



Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 9th, 2024 1:30 – 4 pm

Virtual Only

Microsoft Teams: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 251 554 515 435

Passcode: b86FU3

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Phone Conference ID: 942 507 942#

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NOTES

Facilitator: Michael Mazzacavallo

Notetaker: Emily Mailman

Partnership Business

- Introductions & Attendees
 - Laurie Stuart (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District), Michael Mazzacavallo (ADF&G), Emily Mailman (NOAA), Aaron Prussion (TU), Matthew LaCroix (EPA), Marykate Swenerton (TU), Matthew Varner (BLM), Jessica Speed (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership/TU), Mike Daigneault (USFWS)
- Approve May 2024 Steering Committee Meeting Notes (5 min) [*Draft May Notes](#)
 - Decision to approve
 - *Approved unanimously*
- NFHP Board meeting in Alaska (Jessica Speed)(45 min)
 - Board schedule and opportunities for engagement
 - July 31st (Wednesday - all day Board meeting), August 1st (½ day Board meeting, ½ day Mat Su site visit), August 2 (Kenai site visit)
 - Planning in Alaska looks different; the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) Board has not had a meeting in Alaska in a very long time.
 - Mike Daigneault is open to providing a background of the Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships (see template below)
 - There will be a meet and greet happy hour evening of July 31st (6-8pm; King St Brewery). Please feel welcome to attend!
 - Is anyone attending the Board meeting? Open to the public (Clarion Downtown)
 - Aaron Prussian, Laurie Stuart confirmed. Matt Varner possibly.
 - Pending agenda -
 - Ability to join Kenai tour? Action item to follow up with KP NFHP
 - Mat-Su specific outreach opportunities
 - Welcome presentation (morning of July 31st)
 - Discussion and initial input * [Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships presentation template - draft](#)
 - Reviewed presentation in its draft stage; Suggestions included:
Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership
Thriving fish, healthy habitats, & vital communities in the Mat-Su Basin

- *Add land acknowledgement; include subsistence focus/user groups; is there time for a panel?; is it a good use of time?*
- *Action: Check with Karen Linnell and Peter Micciche (AK NFHP Board members for input).*
- Mat-Su site visit (afternoon of August 1st)
- Discussion and input on draft tour **Draft Tour Itinerary*
 - *Shuttle room available*
 - *Walked through of draft tour*
 - *Are there/where are there opportunities or areas for story telling and informal engagement*
 - ***Needs/Volunteer roles:** Narrator (2), Conclusion speaker (1); Van driver (1); printing needs (~10 pages/packet) (1); photographer/drone usage*
- FY25 Budget (30 min) **FY25 updated draft Budget (pending)*
 - Discussion and decision to approve FY25 budget (*Jessica Speed*)
 - *Pending more revisions; table until next meeting - which group agreed will be a special meeting given next regularly scheduled SC meeting is after the new fiscal year.*
 - *August 8th, 1pm = Budget Meeting*
 - *Jessica will send (FY25 budget & FY24 actuals)*
 - *Pre feedback: clear structure with lenses TU vs Partnership; what are our fundraising needs & priorities*
 - Discussion: Fundraising gaps and strategies (*Laurie Stuart*)
 - *See above. August 8th meeting important opportunity for discussion.*

Committee Updates (see more below): (25 min)

- Science and Data
- Symposium Planning
- Outreach

Other Updates (35 min)

- National or statewide updates
 - ACE act is **in the process** of being reauthorized
 - NFHP has a project database - includes detailed metrics & useful front end user capabilities - like printing out of NFHP funded project summaries. Will be public facing soon.
 - National Fish habitat assessment completed by NFHP (every 5 years) planned for 2025.
- Partner updates
 - ADFG: 2nd year of NFWSF to resurvey & add culverts to the mapper; 1 month into the effort; added new culverts & updated AWC significantly for 2 streams - very productive summer field season.
 - NOAA: productive site visits with partners & NOAA DC/HQ folks; DOT funding; round 3 funding upcoming in the fall - LAST round for BIL/IRA
 - Tyonek: Culvert update - LARGEST BIL funded culvert in the State of Alaska; video/promo to document progress, story-telling, and promo uses; Knik is doing stream bank restoration; outlook for next year's surveys.
 - Trout Unlimited: no updates at this time; kudos to the Montana Creek Planting team.

- Mat Su Fish Habitat Partnership: interest in hosting a community event with sportfisher focus, the Partnership received a letter of interest to join the Steering Committee. Action: Jessica will share.

Upcoming Events and Relevant Dates:

- Partnership hosted Proposed Changes to MSB Waterbody Setbacks Discussion, July 8th, 1-3pm.
- [MSB Waterbody Setback Advisory Board](#), July 9th, 6pm, Palmer.
- *Matt LaCroix provided an update from the MSB Waterbody Setback Advisory Board:*
 - *Board started with fact gathering, meeting twice a month recently discussing & developing recommendations (available online) include, but not limited to:*
 - *path to compliance, increased protections, set back standards & structure classification, vegetarian buffers, enforcement actions; code revision for variance requests, tax credit system, etc.*
 - *This has created a good outreach & education opportunity for the community.*
 - *Kudos to Matt LaCroix (Mat-Su Salmon Partnership representative on the Waterbody Setback Advisory Board (WBSAB)) for his excellent work and commitment to this effort. Kudos as well to Kendra Zamzow (MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission representative on the WBSAB).*
- National Fish Habitat Partnership Board Meeting, July 31-August 2nd, 2024, Anchorage, AK
- Stream Mechanic's Stream Quantification Tool/Stream Functions Pyramid Course – August 12-16 in Sutton, AK; contact Andrea James at aljames@chickaloon-nsn.gov.
- Mat-Su Elodea Task Force Meeting, not till after field season.
- [MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission](#), September 26, 2024
- Mat-Su Salmon Science and Conservation Symposium. November 18th and 19th, 2024 in Palmer.

Next meeting

- Tuesday, September 10th, 1:30-4pm. **Special meeting scheduled for August 8th, 1pm.*

Facilitator: Identify volunteer (*Aaron Prussian*) **Notetaker:** Identify volunteer (*tbd*)

Committee Updates (find a list of committee members [here](#))

- Science and Data
 - Have not met since March meeting.
 - John Reed/USGS was approved and has been invited to serve on the Science and Data Committee. *John Reed is confirmed in this role. Welcome John!*
- Outreach
 - Plants for Salmon Community Planting Day was a great success! It was held on June 15th 10-2pm, Montana Creek at Yoder Rd. bridge, Talkeetna. We had great community turn-out (about 75 people) including local families and kids. Knik Tribe provided plant materials, and added topsoil to a large section of riprap which partners planted and will later this summer receive hydroseeding. This event was planned by a multi-partner committee engaged in restoration of this site (SRC, USFWS, Knik Tribe, ADFG, TU, MSB, Mat-Su Salmon Partnership). Great job everyone!

- Actively recruiting for outreach committee. Chennery Fife (TU) and Emily Mailman (NOAA) are new additions. Please reach out to Jessica if interested and share with any partners you think a good fit.
- Please share updates for list-serve or social media for posting.
- Symposium Planning
 - Mat-Su Borough has confirmed \$5,000 in 2024 Symposium support.
 - We are in discussion with potential keynote speakers - Wild Salmon Center ([Will Atlas](#)) and a representative from Freshwater Illustrated have been invited. [Jessica Black](#)/UAF will be asked if the other presenters don't work out.