Work Task B6: Lake Mead Fish Hatchery

FY09 Estimates	FY09 Actual	Cumulative Accomplishment Through FY09	FY10 Approved Estimate	FY11 Proposed Estimate	FY12 Proposed Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate
$50,000	$31,769.89	$234,327.35	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000

Contact: Jim Stolberg, (702) 293-8206, jstolberg@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY05

Expected Duration: FY16

Long-term Goal: Operate and maintain fish-rearing facility to provide RASU for the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

Conservation Measures: RASU3, RASU4, RASU7, and RASU8

Location: Reach 1, Lake Mead, Boulder City, Nevada

Purpose: Support Lake Mead RASU studies and contribute RASU to the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Activities at Lake Mead SFH are related to B11, C13, and C26. Razorback sucker larvae are captured from Lake Mead as part of the Lake Mead Razorback Study (C13) and reared at Lake Mead SFH. Once fish reach subadult size, they are transferred to grow-out ponds at Overton WMA to complete the rearing process (B11). A portion of the subadult fish are also utilized to evaluate rearing of RASU in flowing conditions (C26).

Project Description: Lake Mead SFH is managed and operated by NDOW. Recent renovation of Lake Mead SFH allowed development and inclusion of dedicated facilities for rearing RASU and other natives. Reclamation, SNWA, and NDOW are cooperatively rearing RASU larvae captured from Lake Mead for future repatriation back to the lake. Funds from this work task provide staff, equipment, feed, and chemicals to rear these fish and to complete SIA BO requirements.

In addition, space may be available as a contingency to rear RASU for the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program. This additional rearing capacity is needed in 2016, when the number of RASU needed annually for stocking into reaches 3-5 is expected to increase.

Previous Activities: Reclamation, SNWA, and NDOW have cooperatively been rearing RASU from Lake Mead in temporary outside tanks at the hatchery. In 2005, Reclamation assisted with the installation of a single 500-gallon fiberglass tank for the purpose of

rearing RASU collected from Lake Mead. Installation took place in the new native fish room and included plumbing for air and water delivery lines, standpipe and standpipe screen construction, and placement of a central drain line. The native fish room was completed in 2006 with the addition of twenty-five 10-gallon aquaria, four 240-gallon fiberglass troughs, and six 700-gallon fiberglass tanks. In both 2007 and 2008 larval RASU were brought into the facility and reared in these tanks.

FY09 Accomplishments: 1,554 larval RASU (1,497 from Las Vegas Bay, 7 from Echo Bay, and 50 from the Overton Arm) were collected from Lake Mead during the course of the spawning season and taken to Lake Mead SFH for grow out. In addition to these wild-caught Lake Mead larvae, 3,812 larval RASU from Lake Mohave (2,482 from Tequila and Yuma coves and 1,330 available from RASU studies under C32) were also taken to the hatchery for grow out. To make room for incoming larvae NDOW delivered and stocked 2,182 juvenile RASU (2007 and 2008 year classes) into Center Pond at the Overton WMA. An additional 1,194 subadult RASU were also moved out of the native fish room to provide space for incoming larvae. These subadult fish will remain on station to evaluate rearing of RASU in flowing raceways at Lake Mead SFH (C26).

FY10 Activities: NDOW will continue to operate Lake Mead SFH for RASU production. Operations will include capture and rearing of wild-caught larvae from Lake Mead and grow out of subadult fish from the 2008 and 2009 year classes. The 2008 RASU remaining on station and a portion of the 2009 year class will be stocked at the Overton WMA.

Proposed FY11 Activities: Continued rearing of RASU captured during previous years will occur, and hatchery stock will be augmented with 2011 year class RASU larvae from Lake Mead. Delivery of 2009 year class RASU to Overton WMA will take place.

Pertinent Reports: The scope of work for this agreement is available upon request from the LCR MSCP. Annual reports covering 2005-2009 will be posted on the LCR MSCP Web site.