

Project Information Sheet Water Transfers Program

Project Name: Water Transfers Program

Project Lead: Department of Water Resources, State Water Resources Control Board and Bureau of Reclamation

Relationship with Tribes: Department of Water Resources acknowledges the CALFED Record of Decision paragraph on Tribal Consultation, as well as the special relationship between the United States and Federally recognized Indian tribes.

The Bureau of Reclamation is a federal agency under the U.S. Department of Interior. As an Executive Branch agency, Reclamation acknowledges and affirms the special relationship between the United States and Federally recognized Indian tribes; Reclamation also has a trust responsibility to such tribes to evaluate the potential impacts of its undertakings on Indian trust assets and to consult with federally recognized tribes when such evaluations reveal impacts that may occur to those assets.

The Department and Board have responsibility for assuring that transfers do not harm other legal users of water.

Location Areas tributary to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the service areas of the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project.

Purpose To encourage the development of a more effective water transfer market that facilitates water transfers and streamlines the

approval process while protecting water rights, environmental conditions, and local economic interests.

Benefits Provides water reliability to cities, agriculture and instream resources.

Features to be Constructed No facilities are constructed as part of the Water Transfers Program

How It Works The program undertakes activities designed to:

1. Increase the availability of existing facilities for water transfers.
 - Improve capacity estimates of state and federal conveyance facilities.
 - Improve predictability of associated wheeling costs.
 - Develop a mechanism for estimating carriage water requirements of a real-time basis.
 - Develop rules for reservoir refill.
2. Lower Transaction costs through permit streamlining
 - Identify measures to streamline the transfer approval process of jurisdictional agencies.
 - Continue defining transferable water associated with crop idling.
 - Identify potential impacts to third-parties and develop mechanisms for appropriate compensation.
 - Work with the stakeholder community to develop agreed upon approaches to monitoring and mitigation.
3. Increase the availability of market information to stakeholders and permitting agencies.
 - Continue operations of the On-Tap database and Water Transfers Information Clearinghouse.

Interested Federally Recognized Tribes: Potentially interested tribes have not been identified at this point in time.

Opportunities for Tribal Participation

1. All tribes can request from the lead agency to be placed on mailing lists to receive notices about potential public outreach activities regarding CALFED projects.
2. All tribes can provide comment to the lead agency about their concerns regarding this program.
3. All tribes can obtain copies of environmental compliance documents potentially generated in regards to this program.
4. All tribes can review CALFED lead agency internet sites on CALFED projects and provide input by email.
5. All tribes can contact the CALFED lead agency, project contact, identified on this sheet for project information updates.
6. Federally recognized tribal governments can be engaged in the planning and development of specific CALFED projects in their areas by CALFED lead agencies.
7. CALFED Agencies can and will consult with federally recognized tribal governments on a government-to-government basis, to the extent permitted by law, prior to taking actions that affect such tribal governments.
8. Upon request, federally recognized tribes can enter into Memorandums of Understanding with CALFED Agencies to specify how the federal, state and tribal governments

will work together, on a government-to-government basis, in developing CALFED projects.

Use of Information : Information about specific CALFED projects provided by CALFED project lead agencies is intended to be used by tribes to formulate their own opinions about (1) the social, economic and environmental worthiness of the specific undertaking, (2) the potential impact such an undertaking may have on the character, use or nature of trust assets, and (3) to convey the tribe's opinions to the lead agency for analysis.

Schedule

1. Provide assistance to transferring parties - Ongoing
2. Coordination of Water Acquisition Programs - Ongoing
3. Develop measurement and monitoring program, March 2005
4. Refine crop idling transferable water definition, January of 2005
5. Review existing and proposed legislation - Ongoing
6. Continue operation of the On-Tap Water Transfer Database and Water Transfer Information Clearinghouse - Ongoing

Project Website: www.watertransfers.water.ca.gov and www.calwater.ca.gov/Programs/WaterTransfers/WaterTransfers.shtml.

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