

Work Task A2:**PIT Tag Procurement**

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Purpose:	Acquire fish tagging materials for native fishes to be released into the lower Colorado River. A percentage of the introduced fish under the HCP will be tagged in order to evaluate their movements and habitat preferences.	
Conservation Measures:	RASU3, RASU6, BONY 3 and BONY5	
Long-term Goal:	The two principal fishes to be reared and stocked are the razorback sucker and the bonytail. During the first 10 years of the program, most of the native fish will be tagged with PIT tags to allow for maximum information gathering upon recapture. This survival and distribution data will be used for future decision making. Alternative methods of tagging will be evaluated for effectiveness over the long-term.	
FY04 Obligation:	\$54,762 was obligated for the procurement of PIT tags.	
FY04 Accomplishment:	10,000 tags of 400 kilohertz frequency and 5,000 tags of 125 kilohertz frequency were purchased to tag native fish currently being reared.	
Project Description:	<p>The Fish Augmentation Program requires all fishes to be marked in some way to facilitate identification upon recapture. To assist with survival studies, the PIT tags (passive integrated transponder tags), are inserted into the fish's body cavity. Each tag contains a coil of wire and a computer chip. A magnetic field will generate enough electricity to download the tag number. Theoretically the tags should last indefinitely. Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have been using these tags successfully for more than ten years on the lower Colorado River. In FY04 the tag order included both 400 khz and 125 khz tags to continue the existing tagging protocol. Additional tags will be acquired as needed in future years. The tags that will be purchased in FY05 will be 138 khz. The tag reader manufactured for this frequency is expected to also read 125 and 400 khz tags.</p>	