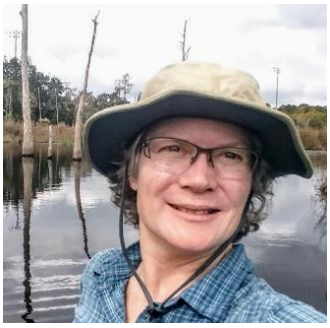
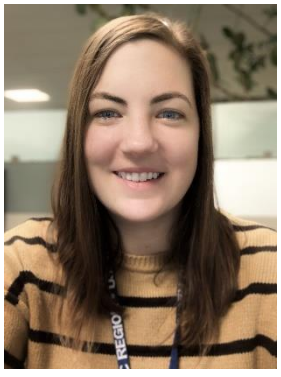
Barriers to Tidal Connectivity Symposium
Speakers List
October 28, 2020

Hosted by the Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership (PMEP), the California Fish Passage Forum (CFPF), and the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative (PLCI) with generous funding from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies



Laura Brophy, Estuary Technical Group, Institute for Applied Ecology
Effects of tidal flow barriers on the landscape array of fish habitats

Laura Brophy is the Director of the Estuary Technical Group at the Institute for Applied Ecology in Corvallis, Oregon. For over 20 years, she has provided leadership in science-based decision support for estuary restoration and conservation in the Pacific Northwest. Through her field research on tidal wetland ecosystems and her participation in collaborative groups working to improve estuary restoration science and application, she has been central to the recent renaissance of estuary restoration planning on the West Coast. In these collaborations, she has led the development of several heavily-used spatial mapping tools for estuary management and climate change adaptation planning.



Erin Butts, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
A catalog of publicly available spatial data on barriers to tidal connectivity along the US West Coast

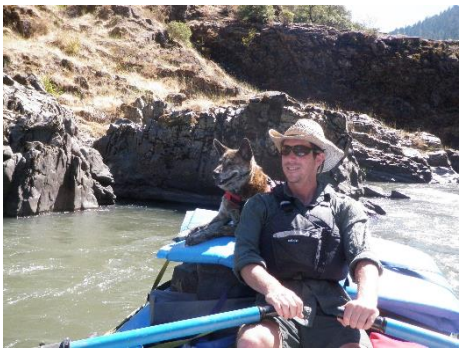
Erin Butts works for SWCA Environmental Consultants as a GIS Specialist contractor in the Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office and Science Applications for the Columbia-Pacific Northwest Region of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. She manages a Pacific Lamprey data clearinghouse as well as Pacific Lamprey spatial data for Oregon, Washington, and Idaho for the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative.

Anne Elston, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
California Passage Assessment Database (PAD)

Anne Elston graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from U.C. Santa Cruz and Certificate of Achievement in GIS from American River College. She has been working for Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission since June 2012 managing the California Fish Passage Database (PAD). PAD tracks barriers to fish migration which includes tide gates. As the manager of the PAD, she supports the California Fish Passage Forum and Fish Passage Advisory Committee. She has been involved in creating and populating California fisheries databases and in GIS since 2006.

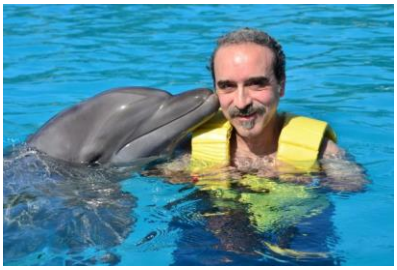
Ryan Gatchell, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Fish Passage Tool

Driven by a passion for fishing and nature, Ryan Gatchell began working for WDFW in 2007. Ryan has detailed knowledge of all things fish passage as he has performed roles including inventory and assessment of fish passage features and led quality assurance of fish passage data for several years. Mr. Gatchell received WDFW's Innovator of the Year award in 2016 for developing systems of engagement that allow the public and partners full access to WDFW fish passage data systems, and still strives to create more transparent data systems that allow restoration practitioners to make decisions based on these data.



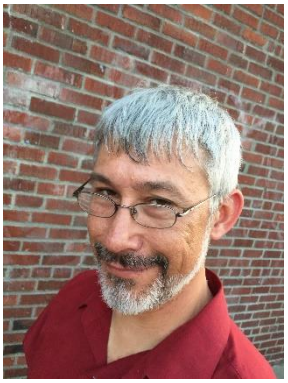
Damon Goodman, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Beyond tidal weirs: exploring connectivity issues for lampreys in estuaries

Damon H. Goodman is the lead for Pacific Lamprey conservation efforts in California for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and has been exploring the biology of the lampreys over the past 15 years. His recent efforts have focused on reconnecting lampreys with their historical habitats. Damon has found himself in nearly every primary anadromous stream in California and has co-authored over 20 peer reviewed publications on native fishes.



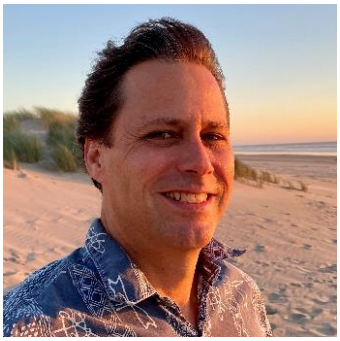
Guillermo Giannico, Oregon State University
Effects of Tidegates on Juvenile Coho Salmon: Passage & Estuarine Habitat Use

Dr. Guillermo Giannico is professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Oregon State University (OSU). His research focuses on salmonid ecology and watershed management. He holds degrees in biology, resource management and environmental studies. As an Extension Specialist for OSU he disseminates information and creates educational materials on his field of expertise, and also provides professional assistance to Extension agents, government agency personnel, watershed councils, and the public in general on salmonid ecology and behavior, fish habitat restoration, aquatic ecology, fish passage issues and integrated watershed management.



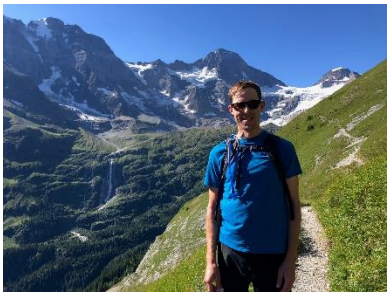
Correigh Greene, NOAA
Biological & Physical Effects of 'Fish-Friendly' Tide Gates and Tidal connectivity and passage needs of salmon

Correigh Greene is a research biologist in the Watershed Program at the Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle. He has studied the population biology and habitat relationships of salmon on the Pacific Coast since he started at the Science Center as a post-doctoral researcher in 2001. Correigh is interested in how life history variation can emerge from variable residency patterns associated with habitat use and environmental factors, and the ways in which people can facilitate population resilience through habitat restoration and other strategies. Much of his research focuses on the estuarine ecology of salmon. He currently leads a long-term study of the population effects of estuary restoration upon juvenile Chinook salmon in the Skagit River (WA).



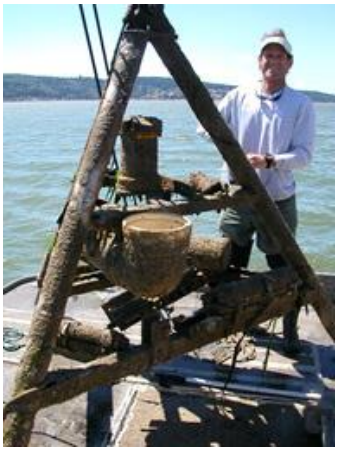
Van Hare, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
A catalog of publicly available spatial data on barriers to tidal connectivity along the US West Coast

Van Hare is the GIS Manager for the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) in Portland, Oregon. He leads a tight-knit GIS team that helps diverse partnerships use geospatial data and technologies to promote the conservation and management of Pacific Coast fishery resources. Van represents PSMFC on a number of technical/science & data committees, including the Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership (PMEP). He welcomes collaborative, interdisciplinary projects that leverage GIS as a platform to improve understanding of coastal and marine environments in order to guide strategic, data-driven resource management conservation and restoration planning decisions.



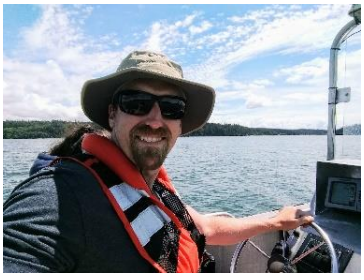
Brett Holycross, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
A catalog of publicly available spatial data on barriers to tidal connectivity along the US West Coast

Brett Holycross is a GIS Analyst/Geographer at the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. He has over 18 years of experience in data management, analysis, and visualization for fisheries across the West Coast and Alaska.



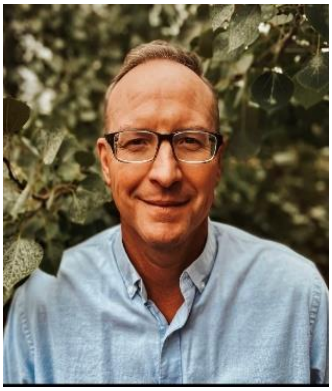
Eric Grossman, US Geological Survey
Climate change and tidal connectivity

Dr. Eric Grossman is a coastal and marine geologist and geophysicist with the U. S. Geological Survey Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center in Santa Cruz, stationed at WWU in Bellingham, WA. His research focuses on coastal geomorphology, sediment transport and nearshore habitat change. Eric leads development of the Puget Sound Coastal Storm Modeling System (PS-CoSMoS) and the integrated USGS Coastal Habitats in Puget Sound (CHIPS) Project. Together these projects help inform communities, planners and decision-makers of opportunities to mitigate and adapt to natural hazards and climate change impacts with an emphasis on habitats and ecosystem restoration efforts that ultimately benefit people. Dr. Grossman holds a PhD in Geology and Geophysics from the University of Hawaii. He serves as Tribal Liaison for the USGS Natural Hazards Mission Area and is an active member of the PMEP Science and Data Committee and Skagit Climate Science Consortium.



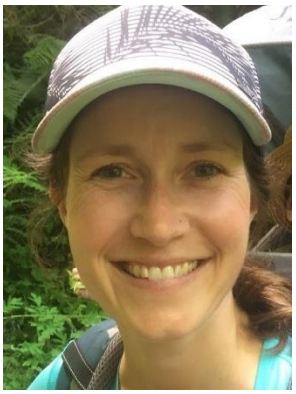
Jason Hall, Cramer Fish Sciences
Puget Sound Tidal Wetland Barrier Removal Planning project

Jason Hall has over 18 years of experience in fisheries research with an emphasis on regional-scale restoration effectiveness and status and trends monitoring. His recent work has focused on population-scale relationships between habitat status and trends metrics and Viable Salmon Population (VSP) parameters for Puget Sound salmon populations, and design and implementation of regional salmon habitat status and trends monitoring programs to support regional salmon recovery programs (e.g., ESA listing evaluations and Puget Sound Partnership Vital Signs and Common Chinook Indicators). Jason has extensive experience using GIS, remote sensing, and field-based approaches to address research questions and support salmon recovery planning and evaluation.



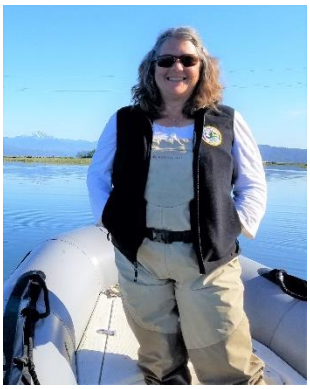
Jason Nuckols, The Nature Conservancy
The Nature Conservancy Barrier Optimization Tool

Jason Nuckols joined The Nature Conservancy in 2004. In his role as a Water Program Manager, Jason helps lead the Oregon Chapter's freshwater and coastal programs in creating and implementing effective strategies for conservation of in-stream, floodplain, wetland and estuarine habitats. Jason fundraises for and oversees project implementation in these systems throughout the state. The position requires close cooperation and leadership with numerous federal, state, local and private partners, as well as coordinating community support.



Kate Sherman, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
A catalog of publicly available spatial data on barriers to tidal connectivity along the US West Coast

Kate Sherman specializes in marine and coastal spatial data compilation, management, and analysis. Her experience includes all aspects of executing spatial analysis projects including stakeholder outreach and interviews, fieldwork, literature reviews, data compilation and standardization, data analysis, report writing, and cartography. Her ability to engage with stakeholders and partners as well as clearly communicate project results help her effectively achieve project goals. Kate is currently part of the GIS team at Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, where she is the data steward for the Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership (PMEP). While at PSMFC she has created West Coast wide datasets on eelgrass distribution dataset and tidally restored areas, and is currently compiling data on nearshore habitats and barriers to tidal connectivity.



Doris Small, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Tidal connectivity and passage needs of salmon and **Juvenile salmon movement related to the tide cycle: tidal fish passage in Puget Sound**

Doris Small is a fish habitat biologist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Program for over 30 years, focusing on nearshore and estuarine habitat protection and restoration projects. She has been involved in regulatory work, salmon recovery efforts with local watershed groups and project management for restoration projects primarily on the Kitsap Peninsula, South/Central Puget Sound and Hood Canal watersheds. She is currently a Habitat Restoration Coordinator out of Olympia, working as lead and providing technical assistance on habitat restoration projects. Doris' educational background is in marine science at UC Santa Barbara and Moss Landing Marine Lab.

Pad Smith, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Juvenile salmon movement related to the tide cycle: tidal fish passage in Puget Sound

Pad is an Environmental Engineer with WDFW. He grew up in the Pacific Northwest and has always had a strong connection to the outdoors and nature of Washington State. He has worked professionally in the water resources industry for nearly 25 years and has a strong background in hydraulics and hydrology, geomorphology of riverine and marine systems, as well as many years of experience with fish passage related issues. Pad has co-authored and contributed to many of the Washington State Aquatic Habitat Guidelines publications that are often referred to as standards for design within aquatic ecosystems well beyond the boundaries of Washington State.