

CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM

Draft

Office Memorandum

Date: January 27, 1999
To: ESA/CESA Policy Team
From: Ray McDowell, CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Subject: Levels of Geographic Information System Effort for Conservation Strategy

Based on conversations Mike Fris and I have had regarding various levels of GIS effort for formulation (and refinement) of the Conservation Strategy, here is an outline of the major tasks and rough estimates of the resources required to meet those varying levels of effort.

For discussion purposes, Mike and I selected **three levels of investment in GIS**. The first essentially describes the *status quo* and is largely covered by funding that each of us has identified in our current budgets. The second describes a moderate level of effort. And the third describes a fairly high level of investment in GIS. The second and third levels of effort would require anywhere from another \$100,000 to \$250,000 (probably more if we have to get the work done in the next month).

In addition to this task and resource discussion, I have provided a **brief summary of the options** for getting the work done and a **list of potential hurdles**.

Level I - Status Quo

Resources: Close to adequate funding in existing budgets

- 1) Compile existing sensitive species and habitat type data;
- 2) Provide GIS support to Species Experts; and
- 3) Provide working maps/graphics.

Level II - Moderate Effort (includes Level I tasks)

Resources: Additional \$100,000 to \$150,000 (or in-kind contribution) in current Fed. FY.

- 1) Digitize Stage I Actions;
- 2) Digitize Restoration Coordination (i.e., Cat. III projects) actions;
- 3) Improve USFWS species distribution/occurrences database *
- 4) Digitize and analyze potential Conservation Measures and Recovery Planning (potential habitat corridors, linkages, etc.); and
- 5) Produce maps/graphics for presentations, meetings, and reports.

Level III – Major Effort (includes tasks in Levels I and II)

Resources: Additional \$100,000 (not all would necessarily have to come in current Fed. FY

- 1) Set up framework for near-term “take” and habitat monitoring and project tracking;
- 2) Develop project-level species/habitat data for initial Stage I Projects and conduct ESA early impact analysis

Who Can Do the Work?

Jones and Stokes and Assoc. Inc. – amend existing contract? Quick turn around but probably the most expensive.

UC Davis Information Center for the Environment (ICE) – CALFED should have an interagency agreement with ICE within a couple of weeks. Fairly inexpensive but not necessarily fast.

USFWS – Tony McKinney is a one-man band. He can help but has a considerable workload already.

DFG – DFG has a large GIS shop but unknown availability of staff for assistance with the Conservation Strategy.

+ USOR
DWR

Potential Hurdles

- Difficult to put (somewhat undefined) CALFED ^{Stage} Phase I actions on maps in the next month or so
- Difficult to digitize conservation measures and do any analysis in a month
- Difficult to make contract modifications to accommodate very quick turnaround time in current schedule