Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

Balancing Resource Use and Conservation

LOWER COLORADO RIVER MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION PROGRAM

John Swett
Program Manager
LCR MSCP
Bureau Of Reclamation
Boulder City, Nevada, USA

Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

Balancing Resource Use and Conservation

LOWER COLORADO RIVER MSCP PURPOSE

Multi-stakeholder Federal and non-Federal partnership responding to the need to balance the use of lower Colorado River (LCR) water resources and the conservation of native species and their habitats in compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

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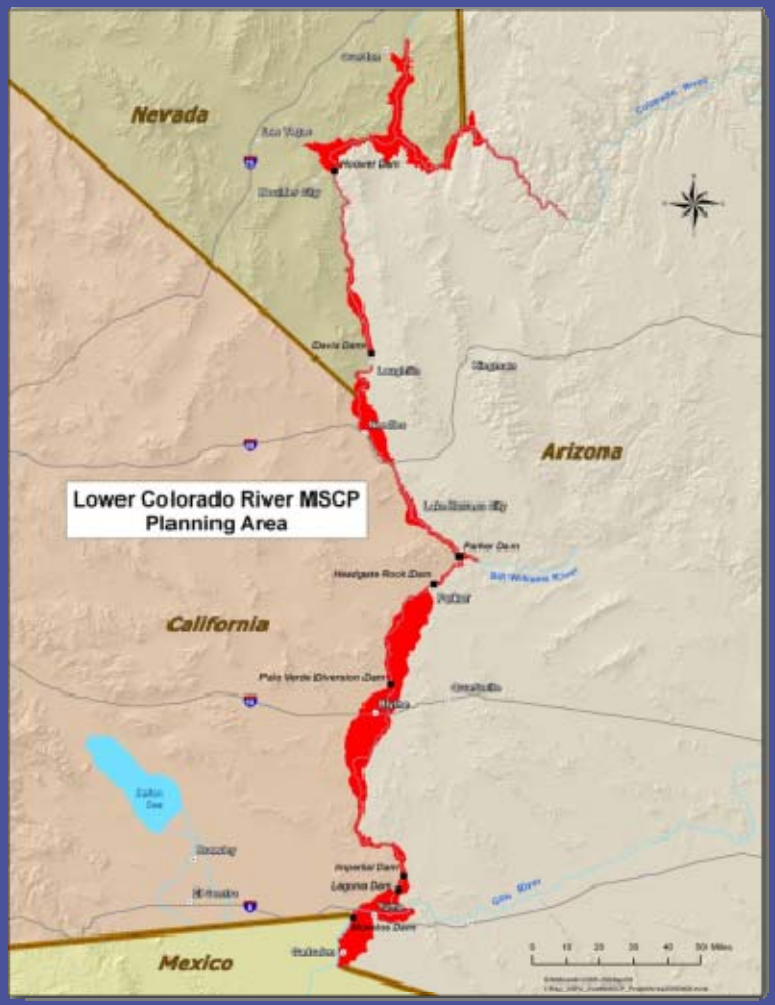
LOWER COLORADO RIVER MSCP PLANNING AREA



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LCR MSCP GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Conserve habitat and work toward recovery of T&E species as well as reduce the likelihood of additional species being listed

- Accommodate present water diversions and power production and optimize opportunities for future water and power development

- Provide the basis for incidental take authorizations

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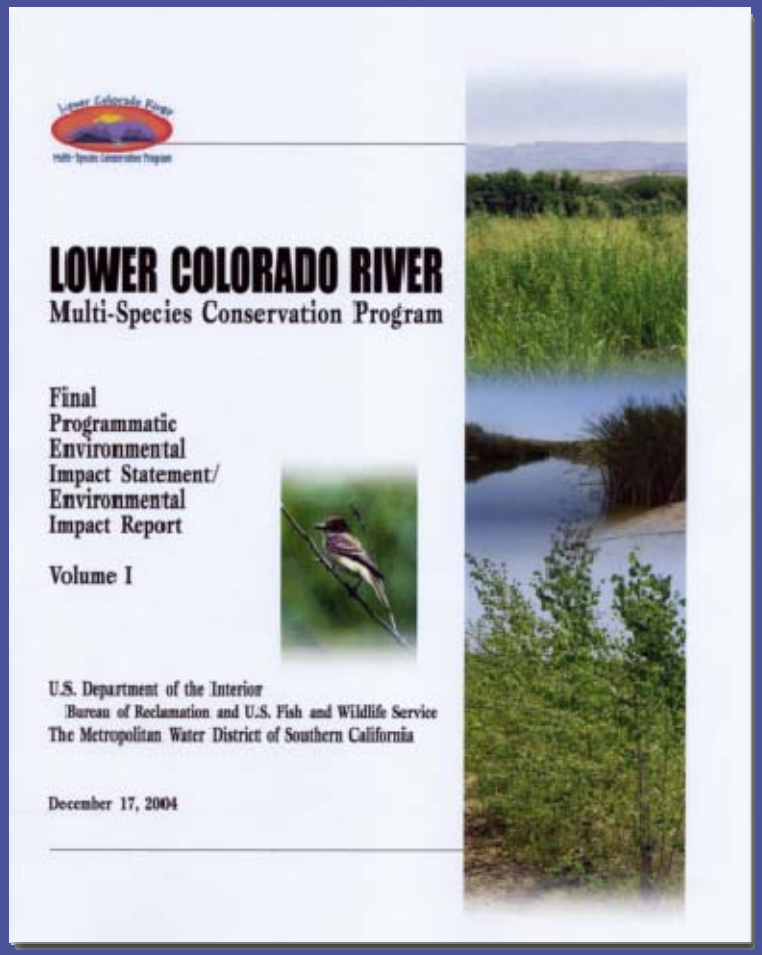
- 50-Years of ESA and CESA Compliance
  - *-Unique - Section 7 and 10*
  - *-HCP*
- Covered Actions
  - *-Delivery and Diversion of 9 MAF*
  - *-Maintenance Activities*
  - *-Movement of 1.574 MAF*



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STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- Federal Participant Group
- Arizona Participant Group (26 Permittees)*
- California Participant Group (11 Permittees)*
- Nevada Participant Group (5 Permittees)*
- Native American Participant Group
- Conservation Participant Group
- Other Interested Parties Group

** Participates as a funding agency*

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STEERING COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Decision Making
  - ***Consensus Based***
  - ***Dispute Process***

- Provide Input on Implementation
  - *Annual Work Plan, Budget, and Report*

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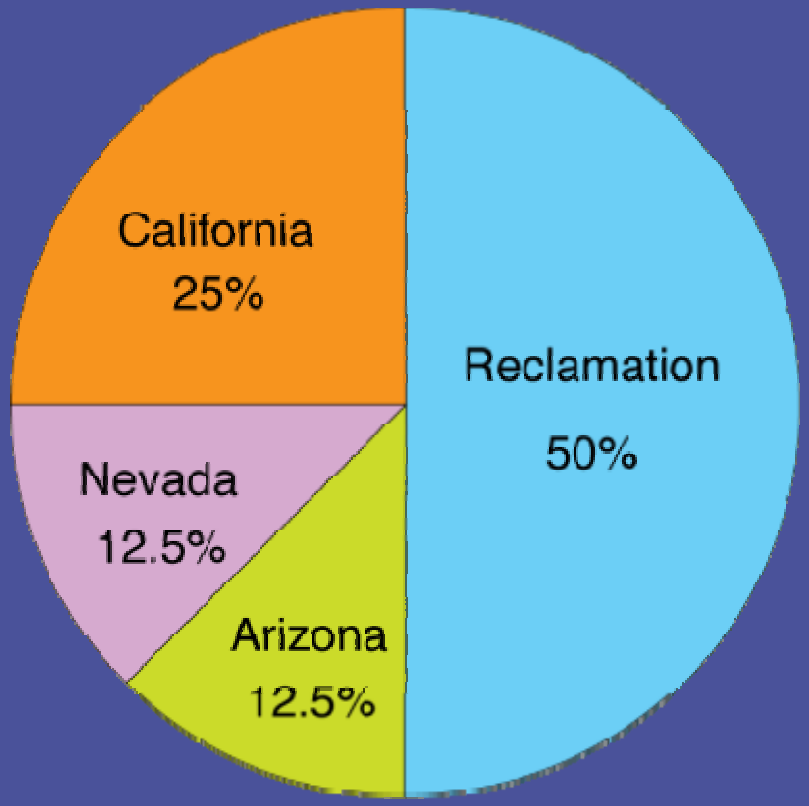
COST SHARING

- Total Program Cost
  $626 million (2003 dollars)
  Adjusted Annually for Inflation

- Federal / State Cost Share
  Split 50/50

- Cost Cap



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LCR MSCP COVERED SPECIES

- 6 T&E species
  - 2 birds, 1 reptile, 3 fish
- 20 other species
  - 4 mammals, 10 birds, 2 reptile/amphibian, 1 fish, 1 insect, 2 plants
- 5 “evaluation species”*
  - 3 mammals, 2 amphibians

** Evaluation species are those which would qualify as covered species except sufficient information on their biology, habitat use, and occurrence within the project area are not sufficient at the time the HCP is completed*

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PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Fish Augmentation
- Species Research
- System-wide Monitoring
- Existing Habitat Maintenance
- Conservation Area Development & Management

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FISH AUGMENTATION GOALS

- 660,000 Razorback Suckers
- 620,000 Bonytail

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CONSERVATION AREA DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

- Cottonwood-Willow - 5,940 Ac (2,400 ha)
- Mesquite - 1,320 Ac (535 ha)
- Marsh – 512 Ac (207 ha)
- Backwaters – 360 Ac (145 ha)

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PROGRAMMATIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Final Science Strategy
  - Strategy for implementing research and monitoring
  - Planning and Review processes
    - *Annual work plan and accomplishment report*
    - *5 Year research and monitoring priority report*
- Draft 5 Year Research & Monitoring Priorities (08-12)
- Site Selection Criteria
- Native Fish Augmentation Plan
- Annual Accomplishment / Work Plans

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FISH AUGMENTATION

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FISH AUGMENTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS (FY05-09)

Species	Lake Mohave	Davis-Parker	Below Parker	Total
Razorback Sucker	38,097	28,728	44,100	110,925
Bonytail	6,998	17,892	11,067	35,957
TOTAL				146,882

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SPECIES RESEARCH

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SYSTEM MONITORING

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CONSERVATION AREA DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

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CONSERVATION AREA DEVELOPMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- LAND AND WATER SECURED (Through FY09)
  - 3,669 Acres (1,485 ha)
  - 17,573 AF/YR

- Acres Managed (Through FY09)
  - 956 Total Acres (387 ha)
    - 702 ac CW (284 ha)
    - 79 ac HM (32 ha)
    - 95 ac BW (38 ha)
    - 80 ac Marsh (32 ha)

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HABITAT CREATION GOALS BY REACH AND STATE

REACH/STATE	CW	HM	MA	BW	TOTAL
REACH 5 AZ	200	50	20	80	350
REACH 5 CA	200	100	20	40	360
REACH 6 AZ	400	150	100	20	670
REACH 6 CA	250	400	50	30	730
REACH 7 AZ	150	100	20	0	270

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YUMA AREA PROJECTS

- IMPERIAL PONDS (REACH 5 AZ)
- LAGUNA DIVISION CONSERVATION AREA (REACH 6 AZ)
- YUMA EAST WETLANDS (Potential) (REACH 6 AZ)
- HUNTER'S HOLE (Potential) (REACH 7 AZ)

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IMPERIAL PONDS CONSERVATION AREA

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LAGUNA DIVISION CONSERVATION AREA

PROJECT UPDATE

Fred Phillips Consulting

Natural Channel Design, Inc.

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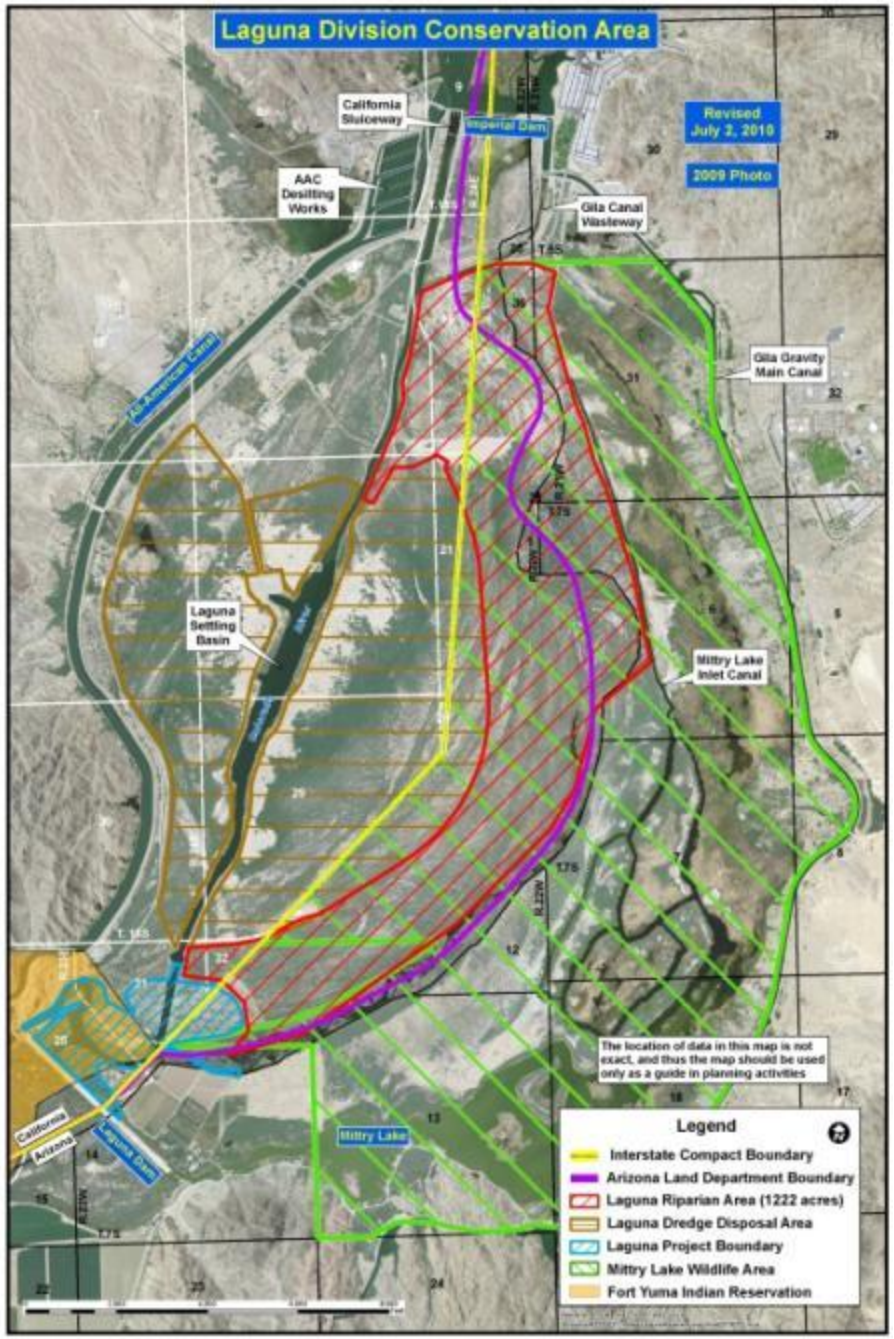
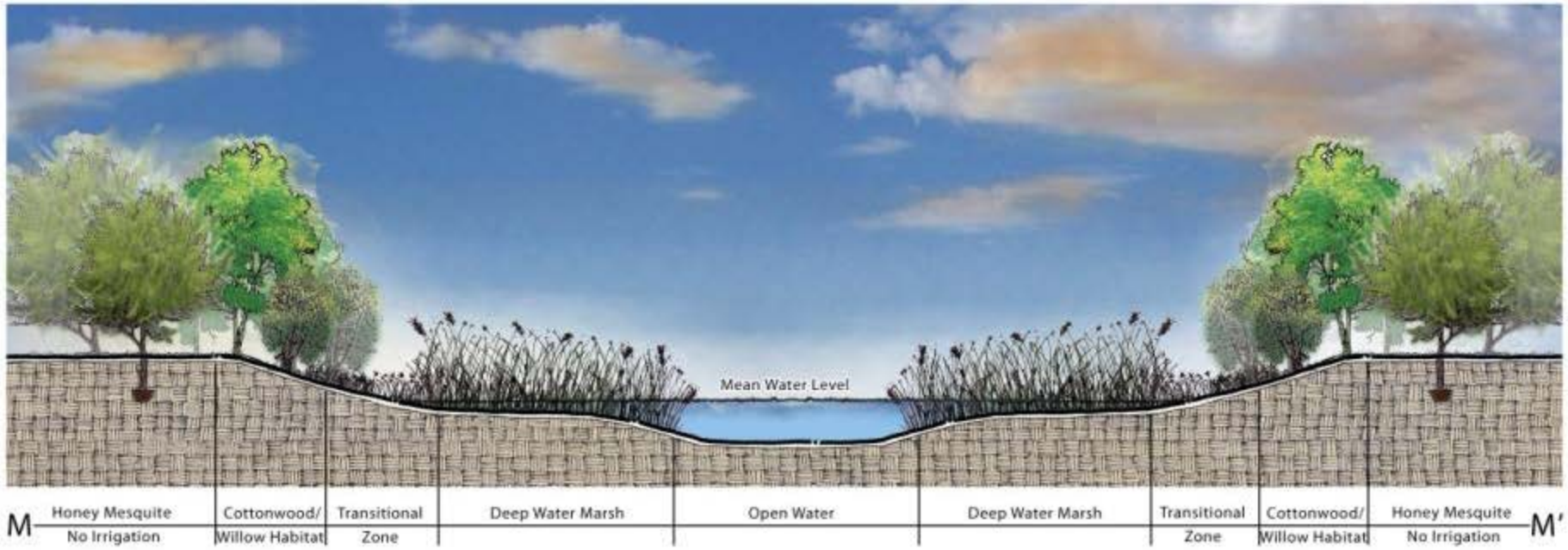
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Project Site Map

- Project Area – 1154 acres
- Reach Length – 4.3 miles
- Existing Conditions
  - Extensive/dense tamarisk monoculture





Natural Channel Design, Inc.

Fred Phillips Consulting

MSCP Laguna Restoration

Reach 3 Typical Channel Cross Section

Scale: 1" = 60'

Date: 8/25/10

TARGET HABITATS

Open Water/Marsh: 50 – 100 ac

Cottonwood/Willow: >200 ac

Upland (Mesquite): <500 ac

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YUMA EAST WETLANDS

PARTNERS:

CITY OF YUMA
QUECHAN TRIBE
AZDGF
YCNHA

LCR MSCP RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Maintain existing habitat that meets MSCP covered species habitat requirements
- Adaptively manage existing habitat to provide MSCP covered species habitat

YUMA EAST WETLANDS PRIOR TO RESTORATION

YUMA EAST WETLANDS AFTER RESTORATION

YUMA EAST WETLANDS

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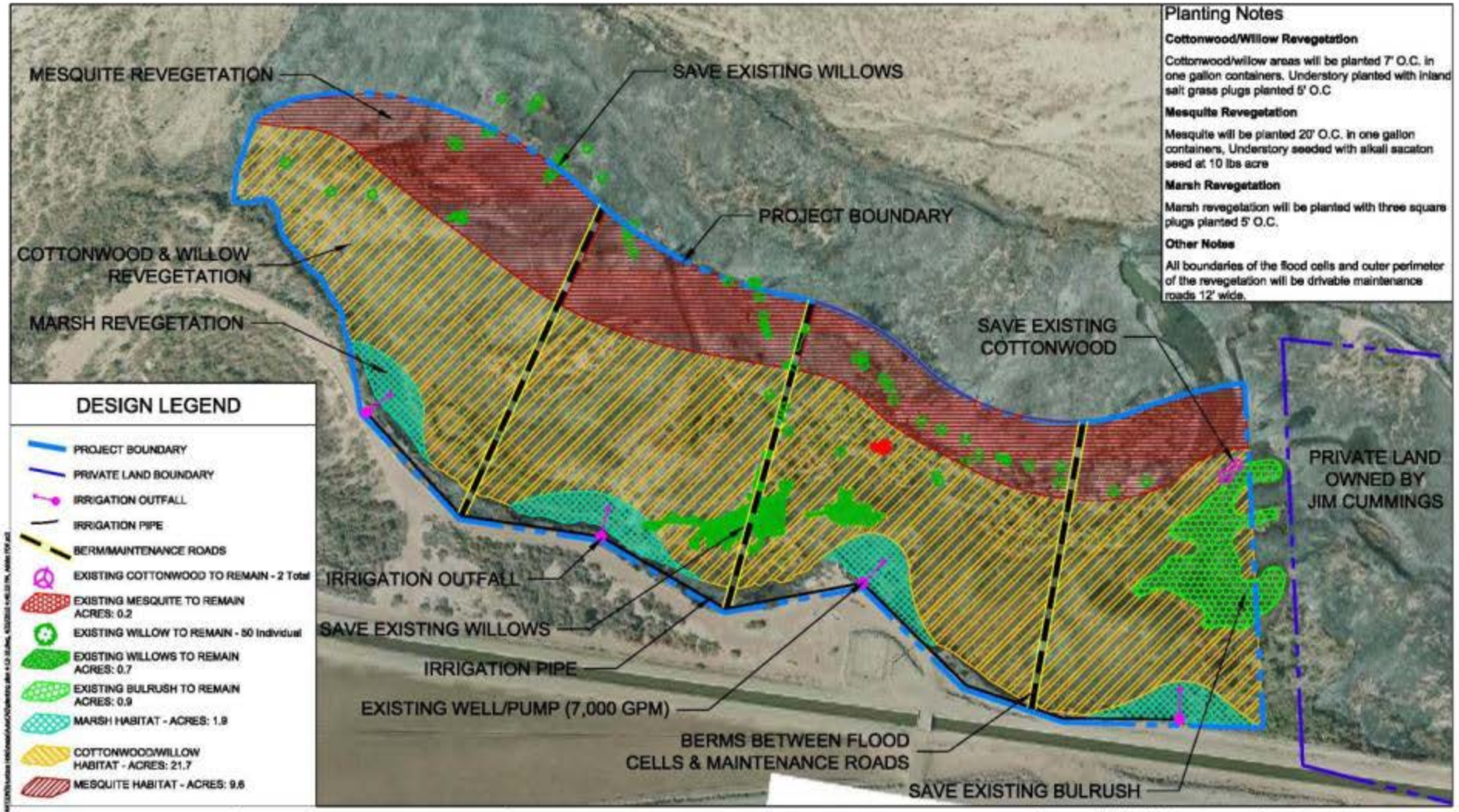
Hunter's Hole

- 35 acres, CW land cover type
- Compliment to Colonial Miguel Aleman
- Reach 7, Arizona



Fred Phillips Consulting, LLC
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FLAGSTAFF, AZ
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TEL 928 773 1530
FAX 928 774 4186
Ecosystem Restoration Land Planning

PREPARED FOR:
YUMA CROSSING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

HUNTER'S HOLE
RIPARIAN AND WETLAND RESTORATION

CITY OF YUMA

YUMA, ARIZONA

SHEET TITLE :
REVISED PLANTING PLAN

Scale: 1" = 200'

0' 100' 200' 400' 800' NORTH

DATE: APRIL 21, 2010
JOB NO.:
DRAWN BY: JF
DESIGNED BY: FOP/DB
CHECKED BY: FOP

SHEET NO.:
FIGURE 1

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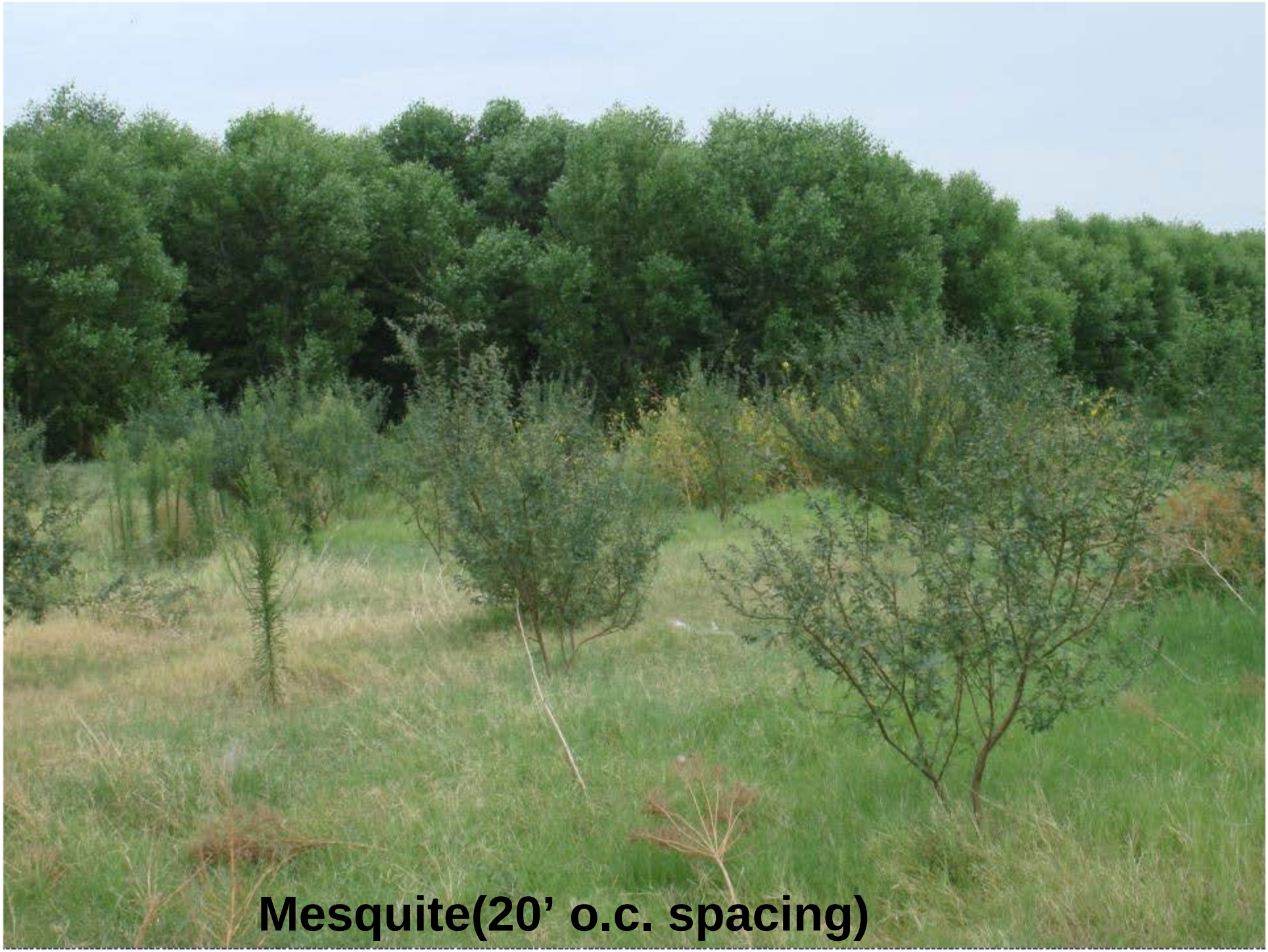
LCR MSCP RIPARIAN HABITAT CREATION

EXAMPLES OF CREATED HABITAT



Mesquite(20’ o.c. spacing)

Cottonwood (5-10’ o.c. spacing)

Cottonwood (10-20’ o.c. spacing)

Cottonwood (5’ o.c. spacing)

Goodding’s Willow 5’ o.c. spacing

Coyote willow (Spreads like Bermuda grass)

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www.lcrmscp.gov