



CALIFORNIA FISH PASSAGE FORUM

Science & Data Committee Meetings

Present: Holly Steindorf, Gena Lasko, Emily Siegel, Anne Elston, Holly Eddinger, Van Hare, Mark Guard, Andrew Hampton

Absent: Sandi Jacobson, Bob Pagliuco, Alex Jones, Anna Halligan

Meeting attendance:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NApL93PWEhVy2thUfWbRoe0ILJVullm5_YTjQfazKil/edit?usp=drive_link

7/10 Agenda

- Updates from Holly
- 2025 workplan – more ideas and next steps
- Future Presentations – Soliciting project PIs to present on completed work funded by the Forum
- PAD update
- FISHPass – identify test case?

7/10 Meeting Minutes:

Updates from Holly

Webinar this Thursday at 1:00 PM about the culvert AOP program NOFO.

Registration Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvcu-vqz8iG9dYfdKuoSJUi27-2e7HbrSf>

Watch for an email about choosing a date for the virtual Steering Committee meeting, and then the in-persons Steering Committee meeting. To maximize our in-person time for more engaging presentations and discussion, the virtual meeting that happens in advance of the in-person steering committee meeting can include the “drier” forum business.

The Education and Outreach committee is planning a field trip/speaker event around the Sacramento area (think Yolo bypass, Fremont weir big notch, etc.) The education and Outreach Committee will be meeting a few times in advance of the fall to plan this event. If interested in helping coordinate the event, reach out to Holly. Mark Guard mentions he is willing to contribute. Thanks Mark!

2025 Workplan

The committee reviewed the suite of ideas presented thus far from our last meeting, and from those at the Governance Committee, to discuss and pair those ideas down into tangible, achievable goals. Holly has organized the ideas into categories.

The group worked through the list of ideas, discussing and refining those based on our intended capacity and workload. Van wanted to clarify if we have funding already specified for work plan items which

Science and Data Committee Meeting Agendas- Working Document- California Fish Passage Forum

would require additional funding. Holly mentions that we don't have funding laid out for special projects in advance, but the Forum will have an influx of operations funding arriving in 2025, and we can use the priorities to define what we want to invest that funding in.

Holly will add the ideas refined today to the draft 2025 work plan. We will revisit this in future meetings and go over the 2025 work plan as a group in the VIRTUAL steering committee meeting and vote on its finalization at the in-person Steering committee meeting.

2025 Work plan [refined] ideas from today's discussion:

** task requires additional funding

- Publish at least 2 case studies per year (Holly to lead this effort)
 - effectiveness assessment/monitoring
 - simplified/alternative permitting pathway usage
- ** Spring and fall workshops (topics include prioritization, permitting, PAD, incorporating nature-based solutions and traditional understanding, monitoring and assessment protocols). Use these to engage with RCDs.
- Create a plan to increase the quality of applications submitted to the Forum and advertise funding for assessments specifically.
- Create a plan to compile monitoring data from Forum funded projects and other projects and into a usable dataset**, perhaps attached to the PAD.
 - Steps to accomplish above:
 - Go through final reports and progress reports/monitoring reports to pull out monitoring information. (2025) (Coordinator)
 - Go through case studies and pull-out monitoring information. (2025) (Coordinator)
 - Contact project practitioners to inquire about monitoring not captured from above (2025) (Coordinator)
 - Create surveys to pull out monitoring information and ask for practitioners contacts for post-project monitoring in RFP. (Next RFP release) (Coordinator)
 - QA/QC and standardize data to importable/transferrable format (Science & Data Committee) (2025)
 - Add the above monitoring reports in a standardized format to the PAD (2026)
- Invite practitioners to showcase their projects in every other S&D committee meeting, and at networking webinars.
- Webinars organized generally by area (South, Central, Northern California) for multiple organizations/stakeholders to discuss projects which are on multiple priority lists and provide a space to identify problems or elevate those projects to funding sources.

Scheduling Project Presentations

Holly asked the group to review the master list of Forum-Funded projects and highlight those they would like to see present at a future S&D committee meeting.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QREBiTY8herO6n -
pvrii7jPgvyOvJ_8/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=104503199182614114550&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QREBiTY8herO6n-pvrri7jPgvyOvJ_8/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=104503199182614114550&rtpof=true&sd=true)

PAD update

Anne will be on maternity leave from end of July- October. During her absence, Andrew will be the primary point-of-contact for the PAD. Karen Wilson and Sharon Powers will be managing the PAD as needed for around 1-5 hrs./month each. Karen works with Caltrans barrier data and works in GIS often, and Sharon works with CALfish and has a lot of database experience. They will make changes/updates, and respond to requests for data as they come in.

Karen and Sharon will be putting the region 1 and region 2 data to go out to the experts along with their email. However, it is likely that the edits from the experts will be incorporated by Anne once she returns.

Review outreach calendar

Review and add to the form shared outreach calendar to add upcoming events to which we can coordinate form outreach efforts.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tZQ9SJV0sj40CcgL_T6MSG6vF3ZUwgBWmEop81JMmHQ/edit

FISHPass – identify test case?

We ran out of time for this agenda item- we will be covering this at our August meeting. For more information about this idea, please see the FISHPass/OptiPass discussion from the last science and data committee meeting, 6/5.

Reminder: NFHP Waters-to-Watch project nominations are due to Holly by the END OF JULY. Email worthy projects. Recommended projects have:

- Size and scope of project (projects large in scope and offering the greatest impact to habitat improvement are preferred for selection).
- Media friendly projects (e.g. site tour access & availability, communications/outreach plan or documents, photos available).
- Involvement of charismatic leaders and dedicated partners on the project.
- Strong community support/involvement in the project.
- Volunteer involvement in the project.
- Youth participation and education involved in the project.
- Demonstrable benefits — Upon completion, the project should be able to demonstrate benefits of protection or restoration to aquatic habitats, species, local communities, anglers, and economies. Project submissions should include a monitoring plan to quantify project progress and benefits.
- Funding opportunities — Projects where the probability of strong partnerships and likelihood of multiple funding opportunities are preferred.