



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Southwest Region



Arizona Wildlife Refuges to Receive Green Energy American Recovery and Reinvestment Act FACT SHEET

Project Description

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has awarded \$357,000* to MAC Electric Inc. of Yuma Ariz. to build two solar generators at the Southwestern Arizona Refuge Complex. The funding, through the Recovery Act, will build two 20K solar photovoltaic (PV) electric generation systems -- one each at Cibola National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), near Blythe, Arizona and Imperial NWR, near Yuma. The Service expects the generators, which should be in operation by next summer, to meet about 43 percent of the refuge energy needs.



Solar PV electric generation system at Bosque Del Apache (NM) NWR.

PV electricity is considered an ideal power source for Arizona Refuge facilities due to its clean properties, and Arizona's 312 yearly days of sunshine. It will replace energy coming from the local electric grids, and is expected to save taxpayers almost \$13,000 yearly. The Southwestern Arizona Refuge complex is comprised of 665,000 acres of marshland, mountain, and desert terrain at Cibola, Imperial, and Kofa NWRs. A PV electric generation system may be built at Kofa NWR at a later date.

Project Benefits

The Service expects the award to create work for three to four people, in addition to reducing maintenance costs and pollution, and saving energy through green energy technology.

Total Budget Information for All Projects

Southwestern Arizona Refuge Complex: \$636,000
(FFS#R2DC, R2CE above, 20K Solar Generation for Cibola/Imperial NWRs: \$357,000)

For More Information

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<http://recovery.doi.gov/press/bureaus/us-fish-and-wildlife-service/>

*Source – http://recovery.doi.gov/press/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/fws_list_051309.pdf