

Work Task C58: Investigating Shoreline Habitat Cover for Bonytail

FY14 Estimates	FY14 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY14	FY15 Approved Estimate	FY16 Proposed Estimate	FY17 Proposed Estimate	FY18 Proposed Estimate
\$60,000	\$0	\$30,179.14	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Contact: Andrea Finnegan, (702) 293-8203, afinnegan@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY13

Expected Duration: FY14

Long-Term Goal: To facilitate future design and management of created backwater habitats

Conservation Measures: BONY5

Location: Reaches 3–4, Achii Hanyo Native Fish Rearing Facility, Parker Dam Pond, and Cibola High Levee Pond

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

Connections with Other Work Tasks (Past and Future): Bonytail used in this study would be provided through Work Tasks B3, B4, and C41. Due to the strong overlap in scope and purpose of this work task with Work Task C41, it will be merged into a new work task in FY15: Work Task C63. Specific activities, accomplishments, and coreresponding budget estimates for subsequent fiscal years will be detailed in this new work task.

Project Description: Bonytail have been documented using open water and shoreline cover in Lake Mohave backwater ponds and at the Cibola High Levee Pond. Shoreline habitat will be investigated, specifically cavities within riprap shorelines, for bonytail at multiple life stages. Cavities of multiple size and depth will be created, and bonytail selection will be tested at the Achii Hanyo Native Fish Rearing Facility. The investigation of preferred water depth of these cavities is to be completed at Parker Dam Pond. The results may facilitate the design and development of riprap shorelines for LCR MSCP backwater habitats.

Previous Activities: A study designed to evaluate cavity selection by bonytail was initiated in FY13. Funds were expended for equipment and setup; however, no trials were conducted in FY13 because of scanner interference at the selected study location. A new location was identified for the trials, and the study was to commence in FY14.

FY14 Accomplishments: The cavity selection trials were to begin in October 2014; however, the trials could not be completed as a result of the Government shutdown. The testing interval was to begin on October 1, which would have allowed for the use of hatchery-reared fish prior to stocking. The start date and a large portion of the time window of the trial were missed, and as planned, the fish reserved for this study were stocked as part of the augmentation program. In April, hatchery space was not available for the trials due to the arrival of approximately 60,000 bonytail from the Wahweap State Fish Hatchery in November. No additional work was completed in FY14, and no funds were expended. Any future research targeting habitat features will be identified and described under Work Task C63.

FY15 Activities: This work task was closed in FY14.

Proposed FY16 Activities: This work task was closed in FY14.

Pertinent Reports: N/A