

**MANAGEMENT  
GROUP**



**04/25/97**



**CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM**

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Date: April 18, 1997

To: CALFED

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

Subject: Upcoming CALFED Management Team Meeting

The CALFED Management Team will meet on **Friday, April 25, 1997, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Room 1131** of the Resources Building. Attached is a draft agenda for this meeting (Attachment 1) and a summary of the March 17, 1997 CALFED Management Team meeting (Attachment 2).

Agenda items are categorized as discussion, status/update, and review/concurrence. A more detailed description of the agenda items and attachments follows:

**A. Flood Management Activities (Discussion)**

There are currently several efforts being conducted through both State and Federal agencies relating to flood management activities. Questions have been raised repeatedly regarding how these efforts are related, how they are being coordinated between the Federal and State agencies, how they are being coordinated with the long-term CALFED Program and what can be done to facilitate coordination. Carl Enson, Corps of Engineers, and Ray Hart, DWR, will provide a brief overview of the current Federal and State efforts. Lester will provide an overview of opportunities for non-structural flood management activities linked with the CALFED efforts. Patrick Wright will facilitate a discussion of the necessary coordination mechanisms.

**B. Cost-share agreement (Status/Update)**

Patrick Wright will provide an update of the cost-share effort.

**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  
National Marine Fisheries Service

**C. December Accord Deliberations (Status/Update)**

Tom Hagler will provide a status of the letter to be signed by all CALFED agencies extending the Accord for one year.

**D. 97 Allocation/Resolution of CVPIA 800,000AF (Status/Update)**

CALFED agencies will discuss the recent 97 allocation decision, and Patrick Wright and Mike Spear will provide an update on the status of the Department of Interior allocation of the CVPIA B(2) water.

**E. CALFED Program**

Alternative Evaluation Process and Performance Criteria (Discussion)

Lester will provide an overview of the process that the CALFED Program intends to use to evaluate the alternatives. A short narrative and some graphics are attached that briefly explain the process (Attachment 3). We will also provide an example of a specific performance criteria and to show how they will be applied in the alternative evaluation process.

Alternative Development Issues (Discussion)

Many issues are emerging as we begin to move through the alternative development process. It is critical that we identify the issues and options for addressing them in a timely and efficient manner. Lester will provide an overview of some of the major issues that have been identified.

Issues Identified at recent ClubFED Retreat

Patrick Wright will provide an overview of issues that were identified by the federal CALFED agencies at a recent retreat.

Issue Resolution Process -- Role of PCT

The Program Coordination Team has been identified as a forum to identify, develop, and provide options for resolving issues of importance to the development of the long-term program. We need to assess the effectiveness of PCT and ensure that the process can address the necessary issues.

**F. Ecosystem Restoration**

ERPP Scientific Review Process (Status/Update) - In response to concerns by raised by both agencies and stakeholders, CALFED will convene a panel to provide scientific review and evaluation of the Ecosystem Restoration Program. The attached document provides a brief overview of the proposed process (Attachment 4). The scientific review team will be convened under the auspices of

the BDAC Ecosystem Restoration Work Group and stakeholders and the general public will have the opportunity to provide input on the recommendations of the panel. Specific questions are currently being prepared to focus the panel.

Restoration Coordination (Status/Update) - The Restoration Coordination Program is working to publicly distribute a package soliciting funding proposals for near-term ecosystem restoration projects by May 16. This package will include directions to proponents on how to apply, a format to be used for applications, the criteria and proposal review process to be used to evaluate applications, and a workplan that identifies the priority species and habitats, the stressors that need to be addressed, and types of actions for which proposals are being solicited. The workplan is still being drafted and will go through the following review steps:

1. An umbrella team composed of stakeholder and agency biologists will meet for a second time on April 28 to complete their technical review and prioritization of the stressors and the types of actions.
2. The Ecosystem Roundtable will meet on April 30 to provide policy level comments on the draft workplan including the stressors and the types of actions.
3. The PCT will be briefed at an ad hoc meeting on May 1 on the draft workplan.
4. The Ecosystem Roundtable will meet on May 9 to provide final comments on all elements of the RFP.
5. The CALFED Policy Team will be presented with the complete RFP for their approval on May 13.
6. The RFP will be mailed and made available to the general public on May 16.

Project Selection Criteria

The Restoration Coordination Program staff are developing criteria which will be used to evaluate proposals submitted for funding from Category III this summer. A draft of the criteria was discussed at the Ecosystem Roundtable meeting on April 11 and the input from the Roundtable was used to redraft the criteria which are attached to this package (Attachment 5).

We would like to discuss with CALFED the following questions: Are there any comments on the types of eligible proposals? Are there any other requirements which all projects should meet? Is the list of evaluation criteria complete?

### Restoration Reserve

The Management Team has previously approved development of a restoration reserve to fund projects outside the normal funding cycle. Restoration Coordination staff propose that the following criteria be used to determine if a project can be considered for funding under the reserve:

- The project is in response to an emergency, defined as an unexpected event that will have irreversible impacts to an important resource if action is not taken immediately;
- The project is a unique opportunity that is high priority which will no longer be available when the next funding decision is to be made;
- The project is an opportunity to leverage funding that is time sensitive and the project addresses a high priority;

We would like to determine at this meeting if these criteria are sufficient or if there are any other criteria that need to be included?

Another issue relative to the restoration reserve is the role of the Ecosystem Roundtable. Roundtable members have expressed a strong interest in providing their input on any use of the restoration reserve in advance of a decision on a project. Staff would recommend that the Ecosystem Roundtable be given this opportunity.

### Additional Ecosystem Roundtable Members

The Sierra Nevada Alliance has requested that BDAC consider adding Martha Davis to the Ecosystem Roundtable as their representative. Individual Roundtable members have generally indicated that this is acceptable to them, however there may still be concerns that we will discuss at the meeting. Staff would recommend that BDAC appoint Martha Davis to the Roundtable if the concerns can be addressed.

## **G. Fish Screen Criteria (Status/Update)**

### Interagency Process for Fish Screen Projects

NMFS has prepared a concept paper (Attachment 6) which describes a process for establishing fish screen criteria for fish screen projects. Gary Stern will provide an overview of this process and highlight the outstanding issues to be resolved. This process is important for the CALFED program and a next step may be establishing some pilot programs to evaluate the effectiveness of the process.

### NMFS and Fish and Game Screening Criteria

NMFS and Fish and Game staff will provide a very brief overview on the screening criteria recently approved by both agencies and highlight where potential conflicts may occur.

## H. Other

### BDAC Replacement (Review/Concurrence)

BDAC member Michael McDonald, General Manager of the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), has indicated that he is unable to participate in BDAC activities. Since he is the only power interest on BDAC, we propose replacing him with the Assistant General Manager of the NCPA to ensure that BDAC has representation from this group. Please review the attached biography (Attachment 7) and be prepared to provide approval/disapproval at the upcoming meeting.

### Delta Wetlands (Status/Update)

Jerry Johns will provide a status of the upcoming SWQCB hearings on Delta Wetlands.

### Interim South Delta (Status/Update)

Bob Potter will provide an update on the status of the Interim South Delta Program.

### State Spring-Run Salmon Listing (Status/Update)

Ryan Broddrick will provide an update on the Spring-run listing and potential implications.

### CALFED Policy Group Meeting Agenda

The next CALFED Policy Group is scheduled for May 13 from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. in room 1131 of the Resources Building. We will discuss potential agenda items for this meeting, determine if any decisions will need to be made at the meeting, and set a schedule to ensure that products for decision can be disseminated in a timely fashion.

### CALFED Public Meeting Agenda

A CALFED Public meeting is scheduled for the morning of May 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The objective of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to comment directly to the CALFED agency officials. We will review the proposed agenda for this meeting.