

Development of Ecosystem Restoration Plan and PEIR



Advisory Committee
August 17, 2005

Development of PEIR Started in
2004 with Collection of Background
Information

- ✓ **Reviewed readily available information**
- ✓ **Prepared first versions of Existing
Conditions and No Action Alternative
Sections**
- ✓ **Comments from the Advisory Committee
and others used to identify Unresolved
Issues**

Response to Unresolved Issues & Developing Alternative Components

- ◆ **Many issues in resource areas below are being evaluated by the SS Science Panel for sound science verification**
- ◆ **Inflows and Modeling**
 - ✓ *With Work Group*, defined range of inflows
 - ❖ *With Work Group*, will develop circulation/quality tools
- ◆ **Habitat**
 - ✓ Defined existing habitats at and around Sea
 - ❖ *With Work Group*, developing habitat scenarios
- ◆ **Water Quality**
 - ✓ Completed field work and evaluating data
 - ❖ Evaluating water treatment needs/methods
 - ❖ Identifying eco- and human health risk criteria

Response to Unresolved Issues - continued

- ◆ **Air Quality**
 - ✓ *With Work Group*, identified existing air quality conditions
 - ✓ Completed sample collection
 - ❖ Conducting wind tunnel tests
 - ❖ *With Work Group*, defining No Action Alternative conditions & potential risks
 - ❖ Developing air quality management methods
 - ❖ Will develop air quality analytical tools
- ◆ **Infrastructure**
 - ❖ *With Work Group*, developing configurations
 - ❖ Developing tools to define alternative layouts and cost estimates

Range of Alternative Layouts to be Presented to Work Groups

- ◆ **Range of alternatives to be presented to Work Groups will represent several habitat combinations**
 - ❖ Layouts and acreages will be provided for each alternative
 - ❖ Habitat goals and anticipated species use, water quality criteria, and air quality management and infrastructure needs will be described
 - ❖ Preliminary construction phasing will be presented
- ◆ **Screening criteria to be considered by Advisory Committee to focus final range of alternatives**

Final Alternatives Will be Described in Detail in Restoration Plan/PEIR

- ◆ **Final Alternative descriptions will include:**
 - ❖ Habitat goals and anticipated species use
 - ❖ Layouts for all habitat areas and facilities
 - ❖ Phased construction/O&M plans and costs
- ◆ **Existing Conditions and No Action Alternative descriptions will be modified**
- ◆ **Range of Variable Conditions will be described as Cumulative Conditions or multiple No Action Alternatives**
- ◆ **Descriptions will be provided to Work Groups**

Impact Assessment will Address Multiple Levels of Alternatives

- ◆ **Significance criteria to be defined with Work Groups and Advisory Committee**
- ◆ **Impact assessment will compare alternatives:**
 - ❖ To Existing Conditions and No Action Alternative
 - ❖ To Variable Conditions as the Cumulative Impact Assessment or as Multiple No Action Alternatives
- ◆ **Separate impact assessment in PEIR to compare Alternatives with and without "Second 800,000 acre-foot Water Transfer under the QSA"**

Preparation of Draft PEIR and Draft Ecosystem Restoration Plan

- ◆ **Results of impact assessment will be presented to Advisory Committee to consider:**
 - ❖ Evaluation criteria for ranking alternatives
 - ❖ Evaluation criteria for determining Environmentally-Preferred Alternative
 - ❖ Mitigation measures
- ◆ **Draft PEIR and Draft Ecosystem Restoration Plan will be circulated to obtain public input**
- ◆ **Comments, Response to Comments, and any changes will be developed with Work Groups**