

Joint Fish Habitat Meeting Agenda



The intent of the meeting is to support healthy fisheries, people, and economies on the Kenai Peninsula and in the Mat-Su Basin by better connecting organizations working on salmon watershed stewardship in the region.

Date: April 21 & 22, 2025
Location: BP Energy Center
Hosts: UAA ACCS & KBNERR Salmon Watershed Stewardship

Day I

Time	Presentation Title	Presenter & Organization	Length
9:00	Welcome: Introductions & Intentions	Erin Larson, UAA Alaska Center for Conservation Science Jessica Speed, Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Trent Dodson, Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership	30 min
9:30	Keynote Speaker Presentation	Wilson Justin, Alaska Pacific University Alaska Native Elders Council	60 min
10:45	Break		
	Session 1: Fish Habitat & Restoration		
11:00	From Barriers to Solutions: Tribal Capacity Building for Fish Passage Restoration	Andrea James - Chickaloon Village Traditional Council	5 min

Contact: Rosie Masui, rmmasui@alaska.edu, Kachemak Bay NERR

Joint Fish Habitat Meeting Agenda



11:05	Varying Roles of Groundwater Support to Streamflow and Temperature Modulation in Non-Glacial, Salmon Streams in South-Central Alaska	Tyelyn Brigino - University of South Florida & Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	20 min
11:25	A low-cost sonar index of Susitna River eulachon run timing and strength to better understand the Cook Inlet ecosystem	Nicole Schmitt - Alaska Wildlife Alliance	5 min
11:30	Monitoring the Effects of Beaver-inspired Activity in Three Headwater Wetlands	Spencer Johnson - UAA Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	20 min
11:50	Prey of Endangered Cook Inlet Beluga Whales	William Bechtol - Bechtol Research	20 min
12:10	Catered Lunch, Resource Sharing Activity, & Project Tidbit Updates		60 min
	Session 2: Supporting Salmon Fisheries		
1:10	Status of Cook Inlet Salmon Stocks	Nick DeCovich - ADFG	20 min
1:30	Efforts to Maintain Salmon Populations and Habitats in Northern Cook Inlet's Mat-Su Basin	Andy Couch - Mat-Su Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission	20 min
1:50	Deshka River temperature monitoring and salmon studies	Daniel Rinella - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	20 min
2:10	Science to Conservation Outcomes: Using Data Portals to Implement Conservation Actions	Anjanette Steer - UAA Alaska Center for Conservation Science	20 min
2:30	Salmon from Soil: Chickaloon Native Village Salmon Research	Benjamin Americus - Chickaloon Village Traditional Council	5 min

Joint Fish Habitat Meeting Agenda



	Session 3: Invasive Species		
2:35	The Race is On: Community Monitoring for Invasive European Green Crab in Alaska	Jasmine Maurer - UAA Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	20 min
2:55	Outmuscling Invasive Dreissenids with a Prevention Partnership	Marcus Geist - UAA Alaska Center for Conservation Science	20 min
3:15	Northern Pike Management	Parker Bradley - Alaska Department of Fish & Game	20 min
3:35	Break		
	Session 4: Outreach and Education		
3:50	What's For Lunch: Salmon Education Opportunities	Ingrid Harrauld - UAA Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	20 min
4:10	Kingmakers: Recognizing and celebrating the actions landowners take to support salmon habitat	Libby Kugel - Great Land Trust Carson Chambers - Kachemak Heritage Land Trust	20 min
4:30	Fish Need Land Too: A non-profit, academic and industry partnership to support science to conservation action	Carson Chambers - Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Syverine Bentz - UAA Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	20 min

Joint Fish Habitat Meeting Agenda



4:50	Community ActionKit: An Innovative model for confronting the threat of climate change to Salmon Habitat	David Knight - Cook Inlet Keeper	5 min
4:55	Wrap Up for Day & Overview of Day 2		

Joint Fish Habitat Meeting Agenda



Day 2

Objective: *Provide an opportunity for Kenai and Mat-Su Fish Habitat Partnership (FHP) Steering Committees—as well as other committee members and partners—to discuss current interests, challenges and successes, and to explore ways to learn from each other to strengthen and improve resilience and success of each FHP.*

Time	Presentation Title	Presenter & Organization	Length
9:00	Pre-session check-in and coffee	Rosie Masui, KBNERR Facilitator	15 min
	Session X: Connecting Across Partnerships		
9:15	Welcome and Logistics	Erin Larson, UAA ACCS	15 min
9:30	Meet the Fish Habitat Partnerships Steering Committee Member Introductions & Overview Presentations	Trent Dodson, KPFHP Jessica Speed, MSBSHP Steering Committee Members	60 min
10:30	Making Connections Across Tikahtnu: Get to Know Your Fish Habitat Partnership Neighbors <i>Pair and Share: Participants share with a partner about their professional and organizational roles.</i>	Networking facilitated by: Syverine Bentz, KBNERR	15 min
10:45	Break		15 min
11:00	Mayor Micciche Remarks <i>Hear from the Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor and National Fish Habitat Board Member about the work done by the fish habitat partnerships and have an opportunity to ask questions</i>		30 min

Contact: Rosie Masui, rmmasui@alaska.edu, Kachemak Bay NERR

Joint Fish Habitat Meeting Agenda



11:30	Priority Pods & Challenge Discussion <i>In small groups, participants discuss and a facilitator takes notes on the value of FHPs: strengths, priorities and strategies that they value within their work and across the region.</i>	All Participants in small groups	30 min
12:00	Challenge Discussion <i>Participants will have the opportunity to share challenges, and match with solutions that could be applied across the region</i>	All Participants	30 min
12:30	Catered Lunch & Project Tidbit Updates		60 min
1:30	Reciprocity and Resources <i>Review and reaffirm the knowledge, capabilities and capacity of our collective efforts connecting across Tikahtnu.</i>	Syverine Bentz, KBNERR Facilitator Rosie Masui, KBNERR Facilitator	30 min
2:00	Supporting the Region: Overlap in Priorities and Challenges between Fish Habitat Partnerships <i>FHP coordinators and facilitators will synthesize and report out themes from the morning for a whole group dialogue.</i> Opportunity Leveraging Activity	Trent Dodson, KPFHP Jessica Speed, MSBSHP	75 min
3:15	Break		
3:30	Leveraging the FHP Conservation Action Plan Process across the region <i>Presentation about Conservation Action Plans followed</i>	Discussion Facilitated by Katherine Schake, KPFHP Steering Committee Member	60 min

Contact: Rosie Masui, rmmasui@alaska.edu, Kachemak Bay NERR

Joint Fish Habitat Meeting Agenda



	<i>by conversation on using CAPs to connect the region to identify joint conservation goals that address issues affecting fish habitat in Cook Inlet.</i>		
4:30	Wrap up & Thank Yous		