



March 2000

Voters Approve CALFED Funding

With Proposition 13, voters approved funds for the implementation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

The \$1.97 billion bond was passed by a large margin – 65% to 35%. Funds will be used for upgrading water treatment plants, flood protection, pollution control and other programs throughout the state. Sixty percent of the total bond will be spent in Southern California.

Prop 13 provides \$250 million for several high-priority categories of early actions in the proposed CALFED Program and will allow CALFED to move forward quickly once the program plan is approved this summer. In addition to direct CALFED funding, several other programs in Prop 13 will benefit the Bay-Delta system.

Direct CALFED funding

- ◆ In-Delta ag drainage - \$17 million
- ◆ Low dissolved oxygen in Delta - \$40 million
- ◆ SWP/CVP fish facilities - \$120 million
- ◆ South Delta barriers - \$40 million
- ◆ Abandoned mine drainage - \$17 million
- ◆ Grantline canal barrier - \$16 million

Related funding

- ◆ Loan and grant program to local agencies for projects outside Delta to increase water supplies, enhance water supply reliability or improve water quality - \$180 million
- ◆ Groundwater storage program - \$200 million
- ◆ Delta Levee rehabilitation program - \$30 million

Water

Transfers Info Going On-line at “On Tap”

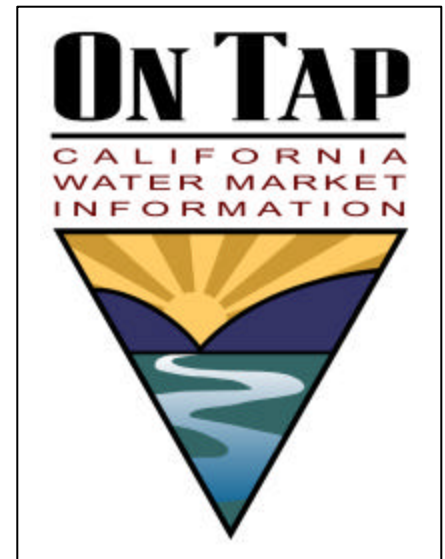
Three CALFED agencies are working together to produce an online water market information source called “On Tap.” This CALFED project is being developed in partnership between the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Water Resources, and the State Water Resources Control Board.

The purpose of On Tap is to coordinate and streamline agency policies and procedures into an interactive, online information source for water market transactions. This project fits in with CALFED’s overall goal to improve the water market framework by improving many of its functions and resolving most of its conflicts.

The site is currently in production and is being tested to ensure the needs and objectives of its target audience are being met. On Tap will be available for limited use this summer.

The web site is expected to include help in preparing a water transfer application; information about historic and pending transactions; and a public forum to exchange information with others interested in water transfers.

Ecosystem PSP Released



Call for Abstracts Announced

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program invites proposals for ecosystem restoration programs and projects to improve the health of the Bay-Delta Ecosystem. The objective of this Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) is to solicit and fund actions that implement the Ecosystem Restoration Program and Strategic Plan.

The PSP was available March 15 on the CALFED web site -- <http://calfed.ca.gov> under the "Request for Proposals" button. It will be mailed to all parties requesting a hard copy.

Submitted proposals must be received in the CALFED offices no later than 3:00 p.m., Monday, May 15. Proposals received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Topic areas for proposals are:

1. Non-native Invasive Species
2. Natural Flow Regimes
3. Channel Dynamics Sediment Transport and Riparian Vegetation
4. Flood management and Bypasses as an Ecosystem Tool
5. Shallow Water Tidal and Freshwater Marsh Habitat
6. Contaminants
7. Special Status Species Surveys and Studies
8. Fisheries Monitoring, Assessment and Research
9. Fish Screens
10. Beyond the riparian corridor
11. Local Watershed Stewardship
12. Environmental Education

CALFED will hold a Pre-Submittal Workshop on April 12, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Resources Agency Auditorium, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento. A written summary of answers to common questions at the workshop will be prepared

Final project approval by California Secretary of Resources and U.S. Secretary of the Interior is expected in October.

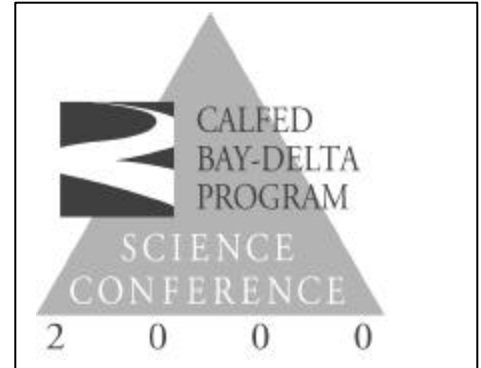
The CALFED Bay-Delta Program Science Conference 2000 is accepting abstracts for the October conference.

Abstracts will be accepted for oral and poster presentations. Deadline is June 23. The conference will be October 3-5 in Sacramento.

The primary goal of the conference is to make new information

(results, models, syntheses) available to the broad community of scientists, engineers and managers working on

CALFED-related issues.



Oral presentations should focus on new findings, models and syntheses from previous and ongoing studies relevant to CALFED technical issues. Abstracts that clearly state the relevance of the research to CALFED technical issues will be given preference. Posters will be displayed throughout the conference. They should address one or more of the topical themes, but may include project or program summaries relevant to CALFED issues.

Abstracts can be submitted online at:

<http://www.iep.water.ca.gov/calfed/sciconf>.

Conference themes

- **Delta hydrodynamics** – new information about circulation, mixing and transport within the Bay-Delta and watershed.
- **Drinking water quality** – focus on recent research on organic carbon and other constituents of concern, and the interaction between CALFED's ecosystem restoration program and drinking water quality.
- **Organic carbon and lower trophic level processes** – new information about the ecosystem

functions that support biological production at the base of the food web in the Bay-Delta and watershed.

- **Fluvial processes** – examination of efforts to develop and implement sustainable aquatic and riparian ecosystem restoration in rivers tributary to the Bay-Delta system.
- **Effects of non-native invasive species** – scientific investigations of the effects their effects on the native ecosystems and species of the Bay-Delta and associated watersheds.
- **Effects of contaminants and other chemical stressors** – new information and potential future research on the effect of contaminants on species of the Bay-Delta and associated watersheds.
- **Levee system integrity** – focus on the understanding of factors affecting levee stability and potential measures to prevent catastrophic breaching of Delta levees.
- **Salmonids** – establishing healthy and sustainable runs of the four Central Valley chinook salmon races and steelhead.
- **Species of special concern** – new findings on the population and community ecology of aquatic and terrestrial species of public concern.
- **Tidal wetland processes** – ecological functions of tidal wetlands in the Bay-Delta.
- **Diversion effects on fishes and environmental water account** – biological utility of short-term changes in flows, diversions, and barrier operations to better aid the recovery of fish populations.
- **Fish facilities and fish screening** – current scientific basis for constructing and operating fish facilities.

EIS/EIR Available Spring

The CALFED Program final Programmatic EIS/EIR will be substantially bigger than the draft issued last June – approximately 2,000 pages bigger.

The final documents will be available late this spring. It will be posted on the CALFED web site and available in print and on CD-ROM. In addition to final drafts of the main document and appendices that were released in June 1999, the final version includes an expanded Implementation Plan and a three-volume Response to Comments.

You can pre-order the final EIS/EIR and it will be sent to you as soon as it is available. Pre-orders help the CALFED Program estimate the number of documents needed in each format. To order all or part of the EIS/EIR, log onto the CALFED web site at: <http://calfed.ca.gov> and click on the EIS/EIR button.

At the February CALFED Policy Group meeting, decision-makers announced a 30 to 60 day delay in the release of the final EIS/EIR. It is expected to be available late this spring, with a final decision on the plan sometime in the summer.

Web site Updated

At first glance, CALFED's home page looks much the same. But click on the map for an animated aerial view of the Delta. This video clip is from the CALFED video, "Striking a Balance."

We've also renamed the buttons and re-organized the material to make the CALFED web site easier to use. New is the "Archives" button, for historic documents, and "Request for Proposals" for grant and proposal information, schedules and application. We've also added "Web Accessibility" – tools to make the site easier to use for the sight impaired.

Make it a habit to check the web site periodically for CALFED Program updates.



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*The mission of the CALFED Bay-Delta
Program 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.*