

Work Task B6: Lake Mead Fish Hatchery

FY11 Estimate	FY11 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY11	FY12 Approved Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate
\$50,000	\$17,692.75	\$283,468.47	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$125,000

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Start Date: FY05

Expected Duration: FY16

Long-term Goal: Operate and maintain the 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, Nevada.

Purpose: Support Lake Mead RASU studies 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 B11, C13, and C26. Razorback sucker larvae are captured from Lake Mead as part of the Long-Term Lake Mead Razorback Sucker Monitoring (D8) and reared at Lake Mead SFH. Once fish reach subadult size, they are transferred to grow-out ponds at Overton WMA (B11) to complete the rearing process. A portion of the subadult fish have also been utilized to evaluate rearing RASU in flowing conditions (C26), and will continue to be available for future research needs.

Project Description: Lake Mead SFH is managed and operated by the Nevada Department of Wildlife. Renovation of Lake Mead SFH allowed for the development and inclusion of dedicated facilities for rearing RASU and other natives. Reclamation and NDOW are cooperatively rearing RASU larvae captured from Lake Mead for future needs. Funds from this work task provide for the staff, equipment, feed, and chemicals necessary to rear these fish. Additional hatchery rearing space will be made available in FY12 in support of the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program. This additional rearing capacity is needed in 2016, when the number of RASU annually stocked into reaches 3-5 is expected to increase. This additional space will also support FLSU rearing for research projects occurring in reach 3.

Previous Activities: 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. Since 2007 larval RASU have been brought into the facility and reared in these tanks.

FY11 Accomplishments: Three thousand and seventy larval RASU were collected from Lake Mead during the course of the spawning season and taken to Lake Mead SFH for grow-out. To make room for incoming larvae, NDOW delivered and stocked 600 juvenile RASU from the 2009 year class into Center Pond at the Overton WMA. Over 4,000 RASU from multiple year classes remain on station. In FY11, NDOW also began evaluating additional, new ponds that may be used for future grow-out and rearing of Lake Mead RASU. No sites have been selected to date, but negotiations are ongoing with property managers.

FY12 Activities: The NDOW will continue to operate Lake Mead SFH for RASU production. Operations will include capture and rearing of wild-caught larvae from Lake Mead, and grow-out of subadult fish from the 2009, 2010, and 2011 year classes. Additional hatchery space will also be made available in FY12 for rearing Lake Mohave RASU and FLSU from below Davis Dam. The remaining 2009 Lake Mead RASU year class and a portion of the 2010 year class will be stocked at the Overton WMA. It is anticipated that NDOW will continue their evaluation of additional ponds that may be used as future rearing sites through their Safe Harbor Agreement Program.

Proposed FY13 Activities: Continued rearing of Lake Mead RASU captured during previous years will occur and hatchery stock will be augmented with 2013 year-class RASU larvae. Adult and subadult Lake Mead RASU from the 2010 and 2011 year classes will be delivered to the Overton WMA and potentially to additional grow-out sites. Rearing of Lake Mohave RASU and FLSU from below Davis Dam will also continue. The additional funding requested in FY13 will be used to support rearing an increased number of Lake Mohave RASU for future repatriation to Lake Mohave.

Pertinent Reports: The *2010 Nevada Department of Wildlife Lake Mead Razorback Sucker Augmentation Project Activities Report* will be posted to the LCR MSCP website. The 2011 Activities Report is in development and will be posted to the website upon completion.