

Comprehensive

Monitoring

Assessment &

Research

Program

March 10, 1999
Recommendations for the Implementation
and Continued Refinement
of a Comprehensive Monitoring,
Assessment and Research Program





**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

(916) 657-2666
FAX (916) 654-9780

March 8, 1999

To Interested Parties:

The enclosed report describes the initial efforts to design CALFED Bay-Delta Program's Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program (CMARP). The purpose of CMARP is to provide those facts and scientific interpretations necessary for the CALFED Program to be fully implemented and for the public to judge the program's success. The report summarizes results of a 9-month process involving 30 teams and about 300 people, and facilitated by a steering committee. The teams and steering committee were composed of people from agencies, academia, and the stakeholder community. The Interagency Ecological Program, the San Francisco Estuary Institute, and U. S. Geological Survey proposed and jointly led the effort for CALFED.

The report describes the efforts undertaken to

- Summarize CALFED goals and objectives,
- Use conceptual models in designing monitoring and research,
- Propose monitoring and focused research questions for all of the CALFED programs,
- Propose data management, assessment, and reporting, and
- Recommend organizational ingredients necessary to implement CMARP.

The report concludes by proposing refinement of the program and early implementation of high-priority program elements. Supporting the report are 50 technical appendices produced by the teams, which can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.calfed.ca.gov/programs.html> under the heading CMARP.

The report has been reviewed by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, CALFED agencies, and the public, and has been modified in response thereto. However, major issues such as prioritization of research needs, recognition of scientific uncertainty, and the role of conceptual models require significant work prior to completion of the CALFED EIS/EIR.

CALFED Agencies

California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

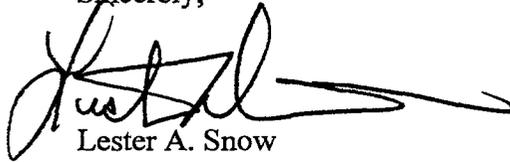
Federal
Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

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Contact persons for CMARP include Leo Winternitz (916-227-7548 or lwintern@water.ca.gov), or the co-chairs of the steering committee; Randy Brown (916-227-7531 or rbrown@water.ca.gov), Margaret Johnston (510-231-9532 or johnston@sfei.org), or Larry Smith (916-278-3195 or lhsmith@usgs.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester A. Snow", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

Enclosure