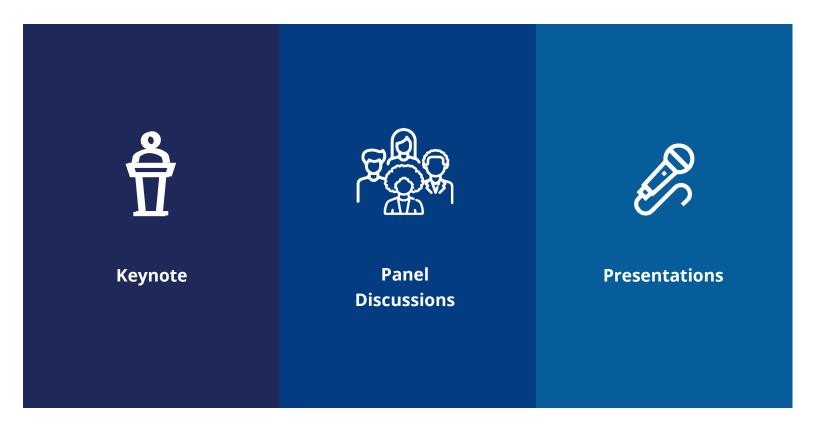
Adaptive Management Forum Agenda

October 14-15, 2025



DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL



Day 1: October 14

8:30–9:00 Check-in
 9:00–9:05 Welcome – Jessica Pearson, Delta Stewardship Council
 9:05–9:15 Forum Overview – Stephen Elser, Delta Stewardship Council
 9:15–9:40 Keynote Presentation – Karrigan Börk, UC Davis

Dr. Börk is a UC Davis Professor of Law and Director of the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences. His publications range from the definitive text on the history and application of California minimum streamflow requirements to a hatchery and genetic management plan for the reintroduction of spring-run Chinook salmon in the San Joaquin River. He works on legal and ethical issues in ecological restoration, especially problems that involve both science and law, with an emphasis on western water law.

9:40-10:25 Panel - Advancing Adaptive Management Under Accelerating Change

Panelists will share insights into challenges and opportunities for adaptive management under quickly changing conditions, and new techniques and frameworks to support environmental decisionmaking.

Panelists:

Jacob Zwart, United States Geological Survey
Karrigan Börk, UC Davis
Lisamarie Windham-Myers, Delta Stewardship Council and United
States Geological Survey
Shruti Khanna, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

Moderator: Evan Sawyer, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

10:25–10:40 **Break**

10:40-11:45 Adaptive Management Case Studies (Part 1)

Presenters will describe adaptive management case studies from the Delta and share their insights on opportunities, challenges, and gaps that could be filled to support adaptive processes.

Speakers:

Stacy Sherman, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife Jeff Caudill, CA State Parks, Division of Boating and Waterways Molly Ferrell and Tyler Anthony, CA Department of Water Resources Spencer Fern, Restore the Delta

11:45–1:00 **Lunch Break**

1:00-2:00 Adaptive Management Case Studies (Part 2)

Presenters will share additional case studies of adaptive management in the Delta.

Speakers:

Rosemary Hartman, CA Department of Water Resources Cassie Pinnell, Montezuma Wetlands LLC/Vollmar Natural Lands Consulting Gina Darin, CA Department of Water Resources

2:00-2:45 Panel - Leadership Perspectives on Adaptive Management

Stephanie Freed, Ecosystem Investment Partners

Leaders from groups implementing adaptive management will share their perspectives on progress and discuss successes and needs across scales.

Panelists:

Campbell Ingram, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy James Peterson, United States Geological Survey and Oregon State University

Louise Conrad, CA Department of Water Resources Steve Chappell, Suisun Resource Conservation District

Moderator: Henry DeBey, Delta Stewardship Council

2:45–3:25 **Gallery Walk**

In-person participants will work in small groups to summarize lessons learned and discuss barriers to and opportunities for more effective adaptive management.

This is an in-person-only component of the event.

3:25-3:40 **Break**

3:40-4:25 Panel - Adaptive Management Headlines from the Future

Panelists will share their visions for large-scale adaptive management success in 2050 and what it would take to get there.

Panelists:

Don Hankins, California State University, Chico Sydney Chamberlin, The Nature Conservancy Jay Ziegler, CA State Water Resources Control Board

Moderator: Morgan Chow, Delta Stewardship Council

4:25-4:30 Closing Remarks from Delta Stewardship Council

4:30-5:30 **Poster Session**

Attendees will share posters covering a wide range of topics related to adaptive management in the San-Franscisco Estuary and its watershed.

This will be an in-person-only component of the event.

Day 2: October 15

9:00-12:00 Site Visit to Lookout Slough Tidal Restoration and Flood Improvement Project

Located in the Cache Slough region and led by the CA Department of Water Resources, the Lookout Slough Tidal Restoration and Flood Improvement Project is the largest tidal wetland restoration project in the Delta.

At this site visit, participants will get an on-the-ground look at how adaptive management and related activities are proceeding at the site a year after levees breaches allowed tidal waters to flow into this 3,400-acre property. Scientists and managers from the CA Department of Water Resources, the CA State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways, Ecosystem Investment Partners, and the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife will share insights on planning, design, construction, invasive species management, monitoring methods, and more.

This will be an in-person-only component of the event. Meeting location will be sent to registrants.

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