

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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**2023 California Sea Grant Host Proposal
California Coastal Commission****Overview**

The California Coastal Commission implements the California Coastal Act of 1976 and has regulatory authority over development along the coast in balance with the protection of coastal resources, environmentally sensitive habitats, and public access. This work is carried out through land use planning and permitting. The Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial state agency whose authority is defined as the coastal zone, a 1.5 million-acre area stretching 1,270 miles along the state's mainland coastline from Oregon to Mexico, and around nine offshore islands (333 miles of island shoreline). The Coastal Commission also has the responsibility to work with local governments to establish Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) which, when certified by the Coastal Commission, become the land use plan basis for coastal permitting at the local level. Furthermore, the Coastal Commission has the purview and planning responsibility to assess and address issues of state-wide importance such as public access, sea level rise, and coastal erosion and the implications of these on Coastal Act resources.

Position Description

The Sea Grant Fellow will be exposed to and work on a broad range of coastal and ocean issues that are part of the Coastal Commission's regulatory and Local Coastal Program planning work. In particular, the fellow will assist executive management, senior level, and technical staff on the agency's public access, environmental justice, sustainability, climate change, and sea level rise adaptation planning work, including addressing coastal hazards (i.e., tsunami, bluff stability/erosion) more broadly. This will include participating in multi-agency meetings, supporting interagency coordination and collaboration between the Coastal Commission and other state agencies, drafting recommendations for state-wide planning documents, and assisting the Coastal Commission in developing or enhancing informational products that serve to educate the Coastal Commission itself, local government partners, stakeholders, and the public. The fellow will also have opportunities to interface directly with senior government officials and leaders in coastal and ocean resource management policy throughout California, including working on projects and/or work products developed in collaboration with other state agencies like the California Natural Resources Agency, the State Lands Commission, the State Coastal Conservancy, and the Ocean Protection Council (OPC). The fellow may work on team projects and smaller independent projects. The Coastal Commission will also provide the fellow an opportunity to learn about and assist with the Coastal Commission's core regulatory and planning work.

Projects/activities that the fellow could work on would include:

- 1) Assist in review of sustainability and climate-related documents such vulnerability assessments, adaptation plans, and other technical reports in support of land use plan development for Local Coastal Programs, agency Guidance documents, and in regulatory work in review of coastal development permits applications;

- 2) Support outreach and education efforts to local governments, other state agencies, stakeholders and the public about the Coastal Commission's planning efforts, policy guidance, and other informational products and tools on a range of issues. This work could include supporting updates to the Coastal Commission's website and with planning outreach events such as webinars and workshops;
- 3) Assist with interagency coordination and collaboration efforts and support coordination efforts with other state agencies to participate in, track and report on the agency's planning efforts on priority issue areas;
- 4) Work on various climate and sustainability-related special projects as outlined in the Coastal Commission's Strategic Plan, including federally funded projects related to sea level rise planning, sustainable development and smart growth, addressing wildfire resilience and response in the coastal zone, public access vulnerability to sea level rise, environmental justice, marine debris, and protecting public trust lands and resources. This work would involve background research, policy analysis, and data synthesis;
- 5) Assist with the agency's planning and regulatory work on offshore wind energy;
- 6) Assist with agency efforts to accelerate planning and permitting of wetland protection or habitat restoration efforts that support using nature-based solutions in response to coastal hazards; and
- 7) Assist in agency efforts to implement its Tribal Consultation and Environmental Justice Policies.

Given the wide range of projects and initiatives undertaken by the Coastal Commission along the entire California coast, a successful Sea Grant Fellow is expected to take on and deliver products for a range of projects. While there will be an emphasis on climate change and sustainability related projects for most assignments, there will be room for the fellow to dig more deeply into a range of topics of interest (such as transportation, environmental justice, Tribal consultation, public education, affordable housing, and offshore wind energy). **Assignments can be customized to match the unique skills or interests of the selected fellow.** The selected Sea Grant Fellow must be able to work well under minimal supervision and be willing to ask questions. In addition, having a strong personal initiative and an ability to work well in a collaborative style with others is a great plus.

The Coastal Commission senior management has broad experience and success in hosting fellows and giving them a wide breadth of experience in coastal management issues. The Coastal Commission has a team of staff members focused on climate change and sustainability issues. This fellowship offers an excellent opportunity for teamwork and peer collaboration. The Coastal Commission will cover the proposed cost of hosting one fellow and supply needed operational, travel, and transit subsidy costs.

Host Location - Flexible

The fellow is usually based out of the Coastal Commission headquarters office in downtown San Francisco (455 Market Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94105) but we are willing to consider the fellow's base to be in one of our district offices (e.g., Arcata, Santa Cruz, Ventura, Long Beach or San Diego).

Fellowship Supervisors

Federal Programs Manager
Statewide Planning Program Manager

Point of Contact: Ashley Reineman, Federal Programs Manager, ashley.reineman@coastal.ca.gov



Sea Grant Fellowship California
Department of Parks and Recreation
2023 Host Application

1. Host location and contact information

Natural Resources Division, California State Parks
1416 9th St, Room 923, Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: 916-956-8939 (work mobile phone for Marina Cazorla)
Email: marina.cazorla@parks.ca.gov

2. Name of fellowship supervisor

Marina Cazorla, Coastal Program Manager, Natural Resources Division

3. Point of contact for California Sea Grant, prospective fellows, and finalists

Marina Cazorla, Coastal Program Manager, Natural Resources Division

4. Position Description

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) manages 128 coastal park units, equating nearly a quarter of the California coastline. As manager of these public coastal lands, State Parks has the responsibility and opportunity to serve as a leader in coastal land management. State Parks' Natural Resources Division (NRD) provides policy direction and technical assistance for natural resource management in the State Park System. NRD also administers funding programs for natural resources management and habitat restoration, and coordinates with other State and federal agencies on policy issues of statewide significance. Within NRD, the Coastal Programs team serves to coordinate these efforts as they relate to coastal processes and ecosystems within the department's coastal park units. Further, with expected impacts from climate change along the California coast, identifying and addressing management priorities for coastal State Park units is becoming increasingly critical for the protection of California's coastal resources.

The fellow will work with the Coastal Programs team to inform, develop, and implement State Parks' coastal policies and programs. **The NRD Coastal Program welcomes fellows with a broad range of backgrounds, technical skills, and subject-matter interests. Specific fellow duties will be developed collaboratively between the fellow and mentor at the start of the fellowship.** The Coastal Program acknowledges this is a fellowship position with the purpose of helping the fellow gain professional and technical skills. While pre-existing subject-matter expertise and technical skillsets may be helpful in this position, none are required, and may instead be developed over the fellowship. Anticipated project and programmatic opportunities are described below, with highest priority areas of work listed first.

Support the Natural Resources Division's Estuaries Initiative

The *Estuaries Initiative* is a strategic planning effort aimed at developing a comprehensive, statewide approach for the management, preservation, and restoration of the 158+ estuarine lagoons and tidal wetlands associated with the State Park System. The fellow will further the Initiative by assisting in the development and implementation of a collaborative strategy designed to: synthesize emerging science on coastal lagoons and estuaries; engage with stakeholders and State Parks resource managers across the California coast; advance the implementation of estuarine projects and management activities in the field; and build estuary resilience in the face of climate change. The fellow may engage with a variety of tasks, such as:

- Lead data-driven investigations to develop best practices and/or guidance recommendations that address key estuarine management questions.
- Conduct data syntheses and geospatial analyses to better define the scope of State Parks' estuarine

natural resource portfolio and address key management questions.

- Produce data visualization products to communicate the department's estuarine management role to the public.
- Provide technical support for estuarine restoration/resilience project prioritization, planning, implementation, and funding.
- Convene a State Parks Estuaries Working Group to review estuarine management successes, challenges, questions, and priorities with practitioners from across the State Parks System.
- Engage in a range of cross-boundary and multi-stakeholder organizations active in the conservation, management, and assessment of California's estuarine resources.

Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy implementation

State Parks developed a [Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy](#), which is being implemented in a phased approach. The fellow may assist with implementing action items identified in the Strategy or assist with the review of sea level rise adaptation projects. In conjunction with the Estuaries Initiative, the fellow may explore how to best integrate sea level rise planning and adaptation into estuarine conservation and management at State Parks.

Coastal Management and Policy

Depending on the fellow's interests, there are additional coastal management opportunities within State Parks that would allow the fellow to: apply or strengthen their technical and data/GIS skills; perform policy analysis; apply communications skills; or all the above. These opportunities include:

- Work with other programs/teams at NRD (e.g., wildlife, forestry, aquatic resources, vegetation, Cannabis Watershed Protection Program) to collaborate on cross-cutting management issues pertinent to coastal natural resources management. This could include, for example: fish passage barrier assessment and removal; watershed-scale landscape management; wildfire and cannabis impact assessment and restoration in coastal park units; or Western snowy plover management.
- Track work products of other agencies, NGOs, and academia regarding coastal issues, including State and federal policy guidance, legislative bills, coastal adaptation strategies, and scientific literature. Distill and disseminate applicable information to appropriate audiences, including State Parks HQ and district staff.
- Collaborate with staff at partner agencies on a range of coastal management issues.
- Collaborate with State Parks' Interpretation and Education Division and partner agencies/organizations to develop targeted and effective science communication strategies and messaging related to issues impacting coastal park units.



California Sea Grant Host Application 2023

District 1 - 1656 Union Street, Eureka CA 95501



Agency Background

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) manages the state's highway system. Our transportation network maintains more than 15,000 miles to promote the regional flow of people and goods to support the economy, tourism, and everyday life in California. Caltrans strives to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment.

Caltrans envisions a brighter future for all through a world-class transportation network that is socially and environmentally responsible. Caltrans is undertaking a major shift in focus and values by prioritizing multimodal transportation, climate action, environmental stewardship and sustainability, and equity and livability in all communities.

General Position Description

The Fellows will be supported by and work directly with the other current Caltrans Fellows and former Sea Grant Fellows. Caltrans emphasizes a healthy work-life balance. The District 1 location in Humboldt County offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in nature, nestled between the ocean, mountains, and ancient redwood forests.

A fellowship with Caltrans North Region Environmental provides an experiential learning opportunity with professionals in diverse areas of expertise, including biologists, engineers, project managers, archaeologists, and more. Working with the Environmental Engineering, Environmental Project Delivery, and Coastal Stewardship units, the Fellow will integrate into a team that provides career support and guidance to the Fellow as they refine their goals. Caltrans Sea Grant Fellows are treated as full staff members and are given responsibility, value, trust, and appreciation.

Each Fellow will directly contribute to the future development of California's critical infrastructure by minimizing the impacts and maximizing the environmental sustainability of Caltrans projects. Caltrans is committed to providing a positive fellowship experience and a beneficial career development opportunity, and therefore the specific projects undertaken will depend both upon the Fellow's interests and the department's needs. Past Sea Grant Fellows have contributed to the following tasks:

- Community Impact Assessments
- Wetland Delineations
- Mitigation and Monitoring Plans and Reports
- Drafted eDNA white paper
- CEQA-level watershed assessments for upcoming transportation projects
- Clean Water Act 401 Certifications
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Memo
- CEQA Categorical Exemption

Both Fellows will work on a broad range of tasks; specific differences are detailed below. Caltrans has a flexible telework schedule, with Fellows coming into the office up to two days per week.

Coastal Policy Fellow (1 position)

Supervisor: Lorna McFarlane, Senior Resource Specialist, Coastal Commission Liaison: (707) 672-3593/lorna.mcfarlane@dot.ca.gov

This fellow will work directly with Lorna to facilitate the development of Transportation and associated mitigation projects under the jurisdiction of the CA Coastal Commission. Additionally, the Fellow will

work on long term programmatic approaches and policy developments to streamline partnership between Caltrans and the Coastal Commission. Work is focused on all aspects of delivering projects in the Coastal Zone: coordination with the Coastal Commission, local governments, and the Humboldt Harbor District; drafting technical memos and researching Coastal policy; and collaborating with internal project team members.

Environmental Engineering and CEQA Fellow (1 position)

Supervisors: Amanda Haas, Water Quality Coordinator: (707) 296-5469/amanda.haas@dot.ca.gov
Cari Williams, Environmental Planner: (707) 298-1465/cari.williams@dot.ca.gov

This fellow will work directly with Amanda and Cari on 401 Water Quality certifications, CEQA technical memos, field work including wetland delineations and site visits to assess impacts of construction on water quality and aquatic resources, and coordination meetings with Regional Water Quality Control Boards. Opportunities may include conducting research to obtain regulatory approval of novel materials and methods for Caltrans projects and special permitting and coordination for fish passage projects.

Skills Learned for Both Positions

Caltrans offers tangible and transferrable skills that will develop your career, supplementing your education with fast-paced and hands-on work experience. By the end of your fellowship, you will:

- **Understand environmental regulations and their applications, including:**
 - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Clean Water Act
 - California Coastal Act
 - Federal Endangered Species Act
 - California Endangered Species Act
- **Gain project management and stakeholder collaboration experience**
- **Refine technical writing skills into specialized reporting formats**
- **Experience field work opportunities such as:**
 - Biological surveys for salmonids, listed birds, rare plant species, butterflies, & more
 - Create mitigation plans and site monitoring in support of environmental permitting requirements
 - Working with partners to test eelgrass mitigation feasibility studies
- **Directly collaborate on projects with other agencies, including:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ California Coastal Commission○ California Department of Fish and Wildlife○ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration○ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service○ California State Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ U.S. National Parks Service○ State & Regional Water Resources Control Boards○ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers○ California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)○ U.S. Forest Service
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In addition, the Fellows will have access to Caltrans Environmental training and career development courses, and will be directly mentored by policy analysts, biologists, water quality specialists, environmental engineers, geologists, and other environmental experts.

Desired Qualifications

A successful Caltrans Sea Grant Fellow does not require specific experience or expertise, but rather a positive attitude, open mind, and willingness to learn and take on new challenges. Good time management, organization, listening & communication, and interpersonal skills will help fellows succeed in the fast-paced and team-oriented Caltrans work environment. The interdisciplinary and technical nature of Caltrans projects requires creative and analytical thinking, the ability to learn quickly, and a solutions-oriented approach.



Caltrans District 4 – Sea Grant Fellowship 2023

Caltrans District 4

Caltrans District 4 encompasses the nine-county Bay Area in northern California. Prospective Sea Grant Fellows would be able to live in and explore all that the Bay Area has to offer, including hiking, kayaking, beautiful beaches, biking, and numerous cultural activities in San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, and more.

Position Description

A Fellowship with Caltrans District 4 (Bay Area) Environmental will provide an experiential learning opportunity with professionals in diverse areas of expertise, including biologists, engineers, project managers, archaeologists, landscape architects, and more. Working with the Office of Environmental Analysis and Coastal Stewardship Branch, the Fellow will integrate into a team that provides career support and guidance to the Fellow as they refine their goals. Caltrans Sea Grant Fellows are treated as full staff members and are given responsibility, value, trust, and appreciation. The Fellow will be supported by and work directly with the other Caltrans Fellow and previous Sea Grant Fellows.

The Fellow will directly contribute to the future development of California's critical infrastructure by minimizing environmental impacts and maximizing the environmental sustainability of Caltrans projects. Caltrans is committed to providing a positive Fellowship experience and a beneficial career development opportunity, and specific projects undertaken will depend both upon the Fellow's interests and the District's needs. Caltrans District 4 emphasizes a healthy work-life balance and the District 4 location in Oakland in Alameda County offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in nature and a vibrant cultural and urban scene. The position will allow for a combination of telework, office work, and field work.

Skills Learned

Caltrans offers tangible and transferrable skills that will develop your career, supplementing your education with fast-paced and hands-on work experience. By the end of your Fellowship, you will have done the following:

- Understand implemented environmental regulations and their application:
 - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Clean Water Act
 - California Coastal Act
 - McAteer-Petris Act
 - Endangered Species Act
 - California Endangered Species Act
- Have incorporated climate change stressors and sea level rise adaptation measures into project development

- Refine technical writing skills into specialized reporting formats
- Conduct public outreach and interagency partnering
- Experience field work opportunities such as:
 - Biological surveys for salmonids, northern spotted owls, rare plant species, butterflies, wetland delineations
- Interface with and understand California Coastal Commission and Bay Conservation and Development Commission regulations and how they apply to Caltrans projects
- Conduct site visits to assess potential impacts of construction on water quality and natural resources
- Conduct ecological monitoring at mitigation sites
- Have conducted fish passage and wildlife connectivity assessments, wetland delineations, rare plant surveys, habitat assessments, and more
- Participate in Project Development Team meetings to provide recommendations and avoidance and minimization measures
- Directly collaborate on projects with other agencies:
 - California Coastal Commission
 - California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - Regional Water Resources Control Boards
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - California State Parks
 - U.S. National Parks Service
 - California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)
 - U.S. Forest Service

In addition, the Fellow will have access to Caltrans Environmental training and career development courses, and will be directly mentored by policy analysts, biologists, and other environmental experts.

Desired Qualifications

A successful Caltrans Sea Grant Fellow does not require specific experience or expertise, but rather a positive attitude, open mind, and willingness to learn and take on new challenges. Good time management, organization, communication, and interpersonal skills will help Fellows succeed in the fast-paced and team-oriented Caltrans work environment. The interdisciplinary and technical nature of Caltrans projects requires creative and analytical thinking, the ability to learn quickly, and a solutions-oriented approach.

Fellowship Location:

Caltrans District 4 Office (teleworking is available)
111 Grand Avenue

Oakland, California 94612

Fellowship Supervisor:

Arnica MacCarthy, Branch Chief and Coastal Resource Specialist, Coastal & Fish Passage – (510) 506-0481

Fellowship Mentor:

Liz Nagle, Environmental Scientists – (510) 496-9654

Financial Contact and Contract Manager

Lindsay Vivian, Office Chief, Environmental Analysis – (510) 506-4310

Commissioners
Peter S. Silva, President
Jamul

Samantha Murray, Vice President
Del Mar

Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Member
McKinleyville

Eric Sklar, Member
Saint Helena

Erika Zavaleta, Member
Santa Cruz

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Gavin Newsom, Governor

Fish and Game Commission



*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870*

Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090
(916) 653-4899
fgc@fgc.ca.gov
www.fgc.ca.gov

California Sea Grant 2023 State Fellowship Program Application

Host Location/Contact: California Fish and Game Commission
715 P Street, 16th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814 (Starting August 2021)

Mailing Address: PO Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Names of Supervisor: Melissa Miller-Henson, Executive Director

Point of Contact: Rachel Ballanti, Deputy Executive Director
(916) 201-6201
Rachel.BallantiBuck@fgc.ca.gov

Submitted: June 7, 2022

Position Description

The [California Fish and Game Commission](http://www.fgc.ca.gov) (Commission) was the first wildlife conservation agency in the United States, pre-dating even the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries. The Commission has hundreds of authorities, some general in nature and some very specific through statutes of the Fish and Game Code, Public Resources Code, and Government Code.

In general, the Commission has jurisdiction over nearly every living thing in California except people, agriculture, and domestic animals. Specifically, the Commission is formally vested with authority to regulate the take, possession and conservation of birds, mammals, fish, amphibians and reptiles on all lands of the State and all waters, including ocean waters to three miles out into the Pacific Ocean. The Commission also addresses fish, wildlife and conservation issues on a broad scale, through such subjects as climate change, marine plastics pollution, sustainable fishing communities, predator management, tribal nation engagement, marine aquaculture best management practices, fisheries bycatch, and marine protected areas.

The California State Legislature has deemed that the scope and responsibilities of the Commission have significantly expanded over the years as the size and diversity of California's population has increased, and as the scientific knowledge of the habitat conservation and

ecosystem-based management needs of fish and wildlife has expanded. The Governor-appointed Commissioners are expected to make complex public policy and biological decisions on behalf of the people of California, with a small staff that works to ensure the Commissioners have the necessary information for making those decisions. Examples of the Commission's statutory authorities include:

- formulating general policies for the conduct of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department);
- determining when, where and by what methods hunters and fisherman may take animals and fish;
- listing and delisting of native plants, animals, and fish as threatened or endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act;
- establishing and regulating uses of protected lands and waters such as wildlife areas, ecological reserves and marine protected areas;
- regulating the possession and care of restricted species;
- addressing non-native species importation, possession and sale; and
- leasing state water bottoms and kelp beds for the purposes of aquaculture and commercial kelp harvest.

The Commission generally conducts its business at six meetings per year, which are strategically located throughout the State to encourage public outreach and participation. In addition, the Commission currently has three committees that each have three meetings per year: the Marine Resources Committee, Wildlife Resources Committee, and Tribal Committee. Each committee is chaired or co-chaired by no more than two Commissioners. The goal of these committees is to allow for greater in-depth presentations and discussions on fish and wildlife issues and regulatory proposals under development, and to provide recommendations to the Commission for possible action on these topics. The committee meetings are less formal in nature than Commission meetings and provide for additional stakeholder access to the Commissioners. All meetings in 2023 are expected to be conducted in a "hybrid" meeting format including an in-person meeting location as well as an option for members of the public to participate via Zoom

The Commission is in the process of transitioning to a hybrid work model where telework is expected and flexibility is prioritized. At the same time, the Sea Grant Fellow will be expected to be available for in-person collaboration at the Sacramento headquarters office on a regular basis.

The Commission's most frequent collaborator is the Department. The Commission establishes policies and regulations while the Department is guided by the Commission's policies, is charged with implementing and enforcing regulations set by the Commission and conducting the day-to-day management of programs established through regulation, and provides biological data and expertise to inform the Commission's decision-making process.

Potential Roles and Projects for 2023 Sea Grant Fellow

The California Sea Grant fellow will have the opportunity to serve as staff on a wide variety of issues before the Commission, including many of those listed above, depending on the fellow's areas of interest, educational and professional goals, initiative, and communication and analytical skills. The types of functions the fellow might support include:

- assisting the executive director in developing policies and/or strategic approaches to items that may be controversial in nature;

- working on committee agendas and topics directly with the Commission's marine advisor and wildlife advisor;
- organizing and/or leading related meetings and workshops;
- enhancing transparency by outreach and communication with stakeholders and partners, and working to maintain broad project or program support;
- drafting and reviewing staff summaries for Commission and committee meetings;
- helping improve the Commission website and develop social media outreach.

While project priorities may change over time to address Commission direction and regulatory need, Commission staff are currently considering the following projects for the 2023 Sea Grant fellow:

- Coastal Fishing Communities Project and Policy Implementation
- Marine Aquaculture Projects
- Invasive Species Management Strategies
- Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Plan
- Definition of "tribal subsistence harvest" and related management mechanisms

In addition to these Commission special projects, the Sea Grant fellow will be involved in ongoing interagency, tribal, and stakeholder collaboration to address the management of California's resources in various focal areas which may include climate change, tribal concerns, and new and emerging regulatory issues.

Placement with the Commission will help the fellow better understand how fish and wildlife statutes, regulations and policies are established and implemented in California, and will also provide a front seat to political, administrative, and stakeholder participation processes including direct interaction with Governor-appointed decision makers.



OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

Wade Crowfoot | Secretary for Natural Resources | Council Chair
Jared Blumenfeld | Secretary for Environmental Protection
Betty Yee | State Controller | State Lands Commission Chair
Ben Allen | State Senator
Mark Stone | State Assemblymember
Michael Brown | Public Member
Jordan Diamond | Public Member

Sea Grant Host Application 2023

Two Fellowships available at the Ocean Protection Council

- 1. Host location and contact information:** Ocean Protection Council
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
- 2. Fellowship Supervisor:**

Jenn Eckerle, OPC Deputy Director
jenn.eckerle@resources.ca.gov

Justine Kimball, Senior Climate Change
Program Manager
justine.kimball@resources.ca.gov

Tova Handelman, Senior MPA Program
Manager
tova.handelman@resources.ca.gov

Mike Esgro, Senior Biodiversity Program
Manager
michael.esgro@resources.ca.gov
- 3. Points of contact for Sea Grant,
prospective fellows, and finalists:**

Justine Kimball, Senior Climate Change
Program Manager
justine.kimball@resources.ca.gov

Tova Handelman, Senior MPA Program
Manager
tova.handelman@resources.ca.gov

Mike Esgro, Senior Biodiversity Program
Manager
michael.esgro@resources.ca.gov

4. Position description:

Background: The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) is a cabinet-level state agency nested within the California Natural Resources Agency. Created by the California Ocean Protection Act of 2004, OPC was established to ensure healthy, resilient, and productive coastal and ocean ecosystems in California. OPC serves as the Governor's advisor on ocean and coastal policy and uses partnerships, policy and funding to

advance science-based solutions to protect coastal and ocean ecosystems in California. With this diverse complement of tools, OPC has unique flexibility to develop innovative and impactful approaches to conservation. We use each of these tools to identify and implement solutions that improve ocean governance, increase stewardship, and advance scientific understanding necessary to protect marine resources and the communities that rely on them. These efforts yield significant benefits to the state while providing a model to improve protection and conservation across the world.

Fellowships at OPC provide an opportunity to work at the interface of science, policy and management to protect California's coastal and marine ecosystems. OPC fellows are fully integrated members of OPC staff and as such, they gain valuable professional experience that will prepare them for success in future endeavors.

OPC's work is directed by the priorities outlined in the [Strategic Plan to Protect California's Coast and Ocean](#), which is centered on four key goals: 1) Safeguard Coastal and Marine Ecosystems and Communities in the Face of Climate Change; 2) Advance Equity Across Ocean and Coastal Policies and Actions; 3) Enhance Coastal and Marine Biodiversity; and 4) Support a Sustainable Blue Economy. OPC staff is advancing these goals through projects and policy initiatives related to sea-level rise; ocean acidification and hypoxia; sustainable fisheries and aquaculture; kelp forest recovery; marine protected areas; plastics and microplastics; offshore renewable energy, increasing partnership with tribes and environmental justice communities; and implementing the state's 30 x 30 initiative to conserve biodiversity in coastal waters. To understand the scope and breadth of the Council's work, please see the [agenda](#) from the Council's June 14, 2022 meeting.

OPC Sea Grant Fellows: Changing ocean conditions have the potential to threaten communities, ecosystems and California's economy. As such, there is an urgent need to catalyze innovative and bold action that builds resilience and safeguards ocean health. To advance our work addressing these critical issues, OPC would host two Sea Grant fellows, one within our Climate Change team and the other within our Marine Biodiversity team. Recognizing that these issues are cross-disciplinary, there is expected overlap and coordination across teams on issues including, but not limited to habitat restoration and climate threats to ecosystem health. The work of both fellows will likely include opportunities for coordination with agency and external partners, scientific analysis, evaluation of data gaps, identifying opportunities for new and/or leveraged OPC investments, project management and stakeholder outreach.

The Climate Change Fellow would support OPC's efforts to understand, prepare for, and adapt to climate change impacts including, but not limited to, ocean acidification and hypoxia, sea-level rise, offshore wind, and harmful algal blooms.

The Marine Biodiversity Fellow would support OPC's efforts to protect coastal and ocean biodiversity, which may include efforts on kelp forest recovery, marine protected areas, 30 x 30 implementation, water quality, sustainable fisheries, and aquaculture.

Both fellows have opportunities to support work on OPC's other strategic priorities. In addition to supporting the programmatic work on climate change and marine biodiversity specifically, the two Sea Grant fellows will be involved in the following:

Broad Efforts of the Council. All OPC staff support the functions of the [seven-member Council](#), including agenda setting, policy recommendations, and project development. Potential tasks associated with managing projects include: frequent communication with project stakeholders, partners, or grantees; presenting staff recommendations to the Council; drafting and amending contracts and grant agreements; organizing, and/or leading related meetings and workshops; participating in site visits; ensuring outcomes of projects are communicated to the public, relevant agencies, and institutions; seeking out additional funding sources or matching funds; encouraging transparency by working with stakeholders; and working to maintain broad project or program support. **Both fellows would support all the functions of the Council.**

Resources Agency Sea Grant Advisory Panel. The Resources Agency Sea Grant Advisory Panel (RASGAP) helps fund scientific research that supports coastal and ocean management and policy priorities and decision-making by evaluating proposals solicited by California's two Sea Grant programs. **Fellows will be responsible for helping review and score pre- and full proposals and participating in RASGAP technical review panels.**

Legislative Tracking & Bill Analyses. As a state agency that is part of the Governor's Administration, OPC does not take a position on any legislation. However, OPC tracks relevant bills that may explicitly direct OPC to take action or indirectly impact OPC's priorities to protect coastal and marine resources. **Both fellows may have the opportunity to contribute to bill analyses if an OPC-relevant bill is moving forward in the legislature.**

Communications. Both fellows will support OPC's communications to elevate our work to a wide and diverse set of partners and stakeholders. Communications activities may include but are not limited to: representing OPC publicly at meetings and workshops; drafting talking points and press releases; and writing content for OPC's website and social media platforms.

Desired skills or attributes include:

- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability to lead groups of people, often with divergent views, to advance progress on a particular issue.
- Ability to translate complex scientific information for use by government decision-makers, stakeholders and the general public.
- Ability to work well independently under minimal supervision or guidance.
- Ability to manage multiple projects concurrently.
- An entrepreneurial spirit and strong personal initiative.
- Passion for ocean and coastal ecosystem conservation.

Sea Grant Fellows 2023 Host Application: California Ocean Science Trust

I. Host Location and Contact Information:

Mailing Address:

California Ocean Science Trust
Liz Whiteman, Executive Director
1017 L Street, #293
Sacramento, CA 95814

Office Location:

400 Capitol Mall, 8th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (510) 251-8320

II. Fellowship Supervisor(s)

Hayley Carter, Senior Science Officer

III. Points of Contact for California Sea Grant Prospective Fellows and Finalists

Hayley Carter, Senior Science Officer – Position Inquiries – hayley.carter@oceansciencetrust.org,
(831) 999-0576

Lori Zook, Director of Finance & Administration – Administrative Inquiries –
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Synopsis for a California Ocean Science Trust Sea Grant Fellow

Ocean Science Trust (OST) is a small nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating progress towards a healthy and productive ocean future for California. Created by state legislation (CORSA 2000), we bridge the gap between cutting-edge scientific research and sound ocean management.

www.oceansciencetrust.org

Our strength lies in our nimble response to state priorities and horizon-scanning to foster science solutions to the challenges facing coastal communities and ocean ecosystems in California. On evolving topics as diverse as climate adaptation, plastic pollution, renewable energy, and aquaculture, we leverage public and private funding to forge novel interdisciplinary science partnerships, encourage science co-production with communities, and build research capacity focussed on California's priorities. We bring solution-focused science guidance to executive branch agencies and to California lawmakers and their staff, and support and provide graduate education opportunities at the nexus of science and policy, towards a vision of a more diverse, equitable and inclusive future workforce. We collaborate

closely with many State partners to ensure actions on ocean and coastal issues are informed by the best available science.

Serving one of the most diverse states in the country, we see diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging and access as central values to our organizational philosophy and imperative to our mission. We are committed to cultivating a work environment where staff from all backgrounds and identities feel a sense of belonging and can thrive.

Fellowship location

Ocean Science Trust is headquartered in Sacramento, California but most staff work remotely and are based throughout the state. Our small team values the flexibility of remote work and is dedicated to effective remote team collaboration. Some limited travel within California may be offered through 2023.

Sea Grant Fellow Opportunities

The Fellow will gain diverse educational and career experience. Our Fellows engage in a variety of projects, based on a balance between our organizational needs and the Fellow's background and interests. The Fellow will work closely with the Senior Science Officer, but will collaborate to varying degrees with the full [Ocean Science Trust team](#). OST staff create a collaborative, team-oriented atmosphere, welcoming the ideas and contributions of all staff to shaping projects and our organization as a whole.

The Fellow will be treated as a full member of our team and have the opportunity to contribute to, and possibly lead, on a range of projects. Through these activities, the Fellow will have numerous opportunities to interact with leading scientists, managers, policymakers, and other partners in the NGO and stakeholder communities, as well as participate in meetings and workshops on a range of topics.

Programmatic Opportunities

- **Science Services for the Legislature:** OST provides science advice directly to California Lawmakers through formal and informal briefings, technical feedback on bill ideas, or rapid response requests for information via memo or connections to experts. This program also involves proactive science delivery on issues reflecting the nexus between legislative priorities, emerging science, and actively unfolding executive policy issues, including but not limited to sea level rise adaptation, microplastic pollution, climate-smart fisheries, equity in nature-based adaptation, offshore wind energy, and more. The Fellow may:
 - Prepare science materials or memos on a diverse range of topics for staff in the Legislature and participate in program planning meetings.
 - Assist with briefings including finding appropriate experts, communication materials, advertising, and technical support.
 - Research and distill CA Legislative priorities through bill or budget histories, member profiles, hearings, etc.

- **Delivering Science Advice to Managers & Policymakers):** We provide scientific information and guidance to advance state priorities and decision-making, and cultivate opportunities to encourage alignment of other public and private research investments with state priorities. This includes OST's stewardship of the Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team (OPC SAT), a team of interdisciplinary scientists from California and beyond that provide scientific and technical advice to the State and act as a conduit to the broader scientific community on behalf of decision-makers. New OPC SAT subcommittees launched in 2022, convened around the themes of the four OPC strategic plan priorities including blue economy, equity, biodiversity, and climate resilience. The Fellow may:
 - Develop reports and outreach materials
 - Support SAT subcommittee activities and convenings
 - Help research and explore potential future science advice needs aligned with state priorities
- **Supporting The Future Ocean Science-Policy Workforce:** Our founding legislation recognizes the importance of growing capacity at the science-policy interface and includes a mandate to support graduate education in management-relevant ocean sciences. To act on this part of our mission, we actively cultivate opportunities that strengthen the links between ocean science, educational institutions, and decision-making. This includes a focus on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI), both internally and in the ocean sciences community. We are deeply committed to supporting pathways to advance these values in science leadership in academia and beyond.

As areas of topical focus in the above roles, we anticipate a deepening focus on blue carbon, aquaculture and fisheries, sea level rise and coastal resilience. We greatly value professional development, and will mentor the Fellow by drafting and pursuing professional goals, offering assistance in resume building, and ensuring the Fellow is provided networking and leadership opportunities.

Science Services Skills and Development Opportunities

- **Translational science writing, literature review, and communications:** Translating complex science for diverse audiences to provide a rigorous foundation for policy and management dialogues. This may include developing white papers, translational reports, and meeting summaries on a range of topics, and assisting with science communications and online content development (e.g., blogs, webpages, newsletters, social media).
- **Project management:** Project management tasks related to convening and coordinating groups of technical experts to develop products in support of management. This may include assisting OST staff with project scoping, developing workplans and budgets, scheduling and hosting meetings, development and review of products, and communications.

Facilitation, meeting, and workshop planning: Opportunities to facilitate discussions and assist with planning and logistics for various meetings, conference calls, briefings, webinars and workshops with scientists and decision-makers.



1. Host location and contact information

State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay St., 10th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-1401

2. Fellowship Supervisor and Point of contact for CSG and prospective fellows and finalists:

Trish Chapman
Central Coast Regional Manager
trish.chapman@scc.ca.gov

3. Position description(s)

General Overview: Established in 1976, the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC or the Conservancy) is a non-regulatory agency that works to protect and improve natural lands and waterways, help people get to and enjoy the outdoors, and sustain local economies along the length of California's coast and around San Francisco Bay. SCC works in partnership with local governments, other public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners. Much of the Conservancy's work involves collaborating with scientists and other professionals to deliver on-the-ground coastal resource protection and restoration.

The Conservancy's broad mandate allows it to undertake planning, projects, and initiatives such as the following:

- Protect and improve the quality and resiliency of coastal wetlands, streams, watersheds, and near-shore ocean waters;
- Help people get to and along the coast and bay shores by building trails and stairways and by acquiring land and easements. The Conservancy also assists in the creation of low-cost accommodations along the coast, including campgrounds and hostels;
- Help to solve complex land-use problems;
- Protect coastal lands, including agricultural lands and working landscapes;
- Address the potential impacts of climate change on resources within its jurisdiction, and undertake projects that address extreme weather events, sea level rise, storm surge, beach and bluff erosion, flooding, and other coastal hazards that threaten coastal communities, infrastructure, and natural resources.

Specific Scope of Work: The SCC is applying to host one fellow to help carry out our work. SCC is committed to fostering and developing the fellow's professional goals as much as possible and will tailor the suite of tasks accordingly.

Coastal Resilience Fellow

The State Coastal Conservancy will be disbursing at least \$350 million in coastal resilience funds over the next few years. The Coastal Resilience fellow would have a central role in helping the Conservancy shape and implement this effort.

In the coming year, the fellow will work on the following initiatives:

1. Analyze priority coastal resilience needs identified in the vulnerability assessments and adaptation plans of local governments to identify which needs SCC could potentially help address.
2. Develop tools for tracking, assessing, and communicating the outcomes of SCC's coastal resilience effort, including lessons learned.
3. Support regional efforts to advance coastal resilience including potentially the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, and climate adaptation work in Humboldt Bay and Goleta Slough.
4. Support disbursement of SCC funding for Coastal Resilience. Tasks may include: develop Requests for Proposals to solicit project proposals, provide technical assistance, track project applications, review project applications, and make recommendations for project prioritization.
5. Manage projects to plan and implement coastal resilience. Tasks may include: project development, writing staff recommendations to the Conservancy Board, project and contract management, presentations to the Conservancy Board and others, and leadership in communications (e.g., website, social media).
6. Assist the Coastal Resilience Network to identify future speakers and host webinars that help share information within the adaptation community.
7. Support communications and public outreach (social media, website, etc).

Through this Coastal Resilience work, the fellow will have the opportunity to work with scientists, restoration practitioners, resource managers, and community leaders. Tasks may include helping to determine management and science needs, reviewing and summarizing technical papers, writing staff recommendations and other technical memos, participating in meetings, giving presentations to the SCC Board and others, conducting site visits, and undertaking GIS work.



California Sea Grant State Fellowship Program 2023

Host Agency: California State Lands Commission
 Location: 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South, Sacramento, CA 95825
Position Name: **Climate Change/Marine Conservation/Environmental Justice**
 Fellowship Supervisors: Nicole Dobroski, Chief, Division of Environmental Planning and Management
 Jennifer Mattox, Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager
 Points of Contact: Nicole Dobroski, nicole.dobroski@slc.ca.gov; (916) 574-0742
 Jennifer Mattox, jennifer.mattox@slc.ca.gov; (916) 574-0748
 Yessica Ramirez, yessica.ramirez@slc.ca.gov; (916) 574-1888

Agency Background:

The [California State Lands Commission](#) (Commission) is an independent and dynamic state agency that works on the cutting edge of integrating the best available science into policy decisions. One of the Commission's major roles is to act as the landlord for lands within its jurisdiction. This sets the Commission apart from purely regulatory agencies. When California became a state in 1850, it acquired approximately four million acres of land underlying the State's navigable and tidal waterways. These "sovereign lands" include the beds of California's navigable rivers, lakes, and streams, as well as the State's tide and submerged lands along the State's 1,100+ miles of coastline and offshore islands, from approximately the mean high tide line to three nautical miles offshore. The Commission holds these lands in trust for the people of California under the Public Trust Doctrine.

Part of the Commission's trust responsibility includes reviewing applications to lease sovereign lands for uses or activities like major energy projects, piers, marinas, etc. Activities on sovereign lands must be appropriate public trust uses, including commerce, fishing, navigation, environmental preservation, and recreation. The Commission is the main agency tasked with protecting public access and overseeing public trust uses. Valid public trust uses sometimes conflict with each other; the Commission works to manage those conflicts and ensure that the Public Trust Doctrine is upheld on sovereign land. In this way, the Commission, along with its sister state agencies, decides on appropriate uses for California's ocean lands and resources and proactively plans for future issues and conflicts.

The three-person Commission is comprised of the State Controller, Lieutenant Governor, and the Director of Finance. The Fellow will be supervised by the Chief of the Environmental Planning and Management Division and the Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager, and will coordinate closely with the Commission's Environmental Justice Liaison/Tribal Liaison. These host mentors will provide a highly interdisciplinary environment, consulting with other Commission staff on many issues where science and policy interface and helping staff navigate complex and politically sensitive issues, including adaptation to climate change and sea-level rise; management of California's marine protected areas; promotion of equity and environmental justice; and the preservation of cultural and tribal resources. This work includes extensive coordination with other Commission divisions, including Legal, External Affairs, Mineral Resources Management, Marine Environmental Protection, and Land Management.

Position Description:

Under the direction of the Chief of the Division of Environmental Planning and Management and the Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager, the Sea Grant Fellow

California Sea Grant State Fellowship Program 2023

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will spend 50% of their time working on climate change and coastal resilience issues and initiatives. This will include developing and implementing policy for nature-based adaptation strategies, sea level rise planning, and preparing for climate change impacts for non-coastal state lands connected to inland waterways and lakes. The Fellow will also develop and facilitate climate change and sea level rise education and resources for Commission staff based on recent science and new policy developments. Other projects will include participating in interagency policy groups such as those for implementation of the state climate adaptation strategy, sea level rise work plan, and the public trust coordination project with the California Coastal Commission. The Fellow may also participate in conferences, meetings, and collaborative projects with other Fellows as opportunities arise.

The Sea Grant Fellow will spend the remaining 50% of their time coordinating closely with the Commission's Environmental Justice Liaison/Tribal Liaison. Tasks will include conducting research and supporting efforts related to tribal engagement; incorporating traditional knowledge and practices into activities and decisions; exploring and developing proposals for mutually beneficial partnerships with tribes or other indigenous groups and trusts; and participating on the Commission's environmental justice implementation team to ensure integration of environmental justice and equity into Commission actions. The Fellow will support the Commission's Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Team (JEDI) to develop initiatives to embed justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion into the Commission's programs, practices, and culture. The Fellow will also help identify opportunities to organize and facilitate staff training and education related to the Commission's Environmental Justice and JEDI efforts, coordinate the Commission's internal Equity Matters newsletter, and assist with efforts to review and update the Commission's racial equity action plan.

Many of the fellowship projects are ongoing, and the Fellow will have an opportunity to continue the work started by current and former Fellows. The Fellow will interact with Commission staff from multiple divisions that encompass a wide variety of coastal and marine resource topics. Specific project and program duties will be developed collaboratively among the Fellow, Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager, and the Chief of the Division of Environmental Planning and Management, and will be based on the Commission's needs that arise during the fellowship, as well as the Fellow's interests.

Desirable Qualifications:

- Ability to work independently and with diverse interdisciplinary teams
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Interest in GIS and web-development
- Familiarity with natural resources and coastal management issues and regulations (e.g., CEQA and NEPA, California Coastal Act, California Ocean Protection Act, Federal and State Endangered Species Acts, etc.)
- Ability to communicate science to diverse audiences using a broad array of methods, including social media and web-based resources
- Ability to work toward consensus positions with government, private, and public interest groups
- Enthusiasm for public policy and lawmaking, and ability to work in a complex, fast-paced professional environment



California Sea Grant State Fellowship Program 2023

Host Agency: California State Lands Commission
 Location: 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South, Sacramento, CA 95825
Position Name: **Marine Infrastructure/Offshore Wind/Regional Planning**
 Fellowship Supervisors: Nicole Dobroski, Chief, Division of Environmental Planning and Management
 Jennifer Mattox, Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager
 Points of Contact: Nicole Dobroski, nicole.dobroski@slc.ca.gov; (916) 574-0742
 Jennifer Mattox, jennifer.mattox@slc.ca.gov; (916) 574-0748

Agency Background:

The [California State Lands Commission](#) (Commission) is an independent and dynamic state agency that works on the cutting edge of integrating the best available science into policy decisions. One of the Commission's major roles is to act as the landlord for lands within its jurisdiction. This sets the Commission apart from purely regulatory agencies. When California became a state in 1850, it acquired approximately four million acres of land underlying the State's navigable and tidal waterways. These "sovereign lands" include the beds of California's navigable rivers, lakes, and streams, as well as the State's tide and submerged lands along the State's 1,100+ miles of coastline and offshore islands, from approximately the mean high tide line to three nautical miles offshore. The Commission holds these lands in trust for the people of California under the Public Trust Doctrine.

Part of the Commission's trust responsibility includes reviewing applications to lease sovereign lands for uses or activities like major energy projects, piers, marinas, etc. Activities on sovereign lands must be appropriate public trust uses, including commerce, fishing, navigation, environmental preservation, and recreation. The Commission is the main agency tasked with protecting public access and overseeing public trust uses. Valid public trust uses sometimes conflict with each other; the Commission works to manage those conflicts and ensure that the Public Trust Doctrine is upheld on sovereign land. In this way, the Commission, along with its sister state agencies, decides on appropriate uses for California's ocean lands and resources and proactively plans for future issues and conflicts.

The three-person Commission is comprised of the State Controller, Lieutenant Governor, and the Director of Finance. The Fellow will be supervised by the Chief of the Division of Environmental Planning and Management and the Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager. These host mentors will provide a highly interdisciplinary environment, consulting with other Commission staff on many issues where science and policy interface and helping staff navigate complex and politically sensitive issues, including climate adaptation and renewable energy; oil and gas platform decommissioning; promotion of sustainable aquaculture; prevention of microplastics, ocean litter, and other pollution; and marine spatial planning. This work includes extensive coordination with other Commission divisions, including Legal, External Affairs, Mineral Resources Management, Marine Environmental Protection, and Land Management.

Position Description:

The Sea Grant Fellow will have the opportunity to work on complex and challenging marine and coastal planning and management projects. Under the direction of the Chief of the Division of Environmental Planning and Management and the Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager, the Sea Grant Fellow will work on projects related to

offshore renewable energy and the transition to zero-carbon energy sources, oil and gas infrastructure decommissioning (e.g., Platform Holly, Rincon Island Facilities), aquaculture, artificial reefs, marine spatial planning, and pollution prevention. These projects encompass a number of challenging and high-profile activities, including participating on interagency policy teams and regional ocean planning partnerships; conducting environmental review under CEQA for offshore wind activities; assisting with environmental analyses and participating in outreach related to the Commission's oil and gas decommissioning activities; compiling and evaluating scientific materials to guide negotiations on sensitive projects; integrating the best available science into Commission decision-making processes; and collaborating with local, state, federal, and tribal entities.

The Fellow will have a variety of short-term and long-term projects throughout the fellowship year. The Fellow will be welcome to participate in conferences, interagency meetings, and collaborative projects with other Fellows as opportunities arise. Many of these projects are ongoing and the Fellow will have an opportunity to continue the work started by current and former Fellows. The Fellow will interact with Commission staff from multiple divisions that encompass a wide variety of coastal and marine resource topics. Specific project and program duties will be developed collaboratively among the Fellow, Climate Adaptation and Special Initiatives Program Manager, and Chief of the Division of Environmental Planning and Management, and will be based on the Commission's needs that arise during the fellowship, as well as the Fellow's interests.

Desirable Qualifications:

- Ability to work independently and with diverse interdisciplinary teams
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Interest in GIS and web-development
- Familiarity with natural resources and coastal management issues and regulations (e.g., CEQA and NEPA, California Coastal Act, California Ocean Protection Act, Federal and State Endangered Species Acts, etc.)
- Ability to communicate science to diverse audiences using a broad array of methods, including social media and web-based resources
- Ability to work toward consensus positions with government, private, and public interest groups
- Enthusiasm for public policy and lawmaking; ability to work in a complex, fast-paced professional environment



The Delta Science Program will host four Sea Grant State Fellows in 2023

Background

The Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta along with the San Francisco Bay, is part of the largest estuary on the West Coast of the Americas. The “Bay-Delta” supplies two-thirds of California’s water and provides vital habitat for endangered, endemic, and migratory species such as Chinook salmon and Sandhill cranes.



The **Delta Stewardship Council** (Council) is a state agency whose mission is to support a more **reliable statewide water supply** and a **healthy and resilient 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) is a division of the Council and functions as a boundary organization with a mission to provide scientific information, independent peer review, and syntheses on issues critical for managing the Bay-Delta system. The DSP also leads efforts to build an open, integrated, and collaborative Delta science community.

The DSP has hosted fellows for the past ten years and provides a welcoming, collaborative and exciting work environment. Past fellows have enjoyed touring the Delta, taking professional development courses, attending seminars and conferences, and assisting partner agencies with field work. As one of four Science Program fellows, you will work at the interface of science and policy - **synthesizing, reviewing, coordinating, funding, and communicating science** on several high-priority issues, including:

- Climate change
- Sea level rise
- Water supply reliability
- Habitat restoration
- Endangered species
- Non-native and/or invasive species
- Fisheries management
- Integrated modeling
- Human dimensions of natural resource management

As California’s capital, Sacramento is a hub for environmental science and policy. The DSP provides fellows with opportunities to build their professional network as they engage with collaborators from a range of state, federal, and local agencies including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the United States (U.S.) Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Geological Survey, California Department of Water Resources, and the State Water Resources Control Board), as well as consulting firms, academia, NGOs, and others. Many fellows have gone on to work with these partners.



Position 1: Science Communication, Synthesis, and Decision-Support Unit

This unit has three primary areas of emphasis: 1) enhance science communication among multiple stakeholders in the Bay-Delta system, including scientists, managers, decision-makers, and the public, 2) facilitate and participate in the analysis and synthesis of scientific information to inform management and decision-making, and 3) facilitate cooperative decision-making by supporting open science and integrated modeling initiatives. The fellow will have the option of working on one of the above core functions or a blend of tasks according to their interests and goals. The position also provides an opportunity to work directly with the Delta Lead Scientist (Dr. Laurel Larsen) on [monthly reports to the Council](#) that summarize recent science efforts around the Delta as well as water supply metrics and ecological indicators.

Host Headquarters Location: 715 P Street, Sacramento, California

Fellowship Supervisor & Point of Contact: Maggie Christman, Program Manager II,
Maggie.Christman@deltacouncil.ca.gov, (916) 320-6174

Potential Projects

- Communicate science facilitated or funded by the DSP in creative and accessible formats for a variety of audiences (i.e., lay abstracts, infographics, briefs or fact sheets, web content, and seminars).
- Participate in [synthesis](#) efforts ranging from technical data integration projects and analyses (e.g., [Synthesis Working Groups](#)) up to organizing summaries of the 'state of the science' underlying topics of management concern (e.g., the [State of Bay-Delta Science](#)).
- Support initiatives related to open science, science activity tracking, or integrated modeling, such as the Delta Science Tracker, [Integrated Modeling Steering Committee](#), and development of a virtual modeling collaboratory.
- Participate in organizing the biennial [Bay-Delta Science Conference](#), the region's primary science conference connecting science and management.
- Support Delta Stewardship Council social media, including organizing regular "Ask-Me-Anything" Sessions with the Delta Lead Scientist (visit the @deltacouncil Instagram site to view a recording under the IGTV tab) or to highlight Delta science (see @DeltaCouncil Science Fridays #scifri on Twitter).

Examples of Previous Fellows' Projects

- Creation of a website ([A Beginner's Guide to the Delta](#)) to serve as a resource for those interested to learn more about this integral place in California
- Authoring a synthesis study modeling juvenile Chinook salmon migration to inform fisheries management and development of a complementary [Shiny App](#)
- Organization of a seminar series to explore a specific theme of importance to managing the Bay-Delta system
- Leadership and facilitation of interagency working groups (e.g., the Remote Imagery Collaborative)



Position 2: Collaborative Science and Peer Review Unit

The Collaborative Science and Peer Review Unit is working on several exciting and challenging efforts focused on: 1) catalyzing coordination and collaboration with a diverse set of stakeholders and agencies to develop the 2024 [Delta Science Plan](#), 2) supporting science activities and [funding](#) of priority research aligned with the 2022-2026 [Science Action Agenda](#), 3) facilitating [independent scientific peer reviews](#) of programs, plans, and reports, 4) implementing the Delta Science Program's science funding strategy and 5) synthesizing scientific information to generate best available science for informing water and environmental resources decision-making. A fellow in this unit will engage in our unit's collaborative interagency initiatives and may lead an independent project that leverages their unique skillset and interests.

Host Headquarters Location: 715 P Street, Sacramento, CA

Fellowship Supervisor & Point of Contact: Henry DeBey, Environmental Program Manager I, Henry.DeBey@deltacouncil.ca.gov, (916) 996-8658

Potential Projects

Specific projects will be identified based on the fellow's expertise and interests, but may include:

- Contributing to the development of the 2024 **Delta Science Plan** which aims to collaboratively identify and implement approaches and mechanisms for fostering an inclusive, proactive and resilient Delta science community.
- Advancing the integration of **social science** to inform Bay-Delta management and policy decisions through implementing investigations on the social dimensions of the estuary, facilitating collaborative syntheses or meta-analyses of existing datasets, and supporting the Bay-Delta social science community of practice.
- Contributing to the implementation of the **Science Action Agenda** (SAA) and/or execution of **science funding mechanisms** using the SAA as a framework.
- Supporting **independent peer review efforts**, including tracking and summarizing actions resulting from independent scientific peer reviews.
- Developing guidelines and best practices for **policy-science forums** to identify scientific uncertainties, prioritize management questions, and facilitate exchange among programs and entities to promote science communication among decision-makers, scientists, and stakeholders.
- Exploring programmatic growth areas across the **interface of science, management, policy and civil society**, such as strengthening partnerships with other boundary organizations, considering approaches to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in science and management governance, communicating science, and identifying opportunities to engage educational institutions.
- **Synthesizing information** on ecological or social science issues in the Bay-Delta ecosystem.





Examples of Previous Fellows' Projects

- Administration of \$9 million in science funding through the 2021 Proposal Solicitation Notice (i.e., call for research proposals)
- Planning and facilitation of an inter-agency workshop on fostering diversity of subject-matter experts
- Case study of a non-critically over-drafted groundwater basin, in the context of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- Development and establishment of the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Diversity Initiative
- Multi-agency investigation of salmon behavior and migration in floodplain habitats
- Multi-agency and stakeholder [salmon gaps analysis report](#)
- Contributed to the Interim Science Action Agenda ([past fellows' promotional video](#))
- Assisted in organizing a public workshop on Sacramento River temperature modeling
- Conducted an analysis of the potential values striped bass provide to the Delta
- Collaborative science governance report and appendix to the Delta Science Plan

Summary of Delta Stewardship Council Fellowship Opportunities

Skillset opportunities emphasized in each fellowship position

Division/position	Management plan development & implementation	Meeting facilitation & coordination	Science Communication	Data analysis & synthesis	Working at the science-policy interface	Build networks with agency scientists & managers
Planning & Performance Division						
Delta Science Program						
Science Communication & Synthesis						
Collaborative Science & Peer Review						
Adaptive Management						
Interagency Ecological Program						

 Strong emphasis
 Moderate emphasis



Position 3: Adaptive Management Unit and Independent Science Board Support

This unit provides support and leadership on the use of adaptive management, which is a structured, scientific approach to management that aims to produce and incorporate new knowledge into management of natural resources, and supports the Delta Independent Science Board (Delta ISB) in their reviews of adaptive management. Current work includes (1) leading collaborative interagency groups to support the application of adaptive management in habitat restoration projects in the Delta and Suisun Marsh, (2) planning a biennial conference called the Adaptive Management Forum, for communicating adaptive management outcomes and coordinating adaptive management governance, (3) evaluating and communicating “lessons learned” from past restoration efforts and water management actions, and (4) supporting the reviews of scientific programs conducted by the Delta Independent Science Board (Delta ISB). Fellows working in this unit have unique opportunities to build networks with renowned scientists on the Delta ISB as well as with many technical experts and decision-makers at other agencies through the unit-led collaborative groups.

Host Headquarters Location: 715 P Street, Sacramento, California

Fellowship Supervisor & Point of Contact: Karen Kayfetz, Environmental Program Manager I
Karen.Kayfetz@deltacouncil.ca.gov, (916) 870-9036

Potential Projects

- Help to plan and facilitate meetings of the IAMIT and/or the Suisun AMAT, interagency groups who support ecosystem restoration adaptive management in the Delta and Suisun Marsh.
- Support the reviews of scientific research, monitoring, and assessment programs by the Delta ISB, which could include literature reviews, analyzing questionnaire data from the science community, coordinating interagency events (e.g., panel discussions), and creating communication products and outreach materials on Delta ISB reviews.
- Collaborate on planning the next Adaptive Management Forum or other subject-specific workshop. Plan and facilitate interactive sessions and workshops to promote dialogue about adaptive management at the landscape scale. Co-produce a meeting summary, white paper, or essay for a scientific journal.

Examples of Previous Fellows' Projects

- Contributing author of the Delta Independent Science Board's Monitoring Enterprise Review
- Facilitation of Science Needs Assessment Workshop and collaborative report writing
- Co-authorship of scientific synthesis reports on climate resilience, ecosystem restoration, and zooplankton



Position 4: Interagency Ecological Program (IEP)

This opportunity supports the [Interagency Ecological Program](#) (IEP), a consortium of nine state and federal agencies that has conducted coordinated monitoring and research in the estuary for over 50 years. The IEP's multi-agency framework, as well as its mission to produce relevant ecological data for the management of the Bay-Delta, represents a natural connection to the Delta Science Program's mandate and focus on collaboration.

Host Headquarters Location: 715 P Street, Sacramento, California

Fellowship Supervisor & Point of Contact: Steve Culberson, Program Manager III,
Steve.Culberson@deltacouncil.ca.gov, (916) 893-8679

Potential Projects

- Work with the IEP Lead Scientist (Dr. Steve Culberson) to support science communication, making IEP information accessible and usable for policymakers.
- Facilitate interagency collaboration in various disciplinary areas by participating in IEP Project Work Teams.
- Participate in data integration and/or synthesis efforts relevant to IEP's Science Management Team's identified needs.

Examples of Previous Fellows' Projects

- Authoring a gap analysis and series of conceptual models on California's endemic and endangered winter-run Chinook salmon as part of IEP's multi-agency effort, Salmon/Sturgeon Analysis of Indicators by Life-stage (SAIL, [Windell et al. 2017](#))



The Delta Stewardship Council will host one Sea Grant Fellow in the Planning and Performance Division

Background

The Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta (Delta), along with the San Francisco Bay, is part of the largest estuary on the West Coast of the Americas. The Delta provides vital habitat for endangered and endemic species and is the portal through which important fish species, including anadromous Chinook salmon, pass on their way to and from their spawning grounds. The Delta is a major stop on the Pacific Flyway as well as the hub of the State's water supply system, supplying two-thirds of California's water supply. Thus, the Delta is inextricably linked to statewide water supply issues that affect its ability to function as a natural ecosystem.



Location Map: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Delta Stewardship Council

In 2009, seeking an end to decades of conflict over water, the Legislature established the **Delta Stewardship Council** (Council) to resolve long-standing issues and achieve the state-mandated coequal goals for the Delta. Coequal goals mean the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place. To advance the state's coequal goals for the Delta, the Council was required to develop the Delta Plan, an enforceable long-term sustainable management plan for the region to ensure coordinated action at the federal, state, and local levels. To better facilitate collaboration and coordination with agencies working in and around the Delta, the Council is located in Sacramento, a hub for many federal (e.g., NOAA, USFWS, USBR, USGS), state (e.g. CDFW, DWR, SWRCB), and local agencies as well as consulting firms, academia, and NGOs.

Planning and Performance Division

As one of the divisions in the Council's organization, the **Planning and Performance Division** (Division) provides integration of environmental, engineering, and land use planning expertise to support and coordinate the implementation of the **Delta Plan**, which is enforced through the regulatory authority of the Council. The Division implements the plan through the Council's roles to coordinate with federal, state, and local agencies to achieve the coequal goals; ensure consistency with the Delta Plan; inform stakeholders how to achieve the coequal goals;



comment on projects, plans, and programs with significant impacts to the Delta; and ensure accountability for consistency of projects, plans, and programs with Delta Plan policies.

The Division has three primary tasks; 1) reviewing, revising, and implementing the Delta Plan by collaborating with federal, state, and local agencies to follow the Delta Plan's recommendations; 2) measuring progress in achieving the coequal goals of a reliable water supply for California and healthy ecosystem through [Delta Plan Performance Measures](#); and 3) review of governmental agency projects or programs that take place within the Delta for potential environmental impacts and consistency with policies in the Delta Plan.

The Planning and Performance Division is currently working on such topics and policies as:

- Delta habitat restoration to support endangered species
- Delta adaptation strategy on a response to climate change and sea level rise
- Risk reduction from flooding in the Delta
- Social science in the Delta
- Environmental justice and the human right to water
- Fisheries management and protection from non-native/invasive species
- A reliable water supply for the majority of the state's population
- Water quality for people and species
- Delta as an evolving place

Planning and Performance Division Sea Grant Fellow Position

The Division's Sea Grant fellow will have the unique opportunity to work at the interface of policy, planning, and science on some of California's most challenging and important natural resource management issues - an opportunity that may be different from a fellow's past experiences, but one that would be enriching and experience-broadening. The Sea Grant fellow will meet with the supervisor/mentor and other Division staff to identify specific projects and work groups for assignment considering the Sea Grant fellow's expertise and interests. Working closely with staff across the entire agency, the fellow will have the opportunity to interact with national and international scientific experts; California policy makers and implementers; and water operators and managers. The fellow will gain exposure to how policies, programs, plans, and projects are developed and implemented in the Delta, the Suisun Marsh, and statewide.

Below are examples of potential assignments on which the Division's fellow could engage and collaborate in the upcoming year.

Potential Assignments

- Participate in developing Delta Adapts, the Council's climate change initiative for the Delta and Suisun Marsh, by working with stakeholders to develop adaptation strategies.
- Assist with outreach to community-based organizations and underserved communities to provide and gain information on the Council's projects, such as its climate change initiative.



- Assist on the preparation of the Council's Environmental Justice Paper.
- Evaluate land use, water supply, water storage, ecosystem restoration, and flood protection projects, plans, and programs for consistency with Delta Plan regulations.
- Assist in early consultation with state and local agencies on their proposed projects, plans, and programs considered covered actions to provide guidance regarding consistency with Delta Plan regulations.
- Develop GIS maps and analyze data using tools such as R and Python to support Division activities, such as analysis of performance measures, implementation of Delta Plan regulations, and development of visualization tools to facilitate stakeholder participation.

Potential Activities

- Attend agency, division, and working group meetings
- Participate in training opportunities and skill set development
- Attend seminars and conferences
- Visit sites and projects in the Delta
- Enroll in professional development courses
- Participate in social and networking opportunities



Host Headquarters Location: 715 P Street, Sacramento, CA

Fellowship Mentor and Point of Contact: Anthony Navasero, Senior Engineer, Water Resources, Anthony.Navasero@deltacouncil.ca.gov, (916) 445-5471

Summary of Delta Stewardship Council Fellowship Opportunities

Skillset opportunities emphasized in each fellowship position

Division/position	Management plan development & implementation	Meeting facilitation & coordination	Science Communication	Data analysis & synthesis	Working at the science-policy interface	Build networks with agency scientists & managers
Planning & Performance Division						
Delta Science Program						
Science Communication & Synthesis						
Collaborative Science & Peer Review						
Adaptive Management						
Interagency Ecological Program						

 Strong emphasis
 Moderate emphasis

2023 Sea Grant Fellowship Position Description

Host Agency: Monterey Bay Aquarium

Location: 886 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940

Fellowship Supervisor: Kera Abraham Panni | Senior Outreach Manager, Conservation and Science – kpanni@mbayaq.org

Point of Contact: Kera Abraham Panni | Senior Outreach Manager, Conservation and Science – kpanni@mbayaq.org

Agency Background

The Conservation and Science (C&S) Division at the Monterey Bay Aquarium works to conserve ocean wildlife, the marine environment, and the communities that depend on them. The division comprises two program areas: U.S. and California Ocean Conservation, and Global Ocean Initiatives. C&S develops strategies and takes action on behalf of ocean conservation, leveraging policy advocacy, conservation research, and market influence to advance the Aquarium's mission *to inspire conservation of the ocean*. The Aquarium's ocean conservation priorities are to:

- **Restore and Protect California Ecosystems and Wildlife**
We conduct research and advocate for science-based policies to understand and address threats to ocean health in the state and federal ocean waters off the California coast.
- **Reduce sources of ocean plastic pollution**
We work to advance government policies and drive consumer behavior to reduce single-use plastic and the pollution it creates in our ocean and planet.
- **Combat Climate Change Impacts on Ocean Health**
We communicate science on the ocean-climate connection to inspire action by decision-makers and Aquarium audiences to reduce emissions and build ocean resiliency.
- **Model Best Practices for Environmental Sustainability**
We integrate environmentally responsible business practices into all aspects of the way we design, build and operate, and to serve as a role model for our guests and other businesses.

The Monterey Bay Aquarium fosters an inclusive, welcoming environment where we respect and appreciate individual differences, recognizing them as a source of strength to our organization. These qualities enrich our workplace and increase our capacity to fulfill our mission.

Position Description

The Sea Grant Fellow will contribute to the development and deployment of outreach strategies and messages to help the U.S. and California Ocean Conservation team advance the Aquarium's ocean conservation goals.

Potential Assignment

- Perform research and analysis of communication strategies related to the Aquarium's U.S. and California ocean conservation goals.
- Help ensure that outreach content is relevant, consistent and inclusive, both within the U.S. and California team and throughout the Aquarium.
- Support the production of assets that advance US/CA conservation outcomes. Explore strategies to grow and diversify the Aquarium's audience of high-propensity conservation actors.
- Produce briefing memos, talking points, web content, and similar material in support of the Aquarium's U.S. and California ocean conservation outcomes.

Desirable Qualifications

- Ability to work both independently and with diverse interdisciplinary teams that require clear communication.
- Experience or advanced knowledge in environmental science, conservation policy, ocean and coastal resource management, and/or policy communications.
- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Outstanding verbal communication skills.
- Strong time-management and multi-tasking skills.

California Sea Grant State Fellowship 2023
Host Office Application and Position Description
NOAA's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Host Location: Santa Barbara, California

NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
University of California, Santa Barbara
Ocean Science Education Building 514
Santa Barbara, California 93106



CHANNEL ISLANDS
NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARY



Fellowship Supervisors and Mentors

- Michael Murray, Deputy Superintendent for Programs; michael.murray@noaa.gov, (805) 203-6273
- Julie Bursek, Team Lead Education and Outreach; julie.bursek@noaa.gov, (805) 475-4583

About the Sanctuary

[Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary](#) (CINMS, or the sanctuary) is a federally-designated marine protected area that is administered by the [Office of National Marine Sanctuaries](#) (ONMS), part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). It is located approximately 23 miles off the coast of Santa Barbara and encompasses 1,470 square miles of state and federal ocean waters surrounding the islands of Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa, and San Miguel. A fertile combination of warm and cool currents creates a highly productive marine ecosystem supporting many habitats, a wide diversity of fish and invertebrates, 27 species of whales and dolphins, five species of pinnipeds, and over 60 species of seabirds. The islands and surrounding sanctuary waters are sacred to the indigenous Chumash people. The sanctuary's primary objective is to conserve, protect, and enhance the biodiversity, ecological integrity, and cultural legacy of marine resources surrounding the islands for current and future generations. Enabling federal legislation is the [National Marine Sanctuaries Act](#).

Position Description

We are seeking a 2023 California Sea Grant State Fellow to join our [hard-working and supportive team](#). We offer a working environment that is welcoming, innovative, positive, fun, and growth-oriented. We have enjoyed mentoring fellows for the past 11 years.

The 2023 California Sea Grant State Fellow will play a key role in advancing several policy, planning, and education projects and programs. They will work closely with the sanctuary's deputy superintendent for programs and team lead for education and outreach. Former sanctuary fellows have become permanent or contract NOAA employees, received Knauss and Presidential Management Fellowships, or taken research and leadership positions in the private and non-profit sectors. Several former fellows work at the sanctuary office, providing a built-in support network for incoming fellows.

Education and Outreach (approx. 40% time)

Public education and outreach is a vital sanctuary conservation tool. The fellow will assist the sanctuary's education and outreach team with community science monitoring projects, including:

1. supporting white abalone restoration efforts in the Northern Channel Islands region through administration and coordination of community science monitoring with local recreational diving interests to identify living endangered white abalone;
2. implementing field activities as part of the intertidal monitoring student education program, [LiMPETS](#);
3. recruiting and mentoring a [COAST summer intern](#);
4. supporting the [Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteer program](#), including annual recognition event and assisting with volunteer training coordination;
5. planning and coordinating an annual [Get Into Your Sanctuary](#) event;
6. managing the sanctuary's [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts; and
7. assist with planning and coordination of the [2023 California Islands Symposium](#).

The fellow will also be encouraged to pursue a variety of short-term education and outreach projects. This will often involve serving as an informal educator speaking to various audiences (students, stakeholder groups, agency partners) and participating in educational field cruises within the sanctuary.

Sanctuary Advisory Council (approx. 30% time)

The [Sanctuary Advisory Council](#) is essential to successful management of the sanctuary, and closely involved in helping to shape policy and management decisions. The council is comprised of 10 government agency seats and 11 community stakeholder seats, in addition to several [working groups](#). The fellow will play a leadership role in Council meeting facilitation and agenda preparation, consultation with the Council's Executive Committee, preparing and delivering presentations, corresponding with Council members and the public, assisting with new member recruitment, and more. **For mentorship, networking, and job prospecting, it cannot be overstated how important the Advisory Council has been to every fellow that has worked at the sanctuary.**

Sanctuary Management Planning and Implementation (approx. 10% time)

A [comprehensive management plan](#) (in draft, final version expected before 2023) guides sanctuary operations. The fellow will assist with documentation of "year 1" efforts to implement the new plan, which will include providing a progress report to the Advisory Council. In addition, the fellow will have opportunities to learn about the management plan development process for [NOAA's proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary](#), with specific activities based upon process status, interest level, and time availability.

Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) (approx. 10% time)

Across all of the primary duties described above, we seek a fellow that is interested in supporting efforts to improve justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion among sanctuary programs and activities. Projects to improve JEDI initiatives may include: 1) improved JEDI in education and outreach programming, 2) diversifying recruitment efforts for the Sanctuary Advisory Council, and 3) supporting enhanced access to a diversity of audiences. Other opportunities are available depending upon the fellow's interests, including – but not limited to – participation in the ONMS Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Additional Opportunities (approx. 10% time)

- Engage in personal career development planning with the active support and mentorship of staff.
- Participate in internal office meetings, including providing progress reports and/or presentations.
- Contribute to superintendent reports and weekly activity reports, including compilation, information gathering, and document editing/formatting.
- Represent the sanctuary at select meetings, to speak/present, and assist with follow-up.
- Occasionally participate in sanctuary research and monitoring activities, or other projects of interest.

The fellow will get the most out of this opportunity if they bring the following skills, experiences, and interests:

- a natural self-starter approach to work;
- strong organizational, communication, and writing skills;
- a personable approach and comfort working with a variety of constituencies in public and occasionally contentious settings;
- a proven ability to work with diverse groups to achieve results;
- a strong ability to effectively manage multiple projects, deadlines, and prioritize tasks;
- an ability to adapt to interruptions and a fluctuating workload;
- function effectively under deadline pressure to fulfill assignments on schedule;
- an enthusiasm for ocean stewardship and conservation!

1. Host location and contact information

Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR)
301 Caspian Way, Imperial Beach, CA 91932
ph: 619 575 3613
website: trnerr.org

2. Names of fellowship supervisor(s)

Dr. Kristen Goodrich, Tijuana River NERR
Dr. Shimi Rii, He'eia NERR
Dr. Sylvia Yang, Padilla Bay NERR

3. Position description

Plastic pollution is ubiquitous in the environment, but the transport and transformation of plastic and other debris through watersheds and in estuaries are understudied. Through its multi-sector approach and strong network of partners, the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) has an opportunity to fill a unique niche in both understanding and addressing marine debris and plastic pollution in estuaries. In a recent survey, Reserves expressed an overwhelming desire to work across sectors on this issue, and develop coordinated long-term monitoring and public messaging to promote understanding, behavior-change, and policy actions.

We seek the participation and leadership of a California Sea Grant Fellow in the implementation of a [NERRS Science Collaborative](#) (NSC) transfer project (if awarded) to develop and organize a series of knowledge transfer workshops across Reserves and with the greater Debris Community of Practice (DCoP) to develop a draft Strategic Plan to address plastic issues in estuaries. The Plan will align goals, actions, and metrics of individual Reserve efforts with a System-wide vision and mission, and will complement ongoing efforts in the DCoP. The Fellow will also organize cross-NERRS sector workshops around an integrated set of proposed toolkits such as an estuarine module for aquatic-bound debris monitoring, an education/stewardship toolkit to promote community involvement, and a coastal decision-maker engagement plan that addresses behavior change and policy actions.

Anticipated project outputs include but are not limited to the following:

- Three hybrid and two virtual opportunities for knowledge transfer and networking among Reserves and the greater DCoP
- Elements of a draft NERRS Strategic Plan for implementing a cross-sector, national effort to address the debris issue in estuaries, including:
 - System-wide mission and vision for addressing aquatic-bound debris
 - A roadmap for developing and implementing an estuarine module for aquatic-bound debris monitoring that complements existing efforts
 - A plan for designing and disseminating one or more educational or stewardship toolkits that promote community participation in monitoring and stewardship of debris issues in estuaries
 - A plan for coastal decision-maker engagement that will support behavior change and policy analysis/action for managing or preventing debris pollution at multiple levels
 - Integrated materials and guides for a strategic planning process adapted from the NOAA Marine Debris Program Strategic Action Plan
 - Sharing of the draft Strategic Plan and strategic planning process across the broader NERRS through the proposed five Knowledge Transfer workshops and at a NERRS Annual Meeting

Anticipated project outcomes include, but are not limited to the following:

- Knowledge Transfer workshops provide venues for information transfer and dissemination frameworks that allow for strengthened relationships and collaborations (i) between Reserves and DCoP addressing debris in estuaries; and (ii) among Reserve sectors through purposeful and deliberate engagement towards common goals
- Increased understanding and a strategic roadmap to further advance the NERRS' niche in the DCoP
- Synergy between process and impact of programs in the Reserves and within the DCoP, resulting in increased level of awareness within the DCoP
- Innovative responses by individual Reserves to local debris issues that complement system-wide initiatives
- Application of lessons learned amongst Reserves and also amongst the greater DCoP regarding establishing a monitoring module, educational toolkit, and engagement plan
- Creation of a draft Aquatic-Bound Debris Strategic Action Planning network that will inform development of national initiatives and ultimately

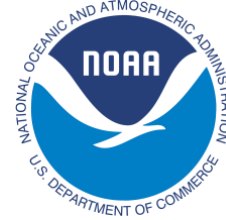
impact Reserve-specific and national debris and contaminant management strategies

We anticipate that the Fellow will gain professional experience by interfacing with (1) NOAA's Office for Coastal Management and the national Reserve system; (2) the unique federal-state (and at TRNERR, also -non-profit) partnerships at the three NERRs that conceptualized this project and lead the NERRS Plastics Workgroup; and (3) NOAA's Marine Debris Program (MDP). In addition, this transfer project will involve both California Sea Grant and Hawaii Sea Grant as core collaborators and advisors and ideally build upon a previous California Sea Grant fellowship with NOAA's MDP. The Fellow will also have the opportunity to engage with related marine debris prevention and removal efforts funded by the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act.

California Sea Grant State Fellowship 2023
Host Office Application and Position Description
NOAA's National Marine Protected Areas Center

Host Location: Santa Barbara, California

NOAA Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
University of California, Santa Barbara
Ocean Science Education Building 514
Santa Barbara, California 93106



Fellowship Supervisors and Mentors

- Lauren Wenzel, Director, Marine Protected Areas Center. lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov, 301-938-1624
- Sean Hastings, Resource Protection Coordinator. sean.hastings@noaa.gov, 805-203-6475
- Michael Murray, Deputy Superintendent for Programs; michael.murray@noaa.gov, 805-203-6273

About the National Marine Protected Areas Center

The [National Marine Protected Areas Center](#) was established in 2000 to strengthen and connect the nation's marine protected areas, as called for in Executive Order 13158. The MPA Center is a partnership between NOAA and the Department of the Interior to serve as a resource to all federal, state, territorial and tribal programs responsible for the health of the nation's oceans. It is located within [NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries](#). The National MPA Center has three goals:

- Improve MPA design, stewardship and effectiveness
- Connect MPA programs
- Advance public understanding and partnerships about MPA programs

The MPA Center is also actively engaged with MPA programs around the world, and serves as the hub for the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries' climate, indigenous engagement, and international work.

Position Description

The MPA Center is partnering with [Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary](#) to host a 2023 California Sea Grant State Fellow. The Fellow will sit in the CINMS office in Santa Barbara, CA and will be responsible for duties for both the MPA Center (based in Silver Spring, MD) and Channel Islands. Together, we offer a working environment that is welcoming, innovative, positive, fun, and growth-oriented. Channel Islands has enjoyed mentoring fellows for the past 11 years.

The 2023 California Sea Grant State Fellow will play a key role in advancing the implementation of [ONMS' Climate Resilience Plan](#) within California's four national marine sanctuaries, and will focus on resource protection activities for Channel Islands, with the opportunity to work on both national and site-based issues. The Fellow will also engage with other policy, planning, and education projects and programs at Channel Islands. Former NOAA sanctuary fellows have become permanent or contract NOAA employees, received Knauss and Presidential Management Fellowships, or taken research and leadership positions in the private and non-profit sectors. Several former fellows work at the sanctuary office, providing a built-in support network for incoming fellows.

Climate Resilience (approx. 60% time)

The ONMS Climate Resilience Plan was published in 2021 to guide the Office's efforts to assess, understand, mitigate and adapt to climate impacts; educate and communicate with key audiences; and operationalize climate informed strategies throughout sanctuary management. The Fellow will work closely with MPA Center staff in Headquarters, ONMS' Climate Team (across the entire sanctuary system), and key staff at Channel Islands and other California sanctuaries to plan and implement vulnerability assessments for sanctuary resources. The Fellow will:

- Work with site staff at Channel Islands and Monterey Bay to organize a climate vulnerability workshop at each site and draft workshop reports to help inform future management strategies.
- Support other climate science, education and operational efforts as needed.
- Contribute to the ONMS Climate Team and its subgroups, and the West Coast Region's climate team through participating in regular team meetings.

Resource Protection (approx. 30% time)

- Assist with implementation of resource protection strategies and activities within the [CINMS Management Plan](#).
- Help local/regional government agencies and stakeholders learn about and engage with the [Channel Islands Biosphere Reserve](#).
- Assist with the review and development of sanctuary research, education and management permits, including assessment of environmental impacts and liaison with permit applicants.
- Support student groups working on resource protection projects for the sanctuary.
- Support marine debris abatement programs - including coordination of shoreline cleanups and outreach campaigns.
- Contribute to CINMS Resource Protection Department, participating in regular team meetings and helping respond to emerging issues and supporting presentations and discussions with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and associated working groups.

Additional Opportunities (approx. 10% time)

- Engage in personal career development planning with the active support and mentorship of staff.
- Support efforts to improve justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion among sanctuary programs and activities.
- Participate in internal office meetings, including providing progress reports and/or presentations.
- Contribute to ONMS weekly activity reports, including compilation, information gathering, and document editing/formatting.
- Represent the MPA Center or sanctuary at select meetings, to speak/present, and assist with follow-up.
- Occasionally participate in sanctuary research, monitoring or education activities, or other projects of interest.

The fellow will get the most out of this opportunity if they bring the following skills, experiences, and interests:

- a natural self-starter approach to work;
- strong organizational, communication, and writing skills;
- ability to synthesize and organize scientific information
- a personable approach and comfort working with a variety of constituencies in public and occasionally contentious settings;
- a proven ability to work with diverse groups to achieve results;
- a strong ability to effectively manage multiple projects, deadlines, and prioritize tasks;
- an ability to adapt to interruptions and a fluctuating workload;
- function effectively under deadline pressure to fulfill assignments on schedule;
- an enthusiasm for ocean stewardship and conservation!



PORT OF SAN DIEGO, SAN DIEGO, CA
PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT
SEA GRANT STATE FELLOW OPPORTUNITY

Host Location and Contact Information:

Port of San Diego
Planning and Environment
3165 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

Supervisor and Point of Contact for Finalists:

Paula Sylvia
Program Director – Aquaculture and Blue Technology
(see address above)
619-686-6491
psylvia@portofsandiego.org

Lily Tsukayama
Senior Planner – Planning
(see address above)
619-686-8199
ltukayama@portofsandiego.org

PORT OF SAN DIEGO, SAN DIEGO, CA

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

SEA GRANT STATE FELLOW OPPORTUNITY

Position Description:

The Port of San Diego was created by the State Legislature to manage San Diego Bay and surrounding waterfront land through a regional governance approach in 1962. The Port of San Diego is the fourth largest of the 11 deep water ports in California, and is bordered by five member cities: Chula Vista, Coronado, Imperial Beach, National City, and San Diego. The Port oversees two marine cargo terminals, two cruise ship terminals, 22 public parks, the Harbor Police Department, and the leases of over 200 tenants and over 500 sub tenant businesses around San Diego Bay, while balancing navigation, commerce, fisheries, recreation. Additionally, the Port is an economic engine, and environmental steward of San Diego Bay and the surrounding tidelands, and a provider of community services and public safety.

The Sea Grant Fellows with the Port of San Diego will support programs and initiatives through the Port's Planning and Environment Division. Through integrated planning, sustainable development of Port of San Diego operations, and protection and enhancement of natural resources that celebrate tidelands and waterfront life, the Planning and Environment Division includes four distinct teams and departments:

1. **Aquaculture and Blue Technology**
2. **Environmental Conservation**
3. **Environmental Protection**
4. **Planning**

The Port's 2023 Sea Grant Fellows would have the opportunity to assist all of these programs, with an emphasis on aquaculture and blue technology, environmental conservation, and planning, through the three available fellowship opportunities:

- **Aquaculture and Blue Technology Fellowship**
- **Environmental Conservation Fellowship**
- **Coastal Policy and Planning Fellowship**

A successful candidate for these fellowship positions must be able to work independently but also function as part of a multi-disciplinary team within the Planning and Environment Division and other Port departments such as Government & Civic Relations, Marketing & Communications, Maritime, Real Estate, Maritime, and Engineering, as well as counterparts in other agencies and industries. The professional development component of the fellowship has a strong emphasis on communication, inter-personal skills, interaction with policy and regulatory information. While there is limited opportunity in these positions for direct scientific research, the ability to conduct detailed literature, legal, and administrative reviews and research will be an important contribution. In addition, previous experience with or an interest in project management to assist with various projects, which may involve creating work plans and timelines, taking meeting minutes, drafting presentations and memos, and preparing reports. Strong organizational, listening, and writing skills and a willingness to work on and interact with a broad variety of projects will greatly enhance the fellowship.

Aquaculture and Blue Technology Fellowship

The Aquaculture and Blue Technology Team provides a launching pad for sustainable aquaculture and emerging blue technology businesses in and around San Diego Bay by offering key assets and support services focused on pilot project facilitation, planning and predevelopment tools, state and federal policy and legislative development, permit ready infrastructure, entitlements, market access, and strategic funding. Current and ongoing efforts with this team include: the Blue Economy Incubator, use of marine spatial planning and other tools to inform future aquaculture siting opportunities, and participation in current Blue Economy Incubator pilot projects.

A general description of the work needed by an Aquaculture and Blue Technology Fellow includes:

- **Aquaculture project support and research:** assist with a variety of current and upcoming pilot projects to support the growth of shellfish and seaweed aquaculture in San Diego Bay. This work may include research and literature review, data analysis and/or review to identify data gaps and supporting long-term aquaculture planning initiatives.
- **Blue Economy Incubator pilot project support:** may include pilot project proposal review, researching relevant grant opportunities and drafting grant proposals, planning, coordination with partners, and outreach activities.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** prepare presentations, speaking points, meeting logistics, or other details as needed to discuss proposed aquaculture and blue technology projects with local, state, and regional stakeholders.

Environmental Conservation Fellowship

The Environmental Conservation Department supports projects and programs that conserve and enhance natural resources by expanding native habitats and ensuring regulatory compliance through sound resource management. Current and ongoing efforts include natural resources surveys, mitigation banking, environmental permitting, natural solutions for resilient shoreline infrastructure, management of environmental and wildlife advisory committees, development project support, and support for the Port of San Diego's Environmental Education Program.

A general description of the work needed by the Environmental Conservation Fellow includes:

- **Natural Resources:** potential to be involved in or gain exposure to a variety of projects, including but not limited to: natural resources management, wetlands restoration and monitoring, living shorelines, climate change studies, permit compliance, bioremediation, and mitigation banking.
- **Permitting and grants:** assist with a variety of pilot and other projects conducted by internal programs or external stakeholders. This work may include project proposal review, researching relevant grant opportunities and drafting grant proposals, planning, permitting and entitlements (Army Corps of Engineers and Regional Water Quality Control Board), coordination with partners, assisting with project management, drafting comment letters, and site visits to various locations on Port tidelands.
- **Environmental and wildlife advisory committees:** provide logistical support for Environmental Conservation staff for regularly scheduled environmental committee meetings convened by the Port. This may include coordination with stakeholders and drafting meeting minutes, agendas, and memos regarding these committees.

Coastal Policy and Planning Fellowship

The Planning Department creates and supports a well-planned and integrated waterfront through strategic initiatives, policy formation, and agency coordination. Planning advances a holistically planned waterfront that is welcoming, sustainable, prosperous, and improves the quality of life for present and future generations. Current and ongoing long range planning efforts include: the Port of San Diego's Port Master Plan Update, preparation of a Trust Lands Use Plan pursuant to SB507, sea level rise and adaptation planning, and environmental review of all Planning and Environment projects.

A general description of the work needed by a Coastal Policy and Planning Fellow includes:

- **Policy and Planning Research:** research relevant coastal policies from other state and regional agencies or organizations and assist with policy development to support the Port Master Plan Update, Trust Lands Use Plan, and sea level rise adaptation planning. This may include preparing literature reviews, policy memos, public comment letters, infographics and slide decks, or data analysis.
- **Project Review and Entitlement:** assist the Planning Department to conduct environmental review (CEQA and Coastal Act) for Planning and Environment projects and activities, such as aquaculture and blue technology pilot projects.
- **Community Outreach:** assist Port staff to participate in stakeholder or community meetings and/or correspond with regional, state, and federal stakeholders on adaptation planning, the Port Master Plan Update, Trust Lands Use Plan, and other long range planning efforts.



San Francisco
ESTUARY
PARTNERSHIP
sfestuary.org

California Sea Grant State Fellowship 2023

Points of Contact

Fellowship Supervisors

Heidi Nutters, Senior Program Manager (heidi.nutters@sfestuary.org)

Natasha Dunn, Environmental Planner (natasha.dunn@sfestuary.org)

Fiscal Point of Contact

Athena Honore, Contract Manager (athena.honore@sfestuary.org)

Fellowship Location

San Francisco, CA with hybrid remote options available

Host Background Information

The San Francisco Estuary Partnership (Partnership) is pleased to submit this application to host two California Sea Grant Fellows in 2022-2023.

The Partnership was established in 1988 as part of the National Estuary Program (NEP) under the Clean Water Act as a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency program. The Partnership is a collaboration of local, state, and federal agencies, NGOs, academia and business leaders working to protect and restore the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. The Partnership's work is guided by the development and implementation of the Estuary Blueprint, a comprehensive, collective vision for the Estuary's future.

The Partnership manages important multi-benefit projects that improve the health of the Estuary. We build partnerships and leverage federal funding with millions of dollars in state and local funds for regional-scale restoration, water quality improvement, and resilience-building projects.

The Partnership's host entity is the Association of Bay Area Governments, which is staffed by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission under a memorandum of understanding and a contract for services. The Bay Area Metro Center houses the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and is designed to facilitate communication and collaboration among the agencies.

Position Description

The Partnership recently collaborated with more than 70 partners throughout the region to develop long term goals and a five-year action plan. The resulting 2016 Estuary Blueprint is a comprehensive, collective vision for the Estuary's future. The partnership is seeking two Fellows to provide assistance with several critical actions identified in the 2016 Estuary Blueprint.

Both Fellows will be integrated into the Partnership staff, attending staff meetings, participating in quarterly meetings of the Partnership's Implementation Committee, and attending meetings or workshops with regional partners that pertain to the work of the Partnership.

Fellow #1 – Wetland Regional Monitoring Program

The San Francisco Estuary restoration community is working rapidly to protect and restore wetlands that can provide flood protection, recreation, water quality improvement, and habitat for surrounding communities. In order to meet a regional target of 100,000 acres restored by 2030 (Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Update), close coordination is needed between land managers, scientists and regulators.

The Wetland Regional Monitoring Program for the SF Estuary improves wetland restoration project success by putting in place regional-scale monitoring increasing the impact, utility and application of site-specific permit-driven monitoring to inform science-based decision-making. The WRMP is a robust, science-driven, collaborative regional monitoring program that includes:

- Monitoring site network.
- Open data sharing platform.
- Comprehensive science framework.



The Program is co-managed by the SF Estuary Partnership and SF Estuary Institute. This co-management model allows us to bring together science, governance, program management and data informatics in support of the WRMP.

The Sea Grant Fellow will be an integral member of SFEP and WRMP staff. Duties will be dependent on Fellow interests and qualifications to ensure a right match for the Fellowship. Some of the options available are: 1) Supporting the People and Wetlands Workgroup to integrate social science and traditional ecological knowledge into the Program; 2) Support development of the WRMP Data Dashboard and Data Management procedures for the Program; 3) Coordinate the WRMP Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee; 4) Website and Communications.

Fellow #2 – State of the Estuary Report and State of the Estuary Conference

State of the Estuary Report: The State of the Estuary Report is the most comprehensive health report for the San Francisco Estuary. It uses the best science and most recent data contributed by dozens of scientists to assess the status of various parts of the ecosystem. The purpose is to identify problems with estuarine health, so that conservation and restoration efforts can focus on solutions. The 2024 report will update and modernize how data are collected, accessed and viewed, utilizing a collaborative platform to centralize and share information in a more dynamic, engaging, real-time setting. The Sea Grant Fellow will be a key part of the team producing the update, and duties will include coordinating various partners involved in the update, tracking progress, and assisting in managing the process.

State of the Estuary Conference: Every two years, the Partnership brings focus to the management and ecological health of the estuary. The State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference showcases the latest information about the region's work to sustain and improve the estuary's habitats, living resources, water quality, climate resilience, and environmental stewardship. For the 2023 conference, we hope to bring new topics into the conversation on the health of the estuary and continuing to broaden the conversation around equity and the human dimension. The Sea Grant Fellow will be part of the core team planning and implementing the conference, supporting the steering committee, coordinating with partners and developing conference sessions.

In addition to these duties, the Fellow may also assist with other programmatic work on various SFEP grant programs.



Sea Grant Host Application for the State Water Contractors (SWC)
Submitted June 27, 2022

1. Host location and contact information.	State Water Contractors 1121 L Street, Suite 1050 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 447-7357
2. Names of fellowship supervisor(s).	Chandra Chilmakuri, Darcy Austin
3. Fiscal point(s) of contact for California Sea Grant. Please note if same as fellowship supervisor(s)	Darcy Austin, Linda Standlee
<p>4. Position description (not to exceed two pages, single spaced). If selected as a participating host, this description will be made available as submitted to prospective fellowship applicants.</p> <p>The State Water Contractors (SWC) seeks a Sea Grant fellow who possesses the ability to think beyond traditional approaches to fisheries science to work on a team of nine staff dedicated to the Delta Plan co-equal goals of improved water supply reliability and restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. Specifically, we seek someone with an interest in hydrology, and aptitude for hydrologic and/or hydrodynamic modeling. Education and familiarity with California's water supply system and quantitative models are desired but not necessary. The selected fellow would work closely with SWC and member agency staff and would have the opportunity to attend SWC Board meetings and various meetings/forums with staff from state and federal agencies, NGOs, and Central Valley Project (CVP) water contractor staff.</p> <p>The Delta Plan co-equal goals provide an insight into the conflict inherent in the Delta. The Delta is situated at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and is both an ecosystem that supports hundreds of fish and wildlife species as well as being the hub of California's water supply. The watershed extends roughly 500 miles from the Cascade Range in the north to the Tehachapi Mountains in the south and is bounded by the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range on the east and the Coast Range on the west. Nearly half of the surface water in California falls within the watershed and flows downstream to where the freshwater comeslingles with saltwater from San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun Bays. Given the enormous size of the watershed, many contaminants end up in the water and can be hazardous for aquatic species and for humans. Nutrients are limited, so food for fish can be scarce. Invasive species have created challenges, such as predation on native species and competition for food, and the proliferation of invasive aquatic weeds that create navigational and water quality hazards. Habitats have been removed and climate change threatens to undo the habitat restoration that has been completed. Given the magnitude of the problems in the Delta, the Bay-Delta science and management communities strive to fill knowledge gaps to better understand the many stressors affecting the Delta system and the species that depend on it.</p> <p>The SWC is an association of 27 of the public water agencies (member agencies) and represents the legal, policy and regulatory interests of the State Water Project (SWP) contractors, who are responsible for the capital and operations and maintenance costs of the SWP (https://swc.org/about-us/). The SWP is a multi-purpose water storage and delivery system (collection of canals, pipelines, reservoirs, and hydroelectric power facilities) that delivers clean water to 27 million Californians (2/3 of the state's population), 750,000 acres of farmland (12% of California's total agricultural production), and businesses throughout California. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) operates and maintains the SWP and the SWP is the nation's largest state-owned water and power generator and user-financed water system.</p> <p>The SWC works in partnership with other water organizations, and coordinates with DWR on behalf of its members. The mission of the SWC is to advocate on behalf of our members for improved supply reliability and</p>	

water quality based on sensible, science-based policies that result in the sustainable and cost-effective management of the SWP for the benefit of California's citizens, economy and environment. The SWC and its member agencies are committed to science-based decision-making for the management of water supplies and the environment and for the people of California. The SWC invests over \$2 million annually in science and research to study the delicate Delta ecosystem. The SWC aims to manage water actions and decisions in response to real-time conditions in the environment and promotes the use of science to inform the way state and federal regulators maintain a balance between providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem.

Duties for the selected fellow will include:

1. Tracking of SWP and CVP operations
2. Tracking of observed flows, salinity, and other hydrologic conditions.
3. Tracking of observed water quality/contaminant conditions.
4. Running models/simulations of water supply and Delta and watershed hydrology
5. Running models on SWP and CVP operations
6. Running models on Bay-Delta hydrodynamics and water quality
7. Participating in monthly SWC Board meetings and providing updates on water operations and hydrology to the Board.
8. Participating in meetings on water project operations,
9. Potentially tracking SWC science investments and outcomes

The fellow's project does not have to be related to Delta operations, but, for instance, a fisheries project that relates to operations in some way is highly desired.

The fellow will be supervised by the SWC Deputy General Manager and the Science Manager.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
Division of Water Quality, Sustainable Water Plans and Policies

2023 Sea Grant Fellow

HOST APPLICATION

1. Host Location and Contact Information:
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality, Sustainable Water Plans and Policies
California Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, 15th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.waterboards.ca.gov
2. Fellowship Supervisor:
Laura McLellan, Senior Environmental Scientist
Recycled Water and Desalination Unit Senior
laura.mclellan@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 319-8288
3. Point of Contact for California Sea Grant, Prospective Fellows, and Finalists:
Laura McLellan, Senior Environmental Scientist
Recycled Water and Desalination Unit Senior
laura.mclellan@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 319-8288
and
Claire Waggoner, Environmental Program Manager
Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section Manager
claire.waggoner@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 341-5882
4. Position Description:
The State Water Resources Control Board is a regulatory agency whose mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

In the Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section in the Division of Water Quality, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will use scientific principles to develop and implement impactful statewide water quality plans and policies, including plans and policies relating to seawater desalination, stormwater capture, recycled water, and constituents of emerging concern (i.e., new or unregulated potential contaminants such as those found in pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and microplastics). The Fellow will work in multidisciplinary teams on projects including:

- Implementing and developing science-based policy recommendations to amend the seawater desalination provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan) to minimize marine life impacts from proposed seawater desalination facilities;
- Developing statewide policy for the management of urban pesticides to minimize their impact on coastal and inland surface waters, and creating a nimble statewide monitoring program for urban pesticides in urban-adjacent waters that can react to changes in the pesticide;
- Developing a comprehensive, flexible statewide Constituents of Emerging Concern strategy to bring the state into a new paradigm of chemical management for addressing emerging contaminants, filling critical data gaps, and taking appropriate actions to protect water quality and the environment;
- Implementing the Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water, which promotes the use of recycled water as a sustainable water supply; and
- Developing and managing research grants to fill critical knowledge gaps to advance the production and use of recycled water in California.

The Fellow may also work on other projects in the Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section, including the State Water Board's Stormwater Strategy, and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Strategy teams.

Throughout the fellowship, the Fellow will apply their scientific background and experience to develop and implement science-based water quality plans and policies, engage with stakeholders, respond to public comments, author technical reports, and engage in intra- and interagency collaboration (e.g., with regional water boards, Ocean Protection Council, Coastal Commission, State Lands Commission, Fish and Wildlife, Department of Water Resources, Department of Pesticide Regulation, etc.). Our goal is for the Fellow to experience as many facets of the State Water Board as possible while working on projects that will have lasting statewide impact to protect water quality and the environment. The fellowship is an excellent introduction to a career at the Water Boards, and many of our Fellows have gone on to full-time positions within the agency.

We are looking for a Fellow that has:

- Skill and experience working in a highly collaborative team setting.
- Ability to conduct scientific analysis to inform policy development.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Interest or experience in marine biology, oceanography, chemistry, toxicology, and/or environmental science.
- Ability to engage with diverse stakeholders who may not agree on scientific, technical, or policy recommendations.
- Self-starting initiative to identify project needs and work collaboratively with minimal supervision.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
Division of Water Quality: Ocean Standards Unit
2023 Sea Grant Fellow

HOST APPLICATION

1. Host Location and Contact Information:
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality
California Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building, 15th Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.waterboards.ca.gov
2. Fellowship Supervisor:
Katherine Walsh, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor
Ocean Standards Unit Chief
katherine.walsh@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 445-2317
3. Point of Contact for California Sea Grant, Prospective Fellows, and Finalists:
Katherine Walsh
4. Position Description:
The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) was created by the Legislature in 1967. Our mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Ocean Standards Unit is a part of the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality. The Ocean Standards Unit is responsible for developing and amending statewide water quality control plans, policies, and standards involving marine waters. This includes the [Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California](#) (Ocean Plan), the [Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California](#) (Thermal Plan), and the

[Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling](#) (Once-Through Cooling Policy). The Ocean Standards Unit also administers the Public Beach Safety Program to monitor pathogen contamination at ocean beaches, participates in marine invasive species issues from vessel ballast water discharges, and provides scientific support and inter-agency coordination regarding marine pollution and resource management issues.

Under the general direction of the Ocean Standards Unit supervisor, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will perform complex analyses involved in the development and implementation of statewide policies, plans, and standards to ensure the continued protection of ocean and estuarine water quality. The Fellow will use scientific principles and research to formulate recommendations to management and State Water Board Members on the development of beneficial uses of ocean waters, appropriately protective water quality objectives, and implementation programs.

The Fellow will have an opportunity to gain experience working on a variety of projects and ocean issues. The Fellow may be involved in developing amendments to the Ocean Plan identified in the [2019 Ocean Plan Review](#), including developing an amendment to address ocean acidification and hypoxia and developing an amendment to incorporate tribal beneficial uses of ocean waters (e.g., tribal cultural and subsistence uses). The Fellow may also assist with implementation of the Once-Through Cooling Policy, including developing [determinations to mitigate interim impacts to marine life](#) from facilities that continue to use ocean waters for power plant cooling.

In working on amendments to the Ocean Plan and other water quality plans and policies, the Fellow's duties may involve all phases of the public planning process, including literature reviews of scientific studies, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping, discussion with interested parties to identify possible alternatives for action, preparation of environmental documentation, preparation for public meetings, response to public comments, preparation of recommendations to the Board, and preparation of the administrative record for any changes that the Board adopts.

The Fellow will also perform other duties, as assigned, to support the Ocean Standards Unit and the Division of Water Quality, such as providing scientific guidance on issues related to ocean water quality, facilitating stakeholder engagement, and participating in inter-agency working groups, such as the Marine Protected Areas Statewide Leadership Team. In performing these duties, the Fellow will interact with interested agency staff, stakeholders and the general public in a courteous and helpful manner. The Fellow is responsible for the quantity, quality, and timeliness of work assigned.

Skills or attributes we seek include:

- Ability to perform complex scientific analysis and communicate findings to technical staff, managers, and the general public.

- Strong interest in policies, standards, and regulations.
- Strong interest in the intersections of water quality, environmental justice, and racial equity.
- Ability to lead groups of people, often with divergent views on how to move forward on a particular issue.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- A problem solver with strong personal initiative and the ability to work well under minimal supervision.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
Office of Information Management and Analysis (OIMA)
2023 Sea Grant Fellow

HOST APPLICATION

1. Host Location and Contact Information:
State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Information Management and Analysis
California Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building, 19th Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.waterboards.ca.gov
2. Fellowship Supervisor:
Ali Dunn, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor
Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Unit Chief
ali.dunn@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 319 - 8458
3. Point of Contact for California Sea Grant, Prospective Fellows, and Finalists:
Ali Dunn
4. Position Description:
The State Water Resources Control Board is a regulatory agency whose mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Under the general direction of the of the [Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program \(SWAMP\)](#) Unit senior, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will apply data science practices to perform complex analysis, interpretation and visualization of environmental data collected by Water Board Programs, including SWAMP, and partner agencies to inform water quality managers and the public. The SWAMP Unit is part of the State Water Board's [Office of Information Management and Analysis](#), home of the [College of Water Informatics](#).

SWAMP's purpose is to inform management decisions and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Water Board actions (permits, policies, resource management and other activities). Its monitoring programs collect hundreds of chemical, physical and biological samples each year in primarily freshwater and some marine environments. Duties may include coordinating with partner agencies and programs, data analysis and interpretation, data visualization and communication, field sampling and logistics, participating in monitoring study design, meeting facilitation, organization and notetaking, adding content to the [My Water Quality Portals](#), presentation of findings to both technical and lay audiences, and incorporating racial equity and environmental justice principles and practices into their work.

The Fellow will also perform other duties, as assigned, to support the SWAMP Unit and the Office of Information Management and Analysis, such as community engagement event planning and participation, trash and macroplastic monitoring in marine and freshwater environments, or assistance with [healthy watershed assessments](#). In performing these duties, the Fellow will interact with interested agency staff, stakeholders and the general public in a courteous and helpful manner. The Fellow is responsible for the quantity, quality, and timeliness of work assigned.

Skills or attributes we seek include:

- Ability to perform complex scientific analysis and communicate findings to technical staff, managers, and the general public.
- Strong interest in the mechanics of utilizing science to inform public policy.
- Strong interest in the intersections of water, data, environmental justice, and racial equity
- Ability to lead groups of people, often with divergent views on how to move forward on a particular issue.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- A problem solver with strong personal initiative and the ability to work well under minimal supervision.