

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Keith Coolidge
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(916) 445-0065**CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA AUTHORITY
APPOINTS INDEPENDENT SCIENCE BOARD***Panel of renowned scientists to help guide water policy and ecosystem decisions*

Sacramento – The California Bay-Delta Authority has appointed 15 scientists from across the United States to serve on a newly created Independent Science Board for the California Bay-Delta Program, formerly known as CALFED. The science board was established during the Authority’s inaugural meeting August 14.

The board is charged with evaluating and providing direction for the Program’s science efforts. It will make recommendations to the Authority on science issues relevant to the overall Program and individual program elements.

“The science board will not pass direct judgment on the success or failure of the Authority’s programs,” said Dr. Sam Luoma, the Authority’s lead scientist. “Instead, they will provide insights that can make the science underlying these programs, the application of that science, and the technical aspects of those programs the best they can be” he said.

The panel members – all of whom hold doctorate degrees – bring expertise in ecology, geology, hydrology and hydrodynamics, water quality, environmental and regional planning, irrigation and water conservation, and resource economics. Additional scientists may be added to the panel in the coming months as the Authority continues to oversee implementation of a long-term plan to restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem and improve water quality and supply reliability.

“Integrating credible, world-class science into all aspects of the Program is a major goal of the Authority,” Director Patrick Wright said. “The Independent Science Board will help ensure that we meet that goal by annually evaluating our science agenda and assuring balance and credibility in all our analyses.”

The board will complement the technical review panels and standing science boards that have helped steer the Program since it began its implementation phase in 2000. The board is expected to meet three times a year and to produce a written report biennially on the state of science across all Bay-Delta efforts.

Independent Science Board

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Individuals appointed to the Independent Science Board and their areas of expertise include:

- Dr. Ken Cummins, California Cooperative Fisheries Unit, Humboldt State University. Stream, river and wetland ecology.
- Dr. David Freyberg, Stanford University. Hydrology, hydrogeology, conjunctive use and Delta geology.
- Dr. William Glaze, Oregon Health and Science University. Water quality and drinking water treatment.
- Dr. Helen Ingram, University of California, Irvine. Environmental and water policy design and implementation.
- Dr. Anne Kapuscinski, University of Minnesota. Fisheries, genetics and conservation biology.
- Dr. Jack Keller, Keller-Bleisner Engineering. Agricultural water use, irrigation and water conservation.
- Dr. Jeff Koseff, Stanford University. Modeling, Bay-Delta hydrodynamics, and estuarine systems.
- Dr. John Melack, University of California, Santa Barbara. Freshwater ecosystems, climate change, biogeochemistry.
- Dr. Judith Meyer, University of Georgia. Aquatic ecology, rivers and organic carbon.
- Dr. Jeff Mount, University of California, Davis. Geology, geomorphology and flood plains.
- Dr. Duncan Patten, Montana State University. Plant biology and riparian ecology.
- Dr. Denise Reed, University of New Orleans. Wetlands geomorphology, restoration.
- Dr. Kenneth Rose, Louisiana State University. Fish ecology and population models.
- Dr. Robert Twiss, University of California, Berkeley. Environmental and regional planning.

More information about the members of the Independent Science Board can be found on the Authority website at:

www.calwater.ca.gov/CBDA/adobe_pdf/IndependentScienceBoardNominees_8-21-03.pdf.

For details of the Science Program itself, turn to www.science.calwater.ca.gov.

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The California Bay-Delta Program is a cooperative effort of more than 20 state and federal agencies working with local communities to improve the quality and reliability of California's water supplies and revive the San Francisco Bay-Delta ecosystem. The Bay-Delta plan is the largest, most comprehensive water management effort in the nation.