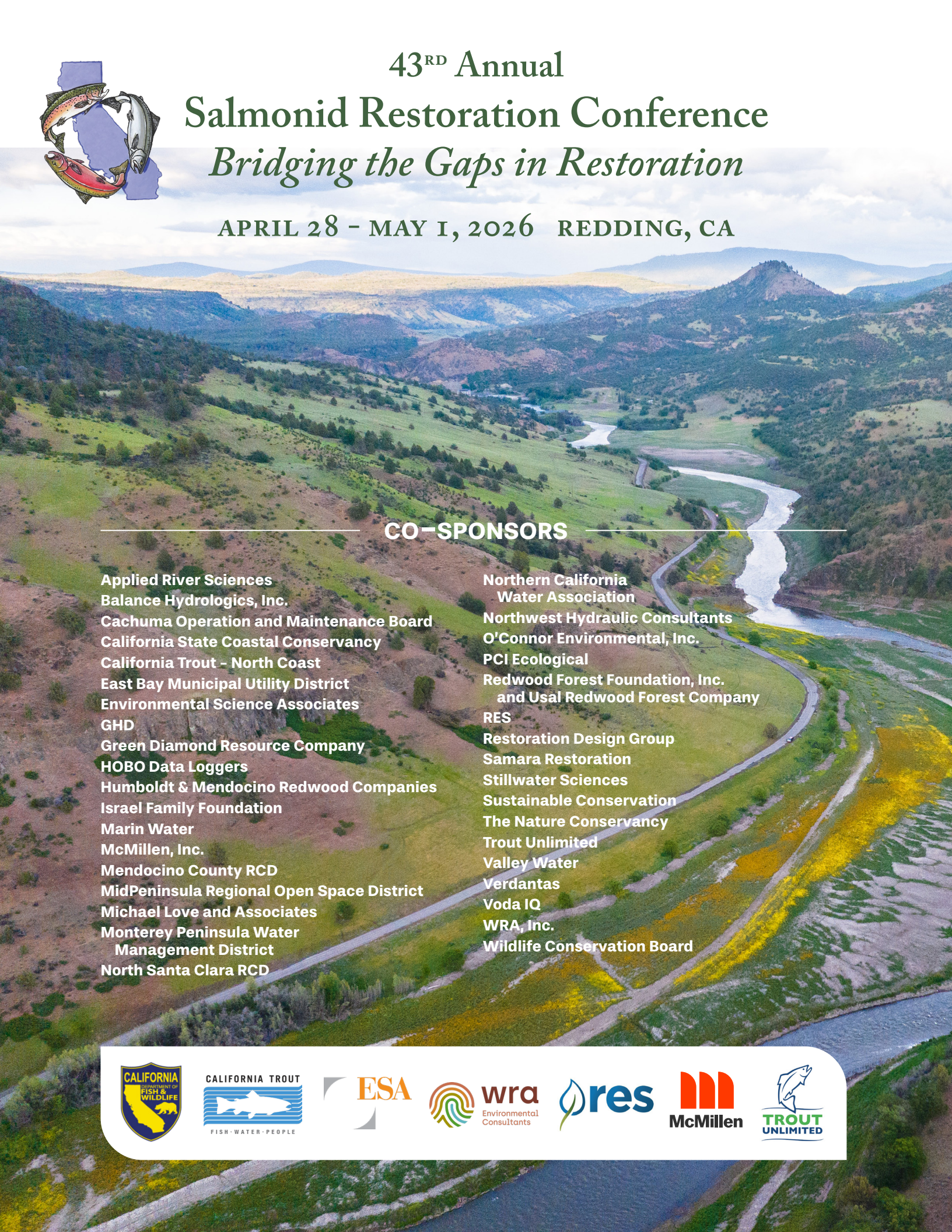

# 43RD Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference

## *Bridging the Gaps in Restoration*

APRIL 28 - MAY 1, 2026 REDDING, CA

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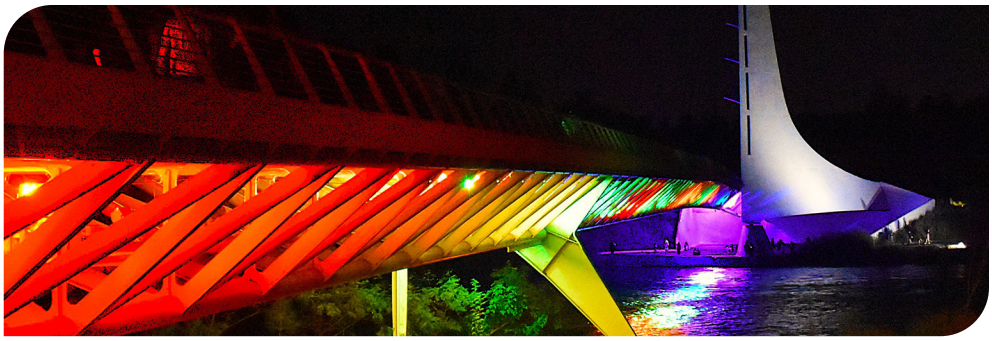


### THE ICONIC SUNDIAL BRIDGE IN REDDING INSPIRED THE BRIDGING THE GAPS THEME OF THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE.

The restoration field has been bridging gaps for decades — the gaps between citizen science and academia, addressing legacy issues through innovative practices, and the ever-growing gap between landscape-scale restoration planning and available resources. These gaps are not just filled by best science and comprehensive data sets (or even state propositions). In the real world, we bridge the gaps between what we think is viable and how to get there with collaborative processes that engage diverse stakeholders over many years. Is it often excruciating? Yes. Is it sometimes rewarding? Usually. For those of us in the long-game of restoration and restoring wild salmon, it is the interactions that count and what fuels us to keep doing this work.

For many conference participants, the Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference is the meeting where we get re-energized, become inspired by seeing the on-the-ground work in the region, and sharpen our planning and collaborative skills. In this challenging time when many of us struggle with the gaps between our conservation goals and the dismantling of agencies and environmental mandates, it is even more important to convene and converse.

As landscapes and our political institutions are eroding, perhaps we need to think not just about what is possible, but how we perceive what is impossible. California and our beloved salmonids will always need water and as we navigate all of these new stressors, restorationists will always need to practice compassion, open-mindedness, and best available science to restore our fragile watersheds.

In the spirit of bridging gaps, I hope that the SRF conference can hold space for all of us dedicated to the worthy cause of preserving wild salmonids in our precious state.

## Achievements in 2025

- Produced the 42nd Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference in Santa Cruz, CA
- Built five million gallons of water storage at Black Oak Ranch in the SF Eel
- Completed the Marshall Ranch Flow Augmentation project in the SF Eel River
- Produced the 27th Annual Coho Confab in the Klamath River
- Created and implemented a Storage and Forbearance Program in Redwood Creek, SF Eel
- Launched a Tribal Capacity and Climate Resilience Program

## SRF Plans for 2026

- Produce the 43rd Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference in Redding
- Update the water treatment facility at Black Oak Ranch for the 800,000 gallon-tank system
- Produce a Fish Passage Design and Engineering Field School in San Luis Obispo
- Produce a Bay Area Steelhead Summit in November 2026
- Complete the 65% Basis of Design Report for the Holland Reservoir Planning – the largest privately-owned reservoir in the South Fork Eel
- Produce the 28th Annual Coho Confab in Mendocino County

# BRIDGING THE GAPS IN RESTORATION

SALMONID Restoration Federation is hosting the 43rd Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference on April 28– May 1, 2026 in Redding, CA. Offering the conference in Redding affords incredible opportunities to tour large-scale restoration projects from the Klamath Dam Removal reservoir footprint to the mighty Sacramento River.

The Conference starts with two full days of technical workshops and exciting field tours. American Rivers is offering a two-day Dam Removal workshop for planners and advocates who are involved in dam removal planning. California Indian Environmental Alliance with many tribal partners will offer a workshop exploring the nexus between water quality and quantity with a focus on Tribal Beneficial Uses and cultural resources. Fire specialist Lenya Quinn-Davidson will chair another Fish and Fire workshop that will feature lessons learned, resources, and policies to advance prescribed burns.

A consortium of non-profits including Water Climate Trust, Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center California Sportfishing Protection Alliance and Environmental Protection Information Center are coordinating a workshop called, "Real Wet Water for Fish: Improving Instream Flows through Water Accounting, Accountability, and Advocacy." The goal of this workshop is to promote improved instream flow outcomes through better water accounting, encouraging accountability, and strategic advocacy. This wide-ranging workshop is intended to be broadly applicable to many disciplines and roles, including scientists, funders, restoration project developers, advocates, and regulators.

**Full-day field tours include:**

- Klamath Dam Removal reservoir footprint
- Fish Passage Projects in the Northern Sacramento Valley
- Lower Clear Creek Habitat Restoration Projects
- **Scott River Tour:** Scaling Solutions for Salmon & Community
- Lower Battle Creek Floodplain Reconnection Tour
- The Trinity River– a Living Laboratory for Salmonid Habitat Restoration
- Boat Tour of Sacramento River Restored Side Channel for Juvenile Habitat

The Plenary session will feature Amy Cordalis of the Yurok tribe who recently authored, The Water Remembers, and Chief Caleen Sisk from the Winnemum Wintu tribe as well as other esteemed speakers. Concurrent sessions include Post-Klamath Dam Removal, exploration of native fishes in California waters, Spring-run Chinook reintroduction, restoring streamflows, large-scale floodplain reintroduction, restoring riparian habitats and many more exciting sessions.

The SRF Conference also includes lots of networking opportunities including a mentor-mentee program, a robust poster session, a reception at Turtle Bay museum, and a lively banquet with an awards ceremony, a gourmet dinner, and a dance band.

**To learn more about the conference, please visit, www.calsalmon.org**

▲ *Photo: Mike Berry*

Sunset over the Sacramento River

### Conference Venues

Workshops on April 28TH & 29TH will be held at the Redding Sheraton. Field tours will depart from the Redding Civic lawn. The main conference on April 30TH and May 1ST will be at the Redding Civic Auditorium. The Wednesday evening Social is at the Turtle Bay Discovery Center.

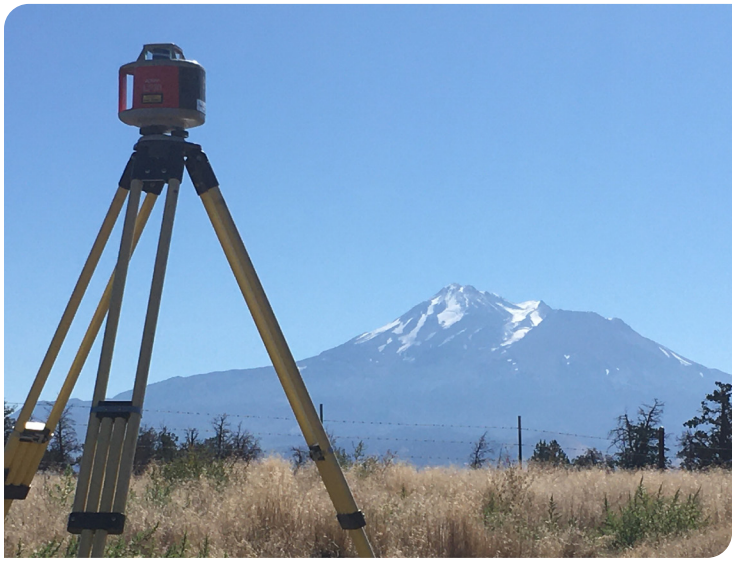
# Workshops & Field Tours

## Tuesday, April 28, 2026

### Real Water for Fish: Improving Instream Flows through Water Accounting, Insights, and Advocacy

**Workshop and Field Tour Coordinators:** Konrad Fisher, Water Climate Trust; Nick Joslin, Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center; Angelina Cook, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance; and Amber Jamieson, Environmental Protection Information Center

The goal of this workshop is to promote improved instream flow outcomes through better water accounting, encouraging accountability, and strategic advocacy. This wide-ranging workshop is intended to be broadly applicable to many disciplines and roles, including scientists, funders, restoration project developers, advocates, and regulators.



▲ Mount Shasta from Big Springs Creek survey
*Photo: Angelina Cook*

### Morning Session:

**Water Law 101: An Overview of California Water Law For Instream Flow Practitioners,** Matthew Clifford, J.D. Trout Unlimited Lauren Bernadette, J.D, Trout Unlimited

**An Incomplete and Survey of Methodologies for Setting Instream Flow,** Chris Shutes, Executive Director, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

**Instream Flow Requirements on the Scott and Shasta Rivers: A Case Study in River Advocacy,** Nathaniel Kane, Esq., Executive Director, Environmental Law Foundation, Madi Richards, Esq., Policy Manager, California Coastkeeper Alliance

**Water Management Regulation: An Irrigator Experience of Navigating Water Regulations and Suggestions on How to Improve Them for Better Ecological Outcomes,**
Betsy Stapleton, Scott Valley Landowner and Irrigator

**Using FERC Relicensing to Improve Streamflows,**
Chris Shutes, Executive Director, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

▲ Sugar Creek Refugia in the Scott River Tailings on June 10, 2025.
*Photo: Erich Yokel, SRWC*

### Afternoon Session:

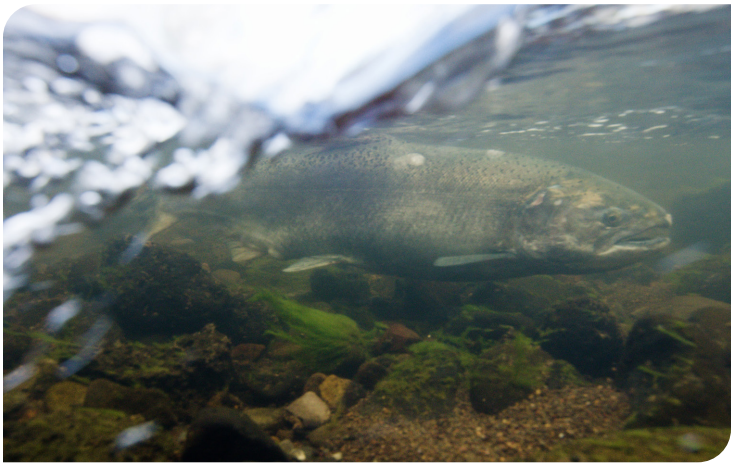
**Lessons Learned on Instream Flow Dedications (1707),**
Amy Campbell, Senior Project Director, The Nature Conservancy

**The Devil is in the Details- Avoiding Unintended Consequences While Developing Flow Restoration Projects,** Nick Joslin, Policy and Advocacy Director, Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center

**Don't Rob Peter to Pay Paul – To Improve River Flows, Irrigation Improvement Projects Should Reduce Consumptive Water Use and Avoid Reducing Groundwater Recharge,**
Eli Asarian, Riverbend Sciences

**Measuring Cost-Effectiveness of Environmental Water Transactions,** Davíd Pilz, J.D., Managing Partner, Fluent Freshwater Insights

**Fish Flow Funding Principles: Public Funding Should Improve & Avoid Harm to Instream Flows,**
Konrad Fisher, Director, Water Climate Trust



▲ *Photo: Shane Anderson*

## California Dam Removal Project Manager Training (2-day Workshop)

**Workshop Coordinators:** Meghan Quinn, Esq. Director of California Dam Removal and Hydropower, American Rivers

This 2-day workshop focuses on preparing individuals to work through the challenges of developing and managing a successful dam removal project. The goal is to build the knowledge, skills, and confidence of potential project managers to allow them to lead both straightforward and more complex projects that often involve engaging with active project opponents; working through unpredictable regulatory processes; significant fundraising; and coordinating a team of diverse project partners, property owners, engineers, and contractors.

▲ Matilija Dam in Ventura County
*Photo: Mike Wier*

### Day 1:

**Tribal Welcome and Blessing**

**Opportunities and Goals for Dam Removal in California,** Meghan Quinn, American Rivers

**Introduction to Managing a Dam Removal Project,** Serena McClain, American Rivers

**Basics of Engineering Design and Construction: Role of a Project Manager,** Brian Graeber, American Rivers

**Afternoon field trip to Battle Creek Dam Removals**

### Day 2:

**Basics of Engineering Design and Construction: Six Components of Dam Removal Science & Design,** Brian Graeber, American Rivers

**Dam Removal at Varying Scales:** Examples from Jenny Creek and the Klamath, Evan Bulla, Trout Unlimited, and Yurok Tribe TBA

**Understanding the Social Landscape: Effective Community Engagement,** Serena McClain, American Rivers

**Tribal Engagement at Battle Creek and Beyond** Angelina Cook, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance; and Emily Maloney, CalTrout

**Demystifying Decommissioning: Hydropower Dam Removal,** Charlie Schneider, CalTrout, & Meghan Quinn, American Rivers

**Dam Removal Permitting and Regulatory Session** Facilitated by Meghan Quinn, American Rivers, in conversation w/ Stephanie Falzone, Sustainable Conservation, & others

**Lessons Learned in Navigating Regulatory Compliance in Dam Removal,** Mike Belchik, Yurok Tribe

## Former Klamath Dam Reach Field Tour

**Field Tour Coordinators:** Bob Pagliuco, Marine Habitat Resource Specialist, NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center; and Mike Belchik, Sr. Water Policy Analyst, Yurok Tribe

This field tour will visit restoration sites in and near the former reservoir sites, and include discussions about the dam removal process, salmon repopulation in areas far above the dam sites, spring Chinook restoration, and future restoration goals, and plans. Tour partners include the Yurok tribe, RES, and Shasta Indian Nation.

▲ Klamath River former reservoir footprint
*Photo: Shane Anderson*

## Lower Clear Creek Habitat Restoration Tour

**Field Tour Coordinators:** Derek Rupert, Bureau of Reclamation and Natasha Wingerter, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Clear Creek has emerged as a preeminent watershed for supporting anadromous salmonids within California's Central Valley. The tour will include creek crossings and off-trail hiking as the group will visit the Clear Creek Gorge Overlook, Gold Dredge trailhead to see the Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project, and the Horsetown Restoration Project Site.

▲ Spring run Chinook salmon holding in the Clear Creek canyon 2021
*Photo: Derek Rupert*

## Lessons Learned: A Post-Fire Tour of Fish Passage Projects across the Lassen West Slope

Field Tour Coordinators: Eric Ginney, Environmental Science Associates; Tricia Bratcher, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Mark Gard, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

This tour will visit important past, and ongoing current, fish passage projects on Cow Creek, Paynes Creek, Mill Creek, and Deer Creek—home to remaining populations of imperiled spring-run Chinook salmon and Steelhead. Importantly, it will highlight sediment dynamics in watersheds impacted (and not impacted) by the Park Fire, illustrating fire effects on channel morphology, irrigation diversions, and fish passage and screening facilities. Each stop will provide lessons learned that may be applied to other future projects.

▲ Deer Creek and new fish screen at DCID diversion where a dam was removed and a roughened rock ramp constructed.
*Photo: Eric Ginney*

## Boat Tour of Sacramento River Restored Side Channels for Juvenile Habitat

Field Tour Coordinator: Greyson Doolittle, North State Planning Collective, California State University, Chico

This boat tour will enable participants to view three different restored side channel complexes including the recently restored Shea Island Complex, three restored side channels varying in age, and the Anderson River Park Complex.

▲ Sacramento River boat tour will explore off-channel projects along the river.
*Photo: John Hannon*

## Fish & Fire 2026: Bringing Restoration into Fire, and Fire into Restoration

Workshop Coordinators: Lenya Quinn-Davidson, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Fire Network; Josh Smith, Watershed Research and Training Center; Will Harling, Mid Klamath Watershed Council

This workshop will focus on the many intersections of fish and fire – ecological, cultural, and spatial–across fish and fire. This workshop will build on recent years of offering this multi-disciplinary workshop further exploring cross-disciplinary connections, identifying management implications and research needs, daylighting potential synergies in policy and action, and furthering the potential for beneficial fire to be incorporated into restoration efforts.

▲ All Hands All Lands Burn at Guys Gulch in Shasta Valley brings fire back to a white oak woodland after a century of fire exclusions.
*Photo: Will Harling, MKWC*

**Fish & Fire 2026 Keynote Address,** Ron Reed, Karuk Tribe

**Fish and Fire – Key Past Workshop Insights,**
Josh Smith and Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Watershed Research and Training Center and UC ANR Fire Network

**Metals in Wildfire Suppressants,**
Daniel L. McCurry, PhD, University of Southern California

**The Potential of Ecological Remediation for Post-Fire Soil Cleanup,** Danielle Stevenson, PhD, Centre for Applied Ecological Remediation

**Integrating Process-Based Restoration into Post-Fire Emergency Response Efforts,**
Gabrielle Bohlman, US Forest Service

**Connecting Instream and Upslope Restoration in the Western Klamath Mountains,**
Will Harling, Mid Klamath Watershed Council

**Fuels To Flows: Bringing Nature-Based Stewardship to the Headwaters,** Brock Dolman, Occidental Arts & Ecology Center

**Temporal Habitat Changes and Related Fish Response following Catastrophic/Landscape-Level Fires: Accounting for Impacts When Prioritizing Restoration Need and Location, and Fish Population Estimation(s),** Patricia Bratcher, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Riverscape Restoration – Habitat Resilience in the Face of Wildfire Along Whychus Creek,** Central Oregon, Mathias Perle, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council

## Development of Tribal Beneficial Uses and Strategies for Healthier Water

**Workshop Coordinators:** Sherri Norris, California Indian Environmental Alliance, and tribal partners

This workshop focuses on the history of establishing beneficial uses to support beneficial uses of water, water quality and fish tissue testing for toxins of concern, database entry and reporting, interpretation of results, the process to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads to reduce toxins and emerging regulatory efforts and development of health advisories.

**History of Tribal Beneficial Uses, Strategies for Healthier Water and Current Status of Designations,** Sarah Ryan Big Valley Rancheria; Vice-Chair Malissa Tayaba, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians; Krystal Moreno TEK Program Manager, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians; and Max Gomberg Water Policy Advisor Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

**Watershed Flows,** Jon Rosenfield Science Director, SF Bay Keeper; and Max Gomberg Water Policy Advisor Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

**Water Quality Standard Use: Application and Challenges,** Sarah Ryan, Big Valley Rancheria Environmental Director; Debie Rasmussen, EPA Director Enterprise Rancheria; and Sherri Norris Executive Director, California Indian Environmental Alliance

**Data Collection and Reporting for Water Quality Objectives Workshop,** Sarah Ryan, Big Valley Rancheria; and Sherri Norris, CIEA

## Lower Battle Creek Floodplain Reconnection Tour

**Field Tour Coordinators:** Michael Rogner, River Partners, and Jacob Katz, Cal Trout

▲ Rancho Breiggau
*Photo: Michael Rogner*

Join River Partners and Cal Trout on a tour of riparian restoration projects on lower Battle Creek. Field sites will include an ongoing project oak woodlands restoration with the Bureau of Land Management, CDFW's Battle Creek Wildlife Area in which the existing water infrastructure has been replumbed so that off channel wetlands restored in 2005 can be used to cycle critical aquatic food resources for juvenile salmon in Battle Creek in several pulses throughout the wet season.

▲ Off-channel habitat located along French Creek.
*Photo: Erin Feinblatt*

## Scott River Tour: Scaling Solutions for Salmonand Community

**Field Tour Coordinators:** Charnna Gilmore, Betsy Stapleton, and Erich Yokel, Scott River Watershed Council

This full-day field tour will showcase ongoing restoration efforts within the Scott River Watershed, a major tributary of the Klamath River and a critical stronghold for coho recovery in the Klamath River Basin. The tour will highlight restoration techniques that match the scale and complexity of the challenges.

▲ Aerial photo of Trinity River
*Photo: Aaron Martin*

## The Trinity River- A Living Laboratory for Salmonid Habitat Restoration

**Field Tour Coordinators:** James Lee, Eric Peterson, and Mike Dixon, Trinity River Restoration Program

The Trinity River and its abundant runs of Chinook, coho, and steelhead sustained unique cultures of Native Americans for millennia and continue to provide a large portion of the anadromous fish populations in the Klamath basin. This tour will visit Oregon Gulch, Chapman Ranch, and Upper Conner Creek projects that incorporate not only lessons learned over decades of restoration within the Trinity River, but also lessons learned from other rivers and practitioners to restore ecological function.

# Conference Sessions

**Plenary Session** 9am – 12:15pm at the Redding Civic Auditorium

## **Thursday,** April 30

**Welcome with Dana Stolzman,**
SRF Executive Director

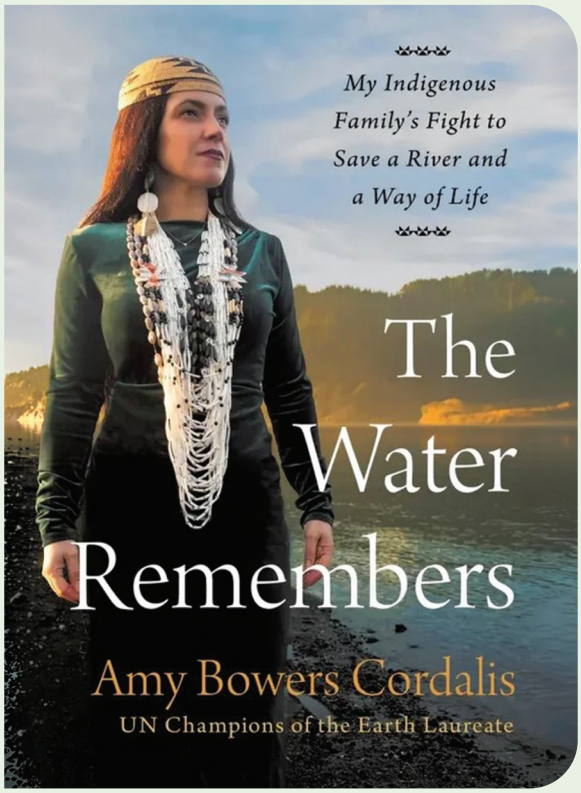
**Emcee:** Thomas Williams, PhD, NOAA Fisheries

**Following the Stars: Restoring Nur to the Winnemem Waywaket,** Chief Caleen Sisk of the Winnemum Wintu Tribe

**The Water Remembers,** Amy Bowers Cordalis, Yurok Tribe, Co-Founder of Ridge to Riffles and author of *The Water Remembers: My Indigenous Family's Fight to Save a River and a Way of Life*

**Listening to the Salmon: Life History Diversity as Our Blueprint for Recovery,** Rachel Johnson, PhD, Central Valley Recovery Leader, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

**Letting Fire Flow: Restoring Ecology, Culture, and Connection**, Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Director, UC ANR Fire Network and Director, Women-in-Fire Training Exchange (WTREX) Program




▲ Chief Caleen Sisk of the Winnemum Wintu Tribe

## SRF Social at Turtle Bay Museum

### **Wednesday,** April 29

SRF and ESA are hosting a social at the Turtle Bay Museum on Wed night. This event will likely sell out so please purchase your tickets in advance for this special reception.

▲ Childs Meadow on Collins Pine timberlands near Lassen
*Photo: Karen Pope*

## PBR: Evaluating Process-Based Restoration as a Method to Restore Ecosystem Resilience

Session Coordinators: Carrie Monohan, California State University, Chico and Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians; and Karen Pope, Retired Pacific Southwest Research Station USDA

**Large-scale PBR in Golden Trout Wilderness Meadows: Change Detection, Critical Metrics, and Restoration Effects,** Sabra Purdy, M.S., Restoration Ecologist, Trout Unlimited

**Measuring Success: Process Based Restoration in the Haskell Peak Meadows,** E. Rose Ledford, South Yuba River Citizens League

**How Can We Approach Stream Restoration that Supports Diversity for Physical Processes, Ecosystems, Species, and Life Stages?,** Rebecca Flitcroft, Co-Chair, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, World Commission on Protected Areas, Freshwater Specialist Group, USDA Forest Service, PNRS

**Like an Ecosystem, Good Restoration Planning is a Web,** Jay Stallman, Stillwater Sciences; Betsy Stapleton, Scott River Watershed Council; and Adam Cummings, The Watershed Research and Training Center

**Can Bull Trout Navigate Non-wicker Weave Beaver Dam Analogs? A Case Study of Fish Passage at Beaver Dam Analogs Constructed Using Modern Techniques in the Upper Klamath Basin,** Oregon, Charlie Erdman and Tommy Cianciolo, Trout Unlimited; and Dave Hering, National Park Service

**When process-based Restoration Also Refers to People Dynamics: Strategic Collaboration and Nature-based Engineering as the Foundation for Restoring the Redwood Creek Estuary in Humboldt County,** Joél Flannery, M.S., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Introducing California's Beaver Coexistence Program as Yet Another Process-based Salmonid Recovery Tool,** Brock Dolman, Director, Occidental Arts & Ecology Center WATER Institute

## Springing into Action: Spring-Chinook Reintroduction in the Klamath Basin Post Dam Removal

Session Coordinators: Shari Anderson, Lazuli Ecological Services, and Craig Tucker, Suits and Signs Consulting

**Runs in the Genes: Technologies for Rapid Genetic Identification of Chinook Salmon Runs,** Sean Canfield, Ph.D., California Department of Water Resources

**Ecosystem Response to the Removal of the Elwha River Dams, Washington State, U.S.A.,** George Pess, Ph.D., California Trout

**The Role of Natural and Man-Made Barriers on the Distribution of Summer and Winter-Run Steelhead in the Greater Klamath-Siskiyou Region,** Samantha Kannry, TRIB Research

**What Spring Chinook Need Most: An Evolutionary Reason to Exist,** Tasha Thompson, Ph.D., Wild Salmon Center

**Lessons Learned from the San Joaquin River Restoration Program,** Phillip Street, Ph.D., Science Coordinator, USFWS

***Wild ishyâat (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha)* in a Spring-Run Chinook Salmon Stronghold,** Toz Soto, Karuk Tribe, and Sophie Price, SRRC

**Panel Discussion:** The session will conclude with a panel of Tribal culture bearers to discuss the cultural role of Spring Chinook and how TEK and western science can best be integrated to inform management and restoration priorities.

▲ Spring Chinook South Fork Gorge on the Salmon River
*Photo: Michael Bravo*

## Against the Current: The Critical Need for Large-Scale Floodplain Reconnection in the Central Valley

Session Coordinator: Michael Rogner, River Partners

▲ Flooding on a restored floodplain near the confluence of the Feather and Bear Rivers, Yuba County, CA
*Photo: River Partners*

**When the Levee Breaks: Strategic Levee Breaching and Abandonment as Strategy for Floodplain Reconnection and Ecosystem Restoration at Great Valley Grasslands State Park, Merced County, California,** Kristan Culbert, Associate Director of California River Conservation, American Rivers

**Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling Yolo Bypass Cache Slough Master Plan – A Large-Scale Multi-Benefit Planning Effort to Establish a Framework for Flood Risk Reduction and Floodplain Restoration,** Patrick Ho, P.E., MBK Engineers

**Fish Go Where Water Flows: Examining Pre-European Flood Processes to Recalibrate Our Restoration Efforts for the Next Century,** Eric M. Ginney, Environmental Science Associates

**Evolving Stream Habitats And Managed Flow Regimes To Support Floodplain Rearing Of Juvenile Chinook Salmon,** Derek Rupert, M.S., Bureau of Reclamation

**The Simple Math of Salmon Recovery: Scaling Solutions to Those of the Problem,** Jacob Katz, PhD, Director, Ca Central Region, Cal Trout

**Lessons from a 100 Years of Sacramento Valley "Floodplain" Science,** Bjarni Serup, Senior Environmental Scientist, CDFW

## Science and Research to Inform Management

Session Coordinator: Eli Asarian, Riverbend Sciences

**Assessing Freshwater Biodiversity With eDNA,** Brooke Penaluna, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station

**Hybridization of Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Steelhead at the Southern Tip of Their Range,** Sam Rizza, TRIB Research

**Pacific Salmon Data Discovery Tool,** Katie Barnas, NOAA Fisheries

**The Importance of Flow Variation For Regulated Rivers,** Seth Naman, NOAA Fisheries

**Hydrologic Benefits of Meadow Restoration: Insights from the Van Norden Meadow Restoration Project,** Alecia Weisman, M.S., South Yuba River Citizens League

**Simulating Telemetry Studies That Estimate Component Mortality Rates of Imperiled Juvenile Salmonids,** Elizabeth M. Greenheck, George Mason University

## A River Reborn: Restoration and Monitoring in the Former Footprint of Klamath Dams

Session Coordinators: Bob Pagliuco, Marine Habitat Resource Specialist, NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center; and Mike Belchik Sr. Water Policy Analyst, Yurok Tribe

**Klamath Dams and Downriver Nutrient Dynamics: Past, Present, and Future, John R. Oberholzer Dent, M.S., Biologist, Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources**

**Effects of Dam Removal on Klamath River Aquatic Food Webs,** Claire Inouye, M.S. student, Cal Poly Humboldt Department of Environmental Science & Management

**Rebuilding Tributaries in the Former Reservoir Footprint to Support a Newly Free-Flowing Klamath River,** Dan Chase, M.S. Biologist, and Dave Coffman, P.E., Resource Environmental Solutions

**Beyond the Reservoir Footprint: Restoring Tributaries to the Klamath River After the World's Largest Dam Removal Project,** Max Ramos, M.S., Restoration Engineer, William Nuckoles, M.S., Restoration Engineer, Yurok Tribe Fisheries Department Technical Services Program

**How Best to Remove a Fish Passage Barrier:, Blast or no Blast? A Case Study of the Jenny Creek Barrier Removal Implementation Determination,** Evan Bulla, Project Manager, Trout Unlimited

**Modernizing Fisheries Data in the Klamath Basin: A Collaborative Leap Forward,** Monica Diaz, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

Panel Discussion

▲ The Yurok tribe led the massive native revegetation project following the dam removal
*Photo: Shane Anderson and RES*

## It Takes a Watershed: Projects, Approaches, and Strategies for Restoring Streamflow and Managing Water Supplies

Session Coordinators: Monty Schmitt, Sr Project Director, TNC California Water Program, The Nature Conservancy and David Dralle, Ph.D., U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station

**Stormwater: Slowing, Spreading; Stuffing, Sinking, Storing**

**Scott River Recovery Action Plan Project (SRRAPP),** Charnna Gilmore, Scott River Watershed Council

**Development and Implementation of a New Flow Regime on the Trinity River, CA,** Chris Laskodi, Yurok Tribe

**Deep Deficits in Weathered Bedrock: Mechanisms of Runoff Suppression and Implications for California Water Management,** Dana Lapides, USDA–ARS

▲ SRF's Marshall Ranch flow enhancement project provides five continuous months of cool water flow releases to Redwood Creek, SF Eel. *Photo: Dana Stolzman*

**An Integrative Bioenergetic Modeling Approach for Evaluating Instream Flow Needs of Juvenile Salmonids in the Lower Shasta River,** Kevin Fitzgerald, Applied River Sciences

**Ecological Risk Assessment to Inform Regional Instream Flow Management,** Kris Taniguchi-Quan, SCCWRP

**Assessing Subsurface Flow Capacity to Evaluate Reach Potential for Perennial vs. Intermittent Flow,** Luke Hatch, SWCA Environmental

## Changing the Current: Lightning Tales from a New Generation

Session Coordinator: Ashley Shannon, North Coast Project Manager, California Trout

**Womxn in Watershed Science: Taking Space in Male Dominated Fields,** Katherine Stonecypher, M.S., Senior Fisheries Research Assistant, U.S. Geological Survey California Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Cal Poly Humboldt

**Confronting Imposter Syndrome,** Virginia Wala, M.S., Fisheries Technician, Redwood National Park

**Sweaty Pits and Writing Permits: Environmental Regulation, Anxiety, and Saving Everything,** Shannon Husband, Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**River Partners Fellows Program: Building the Next Generation of Restoration Scientists,** Holly Ferrara, Restoration Science Ecologist / Project Manager, River Partners

**We Are Being the Power of the River: Restoration Stories from the Riparian Zone of the Trinity River,** Simone Groves, Riparian Ecologist, Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries, Trinity River Restoration Program

**We Are Being the Power of the River: Restoration Stories from the Riparian Zone of the Trinity River,** Chase Niesner, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow, Environmental Science, Policy, and Management, University of California, Berkeley

**Quotes Offer Sound Advice and Inspiration to Younger Generations of Stream Scientists and Restorationists,** William J. Trush, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, Cal Poly Humboldt, River Institute

**Momentum from Mentorship,** Jason White, M.E.S.M., South Coast Habitat Restoration, University of California, Santa Barbara, Lecturer, SRF Board Member

**Science in the Summer? Bringing the Next Generation With Us,** John R. Oberholzer Dent, Biologist, Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources

**Swimming Upstream: How to Navigate a Changing Job Market as a Young Professional,** Megan Kownurko, Agricultural Enhancement Coordinator, Humboldt County Resource Conservation District

▲ The confluence of the Klamath and the Trinity during dam removal *Photo: Mike Wier*

**Changing the Tone for GIS and Empowering Folks for Discovery,** Robert George, M.S., North Coast Project Manager, California Trout

**Growing a Conservation Coalition in Southern California Using Traditional and Modern Engagement Strategies,** Elizabeth Burns, M.S., South Coast Project Coordinator, Southern Steelhead Coalition, California Trout

**The Power of Art and Natural History in Fisheries Restoration and Stewardship,** Edgar Cruz, Pacific Watershed Associates

**Political Ecology as a Lens for Understanding Fishery Declines from the U.S. to Gaza,** Stella Baumstone, Watershed Stewards Program Corpmember, Bureau of Land Management, Arcata

**Post-talk Discussion,** Ashley Shannon, North Coast Project Manager, California Trout, and Milton Reynolds, Board Member, California Trout

## Restoring Riparian Habitats: Successes, Challenges, and Practical Guidance for Practitioners

Session Coordinator: Ada Fowler, Ph.D., California Trout

▲ Rancho Breiggau
*Photo: Michael Rogner*

**Willow and Wood: Bioengineering Efforts in Humboldt and Mendocino Counties,** Veronica Yates, Native Ecosystems, Inc.

**Success in Collaboration: Combining Science with Agricultural Practices in Riparian Restoration,** Claudia Quintero & Kyler Stassi, River Partners

**Long-term Survival of Riparian Planting on the Shasta River,** Ada C. Fowler, Ph.D., Senior Project Manager, California Troutv

**Restoration of Sycamore Alluvial Woodland Habitat from Conceptual Models to Implementation - the Pacheco Creek Restoration Project,** Chris Hammersmark, Ph.D., PE, Verdantas Eco Engineering

**One Method, Many Meadows: How LT-PBR Adapts in Sierra Meadows,** Katie Smith, California Inland Trout Project Manager

**Uncovering a Lost Meadow: Preliminary Lessons from Stage 0 Restoration on Corral Gulch,** Josh Smith and Bridger Cohan, The Watershed Research and Training Center

## Restoration Strategy, Implementation and Collaboration

Session Coordinator: Gwen Santos, Environmental Science Associates

**Pickell's Dam Removal: Directing Mitigation Resources to High Value Species Recovery Actions,** Jeff Lewis, Valley Water

**Sulphur Creek Fish Passage Restoration (Part 2) – Lesson Learned from Implementation and Post Project Monitoring,** Aaron Sutherlin, WRA

**Acquiring Land – a Foundation for Large-Scale Habitat Restoration and Salmon Recovery,** Maggie Blankinship, River Partners

**Utilizing Private Capital to Advance Large-scale Floodplain Restoration at the Butte Sink Mitigation Bank,** Ashley Zavagno, WRA

**A Collaboration for Fish, Farms, and Neighbors: Scott River Restoration Farmers Ditch Company Project,** Travis James, Yurok Tribe

**From Fragmented to Functional – A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Restoration on the Little Shasta River,** Adrienne Chenette, American Rivers

**Strategic Land and Water Acquisitions in the Klamath to Increase Streamflows and Improve Habitat,** Amy Campbell, Senior Project Director, The Nature Conservancy

▲ Mount Shasta and Shasta Valley
*Photo: Eli Asarian*

# Friday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions

## A River Reborn: Restoration and Monitoring in the Former Footprint of Klamath Dams

Session Coordinators: Bob Pagliuco, Marine Habitat Resource Specialist, NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center; and Mike Belchik Sr. Water Policy Analyst, Yurok Tribe

**The Klamath River Renewal Project Molecular Library, Describing Landscape-scale Aquatic Biodiversity Change Following Historic Dam-Removal and Restoration,** Dylan J. Keel, M.S., Fisheries Ecologist, Resource Environmental Solutions (RES)

**Occupancy Estimation from Juvenile Salmonid Summer Snorkel Surveys in Newly Accessible Klamath River Tributaries,** Ben King, M.S., Biologist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Immediate Responses of Chinook Salmon Spawning in the California Mainstem Klamath River upstream of Iron Gate,** Stephen Gough, M.S., Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Monitoring Klamath Adult Salmon Abundance and Movement in Newly Available Habitat Post Dam Removal,** Bob Pagliuco – Habitat Restoration Specialist, NOAA Restoration Center; and Alex Corum, Biologist, Karuk Tribe

▲ Free flowing Klamath River
*Photo: Shane Anderson*

**Repopulation of Chinook Salmon in Upper Klamath Lake and Its Major Tributaries,** Jordan Ortega, Ph.D. Ecologist, Klamath Tribes

**What Does Success Look Like? A Vision for Klamath River Salmon,** Thomas Williams, PhD Ecologist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Santa Cruz Laboratory

Panel Discussion

## It Takes a Watershed: Projects, Approaches, and Strategies for Restoring Streamflow and Managing Water Supplies

Session Coordinators: Monty Schmitt, Sr Project Director, TNC California Water Program, The Nature Conservancy, David Dralle, Ph.D., U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station

**Restoring Hydrologic Function in California Coastal Watersheds: Lessons from Lower Flynn Creek,**
Mia van Docto, Trout Unlimited

**Groundwater is Streamflow – Modeling Water Resources Management in the Scott Valley,**
Nicholas Murphy, The Nature Conservancy

**A Method to Implement Natural Flow Regimes for Regulated Rivers,** Nicholas Som, U.S. Geological Survey

**Integrating Water Rights, Hydrology, and Flow Enhancement in California Watersheds,** Sara Sternberg, Creek Lands Conservation

**Approaching Flow Management from the Top-Down: Using Site-Specific Models to Develop Risk-Informed Percent-of-Flow Diversion Thresholds,** Suzanne Rhoades, Applied River Sciences

**Meeting the Dry-Season Challenge: Sanctuary Forest's Approach to Late-Summer Streamflow,**
Walker Wise, Sanctuary Forest

**A Decision Support Tool for Co-Managing Well Permitting and Streamflow Protection at the Watershed / County Scale,**
Ben Kerr, Founder & CEO, Foundry Spatial

▲ Sanctuary Forest off-channel pond in the Mattole watershed.
*Photo: Walker Wise*

## Democracy in the Balance: Environmental Nonprofits on the Front Lines of California Water and Salmon Policy

Session Coordinator: Keiko Mertz, M.S., Friends of the River

**Restoring Leverage in an Era of Deregulation,** Chris Shutes, Executive Director, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

**From the Ridges to Riffles of California Salmon Policy,** Molli Myers, Chief Operations Officer, Ridges to Riffles

**From Science to Sovereignty: Elevating Tribal Voices in California's Salmon Governance,** Stephanie Quinn-Davidson, Science and Policy Director, Ridges to Riffles

**Building Political Will Through Field-Based Science Explanation,** Aaron Zettler-Mann, Ph.D., Executive Director, South Yuba River Citizens League

**Whose Balance? Public Voice, Political Pressure, and Science in California Water Governance,** Patrick Koepele, Executive Director, Yosemite Rivers Alliance

**Tipping the Balance: Partnering to Restore the Merced River,** Keiko Mertz, Policy Director, Friends of the River; and Meghan Quinn, California Dam Removal and Hydropower Director, American Rivers

▲ Redband trout in the Upper Klamath give us an indication of how salmonids will repopulate the Klamath.

*Photo: Jonny Armstrong*

## Exploration of Native Fishes in California Waters

Session Coordinator: Marisa McGrew, Cal Poly

**Using Size-Spectrum Analysis to Explore Nursery Function and Habitat Use in the Eel River Estuary,** Rachel Hein, M.S. Student, Cal Poly Humboldt

**Following the Smelt: Using Traditional Methods to Assess Day Fish Spawning Patterns Along Yurok Coastline in Northern California,** Michelle Kunst, Marine Natural Resources Manager, Pulikla Tribe of Yurok People

**Presence, Distribution, and Movement of Green Sturgeon *(Acipenser medirostris)* in Humboldt County, California,** Olivia Boeberitz, M.S. Student, Cal Poly Humboldt

**The Return of Pacific Lamprey to the Lower Santa Ynez River Basin, Santa Barbara County, CA,** Timothy H. Robinson, Ph.D., Fisheries Division Manager, Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board

**Lampreys in California: Characterizing Diversity Using Genomic Tools,** Grace Auringer, Ph.D. Student, UC Davis

**Advancing *c'waam and koptu* Recovery: Ambodat's Recovery Strategy and Future Considerations in a Changing Upper Klamath Basin,** Ryan Bart, Fisheries Biologist, The Klamath Tribes

**Native Fishes of Clear Lake,** Luis Santana, Fish and Wildlife Director, Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians

## Assessing Restoration Outcomes

Session Coordinator: Lisa DeRose, McMillen, Inc.

**Characterizing Ecosystem Response to Stream Crossing Removal in Redwood National and State Parks,** Rylee Rawson, Masters Student, Cal Poly Humboldt

**Evaluating Floodplain Restoration Projects Through Long Term Population Monitoring Datasets,** Katherine Stonecypher, Cal Poly Humboldt

**A Decade of Monitoring Scott River Coho Salmon,** Erich Yokel, Scott River Watershed Council

**Synthetic Evaluation of Riverine Restoration for Chinook Salmon Spawning and Rearing Habitat in the Central Valley,** Louise Conrad, California DWR

**Data Science to Understand Watershed-Scale Restoration Outcomes: A Framework,** Lucy Andrews, Ph.D., California Department of Water Resources

**Observations and Lessons Learned from Implementing Two Accelerated Recruitment Projects in the Santa Cruz Mountains,** Daniel Nylen, Watershed Restoration Program Manager, Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County

**Accelerating Restoration — Updates and Examples to Help Get the Job Done,** Eric B Peterson, Ph.D., Trinity River Restoration Program (U.S. Bureau of Reclamation)