

Lead Scientist's Report

Summary: This report covers four items: 1) Highlights from the 2013 State of the Estuary Conference (SOE), 2) An update on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Effects Analysis Review, 3) Initial feedback from the Long-term Operations Biological Opinions (LOBO) Review Panel, and 4) A summary of current numbers relevant to Delta water and environmental management.

Biennial State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference

The 11th Biennial State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference was held Oct. 29-30, 2013. The Conference theme revolved around the 20th anniversary of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for the Estuary (including the five Delta Counties), lessons learned, and implementation challenges remaining. Delta Stewardship Council Executive Officer Chris Knopp participated in a panel discussion on cooperation among the many plans for the Bay-Delta system. Delta Independent Science Board member Dr. Jay Lund spoke on managing the Delta ecosystem adaptively. A list of posters presented by Delta Science Program Sea Grant State Fellows and Delta Science Fellows is attached. A special session was held on the Delta Science Plan to inform and gain feedback from the broader Bay-Delta science community on moving forward with a joint science agenda. Conference program and abstracts can be found at: <http://www.sfestuary.org/soe/>

Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Effects Analysis Review

The Delta Science Program will host a review of the BDCP Effects Analysis. This is the third and final phase of this review which has continued with the same panel. Important dates for the review are as follows:

- December 13: Release of draft BDCP for public review
- December 18: Effects Analysis Review Panel briefing
- January 27-28 or 28-29 (two days): Effects Analysis Review Panel Meeting

Annual Long-term Operations Biological Opinions (LOBO) Review

On Nov. 6-7, 2013, the Delta Science program held the fourth LOBO Review. Required by the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives (RPA), this workshop reviewed operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project in water year 2013 to determine whether any measures prescribed in the RPA should be altered in light of information learned from the year's operations or research. The Lead Scientist will provide a summary of the initial comments from the review panel. For more information about this review, including the panel's report when it is available, see: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-event/9954>

By the Numbers

Emily Mortazavi (State Fellow) 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.

List of Attachments

- Attachment 1: Delta Science Program Fellows' Presentations from the State of the Estuary Conference
- Attachment 2: By the Numbers Summary *(to be provided at the Council meeting)*

Contact

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