**Tracy Research Technical Report Abstract**

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Cathy Karp and Judy Lyons. 2015. *Facility Efficiency for Splittail, Tracy Fish Collection Facility, Byron, California.* May 2015. 21 pp.

The Bureau of Reclamation’s Tracy Fish Collection Facility (TFCF) in central California was designed in the mid-1950s to divert, collect, and return salvaged fish to the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta from exported flows enroute to the C.W. “Bill” Jones Pumping Plant. TFCF fish diversion efficiency was considered high in the early decades of operation due in part to short-term pumping and low numbers of entrained fish. However, year-round pumping began following completion of San Luis Reservoir in the 1960’s, and today, millions of fish comprising 50+ species may be drawn into the facility. Juvenile splittail (Pogonichthys macrolepidotus) louver efficiency was evaluated using release-recapture experiments. In 13 trials, secondary and primary channel louver efficiency averaged 75.1 percent and 13.2 percent, respectively. Whole facility efficiency averaged 10.4 percent. Secondary channel louver efficiency was similar to previous estimates for the species and more fish appeared to louver successfully in day than night. Whole facility and primary channel louver efficiencies were low, largely due to the high number of experimental fish not recovered in the holding tank (>73 percent). These unaccounted for experimental fish may have moved upstream out of the facility, lost through the louvers or lost to predation within the facility.