



CALIFORNIA FISH PASSAGE FORUM

Governance Committee Meeting

Present: Grace Adams, Sandi Jacobsen, Tim Loux, Gena Lasko, Andrew Hampton

Absent: Van Hare, Marisa Parish, Anna Halligan

[Meeting Attendance \(Google Sheets\)](#)

8/7/25 Agenda

- NFHP Updates
- Leadership Transition
- International Fish Passage Conference at UC Davis, May 4 – 8, 2026
- Prioritization meeting updates
- Steering Committee meeting
- 2026 Workplan brainstorming

8/7/25 Meeting Minutes:

NFHP Updates

Grace shared the NFHP report card and comments with the Governance Committee. The primary area of improvement are to improve the justification of projects and connect projects to the Forum's strategic plan. Overall, the comments were positive and it is clear where improvements can be made for the next annual report.

Leadership Transition – review ballot and timeline

Grace shared the ballot for the Chair and Vice Chair election:

<https://form.jotform.com/252045075669159>

The ballot looks good, but the deadline to submit was extended from Friday August 15 to Friday August 22. The new Chair and Vice Chair will assume their roles during the October 2 Governance Committee meeting.

Grace will add 'Science & Data Committee leadership update' to the Science & Data Committee's September agenda for Gena to announce her new role as Vice Chair and gauge interest for someone to fill her S&D Co-Chair role.

International Fish Passage Conference at UC Davis, May 4 – 8, 2026

<https://fishpassage2026.ucdavis.edu/>

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.

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Andrew shared that the planning committee is anticipating workshops to have 35 participants and that he gave the planning committee a heads up that the Forum will be submitting a workshop. Regarding the possibility of waiving registration for volunteers, Andrew noted that the conference has not met their fundraising goal just yet, and he does not expect to discuss waiving registration fees until that time. Registration does not open until December 1, so there is some time to (1) meet the fundraising goal and (2) have the fee waiver discussion.

Q: Is the planning committee looking for vendors?

Gena suggested reaching out to Smith Root and CalNeva AFS to table and/or provide sponsorships.

Prioritization meeting updates

No updates on the CDFW side. Andrew is working on finishing prioritization lists, which will inform the meetings.

American Rivers' Active 150 report review and beta testing with the Science & Data Committee has been pushed back to this winter.

Steering Committee Meetings

December (Virtual)

Grace to resend doodle poll to Steering Committee, deadline to fill out by Friday August 22.

<https://doodle.com/meeting/organize/id/dLWjp5Ab>

In Person (Spring 2026)

Narrowed possible dates down to the weeks of May 11-15, May 18-22, and May 25-29. Grace will develop and send doodle poll with Tuesdays-Thursdays for those weeks to the Steering Committee.

<https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/dPJmMoya>

2026 Workplan Brainstorming

Grace shared a version of the 2025 workplan that only included tasks associated with the Governance Committee, the Chair, or the Vice Chair for 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 Governance Committee 2025 workplan:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Yfo4Jqy0f0FsOdRCVTu4YNpqSLKDt_fidA1gHSzyJII/edit?tab=t.0

Objective 1:

1.6 Lightning proposals task has two parallel goals – (1) get additional funding to projects via lightning rounds or pre-applications for agencies and (2) to develop a running list of projects that did not receive NFHP/Forum funding that can go through a concept of proposal process to be sent to funding agencies.

Add task related to International Fish Passage Conference Workshop. Plus a potential speed talk and/or poster at the February CalNeva AFS meeting.

Objective 2:

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2.4 and 2.5 need to be more specific and define the goal for each task.

2.5 – What does ‘data gaps’ mean? Sandi recalls this referring to barriers and monitoring.

2.6 should be an ongoing task and include recruitment for Tribal Nations

Objective 3:

3.2 and 3.3 should be pursued in 2026

Objective 5:

Need to get the additional funding for the CA Fish Passage Assessment project

Objective 6:

New task idea – Explore mechanism for projects to apply or hold funds for long-term management.

Predicting long-term management costs is relatively straightforward and would include species monitoring, native vegetation/invasive management, and fire management. Costs per project are likely ~\$10k.

Implementation ideas: Legislature sets funds aside; endowment held at CDFW – use 3.5% interest rule on endowments, have \$350k set aside to pull interest from, endowment built/maintains by retaining X% of grant funds.

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

Agenda items for next meeting 9/4/25:

- International Fish Passage Conference at UC Davis, May 4 – 8, 2026
- Prioritization meeting updates
- Steering Committee meeting – Select time/date for virtual December, select date/location for in person Spring 2026 meeting.
- 2026 Workplan
- Leadership Transition updates