

Diversion Effects on Fisheries

Memorandum

Date: July 7, 1998

To: BDAC Members

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



Subject: Diversion Effects on Fish - Draft Impacts and Issues Report

The attached Diversion Effects on Fish Team (DEFT) Draft report addresses the technical issues related to diversion impacts on fisheries for each of the CALFED alternatives. The primary issues addressed are:

- Which species, populations, and life stages are most sensitive to diversion effects under no action and alternatives 1, 2, and 3?
- What degree of benefit and impact will the common programs provide?
- What is the risk and chances of success of species recovery for each alternative?

To evaluate these issues, species teams were formed for salmon, striped bass, and delta smelt. These species were chosen because they represent a range of exposure periods and they are the objects of numerous management and regulatory concerns. The species teams developed matrixes on the effects of a set of impact parameters on the life stages of each species by month for each alternative. The report summarizes the process, assumptions, modeling studies, information used, professional judgement and the conclusions reached by the teams.

At the BDAC meeting, Ron Ott, from the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, will provide an overview of the report and an update on next steps.

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
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service