

Work Task B6: Lake Mead Fish Hatchery

FY07 Estimates	FY07 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY07	FY08 Approved Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate
\$55,000	\$20,654	\$154,367	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000

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Start Date: FY05

Expected Duration: FY16

Long-term Goal: Operate and maintain fish-rearing facility to provide RASU for the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

Conservation Measures: RASU3, RASU4, RASU7, and RASU8.

Location: Reach 1, Lake Mead, Boulder City, NV.

Purpose: Support Lake Mead RASU studies, complete conservation measures identified in the ISG/SIA BO subsumed under the LCR MSCP, and contribute RASU to the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Activities at Lake Mead SFH are related to C13 and B11. Razorback sucker larvae are captured from Lake Mead as part of the Lake Mead Razorback Study (C13) and reared at Lake Mead SFH. Once fish reach subadult size, they are transferred to grow-out ponds at Overton WMA to complete the rearing process (B11).

Project Description: Lake Mead SFH is managed and operated by NDOW. Recent renovation of Lake Mead SFH allowed development and inclusion of dedicated facilities for rearing RASU and other natives. Reclamation, SNWA, and NDOW are cooperatively rearing RASU larvae captured from Lake Mead for future repatriation back to the lake. Funds from this work task provide staff, equipment, feed, and chemicals to rear these fish and to complete SIA BO requirements.

In addition, space may be available as a contingency to rear RASU for the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program. This additional rearing capacity is needed for years 6 through 10 (FY11-FY16), during which time the number of RASU needed annually for stocking into reaches 3-5 increases from 12,000 fish per year to 24,000 fish per year.

Previous Activities: Reclamation, SNWA, and NDOW have cooperatively been rearing RASU from Lake Mead in temporary outside tanks at the hatchery. In 2005, Reclamation assisted with the installation of a single 500-gallon fiberglass tank for the purpose of rearing RASU collected from Lake Mead. Installation took place in the new native fish room and included plumbing for

air and water delivery lines, standpipe and standpipe screen construction, and placement of a central drain line. The native fish room was completed in 2006 with the addition of twenty-five 10-gallon aquaria, four 240-gallon fiberglass troughs, and six 700-gallon fiberglass tanks.

FY07 Accomplishments: 4,445 larval RASU (2,500 from Echo Bay and 1,945 from Las Vegas Bay) were collected from Lake Mead during the course of the spawning season and taken to the hatchery for grow-out. To make room for incoming larvae, NDOW delivered and stocked 1,781 juvenile RASU (2005 and 2006 year-classes) into Center Pond at the Overton WMA. Currently 4,221 RASU are being reared at Lake Mead SFH.

FY08 Activities: The NDOW will continue to operate Lake Mead SFH for RASU production. Operation will include rearing of wild-caught larvae from 2008 and grow-out of sub-adult fish from the 2006 and 2007 year classes. The remaining 2006 RASU and a portion of the 2007 year-class will be stocked at the Overton WMA. Production capability at this site will be assessed and a cost estimate developed for rearing up to 6,000 RASU to 300 mm TL for fish augmentation program needs through 2016.

Proposed FY09 Activities: Continued rearing of RASU captured during previous years will occur, and RASU stock will be augmented with 2009 year-class RASU larvae from Lake Mead. Delivery of 2007 year-class RASU to Overton WMA will take place.

Pertinent Reports: Portions of this work are being conducted by NDOW under an agreement that includes activities of B11. The scope of work for this agreement is available upon request from the LCR MSCP.