



**CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM**

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July 21, 2000

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Dear «title» «lname»:

Enclosed for your review and information is a copy of the final programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program that was published today. This material includes a copy of the executive summary of the final EIS/EIR and a compact disk containing the entire document. CALFED and agency staff are available to brief you and your staff on these documents and related issues. We have also included a copy of our news release announcing the publication of these documents.

As you are aware, several State and Federal agencies acting together as CALFED have been developing an integrated, long-term program to address four sets of interrelated ecosystem and water management issues focussed on the San Francisco Bay and Delta estuary. These issues pertain to ecosystem health, water quality protection, water supply reliability, and Delta levee system integrity. We released a draft EIS/EIR with a program plan (a "preferred program alternative") in June 1999. In the months since then, we have reviewed and responded to thousands of comments we received on the program plans and on the environmental analysis.

On June 9, Governor Gray Davis and Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt released an outline of actions to solve the most pressing aspects of California's water supply, reliability and environmental problems in an historic plan entitled, "California's Water Future – A Framework for Action." The final EIS/EIR details this long-term plan and identifies a strategy for implementing it. State and Federal representatives continue to meet with members of the public to discuss how the plan will be implemented.

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**CALFED Agencies**

<b>California</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Resources Agency</li> <li>Department of Fish and Game</li> <li>Department of Water Resources</li> <li>The Reclamation Board</li> <li>California Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>State Water Resources Control Board</li> <li>Department of Food and Agriculture</li> <li>Delta Protection Commission</li> </ul>	<b>Federal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>Department of the Interior</li> <li>Fish and Wildlife Service</li> <li>Bureau of Reclamation</li> <li>U.S. Geological Survey</li> <li>Bureau of Land Management</li> <li>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Agriculture</li> <li>Natural Resources Conservation Service</li> <li>U.S. Forest Service</li> <li>Department of Commerce</li> <li>National Marine Fisheries Service</li> <li>Western Area Power Administration</li> </ul>
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The EIS/EIR will form the basis for two upcoming actions. The Secretary for Resources will soon certify the EIS/EIR as an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act. At the same time, several Federal agency executives will sign a Record of Decision under the National Environmental Policy Act – the EIS/EIR will form a basis for that Record of Decision.

Signing of the Record of Decision will allow program implementation to begin. Publication of the final EIS/EIR is one of the prerequisites to expenditure of funds from two recent State general obligation bond acts. Proposition 204 (1996) authorizes appropriation of \$390 million from the Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration Account, while Proposition 13 (2000) authorizes appropriation of \$250 million from the Bay-Delta Multipurpose Water Management Subaccount.

We look forward to working with you on implementation of this important and innovative approach to managing our environmental and water resources.

I hope this information is helpful. Please call me at (916) 657-2666, or Daniel McCarroll, CALFED legislative coordinator at (916) 653-5704, if you have questions on this material or if you wish to schedule a briefing on the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

Sincerely,



Steven R. Ritchie  
Acting Executive Director

cc: Honorable Gray Davis  
Honorable Bruce Babbitt  
Honorable Mary Nichols  
Honorable David Hayes  
Honorable Carol Browner  
Honorable Winston Hickox

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