

## Work Task C52: Gilded Flicker Detectability and Distribution Study

FY11 Estimate	FY11 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY11	FY12 Approved Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000

**Contact:** Beth Sabin, (702) 293-8435, [lsabin@usbr.gov](mailto:lsabin@usbr.gov)

**Start Date:** FY12

**Expected Duration:** FY15

**Long-term Goal:** Determine current distribution and abundance of gilded flicker on the LCR by conducting species specific, non-random surveys.

**Conservation Measures:** GIFL1, MRM1.

**Location:** Habitat within and adjacent to the LCR MSCP project area.

**Purpose:** To determine best field methods for surveying and determine the current population abundance and location of gilded flicker within the LCR MSCP boundary.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** Information obtained through this work task will be used in conjunction with data collected during post-development monitoring of habitat conservation areas (F2) and system-wide surveys conducted under D6. Information obtained through this work task will also be used in association with C24 to help define requirements for riparian obligate bird species.

**Project Description:** General bird surveys conducted by D6 in habitats recently occupied by gilded flickers have not detected them in numbers expected. Species specific surveys conducted non-randomly, and much earlier than the general bird surveys begin, may be required to determine current LCR population numbers and locations. Literature reviews will be conducted, a species specific survey design will be developed, and potential survey site locations will be determined. Species specific surveys will be conducted based on survey design and data will be used to determine population abundance and distribution. Vegetation data may also be collected at detection sites to determine suitability of habitat for gilded flicker.

Hybridization is known to occur between the red-shafted and the gilded flicker. The extent to which hybridization occurs on the breeding flicker population in and adjacent to the LCR MSCP project area also needs to be determined.

**Previous Activities:** N/A

**FY11 Accomplishments:** New start in FY12.

**FY12 Activities:** A literature review will be conducted to examine historical habitat, previous sightings and occurrence of hybridization within the LCR MSCP project area. A study design and field protocol will be developed for the targeted surveys that will be conducted in FY13 and FY14. Preliminary field visits will begin in February extending through early June to assist in determining the initial study design and field protocols. Locations to target within the LCR MSCP project area and in the adjacent upland habitat will be determined.

**Proposed FY13 Activities:** Surveys will take place utilizing the protocol that was developed in FY 2012 at targeted locations that are potential gilded flicker habitat. Locations within the LCR MSCP project area and adjacent upland habitat that have a potential to support gilded flickers will be surveyed. This is needed so quality distribution and population abundance data is obtained. A genetics study may be conducted in collaboration with the surveys to determine if hybridization is occurring between the gilded flicker and red-shafted flicker.

**Pertinent Reports:** N/A