

CALFED Science Program Workshop

The Development of a Research Framework to Assess the Role of Ammonia/Ammonium on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Bay Estuary Ecosystem

March 10-11, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Delta Room
Sacramento, CA 95814

This workshop will not be webcast

Workshop Purpose:

The purpose of the workshop is to provide a venue for open discussion among interested parties to identify data and science gaps and develop a scientific research framework to determine the role of ammonium and ammonia within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) and Suisun Bay (Bay) ecosystem. This research framework will be scientifically sound, developed in an open forum, and thoroughly reviewed.

Workshop Approach:

A panel of national experts (Panel) in riverine and estuarine nutrient dynamics, food web processes, and ecotoxicology will assess the best available science in a workshop setting. The Panel will develop a draft Research Framework with input from local experts (invited scientists who are conducting research in the Delta and Estuary relative to the topic of interest in the workshop), stakeholders (invited interest groups and entities who have been engaged in the issue of ammonium-ammonia in the Delta and Estuary), and the interested public.

Panelists

Patrick J. Mulholland, PhD: project lead for the Lotic Intersite Nitrogen eXperiment (LINX) that studied the fate of ammonium and nitrate in streams and rivers; nutrient biogeochemistry group in the Environmental Sciences Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Professor Hans Paerl, PhD: leading expert on nutrient loading effects on estuaries and the coastal ocean; William R. Kenan Professor at the Institute of Marine Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Professor Amelia K. Ward, PhD: pioneering work on *Microcystis aeruginosa* with Robert Wetzel; director of the Center for Freshwater Studies at the University of Alabama.

Joseph S. Meyer, PhD: 32 years of experience in applied limnology and the fate and effects of contaminants; professor emeritus, University of Wyoming.

DRAFT AGENDA

(Order of agenda items and listed times are subject to change.)

March 10, 2009

- 9:00 a.m.
1. Welcome
 2. Introductory remarks and general ammonia/ammonium chemistry presentation by CALFED Lead Scientist Dr. Cliff Dahm.
 3. Overview presentation by local expert Dr. Anke Mueller-Solger on relevant local studies – what we know.
 4. Presentations by the Panel on ammonia/ammonium related riverine and estuarine nutrient dynamics, food web processes, and ecotoxicology
 5. Beginning of facilitated Panel and stakeholder discussion organized into three sections: general fate and transport, food web interactions, and toxicity. Public comment will follow each discussion section.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
6. Continued facilitated discussion
 7. Public comment
 8. Summary of main points
- 5:30 p.m. Adjourn

March 11, 2009

- 9:00 a.m.
1. Private deliberation by the panel to develop a Research Framework Outline
 2. Stakeholders, local experts, and the general public will engage in further facilitated discussion of issues.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
3. Presentation of a draft Research Framework Outline by the Panel
 4. Panel discussion with key stakeholders
 5. Public comment
- 5:30 p.m. Adjourn
- Please visit the Science Program website for the most up-to-date information and more details on this workshop at http://www.science.calwater.ca.gov/events/workshops/workshop_ammonia.html
 - If you have any additional questions, please contact Al Vargas at (916) 445-0715 or avargas@calwater.ca.gov.
 - If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact Terry Smith, CALFED Bay-Delta Program at (916) 445-5511, TDD (800) 735-2929.
 - Please allow extra time for parking and federal building security screening procedures. Current photo identification is required for building access. **Visitors may bring cameras and cell phones with camera capability into the building ONLY with the prior approval of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the Federal Protective Service, and their use in the building will be subject to federal restrictions.** Please contact Terry Smith, Security Coordinator for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, cell (916) 716-1904, office (916) 445-5345 or tsmith@calwater.ca.gov for building access information and camera guidelines.