



Memorandum

Date: November 8, 1999

To: Ecosystem Roundtable Project Amendment Subcommittee

From: Wendy Halverson, Martin

Wendy Halverson Martin

Subject: Requests for Project Amendments

SUMMARY

Five projects have requested Level 1 amendments and six projects have requested Level 2 amendments. Level 1 amendments do not require Ecosystem Roundtable action, and are included for information.

Level 1 Project Amendments

Project and Proponent	Change Requested			Reason for Amendment
	Budget	Scope	Time	
Role of Contaminants in the Decline of Delta Smelt (97-C06) UC-Davis	None	None	9 months (to June 30, 2001)	Delays in contracting.
Franks Tract Restoration (97-N12) Moffat and Nichol Engineers, DPR, DWR	\$16,500 (7% increase)	Additional engineering work.	None	Need to evaluate imported material because planned local material was rejected during CEQA process.
Restoration planning (American River) (97-N05) Placer County	None	None	4 months (to Oct 31, 2000)	Additional public outreach, delays in hiring staff and consultant.
Development of a Comprehensive Plan for a Marking & Recovery Plan (99-N13) DFG	(\$1,000) (1% decrease)	None	None	Typographical error during proposal preparation.
Tyler Island Levee Habitat Restoration (97-N13) Habitat Assessment and Restoration Team	None	None	None	Adjust budget between tasks.

CALFED Agencies

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

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

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration

Six projects have requested Level 2 project amendments. These amendments require Ecosystem Roundtable action.

Level 2 Project Amendments

Project and Proponent	Change Requested			Reason for Amendment
	Budget	Scope	Time	
Evaluation of Increasing Tagging Levels for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead and a Demonstration Project on Mass Marketing (98-B15) Northwest Marine Technology Inc.	\$38,100	Evaluate a wider spectrum of values for the model's parameters.	None	To include fishing mortality rates, salmon ocean survival rates, hooking mortality rates, impacts in freshwater, etc.
Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisitions (98-F12) US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$500,000	Provide initial restoration planning.	To Dec 31, 2000	Increased land acquisition costs, restoration planning, and acquisition-related costs.
Chinook Salmon Movement in the Lower SJR and South Delta (98-C11) CA Dept of Fish and Game	None	None	12 months	Delays in obtaining equipment and staff turnover.
Woodbridge Fish Screen and Passage (98-B11) Woodbridge Irrigation District	None	None	22.5 months	Delays in obtaining environmental clearance.
Nelson Slough Wildlife Area Restoration Demonstration Project (98-F10) CA Dept of Fish and Game	(\$256,476)	Cancel project	None	Project withdrawn by proponent.
South Napa River Tidal Slough and Floodplain Restoration Project (98-F23) City of American Canyon	\$28,040 (2% increase)	None	None	Unanticipated property acquisition costs.

ACTION

Roundtable Subcommittee members and Agency Liaisons are requested to consider the Level 2 amendments consistent with the contract amendment process (attached). The level 1 amendments do not require Ecosystem Roundtable nor Agency Liaison action, and are included for information.

DISCUSSION

The contract amendment process provides for three levels of amendment depending on the nature and extent of the proposed change (budget, time, or scope). The process for these amendments is discussed on the attached page.

Project Amendments

Six projects have requested project amendments requiring Ecosystem Roundtable subcommittee action, as follows:

1. **Evaluation of Increasing Tagging Levels for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead and a Demonstration Project on Mass Marketing (Project 98-B15)**

Issue: In December 1997, CALFED approved \$625,000 for this study by Northwest Marine Technology Inc. This project has already been granted a Level 1 amendment, adding \$9500 and extending the scheduled completion by 6 months to August, 1999. They have requested an additional \$38,100 to evaluate a wider spectrum of values for the model's parameters (fishing mortality rates, salmon ocean survival rates, hooking mortality rates, impacts in freshwater, etc.) which will necessitate additional work.

This amendment was brought before the amendment subcommittee in September, and the members asked for additional consultation with California Department of Fish and Game, Environmental Defense Fund, and National Marine Fisheries Service. All three of these organizations support the proposed additional work (attached).

Staff Recommendation: This cost amendment request is widely supported and the amendment should be granted.

2. **Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisitions (98-F12)**

Issue: In August 1998, CALFED approved \$1,900,000 for the acquisition of land at the Stone Lakes NWR. This acquisition would permanently protect and restore important Delta smelt habitat, vernal pool species, and help improve the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem and the Cosumnes and Mokelumne rivers flood plains. The Fish and Wildlife Service is requesting that the agreement be amended to increase the contract amount by \$500,000 to allow for the increase in purchase price, to allow for some restoration planning, and acquisition-related costs.

Staff Recommendation: The amendment is justified due to the changing conditions during the property acquisition process. Staff recommends granting the amendment.

3. **Chinook Salmon Movement in the Lower SJR and South Delta (98-C11)**

Issue: In August 1998, CALFED approved \$285,000 for this study by the California Department of Fish and Game. They have experienced difficulty obtaining the required equipment and experienced some staff changes. They request a one-year time extension, with no change in cost or scope.

Staff Recommendation: The amendment is justified due to the unforeseen delays. Staff recommends granting the amendment.

4. Woodbridge Fish Screen and Passage (98-B11)

Issue: In August 1998, CALFED approved \$1,575,000 for this fish passage and fish screens construction project. Original schedule anticipated environmental clearance and final design occurring concurrently. Environmental clearance process requires preferred alternative selection prior to final design. Woodbridge Irrigation District is requesting a 22.5 month time extension, with no change in cost or scope.

Staff Recommendation: The amendment is justified due to the unforeseen delays. Staff recommends granting the amendment.

5. Nelson Slough Wildlife Area Restoration Demonstration (98-F10)

Issue: In August 1998, CALFED approved \$256,476 for this habitat restoration project. California Department of Fish and Game, the project sponsor, has requested that the project be canceled.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends canceling the project.

6. South Napa River Tidal Slough and Floodplain Restoration (98-F23)

Issue: In August 1998, CALFED approved \$1,455,000 for the City of American Canyon to acquire from the Port of Oakland degraded tidal wetlands adjacent to existing City-owned sewage ponds, and prepare preliminary plans to restore the properties to tidal wetlands. (Restoration will occur with CALFED project 99-B11.) During the property acquisition, unanticipated additional costs were incurred for wetlands delineation, appraisals, and environmental site assessment.

Staff Recommendation: The amendment is justified due to the unforeseen work. Staff recommends granting the amendment.