

Work Task C58: Investigating Shoreline Habitat Cover for BONY

FY13 Estimates	FY13 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY13	FY14 Approved Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate	FY16 Proposed Estimate	FY17 Proposed Estimate
\$75,000	\$30,179.14	\$30,179.14	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

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Start Date: FY13

Expected Duration: FY14

Long-term Goal: To inform future design and management of created backwater habitats.

Conservation Measures: BONY5

Location: Reach 3 and 4, Achii Hanyo Native Fish Facility, Parker Dam Pond, and Cibola High Levee Pond.

Purpose: To determine size and depth preference of cavity cover in riprap shoreline habitat for BONY.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): BONY used in this study would be provided through Achii Hanyo Rearing Station (B3) and SNARRC (B4) and Role of Artificial Habitat in Survival of RASU and BONY (C41). Due to the strong overlap in scope and purpose of this work task with C41, it will be merged into a new work task in FY 15, C63: Evaluation of Habitat Features that Influence Success of RASU and BONY in Backwater Environments. Specific activities, accomplishments, and corresponding budget estimates for subsequent fiscal years will be detailed in this new work task.

Project Description: BONY have been documented using open water and shoreline cover in Lake Mohave backwater ponds and at Cibola High Levee Pond. This work task is designed to investigate shoreline habitat, specifically cavities within rip-rap shorelines, for BONY at multiple life stages. Cavities of multiple size and depth will be created and BONY selection will be tested at Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility. Investigation of preferred water depth of these cavities is to be completed at Parker Dam Pond. Results may facilitate the design and development of rip-rap shorelines for LCR MSCP backwater habitats.

Previous Activities: This is a new start for FY13.

FY13 Accomplishments: Cavity-selection trials were to begin at Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility. The surrounding infrastructure created interference with PIT tag sensing equipment, so the trials could not be conducted. A new location, Lake Mead State Fish Hatchery, was identified for this work. Three tanks were plumbed and prepared for these trials in FY14. Reduced budget expenditures in FY13 are appropriate for the accomplishments and account for dealing with these challenges.

FY14 Activities: The cavity-selection trials were to begin in October 2014. The trial could not be completed as a result of the government shut down; the testing interval was to begin on October 1, which would have allowed for the use of hatchery-reared fish prior to stocking. With the start date and large portion of the test's time window being missed, the fish reserved for this study were stocked as planned. More fish would not be available again for these trials until April. In April, however, hatchery space would not be available for the trails due to the arrival of approximately 60,000 BONY from Wahweap Hatchery in November. Therefore, limited funds will be expended in FY14. Anticipated activities in FY14 include finding a more suitable location to perform cavity selection trials and revising the study design accordingly. The revised study design will also take into account the information learned on habitat selection from research conducted under C41.

Proposed FY15 Activities: Closed in FY14.

Pertinent Reports: N/A