



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL
DELTA SCIENCE PROGRAM



*The Delta Science Program, the Ecosystem Restoration Program, and the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program
Jointly Present a Brown Bag Seminar Series.*

Getting to the Bottom of It: An Overview of DWR's Environmental Monitoring Program's Benthic Monitoring in the Delta

featuring

Betsy Wells, Ph.D.

Environmental Scientist, California Department of Water Resources

Tuesday, March 15, 2016, Noon to 1:00

Park Tower Plaza, 2nd Floor Conference Room

980 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA

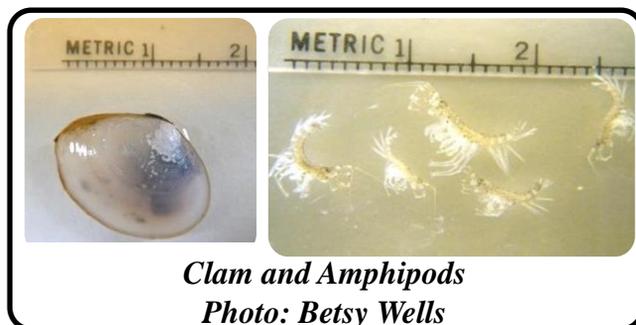


Dr. Betsy Wells

Creating a better understanding of bottom-dwelling, or benthic, invertebrate communities enhances our knowledge of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem. These communities are a crucial link in the Delta's food web and are a classic bio-indicator of aquatic ecosystem health.

Over that past 150 years, the Delta ecosystem has experienced detrimental changes because of human-caused environmental alterations. While much attention has been given to more prominent issues such as fish populations, wetlands, and water quality, other components of the ecosystem have received less consideration. Fortunately, since 1975 the California Department of Water Resources' Environmental Monitoring Program, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, has gathered a substantial amount of benthic community data in the Delta.

In this seminar, Dr. Betsy Wells will offer some perspective of the benthic monitoring program and discuss the bottom-dwelling communities' geographic, seasonal, and historical patterns. She will explain how the creatures at the bottom of the Delta, from clams to worms to amphipods, make up an amazingly diverse community that tells an ecological history of the Delta.



*Clam and Amphipods
Photo: Betsy Wells*

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[Please click here](#) for instructions on how to watch via WebEx