The Delta Science Program, Ecosystem Restoration Program & Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Jointly Present a Brown Bag Seminar Series

The Delta Carbon Cycle – Quantify, Manage, & Trade

Rice in the Delta

The potential to mitigate subsidence and enhance sustainability

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Monday, April 21, 2014
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Park Tower Building
2nd Floor Conference Room
980 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Can altered agricultural practices help store carbon?

Subsidence (the oxidation of carbon rich peat soils) in the Delta, has the potential to impact local agricultural, economic, and cultural sustainability producing effects that can cascade across California. A shift from current agricultural practices to the production of rice, an aquatic plant grown under flooded conditions, offers a potential option to help mitigate subsidence on farm-through-regional scales by decreasing peat oxidation rates. Strategic and large-scale implementation of rice cultivation in the Delta would support agricultural sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, store carbon and improve water quality.

This presentation will discuss the integration of lab-scale studies and regional assessments to understand key management and biogeochemical factors associated with rice production in the Delta. This analysis will help inform both Delta and statewide Agricultural Production models to determine economic costs and benefits on local, regional and statewide scales. Work like this supports the development of effective management practices and will provide a framework for future decisions affecting the Delta.

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for WebEx access information or other questions.