



Memorandum

Date: May 6, 1999

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow

Subject: Concurrence on Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program's (CMARP) Report

The purpose of this memo is to request your concurrence to accept the Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program (CMARP) report prepared under your direction by the San Francisco Estuary Institute, Interagency Ecological Program, and U.S. Geological Survey. Copies of the report were provided to you at the Policy Group meeting on March 10, 1999 and will be incorporated into the CALFED Programmatic EIR/EIS by reference and as an attachment to the document. The purpose of CMARP is to provide those data and scientific interpretations necessary for the CALFED Program to be fully implemented and for the public to judge the Program's success.

An early draft was circulated among agency staff in December 1998, and a public draft was distributed for review to CALFED, agency and stakeholder representatives in January 1999. The final report summarizes the results of a 9-month process involving 30 technical teams and about 300 agency staff and stakeholders, and describes the efforts undertaken to:

- Summarize CALFED goals and objectives,
- Develop a conceptual framework for CMARP,
- Propose monitoring elements and research questions for all of the CALFED programs,
- Propose data management, assessment, and reporting, and
- Recommend organizational ingredients necessary for a CMARP.

The report concludes by proposing refinement of the program and early implementation of high-priority program elements, some details of which were outlined in the Small Group meeting on May 4. Supporting the report are 43 technical appendices produced by the teams.

I request your concurrence to accept the report and to include it in the Programmatic EIR/EIS by reference and as an appendix to the document.

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