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Delta Independent Science Board Welcomes Two New Scientists

Appointments Bring a Variety of Expertise to the Science Oversight Body

SACRAMENTO –The Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) has appointed two new members to the Delta Independent Science Board (Delta ISB): Dr. Harindra (Joseph) Fernando from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana and Dr. Jay Lund from the University of California at Davis. The appointments were approved at the Council’s August meeting.

“Drs. Fernando and Lund are internationally recognized scholars who understand the challenges facing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta,” said Phil Isenberg, Chair of the Delta Stewardship Council. “I feel confident they will bring new insights to assist the Delta ISB’s job of making sure we are using the best available science to make decisions about the Delta.”

Drs. Fernando and Lund replace Dr. Mike Healey and Dr. Jeff Mount respectively. Dr. Healey, who had been Vice-Chair of the Delta ISB, resigned in March, 2012 due to personal commitments. Dr. Mount will depart the Delta ISB in late October concurrent with his retirement from his teaching position at UC Davis.

“I very much look forward to having a full complement of members,” said Delta ISB Chair Dick Norgaard. “We have needed both an engineer and Delta expertise. I and the other board members look forward to the expertise and good judgment Joe Fernando and Jay Lund will provide.”

“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

CA Water Code Section 85280(a) says “Members of the Delta ISB shall be nationally or internationally prominent scientists with appropriate expertise to evaluate the broad range of scientific programs that support adaptive management of the Delta.” Dr. Fernando is an engineer with expertise in hydrodynamics, risk, climate change, and modeling. Dr. Lund is an engineer with expertise in water resources. Their curriculum vitae can be accessed [here](#) (Fernando) and [here](#) (Lund).

“I am excited to include Dr. Fernando and Dr. Lund to our already exemplary stable of learned associates,” said Dr. Peter Goodwin, Lead Scientist of the Delta Science Program. “These respected scientists are both leaders in their fields and recognized for innovative approaches in water research. They complement the considerable expertise already represented on the Delta Independent Science Board and will contribute to the oversight and review responsibilities of the Delta ISB.”

The other members of the Delta ISB include Dr. Richard Norgaard (Chair), Dr. Tracy Collier (Vice-Chair), Dr. Brian Atwater, Dr. Elizabeth Canuel, Dr. Edward Houde, Dr. Judy Meyer, Dr. Vincent Rush, and Dr. John Wiens.

The Delta ISB was created as part of the Delta Reform Act of 2009 to provide oversight of the scientific research, monitoring, and assessment programs that support adaptive management of the Delta. CA Water Code Section 85080 empowers the DSC to appoint ISB members.

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/>

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