

Work Task C49: Investigations of RASU and BONY Movements and Habitat Use Downstream of Parker Dam

FY12 Estimates	FY12 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY12	FY13 Approved Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate	FY16 Proposed Estimate
\$150,000	\$59,867.17	\$59,867.17	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	\$0

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Start Date: FY12

Expected Duration: FY14

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

Conservation Measures: BONY3, BONY 4, BONY5, RASU3, RASU4, and RASU6.

Location: Reach 4, Colorado River, between Parker and Palo Verde dams.

Purpose: Assess distribution and habitat use of stocked RASU.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): This work is related to C8 and D8.

Project Description: This three-year study will evaluate post-stocking survival, movement, and habitat use of RASU and BONY released between Parker Dam and Palo Verde Diversion Dam. Both species have been stocked into the river below Parker Dam, and both species show low levels of survival. Most of this reach occurs on Colorado River Indian Tribes land and has not previously been examined by LCR MSCP staff.

Previous Activities: This effort is building upon research conducted under C8. RASU and BONY have been stocked below Parker Dam since 2005. This work task was postponed until FY12. No work was performed in FY11.

FY12 Activities: An agreement was finalized with USFWS to perform this work. This work was partially funded in FY12 in order to finalize a study plan, literature review, and a signed MOU with the CRIT; fieldwork is scheduled to begin in FY13.

FY13 Activities: Up to 6,000 RASU and 4,000 BONY will be stocked within the study reach, which includes CRIT lands. The tracking of sonic tagged fish will be used to monitor post-stocking dispersal patterns and possibly identify the locations used by any RASU currently inhabiting the study area. Other monitoring activities will include trammel netting, electrofishing, remote PIT scanning, and routine water quality monitoring.

Proposed FY14 Activities: Monitoring activities will be similar to those from FY13, with added emphasis on areas used by sonic tagged razorback and bonytail.

Pertinent Reports: A study plan and a literature review have been completed and are available upon request.