



## Monday November 14, 2022

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

### 8:30 Registration

### 9:00 Symposium Welcome

Margaret Stern (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee member, Susitna River Coalition)

Gary Harrison (Chief, Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

### 9:15 Keynote Address: *Salmon Futures: Stewardship of Salmon Systems in an Era of Rapid Change* – Dr. Jonathan Moore (Virtual)

Introduction: Sue Mauger (Cook Inletkeeper)

### 10:15 Networking Break

### 10:45 Identifying & Addressing Potential Threats to Salmon & Their Habitat

Moderator: Becky Shaftel (University of Alaska Anchorage)

*Winter Stream Monitoring in the Matanuska Watershed*– Kendra Zamzow (Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

*Identifying Heat Stress in Pacific Salmon Using Skeletal Muscle Tissue* – Vanessa von Biela (U.S. Geological Survey)

*Phytoremediation at Road-Stream Crossings* – Lucas Byker (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

*Farmland Conservation: Interactions to Improve Salmon Habitat* – Amy O’Connor (Alaska Farmland Trust)

### 11:45 *Mat-Su Borough Fish & Wildlife Commission Update* – Andy Couch (Mat-Su Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission)

### 12:00 LUNCH

### 1:00 Proposed Development & Management Plan Changes in the Susitna River Drainage

Moderator: Matthew LaCroix (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

*Things to Watch: An Update on Three Important Issues in the Susitna Drainage* – Margaret Stern (Susitna River Coalition)

*Salmon and Trout Ecology and Habitat of Susitna Basin Recreation Rivers* – Sarah O’Neal (University of Washington)

### 1:30 *Community Perspective: Paul Warta (Palmer raised youth)*



## **1:45 Poster Session & Art Showcase**

Moderator: Amy O'Connor (Alaska Farmland Trust)

Poster authors and artists from Palmer Highschool will be on hand to answer questions about their work.

*Proof of Concept: Operating a Video Camera Floating-Panel Weir on Moose Creek in Sutton, Alaska* – Laura Pevan (Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

*Mapping Meadow and Montana Creeks' Riparian Zones* – Marcus Geist and Anjanette Steer (University of Alaska Anchorage)

*Settlers Bay Coastal Park Expansion Project* – Libby Kugel (Great Land Trust)

*Understanding the Condition and Trend of Aquatic Habitats Using an AIM Based Approach* – Matt Varner (Bureau of Land Management)

*New Tools on the Horizon for Stream Restoration Planning* – Matt Varner (Bureau of Land Management)

*Improving Fish Passage in the Mat-Su Borough* – Mike Campfield (Mat-Su Borough)

*Wasilla Creek Headwaters Trail Improvements in the Matanuska Valley Moose Range* – Mike Campfield (Mat-Su Borough)

*Eklutna River Restoration*– Carrie Brophil (Native Village of Eklutna)

*Salmon Spawning Habitat: Eklutna River*– Carrie Brophil (Native Village of Eklutna)

*Multimedia Salmon Art Showcase* – students (Palmer High School)

## **2:15 Break**

## **2:30 Tidbits**

Moderator: Andy Wizik (Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association)

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 Science to Conservation Outcomes: Cold Water Refugia**

Moderator: Mike Daigneault (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Partners have worked hard to fill gaps in our scientific knowledge about salmon and their habitat in the Mat-Su. What happens however, after a science gap has been filled? This session will highlight a pilot effort to assist in moving science to conservation outcomes, focused on cold water refugia, and will include presentations and break-out group discussion (land classification, area-wide planning, data quality, data availability, landowner outreach).

## **4:00 Announcements & Adjourn**

Eric Booton (Trout Unlimited)

## **4:15 Evening Social & Poetry Reading**

Feather and Flour, 927 S Cobb St., Palmer

Come visit with your colleagues and hear local Palmer Poet Danni Psenak Linden share a short reading of her original salmon poetry. The poetry reading is scheduled for 4:45pm. The Mat-Su Salmon Partnership is providing appetizers, and a cash bar will be available till 6:15, when the social ends.



## Tuesday November 15, 2022

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

### 8:30 Registration

### 9:00 Symposium Welcome

Laurie Stuart (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee member, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

### 9:15 *Deshka River Outreach & Other Updates from the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership* – Jessica Speed (Mat-Su Salmon Partnership Coordinator, Trout Unlimited)

### 9:30 *Traditional Dena'ina Use of the Deshka River* – Kevin Toothaker (Knik Tribe) and Fran Seger-Boss (Knik Tribe and Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

### 9:45 Non-native & Invasive Aquatic Species

Moderator: Parker Bradley (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Anadromous Waters and Elodea Surveys in the Remote Western Mat-Su Borough* – Jillian Jablonski (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

*Factors Affecting Northern Pike (Esox lucius) Leaping Ability: Implications for Barrier Design in Invaded Systems* – Taylor Cabbage (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

*Predation on Salmonids in Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson* — Marykate Swenerton (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

*Impacts of Introduced Alaskan Blackfish (Dallia pectoralis)* – Lucas Byker (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

### 10:45 Networking Break

### 11:15 Restoring Salmon Habitat & Accessibility

Benjamin Meyer (Kenai Watershed Forum)

*2022 Fish Passage Construction in the Mat-Su Borough* – Jessica Straub (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and Tracy Link (Mat-Su Borough)

*ADF&G Fish Passage Program Update* – Michael Mazzacavallo and Kevin Keith (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Falls Creek Restoration* – Corinne Marzullo (Watershed Restoration Engineer), Howard Carbone (Alaska Nature Guides), Ed O'Connor

### 12:00 LUNCH



**1:00 Tidbits**

Nate Cathcart (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

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.

**1:30 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding: Opportunities and Resources**

Moderator: Austin Williams (Trout Unlimited)

This session will include presentations and a panel discussion to assist partners in learning more about emerging funding opportunities through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

Erika Ammann and Monica Keim (NOAA)

Mike Daigneault (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Erin Reinders (Alaska Municipal League)

**2:45 Conclusions**

Andy Couch (Member, Mat-Su Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission)

**3:00 Adjourn**