CALFED Watershed Management Program

Goals and Objectives (draft)

Goals:

To help coordinate and integrate existing and future local watershed programs and to provide technical assistance and funding for watershed activities relevant to achieving the goals and objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

To assist other CALFED Program elements in defining the significance of relevant watershed activities.

Objectives:

I. Provide a Framework to Define the Relationship between Watershed Processes and the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Goals and Objectives

- Describe the basic biophysical functions and processes of a watershed, including the linkages from upper watersheds to lower watersheds to the Bay-Delta.
  - A) Identify the watershed functions and processes that are relevant to the CALFED goals and objectives.
  - B) Describe how land use and other human activities affect watershed functions and processes in ways that are favorable for or adverse to the CALFED goals and objectives.
  - C) Develop a model or models (e.g. benefit/cost models, tradeoff models) to quantify the commodity and non-commodity benefits that accrue from watershed plans and projects designed to favorably affect the CALFED goals and objectives.
  - D) Based on the above three items, determine priorities for funding watershed planning and projects.

- Refine the draft CALFED Watershed Principles. The intent of these principles is to address the projects or activities that could be supported by the Watershed Management Program ("the strings attached to funding").

- Identify watershed groups' needs of the CALFED Watershed Management Program.

- *Identify watershed activities for inclusion into the appropriate CALFED Program element.*

- Establish restoration project review panel to assist local watershed programs and

private landowners in their restoration project concept, design, and implementation. (Peer review panel to include agencies/academia/private consultants.)

- Help resolve issues of liability and agency indemnification for environmental restoration work.

II. Identify Linkages with the other CALFED Common Programs

- Identify the relationship of the Watershed Management Program with the other CALFED Common Programs (Levee Stability, Water Quality, Ecosystem Restoration, Water Use Efficiency, Water Transfers).

- Identify what activities and geographic regions are included in the Watershed Management Program compared to the other CALFED Common Programs. For example, the Watershed Management Program is the only Program which encompasses the upper watersheds above the dams.

III. Facilitate and Improve Coordination among Government Agencies and Local Watershed Groups and Assistance from Government Agencies to Local Watershed Groups

- Develop a Coordination Framework whereby mechanisms to integrate watershed efforts among agencies, organizations, and local watershed programs are identified. The Framework should:

  A) Identify agencies and watershed groups that participate in watershed activities consistent with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program goals and objectives.
  B) Define types of partnerships which can be formed with the agencies and groups identified above.
  C) Describe a mechanism to coordinate funding among government agencies and to local watershed programs.
  D) Describe a mechanism to facilitate technical assistance by government agencies for local watershed programs.
  E) Identify areas of congruence and/or conflicts, and areas where programs can be blended to achieve mutual objectives.

IV. Develop Watershed Monitoring Assessment and Protocol to be Integrated into CMARP

- Facilitate monitoring efforts that are consistent with CMARP's protocols.

- Define performance measures so that adaptive management process can occur.

- Through stakeholder and IIWAT input, help CMARP develop watershed management monitoring protocols that are not already developed for the other CALFED Common Programs.

V. Support Education and Outreach

- Provide baseline support to organize watershed programs (e.g. coordinators, equipment, per diem to attend CALFED meetings, etc.).

- Support resource conservation education at the local watershed level.

- Provide training on monitoring, grant writing, and watershed assessment.

- Sponsor general stakeholder workshops, BDAC Watershed Work Group Meetings, etc. to allow for exchange of information on local watershed program successes and failures.

- Support clearinghouse functions to assist watershed groups conducting watershed activities. The clearinghouse will include information about funding opportunities and relevant information on new watershed activities funded by CALFED.

VI. Develop an Implementation Strategy which will Address Assurances for Support and Long-Term Sustainability of Local Watershed Activities

- Building on existing programs, develop a long-term plan that identifies the types of assistance that may be needed, the array of agencies best suited to deliver this assistance, and the funding levels necessary to carry out these long-term assistance programs.

- Stakeholders want assurances that funding for assistance programs will continue throughout the CALFED Program implementation period (20-30 yrs). Stakeholder input will be obtained at BDAC Watershed Work Group workshops and general stakeholder workshops.