



Memorandum

Date: April 26, 1999
To: Water Quality Technical Group (WQTG)
From: Rick Woodard *J. Heath
Dr. R. Woodard*
Subject: Implementation of Water Quality Actions

The CALFED Bay Delta Program is in the process of refining the Implementation Strategy for each of the Program areas, including the Water Quality Program. The draft Water Quality Implementation Strategy will recommend how the water quality actions are prioritized, present plans for implementation, identify implementing agencies, identify existing and potential sources of funding and how the resources could be allocated. Over the next few months, through the involvement of agencies and stakeholders, we will be developing the draft Water Quality Implementation Strategy to be incorporated into the Water Quality Program Plan. A group consisting of agencies and a representative group of stakeholders is being formed and is named the Water Quality Policy Team (a list of potential Water Quality Policy Team members attached). The Water Quality Program Plan will be an appendix to the revised draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Statement (PEIR/S) which is planned to be released in June 1999.

One function of the Water Quality Policy Team is to act as liaison between the stakeholders (such as the Water Quality Technical Group) and the CALFED policy activities. Therefore, as the process progresses, the Water Quality Technical Group should utilize the Water Quality Policy team as liaisons for their respective concerns.

At the WQTG meeting on November 6, 1998, there was a discussion of factors that would determine priorities for the first seven years of implementation, following the record of decision on the PEIR/S. Among the most significant factors were the state of readiness to implement actions, critical link in research, protection of listed species, durability of solution, cost and technical feasibility. We want to afford the WQTG another opportunity to help us further refine how the water quality actions should be implemented over the first two years (years 2000/2001), during the first seven years after the record of decision, and beyond for the next 20 - 25 years.

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

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Attached is a copy of the draft Water Quality Program early implementation projects for years 2000 and 2001, along with an explanation of these projects. Included in this information are the cost estimates. The cost estimates are preliminary and reflect our current assessment of the funding needed for priority actions listed in the table. Also attached is an excerpt from the December 1998 draft Phase II Report entitled "Water Quality Program Stage I Actions." In addition, we refer you to your copy of the February 1999 revised Draft Water Quality Program Plan which supports and elaborates upon the information contained in the Revised Phase II Report.

Please review the above documents and provide us your recommendations on priority actions, how best to implement the actions and by what agency, funding resources, and any additions, deletions, or changes that will need to be made to the next draft list of actions and cost estimates. Comments are due by May 3, 1999 to Judy Heath:

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Attachments (3)

1. List of Water Quality Policy Team members (agencies and stakeholders)
2. Water Quality Early Implementation Actions (years 2000/2001)
3. Stage I Water Quality Actions (first seven years after the ROD)