

January 3, 2000

TO : Federal-State Small Group

FROM : Mary Selkirk

SUBJECT: Outcomes from December 21, 1999 Small Group meeting

1. Hood Diversion language

Rick Breitenbach presented the newest revision of the draft language for Hood Diversion. It contained Gary Stern's (NMFS) suggested changes with Mary Schoonover's edits. Wayne White (USFWS) was concerned that the term "sufficient" had been omitted in a number of instances in which he felt it should appear.

Outcome:

- a) Wayne White would contact Jim Lecky (NMFS) to confirm the language and communicate the outcome to Rick Breitenbach.
- b) Make the following changes to the revised draft language for Hood Diversion:
 - 1) Add striped bass and steelhead to *(2) on page 2
 - 2) Rework the fifth bullet on Page 3
 - 3) Margit Aramburu suggested adding flood control and recreation.

2. Agency Comments on Principles of Long-Term CALFED Governance

Kate Hansel requested the State and Federal agencies to comment on the long governance proposal by Friday, December 17th.

Outcome: Small Group set January 7th as the new deadline for comments.

3. Grant Line Canal Barrier and South Delta Recommended Alternatives

Stein Buer presented and discussed several handouts describing features of the SDI alternatives, preliminary evaluations of the SDI alternatives, and a data sheet on full dredging of south Delta channels. He expressed his personal concern that CALFED's recommended 3-barrier approach would not allow for full export flexibility if CALFED chooses to address local stage impacts when the barriers are not operating (November 1 - April 15). He suggested that CALFED consider evaluation of a phased alternative, which would begin with a revised 1-barrier approach. In the revised approach, south Delta channels would be thoroughly dredged to allow free flow of water from the west (as well as flood flows), and the HOR barrier would be operated (partially closed) to manage south Delta water quality,

rather than reoperating the San Joaquin River for summer flows, as originally proposed. Agricultural intakes would be extended and screened throughout the region. Up to 2 agricultural barriers could be added in the future to promote internal circulation through tidal pumping if needed.

Outcome:

1) The Small Group requested that Stein draft a letter to Assemblyman Michael Machado, indicating that CALFED was reviewing the alternatives in light of current information, rather than reiterating the May 13 recommended alternative. It also recommended that the SDIT begin this re-evaluation process as soon as possible, including Stein's proposed modifications to the single barrier alternative. It directed SDIT agency participants to give a high priority to participation in the SDIT, to assure that all agency concerns can be addressed as the evaluation moves forward.

2) The South Delta group must reconvene.

4. Mechanics of FY 2000 Spending

Steve Ritchie explained this is something they are working on and would need to work through the required logistics. He was unsure if DWR has the spending authority or if a Section 28 will be required.

Outcome: Steve Macaulay would find out what is necessary.

5. Western Area Power Administration January 12, 2000 Hydro Workshop

The proposed agenda for the workshop was reviewed. Earl Nelson, WAPA, said this was a good chance for CALFED staff to be briefed on hydro power policy.

Outcome: Earl Nelson asked that the appropriate participants contact the people listed if they plan to attend.

COMMENTS

- Wayne White commented that he would very much like The Reclamation Board to be involved earlier in the CALFED process. Wendy Halverson Martin strongly echoed that sentiment .

Outcome: Steve Macaulay would contact Pete Rabbon, General Manager of the Board.

- Luana Kiger said Dick Daniel had been on a January 17th tour and she would like him to report to Small Group in early January. The tour focused on rice production in the Delta and then using it as wetlands in the off seasons. Margit said Allan Garcia, who was also along on the tour, was involved in organic rice farming along the Cosumnes River. Organic farming appears to be a likely candidate in the Delta.

Outcome: Dick Daniel will be included in a Small Group meeting in the near future.