

Introduced by Senator CostaFebruary 21, 2002

An act to add Division 26.5 (commencing with Section 79400) to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1653, as introduced, Costa. California Bay-Delta Act.

Under existing law, certain state and federal agencies with management and regulatory responsibilities in the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary participate in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program for the purposes of improving ecosystem quality, water supply reliability, water quality, and the integrity of the levees and channels in the Bay-Delta.

This bill would enact the California Bay-Delta Act. The bill would establish in an unspecified agency the California Bay-Delta Commission, consisting of an unspecified membership, and would prescribe its organization, powers, and purposes.

The bill would require the commission and the implementing agencies, as defined, to carry out the programs, projects, and activities necessary to implement the Bay-Delta Program, defined to mean those projects, programs, commitments and other actions that address the goals and objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Record of Decision, dated August 28, 2000.

The bill would require the Governor to appoint a director, would prescribe the director's duties and powers, including, with the advice and consent of the commission, the appointment of a lead scientist. The bill would require the lead scientist to nominate, and the commission to confirm, an Independent Science Board that would review and advise the commission and advisory board.



The bill would require the commission to establish a public advisory committee.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Division 26.5 (commencing with Section
2 79400) is added to the Water Code, to read:

3

4 DIVISION 26.5. CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA ACT

5

6 CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

7

8 79400. This act shall be known as the California Bay-Delta
9 Act.

10 79401. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
11 following:

12 (a) The Bay-Delta estuary is the largest estuary on the West
13 Coast of the United States. It includes over 738,000 acres in five
14 counties. The tributaries, sloughs, and islands support over 750
15 plant and animal species.

16 (b) The Bay-Delta is critical to California’s economy,
17 supplying drinking water for two-thirds of Californians and
18 irrigation water for over 7,000,000 acres of the most highly
19 productive agricultural land in the world. It also supports 80
20 percent of the state’s commercial salmon fisheries.

21 (c) The Bay-Delta is the hub of California’s two largest water
22 distribution systems--the Central Valley Project, operated by the
23 United States Bureau of Reclamation and the State Water Project,
24 operated by the California Department of Water Resources. It also
25 provides conveyance of flood waters from most of the rivers in the
26 Central Valley.

27 (d) Water diversions, the effects of increased population
28 throughout California, exotic species, water pollution, and
29 numerous other factors have had a serious impact in fish and
30 wildlife in the Bay-Delta. The drought of 1987–92 demonstrated
31 how vulnerable California is to water shortages. More recent
32 conflicts between water quality, fish protection, and water supply
33 demonstrate how little flexibility there is in the current system.



1 Levees in the Bay-Delta are vulnerable to catastrophic failure that
2 could disrupt the state’s water supply.

3 79402. Unless the context otherwise requires, the following
4 definitions set forth in this section govern the construction of this
5 division:

6 (a) “Balance” or “balanced implementation” means
7 implementation of projects, programs, or other actions in a manner
8 that results in concurrent improvement in all program elements
9 and in a manner that there is assurance that improvements in some
10 program elements are not made without corresponding
11 improvements in other program elements.

12 (b) “Bay-Delta” means the San Francisco Bay and
13 Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary.

14 (c) The “California Bay-Delta Program” or “Bay-Delta
15 Program” means those projects, programs, commitments, and
16 other actions that address the goals and objectives of the CALFED
17 Bay-Delta Program Record of Decision, dated August 28, 2000,
18 as modified by this division.

19 (d) “Category A programs” mean those state and federal
20 agency programs and funds that are to be managed and
21 implemented consistent with the California Bay-Delta Program
22 goals and objectives.

23 (e) “Commission” means the California Bay-Delta
24 Commission.

25 (f) “Director” means the Director of the California Bay-Delta
26 Commission.

27 (g) “Implementing agencies” means those agencies with the
28 primary responsibilities for implementing the program elements,
29 subject to Sections 79440 and 79441.

30 (h) “Program elements” means the 11 program elements of the
31 California Bay-Delta Program as follows:

- 32 (1) Levee system integrity.
- 33 (2) Water quality.
- 34 (3) Water supply reliability.
- 35 (4) Ecosystem restoration.
- 36 (5) Water use efficiency.
- 37 (6) Water transfer.
- 38 (7) Watershed.
- 39 (8) Storage.
- 40 (9) Conveyance.



1 (10) Science.

2 (11) Environmental Water Account.

3 (i) “Projects” means both programs and capital projects.

4 79403. A solution to these problems requires state, federal,
5 and local action in numerous regions throughout the state, not only
6 the Bay-Delta itself, but also its watershed and the areas that
7 depend on water exported from the Bay-Delta.

8 (a) The California Bay-Delta Program is divided into the
9 following five regions:

10 (1) Sacramento and San Joaquin River Delta.

11 (2) San Francisco Bay Watershed.

12 (3) Sacramento Valley.

13 (4) San Joaquin Valley.

14 (5) Southern California.

15 (b) Nearly two dozen state and federal agencies have some role
16 in managing or regulating the natural resources of the Bay-Delta
17 and its watershed. A coordinated implementation structure and
18 organization is necessary for effective implementation of the
19 California Bay-Delta Program.

20 (c) The agencies participating in the California Bay-Delta
21 Program have drafted a 30-year plan to coordinate existing
22 programs and direct new programs to improve the quality, and
23 reliability of the state’s water supplies and restore the ecological
24 health of the Bay-Delta watershed.

25 (d) To ensure efficiency, visibility, and accountability, the
26 implementation of the California Bay-Delta Program requires the
27 establishment of a commission. The commission is intended to
28 accomplish the following:

29 (1) Provide accountability to the Legislature, Congress, and
30 interested parties for the program’s performance.

31 (2) Ensure that the program is implemented in a balanced
32 manner.

33 (3) Facilitate consistent monitoring, assessment, and reporting
34 of the agencies’ individual and cumulative actions.

35 (4) Facilitate the use of sound, consistent science across all
36 program elements.

37 (5) Coordinate and, where appropriate, integrate existing and
38 new government programs to meet common goals, avoid conflicts,
39 and eliminate redundancy and waste.



1 (6) Oversee coordinated implementation of the California
2 Bay-Delta Program to ensure consistency with the goals and
3 objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Record of
4 Decision, dated August 28, 2000.

5 (e) Successful implementation of the California Bay-Delta
6 Program will require the full cooperation and participation of
7 many federal agencies. Federal laws may need to be enacted to
8 authorize the level of federal agency participation envisioned by
9 this division. Until the time as Congress enacts those federal laws,
10 it is the intent of the Legislature that state agencies work
11 cooperatively with federal agencies.

12 79403. (a) Nothing in this division shall be construed to
13 restrict or override regulatory or adjudicatory authority or public
14 trust responsibilities of any state or federal agency or to restrict or
15 override authority or responsibility of state, federal or local water
16 project operations under applicable law as those authorities and
17 responsibilities were provided on December 31, 2002.

18 (b) Subdivision (a) shall not be interpreted to relieve the state
19 agencies from the obligation to carry out their authorities and
20 responsibilities in a manner that is consistent with the goal of the
21 Bay-Delta Program to promote cooperative and coordinated
22 actions and programs that result in balanced solutions to Bay-Delta
23 problems.

24 (c) In carrying out their respective authorities and
25 responsibilities the state agencies shall, whenever feasible,
26 exercise their discretion in a manner that promotes and supports
27 balanced implementation of the Bay-Delta Program.

28 79404. This division shall be carried out in a manner
29 consistent with respective state and federal agency budget
30 development, review, and approval processes.

31 79405. The commission is an agency of the state. Nothing in
32 this division shall be construed to waive the state's immunity to
33 suit in federal court under the Eleventh Amendment to the United
34 States Constitution.

35 79406. State agencies, including the commission, shall work
36 with federal agencies and the Congress of the United States to
37 obtain, as soon as reasonably feasible, the necessary federal
38 approvals, including federal legislation, that will enable the
39 federal agencies to participate as partners with the state in the
40 governance of the Bay-Delta Program pursuant to this division.



1 CHAPTER 2. CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA COMMISSION

2
3 Article 1. California Bay-Delta Commission

4
5 79410. There is hereby established in the ____ agency the
6 California Bay-Delta Commission.

7 79411. Pursuant to Section 78684.8, the commission is
8 hereby designated the successor to the Secretary of the Resources
9 Agency for the purpose of carrying out the balancing and related
10 procedures established pursuant to Section 78684.12.

11 79412. The members of the commission shall be as follows:

12 ____
13 79413. The federal role on the commission is intended to
14 facilitate coordination and advice from federal agencies and
15 thereby assist the state and federal agencies more effectively meet
16 their common goals and obligations. Nothing in this division is
17 intended to extend federal law, including the National
18 Environmental Policy Act, to actions by state agencies.

19 79414. The commission is subject to the Bagley-Keene Open
20 Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of
21 Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government
22 Code).

23 79415. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a public
24 member of the commission shall hold office for a term of four
25 years, and until his or her successor is appointed.

26 (b) In the case of the members initially appointed by the
27 Governor, two members shall be appointed to serve until January
28 1, 2005, and two members until January 1, 2007.

29 (c) The Governor, in consultation with the United States
30 Secretary of the Interior, shall appoint one of the commission
31 members as a chairperson who shall preside at all meetings, and
32 a vice-chairperson who shall preside in the absence of the
33 chairperson.

34 (d) All actions approved by the commission shall require an
35 affirmative vote of a majority of the commission members.

36 (e) The commission may form committees, and the committees
37 may make recommendations to the full commission.

38 (f) Each public member of the commission shall receive
39 compensation in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) per day,
40 not to exceed eight hundred dollars (\$800) per month, for



1 conducting any commission business authorized by the
2 commission, upon the approval of the compensation by a majority
3 of the commission members by a recorded vote. A public member
4 may also receive reimbursement for the necessary expenses
5 incurred by the member in the performance of the member's
6 duties.

7
8 Article 2. Commission Powers and Duties
9

10 79420. The commission may exercise all of the following
11 powers:

12 (a) Sue or be sued.

13 (b) Delegate functions to committees or staff of the
14 commission.

15 (c) Request reports from state, federal, and local government
16 agencies on issues related to the implementation of the California
17 Bay-Delta Program.

18 (d) Receive funds, including funds from private and local
19 government sources, contributions from public and private
20 sources, as well as state and federal appropriations.

21 (e) Enter into contracts. The commission and the Department
22 of General Services shall cooperate on procedures to delegate
23 authority to the commission or commission officers, as
24 appropriate, to execute contracts of up to one million dollars
25 (\$1,000,000), and to maximize flexibility and efficiency in
26 implementing commission activities.

27 (f) Disburse funds through grants, public assistance, loans, and
28 contracts to entities within the Bay-Delta Program regions,
29 described in subdivision (a) of Section 79403, to carry out the
30 Bay-Delta Program goals and objectives.

31 (g) Employ the services of other public, nonprofit, or private
32 entities.

33 (h) Employ its own legal staff or contract with other state or
34 federal agencies for legal services, or both. The commission may
35 employ special, outside legal counsel with the approval of the
36 Attorney General.

37 (i) Adopt regulations as needed for implementation of this
38 division.

39 (j) (1) Acquire, own, and manage interests in land, water, or
40 other real property if no other implementing agency is available.

1 (2) Interests in land, water, or other real property shall be
2 acquired from willing sellers by means of entering into voluntary
3 agreements.

4 (k) Obtain and hold regulatory permits and prepare
5 environmental documents.

6 79421. The commission shall carry out the following duties:

7 (a) Develop policies and make decisions at program
8 milestones, and provide direction to ensure balanced
9 implementation, integration, and continuous improvement in all
10 program elements.

11 (b) Track the progress of all program projects and activities and
12 assess overall achievement of California Bay-Delta Program goals
13 and objectives.

14 (c) Modify, as needed, the California Bay-Delta Program's
15 timelines and activities where the commission deems it necessary
16 to ensure that the program meets its overall goals and objectives.
17 Modification shall be coordinated with implementing agencies
18 and other affected agencies with public input.

19 (d) Communicate with the Congress of the United States and
20 the Legislature on program progress, answer legislative inquiries,
21 review and respond to legislative proposals, and review and
22 submit legislative proposals.

23 (e) On or before November 15 of each year, review progress in
24 implementing the program.

25 (f) On or before December 15 of each year, submit a report to
26 the Governor, the United States Secretary of the Interior, the
27 Legislature, and the Congress of the United States that describes
28 the status of implementation of all elements of the program.

29 (g) If, at the conclusion of each annual review submitted under
30 subdivision (f), or if a timely annual review has not been issued,
31 the Governor or the United States Secretary of the Interior
32 determines that either the program schedule or objectives has not
33 been substantially adhered to, the Governor and the Secretary of
34 the Interior, in coordination with the commission, shall prepare a
35 revised schedule that ensures achievement of balanced progress in
36 all program elements consistent with the intent of the California
37 Bay-Delta Program and applicable regulatory requirements. Upon
38 determination that the prior schedule has not been substantially
39 adhered to, state funds, if the determination was made by the
40 Governor, and federal funds, if the determination was made by the



1 United States Secretary of the Interior, shall, to the extent
2 authorized, be available for expenditure in the subsequent budget
3 year only if a revised schedule has been developed within six
4 months from the date on which the determination was made. Upon
5 the submission of any revised schedule, funds shall be expended
6 in accordance with that revised schedule.

7 (h) To support annual implementation, submit to the Governor
8 an annual state proposed budget for each of the program elements
9 and the commission's oversight and coordination duties, in
10 accordance with the annual budget process.

11 (i) Coordinate with federal agencies to develop a proposed
12 federal budget to support the California Bay-Delta Program that
13 the federal agencies can submit to the President of the United
14 States in accordance with the federal budget process.

15 (j) Manage the ecosystem restoration program element until
16 another implementing agency is designated by the Legislature.

17 (k) Manage the science program element.

18 (l) Coordinate, and when appropriate, integrate the Bay-Delta
19 Program with other related programs to maximize available
20 resources and reduce conflicts and inconsistencies with other
21 programs.

22 (m) Resolve conflicts or disputes relating to the program.

23 (n) Seek out and promote partnerships with local interests and
24 programs that seek integrate various water management options,
25 and cooperate and undertake joint activities with other persons,
26 including local entities, Indian tribes, water users, and landowners.
27 These activities shall include, but are not limited to, planning,
28 design, technical assistance, construction projects, and
29 development of an independent science program.

30 (o) Develop, in cooperation with federal agencies, a regulatory
31 coordination and streamlining process for the issuance of permits
32 and approvals required under state and federal law that reduces or
33 eliminates duplicative process or decisionmaking.

34 79422. By December 15, 2003, develop a pilot program in
35 coordination with the Department of Personnel Administration,
36 the State Personnel Board, the Department of General Services,
37 the Department of Finance, the Department of Information
38 Technology, and the Governor's Office for Innovation in
39 Government to develop and implement actions that are intended
40 to increase the administrative efficiency of the commission,



1 including but not limited to, budgeting, contracting, purchasing,
2 and personnel management.

3 79423. (a) Implementing agencies shall annually submit to
4 the director their annual program plan and budget setting forth
5 how each implementing agency proposes to implement their
6 respective program elements in the following year.

7 (b) Each annual program plan shall include programs that are
8 designated as Category A programs in the CALFED
9 Implementation Memorandum of Understanding, an attachment
10 to the August 28, 2000, Record of Decision described in
11 subdivision (c) of Section 79402.

12 (c) Annually, the commission, in consultation with the
13 implementing agencies and the advisory committee, shall
14 determine those amendments that shall be made to the list of
15 Category A programs.

16 (d) Each annual program plan shall include programs
17 priorities, work plans, proposed budgets, and significant program
18 products, including, but not limited to, regulations, grant or loan
19 solicitations, environmental documentations, and project
20 selection.

21 (e) Annual programs plans shall also include a strategy and
22 budget for addressing program-specific, critical scientific
23 uncertainties, developing and implementing performance
24 measures, evaluating program actions, and conducting scientific
25 review of program implementation and proposed projects. The
26 implementing agency and the director shall consult with the lead
27 scientist to determine an appropriate science strategy and budget.

28 (f) Implementing agencies shall coordinate the preparation of
29 annual program plans with agencies participating in the California
30 Bay-Delta Program and other appropriate agencies.

31 (g) The implementing agencies and the director shall integrate
32 the annual plans for the program elements into a comprehensive
33 and balanced annual implementation plan.

34 (h) The commission shall review, approve, and, as necessary,
35 direct implementing agencies to modify annual program plans and
36 projected expenditures on Category A's program to ensure
37 consistency with the program and balanced achievement of the
38 program's goals and objectives.

39



1 Article 3. LIMITATIONS ON COMMISSION POWERS AND DUTIES

2 79430. The commission shall comply with state water laws.

3 79431. The commission does not have the authority to levy
4 taxes, user fees, or assessments without explicit legislative
5 approval.

6 79432. The commission shall exercise its powers consistent
7 with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13
8 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
9 Nothing in this division shall prevent the modification or
10 supplementation of the CALFED Final Programmatic
11 Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report,
12 certified August 28, 2000, or define the manner in which that
13 document may be used.

14 79440. (a) The commission and the implementing agencies
15 shall carry out the programs, projects, and activities necessary to
16 implement the Bay-Delta Program. The commission shall
17 coordinate the activities of the implementing agencies to ensure
18 balanced implementation that meets the goals and objectives of the
19 Bay-Delta Program.

20 (b) “Implementing agency” includes those state agencies
21 listed in Section 79441 until the United States has, through statute
22 or otherwise, authorized the listed federal agencies to participate
23 in the governance and implementation of the Bay-Delta Program
24 in the manner set forth in this division. Until that federal
25 authorization has been provided, the state implementing agencies
26 shall consult, cooperate, and coordinate with federal agencies in
27 all matters related to implementation of the program.

28 79441. (a) The Department of Water Resources, the
29 Department of Fish and Game, and the Army Corps of Engineers
30 are the implementing agencies for the levee program element.

31 (b) The State Department of Health Services, the State Water
32 Resources Control Board, and the United States Environmental
33 Protection Agency are the implementing agencies for the water
34 quality program.

35 (c) The commission, the Department of Fish and Game, the
36 United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine
37 Fisheries Service, shall be the implementing agencies for the
38 ecosystem restoration program.

39 (d) The Department of Water Resources and the United States
40 Bureau of Reclamation are the implementing agencies for the



1 water supply reliability, water use efficiency, storage, and
2 conveyance elements of the program.

3 (e) The Department of Water Resources, the State Water
4 Resources Control Board, and the Bureau of Reclamation are the
5 implementing agencies for the water transfer element.

6 (f) The commission, the Resources Agency, the State Water
7 Resources Control Board, the Department of Water Resources, the
8 Department of Fish and Game, the Natural Resources
9 Conservation Service, the United States Environmental Protection
10 Agency, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, are the
11 implementing agencies for the watershed program element.

12 (g) The commission is the implementing agency for the science
13 program element.

14 (h) The commission, in consultation with the Department of
15 Water Resources, the Department of Fish and Game, the Bureau
16 of Reclamation, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and
17 the National Marine Fisheries Service, are the implementing
18 agencies for the environmental water account.

19 (i) The commission, by June 1, 2004, and after consultation
20 with all affected agencies and the advisory committee, shall submit
21 a report to the Legislature setting forth the commission's
22 recommendation as to whether another appropriate implementing
23 entity should be designated for the ecosystem restoration program.

24

25 Article 5. Bay-Delta Commission Staff

26

27 79450. The Governor shall appoint, in accordance with
28 Section 12001 of the Government Code, a director, in consultation
29 with the United States Secretary of the Interior, who shall serve at
30 the pleasure of the Governor.

31 79451. The director shall administer the affairs of the
32 commission as directed by the commission and shall direct the
33 staff of the commission. The annual salary of the director shall be
34 as provided by Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 11550) of
35 Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 3 of the Government Code.

36 79452. (a) The director, with the advice and consent of the
37 commission, shall appoint a lead scientist. The lead scientist shall
38 report to the commission. The lead scientist in cooperation with
39 the implementing agencies, shall be responsible for the



1 development and implementation of the California Bay-Delta
2 Science Program.

3 (b) For all program elements, the lead scientist shall assure
4 scientific application of adaptive management, monitoring, and
5 investigations to reduce uncertainties, and full investigation of the
6 effects of each program element on other program elements.

7 (c) The lead scientist shall ensure that peer review is employed
8 extensively and prudently to assure the quality of program
9 planning, implementation, and evaluation.

10 (d) The purpose of the science program element shall be to
11 carry out all of the following functions:

12 (1) Provide implementing agencies and the commission,
13 authoritative and unbiased reviews of the state of scientific
14 knowledge relevant to management and decisionmaking for the
15 California Bay-Delta Program.

16 (2) Implement strategies to articulate, test, refine and improve
17 scientific understandings.

18 (3) Provide a comprehensive framework to integrate, monitor,
19 and evaluate the use of adaptive management and the best
20 available scientific understandings and practices for
21 implementation of the California Bay-Delta Program.

22 (4) Independently review the technical and scientific
23 performance of the California Bay-Delta Program including, but
24 not limited to, the following:

25 (A) Conclusions.

26 (B) Studies.

27 (C) Studies, monitoring, performance measures.

28 (D) Data analyses.

29 (E) Scientific practices that form the scientific bases for
30 program decisionmaking.

31 79453. The director may appoint and hire staff as necessary
32 to administer the affairs of the commission at a salary and
33 classification level commensurate with other state and federal
34 agencies.

35 79454. The director shall organize commission staff in a
36 manner best suited to administer the affairs of commission and
37 oversee a complex multiagency program.

38 79455. The director may fill commission staff positions with
39 state employees hired by the commission, federal employees
40 assigned to the program by cooperating federal agencies, or with



1 staff from other state public entities. Due to the commission’s
2 unique multijurisdictional oversight responsibilities, the
3 commission is exempt from standard state civil service allocation
4 standards and shall retain all state civil service positions without
5 regard to whether that position was vacant continuously for six
6 consecutive monthly pay periods.

7 79456. Notwithstanding Section 19818.10 of the
8 Government Code, and in cooperation with the State Personnel
9 Board, the commission shall establish personnel classifications,
10 including a new management level classification, specific to the
11 commission’s unique role in oversight and coordination.

12 Article 6. Advisory Committee

13

14 79460. (a) The commission shall establish a public advisory
15 committee.

16 (b) The commission may recognize an advisory committee that
17 is functioning as an advisory committee on January 1, 2002, as the
18 advisory committee required by this section.

19 (c) The commission may permit the advisory committee to be
20 structured and appointed to comply with the Federal Advisory
21 Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, as amended).

22 (d) The Commission shall ensure that the advisory committee
23 is comprised of persons who provide geographic balance and
24 broad range of interests and perspectives, including agricultural
25 water, urban water, environmental, tribal, environmental justice,
26 business, labor, and city, and county and local government
27 representatives.

28 (e) The advisory committee shall review and make
29 recommendations to the commission and director on issues related
30 to implementation of the California Bay-Delta Program and
31 annual progress reports.

32 (f) The advisory committee members may receive
33 reimbursement for necessary travel expenses incurred by the
34 members in the performance of the members duties, consistent
35 with state per diem rates.

36

37 Article 7. Independent Science Board

38

39 79470. (a) The lead scientist shall nominate, and the
40 commission shall confirm, a board of independent scientists, to be



1 known as the Independent Science Board, that shall review and
2 advise the commission and the advisory committee, as
3 appropriate, on the science relative to implementation of all
4 program elements.

5 (b) The commission may recognize an existing board of
6 independent scientists as members of the board required by this
7 section.

8 (c) The commission shall respond to advice and reviews
9 prepared by the Independent Science Board.

10 79471. The lead scientist may establish, in cooperation with
11 implementing agencies, additional independent science panels to
12 assist implementing agencies and the commission in reviewing
13 and advising on scientific issues associated with individual
14 program elements, reviewing multiple program actions within
15 specific geographic areas, and defining the state of knowledge
16 relative to specific scientific issues. Members of these panels may
17 also be members of the Independent Science Board.

