## Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

Balancing Resource Use and Conservation

# Desert Tortoise & Flat-tailed Horned Lizard Habitat Acquisition

Jed Blake
Reclamation-MSCP Restoration Team



#### LCR MSCP Background

April 2005, LCR MSCP documents signed

 50yr Federal/State/Tribal Habitat Conservation Plan allowing for current and future water and power operations on the Lower

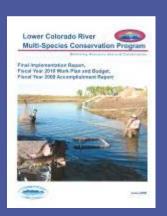
Colorado River

50/50 Federal-State Cost Share

Federal 50%-California 25%

Nevada 12.5%
 -Arizona 12.5%

- Reclamation is the implementing agency
- Regulatory/Compliance/ Annual Work Plan can be found at www.lcrmscp.gov



LOWER COLORADO RIVE

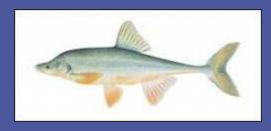
#### Habitat Creation & Native Fish Goals

5,940 acres Cottonwood-willow1,320 acres of Honey Mesquite512 acres of Marsh360 acres of backwater



660,000 razorback sucker 620,000 bonytail







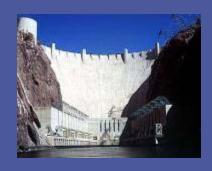
#### LCR MSCP Conservation Measures

#### Flow Related

- Applies only to applicable LCR MSCP stakeholders
  - i.e. (ongoing water diversions, return flows, hydro power generation and transmission)

#### Non-Flow Related

- Applies only to applicable LCR MSCP stakeholders
  - i.e. (OM&R: Operations, Maintenance and Repair)
  - 234 miles of canals in Yuma Valley
  - Facilities and equipment by which hydro power is transmitted
  - Service roads, comm lines, docks, boat ramps and rip rap









#### Steering Committee & Approval Process

- 56 Federal/State/Tribal/NGO Stakeholders
  - Land and Water Resolution Presented
  - Estimated price per/acre & Targeted lands
  - Additional costs include: Appraisals, Titles, Site
     Assessments, Solicitor Review, etc.
  - Estimated completion date
  - Project becomes a LCR MSCP Work Task









#### **Conservation Measure DET01**

### "DET01-Aquire and protect 230 acres of existing unprotected occupied habitat."

- Land must be undisturbed & inhabited
- Acquire and transfer lands to appropriate wildlife/land management agency.
- Lands must be within existing MA
- Forecasted completion is Spring 2011

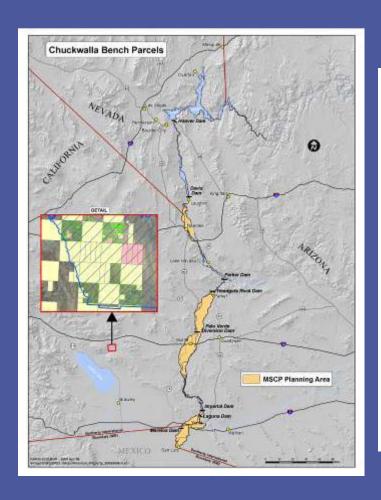
## **2007 MSCP Issues Request for Projects: Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy**

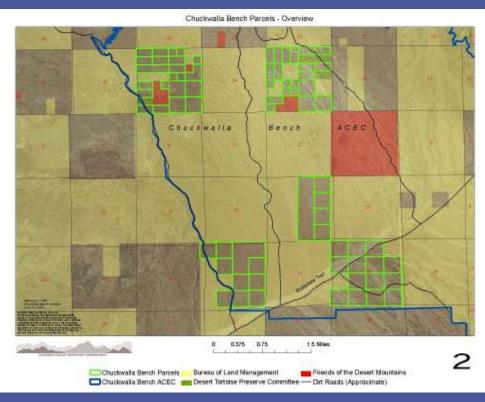






#### Riverside County, CA Chuckwalla Bench ACEC





#### **Conservation Measure FTHL01**

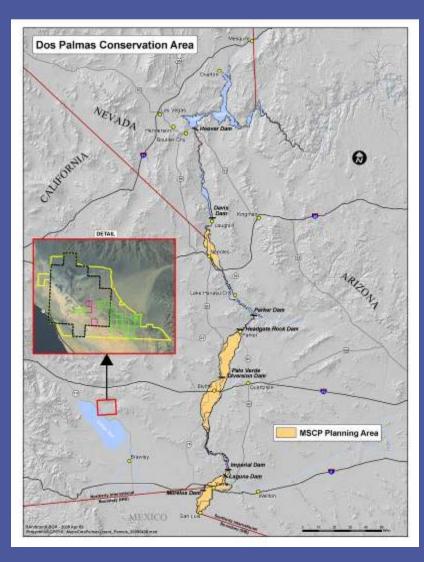
"FTHL01-Aquire and protect 230 acres of existing unprotected occupied flat-tailed horned lizard habitat."

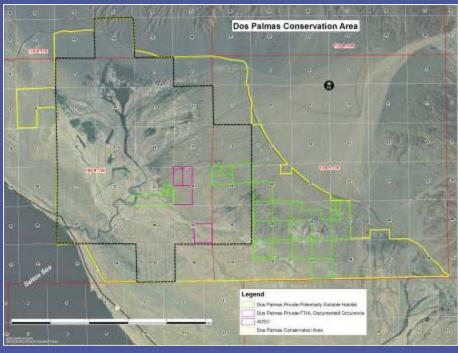
- -Land must be undisturbed and inhabited
- -Acquire and transfer lands to appropriate wildlife/land management agency
- -Forecasted completion is Spring 2012





## Riverside County, CA Dos Palmas Preserve





#### **Acquisition Process**

- Working with Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy
  - Land owners Identified through county assessor
  - Right of Entry mailed and granted for appraisal
  - Federal Appraisal establishes "Fair Market Value"
  - Offer letter mailed to owners @ \$450-\$500 per/acre
  - Offers accepted; initiates site assessments, title review, donation letter to BLM, transfer funds electronically to land owner.





#### Questions?

Jed Blake (LC-8451)
Site Development Coordinator
Reclamation-LCR MSCP
500 Fir St.
Boulder City, NV 89005

Office: 702-271-3237 Email: jblake@usbr.gov

www.lcrmscp.gov

