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# News Release

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## 2013 Science Fellows Class Announced

*Ten 2-year Fellowships will help address research priorities  
and pressing science questions of the Bay-Delta system*

SACRAMENTO – The Delta Stewardship Council’s Delta Science Program, in conjunction with California Sea Grant, has awarded 10 new Fellowships to pursue research on priority issues for implementing the Council’s Delta Plan. These priority issues range from the stability of levees on peat soils during earthquakes to the effect of multiple stressors on salmon.

“We are very grateful to the agencies that have come together to support the 2013 Fellows program,” said Dr. Peter Goodwin, Lead Scientist for the Delta Stewardship Council/Delta Science Program. “The challenge of reconciling California’s coequal goals of ecosystem sustainability and statewide water supply reliability attracted an eclectic and gifted group of young scientists and engineers from across the country.”

He added that the review panel was struck by the very high quality of both the proposals and the applicants and encouraged Sea Grant and the Delta Science Program to seek additional funds.

“The Delta Science Program is very grateful to NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Department of Water Resources for funding additional Fellows this year,” Dr. Goodwin said.

The goal of the Delta Science Fellows Program is to bring junior scientists together with state and federal agency scientists and senior research mentors to work collaboratively on data analysis and research projects relevant to Delta policy and management. Since 2003, the Delta Science Fellows Program has paired graduate students and postdoctoral researchers with Bay-Delta agency scientists and senior research mentors in order to address research priorities and pressing science questions of the Bay-Delta system.

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*“Coequal goals” means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.”*

– CA Water Code §85054

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The Council's Science Program has funded 68 Fellows projects—including the Class of 2013—totaling more than \$9 million dollars. The goal of funding this research is to invest in knowledge that will advance the understanding of the complex environments and systems within the Bay-Delta to aid policymakers and managers in water supply and ecosystem restoration decisions, and to train the next generation of research scientists for water issues in California.

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#### ***About the Council***

Created by the legislature in 2009, the Delta Stewardship Council is composed of members who represent different parts of the state and offer diverse expertise in fields such as agriculture, science, the environment, and public service. Of the seven, four are appointed by the Governor, one each by the Senate and Assembly, and the seventh is the Chair of the Delta Protection Commission. For more information visit <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/>