

Delta Science Plan Workshop Final Agenda

February 20-21, 2025



Delta
Science
Program

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Background

The Delta Science Program is developing **the third iteration of the Delta Science Plan**, centered around **Grand Challenges to Delta science**. This workshop will feature several talks by experts to tee up the relevant concepts. With that background, participants will then brainstorm actions, tools, and strategies to address the following grand challenges.

Grand Challenge #1: Scientists and managers must anticipate a world in which environmental conditions and regulations may be fundamentally different from those faced today.

Grand Challenge #2: Environmental change is outpacing the traditional pace of science.

Grand Challenge #3: Flows of scientific information remain decentralized and poorly connected to communities and decision-makers.

Grand Challenge #4: Other ways of knowing, especially Traditional Knowledge, remain siloed from decision-making.



Plenary



Presentations



Panel & Breakout
Group Discussions

Day 1 – Communication and Integration of Knowledge (Hybrid: via Zoom or California Natural Resources Agency, 715 P Street, Room 221, Sacramento, CA 95814)

9:00–9:15 **Welcome** – Dr. Lisamarie Windham-Myers, Delta Lead Scientist

9:15–9:45 **Plenary** – Dr. Sam Luoma, Editor-in-Chief, San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science

9:45–10:30 **Group Discussion**

*Review and feedback on 2019 Delta Science Plan implementation.
Provide feedback for looking forward to the 2025 Delta Science Plan.*

Facilitator: Tricia Lee, Delta Science Program

10:30-10:45 **Break**

10:45-12:00 **Grand Challenge #4 – Other ways of knowing, especially Traditional Knowledge, remain siloed from decision-making**

Panelists:

Dr. Nina Fontana, UC Davis

Zach Gigone, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

Rebecca Allen, The Sierra Fund

Zack Emerson, Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe

Moderator: Dr. Xoco Shinbrot, Delta Stewardship Council

12:00-1:30 **Lunch (provided for in-person attendees)**

1:30-1:40 **Welcome Back** - Julie Lee, Delta Stewardship Council Chair

1:40 – 2:05 **Grand Challenge #3 – Flows of scientific information remain decentralized and poorly connected to communities and decision-makers**

Speaker: Dr. Mark Lubell, UC Davis

- 2:05-3:20 **Breakout discussion**
Grand Challenges #3 and #4 discussion
Facilitator: Tricia Lee, Delta Science Program
- 3:20-3:35 **Break**
- 3:35-4:15 **Breakout group report out**
Grand Challenges #3 and #4 report out
Facilitator: Tricia Lee, Delta Science Program
- 4:15-4:30 **Wrap up** – Henry DeBey, Delta Science Program
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Day 2 – Managing Under Uncertainty (Virtual ONLY)

- 9:00–9:15 **Day 1 Recap** – Dr. Lisamarie Windham-Myers, Delta Lead Scientist
- 9:15–9:40 **Grand Challenge #1 – Scientists and managers must anticipate a world in which environmental conditions and regulations may be fundamentally different from those faced today**

Speaker: Dr. Laurel Larsen, UC Berkeley Depts. of Geography and Civil & Environmental Engineering
- 9:40-10:05 **Grand Challenge #2 – Environmental change is outpacing the traditional pace of science**

Speaker: Dr. Lisa Wainger, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
- 10:05-11:20 **Breakout discussion**
Grand Challenges #1 and #2 discussion

Facilitator: Tricia Lee, Delta Science Program
- 11:20-11:35 **Break**

11:35-12:15 **Breakout group report out**

Grand Challenges #1 and #2 report out

Facilitator: Tricia Lee, Delta Science Program

12:15-12:30 **Next steps and workshop close** – Tricia Lee, Delta Science Program

**By participating, you consent to be recorded, and your likeness or thoughts (e.g., audio, video, chats, work in shared whiteboard activities) may be captured or used in Delta Stewardship Council materials.*

Fun Fact

The 2024 Bay-Delta Science Conference included a lunchtime session called “JEOPARDY: Delta Science Plan edition!” The event (pictured below) explored questions like... What does it take to plan for the “doing of science” in the Delta? How can members of the Delta science community have their voices heard in the planning done by the Delta Science Program? What are the “Grand Challenges” in Delta science and what can we do about them? Attendees enjoyed the interactive format and learned **how the Delta Science Plan has successfully created change in Delta science over the last decade** and how they can inform the forthcoming development of the 2025 Delta Science Plan.

