

Science & Data Committee Meetings

Present: Grace Adams, Gena Lasko, Anne Elston, Emily Siegel, Adrienne Chenette, Van Hare, Garrett Altmann,

Absent: Marisa Parish Hanson, Tim Loux, Ted Masters, Mark Gard, Andrew Hampton, Sandi Jacobson

Meeting attendance: Meeting Attendance (Google Sheets)

8/5/25 Agenda

- Project sponsor presentation
- Active 150 updates
- Survey123 updates
- International Fish Passage Workshop
- 2026 workplan brainstorm

8/5/25 Meeting Minutes:

Project sponsor presentation

Grace noted that she reached out to 4/5 of the project sponsors previously selected to see if anyone was available to give a presentation today. One of the sponsors noted availability for October or November, one is out of the office for the summer, and the other two have not yet responded. Grace will follow up with them this week.

Grace developed a spreadsheet in the google folder to track (1) projects of interest and (2) S&D committee meeting dates with project presentations confirmed.

Link to project presentation calendar.

Grace noted that there is conflicting information on one of the sponsors selected to reach out to, specifically regarding if they were or were not awarded funding from NFHP. Grace will connect with PSMFC to resolve the confusion.

Action: Grace to follow up with project sponsors; Grace to reach out to PSMFC to determine if the Long Creek Fish Screen, Sycan Marsh Preserve (sponsor: Trout Unlimited) received NFHP funding in FY23.

8/8/25 Update – The Long Creek Fish Screen project did not receive NFHP / Forum funding.

Active 150 updates

Adrienne shared that American Rivers will be sharing the Active 150 report and conducting a beta testing workshop with Forum members this winter. They received great feedback from the Forum during the initial round of presentations, so they are incorporating those comments before bringing it back. American Rivers has also been in the process of transferring and receiving the dashboard from SARP, which is taking longer than anticipated.

Survey123 updates

Anne noted that the Rapid Assessment form is almost done, she is just waiting for some clarifying feedback from some folks who attended the workshop. She will send the finalized form to the S&D Committee for final review in the next couple of weeks.

Van and Anne have been talking about Survey123, defining the goals of the form and discussing how to make it public/work with existing user accounts. Once the form is completed, they will pull it into Survey123. They have been testing ways to review responses and how it varies between account types (example – do CDFW accounts allow users to access external groups?).

Ultimately, it would be great if users were able to use their own AGOL accounts to have ownership over the data that is submitted through the form, which allows them to go back and edit/save as needed. SARP has users input data via a public account, but it is unlikely that folks will still have access to the data once the form is submitted.

Van and Anne are working on a prospectus to define goals and processes for the Survey123 version of the Rapid Assessment form to make sure everyone is on the same page. They do not intend to apply for additional funding. They will share the prospectus with the S&D Committee for review once drafted.

Ask: If anyone has a Survey123 account (AGOL) and wants to test account features, send Van (VHare@psmfc.org) your username.

Adrienne and Emily both have accounts and will help test account features. Grace will ask Steering Committee at large when she disseminates the meeting notes.

Adrienne noted that American Rivers will be working on some grade control dams with Region 5 of USFS, so she could test the form on those projects if it is ready.

The goal is to have the form finalized this winter and ready to share by the UC Davis international fish passage conference. This timeline should align with American Rivers' work, as they will be having workshops with USFS in the late winter/early spring and could share the form with USFS personnel as a 'focus group.'

Overall, this is a pilot project to see if the form works in Survey123. The goal is to ease Anne's job with the PAD and streamline data collection long term.

Garrett noted that he is providing online and in person training for folks who are doing surveys with American Rivers in New Mexico and that he will keep the S&D Committee apprised of any lessons learned with Survey123.

International Fish Passage Workshop

Grace noted that she will compile all notes related to workshop ideas and will hand off application development to Holly when she returns. The call for workshops is from September 1 – October 15.

There were three outstanding questions from last month:

- 1. Expected number of participants for workshops?
- 2. Waiving registration for volunteers?

8/8/25 Update – (1) ~35, (2) Conference has not met fundraising goal, so this has not been discussed yet and will likely not be an option until that goal is met.

3. Forum assistance with registration/travel costs of Steering Committee members?

Yes, the Forum has some of the FY25 budget available to help members with travel costs, but it is primarily geared toward attending the in-person Steering Committee meeting.

It was noted that given tighter travel budgets this year, if the Forum would like members to be present, this would be a worthwhile cost.

Southern CA Steelhead Conference

Garrett shared that the Southern Steelhead Symposium (in person) is happening on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 (10:00 AM-4:00 PM) in Camarillo, California. He is not planning to attend, but it is a possibility.

Symposium Link: https://southernsteelhead.org/southern-steelhead-symposium

Action: Grace to add to outreach calendar and notify the Steering Committee.

2026 Workplan Discussion

Grace shared a link to a 2025 workplan with only S&D Committee tasks for the Committee to review. She then asked members to consider which tasks are of interest to complete again in 2026 and if there are any new ideas for tasks in 2026. Paraphrased notes from the discussion are below.

Link to S&D 2025 workplan:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hrk2sYGC4o6RhvqgulfdJNmF8lej2nOcvcR3V3dJji8/edit?usp=sharing

Garrett:

- New task: Look into the correlation between commercial and recreational fishing moratoriums and salmonid return numbers

Anne E:

- Adjust task 1.4 to reflect one workshop/year (UC Davis Int'l Conference)
- Continue working on 2.5 and 3.2
- New task: Explore a pilot Survey123 form
- In favor of 1.5, but cautious due to time constraints

Van H:

- In favor of 1.5 as it is an opportunity to improve the feedback loop for PAD
 - Wording now works, creating a plan/exploring option
 - How to track remediation projects? Potentially by asking about monitoring.
 - Pilot Survey123 form could have option to attach final reports/restoration reports and/or note "exploring monitoring"

Emily S:

- In favor of 1.5 and continue working on 2.5 and 3.2

Gena

- Adjust 2.5 to reflect need to engage with RCDs during the prioritization process
- Overall would like to engage RCDs and local watershed groups more and facilitate local prioritization
 - *Some clarity is needed on how RCDs can engage with the Forum / their eligibility to become signatories.

Question: Is there room for advocacy from the Forum?

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

NFHP is developing advocacy guidelines for FHPs. Grace will look into the status and circulate guide to Forum once available.

Garrett:

- In favor of 3.2 as it has ability to identify mutual goals, common barriers, and funding opportunities between agency personnel and local practitioners
 - o Forum is in a position to bring entities to the table (host) and facilitate meetings

Next Steps: Grace to compile ideas and tasks for further discussion in the coming months.

Future agenda items

- Project sponsor presentations
- 2026 workplan
- PAD updates (September)
- Survey123 updates
- International Fish Passage Workshop
- S&D Committee Leadership update