

**Ecosystem Restoration Subcommittee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 18, 2002**  
**Jean Harvie Community Center Auditorium**  
**14273 River Road, Walnut Grove, CA**  
**Meeting Summary (Draft)**

Subcommittee members (or their alternates) and agency liaisons present:

Gary Bobker (TBI)	Diana Jacobs (CDFG)
Ryan Broddrick (DU)	Tim Ramiirez (Resources Agency)
Serge Birk (CVPWA)	Ken Trott (CDFA)
Elise Holland (TPL)	Margit Aramburu (DPC)
Lisa Holm (CCWD)	Jeannie Blakeslee (CDOC)
Todd Manley (NCWA)	Scott Clark (USACE)
Lloyd Fryer (KCWA)	Carolyn Yale (USEPA)
Bernice Sullivan (Friant WUA)	Sergio Guillen (DWR)

**Introductions and Subcommittee Status**

The meeting began with introductions and a subcommittee status report. The summary of the previous meeting was reviewed and no changes were proposed. Co-chair Ryan Broddrick reported back from the December 3<sup>rd</sup> joint Bay-Delta Advisory Committee (BDPAC) and CALFED Policy Group meeting. Ryan reported that BDPAC and the Policy Group discussed the two versions of the subcommittee's Working Draft of Desired Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) outcomes: Year 3. BDPAC recommended that CALFED staff recognize both versions of the desired outcomes document and incorporate them into the Program Assessment and Annual Work Plan for Year 3. BDPAC further recommended that staff work with the subcommittee to see that the outcomes are appropriately incorporated into the planning document. Both Ryan and Lloyd Fryer reported that the discussion concerning the subcommittee's desired outcomes for the ERP was a healthy exchange concerning issues they felt needed to be discussed at the BDPAC and Policy Group level. The subcommittee agreed that CALFED staff had sufficient direction to address the issues identified in the desired outcomes documents and looked forward to the next version of the Program Assessment and Work Plan.

Co-chair Gary Bobker brought the recent Department of Interior settlement of the Sumner Peck Ranch litigation to the attention of the subcommittee, and highlighted the potential that Central Valley Project Improvement Act Restoration Funds may be directed toward the settlement. Gary believed that the subcommittee should be concerned about this potential because the redirected Restoration Funds would likely reduce the funds available to implement ERP-related activities. The group discussed this issue briefly, but agreed to table it

until later in the meeting. Danae Aitchison of the Attorney General's office pointed out that discussion of the settlement was not on the agenda, and therefore should not be an item on which the subcommittee took action.

### **Ecosystem Restoration Program Status Report**

Dan Castleberry reported that the ERP's Independent Science Board (ISB) had met in November. The ISB discussed a wide-range of issues including the milestones, their March Adaptive Management Workshop, the Strategic Plan review, the Delta Regional Ecosystem Restoration Implementation Plan, the look-back exercise, non-native invasive species workshop, a floodplain restoration and management workshop, how CALFED differs from the Everglades restoration efforts, water management in the Delta, and other items.

Dan Castleberry introduced Dan Ray of the ERP staff who provided handouts and updated the subcommittee on the status of directed actions that the ERP was considering for funding based on recommendations from the ERP's Selection Panel.

Dan Castleberry then introduced Lauren Hastings of the ERP staff and Marina Brand of Fish and Game who update the subcommittee on the status of efforts to draft the first of the ERP's regional implementation plans. This first plan is focused on the Delta and is called the Delta Regional Ecosystem Restoration Implementation Plan (DRERIP). Lauren and Marina provided handouts with the slides they used in their presentation. Marina highlighted the purposes of the plan, the relationship of the plan to other ERP planning documents, the history of the planning effort, and the contents of the plan's outline. Lauren then highlighted the opportunities for input, including the science input process, noting that an important aspect of this process would be a review of the Delta-specific milestones and actions by scientists, including scientists from outside the agencies. Lauren's presentation included a timeline that indicated portions of the plan would be available for review throughout the plan's development, with the first portion released at the meeting and additional portions available in spring, summer and fall of 2003 and the entire plan available in summer 2004. Marina then presented the first portion of the plan available for review, the land use subsection of Chapter 3. Several members of the subcommittee stated that they supported the effort and were looking forward to review the subsection that was released as well as the chapters to come. Specific comments focused on need to be strategic about the science review of the plan, that the review should add value to the substantial information provided in prior ERP planning documents, especially the need to incorporate new information as it develops. Other comments concerned the need to address multiple audiences and the need for accountability.

### **Next steps for the Subcommittee**

The subcommittee confirmed February 13<sup>th</sup> as the date for their next meeting and identified April 9<sup>th</sup> as the date for the following meeting. Gary Bobker provided suggestions on upcoming agendas. These are: 1) status of annual work planning process; 2) status of authority; 3) ERP plan for performance metrics and adaptive management; 4) status of the Environmental Water Program; 5) status of ERP contracts, especially contracts stemming from the last round of solicitations; 5) ERP approach to implementation; and 6) long-term funding strategies.

Gary Bobker restated his concerns related to the Sumner Peck Ranch settlement agreement and recommended that members comment on the issue independently and that the subcommittee consider commenting as a group. Much discussion ensued and Ryan Brodrick agreed to consider preparing a statement that Gary and others could review, possibly for consideration at a future meeting

### **Action Items**

1. In subsequent drafts of the ERP's annual work plans, ERP staff will address the issues identified in the desired outcomes documents that the subcommittee had shared with the Bay-Delta Advisory Committee and CALFED Policy Group at their December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.