

Meeting Summary
Ecosystem Roundtable Meeting
September 12, 1997

Roundtable Members in Attendance

Bill Gaines (CWA)
Gary Bobker (EDF)
Greg Gartrell(CCWD)
Tom Zuckerman (CDWA)
Dave Yardas EDF)
Allen Short (MID)
Jeff Jaraczski (NCWA)
Zeke Grader (PCFFA)
Amy Fowler (SCVWD)
Laurel Ames (SNA)
Tim Quinn (MWDSC)

Agency Liaisons in Attendance

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

Action Items and Recommendations

1. CVPIA -- Roundtable wants the Integration Panel to have an opportunity to comment on the CVPIA Work plans for FY 98 prior to the USFWS finalizing the plans.

2. Next Steps--the Roundtable formed a small working group to focus on the issues regarding how to conduct the planning and selection process in the future, how to improve coordination with other funding sources, how to develop a tracking and reporting process for proposals funded in the current funding cycle. Meeting date set for October 12, 1997.

3. Integration Panel Observer-- The Roundtable wanted an independent observer from the Roundtable to attend the Integration Panel meetings. Kate indicated that she would work with CALFED management and the AG's Office to try to meet the concerns of the Roundtable for an observer.

4. Interviewing applicants--the Roundtable encouraged CALFED to interview applicants before making final selection and finalizing contracts

Next Meeting Dates

October 10-- workgroup meeting
October 28--Roundtable meeting
November 14--Roundtable meeting
December 12--Roundtable meeting

Restoration Coordination

Jim McKeivitt (USFWS) provided an update on the coordination of Category III and CVPIA. The FY 98 Annual Work plans will be available for review next week and the Integration Panel will be provided copies for review.

The Five year plan and budget should also be released in a week, this plan will be updated yearly. Next year staff from both CALFED and CVPIA agencies will work to expand coordination of the programs.

John Ladd (SWRCB) reported on Proposition 204 Delta Tributary Watershed Program and the RFP recently distributed. The program has \$14.5 million in funding and the deadline for proposals is 1/9/98. Other features of the RFP include, 120 days to approve proposals, cap of \$1 million per proposal, mine clean-up proposals are eligible for funding, their evaluation process relies on experts, committees, and a local stakeholders advisory group. CALFED staff will work with the Resources Agency in review of the proposals received in January to coordinate funding and selection of proposals.

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

The Roundtable discussed the concerns over the current process and need for changes in the next funding cycle. A small working group was formed to further discuss and refine the issues to be addressed. Some of the key concerns were over :

- The need for accountability and reporting for the projects funded
- Increased efforts for restoration coordination with other funding programs
- A more open process and less constraining process

Category III RFP Evaluation and Selection Process

Kate Hansel described the proposals received by type of applicant and type of proposal. She provided an update on the evaluation and selection process and time line. Roundtable members encouraged the TRP members and Integration Panel members to disclose any close associations they may have related to proposals and to recuse themselves from scoring or voting in those cases. The Roundtable was asked if they had any additional guidance to provide to the Integration Panel regarding priorities and allocation of the funding. The Roundtable recommended the funding be distributed among all the RFP species but no percent requirement was suggested.