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To	CALFED	From	Mary Selkirk		
Co./Dept.		Co.	BDAC		
Phone #	916 657-2666	Phone #	510 526-6183		
Fax #	916 654-9780	Fax #	510 527-4787		

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TO: CalFed Staff

FROM: Mary Selkirk, BDAC *Mary Selkirk*

I have attempted here to identify clusters of action categories which I believe are essential components in a long-term solution for the Bay-Delta. These categories address restoration and improved Delta management through non-physical means before consideration of additional physical solutions or facilities. These action categories address three primary areas of concern: aquatic habitat restoration, freshwater flow improvements and modification of diversion patterns. Aquatic habitat within the Delta is given priority because other means currently exist (at least for the time being) for upstream habitat restoration, e.g. CVPIA implementation. Flow enhancement is essential because the only real correlation with habitat and aquatic species improvements which we really have to go on is increased outflows. Modification of diversion patterns is given high priority for the same reason.

In addition, actions to improve water quality are of great importance, and should be considered as a core category.

Linked to these core actions are action categories which address improvement of supply reliability, e.g. establishment of groundwater and conjunctive use projects, expediting water transfers, and those actions which promote demand management. Also linked to these actions are consideration of in-Delta storage to provide greater supply reliability.

Other action categories at the next level of importance include those which address Delta wetlands and terrestrial habitat restoration, and stabilization of the levees throughout the Delta.

Other than these highest priority categories, I have not attempted to rank the rest of the list for two reasons. First, identification of four or five core action categories by all BDAC members should provide the CalFed staff with direction with regard to emerging areas of agreement. Second, I don't have the background or expertise to reliably differentiate among the myriad choices for each listed category. I hope this document will assist the staff in identifying the first cluster of core categories.