



44129 Sterling Highway | Soldotna, AK 99669 | 907-260-5449 | www.kenaiwatershed.org
Working Together for Healthy Watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula

**Subject: Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committee
November 2022 Meeting**

Date and Time: 2:00 PM November 7th, 2022

Where: Virtual Meeting (see end of document for Zoom link)

Completed by: Benjamin Meyer, Interim KPFHP Coordinator; Kenai Watershed Forum

Completed for: KPFHP Steering Committee

In Attendance: Coowe Walker, Adam Cross, Jessica Johnson, Erika Ammann, Kyle Graham, Mike Daigneault, Tony Munter, Sarah Apsens, Samantha Lopez

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Agenda
3. Minutes from Previous Meeting
4. Coordinator Report
 - a. Job search for Partnership Coordinator position
 - i. Announcement of Partnership Coordinator hire; introduction to new hire, start date 11/21/2022
 - b. 2023 Science Symposium – will send Doodle poll date for RSVP in April 2023
 - i. <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/avlmmEVd>
 - c. FY24 RFP proposed schedule (see Addendum A in this document)
 - i. FY24 National Conservation Priorities
 - d. Other items TBD
5. Partner Reports
 - a. Permanent Members:
 - i. NOAA - Erika Ammann
 1. **Miscellaneous NOAA funding opportunities dates have closed for now; timing on announcements not yet determined**
 2. **Additional RFPs forthcoming**
 - ii. USFWS - Kyle Graham
 1. **Heavily focused on fish passage projects currently**
 2. **Shared photo of Soldotna Creek culvert @ Sterling Hwy. Section of road will be upgraded to a 4 lane in near future. Map image shows minimal movement upstream of culvert for adult coho spawning**
 3. **Upcoming USFWS meeting to decide on future of pike strategy**
 4. **Crew has been out this fall “hunting barriers” to do rapid culvert assessments in central peninsula region; focus on private driveway**

culverts

- iii. ADFG - Jess Johnson
 - 1. Fieldwork in Fairbanks and Kenai regions; post-project monitoring
 - 2. Public presentations to Canadian (Federal) Dept of Fisheries and Oceanography on bioengineering and streambank rehab
- b. Non-Permanent Members:
 - i. KBNERR - Coowe Walker
 - 1. New Davidson Fellow, UAF grad student; studying effects of aquaculture; oyster and fish culture
 - 2. New funding from Alaska Wildlife Alliance to look at effects of beavers and beaver ponds on fish habitat
 - 3. Green infrastructure and cold climate solution proposal
 - 4. Groundwater monitoring ongoing; relevant applications to KPB material site application code updates
 - 5. Invasives: European green crab; discussion on where to monitor; need for a response plan
 - ii. KPB River Center - Samantha Lopez
 - 1. KPB working through revising gravel pit code, next work session Nov 15th
 - 2. Recommend making a comment to borough assembly members
 - 3. Flooding event possible in K-Beach area next spring; KPB has contracted an engineer to make recommendations on drainage
 - iii. USFS – Adam Cross
 - 1. Announcement from TU Alaska for restoration director
 - 2. Awaiting continuing resolution
 - 3. No longer able to hire 1039 employees as early as summer 2023
 - iv. DEC – Sarah Apsens
 - 1. ACWA grant RFP closes this week
 - 2. Call for data for the 2024 integrated report open still Feb 1st, 2023; submit through EPA WQX.
 - v. ADFG – Tony Munter
 - 1. Two lingering fish passage projects this fall
 - a. Fuller Creek
 - i. Potential destination for a future KPFHP field trip?
 - b. Deadline for AWC nominations from end of September
 - c. Deadline for AFFI end of calendar year
 - vi. KWF – Benjamin Meyer
 - 1. New EPA Environmental Justice grant; planned start Summer 2023
 - 2. Will be giving presentations this week to KRSMA and also International River Symposium
 - 3. Wrapping up thermal imagery / Mountains to Sea work
 - 4. Finishing anadromous waters survey reports for Trout Unlimited and AKSSF
 - 5. Bureau of Reclamation water quality data analysis project ongoing
 - vii. KP-CISMA – Katherine Schake

1. **Absent**
 - c. Advisors
 - i. State Legislature – Peter Micciche.
 1. **Absent**
 - ii. USFWS - Mike Daigneault
 1. **Comments on earlier topic; ensuring we can make the FY24 RFP attractive and competitive. No known major changes from federal side.**
6. Old Business
7. New Business
 - a. Interest in scheduling an in-person/hybrid KPFHP Steering Committee meeting
 - i. **Tentatively scheduled for Jan 9th, 2023 1:00 – 3:00**
 - b. Review of “KPFHP Policies and Procedures” (last updated 4/29/2015)
 - i. **Will address at next in-person meeting**
8. Action Items
 - a. Summary sheet / Story Map of 2022 Conservation Action Plan

Zoom Information:

Benjamin Meyer is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: KPFHP Monthly Steering Committee Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 660 992 4238

One tap mobile

+14086380968,,6609924238# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,6609924238# US

Future Meetings:

Monday, December 5th, 2022 @ 2PM

Monday, January 9th, 2023

Addendum A: Fiscal Year 2024 Resquest for Proposals

A.1. Proposed Timeline

- Sept 29, 2022 - NFHP board approves [FY 2024 National Conservation Priorities \(link\)](#)
- Mid-November 2022 – Pre-notify organizations that regularly apply of FY24 RFP
- December 5, 2022 – KPFHP announces FY24 RFP to wide audience

- Mid-February, 2023 – Closing date to receive proposals from applicants
- Late-February 2023 – Steering committee members receive proposals to score
- One week later – steering committee meets to discuss proposals
- March 6th, 2023 – Coordinator receives all proposal scores from steering committee members
- March 31, 2023 - Due date for the Coordinator to submit projects to the NFHP board

A.2 General Notes on FY24 RFP

- The RFP is an opportunity for particularly creative, innovative, local projects
 - E.g. inventory; planning; analysis
 - Different ways of knowing; co-production of data
 - Supporting larger infrastructure projects w/ monitoring, pre and post construction
 - Outreach and education