

Memorandum

Date: November 30, 1995

To: Victor Pacheco

From: Rick Breitenbach 

Subject: Comments on Boundry Alternatives and Performance Measures

We are at a disadvantage in that we don't know why they did or did not select certain actions. I'm certain they have (hope they have) the rationale for all their inclusions/exclusions somewhere. For example, why was an action such as construct conveyance to offstream storage and not something like encourage wildlife friendly ag. practices included in the core package or why wasn't something like improve regulation of take a part of 1A fish productivity approach?

Monday, we noted that some of the action items are already required, i.e., protect wetlands. Others that seem to fall in this category are: clean up sites contaminated with toxic substances (B-8); enforce screening requirements (B-26); and enforce wastewater discharge requirements (B-65). If these are part of the base, we shouldn't include them as part of the alternatives.

It is difficult to discern whether the starting alternatives contain actions for all four approaches, e.g., alternative 1 doesn't seem to have any actions for Conflict Resolution Approaches 2A and 4A. Perhaps a column (as was done for alt. 2) indicating which approach the action corresponds to would be helpful.

Thoughts about some core items:

Would seem that a suggestion to modify a land use such as gravel mining might not go with approach 2A.

Would a fish barrier on the SJ River preclude an alternative that aimed at improving fish returns in that river?

If conveyance facilities to offstream and groundwater storage sites are part of each alternative, does that mean that offstream and groundwater storage will be in each alternative?

Is it our intent to maintain and stabilize all existing levees? Thought there might be some options which focused on some but not all levees.

It may be appropriate to have funding for maintenance and stabilization of levees in all alternatives but, wouldn't the amount vary and if it does, wouldn't we want to use a qualifier here?

Potential core items:

All of the B-9 items;
All of the B-11 items;
All of the B-12 items except manage ag crops for forage;
Coordinate SWP/CVP diversion timing (B-21);
All of B-29 items;
Harvest predators at delta export pumps(B-30);
Improve hatchery operations, reduce hatchery effects on wild populations and implement tagging of hatchery fish (B-31);
All of the B-32 items;
All of the education items such as education about desalinization feasibility, conservation technologies, water reclamation, etc (B-33),(B-34), (B-35)
All 4 of the "increase use" of water conservation items (B-34);
All 5 of the "use reclaimed water for" items(B-35);
All of the B-52 items;
last three items under long-term planning for drought contingencies (B-54);
all of the B-55 items;
All of the B-60 items;
treat discharges to remove problem constituents and prevent toxic discharges from industrial plants (B-65)
ensure material used for levee maintenance is noncontaminated (B-66); and
manage discharges from abandoned mines (B-67). This last one is a bit iffy cost wise.

Potential 1A minimum items:

Restore and replenish spawning gravels (B-14);
restrict livestock grazing in riparian corridors (B-17);
provide instream pulse flows for fish passage (B-19 and B-27);
provide instream flows for fish attraction (B-19 and B-27);
all of the B-29, B-30, B-31 and B-32 items;
manage irrigation tailwater to reduce pesticides and manage drainage timing to reduce instream impacts (B-63); and
limit dredging to avoid fish migration periods.

Potential 1B minimum items:

provide instream pulse flows for fish passage (B-19 and B-27);
provide instream flows for fish attraction (B-19 and B-27);
all of the B-21 and B-29 items; and

harvest predators at delta export pumps (B-30).

Potential 2A minimum items:

protect existing shallow habitat from erosion (B-1);
modify levee maintenance practices and protect existing riparian (in public ownership) (B-5);
protect existing upland habitat (in public ownership) (B-8); and
encourage land fallowing during drought periods (B-38)

Potential 2B minimum items:

Time prohibited further review.

Performance Measures

Hopefully, this is the first iteration of the cover memo and the performance measures will be made a bit more legible. I just wasn't able to understand the introductory work or read the performance measure information.