

**COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 2006 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT**

**RECOVERY PROGRAM
PROJECT NUMBER: 29c**

I. Project Title: **Wahweap Operation and Maintenance – Utah.**

II. Principal Investigator(s):

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III. Project Summary:

Wahweap State Fish Hatchery, located at Big Water, UT rears bonytail for stocking in the Upper Basin system for Utah. Wahweap also maintains the Upper Basins backup razorback sucker brood stock.

IV. Study Schedule:

On going

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan

- IV.A. Genetics Management
- IV.A.4. Secure and manage the following species in refugia
 - IV.A.4.a. Razorback sucker
 - IV.A.4.b. Bonytail
 - IV.A.4.a (2) Upper Colorado River
- IV.B. Conduct annual fish propagation activities
 - IV.B.2. Implement integrated stocking plan
- IV.C. Operate and maintain facilities
 - IV.C.3. Wahweap

Green River Action Plan: Mainstem

- IV.A.1.c. Implement (stocking) plan.

Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem

- IV.A.5.b. Implement bonytail integrated stocking plan.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 2006 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

Wahweap Hatchery staff assisted the Recovery Program in staffing their information booth at the Colorado River Water Users Association annual meeting and the Utah Water Users meeting. Staff provided live bonytail to the display and took care of them for the duration of the meetings.

Wahweap Hatchery assisted the BOR and National Park Service with setting up a Native Fish display Aquarium at the Carl Haden Visitor Center at the Glen Canyon Dam. This tank is currently displaying bonytail, razorback sucker, and humpback chub.

Wahweap Hatchery stocked or is in the process of stocking 10,000 bonytail* in 2006. These fish were as follows:

- 3,447 pit tagged bonytail stocked in Green River at Rainbow Park Boat Ramp*
- 3,270 pit tagged bonytail stocked in Green River at Green River State Park*
- 3,283 pit tagged bonytail stocked at Cisco boat ramp on the Colorado River*

*Fish ranged from 175-360mm. All two year old fish spawned to some extent in the hatchery ponds this year.

Fish stocked from Wahweap, enumerated above, were tagged in 2006. The fish that were stocked for the Utah Stocking plan (10,000 fish) were pit tagged according to the Plan.

Wahweap received and reared 20,000 bonytail fry from Dexter National Fish Hatchery. Weekly growth of the fish was monitored by capturing fish from the ponds using a combination of minnow traps, seining, and cast net.

Wahweap also used 60 bonytail that were wild spawn in the ponds for the fish disease inspection. Wahweap passed and remains disease free and able to stock fish in Utah.

Wahweap destroyed 25,000 bonytail chub in 2006 because they were wild spawned and exact parentage wasn't known. These fish were 20-100mm and in very good shape when they were destroyed. This was done according to the excess fish policy. All other losses were due to day to day hatchery work.

Colorado River fish remaining on the station in the fall of 2006:

Species	Year class	Number	Size	# Ponds
Bonytail	2004	5,000	200mm+	2

Bonytail	2005	12,000	150mm+	3
Bonytail	2006	25,000	70mm+	2
Razorback	Brood	947	Adult	2

VII. Recommendations:

Continue rearing bonytail at Wahweap to meet the stocking needs of Utah. Maintain razorback backup brood stock. Supply either species as requested by the Biology Committee. Pit tag 10,660 bonytail and stock in the fall.

VIII. Project Status:

On going fish culture.

IX. FY 2006 Budget Status

A.	Funds Provided:	\$217,600
B.	Funds Expended:	\$217,600
C.	Difference:	\$ 0
D.	Percent of the FY 2006 work completed:	100%
E.	Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges:	\$ 0

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): PIT tag data submitted to database manager by January 1, 2007

XI. Signed: Quentin A. Bradwisch

Principal Investigator

Date 11/01/06