



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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October 27, 1998

Hon. Robert Meacher
Supervisor, Plumas County
P. O. Box 10207
Quincy, CA 95971

Dear Mr. Meacher:

Enclosed you will find a revised page to the July 16-17, 1998 BDAC meeting summary. The comments you referred to in our conversation last week were inadvertently omitted from the version of the meeting summary that appeared in the September meeting packet. Somehow, the paragraph was dropped either through an electronic transfer of the file or conversion from one software program to another. The complete version of the summary will be filed in the appropriate files in the CALFED offices.

Please be advised that in preparing the meeting summaries we consolidate and distill the proceedings to capture the highlights, while minimizing verbatim recitations of discussions. In this case, there was a technological problem and unfortunately, an incomplete version of the summary was distributed.

Feel free to contact me at (916) 654-4214 with any other comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Eugenia Laychak
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Enclosure

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
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

changes since June, including a strategy to ensure the through Delta conveyance is optimized, that storage will likely be part of the preferred alternative, the Ecosystem Restoration program actions will focus on meeting restoration goals, and that Stage 1 will be defined as a seven year stage.

Discussion Points

- BDAC members Alex Hildebrand, Richard Izmirian, Ms. Borgonovo exchanged views with Stein Buer and Steve Ritchie and commented on options for ensuring adequate water supply for beneficial uses. It was suggested that water demand projections for agriculture, urban users and the environment were needed. With respect to agriculture, the effects of reduced water supplies on operations and the world food supply should be considered. In addition, capturing flood flows is needed to ensure adequate supplies for agriculture. It was suggested that hydrological economic analyses should demonstrate the relationships between storage, water use efficiency and storage. Demand projections and conservation projects in Bulletin 160 may be over and understated, respectively. In addition, staged decision-making is needed to deal with future uncertainties.

With respect to water use efficiency, clearly defined performance standards are needed to quantify savings from conservation. In addition, adequate and quantifiable savings from conservation should be linked to storage. It was suggested that different water users have different definitions of water use efficiency and that the Water Use Efficiency program should require implementation of efficiency actions, rather than just development of plans.

- BDAC members Byrun Buck and Robert Meacher provided detailed comments on the document. Currently, the proposed actions provide little improvement to drinking water quality. On page six., 2. "Conveyance" change "considered" to "triggered". Linking decisions on conveyance to progress on surface storage does not help provide the type of assurances that are needed for an isolated conveyance. Explain that under 3. "Water Export Regulations" the program is attempting to deal with fish entrainment. Bring definition to the proposed linkages for surface storage. For example, define the word "available" as it is used in 4.a., page 7. Consider links between watershed coordination (forest management, specifically) and improving water use efficiency and conservation. Define more clearly the financing concept, including the beneficiaries pay principle. Either include language requiring a strong link to critical Delta problems in all of the program elements or eliminate the requirement in the Watershed Management element.
- Ms. Davis and BDAC members David Guy and Pietro Parravano joined the discussion. Questions were raised regarding the new definition of Stage 1. It was suggested that meeting certain milestones be required in Stage 1, before progressing to Stage 2. The definition of "recovery" (used, for example, in section 2. a.) was requested, and the ability to achieve recovery of fisheries and define the appropriate triggers in Stage 1 was questioned. Requests were made to optimize the storage component, explain why water marketing was required