

USIBWC RGCP
Restoration Activities Update

January 2013 – December 2013

Broad Canyon Burns

- Salt cedar debris piles burned
January 2013
- With USFWS burn team under an
approved burn plan



Planting February 2013

○ Mesilla East

- 100 black willows
- 393 coyote willows

○ Broad Canyon Arroyo

- 1,015 coyote and black willows
- 80 cottonwoods

○ Leasburg Extension Lateral

- 740 coyote and black willows
- 60 cottonwoods





February 2013



August 2013



Groundwater Monitoring Wells

- 53 wells installed at 20 sites within the floodplain in summer/fall 2013
- Wells 12-16 feet deep
- Measure variation during drought and irrigation releases





New Restoration Sites

- A new work order executed under the USFWS Interagency Agreement
- 4 new sites
 - Trujillo
 - Seldon Point Bar
 - Rincon Siphon
 - Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park
- Plus continued planting at 5 pilot sites
- 2013-2016
- 20,000 trees
- USFWS began work in November 2013

Seldon Point Bar



Rincon Siphon C



Trujillo Saltcedar Excavation Nov 2013



Monitoring Protocol

- Monitoring Protocol implemented Summer 2013
- Field sheets for pre-site conditions, planting, and active restoration site
- Simple procedures
- Survival rate, percent cover, native and non-native vegetation present, photo points



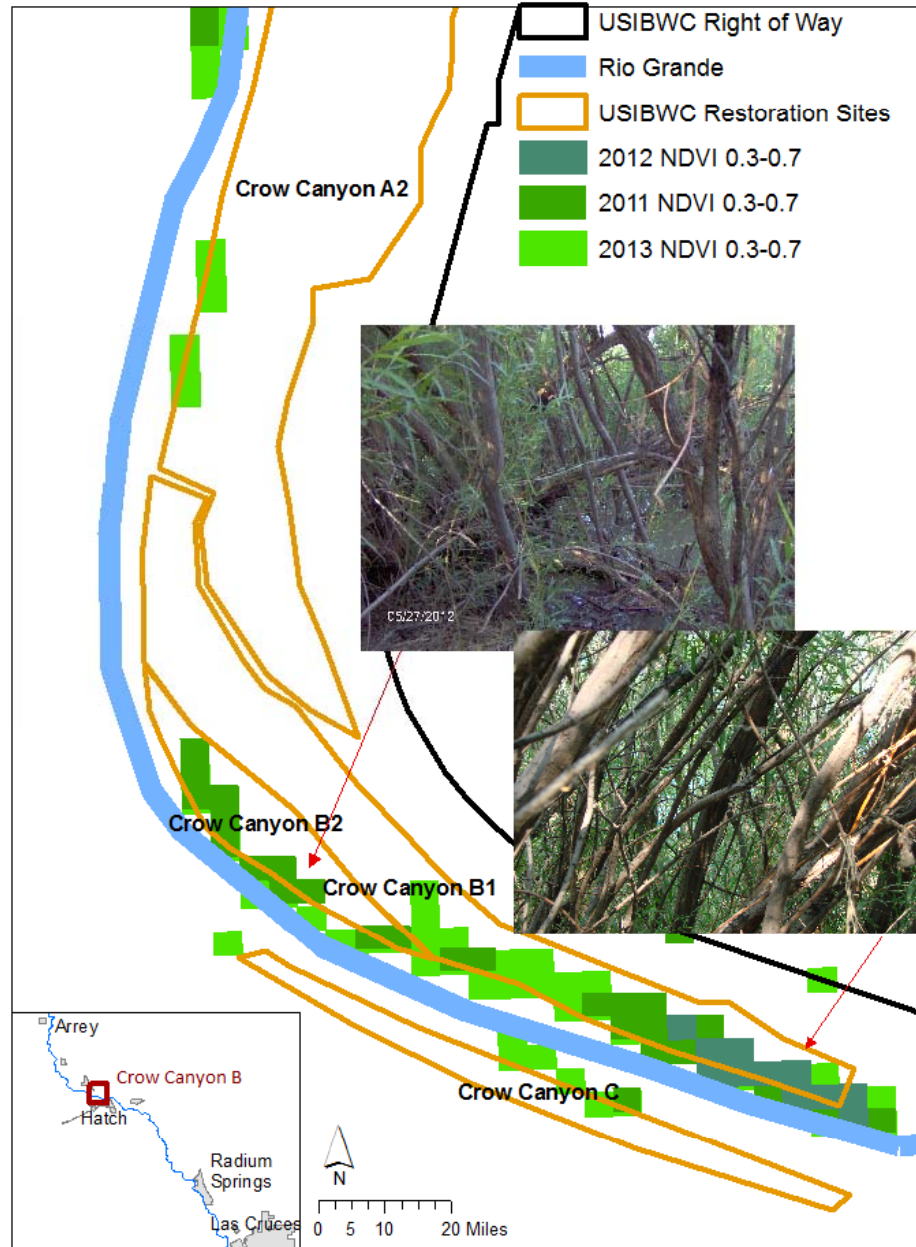
Flycatcher Surveys

- IBWC's Biological Opinion requires annual surveys
- Interagency Agreement with USBR signed April 2013
- Work Order for 2013 surveys
- Recovery Goal met 2012 & 2013

River Management Plan

- River Management Plan draft sent for stakeholder review summer 2013
- RMP includes:
 - Flycatcher Management Plan (required by the Opinion) and NDVI calculations
 - No Mow Zones
 - Floodplain and vegetation management
- Channel Maintenance Plan will be sent for stakeholder review December 2013

Flycatcher Habitat at Crow Canyon B from NDVI Values



Water Rights Program

- Rules and Procedures established by Audubon and NFWF summer 2013
- Set priority sites
- Estimated minimum acres needed and cost for different scenarios
- Minimum needed for ROD compliance is 475 acres for an estimated \$1.7 million

Water Rights (acres)	High Volume	High Volume Lease	Mid Volume	Mid Volume Lease	Low Volume (ROD Min)
Base	544	544	544	544	475
Stacked	68	--	68	--	--
Annual Leases	219	288	--	68	--
Sup GW	68	68	--	--	--
Total	900	900	612	612	475
Est. Cost	\$2.2 million	\$1.9 million	\$2.1 million	\$1.9 million	\$1.7 million

Water Rights Program

- In June 2013, EBID Board passed a policy to count IBWC restoration sites as “agriculture use”
- Currently pursuing trial transactions of about 6 acres of water rights
- Pursuing additional water rights
- Contracting appraisal services for large water rights tracts

Trial Irrigations

- Leasburg Extension Lateral will be first site to receive supplemental irrigation
- Working with EBID and Audubon on an irrigation plan and earthen turnout
- Target 6 acres for irrigation in 2014







Future Tasks for 2014 and 2015

- Finalize River Management Plan and Channel Maintenance Plan
- Contract for channel maintenance alternatives study
- Purchase Water Rights and begin supplemental irrigation
- Plant 20,000 trees!
- Next restoration sites:
 - Berino E & W
 - property purchases

Website

http://www.ibwc.gov/EMD/canalization_eis.html

Contact

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QUESTIONS?

