

Summary of Programmatic Approach & Level of Detail **Water Use Efficiency Component**

The Bay-Delta System provides the water supply for a wide range of instream, riparian, urban, agricultural and other beneficial uses. Water use and competition among uses with respect to the timing and amount of water available have increased over the past several decades. Improving how this water is locally managed and the efficiency of its use is an important way to reduce the mismatch between the available water supply and the combined demands for that water. At the programmatic level, the Water Use Efficiency component will focus on facilitating improvements in local water use management and efficiency for urban, agricultural and diverted environmental water uses.

Program Level Actions - Level of Detail

The Water Use Efficiency component is intended to provide an approach which will facilitate improvements in local water use management and efficiency at the local level in the CALFED problem and solution areas. Its function is to provide a direction rather than a prescription for future actions. The Water Use Efficiency component is being developed with assistance from agency and stakeholder representatives through a BDAC Water Use Efficiency Work Group. The actions recommended within the Water Use Efficiency component will focus on providing financial, technical, and planning support measures to local water agencies to facilitate the implementation of water use efficiency measures which are cost effective and implementable. The Water Use Efficiency component is not intended to be specific as to project locations, sizes, volumes, or specific actions.

The following are examples of a CALFED Water Use Efficiency component program level action, an action which is too general to provide sufficient information, and a project level action which is too specific for the programmatic evaluation.

CALFED Program Level Action

Provide sufficient technical assistance to local urban water suppliers within the CALFED problem and solution areas, for the design and implementation of urban water conservation measures so that the lack of technical assistance is not an impediment to implementation.

Too General:

Provide technical assistance for urban water conservation.

Project Level Action - Too Specific:

Provide two staff positions to the City of Sacramento to support urban water conservation.

Programmatic Impact Analysis

The assessment process and programmatic impact analysis for the Water Use Efficiency component will be used to estimate and discuss changes in urban, agricultural and diverted environmental water use efficiency, distinguish the relative differences between the alternatives, and identify adverse and beneficial impacts for each of the alternatives when compared to the No Action Alternative and existing conditions.

The programmatic impact analysis for urban, agricultural and diverted environmental water use efficiency will be based on changes in local water use management and efficiency which result from implementation of the CALFED Water Use Efficiency component. The programmatic impact analysis will evaluate a reasonable range of possible policies and approaches to facilitate improvements in local water use management and efficiency, the associated water use efficiency measures, and the degree to which they might be implemented as a result of the potential CALFED policies. For example, changes in local water use efficiency measures, resulting from implementation of a CALFED water use efficiency policy would be determined by the difference in the assumed volume of water conserved as a result of the CALFED action as compared to the current or No Action level of water conservation.

Presentation of Results

Results from the programmatic impact analysis will be presented in both the Technical Reports for each resource category and the Programmatic EIR/EIS. The Technical Reports will be used to display the detailed results of the programmatic impact analysis. These results will be summarized, and the summaries will be presented in the Programmatic EIR/EIS.

Technical Reports

The Technical Reports will identify differences between the Preferred Program and each of the alternatives when compared to the No Action Alternative and existing conditions. These Technical Reports will contain information on the specific assessment methods used, the criteria used for determining significance, presentation of direct and indirect adverse and beneficial impacts, identification of potentially significant impacts, associated mitigation strategies for addressing significant impacts, and identification of potential significant unavoidable impacts.

Programmatic EIR/EIS

Results from the programmatic impact analysis will be summarized in the Programmatic EIR/EIS. When presenting results in the Programmatic EIR/EIS, emphasis will be placed on identifying the differences between the alternatives. Programmatic impact analysis is not intended to provide specific quantities or numbers relative to changes in resource categories, level of impact or mitigation strategies. An effort will be made to present results in a tabular format for easy comparison, and establish the potential relative magnitude of change within each

resource category such as a high, medium or low level of improvement when comparing the preferred program and each of the alternatives.

Summarized results from the programmatic impact analysis presented in the Programmatic EIR/EIS will be used to:

- Evaluate how well the preferred and alternative programs meet the Program goals and objectives, conform with the Program's solution principles and achieve short and long-term acceptability; and
- Identify potential improvements or degradation within each resource category for the preferred and alternative programs.