

RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 DELTA SCIENCE PROGRAM FELLOWSHIPS

The following is a list of recipients of the 2013 Delta Science Fellowships. The total amount awarded was \$1,363,067. Fellowships were awarded based on the intellectual merit of the application, the expected contribution to the priority issues identified in the Delta Plan, and the strength of the synergistic collaboration between the University and Agency:

1. Provide a more reliable water supply for California
2. Protect, restore and enhance the Delta ecosystem
3. Protect and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, natural resources, and agricultural values of the California Delta as an evolving place
4. Improve water quality to protect human health and environment
5. Reduce risk to people, property and State interests in the Delta

The 10 recipients are:

Postdoctoral Fellows

| Fellow | Topic | Lead Institution | Community* Mentor | Funding* Agency | Funding Amount |
|---------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Erin Bray | Will study gravel bars in rivers to identify what features facilitate groundwater exchanges that create good Chinook salmon spawning habitat | UC Santa Barbara | USBR | DSC/DSP | \$153,400 |
| Anna Sturrock | Will examine links between the early life histories of Central Valley Chinook salmon and their chances of surviving to adulthood | UC Berkeley | DFW | DSC/DSP | \$135,500 |
| Ken Jeffries | Will determine the thermal tolerances of longfin smelt and inland silverside and develop biomarkers of thermal stress using new genomics technology | UC Davis | DWR | DSC/DSP | \$147,000 |

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|-----------------|---|-------------|------|------------------|--------------------|
| Elizabeth Wells | Will investigate effects of climate change on survival, growth, and feeding rate of the invasive overbite and invasive Asian clams | UC Davis | USGS | DSC/DSP | \$138,000 |
| Quinfang Wu | Will deploy a fleet of floating robots (“smart drifters”) into the Liberty Island wetland to study how water currents and wetland geomorphology affect phytoplankton abundances and transport | UC Berkeley | USGS | USFWS DSC/DSP | \$177,363 |
| Priyanka Sharma | Will use synthetic aperture radar data to monitor levee conditions and subsidence in the Delta | JPL | DWR | JPL | \$139,096 |
| Cedric Fichot | Will use hyperspectral remote-sensing reflectance data to map, and study the dynamics of, methylmercury in the Bay-Delta | JPL | USGS | JPL | \$169,376 |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$1,059,735 |

Doctoral Students

| Fellow | Topic | Lead Institution | Community* Mentor | Funding* Agency | Funding Amount |
|------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rachel Wigginton | Will examine the effects of perennial pepper weed on tidal marsh ecosystems and look for strategies to stop the noxious weed’s spread | UC Davis | USDA | DSC/DSP | \$ 92,200 |

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|-----------------|--|----------|---------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Katharine Smith | Will study the basic ecology of the endangered salt marsh harvest mouse to better protect and enhance habitat for the mouse as well as for other species | UC Davis | DFW | USFWS | \$116,705 |
| Ali Shafiee | Will study the seismic response of peaty organic soils beneath Delta levees to improve seismic hazard assessments | UCLA | Curt Schmutte, Consultant | DWR | \$ 94,427 |
| TOTAL | | | | | \$303,332 |

*USBR = United States Bureau of Reclamation
 USGS = United States Geological Survey
 USDA = United States Department of Agriculture
 DSC/DSP = Delta Stewardship Council/Delta Science Program
 DWR = California Department of Water Resources
 DFW = California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 JPL = Jet Propulsion Laboratory