



Memorandum

Date: August 6, 1997

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

Subject: Status of Discussions on CVPIA (b) (2)
(Information Provided by Tom Hagler)

Summary

On July 24, 1997 Deputy Secretary Garamendi met with a large group of stakeholders and state and federal agency representatives to discuss the progress of three work groups that had been set up in June.

The "(b) (2) Fish Team" is a group of 13 agency and stakeholder biologists that have been asked to review and refine the AFRP Delta Actions proposed for inclusion in the first long-term Water Management Plan. This group has been chaired and facilitated by Dr. Wim Kimmerer. Broadly stated, the group approached each action as a "protective experiment" intended to explore a particular hypothesis about biological resource protection. As reported by Dr. Kimmerer, the group has had some success in achieving a "reasonable consensus" on the technical issues presented. It has proposed a number of revisions to the AFRP Delta Actions, and is considering additional revisions. Most recently, the (b) (2) Fish Team met with some of the modeling group members to consider how best to model the revised Actions.

The "Modeling Group," led by Greg Gartrell of the Contra Costa Water District, has had less progress, primarily because it has been waiting for input from the Fish Team.

The "(b) (2) Toolbox Committee" is a large group of primarily policy and technical level representatives of the various stakeholders and agencies. Its task was asked to consider ways of ameliorating potential adverse water supply impacts of CVPIA implementation. The Committee established six subcommittees:

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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5. Exchanges/Contributions by Non-SWP or CVP Users
6. CVP/SWP Delta Operations

Each of these subcommittees submitted a written report of the ideas generated for meeting their goals. The next step for this Toolbox Committee is to identify and focus on the most promising ideas, and to begin a dialog over how those ideas could be carried out.

Deputy Secretary Garamendi will reconvene the entire group of stakeholders on August 21 or 22 to assess the progress of the work groups and to generate a schedule for concluding the discussions.

Action Item

This agenda item is for update and discussion at the Policy Group meeting.

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