

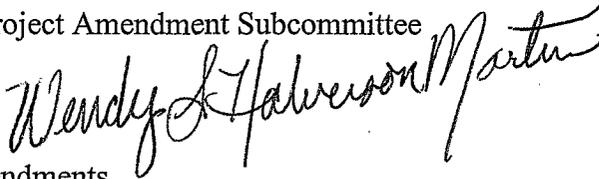


M e m o r a n d u m

Date: November 1, 1999

To: Ecosystem Roundtable Project Amendment Subcommittee

From: Wendy Halverson Martin



Subject: Requests for Project Amendments

SUMMARY

One project has requested a Level 1 amendment and three projects have requested Level 2 amendments. Level 1 amendments do not require Ecosystem Roundtable action, and are included for information.

Level 1 Project Amendments

Project and Proponent	Change Requested			Reason for Amendment
	Budget	Scope	Time	
Role of Contaminants in the Decline of Delta Smelt (97-C06) University of California, Davis	None	None	9 months (to June 30, 2001)	Delays in contracting.

Two projects have requested Level 2 project amendments. These amendments require Ecosystem Roundtable action.

CALFED Agencies

California The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board
Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration



Level 2 Project Amendments

Project and Proponent	Change Requested			Reason for Amendment
	Budget	Scope	Time	
Evaluation of Increasing Tagging Levels for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead and a Demonstration Project on Mass Marketing (98-B15) Northwest Marine Technology Inc.	\$38,100	Evaluate a wider spectrum of values for the model's parameters.	None	To include fishing mortality rates, salmon ocean survival rates, hooking mortality rates, impacts in freshwater, etc.
Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisitions (98-F12) US Fish and Wildlife Service	\$500,000	Provide initial restoration planning.	To December 31, 2000	Increase land acquisition costs, restoration planning, and acquisition-related costs.
Chinook Salmon Movement in the Lower SJR and South Delta (98-C11) CA Dept of Fish and Game	None	None	12 months	Delays in obtaining equipment and staff turnover.

ACTION

Roundtable Subcommittee members and Agency Liaisons are requested to consider the Level 2 amendments consistent with the contract amendment process (attached). The Level 1 amendments do not require Ecosystem Roundtable nor Agency Liaison action, and are included for information.

DISCUSSION

The contract amendment process provides for three levels of amendment depending on the nature and extent of the proposed change (budget, time, or scope). The process for these amendments is discussed on the attached page.

Project Amendments

Three projects have requested project amendments requiring Ecosystem Roundtable subcommittee action, as follows:

1. **Evaluation of Increasing Tagging Levels for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead and a Demonstration Project on Mass Marketing (Project 98-B15)**

Issue: In December 1997, CALFED approved \$625,000 for this study by Northwest Marine Technology Inc. This project has already been granted a Level 1 amendment, adding \$9500 and extending the scheduled completion by 6 months to August 1999. They have requested an additional \$38,100 to evaluate a wider spectrum of values for the model's parameters (fishing mortality rates, salmon ocean survival rates, hooking mortality rates, impacts in freshwater, etc.) which will necessitate additional work.

This amendment was brought before the amendment subcommittee in September, and the members asked for additional consultation with California Department of Fish and Game, Environmental Defense Fund, and National Marine Fisheries Service. All three of these organizations support the proposed additional work (attached).

Staff Recommendation: This cost amendment request is widely supported and the amendment should be granted.

2. **Stone Lakes NWR Land Acquisitions (98-F12)**

Issue: In August 1998, CALFED approved \$1,900,000 for the acquisition of land at the Stone Lakes NWR. This acquisition would permanently protect and restore important Delta smelt habitat, vernal pool species, and help improve the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem and the Cosumnes and Mokelumne rivers flood plains. The Fish and Wildlife Service is requesting that the agreement be amended to increase the contract amount by \$500,000 to allow for the increase in purchase price, to allow for some restoration planning, and acquisition-related costs.

Staff Recommendation: The amendment is justified due to the changing conditions during the property acquisition process. Staff recommends granting the amendment.

3. **Chinook Salmon Movement in the Lower SJR and South Delta (98-C11)**

Issue: In August 1998, CALFED approved \$285,000 for this study by the California Department of Fish and Game. They have experienced difficulty obtaining the required equipment and experienced some staff changes. They request a one-year time extension, with no change in cost or scope.

Staff Recommendation: The amendment is justified due to the unforeseen delays. Staff recommends granting the amendment.

Contract Amendment Process

Level 1 Amendments

Level 1 amendments would be defined as (a) cumulative time extensions up to nine months, (b) changes in scope of services which will not alter the final outcome of the project, and (c) budget increases not to exceed a total of \$25,000 for each contract. Decisions on amendments at this level would be made by contracting agency staff after consulting with CALFED staff. Contracting agencies may delegate decision-making to the Executive Director of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, as appropriate.

Level 2 Amendments

Level 2 amendments consist of requests for (a) cumulative time extensions over 9 months, or (b) cumulative budget increases up to 30% of the contract amount, but not greater than \$500,000 or (c) changes in scope of services which alter the final outcome of the project.

These amendment requests would be considered by an Ecosystem Roundtable subcommittee which would meet in a publicly noticed meeting and consider each amendment in detail. The Ecosystem Roundtable members would provide review and comment on the proposed amendments. A group of Management Team members would participate in reviewing the contract amendments at the same meeting with members of the Roundtable subcommittee. The Management Team subgroup would then make their recommendation with the input from the Ecosystem Roundtable members. The Management Team subgroup could decide whether an individual item merits full Management Team review and discussion, and/or Policy Group review. If an item is identified as not meriting additional discussion, then the Management Team subgroup's recommendation would be transmitted directly to the appropriate contracting agency. Interior, Resources Agency, and the Environmental Protection Agency would have the final approval over their respective funding sources.

Level 3 Amendments

Level 3 amendments consist of amendment requests of cumulative budget increases of 30% or more of the contract amount or over \$500,000. Level 3 amendments will be reviewed through the same process as Level 2 amendments, but will need to be presented to the Policy Team who will transmit their recommendation to the respective funding source.

Reporting

The Management Team, Policy Group, Ecosystem Roundtable and BDAC would have all amendments reported to them as information items.