



CALIFORNIA FISH PASSAGE FORUM

Governance Committee Meeting

Present: Holly Steindorf, Sandi Jacobsen, Bob Pagliuco, Andrew Hampton, Anna Halligan, Holly Eddinger, Stan Allen

Absent: Tim Loux, Alex Jones, Gena Lasko

[Meeting attendance \(google sheets\)](#)

6/6 Agenda

- NFHP funding notification update (Holly/Sandi)
- Governance committee discussion of offering debriefs to project partners on their applications (All)
- Recommendations from committee on possible support for the North Fork Schooner Gulch Project (Holly).
- Request for coordinator performance review at either July or August meeting (Holly)
- 10 Waters to Watch (All)
- Drafting meeting description for prioritization networking meetings (Andrew)

6/6 Meeting Minutes:

NFHP funding notification update-Notices to FY24 and FY25 Project Sponsors (Sandi/Holly)

Year	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Requested/Funded	Status
2025	Adobe Creek Barrier Assessment, Design and Permitting	Sonoma County Public Infrastructure	\$132,000.00	submitted to NFHP
2025	Dutch Bill Creek Market Street Weir Repair Fish Passage Improvement Project	Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District	\$77,733.07	submitted to NFHP
2025	Mid-Klamath Rearing Habitat Assessment and Enhancement Project	Salmon River Restoration Council	\$57,984.19	submitted to NFHP
2025	Designing for Sturgeon Passage in the San Joaquin River at Eastside Bypass Control Structure	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	\$58,003.00	submitted to NFHP
2025	Angel Creek Fish Barrier Removal Project	Sonoma Resource Conservation District	\$168,149.00	submitted to NFHP
2025	North Fork Schooner Gulch Culvert Replacement	North Fork Schooner Gulch Property Owners	\$41,959.70	submitted to NFHP
2025	Weeks Creek Fish Barrier Removal Project	Sonoma Resource Conservation District	\$67,683.00	not submitted for funding
2025	Fish Passage Feasibility Study at the Gold Hill Dam Site. Placer County	Save Auburn Ravine Salmon and Steelhead (SARSAS)	\$385,000.00	not submitted for funding
2024	Designing for Sturgeon Passage in the San Joaquin River at Eastside Bypass Control Structure	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	\$100,000.00	awaiting funding
2024	Jenny Creek Man-made Barrier Removal	Trout Unlimited	\$100,000.00	awaiting funding
2024	Weaver Basin Fish Passage Assessments	Trinity County Resource Conservation District	\$21,850.28	awaiting funding
2024	Wildcat Creek Fish Passage and Community Engagement Project	The Watershed Project	\$69,840	awaiting funding
2024	Blodgett Dam Restoration Feasibility	Omoichumne Hartnell Water District	\$104,710.00	not receiving funding
2024	CHANNEL DESIGN AT RIVER ROAD BRIDGE CROSSING, GILL CREEK, SONOMA COUNTY, CA	Sonoma County Public Infrastructure	\$50,000.00	not receiving funding
2024	Mid-Klamath Rearing Habitat Assessment and Enhancement Project	Salmon River Restoration Council	\$54,009.60	not receiving funding

Governance Committee Meeting Agendas- Working Document- California Fish Passage Forum

Holly has drafted response letters to be sent to project sponsors. **Sandi is sending them out today 6/6/24 and cc'ing Holly and Stan.** Holly has already sent one. The notices are:

- **FY24 notice of funding award** (Sturgeon Passage, Jenny Creek, Weaver Basin, Wildcat Creek (Phase 3))
- **FY24 projects not getting funding** (Blodgett, Channel Design at River Road, Mid Klamath, North Fork Schooner)
- **FY25 notice of recommendation** to NFHP (Adobe Creek, Dutch Bill Creek Market Street Weir, Mid-Klamath Rearing Habitat Assessment, Sturgeon Passage, Angel Creek, North Fork Schooner Gulch) **(Holly sent this 5/22)**
- **FY25 projects not recommended** to NFHP (Weeks Creek barrier removal, Gold Hill dam removal feasibility)

From Stan: Funding has arrived at USFWS Region 8. It then goes to the Arcata office, and then into grant solutions. PSMFC has the personnel to get everything ready for sub award. Working with project sponsors early to get paperwork in order expedites the process. Securing a sub award will likely take about a month. USFWS is handling the sturgeon project themselves in 2024, as they have in the past.

Governance committee discussion of offering debriefs to project partners on their applications (All)

We have two projects not recommended for funding in 2025, and four projects not getting funding in 2024 based on rank. Holly asked for committee perspective on giving feedback if project sponsors ask why their project did not receive funding. Holly has a drafted response document in case a project sponsor asks. The committee recommends removing mentions of offering debriefs to project sponsors in the response emails. Holly confirms if asked, she will simply explain the process and result in email, and cc the committee.

Recommendations from Governance Committee on possible support for the North Fork Schooner Gulch Project (Holly)

After sending out the notice of recommendation to NFHP To our 2025 project applicants, which included our anticipated funding levels and the ranked project list, Tiffany Hunt, who is one of the North Fork schooner gulch property owners, called me after noticing that their project is low enough on the list it's likely not going to be funded. She said they have been struggling with getting this project funded and are running out of options for possible avenues. The project requests 50k for a design to replace a failed culvert road crossing over a creek that restricts access to properties for homeowners in that area. It is a private road but does run partially through Mendocino Redwood's company property. Holly explained to Tiffany that because we offer a small funding opportunity, with a fish passage focused mission, our funding decisions are based mostly on what will provide the greatest benefit to our target species. Tiffany understood but is disappointed that their project is not moving forward. Holly said she would ask the committee for their ideas for other avenues of support for the North Fork schooner Gulch project.

If anyone on the forum steering committee thinks of organizations or funding sources that would support a private landowner, let Holly know. Holly will send this info to Tiffany and Sharon (another landowner/ project lead) in late June, or early July.

Committee Suggestions: NRCS, RCDs.

10 Waters to Watch (All)

Waters to Watch nominations are due August 16th. Holly to send the Nomination Guidance and list of 2023 and 2024 projects to Steering Committee. NFHP selects 10 projects to showcase (5 of them can be retroactive projects). Strongest nominations include large scale projects, projects with a large outreach or community involvement component, and projects with good media and photography.

Request for coordinator performance review at either July or August meeting (Holly)

Governance Committee Meeting Agendas- Working Document- California Fish Passage Forum

Holly will have coordinated for the forum for a year this July. Holly would like to get the perspectives of the Committee on how her coordination style works with the Forum and obtain feedback on how yearly tasks and actions have been handled to refine coordination for the Forum moving forward.

Holly will consider the best structure/time for this feedback and give the committee lead time to consider and provide feedback.

Drafting meeting description for prioritization networking meetings (Andrew)

Andrew will work with Holly on creating a description for twice a year interorganizational prioritization networking meeting. Considering and recording the objective of the meeting will let partners know what to expect from the meeting (and not think we will be generating a synthesized priority list). Andrew and Holly will work on this and bring it to a future governance committee meeting.

Holly is also moving forward with Alex Jones on holding an informational webinar for the FHA culvert AOP program NOFO, that will likely be late June or early July, though exact date is TBD.

A note from Stan on committee involvement

Stan proposes Van take over Stans role in Steering committee and Governance Committee. Since Stan is so involved on the board, Stan wants to wean himself off the day-to-day function of individual FHPs. Holly to send Van Governance committee calendar invites.