



# California Fish Passage Forum

## A National Fish Habitat Partnership

### Mission

The California Fish Passage Forum's (Forum) mission is to protect and revitalize anadromous fish populations in California by promoting collaboration among public and private sectors for fish passage improvement projects and programs.

### Project Funding & Support

Each year the Forum provides funding towards fish passage projects in California that help restore connectivity of freshwater habitats throughout the historical range of these anadromous species. Check the Forum's website funding page ([www.cafishpassageforum.org/funding](http://www.cafishpassageforum.org/funding)) for the most recent information funding deadlines and criteria.

In addition to direct financial support, The Forum is uniquely positioned to leverage partnerships, skillsets, and knowledge to expedite recovery and conservation of California's anadromous fish populations. Forum agencies work cooperatively to coordinate fish passage funding, identify optimal locations to make strategic investments, contribute to science and data advancements associated with fish passage, and foster new or alternative funding sources.

### Forum Members

California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife  
California Dept. of Parks & Recreation (State Parks)  
California Dept. of Water Resources  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
California Trout  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission  
Trout Unlimited  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
US Forest Service



#### 57 Projects

Since 2012, the Forum has supported 57 projects, from on-the-ground projects, scientific assessments, and design projects across the state of California.



#### \$1.7M+ in Funding

The Forum has connected project partners with more than 1.7 million in combined project funding.



#### 50 Barriers Remediated

The Forum has supported the removal or remediation of at least fifty fish passage barriers, from culvert redesign to dam removals.



#### 295+ Miles of Improved Access

Forum supported projects have improved access to spawning and rearing habitat for threatened & endangered anadromous fish.



## Innovative Research and Tools

The Forum develops and supports innovative research and tools to improve planning and implementation of fish passage projects for practitioners and decision makers.

### California Passage Assessment Database (PAD)

The California PAD is a state-wide map-based inventory of barriers to anadromous fish passage, developed and implemented with support from the Forum and other partners. Recent advancements include the development of a PAD barrier assessment for Pacific Lamprey to complement existing assessments for salmonids, and an ongoing comprehensive effort leveraging expertise from the Forum's Science & Data Committee and local fish passage experts to QA/QC barrier data in the PAD.

### Effectiveness Monitoring Protocols

The Forum contracted with Ross Taylor & Associates to compile barrier removal monitoring methods and protocols, leading to a two-tiered monitoring method recommendation to be used by all Forum-funded projects.

### Juvenile Fish Passage Criteria Assessment

A Forum-supported project to evaluate design criteria set by California and the National Marine Fisheries Service for juvenile salmon passage performance at fishways helped inform updates to the NMFS Southwest Region's revised *Guidelines for Salmonid Passage at Stream Crossings* (Sept 2019). These changes helped streamline federal guidelines regarding jump heights at juvenile fish passage facilities in California, which will save taxpayers and practitioners millions of dollars in the future.

### Baseline Fish Habitat Layer

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission has led an effort to model potential habitat for California's salmon and trout. The Baseline Fish Habitat Layer (BFH) strives to provide reasonable estimates of potential habitat, including for areas that are relatively data-poor, to help direct resources available for habitat restoration. The BFH helps inform various Forum-supported initiatives and partner efforts such as an assessment of refuge from wildfire for Southern California Native Trout.

## National Fish Habitat Partnership

The Forum is one of 20 nationally recognized fish habitat partnerships in the United States. The goals of the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) are to protect, restore, and enhance the nation's fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation and improve quality of life for all Americans. Learn more about the work of NFHP and the other Fish Habitat Partnerships at [www.fishhabitat.org](http://www.fishhabitat.org)

