

Work Task B1: Lake Mohave Razorback Sucker Larvae Collections

FY11 Estimate	FY11 Actual Obligations	Cumulative Expenditures Through FY11	FY12 Approved Estimate	FY13 Proposed Estimate	FY14 Proposed Estimate	FY15 Proposed Estimate
\$200,000	\$206,468.97	\$1,433,640.83	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000

Contact: Patricia Delrose, (702) 293-8202, pdelrose@usbr.gov

Start Date: FY04

Expected Duration: FY55

Long-term Goal: Fish augmentation.

Conservation Measures: RASU3, RASU5, and RASU8.

Location: Reach 2, Lake Mohave, Arizona/Nevada.

Purpose: Develop the RASU broodstock in Lake Mohave, maintain the broodstock, and harvest offspring for rearing as needed to accomplish the LCR MSCP Fish Augmentation Program.

Connections with Other Work Tasks (past and future): Work tasks B2, B4, B5, B6, and B7 are related to this work task, as the RASU to be reared under these work tasks originate from Lake Mohave.

Project Description: The RASU broodstock in Lake Mohave provide a level of genetic diversity found nowhere else in the world. This project captures wild-born RASU larvae from Lake Mohave, and delivers them to Willow Beach NFH for initial rearing. Work includes helicopter surveys every two weeks to locate spawning groups, night-time larvae collection, and maintaining the boat fleet and field station at Cottonwood Cove. These larvae are captured one at a time, making this a labor-intensive program. Hence, most expenditures are for salary, travel, and fuel.

Previous Activities: This work is part of a program started by the Native Fish Work Group (NFWG) in 1989 to rebuild the adult stock of RASU in Lake Mohave so that these fish could be used as brood fish for RASU recovery. A portion of the larvae collected are used to sustain broodstock and the remaining larvae are reared for release into reaches 3-5 to accomplish augmentation goals of the program.

FY11 Accomplishments: Twenty-five thousand eighteen (25,018) wild larvae were collected from four areas. The 5,000 larvae that had been obligated to the Lake Mead Hatchery were not delivered to the hatchery because the Native Fish Work Group had no clear plan on where those

fish would eventually be stocked. The contribution of larvae from each zone of Lake Mohave by month of capture is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Larval RASU Collected from Lake Mohave, 2011

	January	February	March	April	May	Total
Nine Mile	500	584	5,879	134	0	7,097
Tequila	125	2,125	4,650	46	0	6,946
Yuma	0	3,153	4,500	200	0	7,853
AOP	0	0	1,089	1,896	137	3,122
Total	625	5,862	16,118	2,276	137	25,018

The most significant event of this past season was the discovery of RASU larvae at 24 new sites near Katherine’s Landing. This information expands our knowledge concerning both habitat use and spawning behavior near Katherine’s Landing. In addition, new spawning sites afford us the opportunity to further secure the genetic diversity of this adult population.

FY12 Activities: A target of 25,000 to 30,000 larvae was established at the Lake Mohave Native Fish Work Group meeting. These will be delivered to Willow Beach NFH for rearing. Presence/absence surveys near Katherine’s Landing will lead to a continuation of this work in FY12.

Proposed FY13 Activities: RASU larvae collections will continue. The target level for FY13 is 25,000 to 30,000 larvae.

Pertinent Reports: A status report, *Five-Year Summary of Razorback Sucker (Xyrauchen texanus) Larval Collections on Lake Mohave: 2005-2009*, is posted on the LCR MSCP website.