



Memorandum

Date: July 9, 1997
To: Program Coordination Team
From: Rick Soehren
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Subject: Water Transfers

Proposed Action

Attached are copies of two documents that have been developed in coordination with the Transfers Agency Group: a water transfers discussion paper, and a list of fundamental water transfers assumptions. At the July 15 PCT meeting we would like CALFED agency concurrence to distribute both of these documents, in draft form, to the new BDAC Water Transfers Work Group.

Background

CALFED documents related to water transfers have been in development for some time. At the March PCT meeting the first draft of a water transfers discussion paper was distributed. That draft revealed serious perception differences between stakeholders and CALFED agencies. Ensuing discussions led to the creation of a Transfers Agency Group. This group has met three times, and has directed the refinement of the discussion paper. At its last meeting, the TAG concurred with the CALFED recommendation to bring the draft discussion paper to PCT for concurrence, and then distribute it to the new Water Transfers Work Group to provide BDAC members and stakeholders with background on transfers. Please note that Section F of the paper, *Issues to Resolve in Developing an Effective Water Market*, was revised after the last TAG meeting pursuant to agency comments received. It has not received agency review in its current form. The Water Transfers Work Group will hold its initial meeting on Thursday August 7 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in Room 1131 of the Resources Building. If the discussion paper is to be distributed to Work Group participants before the meeting, we must receive PCT concurrence on July 15.

CALFED staff prepared a list of fundamental assumptions regarding water transfers policy. This document is intended to serve as a reminder of decisions that have already been made in the process (such as adoption of goals and solution principles) and to provide some direction to the development of CALFED water transfers policy. The TAG has reviewed this list of assumptions, and comments have been incorporated. Please note that assumption #1 was revised after the last TAG meeting, pursuant to comments received. It has not received agency review in its current form. Concurrence on these assumptions is requested on July 15 so this document can be distributed prior to the first Work Group meeting.

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
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service