



F R I E N D S O F T H E R I V E R

915 20th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

916/442-3155 • FAX: 916/442-3396 • E-mail: info@friendsoftheriver.org • www.friendsoftheriver.org

CALIFORNIA'S
STATEWIDE RIVER
CONSERVATION
ORGANIZATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wheaton, Chair
President, Environmental Law Fdn.
Senior Counsel, First Amendment
Project

Armstrong
President, All Outdoors River Co.

Ball
Resource Manager

Conn, Secretary
Trout Fisher,
Retired CEO, Touje Ind.

Harris Dalwin
Principal, Harris and Associates

Diamant
President and CEO, UtilityGuide.com

Dubois, Director Emeritus
International Coordinator,
Earth Day 2000

Ferroggiaro, Treasurer
Principal, Ferroggiaro
Consulting Group

Fitzpatrick
Instructor, Truckee Meadows
Community College

Linney
President,
The Next Generation

Marcus
Restoration Ecologist,
Laurel Marcus and Associates

Moss, Vice Chair
President and CEO, Antenna Theater

Rose
Political Director, California League
of Conservation Voters

Ruiz
Vice President of Client Services
Enterprises

Rundquist
Owner, Rivers and Mountains

Sandoval
Instructor, Foothill-DeAnza
Community College Dist.

Skinner, Vice Chair
Retired Publicity Director,
Grey Bass Publishers

Steinberg
Principal, Susan Steinberg
Media Consultants

Cozart, ex officio
Financial Analyst, Agilent Technologies

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Reifsnider

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Johnson

CONSERVATION DIRECTOR
Evans

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
Penny

CALFED:

The Good; The Bad; And The Ugly

THE GOOD:

Ecosystem Restoration – CALFED will spend more than \$1 billion to restore fish and wildlife habitat adversely impacted by existing federal, state, and local water projects. Key restoration activities include increasing instream flows, purchasing riparian habitat and wetlands, and removing barriers to fish migration.

Water Use Efficiency – CALFED will spend nearly \$4 billion on water use efficiency, conservation, and recycling programs, providing nearly 1.3 million acre feet of additional water for environmental, agricultural, and urban use.

THE BAD:

Water Storage: CALFED initiates a costly \$1.8 billion study program to increase water storage and water supply reliability by raising some existing dams, pursuing at least one new dam to store water offstream, and using Delta islands for water storage. Actual construction of any of these projects will cost millions more.

Conveyance – Allocates more than \$1.5 billion to “test” a major new water diversion from the Delta, expand existing state and federal water diversions, dredge Delta channels, and improve Delta levees to facilitate water transport.

Groundwater Management, Water Transfers, & Watershed Protection – These CALFED goals, although laudable, may not provide sufficient environmental protection.

THE UGLY:

More Subsidies For Special Interests – State and federal taxpayers are expected to pay more than 2/3rds of the nearly \$10 billion dollar CALFED tab for the first seven years, not including the multi-billion dollar costs for actual construction of proposed new storage projects.



A NONPROFIT TAX-DEDUCTIBLE ORGANIZATION

Endangered Species Protection Weakened – The CALFED decision essentially limits the level of protection offered in the decision to threatened and endangered species.

Peripheral Canal – CALFED proposes to construct a “test” diversion facility in the Delta, which is essentially the first step in the construction of the controversial Peripheral Canal, which was rejected by statewide voters in 1980.

Shasta Dam Raise Violates State Law – By flooding more than a mile of the McCloud River, CALFED’s proposed raising of Shasta dam violates state law guaranteeing the protection of the river’s free flowing character and extraordinary values.

Los Vaqueros Reservoir Enlargement Reneges On Promises – CALFED’s proposed enlargement of the Los Vaqueros reservoir reneges on environmental promises made to Contra Costa County voters. The reservoir enlargement is capable of storing water diverted from the American and Mokelumne rivers, increasing the threat of new dams and diversions on these rivers.

Raising Friant Dam Floods The Millerton State Recreation Area – CALFED’s proposed raise of Friant dam on the San Joaquin River would flood the popular Millerton State Recreation Area and produce relatively little water at a very high price.

Sites Offstream Storage Reservoir Threatens The Sacramento River Ecosystem – CALFED’s pursuit of the proposed Sites offstream storage reservoir in the Sacramento Valley would divert significant water from the Sacramento River, potentially threatening the river’s ecosystem and numerous threatened and endangered species.

For more information, contact Betsy Reifsnider at (916) 442-3155 Ext. 212 or Steve Evans at (916) 442-3155 Ext. 221.

Note: This critique is based on verbal briefings provided by government officials. This critique may be revised after the final CALFED agreement is released to the public.