



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – Southwest Region



Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge American Recovery and Reinvestment Act FACT SHEET

Project Description

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has awarded \$678,274* in Recovery Act funds for two projects at Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in San Miguel County, New Mexico.



Las Vegas NWR is in the short-grass prairies of Northeast New Mexico.

The most high profile of the two projects was awarded for \$555,898* to the Deerfield Corporation of Albuquerque, N.M. to rehabilitate a nine-mile water delivery and pipeline system that supplies essential migratory bird habitat. The funds will replace aging pipes and valves which control the flow of water not just to the refuge lakes and wetlands but also to flood irrigated fields and 3 pivot irrigation systems used to cultivate Las Vegas' 500 acres of grain crop. Las Vegas raises mostly wheat and corn in order to feed migratory birds that call the New Mexico refuge home.

The second project, which has already begun work, was awarded to ACS Fencing of Roswell, N.M. for \$108,376*. ACS Fencing was contracted to replace approximately four miles of dilapidated barbed-wire fencing along the refuge's northern border with fencing adequate to keep out domestic predators and livestock. The fencing will also more accurately define Las Vegas' boundary.

Project Benefits

The Recovery Act projects will upgrade and replace Las Vegas' facilities, creating a safer and more efficient work environment. Both projects biggest benefactor will be the migratory bird population of Las Vegas by providing water to the lakes, wetlands and crops which feed the birds as well as protecting them from potential predators.

Total Award Information for 2 Projects at:

Las Vegas NWR: **\$678,274***

- Water Line / Delivery System: \$569,898*
- New Barbed-Wire / V-Mesh Fence: \$108,376*

For More Information

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

*Source – Fed Biz Ops: www.fbo.gov