

**YUMA CLAPPER RAIL**  
*(Rallus longirostris yumanensis)*

**STATUS:** Endangered (32 FR 4001, March 11, 1967) without critical habitat.

**SPECIES DESCRIPTION:** A 35.5 centimeter (14 inch) long marsh bird with long legs and a short tail. Its bill is long, slender, and curved downward slightly. Anteriorly, coloration is a mottled brown on a gray background. Its flanks and underside are dark gray with narrow vertical white stripes that produce a barred effect.

**HABITAT:** Inhabits freshwater or brackish stream-sides and marshlands under 1,372 m (4,500 ft) elevation. It is associated with dense riparian and marsh vegetation. It requires a wet substrate, such as a mudflat, sandbar, or slough bottom that supports cattail and bulrush stands of moderate to high density adjacent to shorelines.

**RANGE: Historical:** Uncertain. May have occurred in the marshes of the Lower Colorado River and its tributaries in Mexico and the United States. No records in U.S. before 1902 (Yuma County); type specimen taken near Laguna Dam in 1921.

**Current:** Occurs along the Colorado River (Yuma, La Paz, and Mohave counties, Arizona), from Lake Mead to Mexico; on the Gila and Salt rivers upstream to the area of the Verde confluence (Maricopa and Pinal counties, Arizona); at Picacho Reservoir (Pinal County, Arizona); and on the Tonto Creek arm of Roosevelt Lake (Gila County). May be expanding into other suitable marsh habitats in western and central Arizona.

**REASONS FOR DECLINE/VULNERABILITY:** Threatened because of habitat destruction due to stream channelization and elimination of marsh habitat.

**NOTES:** A Recovery Plan was completed in February 1983.

Listed as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need by the State of Arizona.