

Work Task E33: Pretty Water Conservation Area

FY12 Estimate	FY12 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY12	FY13 Approved Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate	FY16 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$600,000	\$700,000	\$700,000

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Start Date: FY13

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-term Goal: Habitat creation.

Conservation Measures: VEFL1, WRBA 2, WYBA3, ELOW1, BEVI 1.

Location: Reach 4, Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, River Miles 95-97, California.

Purpose: Create and manage a mosaic of native land cover types for LCR MSCP covered species.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): This work task was identified under Work Task E16: Conservation Area Site Selection and was previously identified as the Shark's Tooth Conservation Area.

Project Description: The Pretty Water Conservation Area (previously referred to as the Shark's Tooth Conservation Area) consists of approximately 566 acres on Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, located in California between river miles 95 and 97. On July 17, 2006, lightning ignited a fire on Cibola NWR and burned approximately 4, 600 acres of salt cedar intermixed with mesquite in both California and Arizona. This Conservation Area seeks to restore a burned section primarily with honey mesquite with a small cottonwood-willow component as described in the Sharks Tooth Conservation Area, *Restoration, Development, and Monitoring Plan*. Development of the project is intended to satisfy both the LCR MSCP and a portion of the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2005-008-06. The intent is to create the large honey mesquite bosque, which will be managed for LCR MSCP covered species.

Previous Activities: This is a new start in FY13.

FY12 Accomplishments: During FY12, the restoration and development plan was finalized and submitted to CDFW for approval. The plan was approved and the land use agreement exhibit was drafted and transmitted to USFWS for signatures. Compliance activities (NEPA, Section 106 NHPA, and ESA) were also initiated in FY12. These expenditures were captured in E16: Conservation Area Site Selection, which is typical for projects being evaluated for inclusion into the LCR MSCP.

FY13 Activities: Approval by USFWS and finalization and of the land use agreement exhibit is anticipated in early FY13. Final NEPA, cultural (section 106 of the NHPA), and ESA compliance will be completed by May 2013. A wetland delineation will be also be completed in February 2013 to determine if ACOE compliance (Section 404 of the CWA) will be necessary before construction can commence. Minor earthwork for access and monitoring may occur on site in FY13 based on available resources and status of compliance activities; however no major restoration activities are anticipated for FY13. Wildlife pre-development monitoring (baseline data collection) of the site will be initiated in spring of FY13.

Proposed FY14 Activities: Mobilization, clearing, and restoration are expected to begin in FY14. Due to the size of the project, restoration will occur in phases (approximately 100-150 acres per year) over several years. No wildlife monitoring will occur due to planned construction activities.

Pertinent Reports: N/A