

Work Task D10: System Monitoring of Rodent Populations

FY15 Estimate	FY15 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY15	FY16 Approved Estimate	FY17 Proposed Estimate	FY18 Proposed Estimate	FY19 Proposed Estimate
\$40,000	\$37,704.76	\$212,226.74	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000

Contact: Allen Calvert, (702) 293-8311, acalvert@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY11

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-Term Goal: System-wide monitoring to document the presence of possible source populations of LCR MSCP covered rodents along the lower Colorado River (LCR)

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

Location: System-wide along the LCR, including the Bill Williams River

Purpose: The purpose of this work task is to conduct presence surveys of Colorado River cotton rats, Yuma hispid cotton rats, and desert pocket mice within existing habitat along the LCR.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (Past and Future): System-wide monitoring will be used in conjunction with post-development monitoring (F3) and small mammal research (C27) to document habitat at capture locations.

Project Description: Surveys will be conducted to detect the presence of Colorado River cotton rats, Yuma hispid cotton rats, and desert pocket mice within selected areas that have potential habitat on the LCR outside LCR MSCP conservation areas. Surveys may be conducted in the extreme edges of each species' range in an attempt to document the outer limits of their respective distributions within the LCR MSCP planning area.

Previous Activities: Presence surveys were conducted in potential Colorado River and Yuma hispid cotton rat habitat within the LCR MSCP area from FY11 to FY14 to document each species' range and to collect genetic samples. Colorado River cotton rats were detected in Reaches 3–4, and Yuma hispid cotton rats were detected in Reaches 6–7. Desert pocket mice were detected at many survey areas, but the subspecies cannot be determined.

FY15 Accomplishments: Small mammal live trapping surveys were conducted within previously occupied locations to document the presence of Colorado River and Yuma hispid cotton rats. Areas surveyed included Pintail Slough in the Havasu National Wildlife Refuge and the Pratt Agricultural Lease near Yuma, Arizona. One Colorado River cotton rat and four desert pocket mice were captured at Pintail Slough. No Yuma hispid cotton rats were captured at the Pratt Agricultural Lease.

FY16 Activities: System-wide surveys will be conducted to detect the presence of Colorado River cotton rats and Yuma hispid cotton rats within selected areas that have potential habitats along the LCR outside LCR MSCP conservation areas. System-wide monitoring objectives for 2017–27 will be defined. If potential habitats are discovered in areas that can inform LCR MSCP habitat creation, monitoring may be conducted to document Colorado River cotton rat and Yuma hispid cotton rat presence.

Proposed FY17 Activities: Rodent presence surveys will be conducted to meet system-wide monitoring objectives throughout the LCR system.

Pertinent Reports: The 2012–14 combined report will be posted on the LCR MSCP Web site upon completion.