

**Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, February 18, 2026  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93583956543?pwd=EyraMlhO4ZQRWBjTaChQlkSCSUp5P4.1>

Meeting ID: 935 8395 6543

Passcode: 938843

Time	Agenda Item	Lead(s)
10:00 PM	<p><b>Welcome</b> <i>Desired Outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome; Establish Quorum</li> <li>• Members- Trent D., Ben M., Samantha L., Jess J., Syverine B., Maura S., Dave A.</li> <li>• Guest(s) –</li> <li>• Posting meeting notes on website- Trent will share with Steering Committee for review before posting them on the website</li> <li>• Note-taking, Steering Committee will take turns taking notes during the meeting. Maura signed up for today!</li> </ul>	<p><b>Trenten Dodson</b> <i>(Coordinator)</i></p>
10:05 AM	<p><b>Letter of Support – Salamatof Tribe</b> <i>Desired Outcomes:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Committee approval</b> to send letter of support for Salamatof Culvert project</li> </ul> <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jess- needs a little longer to review proposals in order to sign off on them, requesting a little more background on the projects being proposed; ideally, we would have them come to the meetings</li> <li>• Letter of Support request from Kenai SWCD</li> <li>• Samantha- offered to type up a quick process for what we would need from partners in order to supply a letter of support- MatSu has something like this (Jess shared link in chat to pdf)</li> <li>• Trent will reach out to Salamatof for a description of the proposal and will share it with the Steering Committee, then Steering Committee will vote on whether to provide</li> </ul>	<p><b>Trenten Dodson</b> <i>(Coordinator)</i></p>

a letter of support (due date for Denali Commission proposals is 2/27/2026)

10:25 PM **Partnership Meeting Review & 2027 Symposium**

**Trenten Dodson**  
(Coordinator)

*Desired Outcomes:*

- **Review** partnership meeting – improvements; next years' venue

*Discussion:*

- 2027 Symposium
- Syverine Every 6 years it lines up: [2021](#) and [2015](#) – with the Kachemak Bay Science Conference
- Past Kachemak Bay Science Conference agendas can be found online (co-hosted by KBNERR and other educational groups in Homer)
- Ben- supports combining FHP and Kachemak Bay Science Conference meeting
- Maura- supportive of combining events, would also advocate for an in-person meeting in the central peninsula in 2027
- Planning: kick off meeting in spring 2026 (decide dates) then pick up planning meeting in fall 2026
- Usually held the week after spring break
- AFS meeting also held around the same time
- Goals- attract people from outside of FHP
- Syverine will send out scoping form to all FHP Steering Committee members for interest in participating in planning Science Symposium
- Jess- no Mondays, please! Tough travel days for those not on the KP
- 2027 Partnership meeting will be held on the week of February 8<sup>th</sup> in the central KP

**2027 Field trip—**

- Alaska Wild Salmon Day
- Soldotna Creek Wetland Violation

- Resurrection Creek project- planting day hosted by TU (Dave will keep us updated of the timing on this)

10:45 PM **NFHP Board Meeting Updates**

**Trenten Dodson**  
(Coordinator)

*Desired Outcomes:*

- **Committee** awareness on NFHP Board Activities

*Discussion:*

- Operational funds no longer required to have matching funds
- Tribal projects not required to have match
- Funding going to tribal groups can be used as match for other projects
- Next phase of national assessment (Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico) is in the works- funding for this is coming from congressionally delegated NFHP funding
- Trent Planning to meet with Jason Olive in the near future to learn more about scoring (for NFHP tiers) – KPFP has always been a tier II
- Criteria- referencing existing management plans would increase our scores
- Meeting 1:1 match is worth 10 points
- Jess- as we're putting out RFPs, continue to ask partnership for 1:1 match
- Sam- we could score projects higher based on match
- Maura- can we weigh our scores for referencing other management plans?
  
- Beyond the Pond
- now National Fish Habitat Fund- non profit where donations can be held and then dispersed, can also hold grant funds

11:00 AM **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event**

**Trenten Dodson**  
(Coordinator)

- *Desired Outcomes:*  
**Board Input** on desire to host and event and plan
- National Event, 1-230 est on Monday

*Discussion:*

- Trent will share info on the event with the partnership but we will not plan our own event in conjunction with it

11:20 AM

**Partner Updates**

**All Present**

*Desired Outcomes:*

- **Awareness** of partner projects, activities, and needs

*Discussion:*

Jess- letting private landowners know whether or not they have been funded

Sam – contracts awarded for projects at the River Center, working through kinks in GIS/mapper, mostly related to Anadromous Waters

Dave- upcoming events in April & May, will keep Steering Committee updated

Syverine- Working Group meeting on Friday in Ninikchik, thinking about “who’s who”, who is doing what on the KP

- Dave- funding to put priority project list together
- [Wetland Who’s Who for the Kenai Peninsula](#)
- [Kenai Peninsula Wetland Wiki](#)

Ben

- [Building new hydrography and virtual watersheds to conserve freshwater fisheries](#)
- 6ppD-quinone, sampling has been expanding in Alaska (mostly in Anchorage); monitoring has not been done on the KP yet, UAA Brian Dimento helping to set up sampling effort on the Kenai Peninsula

• Maura- Crescent Lake Elodea Working Group preparing for 2026 treatments; KP Prunus WG; Soldotna Creek Wetland Violation- interested in bringing awareness of this issue to elected leaders and land managers

- Next meeting- Marine Cap discussion

- Jess- Strategic Plan overview
- Jess, Sam and Trent will meet in the coming weeks to discuss update to Strategic Plan

12:00 PM **Adjourn**

**Steering Committee Members:**

Appointed Members

NOAA – Erika Ammann (Appointed 9/5/25)

USFWS – Maura Schumacher (Appointed 1/1/24)

ADFG – Jess Johnson (Appointed?)

Elected Members

KPB – Samantha Lopez (Elected?)

KWF – Benjamin Meyer (Elected?)

TU – Dave Atcheson (Elected 11/22/24)

KBNERR – Syverine Bentz (Elected 9/24/25)

**Advisors:**

Kenai Peninsula Borough – Peter Micciche

USFWS - Mike Daigneault

**Next Meeting:**

March 18, 2026

**Upcoming Meetings/Events**

March

Mariculture Conference – Anchorage – 10-12

AFS-AK Chapter Annual Meeting – Fairbanks – 23-27