

Conservation Strategy 1999 Work plan Summary

The primary work effort in 1999 will be completion of the Programmatic Conservation Strategy by the time of the draft EIS/R. In addition, a tiered documentation process needs to be developed in 1999 for the priority Stage I actions in order to determine the level of ESA assurances that will be available at the time of the ROD and early in Stage I.

Critical Issues

- Process
1. Complete text of Programmatic Conservation Strategy for inclusion in Programmatic Draft EIS/EIR
 2. Develop GIS capability to assist in completion of Strategy
 3. Develop tiered ESA/CESA, NCCPA documentation for priority Stage 1 actions

Policy Issues

- Should Conservation Strategy address watershed impacts and/or service area impacts?
- What type and level of assurances will the Conservation Strategy provide to stakeholders?
- How to provide adequate staff resources to ensure timely completion of Programmatic Conservation Strategy and tiered documentation for priority Stage 1 actions? (See Figure 1)

Process for Stakeholder and Agency Involvement

See Figure 2

Time frame

- Programmatic Conservation Strategy scheduled for completion in time to include complete text in revised Draft EIS/EIR for CALFED Program.
- Development of analysis and text for tiered documentation should begin early in 1999. Existing staff dedicated to the Programmatic Conservation Strategy are unavailable to begin this work effort until after the Strategy is completed. Therefore additional staff resources are needed in order to begin this effort sooner and have progress made by the time of the draft EIS/R.