



# Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

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*Balancing Resource Use and Conservation*

## Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

Lorri Gray  
Lower Colorado Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation

WRRC Annual Meeting  
June 24, 2008





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*Balancing Resource Use and Conservation*

- 50-Years of ESA
- Compliance Unique – Section 7 and 10
  - 26 Covered Species
- Covered Actions (Federal and Non-Federal)
  - Delivery and Diversion of 9 MAF
  - Maintenance Activities
  - Movement of 1.574 MAF





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## Goals and 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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## 2048 Accomplishments

\*Water Delivery and Power Production not Managed  
by Litigation

\*Species

- More is known about All 26 Species
- Razorback Sucker and Bonytail Chub are Recovered
- Other Listed Species are Closer to Recovery

\*Through Adaptive Management Decisions Habitat  
Management has Evolved based on Species Needs





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## 2048 Accomplishments

### \*Habitat - Created

Cottonwood – Willow 5,940 acres

Mesquite 1,320 acres

Marsh 512 acres

Backwater 360 acres



### \*Habitat Ownership – Refuges, Game and Fish Agencies, and Native American Tribes

### \*Some Habitat Acreage is located in Mexico





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## 2048 Accomplishments

\*Extension of the Program Through 2105 is Complete

- No New Measures are Needed

- Due to Efficiencies, Continued Implementation requires 50% less water



Desert Tortoise







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Western least bittern



Sonoran yellow warbler



MacNeill's sootywing





THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA.

Water Resources Research Center  
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences



The University of Arizona



## The Importance of the Colorado River to Arizona's Future

June 24, 2008  
Phoenix, Arizona



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