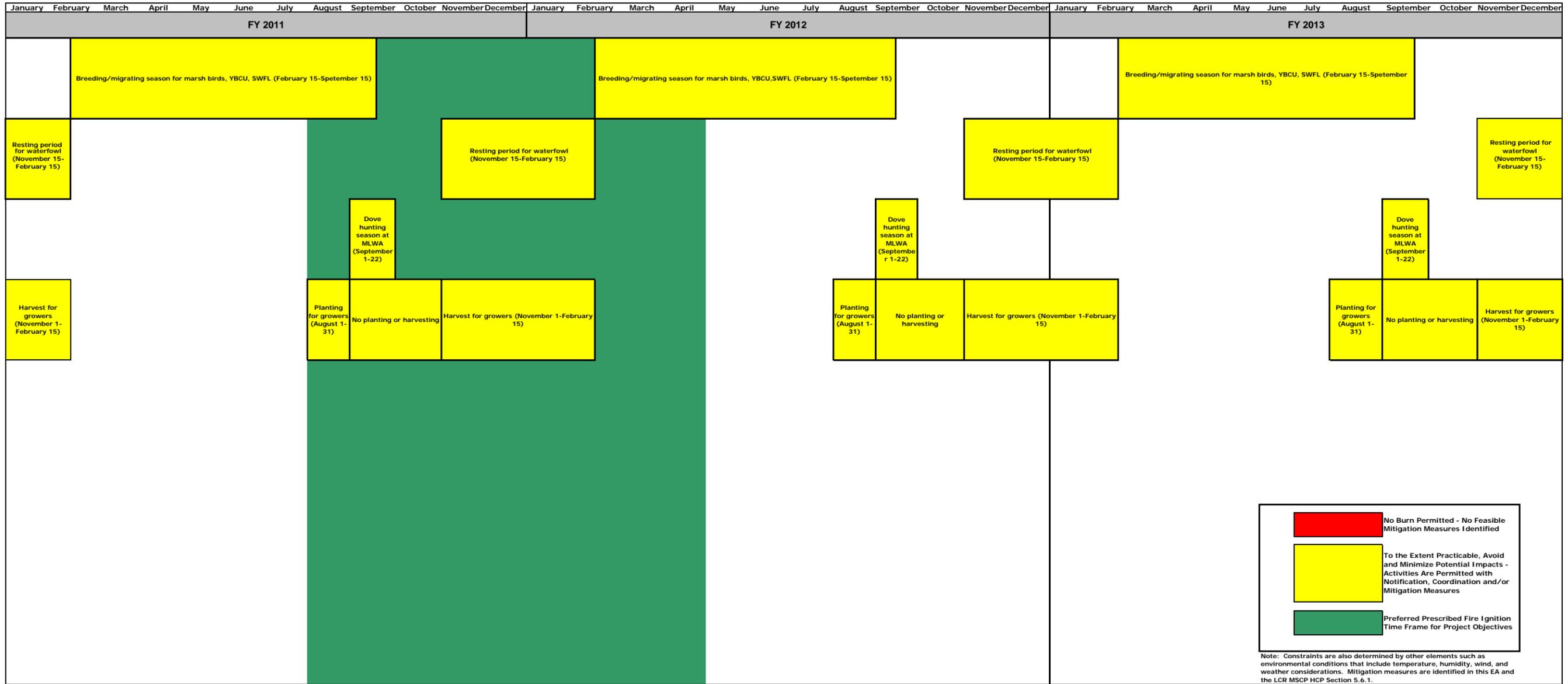


Appendix C

Prescribed Fire Ignition Timeframe for the Proposed Action Alternative
Table and Objectives, Constraints, and Mitigation Measures
for the Proposed Removal and Prescribed Fire Activities

Prescribed Fire Ignition Time Frame for the Proposed Action Alternative



Objectives, Constraints, and Mitigation Measures for the Proposed Removal and Prescribed Fire Activities

Objectives	
Resource Objectives	Fire Objectives
Resource goals for the project require that the removal of biomass be completed in between August 2011 and March 2012 (see Table: Ignition Time Frame and Season).	Desired removal of up to 80% of the biomass within the proposed project site.
Protect native riparian, wetland, and aquatic habitats.	Implement prescribed fire treatment with no serious accidents or injuries.
Conversion of existing non-native habitat to native cottonwood/willow habitat.	Keep fire within proposed project site.
	Manage smoke to minimize the negative effects to human health and safety.

Constraints and Mitigation

Constraints or General Considerations	Mitigation
<p>Avoid and minimize potential impacts to air quality.</p> <p>Prescribed fire activities are permitted as determined through notification with local agricultural growers that prescribed fire can occur. Written or verbal concurrence is required.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Production of dust emissions exceeding an ambient 24-hour PM-10 standard that would result in the potential impact to air quality must implement standard operating practices to minimize dust (PM-10) emissions during establishment, construction and maintenance activities in accordance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standard. 2. For the removal, construction and maintenance activities producing emissions that contribute to the excess of an ambient 24-hour PM-10 standard, PBP and a smoke management plan for all establishment, construction, and maintenance activities involving the use of fire would be drafted by the PFIA and implemented to avoid and minimize affects to wildlife and human health and safety, air, and water quality. 3. The PFIA in cooperation with Reclamation and other federal, state and local agencies/parties would draft a prescribed fire plan that would reflect best management practices (BMP) to control dust, smoke, and maintain air quality that would <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid wind direction, temperature, humidity, and weather conditions that could send smoke, ash/soot and particulates into human habituated, agricultural and recreational areas (i.e. Tribal Trailer Park, Hidden Shores Village

	<p>RV Park, YPG and other surrounding areas) and avoid spread of smoke into wildlife areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prescription for the prescribed fire will follow the acceptable prescription range obtained through weather and smoke management forecasts • Restrict burning conditions to winds traveling from the Southwest <p>4. The following mitigation measures will be followed unless it is determined through notification with local agricultural growers that prescribed fire can occur within these time constrictions. Written or verbal notification is required prior to the implementation of the prescribed fire method.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescribed fire activities will not occur during planting and harvest season from August 1 to August 31, and November 1 to February 15 • Prescribed fire activity is permitted if necessary during the early stages of planting between September 1 to October 31 and the late stages of harvesting after February 15 • Avoid or minimize the effects of ash/soot in the neighboring agricultural fields <p>5. The following mitigation measures will be followed with the implementation of the air curtain burner/incinerator method and manual clearing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dust control measures (e.g. site watering) in accordance to federal and state requirements for air quality will be implemented to control dust. • Fire Protection Protocols/Plan will adhere to all applicable wildfire regulations and address the accidental ignition of wildfire. This plan should include, but is not limited to, fire prevention measures and fire suppression activities. • Buffer zones and setbacks will be established for standing trees, vegetation, and other material or debris that can cause accidental fires.
<p>Avoid and minimize potential impacts on the targeted species and other wildlife.</p> <p>The following mitigation measures would be implemented to the extent practicable (Reclamation, HCP Section 5.6.1):</p>	<p>1. In order to avoid impacts to nesting migratory bird species protected under the MBTA, prescribed fire activities would not be allowed from February 15 through mid-September.</p>

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2. The speed and intensity of the prescribed fire should be reduced as it approaches locations known to contain either YCRA or BLRA (see Figure 4).
 3. The prescribed fire will be conducted so that the fire burns in a direction that would allow YCRA and BLRA to escape into the MLWA.
 4. Perimeter clearing to create a fire break would occur to avoid or minimize impacts to habitat utilized by YCRA and BLRA.
 5. During prescribed fire operations the following elements would be required where applicable to avoid the introduction and/or spread of noxious and invasive species:
 - During incident management planning process determine the potential for spreading noxious and or invasive weeds while traveling to and from an incident and during suppression activities and taking appropriate action to reduce the potential for spread.
 - Resource advisors would be aware of noxious/invasive weed problems at the fire and around fire camps.
 - Material such as gravel, hay, etc needed for camp setup, etc would be certified weed free and/or source location inspected or researched for weed seed potential.
 - Resource advisors would make a determination if equipment to be demobilized from a fire needs to be cleaned at site prior to release.
 - All engines, water tenders, and fire suppression vehicles would use non-contaminated water (Colorado River water is acceptable for suppression use), including when refilling. Refilling would be done at the nearest fire hydrant or approved refilling stations (i.e. on site fold up tanks or pumpkins) to prevent contamination from invasive species.
 6. To avoid additional habitat degradation on the proposed project site during project activities, all dredge and excavated material would be placed on pre-existing spoil sites or in locations of low habitat
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	<p>value (see Appendix B).</p> <p>7. In order to avoid impacts to nesting migratory bird species protected under the MBTA and Targeted Species, construction and maintenance activities would be minimized from February 15 through mid-September.</p> <p>8. During removal, construction and maintenance phases of the project, equipment would be thoroughly cleaned prior to entering the proposed project site. The cleaning process will ensure that all dirt and debris that may harbor noxious or invasive weeds seeds are removed and disposed of at an appropriate facility. Reclamation's <i>Inspection and Cleaning Manual for Equipment and Vehicles to Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species: 2010 Edition</i> can be found at http://www.usbr.gov/mussels/ and should be reference for inspection and cleaning activities.</p>
<p>Cultural resources discovered during prescribed fire activities would be reported to the field office Archaeologist, and operations on the particular site shall cease until site can be assessed.</p>	
<p>Avoid and minimize potential impacts on land use and recreation</p> <p>Mitigation measures will be followed unless it is determined through coordination with AGFD that prescribed fire can occur within these time constrictions. Concurrence is required either written or verbal prior to the implementation of the prescribed fire.</p>	<p>1. Prescribed fire activities would not occur if the proposed project area is occupied by unauthorized persons defined in the PBP. The proposed project site will be thoroughly surveyed for the presence of unauthorized persons immediately prior to the implementation of the prescribed fire to ensure public safety.</p> <p>2. The perimeter of the prescribed fire must be sufficiently patrolled to prevent unauthorized entry during prescribed fire operations.</p> <p>3. Do not allow fire to cross North of Laguna Dam Road or S24, West of California Sluice Way because there are power lines and buildings north of the proposed project site.</p> <p>4. Notify federal, state, and local agencies to coordinate closure of roads and public access.</p> <p>5. Proper authorizations and permits from Yuma County must be obtained prior to initiating the proposed project activities.</p> <p>6. Coordination would occur between state and federal agencies, the public, and the PFIA project lead to minimize impacts to the public during the prescribed fire.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. The public would be notified of the burn schedule prior to ignition to limit conflicts with the pile burn areas. 8. The treatment unit would be closed to the public during prescribed fire activities. 9. Prevent the spread of fire beyond the eastern boundary of the proposed project site and into the MLWA. The MLWA is included in the MMA however avoidance is requested. To prevent spread of fire into MLWA, contain fire east of proposed site boundary. 10. Notification and coordination with AGFD for closure of MLWA and the surrounding recreational areas and trail prior to the implementation of the prescribed fire. 11. Where proposed work involves tribal lands, approvals would be obtained prior to initiating construction activities, in accordance with regulations and requirements. 12. At National Preparedness Level IV, concurrence by the State Fire Management Officer (SFMO) must be obtained before implementing the local Agency Administrator's recommendation for a prescribed fire. 13. Avoid dove hunting season during the first two weeks of September unless coordinated with AGFD. 14. Avoid prescribed fire activities during the week-ends unless coordinated with AGFD.
<p>Avoid and minimize potential impacts on noise.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When appropriate individuals working and entering into the proposed project site would be required to wear personal protective equipment (i.e. ear plugs and ear muffs).
<p>Through the 404 and 401 permit applications, mitigation measures will be imposed to ensure water quality during the implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative. All mitigation measures from the 404 and 401 permit will be followed.</p>	