



Memorandum

Date: March 2, 1999

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow *Mary Ellen for*

Subject: Critical Water Transfer Program Activities and Legislative Interaction

Water Transfer Work Plan

Attached to this memo is a figure describing several work efforts that are necessary to further develop and define the Water Transfer Program. These were derived from many, but not all, of the recommendations included in the *Revised Phase II Report*. CALFED believes that focusing at this time on further refinement of these specific aspects is most important to the immediate acceptance of the Program in the eyes of the CALFED agencies and stakeholder community. Additional development on the remaining recommendations, while important to the overall success of the Program, is deferred until later this year or in Stage 1, as described in the *Report*.

The graphic lists several work efforts and shows how many of them are dependent on one-another, while others are not. Critical work efforts, the focus of the next several months, are highlighted by dotted boxes.

Legislative Interaction

Like last year, we are anticipating that several legislators will propose bills that directly or indirectly affect a statewide water market. We know that Assemblyman Machado and Senator Costa are both reintroducing bills similar to ones they sponsored last year. In addition, Senator Peace is sponsoring a bill addressing rates charged by public agencies for wheeling water transfers through their facilities.

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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At this time, CALFED is monitoring these legislative activities and has not taken a proactive role. We have provided representatives of both Machado and Costa with more specific Water Transfer Clearinghouse recommendations contained in the Water Transfer Program Plan. CALFED intends to work more actively with the Administration and the Legislature, as necessary, in the coming months to provide CALFED's insights and recommendations.

Attachment