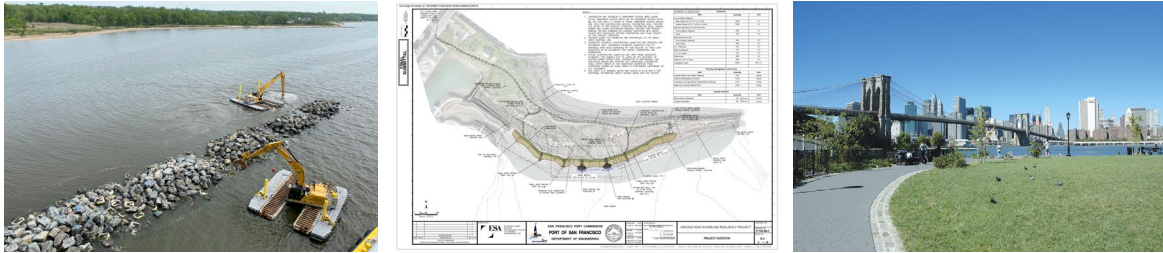


SESSION GUIDE

IMPLEMENTING RESILIENCE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PERMITTING NATURE-BASED LANDSCAPES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 9:00 – 10:00 AM PT

American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Conference on Landscape Architecture 2022, San Francisco, CA



Living Breakwaters, Heron's Head Shoreline Resilience Project, Brooklyn Bridge Park (Credit: SCAPE, ESA, AKRF)

SESSION OVERVIEW

Resilient and nature-based shorelines are an increasingly important part of a landscape architect's waterfront design portfolio but realizing our designs can be challenging due to local, state and federal permitting requirements. Learn from experts what you need to know to realize your shoreline designs and minimize mitigation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the federal, state, and regional (NY and Bay Area) regulatory context around designing/constructing landscapes that touch the water/wetlands.
 2. Hear the lessons learned on how to implement a successful environmental review and permitting of in-water landscapes from real experience on complete or in-construction projects.
 3. Find out what environmental review and permitting experts think the most critical things are that you need to know as a landscape architect doing work in/on the water.
 4. Learn strategies for adapting your waterfront design and design narrative for successful permitting and environmental review.
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SESSION STRUCTURE

Introduction	10 minutes	Why landscape architects should know about environmental review and permitting <i>Pippa Brashear / SCAPE Landscape Architecture</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Example projects: incorporating nature-based infrastructure<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Resilient infrastructure / nature-based resilience○ Integrating resilient shorelines into flood defense○ Incorporating habitat edges into public space• Navigating the regulatory context• Successful environmental review and permitting: design must satisfy project objectives; how you tell the story• Building teams that understand the process and regulatory context
Presentation 1	15 minutes	The NY Harbor Context <i>Sandy Collins / AKRF</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federal regulatory context: why it matters and what you need to know• Key regulations and agencies involved• Understanding permits and the permitting process• Efforts for reform and change• What landscape architects should know about permitting in-water projects / NNBF (NY Harbor perspective)• Case studies: successful NY Harbor projects
Presentation 2	15 minutes	The SF Bay Context <i>Jill Sunahara / ESA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key regulations and agencies involved• Understanding permits and the permitting process• Efforts for reform and change• What landscape architects should know about permitting in-water projects / NNBF (Bay-area perspective)• Case studies: successful Bay-area projects
Q&A	20 minutes	Moderated by Pippa Example questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>I am designing a project with ecosystem enhancements, incorporating new/improved habitat, why do I still need so many permits? and why are regulators still requiring / asking for mitigation?</i>• <i>When don't I need a permit? What can I do to avoid a permit?</i>• <i>What can I do to avoid or minimize (costly) mitigation? Can't my project be "self-mitigating"?</i>

SPEAKERS



Sandy Collins

Senior Vice President, AKRF / akrf.com

Sandy Collins (MS, Biology) is a Senior Vice President with 36 years of experience who specializes in natural resource assessments and permit compliance for projects in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the United States, with a special focus on waterfront projects in urban areas. She has extensive experience in managing and performing environmental impact assessments and ecological studies for environmental, engineering, land use planning, and power generation/transmission projects and working with engineers and designers throughout the design process to minimize environmental impacts and permitting issues. Her experience includes designing and conducting field investigations to evaluate environmental impacts, including aquatic and terrestrial biota surveys, wetlands assessments, and rare, threatened or endangered species surveys; water quality and environmental impact assessments, including potential adverse or beneficial impacts of stormwater management; and preparation of state and federal environmental permit applications.



Jill Sunahara

NorCal Biological Resources Director, ESA Associates / esassoc.com

Jill's more than 20-year career has focused on environmental compliance and permitting in water and natural resource management markets across the West Coast. With a technical focus on environmental compliance strategy for habitat restoration projects and programmatic permits, Jill has led successful permitting efforts for several key projects, including the California Department of Water Resources' Sacramento Flood Control Operations and Maintenance Program, the 250-acre Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project, and the recently adopted California Clean Water Act Section 401 Statewide Restoration General Order. She leads ESA's largest practice group and seeks to cultivate a diverse, inclusive, equitable, and just community of biologists and permitting specialists.

MODERATOR



Pippa Brashear, RLA

Resilience Principal, SCAPE Landscape Architecture / scapestudio.com

Resilience Principal at SCAPE, Pippa is a leading national expert on resilience planning and design. She works with multi-disciplinary teams to develop and implement landscape strategies and next-century infrastructure that integrate environmental, economic and social benefits. She leads both planning and built work teams within the firm, including SCAPE's Living Breakwaters project—approximately 2,400 linear feet of near-shore "breakwaters" designed to reduce risk and provide habitat for local marine life currently in construction off the shore of Staten Island. Her projects integrate systems thinking; natural and nature-based systems; engineering methods; and knowledge of implementation pathways to realize effective resilient design.

REFERENCES

- Source 1 New York City Waterfront Navigator
<https://waterfrontnavigator.nyc/>
- Source 2 NYS DEC Living Shoreline Guidance
https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/dmrlivingshoreguide.pdf
- Source 3 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation – Permits
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6222.html>
- Source 4 California Natural Resources Agency’s Cutting the Green Tape Initiative
<https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Cutting-the-Green-Tape>
- Source 5 California EcoAtlas
<https://www.ecoatlas.org/>
- Source 6 Sustainable Conservation’s efforts to simplify permitting to accelerate restoration efforts in California
<https://suscon.org/project/simplified-permitting/>
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