



Memorandum

Date: February 14, 2000

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Steven R. Ritchie
Acting Executive Director

Subject: Development of FY 2001 Ecosystem Restoration Program Implementation Plan

Summary

The CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program is developing the 2001 Implementation Plan which will serve as the basis of selecting projects in FY 2001. The Implementation Plan is based on the goals and twelve uncertainties contained in the Strategic Plan and is being developing with assistance from an ERP Interim Science Board. The Ecosystem Roundtable concurred with the draft Implementation Plan on February 9, 2000. BDAC will be asked to concur with the Roundtable recommendation on February 17, 2000. Attached are several pieces of information from the Ecosystem Restoration Program (see list on next page).

Background

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program began its transition to long-term implementation of the Ecosystem Restoration Program in 1999. The transition from early ecosystem restoration to long-term implementation involves moving from a very broad solicitation and implementation of ecosystem projects to an increasingly focused implementation plan moving towards implementation of the long-term Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP). The Ecosystem Restoration Plan provides the framework for implementing ecosystem restoration projects.

The first step of an annual implementation process is to define a clear annual implementation plan to serve as the basis for project selection. This year an Interim Science Board (ISB) has been convened for the purpose of defining the programmatic actions that will be included in the 2001 implementation plan. This panel consists of ten nationally recognized academic scientists representing a broad array of expertise. Program guidance provided to the scientists includes past accomplishments and status of ecosystem projects,

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

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activities of other ecosystem programs, and overall status of the ERP and other program elements. The ISB is using the 12 critical scientific uncertainties identified in the ERP Strategic Plan as a basis for the 2001 Implementation Plan. The recommendations of this panel on to the 2001 Implementation Plan will be included in the 2001 Proposal Solicitation Package.

The ISB recommendations on the 2001 implementation plan were taken to the public and the Ecosystem Roundtable at a workshop on February 9, 2000. BDAC will be asked to concur with the Roundtable recommendation and the 2001 implementation plan is now being forwarded to the CALFED Policy Group for approval.

Additional information from the Ecosystem Restoration Program is attached:

1. Terms of Reference for ERP Interim Science Board
2. ERP Interim Science Board Members
3. Agency/Stakeholder Ecosystem Team Members
4. Revised sections of 2001 Proposal Solicitation Package
5. Strategic Plan 12 Uncertainties
6. Draft Adaptive Management document from ISB
7. Information Item: Revised Scope of Work for Development of Framework for the ERP Environmental Water Program
8. Information Item: CA Public and Conservation Lands Status and Trends Report summary

Attached also for your information is a memo describing amendments recently approved on selected current Ecosystem Program projects.

Action

Policy Group is being asked to approve the 2001 Implementation Plan.

Attachments