

Draft Preferred Program Alternative Decision Document

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The Interim Phase II Report provided a summary of the CALFED Phase II activities at the time of the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR (March 98). CALFED proposes to revise/update that report to show the status of the Phase II activities from the perspective in fall of 1998 with support for the draft preferred program alternative. Much of the background material will remain the same; main changes are expected in the areas of new analyses (modeling, Diversion Effects on Fisheries, description of draft preferred program alternative, etc.). The Preferred Program Alternative Decision Document could be used as a stand-alone report in December 1998 (expect 200-300 pages) or could accompany other EIS/EIR documents at that time.

	<u>Page</u>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
<i>(Summary of the Program, its unprecedented scope, the range of alternatives for solutions, and the draft preferred program alternative)</i>	
1. INTRODUCTION	
<i>(Relatively unchanged from March 98 interim, except that Next Steps will be for period between the Draft and Final EIS/EIR)</i>	
1.1 The Program	
<i>(Unchanged from March 98)</i>	
1.2 Public Involvement	
<i>(Summary of recent efforts; include reference to public comments on draft programmatic EIS/EIR)</i>	
1.3 Next Steps in Phase II	
<i>(Summary of activities between this draft and final in late 1999)</i>	
2. FUNDAMENTAL PROGRAM CONCEPTS	
2.1 Interrelationships	
<i>(Relatively unchanged from March 98, mainly editing of storage & conveyance)</i>	
2.2 System Variability and the Time Value of Water	
<i>(Unchanged from March 98)</i>	
2.3 Adaptive Management	
<i>(Revise to show how adaptive management works for all elements including major single decisions like storage)</i>	
2.4 Related Concepts	
<i>(Brief discussion of area-of-origin protections, common pool, etc.; relatively unchanged from March 98)</i>	

3. PROGRAM ALTERNATIVES
(Description of the twelve alternatives in the draft programmatic EIS/EIR)

3.1 Common Program Elements
(Revised for updated status)

3.2 Variable Program Elements
(Revised for updated status)

3.3 Twelve Alternative Variations
(Relatively unchanged from March 98)

4. PREFERRED PROGRAM ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Initial Evaluations

Discussion of Features of the Twelve Alternative Variations
(Some description of how parts of the 12 alternative variations were judged to be unsatisfactory; basically conclusions of the IDT process)

Description of the Three Alternatives Categories
(The three main categories of alternatives; unchanged from March 98)

The 18 Distinguishing Characteristics
(The 18 items that show the differences between alternatives. Unchanged from March 98)

Evaluation with Distinguishing Characteristics
(This would contain analyses for each of the 18 characteristics. The alternatives evaluation will be similar to that from March 98 but will be based on updated modeling, technical group judgements, etc. Each distinguishing characteristic will have a short writeup and figure to portray the relationship between existing conditions, no-action, and alternatives 1,2, and 3. Propose not to show the preferred program alternative with these because of staged decision making.)

Comparison of Alternatives
(Summary of how the alternatives performed and additional support on why diversion effects on fisheries and drinking water quality are the major factors in the performance of alternatives. This comparison leads to need for supplemental analysis in 4.2 below)

4.2 Supplemental Analysis

(Analysis since March 98 to support this Preferred Program Alternative Decision Document; information used to help develop the draft preferred program alternative)

Diversion Effects on Fisheries Team
(Summarize discussions of DEFT and supporting operational modeling)

Impact Analysis of Potential Operational Changes
(For potential operational changes not previously discussed in Draft EIS/EIR)

Cumulative Impact Analysis
(Focus on urban encroachment in agricultural areas)

Trinity and American River Water Supply
(A side bar analysis with new impact analysis for the potentially affected resource categories)

Draft Programmatic Mitigation Monitoring Plan
(Not previously provided in the Draft EIS/EIR)

Draft Assurances and Finance Plans
(Section added to provide more complete alternatives)

Summary of Response to Comments
(A paragraph on each of the 5 big issues and reference to Attachment A)

4.3 Framework for a Draft Preferred Program Alternative
(Extract portions from preferred alternative framework document; this is primarily the rationale for the structure of the preferred program alternative)

Components of a Preferred Alternative
 Staged Implementation and Staged Decision Making
 Implementation Strategies for Delta Conveyance and Surface Storage
 Stage 1 Implementation

4.4 Draft Preferred Program Alternative
(Intended to be the details of the alternative since the rationale was provided in the previous section. Try to simplify the description of the preferred program alternative as a set of conditions and linkages needed for staged decision-making and a set of stage 1 actions to begin implementation. All other descriptions in the supporting activities revolve around what assurances are appropriate to make the preferred alt. work, what finance package is needed to make it work, etc. Acknowledge that some actions required before ROD and Certification in Attachment B. Also, acknowledge status of Program at time of ROD and Certification in Attachment C)

Conditions and Linkages for Future Decisions
 (Insert the conditions and linkages)

Stage 1 Actions
 (Insert the Stage 1 action list)

Supporting Activities
 (Include additional detail on governance and assurances, finance, water project operating rules, and long-term implementation which are tailored to support the preferred program alternative)

Summary of Impact Analysis for Draft Preferred Program Alternative
 (To help identify impacts and benefits of draft preferred program alternative. Would either point to locations in the original Draft EIS/EIR and supplement here with new analysis or impact analyses could all be contained here)

5. OTHER CONTINUING/FUTURE WORK EFFORTS
(Updated from March 98)

5.1 Restoration Coordination
 (Status of on-going implementation, summary of costs and categories of contracts)

5.2 Summary of Regulatory Compliance
 (State and Federal Endangered Species Act Compliance, Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines, Coastal Zone Management Act, etc.)

5.3 Phase III Site-Specific Environmental Documentation
 (Plus feasibility studies needed for support)

6. GLOSSARY OF TERMS
(Revision of March 98 with our new frequently used terms, words, etc.)

ATTACHMENTS

- A. **Summary of Response to Comments**
(More complete summary than in Chapter 4, and reference to a complete version with Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR in 1999)
- B. **Actions and Assurances for 1998-1999 Under Existing Authorities**
(Currently 1 page attachment)
- C. **Status of Program Development at the Time of ROD and Certification**
(Currently an 8 page portion of "framework" document to give people a sense of what will be available at time of the ROD and Certification)

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