



CALIFORNIA FISH PASSAGE FORUM

Education and Outreach Committee Meetings

Present: Grace Adams, Ruth Goodfield, Anne Elston, Theo Claire

Absent: Megan Quinn

Meeting attendance:

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

5/9/25 Agenda

- Welcome to Theo Claire of CA Dept of Water Resources as our newest committee member
- Committee updates – Agenda tracking, outreach calendar
 - DWR Workshop – Fall 2025
 - International Fish Passage Conference (UC Davis)
- SRF Report Back – Workshop Survey Results, Poster Session
- NFHP Funded StoryMap for the Forum

Minutes:

Welcome to Theo Claire of CDWR as our newest committee member

A big welcome to Theo Claire of California Dept of Water Resources. He is excited to get more involved in the Forum work. He has experience working for and with tribal nations and is passionate about bridging the gap between western science and traditional knowledge – something he is excited to pursue more with the Forum.

Committee Updates

Grace checked in with the group on the protocol for sharing and updating the outreach event calendar and to make sure everyone has the link to the committee google folder (see below)

[Link to E&O Committee Google Folder](#)

[Link to Forum Outreach Calendar / Forum Presence Tracking](#)

The outreach calendar edits are ad hoc and it was recommended that Grace share the link with the other committees whenever possible.

Two Events on the Forum's radar:

1. CA Dept of Water Resources Symposium – Fall 2025

Meghan Quinn brought this up in the April meeting. Theo is not aware of this symposium but could look into it.

Next Step: Ask Meghan if she has heard anything else from her contact at DWR.

2. International Fish Passage Conference at UC Davis – Spring 2026

Andrew Hampton is on the planning committee for this conference, he noted that they will be doing some field trips and that it would be great to promote the PAD during field sites. He also noted that he would like the Forum to be involved in some capacity, either with a workshop/field trip or with a session.

Theo noted that the Winnemem Wintu Tribe is planning to lead a workshop or session and that the engineer he works with regularly, Randy Beckwith, is on the planning team as well.

[Link to the conference website.](#)

The call for sessions and workshops will be open from September 1 – October 15, 2025.

Action: Add UC Davis conference workshop/session discussion to July meeting agenda.

SRF Report Back

Anne provided a recap of the workshop the Forum put on. The workshop began in the classroom in the morning with presentations from Gena (Forum overview), Ross Taylor, and herself (PAD overview, how to fill out Rapid Assessment Form). In the afternoon the group split into two and went to six sites along Branciforte Creek (tributary to the San Lorenzo River) to fill out or discuss the Rapid Assessment Form. There was a great turnout of about 27 participants from all over the state.

Grace shared some of the feedback received following the workshop, including that the majority of participants would feel comfortable using the rapid assessment form (mission of the workshop) and would recommend the workshop to others. Those that noted a lack of comfort in filling out the form were primarily folks who did not have experience conducting fish passage assessments prior and noted that they did not feel like they had enough information to make more “subjective” decisions. Participants also provided feedback on how to improve the workshop and what other workshops they would be interested in – both elements will be helpful when thinking about the International Fish Passage Conference.

Theo shared that the poster session went well. He was there for an hour, noted that we ran out of stickers and was able to engage with a lot of people. He noted that the people he spoke to were familiar with the PAD, but did not know about the Forum, and were excited to hear that the Forum provides small grants (including for post-construction monitoring) and technical guidance. He noted that the Watershed Stewardship Program folks were especially excited about the PAD and meeting Anne, the PAD master. 😊

NFHP Funded StoryMap for the Forum

Grace reminded the committee that the Forum has some funding from NFHP to develop a StoryMap. Holly’s proposal (below) to NFHP explored two projects funded by the forum that engaged community and youth, one in a wild watershed (Mid Klamath Watershed Council) and one in an urban watershed (Wildcat Creek Fish Passage Project).

Action item: The committee will find examples of StoryMaps that they like that could provide inspiration to the StoryMap project and prepare some interview questions for project sponsors to discuss in more detail in July.

Action item: Grace will send a reminder in two weeks and an email in June with a reminder of the agenda and May action items in lieu of a meeting in June.

Steering Committee Meeting E&O Update

At the virtual Steering Committee meeting (Thursday, June 5, 12-2pm) Grace will give an update for the Education & Outreach Committee, specifically noting the SRF session (including photos) and the outreach calendar.

Agenda for Thursday July 3, 11-12pm

- Outreach calendar
- Tribal engagement and outreach ideas
- Story Map – template, interview questions, photo requests
- International Fish Passage Conference – workshop or session ideas

NFHP StoryMap Proposal:

FHP and Contacts: California Fish Passage Forum, Holly Steindorf, hsteindorf@nrccorp.com

StoryMap Title: Connecting People and Fish in Wild and Urban Watersheds

StoryMap Description/Pitch, include information on your FHP need and the “Hook” of your StoryMap (~ 1,000 words):

This StoryMap will feature two projects supported through CFPF which involve the local community and youth to monitor and improve riparian habitat and fish passage: one in a wild watershed, and one in an urban watershed. The StoryMap will start with the Mid-Klamath watershed council, which uses youth field crews to conduct snorkel monitoring and hand-manipulation of the riverbed to improve passage on the Klamath River. The StoryMap will focus on the story of youth doing science. Themes will include how snorkel surveys are used, how natural barriers to passage are remediated, and what the youth learn about the watershed. Funding from NFHP/CFPF to support these efforts will be highlighted. The Mid Klamath Watershed Council has secured high-resolution imagery of the project which will be utilized in the StoryMap.

The StoryMap will then travel south to Richmond, a highly urbanized and disturbed neighborhood in the North Bay area, where the story will focus on the Watersheds Project’s work to restore Wildcat creek through community input and engagement. The StoryMap will highlight the degradation of the watershed, the citizen science efforts to clean and monitor the creek, and the ongoing and future plans for restoration. The project will focus on the community connection to the watershed. Actions highlighted will include community stakeholder meetings, school visits, community development of interpretive signage and community development of a children’s book about finding fish in the creek.

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

Funding from NFHP/CFPF will be highlighted. The Watershed Project and CFPF have secured high resolution images and video of the project which will be utilized in the StoryMap.

The StoryMap will connect viewers with relevant tools and information on fish passage best practices, such as identifying barriers to passage in the CFPF's Passage Assessment Database, monitoring of stream conditions and fish counts, and the benefits of a healthy watershed to fish and community. The StoryMap will be prominently featured on the CFPF website. Its development will encourage engagement with out work consistent with our Strategic Objective #7: Implement education and outreach activities, targeting both the public and fish passage practitioners.

Timeline for StoryMap development: Receipt of funding through November 2025.

Content development: August through November 2025.

StoryMap construction on ESRI platform: October and November 2025.

Organization leading content creation/writing: Natural Resources Consultants.

Holly Steindorf, CFPF Coordinator, will develop the content and collect all images necessary to build the StoryMap. The funding requested for Holly Steindorf's time will be augmented by the NFHP Operations Funding provided for FY24 and FY25 if needed.