

Work Task C16: Evaluation of Past Bonytail Stockings

FY07 Estimates	FY07 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY07	FY08 Approved Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate
\$60,000	\$55,333	\$55,333	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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Start Date: FY07

Expected Duration: FY08

Long-term Goal: Adaptively manage bonytail augmentation stockings.

Conservation Measures: BONY5.

Location: Entire Colorado River Basin.

Purpose: Develop an understanding of past bonytail (BONY) stockings in the Colorado River Basin.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): None.

Project Description: This project is a review of past stockings of BONY throughout the Colorado River Basin. The study will document the size of fish released, locations stocked, physical and chemical conditions of receiving waters, results of post-stocking assessments, and related parameters that help determine the relative success of these events. There are only six facilities actively rearing BONY: Dexter NFH, Willow Beach NFH, Achii Hanyo NFF (CRIT), Wahweap SFH (Utah Division of Wildlife), Mumma SFH (Colorado), and Ouray NFH. It is expected that all facilities will be visited during this research.

Previous Activities: This is a new start in FY07.

FY07 Accomplishments: All available BONY stocking records were reviewed for waters throughout the Colorado River Basin. This information is summarized for marked or tagged and unmarked fish by stocking location and number and size of fish released.

All release and capture data for PIT-tagged fish from lakes Mohave and Havasu, and from the lower river below Parker Dam, were statistically evaluated. Average total length at release of captured fish within each reservoir-release site was compared to the parametric value. Capture success data for the upper Colorado River basin will be summarized, but paired release-capture date were unavailable for statistical analysis.

Data on physical and chemical characteristics of receiving waters where BONY stockings occurred were gathered from the USGS at <http://waterdata.usgs.gov>. This information was evaluated relative to BONY stocking success.

FY08 Activities: The work was contracted on a calendar year basis, so final data analyses and report writing is presently underway. Available release and capture information is being analyzed to identify common elements associated with stocking success. The project final report will be processed not later than February 2008 and will include an overall assessment of the success of the lower river BONY stocking program and specific recommendations for follow-up research and management investigation.

No additional funds are required for project completion.

FY09 Activities: None, project to be closed.

Pertinent Reports: The scope of work is available upon request from the LCR MSCP.