

Bridging the Divide: Communicating Science Synthesis to Meet Decision Makers' Needs

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Why is science synthesis important?

Synthesis

noun

The combination of components or elements to form a connected whole.

-Oxford Dictionary



How are we using synthesis in this effort?

- Determine how far we've come in understanding mercury dynamics
- Assess how much of the strategy's recommendations we have achieved
- Identify new and remaining uncertainties

Why do we need to communicate this information?

“The synthesis, transfer, and sharing of information from ongoing and recently completed investigations should be actively facilitated ...to provide timely information for adaptive management”

*-Wiener, Gilmour, and Krabbenhoft 2003
(Mercury Strategy)*

How do we communicate this information?

Dec
2003

2003 Mercury Strategy release

...

Nov
2005

CALFED Mercury Workshop

.....

2016



January 2016

Three-day workshop

Day 1: Sources

Day 2: Biogeochemistry

Day 3: Bioaccumulation

June 2016

One-day synthesis workshop

Overview of Jan workshops and next steps

Nov 2016

Bay-Delta Science Conference: Outreach to wider audience

Jan-Mar 2017

Science synthesis document (US Geological Survey)

Assessment of Bay-Delta and Future Needs (Independent Science Panel)

Communication Paper (Fujii + Delta Science Program)

How can this information be used?

Provide guidance to various efforts and management actions around the Delta

- Statewide mercury control program
- Delta TMDL for Total and Methlymercury
- Delta Regional Monitoring Program
- Cache Creek Settling Basin

“The problems of water and environmental management are inter-linked. Piecemeal solutions will not work. Science, knowledge, and management methods all need to be strongly integrated.”

-State of Bay Delta Science 2008 (p. 8)