



CALIFORNIA FISH PASSAGE FORUM

Governance Committee Meeting

Present: Holly Steindorf, Gena Lasko, Sandi Jacobson, Anna Halligan, Van Hare, Alex Jones, Marissa Parish

Absent: Bob Pagliuco, Holly Eddinger, Andrew Hampton

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

9/5 Agenda

- Quick Committee updates from Holly
- Agenda for October virtual Steering Committee meeting
- Status of effectiveness assessment- next steps to pursue funding
- New signatory invitation plan- contacts and approach
- Presentations for December Sacramento Steering Committee meeting
- Recap of Coordinator Review Meeting

9/5 Meeting Minutes:

Quick Committee updates from Holly

Science and Data Committee- The committee is planning a workshop with Ross Taylor for SRF 2025 focused on using rapid assessment protocols to assess barriers. Ross is working on a SOW for the project. The committee is continuing talking through if FISHPass can be valuable to an agency with a prioritization effort (current thought is State Parks Cannabis Team). Gena will be connecting with them to see if their needs match what we could provide.

Policy and Permitting Committee- The committee is collaborating with Sustainable Conservation to produce some case studies focusing on the use of several simplified permitting pathways. We have a solid plan and list and have reached out to the first practitioner with a request for an interview.

Education and Outreach Committee- This committee is in the process of producing a brochure about the PAD, pending work for when Anne is back from maternity leave. The committee has two new members, both State Parks employees working on MPA interpretation programs around Ft Bragg.

October Virtual Steering Committee Meeting Draft Agenda

Wednesday October 9th from 10am -12pm

Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes) 10:00-10:05am

Committee Updates (5 minutes each) 10:05-10:30am

Governance committee- Bob and Holly

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

Science and Data Committee- Gena and Emily

Policy and Permitting Committee- Anna

Education and Outreach Committee- Holly

Signatory Updates (A celebration of your work, including projects, collaborations, funding opportunities) 10 minutes each =50 minutes 10:30-11:30am

NOAA NMFS-

USFWS-

US Forest Service-

PSMFC-

CDFW-

CA State Parks

CA DWR-

CA SCC-

CalTrout-

Trout Unlimited-

Review of 2025 Work Plan 11:30-12:00pm

Committee members open 2025 work plan in shared drive. Go through it and make edits and suggestions. Intention is to finalize at December Sacramento Meeting

Reminder of 2024 Sacramento Steering Committee Meeting

Review of 2024 Work Plan (after meeting)

Close meeting by having committee members open 2024 work plan to familiarize themselves with what we have accomplished and what we have left to do.

Status of effectiveness assessment- next steps for pursuing funding

The latest work plan and budget are on the google drive under Committee Files>Science and Data Committee>Effectiveness Assessment

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ObpqzYjvDA4r6a-Q3d8O8ps4O7ETCq8I?usp=sharing>

The committee discussed who could act as the lead/applicant for the project. The coordinator can help provide facilitation and administrative support, but cannot act as the applicant on behalf of the Forum. Options for the applicant/lead could be: PSMFC, CalTrout, or Trout Unlimited. Alex Jones says that the USFWS Fish Passage Program could be a potential source of funding, but the proposal would go through the formal application process.

Holly will email to schedule a meeting between CalTrout, TU, PSMFC, USFWS and NOAA to determine an applicant and determine what funding sources to pursue.

New signatory invitations – contacts and approach

We have Signatory Invitation Packets ready for: American Rivers, EPIC, NPS, Sustainable Conservation and WCB. The committee discussed leads for organizations we don't have contacts for (BOR, USACE, FEMA) and discussed the invitation process.

BOR

We have some leads at BOR but not from any of the 4 BOR Regional Offices (Folsom, Shasta, Fresno, Temecula). Holly could reach out to our contacts for the WaterSmart program to get names in California.

USACE

For now, the committee agrees that the USACE planning division would be a better fit vs the regulatory division for USACE. Alex has a contact in the planning division (michael.d.porter@usace.army.mil, Fishery Biologist at US Army Corps of Engineers at the Albuquerque District). Perhaps he will have some contacts in CA.

FEMA

The committee discussed if it is worthwhile to have FEMA join the forum. While historically FEMA has been resistant or disengaged with fish passage improvement work, it would be good to connect with them to make them aware of the work of other agencies, connect about dam removals from their funding opportunity, with the overall goal of eventually encouraging FEMA to improve policies related to fish passage, such as culvert-up-sizing and/or no-rise exceptions. State parks has a very new employee who will be a liaison to FEMA for disaster response on parks land, but they are not settled into the role yet.

Invitation Process

- Holly to contact me to see if they are interested. (ASAP)
- Send courtesy note to steering committee of invitation intentions with deadline for comments.
- Send formal invitations.

Presentations for December Sacramento Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday December 6th Time TBD

Project Presentations

North Coast Salmon Stronghold

Collaboration between TU, CalTrout, CDFW SHARP, and others. On a list of 10 projects for DOI transformational fish passage projects. Alex Jones will take the lead on organizing this talk.

[Not discussed in meeting, coordinator suggestion] Klamath Dam removal- celebration and next steps for restored anadromy.

[Not discussed in meeting, coordinator suggestion] Southern California Project Showcase

Given the listing of Southern California Steelhead on the CESA, it may be prudent to invite (virtually or in-person) some presentations about work in SoCal. Sandi will have ideas for this.

Presentations on local projects around the Sacramento Area – local RCDs?

Jacob Katz could present on work with Salmon and agriculture – Gena to invite him.

Presentations- Open call for presentations? UC Davis and beyond?

The committee agreed it would be good to engage more frequently with academics, both to be aware of emerging research, and support research efforts through the funding opportunity.

Meeting Venue

Holly mentioned we are still having trouble securing a venue, and we may end up going the route of booking a conference room. Van suggested checking with hotels to see if we can get a reduced rate on the conference room rental if we also secure lodging there. Van mentioned the Embassy Suites Sacramento River Front, they did a PMEP meeting there previously. Holly will see if they are available SACES_Embassy@hilton.com

Recap of Coordinator Review Meeting

On 8/9 Holly held an open meeting for governance committee members to attend t discuss coordinator performance, and overall forum functioning. The meeting was attended by Sandi, Gena and Anna, and Holly E. Bob gave his thoughts through the online form. Holly S. is working on the notes from this meeting and will publish them soon.

Action items

- Holly will reach out to CalTrout, TU, PSMFC, USFWS and NOAA to discuss pursuing funding for the Effectiveness Assessment (<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ObpqzYjvDA4r6a-Q3d8O8ps4O7ETCq8I?usp=sharing>)
- Holly to send draft agenda for October Virtual Steering Committee Meeting to Governance Committee for review.
- Alex to pursue a presentation about the North Coast Salmon Stronghold project by collaborating with CalTrout, TU, and other partners to present at the December 5th Steering Committee Meeting.
- Gena to contact Jacob Katz with CalTrout to present at the December 5th Steering Committee Meeting. jkat@caltrout.org
- Holly to pursue venue for Steering Committee Meeting.
- Holly to send queries of interest to listed signatories.