

# Delta Science Program Brown Bag Series Presents

## Water Regulation and Governance: Collaboration, Compliance and Enforcement

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The National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training  
The University of New South Wales and The Australian National University

**Wednesday, May 9, 2012, 12 noon – 1 p.m.**

**Location: Park Tower Building, 980 Ninth Street  
2nd floor Conference Center, Sacramento CA 95814**



One of the greatest environmental challenges is the management of scarce water resources. In Australia this was recently exemplified by regional protests and parliamentary inquiries into the Murray Darling Basin Planning process. Australia's approach to addressing this daunting challenge has involved a hybrid governance system consisting of government regulation (hierarchy), water pricing (markets) and water plans developed with stakeholder cooperation (collaborative governance).

This presentation by Drs. Holley and Sinclair will explore two key areas that are vital to water reform. These are (1) improving the effectiveness of traditional water regulation, and (2) designing new collaborative governance mechanisms to supplement conventional approaches. Drawing on around 80 interviews with government and non-government stakeholders, the presentation will focus on the issues of compliance and enforcement which underpin the integrity of water allocations, but have traditionally been undervalued in practice and the literature. Additionally, in terms of new mechanisms, the presentation will explore the feasibility of innovative self-management approaches which seek to better manage water, while substantially increasing community participation and ownership in water management decisions.