

Lead Scientist's Report

Summary: This report covers six items:

Collaborative Science Activities: 1) Summary and highlights of the April 8 Public Briefing on 2015-2016 High Impact Science Actions, 2) The upcoming Brown Bag Seminar, "Water Governance Games in the Bay-Delta, 3) A workshop with UC Davis on "Climate Change and Future Management Strategies in the Delta", and 4) a modeling workshop "Integrated Modeling for Adaptive Management of Estuarine Systems."

Science Communication: 5) The April 2015 issue of the San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science (SFEWS) Journal, 6) "By the Numbers" summary.

Collaborative Science Activities

Public Briefing: 2015-2016 High Impact Science Actions: April 8, 2015

Last November the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee (DPIIC) directed member agency staff to collectively identify a short list of multi-agency, multi-benefit science actions that could be implemented in 2015-16. As requested and facilitated by Council staff, several DPIIC agencies used the Interim Science Action Agenda as a foundation and drafted a list of proposed high-priority science actions to present to the DPIIC on May 11, 2015. This public briefing introduced stakeholders and the broader Delta community to the draft list and to hear comments and questions.

Brown Bag Seminar May 5, 2015: "Water Governance Games in the Bay-Delta", Mark Lubell

The California Delta and San Francisco Bay are governed by a complex set of actors and institutions. Based on survey results from Delta stakeholders, this presentation will show the network of actors and policies in the context of the ecology of water management, and identify the types of policies that are most central and considered more effective. Results from this research will help us understand the nature of institutional connectivity and interactions governing the socially and ecologically complex Bay-Delta system.

CABA Seminar May 6, 2015: "Climate Change and Future Management Strategies in the Delta"

The goals of this upcoming one-day seminar include updating our current understanding of climate impacts based on recent projections, and providing information regarding the vulnerability and resilience of both natural and human environments. The seminar will include discussions of the most current approaches for climate adaptation and mitigation in response to climate related changes. The overall goal is to present and synthesize ongoing efforts to help develop a broader vision for the Bay-Delta ecosystem under future climate scenarios. For more information, please see: <http://caba.ucdavis.edu/seminars>.

Modeling Workshop May 21-22, 2015: “Integrated Modeling for Adaptive Management of Estuarine Systems”

Bringing together expertise from across California and around the world, the National Science Foundation is sponsoring an Integrated Modeling Workshop to explore the problems and prospects for improving the development and application of modeling for multipurpose management of changing estuarine systems. Both scientific technique and institutional organization of modeling and data development activities will be covered, including governmental, academic, NGO, private, and stakeholder perspectives. For more information, please see: <http://IntegratedModeling.ucdavis.edu>.

Science Communication

April 2015 Issue of the SFEWS Journal

The April issue of the SFEWS Journal is currently available online. This edition includes one policy and program analysis paper and two research papers:

Policy and Program Analysis

Forecasting the Most Likely Status of Wild Salmon in the California Central Valley in 2100. Sierra Franks and Robert Lacky.

Research

Three-Dimensional Modeling of Hydrodynamics and Salinity in the San Francisco Estuary: An Evaluation of Model Accuracy, X2, and the Low-Salinity Zone. Michael MacWilliams, Aaron Bever, Edward Gross, Gerard Ketefian, and Wim Kimmer.

Modeling Tidal Freshwater Marsh Sustainability in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Under a Broad Suite of Potential Future Scenarios. Kathleen Swanson, Judith Drexler, Christopher Fuller, and David Schoellhamer.

The SFEWS journal is an open access publication underwritten in part by the Delta Stewardship Council and may be viewed here: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3vt5z15p>.

By the Numbers

Delta Science Program staff will give a summary of current numbers related to Delta water and environmental management. The summary will inform the Council of recent counts, measurements, and monitoring figures driving water and environmental management issues.

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