

BAY-DELTA PROGRAM ISSUES

Nature of Decision

Three options:

1. No preferred alternative; three alternatives treated equally
2. Alt 3 performs best based on current level of information on distinguishing characteristics, but no preferred alternative until assurances and finance package are developed and other issues are addressed.
3. Alt 3 is preferred alternative, provided that assurances, financing, other issues are addressed.

Conveyance

1. PCT Evaluation of Alternatives:

Alt 2 performs worst; Alt 3 performs best among conveyance options according to distinguishing characteristics; no agreement on preferred alternative

Size of Isolated Facility under Alt 3: 8,000 cfs performs better than smaller facilities; significant tradeoffs above about 8,000.

2. Discuss importance of maintaining common pool
3. Phasing: Should be further explored and evaluated.
4. Operational Criteria: Feds want to include evaluation under existing standards, and any sensitivity analysis should use current indicators (X2 at different locations rather than X3, etc.)

Storage

1. Range and level of detail are appropriate given current level of analysis, but can't assume maximum level of storage.
2. Need to define process for selecting potential sites
3. Given that there appears to be no "optimal" level, need to discuss how we will reach agreement on a preferred level.
4. Discuss need for demand management analysis

ERPP

1. Status of conceptual models and indicators:

30 days: Framework for strategic plan/models and indicators for American River

6 months: Final package of models and indicators

2. Comments from Agencies/Stakeholders: Programmatic comments will be addressed in a separate document

3. Flow targets: Need to qualify, emphasize that they may need to be revised based on conceptual models and indicators

4. Introduced species

- General policy statement on exotic species
- Specific statement on Striped Bass and American Shad
- Process/Commitment on Controlling Invasions

Water Quality

1. Need to discuss level of detail.

2. Need to discuss emphasis on regulatory/nonregulatory approach

- Support for emphasis on incentives/voluntary approaches with performance goals/assurances
- Use drainage management (Grasslands bypass) as detailed example

3. Need to address impacts on South Delta in Alt 3

Water Use Efficiency

1. Discuss need for consistency between state and federal programs

2. Land retirement: Will not be characterized as a water use efficiency tool, but water transfers may result in fallowing/retirement of ag lands.

3. Need to make more progress on water transfers program/ evaluate against storage.

Levees

1. Discuss costs/benefits of rebuilding to PL 99 standards
2. Discuss need for changes in levee maintenance rules
3. Need to describe relationship between CALFED and COE/DWR Comprehensive Study, and between CALFED and LTMS. Emphasize importance of dredged materials.

Assurances

1. Need to discuss how we characterize assurances package given lack of agency and stakeholder agreement.
2. General consensus on need for new entity, but need more details on its functions/authority.
3. Discuss need and form of ESA assurances

Finance

1. Need agreement on general principles described in package

General

1. Discuss need for peer review and performance measures for all programs.
2. Integration of program elements
3. Need to discuss relationship between CALFED and other major processes, including:
 - o CVPIA PEIS
 - o COE/DWR Comprehensive Floodplain Management Study
 - o SWRCB Water Rights Decision Process/VAMP
 - o LTMS
4. Need discussion of stakeholder concerns/issues in draft document