

Work Task C2: Sticky Buckwheat and Threecorner Milkvetch Conservation

FY16 Estimate	FY16 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY16	FY17 Approved Estimate	FY18 Proposed Estimate	FY19 Proposed Estimate	FY20 Proposed Estimate
\$11,000	\$11,311.51	\$125,268.10	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000

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Start Date: FY06

Expected Duration: FY30

Long-Term Goal: Support existing conservation programs for covered plant species

Conservation Measures: STBU1 and THMI1

Location: Reach 1, Nevada

Purpose: To provide funding to support existing conservation programs for sticky buckwheat (*Eriogonum viscidulum*) and threecorner milkvetch (*Astragalus geyeri* var. *triquetrus*)

Connections with Other Work Tasks (Past and Future): These are stand-alone conservation measures as described in the LCR MSCP Habitat Conservation Plan.

Project Description: Sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch are covered species within the LCR MSCP. Funding in the amount of \$10,000 per year will be provided for an ongoing conservation program or to another entity approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to implement conservation activities for these two plant species. Funding may be advanced for up to 5 years, depending on availability, to keep administrative costs at a minimum.

Previous Activities: From 2008 to 2016, the National Park Service (NPS) monitored select populations of sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Monitoring included presence/absence surveys from 2008 to 2016 and invasive weed removal in 2013 to 2016 at select sites.

A minor modification to the conservation measures for both plants was approved by the USFWS on January 4, 2011, following approval by the

Steering Committee. The language was changed to state that funding would go “to an ongoing conservation program or other entity approved by the USFWS to implement conservation activities for the threecorner milkvetch and sticky buckwheat.”

FY16 Accomplishments: Conservation activities for these two plant species was supported under the LCR MSCP in accordance with the NPS’ *Lake Mead National Recreation Area Resource Stewardship Strategy, November 2014*. Threecorner milkvetch populations at Sandy Cove were monitored. A total of 189 of the 473 plots surveyed contained threecorner milkvetch, with 3,865 plants recorded overall. Additional habitat surveys documented 8 threecorner milkvetch plants at Lime Cove in a 7-acre survey area and 107 plants at Middle Point in a 6-acre survey area. Sticky buckwheat populations located at Lime Cove were monitored. A total of 145 sticky buckwheat plants were documented. Additional habitat surveys documented 120 sticky buckwheat plants at Lime Cove in a 7-acre survey area. Invasive Sahara mustard (*Brassica tournefortii*) weeds were removed from 26 acres of the dunes/sandy areas and surrounding beaches at Sandy Cove and Lime Cove.

FY17 Activities: Funds in the amount of \$10,000 will be transferred to the NPS per the above-described agreement to implement conservation activities for sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch. An annual report will be provided to the Bureau of Reclamation that summarizes the achievements made toward the conservation goals for these two plant species.

Proposed FY18 Activities: Funds in the amount of \$10,000 will be transferred to the NPS per the above-described agreement to implement conservation activities for sticky buckwheat and threecorner milkvetch. An annual report will be provided to the Bureau of Reclamation that summarizes the achievements made toward the conservation goals for these two plant species.

Pertinent Reports: The report titled *Surveys of Threecorner Milkvetch (Astragalus geyeri var. triquetrus) and Sticky Buckwheat (Eriogonum viscidulum) in Fiscal Year 2016 – Lake Mead National Recreation Area* is posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.