



**KPFHP Steering Committee Meeting
March 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM

Attendance:

Sam L. – KPB River Center	Present	Jess. J – ADF&G	Present
Maura S. - USFWS	Absent	Ben M - KWF	Present
Emily M. - NOAA	Present	Katherine S. - KBERR	Present
Dave A. - TU	Present		

Advisors: None

Guests: Erin Larson, Rosie Masui

Opening Business

- Joint Salmon Meeting Update

Rosie and Erin reviewed the draft agenda for the Joint Salmon Meeting and encouraged the SC to provide feedback and comments (link was put in the chat).

Abstracts will be finalized on March 24.

Second day will be a facilitated discussion for both FHPs, so the SC was encouraged to register (registration link in the chat).

KPFHP can provide travel support for some folks in lieu of catering.

Steering Committee had no comments.

KPFHP would like to provide a discussion on the CAP process and Katherine is certified coach and NERR has a training program, so we could utilize this as a means to help walk through the update and perhaps include Mat-Su in the plan.

Presentations

- None

Reports

- KPFHP Coordinator Report (Dodson)
 - FY25 Coordinator Budget

Trent reviewed the previously proposed FY25 coordinator budget and suggested reallocating \$10,000 from coordinator salary to contracts. This reallocation would allow the Partnership to hire a facilitator to assist in reviewing and updating the Marine CAP.

- FY26 Coordinator Budget

Trent reviewed the proposed FY26 coordinator budget. This funding would be available in Fall of 2026. Funding allocated to Contacts would be used to facilitate the 2027 science symposium. Travel funding is for the coordinator or steering committee member to attend a NFHP board meeting.

Personnel (Coordinator)	\$58,117
Travel	\$3,185
Contractual	\$4,900
Supplies	\$400
Equipment	\$0
Indirect	\$17,768
Total	\$85,000

Old Business

- None

New Business

- RFP Review and Ranking

The Steering Committee reviewed the rankings of the 5 projects submitted for review. The ranking was as follows:

Applicant	Project	Dave	Ben	Emily	Katherine	Kyle	Sam	Jess	Average
Kenai Watershed Forum	Stream Watch: Volunteer Restoration and Outreach on the Kenai Peninsula	Conflict	Conflict	97	101	102	102	90	98
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust	Managing Invasives on the Mullen Conservation Property	Conflict	Conflict	77	102	95	96	81	90
Kenai Watershed Forum	Creating Kenai Watershed Stewards through Adopt-A-Stream Education Programs	Conflict	Conflict	89	75	94	94	81	87
St. Mary's University	Spatial Analysis and Identification of Natural Barriers to Anadromous Fish Passage Within Kenai	Conflict	Conflict	76	95	88	93	62	83
Chugach Regional Resources Commission	South Coast Resilience Partnership	80	87	Conflict	70	70	68	58	72

After some discussion, the Steering Committee agreed with the final rankings. These projects are to be submitted to NFHP, due date for entry is March 25, 2025.

Since there is some time between now and the next RFP cycle, the SC would like to pursue updated the RFP and perhaps focusing the RFP on specific projects. This effort could likely encourage other organizations or agencies to submit proposals that otherwise have not in the past.

KPFHP could also do a project on their own, perhaps as an outreach day incorporated into a small restoration project. On the ground work, with some partner outreach – small amount \$15K.

Round Table

- Partner updates

Katherine - KBERR

- Applying for NOAA Habitat Transformational Restoration NOFO
 - Recycling the NOAA resilience proposal - \$30 million (a lot of land acquisitions)
 - This project won't have land acquisitions, but will expand ground water modeling
 - Sue Mauger could stay on to continue as an advisor
 - This project can bring in several other projects
 - Scope will be narrowed to central (CIK and KWF) and across Kachemak Bay (USF)
 - Due April 16 (needs to have it finished by April 1)
- Might look to transition off of the SC and have another KBERR staffer take her place – not sure of the timing (maybe fall or after CAP update)

Emily - NOAA

- No guidance on if funding (as related to Katherine's project)

Ben – KWF

- Two main areas of focus
 - Kenai River Baseline Monitoring Project
 - 15+ organizations help collect the samples and provide funding
 - Compare the results to water quality standards
 - Analysis funded by Bureau of Reclamation
 - Forest Service will not be able to contribute to the program this year – may have to cut back on some of the sampling.
 - Expand Anadromous Waters Catalog
 - Build a predictive model for anadromous waters
 - Ground truth the model
- Awarded federal funding for both projects

Jess - ADF&G

- Private land owner agreements – 9 projects
- Working on permits
- Workshop likely the first week of May for Kenai, Mat-Su will be the following week
 - Looking for venues for the workshop (Soldonta Parks, CIAA)

Dave - TU

- Funding for Resurrection Creek in moving forward
- May 10 A Day on the River with TU and KWF at Centennial Park
 - Gear Swap
 - Education
 - Instruction

Sam - KPB – River Center

- Working though permits
- Still closed, appointment only
- KPH as authority of the Soldotna Prep building, this spring will start using it for event and meeting space

Steering Committee Members:

Appointed Members

NOAA – Emily Mailman (Appointed 1/1/2024)

USFWS – Maura Schumacher (Appointed 1/1/2024)

ADFG – Jess Johnson (Appointed?)

Elected Members

KPB – Samantha Lopez (Elected?)

KWF – Benjamin Meyer (Elected?)

KBNERR – Katherine Schake (Elected?)

TU – Dave Atcheson (Elected 11/22/24)

Advisors:

Kenai Peninsula Borough – Peter Micciche
USFWS - Mike Daigneault

Next Meeting:

April 16, 2025

Upcoming Meetings/Events

April 2025

Cook Inlet Salmon Symposium – April 21-22, Anchorage

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