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*Working Together for Healthy Watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula*

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**Subject: Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committee  
January, 2023 Meeting**

Date and Time: 1:00 PM February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Where: Donald E. Gilam River Center/Virtual Meeting (see end of document for Zoom link)

Completed by: Melissa Smith, KPFHP Coordinator

Completed for: KPFHP Steering Committee

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Agenda
3. Minutes from Previous Meeting
4. Coordinator Report
  - a. 2023 Science Symposium update  
72 people registered so far  
The location has changed to the kenai visitor center
  - b. There are 3 steering committee seats open. We should be recruiting new members.  
Interested individuals can submit a letter of interest to me. We will have a vote in the fall when we start meeting again.
  - c. NFHP FY24 Work Plan, Proposed Projects, and database
5. Tyonek Tribal Conservation District Updates, Jillian Jablonski  
Jillian gave an update about her ongoing work including TTCDs programs, habitat monitoring and restoration, such as elodea and pike removal and barriers to fish passage.
6. Partner Reports
  - a. Permanent Members:
    - i. NOAA - Erika Amman – not present
    - ii. USFWS - Kyle Graham
      - USFWS fish habitat restoration group met last week for 3 days. The meeting included local highlights and field trips (river center).
      - Working on cooperative agreements for FY23 NFHP funded projects.
      - Working with Jess on cost share projects
      - Detailees will be working in the office in May, June, and July, which will help with capacity in the office.
    - iii. ADFG - Jess Johnson
      - Busy working on cost share projects
      - Finalizing AKSSF phase five
      - Putting another proposal together for AKSSF

- The Soldotna Streambank workshop will be May 10-11 at the River Center
- b. Non-Permanent Members:
    - i. KBNERR – Coowe Walker
      - Will be retiring soon. This will be her last SC meeting
      - Presenting two talks at the symposium.
      - There is a new resource coordinator at the Reserve
      - Working on beaver/peatland hydrology effects projects. Looking at peatland as a carbon sink and monitoring gas exchange
      - The Reserve is working on the Salmon Watershed Stewardship Project
      - There is funding available to acquire land for peatland. Subawards are available through the Reserve.
    - ii. KPB River Center – Samantha Lopez – Not Present
    - iii. USFS – Adam Cross
      - Resurrection Cr Restoration is his biggest project right now. There was a community meeting in Hope about the project recently. The contractor is currently mobilizing equipment and is planning to harvest trees before May 1.
      - Restoration work will be completed May 15 to July 15.
      - Working on Cooper Cr biotic monitoring and trying to get fully staffed.
    - iv. DEC – Sarah Apsens
      - Will be presenting Kenai River water quality results at the KRSMA meeting next Thursday.
      - The 2022 Kenai River Beach report is finalized. There are no plans for monitoring in the near future.
      - Working on training and prepping for summer field work
      - Planning for the Kasilof River mini monitoring project
    - v. ADFG – Tony Munter –Not Present
    - vi. KWF – Benjamin Meyer
      - The Kenai River Festival will be June 9-10.
      - Developing a pipeline to receive water quality data
      - Prepping for 4-5 KWF interns
      - Working on data analysis a for USGS project – monitoring flow on Beaver Creek. There are 15 water temp loggers in Beaver Creek. Data will be uploaded to the AK temp database.
      - Will be presenting on cold water seeps at the symposium
    - vii. KP-CISMA – Katherine Schake - not present
  - c. Advisors
    - i. State Legislature – Peter Micciche – not present
    - ii. USFWS - Mike Daigneault – not present
  7. Old Business
  8. New Business
    - a. May meeting? We will not be having a meeting in May due to lack of interest and the busy field season starting.
    - b. Field Trip: We will be planning a field trip with summer possibly to Resurrection Creek.
  9. Action Items

**Zoom Information:**

Kenai Watershed Forum is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committee Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6609924238>

**Future Meetings:**

- Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at 1:00PM – 3:00PM

**Addendum A: Timeline for FY24 RFP**

- Sept 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - NFHP board approves [FY 2024 National Conservation Priorities \(link\)](#)
- December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – KPFHP announces FY24 RFP to wide audience
- February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Closing date to receive proposals from applicants
- February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Steering committee members receive proposals to score
- March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Coordinator receives all proposal scores from steering committee members
- March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 - Due date for the Coordinator to submit projects to the NFHP board

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