

**AG/URBAN
WATER QUALITY TECHNICAL TEAM
WORK PLAN**

Revised April 11, 1997

The Water Quality Technical Team (WQTT) will develop actions to reduce the sources of contaminants entering the Bay-Delta system from upstream and from sources within the Delta. This technical team will provide input to the Physical Facilities, Operations and Water Quality team (reduced contaminant loadings and improved water quality for input into the Delta water quality models, define water quality objectives or ranges for alternatives refinement) and the Ecosystem team (improved water quality for fish and wildlife).

TEAM MEMBERS

The following individuals have been identified to participate in the WQTT. The objective is to have a broad spectrum of urban and agricultural interests represented. Other individuals/agencies are invited to participate.

California Urban Water Agencies - Byron Buck, Elaine Archibald (Team Coordinator)

Contra Costa Water District - Richard Denton, K.T. Shum

Central Valley Project Water Association - Jason Peltier, Greg Wong

East Bay Municipal Utility District - Bob Berger, Randy Kanouse

Grasslands Basin Drainage Group - Dan Nelson, Dennis Wichelns, Joe McGahan

Kern County Water Agency - Jim Beck

Metropolitan Water District - Kevin Donhoff, Marsha Torobin, Pete Rhoads, Lynda Smith, and
Steve Arakawa

Modesto Irrigation District - Bill Johnston

Northern California Water Association - Jeff Jaraczski, Kati Buehler, Bob Herkert

City of Sacramento - Bill Crooks

Santa Clara Valley Water District - Amy Fowler

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission - Steve Ritchie

State Water Contractors - John Coburn

Westlands Water District - Lance Johnson

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The WQTT determined that the Ag/Urban recommended actions to achieve water quality objectives should:

1. Provide for the highest source water quality (including TDS) reasonably available and maintain (not impair) existing high quality source waters for beneficial uses.
2. Not redirect water quality impacts from one area of the Bay-Delta watershed to another.
3. Seek to develop a strong program of pollutant source control.

SCOPE OF WORK

The key questions that will be addressed by the WQTT are:

1. What pollutant source control measures, both upstream and within the Delta, should be included in the CALFED preferred alternative to ensure that Delta water quality and upstream water quality is adequately protected to support all beneficial uses?
2. What are the impacts of the Ag/Urban recommended alternative on ecosystem, drinking water and irrigation water quality?

The following tasks will be completed to answer those questions.

1. Meet with CALFED staff - The WQTT will meet with CALFED staff and consultants to discuss the status of their work, determine what useful information is available, and assess the need for additional work. The team will use the CALFED work products to the maximum extent possible and will supplement their work only when necessary to do so.
2. Parameters of Concern and Target Levels - Review the CALFED list of parameters of concern and target levels for those parameters. Determine if additional parameters of concern should be added or if some should be dropped. Evaluate available information on each parameter of concern with respect to whether water quality criteria, standards, or objectives are currently being exceeded. Gather information on sources of each parameter of concern.
3. Water Quality Actions - Review the CALFED Water Quality Technical Group's set of water quality actions and the ranking of those actions. Identify and prioritize those actions that could be incorporated into an ag/urban alternative. Identify those actions that should not be carried forward (e.g. dilution actions). Identify other actions that should be included in an ag/urban

alternative. Develop further information on each action and make the actions more specific to the ag/urban alternative. Identify the water quality impacts associated with each action. This will be a somewhat qualitative assessment because there is not sufficient information to adequately model the water quality impacts of source control alternatives. The CALFED actions fall into the following general categories:

- Agricultural drainage - includes source control and treatment in areas with high salinity and selenium content.
 - Urban and industrial runoff - includes best management practices for reducing loads of pollutants in urban and industrial runoff and enforcement of existing regulations.
 - Mine drainage - includes remediation and reduction in pollutant loadings from mines, including using wetlands as mine waste treatment systems.
 - Wastewater and industrial discharges - includes controlling sources of domestic wastes from boats in the Delta and Delta tributaries and cost effective measures such as reclamation and reuse and pollutant trading for industrial and municipal wastewater treatment.
 - Dilution - includes the acquisition of dilution water to reduce concentrations of parameters of concern.
 - Water Treatment - includes providing incentives for the addition of advanced water treatment processes and relocation of intakes to areas not influenced by discharges.
 - Watershed coordination - includes promotion and support of local watershed programs along with toxicity testing to identify pollutants.
4. Develop a source control program for review by the Ag/Urban Policy Group. The source control program will be recommended for incorporation in CALFED's preferred alternative.
 5. Meet with Physical Facilities, Operations and Water Quality Technical Team to review results of hydrodynamic models and determine which water quality parameters can be modeled.
 6. Analytical Plan - Review the CALFED analytical plan for assessing impacts of alternatives on water quality. Develop an ag/urban analytical plan that describes the models or methods to be used in assessing impacts, the parameters of concern that can be modeled or quantified, and the quality of the model results.
 7. Model Input Parameters - Using the analytical plan, quantify water quality improvements at Delta boundaries and from sources within the Delta. Provide these data to the water quality modeling group. For parameters that cannot be quantitatively modeled, develop qualitative

assessments of the water quality impacts of the two alternatives being modeled by the Physical Facilities, Operations and Water Quality Technical Team.

8. Review Model Results - Review inputs and outputs of modeling runs and model operating assumptions to determine if results are reasonable.

9. Economic Impacts - Develop preliminary cost estimates and economic impacts of each water quality action.

Process for Interacting with CALFED

The WQTT will work closely with CALFED staff to maximize the use of their work products and to provide input and comments on their work products. Elaine Archibald and Rick Woodard (CALFED water quality lead) have agreed to discuss the progress of CALFED and Ag/Urban on a weekly basis. WQTT members will continue to participate in the CALFED Water Quality Technical Group meetings. Several WQTT members will participate in the CALFED Parameter Assessment Team which will be working closely with CALFED staff to develop the CALFED water quality program and determine the impacts of the alternatives being considered by CALFED. In addition, WQTT members will continue to provide written comments to CALFED on their work products.

Work Products and Schedule

The WQTT will produce the following work products:

- List of Parameters of Concern and Target Levels (March 30)
- Matrix of Parameters of Concern and Sources - will relate to CALFED actions and contain specific Ag/Urban recommendations (April 30)
- Analysis Methods (April 16)
- Model Results - discussion of water quality impacts of ag/urban alternative (April 30)
- Economic Impacts - discussion of economic impacts of water quality actions (May 2)
- Draft report (May 5)
- Final report (June 30)

Budget

The WQTT has determined that there is no need for consultant assistance at this time. All work will be conducted by the team members. The need for consultant assistance will be reassessed periodically as the work proceeds.