

I. Project Title: Wahweap Operation and Maintenance

II. Principal Investigator(s):

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III. Project Summary:

Wahweap State Fish Hatchery, located at Big Water, Utah, rears bonytail for stocking in the Upper Colorado River Basin for the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program. Wahweap also maintains a refuge population of razorback sucker brood stock for the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program.

IV. Study Schedule:

On going

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan

IV Manage genetic integrity and augment or restore populations

IV.A. Genetic management

IV.A.4. Secure and manage genetic stocks in refugia

IV.A.4.a Razorback sucker

IV.A.4 Develop basin wide bonytail restoration plan and implement as approved

IV.C. Operate and maintain facilities

VI. Accomplishment of FY 2011 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

- Wahweap Hatchery staff assisted the Recovery Program in staffing the information booth at the Colorado River Water Users Association Annual Conference and the Utah Water Users Conference. Wahweap Staff provided live bonytail for the display and took care of them for the duration of the meetings.
- Wahweap Hatchery personnel assisted the Bureau of Reclamation and National Park Service with a Native Fish Aquarium display at the Carl Haden Visitor Center at the Glen Canyon Dam. This tank displays razorback sucker and bonytail chub.
- Wahweap Hatchery stocked or is in the process of stocking 22,785 bonytail during

the fall of 2011. These fish were as follows:

1. 6,780 PIT-tagged bonytail into Stirrup*
2. 3,971 PIT-tagged bonytail stocked in the Upper Green River at Johnson Bottoms , UT*
3. 7,854 PIT-tagged bonytail stocked in the Lower Green River, 0.25 miles above Grand Wash*
4. 4,180 PIT-tagged bonytail stocked at Cisco Beach boat ramp on the Lower Colorado River*

*Fish ranged from 190 – 285mm, with an average of 215.54 mm. Natural reproduction was observed in Wahweap ponds this year.

- Fish stocked from Wahweap, enumerated above, were PIT-tagged in 2011. The fish were stocked in accordance with the Upper Colorado River Recovery Program and the State of Utah Stocking plan.
- Wahweap received and reared 30,000 bonytail fry from Dexter National Fish Hatchery. Fry were held inside until pond temperatures were adequate in ponds. After stocking into outside ponds, monthly growth was monitored by capturing a subsample of fish from the ponds, using a combination of minnow traps, seining, and cast nets.
- Wahweap used 180 bonytail (3-year classes) for the yearly Fish Health Inspection. During this year's inspection we discovered the invasion of Asian Tapeworm (*Bothriocephalus acheilognathi*). Wahweap is working closely with Dr. Chris Wilson (State of Utah Fish Pathologist) in developing a plan to eradicate this parasite from hatchery ponds. Until the eradication, Wahweap has been instructed to treat each individual pond as different rearing unit. Wahweap will treat prophylactically, with praziquantel, all fish being stocked.

Colorado River fish remaining on the station in the fall of 2011:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Year class</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Average Size</u>	<u># Ponds</u>
Bonytail	2009	12,730	213.53mm	4
Bonytail	2010	45,741	144.78mm	7
Bonytail	2011	29,929	85.42mm	2
Razorback	Brood	404	471mm	2

VII. Recommendations:

Continue rearing bonytail at Wahweap to meet the stocking needs of the Recovery Program. Maintain razorback sucker backup brood stock. Supply either species as requested by the Recovery Program. PIT-tag bonytail and stock in the fall. Work on the eradication of Asian Tapeworm from the Wahweap Hatchery rearing facility.

VIII. Project Status:

Ongoing fish culture and rearing at the Wahweap State Fish Hatchery.

IX. FY 2011 Budget Status

A.	Funds Provided:	\$200,000
B.	Funds Expended:	\$200,000
C.	Difference:	\$ 0.0
D.	Percent of the FY 2011 work completed:	100%
E.	Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges:	\$ 0

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): PIT tag data will be submitted to database manager by January 1, 2012

XI. Signed: Zane Olsen, Principal Investigator Date 10/20/11