

Work Task E39: Dennis Underwood Conservation Area

FY16 Estimate	FY16 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY16	FY17 Approved Estimate	FY18 Proposed Estimate	FY19 Proposed Estimate	FY20 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000

Contact: Andrea Finnegan, (702) 293-8203, afinnegan@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY18

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-Term Goal: Habitat creation and management

Conservation Measures: BEV11, ELOW1, GIFL1, GIWO1, MNSW2, SUTA1, VEFL1, WIFL1, WRBA2, WYBA3, YBCU1, and YWAR1

Location: Reach 4, River Miles 96–99, California

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

Connections with Other Work Tasks (Past and Future): Vegetation monitoring is conducted under Work Task F1, and wildlife monitoring is conducted under Work Tasks F2–F4 and F7.

Project Description: The Dennis Underwood Conservation Area is located adjacent to the north border of the Pretty Water Conservation Area. The property is located within the Palo Verde Irrigation District and owned by the Metropolitan Water District. The Metropolitan Water District has identified 635 acres of active agricultural ground for inclusion in the LCR MSCP. The development of this project will satisfy both the LCR MSCP habitat requirements and a portion of California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2005-008-06. Restoration of the site includes planting both the honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*) and cottonwood-willow (*Populus fremontii-Salix gooddingii*) land cover types.

Previous Activities: This is a new start FY18.

FY16 Accomplishments: This is a new start FY18.

FY17 Activities: This is a new start in FY18.

Proposed FY18 Activities: Pending approval of the Steering Committee and passage of a land and water resolution, the LCR MSCP will secure an easement to establish the conservation area. Compensation for the use of the land and water will be made to the Metropolitan Water District based on an appraisal and the resolution. The LCR MSCP will establish a farming contract to continue farming a cover crop to prepare the ground for restoration. A Restoration Development and Monitoring Plan will be prepared for the cottonwood-willow establishment and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for approval.

Pertinent Reports: N/A