

Ops Group

E-001377



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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Date: September 17, 1997

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Shannon Crossin

Subject: Ops Group

Summary

The Ops Group met on August 21, 1997. The meeting was held one week early to avoid a scheduling conflict with the California Fish and Game Commission (FGC) hearing. At the August meeting, the Ops Group discussed a proposed plan to protect spring-run chinook salmon migrating through the Delta. The plan includes an extensive monitoring program, indicators of periods that may be sensitive for migrating juvenile spring-run, and adjustments to CVP and SWP operations. The operational adjustments proposed focus on closure of the Delta Cross Channel Gates, which are owned and operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. It is believed that DCC closure is the most important protection measure for spring-run. The plan was presented to FGC as an informational item at its August 29 by Robert Potter, co-chair for the Ops Group. The FGC also heard presentations from fishery, wildlife, and environmental stakeholders. The focus of presentations by stakeholders was on the export-to-inflow ratio during the October through January period. These groups expressed concern that allowing 65 percent of inflow to be diverted by the CVP and SWP may not provide sufficient protection for out-migrating spring-run chinook salmon. The FGC will sponsor a workshop at its October meeting to discuss the E/I ratio during the fall months.

Action Item

This item is included for information only.

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