

CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM**Office Memorandum**

Date: March 1, 1996
To: Victor Pacheco
From: Michael Norris
Subject: Progress Report on Delta Vulnerability Levee Issues Work Group

I contacted some people within the Delta Vulnerability Levee Issues Work Group to find out the status of progress on material for submittal to Curt Schmutte. It would appear that most of the 15 people within the work group have not been given any form of an assignment as of yet. Herein in a progress report of the current activity:

- **Anna Hegedus/Dave Lawson:** Anna was asked by Curt Schmutte to do a writeup of the SB34 program including any changes DWR Central District would like to see for possible continuation of the program after 1998. Dave believe that the program could be improved in the advancement of reimbursements to the districts and some other minor changes could be necessary as well. Anna and Dave will work on written statement.
- **Bill Forsythe/Curt Schmutte:** Bill is working on a draft plan to maintain and improve levees and habitat at the same time as concurrent projects. He will extract the best parts of SB 34 and add in new elements to streamline the levee process and improve and/or create new habitat corridors as opposed to just mitigating for habitat losses from levee rehab work which is what SB 34 and SB 1065 now does. Bill hopes that the plan will become a "core action" of the CALFED Bay Delta Process. Bill believes that a product will be available for mailout by Friday 3-9-96 and it should be about 10-pages long.
- **Michael Norris:** Michael is working on filling out the "prioritization table" that Bill Forsythe created to determine which Delta islands should have levee rehabilitation work done ahead of others in the event that funding restrictions prohibit all Delta islands levees from being repaired. All 120 of the island/entities/reclamation districts have been entered into the spreadsheet but not all information can be input at this time. The table calls for more than inputting information about railroads, power lines, and roads. Other information such as water quality, cultural importance of the individual islands, recreational benefits, and fish and wildlife characteristics are called for as well. The latter will probably require consulting with experts such as Rick Woodard for water quality questions and Frank Wernette for habitat questions and so on.

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