

(Draft)

Environmental Justice Framework for Bay-Delta Program, Projects and Actions An Outline

- I. **Introductory Note:** *This document, in an earlier form, was first presented at the last EJ Subcommittee Meeting on October 8, 2003. The document was discussed, in general terms, with no action taken regarding next steps. Since that time some important decisions were made regarding the Drinking Water Framework {DWF}, which is the model for this and other subcommittee's actions to create a similar document. On October 9, 2003 at the California Bay-Delta Authority {CBDA} Meeting, the Drinking Water Framework was presented for approval. (It had been approved at the Bay Delta Public Advisory Committee {BDPAC} Meeting in September 2003). At that time, not only did the BDPAC enthusiastically endorse the DWF, but it also strongly encouraged other subcommittees to consider drafting a similar document. The CBDA, however, raised several questions about the DWF, principally, whether all "key" interest groups had participated in the formulation of the document, and a request for more time to fully study the document and its implications on pending and planned CBDA actions. Bearing in mind that the Drinking Water Subcommittee spent over a year crafting their DWF, they are now deliberating on whether or not they will present a revised DWF to the CBDA or not. The subcommittees' consensus opinion seems to be that the current DWF is a final document. New members will be added to the Drinking Water subcommittee, though this action had been planned for several months and is not in response to the CBDA's request.*

- II. **Background:** Describe current Work Plan and Program Plan (Oversight and Coordination Program). Explain Record of Decision (ROD) commitments and history of EJ in CBDA. Discuss "cross-cutting" designation of programs (science, working landscapes and EJ). Stress the importance of "integration".

- III. **Why?:** This document will guide planning and implementation to ensure completion of Work Plan and Program Plan goals and objectives. Highlights EJSC approved priorities for FY '03-'04. Allows EJSC to consider future year priorities in light of this framework which should guide consistency and structure as next set of EJSC priorities are adopted.

- IV. **Focus on Policy:** DWF is policy-driven and focused on CBDA policies, plans and objectives. DWF includes an "overarching principle" to "...provide improvements in key resource areas" deemed important by the DW Subcommittee. These include water supply, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and levee protection. The DWF identifies "constituents of concern" (pathogens, organic carbon, bromide, salinity, nutrients, taste/color, and turbidity). The EJ Work Plan also identifies key areas of concern (mercury contamination/fish consumption, water transfers, land retirement, water infrastructure, needs of communities, water quality, funding, outreach and education, capacity building, technical assistance, and training)

V. **Opportunity to integrate and streamline:** The DWF highlights issues of specific concern to the DW subcommittee and specific issues regarding water quality in general in a manner which links their concerns to each relevant Program Element. The DWF provides concise guidance to each Element on ways to address, identify, and incorporate their concerns in each Element. It serves as a useful tool.

VI. **Next Steps:** Consider EJ issues in context of the categories below

A. Potentially Significant Adverse Impacts:

B. Mitigation Strategies:

C. Set Timetable and Assignments for drafting EJ Framework:

Key dates -	12/11	(joint) BDPAC / CBDA Meeting
	12/12	EJSC Meeting
	1/9/04	EJSC Meeting
	2/12/04	CBDA Meeting
	2/13/04	EJSC Meeting
	3/11/04	BDPAC Meeting
	3/12/04	EJSC Meeting
	4/8/04	CBDA Meeting
	4/9/04	EJSC Meeting
	5/13/04	BDPAC Meeting
	5/14/04	EJSC Meeting