



Memorandum

Date: April 15, 1999
To: Participants in Federal-State Small Group
From: Mary Selkirk *(MS) FOR Mary Selkirk*
Subject: Outcomes/Actions from April 13, 1999 Meeting

South Delta

Lester Snow emphasized that Assemblyman Machado and the emerging Environmental Water Account actions are placing resolution of proposed South Delta actions on the leading edge in CALFED.

Action: Lester Snow will arrange meeting with three resource agency heads and DWR and USBR this week. The objectives of this meeting will include:

1. Policy level agreement on the parameters of the bundle of South Delta improvements.
2. Clarification of the integration of South Delta actions with the Conservation Strategy.

Tracy Fish Screens Project

Steve Ritchie emphasized the need for a decision-making path within the CALFED agencies regarding diversion effects of the Preferred Alternative.

Jim Lecky stated that as a matter of policy all diversions from the system need to be screened.

Action: Steve Ritchie requested that the fisheries agencies assist CALFED in developing not only a step— i.e., the agreement on an experimental 500 cfs screen on the current Tracy diversion--but a path for determining the efficacy of the Preferred Alternative actions in improving fisheries recovery.

Lead agencies: Mike Spear, USFWS, Jim Lecky, NMFS and Ryan Broddrick, DFG

CALFED Agencies

California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal
Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

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Barriers/No Barriers Debate

Action: CALFED staff will draw up a memo for the Policy Group, describing how far each approach goes in achieving a specific set of goals, including fisheries protection and water quality.

CALFED lead: Stein Buer

Description of the Preferred Alternative

Conveyance Language--

Jim Lecky proposed two changes:

1. Strike the word "strategy" from the first bullet under discussion
2. Take the second bullet and put into the Water Quality section, adding language about water quality benefits of a diversion at Hood

Action: CALFED will work to put this language in both Conveyance and Water Quality sections

Environmental Water Account

Ron Ott reported that the DNCT will have completed its gaming and have results and recommendations to BDAC and the Policy Group by May 12-13, with a draft report on May 30th.

Ron Rempel pointed out that the Conservation Strategy team will need a project description of the Environmental Water Account and its parameters.

Action: Project description of the Environmental Water Account will be provided to the Conservation Strategy team as soon as possible. No date certain determined.

Lead agencies: Ron Ott, CALFED with assistance from Mike Fris, USFWS

Ron Ott added that DNCT will also be identifying what they will need from CMARP.

404 Compliance Strategy

Rick Soehren report that the draft MOA has received many constructive comments.

Optimistically, he predicted he could return to Small Group with a new draft by May 4 or May 11. In order to meet the current deadline for the EIR/S's going to print, Rick suggested utilizing the Small Group for review in early May, seeking Small Group approval to take the new draft to selected stakeholders, this allowing for a draft which would have stakeholder input in time for the June release.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 20, 1999

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Proposed Agenda:

South Delta

Water Use Efficiency Program

ERP

Governance

Finance

Water Quality Program

Water Management Strategy Framework