

Work Task B3: Achii Hanyo Rearing Station

FY05 Estimate	FY05 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY05	FY06 Approved Estimate	FY07 Proposed Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate
\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$100,000

Contact: Tom Burke, (702) 293-8711

Start Date: FY04 **Expected Duration:** FY55

Long-Term Goal: Maintain and operate fish rearing facility as an integral part of the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

Conservation Measures: RASU3, RASU4, BONY3 and BONY4

Location: Reach 4, Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation, Parker, AZ

Purpose: Operate and maintain fish rearing facility and annually contribute bonytail (BONY) to the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program for stocking into Reaches 3-5 of the lower Colorado River.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): This Work Task was previously included in the FY04 Work Task as Achii Hanyo National Fish Hatchery (A1). This work is related to B2 and B4 as fish from both Willow Beach NFH and Dexter NFH may be transferred to Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility. Additionally, fish research for BONY may be accomplished at this facility.

Project Description: This project has two specific actions:

1. The development of Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility as a grow-out site for BONY.
2. The rearing of BONY for release into Reaches 3-5 of the lower Colorado River.

Funds allocated to this work will be used for staff salary, facility operation and maintenance, fish feed and chemicals, and fish distribution.

This facility is located on Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation, and was formerly a privately owned hatchery, annually producing channel catfish and largemouth bass for sale to local growers and recreational fishing sites. The facility had been abandoned and unused for over five years prior to being leased by the FWS. Five earthen ponds used for fish culture and receive Colorado River water from an irrigation canal. There are two house trailers and a storage shed on site, and drinking water is supplied by a shallow well.

The Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility will be used by the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program for rearing BONY. The fish rearing operation is seasonal, producing one crop per year. Bonytail are brought in from Willow Beach and/or Dexter NFH in the winter and stocked into

the ponds. Ponds are monitored and fish are fed through the spring and summer. In the fall, the ponds are drained, and the fish are harvested, tagged and released. Fish under target size (less than 300 mm) are returned to a pond for continued rearing. New fish are then brought onto the station from Willow Beach NFH or Dexter NFH and the process is repeated. The annual Fish Augmentation Program production goal is 4,000 BONY subadults of 300 mm length for stocking into Reaches 4 and 5 of the lower Colorado River.

Previous Activities: The FWS and Reclamation have been cooperatively upgrading this facility through an interagency agreement initiated in FY04 which annually provides \$50,000 for facility improvements. This agreement completes a commitment made under the SIA and will expire at the end of 2007.

FY05 Accomplishments: Purchased and erected new metal building (tank house) (Figures B3a and B3b) and installed new fiberglass fish tanks. Concrete slab was poured for new office, feed storage room, and restrooms (to be completed in FY06). A total of 6,275 BONY were tagged and stocked into Lake Havasu (Reach 3). This is the largest number of BONY produced in a single year at this facility. Production capacity has yet to be determined at this facility. Many of the recent upgrades result in improvements to the work environment (e.g. road gravel, shade structure, office space, and restroom).



Figure B3: New Tank House at Achii Hanyo Fish Rearing Facility under construction (Figure B3a, left and Figure B3b, right)

FY06 Activities: Complete construction of maintenance building, office, and bathrooms. Rear 4,000 BONY for release into Reaches 4 and 5.

Proposed FY07 Activities: Operate and maintain facility; rear 4,000 BONY for release into Reaches 4 and 5; and assess production potential for BONY.