**Panelists Links**

**California Comebacks! Nature’s Resilience in the Golden State**

Wednesday, April 22, 2025

**Secretary Speaker Series:** <https://resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Secretary-Speaker-Series>

**Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency**

<https://resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Who-We-Are/Secretary-for-Natural-Resources>

California Natural Resources Agency: <https://resources.ca.gov/>

California Natural Resources Agency Earth Day Events: <https://resources.ca.gov/EarthDay2025>

Panelists:

- Beth Pratt, Regional Executive Director, National Wildlife Federation

- Tiana Williams- Claussen, Director Wildlife Department, Yurok Tribe

- Molly Alves, Senior Environmental Scientist - Beaver Restoration Program, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

- Join Cain, Conservation Director, River Partners

- Tristin Anoush McHugh, Kelp Project Director, The Nature Conservancy in California

**Beth Pratt, Regional Executive Director, National Wildlife Federation**

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

<https://www.bethpratt.com/>

<https://www.nwf.org/About-Us/Leadership/Beth-Pratt-Bergstrom>

A lifelong advocate for wildlife, Beth Pratt has worked in environmental leadership roles for over thirty years, and in two of the country's largest national parks: Yosemite and Yellowstone.

Beth Pratt has worked in environmental leadership roles for over 25 years, and in two of the country’s largest national parks: Yosemite and Yellowstone. As Regional Executive Director of the [California Regional Center](https://www.nwf.org/California) of the National Wildlife Federation, “I have the best job in the world” she says. “While advocating for the state’s remarkable animals, I get to travel around California and spend time with condors, mountain lions, porpoises, pika, and foxes, and work with some amazing people who help wildlife thrive.”

Before joining the Federation in 2011, she worked on sustainability and climate change programs for Xanterra Parks & Resorts in Yellowstone as its Director of Environmental Affairs. Prior to her role in Yellowstone, for nine years Beth served as the Vice President/CFO for the non-profit Yosemite Association (now Yosemite Conservancy) in Yosemite National Park. Beth graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Boston with bachelor's degrees in management and biological anthropology, and a minor in marketing. She also obtained an MBA from Regis University in Denver, and earned the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED AP credential.

<https://annenberg.org/initiatives/wallis-annenberg-wildlife-crossing/>

World’s largest wildlife crossing reaches new milestone as habitat project begins | Governor of California: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2025/04/02/worlds-largest-wildlife-crossing-reaches-new-milestone-as-habitat-project-begins/>

Save LA Cougars: <https://savelacougars.org/>

California Wildlife Reconnected – Wildlife Crossing Fund: <https://wildlifecrossingfund.org/california-wildlife-reconnected/>

**Tiana Williams-Claussen, Director Wildlife Department, Yurok Tribe**

Yurok Tribe: <https://www.yuroktribe.org/>

<https://www.yuroktribe.org/wildlife-department-staff>

Tiana is a member of the Yurok Nation, from the village of Wehl-kwew’, and Director of the Yurok Tribe Wildlife Department. She received her Bachelor's degree in Biochemical Sciences from Harvard University and was instrumental in the creation of the Yurok Tribe Wildlife Program and the development of many of its conservation initiatives, including the effort to reintroduce California condors to Yurok Ancestral Territory. Tiana relies on her native upbringing and formal education to bridge the beliefs, knowledge, and practices of the Yurok with those rooted in Western-science, and to work toward a cohesive, well-informed perspective on holistic ecosystem management.

Yurok Condor Restoration Program: <https://www.yuroktribe.org/yurok-condor-restoration-program>

Yurok Trive Condor Livefeed: <https://www.yuroktribe.org/yurok-condor-live-feed>

Yurok Tribe: [www.yuroktribe.org/wildlife](http://www.yuroktribe.org/wildlife)

Our Facebook page for condors is [www.facebook.com/YurokCondors](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FYurokCondors&data=05%7C02%7Cgita.chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7Cce305de064e44793289108dd829b1b05%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638810324903241674%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=PSkvBl3cIAOlYZr1Szsg395YwibCpTFeYfNgPqMEqlk%3D&reserved=0)

The reintroduction and management of California condors (*Gymnogyps californianus*) is one of the Yurok Tribe’s flagship conservation projects. The Yurok Tribe, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are partners in the Northern California Condor Restoration Program (NCCRP) —

the collaborative effort to restore condors to Yurok Ancestral Territory and the Pacific Northwest. Through these efforts, the Yurok Condor Restoration Program (YCRP) endeavors to reestablish an apex scavenger that has been absent for more than a century, restore the balance and biodiversity that existed prior to Euro-American colonization of the region, and promote a thriving ecology for the benefit of wildlife and humans.

**Molly Alves, Senior Environmental Scientist - Beaver Restoration Program, California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

**California Department of Fish and Wildlife: Page:** [**https://wildlife.ca.gov/**](https://wildlife.ca.gov/)

**Bio:** Molly’s interest and personal passion exist in using field-based research to solve wildlife conservation issues, particularly human-beaver conflict and climate change mitigation. I am the Supervisor for the California Beaver Restoration Program, which relocates beavers from areas where coexistence is not possible to headwater streams that beavers struggle to naturally recolonize in an effort to store water, enhance biodiversity, and protect our landscape from wildfire. I have experience in wildlife management and relocation with a number of species including elk and mountain goats, human-wildlife conflict, and habitat enhancement.

CDFW Beaver Restoration Program Website: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Mammals/Beaver>

* + Here you can find our recently released progress report and video, beaver translocation project proposal application, and information about our upcoming beaver translocation project proposal application webinar.

A time series slider comparing the imagery collected pre- and post- beaver establishment is available - Tásmam Koyóm Pre (November 2023) /Post (November 2024) Beaver Activity

<https://cdfw.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=792d919959d54d2ab8cb66338ffb811a> and will be updated as additional imagery is incorporate over time.

See lnk for the public to contribute to our knowledge of current beaver distribution in CA.

Beaver Observation Survey Tool: <https://cdfw.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=d9146ba6c84540c297b54d5ca73f2a95>

More on nature-based solutions: <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Expanding-Nature-Based-Solutions>

**Join Cain, Conservation Director, River Partners**

[**www.riverpartners.org**](http://www.riverpartners.org)

**Cain Bio:** [**https://www.watersolutionsnetwork.org/john-cain**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.watersolutionsnetwork.org%2Fjohn-cain&data=05%7C02%7CGita.Chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7C3b62e12e40864c2f410508dd828bf0cd%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638810260248387133%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C80000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4ww17nVtSs7AuNXiubleEiJ9HPD3U%2BBNJ9qSb7dGXVI%3D&reserved=0)

John Cain is currently the Director of Conservation at River Partners. In 2017, he was honored as “Floodplain Manager of the Year” by the Floodplain Management Association. Earlier in his career he served as Restoration Ecologist at the Natural Heritage Institute and staff scientist for the Mono Lake Committee. He holds a bachelor’s degree in physical geography and a master’s degree in environmental planning from U.C. Berkeley.

**Blog - “****[Floodplains at Work](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Friverpartners.org%2Fnews%2Ffloodplains-at-work%2F&data=05%7C02%7CGita.Chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7C3b62e12e40864c2f410508dd828bf0cd%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638810260248401049%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C80000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=rWhAqXtF7ihqi8iijHJlJMSMTI%2BxOZ8zaJ5%2BciAhxmo%3D&reserved=0)”:** <https://riverpartners.org/news/floodplains-at-work/>

**Dos Rios: A Story of Renewal:** <https://riverpartners.org/news/watch-dos-rios-a-story-of-renewal-2025-wild-and-scenic-film-festival-selection/> - 15 minute film with Ethan Peck

[**The Guardian piece**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fenvironment%2F2025%2Fapr%2F19%2Fseed-collector-california-native-landscapes&data=05%7C02%7CGita.Chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7C3b62e12e40864c2f410508dd828bf0cd%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638810260248427163%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C80000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WlVWT%2FoUiUdXF52myODtbSAJujMsGcc358VuT40j2ME%3D&reserved=0) **on Heritage Growers from a few days ago:** <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/apr/19/seed-collector-california-native-landscapes>

**Tristin McHugh, Kelp Project Director, The Nature Conservancy in California**

The Nature Conservancy in California - <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/california/>

Full Bio: <https://www.ioes.ucla.edu/person/tristin-mchugh/>

Tristin Anoush McHugh is a subtidal ecologist and kelp forest restoration practitioner based in Mendocino, California. She is an accomplished scientific SCUBA diver and instructor who has over 1,500 dives in some of the most logistically challenging and unpredictable waters of the Eastern Pacific.

* State-funded project: [https://caseagrant.ucsd.edu/our-work/research-projects/accelerating-bull-kelp-ecosystem-recovery-recently-deforested-location](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcaseagrant.ucsd.edu%2Four-work%2Fresearch-projects%2Faccelerating-bull-kelp-ecosystem-recovery-recently-deforested-location&data=05%7C02%7Cgita.chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7Cc29cfc93641a47c0715d08dd81f93c32%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638809630099893272%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=e8aZjgyKNXh08USi%2BBMXoA4vM9FtPm9b95QJxX2a5uc%3D&reserved=0)
* McHugh et al 2025- project outcomes for state-funded project: [https://bullkelp.info/sites/default/files/2025-03/ANCKR\_Interim\_Report\_2025\_TNC\_03122025.pdf](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbullkelp.info%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2025-03%2FANCKR_Interim_Report_2025_TNC_03122025.pdf&data=05%7C02%7Cgita.chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7Cc29cfc93641a47c0715d08dd81f93c32%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638809630099914032%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IuDv8Tslw7nqKnNfPtqIMnw8qseU2xFNIqxxdcP3vtA%3D&reserved=0)
* Vanishing Forest: [https://www.nature.org/en-us/magazine/magazine-articles/kelp-forest/](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nature.org%2Fen-us%2Fmagazine%2Fmagazine-articles%2Fkelp-forest%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cgita.chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7Cc29cfc93641a47c0715d08dd81f93c32%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638809630099940516%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tMui9TLBtFoJIksh%2FteDgHmK2k1sgxSmIC4mUXZ9mrY%3D&reserved=0)
* Above/Below: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6FHic6X6rg](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Db6FHic6X6rg&data=05%7C02%7Cgita.chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7Cc29cfc93641a47c0715d08dd81f93c32%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638809630099955052%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ax3c3cbBprSVhMh0EQufclK%2F7v%2BnvVolClkR9QW%2B%2BvQ%3D&reserved=0)
* *KelpFest 2025!* : [https://www.northcoastkelpfest.org/](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.northcoastkelpfest.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cgita.chandra%40resources.ca.gov%7Cc29cfc93641a47c0715d08dd81f93c32%7Cb71d56524b834257afcd7fd177884564%7C0%7C0%7C638809630099927271%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qeJsnf6uUZaweDueW3ZHXjYv9FxyPLUhovO9MalpZuc%3D&reserved=0)