

Proposed Clarification of CALFED Framework for Action

Groundwater Storage

Language in the "Groundwater Storage" section describing conjunctive use projects does not adequately reflect previous CALFED documents which identified local support as a key criteria for CALFED support and involvement. There are also no provisions for completion of environmental documentation. Proposed language revision as follows:

Facilitate and fund Develop locally supported, managed and controlled groundwater and conjunctive use projects with a total of 50 TAF to 1 MAF of additional storage capacity by 2007. Groundwater/conjunctive use projects will be implemented through locally supported and managed projects or through partnerships with local and regional interests to obtain local and CALFED Program benefits. These projects will include a combination of purchase, lease or sharing storage space with others, and will include consideration of existing groundwater storage facilities. CALFED has identified projects in the Sacramento Valley, near the Delta, the San Joaquin Valley and Southern California that could provide 500 TAF to 1 MAF of storage, and as of June 2000 three memoranda of understanding have been negotiated with local agencies.

State 1 actions will include

- Finalize agreements with new local project proponents for joint planning and development by February 2001
- Begin feasibility studies by March 2001 with funding through CALFED and Proposition 13.
- Report on the performance of feasibility studies, implementable projects, and potential benefits and beneficiaries by the end of 2002. The report will separately identify likely local benefits as well as opportunities to benefit statewide water supply reliability and the Environmental Water Account.
- Complete environmental review and documentation by the end of 2003.
- Implement early stages of the most promising projects by the end of 2004. Aggressively pursue implementation of additional projects by the end of Stage 1.