



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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July 17, 1997

Mr. Wayne White, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
3310 El Camino, Suite 130
Sacramento, California 95821-6340

Wayne White
Dear Mr. White:

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is in the process of preparing a joint Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Report. This document will describe the affected environment, display alternatives including the no-action alternative, programmatically display potential environmental impacts, and provide potential mitigation measures for impacts to resources within the study area. The Federal Endangered Species Act requires consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) if there is a potential to effect listed species or critical habitat. Federal and State listed species as well as critical habitat may be affected by the actions being considered by the Program.

The CALFED Program and the Service have engaged in discussions regarding the preparation of a Programmatic Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). To date, CALFED staff, the Service and the Department of Fish and Game have made significant progress on the format, content, and schedule for the HCP. I am most appreciative of your efforts to move this process forward.

I have enclosed a list of the 31 quadrangles which encompass the Delta and am requesting the Service provide a current listing of species of special concern for the Delta. I will provide additional requests for areas outside the Delta as we move through the process.

The preparation of the HCP will require a full commitment of resources by both parties in order to meet the tight schedule imposed on the CALFED Program. I will make my staff available to work closely with the Service in order to move forward on the preparation of the HCP. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Sharon Gross at (916) 657-2666.

Enclosure

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow
Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

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