



California Process-Based Restoration Network

A note from the Editors

Issue 2, September 9, 2022

Finally the second CAL-PBR Newsletter! It has been a busy and exciting summer with lots of new PBR projects underway. The Network continues to grow and teams have been busy in the field, developing training opportunities, working with regulatory agencies to streamline permitting, and planning the upcoming Cal-PBR online meeting (**Monday September 12, 1:00-3:00 pm**). Please join if you can and pass the word!

To continue to grow, we plan to build cross-collaborations with the Sierra Meadows Partnership, Klamath Meadows Partnership and the new CDFW Beaver Program. We'd love to hear about additional collaborative possibilities and encourage you to submit any and all ideas for making the Cal-PBR Network a better resource for a wide audience. Please keep reading to hear about opportunities, find out how to sign up for the upcoming Cal-PBR 3-day training opportunity, and read about ongoing PBR projects.

To remind you of the reason we started the Cal-PBR Network, a growing number of people in California are embracing process-based (aka, beaver-based, ecological, low-tech, nature-based) approaches to meadow, stream, and river restoration. We feel urgency for rapid and large-scale restoration of our degraded riverscapes to help counter the effects of drought and climate change, and we see an answer with PBR approaches. We have been working in our individual lanes to educate practitioners and regulators, obtain funding, streamline permitting, and conduct research. It's now time to join forces to speed the progress to retain water, support biodiversity, create fire resiliency, and adapt to climate change. Please join the Network and spread the water and the word!

Sincerely,

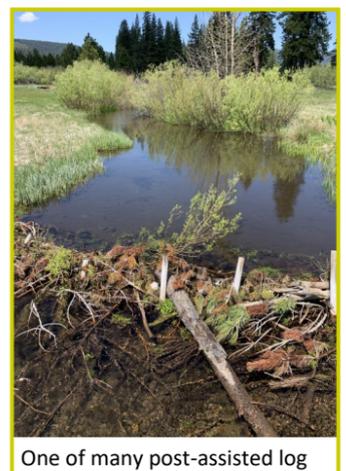
The CAL-PBR Network Newsletter Editors

Karen Pope, Carrie Monohan, Matt Berry, Brock Dolman, Garrett Costello, Jessica Dyke

Principles of PBR

Nature-based solutions for river and meadow restoration.

- ◆ Work with fluvial and biological energy
- ◆ Minimize carbon use, maximize carbon gain
- ◆ Encourage complexity, retention, and spread



One of many post-assisted log structures built by Swift Water Design on Yellow Creek, Maidu Summit Consortium lands, Plumas County.

Announcements

- ◆ **First Cal-PBR hands-on field training Sept 29 - Oct 1, 2022 - Build Like a Beaver!** Sign up for a 3-day training in beautiful Yellow Creek in Plumas County near Lake Almanor. Join California's most experienced practitioners to learn the latest on how to design and build in-stream structures to increase complexity, slow and spread water, and capture sediment. This is a full participation workshop so plan on getting wet and dirty. There's nothing like hands-on training for gaining new levels of watershed and landscape scale visioning! Visit our website Calpbr.org for more info and to sign up today!
- ◆ **Second Cal-PBR online meeting 12 Sept. 1-3 p.m.** See Agenda and how to join the meeting at the end of the newsletter.
- ◆ We are thrilled to announce that The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has been funded to create a new Beaver Restoration Program. To learn more about this exciting news, go to: <https://oaec.org/governor-newsom-enacts-historic-beaver-restoration-program/>. The Department has just posted one of the five new permanent positions to be hired immediately. This one will be housed within their Fisheries Branch while the others will be in the Wildlife Branch (still waiting for those announcements). If you know of innovative environmental scientists that could contribute to this important new program, please encourage them to apply at: <https://www.calcareers.ca.gov/CalHrPublic/Jobs/JobPosting.aspx?JobControlId=327309>
- ◆ Occidental Arts & Ecology Center WATER Institute is hiring a Communications and Project Manager! Oaec seeks a talented and passionate individual to join our WATER Institute staff to support our Bring Back the Beaver Campaign and related watershed projects through outreach, communication, research and project management. To learn more about this position and how to apply go to: <https://oaec.org/job-listings/water-institute-communications-project-manager/>
- ◆ The website calpbr.org includes PBR resources; contact information; a photo gallery; information on completed and ongoing projects; trainings; and more. Check it out!

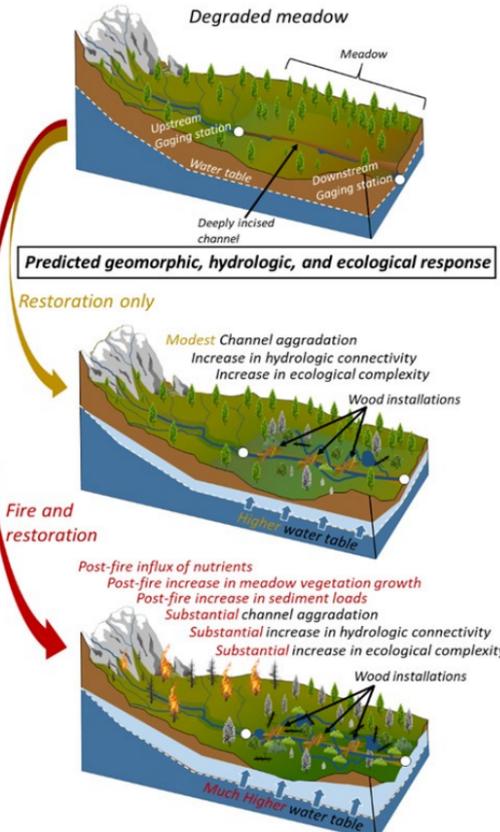
Project Spotlight

A study begun in 2021 is documenting the efficacy of capturing fire-enhanced sediment pulses with process-based restoration approaches in degraded meadows on the Plumas and Sierra National Forests (NF). The US Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station, Cal Poly Humboldt, Fresno State University, The Sierra Fund, Swift Water Design, CA Department of Water Resources, and US Fish and Wildlife Service are collaborating to address two motivating questions:

- 1) How do PBR techniques affect meadow ecology, geomorphology, and hydrology?
- 2) How do post-fire conditions impact the magnitude and timing of meadow responses to treatments?

Phase 1 of restoration was recently completed at two meadows on the Plumas NF. One great addition to the restoration efforts was the assistance of several fire crews stationed in the area. The Plumas NF fire and hydrology teams coordinated to have several fire crews available to assist with the builds. Their assistance greatly sped up restoration efforts and everyone learned about pairing stream restoration with hillslope processes and fuels treatments.

We foresee expansion of paired hillslope and stream restoration applications to better mitigate - and utilize - post-fire sediment loads. Stay tuned.



Fire crews assisted to build in-stream structures at Middle Creek Meadow, Plumas National Forest.

Bonus Project Spotlight

Brock Dolman of the Occidental Arts & Ecology Center has been working to utilize fuel load removal biomass for gully repair and to restore ecological function in upper watershed reaches with great success. Learn more about his methods and permitting process for this upland PBR work and watch a 1 minute video at <https://oaec.org/forest-thinning-and-gully-repair/>

Cal-PBR Network Meeting

Date and Time: Monday, Sept 12, 2022, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84238025465>
 Meeting ID: 842 3802 5465
 One tap mobile
 +16699006833, 84238025465# US (San Jose)

Goals: Introduce Cal PBR Network participants, talk about fall training, discuss updates, and next steps

Hosts

Karen Pope, Research Ecologist, USDA Pacific Southwest Research Station (PSW); Carrie Monohan, Program Director, The Sierra Fund (TSF)

Working Group Leads

Jeff Sanchez, CDFW; Betsy Stapleton, Scott River Watershed Council; Garrett Costello, Symbiotic Restoration; Emily Fairfax, Cal State University Channel Islands; Kevin Swift, Swift Water Design; Karen Pope, USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station

MEETING AGENDA

TIME	DESCRIPTION	LEAD
1:00-1:15	Welcome, introductions with brief project updates or connection to PBR work, meeting	Karen Pope
1:15-1:30	Talk about Cal-PBR Training	Carrie Monohan
1:30-1:45	Yellow Creek Project Overview and Update &	Kevin Swift and Garrett
1:45-1:50	Q&A	All
1:50-2:05	Monitoring and Research Working Group Update and Presentation on Post-Fire monitoring/best practices for data collection	Emily Fairfax
2:05-2:10	Q&A	All
2:10-2:25	Permitting and Project Support Working Group Update	Betsy Stapleton Jeff Sanchez
2:25-2:30	Q&A	All
2:30-2:50	Group Discussion on Network Goals, Objectives and Next Steps	Karen Pope
2:50-2:55	Closing words	Karen Pope, Carrie Monohan