

**BDAC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION WORK GROUP**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**September 24, 1996**

The sixth meeting of the BDAC Ecosystem Restoration Work Group was held on Tuesday, September 24, 1996 at 1325 J Street from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. In attendance were:

BDAC members of the Work Group

Mary Selkirk  
Tib Belza

Lee Lehman  
Pat McCarty

Bob Raab  
Robert Meacher

Invited participants

Gary Bobker  
Pete Chadwick  
Kate Hansel  
Chuck Hanson

Susan Hatfield  
Bruce Herbold  
Jeff Jaraczski  
Pete Rhoads

Sally Shanks  
Frank Wernette  
Tom Zuckerman

CALFED Staff

Dick Daniel  
Cindy Darling  
Sharon Gross

Mary Scoonover  
Lester Snow

Rick Soehren  
Michelle Wong

Other Participants

David Bernard  
Glen Birdzell  
Robert Clark  
Gilbert Cosio  
Tim Ford  
Dan Fults

Steve Kellogg  
Marnie Kragan  
John Mills  
Joe Miyamoto  
Hari Modi  
Jim Monroe

Jeff Phipps  
Larry Puckett  
Tim Ramirez  
Greg Wang  
Alan Wilhelmy  
John Winther

Mary Selkirk began the meeting by outlining the agenda, which included further discussion on adaptive management, a presentation on examples of target setting process, and a discussion on needs for assurances. She introduced a new BDAC member, Robert Meacher, to the group.

## **Adaptive Management**

At the last BDAC Work Group meeting, Dave Wegner, from Glen Canyon Environmental Studies, made a presentation outlining the essential elements of an adaptive management program. In a letter to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, Dave Wegner summarized some suggestions for elements that may be useful in the development of our adaptive management program. Discussion focused on each of these eight elements, how the CALFED Program was incorporating these elements, and what could be done to better implement the elements.

The suggested eight elements are:

- Two specific elements/processes;
- Scientific credibility;
- Scientific information management;
- Assurances and indicators;
- The right tool for the right place;
- Communication and process;
- Linkage to other drivers; and
- Coordination with other processes

In discussing the administrative process associated with the first element, it was articulated the Program needs to address how regulatory authorities will be coordinated in a timely and effective manner. Some participants suggested that we start with tools used for the CVPIA. Dick Daniel (CALFED Program staff) suggested that the programmatic ESA Section 7 consultation that will be developed as part of the EIS/EIR and will assist in developing a comprehensive program that provides for some coordination of permitted activities.

The need for an effective monitoring and reporting mechanism was also discussed. The existing monitoring program should be evaluated to identify the research needs that drive the adaptive management program.

Dick Daniel addressed the remainder of the elements point by point. He also discussed the status of the CALFED Program as it relates to the elements.

## **Presentation on Target Setting Process**

Dick Daniel provided an overview on the definitions of goals, targets, key resources, and ecological zones. The group expressed confusion over and disagreement on the definitions; a suggestion was made to try to clarify and be more consistent in the use of terms.

As an example, Frank Wernette provided an overview of the process that is being utilized to develop targets for terrestrial species. We are currently in step three of the process, which is to review existing plans and complete estimates for goals and targets. There were questions about the definition of pre-disturbance and the reference conditions. Some participants commented that conditions used to represent pre-disturbance were not static nor pristine. Sedimentation from upstream areas was a big problem, and the conditions that shut down the commercial fisheries were similar to those that are impacting today's fisheries.

Frank showed maps that are helping development of acreage goals. He indicated that ecosystem restoration may occur outside the Delta; the goal is net improvement for resources.

### **Need for Assurances**

Mary Scoonover gave a presentation providing a preliminary assessment of assurance needs for ecosystem restoration. She indicated that assurances will be necessary to ensure that the Ecosystem Restoration Program is implemented and that long term goals are met. There will be substantial coordination between the Assurances Work Group and the Ecosystem Restoration Work Group.

### **Wrap-up**

Mary Selkirk informed the group that they will most likely meet on a monthly basis at least up to March 1997. She encouraged the group to put comments and concerns in writing. The next two meetings are scheduled for the mornings of October 24 and November 26. A future topic and/or presentation to the Ecosystem Restoration Work Group will be an examination of the exotic species issue.