

Water Management Strategy 1999 Workplan Summary

CALFED believes that the appropriate water management strategy will not be a single approach, but an adaptive combination of all of the available tools to achieve five water management objectives. This concept is best portrayed as a matrix of measures, shown in the adjacent figure.

Integrated Water Management Strategy											
Water Management Objectives	Water Management Tools										
	Transfers		Conservation			Recycling	Storage		Watershed Management	Water Quality Control	Monitoring and Real-Time Diversion Management
	Long-Term	Short-Term	Agricultural	Urban	Wetlands		Groundwater	Surface			
Reduce Diversion Coefficients											
Decrease Drought Impacts - Environmental Flows											
- Ag/Urban supply											
Increase Supply Availability - Drought											
- Average											
Increase Operational Flexibility											
Increase Supply Utility (WQ)											

The 1999 work on the water management strategy will focus on better defining, or justifying, how each tool contributes to achieving the water management objectives. The projected performance of each tool will be used to help define a programmatic agreement regarding a process by which the surface storage facilities in the CALFED Program will be evaluated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. In this analysis, CALFED will consider a broad role for storage including potential reoperation of existing hydroelectric reservoirs, potential new groundwater and surface storage, and decommissioning of some dams or other barriers. Establishing and defining this process will allow for a more expedited and limited Section 404 permit evaluation when CALFED Program elements need site specific permits.

Critical Issues

- Specific water management objectives in the above figure need to be defined.
- The performance of the water management tools, individually and in combination, to achieve the objectives needs to be defined.
- Given the uncertainty of future conditions, CALFED needs a water management strategy that is adaptive to accommodate potential variability in water demand projections; technological advancements in water treatment, recycling, and conservation; and guiding policy relating to groundwater management, regional water reallocation due to market influence, and financing of water management actions.

The work required to address these issues will be a mix of analytical (sensitivity and economic analysis), written explanations based on qualitative reasoning, and policy direction. Due to the uncertainty on how the future will affect all of the water management tools, the water management strategy will not define the specific mix or size of the tools. It will provide a framework and enough opportunity to adapt to various future conditions. The work tasks include:

- Define range of water demand projections including appropriate consideration of water costs

- Define water management objectives in narrative form; it is unlikely that numerical objectives can be developed for each
- Develop justification for how water management tools achieve objectives including:
 - Describe uncertainties on use of the water management tools
 - Conduct system modeling for sensitivity analysis of use of tools. This will include evaluation of a broad range of storage options including reoperation of existing hydroelectric reservoirs, new groundwater and surface storage, and potential decommissioning of some existing storage reservoirs.
 - Integrate economic analysis for each tool from the continuing work on *Economic Evaluation of Water Management Alternatives* (EEWMA)
 - Describe benefits of each water management tool in achieving the objectives
 - Identify concerns and potential constraints/controls (assurances) for each water management tool
- Define performance standards for each water management tool and how they may change with the various water demand projections. These will be used to refine the water management strategy that can adapt to possible future needs.
- Complete the refined water management strategy (working draft through final) and provide input to the programmatic 404 agreement

Process for Stakeholder and Agency Involvement

- Convene a team of management level representatives from stakeholders (urban water users, agricultural water users, and environmental interest) and agencies (EPA and DWR) for direct oversight/management of technical work efforts. Meetings at approximately 2 week intervals beginning mid-February 1999.
- Technical work:
 - Water demand projection meetings with DWR, Reclamation, and urban, agricultural, and environmental stakeholders (approximately 3 meetings in February 1999).
 - Continuing work on the EEWMA by CALFED, DWR, and Reclamation staff, periodic (approximately monthly) stakeholder/agency workgroups, and consultants.
 - Sensitivity analysis water operation modeling by CALFED and DWR staff meet weekly beginning mid-March 1999.
 - Performance standards meetings (weekly mid-February - June 1999 and twice monthly July - September 1999) with CALFED program element teams.

Time Frame

- Define range of demand management projections by late February 1999
- Define specific water management objectives by late April 1999
- Define draft performance standards for water management tools, including initial input from EEWMA, and working draft of Water Management Strategy by May 1999 in time for the Draft EIS/R.
- Refine performance standards and input to the programmatic 404 agreement by late September 1999
- Complete draft revised Water Management Strategy late September 1999
- Finalize Water Management Strategy with Final Programmatic EIS/EIR

Refinement of Water Management Strategy Draft Generalized Process

