



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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Date: September 20, 1996

To: CALFED Management Team (see attached list)

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Subject: Upcoming CALFED Management Team Meeting

The CALFED Management Team will meet on **Wednesday, September 25, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**, in Room 1142 of the Resources Building. Attached is a draft agenda for this meeting (Attachment 1).

A more detailed description of the agenda items and attachments follows:

A. Phase II Component Refinement

1) Agency Resources for Component Refinement

The purpose of the Component Refinement process is to refine preliminary Phase II alternatives for EIR/S analysis and selection of the preferred alternative. Initial refinement to begin impact analysis, is expected to be complete by November 1996. Agency support and resources are critical to meeting this schedule and are especially needed for development of ecosystem restoration program and modeling assumptions for the storage and conveyance component. We will discuss how best to utilize existing agency resources to assist in this effort.

B. Restoration Coordination

1) Completion of 1996 Funding Cycle

The package soliciting applications for Category III funding was distributed on September 18 with applications due postmarked by October 21. The proposal review process will be finalized at the September 26 Category III Steering Committee meeting.

Proposal review will occur in late October. Final funding decisions should be made by November 15. For a number of reasons, we may ask the Category III Steering Committee to come to these final decisions.

CALFED Agencies

California

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

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Commerce

2) Formation of the Ecosystem Roundtable

The Ecosystem Roundtable has been established as a subcommittee of BDAC to ensure the effective coordination of state and federal ecosystem restoration activities with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and to integrate the Category III efforts. Letters have been sent appointing the members to the Ecosystem Roundtable. As part of the the transition from the Category III Steering Committee to the Ecosystem Roundtable, treasury and contracting functions must be established for stakeholder contributions. There are several alternatives currently under consideration including bringing the funds into a State agency, using a local non-profit organization, using the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, or having CUWA continue to hold the contributions.

A package of material will be developed and distributed to the Ecosystem Roundtable that will include information on the purpose of the Roundtable, draft principles and procedures for its operation, and designation of a chair for the group. In addition, a draft project selection process will be distributed so input can be solicited from Roundtable members at the first meeting in mid-October.

3) Discussion of CVPIA Stakeholder Process White Paper Recommendations

A recently distributed white paper, describing a Stakeholder Process for CVPIA, contained recommendations concerning the development of a FACA chartered advisory committee to replace the Restoration Roundtable. A strategic discussion is necessary to establish the distinct purpose of such an advisory committee and ensure that there is no duplication of effort with the existing BDAC and its subcommittee, the Ecosystem Roundtable.

C. Baseline Definition

Lowell Ploss, Bureau of Reclamation, convened a group of state and federal agency representatives on September 12 to discuss the baseline issue in an effort to better define the baseline as it applies to long-term planning conditions. Lowell will provide an update to the Management Team on that effort.

D. Follow-up Discussion on Phase II Decision Making Process

Mary Scoonover will discuss the variety of permits that will be necessary as we move into and through Phase II. Mary will provide an overview on the number and extent of permits that will be needed from eight of the ten CALFED agencies that have regulatory responsibility. We will also discuss how we may be able to address some of the problems and issues.

er Issues

1) Recent Funding Activities

The completion of Phase I, Proposition 204 on the November ballot and stakeholder funding strategy deliberations have all served to focus attention on the potential early implementation funding requirements of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. While there have been numerous discussions about cost allocation for the entire Program, more recently attention has been focused on short-term (three years) funding requirements and the appropriate federal obligation within those requirements. CALFED staff has begun to look at cash-flow requirements for implementation of the common program in both accelerated (fifteen years) and longer term (twenty-five to thirty years) staged implementation schedules. We will continue to develop reasonable data which hopefully can guide future deliberations on funding and funding schedules. A general overview of this issue will be provided at the Management meeting.

2) San Joaquin Tributary Settlement

An update will be provided on the San Joaquin Tributary settlement announced at a meeting last Monday, September 16.

Fish Screen Activities

At the last CALFED Management Team meeting it was agreed that two efforts for fish screening would be necessary. One effort would look at the feasibility for development of large fish screens associated with the CALFED alternatives and the other would focus on developing criteria and assurances for fish screens upstream. A status on the needs and progress of both efforts will be discussed.

4) Time Value of Water Discussions with Agency Staff

CALFED is currently developing information concerning the time value of water to be used in the process of developing and refining the alternatives during impact analysis. The objective is to determine the relative value of water for the various uses at different times during the year. The first part of this effort is to determine the ecosystem needs primarily in regard to instream flow. We will have a brief discussion to ensure that the Management Team members understand the importance of this effort and how this information will be used.

5) Permit Coordination Efforts

A group of agency staff has undertaken an effort to identify ways to better coordinate the effort of obtaining permits in preparation of some of the initial efforts for habitat restoration. An update of the progress and needs of this effort will be provided.

CALFED Management Team

USBR - Roger Patterson (Alt. - Kirk Rodgers)

USFWS - Wayne White (Alt. - Joel Medlin)

NMFS - Jim Lecky (Alt. - Gary Stern)

EPA - Tom Hagler, Patrick Wright (Alt. - Palma Risler)

Corp. of Engineers - Walter Yep

CA Resources Agency - Mike Mantell

CA Fish and Game - Greg Zlotnick

DWR - Bob Potter

SWRCB - Walt Pettit

Food & Agr. - Mike Chrisman