



## Memorandum

Date: February 21, 1997

To: Technical Team Meeting Participants

From: Kate Hansel *Kate Hansel*  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

The information in this packet provides supporting materials for the upcoming Sacramento River and Tributaries Technical Team Meeting. We are looking forward to a productive two and half day session beginning March 4, 1997 at 6 p.m. with dinner and presentations, and ending at 4 p.m., March 6, 1997. **Please note: the meeting location has been changed to the Red Lion Inn, 1830 Hilltop Drive, Redding. If you need hotel accommodations, please call them at (916) 221-8700 to make arrangements.**

Meeting Purpose. The primary purpose of the meeting is to involve technical representatives from agencies and stakeholder groups in developing a package of priority fish and habitat restoration actions to be implemented over the next five years. The restoration actions recommended by this meeting will help guide Category III funding decisions made by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (CALFED) and the Ecosystem Roundtable. In addition, CALFED and the Ecosystem Roundtable are working with other state and federal programs to better coordinate the funding decisions between the different programs. Therefore, representatives of these various programs have been invited to attend and use the information developed from the meeting to identify and fund high priority projects and programs.

Meeting Scope/Focus. The geographic scope of the meeting includes the Sacramento River from the legal Delta (I Street Bridge) to Shasta Dam, including all the tributaries except the American River. Other technical teams are being assembled to address the Delta and the American River.

To guide funding decisions over the next five years CALFED has adopted a set of near-term natural resource priorities which includes eight fish species and five habitat types. In addition, CALFED and the Roundtable place a priority on actions that restore those fish populations and habitats using natural ecological processes and functions. A description of the priorities is in the attached draft document titled "Implementation Strategy to Identify

---

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  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service

Near Term Priorities for Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration.” The near term priorities are based on the long term Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP) being prepared by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. These priorities will be revisited annually as new information is available or as funding levels change.

For the Sacramento River meeting, the CALFED priorities are (revised 2/20/97):

First Priority: Fish Species: chinook salmon--winter run and spring-run, steelhead, green sturgeon, and splittail. Sacramento river fall run salmon are also of concern but not a species for targeted restoration actions this year.

Habitat: seasonal wetland habitat (floodplain), shaded riverine aquatic habitat, in-stream aquatic habitat.

Second Priority: Migratory birds, striped bass.

Meeting Process. To develop a package of restoration actions we will use the following process:

- Review historical fish population and habitat conditions.
- Review restoration goals for fish and habitat.
- Review and prioritize problems (stressors, limiting factors) affecting those fish and habitats.
- Identify and prioritize potential actions (projects, programs, studies etc) to address the priority problems.
- Develop a package of prioritized restoration actions to be implemented over the next five years.

This meeting is the first of the CALFED technical team meetings that will address multiple fish species and habitats. The previous meetings, the Spring Run Salmon Meeting of 1996 and the San Joaquin River and Tributaries Meeting held January 1997, primarily focused on restoration of a single species. Therefore we have a unique challenge/opportunity ahead of us. We plan to follow the same basic process as was done in the other meetings but we will need to emphasize problems and actions that have broad benefits.

Conceptual project/program descriptions. A key product of this meeting will be identification of actions that should be taken to address priority problems. To prepare for that discussion we have developed a format for meeting participants to follow if they are interested in presenting conceptual program or project descriptions at the meeting. The conceptual descriptions will be helpful in providing background to all the participants as projects and programs are discussed.

Attachments. To assist you in preparing for the meeting and to focus the meeting discussions I have assembled a package of materials. Please review as much of the material as possible in order to help ensure the success of the meeting. The following materials are attached:

- Agenda
- Implementation Strategy to Identify Near Term Priorities for Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration

- Summary of Restoration and Management Plans Pertaining to the Ecological Resources of the Bay-Delta and its Watershed (excerpts)
- Delta Native Species Recovery Plan (excerpts)
- Restoring Central Valley Spring-run Chinook Salmon Populations: Technical Meeting to Identify Candidate Programs and Projects for Category III Funding--this is the report from the 1996 meeting which will provide a useful backdrop to this upcoming meeting
- ERPP Implementation Objectives and Targets (excerpts)
- Salmon Population Diagram
- Stressor Matrix--Please review and fill in specific stressors for each species and habitat. This should help guide the discussion in the meeting
- Format for Conceptual Project/Program Description