

**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

(916) 657-2666
FAX (916) 654-9780

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To: BDAC Members

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program



Subject: Habitat Restoration Coordination Activities

The CALFED agencies, during the past six months, have been evaluating two important issues with respect to current ecosystem restoration activities. The first was developing a better internal coordination mechanism for existing state and federal habitat restoration programs. The primary purpose is to achieve greater ecosystem results from coordination and cooperation within existing funding sources. The second issue involves the integration of the Category III Program (the non-flow environmental improvements contained in the Bay-Delta Accord) into the other habitat restoration efforts.

Recognizing that the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and BDAC are in the process of developing a long-term vision and program to achieve restoration of ecosystem health, CALFED has proposed that such a coordination and integration effort be initially established under the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. This effort, while geared to implementation of existing programs on an on-going basis, must be developed to not only be consistent with the long-term objectives, but also to begin basic implementation of habitat programs.

In order to accomplish the type of coordination and integration necessary, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is proceeding with recruitment of a Restoration Coordinator and development of a stakeholder/ecosystem roundtable. The Coordinator will have the responsibility of working with the managers of existing restoration programs and the broad interest community to develop annual strategies to achieve the greatest benefit with existing programs. The Ecosystem Roundtable will provide vital stakeholder collaboration on the strategic and practical issues necessary for effective habitat restoration.

To further ensure proper integration of the long-term efforts into the near-term restoration strategies and practical restoration issues into the long-term program, the Ecosystem Roundtable composed of non-BDAC members is being established as a subcommittee of the Bay-Delta Advisory Council and therefore under the original Federal

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

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Advisory Committee Act charter. The chair of the Ecosystem Roundtable will be included as a member of the BDAC Ecosystem Work Group, chaired by Mary Selkirk. The attached chart depicts the initial structure of this effort

Attachment