

Work Task B3: Achii Hanyo Rearing Station

FY08 Estimates	FY08 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY08	FY09 Approved Estimate	FY10 Proposed Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate
\$50,000	\$102,288.46	\$257,067.46	\$170,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000

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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, Arizona

Purpose: Support operation and maintenance of fish-rearing facilities to annually contribute BONY to the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program for stocking into reaches 3-5 of the LCR.

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 RASU and BONY may be accomplished at this facility.

Project Description: This project supports both the development and maintenance of Achii Hanyo Rearing Facility as a grow-out site for BONY and the rearing of BONY for release into reaches 3-5 of the LCR. Funds allocated are 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 (CRIT) near Parker, Arizona. There are seven earthen ponds and these 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. Fish rearing is seasonal, producing one crop per year. The BONY are brought in from Willow Beach NFH or Dexter NFH in the winter. Fish are fed through the spring and summer. In the fall, the ponds are drained and 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 and the process is repeated. The annual production goal is 4,000 BONY for stocking into the LCR.

Previous Activities: The USFWS and Reclamation have cooperatively worked to upgrade this facility since FY04. 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. During 2007, electrical upgrades were completed, and a restroom and office were finished. Since the inception of the LCR MSCP, 16,046 BONY have been stocked from Achii Hanyo rearing station into the LCR.

FY08 Accomplishments: At the start of 2008, 12,151 BONY and 4,080 RASU were on station. A total of 2,129 BONY were harvested and tagged. These fish were stocked at Bill Williams River NWR (Reach 3). An additional 34 BONY from research conducted under Bonytail Rearing studies (C11) were PIT tagged and also stocked into Reach 3. A total of 60 RASU were harvested. These fish received a half-duplex tag (135 khz) and were stocked at Imperial Refuge (Reach 5). Fish research was initiated in 2008 at Achii Hanyo to assess RASU growth to 500 mm TL and polyculture of RASU and BONY under C10. This research is expected to continue for 3 years. A 3-year agreement was initiated in October 2007 (FY08) to provide an additional \$25,000 annually for utilities and maintenance. Additional funds that became available during 2008 were used to purchase a backup generator and upgraded aeration systems for fish-holding tanks in the tank house. The restrooms were completed in 2008.

FY09 Activities: The BONY on station for 2009 include 5,156 fish greater than 250 mm TL, and 4,000 young-of-the-year fish. There are also eight RASU greater than 250 mm TL and 479 young-of-the-year fish. Willow Beach NFH will not be transporting BONY or RASU to Achii Hanyo in spring 2009. The production target for 2009 is a harvest of 6,000 BONY at greater than 300 mm TL. A pond-liner and new generator are planned for installation in 2009. Levee roads between and around the ponds will be graded and resurfaced with gravel during the summer.

Proposed FY10 Activities: Two additional ponds will be put into service to increase fish production for years FY11-FY15. These fish are required for species research as described in the HCP (see conservation measures BONY 3.3 and BONY 5). The FY10 production goals will increase to 8,000 BONY.

Pertinent Reports: An annual progress report will be posted to the LCR MSCP Web site. Fish production data are being incorporated into the *2008 Fish Augmentation Summary Report*.