

The Delta Science Program, Ecosystem Restoration Program & Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Jointly Present a Brown Bag Seminar Series

Delta Landscape Metrics

Creating a Spatial Framework to Inform Restoration Planning



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Monday July 28, 2014
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Park Tower Building
2nd Floor Conference Room
980 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Can the past lead to a reconciled future?

The Delta Landscapes project provides a landscape-scale perspective on restoration opportunities and recommendations founded on a sound understanding of the ecological functions that existed in the Delta prior to substantial human modification. Historical data from the Delta Historical Ecology Study provides essential information on how the Delta system tends to function in response to physical processes and the conditions to which native species are adapted. This information is critical to planning for a future Delta that is reconciled to support as much native biodiversity as possible with minimal management effort. This information is also important for establishing landscape units with sufficient scale, diversity, and connectivity along physical gradients to adapt to future changes.

This talk will explore the interpretation of historical Delta landscapes to define the physical environment and ecosystem functions through quantifiable metrics. Conceptual models and other planning tools will demonstrate how these functions and metrics are related. The approach of drawing key functions and metrics from the historical landscape – and then applying those to contemporary and future conditions through landscape-scale conceptual models – can help maximize the value of contemporary restoration and begin to reconcile the past with the future Delta Ecosystem.