

## Work Task B3: Achii Hanyo Rearing Station

FY06 Estimates	FY06 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY06	FY07 Approved Estimate	FY08 Proposed Estimate	FY09 Proposed Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate
\$25,000	\$13,190	\$113,190	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000

**Contact:** Tom Burke, (702) 293-8310, tburke@lc.usbr.gov

**Start Date:** FY04

**Expected Duration:** FY55

**Long-term Goal:** Maintain and operate fish rearing facility as an integral part of the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

**Conservation Measures:** RASU3, RASU4, BONY3, and BONY4

**Location:** Reach 4, Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation, Parker, AZ

**Purpose:** Operate and maintain fish rearing facility and annually contribute BONY to the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program for stocking into Reaches 3-5 of the lower Colorado River.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** This work task was previously included in the FY04 work task as Achii Hanyo National Fish Hatchery (A1). This work is related to B2 and B4, as fish from both Willow Beach NFH and Dexter NFH may be transferred to Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility. Additionally, fish research for BONY may be accomplished at this facility.

**Project Description:** This project has two specific actions:

1. The development of Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility as a grow-out site for BONY.
2. The rearing of BONY for release into reaches 3-5 of the lower Colorado River.

Funds allocated to this work will be used for staff salary, facility operation and maintenance, fish feed and chemicals, and fish distribution.

This facility is located on the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation, and was formerly a privately owned hatchery, annually producing channel catfish and largemouth bass for sale to local growers and recreational fishing sites. The facility had been abandoned and unused for more than 5 years prior to being leased by the USFWS. Five earthen ponds are used for fish culture and receive Colorado River water from an irrigation canal. There are two house trailers and a storage shed on site, and drinking water is supplied by a shallow well.

The Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility will be used by the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program for rearing BONY. The fish rearing operation is seasonal, producing one crop per year. Bonytail

are brought in from Willow Beach or Dexter NFH in the winter and stocked into the ponds. Ponds are monitored and fish are fed through the spring and summer. In the fall, the ponds are drained, and the fish are harvested, tagged, and released. Fish under target size (less than 300 mm TL) are returned to a pond for continued rearing. New fish are then brought onto the station from Willow Beach NFH or Dexter NFH and the process is repeated. The annual Fish Augmentation Program production goal is 4,000 BONY subadults of 300 mm TL for stocking into reaches 4 and 5 of the lower Colorado River.

**Previous Activities:** The USFWS and Reclamation have been cooperatively upgrading this facility through an interagency agreement initiated in FY04, which annually provides \$50,000 for facility improvements. This agreement completes a commitment made under the SIA and will expire at the end of 2007. Prior to 2006, work completed included the purchase and assembly of a new metal building (tank house) and new fiberglass fish tanks. A concrete slab was poured for a new office, feed storage room, and restrooms. A total of 6,275 BONY were tagged and stocked into Lake Havasu (Reach 3) during 2005.

**FY06 Accomplishments:** During 2006, the feed storage room was completed along with most of the work for the new restroom. At the start of the year, 3,000 BONY were already on station and a total of 15,000 BONY were brought in from Willow Beach NFH. A total of 5,714 BONY were harvested and tagged in December. These fish were all wire tagged and distributed as follows: 1,708 BONY were stocked into Reach 3 and 4,006 into reaches 4 and 5. Out of the 5,714 BONY wire tagged, a total of 899 BONY were also PIT tagged for growth study purposes.

**FY07 Activities:** The BONY on station for 2007 include 3,000 fish at 225 mm TL and 5,000 fish less than 50 mm TL. Willow Beach NFH will transport 16,000 BONY (150 mm TL) to Achii Hanyo in February 2007. The production target for 2007 is a harvest of 8,000 BONY at greater than 300 mm TL for stocking into reaches 3, 4, and 5. Two-thirds of the proposed funding is for labor, fish feed, and prophylactic treatment. The balance of the funding is allocated for development of two small ponds from an existing larger pond (currently not in production) to provide holding and research areas.

**Proposed FY08 Activities:** Proposed activity for FY08 is similar to FY07 in that the majority of proposed funding is for fish rearing and routine operation. The balance of funding will be used for maintenance and for outfitting the workshop with benches and work areas for fish tagging and processing.

**Pertinent Reports:** An annual progress report will be posted to the LCR MSCP Web site. Fish production data is being incorporated into the annual *2006 Fish Augmentation Summary Report*.