



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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December 13, 1995

Alex Hildebrand
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Dear Alex:

Thank you for your letter of October 4, 1995 regarding your comments on the October 2 BDAC packet prepared by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. We truly appreciate you taking the time to relay your thoughts on this aspect of our Program.

I apologize for the delay in responding to your letter. Staff has reviewed your comments and suggestions for the workshop materials and they have been made part of our public comment record.

The concerns expressed in your letter were considered as we prepared the revised materials for the December workshop mailing. (Please see the attached individual comment responses.) In particular, please note the changes to the Primary Problem/Objective Statements and revised Action Category descriptions in the workshop packet. In addition, the Action Categories list identifies actions not previously distributed, which we believe addresses some of your concerns. Please note that agency experts are currently reviewing this revised material for accuracy. Modifications of the Program materials will be made as necessary since they will form the basis for alternative development and evaluation.

Again, we appreciate your interest in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and look forward to your continued involvement in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Attachment

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
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

Comment 1 - The Primary Problem/Objective Statements are not intended to compare levels of severity of the problems. The intent is to provide a general background of the problems that the CALFED Bay-Delta program needs to address. The October workshop packet did not include the Action Category Description on Control of Introduced Species that may address your concern regarding our emphasis of the severity of introduced species being a problem. The description can be found on page B-11 of the December workshop mailing.

Comment 2 - The Primary Problem/Objective Statements have been revised and we have developed Primary Conflicts and Causes statements that may more accurately reflect your concerns regarding declining Delta inflow and reallocation of inflows.

Comment 3 - The list of actions within the Action Category of Establishment of Long term Funding Mechanism includes an action titled "Establish a disaster contingency funding program" on Page "x" of the index for Appendix B.

Comment 4 - The list of actions within the Action Category of New or Expanded Onstream Storage includes - enlarge existing onstream storage reservoirs on page iv of the index for Appendix B.

Comment 5 - The level of detail for actions included in our current materials is at a more general level. Please see the Action Category descriptions for Acquisition of Long-term Water Supplies for Fish and Wildlife and Delta Inflow/Outflow/Export Management. The discrete action described in your comments is much more specific than the current level of detail the program is pursuing. However, we will retain this information for future efforts in Phase II of our program.

Comment 6 and 7- The description for the Action Category for Installation of Barriers to Fish Movement has been modified and your comments included as appropriate. Please note the title of this description has been revised to Improvement of Fish Migration and can be found on page B-27 of the workshop materials.

Comment 8 - Although the description of the action category entitled "water reclamation" has been modified slightly, we realize that this change may not fully address your concern regarding increased salinity of reclaimed water. The current description of this action category is being reviewed by agency experts for accuracy and we intend to modify the description to incorporate your comments before these descriptions are utilized as the basis for alternative development and evaluation.

Comment 9 - The description of the constraint you provided for water transfers is

specific to a particular type of transfer. However, the Action Category description for Water Transfers provides a more general level of detail that also provides for transfer of water for in-stream uses including downstream flow during summer months. The current description of this action category is being reviewed by agency experts for accuracy and we intend to modify the description to incorporate your discrete comment at a more general level of detail before these descriptions are utilized as the basis for alternative development and evaluation.