

**BDAC Ecosystem Restoration Work Group
Draft Meeting Summary
January 26, 1999**

The BDAC Ecosystem Restoration Work Group was held on Tuesday, January 26, 1999 at the Resources Building in Room 715 from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Scientific Review Panel Workshop

CALFED staff presented a proposal to reconvene the Scientific Review Panel in 1999 to review the Strategic Plan, the CMARP report, indicators, and the 1999 ERP work plan. Work Group participants thought that too little work had been accomplished to warrant reconvening the panel. Participants suggested that email briefings or other less formal means of communication should be used to keep the panelists involved in CALFED. A more appropriate review of the ERP would be a workshop with CALFED staff, the Core Team and Tier II scientists (Technical Advisors to the Scientific Review Panel) to integrate the ERP, CMARP, DEFT actions, ecosystem water quality actions, and other related efforts. The objective of the workshop would be to identify a scientifically defensible process to prioritize restoration actions and develop adaptive management restoration strategies. CALFED staff agreed that the Scientific Review Panel would be postponed and that a workshop this Spring is a good idea (Decision to host the workshop has been deferred following the outcome and recommendations of the joint Watershed/Ecosystem Restoration Work Group meeting on April 16.).

CMARP Update

Leo Winternitz provided a brief update on the Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment and Research Program (CMARP). The January 15 draft CMARP report has been released for review and comments are due February 12. The report is available in hard copy and on the CALFED web site.

Next Steps for the ERWG

Eugenia Laychak presented the results of a study she and Mary Selkirk conducted on the effectiveness of BDAC and its work groups. Based on interviews of CALFED staff, BDAC members and work group participants, Mary and Eugenia recommended that the ERWG be retired after the ERWG finished planning for the Spring Scientific Review Panel workshop. The Work Group Chair, Roberta Borgonovo, expressed concern that the other BDAC work groups such as Finance and Governance did not have a broad enough perspective on ecosystem restoration issues. She recommended that the ERWG continue to meet as needed to discuss policy issues related to ecosystem restoration. Participants at the meeting also agreed that the work group should not be retired, but should meet less frequently than in the past.



March 23, 1999
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Work Group Recommendations

- *The ERWG should not be retired and that it should meet on an as needed basis to help CALFED address ecosystem-related policy issues.*
- *The ERWG should have joint meetings with the Watershed Work Group and the Governance Work Group.*
- *A small working group of ERWG participants should meet to advise CALFED on refinement of the Strategic Plan, tasks for Tier 1 scientists, convening a Tier 2 advisory group, integration of ERP with DEFT, Conservation Strategy, Watershed Program, CMARP, etc., and the Spring workshop.*
- *CALFED should not host a Scientific Review Panel workshop this Spring. However, the panelists should stay involved in CALFED through email briefings or other less formal means.*
- *CALFED should host a Spring workshop with the Core Team and Tier II advisors to discuss the integration of the ERP, CMARP, DEFT actions, ecosystem water quality actions, and other related efforts.*

Next Meeting

A joint Watershed Work Group/Ecosystem Restoration Work Group meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 16. The focus of the meeting is to discuss the proposed scientific workshops and regional planning meetings to help prioritize and plan implementation of ERP actions.