The Joint Committee on Fisheries Engineering and Science is hosting a free webinar series as part of its mission to engage scientists and engineers on topics related to fish passage. The Committee consists of members of the American Fisheries Society Bioengineering Section (AFS-BES) and the American Society of Civil Engineers Environmental and Water Resources Institute (ASCE-EWRI). It was established in January 2011 to foster communication between the two groups, provide opportunities for engineers and biologists to share relevant knowledge and learn from one another, and to collaborate on projects related to fish passage.

**EVALUATING ALTERNATIVES FOR FISH PASSAGE AND REINTRODUCTION PLANNING AT A WATERSHED SCALE**

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*National Marine Fisheries Service*  
*Santa Rosa, California*

When considering reintroduction programs for anadromous salmon and steelhead to historic habitats made inaccessible by modern era dams, engineers and biologists need to consider fish passage alternatives and reintroduction planning on a watershed scale.

This 60 minute presentation summarizes four years of studies, sponsored by the National Marine Fisheries Service, to evaluate fish passage feasibility and potential habitat productivity in a major California watershed. Because the watershed features multiple dams and water diversions that block fish passage and impair instream flows, the studies concentrated on developing a variety of conceptual fish passage engineering approaches. In addition, fish habitat and population dynamics modeling was performed in order to compare the relative program costs versus the predicted biological benefits of implementing each particular reintroduction strategy. In the end, the engineering and biological studies were synthesized into a comprehensive reintroduction plan for spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead.

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