



Memorandum

Date: October 1, 1998

To: Reviewers of Programmatic Environmental Consequences of the Preferred Program Alternative (see distribution, list)

From: Rick Breitenbach, Assistant Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program *RL*

Subject: Review of Supplement to the March 16, 1998 Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR

Attached for your review are the programmatic environmental consequences of the Preferred Program Alternative. CALFED plans to release this information to the public as part of the Revised Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR.

The Preferred Program Alternative, as currently envisioned, consists of eight elements. These are presented in the attached "Preferred Program Alternative" description.

The Preferred Program Alternative environmental consequences consists of information taken from Chapters 6, 7, and 8 of the 3/16/98 Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR combined with additional evaluations related to:

- Dredging used instead of levee setbacks to increase channel conveyance capacity.
- Through-Delta conveyance from a Sacramento River diversion facility near Hood to the Mokelumne River system by an open channel along the isolated facility alignment. Conveyance via the Snodgrass Slough/breached McCormack-Williamson alignment has been dropped.
- Operational changes for fishery protection resulting in an increase or decrease in the amount of water exported. Bookends of 500,000 AFA decrease to 800,000 AFA increase in water exported were used to capture the range of impacts.
- Suisun Marsh levees potentially being added to the program.
- Habitat restoration potentially increasing water usage.

In reviewing the document, we ask for your comments on the following:

Have all impacts been disclosed?

Are the discussions technically accurate?

CALFED Agencies

California

- The Resources Agency
- Department of Fish and Game
- Department of Water Resources
- California Environmental Protection Agency
- State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of the Interior
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- Department of Agriculture
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Department of Commerce
- National Marine Fisheries Service

Is the presentation understandable?

We request that your comments include how to correct the problem you identify. We need your comments by **October 9, 1998**.

Thank you for your assistance in review of the document. If there are any questions, please contact Wendy Halverson-Martin at (916) 653-7286 or Chuck Vogelsang at (916) 653-2536.

Attachments

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