

**Subject:** Research Program - Small Diversion Fish Screens

**Background:** There are a large number of relatively small diversions diverting water from the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and their tributaries. These smaller diversions have the potential to entrain juvenile fish but there is relatively little data that can be used to identify where the biological benefits would be greatest in a program to screen smaller diversions. Field research is needed to assist in prioritizing small diversions for screening.

**Proposed Action:** A focused grant will be awarded for a research project to determine the biological impacts of screening small diversions through an evaluation of entrainment potential at several locations. This could include a comparison of entrainment at several locations through field sampling. There are also locations where it would be possible to evaluate a screened and an unscreened diversion. The proposals should document how locations are to be compared, number of locations to be evaluated, methods and techniques to be used to evaluate results. The proposals should also document how the results could be used to develop a method to assign priority to small unscreened diversions.

**Geographic Area:** Throughout the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta system, including tributaries.

**Recommended Funding:** \$100,000

**Coordination:** The applicant may wish to coordinate or consult with the USBR, NMFS, USFWS, CDWR, CDFG, Family Water Alliance, Coleman National Fish Hatchery, and local watershed conservancies, landowners and water districts. The applicant must have permission from the owner of any diversion where they propose to sample.

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