## Work Task B4: Dexter National Fish Hatchery

| FY08 Estimates | FY08 Actual | Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY08 | FY09 Approved Estimate | FY10 Proposed Estimate | FY11 Proposed Estimate | FY12 Proposed Estimate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $130,000 | $140,519.61 | $507,846.61 | $250,000 | $180,000 | $180,000 | $150,000 |

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**Start Date:** FY05

**Expected Duration:** FY55

**Long-term Goal:** Maintain fish-rearing capability to provide RASU and BONY for the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentaion Program.

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

**Location:** Off-river, Dexter, New Mexico

**Purpose:** Operate and maintain the fish-rearing facility, annually contribute RASU and BONY to the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentaion Program, and maintain BONY broodstock through completion of the Fish Augmention Program for this species.

**Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future):** This work is related to work tasks B2, B3, and B10 as fish from Dexter NFH will be delivered to Willow Beach NFH, Achii Hanyo Fish Rearing Facility, and Uvalde NFH. In addition, fish-rearing research activities outlined in C10, C11, and C30 may be conducted at Dexter NFH.

**Project Description:** Dexter NFH is managed and operated by the USFWS. The facility maintains the only broodstock for BONY in the world, and maintains a backup broodstock of RASU. Funds provided will be used to maintain extant broodstock, produce fingerling BONY annually for distribution to other hatcheries, rear RASU to 500 mm TL for repatriation to Lake Mohave for broodstock replacement, and annually rear BONY to 300 mm TL for distribution within reaches 3 and 4.

**Previous Activities:** Reclamation and the USFWS have past and ongoing interagency agreements to support rearing and research for RASU and BONY at Dexter NFH. Since the inception of the LCR MSCP through 2007, a total of 136 RASU have been repatriated to Reach 2, a total of 794 RASU have been stocked into Reach 3, and a total of 7,477 BONY have been stocked into Reach 3.

**FY08 Accomplishments:**

**BONY**. USFWS staff hand-stripped eggs and sperm from adult BONY, producing 150,000 fry. A total of 45,000 larvae were transferred to Willow Beach NFH, 25,000 were transferred to Uvalde NFH, 5,000 were tranfered to New Mexico State University for research under Work Task C11, and the remaining fry were held on station for rearing. A total of 5,100 fingerling BONY were transferred to Willow Beach NFH for grow out. USFWS staff tagged 2,431 subadult BONY (300+ mm TL), of which 333 were stocked into Beal Lake and 2,098 were stocked into Lake Havasu proper (Reach 3). A total of 535 BONY were stocked into Cibola High Levee Ponds (Reach 4).

**RASU**. USFWS staff hand-stripped eggs and sperm from adult RASU, producing 115,000 fry. 50,000 fry were transferred to Bubbling Ponds SFH for rearing. No RASU were transferred to Dexter NFH from Willow Beach NFH due to ongoing quagga mussel issues. No RASU were stocked into Reach 3.

**FY09 Activities:** The BONY broodstock will be maintained, and the hatchery will produce between 150,000 to 300,000 fingerling BONY for distribution depending upon various agency requests (including Willow Beach NFH, Achii Hanyo Fish Rearing Facility, and Uvalde NFH); A total of 2,000 RASU will be reared to 500 mm TL for repatriation to Lake Mohave, and 4,000 BONY will be reared to 300 mm TL for distribution within Reach 3. A new road grader will be purchased and used to develop and maintain ponds and roadways on the site. This grader will allow construction of three new ponds for production of BONY for Phase II research.

Due to a recent invasion of exotic quagga mussels to the Colorado River, Dexter NFH will provide 50,000 RASU larvae to Bubbling Ponds SFH from hand-spawned broodstock held on station.

**Proposed FY10 Activities:** The BONY broodstock will be maintained. Up to 75,000 fingerling BONY will be produced for distribution to Willow Beach NFH and Achii Hanyo Fish Rearing Facility, 500 to 1,000 RASU will be reared to 500 mm TL for repatriation to Lake Mohave, and 4,000 BONY will be reared to 300 mm TL for distribution within reaches 3-5.

**Pertinent Reports:** The *2008 Fish Augmentation Summary* will be posted to the LCR MSCP Web site.