

Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership
Steering Committee Meeting Summary
November 9, 2012

SEAKFHP Steering Committee Members present:

- USFWS - Neil Stichert, Meeting Chair and Steering Committee Co-chair
- Trout Unlimited - Mark Kaelke, Steering Committee Co-chair
- USFS –Sheila Jacobson
- ADF&G – Roger Harding and Jeff Nichols (alternate)
- Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition – Bill Lucey and Nina Horn for Jessica Kayser

SEAKFHP Steering Committee Members absent:

- ADEC – Brock Tabor
- The Nature Conservancy – Norman Cohen (Christine Woll, alternate)
- NOAA – Cindy Hartmann Moore

Advisors and guests present:

- CCTHITA: Kate Jensen
- SEAKFHP Coordinator: Debbie Hart
- USFWS NFHP Coordinator: Cecil Rich
- ADF&G NFHP Coordinator: Sue Rodman
- Technical Adviser: K Koski

Welcome and Introductions – Neil Stichert provided welcoming comments and introduced Bill Lucey, Yakutat Salmon Board Coordinator for the City and Borough of Yakutat and Nina Horn, Executive Director from the Juneau Watershed Partnership who both attended for Jessica Kayser from the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition. Kate Jensen also attended and participated from CCTHITA.

Agenda and Meeting Objectives – Debbie provided a brief review of the agenda and outlined the objectives for the meeting which included the following:

- *Review plans and expectations for Dr. Lackey's presentation scheduled for later that evening*
- *Continue discussion for possible collaboration on a spring 2013 symposium*
- *Share updates on the recent SEAKFHP strategic planning meetings and approve changes to the SEAKFHP vision statement*
- *Share updates on SEAKFHP Logo/Website development*
- *Share updates from a meeting of the SEAKFHP Science and Data sub-Committee*
- *Review the draft SEAKFHP Organization and Procedures document and approve non-dedicated seat terms and a solicitation process for 3 open seats*
- *Share updates from the National Fish Habitat Board and upcoming organizational training opportunities*

Partner Updates – Mark Kaelke of Trout Unlimited provided an update on TU's Tongass 77 Campaign – specific details can be found at: <http://www.tu.org/conservation/alaska/tongass>.

- Mark highlighted an economic study conducted on behalf of TU for SE Alaska and noted the finding provided a driving force behind the development of the Tongass 77 Campaign. He also noted that a letter is currently being circulated among lead scientists who will be signing in support of the campaign, more information will come out on this after November 20th.
http://www.tu.org/sites/www.tu.org/files/documents/Tongass_Fact_Sheet.pdf

- Discussion during the Tongass 77 campaign update led to discussion of historical work done on developing lists identifying key watersheds throughout Southeast Alaska, Roger Harding offered to access ADF&G archives for a broad scale assessment completed by ADF&G in the 1980's and a sportfish catch report completed by Shawn Johnson in 1997. Roger will route copies to Debbie for distribution to the steering committee. **Action Item: Roger to send Debbie copies of 1980/1990 historical ADF&G reports.**

SEAKFHP Sponsored Event Updates – The group discussed the upcoming Dr. Lackey presentation and the spring 2013 symposium.

- Dr. Lackey's Presentation – Debbie shared a brief update on her travels with Dr. Lackey to the Mat-Su Salmon Science and Conservation Symposium held earlier in the week (Nov 7-8). She provided a summary of the symposium, highlighting the strong attendance, well received and presented agenda/presentation outline, NFHP Award received by Corrine Smith and the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership, and an overview of Dr. Lackey's presentation shared there and follow-up questions and input from the audience. Both Sue and Cecil also shared their perspectives on the symposium and Dr. Lackey's messages in his presentation. Neil noted that it will be up to our group to try and help make this presentation relevant to Alaska, and SE specifically and asked that steering committee members and others consider questions to prompt this focus during the question/answer part of the evening event. **Action Item: Debbie will continue to work with SC members on introductory comments. The group will follow-up on leads to getting the presentation video or audio taped.**
- Spring 2013 Symposium – Neil provided updates the meeting with SAWC/CCTHITA/SEAKFHP representatives (Jess, Raymond, Kate, Neil and Cindy) who agreed to meet to discuss details of a spring 2013 Watershed Forum. Possible dates for the symposium look to be March 18-19, 25-26 or April 18-19. The group shared some challenges with dates, venue availability, spring break pros/cons, timing opportunities with Gold Medal and possible coordination for a keynote speaker with the Kenai FHP whose symposium is scheduled for April 17-18, 2013. Kate shared that both SAWC and CCTHITA representatives have developed an online survey prompting feedback on spring symposium topics. She shared a brief summary of responses from CCTHITA representatives – lots of interest expressed for 2-days of professional development and interest in watershed management topics. Neil shared his draft outline for a survey and asked the group for feedback on SEAKFHP presentation/theme priorities. Debbie shared the priorities Jess provided. **Action Items: Kate will share survey results with Debbie. Debbie will consolidate the symposium topic themes Neil and Jess have provided and include the CCTHITA information and then submit to the Steering Committee to receive feedback from the SEAKFHP on what presentation/training themes the SEAKFHP will recommend for the spring 2013 symposium.**

SEAKFHP Strategic Planning: Debbie updated the group on the strategic planning meeting held Oct 16-17 and reviewed the list of action items and next steps outlined in the abbreviated summary from the meetings. She also requested the group review and approve changes suggested on the vision statement and discuss other items such as continued progress on revising the mission statement, consideration of geographic scope for the partnership and guiding principles to be included in the strategic planning document. **Action Items: The group agreed to approve changes to the SEAKFHP vision statement and will revisit the mission statement at the end of the strategic planning effort, but for now the mission will be considered under refinement as the group develops a common and agreed language for words like "stewardship." The group agreed to utilize the guiding principles outlined in**

the SEAKFHP bylaws as the template for use in the strategic plan, and will encourage additions to these as part of the strategic planning discussions. Debbie will arrange a meeting to discuss geographic scope but will wait until Cindy returns to settle on a date. Jeff shared his draft maps; Debbie will forward these out to the committee and solicit editing feedback. Debbie will continue to explore use of the TNC CAP process as part of the SEAKFHP strategic planning effort and will confer with Dave Albert and set a date for the next planning meeting.

SEAKFHP Logo and Web Presence: Neil provided an update to the group on the SEAKFHP logo and website development; he shared the theme logos Kevin provided and asked the group to pick one for Kevin to refine. **Action Item: The group agreed to support the hand logo theme. Neil will update Kevin on logo theme improvements and ask that he develop final copies for the groups review. Debbie will continue to provide Kevin web content to populate the draft SEAKFHP web site.**

SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee – Sheila provided an update on the 1st Science and Data Sub-Committee meeting highlighting the specific roles and expectations the group recommends be considered for formation of the committee. She also described some of the discussion focused on how to staff the committee. The group noted that the Kenai FHP has convened two Science and Data Committee, one focused on freshwater and the other on marine issues and agreed this may be a good model to follow for SE – helping to build more capacity overall and aide in current marine related discussions. **Action Items: Debbie will share a summary of the Science and Data Subcommittee workgroup and route the draft committee roles out to steering committee members for feedback. The subcommittee will look to meet again soon. Sheila will be traveling to Juneau and will share her availability for scheduling this meeting. The subcommittee will outreach to Allison Bidlack of ACRC for her possible interest in participating with this subcommittee and developing key roles for the Science and Data Committee.**

SEAKFHP Organization and Procedures Document/Solicitation for open SC seats – Debbie asked the group to review the steering committee non-designated seat term limits identified in the Organization and Procedures document. The group approved the term limits as written and also approved her moving forward with putting out a solicitation for the three open seats. It was noted that for this solicitation the steering committee would review and approve new members most likely during the January 2013 steering committee meeting. Debbie will work closely with CCTHITA to help get solicitation notice out to southeast tribes. The group discussed the possibility of forming an outreach committee to help build awareness with southeast tribes and municipalities in the region noting that the single seats for these stakeholder groups may not accommodate the variation of these groups across southeast. **Action Items: Debbie will send a revised draft of the SEAKFHP Organization and Procedures document out to steering committee members with the approved term limits indicated. Debbie will begin to solicit for 3 open SEAKFHP SC seats (at-large, tribal, and municipal) and include the procedures document with solicitation communications. Debbie will add an agenda item to the next SC meeting that will provide discussion opportunities for additional committee formation (example – municipal/tribal committees/outreach committee).**

New Business Items: Due to time constraints the group did not discuss the last new business item that was to cover updates on the NFHP plans for providing organizational training and support to all of the FHPs. **Action Item: New business items not discussed will be added to the next meeting agenda.**

Outlook to future SEAKFHP meetings and tasks:

- **Upcoming Dates**
 - NFWF “Bring Back the Natives” grant opportunity/pre-proposals due – Jan 2013
 - NFHP Organizational Development Workshop – (Tentative) January 2013
 - SAWC/CCITA/SEAKFHP – TBD Watershed Forum Spring 2013 (March or April)

- **Pending Action Items**
 - Debbie will update the SEAKFHP List Serve contact list and route to steering committee members requesting additions.
 - Discussion during the Tongass 77 campaign update led to discussion of historical work done on developing lists of key watersheds, Roger Harding will access ADF&G archives for a broad scale assessment completed by ADF&G in the 1980’s and a sportfish catch report completed by Shawn Johnson in 1997? And route to Debbie for distribution to the steering committee.
 - Prior to the evening presentation by Dr. Lackey, SEAKFHP SC members will consider questions to prompt helping to make Dr. Lackey’s presentation more relevant to Alaska and specifically SE Alaska. Debbie will continue to work with SC members on introductory comments. The group will follow-up on leads to getting the presentation video or audio taped.
 - SAWC and CCTHITA representatives have developed an online survey prompting feedback on spring symposium topics; Kate will share survey results with Debbie. Debbie will consolidate the symposium topic themes Neil and Jess have provided and include the CCTHITA information and then submit to the Steering Committee to receive feedback from the SEAKFHP on what presentation/training themes the SEAKFHP will recommend for the spring 2013 symposium.
 - The group agreed to approve changes to the SEAKFHP vision statement and will revisit the mission statement at the end of the strategic planning effort. The group agreed to utilize the guiding principles outlined in the SEAKFHP bylaws as the template for use in the strategic plan, and will encourage additions to these as part of the strategic planning discussions.
 - Debbie will arrange a meeting to discuss geographic scope but will wait until Cindy returns to settle on a date. Jeff shared his draft maps; Debbie will forward this out to the committee and solicit editing feedback.
 - Debbie will continue to explore use of the TNC CAP process as part of the SEAKFHP strategic planning effort and will confer with Dave Albert and set a date for the next planning meeting.
 - The group agreed to support the hand logo theme. Neil will update Kevin on logo theme improvements and ask that he develop final copies for the groups review.
 - Debbie will continue to provide Kevin web content to populate the draft SEAKFHP web site.
 - Debbie will share a summary of the Science and Data Subcommittee workgroup and route the draft committee roles out to steering committee members for feedback. The subcommittee will look to meet again soon, Sheila will be traveling to Juneau and will share her availability for scheduling this meeting. The subcommittee will outreach to Allison Bidlack of ACRC for her possible interest in participating with this subcommittee and developing key roles for the Science and Data Committee.
 - Debbie will send a revised draft of SEAKFHP Organization and Procedures document out to steering committee with the approved term limits indicated.
 - Debbie will begin to solicit for 3 open SEAKFHP SC seats (at-large, tribal, and municipal)

- Debbie will add an agenda item to the next SC meeting that will provide discussion opportunities for additional committee formation (example – municipal/tribal committee/outreach committee)
- New business items not discussed at the Nov 9th meeting will be added to the next meeting agenda.
- **Parking Lot Items**
 - Future discussion needed on advocacy
 - Future discussion needed on SEAKFHP forest component role
 - Future discussion needed on the overlaps between upland restoration and riparian/in-stream projects. Should SEAKFHP integrate or segregate its focus?
 - Future discussion needed on how SEAKFHP will approach transboundary issues
 - Future discussion needed on how SEAKFHP may support smaller conservation groups compete for available funding in light of administrative/grant requirements