



Memorandum

Date: September 10, 1997
To: BDAC Water Transfers Work Group
From: Rick Soehren *RS*
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Subject: September 17 Meeting of the Water Transfers Work Group

The first meeting of the Water Transfers Work Group in August was both constructive and productive, setting the tone for a work group process that will provide CALFED with valuable policy guidance. Participants at the first meeting helped to focus attention on the most pressing policy issues we must work to resolve. Clearly, the issues of greatest concern are avoiding or mitigating third party impacts associated with transfers, and protecting and managing groundwater resources during transfers. Potential cumulative impacts of transfers are also of great concern. The efforts of CALFED staff over the last month have focused on providing work group participants with the information and support necessary to address these issues.

The next meeting of the Water Transfers Work Group will be held on Wednesday September 17, 1997 from 9:00 am to noon in Room 203 of the Sacramento Convention Center, at 1300 J Street in Sacramento. Several documents are enclosed to provide background and help you prepare for this meeting:

1. **An agenda for the meeting.** This is revised very slightly from the meeting notice distributed earlier, and covers the same topics.
2. **A memo that proposes categorization and prioritization of transfers issues.** These are the same issues identified in the draft discussion paper distributed prior to the first work group meeting
3. **Two issue papers discussing third party impacts and protection of groundwater resources.** These short papers are intended to provide the group with some common understanding of the issues in order to facilitate discussion. Ordinarily, we would seek review and concurrence among CALFED agencies before we distributed draft documents such as these. To facilitate timely work by the work group, we are distributing these papers

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

before full review by CALFED agencies. Please consider the papers to be initial drafts that do not necessarily reflect the views of all the CALFED agencies.

4. ***West-Northwest Law Journal Special Issue on the Model Water Transfer Act.*** Copies are being sent to BDAC members. Others who receive this meeting package may purchase a copy from Hastings College of the Law (ordering information is included) or may review a copy at the CALFED Bay-Delta Program office.
5. **Analyses of the Model Water Transfer Act.** Two analyses of the Act provided by BDAC members are enclosed.
6. **August 7, 1997 Water Transfers Work Group Meeting Summary.**

Enclosures