



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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Date: January 15, 1997

To: Dr. Perry Herrgesell, Chair
Interagency Ecological Program
Department of Fish and Game
4001 North Wilson Way
Stockton, CA 95205

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

Subject: Monitoring Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP)

I want to thank the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) coordinators for their willingness to assist the CALFED Bay-Delta Program in preparing the monitoring section of our Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP).

As you know, Pat Coulston, IEP Program Manager, met with Dick Daniel on December 6, 1996, to discuss our request and to outline the details of the task. As Pat has proceeded with his efforts and coordination with other IEP members, he has kept Dick informed.

The purpose of this memo is to confirm those discussions and clarify the scope of the task. The ERPP will be a comprehensive plan designed to remedy environmental problems and deficiencies manifest in the legal Delta and Suisun Bay. The scope of our solution set ranges throughout the Central Valley and into all watersheds of streams tributary to the Delta. If necessary we will implement solutions above dams or into the Pacific Ocean.

The plan identifies ecosystem elements for which implementation objectives and targets are being developed at a programmatic level. Ranges of actions of levels of implementation will be presented, but specific actions will not be selected during this phase of our Program.

An important component of the ERPP implementation strategy is adoptive management wherein the response of habitats and species will be monitored and evaluated and the application of this data to future management decisions. Monitoring and focused research are important to the adaptive management approach.

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

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We ask that you closely review the information in our November 19, 1996 draft working paper on implementation objectives and targets, the existing monitoring program of the IEP, the draft Comprehensive Assessment and the monitoring program developed by the Fish and Wildlife Services for the Central Valley Project Improvement Act. We also suggest that you work closely with Dr. Bruce Herbold of EPA. He has been heavily involved in many aspects of the CALFED Program and continues to provide insightful recommendations.

The specific deadline for this task is February 3, 1997. The document should be prepared using Word Perfect 6.1 or other software that is compatible with our system. The monitoring plan needs to identify routine sampling and analysis which will provide all the appropriate data to assess progress toward restoration of the Delta to a healthy state and to assess needs to change targets or actions through adoptive management.

Because the plan will be incorporated into a programmatic document it does not need to be too detailed or specific. Please keep the descriptions of individual monitoring elements concise and organized in a manner easily understood by lay persons. A short description of each element and a table or matrix should be sufficient.

The draft will be refined by CALFED and distributed for broad review. Should we feel the need to make modifications, we will coordinate with IEP. We understand that time is short, however, we encourage the involvement of as many experts as possible.

Please keep Dick Daniel informed of your progress on this task. He will resolve any difficulties you may have as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact Dick Daniel at (916) 657-0199.