

## Lead Scientist's Report

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**Summary:** This report covers six items: (1) BDCP Effects Analysis Review (2) SWRCB Outflows and Related Stressors Workshop (3) CABA Seminar on Lower Food Web Dynamics (4) A progress update on the Interim Science Action Agenda, (5) CAMT progress report and (6) A summary of current numbers relevant to Delta water and environmental management.

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### **Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Effects Analysis Review**

The Delta Science Program (DSP) conducted an independent science panel review of the BDCP Effects Analysis. The public meeting was held on January 28-29, 2014 and was productive and well received. The report will be available mid-March 2014. This event was webcast, recorded, and is posted on the Delta Stewardship Council Website. There were 189 webcast views the first day of the event. More information can be found at: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-event/10114>.

### **State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Outflows Workshop**

On February 10-11, 2014, the DSP held an independent science panel workshop for the SWRCB. This workshop was focused on identifying the best available science on Delta outflows and related stressors to inform the SWRCB's update to the Bay-Delta Plan. The panel's report will be available mid-March, 2014. Both days of the event were webcast, recorded, and will be posted on the Delta Stewardship Council Website. More information can be found at: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-program/workshop-delta-outflows-and-related-stressors>.

### **Seminar on Lower Food Web Dynamics**

The UC Davis Center for Aquatic Biology and Aquaculture (CABA) held a science synthesis seminar on February 18, 2014. This event aimed to provide a forum to synthesize knowledge about lower food web dynamics and to identify research and management actions that will support effective restoration activities. More information can be found at: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-event/10242>.

### **Progress Update on Interim Science Action Agenda**

The Interim Science Action Agenda takes an initial step in implementing the Delta Science Plan. It is a synthesis of science actions that have been identified in existing plans, such as the Delta Plan and the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) 2014 annual work plan. Currently, we are mining existing documents and gaining broad science community input, for example, at the IEP and CWEMF meetings. This input from the science community will be collated and developed into an initial list of Delta science actions. The DSP presented a poster and hosted an evening discussion session on the Interim Science Action Agenda at the IEP Annual Workshop being held now (February 26-28, 2014). A copy of the poster is included with this report.

### **Progress Report from the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT)**

Delta Science Program Staff actively participated in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Process designed to assist with revisions to Biological Opinions under the Endangered Species Act. The intent is to develop a durable science process and program that will be useful for implementation of existing Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives and improvement of the next BiOps. The CAMT is comprised of state and federal agencies, environmental advocacy organizations, and public water agencies. The Science Program considered the effort of the CAMT a pilot case for applying the Adaptive Management Framework, as described in the Delta Plan and the provisions in the Delta Science Plan for managing scientific conflict, identifying disagreements, and how to reduce the level of uncertainty surrounding key questions. The attached progress report, which outlines key roles for the Delta Science Program, was submitted to Judge O'Neil on February 18, 2014. The Science Program will give a briefing of its envisioned role in this process, contingent on Judge O'Neil's forthcoming decision on whether to grant another extension of deadlines in both the Salmonid and Delta Smelt cases.

### **By the Numbers**

The new Sea Grant State Fellow will give 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: Collaborative Adaptive Management Team Progress Report
- Attachment 2: By the Numbers Summary
- Attachment 3: Interim Science Action Agenda Poster for the IEP Workshop

### **Contact**

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