

TASK ORDER ITEMS OF WORK

1. Resource Planning and Engineering: Refine preliminary solution actions, perform preliminary analysis, and prepare preliminary cost estimates. Refine preliminary evaluation criteria and screen the solution actions by the criteria for all resource areas. Perform various preliminary engineering tasks including, but not limited to, seismic risk, levee inventory, monitoring for sedimentation and scour, and design of facilities.

2. Alternatives Analysis: Formulate an initial range of alternatives consisting of combinations of solution actions. Screen alternatives for fatal flaws. Analyze and refine the alternatives. Prepare information necessary to screen alternatives to a manageable number that can be further analyzed in an EIR/EIS.

3. Resources Inventory: Catalog existing information on resources of the Bay-Delta, and determine additional resource inventory needs. Carry out needed Bay-Delta resource inventory work, which may include habitat, vegetation, and endangered species inventories, habitat evaluation, wetland delineation, archaeological and historical inventories, fisheries studies, and inventories of soils, geology, and farmland types.

4. Resource Modeling: Identify and evaluate resource models available for use in the process. Analyze criticisms and concerns regarding existing models and prepare recommendations on models for use. Develop new models or modify models as necessary to provide a full range of analytical tools.
5. Environmental Compliance: Identify State and federal lead, permit, and review agencies. Conduct endangered species consultations with State and federal agencies. Prepare notices and environmental documents leading to preparation of EIR/EIS.
6. Economic and Financial Analysis: Assess the applicability of existing economic tools to Delta solutions, and recommend tools for use in the process. Modify economic tools as necessary. Prepare Delta economic inventory and economic and financial studies of alternatives.
7. Process Management, Decision Analysis, and Solution Finding Facilitation: Design the solution finding process and facilitate meetings conducted as part of this process. Develop and implement decision analysis tools to assist the Program Team in analyzing the impacts and benefits of alternatives. Provide support for the use of the Decision Analysis tools in the Public Outreach program.
8. Real Property Use and Appraisal Studies: Estimate land needs for various options and alternatives. Prepare preliminary cost assessment for use in developing cost estimates of options and alternatives.

9. Water Quality and Water Pollution Control Studies: Analyze the potential nature and magnitude of water quality impacts and public health issues of various options and alternatives. Make recommendations with respect to water quality considerations.
10. Water Needs Assessment and Analysis: Analyze and critique existing information on water needs, including areas upstream of the Delta and in export service areas. Recommend and implement appropriate tools and approaches. Prepare analysis of water needs in relation to changing water demands and price structures.
11. Public Involvement: Keep the public and stakeholder groups informed of the process through workshops, scoping sessions, and other means. Solicit public input to the process. Assist the Program Team in conducting EIR/EIS scoping meetings and workshops. Prepare scoping reports and other documents.
12. Legal Constraints Analysis and Institutional Design Capability: Analyze legal constraints to proposed options, including water rights laws. Develop possible institutional approaches to water management in areas such as groundwater management, Delta standards and guarantees, environmental water purchases, water transfers, and coordinated project operation.
13. Geographic Information Systems (GIS): Identify GIS information that will be needed in the process. Inventory information available from various sources. Implement a GIS which provides the information required for the Environmental Documentation for Bay/Delta Solution. Format and present data for use. Provide advice on data collection methods and formats to facilitate GIS use of data.

14. Environmental Documentation: Prepare a draft EIR/EIS including related engineering feasibility studies, operations studies, general impact studies, mitigation studies and plans, design studies and all other studies necessary to complete the EIR/EIS. Respond to agency and public comments on the draft, and prepare a final EIR/EIS.

15. Development of the Implementation Strategy: Develop, refine, and conduct public review and comments of the components of the Implementation Strategy (prefeasibility analysis, development of assurances, and financial strategy and plan). The objective of this Program element is to develop and display for CALFED agency staff and management and for stakeholders a higher level of analysis and information about the alternatives than would be available from the programmatic EIR/S process. This higher level of information is necessary for decision makers and stakeholders to form judgments about the “preferred alternative.” A GIS platform will be developed to display information. An important part of this information is a package of assurances that the “preferred alternative” will be implemented and operated in accordance with the Program’s Solution Principles. Additionally, a financing strategy and plan will be developed for the “preferred alternative” to demonstrate that it is both affordable and implementable.

16. Stakeholder Coordination: In addition to the official Bay-Delta Advisory Council and its chartered workgroups, a large number of technical teams and work teams have been formed to facilitate a two way flow of information to stakeholders and agency representatives. Staff for the Technical Division either lead each of these groups or act in a support role.

With the release of the complete ERPP and the plans, we anticipate requests from many local governmental agencies as well as watershed conservancies, water districts, and other stakeholder groups for more information regarding the specific elements of the plan. We expect a much higher level of agency and public awareness of the CALFED Program during the next phase. We also expect requests for speakers, materials, and CALFED participation at meeting of local governments, watershed conservancies and other local groups. This is a very important element of the overall CALFED Program and the resources to meet the expected demand for staff time need to be provided.

17. Special Support Programs and Studies: Several special support programs and studies have been identified as necessary components to supplement the implementation strategy and together provide the decision support information required to conduct the analysis and discussions around the preferred alternative.

A partial list of the programs/studies which will be developed to provide the support information needed to fully understand the benefits of the preferred alternative includes:

- Continued Refinement of the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP)
 - Further development and refinement of the indicators of ecological health
 - Development of an ERPP monitoring and adaptive management plan
 - Development of an ERPP phasing plan
 - Implementation of scientific review of the ERPP
- Development of a programmatic habitat conservation plan
- Implementation of a reservoir site screening process
- Development of an improved operational model
- Development of a new, more flexible and more powerful operations model
- Development of a CALFED watershed management program

- Development of a comprehensive, monitoring, assessment and research program for all program elements
- Development of a Program to Support Floodplain Management Activities

18. Early Implementation Program (Restoration Coordination): Program staff manage the early implementation activities funded now both by Proposition 204 and the stakeholder community as part of "Category III" efforts. Category III refers to the section of the 1994 Accord which calls for additional non-flow actions to improve the Bay-Delta system to be accomplished as part of the new cooperation between stakeholder, the State and the Federal governments.

These non-flow activities were to be funded cooperatively among all the Accord parties. In order to make more efficient the implementation of this section of the Accord, increased coordination is needed among all parties.

Starting in FY 98, significant amounts of additional money (\$143 million was requested in the President's budget) is expected to be provided through Congress for these efforts. The process of supporting this effort requires the addition of planning and contract staff.

As part of this effort, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is the point of coordination for State and Federal programs with responsibility for ecosystem restoration in the Bay-Delta system.