

Lead Scientist's Report

Summary: This report presents five items, 1) Delta Science Program (DSP) funded research web pages, 2) planning for joint DSP - California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) predation workshops, 3) overview of Lead Scientist's recommendations to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on the Bay Delta Plan Update next steps 4) highlights of the 2013 Delta Science Fellow solicitation, and 5) a summary of current numbers relevant to Delta water and environmental management.

Delta Science Program Research Web Pages

The Delta Science Program has funded more than 40 research grants totaling more than \$25 million since 2004. Web pages for 18 of these projects are now available on the Delta Science Program's website with more added as information becomes available. Pages for ongoing studies contain brief summaries of the project purpose and objectives. Pages for completed studies include a results summary, final project reports and a list of publications. The Delta Science Program research pages can be found at: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-program/grants-program>

Joint DSP-DFW Predation Workshops

Building on the body of knowledge from previous workshops and research, the Delta Science Program and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife are planning a series of workshops focused on fish predation starting with predation on salmonids. This first workshop, planned for June 2013, will convene an independent panel of science experts to synthesize the current state of knowledge and identify research needs. The panel will write a document of its findings to be released in the fall of 2013. Future workshops on the use of modeling to evaluate predation effects and predation management are in the planning stages.

Recommendations for the SWRCB Bay Delta Plan Phase 2 Update

On April 9, 2013, Dr. Peter Goodwin will provide recommendations to the SWRCB on the next steps for science for the Bay-Delta Plan Phase 2 Update, following up on the three fall 2012 workshops and the workshop summary produced by Dr. Brock Bernstein. Anticipated recommendations include focused workshops to address key uncertainties surrounding flows into, through and out of the Delta. The meeting agenda and additional information can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml

Delta Science 2013 Class of Fellows

For the 2013 Class of Fellows, the Delta Science Program is partnering with other agencies, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) to sponsor up to 10 fellows at the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral level in disciplines of environmental science, engineering, and social science with a natural resources focus, addressing the 2013 priority research topics from the Delta Plan policy areas. In April, the Delta Science Program and California Sea Grant will host a webinar for potential fellows to give guidance on the expectations for a successful application. Applications will be due in May 2013. The 2013 fellowships are expected to begin in September or October. For more information please visit: <http://www-csgc.ucsd.edu/EDUCATION/DELTA/DeltaIdx.html>

By the Numbers

The Lead Scientist will present a summary of current numbers related to Delta water and environmental management. The summary will inform the Council of recent counts, measurements and monitoring figures driving water and environmental management issues (e.g., delta smelt cumulative salvage (fish caught) at the Central Valley and State Water Project pumps and the percent of average precipitation.)

Contact

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