

Decision Analysis Model

The CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) has commissioned the development of a decision analysis model to help define and evaluate alternative management options for a restoration issue that is central to the ERP. A decision analysis model defines and evaluates alternative management options by characterizing: the ecological and biological benefits associated with each option; the ecological, social, and economic tradeoffs associated with each option; and the information value to be gained for each management option. The general objectives of the modeling project are to test the applicability of decision analysis modeling to CALFED restoration issues and to refine CALFED's adaptive management approach by defining experimental management options for one of these restoration issues.

Clear Creek has been selected as the case study for the development of the decision analysis model, because it provides a good microcosm of flow-related restoration issues that CALFED must address in the larger Bay-Delta system. CALFED convened a three-day technical workshop with local experts in late January to define the functional relationships that constitute the model. The model builders—ESSA Technologies—have used the information collected at the three-day workshop to produce a draft model design document, which is attached. Since this model design document will guide the development of the decision analysis model, both CALFED and ESSA Technologies staff are soliciting technical review of the design document.

To facilitate the review of the model design document, the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) convened a meeting on Thursday, April 13th in Redding. We anticipate the revised model design document to be completed in mid-May, when development of the prototype model will begin.