2026 Bay Area Steelhead Summit

November 5 - 7, 2026

Pleasanton, CA

Thursday, November 5

7:30 - 9:00am — **Registration Check-in and Continental Breakfast,** *DoubleTree Hotel, Foyer & Olympic Ballroom*

9am — **Welcome and Opening Remarks,** Dana Stolzman, *Salmonid Resotration Federation*

9:05am — **Keynote Presentations**

Swimming Upstream: Building Momentum for Bay Area Steelhead Restoration, Andrew Gunther, *San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board and CEMAR*

Scrappy, Plastic and Persistent: Giving Bay Area Steelhead A Chance, Joe Merz, *Cramer Fish Sciences*

9:45 - 10:45am — **The State of Our Steelhead,** Patrick Samuel, *California Trout,* and Jeff Miller, *Alameda Creek Alliance*

10:45 - 11:00am — **Break**

11am - 12:30pm — **If You Build It They Will Come: Recent Fish Passage Projects** with Holly Steindorf, *CA Fish Passage Forum*

Opening Alameda Creek to Migratory Fish, Leonard Ash, *Alameda County Water District* and Thomas Niesar, *Hazen and Sawyer*

SFPUC Fish Passage Projects in the Alameda Creek Watershed, Scott Chenue, *SF Public Utilities Commission*

Sunol Valley PG&E Fish Passage Project, Claire Buchanan, *Sunol Valley Fish Passage Project*

Stevens Creek Fish Passage at Evelyn Avenue – Navigating Concrete, Denis Ruttenberg, *Santa Clara Valley Water District*

12:30 - 1:30pm — **Lunch**

1:30 - 3:15pm — **Steelhead Monitoring Efforts**

Steelhead Monitoring in Urban Waterways, Clayton Leal, *Santa Clara Valley Water District*

Integrating Collaboration, Fish Passage, Flow, and Monitoring for Steelhead Recovery, Joe Merz, *Cramer Fish Sciences* and Randall Renn, *SF Public Utilities Commission*

From Mill and Deer Creeks to the Golden Gate: Tracking the Movement and Survival of Natural-Origin Steelhead Through California's Central Valley, Jeremy Notch, *NOAA Fisheries Southwest Fisheries Research Center*

Life Cycle Monitoring and Population Trends of Russian River Steelhead, Andrea Pecharich, *Sonoma County Water Agency*

3:30 - 5:00pm— **Breakout Session 1: Steelhead Recovery Planning,** *Olympic Ballroom*

SF Bay Steelhead Conservation in a Shifting Landscape, Alison Weber-Stover and Brian Meux, *NOAA Fisheries*

Studying Steelhead Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) Populations in Pescadero Lagoon, San Mateo County, CA, *Sean Cochran, District Fisheries Biologist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife*

Steelhead Habitat Potential Among the Bay Area's Natural and Artificial Stream Types, Greg Pasternak, *U.C. Davis*

3:30 - 5:00pm— **Breakout Session 2: Restoration in Practice**, *Triple Crown Room*

South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project – Anticipated Steelhead Use of Restored Tidal Marsh and Monitoring Gaps, Dave Halsing, *CA State Coastal Conservancy*

Removing Dams and Jams: Salmonid Restoration in the Pescadero Watershed, Colleen McNally-Murphy, *San Mateo Resource Conservation District*

Watershed-Scale Fish Passage Program in the Napa River, Martin Perales, *Napa RCD*

Alder and Leatherwood Creek Restoration and Public Access Project, Edward Culver, *East Bay Regional Park District Senior Scientist*

6:00 - 8:00pm— **Reception and Poster Session at DoubleTree Hotel**

Friday, November 6

7:30 - 9:00am — Registration Check-in

9am - 5pm — Concurrent Field Tours

Alameda Creek Watershed Restoration Tour, Jeff Miller, *Alameda Creek Alliance;* Scott Chenue and Randall Renn, *San Francisco Public Utilities Commission;* Claire Buchanan, *Sunol Valley Fish Passage Project;* Kelsi Oshiro and Andre Dextre, *Alameda County Water District;* and Ed Culver, *East Bay Regional Park District*

San Francisquito Creek Watershed: Tour Coordinators, Patrick Samuel and Charlie Schneider, *California Trout;* Alan Launer and Karla Smith, *Stanford University*

South Bay Creeks: Tour Coordinator, Clayton Leal, *Santa Clara Valley Water District*

Saturday, November 7

8:00 am — Check-in and Continental Breakfast in Foyer

9:00 — Welcome for General Public and Takeaways of Steelhead Summit, Jeff Miller, *Alameda Creek Alliance*

9:30 - 10:30am — Why Bay Area Steelhead Matter – Keynote Talks and Book Signings with author and illustrator Obi Kaufmann and Jeff Miller author of Irreverent Guide to Bay Area Wildlife

10:30 am — Field Tour Staging

11:00am - 3:00pm — Concurrent Field Tours

Alameda Creek Watershed Restoration Tour, Jeff Miller, *Alameda Creek Alliance; and Ed Culver, East Bay Regional Park District*

Pinole Creek Tour, Bert Mulchaey, *East Bay Municipal Utility District*

Lagunitas Creek Salmon Habitat Enhancement - Restoring Wood and Gravel to a Dammed Coastal Stream, Jonathan Koehler, *Marin Water; and Sarah Phillips, Marin Resource Conservation District*

Special Event
9:30, Wimbledon Room

Saturday Only Registrations: Join SRF and Alameda Creek Alliance for a fun-filled day celebrating Bay Area wildlife, steelhead champions, book signings with Bay Area authors and legendary advocates. The morning presentations with authors Jeff Miller and Obi Kaufmann will be followed by citizen science presentations and field tours to Alameda Creek fish passage projects, Pinole Creek, and Lagunitas Creek in West Marin. The Saturday festivities are included in the Steelhead Summit price or available with advanced registration to the general public.

Obi Kaufmann

Logistics

Lodging: There is discounted lodging available at the main venue, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Pleasanton at the Club, for a rate of $145/night + tax for a King or Double-Queen room. All reservations must be made by October 15, 2026 in order to receive the lower rate. Visit the Steelhead Summit page for booking links.

Meals Provided: Lunch is provided each day. All Breakfast provided will be light and not considered a full breakfast. DoubleTree Player's Restaurant will be open for full breakfast at the cost to the individual. They are open 6:00am-10:00am Mon.-Fri. & 7:00am-11:00am Sat.-Sun. There will also be a reception with hors d'oeuvres at the Thursday evening Poster Session.

Come Prepared: For field tours, please bring layers of clothes, sunscreen, a sun hat, a personal water bottle, and hiking shoes.

For More Information

Contact Salmonid Restoration Federation: *info@calsalmon.org* • *www.calsalmon.org* • 707-923-7501

Registration Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Credit Card Number _____ ◯ Visa ◯ MC Exp Date _____

☐ Full registration is $200 until October 7 ☐ Saturday-only registration is $30. Cost includes lunch

Please mail checks to SRF, 1018 2nd St., Eureka, CA 95501. You may also submit forms to lindsay@calsalmon.org