

Prioritizing CalFed Water Supply Options

Concept

Ask BDPAC members to prioritize the various water supply options being considered by CalFed. Seek consensus as much as possible in both the water supply committee as well as the full BDPAC, but allow for votes by individual BDPAC members. Projects to be prioritized in rank order, with no projects dropped.

Process

1. Notify all BDPAC members about what is taking place, and invite them to participate in the water supply subcommittee proceedings.
2. Ask the lead agencies to make a presentation on each project, with additional comments by other water and wildlife agencies. Agency presentations should be factual, not advocacy. Ask agencies to send out material in advance due to short presentation time.
3. Invite project proponents and opponents to comment after the agency presentations.
4. For each presentation, agency staff will provide information gained from common assumptions work to maximize level playing field comparisons between the projects. This especially needs to be distributed in advance of the meeting.
5. At the end of the presentations, ask WSS members to discuss possible priorities, try to arrive at a consensus, and then (if consensus is not possible), vote on priorities between projects. There will not be a vote to remove any project from consideration, delete funding or refine a study.
6. At the end of the discussion of conveyance, ask the members to determine priority between conveyance, storage or maintaining the current priorities in the conveyance and storage programs.

Comparison Criteria for Each Project

Provide this list to all BDPAC members attending

1. Project purposes stated (Main Objectives) of the project
2. Water supply benefits
3. Water quality benefits
4. Ecosystem restoration benefits
5. EWA benefits
6. Non flow related benefits (Energy, Flood Control, Recreation, etc.)
7. Range of possible project impacts on fish and wildlife
8. Impacts on project site (environmental and cultural)
9. Global warming aspects (how does project fit into California's likely water future under global warming?)
10. Sensitivity with Delta conveyance
11. Interaction with other proposed projects (cumulative effects)
12. Total estimated current cost (range for different sized projects)
13. Cost per AF of yield for human use (irrigation, M&I)
14. Comment on interaction with other proposed projects (cumulative effects)
15. Identification of potential beneficiaries