



## Thursday November 17, 2016

Palmer Community Center (Depot), 610 S. Valley Way, Palmer

### 8:30 Registration

### 9:00 Symposium Welcome

Christy Cincotta (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee member, Executive Director, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

Lee Stephan (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee member, President, Native Village of Eklutna)

Ralph Renzi (Executive Director, Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce)

### 9:30 Keynote Address: *What Makes Alaska's Salmon Rivers Resilient?* – Daniel Schindler

Introduction: Adam St. Saviour (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

### 10:30 Networking Break

### 11:00 Improving our Knowledge of Salmon and Their Habitat

Moderator: Sue Mauger (Cook Inletkeeper)

*Salmon Habitat Mapping for Landscape-scale Planning in the Matanuska-Susitna Basin* – Christine Woll (The Nature Conservancy)

*Cataloging Anadromous and Resident Fish in Previously Unmapped Streams Identified During Fish Passage Assessments in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB)* – Mark Eisenman (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Mat-Su Salmon Research Plan* – Howard Delo and Andrew Couch (Matanuska-Susitna Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission)

### 11:45 Climate Change and Juvenile Salmon Habitat Use

Moderator: Marcus Geist (University of Alaska Anchorage)

*Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Growth and Consumption in Three Geomorphically Distinct Sub-basins of the Kenai River* – Benjamin Meyer (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

*Cold Water Habitat Use by Juvenile Coho Salmon in the Big Lake Basin* – Heather Leba (Cook Inletkeeper)

*Juvenile Chinook and Coho Salmon Winter Habitat in the Middle Susitna River* – Jeff Davis (Aquatic Restoration and Research Institute)

*In-stream Movements and Seasonal Habitat Use of Juvenile Chinook and Coho Salmon in the Montana Creek Watershed, Alaska* – Jonathon Gerken (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

### 12:45 LUNCH



### **1:45 Invasive Species**

Moderator: Cindy Gilder (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation)

*Towards an Understanding of Population Structure and Adaptation by Invasive Northern Pike: An Overview of an Emerging Research Program* – Jeff Falke (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

*Elodea in Alexander Lake and Alaska: Learning Lessons and Eradication Successes* – Heather A.M.S. Lescanec (Alaska Department of Natural Resources)

### **2:15 Tidbits**

Moderator: Kim Sollien (Great Land Trust)

Please sign up at the registration desk to present a 3-minute project summary or announcement. If you have a slide or two to project (maximum 2 slides), please load them by the end of lunch.

### **2:45 Break**

### **3:15 Hatcheries and Salmon**

Moderator: Erika Ammann (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

*The Vital Role of Hatchery Programs in Conserving Susitna Salmon Stocks* – Andrew Wizik (Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association)

### **3:30 Barriers to Fish Movement**

Moderator: Erika Ammann (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

*2016 Status Update on Fish Passage Barriers in the Mat Su Borough* – Gillian O'Doherty (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Removing the Lower Eklutna River Dam: A Progress Report* – Brad Meiklejohn (The Conservation Fund)

### **4:00 Announcements and Adjourn for Daytime Portion of Symposium**

Moderator: Arni Thomson (Alaska Salmon Alliance)

### **4:00– Evening Social**

**6:00** Palmer Community Center (Depot), 610 S. Valley Way, Palmer

Come visit with your colleagues and our keynote speaker. The Mat-Su Salmon Partnership is providing appetizers from Turkey Red and a cash bar will be available.

### **6:30– Evening Public Presentation: *What Makes Alaska's Salmon Rivers***

#### **7:30 *Resilient?* – Daniel Schindler**

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Introductions: Jeff Davis (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Science and Data Committee Co-chair, Aquatic Restoration and Research Institute)

Everyone is welcome to come hear Daniel Schindler share his Symposium talk about what makes Alaska's salmon rivers resilient. This talk is intended for a general public audience.



## Friday November 18, 2016

Palmer Community Center (Depot), 610 S. Valley Way, Palmer

### 8:30 Registration

### 9:00 Symposium Welcome

Suzanne Hayes (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Symposium Planning Committee, Retired, Alaska Department of Fish and Game)  
Richard Porter (Executive Director, Knik Tribe)  
Vern Halter (Mayor, Matanuska-Susitna Borough)

### 9:15 Conservation Strategies and Protections for Salmon

Moderator: Matthew LaCroix (Environmental Protection Agency)  
*Salmon and Society Workshop* – Milo Adkinson (University of Alaska Fairbanks)  
*An Introduction to the Division of Habitat, Who We Are and What We Do* – Ron Benkert (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)  
*Tyonek Area Watershed Action Plan Updates* – Christy Cincotta (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)  
*Instream Flow Water Reservations in the Mat-Su Basin: Update on Progress* – Franklin Dekker (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)  
*Mat-Su Borough Stormwater Analysis Projects on Cottonwood Creek and Vine Creek* – Mike Campfield, P.E. (Matanuska-Susitna Borough) and Laura Eldred (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation)

### 10:30 Networking Break

### 11:00 Alaska's Fish Habitat Partnerships

*A panel discussion with Alaska's fish habitat partnerships.*  
Moderator: Robert Ruffner (Former Coordinator, Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership)  
Tim Troll (Southwest Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Coordinator, Bristol Bay Heritage Land Trust)  
Jack Sinclair (Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Coordinator, Kenai Watershed Forum)  
Deborah Hart (Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Coordinator, Trout Unlimited)  
Frankie Barker (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee member, Matanuska-Susitna Borough)  
Tracy Smith (Western Native Trout Initiative Steering Committee member, Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

### 12:00 LUNCH



**1:00 Community and Salmon Habitat Conservation**

Moderator: Catherine Inman (Mat-Su Conservation Services)

*Salmon Advocacy in Alaska: Value Based Public Engagement* – Amy O’Conner (Alaska Center)

*Salmon Conservation Ideas for the Classroom* – Ryan Viola

*Engaging Alaskan Anglers in Conservation & Science* – Sam Snyder (Trout Unlimited)

*Mat Su Valley Streambank Rehabilitation and Habitat Protection Cost Share Program: Lending a Hand in the Community to Help Salmon Habitat* – Tracy Smith (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Landscape Scale Conservation: Caring for Salmon as a Shared Community Asset* – Kim Sollien (Great Land Trust)

**2:15 Tidbits**

Moderator: Dan Rinella (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

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**2:45 Networking Break**

**3:00 Story Telling: The Super Salmon Film**

Moderator: Jon Gerken (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Mike Wood (Susitna River Coalition) and Ryan Peterson (Alaskanist Stories)

**3:50 Conclusions**

Moderator: Laura Eldred (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation)

**4:00 Adjourn**