



## Agenda

### 2018 Habitat Enterprise Fish Passage Program Review May 21-24, 2018

Silver Spring Civic Center  
1 Veterans Pl, Silver Spring, MD 20910

#### Monday, May 21 – Program Overview/Mission & Goals, Coordination

8:30 am **Arrival and Coffee**  
*Contributions appreciated*

9:00 am **Welcome and Overview**  
NOAA Fisheries Office of Habitat Conservation (OHC) will provide an overview of the program review and its scope: why the NOAA Fisheries Habitat Enterprise is doing a Fish Passage Program Review.

*Presenter: Kara Meckley, Division Chief OHC Habitat Protection*

9:15 am **Review Process Overview**  
Facilitator will provide an overview of the process approach for the program review. This will be an opportunity for the Panel to ask questions.

*Presenter: Bennett Brooks*

#### **Overall Framing:**

**Key questions:** *In the Habitat Enterprise strategic plan, our goal is to, “conserve habitat for managed fisheries and protected resources,” and one of the strategies for achieving this goal is expanding available habitat type by “increasing access to historic riverine rearing and spawning habitat for targeted diadromous fish species.”*

*Where do you see us excelling in achieving this goal?  
What kinds of things could we be doing or doing more of to help us achieve this goal?*

9:30 am **Introduction to NOAA’s Habitat Enterprise Fish Passage Programs**  
Carrie Selberg will provide a high-level overview of the NOAA Fisheries Habitat Enterprise and our strategic priorities, our Hydropower Program and Community-based Restoration Program (CRP), and an overview of our budget for these programs.

*Presenter: Carrie Selberg, Deputy Director OHC*

10:15 am **Break**

10:30 am **Regional Context**

Each Region (Northeast, Southeast, West Coast, Alaska) and Headquarters will have 16 minutes (8 minutes for CRP and 8 minutes for Hydro) to share high level overview of what fish passage looks like from their regional context. This will include what makes each Region unique, explanations of where our fish passage work is in each Region, key species their fish passage programs focus on, key accomplishments, regional fish passage challenges, and where the Region is likely to focus in the next 5-10 years given those challenges and opportunities.

- Headquarters (HQ) - *Melanie Harris and Tisa Shostik*
- West Coast Region (WCR) - *Steve Edmondson and Leah Mahan*
- Alaska Region (AK) - *Sue Walker*
- Southeast Region (SER) - *Pace Wilber and Howard Schnabolk*
- Greater Atlantic Region (GAR) - *Sean McDermott and John Catena*

12:30 pm **Lunch**

**Coordination Framing**

*Key question: How can we better coordinate our Hydropower and Community-based Restoration projects to build momentum within a watershed to open and create more opportunities for accessible habitat?*

1:45 pm **Coordination Overview**

High-level overview of the coordination occurring between the Hydropower Program and the Community-based Restoration Program (CRP). This will include watersheds where our work is overlapping and non-overlapping; key opportunities, successes and challenges with coordinating between these two programs; and plans to foster coordination going forward.

*Presenters: Melanie Harris and Leah Mahan*

2:15 pm **Coordination Case Studies:**

- Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) CRP/Hydro Diadromous Fish Planning Guidance and Watershed Teams (*Sean McDermott and John Catena*)
- Cape Fear River (*Pace Wilber and Howard Schnabolk*)
- Upper Eel River (*Steve Edmondson and Leah Mahan*)

3:30 pm **Break**

3:45 pm **Public Comment**

4:15 pm **Panelist Open Discussion**

4:30 pm **Facilitator Wrap Up**

4:45 pm **Public Adjournment**

4:45 pm -  
5:30 pm **Panelist-only Session**

## Tuesday, May 22 – Prioritization and Watershed Approach

8:30 am **Arrival and Coffee**  
*Contributions appreciated*

9:00 am **Facilitator Welcome & Review of Previous Day**  
*Consensus Building Institute Facilitators: Bennett Brooks and Tushar Kansal*

### Prioritization Framing

*Key questions: How do we better integrate Hydropower regulatory requirements and timelines with voluntary habitat restoration opportunities into a strategy for addressing highest priority barriers?*

*How do we better incorporate a “watershed” approach into high priority fish passage habitat restoration?*

9:15 am **Prioritization Introduction**  
NOAA’s fish passage program utilize a variety of approaches to prioritization used. Kara Meckley will provide an introduction to prioritization and the upcoming case studies.

*Presenter: Kara Meckley*

9:30 am **Regional Prioritization Overview and Case Studies**  
The presentations will walk through various prioritization efforts in each of these Regions, the process/model for prioritization, any strengths and drawbacks of the prioritization process/model, and provide an example of how the prioritization process/model was used to make a decision:

*15 min.  
break  
included*

- CRP GAR Fish Passage Prioritization (*Matt Collins*)
- CRP Partner-led Prioritization (*Leah Mahan*)
- Puget Sound CRP Prioritization (*Jason Lehto*)
- SERO Prioritization (*Pace Wilber*)
- WCR Prioritization (*Steve Edmondson*)
- AKRO Prioritization (*Sue Walker*)

11:30 am **Panelist Open Discussion**

11:45 am **Lunch**

1:00 pm **Hydropower High-level Overview of Watershed Approach**  
Presentation will cover why the Hydropower Program may want to move to a watershed approach, the perceived barriers to implementing a watershed approach, and what we take into account when considering a watershed approach. Bjorn will share where we have had success as well as where we have been challenged with taking a watershed approach.

*Presenter: Bjorn Lake*

1:15 pm **Hydropower Watershed Case Studies**

- Klamath Case Study (*Steve Edmondson*)
- Yuba Case Stud (*Steve Edmondson*)
- Santee Case Study (*Fritz Rohde*)

2:15 pm **Community-based Restoration Program High-level Overview of Watershed Approach**  
Presentation will cover why CRP may, and in some cases may not, want to move to a watershed approach, the perceived barriers to implementing a watershed approach, and what we take into account when considering a watershed approach. Melanie will share where we have had success as well as where we have been challenged with taking a watershed approach.

*Presenter: Melanie Gange*

2:30 pm **CRP Watershed Case Studies**

- Community-based Restoration Program Watershed Approaches (*Mary Andrews*)

2:50 pm **Panel Discussion on Watershed Approach**

3:15 pm **Break**

3:30 pm **Public Comment**

4:00 pm **Panelist Open Discussion**

4:15 pm **Facilitator Wrap Up**

4:30 pm **Public Adjournment**

4:30 pm - **Panelist-only Session**  
5:30 pm

## Wednesday, May 23 – Effectiveness and Engagement

8:30 am **Arrival and Coffee**  
*Contributions appreciated*

9:00 am **Facilitator Welcome & Review of Previous Day**

### **Effectiveness Framing**

*Key questions: How can we improve our strategy and structure for evaluating agency-wide fish passage program outcomes?*

*Within our program activities, what is the most effective balance for investing in implementation and monitoring and evaluation?*

9:15 am **Hydropower Effectiveness Monitoring**  
Review of the metrics and milestones for the Hydropower Program that are reported to NOAA Fisheries, as well as what metrics we have explored in the past.

*Presenter: Alex Atkinson*

9:30 am **Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) Implementation and Effectiveness Monitoring**  
National overview of the Tier I and Tier II monitoring efforts of the Community-based Restoration Program.

*Presenter: Tisa Shostik*

10:00 am **Monitoring Case Studies**

*includes  
15 min  
break*

- Penobscot (*Sean McDermott*)
- Patapsco and Merrimack Village Dam Monitoring (*Matt Collins*)
- Pacific NW (*Keith Kirkendall*)
- CRP California Recolonization Monitoring (*Leah Mahan*)
- Battle Creek Diversion (*Sue Walker*)
- Roanoke Rapids (*Fritz Rohde*)

12:15 pm **Panelist Open Discussion**

12:30 pm **Lunch**

**Engagement Framing:**

*Key question: What are steps we can take to improve our outreach to ensure we are effectively communicating the importance of fish passage?*

1:30 pm **Partnership and Engagement Overview**

Presentations

- National Partnership Engagement (*Alison Hammer*)
- CRP approach to Stakeholder Engagement (*Leah Mahan*)
- Hydropower Program Stakeholder Engagement (*Keith Kirkendall*)

2:00 pm **Facilitated Dialogue about Engagement**

*includes  
15 min  
break*  
Open discussion with the panel, other partners, and the public (including those who are present and via the webinar). Bennett Brooks and Tushar Kansal will facilitate a conversation among partners.

3:45 pm **Public Comment**

4:15 pm **Panelist Closing Observations**

4:45 pm **Next Steps and Wrap Up**

Facilitators, Bennett Brooks and Tushar Kansal, will share the timeline and next steps for the panel following the in person review. Kara Meckley will provide closing remarks on behalf of NOAA.

5:00 pm **Public Adjournment**

5:00 pm -  
5:30 pm **Panelist-only Session**

Thursday, May 24 – Panelist Discussions (closed to public)

9:00 am - **Panel Only Deliberations and Report Writing**  
5:00 pm