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Agenda

4:10 - 4:25: Samantha Harper Presentation

4:25 - 4:35: Discussion on Sami's research

4:35 - 4:50: Emily Bercos-Hickey Presentation

4:50 - end: Discussion on Emily's research

Discussion Questions

Enter your question for the speakers below

Samantha Harper: Climate Change at the Water Board - taking science and making policy

- [Ned] What does it mean to "enhance" a creek to direct sediment?
- [Ned] When you publish a report with recommendations for which adaptations need to be made to combat sea level rise, what happens next? Who does the actual engineering work required, how is it funded, how do you try to ensure it gets done?
- How is increased runoff (i.e. from changes to precip) accounted for in this? Or is it SLR only?
- [Lucas] Thanks for the talk! (fellow state employee here). what are the biggest jurisdictional barriers you encounter in terms of your jurisdiction? for example are you coming up against corporate interests / is the legislature not pulling through for you... or alternatively do you feel you have enough power to complete your organizational mission effectively?

Sami's response: We regulate anything "wet" in the Bay watershed (rivers, wetlands, dredged material, Bay) - it's both very narrow and not narrow. We have more jurisdiction than USEPA, for example, because we have the Porter-Cologne Act which predates the Clean Water Act and gives us more ability to regulate than USEPA. We try to make our decisions based on the most up-to-date science and often run into political considerations balancing between corporate interests and non-profit science advocacy groups. Since our mandate is to focus exclusively on water quality in the Bay watershed, I think we have the jurisdiction to do that (with the exception of not being able to consider flow in all cases - water rights are in a different office in Sacramento).

Emily Bercos-Hickey: Anthropogenic Influences on African Easterly Waves

- [Ned] How should I think about the increase in both strength and intensity of AEWs as we relate to tropical cyclones? Should more intense AEWs lead to more intense TCs? Or just more TCs?
- [Alex] There's some work done by Chris Patricola where if AEWs were turned off, TC frequency stayed the same even though TCs seed from AEWs. How should I think about this?

Discussion Comments

Enter your questions, thoughts and comments below

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