



**KPFHP Steering Committee Meeting  
April 16, 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 (late)
Emily M. - NOAA	Present	Katherine S. - KBERR	Present
Dave A. - TU	Present		

**Advisors:** None

**Guests:** Rosie Masui

**Opening Business**

- Joint Salmon Symposium Update

Rosie provided info draft agenda for the Joint Salmon Meeting and SC guidance sheet. (link was put in the chat). Day two will be available for the SC to help connect between the two FHPs. SC name tags have a fish on them so attendee know who the SC members are.

Trent and Jessica will provide introduction presentation on day two and the SC members will introduce themselves during this time. How you got involved can be helpful to attendees as well.

On day two we will break into groups to discuss strengths of the FHPs and also the challenges of FHPs. SC members can help with those discussions and will be called upon to provide insights.

-Katherine: Will see how the day progresses and then tailor her CAP discussion as such. Will work out how a CAP works and how to put one together. Trent will bring up KPFHPs CAPs in presentation and Katherine's will flesh out more details on CAP. Possible need to update KPFHP Marine CAP and how we might work with MatSu to create one Marine CAP.

Rosie needs volunteers to serve as session Mods and timekeepers. Let her know if you can help out, via email.

- Katherine: Will we do Q&A after each section or at the end? Q&A will be after each presentation.
- Dave volunteered to be a moderator or timekeeper, wherever he is needed.

Rosie will provide docs from chat as PDF and Trent can email them to the SC.

### **Presentations**

- None

### **Reports**

- KPFHP Coordinator Report (Dodson)

All KPFHP proposed projects for FY2026 are entered into the NFHP database as well as the report. Note: An FHP moves up to down in funding tiers based on their "report card" which is scored on how well and FHP performed in the previous year and how well its projects meet the NFHP criteria. A score out of 100 is assigned to an FHP and if you meet a threshold (set annually) you can be eligible for more funding. Trent will share our report card score for this round, once it is assigned.

Funding for this year (FY2025) is the same as last year's funding. We should be able to fund our top 3 FY2025 projects. Should find out soon on funding.

Coordinator workshop in conjunction with the September NFHP board meeting. Trent is on the planning committee for the workshop.

Next NFHP board meeting is in June. At that meeting, the board will decide on shifting the RFP timeline. If that goes through we can use the winter time to update CAP and Strategic plan. There are several items that need to be reviewed and possible updated (i.e. science advisory committee, funding allocations).

Annual Report (displayed draft) is nearly complete, will post on website when finished.

Would like to dedicate one of KWF spots at Soldotna Creek Park Wednesday Market to KPFHP and provide some outreach. Date will be July 23.

Ben set up a Facebook page for KPFHP. Trent still needs to get a FB account to update it. Sam was our first like!

### **Old Business**

- None

## New Business

- Summer Field Trip Suggestions

Kathrine suggested - visiting an area where a pilot project to install French mattress drainage systems to cool water was proposed. Salmon need land too events/demos are held in this location as well. Also, could be a site for Congressional delegation to visit...day after Alaska Wild Salmon Day. Show how we are collaborative and go to the site to catch fish and discuss the potential of the pilot project. Could also do something at the mouth of the Anchor River with Chamber of Commerce.

-Dave would like TU to be involved with the project.

Seward culver projects might be doable in a year once they are off and ready. The SC felt that Salmon need land too field trip would be a good way to go. Katherine and Trent will work out the details, depends on Congressional Delegation scheduling.

- Fall plan updates (Strategic Plan, Marine CAP)

Will look to update these items if our schedule changes per NFHP.

## Round Table

- Partner updates

### Katherine - KBNERR

- A bit worried about NERR operation Funding
  - NOAA FY26 budget was leaked and it eliminated NERR, AOOS, SeaGrant
  - NOAA is in negotiation with OMB on spend plan for 2025
  - At present will get through Dec.
  - At the end of May will know about the spend plan 2025
- If NOAA operations go away, the org will change to a more project by project basis
- There are currently 30 NERR and have existed since the 1970s
  - All must meet Metrix and requirements for the funding
  - Some NERRs may go away completely
- Support in congress, specifically Senator Sullivan, is strong

### Emily - NOAA

- No updates

### Ben – KWF

- Ongoing monitoring flow in Soldotna Creek (FY24 funding)
- KWF is a sub awardee from the Kenaitze FY25 Project and will host interns next year as part of this project.
- Big project from National Coastal Resilience Fund kicked off last month

- Three-year effort to expand and improve anadromous waters cataloging
- No federal match required on these grants
- This will be the 25<sup>th</sup> year of KWF Water Quality Monitoring Project
  - Working to renew the MOU for this project
  - 12 out of the 16 signatures are complete
  - Unfortunately, the USFS cannot provide their normal funding and my not be available with staff
  - Bureau of Recollimation grant (2-3 year) will start in 2025 to continue and expand with data QAQC and accessibility of the information for this project
    - The funds are not frozen, but the funds for the administration of the funds are frozen.

#### Jess - ADF&G

- 2.5 weeks until Kenai Workshop scheduled for 7-8 of May (8:30am-5:00pm)
  - Need some help recruiting attendees
  - Working with Moore's Landscaping
  - Classroom is set up at Sports Center
- Submitted bid to get the Stream Banks Restoration guide into InDesign and printed should have them by fall.

#### Dave - TU

- May 10 A Day on the River with TU, City of Soldotna and KWF at Centennial Park
  - Gear Swap – Dave or Brandon can help with Gear
  - Education
  - Instruction

#### Sam - KPBB – River Center

- Working though permits and compliance issues

### **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:**

May 21 Meeting? – Yes, a May meeting will happen on this day

**Upcoming Meetings/Events**

April 2025

Cook Inlet Salmon Symposium – April 21-22, Anchorage

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