



Delta Science Program
Delta Stewardship Council

2017 California Sea Grant State Fellowship Opportunity Science Plan

1. Host Location and Contact Information

Delta Science Program, Delta Stewardship Council
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2. Fellowship supervisor

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4. Overview

The mission of the Delta Science Program (DSP) is to provide the best possible unbiased scientific information to inform water and environmental decision making in the Bay-Delta system. The DSP is an honest broker of Bay-Delta science. It connects scientists, managers, policy- and decision-makers and diverse stakeholders. The DSP was established by the 2009 Delta Reform Act to support, synthesize, coordinate and communicate unbiased and authoritative scientific knowledge directly relevant to Bay-Delta decision-making. Housed within the Delta Stewardship Council, the DSP supports the Council's adaptive management of the Delta Plan and use of best available science. The DSP provides forums for increasing mutual understanding, collaboration, learning, identifying common interests, and managing scientific conflicts. The DSP facilitates the development, sharing and use of best available science and adaptive management in the Bay-Delta and works collaboratively with Bay-Delta stakeholders and agencies at multiple organizational levels and across disciplines. A Sea Grant State Fellow with the DSP will have the unique opportunity to work at the interface of science and policy on some of California's most challenging natural resource management issues.

Position Description

Initially, the Sea Grant fellow will meet with the Supervisor, Lead Scientist, and other DSP staff as appropriate to develop a mentoring plan for the year. This plan will be based on the interests and background of the Sea Grant fellow and is intended to maximize the Sea Grant fellow's opportunities.

Working closely with DSP staff and the Lead Scientist, the Sea Grant fellow will have the opportunity to interact with California policy makers, nationally and internationally recognized scientific experts, and gain exposure to how science is conducted, reviewed and used to inform management and policy in the Bay-Delta and Suisun Marsh. The DSP is working on several efforts focused on, 1) coordinating Bay-Delta science, 2) applying principles of adaptive management for ecosystem restoration and water management decisions in the Bay-Delta and Suisun Marsh, 3) synthesizing scientific information, 4) facilitating independent scientific peer

review, and 5) communicating scientific information to policy and decision-makers, scientists and the public.

Potential tasks and responsibilities related to the DSP's efforts include: implementing elements of the [Delta Science Plan](#); developing science communication products for the Delta Stewardship Council; working with interdisciplinary teams on science synthesis and communication; engaging and coordinating with multiple agencies and stakeholders; assisting with scientific peer reviews and workshops; contributing to the development of a Delta Science Action Agenda that integrates science activities across multiple agencies and programs; producing written and verbal science communication materials for policymakers, managers, and the public.

Potential Projects

Specific projects will be identified with the fellow based on their expertise and interests. The fellow's work will support functions of the DSP. Potential projects include:

- ◆ Documenting how science is being used in Delta ecosystem restoration and water management decisions
- ◆ Developing and implementing performance measures for the [Delta Science Plan](#)
- ◆ Working with interagency groups developing models and decision support tools
- ◆ Synthesizing information on stressor impacts on the Bay-Delta ecosystem
- ◆ Developing science communication products for a wide range of audiences
- ◆ Contributing to the development of a Delta Science Action Agenda