

Attachment D

CALFED Water Quality Technical Group - Parameter Assessment Team Recommendations for Ecosystem and Urban Water Quality Targets

Ecosystem Water Quality Target Subcommittee

During April, Parameter Assessment Team members Jerry Bruns, Terry Barry, J.P. Cativiela and Steve Murrill met to assist in development of recommendations regarding ecosystem water quality targets. Their recommendations were as follows:

Water column

In general, CALFED should use the Basin Plan objectives (Region 2 or Region 5, as appropriate) and US EPA promulgated National Toxics Rule or soon to promulgated California Toxics Rule standards. This would provide water column reference targets for the Delta and both rivers for cadmium, copper, mercury, selenium, DDT, PCBs, Toxaphene, ammonia, dissolved oxygen and turbidity.

The Regional Board is in the process of developing a water quality objective for carbofuran. When adopted, the objective would be an appropriate target. Consensus was not reached on what target values would be appropriate for diazinon and chlorpyrifos.

Fish tissue

In general, it was recommended that NAS guidance numbers be used. This would provide tissue targets for mercury, DDT, PCBs, and Toxaphene. There is no NAS guidance criteria for selenium. The San Luis Drain Reuse Technical Advisory Committee has recommended selenium ecological risk guidelines for tissue that may be appropriate.

Sediment

Recommendations regarding sediment targets were not made. There are no Basin Plan objectives or US EPA standards. It was suggested that sediment information collected from the Great Lakes and in San Francisco Bay might be useful in screening for potential problems in the Delta. The suggestion was made that this information be evaluated and possibly used in developing criteria that would be appropriate for the Delta.

Unknown Toxicity

Narrative statements in the Basin Plans should be used. They both essentially say that toxics shall not be present in toxic amounts.

Urban Water Quality Target Subcommittee

During April, Parameter Assessment Team members Lynda Smith, K.T. Shum, and Perri Standish-Lee met to assist in development of recommendations regarding urban water quality targets. After development of their recommendations they had their targets reviewed by CUWA's Water Quality Committee. Their draft recommendations were as follows: