



The Delta Science Program will host three Sea Grant State Fellows in 2021

Background

The Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta along with the San Francisco Bay, is part of the largest estuary on the West Coast. 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 eight years and provides a welcoming and collaborative 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 three Science Program fellows, you will work at the dynamic 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/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. DSP fellows build extensive professional networks by working with a range of State, federal, and local government agencies including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the United States (U.S.) Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Geological Survey, the California Department of Water Resources, the California 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 tasks or a blend of tasks.

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

Fellowship Supervisor and Point of Contact: Maggie Christman, Program Manager II

Maggie.Christman@deltacouncil.ca.gov, (916) 445-0464

Potential Projects

- Work with the Delta Lead Scientist on monthly reports, infographics, and visual abstracts that summarize recent science efforts around the Delta as well as water supply metrics and ecological indicators. Recent examples include: [Lead Scientist Report](#), [By The Numbers Report](#), [Visual Abstract](#).
- Participate in the [State of Bay-Delta Science](#) and other synthesis efforts, including developing summaries for managers, lay abstracts, infographics, and/or web content to support synthesis and communication of scientific information to Delta stakeholders.
- Create summaries of science funded by the DSP in creative and accessible formats for non-scientists, including policy-makers, managers and program directors.
- Participate in interagency working groups that support integrated modeling, data integration, or data publishing (e.g., Integrated Modeling Steering Committee).

Examples of Previous Fellows' Projects

- Creation of a website ([A Beginner's Guide to the Delta](#)) that serves as a resource for those interested to learn more about this integral place in California.
- Participation in Delta Stewardship Council social media to highlight Delta science (e.g., [Science Fridays](#) on Twitter).
- Organization of Brown Bag seminars 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).
- Authoring a synthesis study modeling juvenile Chinook salmon migration to inform fisheries management and development of a complementary [Shiny App](#).