



# CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM

# NEWS...

July 1999

## **CALFED Releases Draft Plan *Outlines Preferred Program Alternative***

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program released a draft programmatic environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) at a press conference on June 25 in Sacramento. California Resources Secretary Mary Nichols and U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary Patricia Beneke joined CALFED Executive Director Lester Snow to announce CALFED's proposed preferred program alternative – the plan for restoring ecological health in the Bay-Delta, providing a reliable water supply for all uses, and improving water quality in California. The release of the report begins a 90-day public comment period, which ends September 23, 1999.

Nichols and Beneke emphasized the collaboration that went into the development of the plan – four years of intense work from state and federal agencies, stakeholders and the general public. Nichols stated that, while the plan does not give any interest group everything they might want, the plan is fair and balanced and provides improvements for all. Beneke brought a commitment of continued interested and involvement from Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt. Last year, Babbitt was involved in negotiations leading to the framework of the draft preferred alternative released in December 1998.

The CALFED plan proposes strategies for improvements in four inter-related problem areas: ecosystem health, water quality, levee system integrity, and water supply reliability. The plan is comprised of near-term actions and studies to set the groundwork for actions in the future.

The strategies are carried out through actions drawn from CALFED's eight program elements: Long-term Levee Protection, Water Quality, Ecosystem Restoration, Water Use Efficiency, Water Transfers, Watershed Management, Storage and Conveyance.

CALFED will hold 15 public hearings around the state, beginning August 18. (See pages 2-3 of this newsletter for a complete listing of hearing sites.)

The draft EIS/EIR is available in three formats:

- CALFED web site, <http://calfed.ca.gov>
- CD-ROM, PC and Mac compatible
- Print

Copies of the draft EIS/EIR and appendices can be ordered through the web site or by calling (916)653-5820 or (800)900-3587.

### ***How to Comment***

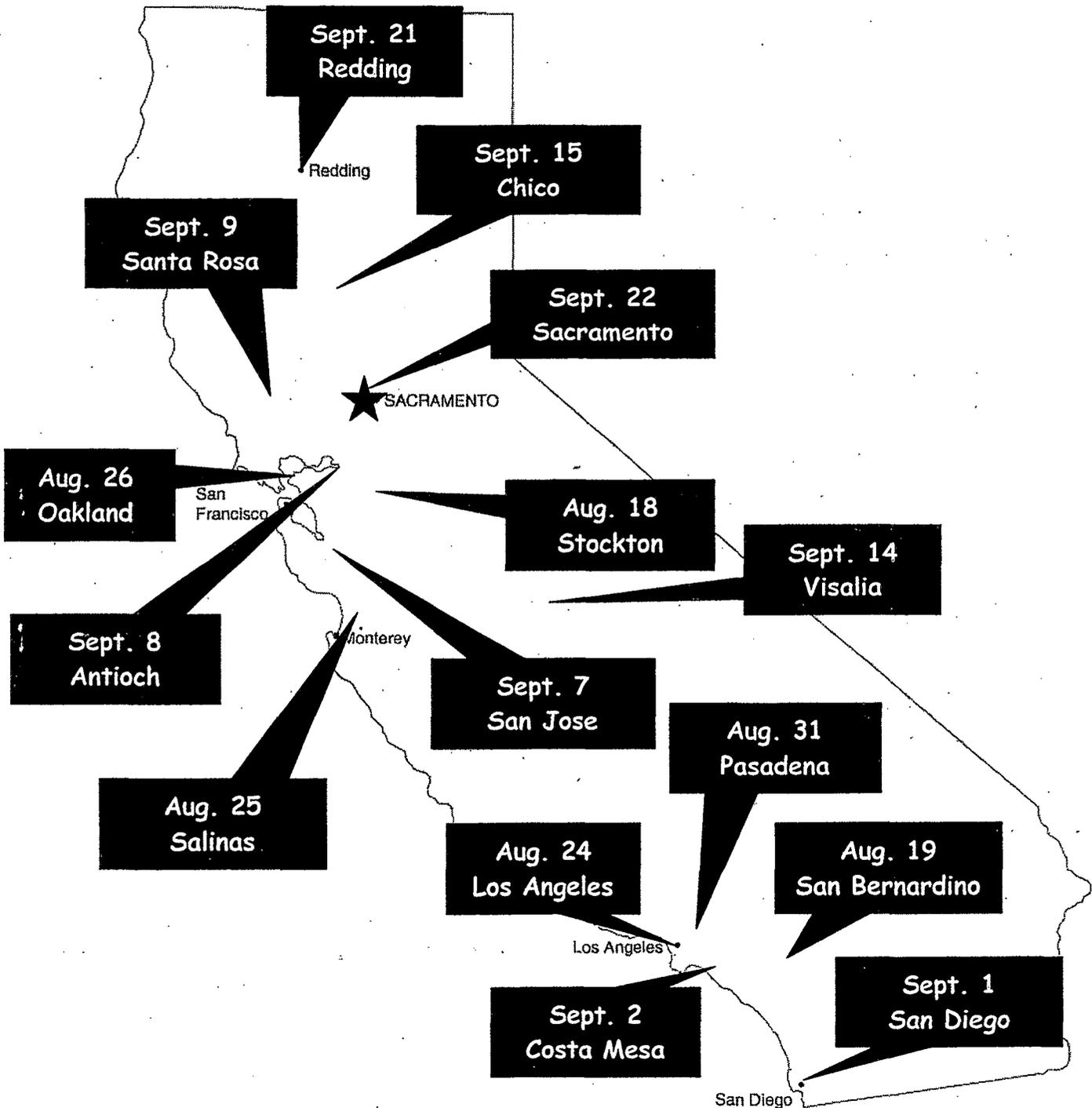
Members of the public can submit comments to CALFED at any time during the 90-day comment period. Comments can be submitted in writing or orally at any of the 15 public hearings. Oral comments at the public hearings are limited to three minutes. Written comments should be submitted to: Rick Breitenbach, CALFED Bay-Delta Program, 1416 Ninth Street, Ste. 1155, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Comments cannot be submitted over the phone or by e-mail.

For more information ■ (916) 657-2666 ■ (916) 654-9780 FAX ■ 1-800-700-5752 Information Line ■ <http://calfed.ca.gov>

# CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Hearings Schedule

CALFED will hold 15 public hearings to gain input on the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report. Each public hearing will begin at 6 p.m. with an informal Q&A session; the formal public comment session will be from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call (800)900-3587.



**CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR  
Public Hearing Locations**

**Stockton, Wednesday, Aug. 18**

U.C. Cooperative Extension  
420 South Wilson Way  
Stockton, CA 95205

**San Bernardino, Thursday, Aug. 19**

City Council Chambers  
300 North D Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92418

**Los Angeles, Tuesday, Aug. 24**

Huntington Park Family Center  
3355 E. Gage Avenue  
Huntington Park, CA 90255

**Salinas, Wednesday, Aug. 25**

Rodeo Inn  
808 North Main Street  
Salinas, CA 93906

**Oakland, Thursday, Aug. 26**

Preservation Park, Nile Hall  
1233 Preservation Park Way  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Pasadena, Tuesday, Aug. 31**

Holiday Inn, Magnolia Room  
303 East Cordova Street  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**San Diego, Wednesday, Sept. 1**

Ruben H. Fleet Science Center  
Balboa Park  
1875 El Prado  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Costa Mesa, Thursday, Sept. 2**

Westin Southcoast Plaza Hotel  
1400 Bristol Street  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

**San Jose, Tuesday, Sept. 7**

San Jose Unified School District Board Room  
855 Lenzen Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95126

**Antioch, Wednesday, Sept. 8**

Rodriguez Community Center Theater  
213 F Street  
Antioch, CA 94509

**Santa Rosa, Thursday, Sept. 9**

Burbank Center for the Arts Merlot Theater  
50 Mark West Springs Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

**Visalia, Tuesday, Sept. 14**

Visalia Convention Center, San Joaquin Room  
303 E. Acequia  
Visalia, CA 93291

**Chico, Wednesday, Sept. 15**

Community Center  
545 Vallombrosa Avenue  
Chico, CA 95927

**Redding, Tuesday, Sept. 21**

Doubletree Hotel, Sierra Room  
1830 Hilltop Drive  
Redding, CA 96002

**Sacramento, Wednesday, Sept. 22**

Convention Center, Room 203  
1030 15th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## What's Next

June 25- Sept. 23	90-day public comment period; 15 public hearings.
July 1999- April 2000	Continue to refine program.
April 2000	Final EIS/EIR released. 30-day public comment period.
June 2000	Certification of final EIS/EIR
2000-2030	Program implementation



CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM

1416 Ninth St., Ste. 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*The mission of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is to develop a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system.*



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