

**Diversion Effects on Fish and NoName Coordination Team (DNCT)
Environmental Water Account (EWA)
1999 Workplan Summary**

The tasks and issues for the DNCT/EWA can be organized into five categories:

- 1999 Operations
- Water Acquisition
- Legal Barriers
- Biological Rules and Scientific Hypotheses
- Model Simulation, Gaming and Forecasting

The tasks and issues listed below cross over between the categories. The attached figure describes the process and participation for resolving the issues and competing the tasks.

1. Determine which environmental protections would be provided through prescriptive standards and which would be provided through an EWA.
2. Establish the scientific basis for underlying assumptions - In coordination with CMARP, determine how to use the EWA to evaluate alternative scientific hypotheses.
3. Investigate various approaches for implementing an EWA. What accounting system will be used for an EWA? Credit system where no water is actually exchanged. Real water system that has water stored somewhere to be transferred to user from an EWA? e.g. How are we going to track eco acquisition water through Delta.
4. Determine how to integrate EWA into other CALFED programs (e.g., water transfers, ERP, WQ). e.g. How do we assure that water quality impacts of operational changes to protect fish are adequately dealt with within the CALFED water quality program.
5. Determine how much (1) existing surface and groundwater storage; (2) water purchase contract water; and (3) water generated from co-funding efficiency or reclamation projects will be needed by an EWA as of the first day of EWA operations
6. Determine how the EWA assets will shift and grow during Stage 1.
7. Determine sharing methods of initial water export improvements (e.g., South Delta improvements). Determine sharing methods of additional Stage 1 and long term water export improvements.
8. Determine how the EWA would be integrated with SWRCB process. If EWA could be funded with water generated from JPOD, then SWRCB needs to know this is one of the objectives of JPOD.
9. Determine EWA rights and priorities to use existing and future storage and conveyance facilities.

10. Determine the indirect effects of EWA actions (e.g., adjusting reservoir storage). How are burdens shared in concert with long term water availability - who takes hit for new upstream demands? What is the reality and assurance that environment has the ability to improve as oppose to a long term down trend. If water availability decreases environmental community will be worried about buying into a system where their benefits may decline over time as result of water development. The assurance needed may be more than EWA can simply buy water.
11. Determine, from the water supply point of view, if EWA purchases and transfers could have the ability to kill the market. Could EWA take up all, or a large portion of, the capacity available in the system. This could be perceived as future uncertainty in the water reliability.
12. What's the impact to unused capacity that would have been available for transfers?
13. Define institutional control of EWA, including governance, public participation, linkages to CMARP, and decision making process.
14. Determine reliability of existing legal mechanisms to assure intended use of EWA water released for instream purposes. In 1999, could test if there is legal reliability for the purchaser to actually receive amount of water contracted.
15. Determine how EWA fits into fisheries agencies consultation process for endangered species. (ie steelhead and salmon)
16. Determine what can be demonstrated in 1999 that will show what a EWA can do and can't do? Need to go into ROD with an realistic idea of long term assets and how they build in EWA.
17. Develop a computer model simulation to test realistic accounting systems for EWA.
18. Develop a forecasting model to test long term asset and benefits and to provide data for future EWA water allocation decisions.
19. Investigate if EWA can be used to generated rule changes to WQCP (gaining water by relaxing standards)
20. Secure adequate, assured funding to support EWA operations at defined levels.
21. Allocate costs of the EWA program.

Timeframe: