track the progress of implementation of the initial phases of the Havasu Water Management Plan.

Pertinent Reports: *Final Havasu National Wildlife Refuge Water Management Plan* is posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.