

**California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee
Environmental Justice Subcommittee Meeting Summary
August 9, 2002
Resources Building, 1416 Ninth Street, Room 1131
Sacramento, CA
Meeting start: 10:15 a.m.**

- Welcome and Introduction by Martha Guzman, EJ Subcommittee Co-Chair. Martha also welcomed members of the Subcommittee that were joining the meeting via teleconference from the alternate meeting location at the Association of Bay Area Governments' Conference Room in Oakland. (A partial list of attendees is appended to this summary as Attachment 1.)

Integration with CALFED Program Elements

CALFED Science Program – guest speaker:

Zach Hymanson, CALFED Science Program

- The mission of the CALFED Science Program is to develop the best scientific information possible to guide decisions regarding CALFED actions and to evaluate the results of implemented actions.
- CALFED Science Program goals include:
 1. Articulate, test, refine, and grow understandings about natural and human systems
 - Invest in critical unknowns
 - Implement regional signature projects (e.g. Delta cross channel project)
 - Fill monitoring gaps
 - Foster adaptive management experiments
 - Conduct science in support of management
 - Invest in analysis of existing data
 2. Integrate use of best available scientific understandings and practices throughout CALFED
 - Establish strong peer review processes
 - Establish partnerships and collaborations
 - Promote publication
 - Enhance public access to data
 3. Provide authoritative and unbiased descriptions of the state of scientific knowledge
 - Conduct issue workshops
 - Prepare white papers
 - Prepare compendiums of knowledge
 4. Evaluate the technical performance of CALFED Programs
 - Establish processes/mechanisms for using expert panels and advisors
 - Review and evaluate specific actions (e.g., EWA) and programs (e.g., IEP)
 - Aid in the development of performance measures
 5. Establish and improve communication pathways between science, management, and public communities.
 - Hold science conferences
 - Develop educational/ informational materials
 - Develop a new regional technical journal
 - Complete Science Program activity reports
- Zach highlighted how the Science Program is similar to the Environmental Justice Program, including:
 - Cut across all CALFED Programs
 - Develops tools and strategies to help CALFED achieve its goals
 - Develops tools and information leading to a more comprehensive approach to project selection and action implementation

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- Provides advice on relevant issues to CALFED management and advisory groups
- Works to establish a strong education /information transfer element
- The Science Action Process includes:
 - Identify key management issues
 - Articulate science questions
 - Develop strategies to answer science questions
 - Advise/critique chosen approach
 - Assist in development of performance measures
 - Complete program evaluations
- Zach stated that the expected budget for the upcoming fiscal year is \$7 million, less than half of the requested budget of approximately \$20-25 million. He noted that the General Fund amount was drastically reduced but the Program was able to supplement with \$2 million of Proposition 13 funds. Kim Taylor, CALFED Science Program Manager, is currently completing a Work Plan that will prioritize tasks and defend the scaling back of programs from the original 7-year forecast based on the limitations in funding.
- The EJ Subcommittee asked how the Science Program identifies “regional signature projects” and if the projects outside of the Delta could be identified as signature projects. Zach responded that the Science Program relies on the CALFED Programs to identify priority issues through regional outreach efforts. The Science Program then helps the Programs identify research projects/questions associated with those issues. He added many of the “signature” projects are actually interdisciplinary approaches that address a number of issues under one project. Projects outside of the Delta can indeed be priority projects. For instance, the Science Program is currently working on a project dealing with fish screens in Red Bluff and the Battle Creek fish hatchery. Zach advised the EJ Subcommittee discussed that if they were to identify contaminated water in the San Joaquin Valley as a priority issue for the EJ Subcommittee, they should work with CALFED Program Managers to identify the priority management issues. At that time, the Science Program could assist in pinpointing specific research projects that would help achieve management goals
- Zach reviewed how the Science Program conducts science in support of management issues identified by other CALFED programs. This support role extends to communication and outreach as well. The Program does little direct outreach to community groups, but relies on the CALFED Programs and project partners to do most of the outreach.
- An EJ Subcommittee member asked if the Program publishes a “state of the Bay-Delta” report. Zach responded that the Science Program works with the San Francisco Estuary Project to host a “State of the Estuary” conference every other year. In the intervening years, the Science Program hosts a Science Conference that highlights a variety of research issues.
- Zach noted that an evaluation of the Drinking Water Program’s PSP process, identified that smaller communities generally do not have the connections and resources to compete directly with larger cities on proposals. He stated that information shared and assistance given at the pre-proposal workshops will have to be reevaluated to make the process more equitable. The EJ Subcommittee discussed improving the level of technical assistance, advising, and outreach to EJ Communities as a priority issue that should be included in the recommendations to BDPAC.
- An EJ Subcommittee member asked if the Science Program reviews the criteria developed for various PSPs, and if so, could the Program request that EJ be a higher priority criterion or be made more explicit in proposals. Zach responded that the Science Program does review PSPs, but more to identify if the individual program’s research needs are clearly articulated in the PSP. He added that the Science Program has provided this type of assistance to the Ecosystem Restoration Program.
- Eugenia Laychak of the CALFED Program suggested that the Science Program consider regional groups like the Delta Protection Commission, Sacramento River Watershed Program, the Southern

California Dialogue, and others as potential liaisons for CALFED and as opportunities for information transfer to regions and communities.

CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program Fish Consumption Study

- Dan Wermiel, Acting EJ Coordinator, reminded the group that at the July 18 meeting of the Subcommittee, Alyce Ujihara, DHS-EHIS Staff, requested that the EJ Subcommittee identify one or two EJ representative(s) (and a tribal representative) to act as liaisons between the EJ Subcommittee and the Fish Consumption Study. The amount of time that would be required of a liaison is unknown, but Alyce did state that compensation might be available in later phases of the study. Martha Guzman, EJ Subcommittee Co-Chair, nominated Olin Webb of BUHP Advocates and suggested that a representative from the Department of the Interior would also be appropriate.
- Martha Guzman, EJ Subcommittee Co-Chair, suggested that stipends for participation by EJ Subcommittee members in other projects/opportunities be included as one of the items in the Draft Workplan.

Resource Issues and Priorities for Subcommittee

Environmental Justice Coordinator

- Dan Wermiel updated the Subcommittee on the Coordinator announcement through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The position closed July 26 and seven applications were received. Dan is currently organizing a panel that will review the applications and call for interviews if necessary. He anticipates the panel will consist of one or two CALFED Program Managers, a representative from the Bureau, Pauline Nevins, CALFED recruiting officer, and potentially a representative from EPA. Dan asked the Subcommittee if they wished to nominate Martha Guzman, or an alternate representative to sit on the panel. The Subcommittee recommended that Martha represent the Subcommittee on the panel and Martha accepted. Once the panel convenes and recommends a candidate, the Bureau will begin work on negotiating the IPA with the candidate's home agency/organization. How soon someone will begin work will depend on how long the selection and negotiation processes take.

Recommendations for Bay-Delta Advisory Committee (BDPAC)

Handouts: Sample Format for Subcommittee Recommendations
 EJ Subcommittee 2002-2003 Workplan and Budget

- The Subcommittee reviewed the 2002-2003 draft Workplan and Budget. The following edits were suggested:
Objectives 5a & b: Add The Resources Agency, California Legacy Project as a Lead Agency
Objective 6b: Add the word "specific" before criteria. Add language stating that PSPs should require identification of EJ benefits of the project within the scope of work.
Objective 6e: Add DWR as a Lead Agency
- The following additions were suggested:
Objective 6i: Funding should be set aside to provide stipends to EJ Subcommittee members that participate as liaisons with other CALFED Program activities.
Objective 6j: Address the reimbursable nature of CALFED contracts/grants as an EJ issue. Allowing the disbursement of funds only after costs have been accrued puts a disproportionate burden on low-income participants.
Objective 6k: Make available technical assistance, workshops, and one-on-one guidance to assist EJ communities in responding to PSPs.
Objective 6l: Develop performance measures for monitoring/tracking the amount of CALFED funding that is reaching communities of color.

- Dan Wermiel stated that he had circulated the draft Workplan to CALFED Program Mangers and the EJ Subcommittee members but had not yet received any comments. He stated that he will make the requested changes (noted above) and redistribute the Workplan to the EJ Subcommittee and CALFED Program Mangers. He will ask that comments be received by August 30. He will share all comments with the EJ Subcommittee before the September 19 BDPAC meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:45 p.m.

The Subcommittee accomplished their agenda and adjourned the meeting early.

Next meeting of the EJ Subcommittee

The Subcommittee agreed to meet from 1 to 3 p.m. on Monday, September 9th to discuss the Subcommittee Draft Workplan, Fact Sheet and recommendations to BDPAC. The ABAG Conference Room B will be made available for representatives to participate by teleconference.

Action Items Chart

Meeting Participant	Action Item
Dan Wermiel, Acting EJ Coordinator	Update the EJ Subcommittee Workplan and distribute to EJ Subcommittee and CALFED Program Managers.
EJ Subcommittee Members	Submit comments to Workplan to Dan Wermiel by August 30.
EJ Subcommittee	Secure a liaison(s) to work with DHS-EHIB on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta fish study.
Dan Wermiel, Acting EJ Coordinator	Convene a panel to review applications for the EJ Coordinator position.

Attachment 1**BDPAC/Environmental Justice Subcommittee Voluntary Sign-In
August 9, 2002**

Name	Affiliation
Adrian Wilson	U.S. DOI/OEPC
Allen Edson	Environmental Science Institute
Carlos Michelin	Metropolitan Water District of So. California
Dr. Henry Clark	
Greg Chen	EBMUD/ Oakland Chamber of Commerce
Janis Offerman	DWR
Joey Wright	Office of Rep. George Radanovich
Kristen LaVine	Public Affairs Management
Kristin Carter	CSU Chico – EJ Program
Leslie Lohse	Paskenta
Michael Warborton	Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
Norman Calero	US EPA
Olin Webb	BUHP Advocates
Tina Low	U.S. DOI/OEPC
Zach Hymanson	CALFED