



Memorandum

Date: November 10, 1997
To: Roger Patterson, Regional Director
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Subject: Funding of Special Support Programs

The purpose of this memo is two fold: First, to obtain your agreement on the intent to proceed with a request for money to fund several of the Special Support Programs of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program from the \$85 million Bay-Delta appropriation recently approved by Congress and signed by the President for FY 98 funds. Second, to suggest that a set of these Special Support Programs could be assigned to CALFED federal agencies as lead.

It is my understanding, in part based on your comments to the CALFED agency heads during our October 9 Washington, D.C. meeting, that you anticipate this request for funding from the Bay-Delta appropriation. Specifically, that part of the Bay-Delta appropriation will be made available for projects now outlined in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program budget. We have discussed the use of these funds being applied to the set of CALFED activities listed on Attachment A.

As also discussed recently, the importance of the CALFED Special Support Program's is that they are deemed critical to the eventual success of reaching a final preferred alternative. It is not essential that this work be done directly by CALFED staff and/or consultants. Instead, these programs can be accomplished by lead staff working in the Federal agencies and/or consultants working for those agencies.

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
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

As an initial take on the suggestion for having CALFED agencies directly take on workplan elements, the following list of special support programs could be considered:

	<u>FY 98</u>	<u>FY 99</u>	<u>Total</u>	
• ERPP Scientific Review¹	50	0	50	
• Watershed Management	184	109	293	
• Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment and Research	157	416	573	
• Reservoir Screening	136	0	136	
• HCP Development	1,312	940	2252	
• Coordinated Permitting¹	282	108	390	
• Floodplain Management	150	79	229	
• Operations Model Development	1,090	514	1604	
• Environmental Compliance¹		285	254	539

Of the programs listed above, the reservoir screening, floodplain management, and operations model development work are not appropriate for funding through the Bay-Delta appropriation. I believe the remainder of the work listed above is directly related to ecosystem restoration work anticipated by the Bay-Delta appropriation. All of the above programs could be led by the CALFED agencies working with CALFED staff.

Much discussion will be needed in order to finalize arrangements for such a proposal, and finalizing the responsibility for accomplishing the programs and obtaining the necessary funds to complete the work.

The benefits of assigning the lead to federal agencies to complete this work are significant. First, the agencies identified are each closely associated with the type of work needed as part of the program, and therefore, have appropriate staff expertise. Secondly, the language of the federal appropriation would seem to make it much more efficient for the agencies to directly receive the appropriation dollars. I recognize that any funding actions along the concept outlined above would need to comport with the process now in place for BDAC (i.e., Roundtable) input into the decisionmaking.

¹These programs could be combined and addressed under a single effort to respond to the concerns and comments of both the ERPP Scientific Review Panel recommendations and the public review comments.

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I will identify this issue for further discussion and decisionmaking at the Management Team and Policy Group meetings coming up over the next two months. In the meantime, my staff will continue to work with the Bureau staff and Patrick Wright as federal agency coordinator, to further explore these issues and detail the process whereby this could be accomplished.

As you know, the timing of the availability of Program funds is critical to the Program continuing to meet deadlines. One important aspect of any proposal of this nature will be the timing and availability of funds which would go to the agencies to accomplish the above workplan elements, and the requirement for a clear commitment by receiving agencies to also meet Program timeline milestones. I look forward to discussing this proposal with you in the near future.

Enclosures

bc: Lester Snow
Judy Kelly
Steve Yaeger
Pauline Nevins

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