



**Steering Committee Meeting  
REMOTE MEETING  
Tuesday, September 8, 2020 1:30 – 4 pm**

**NOTES**

**Attendance:**

**Steering Committee:**

Michael Mazzacavallo, Alaska Department of Fish & Game (Facilitator)

Jessica Speed, Trout Unlimited (Notetaker)

Christy Cincotta, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District

Ted Eischeid, Mat-Su Borough

Theo Garcia, Knik Tribe

Eric Booton, Trout Unlimited

**Science and Data Committee:**

Anjanette Steer, UAA/Center for Conservation Science

Laura Eldred, AK Department of Natural Resources

**Guest presenter:**

Marcus Geist, UAA/Center for Conservation Science

**Partnership Business (80 min)**

- Approve July 2020 Steering Committee Meeting Notes *\*July Notes* (5 min)

Approved. Jessica S. to put in partnership files and on website under resources tab.

- Partnership fiscal agent change – update and opportunity for questions (Jessica) (10 min)

September 1<sup>st</sup>, was the Partnership's first day with Trout Unlimited (TU) as the new host organization including Jessica's first week with TU as Partnership coordinator. Jessica shared a basic update with comments from Eric – TU staff on Steering Committee. Things are going well, no questions from committee.

- Identifying Priority Science Data Gaps for the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership – update and discussion (Laura/Anjanette) *\*Science and Data Committee Data Gaps Memo* (20 min)

Over the summer our Science and Data Committee Co-chairs – Laura Eldred and Anjanette Steer worked to identify priority science and data gaps for the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership. This was potentially to inform this year's RFP process for NFHP funds, but also could be used to identify needs funded through other sources. Main tool to help identify priority gaps was the 2018 Partnership accomplishments report covering 2013-2017 where some gaps were highlighted by subject matter experts during that process. Co-chairs worked with the Science and Data Committee to refine the list.

\*Proposed Priority Data Gaps for FY21 RFP Process:

1) Anadromous Waters Catalog: conduct a data gap analysis to assess and prioritize streams under 1,000 meters (approx. 3,000 ft.) remaining to be cataloged with a goal to reach 50% of all streams below 1,000 meters in 5 years. (1,000 meters is the reasonable elevation that fish surveys can be completed with backpack electrofishing). This effort could build on GIS work completed by the Palmer Soil and Water Conservation District to run network tracing tasks on the NHD flowline network to identify those upstream ancestors of current AWC lines as potential streams to survey.

2) Floodplain Mapping/Riparian Areas/Meander Belt Mapping: an accurate survey of flood plains, riparian areas and meander belts could help planners understand potential impacts from proposed developments. Riparian areas are those transition areas between a stream bed and upland, including the floodplain of a stream/river. Meander belt is another term for the floodplain area of a stream and includes inactive channels that may be used in the future if the stream meanders to another path. Recommendation: focus activity on the identified 35 priority water bodies in the Mat-Su, and fastest growing areas (e.g. core area).

3) Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) and Stream Crossings: identify and prioritize crossing sites for future improvement projects. Fund future restoration work in the most threatened priority fish habitat areas. This process would be similar to the fish passage program.

4) Community water needs assessment - MSSHP to support the Matanuska- Susitna Borough (MSB), this includes wetlands issues. This assessment would include identification of source water assessments, public water systems, wetlands (groundwater recharge functions), water reservations, and water quality impairments. The goal would be to develop a comprehensive geospatial dataset that would facilitate creating a planning tool for Matanuska-Susitna Borough planners that could be used on a watershed level to support future planning and platting efforts. Recommendation: support MSB.

*Note:*

Priority #4 – the community water needs assessment is a substantial hydrology assessment and is too big for the annual RFP, so was removed from the list.

Priority #1 is intended to support ADF&G in identifying highest priority areas to be surveyed in the Mat-Su.

Priority #2 – should focus on the Core Area

Priority #3 – ID the existing crossings in use and then create a list of areas to address – either inclusive of a prioritized list or creating the foundation so a prioritization can be done.

- FY21 RFP Process for National Fish Habitat Partnership Funds (Jessica/Trent) (25 min)

Through the National Fish Habitat Partnership program, the Partnership annually holds an RFP to fund local salmon habitat related projects that meet goals outlined in the Partnership's Strategic Action Plan. The RFP will be going out soon.

- Updates to RFP this year, including new online process– discussion and possible decision \**FY21 RFP Guidelines, FY21 RFP Scoresheet*

Jessica to work with Anjanette and Marcus to utilize the online data collection form as part of the RFP process this year. Goal is to streamline efforts and make updating project mapper and progress tracking easier and more efficient.

Jessica to draft multiple RFP options for SC to review and pick most appropriate method to include science and data gap priorities.

- Review process and timeline – decision \**RFP Timeframe and Process*

Review process is same as last year. The group walked through and identified key dates. The call for proposals opens mid-September and closes October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

- Partnership Steering Committee Seats – update and discussion (Jessica and Christy) (20 min)

Christy Cincotta shared that she will be leaving TTCD as Executive Director and taking a new position with the USFWS. Given this, she will also be stepping down from the Mat-Su and Kenai Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committees. We are very grateful for Christy's long- standing commitment to the Partnership, and hopeful Christy may still be involved with the Mat-Su and other Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships in her new role.

The Partnership Steering Committee has 9 seats (3 of them At-large, 1 Tribal and the rest standing). TTCD held the Tribal seat. The Steering Committee tabled a discussion on filling TTCD's Tribal seat until the November meeting.

**Partnership Project Mapper** – a virtual tour of the mapper and its capabilities (Marcus Geist/Anjanette Steer) (30 min)

Thank you to Anjanette and Marcus, who finalized an online location to host the Partnership's NFHP funded projects this summer. This was a chance to talk about and walk through a completed mapper that is live and online, including going over some basic functions to help us learn how to use it – and maximize its capabilities. Find power point pdf attached at bottom of notes.

Link to mapper -

<https://accsmaps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=80f32c6b8807414191cf314d44539101>

**Committee Updates:** (20 min)

- Outreach (Jessica/Eric)
  - Social media, science summaries, progress report, site tour

- Science summaries are complete (save one edit on the riparian summary). Thanks to the many involved in developing these. They will be released monthly late summer, into fall.
- Thanks to Eric Booton for handling social media and a handful of other outreach tasks while Jessica was out in August.
- Progress report is in draft phase
- Site tour deferred to a date in the fall when Jessica is back in office
- Symposium (Libby)
  - Libby Kugel is Symposium Coordinator – thanks to her. Thomas Quinn is keynote speaker. We are opening up the call for abstracts and registration which will close in October.
- Capacity and Development (Christy/Jessica)
  - Partnership capacity – Jessica is working with TU to identify what capacity support they might be able to provide internally.
- Science and Data (Laura/Anjanette)
  - Any remaining updates not covered in Partnership Business? No.

**Partner and National Updates** (10 min)

- General partner updates – round robin style

Ted Eischeid shared updated schedule for MSB’s wetland mitigation ordinance schedule and indicated they are still looking for feedback on the draft ordinance through the end of the year.

<https://www.matsugov.us/43-projects/21326-wetland-mitigation-ordinance>

Theo Garcia has been working on a number of projects including stream bank restoration work with Alaskans for Palmer Hay Flats and the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge, working with valley recycling center group, and trying to partner with a greater variety of places – including AK Forum on the Environment, and currently in harvest mode, pulling up three acres of potatoes!

- National updates (Mike or Trent)

**Next meeting:**

- Tuesday, November 10th 1:30-4pm

Committee decided to create a list of steering committee members for scheduling facilitator and notetaker roles.

Action: Jessica to send out.

**Facilitator:** TBD

**Notetaker:** TBD

# Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership Project Mapper

Steering Committee Update

September 8, 2020

Anjanette Steer and Marcus Geist



Alaska Center for  
Conservation Science  
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

# Mat-Su Basin Habitat Partnership

*working for thriving fish, healthy habitats, and vibrant communities in the Mat-Su Basin*

Partnership

Mat-Su

What We Do

Your Help

Resources

Contact

Blog

## MAT-SU SALMON SYMPOSIUM WAS NOV 13 & 14TH!

The 12th annual Mat-Su Salmon Science & Conservation Symposium was in Palmer, Alaska November 13 ...

[Continue Reading...](#)

Project Mapper

Partner Studies and Reports

Strategic Planning Documents

Steering Committee Meeting Notes

Partnership Operations

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



## Project Mapper

[Click on the link](#) to view our new inventory of projects!

With the involvement of many partners, the Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership published its original Strategic Action Plan in 2008, that identified specific goals to conserve salmon and their habitat in the Mat-Su Basin. Over the past fourteen years, the Partnership has provided funding for over 100 projects throughout the Mat-Su Basin, that address the Plan's goals and objectives.

While the annual Mat-Su Salmon Symposium hosted by the Partnership brings partners and projects together to information share two days each November, the Partnership recognized a need for a central project and data repository that would be accessible via a online mapping application.



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<https://www.matsusalmon.org/resources/project-mapper/>



# Cautionary Notes



- Project locations are approximate.
- Many projects are regional in their geographic extent and therefore mapped to a central location (e.g. Mat-Su Borough office)
- Other projects have numerous field locations yet are only represented by a single point (e.g. sampling on multiple streams, or culvert replacements at different sites).



# Guide to Web Mapping Tools

The image shows a screenshot of the MatSusalmon Project Mapper web application. The interface includes a search bar at the top left with the text "Find address or place". Below the search bar is a toolbar with icons for drawing, selection, and other map functions. A callout box labeled "Draw" points to the drawing icon, and another callout labeled "Select" points to the selection icon. A third callout labeled "Base Map" points to the base map icon. The main map area displays a topographic map of the Mat-Su Basin in Alaska, with various project locations marked by colored icons. A callout labeled "Legend" points to the legend panel on the right, which lists project types (Conservation, Restoration, Science, Outreach) and strategies (Science, Riparian, Climate, Culverts, Wetlands, Impervious, Invasives, LargeDevelopment, WaterFlow, Estuarine, OffRoadRec). A fourth callout labeled "Layers" points to the layers panel at the bottom right, which shows a legend for years (2017-2019, 2014-2016). The map also shows geographical features like Denali National Park, Alaska Range, Talkeetna Mountains, and Chugach Mountains. A scale bar at the bottom left indicates 20 and 40 miles, and the coordinates 143.2533 60.6708 Degrees are shown.

<https://www.matsusalmon.org/resources/project-mapper/>

# How to link to Project Report (pdf)

The screenshot shows a web application interface for the Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership. At the top, the logo reads "Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership" with the tagline "working for thriving fish, healthy habitats, and vibrant communities in the Mat-Su Basin". To the right, the main heading is "MatSu Salmon Habitat Partnership Projects".

The interface includes a search bar with the placeholder text "Find address or place" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar are several utility icons: a plus sign, a minus sign, a home icon, a grid icon, a filmstrip icon, a printer icon, a location pin icon, and a plus sign in a square.

The map displays various project locations marked with icons: a hammer for construction, a water drop for water-related projects, and a tree for habitat projects. A specific project location is highlighted with a red square, and an information popup window is open over it.

The popup window, titled "(1 of 3)", displays the following information for the "Eska Creek Culvert Step-Pool Construction" project:

Partner Organization	Chickaloon Village Traditional Council
Year	2010
Project Type	Restoration
Report_link	<a href="#">More info</a>

At the bottom of the popup, there is a "Zoom to" button and a three-dot menu icon. A white callout box with a black border points to the "More info" link, containing the text "Report link: more info".

# How to change Basemap (background)

1) Base map button

MatSu Salmon Habitat Partnership Projects

Find address or place

Basemap Gallery

- Imagery with Labels
- Streets
- Topographic
- USGS National Map
- Topographic

2) Select from options





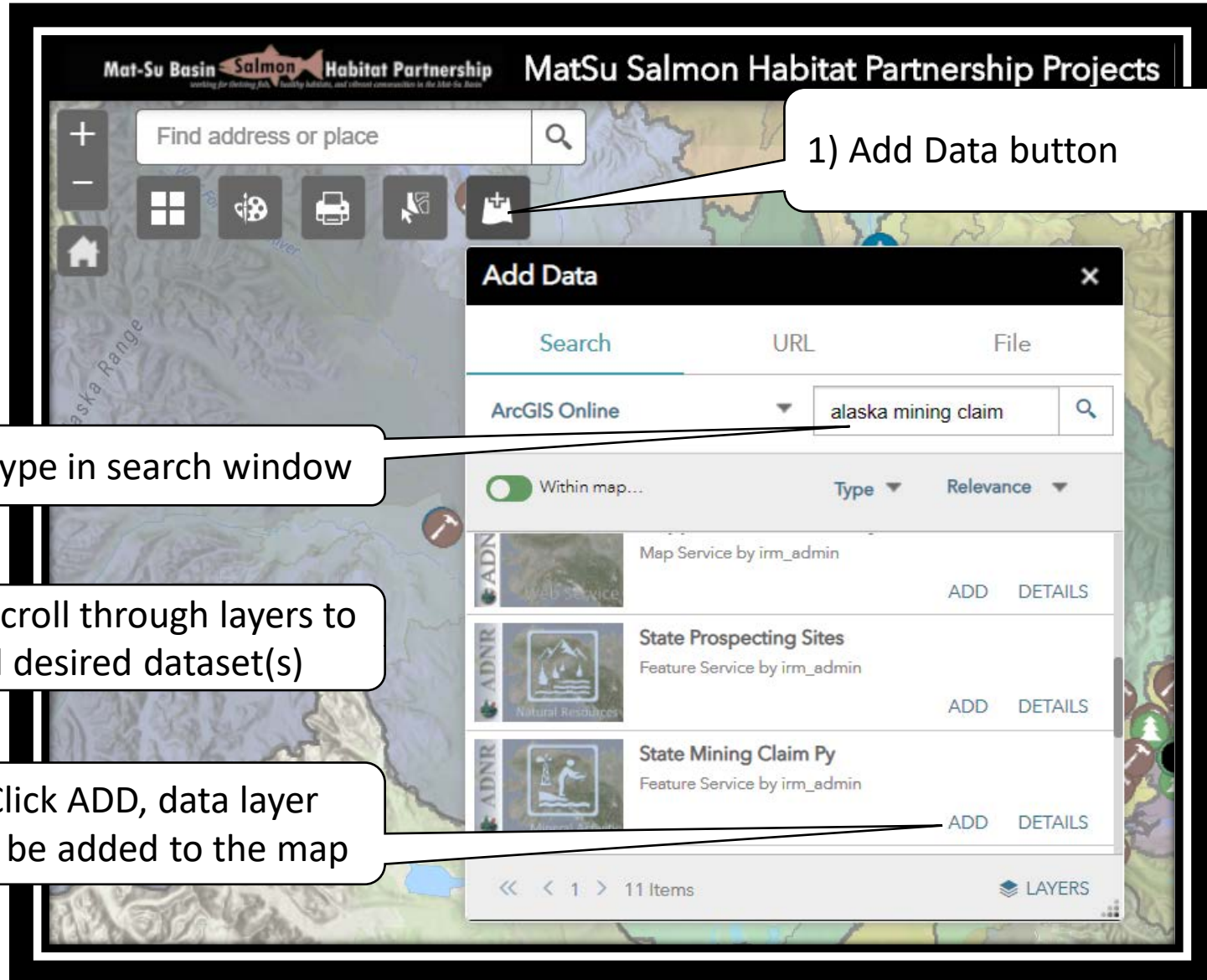
# How to Add other data (ArcGIS Online)

1) Add Data button

2) Type in search window

3) Scroll through layers to find desired dataset(s)

4) Click ADD, data layer will be added to the map



# How to Add data to ArcGIS or ArcPro

1) Enter URL (listed below) to reach ArcGIS Online feature service

2) Select Open in ArcGIS Desktop or ArcGIS Pro

The screenshot shows the ArcGIS Online interface for an item titled "Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership Projects". The browser address bar contains the URL: [arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=ef5749e2def64589a4f59c79ab5c9891](https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=ef5749e2def64589a4f59c79ab5c9891). The page features a blue header with navigation tabs for "Overview", "Data", and "Visualization". A map thumbnail on the left shows a distribution of points. The main content area includes a description: "An inventory of projects sponsored by the Matanuska-Susitna Salmon Habitat Partnership since 2007. Projects include science and data collection, education and outreach, habitat restoration and protection." Below the description is a "Layers" section with two layers: "PROJECT TYPE" and "STRATEGY", both identified as "Point Layer". On the right side, a "Details" section provides metadata: "Source: Feature Service", "Created from: Mat-Su Salmon Habitat Partnership Projects, Service Definition", "Data Last Updated: Sep 8, 2020, 3:44:26 PM", and "Size: 224 KB". A dropdown menu is open, showing options: "Open in Map Viewer", "Open in Scene Viewer", "Open in ArcGIS Desktop", "Open in ArcMap", and "Open in ArcGIS Pro".

<https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=ef5749e2def64589a4f59c79ab5c9891>

# Links to Project Reports

