

CALFED Science Program Workshop

Ecosystem Restoration at the Landscape Scale: The North Delta and Suisun Marsh

November 18-19, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Delta Room
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

This workshop will not be webcast.

Purpose:

The purpose of this two-day workshop is to provide guidance for local near-term ecosystem restoration efforts in the North Delta and Suisun Marsh incorporating input from a panel of outside experts familiar with large-scale river floodplain and estuarine restoration elsewhere within the United States. The workshop will bring together local scientists involved with the planning, implementation, evaluation, and management of large-scale restoration efforts with external experts familiar with large-scale restoration and landscape ecology. There are four primary objectives for the workshop:

- 1) discuss expectations for outcomes from large-scale restoration projects designed to provide habitats and conditions that assist putting listed aquatic species on pathways to recovery
- 2) provide a shared understanding of the knowledge base and restoration principles for large-scale restoration projects locally and nationally,
- 3) identify and prioritize key questions and uncertainties that underpin large-scale restoration projects, and
- 4) consider strategies for addressing these questions and uncertainties through implementing critical research combined with development of a robust evaluation program for local large-scale restoration projects.

Panel Members:

1. Nick Aumen – Everglades National Park
2. John Wiens – Chief Scientist PRBO Conservation Science
3. John Teal - Delaware Bay Salt Marsh Restoration
4. Karen Rodriguez – US Environmental Protection Agency Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
5. Jim Cloern – US Geological Survey San Francisco Bay Long-term Research

Products from Workshop:

The panel of outside experts will produce an advisory report within a month of the workshop on their recommendations highlighting principles for large-scale restoration, key questions and uncertainties to be considered going forward, approaches for addressing those uncertainties, and guidance on an effective monitoring and evaluation program for large-scale restoration projects. The presentations from the workshop will be posted on the CALFED Science Program web site along with the agenda and a brief summary of the information conveyed and discussed throughout the workshop.

AGENDA – DAY 1

9:00 AM – Introduction to the Workshop – Cliff Dahm and Organizers

9:15 AM – Historical Ecology of the California Delta: Emerging Concepts of a Dynamic and Complex System - Robin Grossinger and Alison Whipple

9:45 AM – Hydrodynamics and Transport Processes on the Pre-Settlement Landscape: Geomorphic Control of Functional Complexity and Implications for Restoration – Chris Enright

10:15 AM - Discussion

10:30 AM – Break

10:45 AM – Hydrodynamics of the Delta: Implications for Successful Restoration – Jon Burau

11:15 AM – Terrestrial Landscapes and Aquatic Ecosystems: Where are the Restoration Targets? – John Wiens

11:45 AM - Discussion

12:00 PM – Lunch Break (Lunch on Your Own)

1:00 PM – Environmental Flow Analyses for the Sacramento River – Bill Fleenor

1:30 PM – Hydrologic Regime: A Tool for Floodplain Restoration – Betty Andrews

2:00 PM – BREACH III: Evaluating and Predicting ‘Restoration Thresholds’ in Evolving Freshwater Tidal Marshes – Steve Crooks

2:30 PM – Discussion

2:45 PM – Break

3:00 PM – The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative – Karen Rodriguez

3:30 PM – The National River Restoration Science Synthesis and the Kissimmee River Restoration Project – Cliff Dahm

4:00 PM – California’s Yolo Bypass: Opportunities for Restoration – Ted Sommer

4:30 PM - Discussion

4:45 PM – Overall Discussion of Day 1 Presentations and Information

Agenda – Day 2

9:00 AM – Overview of Day 1 and Introduction to Day 2 – Cliff Dahm

9:15 AM – South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Efforts – Nick Aumen

9:45 AM - Restoration Principles We Established in New Jersey (and followed for the most part)
– John Teal

10:15 AM - Discussion

10:30 AM – Break

10:45 AM – Fish, Regime Shifts, and the Future of Suisun Marsh – Peter Moyle

11:15 AM – Matching Our Actions with Our Goals: Bridging Restoration Design Concepts,
Desired Ecosystem Functions, and Our Policy Frameworks – Stuart Siegel

11:45 AM – Large-scale and Long-term Monitoring and Scientific Investigations in the San
Francisco Bay – Jim Cloern

12:15 – Discussion

12:30 PM - Lunch Break (Lunch on Your Own)

1:30 PM – Facilitated Discussion/Presentations with Workshop Attendees
Note that external panel members will meet separately to discuss workshop report and prepare
initial feedback

3:00 PM – Break

3:15 PM – Panel Feedback and Workshop Discussion with Panel

4:00 PM - Public Comment

4:30 PM - Adjourn