

LC-8416  
ENV-7.00

JAN 16 2015

Ms. Lesley Fitzpatrick  
Aquatic Animals Recovery Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services  
Arizona Ecological Services Office  
2321 W. Royal Palm Road, Suite 103  
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

Subject: Mojave Valley Conservation Area

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick:

The Bureau of Reclamation, as the implementing agency for the Lower Colorado Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP), will be performing restoration on the Mojave Valley Conservation Area located 13 miles south of Needles, California. The intention of this project is to create an integrated mosaic of all four land cover types, although the focus is the creation of approximately 50 acres of connected backwater. Once the project is completed, it will be managed for covered species identified in the LCR MSCP Habitat Conservation Plan. The effects from the LCR MSCP component of this project were considered in the existing Biological Opinion for the LCR MSCP.

We are requesting your consultation and concurrence on the actions associated with the Mojave Valley Conservation Area Project. If you have questions, please contact me at 702-293-8555 or Ms. Laken Anderson at 702-293-8153. Thank you for your attention to our request.

Sincerely,

  
John Swett  
Program Manager  
Lower Colorado River  
Multi-Species Conservation Program

bc: LC-8000, LC-8400, LC-8416

WBR:LAnderson:gristobal:12/30/2014:702-293-8153  
<http://lcrmscsp/sites/MSCP/8000/Shared Documents/Correspondence/Document Tracker/Restoration Group/L Anderson/123014 Mojave Valley Conservation Area.docx>



United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arizona Ecological Services Office
2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951

Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513



In reply refer to:
AESO/SE
22410-2004-F-0161

January 28, 2015

Memorandum

To: Program Manager, Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program,
Bureau of Reclamation, Boulder City, Nevada

From: Field Supervisor

Subject: Mohave Valley Conservation Area

The Fish and Wildlife Service received your January 16, 2015, request for our concurrence with the inclusion of the Mojave Valley Conservation Area in San Bernardino County, California to fulfill a portion of the conservation requirements contained in the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP). Formal consultation on the effects to listed species, including the bonytail (Gila elegans), razorback sucker (Xyrauchen texanus), Yuma clapper rail (Rallus longirostris yumanensis), western yellow-billed cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus), and southwestern willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii extimus) was completed on March 4, 2005. In the biological opinion, we assumed that creation of new habitats for covered species could have minor impacts on existing low-value habitats in the project area. Incidental take is provided in the biological opinion, and avoidance and minimization measures, particularly avoiding of the breeding season for covered bird species during construction activities, were also included. The project plan includes this measure.

Unless critical habitat for the western yellow-billed cuckoo is designated along the Colorado River, no additional consultation under the Endangered Species Act is required for the implementation of this conservation action. The March 4, 2005, biological opinion adequately covers the effects to the species and habitats that will result from construction.

Thank you for your continued dedication to successfully implementing the LCR MSCP. If there are any questions concerning this response, please contact Lesley Fitzpatrick at (602) 242-0210 (x236) or me.

Handwritten signature of Steven L. Spangle

Administrative tracking form with fields for DATE (2/16/15), CODE (8000), CLASSIFICATION, PROJECT, CONFERENCE NO, and FILED.

