



ESTUARY

YOUR BAY - DELTA NEWS CLEARINGHOUSE

ALL 38 SIGN CCMP

The atmosphere was electric, the tables cluttered, voices firm, eyes engaged... Only a few seats sat empty at this historic final meeting of the forty-odd people who have spent the last six years hammering out their differences over how the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary should be managed and conserved. And in the end, they reached consensus on a 150-page plan (CCMP) containing 147 concrete actions designed to sustain and restore the Estuary. Industry, government, environmentalists, teachers, citizens, scientists and farmers were all at the table. Every single one of them voted to approve the CCMP; every single one hung around long enough after the meeting to scrawl their John Hancock on the plan's cover sheet.

The last meeting — all six hours of it — covered a lot of ground. It commenced with presentations on both aquatic resources and regional monitoring — two CCMP programs being negotiated right up through the eleventh hour. Bob Potter of the State's Department of Water Resources suggested the whole aquatic resources program be dropped from the CCMP because of current uncertainty concerning state and federal water policy and the March 5 listing of the Delta Smelt as a threatened species. Despite Potter's plea, the vast majority (32) voted to approve the section and keep it in the plan. The group also voted in the research and monitoring program.

Heated debate over who should sit on the small but powerful Executive Council (slated to oversee the CCMP's implementation) centered on the balance of state versus federal seats. Pete Chadwick of CAL Fish & Game argued strongly for the state to have more clout, prompting others to suggest a proposed seat for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- continued on back page

A Pitch for Biodiversity

So many species are on the endangered track that biologists are searching for better approaches to critical habitat management than resorting to The List. "The Endangered Species Act assumes that species and habitats are frozen entities," says UC Davis professor Peter Moyle. "We need a way to accommodate change in the system."

What Moyle and researcher Ronald Yoshiyama propose is the establishment of Aquatic Diversity Management Areas (ADMA) in which systemwide biodiversity rather than single species protection would become the top priority. Their ideas have been knocking around in scientific and bureaucratic circles for years, but were only recently published in a report called *Fishes, Aquatic Diversity Management Areas and Endangered Species: A Plan to Protect California's Native Aquatic Biota* (see Now in Print).

Of 116 native California fish, eight are already extinct and another 64 are between endangered and "in decline," according to Moyle. He sees the need for a balancing process in which multiple species can be managed at once. In the Delta, "Winter run chinook salmon are driving decisionmaking processes that can be harmful to other fish," says Moyle. Flushing water for the winter run, for example, may leave little flows for spring and fall runs.

Specifically, Moyle's ADMAs would contain a unique ecosystem, a diversity of native organisms, and critical habitat for threatened or endangered species. Optimally, they'd have a low degree of

disturbance so management is not a formidable task. But they would not necessarily have to be pristine. Moyle says, for instance, that logging operations (apart from clearcutting) could continue around an ADMA.

These new diversity management areas would ultimately become part of an official statewide ADMA system, and most would protect freshwater habitat. Moyle says that while managing the Bay-Delta system according to ADMA principals would go a long way toward reviving fish populations, it would be an enormous challenge because "it's so big and so badly managed." Instead, he's looking into reforming Bay-Delta water rights law to avoid some of the conflict between exporters and fish. Perhaps, he says, water rights could be bought for fish like they are now bought for humans and agriculture.

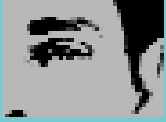
Ideas similar to Moyle's are proposed in the San Francisco Estuary Project's comprehensive conservation and management plan (CCMP) for the Bay and Delta. "The CCMP's sanction will help increase the visibility of ADMAs," says Doug Robotham of the California Resources Agency.

In the meantime, Moyle says his idea is gaining acceptance in agency circles and even at a political levels. But there must be government coordination to make it work, especially if applied to the Bay-Delta. "It's too big for any one agency to take on," he says.

For starters, Moyle thinks biodiversity should be adopted as official state policy. "We should recognize that if we're maintaining fish populations, we're maintaining a healthy environment for humans — it's actually a very selfish reason." Contact: Peter Moyle (916)752-6355 JS

"The Endangered Species Act assumes that species and habitats are frozen entities," says UC Davis professor Peter Moyle. "We need a way to accommodate change in the system."

HOW I SEE IT



GREG KARRAS

CLEAN SOUTH BAY COALITION

"Our coalition is concerned that one of the Bay's biggest dischargers is denying responsibility for its pollution, campaigning to block government enforcement of a clean up, and refusing to make any commitment to reduce its ongoing discharges. That discharger, the most significant source of copper and nickel discharges to the South Bay, is the giant sewage plant operated by San Jose. The South Bay has the highest concentrations of these toxic pollutants in the Estuary.

"San Jose seems willing to sacrifice the South Bay to the plant's toxic metal discharges because it fears layoffs if industry is required to clean up their act. This is a false trade off. I know we can have both less pollution and more jobs.

"Metal platers and printed circuit board makers elsewhere in the nation and the Bay Area, have cut their copper and nickel wastes 75-90 percent by making their processing more efficient. They also saved money and raw materials, and improved product quality. Fifty or more of these same types of firms — many of them small firms who do the dirty, waste-inten-sive work farmed out by big Silicon Valley companies — sent a total of 11,200 pounds of copper and nickel to San Jose's sewage plant last year. The cost savings these small firms could realize from becoming more efficient could increase their slim profit margins and thus help preserve up to 5,000 jobs, but many may not be able to raise the capital to take the first step. We think San Jose should show its concern for jobs and the Bay by helping these small businesses finance conversions to less polluting methods."

Greg Karras is the director of water programs at Citizens for a Better Environment, a founder of the 40-group Clean South Bay Coalition.

NEWS ROUND-UP

COPPER LOADS REVISED

The S.F. Regional Board's proposed new wasteload allocation for copper discharges got criticized at a February hearing for, among other things, using a 1991 baseline. Apparently, 1991 copper loads from sewage plant discharges were abnormally low due to the drought and accompanying water conservation. A new baseline is just one of the revisions to the Board's Basin Plan amendment on copper now under review. Another revision would give the South Bay community more flexibility in achieving targeted reductions by jointly allocating a portion of the reductions to both treatment plants and stormwater sources. The Board may also offer Bay industrial dischargers the option of increasing their copper loads if they participate in equal or greater reduction of other sources. For example, if industry helps to reduce upstream mine runoff, it may prove less expensive than further source reduction at industrial plants. The Board plans to hold a hearing on these revisions on April 21. Contact: Jessie Lacy (510)286-0702 AR

BAYLANDS GET NEW WATCHDOG

At a press conference scheduled for April, Myrna Hayes will announce the formation of the Save San Pablo Baylands Commission — a new grassroots group that will watchdog development in the five-county North Bay area, work to preserve existing wetlands (including the Bay Area's largest remaining contiguous brackish marsh), and encourage the creation of new wetlands through the reuse of Bay dredge spoils. Under the umbrella of the Save S.F. Bay Association's "Restoring the Bay Campaign," the group plans to bring policymakers, politicians, property owners and private citizens to the table to discuss the future of San Pablo's Baylands. The all-volunteer organization has already raised \$1000 in donations. Contact: Myrna Hayes (707)557-9816 DH

LAWSUIT LEVELS AMENDMENT

A 1990 amendment to the Central Valley Regional Board's Basin Plan aimed at reducing the impacts of pesticides is now in question because of a lawsuit filed by environmentalists. The Sacramento Valley Toxics Campaign argued successfully in court that the amendment did not adequately address the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). As a result, the Board must consider more options and work to justify the current basin plan language, and staff are concerned that this may delay clean-up efforts. "We're back to square one," said the Board's Chris Foe. In a 1991 study, Foe found chemicals "clearly toxic to invertebrates" up to 90 miles downstream from their rice farm sources. The studies were unusual in that the chemicals turned up in short-term flows right after the release of rice field floodwaters into Estuary rivers. A follow-up study on orchards produced similar results after heavy irrigation and rainfall. Contact: Chris Foe (916)255-3000 JS

EBMUD SEEKS NEW WATER SOURCES

Drought or no drought, the East Bay Municipal Water District is looking for new "sources" of water to serve its growing customer base. The district is circulating an environmental impact report that considers six options: conservation, pumping Delta water, raising Pardee Dam, building a canal to the American River, storing groundwater in wet years to be pumped during dry ones, and storing groundwater plus conservation management.

Landscape contractors and the pro-growth organization Water Allocation Through Equitable Rates want the district to also consider building a dam at Buckhorn Canyon. Environmentalists, however, lean toward groundwater storage and are concerned over the option accessing the American River. Although ratepayers have paid about \$8.5 million since 1970 for the right to access the river, that alternative has never been used. A new board was elected in 1990, with a majority of environmentalists. New dams are not currently on their agenda. Contact: Traci Lewis (510)287-0138 JS

INSIDE THE AGENCIES

NONPOINT CONTROL FOR COAST

Runoff from cities with populations over 100,000 came under the latest Clean Water Act update, but that doesn't mean small towns, out-of-the-way gas stations, timberlands and farms will escape regulation. Indeed, a 1990 Coastal Zone Management Act amendment mandates new state programs to control nonpoint pollution along the nation's coasts. "It's pretty powerful," says the S.F. Bay Commission's Jeff Blanchfield. "There are monetary sanctions against the state if we don't have an enforceable program with teeth in place 30 months from now."

Staff from BCDC, the Coastal Commission and the State and Regional Water Boards have already begun working together to map out the program. For guidance, the EPA sent them a three-inch-thick list of 56 nonpoint pollution management measures recommended for everything from highway and pier construction to agricultural irrigation. Farms may be hardest hit in terms of new regulation, but other interests are also concerned. "Looks like a significant increase in our regulatory burden to me," says Jim Haussener of the California Marine Parks & Harbors Association.

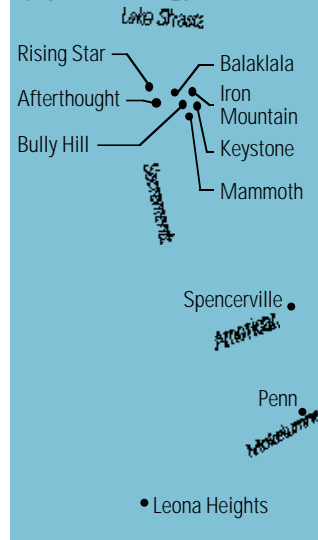
State Board staff says no. Their hope is not to reinvent the wheel, but to integrate and enhance existing programs through a revision of the state's 1988 Nonpoint Source Management Plan. But Board staff are still unsure about how to tackle land use management. "This is a very non-traditional way of doing business for the state and regional boards," says Sid Taylor. "If this is seen as us getting into land use planning, there'll be a lot of resistance."

Though the Coastal Commission has plenty of land use permitting power, its authority stops well short of entire coastal watersheds. "We're not looking to move our boundary inland in order to make this program work," says the Commission's Bill Allayaud. For Blanchfield, the scope of the new program makes sense. "It bridges the gap between pollution and land use controls. It's the logical extension of the Estuary Project," he says. Contact: Bill Allayaud (916)445-6096 or Sid Taylor (916)657-0432 AR

UNHEALTHY GOLD RUSH LEGACY

Ever heard of Napoleon or Pocohontas, visited Alabama or Manhattan, spotted the Mad Mule or the Green Monster? Maybe not, as these are the names of six of California's 15,000 abandoned mines — now the target of growing clean-up efforts by state and federal agencies. The State

TEN MINES THAT POSE A SIGNIFICANT THREAT TO ESTUARY WATER QUALITY



Board has singled out 180 of these mines as the most significant polluters. Each mine presents different water quality problems, from sediment erosion to heavy metal and acid runoff, and each demands its own treatment tactic. "There's been no systematic approach to characterizing

the problems, and so far the remedies have been haphazardly applied," says the Board's Rick Humphreys. A recent study found that 80% of the cadmium, 70% of the copper and 60% of the zinc present in the Delta may come directly from abandoned mines, according to the Board's Jerry Bruns. But confronting these old enviro-sores has been a long time coming because "the state is basically broke," says another staffer. Meanwhile, finding someone to pick up costs — when many mine owners have long since changed names and relocated — presents thorny liability issues.

This season's torrential rainstorms spotlighted problems. In Calaveras County, officials battled acidic water streaming over the sides of a Penn Mine containment pond. Near Redding, EPA employees held their breath as a reservoir at the Iron Mountain Mine Superfund site rose dangerously close to the brim. An overflow would have endangered winter run salmon in the Sacramento River, says EPA's Rick Sugareck. At Iron Mountain, a mine that annually leaks more heavy metals than all

TOUGH CHOICES

LESSER OF TWO EVILS

Tap water won't give you hepatitis or cholera, but it might contain some unhealthy disinfection byproducts. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires disinfection to protect consumers from microbial illnesses, but it also requires protection from the potentially toxic byproducts that form when chlorine and other disinfectants react with naturally occurring materials in the source water.

"The science says the risk is much greater from the microbes than from the byproducts," says EPA's Bruce Macler. "But we're still caught in a squeeze between the letter of the law, public concern over the health risks, economics and prudent health policy." EPA convened a group of diverse environmental and health interests, utilities and public agencies to tackle these trade offs late last year. This March, the group reached consensus on a framework for new drinking water standards which calls for more monitoring, enhanced surface water treatment, groundwater disinfection, and new rules on disinfection byproducts.

Tougher standards could force Delta-based water utilities to seek out better quality source water, to modify their current uptake and treatment practices, or to demand reduction in pollution of Delta waters. Contact: Bruce Macler (415)744-1884 AR

Bay Area industries combined, the EPA is expanding a drainage treatment facility to catch and seal acidic fluid in a non-toxic high density sludge. The sludge will then be deposited in a mountaintop pit.

Meanwhile, the S.F. Regional Board is reviewing a clean up feasibility study for Santa Clara County's 3,750-acre New Almaden state superfund site (once the second largest mercury mine worldwide) and working with other agencies and local landowners to target and prioritize cooperative projects at 50 other inactive mines around the Bay. Contact: Rick Humphreys (916)657-0759 DH

CAPITAL BEAT

GOVERNOR ABANDONS 1630 AND BLAMES FEDS

March was a month when everyone with a stake in the Estuary — farmers, environmentalists, fishermen, politicians and urbanites — held their breath. They were waiting to see if the feds would add the Delta smelt to the threatened species list (smelt made the list on March 5), and if the State Water Resources Control Board would set interim 5-year standards for Delta fresh water flows by approving draft Decision 1630.

D-1630 would have tapped the water supplies and pocketbooks of farms and cities to protect fish and the environment. But on April 1, Governor Wilson ordered the Board to shelve the long-awaited decision — arguing that federal actions to protect smelt and salmon made D-1630 “irrelevant,” preempted state water policy, and created regulatory and jurisdictional confusion.

Many saw Wilson's move as a reversal on his major water policy statement last year — when he promised to provide the leadership necessary to balance California's competing water interests. “This is about fingerprints and re-election,” said the Sierra Club's Dave Fullerton in a April 2 *S.F. Chronicle* story. “The governor does not want his name to be on the

bitter pill to agriculture necessary to save the delta.” In the same article, Michael Gage of Southern California's Metropolitan Water District said the governor's action “feels like the state is shirking its responsibility to act on these issues.”

As of press time on April 5, environmental and fishing interests are asking the governor to withdraw his stop-work order on 1630, Wilson has redirected the State Board to work on permanent long-term standards, and the future of BDOC — the citizen's advisory council Wilson established last year to advise the state on long-term management options — is in question.

Environmentalists on the Council are so upset over the turn of events that many have sent in letters of resignation. “BDOC as it stands cannot succeed,” says Council member Fullerton. “It's lost its credibility.”

The 22-member Council's executive officer has a different perspective. “Our mission remains the same, but our ability to pursue it is now under a cloud of uncertainty,” says John Amodio. “There's still a problem to be solved, and solving it will not only continue to require the focused involvement of the three principal sectors [agriculture, urban and environment], but equally the two jurisdictions — state and federal. We're now talking to our members about how to keep the process viable.” To get on BDOC's mailing list, call: (916)657-2666 AR & JS

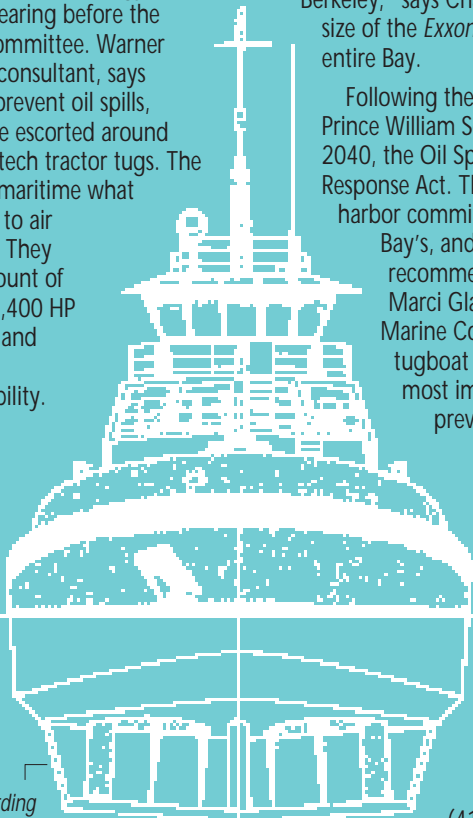
LEGISLATORS TINKER WITH EIRS

Requirements for writing environmental impact reports may soon be streamlined. “For the first time there is serious dialogue between state legislators, real estate representatives and planners,” says Dirk Brazil, spokesperson for Assemblymember Sam Farr. Farr introduced AB 232 in January to address California Environmental Quality Act guidelines, but, according to Brazil, the bill is nowhere near final. Farr seeks to make CEQA “more business friendly” and to “reduce the red tape without compromising environmental goals,” says Brazil. A sheaf of other bills aimed at CEQA are also in the legislative works, all authored by Doris Allen (AB 314, 979, 1071 and 1046). Contact: Farr (916)445-8496 or Allen (916)445-6233 JS

ENVIRO-CLIP

SPILL PREVENTION BEEFED UP

Environmentalists vow to push for updated Bay oil spill technology at a May 11 public hearing before the Harbor Safety Committee. Warner Chabot, marine consultant, says that in order to prevent oil spills, tankers should be escorted around the Bay by high tech tractor tugs. The new tugs are to maritime what helicopters were to air maneuverability. They have a huge amount of horsepower — 5,400 HP at 1,000 rpm — and omni-directional propulsion capability. None are yet deployed, but Crowley Maritime announced in February that it plans to purchase up to eight of the \$12 million tugs.



Water tractors affording 360° power and thrust.

“If tankers lose power it takes a [normal] tug about 15 minutes to string a line — by that time they've hit Alcatraz, Pier 39 or Berkeley,” says Chabot. A spill a fraction the size of the *Exxon Valdez* would coat the entire Bay.

Following the *Exxon Valdez* spill in Prince William Sound, the state passed SB 2040, the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act. The Act created several harbor committees, including S.F.

Bay's, and gives authority to recommend oil spill safety rules. Marci Glazer, of the Center for Marine Conservation, says that the tugboat escort requirement is the most important element of spill prevention.

Environmentalists also want to update the radar tracking system (which currently doesn't reach to the far North and South Bay) and to preclude tankers from cruising near aquatically sensitive areas.

Contact: Marci Glazer
(415)391-6204 JS

HARD SCIENCE

NEW RATIONALE FOR AN ESTUARINE STANDARD

In a recent series of technical workshops initiated by the S.F. Estuary Project, 30 top scientists and resource managers agreed that it was possible to come up with an accurate, ecologically significant, economical-to-measure index of the estuary's response to freshwater inflow. That index, they recommended, should be a salinity standard based on the position of the 2ppt isohaline in the Estuary.

An isohaline is a line connecting all points of equal salinity. The "2ppt" refers to the concentration of two parts per thousand of salt in the water. Though its position changes with seasons and flows, the study area chosen for examining the 2ppt isohaline encompasses its approximate range — between the town of Emmaton and the Carquinez Bridge in the Delta. This range roughly corresponds to the boundaries of the entrapment zone — a zone where salty ocean water moving upstream mixes with fresh water flowing downstream. Mixing dynamics in this zone trap nutrients, fish eggs and other materials, concentrating food sources and enhancing plant and animal growth.

The Estuary Project sponsored three issue papers that provided essential baseline data for the workshops. One explored the historical position of this 2ppt isohaline. Another assessed isohaline position as a habitat indicator for estuarine resources. The third evaluated

the impacts of salinity on tidal marsh vegetation in the Estuary.

Based on these papers and their discussions, workshop participants agreed that historical data shows that downstream movements of the 2ppt isohaline (measured near-bottom rather than at the surface) correspond to increased abundance and survival of organisms at all levels of the food chain, including phytoplankton, bay shrimp, longfin smelt and striped bass. Almost all species studied increased in abundance as a simple function of greater outflow and reduced salinity.

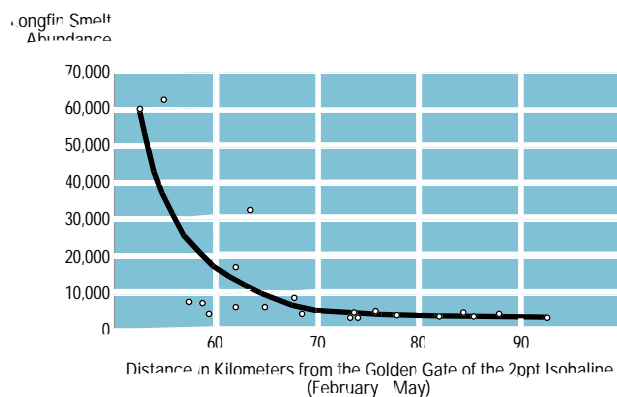
The group's conclusions and recommendations were multi-fold. They recommended that estuarine standards should be developed to be used in conjunction with flow standards. The group selected salinity as the most appropriate index for these new estuarine standards because it's both easy to measure and it most accurately represents the ecosystem's response to different combinations of river discharge, diversions and withdrawals, tidal regime and basin geometry.

More specifically, workshop participants recommended the development of seasonally-based salinity standards that would restrict the upstream movement of the 2ppt isohaline. Selection of the appropriate average upstream positions and corresponding salinity standards, according to the group, should be based upon environmental goals, seasonal and flow variables, and the response of organisms and estuarine processes to the isohaline's position. The group explored several potential goals that could be considered by decisionmakers and the public in setting new standards. These goals

ranged from maintaining existing ecosystem conditions to restoring the Estuary to historic, unimpaired conditions.

In their efforts, this prestigious group fulfilled the Estuary Project's ultimate goal for the workshops — to provide sound scientific guidance on how to develop estuarine standards and select different levels of resource protection. The

LONGFIN SMELT ABUNDANCE



THE MONITOR

TRACKING FISH IN THE FOREBAY

Anadromous fish either find the State Water Project's Clifton Court Forebay haven or hell. A new study tracking juvenile chinook salmon predation rates in the 2,200 acre lake of shallow, warmish water is turning up both an alarming consumption rate and a surprising number of other fish, but biologists can only speculate about what these findings mean.

In this ongoing study, researchers release hatchery salmon at one end of the forebay, then count how many make it to the fish salvage facility on the other. Preliminary results indicate a 77 percent loss among these less-than-year-old salmon to predators such as striped bass and to other factors in the forebay environment. To further gauge how predation affects the mortality rate, Fish & Game have hauled 30,000 striped bass out of the court and re-released them in the Delta since November 1992. "If this major drop in the predator population results in improved salmon survival, then we'll know it's the stripers," says the agency's Terry Tillman.

One of Tillman's colleagues hazarded two preliminary conclusions from the study — that the larger the juveniles and the higher the pumping rates, the more juvenile salmon survive. Their surveys also turned up a fair number of older, larger fish, including adult salmon and 40 green sturgeon (one over five feet long and probably at least twelve years old), surprising fish experts like Peter Moyle who believe the sturgeon is on the verge of being endangered. Why such a significant number of the Estuary's green sturgeon population are in the forebay, or how the forebay and its fancy gates and other accoutrements are influencing fish behavior, are still questions with vague answers. As Tillman says, "a lot of fish seem to like it there." Contact: Terry Tillman (209)948-7800 JS

recommendations, conclusions and papers from the workshops were recently published in a report (see Now in Print). Contact: Tim Vendlinski (415)744-1989 AR

CCMP BRIEF

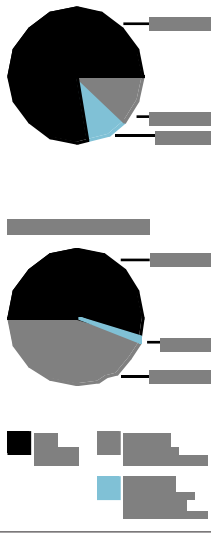
CHECK PLEASE!

Seventy percent of the state and federal dollars needed to implement the CCMP are already in the bank, according to a survey newly compiled by the S.F. Estuary Project. The Project asked nine federal and eleven state agencies to evaluate the cost of carrying out the CCMP. Fourteen agencies responded, confirming that most CCMP actions are already underway or planned, and therefore funded (see pie charts).

The total 20-year cost is now estimated at \$1.6 billion, or \$80 million per year. The breakdown by CCMP program area is: wildlife \$443 million; wetlands management \$407 million; water use \$86 million; pollution prevention and reduction \$224 million; dredging and waterway modification \$24 million; land use \$38 million; and public involvement and education \$59 million. These totals primarily reflect costs to state and federal government. Costs still need to be calculated for the newly finalized aquatic resources and research and monitoring programs, and for the local government and private sector share.

The economic survey also explored how to raise the \$24 million in annual implementation costs not now slated for federal or state funding. Economists suggested an Estuary Investment Fund to coordinate financing and provide loans, cost shares and grants. Four potential sources of new fund money were examined: surcharges on urban water users, real estate transfers, and pollution dischargers, as well as water diversion fees. If all these new sources are tapped, up to \$69 million could be generated for the fund per year. The

20-YEAR CCMP COST SUMMARY



CCMP's Management Committee reviewed these financial concerns at its March 31 meeting, and directed staff to fill in more of the blanks. Contact: Marcia Brockbank (510)464-7992 AR

PAINTING DRAINS

The Estuary Project's campaign to stencil every storm drain in the region with the words *No Dumping! Drains to Bay* will reach 22 cities and 11 counties by Earth Day 1993. As residents note this warning on their neighborhood curbs, they're learning that pouring pollutants down storm drains is the equivalent of dumping them straight into the Bay or Delta.

The Project hands out how-to brochures on stenciling and *Estuarywise* (100 tips on what citizens can do to prevent pollution to the Bay and Delta) to cities, counties and organizations. They, in turn, go on to implement the program. Santa Clara County cities, for example, placed ads in the local papers and put flyers in utility bills. The Lindsay Museum took a different tack — public service announcements on TV and striking billboards in BART stations that show cans labeled "oil" and "paint thinner" being poured down the throats of pelicans and harbor seals. The message: "Don't Feed the Animals."

Patton is working to promote a major day-long stenciling push on the heels of Earth Day. She says April 24 activities will involve hundreds of volunteers from diverse organizations and some Esprit employees, who've been given the day off to do something for the environment. Contact: Joan Patton (510)464-7997 DH

GRANTS GENERATE ACTION

Look at the fine print on that hot, new Bay-Delta education project in your area, and you might see the Estuary Project's name. In 1992, the Project's Public Involvement and Education Program backed 27 projects to the total tune of \$185,000. In 1992, grants took 5400 Mt. Diablo area children out on a 56' research vessel to conduct on-board lab tests on the aquatic environment; explained the hazards of eating Bay fish to anglers in South Bay communities of color; counted shorebirds; videotaped citizen activists for a restoration documentary; and produced

IT'S A DATE

CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 5

There's a lot going on Bay-Delta-wise these days, with the state's drought at an end, the Delta smelt's listing, the ongoing wrangling over water rights, and the CCMP's historic March 31 approval ... and you can find out about all this and more at this year's State of the Estuary Conference on *Tactics for Taking Action!*

SESSION THEMES

SCIENCE • POLICY • ACTION

HIGHLIGHTS

- Flows and Standards for the Bay and Delta
- Decision 1630 & the Miller-Bradley Bill
- *The San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary Act of 1993*, with Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
- Citizen Watchdogs
- Role of the Media, with the *Chronicle's* Elliott Diring

PLUS, the premier showing of *Teaming-up for the Bay & Delta*, a short video documenting hands-on Estuary restoration efforts.

Invited (but yet to be confirmed) speakers include Carol Browner, the EPA's new Administrator, Senator Pat Johnston, and Assemblyman Byron Sher. So mark June 5 in your calendars! For more information, call (510)464-7990.

a guide to East Bay creeks and marshes, a don't dump in Sacramento storm drains poster, and an environmental guide for business. Through these and other community action grants, the Project has been quietly but effectively working to improve the health of the Estuary. Contact: Marcia Brockbank (510)464-7992

AR

PLACES TO GO & THINGS TO DO



WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

The Environment & Multiculturalism

4/17 • 5/1 • 5/15 • 5/29

Topic: Workshops and environmental education training exploring relationships between racial/cultural diversity and environmental issues.

Sponsor: Three Circles Center. East Bay Locations (415)331-4540

ACWA Spring Conference

WEDS-FRI • 4/28-30

Topic: Investing in California's Water Future (ACWA strategy on legislation, regulation, water supply and rights etc.).

Sponsor: California Water Agencies

Caesars Tahoe Hotel, South Lake Tahoe
Cost: \$345-433 (916)441-4545

Stormwater Permit Workshops

THU-FRI • 4/29-30

Topic: BMPs for NPDES stormwater permit compliance — workshops targeted for builders, general contractors, planners, engineers, construction inspectors and regulatory staff.

Sponsor: So. California Chapter Water Resources Committee

Cost: \$75-\$195

Sacramento Convention Center
13th & K Streets (916)433-6276

Volunteer Monitoring Conference

FRI-SAT • 5/7-5/8 • All DAY

Sponsor: EPA

Walnut Creek
(415)744-1489

ACWA Spring Legislative Seminar

WED • 5/26 • 9 AM-4 PM

Topics: Regulatory reform and permit streamlining; workers' compensation reform; proposals to force special district consolidations.

Sponsor: California Water Agencies

Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, Sacramento
(916)441-4545

State of the Estuary Conference

SAT • 6/5 • 9 AM-5 PM

Topic: Tactics for Taking Action (see opposite) **Sponsor:** S.F. Estuary Project

California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco
(510)464-7990



HANDS ON

Down, Daring & Dirty

SAT • 4/17 • 2:30-4 PM

Activity: A trip into the mudflats of Hayward to learn about invertebrates such as crabs, barnacles, etc. led by a naturalist. Bring a change of clothes and an extra pair of shoes.

Sponsor: Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center. Free. Meet at the Center.

(510)881-6751

Clean Up Hayward Shoreline

SAT • 4/24 • 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Activity: Spend the day cleaning up this sensitive area and perhaps spot flocks of dunlins, willets, godwits, and avocets.

Sponsor: Save the Bay & EBMUD

End of Winton Avenue, Hayward
(510)452-9261

Storm Drain Stenciling

SAT • 4/24

Activity: Volunteer to help paint storm drains with the words "NO DUMPING! DRAINS TO BAY." (510)464-7990

Urban Stream

Restoration Training Workshops

FRI • 5/7 • 10 AM

Activity: Technical field tour of seven East Bay restoration projects to see innovative flood control designs, soil bioengineering, wetland restoration, unusual gabion bank stabilization, cribwall designs, riparian vegetation options, and stream channel recreation.

Sponsors: Golden State Wildlife Federation and Urban Creeks Council.

Cost: \$110 (510)848-2211



MEETINGS & HEARINGS

SF Regional Board

WEDS • 4/21 • 9:30 AM

Topics: Revisions to copper wasteload allocation amendment; South Bay waste discharge requirements; enforcement actions; pending litigation etc.

CALTRANS, 111 Grand Ave, Oakland
(510)286-1255

LTMS Policy Review Committee

TUES • 4/27 • 1 PM

Topic: EIS and national economic development initiative.

Sponsors: COE, EPA, BCDC, SFRWQCB

Admiral Nimitz Center, Treasure Island
(415)744-3276

NOW IN PRINT

Managing Freshwater Discharge to the S.F. Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary: Scientific Basis for an Estuarine Standard

Armor, Chadwick, Cloern, Collins, Cowan, Foin, Fullerton, Hatfield, Herbold, Herrgesell, Jay, Jassby, Kimmerer, Miller, Monosmith, Moyle, Nichols, Peterson, Powell, Simenstad, Smith, Thomas & Williams; SFEP

Copies from (415)744-1959

Fishes, Aquatic Diversity Management Areas and Endangered Species: A Plan to Protect California's Native Aquatic Biota

Moyle & Yoshiyama; California Policy Seminar

For copies by mail, send a \$23 check payable to UC Regents to CPS, 2020 Milvia, Rm 412, Berkeley, CA 94704

Guidance Specifying Management Measures for Sources of Nonpoint Pollution in Coastal Waters

Office of Water; EPA; PUB # EPA-840-B-92-002

Standard Methods Manual for Environmental Sampling and Analysis in San Francisco Bay

Batelle/Marine Sciences Lab; U.S. Army Corps

Copies for review from Tom Gandesberry
(510)286-1255

Estuarywise; 100 tips on how you can prevent pollution of our Bay and Delta

SFEP. Copies from (510)464-7996

WISH LIST

Hand over your unwanted bugboxes, dipnets and water test kits. Friends of the Estuary's Education program needs this equipment for field trips. Or donate a few dollars toward their purchase!

Contact Steve Cochrane (510)881-6751.

Office of Oil Spill Prevention & Response

TUES • 5/11 • 9:30 AM

Topic: Public hearing on proposed interim tank vessel escort regulations.

2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito (916)445-9338

Bay Commission

THU • 5/20 • 1 PM

State Building, San Francisco (415)557-3686

FROM PAGE ONE

be withdrawn. Mark Holmes of Save the Bay reminded the group of the wildlife service's active participation in the CCMP's development, and clear commitment of agency dollars to its implementation. He even threatened to withdraw Save the Bay's support for the entire CCMP if the agency was removed from the council. The committee settled on a five member council comprised of the U.S. EPA Regional Administrator, the Secretary of CalEPA, the Secretary of the California Resources Agency, Fish & Wildlife's Regional Administrator and a local government representative.

To do the Council's nitty gritty work, the group launched a 25-member Implementation Committee made up of representatives from local, state and federal government (including planning and public works people), plus three representatives from the business/ discharger community, three from the environmental community, and one from fisheries. The group also voted to continue Friends of the Estuary — a nonprofit organization set up to implement the CCMP's public involvement and education program.

Final debate centered around costs and priorities for implementation. "I can't support this plan as long as it appears to be a blank check," said Chevron's Pete Williams. He and other business leaders argued for some cost-benefit analysis. Others countered that cost should not determine priorities. Despite the debate, the two sides agreed on new CCMP language addressing these concerns.

A few tense moments punctuated the final CCMP adoption proceedings, particularly when the Farm Bureau's Bill Dubois mentioned that he still had some reservations. The committee voted to give Dubois a whole page in the CCMP to write a minority report, and with this guarantee, he added his vote to the group's — making CCMP approval a consensus. The plan, complete with final revisions, will go to the governor for concurrence in May, and then to new EPA Administrator Browner for the final sign off. Long live the Estuary! Contact: Marcia Brockbank (510)464-7992 AR

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