

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement has been revised twice since the BDAC's last review and discussion held at the BDAC meeting on August 16, 1995 in Sacramento. Attachment A is the Mission Statement which was discussed at the last Council meeting. After that discussion, CALFED received several comments about the Mission Statement and it was modified and sent to you as part of the background package for the CALFED workshop on September 14th. That revision is also included here as Attachment B. This first revision reflects two primary changes to the Mission Statement. One concern expressed was that the statement needed to include the concept of "long term". CALFED staff discussed this suggestion and agreed that it was needed and the Mission Statement was modified to include that concept. The second comment, which came from several sources, was the suggestion that the Mission Statement needed to reflect a stronger commitment to ecosystem restoration. Several commentators believed that the original wording, "to improve", was not strong enough and did not adequately reflect the CALFED program mandate to craft a plan which would bring back measures of health to an ailing Bay Delta system.

After discussion by CALFED staff about this concept, the Mission Statement was revised to emphasize the commitment to "restore the health" of the Bay Delta system. At the October workshop we had a lively discussion of this phrase with several people suggesting that "restore" was an unobtainable goal and was inherently linked to recreating a system which may have existed at a point in history but is unachievable in the modern world. Several other participants strongly supported the concept of retaining the wording "restoring the health" of the system, and pointed out that to restore health does not imply returning in time, but does commit the program to correcting problems which are causing a continuing decline in the system. CALFED agrees with that interpretation of the phrase and it remains in the Mission Statement now proposed.

Another suggestion was made at the Workshop to include in the Mission Statement the concept that the CALFED Program would not transfer problems from one sector to another as part of the solution package. This is an important concept and was added to the set of Program Principles now shown as part of the Mission Statement/Objectives package.

Finally, participants at the workshop suggested wording changes to the last line of the Mission Statement to improve clarity and readability and these changes are reflected in the last revision of the Mission Statement, included here as Attachment C.

A final important note about the Mission Statement concerns the position of the *Statement in context*. As depicted in Attachment C, the Mission Statement does not stand alone as a single statement of program purpose. Rather, the Mission Statement is shown as part of the set of program objectives and program principles. The individual words of the Mission Statement are important and must reflect the basic intent of the Program. However, the full expression of program mission is reflected in the Mission Statement, Objectives and Program Principles read together. Therefore, the Mission Statement is now clearly shown as part of the whole set of program objectives.