



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

A California State Agency

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2019 California Sea Grant State Fellowship Opportunity

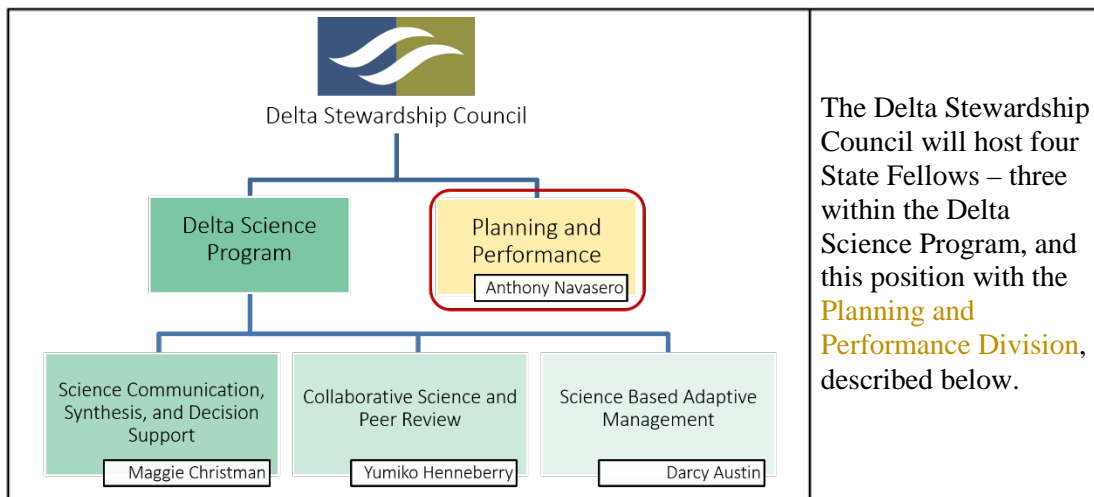
Planning and Performance Division

Background

California’s Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is part of the largest estuary on the West Coast, is the hub of the state’s major water supply systems, and provides vital habitat for endangered, endemic, and migratory species. It is inextricably linked to statewide water supply issues that affect its ability to support more natural ecosystem functions.

In November 2009, the California Legislature enacted the Delta Reform Act, and created the [Delta Stewardship Council](#) to achieve the coequal goals (see footnote). The Council’s Planning and Performance Division provides integration of environmental, engineering, and land use planning expertise to support and coordinate the implementation of the [Delta Plan](#), a comprehensive, long-term management plan for the Delta based on the best available science. The implementation of the Delta Plan is through cooperation among collaborated agencies and is enforceable through the Council’s regulatory authority, which requires State and local actions that significantly affect the coequal goals to be consistent with the Delta Plan.

Position Description



The Delta Stewardship Council will host four State Fellows – three within the Delta Science Program, and this position with the [Planning and Performance Division](#), described below.

A Sea Grant fellow with the Council’s Planning and Performance Division 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. The Sea Grant fellow will be working and interacting with staff in the Planning and Performance Division’s units:

- Delta Plan Development, Implementation, and Policy
- Performance Management

"Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place."

– CA Water Code §85054

- Regulatory Review

Initially, the Sea Grant fellow will meet with the supervisor/mentor and other Planning and Performance Division staff as appropriate to develop a mentoring plan for the year. This plan will be based on the interests and background of the Sea Grant fellow and is intended to maximize the Sea Grant fellow's experience, knowledge, and networking opportunities. Working closely with Planning Division staff, the Sea Grant fellow will have the opportunity to interact with California policy makers, national and international scientific experts, and gain exposure to how policies and plans are developed and implemented in the Delta and Suisun Marsh as well as, at times, statewide.

Currently the Planning and Performance Division is working on several efforts focused on:

- 5-Year review of the Delta Plan;
- Supporting efforts to integrate flood management and habitat restoration into multi-benefit projects;
- Developing a Delta Plan amendment regarding ecosystem restoration;
- Evaluating efforts to enhance recreation and tourism that are compatible with the cultural heritage of the Delta;
- Promoting land use decisions that enhance economic vitality while reducing flood risk and preserving agriculture and open space; and
- Monitoring and collecting data on State programs and projects to measure the State's progress towards achieving the coequal goals and the success of the Delta Plan.

Potential Assignments

Specific projects will be identified and assigned for the Planning and Performance Division's Sea Grant fellow based on their expertise and interests. Potential projects include:

- Implementing Council approved recommendations of the 5-Year review of the Delta Plan
- Environmental review of ecosystem restoration amendments to the Delta Plan
- Evaluating major water supply, water storage, ecosystem restoration, and flood protection projects and programs.
- Researching statewide water conservation and groundwater management efforts.
- Reviewing and reporting on studies, reports, and documents of interest to the Delta Plan's policies and recommendations.
- Tracking progress of Delta Plan objectives (e.g., restoration, conservation, management, etc.) that support the coequal goals.
- Gathering and developing GIS data for visualization tools to facilitate stakeholder participation in habitat restoration and flood management planning.
- Supporting Planning and Performance Division staff in their daily tasks in implementing the Delta Plan.

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

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