

# **Water Resource Planning Workshop**

**January 19, 2010**

**Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District**

**Framework  
for Evaluating Water Resource Planning Options**

## Who participated:

- Water Resource Advisory Committee..... ~ 14
- Citizen Study Group (invited & random)..... ~ 30
- Citizens from McKinleyville Public Meeting... ~ 40
- Citizens from Arcata Public Meeting..... ~ 85
- Citizens from Eureka Public Meeting..... ~ 70
- Estimated totals form all public forums ..... ~ 250

## How was the process conducted?

- 1. The roles of the HMBWD, its customers, (industrial and municipal), the State's water permit, the volumes of water at risk and the infrastructure were presented to all groups.
- 2. Then at tables of 3-5 persons, independent discussion began with a table recorder keeping track of all the items and areas that were of most concern to them.
- 3. Each table reported back the primary areas and items that were of most important for them...Every item was recorded in detail by the facilitating team.
- 4. A subcommittee of the Water Resource Advisory Committee began to distill the data, reporting back to the full committee and the HMBWD board, taking their thoughts and comments into consideration. The drafts were reviewed and the final product follows.

## The Outcome

- Two elements were paramount to all groups and were therefore considered to be basic **THRESHOLDS**, that all Options must satisfy before the Criteria are applied.
- **LOCAL CONTROL**: The option must allow the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District to protect, maintain and determine uses of the existing water rights.
- **LEGALLY VIABLE**: The option must implement actions that are currently legal, or if they require permits, variances or changes to law, those are likely to be obtained.

## Evaluation Criteria

- Once an option has met both the previous thresholds, it will be measured by applying the following criteria. On these slides only the primary Criteria and its definition will be reported... In your packets more detailed refinements of these primary criteria are listed.

(Before each definition, ask the question)...Does the Option...

- **(1) Environmental:** Support the preservation or enhancement of the Mad River eco-system?
- **(2) ACCESS:** Provide access to a sufficient and long-term supply of high quality of water for multiple purposes?

## Evaluation Criteria

(Before each definition, ask the question)...Does the Option...

- (3) **Economic Development**: Employ water as an asset to benefit the regional economy?
- (4) **District Cost Recovery**: Provide funding to the District for infrastructure maintenance and thereby, decrease the costs to domestic rate payers?
- (5) **Community Quality of Life**: Provide recognizable benefits to, and improvements in, our community's "Quality of Life"?