To: "Nepstad, Michael G SPK" [Michael.G.Nepstad@usace.army.mil]
Cc: []
Bcc: []
From: CN=Erin Foresman/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Tue 4/26/2011 3:32:22 PM
Subject: BDCP Hayes-Laird meeting yesterday

Did you go to this? Here are my notes from it (just highlights), very interesting meeting.

Laird opening remarks -- "real engagement means you can describe a fellow stakeholder's perspective in a way they would agree with and consider fair." Mentioned transparency and executive committee meetings (I think Laird mentioned exec comm. maybe it was Hayes or Meral, one of them did; it perked lots of interest).

Hayes opening remarks --

Oil gusher in the Gulf had big impact on DOI; fully realize SF Bay Delta and CA is one seismic event away from no Delta water going to So Cal for 3-years.
Obama administration is fully in lock-step with Brown administration
Alternatives will be released within weeks or months

Questions fielded
What is status of IFAP? It was updated last December? (is that true? I didn't think it was updated really just re-affirmed, was anything new added?). Hayes mentioned leadership council, short term focus on water transfers, updated allocation today, no mention of ANPR or conservation roundtable stuff.
Why consider an isolated conveyance when it repeatedly wrecks the resource it goes around (Owens Valley, Mono Lake)? Avoided answer.
Who pays for restoration? S & F water contractors and general fund (Laird)
Timeline for BDCP?
Alts and preferred alt in a few months
DEIS Jan 2012
FEIS 2013
What executive committee? Who is on it? Is it open to the public? Laird didn't know said would be posted to website.

Meral -- many opportunities for public involvement to address laundry list of important issues (paraphrasing here) by using working groups; public forum afterward; public comment period on permit actions.

Conservation Community (Spreck Rosecrans EDF, Jonas Minton PCL, Dick Pool Water for Fish, Gary Bobker TBI, John Cain Am Rivers)
salmon industry cannot sacrifice fish for supply;
What is "scenario 6" ? Process is not transparent.
less pumping in dry years, cannot continue to take more,
use science in decision making, do not "Decide Announce Defend,"
everyone pays not just ecosystem and in Delta communities,
need more trust recent legislative efforts erode trust.

Delta Communities (Mike Reagan Solano Co Supervisor, Mike McGowan Yolo Co Supervisor, Chris Cabaldon West Sac Mayor, Tom Zuckerman Rec District 17).
BDCP perpetuates the myth that former levels of water exports are sustainable. 4.5 MAF is unrealistic expectation.

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North coast supply never developed (what is this? mentioned twice), cannot base water contracts on unrealistic and undeveloped supplies.
State and federal water contractors offered to fund state and federal regulatory agencies b/c budgets were being cut (????)
Consumptive use interests are only interested in BDCP to increase water exports
No specifics on ecosystem restoration; only specific item is peripheral canal
BDCP process not addressing state law and requirements to reduce reliance on Delta for water, increase conservation and water supply independence, and ignoring Delta flows report.

Water Users (Tom Birmingham, Westlands Water District, Greg Gartrell, Contra Costa Water District, Beau Goldie, Santa Clara Valley Water District, David Guy, Northern California Water Association)
We are all water users as you consume produce from Westlands
Meeting creates false expectations that all farming will persist in Delta. Cannot restore habitats and farm them, accept it.
We don't know the effects of an isolated facility on water quality and won't until we build it.
Ditto low flows in Sac River on predation, need adaptive mgmt
We shall not overcome uncertainty
Need storage
Govt unwilling to make difficult decisions. We need to move forward with strong leadership.

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Erin Foresman
Environmental Scientist & Policy Coordinator,
US EPA Region 9 C/O Army Corps of Engineers
650 Capitol Mall Suite 5-200, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 557 5253, Fax: (916) 557 6877

http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/watershed/sfbay-delta/index.html

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