



## Board of Directors

Russ Baggerly, Director  
Angelo Spandrio, Director  
Brian Brennan, Director

Pete Kaiser, Director

### CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT Meeting to be held at the

The meeting will be held via teleconference. To attend the meeting please call (888) 788-0099 or (877) 853-5247 and enter Meeting ID 348 035 043#.

### SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA April 24, 2020 @ 10:00 AM

Right to be heard: Members of the public have a right to address the Board directly on any item of interest to the public which is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. The request to be heard should be made immediately before the Board's consideration of the item. No action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by subdivision (b) of §54954.2 of the Government Code and except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under section 54954.3 of the Government Code.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Presentations on District related items that are not on the agenda -three minute limit.
4. ACTION ITEMS
  - 4.a. Approve Resolution for Quagga/Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee Grant Program Application and Funding Agreement Resolution  
[Board Memo regarding approval of a Resolution for Quagga Mussel Education Grant 042420.pdf](#)  
[2020.Resolution.Draft.QZ.Pub.Outreach.Grant.pdf](#)

- 4.b. Authorize the General Manager to issue a Task Order to Rincon Consultants, Inc. for biological and paleontological resources monitoring services during construction for Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement, Specification No. 19-418, for a fee not to exceed \$60,197.

[BoardMemo\\_20190424\\_Rincon \(1\).pdf](#)

[Emily St. and Canada St Pipeline\\_Rincon\\_revised 3-6-20.pdf](#)

- 4.c. Approval of the purchase of alternative replacement fish screens for the Robles Fish Passage Facility in the amount of \$170,100.00 (plus tax and shipping) from Elgin Separation Solutions/Norris Screen & Mfg.

[Board Memo regarding purchase of Alternative Fish Screens at Robles 042320.pdf](#)

5. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS AND UPDATE REGARDING COVID-19.
6. BOARD OF DIRECTOR COMMENTS PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2(a).
7. CLOSED SESSION
  - 7.a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code §54956.9(a) Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board, City of San Buenaventura, et al.; and City of San Buenaventura v Duncan Abbott, et al., Cross Complaint; Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19STCP01176.
8. ADJOURNMENT

# MEMORANDUM

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TO: Board of Directors  
From: Michael L. Flood, General Manager  
RE: **Approve Resolution for Quagga/Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee Grant Program Application and Funding Agreement Resolution**  
Date: April 22, 2020

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## RECOMMENDATION:

Board of Directors approve a resolution for Quagga/Zebra Mussel Prevention Fee Grant Program Application and Funding Agreement.

## BACKGROUND:

In 2017, Casitas received a grant from the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways' (DBW) for Quagga/Zebra Mussel Prevention that had a two-year term.

Staff has recently been approached by the USBR for a similar grant for this year that will also have a two-year term.

## DISCUSSION:

Casitas currently has a robust Quagga/Zebra prevention program that includes not only detailed tagging and monitoring but also educational elements as well.

The DBW has indicated that they will be willing to assist with funding these efforts with a no-match grant for the next two years.

The grant requires a Board-approved Resolution as well as a Funding Agreement to be executed.

The paperwork requirements including signing of the agreement will be delegated to Casitas' Park Services Manager as a result of the proposed resolution.

The maximum amount of the grant is approximately \$145,000.00.

**CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**Quagga/Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee Grant Program  
Application and Funding Agreement Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, prior to the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways' (DBW) approval of an executed Grant Agreement, said Casitas Municipal Water District's Board of Directors is required to pass a resolution, authorizing a designated representative(s) to execute said Application, Grant Agreement, amendments, and certifications, designating a representative to approve claims for reimbursement, designating a representative to sign the Reimbursement Claim Form and Quarterly Progress Reports, designating a representative to sign Project Completion Certification; and designating a representative to sign the Contractor's Release Form (as applicable); and

**WHEREAS**, the Casitas Municipal Water District has the legal authority to manage the water, construct, operate, and maintain infrastructure, post signage, prepare Prevention Plan documentation, monitor for water chemistry and quagga and zebra mussels, conduct and monitor boater inspections and decontamination activities, and conduct public outreach for Lake Casitas; and to apply to DBW for a grant up to the amount of \$144,913.41 for the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Casitas Municipal Water District desires to develop and implement a plan for the prevention of an infestation of the quagga and zebra mussel for Lake Casitas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Casitas Municipal Water District pursuant and subject to all the terms and provisions of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program, application is hereby made to DBW for funding.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the General Manager of said Casitas Municipal Water District is hereby authorized and directed to do the following acts by delegating the following acts to the Park Services Manager, including but not limited to:

1. Cause the necessary data to be prepared and application to be signed and filed with DBW; and
2. Sign the DBW Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Agreement and any amendments thereto; and
3. Approve Claims for Reimbursement, and
4. Execute the Budget and Expenditure Summary; and
5. Certify that the project is complete and ready for final inspection, as applicable

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Casitas Municipal Water District Board of Directors on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Baggerly, President  
Casitas Municipal Water District

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Brennan, Secretary  
Casitas Municipal Water District

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**CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** MICHAEL FLOOD, GENERAL MANAGER  
**SUBJECT:** AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ISSUE A TASK ORDER TO RINCON CONSULTANTS INC. FOR EMILY STREET AND CAÑADA STREET PIPELINE REPLACEMENT, SPECIFICATION NO. 19-418  
**DATE:** APRIL 24, 2020

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Authorize the General Manager to issue a Task Order to Rincon Consultants, Inc. for biological and paleontological resources monitoring services during construction for Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement, Specification No. 19-418, for a fee not to exceed \$60,197.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:**

The 2018 Ojai Water System Condition Based Assessment and Ojai Water System (OWS) identified several projects necessary to improve the system for capacity and condition needs. The existing water mains along Cañada Street and Emily Street are undersized and approaching the end of their service life. This project will replace approximately 2,300 linear feet (LF) of pipe on Cañada Street, Emily Street, Eucalyptus Street and Summer Street with new 8-inch PVC pipe. The construction contract was awarded to Granite Construction in February 2020.

The Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Ojai Water System Improvements adopted by the Board in April 2019 includes environmental mitigation measures, including paleontological, biological, and arborist monitoring during construction, as well as environmental training for the contractor. At the District's request, Rincon Consultants, Inc. provided a proposal to perform these services during construction of the project. Native American monitoring will be provided separately with a monitor approved by the City of Ojai.

**BUDGET IMPACT**

The FY 2019-20 Budget allocated \$624,000 for the Emily and Canada Street Pipeline Replacement project. Funds in the amount of \$500,000 are requested in the FY 2020-21 budget to complete the project.

Attachments: Proposal from Rincon Consultants, Inc. dated March 6, 2020



**Rincon Consultants, Inc.**

180 North Ashwood Avenue  
Ventura, California 93003

805 644 4455 OFFICE AND FAX

info@rinconconsultants.com  
www.rinconconsultants.com

February 10, 2020 (*revised March 6, 2020*)  
Project No: 20-09241

Lindsay Cao  
Senior Project Manager  
Casitas Municipal Water District  
1055 Ventura Ave  
Oak View, CA 93022  
*Via email: lcao@casitaswater.com*

**Subject: Proposal to Provide Biological and Paleontological Resources Monitoring During Construction of the Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement, Ventura County, California**

Dear Ms. Cao:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) is pleased to submit this proposal to Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) to provide environmental support services for the Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement Project (Project). Per our conversation with you on February 4, 2020, we understand the construction of the Project will be completed within 190 calendar days (approximately 135 working days; beginning March 23, 2020 to September 29, 2020; excluding Memorial Day and Labor Day). We anticipate a Project kick-off meeting will occur on March 18, 2020, and the contractor will begin mobilizing on March 23, 2020. Per your request, this proposal describes our understanding of the Project, our proposed scope of work, our proposed schedule for completion of the work program, and our cost proposal for the assignment.

## UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT

Rincon prepared an Initial Study-Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS-MND) for the Ojai Valley Water System Pipeline Upgrade Project on behalf of Casitas Municipal Water District (District) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The subject Project was analyzed within the IS-MND and the accompanying Mitigation Monitoring and Report Program (MMRP) requires implementation of mitigation measures to address potentially significant impacts resulting from the Projects.

The Emily and Cañada Street Project is located entirely within the city of Ojai. Construction activities will include pipeline replacement along Emily and Cañada Streets from Matilija Street north to Summer Street, along Summer Street west to Emily Street, and then along Emily Street north to Raymond Street. Pipeline replacement will also occur along Eucalyptus Street, east of Cañada Street.

Pipeline replacements will typically be constructed using open-cut trenching. If trenchless methods are required, construction may include pipe bursting, jack and bore, and horizontal directional drilling if preliminary design shows utility conflicts, significant traffic control requirements, or other issues with



the potential to interfere with trenching activities. Pipelines will typically be eight to twelve inches in diameter and require a three-foot wide trench in which to work and place the pipe. Trenches will generally be no more than five feet deep. Some portions of abandoned lines will be removed as needed to facilitate construction, new fire hydrants will be installed, existing hydrants will be removed, and existing meter boxes will be replaced; Rincon assumes that this work will involve minimal ground disturbance and generally be located within the disturbance limits of the proposed pipelines, per preliminary drawings provided by Casitas on December 4, 2019.

The Project is required to implement the MMRP for the Ojai Water System Improvements Project approved by Casitas. Therefore, per your request Rincon prepared a scope of work to comply with the mitigation measures identified below:

- BIO-2: Worker Environmental Awareness Program
- BIO-7: Nesting Birds (Survey)
- GEO-1: Paleontological Resources

In addition, the IS-MND prepared for the Ojai Valley Water System Improvements Project requires an Arborist Study and Tree Protection Plan (TPP) to minimize impacts to trees during Project implementation (Measure BIO-17). Rincon prepared the TPP and submitted the report to Casitas on January 13, 2020. Therefore, we propose to conduct protected tree monitoring based on the Arborist Report and Tree Protection Plan (TPP) authored by Rincon in January 2020 for the Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement Project.

## SCOPE OF WORK

### Task 1. Project Management, Meetings, and QA/QC

Under Task 1, we will provide overall project management and coordination. The Rincon PM, paleontological monitor, and arborist will be available to attend the initial project kick-off meeting on March 18, 2020. The Rincon PM will be available to attend one additional progress meeting/conference call with Casitas. The Rincon PM will provide QA/QC on all deliverables prior to submittal to Casitas. The Rincon PM is available to attend other meetings on request to be billed on a time and materials basis in accordance with the fee schedule provided.

### Task 2. Worker Environmental Awareness Program (BIO-2)

Per the BIO-2 Mitigation Measure, all personnel associated with project construction are required to attend a Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) training, conducted by a qualified biologist, to aid workers in recognizing special-status biological resources potentially occurring in the project area. This training will include information about southern California steelhead, San Bernardino ringneck snake, coast patch-nosed snake, and hoary bat, as well as other special-status species with potential to occur in the project area. The specifics of this program will include identification of special-status species and habitats, a description of the regulatory status and general ecological characteristics of special-status resources, and review of the limits of construction and measures required to avoid and minimize impacts to biological resources within the work area. A fact sheet conveying this information will also be prepared for distribution to all contractors, their employees, and other personnel involved with construction of the project. All employees will sign a form provided by the trainer documenting they have attended the WEAP and understand the information presented to them. The crew foreman will be



responsible for ensuring crew members adhere to the guidelines and restrictions designed to avoid impacts to special-status species.

In addition, the training will include educational components of the Tree Protection Plan. A Rincon certified arborist will provide education to all personnel about the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ). The education will include explanation of importance of the TPZ signage and the protocol for working within TPZs, per the Tree Protection Plan.

Under this task, Rincon PM and qualified biologist, paleontological monitor, and Rincon certified arborist will prepare training materials and facilitate one training program to all personnel who will be on site during the subject Project. The training will be facilitated on-site and will be attended by all construction crew members. We assume up to **5 hours** will be required to prepare the training materials, and **6 hours** will be required to for the biologist, paleontological monitor, and arborist to facilitate the training (including mobilization to the site location). One additional onsite training can be provided, if necessary, and is included in our cost.

### Task 3. Nesting Bird Surveys (BIO-7)

Under this task, a Rincon qualified biologist will conduct a pre-construction nesting bird survey no more than seven days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities. The nesting bird pre-construction survey will be conducted on foot inside the project footprint, including a 100-foot buffer (300-foot for raptors), and in inaccessible areas (e.g., private lands) from afar using binoculars to the extent practicable. If nests are found, an avoidance buffer (dependent upon the species, the proposed work activity, and existing disturbances associated with land uses outside of the site) will be determined and demarcated by the qualified biologist with bright orange construction fencing, flagging, construction lathe, or other means to mark the boundary. All construction personnel will be notified as to the existence of the buffer zone and to avoid entering the buffer zone during the nesting season. No ground disturbing activities can occur inside this buffer zone until the avian biologist has confirmed breeding/nesting is completed, and the young have fledged the nest. Encroachment into the buffer zone can occur only at the discretion of the qualified biologist.

We have budgeted for up to two nesting bird surveys in case the project is delayed for more than seven days after initial commencement. We anticipate each survey will require 6 hours of staff time (**12 hours**).

Rincon will summarize the results of the surveys in two separate memoranda which will be prepared and submitted to Casitas within two weeks following completion of the survey. A brief e-mail summary of survey results will be submitted to Casitas on the day of each survey. We expect each of the reports will require **9 hours** of staff time to prepare.

### Task 4. Paleontological Monitoring and Reporting (GEO-1)

The entire project area is underlain by geologic units with low paleontological sensitivity (i.e., undivided Holocene alluvium). Pursuant to Mitigation Measure GEO-1, Rincon will provide a qualified paleontological monitor to spot-check each new excavation within the project area to assess the potential for paleontological resources to be recovered from the project site. The qualified paleontological monitor may determine that periodic spot-check monitoring is no longer warranted, and may recommend to cease monitoring entirely.





Spot-checks will entail the inspection of excavated or graded areas and trench sidewalls for evidence of paleontological resources, and an evaluation of the sediments for sign (e.g., grain size and sorting, paleosols, etc.) that they have the potential to support paleontological resources. Monitoring procedures may also include on site sample screening of sedimentary matrix for the presence of microfossils, at the discretion of the Principal Paleontologist. All field work will be conducted in accordance with project safety requirements. The monitoring will be performed under the direction of Rincon Paleontological Principal Investigator, David Daitch, Ph.D., who exceeds the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology's standards for a Principal Paleontologist. Rincon assumes spot-checks will be performed for any new ground disturbing activities during the construction period. We have assumed that all construction activities will be completed within 135 working days, and the contractor anticipates excavation will be completed over 38 days. Therefore, we have assumed a maximum of up to 5 new excavations may occur over the length of the project over 38 excavation days. Pursuant to Mitigation Measure GEO-1, monitoring should be reinstated (if monitoring has ceased) if any new ground disturbances are required and reduction or suspension would need to be reconsidered by the Qualified Paleontologist. Rincon assumes negative findings for paleontological resources; however, if the site is determined to have higher paleontological sensitivity than the geological mapping indicates, or if fossils are recovered during spot -checks, increased paleontological monitoring, up to full time monitoring of all ground disturbance may be warranted. If additional monitoring days are needed, Rincon can provide additional monitoring days for an additional fee.

Given the quantity, types, and condition of fossil resources potentially discovered is impossible to predict, the current cost estimate does not include expenses related to the treatment and curation of fossil specimens. Should fossils be recovered during monitoring, Rincon will immediately prepare an estimate for the anticipated costs associated with documentation and reporting requirements for the discovery.

Rincon will prepare a negative findings letter report outlining the methodology of paleontological monitoring at the project site, describing the construction activity and duration, describing the lithology of the depositional units exposed during excavations, and presenting the results of the monitoring. We expect the post-construction paleontological monitoring report will require approximately **16 hours** of staff time to complete.

## Task 5. Protected Tree Monitoring

We propose to supply an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist to assist Casitas in minimizing impacts to protected trees from the adverse effects of trenching and other construction activities during the Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement Project.

The monitor will be on site for construction activities (including pruning, trenching, excavation, and operation of heavy equipment) that occur within the tree protection zone (TPZ) of protected trees within the study area (project component plus a 20-foot buffer). A daily log will be completed by the arborist which documents all root and branch cuts. Daily logs will be submitted to Casitas within two weeks following project completion.

We anticipate up to 54 ISA Certified Arborist monitoring days (5-hour days inclusive of travel) will be needed (2 half-days days per week, from March 23 – September 23; 27 weeks). If additional days are needed, they will be provided on a time and materials basis under an addendum to this scope of work.



## Assumptions

In addition to the assumptions identified above, several assumptions have been utilized in characterizing this scope of work and associated budget. Should any of these assumptions need to be adjusted during execution of the project, the scope and budget may need to be expanded.

- Cultural resources monitoring by an archaeologist and a Native American monitor will not be required for this portion of the project as no resources are located within the work area
- Monitoring will be negative for paleontological resources; if a resource is identified Rincon will provide a scope amendment to evaluate or treat the resource
- A Negative Findings letter report (for paleontological resources) will suffice for final project reporting and will be accepted electronically
- One round of revisions in response to Casitas comments on each submitted document (Nesting Bird Survey Findings Report, Paleontological Monitoring Negative Findings Memoranda); comments will be provided in a consolidated and editable, electronic format
- Casitas will schedule the WEAP training with the construction crew such that training can be facilitated to all personnel in the Casitas office location at one time. If all personnel are not trained at once, a second in-office training will be provided, and is included in the proposed cost.
- Oversight of impacts to protected trees for the Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement Project may be conducted by either a certified arborist or biologist working under the supervision of the certified arborist or Casitas district representative (project manager, inspector, etc.) based on the TPP. A daily log that documents all root and branch cuts will be completed by either the arborist or representative, whomever is on site.
- Costs have been allocated to tasks based on the above methodology, but specific costs may be re-allocated among tasks and/or direct costs within the authorized amount
- The Emily and Cañada Street Pipeline Replacement Project footprint will be within the existing roadway and as a result no tree removals will be conducted. If a protected tree dies or is damaged to the point requiring removal during construction activities, the Ojai Community Development Director and Public Works Director may require mitigation measures. A tree replacement plan and/or appraisals may be required, and can be provided under an addendum to this scope of work.

## Schedule

Rincon is prepared to initiate this scope of work immediately upon written notice to proceed. Assuming a March 23, 2020 construction start date, we anticipate the Worker Environmental Awareness Training will be facilitated in on March 23, 2020 to all contractors, their employees, and other personnel involved with construction of the project. The nesting bird surveys will be conducted at least seven days prior to initiation of ground disturbance and vegetation removal activities. Arborist monitoring will commence when construction activities (including pruning, trenching, excavation, and operation of heavy equipment) occur within the tree protection zone (TPZ) of protected trees within the study area (project component plus a 20-foot buffer). Paleontological compliance monitoring will begin when excavation activities commence.



## Cost

Rincon will provide biological and paleontological resource services to Casitas, in accordance with our proposed scope of work, and with our On-Call Services Agreement dated April 10, 2019, on a time-and-materials basis for an estimated budget of **\$60,197**. A summary breakdown of our estimated cost is presented in the cost table overleaf.



### **RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.**

CMWD, BIO and CR Support for Emily & Canada Street  
 Pipeline Replacement Project

#### Environmental Services Program

Tasks	Labor	Direct Expense	Total Budget
<b>Task 1: Project Management, Meetings and QA/QC</b>	\$6,442		\$6,442
<b>Task 2: Worker Environmental Awareness Program (BIO-2)</b>			
<i>Task 2.1: Preparation of Training Materials</i>	\$618		\$618
<i>Task 2.2: Facilitate Training to Contractors (2 in-office trainings)</i>	\$2,442	\$170	\$2,612
<b>Task 3: Pre-Construction Nesting Bird Surveys (BIO-7) + memo report</b>	\$1,935	\$180	\$2,115
<i>Task 3.1: Second Survey (if needed)+ memo report</i>	\$1,935	\$180	\$2,115
<b>Task 4: Paleontological Spot-checks (GEO-1) (5 days, 7 hour days)</b>	\$5,735	\$1,050	\$6,785
<i>Task 4.1: Report</i>	\$1,967		\$1,967
<b>Task 5: Protected Tree Monitoring (BIO-17) (54 days, 5 hour days)</b>	\$36,300	\$1,243	\$37,543
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET</b>	<b>\$57,374</b>	<b>\$2,823</b>	<b>\$60,197</b>

#### Direct Cost Summary

<b>Vehicle Costs</b>	\$ 1,818
<b>Standard Field Pack</b>	\$ 190
<b>Trimble GPS</b>	\$ 190
<b>Subtotal Additional Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 2,198</b>

We appreciate the continued opportunity to assist Casitas with this important project. If you have questions about this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,  
**Rincon Consultants, Inc.**

Lindsay D. Griffin  
 Senior Biologist/Project Manager

Steven J. Hongola  
 Principal Biologist

# MEMORANDUM

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TO: Board of Directors  
From: Michael L. Flood, General Manager  
RE: **Approval of the purchase of alternative replacement fish screens for the Robles Fish Passage Facility in the amount of \$170,100.00 (plus tax and shipping) from Elgin Separation Solutions/Norris Screen & Mfg.**  
Date: April 22, 2020

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## RECOMMENDATION:

Board of Directors approve purchase of alternative replacement fish screens for the Robles Fish Passage Facility in the amount of \$170,100.00 (plus tax & shipping) from Elgin Separation Solutions/Norris Screen & Mfg.

## BACKGROUND:

On April 24, 2019, the Board of Directors approved a task order to MKN & Associates for the study and implementation of the prototyping of improvements to the fish screens at the Robles Fish Passage.

In November 2019, Casitas received approval of the implementation of the fish screen prototyping at Robles from regulating agencies.

At the December 12, 2019 Board Meeting, the Board awarded two contracts for the backspray prototyping project at the Robles Fish Passage Facility in the amount of \$315,154.89.

In March 2020, both contracts for the Robles Fish Passage Facility backspray prototyping project were cancelled due to inadequate flows in the Ventura River during the 2020-2021 wet season.

The Finance Committee met to review this item on April 23, 2020.

## DISCUSSION:

This alternative screen prototyping project involved purchase of new fish screens with an orientation that is rotated 90 degrees from the screens currently in place.

In January 2020, two of the existing twenty screen panels were replaced with the reoriented screens and monitored for effectiveness.

While the flows in the Ventura River were lower than typical during the wet season this year, there was enough flow to show that the reoriented panels have increased effectiveness in allowing more flow and increased dislodgment of collected debris when the existing brush system passed over them in comparison to the original screens.

Staff is recommending that the budget originally intended for the backspray prototyping project be used to purchase reoriented screens in order to replace the remainder of the original fish screens.

Staff will continue to review the various aspects of the other Robles Fish Passage prototyping projects and bring them forward to the Board of Directors when appropriate.

As they met subsequent to the posting of this agenda, the Finance Committee will provide comments on this item during the Board Meeting.