

**BDAC Finance Work Group
Meeting Summary
May 15, 1996**

The BDAC Finance Work Group held its third meeting on May 15, 1996 in Room 1131 of the Resources Building in Sacramento, CA. BDAC members of the Work Group in attendance were Eric Hasseltine, Roberta Borgonovo, David Guy, and Tom Maddock. Ten individuals representing interested stakeholders and members of the public also attended. CALFED staff present at the meeting was Zach McReynolds. Eric Hasseltine opened the meeting with a review of the prior meeting and the agenda for the current meeting.

Zach McReynolds gave a status report on CALFED Bay-Delta Program activities, SB 900, and efforts by stakeholders to secure federal appropriations to support CALFED efforts. He also outlined the intent of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program to include a list of invited participants for each BDAC Work Group to ensure that various stakeholder interests were represented.

Discussion then turned to the staff memorandum relating to cost allocation policy development which had been distributed to BDAC work group members prior to the meeting. The focus of the memorandum was on the ability and advisability of attempting to assign responsibility for the problems in the Delta to specific parties. The memo suggested that unless clear responsibility could be assigned with minimal effort, any attempts to assign blame may not be productive. Zach McReynolds explained that there was no intent on the part of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program to undertake an effort to assign responsibility for Delta issues to any one group for the basis of cost allocation.

The group discussed the issue at length, and Roberta Borgonovo indicated that since diverters clearly caused some of the problems that currently exist, they should be responsible for paying for some portion of the ecosystem restoration necessary to fix the problem. Tom Maddock replied that determining the exact portion of the problems caused by current diverters, as opposed to other contributing historical factors and causes, was very difficult or even impossible.

Several examples were discussed including point-source pollution, fish screens, exotic species, etc., as a way of shedding light on these issues and providing further clarification.

The group concluded that an abstract philosophical discussion was unlikely to produce any further clarity, and requested staff to prepare a specific example to enable more detailed discussion and understanding of the issues. Following this discussion the meeting was adjourned.