



2018 California Sea Grant State Fellowship Opportunity

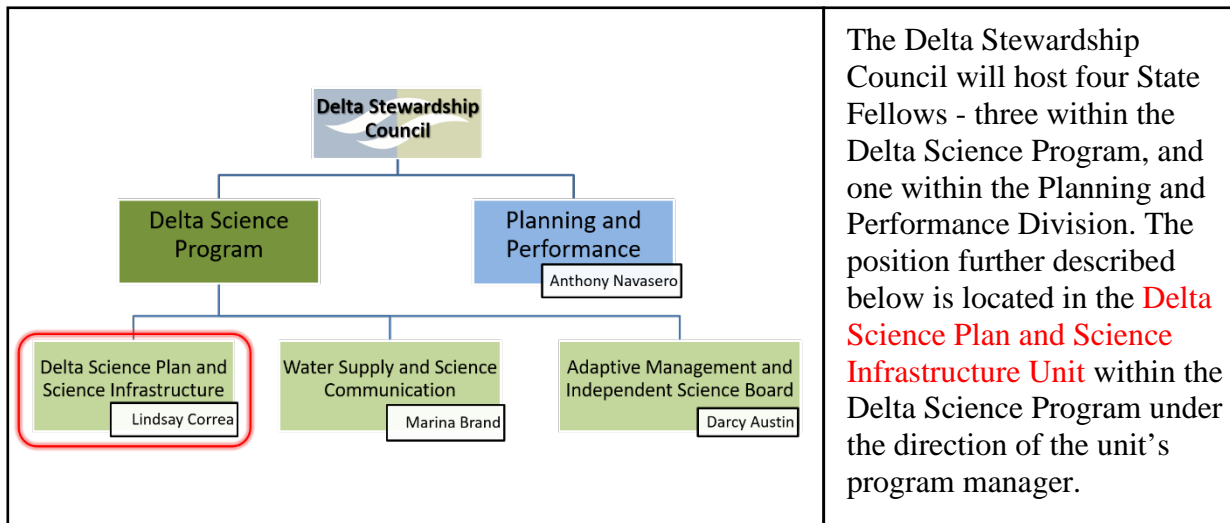
Delta Science Program – **Delta Science Plan and Science Infrastructure Unit**

Introduction

Located just minutes from major urban areas, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta’s meandering waterways spread over 1,160 square miles before flowing into the San Francisco Bay. The Delta is the largest estuary on the West Coast, supplying two-thirds of California’s water and providing vital habitat for endangered, endemic, and migratory species such as Chinook salmon and Ridgway’s rail. The incumbent for this position has the potential to work at the dynamic interface of land and sea, in a system that is inextricably linked to complex water supply, ecosystem, and policy issues.

Due to the multifaceted nature of this system, the California Legislature enacted the Delta Reform Act, which created the Delta Stewardship Council. The Council’s purpose is to uphold the coequal goals for the Delta – a more reliable statewide water supply and a healthy and protected ecosystem, both achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique characteristics of the Delta as an evolving place.

The **Delta Science Program** (DSP), housed within the Stewardship Council, was established to develop scientific information and syntheses on issues critical for managing the Bay-Delta system. That body of knowledge must be unbiased, relevant, authoritative, integrated across state and federal agencies, and communicated to Bay-Delta decision-makers, agency managers, stakeholders, the scientific community, and the public. The work of the Science Program is guided by the **Delta Science Plan**, a framework for conducting science that organizes and integrates Delta science activities and builds an open collaborative science community.



The Delta Stewardship Council will host four State Fellows - three within the Delta Science Program, and one within the Planning and Performance Division. The position further described below is located in the **Delta Science Plan and Science Infrastructure Unit** within the Delta Science Program under the direction of the unit’s program manager.

Unit Description

The Delta Science Plan and Science Infrastructure Unit works to fulfill the DSP's mission by catalyzing activities that build the community of Delta science and providing science services that identify and generate best available science to inform water and environmental decision-making. To accomplish these objectives, we lead and collaborate with diverse stakeholders on the implementation, reviews, and updates of the Delta Science Plan. We also support research aligned with the [Science Action Agenda](#), coordinate independent scientific peer reviews, and facilitate and participate in analysis and synthesis of scientific information.

Position Description

The Delta Science Plan and Science Infrastructure Unit is working on several efforts focused on, 1) coordinating Bay-Delta science, 2) synthesizing scientific information, 3) facilitating independent scientific peer reviews, and 4) communicating scientific information to decision-makers, scientists, and the public. 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.

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:

- ◆ Contributing to the review and update of the Delta Science Plan – including organizing and coordinating public workshops and multi-agency meetings
- ◆ Conducting a review of how the social sciences have been effectively integrated with the natural and physical sciences to inform management and policy decisions in the Bay-Delta and/or other managed estuaries
- ◆ Developing a strategy for increasing the DSP's roles in advancing the integration of social sciences with the natural and physical sciences
- ◆ Synthesizing information on stressor impacts on the Bay-Delta ecosystem
- ◆ Evaluating needs and opportunities to invest in tide and water level gauges and other infrastructure to support restoration planning, track sea level rise, and environmental monitoring
- ◆ Collaborating with Delta Stewardship Council Executive and Planning staff on Delta sea-level rise issues
- ◆ Working with interagency groups developing models and decision support tools
- ◆ Developing science communication products for a wide range of audiences, including the Delta Stewardship Council

Examples of Previous Fellows' Projects

- ◆ Contributed to a multi-agency and stakeholder salmon gaps analysis report
- ◆ Contributed to the development of the Interim Science Action Agenda
- ◆ Assisted in organizing a public workshop on Sacramento River temperature modeling
- ◆ Conducted an analysis of the potential values striped bass provide to the Delta

Host Location: 980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500, Sacramento, California

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