**Tracy Research Technical Report Abstract**

* ***Technical Bulletin 2012-1***
Reyes, R., Z. Sutphin, and B. Bridges. 2012. *Effectiveness of Fine Mesh Screening a Holding Tank in Retaining Larval and Juvenile Fish at the Tracy Fish Collection Facility*. December 2012. Tracy Fish Collection Facility Studies. Tracy Technical Bulletin 2012-1. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region and Denver Technical Service Center. 20 pp.

Operations and infrastructure at the Bureau of Reclamation’s Tracy Fish Collection Facility (Byron, CA) function to divert, collect, hold, and transport salvaged fish to the central Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (SSJD), and away from water pumping facilities. Fish are diverted from entry into the Delta Mendota Canal (DMC) and are collected and held in circular recessed holding tanks. The holding tank screen retains fish in the holding tank while allowing water to flow through the screen and back to the DMC; however, holding tank screen retention of larval fish is 60% (± 9.9) for 10–20 mm larvae and as low as 9% for larvae <10 mm which could contribute to significant entrainment losses of larval SSJD fishes. In an effort to reduce further small fish loss, implementation of a 0.5 mm Nitex® (Sefar, Inc.) screen, a durable nylon screen, wrapped around a holding tank screen, was examined. Holding tank lined with Nitex® screen retained significantly more small (4–20 mm) fish. Installation and maintenance of Nitex® screen had minimal impact on fish salvage. Nitex® screen retention of small fish will mean enhanced salvage. (Updated January 31, 2013)