

Comments on "Summary of Changes for the CALFED Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR and Appendices"

ERPP Volume 1:

Vision for Ecosystem Elements, Species Designations, Pages 28 and 43, Maintain Diversity ("D"):

Focus group is refining the goals

Adding this designation is a good idea. We also recommend a corresponding strategic objective under Goal 1 in the Strategic Plan for maintain diversity. Suggested wording for this strategic objective: "Maintain native biological diversity in the estuary and its watershed. Enhance and/or maintain the distribution and abundance of the following species and biological assemblages [D species listed]". However, the description or definition of the designation on pages 28 and 43 should be changed to include enhancing the abundance and distribution of these species. Suggested change to the definition on page 28: "An objective of the CALFED ERP is to maintain native biological diversity in the estuary and its watershed. For those species designated "D", the program will undertake actions to enhance and/or maintain the abundance and distribution of non-listed native species...". Suggested change to the definition on page 43: "For those species designated "D", the CALFED program will undertake actions to maintain native biological diversity in the estuary and its watershed by enhancing and/or maintaining the abundance and distribution of native non-listed species." Adding the word "enhance" makes the description consistent with Strategic Goal 1 which states "reversing downward population trends of native species that are not listed"; with the "D" species visions most of which state "maintain and restore"; with proposed ERP actions for these species, many of which are designed to increase abundance and distribution; and, with the definition itself (p. 28) which states "reverse their declines".

Water Quality Program Plan:

Chapter 1, Page 1-10, Table 1. Water Quality Parameters of Concern:

Dioxins and dioxin like compounds should be evaluated using the same process as other parameters before being designated a CALFED Water Quality Program parameter of concern. This includes evaluation by the Parameter Assessment Team of the Water Quality Technical Group.

Section 2.5.1, Page 2-9, Problem Description:

The original first sentence "High deposition of fine sediments..." better describes the problem than the proposed new first sentence "The sediments in...". Keep the original first sentence and drop the proposed new first sentence.

done

Chapter 10, Sacramento River Region Sections:

If these sections are deleted from the Water Quality Program Plan, then they should be added to the CALFED Watershed Program Plan.

- sedimentation above the dams*
- unclear whether it will be added back into watershed plan*

complete needs to the Bay-Delta