

### *Outline of Five Year Ecosystem Restoration Work Plan*

At the December Ecosystem Roundtable meeting, we reviewed a draft outline of the Five Year Ecosystem Restoration Work Plan to better understand the proposed mission and planning process. Based on the comments at that meeting, it has been revised. The outline identifies the types of information to be included and the types of recommendations that will be presented to the Ecosystem Roundtable for their input.

#### I. Introduction

The purpose of this Work Plan is to develop restoration actions in the Bay-Delta ecosystem over the next three to five years. This Work Plan identifies specific actions and how they will be accomplished in achieving the goals of several existing planning efforts including the Central Valley Project Improvement Act and the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan. It also includes a summary of the goals of those various efforts and how they compliment each other.

The Work Plan also includes:

- a set of near term strategic priorities and guidance on how resources should be allocated among those priorities,
- a summary of the limiting factors or problems that need to be addressed to achieve these priorities,
- actions that need to be undertaken to further define and address the limiting factors, and
- recommendations on implementation of those actions including schedule and funding.

#### II. Goals and Tools

This section will include the summary statements about the goals of the major restoration programs. It will also include summary statements about the financial, statutory authorizations, and regulatory tools associated with the Program.

#### III. Implementation Strategy to Identify Near Term Priorities

This section, which was discussed at the December and January Ecosystem Roundtable meetings and is being considered for adoption at the February meeting, identifies the priority species, habitat types, and ecosystem processes. It also describes how and why these priorities were identified and how they achieve the goals of the major restoration programs.

#### IV: Identification of Actions

Using the technical teams, the following information will be developed for the priority species and habitat types. This information, along with any policy concerns, will be presented to the Ecosystem Roundtable at the March and April meetings.

**1. *Discussion of physical and ecosystem processes, limiting factors and stressors that need to be addressed for priority species and habitat types.***

This discussion will include the relative importance of the limiting factor or problem, the degree of consensus in the technical community on its importance, and any important areas of uncertainty. It is expected that there will be some technical disagreement on the relative importance of some problems or limiting factors.

**2. *Actions that need to be undertaken to address the limiting factors.***

This section will identify the actions that technical experts believe can best address each limiting factor or problem. Once again, there may not always be complete consensus on the actions or on the relative importance of actions. If there is no consensus, then additional applied research may be needed. If there is some agreement but not complete consensus, then actions can be implemented as pilot efforts that are closely monitored as part of adaptive management. If there is consensus, then we can just do it.

Each action will include a discussion of the potential for multiple benefits to other species, habitats, or ecosystem processes. The benefits of these synergistic effects can be recognized by assigning a higher priority to those actions that provide them.

**3. *Recommendations on implementation of those actions including schedule and funding.***

In this section, the action can be divided into appropriate phases including:

- conceptual development,
- feasibility and options analysis,
- design and permitting,
- construction or implementation, and
- monitoring.

The costs for each of these phases can be estimated and the cost-share partners identified.