

Work Task C50: Food Habits of Adult RASU Below Hoover Dam

FY10 Estimates	FY10 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY10	FY11 Approved Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate
\$0	\$0	\$0.00	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Contact: Andrea Montony, (702) 293-8203, amontony@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY11

Expected Duration: Closed in FY11

Long-term Goal: To maintain effective fish augmentation program.

Conservation Measures: RASU6.

Location: Colorado River between Hoover Dam and Willow Beach.

Purpose: To update life history information for RASU.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): This work is related to Demographics and Post-Stocking Survival of Repatriated Razorback Sucker in Lake Mohave (C12) and Razorback Sucker and Bonytail Stock Assessment (D8).

Project Description: Literature reviews show that feeding habits of RASU are based on indirect observation, usually from post-mortem examination of stomach contents. Natural environments were generally too silty and turbid for direct observations. Augmentation stockings from the LCR MSCP have resulted in a population of 200 adult RASU using gravel shoals below Hoover Dam. The water clarity is extremely good, allowing for high quality video capture of feeding activities of these fish. This work will use divers to video the feeding activities and to collect substrate samples from feeding areas. Samples will be analyzed for composition and volume of food items. Electrofishing will be conducted to capture adult RASU from this area, and stomach contents will be captured by lavage (back-flushing with water). Data will be analyzed and reported.

Previous Activities: This effort stems from preliminary observations derived by activities conducted under work tasks Demographics and Post-Stocking Survival of Repatriated Razorback Sucker in Lake Mohave (C12) and Razorback Sucker and Bonytail Stock Assessment (D8).

FY10 Accomplishments: N/A

FY11 Activities: Due to budget constraints, a decision was made to delay the start to FY12. Upon further scientific review, a decision was made to close this work task.

Proposed FY12 Activities: Closed in FY11.

Pertinent Reports: The study design available upon request.