

Ecosystem Roundtable Informational Staff Report

Date: July 26, 1999

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Topic: Contract Amendment Subcommittee of Roundtable Meeting

Background: On July 22, 1999, the contract amendment subcommittee of the Ecosystem Roundtable and the CALFED agency liaisons met in a public meeting to discuss twenty projects that had requested Level I amendments and eight projects that had requested Level II amendments. The details of the proposed project amendments are included in the attached memorandum to the Ecosystem Roundtable Project Amendment Subcommittee.

Status: The twenty Level I project amendments have been reviewed by the appropriate contracting agency staff, after consultation with CALFED staff, and were found reasonable and they were approved. They are presented here for information.

The eight Level II project amendments were reviewed by the Amendment Subcommittee. Two projects, Grayson River Ranch and Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisition, lacked information, and will be considered at a future Amendment Subcommittee meeting. Five amendments were recommended for approval by the Agency Liaisons. One project, Liberty Island Acquisition, was approved with the provision that CALFED would set aside \$600,000 for operation and maintenance during the interim period that The Trust for Public Lands holds the property (up to three years). Once the Fish and Wildlife Service takes possession of the property, it will assume responsibility for operation and maintenance and the unused CALFED funds will revert back to CALFED for assignment for other projects.

Project and Proponent	Change Requested			Reason for Amendment	Subcommittee Action
	Budget	Scope	Time		
Evaluation of Selenium Sources, Levels, and Consequences in the Delta (98-B07) US Geological Survey	\$38,117 (2.4% increase)	None	None	USGS administrative charges for subcontracting with three universities.	Recommended for Approval.
Grayson River Ranch Perpetual Easement and Restoration (98-F07) East Stanislaus Resources Conservation District	None	Acquire additional easements in same area	None	Greater than anticipated funding provided by AFRP and favorable easement acquisition costs.	Tabled for two months pending additional information.
San Joaquin River NWR Riparian Habitat Protection and Floodplain Restoration Project (97-B04) US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$300,000 (2.8% increase)	Allow Riley Slough flood plain corridor to be purchased in fee or easement.	To March 2000 (20 months)	Greater than anticipated site clean-up costs, costs of NEPA requirements and land acquisition negotiations, and planning, appraisal, title policy, survey and administrative costs.	Recommended for Approval.
Liberty Island Acquisition (97-B03) US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$179,000 (2.0% increase; cumulative \$349,000 increase, 3.9%)	Add Trust for Public Land and other scope increase	To Dec 1999 (2 months, cumulative 8 months)	Additional work identified in public planning process, contaminants report, survey, dual closing and title costs, a federally-mandated non-profit audit, direct salary and benefit costs for Trust for Public Land and Service associated with the acquisition.	Recommended for Approval, subject to conditions.

Project and Proponent	Change Requested			Reason for Amendment	Subcommittee Action
	Budget	Scope	Time		
Engineering Investigation of Anadromous Fish Passage in Upper Battle Creek (98-B16 & 97-M02) CA Department of Water Resources	None	Change map datum, collect additional survey data and perform final design at certain fish screens and ladders.	To June 2001	Due to recent decisions made on the overall restoration plan for Battle Creek	Recommended for Approval.
Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisitions (98-F12) US Fish and Wildlife Service	None	Allow the Service the flexibility to acquire either of two parcels in proposal.	To March 2000	Landowner of selected parcel subsequently entered into agreement to sell parcel as a mitigation bank.	Tabled for two months pending additional information.
Stanislaus River Chinook Salmon Habitat Restoration Action, Wilms Site (97-C10 & 98-F05) CA Department of Fish and Game	(\$1,037,899) & (\$1,037,899)	Cancel project	None	Project stopped by lack of access to property.	Recommended for Approval.
Virtual Science Center (98-B37) Delta Science Center	(\$42,000)	Cancel project	None	Applicant failed to complete federal contracting requirements.	Recommended for Approval.

These twenty-six projects with amendments recommended for approval have a net dollar change of -\$1,588,325, or -4.9% of the previously approved project funding.

For additional information on this topic, please contact Peter Jacobsen at (916) 653-3790 or Wendy Halverson Martin at (916) 653-5950.