



Wednesday November 8, 2017

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

8:30 Registration & Coffee/Snacks

9:00 Symposium Welcome

Sue Mauger (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Science and Data Committee Member, Cook Inletkeeper)

Lisa Wade (Director, Chickaloon Village Health, Social Services and Education) / Albert Harisson (Elder/Member, Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

Sam Cotten (Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

9:30 Keynote Address: *Strategizing How to Avoid Irreversible Loss of Wild Salmon Populations* – Tara Martin

Introduction: Jessica Speed (The Nature Conservancy)

10:30 Networking Break

11:00 Identifying and Conserving Community Assets

Moderator: Kim Sollien (Great Land Trust)

Building a Salmon-Safe Mat-Su Basin: Guidelines for Fish-friendly Development

Dan Kent (Salmon-Safe)

A Model for Identifying Community Assets in the Mat-Su Core Area

Matt McMillan (Great Land Trust)

Towards More Integrated Salmon Knowledge Systems

Rachel Donkersloot (Alaska Marine Conservation Council)

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

The Public Process and Salmon

Amy O'Connor (The Alaska Center)

12:00 LUNCH

1:00 Improving our Knowledge of Salmon & Their Habitat

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

Characterization of Thermal Regimes in the Mat-Su Basin

Rebecca Shaftel (University of Alaska Anchorage)

Winter Inter-gravel Temperature Monitoring of Salmon Redds within the Mat-Su Streams

Michael Mazzacavallo (R2 Resource Consultants Inc.)

Assessing Watershed Integrity in the Matanuska-Susitna River Watershed

Kelsey Aho (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

Sampling Previously Unmapped Streams in the Mat-Su Borough

Mark Eisenman (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

Juvenile Coho Salmon Overwintering Site Selection / Dispersal Strategies in Big Lake Watershed

Joshua Ashline (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)

2:15 Break



2:30 Tidbits

Moderator: Catherine Inman (Mat-Su Conservation Services)

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 Invasive Species and Fish Passage

Moderator: Christy Cincotta (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

Landscape Genetic Diversity of Native and Invasive Northern Pike in Alaska

Chase Jalbert (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Chelatna Lake Invasive Northern Pike Suppression

Mark Willette (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

Elodea Eradication in Remote, Dynamic Systems

Daniel Coleman (Alaska Department of Nature Resources)

Assessing Fish Passage Success in Culvert Structures with a Two-dimensional Algorithm

Considering Physical Capabilities of Juvenile Salmonids

Alexandra West Jefferies (PND Engineers, Inc.)

DOT&PF Culvert Fish Passage Design Strategy

Paul Janke (Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities)

4:00 Announcements and Adjourn for Daytime Portion of Symposium

Moderator: Arni Thomson (Alaska Salmon Alliance)

6:00 – Evening Public Event: *Salmon Live Here: Stories of the Fish We Love in*

8:00 *the Mat-Su Valley*

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

Everyone is welcome to come hear seven, seven-minute fish stories and live music!



Thursday November 9, 2017

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

8:30 Registration & Coffee/Snacks

9:00 Symposium Welcome

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

9:15 Protections for Salmon, Conservation & Restoration Updates

Moderator: Dave Albert (The Nature Conservancy)

An Introduction to the Division of Habitat, Who We Are and What We Do

Ron Benkert (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

Understanding Stand for Salmon: Protecting Alaska's Fisheries for Future Generations

Sam Snyder (Stand for Salmon)

Instream Flow Reservations in the Mat-Su Basin and Upper Cook Inlet

Ann Marie Larquier, Leah Ellis, Kevin Keith (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

Impacts and Mitigation in Waters of the United States within the Mat-Su

Jeremy Grauf (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District Habitat Monitoring and Restoration Updates

Nicole Swenson (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

10:30 Networking Break

10:45 What Has the Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Achieved and What Will the Priorities Be Going Forward?

Bill Rice (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and Tara Martin (University of British Columbia)

This session will be a look-back on Partnership progress since its formation, as well as an update and look-forward with an upcoming Strategic Action Plan Revision.

12:15 LUNCH

1:15 Information Sharing and Open Discussion Groups

Moderator: Katrina Liebich (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

These topics were proposed before the Symposium. Additional discussion topics can be added during the Symposium: please suggest other topics on the signup sheet at the registration table. At mid-point in the session you will change groups and discuss another topic.

1. Fish Passage Where Roads Cross Streams

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

2. Clean Water for Salmon: Initiating a Salmon Safe Certification Program in the Mat-Su Basin

Discussion lead: Dan Kent (Salmon Safe)

3. Ecosystem Services Success Stories from Alaska: Identifying and Amplifying Those Stories

Discussion lead: Jimmy Fox (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)



4. Mat-Su Borough Lake Monitoring Program: Indicators to Monitor and Broader Use
Discussion lead: Melanie Trost (Mat-Su Borough)
5. Matanuska River Data Needs
Discussion lead: Jessica Winnestaffer (Chickaloon Native Village)
6. Invasive Pike Management: How to Prioritize Efforts and Lessons Learned
Discussion lead: Nicole Swenson (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)
7. Stream Temperature: Looking to the Future – Implementing Pro-active Strategies for Fisheries Management
Discussion lead: Leslie Jones (University of Alaska Anchorage)
8. Encouraging Conservation Ethics
Discussion lead: Ryan Viola (Wasilla Lake Christian School)
9. ATV Use in the Mat-Su Valley
Discussion lead: Ron Benkert (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)
10. Inter-communication on Salmon within the Mat-Su and the State
Discussion lead: Jeremy Grauf (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

2:30 Networking Break

2:45 Understanding Origins of Harvested Salmon in Cook Inlet & Spawning Distribution

Moderator: Erika Ammann (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

Where did Commercially-caught Coho Salmon in Cook Inlet Originate: Genetic Stock Identification Sheds Some Light

Andy Barclay (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

Northern Cook Inlet Chinook Salmon Marine Harvest Stock Composition

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

Spawning Distribution of Susitna River Chinook Salmon

John Campbell (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

3:30 Tidbits

Moderator: Leslie Jones (University of Alaska Anchorage)

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.

3:45 Conclusions

Larry Engel (Mat-Su Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission)

4:00 Adjourn