

Date:

May 21, 2009

Applicant:

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation – Yuma Area Office

Project Name:

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation - Laguna Settling Basin Maintenance Dredging Project
WDID No. 7B133021001

Receiving Water:

Colorado River

Location:

City or Area: Colorado River's Laguna Division County: Imperial County

Longitude/Latitude: N 32° 51' 12.82" W 114° 28' 43.22"

Laguna Dam Quadrangle: Sections 20 and 21, T.15 S., R. 24 E.

Project Description:

The purpose for conducting reoccurring maintenance dredging of the Laguna Settling Basin (LSB) is to alleviate sediment aggradations problems in the Laguna, Yuma, and Limitrophe Divisions of the lower Colorado River. The LSB was created to intercept the incoming sediment (collected from the All-American Canal de-silting works and incoming sediment from above Imperial Dam) and store it until the sediment could be dredged for disposal on dry land. It is less expensive and environmentally less damaging to periodically empty one settling basin than to remove the sediment from various locations along the lower Colorado River where sediment would otherwise collect.

Control of the sediment load of the river is necessary for Reclamation to meet obligations to which it committed in a Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission and Reclamation, dated August 28, 1961. Reclamation agreed to attempt to reduce the amount of sediment arriving at Morelos Dam (Mexico) to "the portion of the total quantity of sediment above Imperial Dam at Adobe Ruins carried by the portion of waters diverted by Mexico at Morelos Dam." The LSB was established between 1963 and 1965. The settling basin typically needs to be dredged every 3 to 5 years, based on the amount of sediment in the basin and the remaining capacity for sediment. The LSB was last dredged in 2003.

Action:

Pending

Water Board Contact:

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