



**Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committee
April Meeting - Draft Agenda**

TBD April, 2024, 1:00pm to 3:00pm

In-person: Donald E. Gilam River Center, Soldotna

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92064166870?pwd=UDNHaVRyWGswWmR0cmxETWtjVnVPZz09>

Attendance:

Steering Committee Members: Emily, Maura, Jess, Ben, Alexa, Katherine, Samantha, Jillian

Advisor: Mayor Miccichi

Partners: Mary Inovejas (DEC), Brandon Drzazgowski (KWF), Sarah Aamodt (KWF), Trent Dodson (KWF)

Agenda:

1. Partnership Business

a. Recap of FY25 proposal scoring/ranking

The FY25 Work Plan and Accomplishments report was submitted in March along with NFHP project database.

b. KPFHP/NFHP 2024 field trip – 8/2/24

Recapped the draft itinerary of the field trip and made plans to set up a final planning meeting in July.

c. Marine CAP survey results and next steps

The Marine CAP survey period ended today. Most of the survey responses indicated that a revision of the current CAP would be necessary. Melissa suggested the meeting this fall, prior to the science symposium, to discuss what level or resource investment is necessary to update the CAP.

Ben-supports hiring a contractor to update the marine CAP, and will propose the revision process as a workshop topic at the upcoming joint science symposium in spring of 2025.

Jillian – supports revising the current Marine CAP. There are multiple current and emerging threats to marine fish habitat that are not addressed.

d. Awareness: password protected site for steering committee members

There is a new password protected page on KPFHP's website for steering committee members. Melissa distributed the page link and password to steering committee members individually. This page has links to relevant documents, such as the policy and procedures, and Coordinator's Operations Manual.

e. **Recommendations to the Steering Committee:**

Melissa made two recommendations for the steering committee to consider. One is to elect on steering committee member to serve as the Chair. The role of the chair would be form meeting agendas, and run meetings. The second recommendation is to form a science and data subcommittee.

Sam – Supports having a steering committee chair. This would align with other Boards Sam has been involved with. A chair could help with continuity between coordinators.

Maura – Supports having a chair to increase the involvement of the steering committee.

Jess – The Mat-Su FHP rotates the chair and note taker roles between steering committee members. Members volunteer for the role one at the previous meeting.

2. Partner Updates

Sam – Has been busy working on updating the Borough's stream list ahead of elections in October when ordinances become more political.

Emily – NOAA has been working to contact the recipients of tribal fish passage and fish passage awards. And will be reaching out to recipients of the community resilience award in coming weeks.

Mary – DEC will be distributing its FY25-27 ACWA grant in early September for water quality projects. Visit this link to learn more: <https://dec.alaska.gov/water/water-quality/nonpoint-source-control/alaska-clean-water-actions>.

Brandon – Stream Watch is gearing up for the summer season. The in-person ambassador orientation will be held in Cooper Landing on June 1 at the Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge. Follow this link for more information and to register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSerrMbuglYjkD5WoaNcP5d46sNPT8dPU81cuBlr8m9pt4JvyQ/viewform>.

Jess – The Annual Streambank Rehabilitation Workshop in Soldotna will be held May 14 and 15. ADFG is hiring an HBII in Anchorage, which will be advertised on WorkPlace Alaska soon.

Alexa – Trout Unlimited's Riparian Planting Day is scheduled for Sunday, June 9th from noon to 4pm. Everyone is invited to help revegetate a section of streambank at Centennial Park

that has been badly trampled over the years.

Ben – There is a section of streambank on Soldotna Creek near the mouth that is in need of rehabilitation. See photos below:



Ben is also working on a fish passage prioritization project which will assess the fish habitat upstream of fish culvers. Funds have been provided from NFWF and a contractor has been identified, River Focus. Lastly, May 8 is the Kenai River Water Quality Sampling.

Jillian – is the new fish biologist for the Chugach National Forest. Will be working on the Kenai a lot this summer doing stream surveys, including culvert and fish passage work. Another major project will be planning the treatment of Crescent Lake for an Elodea infestation.

Steering Committee Members:

- NOAA – Emily Mailman
- USFWS – Maura Schumacher
- ADFG – Jess Johnson
- KPB – Samantha Lopez
- USFS – Jillian Jablonski
- KWF – Benjamin Meyer
- KBNERR – Katherine Schake
- Alexa Millward – Trout Unlimited

Advisors:

- Kenai Peninsula Borough – Peter Micciche
- USFWS - Mike Daigneault

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