

Delta Long Term Management Strategy Interagency Working Group July 28, 2005

Draft Meeting Summary

The Interagency Working Group (IWG) of the Delta Long Term Management Strategy (Delta LTMS) held a conference call at 1 pm on July 28, 2005 to receive updates on the interview process and scientific studies.

Participants included:

Eric Nagy, USACE
Sue McConnell, CVRWCQB
Bob Yeadon, DWR
Sergio Guillen, CALFED
Charles Gardiner, CirclePoint
John Clerici, CirclePoint
Sonja Wadman, CirclePoint

Interview Process

Sonja Wadman provided a summary of people that have been interviewed thus far. All members of the IWG have been surveyed, with the exception of Brian Ross, who will provide written answers when he is able. CirclePoint has also initiated interviews with IWG management and have so far spoken with Arijs Rakstins (USACE) and Karen Schwinn (USEPA). Bob reported that Dave Mraz will contact upper level DWR; Les Harder and Steve Verigan both have been promoted, thus their time is harder to procure. The process and protocol for contacting remaining management identified for interviews was reviewed. CirclePoint hopes to conduct remaining "second round" interviews by August 5. Charles Gardiner will contact and interview Roberta Goulart (Contra Costa County) as soon as possible.

External interviews will be conducted between August 1 and 12. The IWG confirmed that Jeff Kaspar is the appropriate contact for Port of Stockton. Tom Scheeler (371-8000 x. 350) was recommended for the Port of Sacramento.

Sonja and Charles provided "highlights" of some of the interviews. Many mentioned the importance of executive level commitment as a key to success. Interviewees had differing opinions on the role that CALFED should play in the Delta LTMS. All indicated that the legacy of CALFED work in the Delta should not be ignored, and that existing CALFED forums for information sharing should be maximized. Sergio confirmed that CALFED has Agency Coordination Team (ACT) meetings each Tuesday with the heads of all implementing agencies, and the BDPAC/CBDA meet monthly. These could be good opportunities to share information with people that may be a part of the executive group for the Delta LTMS. Charles noted that the relationship between CALFED decision making and the Delta LTMS is an important issue to

discuss and resolve as the IWG develops the strategy in the next two months. It was noted that to be on a CALFED agenda, advance planning is required. Sergio reported that CALFED is reshaping and their priorities are likely to return to the original four goals discussed in the ROD (water supply reliability, water quality, ecosystem restoration, and levee protection). Significant structural changes are not anticipated.

The IWG confirmed that they were comfortable with CirclePoint scheduling and conducting interviews independently. It was requested to provide occasional updates and summaries on progress to the group as needed.

Eric asked about the Delta Protection Commission and Executive Director Margit Aramburu's impending departure/retirement. Members of the IWG stated that they believed she was retiring and going on vacation soon. It was recommended to contact her as soon as possible to get the viewpoint of the DPC before she is unreachable. CirclePoint will contact Margit for an interview and also discuss the Delta workshop DPC is proposing for August. The IWG decided it was too soon to coordinate a workshop with them; we should attend and listen if it is in August. The Delta LTMS will not be ready for a workshop until September when the process is further along.

The group discussed if CirclePoint should interview the three Delta Water Agencies (Central, South, and North) together or separately. The role and importance of the three agencies was debated. It was confirmed that Bob Clark (446-0197) would be the contact for the North Delta Water Agency.

Other regulatory agencies and contacts were suggested:

NOAA Fisheries—Jeffery Stuart, 930-3607, will be asked whom the appropriate manager is.

Fish and Game—Bob Hosea, 358-2950, will be asked for Brian Finlayson's number.

Fish and Wildlife—Sue McConnell will provide CirclePoint with contact info later.

Charles requested that examples of Charters be forwarded to Sonja. The SF LTMS Charter is discussed on-line but its actual language does not appear to be readily found. Eric will find a copy and send it to Sonja.

Science Studies

Eric announced that Todd Bridges has submitted a scope of work for testing. Eric is concerned because the budget is much higher than anticipated. The scope cannot be forwarded to his superiors until this is revised. Eric said Todd is willing to make adjustments, such as testing in rounds and only conducting certain tests as needed. Eric wondered what the result would be if some tests were conducted and others not. He will forward the scope to the IWG and asks for comments.

The next meeting of the IWG is scheduled for August 18th at 1:00 pm. Location to be determined.