

# Ecosystem Roundtable Informational Staff Report

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**Date:** October 29, 1999

**Prepared by:** Lauren Hastings  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
Restoration Coordination Team

**Topic:** Membership list of the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) for the Delta Dredging and Reuse Strategy, CALFED Proposition 204 funded study 98-C09.

**Background:** The California Department of Fish and Game, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, and Delta Protection Commission (DPC) were awarded contracts to develop a Delta Dredge Reuse Strategy (DDRS). The DDRS will include a permitting process for dredge projects that is protective of water quality, levee structural integrity, and fish and wildlife resources in the Delta. A Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) facilitated and administered by the DPC will guide and oversee the development of the DDRS.

**Status:** Attached is the final TAP membership list as selected by the DPC and approved by CALFED.

For additional information on this topic, please contact Lauren Hastings at (916) 653-4647 or Wendy Halverson Martin at (916) 653-5950.

## **Delta Dredging and Reuse Study: TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL**

### **Department of Fish and Game:**

John Turner, Assistant Chief, Scientific Division, Office of Spill Prevention and Response

*Mr. Turner has 26 years of experience with the Department of Fish and Game, working primarily in the areas of environmental chemistry, water quality, environmental pollution, and their effects on fish and wildlife. Prior to his present position, he was Chief of the Environmental Services Division of the Department of Fish and Game.*

Alternate: Brian Finlayson, Chief, Pesticide Investigations Unit

*Mr. Finlayson has been employed by both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Geological Survey prior to working 20 plus years with the Department of Fish and Game. His interests included assessing the impacts of pesticides, metals, and other contaminants on fish and wildlife and developing mitigation measures to reduce impacts. He has been involved with test method and criteria assessment development for the American Society for Testing and Materials, American Fisheries Society, and American Public Health Association, and has published papers in the scientific and general literature.*

### **Department of Water Resources:**

Robert Yeadon, Senior Engineer, Central District

*Mr. Yeadon has a background in fisheries biology and over 20 years experience in water and water resources related projects. He previously worked at the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board writing waste discharge requirements and NPDES permits for the Regional Board. In addition, he worked in the Regulatory Section of the Department responsible for surface water issues in the lower Sacramento River watershed.*

### **Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board:**

J. Thomas King, Environmental Specialist

*Mr. King has a BA in Biological Science from California State University, Sacramento. He previously supervised water quality and bacteriological departments at a commercial laboratory for four years. He also conducted terrestrial and aquatic biological surveys and ecological research for the Department of Fish and Game for seven years. He is currently employed as an environmental specialist for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.*

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:**

Dave LeCruex, District Environmental Compliance Coordinator

*Mr. LeCruex has a BS in Environmental Engineering and a MS in Civil Engineering, specializing in water quality. His previous assignment in the Corps was physical scientist preparing environmental analysis of military base closures. His current position includes responsibility for environmental compliance for Corps water resource projects.*

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:**

Steven Schwarzbach, Contaminants Branch

*Note: Mr. Schwarzbach's bio will be submitted when obtained.*

**Delta Protection Commission:**

Steve Mello, Vice Chair, Delta Protection Commission

*Mr. Mello attended California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo majoring in Crop Science. He is a trustee and director of Reclamation District 563 and a member of the board of Directors of the Central Valley Flood Control Agency. He is a native of Walnut Grove and a second-generation farmer who managed the family farming operation in the Delta. Mr. Mello is actively involved in projects to dredge for levee maintenance activities.*

Alternate: Commissioner Bob Calone, Delta Protection Commission

*Mr. Calone has an AA from Diablo Valley College, a BS in Management from Golden Gate University and is a retired Building Trades Journeyman plumber and an I.C.B.O. certified plumbing inspector. He also holds a life certificate teaching credential from the State of California to teach plumbing. Mr. Calone is a director of the Winter Island Farms Recreation District since 1986. Winter Island Farms is a private duck club which recently was the site of an LTMS pilot project to reuse dredged material for levee maintenance.*

**U.S. Geological Survey:**

Samuel Luoma

*Note: Mr. Luoma is on an extended vacation; his bio will be submitted separately.*

**San Francisco Estuarine Institute:**

Bruce Thompson

*Dr. Thompson graduated from California State University Fresno and has a masters from the Moss Landing Marine Laboratory, and a PhD from the University of Southern California. He worked at the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project for 11 years before he joined the staff of SFEI in 1992. He was the program manager responsible for development of the Regional Monitoring Program. He currently works on a variety of estuary research and monitoring projects and directs the Information Systems staff.*

**Ecologist from Academic Community:**

Dr. Donald J. Reish, Professor Emeritus, Long Beach State University

*Dr. Reish has a PhD in zoology, with an emphasis in marine biology from USC (1952). He carried out research in the Los-Angeles-Long Beach Harbors for six years. He joined the faculty at Long Beach State University in 1958. He is the past coordinator for the toxicity section of Standard Methods for Examination of Water and Waste Water, which involved supervising 20 committees. He has written toxicity test protocols for aquatic and sediment testing for American Society for Testing and materials. He worked with the Army Corps on sediment toxicity testing (1980s) and with the personnel at Orange County Sanitation District. He has published nearly 300 scientific papers, reviews, and books in marine biology and marine toxicology, including "Ecology of the Southern California Bight" (U.C. Press) and "Marine Life of Southern California" (Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company).*

**Environmental Engineering Consultant:**

Gilbert Cosio, MBK Engineers

*Mr. Cosio is the Vice President of MBK Engineers and serves as the District Engineer for 25 levee reclamation districts in the Delta, largely in the north and central areas. In this capacity he oversees all levee and drainage maintenance and improvement projects performed by the districts. In addition to dredging projects, he oversees levee improvement, floodway analysis, habitat restoration, environmental documentation, regulatory permitting, and design of facilities. He has also worked on many irrigation diversion projects and marinas in the Delta area. MBK also serves as a consultant in the Delta to the California Central Valley Flood Control Association, the North Delta Water Agency, CALFED, Sacramento Flood Control Agency, San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency, and San Joaquin County.*

**Environmental Interest:**

Bill Jennings, DeltaKeeper

*Mr. Jennings is an environmental advocate from Stockton. He has been the DeltaKeeper since the establishment of the program in the Delta in 1995. The DeltaKeeper assists local, state, and federal regulatory and resource agencies charged with protecting the Delta's water quality by conducting on-the-water pollution control, detecting polluters, and supplying important evidence and legal advice. Mr. Jennings is also known for his successful campaigns to clean up the Mokelumne River and other rivers statewide as the Chairman of the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance.*

**Local Government:**

Daniel Wilson, Community of Walnut Grove

*Mr. Wilson is a sixth generation California farmer and fourth generation Delta farmer. He graduated from U.C. Davis with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering. He manages a large farm, packing facility, and grain elevator. He has managed \$12 million dollars in dredging projects, and administered contracts for four reclamation projects.*

Gil Labrie, Delta Citizens Municipal Advisory Council

*Mr. Labrie attended California State Polytechnic College and received degrees in Architecture and Architectural Engineering, and attended Business Administration graduate courses at California State University. He is a licensed architect and member of the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Labrie was a professor of architecture, was a staff member of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for nine years, and had a solo architectural practice in the Delta. Mr. Labrie is currently managing principal at DCC Engineering Inc, working with local reclamation districts on levee/channel projects, project development, and land use issues.*

**Levee Maintenance District:**

William G. Darsie, Reclamation District 2086

*Mr. Darsie was raised in the Delta and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy from California State University Chico. He has 20 years experience in the field of agricultural business management, responsible for farm corporations covering thousands of acres. His professional experience includes land management, sales, acquisitions, crop production, equipment management, personnel supervision, finance, and accounting. As a trustee for several reclamation districts, he has been responsible for the management of projects including the habitat levee bank protection project on Beaver Slough. Mr. Darsie has been actively involved in every major Delta flood fight since 1964, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the California Central Valley Flood Control Association.*