



CALFED Begins Implementation

On August 28, Federal and State agencies certified the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) and signed the Record of Decision (ROD). Signing the legal document culminated the last five years of hard work, perseverance, and flexibility by CALFED agencies, and launched the Program into final phase of implementation that will take at least 30 years.

The ROD lays out the long term State and Federal plan for providing water security to meet California's growing needs, while at the same time restoring the California Bay-Delta ecosystem from decades of environmental degradation. The plan is designed to ensure that environmental factors are addressed when investing in California's water future.

The next seven years will be the first stage of implementation that will build the foundation for long-term actions to restore ecological health and improve water supply reliability for all beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system. It is anticipated that \$8.7 billion will be spent in this first stage.

"It's been an incredible journey, and we're all very excited to reach the point where we start implementing actions that will make a difference toward solutions. Now, we can meld actions with scientific review and adaptive management to continue down the best roads to a healthy Delta and reliable water sources," said CALFED acting executive director Steve Ritchie.

The ROD, along with attachments that are significant in themselves, is available on the CALFED web site

at: <http://calfed.ca.gov>. In addition, there is a form on the web to order a CD or hard copy of the document. †

October 2000

Lead Scientist Selected

CALFED is pleased to welcome Dr. Samuel N. Luoma to the team as the Lead Scientist for the Science Program. Dr. Luoma has accepted an 18-month interim position with CALFED to oversee the scientific aspects of the program.

"Dr. Luoma is a very accomplished scientist with a distinguished reputation. His knowledge and background will be invaluable assets in developing CALFED's Science Program," said CALFED acting Director Steve Ritchie.

Dr. Luoma comes to the Program from the Department of Interior's U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). For the past 25 years, he has conducted research in the San Francisco Bay, the estuaries of the United Kingdom, and the Clark River of Montana with a focus on the fate, bioavailability, and effects of metal contaminants in estuaries. His work on this project has resulted in more than 130 publications in peer-reviewed scientific literature.

Dr. Luoma is currently the editor of the international scientific journal, "Marine Environmental Research," and an editorial advisor to "Marine Ecology Progress Series," in addition to his ongoing research duties.

As CALFED begins implementation, the Science Program will focus on ecosystem restoration activities including design of effective monitoring, targeted research, and development of priorities. †

**Check our web site periodically for
CALFED Program updates:**

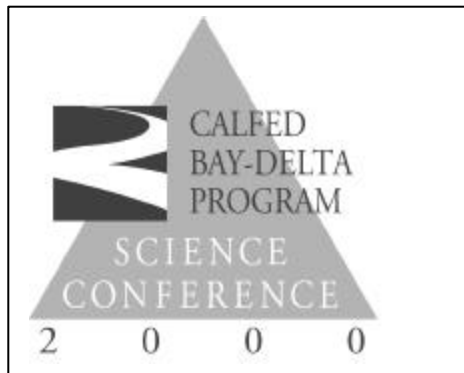
Final Programmatic Environmental Document Available

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Report was released July 21, and is posted on the CALFED web site at <http://calfed.ca.gov>. A request form is also on the web site to order the document in print or CD-ROM. The final version includes an expanded Implementation Plan and a four-volume Response to Comments. †

CALFED October 2000 Science Conference a Big Success

On October 3 through 5, over 700 people attended the first CALFED Science Conference. The event was well organized, well attended, and gave folks a chance to network in many different areas.

The primary goal of the conference was to make new information (results, models, syntheses) available to the broad community of scientists, engineers and managers working on CALFED-related issues. (See the March 2000 newsletter for conference details.)



In all, over 130 presentations and 100 poster boards were presented during the conference. A summary of the briefings will be available in the future. †

Seven Pilot Programs Selected for Water Use Efficiency Program

Funding has been given for seven pilot programs, three urban and four agricultural, that promise to improve water conservation efforts and water use efficiency.

“With water becoming a scarce natural resource, using water more efficiently is one of the key elements of our Program, and we’re pleased to be working on conservation efforts so quickly,” said CALFED acting Executive Director Steve Ritchie.

The total funding commitment for these pilot programs is \$933,000. These pilot projects are an important step toward designing CALFED Incentive Grant programs that can motivate local entities to address multiple benefits through water use efficiency actions.

The goal of CALFED’s Water Use Efficiency Program is to accelerate the implementation of cost-effective actions to conserve and recycle water throughout the State in order to increase water supplies available for beneficial use, improve water quality, and increase in-stream flows. Savings through reduced water use will be accomplished through incentive-based, voluntary, water use efficiency programs.

The following three urban pilot projects were funded: Chino Basin Urban Water Use Efficiency Project by Inland Empire Utilities Agency for \$125,000; Water Consumption Controller by Municipal Water District of Orange County for \$200,000; and River Park Water Use Efficiency Project by the City of Sacramento for \$150,000.

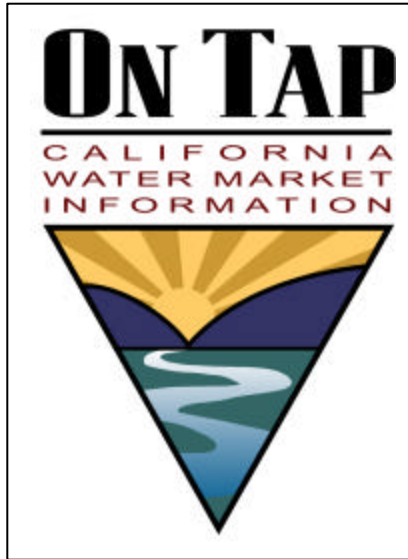
The following four agricultural projects were funded: Yolo Resource Management Monitoring & Extension by the Yolo County Resource Conservation District (RCD) for \$200,000; Irrigation District Rapid Assessment by Cal Poly Irrigation Training and Research Center for \$35,000; Rapid Canal Seepage Assessment by the Center for Irrigation Technology for \$98,000; and West Stanislaus Erosion Control quantification by West Stanislaus RCD for \$125,000.†

“On Tap” Water Transfers Update

On Tap, CALFED’s upcoming water market information web site, is holding a series of “concept briefings” around

the State to introduce potential “users” to the goals, roles, and status of this new web site. Briefings are being held in Sacramento, Yuba City, Fresno, and Southern California.

These briefings target individuals involved in water transfer/water marketing activities. They include water professionals, third party interests, state/federal agency staff, and public policy/research advocates. By soliciting input from these individuals during the planning stage, the On Tap development team hopes to create a collaborative, useful site.



One of On Tap’s briefing goals was to solicit 10 volunteers representing the target audience to participate in site usability testing later this fall. To date, more than 20 people have volunteered.

As described in the June 9, 2000 “Framework for Action”, the initial version of the site will be publicly available by the end of this year.

If you have any questions regarding On Tap, or the concept briefings, please contact Greg Young at 916-657-2666. /

The CALFED Program staff bid a fond farewell to one of the original group of people involved with the Program since it began over five years ago.

Dick Daniel, Chief of the Ecosystem Restoration Division, will be retiring from State service. His expertise was very instrumental in formulating the plans for ecosystem restoration. He will be sorely missed and CALFED wishes him the best in his future endeavors.

Prior to CALFED, Dick held an impressive and extensive work history with the California Department of Fish and Game that started as a Fish and Wildlife Seasonal Aid in '68 and '69 in Eureka; work on a study of toxicity of San Francisco Bay-Delta and receiving water in '70 and '71; the juvenile striped bass study unit in '71 to '76; an associate fishery biologist in Fresno from '76 to '80; and a move to the DFG headquarters in '80 where he continued to excel in his field and career.

“Thanks for all of your hard work and endless hours you dedicated to the benefit and success of the CALFED Program”

- Steve Ritchie and the CALFED Staff

Promotions:

Congratulations to Wendy Halverson Martin who is now the Deputy Director for CALFED. Ms. Martin was the Early Implementation Ecosystem Restoration Program Manager.

Congratulations to Kate Hansel for her promotion to Assistant Director of Policy and Finance.

Congratulations to Terry Mills for his promotion to

Take a look at the Department of Water Resources web site on a South Delta dredging project at:

http://sdelta.water.ca.gov/web_pg/dredging/dredging.htm

NEWS is a publication of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Affairs Office designed to keep the public informed of CALFED activities. For questions, comments, or to be added to the mailing list, write to 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155, Sacramento, California, 95814, or phone (916) 654-7137.

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