
PHASE II PROCESS

INTRODUCTION

During Phase I, the Program Team, in concert with CALFED agencies, the Bay-Delta Advisory Council, stakeholders and the general public, agreed on the fundamental problems in the Bay-Delta system and defined mission, goals, objectives and solution principles. Together, these items along with comments received during the environmental impact report/statement (EIR/EIS) Scoping process guided the identification of alternatives which are being carried into Phase II for further refinement and evaluation.

Three concurrent efforts (Figure 1) will be undertaken in Phase II. These include refinement of the components and actions making up the Phase II alternatives; development of strategies for implementing the alternatives; and a broad environmental review to identify the impacts of the various alternatives. There will be extensive interaction among these three efforts throughout Phase II. Figure 2 depicts a general schedule for these three efforts.

COMPONENT REFINEMENT

Refinement of all the components will continue through Phase II. Component Refinement will include:

- technical studies of both an environmental and engineering nature such as fish entrainment and fish passage studies
- land use analysis and structural design; preliminary evaluations to determine the feasibility of sites for locating the various action items such as existing site geology, information on general seepage characteristics and seismic risk information
- establishment or clarification of general operating requirements through hydrologic and hydraulic modeling
- refining the capacities or dimensions of components
- determining cost effectiveness of components
- developing preliminary cost estimates for the components.

Phase II Process

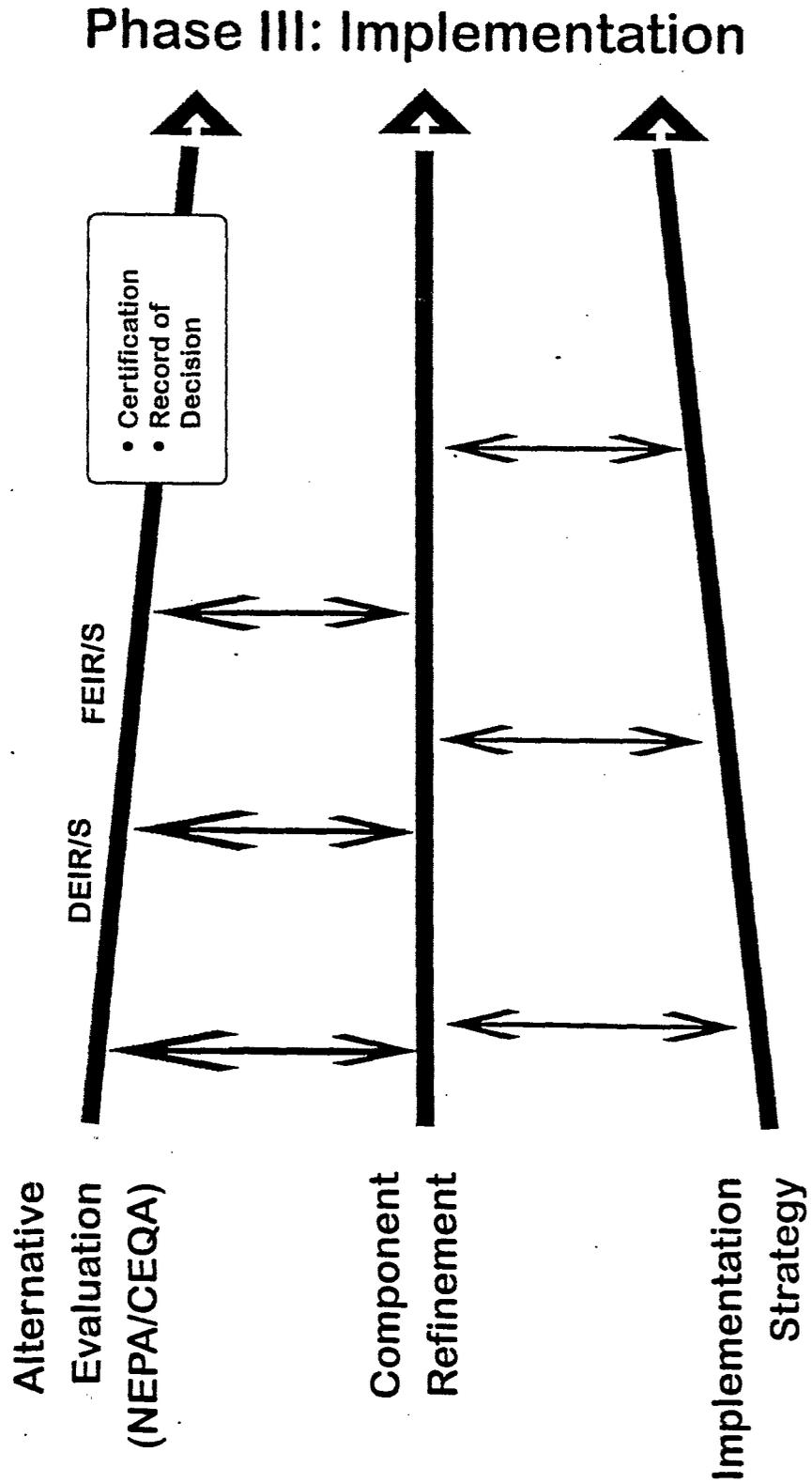


Figure 1

Figure 2. Phase II General Schedule.

Efforts	1996			1997			1998		
	Jan	Jun	Dec	Jan	Jun	Dec	Jan	Jun	Dec
Component Refinement									
Technical Studies		7/96-----				-----12/97			
Preliminary Site and Operational Evaluations		7/96-----				-----12/97			
Cost Estimates			9/96-----			-----			----3/98
Reports Draft Final								4/98 6/98	
Implementation Strategy									
Water Use Efficiency			6/96-----			-----			----3/98
Financing / Funding			6/96-----			-----			----3/98
Assurances / Guarantees			6/96-----			-----			----3/98
Ecosystem Restoration			6/96-----			-----			----3/98
EIR/EIS									
Draft EIR/EIS			8/96-----			-----10/97			
Final EIR/EIS						10/97--			-----9/98
Record of Decision and Findings									10-12 /98

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Implementation strategies will be needed to set the alternatives in motion. It is expected that these strategies will vary for different components of an alternative. These strategies will address technical, financial, institutional and organizational decisions necessary to start the actions at the beginning of Phase III. These strategies may be based on existing methods or rely on new approaches. The BDAC has set up work groups to examine policy issues, including implementation strategies, related to water use efficiency, financing, assurances or guarantees and ecosystem restoration and is expected to set up additional groups covering other components.

The process for refining components and developing implementation strategies, including agency, stakeholder and public interaction opportunities, is presented in Figure 3.

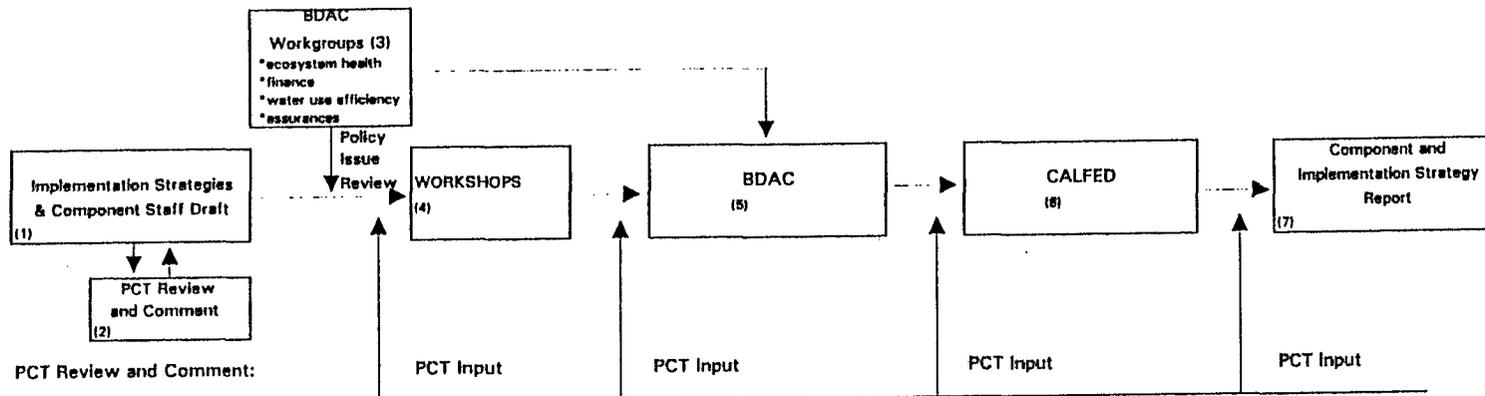
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The full environmental implications associated with each alternative will be considered in a programmatic environmental impact report/statement (EIR/EIS). All alternatives to be analyzed in the EIR/EIS will be chosen based on their ability to meet the Program's goals and objectives and the six solution principles. The primary purpose of this document will be to inform decision makers about the interrelated and cumulative environmental consequences of the alternatives and to identify a preferred program alternative for implementation. The effort will conclude with Certification of the EIR/EIS, an explanation (Record of Decision) as to why a particular course of action was selected and a written statement (Findings) explaining how each significant impact and alternative were dealt with in the EIR/EIS.

Opportunities for agency, stakeholder and public interaction will come during the impact assessment process, following release of the draft and final EIR/EIS, during the development of the Record of Decision and Findings of Fact and in the preparation of an environmental commitment plan/mitigation monitoring program.

The EIS/EIR will concentrate on the foreseeable impacts, direct, indirect and cumulative. Analytical tools will be used in the EIR/EIS to compare and display the range of impacts associated with the various alternatives. Due to the programmatic nature of the EIR/EIS, the selected set of analytical tools will focus on those tools which are used for planning purposes since planning tools are generally not used to define absolute values or specific impacts. Although we currently envision using the tools that were used for the Central Valley Project Improvement Act Programmatic EIS/EIR, further investigations, including public workshops may create a need to modify these tools or utilize others.

Phase II Generalized Component Refinement and Implementation Strategies Process



footnotes:

- (1) Bay-Delta program staff prepares draft material and makes revisions resulting from the various public review steps
- (2) Program Coordination Team (PCT) provides review and comment at each revision point
Note: The PCT is composed of staff experts from various CALFED agencies
- (3) Workgroup provides policy issue guidance and provides information during BDAC consideration of the component / strategies
- (4) Public Workshop held on component / strategies
- (5) BDAC reviews and comments
- (6) CALFED considers revised draft and summary of public comment
- (7) Component / Strategy Report issued

Figure 3

