

Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Annual Workplan – 2024 Draft
 Based on organizational priorities from [2019 Addendum to the Strategic Action Plan](#).

**Find a list of prioritized general partnership activity and a summary list of key activity in 2024 at bottom of document.*

Priority 1: Encourage the development and dissemination of relevant science-based information.				
Objective 1: The Science and Data Committee will focus on providing technical expertise within and outside the partnership, including identifying and filling data gaps, inform and establish best practices, and interpreting research on Basin habitat impacts.				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Technical review of projects for NFHP funding	February/March 2024	Operational	Science and Data Committee, Coordinator	
Provide regional input on NFHP National Assessment information request and other NFHP information requests.	Spring 2024	Operational	Science and Data Committee, Coordinator	
Support scoping for Strategic Action Plan update and other annual requests of the Steering Committee – either through annual workplan or other.	Summer 2024/Ongoing	Operational	Science and Data Committee, Coordinator, Steering Committee	
Support MSB and Waterbody Setback Advisory Board (WBSAB) efforts to address issues and update waterbody setback ordinance as needed.	Spring/summer/fall 2024	Operational	Science and Data Committee, Matt LaCroix, Coordinator	
Objective 2: Identify and implement strategy to improve dissemination of relevant science-based information.				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Update and implement annual outreach plan <i>*Find more detail in outreach section (Priority 4).</i>	December 2023/January 2024	Operational	Outreach Committee, Coordinator	

Support MSB riparian ordinance update including MSB Waterbody Setback Advisory Board effort.	Ongoing as needed. Board report due September 2024	Operational	Matt LaCroix (MSBWBSAB rep), Coordinator, Steering Committee, Science and Data	
Continue Science to Conservation Outcomes Initiative	Ongoing	Operational Applied FY25 NFHP funding (Cook Inlet Keeper)	Sue Mauger (Cook Inletkeeper), Mike Daignault (USFWS), Coordinator	

Priority 2: Support the development of an Elodea and other emerging aquatic invasive species management framework that includes prevention, early detection, rapid response, eradication, and monitoring.

Objective 1. Under the umbrella of existing agency plans, support coordination of resources to specifically address elodea and other emerging aquatic invasive species eradication in the Mat-Su Basin.

Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Participate in Mat-Su Elodea Task Force	Ongoing	Operational	Coordinator, other?	
Pledge written support to Alaska Statewide Invasive Species Partnership (AKISP) Strategic Plan	Winter	Operational	Coordinator, Steering Committee	
Have a MSBSHP representative ready to apply to serve on the AKISP Board or other committee in 2024	By December 2024	Operational	Steering Committee, Coordinator, Outreach Committee	
Highlight efforts of Mat-Su Elodea Task Force and AIS issues through Partnership outreach and events	Ongoing	Operational	Coordinator	

Objective 2: Encourage use of the Elodea management framework as a template to respond to other emerging invasive species issues.

Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Work with and support existing partners and structures to help ensure Mat-Su has the structure it needs to address current and emerging AIS. If the structure is not there, are there other existing structures we can support as a template for Mat-Su?	July Steering Committee meeting	Operational	Steering Committee, Coordinator	

Priority 3: Continue to provide and allocate strategic grant funds in support of prioritized salmon habitat projects.

Objective 1: Establish a process for identifying annual Partnership conservation priorities to guide organizational activities and ensure that projects funded through the National Fish Habitat Partnership program align with local Partnership priorities.

Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Annually revise the MSBSHP RFP to reflect current MSBSHP priorities and NFHP National Conservation Priorities.	Begin SC discussion in July or Sept 2024, ready to announce RFP in December 2024	Operational	Steering Committee, Coordinator	
Annually distribute RFP to email subscribers and partner networks. Promote RFP on website news blog and funding page.	December 2024	Operational	Coordinator, Steering Committee	
Engage Science and Data Committee in technical review of proposals annually.	February/March 2024	Operational	Coordinator, Science and Data Committee	
Evaluate and finalize ranked project list, update projects in NFHP database and complete report with recommended projects for funding to NFHP board.	March 2024	Operational	Steering Committee, Coordinator	

Share latest and most relevant science through standing Partnership events (Symposium, site tour for community leaders and community planting day).	June 2024/August 2024/November 2024	Operational	Coordinator, Outreach Committee	
Objective 3: Track implementation of ACE Act and proactively engage to ensure the Partnership remains competitive.				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Provide updates to project sponsors for FY24 and FY25 projects and improve this process in 2024.	May 2024 and ongoing	Operational	Coordinator, Steering Committee or committee volunteer	
Identify primary challenges with ACE Act transition and highlight to NFHB Board during their Alaska trip and other opportunities.	Spring/summer 2024	Operational	Steering Committee, Coordinator	
Engage in National Coordinator and other relevant meetings and communicate key information to Steering Committee.	Ongoing	Operational	Coordinator	
Complete Congressional Partnership Designation Application	May 17 th , 2024	Operational	Coordinator, Steering Committee	
Review and address as needed areas for improvement identified through the Congressional partnership designation application.	July or September Steering Committee meeting	Operational	Coordinator, Steering Committee	

Objective 3: Streamline and automate RFP Process				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
In FY26, look for more efficiencies for both applicant and coordinator for updating projects in NFHP database. *Consider NFHP pilot if available	October 2023	Operational	Steering Committee, Coordinator	
Priority 4: Provide effective and inclusive outreach and education focused on healthy salmon habitats.				
Objective 1: Grow and utilize the ability of the Partnership to be an effective convener on salmon habitat issues.				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Host summer site tour for community leaders	August 2024	Operational, partner donations	Coordinator, Outreach Committee	
Host Mat-Su Salmon Science and Conservation Symposium and create space for special topical sessions and targeted invitations	November 2024	Operational, partner donations	Symposium Planning Committee, Coordinator	
Host NFHP Board Mat-Su site visit	August 1	Operational possibly NFHP	Steering Committee, Coordinator	
Continue Science to Conservation Outcomes Initiative (including focused efforts on data transfer)	Ongoing, plan session for 2024 Mat-Su Salmon Symposium	Operational other partner funds	Partners (Sue Mauger, Mike Daigneault) and Coordinator	
Objective 2: Improve community knowledge, awareness, and understanding that leads to informed decision making and works towards salmon-friendly land use and development.				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status

Summer site tour for community leaders – focus on most relevant topics, invite affected community councils, and at least 2 new attendees. Invite media.	Host August 2024	Operational	Outreach Committee, Coordinator	
Work with outreach committee to identify and fundraise for more targeted and/or broader reach (e.g. related to importance of riparian areas and other priority messaging). Get on radio, T.V. and/or non-traditional target audience.	By December 2024	Operational	Outreach Committee, Coordinator	
Share with Partnership list-serve, and provide public comment for strategic plan relevant topics (e.g. MSB riparian ordinance process)	Ongoing	Operational	Coordinator, Steering Committee	

Objective 3: Develop and implement an annual event directed to a community audience.

Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Continue to host community riparian planting day and associated restoration (next two yrs on Montana Crk)	Host June 15 th	NOAA Rec Fish, TU, ADFG, USFWS, SRC, Knik Tribe Operations	Montana Creek restoration group, Coordinator	

Objective 4: The Partnership will work collaboratively with ACE Act funded agencies, Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships, northern Cook Inlet local governments and partners to address larger scale issues with regional impact.

Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Work with UAA and others to plan and host Cook Inlet Salmon Conference	Spring 2025	Operations	Coordinator, Symposium Planning Committee	Attended one planning meeting thus far
Other BIL/IRA support efforts – consider partner and regional needs that fit with strategic plan. Share opportunities via list-	Ongoing – July or Sept Steering Committee agenda	Operations	Steering Committee, Coordinator, Symposium Planning	

serve and support efforts as identified and capacity and interest allow. (e.g. hosted regional fish passage meetings, informational sessions at Symposium etc..)				
Priority 5: Continue to strengthen the Salmon Partnership's internal organizational capacity.				
Objective 1: Continue to develop and implement a sustainable staffing plan – explore strategies for increasing staff capacity, including additional paid staff, consultant capacity and/or contractors with a vision to longer term stability.				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Work with Steering Committee and fiscal sponsor to update and implement a development plan. Fundraise for Strategic Plan update)	Ongoing	Operations	Steering Committee, Fiscal Sponsor (Trout Unlimited), Coordinator	Ongoing
Objective 2: • Deepen existing engagements with partner organizations to increase their involvement and contributions to Partnership business.				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Evaluate and update partnership and committee structure as needed, to better provide for partner engagement and leadership. Also look for other opportunities through standing events (session space at Symposium, opportunities to host trainings, or at committee levels)	Ongoing	Operations	Symposium planning, Coordinator, Steering Committee, Outreach	Ongoing
Objective 3: Continue to diversify the partnership's revenue stream – decrease reliance on federal dollars				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Identify funding gaps and scopes of work to be funded. Invite Steering Committee and other partner organizations to contribute to fundraising goals.	By December 2024	Operations	Steering Committee, Fiscal sponsor, Coordinator	Ongoing

Increase foundation and corporate funding by at least \$25,000. Work with Coordinator to identify non-federal match for Partnership operations.	By December 2024	Operations	Steering Committee, Fiscal sponsor, Coordinator	Ongoing
Objective 4: Other Organizational				
Strategy/Action:	Timeline	Funding	Committee lead & support	Status
Coordinate effective meetings of the Steering and other Partnership Committees (SC = 6-8x/yr, Symposium, outreach, science and data = 4-6/yr) and facilitate development of annual committee workplans.	Ongoing Annually in December	Operational	Coordinator	SC: 3 meetings SDC: 1 Outreach: 0 Symposium planning: 3 Adhoc grps: ~6 Wkplan updates = generally loose, continuing previous yr's efforts and known needs.
Develop annual Partnership budget, share with fiscal sponsor and Steering Committee for approval and ensure meeting budget.	May or July Steering Committee meeting annually. Status update halfway into fiscal year (January)	Operational	Coordinator	FY24 at March SC meeting (delayed) FY25 – at May SC meeting (on-track)
Facilitate early stages of a strategic plan update including identification of a process, fundraising	Process by July/September 2024 Funding ideally by October 2024	Operational, funding need	Steering Committee, Coordinator	Funding applications to Alaska Community Foundation, NFHP.
Track partnership progress: organizational priorities, conservation goals and NFHP funded projects.	NFHP projects: annually in March and into NFHP database.	Operations funding,	Coordinator. UAA staff/regional mapper, NFHP staff/national database,	All NFHP funded projects in national database, x-cept 2022 and 2023 projects delayed.

	<p>Organizational priorities: annually December</p> <p>Conservation goals: annually December</p>			<p>Organization priorities and conservation generally tracked and accounted for through NFHP reporting. conservation goals overall have not been tracked annually.</p> <p>Area for discussion – July Steering Committee meeting</p>
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Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Annual Activity and Key Activity for 2024

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Facilitate RFP process and submit report with recommended projects for funding (*update annual RFP, post and announce RFP, coordinate review meetings, write and submit report and recommended projects for funding, communicate with applicants/funding recipients and report on success, update NFHP tracking database*).
- National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) requests and requirements/ACE Act transition (eg in 2024 applying to Congress for Fish Habitat Partnership status)
- Host Steering Committee meetings
- Point of contact for partners, public, National NFHP
- General partnership operational functions – pay bills, develop and track budget, fundraise.
- Maintain website

IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS:

- Host Annual Symposium (November)
- Host Summer Site Tour (August)
- Host Community Planting Day (June)
- Monthly communications to the list-serve
- Progress reporting – to NFHP and/or more substantial printed progress report (2-4yrs)
- Track annual partnership progress

LESS-ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Newsletters (2x/year) – (this is beyond bulletins)
- Maintain social media presence (1x/wk)
- Summer outreach at community events and school visits
- Media:
 1. Preceding Symposium & ideally letter to newspaper following (have not done in a long time)
 2. Announce annual NFHP funded projects
 3. Community planting day
 4. Other opportunities identified in annual outreach plan

STANDING MEETINGS

- NFHP – Coordinator calls (monthly)
- NFHP Board meetings (every two months)
- AK FHP's – 2x per year: fall and spring
- Partnership Steering Committee – second Tuesday of odd months, 1:30-4pm (6x/yr minimum with two additional meetings: RFP review (March) and SC seat review (January))
- Other Partnership standing committees:
 1. Outreach (minimum 4x/yr)
 2. Symposium planning (every 4-6wks starting early Feb)
 3. Science and Data Committee – once or twice/yr (RFP review/late Feb/March and some years in fall).

Adhoc committees in 2024:

4. Science to conservation outcomes
5. Fundraising
6. Community Riparian Planting Day/Montana Crk Restoration

KEY ACTIVITY ANTICIPATED FOR 2024

- Apply to Congress for National Fish Habitat Partnership status – June 2024 (March feedback, April draft update, May send to SC for approval, June submit to NFHP Board)
- Strategic Plan update (Scoping, fundraising and begin update)
- Update Partnership website (needed key maintenance and fundraising for larger update)
- MSB Waterbody Setback Advisory Board
- Host 3 annual outreach events (spring, summer, fall)
- Progress report (short annual to NFHP and ideally complete accomplishments tracking for Strategic plan update. Fundraise for larger glossy outreach progress report).

- Misc public comments – Eklutna, Susitna Basin Recreational Rivers, West Susitna Access, Board of Fisheries, and other as arise and appropriate.
- Hosting regional fish passage meetings?
- Coordinating/engaging in Science to Conservation Outcomes initiative.
- Update and implement fundraising plan. Apply for FY25 NFHP Partnership coordination and outreach funding (due Feb. 9th)
- Curate FY25 and FY26 request for proposals for NFHP funding