

**BDAC Ecosystem Roundtable Meeting
June 13, 1997**

Roundtable Members in Attendance

Gary Bobker (TBI)
Amy Fowler (SCVWD)
Bill Gaines (Cal. Waterfowl Assoc.)
Greg Gartrell (CCWD)
Jackie McCourt (Sierra Club)
John Mills (RCRC)
Hari Modi (NCPA)
Jason Peltier (CVPWA)
Tim Quinn (MWD)
Allen Short (MID)
David Yardas (EDF)
Tom Zuckerman (CDWA)

Liaisons in Attendance

Marc Luesebrink (Resources Agency)
Joel Medlin (USFWS)
Karen Schwinn (US EPA)

Action Items and Decisions

1. The Roundtable requested a briefing on the State and Federal flood management program from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the July 11 meeting.
2. The Roundtable would like to serve an advisory role to the multi-agency, long-term flood management program.
3. CALFED staff will work with legal counsel to identify how the Roundtable role in the evaluation and selection process can be maximized and report back at next Roundtable meeting.
4. Comments on the factors to be used by the Integration Panel, listed on page 12 of the RFP, should be provided to Kate Hansel.
5. CALFED staff will ask legal counsel if Roundtable members can serve on the Integration Panel.
6. Names of candidate Integration and Technical Review Panel members should be suggested to Kate Hansel as soon as possible.
7. The Roundtable requests a USACE liaison.
8. At the next meeting, the Roundtable wants to discuss its role and activities over the next 6-12 months.

Future meetings of the Roundtable are as follows:

Friday, July 11: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 13: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday, September 12
Friday, October 10
Friday, November 14
Friday, December 12

Draft Meeting Summary

The meeting began at 9:45 a.m. with introductions.

Amy Fowler of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) announced that the SCVWD Board of Directors has approved a \$500,000 contribution toward Category III matching funds. SCVWD requests that CALFED and other Category III efforts give more emphasis to the San Francisco Bay.

Jeff Phipps (CVPIA Restoration Fund Roundtable) has joined the Restoration Coordination staff while Cindy Darling is on maternity leave. Cindy and Gary Darling had a baby girl on June 9th--Rose Darling.

Federal and State Flood Update

Patrick Wright of Club FED presented the update regarding the state and federal Interagency Task Force on the 1996 floods. He stated that one of the principles of the multi-agency flood management program is to examine nonstructural flood management practices consistent with the Restoration Coordination Program and the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan of CALFED.

Steve Yaeger (CALFED Program staff) described CALFED's role in identifying priority projects for Phase III of the flood management program. CALFED reviews the Interagency Task Force list of levee repair proposals and recommends nonstructural alternatives consistent with CALFED objectives. He provided an overview of three priority non-structural opportunities.

The public has an opportunity to comment on the flood management program at two public meetings and by sending comments to the Interagency Task Force.

Roundtable comments included:

- The Roundtable would like to take a more proactive role in providing input into the process and in evaluating the types of nonstructural management practices.
- The Roundtable requested the USACE give an overview presentation on the flood management program.

Update on the RFP Status

Jason Peltier noted that the RFP has been released and that the Roundtable has provided advice on many components of the RFP.

RFP Schedule:

- June 13, 1997 - RFP released
- July 3, 1997 - public workshop
- July 28, 1997 - deadline for receipt of proposals
- August - Panels review proposals.
- September - decision on formal proposals

Proposal Evaluation and Selection Process

Jeff Phipps described the proposal evaluation and selection process from Attachment 3. CALFED program staff will first screen proposals for minimum RFP requirements. Technical Review Panels will evaluate proposals, interview applicants if necessary, and then score proposals based on the seven criteria in the RFP. The Integration Panel is responsible for identifying the relative priority of the species, habitats, and stressors (listed in the RFP) based on the benefits to the Bay-Delta ecosystem, and then recommending which proposals be selected to support those priorities (based on the scores from the technical review panels)

The recommendations from the Integration Panel will be provided to the Roundtable for advise and input, however, based on advice from legal counsel it appears the information provided to the Roundtable can not include scores and individual proposal information. The role of the Roundtable in the evaluation and selection process was discussed at length. Some Roundtable members were concerned that their role was significantly reduced from what had been anticipated earlier in the program. CALFED staff stated the problems related to publicly releasing and discussing individual proposals and scores midway in the selection process. CALFED staff will continue to work with legal counsel to clarify and maximize the Roundtable role in the evaluation and selection process.

In addition to the Roundtable input provided to prepare the RFP, at a minimum opportunities for Roundtable input into the process include providing comments on the factors used by the Integration Panel in their selection, and providing names of potential panel members for both the Integration Panel and the technical review panels.

Technical Review Panels

Jeff Phipps provided an overview of the Technical Review Panels described in Attachment 2 of the June 13 packet. The Roundtable was asked to provide suggestions for candidates for the Technical Review Panels.

Comments included:

- Attachment 2 of meeting packet: (1) Technical Review Panels; Member Qualifications, add “diversity of technical and implementation skills;” (2) Technical Review Panels; Panel Focus Areas; A, add “entrainment/straying; barriers; and gravel.” (3) Integration Panel; Member Qualifications, add “at least one member should have” knowledge of other funding sources.
- The Umbrella Team could be used as the Integration Panel, with additions as needed.

Administration of Grants and Contracts

Kate Hansel provided an overview of the Category III contractors and funding sources. National Fish and Wildlife, CALFED/Resources Agency, and EPA will each be preparing contracts as a result of this RFP.

Roundtable comments:

- Contracting by three separate agencies is inefficient in the long-term.

Restoration Coordination Activities

Due to time constraints this issue was briefly discussed. Staff summarized recent meetings and discussions with CVPIA and the SWRCB. The Roundtable suggested that there be a USACE liaison to the Roundtable to coordinate Phase III and IV of the flood management program.

Next Steps--Looking ahead at the next 6-12 months

Due to time constraints this issue was briefly discussed and postponed off until the next meeting. Jason Peltier provided a handout summarizing some of his concerns about the activities of the Restoration Coordination Program and Roundtable. The handout primarily focused on the need to expand the coordination role of the program and the Roundtable, and possible ideas for meeting that need. The Roundtable also suggested the need to discuss the experiences from the first RFP cycle process to plan for future RFP cycles, and the schedule for future funding cycles.