

Presentation from the 2011 and 2012 Classes of Science Fellows for the Delta Science Program

Summary: The Delta Science Fellows Program funds postdoctoral and graduate researchers to work with community and scientific mentors on Delta research priorities. Current Fellows from the 2011 Class and incoming Fellows from the 2012 Class will provide short presentations about their projects.

Background

The purpose of the Delta Science Program is to build collaborative science links between universities and agencies or organizations conducting science in the Delta. Delta Science Fellows and their research projects are selected through a rigorous external peer-review process. The goal of funding this research is to invest in knowledge that will advance understanding of the complex Delta system that will aid policymakers and managers, be relevant to the Delta Stewardship Council's coequal goals, and to develop the next generation of research scientists. Selected Science Fellows work on a two-year research project at the research mentor's university closely collaborating with a community mentor from a relevant Bay-Delta agency.

The Science Program in conjunction with California Sea Grant organized a three-day (January 22-24, 2013) Early Career Leadership Workshop for the Fellows Classes of 2011 and 2012. The purpose of the workshop was to enhance the experience of the Science Fellows by ensuring that they understand the context of their research within the challenges of managing the Delta, particularly related to the Delta Stewardship Council. The workshop also provided early career leadership training, including ethics in science, successful proposal writing, career opportunities, planning a successful career in science, the importance of creating a diverse workforce, data management, national and global trends in science, and the importance of the science-policy interface. Almost a full day of the workshop was devoted to the issues of effective communication of science and discovery.

Fellows participating in the Early Career Leadership Workshop will provide a two-minute presentation of each of their projects to the Council. More information about the Delta Science Fellows Program including the recipients of the 2012 award and all previous years can be found at <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-program/fellows-program>

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