

Members, Finance working group

Dear Friends:

The first meeting of this working group will be Thursday, October 27, from 9-11 am in Room 1131, Resources Building.

We will focus on funding sources for the public finance part of the BDCP funding program. You may wish to review Chapter 8 of the draft BDCP available on the BDCP website in preparing for this meeting, although Chapter 8 only contains information about the estimated costs of the various possible elements of BDCP.

Here are some questions which we will consider at the meeting.

- What parts of the BDCP should be paid for by the SWP and CVP water users, and what parts by the general funds of the state and federal governments. Presently, BDCP contemplates the implementation and operation of Conservation Measure 1, and mitigation for CM1, 1 to be paid for by the water users, and the other measures to be paid for by general funds. How much of the following should be water user obligations, versus public obligations.
- Monitoring
- BDCP staffing: Implementation office, science review, etc
- Other Plan administration costs
- Administration of Adaptive Management program
- Costs incurred by other state agencies to participate in program, such as DFG, Delta Conservancy, etc.
- What is considered to be the mitigation costs for CM 1?
- What are possible sources of general funds to pay for the parts of BDCP not paid for by the water users? Some which seem possible are listed below. What is the probability that these funds will become available during the 50 year life of BDCP, and in what amounts?
- State general obligation bonds (existing and future)
- Water fees/water public goods charge/Delta water user fee
- State income tax credits for land conservation
- Extension of Proposition 117 for appropriate BDCP uses
- Federal appropriations
- CVPIA funds
- Other federal funds

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