

Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership 2021 Progress Report

Com muni cations & Outre ach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● In 2021, the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership:<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Expanded the Kenai Watershed Forum Adopt-A-Stream (AAS) educational program to digital and in-person events and reached hundreds of students in Kenai Peninsula Borough for a total of 1,426.6 in-person contact hours from June - December (AAS did not visit schools from January - May 2021 due to COVID-19)● Facilitated the engagement of 100+ trained volunteers in the Stream Watch program who promoted education through peer-to-peer interaction at high use public fishing sites● Supported the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (KBNERR) in fostering community engagement and stewardship through the sharing of scientific and traditional knowledge of fish habitat protection in the Ninilchik River watershed with partners Kachemak Heritage Land Trust, Ninilchik Traditional Council, and native artists whose works focus on stewardship
Scien ce	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● In 2021, the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership supported:<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Discharge measurements on portions of Anchor River, North Fork Anchor River, Chakok River, Two Moose Creek, Stariski Creek, Quartz Creek, Daves Creek, and Tern Lake through the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the purpose of filing instream flow reservations for over 70 miles of instream habitat for anadromous salmon and other fish species● The beginning of an update to the Partnership's Freshwater Conservation Action Plan (CAP) to better address threats and determine strategies to protect fish habitat on the peninsula● A GIS analysis and delineation on the amount of impervious surfaces on the Kenai Peninsula and their change from 1984 until 2020, as performed by St. Mary's University GeoSpatial Services in conjunction with Kenai Watershed Forum

<p>Conservation Accomplishments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In 2021, the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Supported Stream Watch volunteers as they installed 2+ miles of riparian vegetation protection fencing, removed 3,000+ pounds of litter from riparian areas and educated over 3,000+ members of the public ● Organized and facilitated a roundtable panel and discussion on management efforts in regards to the proper removal of spruce bark beetle kill on a large scale within designated areas along the Kenai River with federal, state, borough, and nonprofit organizations ● Nik Road Culvert replacement was completed with the assistance of KPFHP Coordinator funds, a project that was identified 10+ years ago as a high priority that increased access to salmon spawning and rearing habitat ● KPFHP Coordinator serves as vice-chair for Kenai Peninsula Borough (KPB) Anadromous Waters Habitat Protection Working Group, which accomplished its work of protecting salmon through recommendations that were adopted by the KPB assembly in May 2021
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