

DRAFT

Example Stage 1 Implementation

(Approximately First 7+ Years of Implementation)

Stage 1 is defined as the period extending from certification of the programmatic EIS/EIR to just prior to making a decision whether or not to issue permits for the major storage and conveyance facilities. Agreement on Stage 1 actions is only one part of the decision for a preferred program alternative.

The following provide more detail on potential actions for Stage 1. The list of actions is intended as a starting point for discussions on potential Stage 1 implementation and will be frequently refined and updated with input from CALFED agencies and stakeholders. These actions will be more fully developed as parts of the preferred program alternative for the *Revised Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR* in late 1998 and for the *Final Programmatic EIS/EIR* in late 1999.

Each potential action in the following Stage 1 list includes an estimate (in parenthesis) of when the action may occur within Stage 1. For example, "(yr 1)" indicates the action will occur in the first year following certification of the EIS/EIR. *(NOTE: The actions that appear to be key to the Stage 1 implementation are shown in bold.)*

Water Transfer Framework

The water transfer framework is designed to improve the efficiency of the water transfer process. This will facilitate development of a statewide water transfer market while providing protection from third party impacts and local groundwater or environmental impacts. This element will propose a policy framework for water transfer rules, baseline data collection, public disclosure, and analysis and monitoring of water transfers, both short- and long-term. The first stage implements the processes which will continue in subsequent stages.

- **Establish clearinghouse to ensure public participation and disclose information, perform analysis of transfer impacts, and evaluate monitoring of actual transfer impacts (yr 1)**
- Continue clearinghouse functions to provide information on environmental, economic and water resource protections (yr 2-7); e.g., third party impacts, groundwater resource protection, instream flow [1707] transfers, environmental protection in source areas, area of origin/watershed priorities, and rules/guidelines for environmental water transfers
- **Establish technical, operational, and administrative rules that govern water transfer transactions (yr 1-4); e.g., transferable water and the "no injury rule", operations criteria and/or carriage water requirements, reservoir refill criteria, and streamlined permitting process**
- Establish disclosure process that provides information regarding potential access to state and federal water facilities for movement of water transfers (yr 2); e.g. priority of transferred water in existing project facilities, priority of transferred water in new facilities, wheeling costs