

Reading File



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May 11, 1999

Virgil Akins, Superintendent  
Northern California Agency  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
1900 Churn Creek Road, Suite 300  
Redding, CA 96002-0292

Dear Chairperson Akins:

On behalf of the United States Government and the State of California, I would like to invite you and your tribe to work with us as part of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, commonly known as CALFED.

CALFED is a cooperative effort among federal and state agencies and California's environmental, urban and agricultural communities to address environmental and water management problems in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Bay-Delta). CALFED's mission is to develop a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system. Enclosed is information about CALFED. Additional copies are available from CALFED.

Although CALFED has focused most of its attention directly on the Delta, the Program has begun identifying potential projects in its watershed, but outside the Delta, that will affect the Delta directly. As we move beyond the Delta, we recognize that CALFED needs to coordinate with tribes in the upper watershed, and that these tribes may be interested in participating in the CALFED Program. We need to hear from you if you and/or your tribe have such an interest.

CALFED's leadership, which includes senior policy leaders from 14 federal and state agencies, plans to consider possible ways that interested tribes may participate directly in the Program. In order to understand how you think your tribe may best participate, we wish to consult with you and other interested tribal leaders. CALFED's leadership hopes to bring together interested tribal representatives for a complete CALFED briefing and consultation this summer. Learning of your possible interest is the first step to establishing a government-to-government relationship.

If you have questions or suggestions on how CALFED can better involve your tribe, please call me at (916) 657-2666.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow  
Executive Director

Enclosure SAME LETTER SENT TO ADDRESSEES ON ATTACHED LIST.  
CALFED Agencies

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| California | The Resources Agency<br>Department of Fish and Game<br>Department of Water Resources<br>California Environmental Protection Agency<br>State Water Resources Control Board | Federal | Environmental Protection Agency<br>Department of the Interior<br>Fish and Wildlife Service<br>Bureau of Reclamation<br>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | Department of Agriculture<br>Natural Resources Conservation Service<br>Department of Commerce<br>National Marine Fisheries Service |
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