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Working Together for Healthy Watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula

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

Date and Time: 1:00 PM February 2nd, 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. Presentation: Resurrection Creek Restoration, Karen Kromrey (USFS)
5. Partner Reports
 - a. Permanent Members:
 - i. NOAA - Erika Amman - *absent*
 - ii. USFWS - Kyle Graham - *absent*
 - iii. ADFG - Jess Johnson
 - We are moving forward in the hiring process for the Habitat Biologist 2 to lead the Cost-Share in the MatSu.
 - We have informed the landowners that will be funded in 2023. I'm working on letting non-funded landowners know.
 - b. Non-Permanent Members:
 - i. KBNERR – Syverine Bentz for Coowe Walker
 - Syverine is looking for training or professional development ideas for a workshop the KBNERR will host the day before the symposium (4/19). Some ideas that came up were collaborative science, invasive spp monitoring, and project evaluations. Please contact Syverine at syverine@alaska.edu with your training ideas by the end of February.
 - ii. KPB River Center – Morgan Aldridge for Samantha Lopez
 - The River Center will be hosting an open house March 23, 5-7PM. Members of the public will be invited to meet with permitting staff from all multiple agencies, and more.
 - iii. USFS – Adam Cross - *absent*
 - iv. DEC – Sarah Apsens
 - working on getting Alaska Clean Water grants up and running. 18 projects were awarded funding, including a rain garden at the River Center.
 - v. ADFG – Tony Munter
 - working on the Sterling Y to Moose River Highway project. This project may impact Soldotna Cr.

- vi. KWF – Benjamin Meyer
 - Kenai River Baseline WQX -- updated Quality Assurance Plan near complete; approved by EPA
 - Kenai River Fest 2023
 - Mullen Parcel streambank restoration summer 2023-2024
 - See more at <https://www.kenaiwatershed.org/water-research-news/>

- vii. KP-CISMA – Katherine Schake
 - CISMA symposium planning committee is meeting every other week to generate ideas for invasive species content both during the day and the evening event (April 20th, which will be at Kenai Brewery - Melissa can you confirm and reserve the space please?) Looking for ways to incorporate artwork into the event. Tiffany Brandt (Kenai SWCD) is reaching out to the local homeschooling group to see if they would like to produce some drawings/paintings related to the theme. If you have artwork from the past 3 years you'd like to display, please email me: katherine@homerswcd.org
 - Next KP-CISMA meeting is this Wednesday, Feb. 8th from 1-3pm at the Cook Inlet Aquaculture Assoc. Building in Kenai. Please join us (remote attendance is also an option).
 - Katherine presented at the Kenai River Special Management Area Board regarding invasive species & a funding opportunity to have boat launches analyzed for I.S. prevention.
 - Maura Schumacher (KWF) presented at the Kenai River Guide Academy to 2 different audiences, educating about all aquatic invasive species - great opportunity and took us 4 years to get on that agenda!
 - We reached out to Samantha at the River Center to request that reed canarygrass outreach material be added to the packet of info for landowners requesting riparian area permits.
 - The Alaska Invasive Species Partnership is seeking signatures from partners on their MOU - if your organization has not yet signed and would like to, please get in touch with me: katherine@homerswcd.org
 - Interviewing for seasonal field technicians this week.

- c. Advisors
 - i. State Legislature – Peter Micciche – unavailable for report
 - ii. USFWS - Mike Daigneault - absent
- 6. Coordinator Report
 - a. 2023 Science Symposium update
 - b. Deadlines approaching for RFP:
 - i. 2/17: steering committee members will receive funding proposals for scoring
 - ii. 3/6 meeting: review projects, scoring, and compile questions for applicants
 - More information to follow on project scoring.
- 7. Old Business
- 8. New Business
- 9. Action Items
 - a. Symposium Discussion: Potential speakers, topics, panel discussion, etc.

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, March 6th, 2023 at 1:00PM – 3:00PM
- Monday, April 3rd, 2023 at 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Addendum A: Timeline for FY24 RFP

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

Melissa Smith

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