



Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Coordination

Kenai Watershed Forum

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Project: Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Coordination

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Funds under this cooperative agreement award are to be used to: provide coordination services for the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership (KPFHP) steering committee, as authorized by the Fish & Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 USC 661 to 666C; and Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 742a-742j.

Background

This project is being funded for three years and will involve 3 key staff members of the Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF). The executive director will work directly with the USFWS project manager to hold and facilitate regularly scheduled meetings of the Steering Committee. A note taker and website manager will be provided to the steering committee to document the internal and external work of the steering committee. On occasion the steering committee has asked for maps and other geographic analysis work to be performed and the GIS specialist of KWF can accommodate these requests.

Goals and Objectives

1. Serve as the point of contact between KPFHP and other fish habitat partnerships in Alaska and those partnerships in the Lower 48 that have geographical coverage in Alaska;
2. Serve as the point of contact between KPFHP and the National Fish Habitat Board;
3. Serve as a point of contact for inquires about the Partnership from the public and State and local governmental bodies;
4. Facilitate regular meetings of the Steering Committee
5. Facilitate annual meetings of the full Partnership
6. Maintain Partnership website

Overview

Over the past two years KWF has taken on many responsibilities to assist the KPFHP in meeting it's goals as an active partnership on the Kenai Peninsula. Starting in 2012, KWF has helped coordinate multiple, two-day meetings with the steering committee to help develop a Conservation Action Plan (CAP) for the KPFHP. After these meetings multiple drafts were compiled and shared with the steering committee for comments and input. By fall of 2013 a final CAP was completed.

In the spring of 2013 KWF also assisted the KPFHP with hosting its first Science Symposium. This was an opportunity for all partners of the KPFHP to meet and discuss goals for the partnership. Products from the symposium also assisted development with the CAP for the steering committee to consider and include in the final plan. A copy of the survey results from participants in the symposium is attached as part of a monitoring objective.

KWF continues to provide coordination services for KPFHP steering committee with regularly scheduled monthly meetings. This is now being funded through a new separate agreement between KWF and the USFWS.

Attachment 1 KPFHP Symposium Survey

*note a separate agreement funded the symposium itself; however, coordination leading up to the event was covered under this agreement.

Survey Results

Overall, the Science Symposium was well received by all respondents to the survey we created (Figure 1).

The image shows a survey form with the following content:

KENAI PENINSULA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP *Linking Science to Action* Science Symposium

1. Please rate your overall experience at the KPFHP Science Symposium:
Positive [] Somewhat Positive [] Neutral [] Somewhat Negative [] Negative []

2. What could have improved your experience?

3. Please rate your opinion on the following topics:
Greatly Enjoyed [] Enjoyed [] Neutral [] Disliked [] Greatly Disliked []

- Location/Facility..... [] [] [] [] []
- Food Provided [] [] [] [] []
- Schedule [] [] [] [] []
- Presentations..... [] [] [] [] []

4. Any suggestions or comments?

Figure 1. Survey given to participants at the first Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Science Symposium, Spring 2013.

100% of respondents had a positive or somewhat positive experience at the symposium (Figure 2). We also asked their opinion on the location/facility, food provided, and schedule. For all three categories, 95% of respondents greatly enjoyed or enjoyed the item of question while the other 5% were neutral on the topic. 92% of respondents greatly enjoyed or enjoyed the presentations with 8% remaining neutral.

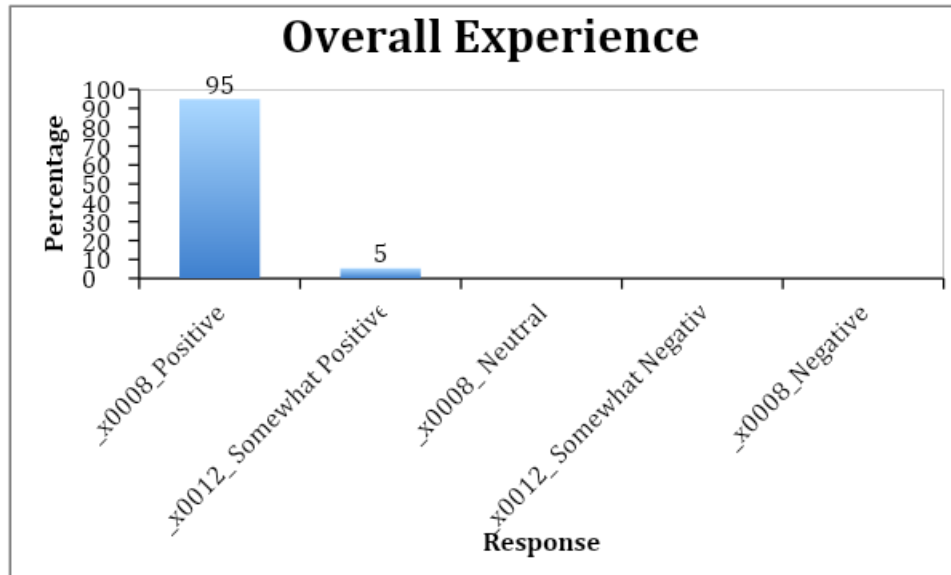


Figure 2. Attendees rate their experience at the first Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Science Symposium, Spring 2013.

The great majority of comments were very complementary. Attendees enjoyed themselves and especially liked the networking opportunities provided. They also enjoyed the table topics and tidbit sharing throughout the symposium. Any negative comments pointed to the room getting too cold, uncomfortable chairs, or lack of internet access in the building; little to do with the actual content of the symposium and more so with the location we selected.

Conclusion

The first Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Science Symposium proved to be a huge success with a wealth of information being shared regarding research and conservation practices occurring on the peninsula. It is our hope that this event spurs collaboration and reduces duplication of efforts. The information shared during this symposium will help to direct the needs of science on the Kenai Peninsula along with the goals of the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Conservation Action Plan.