



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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Date: June 9, 1997

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program *by Steve Jaeger*

Subject: Resolution of Affected Environment and No Action Alternative Continued

In an effort to close out our work on the Affected Environment, No Action Alternative and Cumulative Impact Analysis, we split the results of our efforts to allow for a focused review. On May 20, 1997, we sent you information focusing on the Resource Categories to be described in the Affected Environment, the screening criteria for the selection of projects that would make up the No Action Alternative and Cumulative Impact Analysis and a list of projects that would make up the No Action Alternative and Cumulative Impact Analysis. Additionally, we informed you that a second package on modeling assumptions would follow.

The attached package and its appendices focus on the operational and regulatory modeling assumptions for both the Affected Environment and No Action Alternative. We request comments or identification of specific issues which still need work and recommendations for their resolution by June 25, 1997. We will discuss agency questions and comments on the modeling assumptions at a PCT ad-hoc meeting on June 19, 1997. Ultimately, we will seek concurrence on this information, as well as the information provided in the May 20, 1997 memorandum from the Policy Group, at the July 2, 1997 CALFED Policy meeting.

In addition to the attachment and associated appendices, we have also enclosed a report entitled "CALFED Bay-Delta Program Final Report on Assumptions for Existing Conditions and the No Action Alternative." The report documents the outcome of the various meetings held with CALFED agency members and stakeholders to arrive at the modeling assumptions.

CALFED has undertaken an intensive process to develop information for, respond to comments and adjust our description of the Affected Environment, the No Action Alternative, and the Cumulative Impact Analysis. As part of this effort, meetings were held and various materials were prepared and distributed to CALFED agencies, stakeholders, and

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
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

the public for review and comment. The following list provides a summary of these meetings and materials:

- March 27, 1996: proposed approach for preparing affected environment/existing conditions description;
- May 20, 1996: discussion paper outlining CALFED's proposed approach to developing the No Action Alternative and identifying projects for the cumulative impact analysis;
- July 1, 1996: workshop packet describing proposed affected environment/existing conditions resource categories and time periods to be covered in describing the affected environment/existing conditions, projects in the No Action Alternative and cumulative impact analysis, and proposed operational criteria;
- July 11, 1996: workshop presenting the information in the July 1, 1996 workshop packet;
- September 27, 1996: transmittal and report dated September 18, 1996 presenting the detailed results of the No Action Alternative screening effort, adjustments to affected environment/existing conditions resource categories and time periods, and responses to written and oral comments received in response to the July 1, 1996 workshop packet and July 11, 1996 workshop;
- September 27, 1996: first workgroup meeting to discuss operational and regulatory assumptions for affected environment/existing conditions and the No Action Alternative;
- October 1, 1996: release of draft affected environment reports describing Delta resources to CALFED agencies for review;
- October 11, 1996: second workgroup meeting to discuss operational and regulatory assumptions for affected environment/existing conditions and the No Action Alternative;
- November 15, 1996: third workgroup meeting to discuss operational and regulatory assumptions for affected environment/existing conditions and the No Action Alternative;

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- January 22, 1997: transmittal and report dated December 30, 1996 summarizing results of the September 27 to November 15, 1996 meetings, and a second report dated December 31, 1996 responding to comments received on the September 18, 1996 report;
- March 17, 1997: presentation to CALFED Management Team of significant issues which arose during development of Affected Environment, No Action Alternative and Cumulative Impact Analysis;
- April 14, 1997: presentation to ClubFed members at Federal agency retreat; and
- May 20, 1997: transmittal of the Resource Categories to be described in the Affected Environment, the screening criteria for the selection of projects that would make up the No Action Alternative and Cumulative Impact Analysis and a list of projects that would make up the No Action Alternative and Cumulative Impact Analysis to the CALFED Policy Group, CALFED Management Group and PCT liaisons.

If you have questions, please contact Rick Breitenbach at (916) 657-2666.

Attachment

cc: See attached list

cc: CALFED Management Team
CALFED PCT Liaisons
CA Resources Agency
CA Fish and Game
CA Food and Agriculture
CA Dept. of Water Resources
SWRCB
Corps of Engineers
Bureau of Reclamation
Fish and Wildlife Service
US EPA
US Geological Survey
NMFS
David Cottingham, Department of Interior
Craig Manson and Nancy Murray, CA Dept of Fish and Game
Maureen Gorsen, CA Resources Agency
Mary Gillespe, Corps of Engineers
David Anderson and David Sandino, CA Dept of Water Resources
Dana Jacobsen and David Nawi, Solicitor's Office, Dept of Interior
Tom Hagler, US Environmental Protection Agency
Barbara Leidigh, CA State Water Resources Control Board
Mary Scoonover and Marian Moe, CA Office of the Attorney General