



## WATER RESOURCES AGENCY

# MEMORANDUM

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Monterey County

**DATE:** May 2, 2018

**TO:** Monterey County Legislative Committee  
**FROM:** Elizabeth Krafft, Senior Water Resources Hydrologist  
**SUBJECT:** Update – Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project Fish Screens

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) has been working with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) since 2015 to identify a solution to the possible movement of white bass from Nacimiento Reservoir into San Antonio Reservoir via the Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project (Project).

In February 2018, it became clear that CDFW would require fish screens to be part of the intake design for the Project and that CDFW would not provide funding for the fish screens. CDFW is willing to collaborate with the Agency to define acceptable design criteria for the fish screens and concur on the design of the tunnel intake structure. CDFW has also offered to assist the Agency to develop proposals that are eligible for CDFW grant funds.

Meetings between Agency staff, consultants and CDFW in March and April have led to a fish screen design that appears to meet CDFW's criteria. The most recent design iteration includes 4 screen assemblies (consisting of two 0.5mm ISI cylindrical screens each), trash rack with reduced bar openings to exclude more debris from reaching the screens, automated trash rake and debris handling system (may be modified or excluded in final design), replaced stoplogs with roller gates as a redundant means of closing tunnel in case of downstream valve failure.

The construction cost estimate for the current design is \$17.3 million dollars and does not include operations and maintenance costs. For comparison, the estimated cost for the intake without fish screens is \$6.6 million dollars – a difference of approximately \$10.7 million dollars.

The Agency has prepared a revised draft Memorandum of Agreement and provided it to CDFW on April 13, 2018 for review and comment; however, the issue of a finalized Memorandum of Agreement is still pending.