



Memorandum

Date: March 10, 1999

To: BDAC Members

From: Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

Subject: CALFED's Proposal Solicitation Process

CALFED recently released a Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) which will award a maximum of \$18,700,000 under seven topic areas. Proposals under this PSP must be received by the CALFED office no later than 3:00 p.m. on April 16, 1999. Currently, Technical Review Panels are being developed to review proposals. Attached is a description of the evaluation/selection process.

Concerns have been raised about local coordination and notification of local entities. In response to this, the following requirements have been incorporated into the PSP:

- All applicants must provide a copy of a letter notifying the local County Board of Supervisors and Planning Department of their intent to submit a proposal for a project located in their county.
- As applicable, applicants will also notify either the Delta Protection Commission or the Bay Area Conservation and Development Commission.
- CALFED will notify the affected counties of the proposals being considered for funding after the close of the confidentiality period.
- Successful applicants will be required to prepare a plan which indicates how the public, adjoining property owners and local governments will be informed or be allowed to participate in the project planning and development.
- Projects proposed on private property or which require access of private property owned by someone other than the applicant must include written permission from the property owner.

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

Local involvement is a criteria for every proposal and project applications should be developed with support of local groups and participation of affected parties.

If you have questions, please contact Wendy Halverson Martin, Restoration Coordinator, at (916) 657-2666.

1999 Proposal Solicitation Package Evaluation/Selection Process

Proposals will be reviewed using a two-step technical evaluation process. First, seven Technical Review Panels (TRPs) made up of State, Federal and non-agency representatives are being formed to evaluate and score proposals submitted under each of the seven Topic sections. Technical Review Panels may include both local and non-local experts. The role of the Technical Review Panels (TRPs) is to evaluate and score each of the proposals on its effectiveness and ability to achieve its stated goals. The panels will use the criteria described in the Proposal Solicitation Package to evaluate and score proposals.

The second part of the evaluation process involves the 1999 Integration Panel, which is comprised of State and Federal agency technical staff and non-agency technical representatives as well as individuals involved from other funding sources such as the Central Valley Project Improvement Act. Status of ongoing restoration activities and information from the Ecosystem Restoration Program are used as basic information in the Integration Panel review process. The Integration Panel evaluates proposals based on CALFED's comprehensive goals for ecosystem restoration, taking into consideration the proposals' ability to meet the funding priorities and implementation guidelines, the system-wide ecosystem benefits of the proposal, and compatibility with non-ecosystem CALFED objectives. The Integration Panel may place conditions on its recommendation for funding of a specific project. These conditions may include requirements for additional clarification or further explanation of certain aspects of the project. An Integration Panel member list is attached.

Review Schedule

Technical review will occur in late April and May with Integration Panel meetings in early June of 1999. The Integration Panel will forward preliminary recommendations for funding to the Ecosystem Roundtable on June 16, and CALFED Policy Group on June 17. At this time, all submitted proposals and evaluation scores become public information. The CALFED member agencies, acting through the CALFED Policy Group, will make final funding recommendations to the Secretary for Resources and the Secretary of Interior on June 17. It is anticipated that final funding decisions will be made by July, 1999.