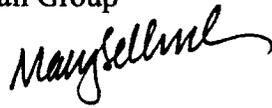


September 8, 1999

TO: Federal-State Small Group

FROM: Mary Selkirk



SUBJECT: Outcomes from August 31 Small Group meeting

The following is a brief summary of outcomes from the August 31 Small Group meeting.

I have also attached copies of Stein Buer's summary of discussion and outcomes of the August 24th Small Group meeting.

Public Hearings

Steve Ritchie asked for increased Policy Group participation in the Southern California public hearings. Steve Macaulay volunteered to attend the San Diego hearing.

Babbitt Davis Meeting Follow-up

Lester raised the issue of developing a Trinity River response strategy, as well as a Delta smelt strategy.

Gay Stern commented that NMFS will be looking at possibly adjusting temperature controls at Shasta, that this is an appropriate time to re-visit.

Lester stated again that CALFED agencies had an opportunity to look at what can be done to "avoid a trainwreck." He called for formation of a small strategy team to develop a response for Babbitt and Davis, who will meet again in November. USBR and DWR need to be involved.

Tom Hagler cautioned against looking only at the Trinity River. Suggested an overall "augmentation/tools" team. Lester agreed, added that this team needs to develop both early actions, as well as a process for use in any given year type. He proposed focus on Stage 1 Water Management package, work through how much for the environment, how much for broader use. He suggested creation of a Trinity Work Team, which would then expand.

Follow-up: Lester committed to bringing more detailed proposal next week, requested that Water Management Strategy be standing item on Small Group agenda. Also requested that ISI be agendaized soon.

Leads: Steve Ritchie, Lowell Ploss

Lester stated he was looking to 2000 Ops for solution on the Delta smelt issue.

Follow-up:

99 Ops

Discussion of joint point of diversion. Lowell Ploss stated that they are considering options for petitioning the State Board to use joint point this fall and winter. Trying to get USFWS and USBR actions together.

Kathy Kelly stated that the Stanislaus transfer now coming into question, as regards State make-up water.

Steve Ritchie asked where this is being worked through. Curtis Creel responded in the Ops Group, except for B(2) issues. Wayne White stated that USFWS could lay out two B(2) scenarios for the Ops Group. He said they needed to be looking at where they can buy water now.

Steve Ritchie noted that the Small Group needed to have a separate discussion about where the money will be coming from.

Outcome: Lowell Ploss committed to bringing a proposal to the Small Group on September 7th. Steve Macaulay stated that they would talk to the Authority, State Water Contractors and exchange contractors on this week. Lowell stated they would develop full proposal over the next three weeks.

Gary Stern raised issue of spring run on Clear Creek, possible increase of Whiskeytown diversion by 50 cfs increments. Will have associated hydropower costs. Lowell Ploss responded that USBR will probably increase release from Shasta to offset power costs. Gary Stern stated that this needed to be resolved this week.

Follow-up:

Role of Ecosystem Roundtable

Small Group asked for follow-up discussion on relationship between Ecosystem Roundtable and decision-making on Bay Delta Security Act monies.

Outcome: Scheduled for September 7th Small Group meeting.

South Delta

Further discussion on projects purposes amendment, on operations agreement on Tracy fish screen feasibility study, update on localized dredging proposal.

Stage I Bundles

Further discussion on CALFED's rationale for early Stage 1 bundles.

Follow-up: Lester/Steve have directed staff to continue to work on developing written pieces on Stage 1 bundles.

Letters from Senator Boxer and Congressman Miller

Lester stated that staff are working on responses to Boxer and Miller letters on the North Delta conveyance actions, and that draft responses will be faxed to Small Group.

September Policy Group Meeting

Small Group reviewed working agenda for the Policy Group meeting. Suggested that a general item on activities on the Yuba River be on the agenda.