

## November 13, 1996 PCT - Meeting Summary

Judy Kelly asked for comments on notes from October 9, 1996, PCT meeting. There were no comments.

Judy reviewed the action items beginning on page 5 of these meeting notes and any progress made:

- Discussions between EPA, the State Board, and the Corps on State Policy Development and the CALFED process - in progress.
- Need to tighten up the ranges and specifications for each component - building into the process.
- Jerry Johns was going to look at the basin plans - is a long-term process.
- Provide more guarantees to stakeholders that incentive programs will be regulated - also a long-term process.
- Develop sites for storage and conveyance - in agenda for this meeting, also mainly in Phase III.
- Link to LTMS - ongoing.
- Proposals to ecosystem groups - continue to work on.
- Coordinate with CVPIA water management plan. The CVPIA 1997 "prescription" and the long-term AFRP will CALFED information. With these in mind, CALFED will look at filling in the gaps. The CALFED plan will not replace the CVPIA plan but will support it
- Involve stakeholders in time-value of water process. Dick explained that there has been a major setback since we haven't been able to write a simple (say 5-page paper) that describes the concept. The Program is currently attempting to draft that paper. Kathy Kelly said that there also needs to be a common understanding on how the time-value of water method will be applied.

Dick Daniel provided an overview of setting ecosystem targets while considering potential synergistic benefits with levee improvements. The levee integrity group will identify levee areas needing improvement and if beneficial and feasible, habitat will be added in these areas. Part of the consideration will be ideas (M. Talbau and R. Baxter) on where Delta Smelt habitat is needed. Examples of other considerations are objectives for peat regeneration and beneficial reuse of dredged materials.

Steve Yaeger described the 6 step process for Phase II. He indicated that the Program was working on a discussion paper with examples showing level of detail that would be in draft form for the next PCT meeting.

Steve reviewed the schedule and referred to Lester's November 7, 1996, letter (in the meeting packet). Due to the higher level of interest in the workgroups and technical teams, there is also more need for outreach meetings. We will be spending more time in the first three steps in the six-step process but holding to the Fall of 1998 deadline for the final. The group discussed that there is a need for high level policy discussion on the schedule. Also, it requires a high level of agency participation to meet the time table.

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Jerry Johns discussed the State Board's concept for timing their documents with the CALFED documents. The Board will have their draft policy out at the same time as the draft EIR/EIS and the final policy at the final EIR/EIS. The group discussed this as a vehicle for the Board to sign on to the programmatic document. Other agencies need to consider developing similar methods. Also, there will likely be some document similar to that used to sign on at the end of Phase I.

Steve discussed the need for consolidated fish screening approach and criteria for 1) the smaller diversions and 2) the large diversions that may will be part of some alternatives. These are parallel efforts but they need to come together before the draft programmatic document.

Randy Brown and Darryl Hayes discussed the large screen planning. One problem is that they don't yet have all information needed for a design. They need to assume level of diversion and what species they are trying to screen. They have a list of questions that were submitted to CALFED. Dick Daniel suggested that these may be questions for the IEP. Mike Talbau mentioned that the agencies already have criteria. Darryl clarified that we don't really know how these criteria would work at a very large facility; need management goals of what we are trying to protect. The group discussed where these types of decisions may come from and concluded that some options need to be prepared.

Darryl described some of the work in progress: 1) long-term studies; 2) fish treadmill at UCD; and 3) fish pump test at Red Bluff. These won't provide hard criteria but will be good indicators. They have also done: 1) numerical model of Sacramento River from Freeport to Greens Landing - works well with DSM model; 2) looked at model runs from the old peripheral canal studies and compared with lab results - will consider increments of 10,000 cfs of river flow over tidal fluctuations, etc. - will try to narrow down by late Spring; and 3) looking at data gaps in the North Delta. Will be setting up a planning workshop on December 12th.

Darryl described that they are considering screens for the isolated and thru Delta approach; the main difference is how to handle upstream migrants. Looking at flexibility for issues such as Zebra Mussels. Darryl will talk with Stein Buer about operations.

Steve Yaeger said the main question should be "is it feasible to screen Alternatives 2 and 3"? The PCT needs to reinforce their commitment to work with Darrel since management has made this commitment.

Pete Chadwick questioned what is being assumed for the existing State and Federal export (fish facilities). BR and DWR studies are underway and CALFED is assuming these improvements are part of each alternative. However, the State and Federal studies are independent; not looking at consolidation. Pete was concerned that no-one is looking at a positive barrier fish screen at these sites. Steve said that we would come back to the PCT at the next meeting with a process for answering these questions. Dick mentioned that there was also information in the meeting packet on the need for small screen criteria.

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Ray McDowell discussed GIS issues of how to get access to some of the existing systems and ownership concerns. Ray will come back to the next PCT meeting with a more specific proposal on how to proceed.

Stein Buer discussed storage and conveyance progress. Modeling changes are being made to include South Delta facilities and the isolated facility. Have made several improvements in the post processing spreadsheet including evaporation. Will start post processing again with the recent baseline DWRSIM results. Need to start in-Delta modeling. Looking at DSM2. Looking at screening criteria to evaluate options for storage and conveyance as part of the prefeasibility engineering analysis. Stein needs input on operating rules from the PCT.

Steve added that time-value of water and potential flow ranges will help guide the discussion on operating criteria. We will get the 5 page overview of time-value of water to the PCT to consider as a concept. We also need feedback on Stein's paper from the last meeting. The stakeholders have already formed their own operating criteria group.

Dick Daniel discussed the upcoming ecosystem targets workshop. We are not developing a prescription nor are we regulating. The idea is design the habitat to make use of the water.