



A California State Agency

980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500

Sacramento, CA 95814

PHONE 916.445.5511

FAX 916.445.7297

[www.deltacouncil.ca.gov](http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov)

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2012

**CONTACTS:** Eric Alvarez

(916) 445-5383 (o) / (916) 275-7923 (c)

[eric.alvarez@deltacouncil.ca.gov](mailto:eric.alvarez@deltacouncil.ca.gov)

## DSC Appoints New Lead Scientist

*Dr. Peter Goodwin is Internationally Recognized Expert in Ecohydraulics*

(Sacramento) – Dr. Peter Goodwin, an internationally-recognized expert in ecohydraulics (the impact of management on aquatic ecosystems), ecosystem restoration, and enhancement of river, wetland and estuarine systems is the new Lead Scientist for the Delta Science Program.

In making the two-year appointment, DSC Chair Phil Isenberg said, “With his broad understanding of water-related science and engineering, and his background as a former CALFED Independent Science Board member, Peter will provide crucial knowledge and scientific leadership for the Delta Stewardship Program and the Delta Plan.”

“I look forward to helping build the scientific community and to search for the common truths on the many critical issues that face the Delta,” Dr. Goodwin said. “The development of the Delta Plan is clearly a project of critical importance to California that is helping set standards of how science can inform the making of policy.”

Goodwin’s appointment was the result of a nationwide search and is effective March 1<sup>st</sup>. He replaces Dr. Cliff Dahm, an expert on aquatic ecology and a professor at the University of New Mexico, who served three and a half years in the same post.

Goodwin is the DeVlieg Presidential Professor in Ecohydraulics and professor of civil engineering at the University of Idaho. He also is the founding and current director of the Center for Ecohydraulics Research. He is recognized internationally for his research with

---

*“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

particular contributions in the field of modeling flows, sediment transport, and river channel evolution.

Additional research interests include modeling physical processes in natural and disturbed aquatic systems, quantifying benefits of restoration activities, and integrating models of physical processes and biological responses. His expertise is directly applicable to issues that Delta managers and the Delta Stewardship Council are grappling with today.

Goodwin is a former CALFED Independent Science Board member and also serves as the scientific advisor for several government agencies related to river and wetland management issues, including chairing the Louisiana Coastal Area Science Board.

He has participated in the river restoration, flood control and sediment management projects in several different countries and estuarine and tidal wetland restoration projects on the East and West Coasts of the U.S.

Goodwin is also the director of Idaho's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR), a federal-state partnership intended to build research infrastructure and encourage collaboration in states historically having received a low amount of federal research funding.

He earned his undergraduate degree in civil engineering in 1978 from the University of Southampton, England. In 1982 he earned his master's degree in Hydraulic and Coastal Engineering from UC Berkeley, where he also obtained his Ph.D. in Hydraulic Engineering in 1986.

# # #

***About the Council***

Created by the legislature in 2009, the Delta Stewardship Council is composed of members who represent different parts of the state and offer diverse expertise in fields such as agriculture, science, the environment, and public service. Of the seven, four are appointed by the Governor, one each by the Senate and Assembly, and the seventh is the Chair of the Delta Protection Commission. For more information visit <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/>