

**STUDY PLAN TO EVALUATE
IMPROVED OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FOR THE DELTA
CROSS CHANNEL AND A SCREENED THROUGH-DELTA
FACILITY**

Final

November 28, 2000

RECORD OF DECISION REQUIREMENTS

The CALFED August 28, 2000 Programmatic Record of Decision (ROD), states that CALFED will improve flood protection and conveyance facilities in the North Delta for water quality and fishery improvements, and avoid water supply disruptions (pg.50). Two of the improvements outlined are addressed by this study plan. They are:

- Evaluate and implement improved operational procedures for the Delta Cross Channel (DCC) to address fishery and water quality concerns (pg. 50).
- Simultaneously evaluate a screened through-Delta facility on the Sacramento River of up to 4,000 cfs (pg. 51).

Specifically, the ROD requires that by October 2000 the following will be completed:

1. Operational studies (such as more intense fish monitoring on both sides of the DCC, opening and closing the gates on tidal cycles, etc.) will begin.
2. A specific study plan will be developed for a thorough assessment of the DCC and a thorough evaluation of the technical viability of a screened through-Delta facility will be developed.
3. Fund and begin studies through CALFED Agency appropriations for the DCC and the technical viability of a screened through-Delta Facility.

This fall the CALFED DCC Project Work Team (DCC PWT) is meeting requirement 1. This team was formed by the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) to develop a plan of operations of the DCC for fall 2000 that would address the water quality and fishery concerns raised in the fall of 1999. The team is now conducting a series of studies and experiments that are expected to greatly reduce the uncertainties surrounding these issues and provide a solid basis both for DCC operations later this year and serve as pilot studies for many of the studies proposed in this study Plan. These studies are funded by CALFED Agency appropriations with the CALFED's Delta Cross Channel Through Delta Facility (DCCTDF) project teams oversight and coordination. Hydrodynamic and water quality monitoring of DCC tidal operations are occurring in September of this year. In