

January 13, 2006

**CALFED Science Program
Public Presentation
Final panel report of the review of the science underlying the 2004
NOAA Fisheries Biological Opinion on the long-term operation of the
Central Valley Project and State Water Project – Operations Criteria
and Plan (OCAP)**

**January 30, 2006, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Stanford Room, 1st Floor
John E. Moss Federal Building
650 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814**

Background:

This public meeting is the last component of a CALFED Science Program-funded review of the 2004 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Biological Opinion on long-term operation of the Central Valley and State Water projects. The Science Program convened a technical panel to review the adequacy of the science underlying the OCAP Biological Opinion and supporting Biological Assessment. The panel's report can be found at http://science.calwater.ca.gov/workshop/workshop_ocap.shtml. The report also contains the charge to the panel, the panel membership and the panel's response to public comment. It should be noted that CALFED Science Program funded this review at the request of NOAA Fisheries, but did not participate in developing the conclusions contained in the panel report.

Meeting Objective:

The objective of this public meeting is to provide an opportunity for the review panel to summarize its conclusions and present the final report, as well as for the interested public to ask questions of the panel. The panel chair, Jim Lichatowich, and three other panel members, will be present. The review and the public meeting do not address the non-jeopardy determination in the 2004 Biological Opinion – this determination was not within the panel's charge.

Format and agenda:

CALFED will open the workshop followed by a brief NOAA Fisheries presentation on OCAP and role of the Biological Opinion in water project operation. CALFED will then briefly outline the process leading to the review and panel member selection. The bulk of the meeting will be devoted to the panel's presentation of its findings and questions from attendees. At the end of the meeting, NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will have the opportunity to discuss future steps. NOAA Fisheries may also describe a second review of the OCAP Biological Opinion that was commissioned by headquarters in Washington, D.C., and its role in the process. This is a draft agenda and may be modified before the meeting.

For More Information:

If you have questions regarding the meeting, please contact Randy Brown at brown.randall@comcast.net or 916.961.5449

If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact Colleen Kirtlan, California Bay-Delta Authority at (916) 445-5511, TDD (800) 735-2929.

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