

# CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM

*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.*

## What is the CALFED Bay-Delta Program?

The Program is a cooperative effort among the public and State and Federal agencies with management and regulatory responsibility in the Bay-Delta system. It was formed as part of the Bay-Delta Accord to address water management and environmental problems associated with the Bay-Delta, including ecosystem restoration, water quality, water use efficiency, and levee system integrity.

State-Federal cooperation was formalized in June 1994 with the signing of a Framework Agreement in which the State and Federal agencies pledged to work together in three areas of Bay-Delta management:

- water quality standards formulation,
- coordination of State Water Project and Federal Central Valley Project operations with regulatory requirements, and
- long-term solutions to problems in the Bay-Delta Estuary.

## Who are the CALFED agencies who provide policy direction and oversight for the process?

State:           Resources Agency  
                  Department of Water Resources  
                  Department of Fish and Game  
                  California Environmental Protection Agency  
                  State Water Resources Control Board  
                  California Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal:        Department of the Interior  
                  Bureau of Reclamation  
                  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
                  Bureau of Land Management  
                  U.S. Geological Survey  
                  Environmental Protection Agency  
                  Department of Commerce  
                  National Marine Fisheries Service  
                  U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
                  Department of Agriculture  
                  Natural Resources Conservation Service  
                  U.S. Forest Service  
                  Western Area Power Administration

## What are the phases of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program?

There are three phases:

Phase I, completed in September 1996, identified and defined the problems.

Phase II, currently underway, is conducting a comprehensive programmatic environmental review.

Phase III, expected to last 30 years or more, will involve implementation of the proposed actions.

## What is the Preferred Program Alternative?

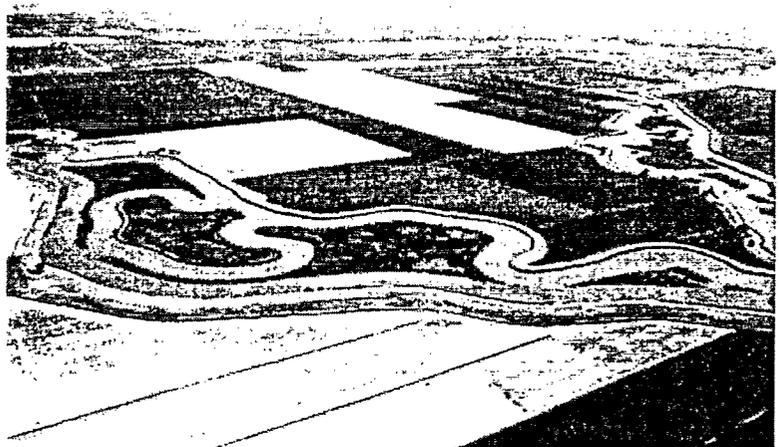
Identified in the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report, the Preferred Program Alternative is a set of actions that set the long-term direction of the CALFED Program. It uses eight program elements to carry out strategies to solve problems in the four resource areas: ecosystem health, water quality, water supply reliability, and levee system integrity.

## What are the eight program elements?

- **Long-term Levee Protection Plan** - Provides improvements in the reliability of levees in the CALFED problem area.
- **Water Quality Program** - Makes reductions in point and non-point source pollution.
- **Ecosystem Restoration Program** - Provides improvements in habitat, restoration of critical ecological processes and species populations, and reduces conflict with other system resources.
- **Water Use Efficiency Program** - Encourages water recycling and efficient water usage for agricultural and urban purposes and managed wetlands by providing support and incentives at the local level, including technical and financial assistance.
- **Water Transfers Program** - Works to facilitate and streamline an active and regulated water market that will allow water to move between users, including environmental uses, on a voluntary and compensated basis.
- **Watershed Program** - Promotes locally-led watershed management activities and protections relevant to achieving CALFED goals through financial and technical assistance.
- **Storage** - New groundwater and/or surface storage will be developed and constructed together with implementation of water conservation, recycling, and a protective water transfer market.
- **Delta Conveyance** - CALFED will depend on the existing Delta conveyance system with some modifications, evaluate its effectiveness, and add additional conveyance and/or other water management actions if necessary.

## How is the Public involved in CALFED?

Since its inception, CALFED has worked with the public, urban and agricultural water users, fishing interests, environmental and watershed organizations, and businesses to define and evaluate alternatives for solving the Bay-Delta's problems. Ultimately, it will be the participation of the entire public that will help fix the Bay-Delta.



Prepared by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, Public Affairs Office, Sacramento