

# RESTORING ESTUARIES FOR SALMON

June 11, 2025 – Knowledge Exchange Workshop – Speaker Profiles

## DR JONATHAN MOORE

Professor, Biological Sciences & Resource and  
Environmental Management  
Simon Fraser University



Dr Jonathan Moore is Professor of Aquatic Ecology and Conservation at Simon Fraser University, where he holds the Liber Ero Research Chair of Coastal Science and Management and is director of the Aquatic Research Cooperative Institute. Dr Moore is interested in the dynamics of coastal ecosystems - how these ecosystems function, and how human activities impact that function. Much of his work focuses on the freshwaters that Pacific salmon call home, and his research draws from multiple perspectives, applying theories and approaches from evolutionary, ecosystem, food-web, and community ecology viewpoints. He and his students lead research that has conservation and management implications, as Dr Moore believes that a deep understanding of the ecological consequences of human activities is needed to properly weigh management trade-offs. He is an award-winning scientist recognized for research excellence and conservation impact, has published over 130 papers, and serves as various science advisory roles.

Additional resources:

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=LEcBhAMAAAAJ&hl=en>

<https://www.jonwmoore.org/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m0NJy5b3BA>

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## DR GREG HOOD

Senior Research Scientist  
Skagit River System Cooperative



Dr Greg Hood is a Senior Research Scientist for the Skagit River System Cooperative, a natural resources agency serving the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community and the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe. He has been working for more than 30 years in Pacific Northwest estuaries and tidal wetlands from the Columbia River north to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta in Alaska, and has also had the good fortune to dabble in tidal marshes in Chile and the Atlantic coast of France. His research focuses on the interaction between geomorphology and ecology in tidal wetlands, with application to habitat restoration and recovery of threatened Chinook salmon. He's currently engaged in research on developing predictive models for vegetation and tidal channel geometry, for use in planning and designing restoration projects and anticipating future sea-level rise impacts to tidal marshes.

Additional resources:

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Wx1MttUAAAJ&hl=en>

<https://skagitcoop.org/>

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## JESSICA COTE

Principal Coastal Engineer and Owner  
Blue Coast Engineering



Jessica Cote is Principal Coastal Engineer and Owner of Blue Coast Engineering, based in Seattle Washington. Jessica works with multi-disciplinary teams and combines physical measurements, engineering analysis, and numerical modeling to develop restoration designs for estuaries and shorelines that increase resiliency to storm and flood events. She takes a process-based approach to her work, incorporating both engineering and geomorphology, as well as balancing the needs of stakeholders. Her love for estuaries and oceans started at a young age and she has lived coast to coast in the US before settling in Seattle. Her work has led to opportunities to work on complex coastal issues across the United States and around the world including four of the five major oceans and she now focuses her time and energy on giving back to the health and recovery of Puget Sound.

Additional resources:

<https://gobluecoast.com/>

<https://wacoastalnetwork.com/teams/cote-jessica/>

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## STEVE HENSTRA

Project Manager & Restoration Biologist  
Nature Trust of BC



Steve Henstra is a Project Manager and Restoration Biologist with Nature Trust BC. Steve leads the Restoration, Monitoring, and Inventory team at Nature Trust, contributing to the management of Conservation Lands in the West Coast Region of BC. He is involved in the design and implementation of ecological restoration projects, developing and implementing long-term monitoring and inventory projects, as well as community outreach. Steve is versed in both aquatic and terrestrial ecology, having completed his Masters degree in Botany from the University of British Columbia, and that combination of skills is a very strong asset when working in estuaries. In his free time, Steve is an avid hiker and camper and lives in Nanaimo on Vancouver Island.

Additional Resources:

<https://www.naturetrust.bc.ca/>

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## **CATHERINE CORBETT**

Chief Scientist  
Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership



Catherine Corbett is Chief Scientist with the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership. Catherine joined the Estuary Partnership in 2008 and leads its Science Team, managing the habitat restoration, data management, and monitoring programs. Catherine's work led to developing a strategic prioritization plan and effectiveness monitoring program for the Columbia Estuary, which we'll hear a bit about today, and which has improved regional investment in restoration. She also led the effort to establish voluntary numeric habitat coverage targets for the lower Columbia River. Catherine coordinates monitoring and restoration activities with numerous partners in the lower Columbia River. She served as the Senior Scientist for the Charlotte Harbor NEP where she developed resource-based water quality targets and managed an interagency monitoring network. Prior to joining the Columbia Estuary Partnership in 2008, Catherine gained work and research experience in wide diversity of places, from Massachusetts to Florida and even the Middle Atlas Mountains of Morocco.

Additional resources:

<https://www.estuarypartnership.org/>

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## DAVE SCOTT

Research & Restoration Coordinator,  
Lower Fraser Salmon Program  
Raincoast Conservation Organization



Dave Scott is a salmon biologist and his work focuses on understanding juvenile salmon life histories to support restoration planning. Dave juggles 2 roles, his first as a PhD student at the University of British Columbia where his research focuses on understanding juvenile Chinook estuary reliance. Dave's 2<sup>nd</sup> role is as the Research & Restoration Coordinator with Raincoast Conservation Foundation, which is a team of conservationists and scientists empowered by science to advocacy to protect the lands, waters and wildlife of coastal British Columbia. At Raincoast, Dave leads the Lower Fraser Salmon Program and Fraser Estuary Connectivity Project. Before joining Raincoast 10 years ago, Dave completed his Masters degree with our morning speaker Dr. Jonathon Moore, studying the effects of flood infrastructure on salmon habitat in the Lower Fraser River. His time with Dr Moore was his first exposure to working on the Fraser River and with Pacific salmon, and he hasn't turned back since.

Additional resources:

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=6xHp4eUAAAAJ&hl=en>

<https://www.raincoast.org/team/david-scott/>

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## DR MELANIE DAVIS

Asst Unit Leader, Oregon Cooperative  
Fish & Wildlife Research Unit  
United States Geological Survey



Dr Melanie Davis is an Assistant Unit Leader with the U.S. Geological Survey's Oregon Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Oregon State University. Her current research is centered on salmonid species, although it was actually a love for herpetology that jump-started her scientific career. Growing up in central Ohio, Melanie spent much of her free time chasing snakes, salamanders, and frogs around her backyard. Since then, she has had the fortune to study a variety of species and systems and the common thread that ties her work together is the integration of quantitative methods, landscape-scale analyses, and species-habitat relationships. Melanie is passionate about applied ecology and the ways in which it can positively influence management decisions and outcomes. When not staring at R code and herding her students, she enjoys going for hikes with her family, camping, climbing, writing, and playing board games.

Additional resources:

<https://davishabitatlab.com/people/>

[https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=RvYhRBQAAAAJ&view\\_op=list\\_works&sortby=pubdate](https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=RvYhRBQAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate)



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