



## SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

### Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership 2014 Annual Work Plan with Outlook to 2015

#### Objectives:

Throughout 2014 and with an outlook to 2015 the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) looks to grow the partnership to better reflect the stakeholders in Southeast Alaska that share the vision of the partnership; launch a business plan that will ensure long-term operational and financial stability for the partnership ; establish SEAKFHP as the go-to source that facilitates coordination and communication among aquatic resource agencies and interested stakeholder in the region on topics related to fish habitat conservation; and make progress on key conservation strategies that protect fish habitat in freshwater, estuaries and nearshore/marine areas in Southeast Alaska, maintain water quality and quantity in those areas, and restore and enhance fragmented fish habitat in impacted areas.

*Note: Priorities are designated in tiers (Tier 1 (highest), Tier 2, and Tier 3 (lowest))*

#### Priority Tasks:

##### Strategic Plan Goal 1: Grow and diversify partnership

- Outreach to new partners with specific emphasis in building partners from these areas: municipalities, native corporations, industry (including various fishing groups and associations) and building greater expertise and partner support from marine interested organizations including outreaching to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council as per direction from the National Fish Habitat Board/National Fisheries Management Council representative. (Tier 1)
- Provide support to the SEAKFHP Steering Committee, Coordinator and Committee members as needed, this may include web based training opportunities or contracted support as able. (Tier 2)

##### SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee Tasks

- Expand participation on the committee to meet the expertise needs for tasks assigned to the committee, this includes building a cohort of committee members with interest and expertise in nearshore/marine fish habitat issues. (Tier 1)

##### Strategic Plan Goal 2: Ensure long-term operational and financial stability through strategic sustainable funding and participation with NFHP partners to ensure partnership strength and perseverance

- Develop a business plan for the partnership that lays out a fiscal plan through 2016. (Tier 1)
- Develop and implement a regularly scheduled SEAKFHP Coordinator evaluation. (Tier 1)
- As time and opportunity allow provide SEAKFHP Steering Committee and subcommittee training, this may include webinars on board training available through the Foraker Group or NFHP affiliates. (Tier 2)
- Participate in meetings and activities fostering collaboration among adjacent FHPs (ALL AK FHP, WINTI and Coastal FHPs). (Tier 2)

- Participate in the Restore America's Estuaries Conference, November 1-6, 2014 sharing in the NFHP S&D Session Presentation on Alaska, providing support as needed for the Coastal FHP Session and participating in any sponsored NFHP Coordinator Training. (Tier 2)
- Outreach to identify potential funding sources for fish/habitat projects (DIPAC/NFWF/NOAA Blue print/Skaggs Foundation/others). (Tier 3)

#### **SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee Tasks**

- Provide necessary coordination and data to NFHP Science and Data Committee as needed for the 2015 National Assessment and coordinate updates accordingly with USFS Watershed Condition Framework 2015 update. (Tier 2)

### **Strategic Plan Goal 3: Provide robust partner services that facilitate coordination and communication among aquatic resource agencies and interested stakeholders across Southeast**

- Support 2014 AFS/AWRA Conference through provisioning key habitat related sessions, a fish passage workshop/training, plenary speaker participation and through hosting a film festival. (Tier 1)
- Support formation of the SEAKFHP Communications Subcommittee and develop associated tasks for this committee that include 1) developing outreach templates for planning, implementation, and monitoring of regional projects, 2) sharing case study outreach efforts and 3) developing a Waters to Watch campaign for Southeast Alaska that integrates into a nomination process to the national program. (Tier 1)
- Facilitate a minimum of three regional funding teleconferences throughout the calendar year to raise awareness for local fish habitat conservation related grant opportunities such as AKSSF/NF/ and other sources. Work with partners to develop a clearinghouse for regional grant opportunities (Tier 1)
- Work with partners, and through the developing SEAKFHP Communication Subcommittee, to elevate awareness for regional projects that support additions to the Anadromous Waters Catalog and Reservations of Water (Tier 1)
- Continue to be a regional data/resource facilitator/provider. Work with UAS GIS Library staff to migrate SEAKFHP web based archive to the Alaska Science Catalog. (Tier 1)
- Support planning and funding for 2015 Symposium (this symposium will be hosted in a southeast community other than Juneau) (Tier 3)

#### **SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee Tasks**

- Complete the Southeast Alaska Restoration Practitioner's Directory and develop a process of annually updating and sharing the directory (Tier 1)
- Complete the SEAKFHP Endorsement Guidelines and Application document and take the lead in implementing the process for the SEAKFHP Steering Committee. (Tier 1)
- Explore regional interest and need to host some form of Stream Assessment Workshop or regional discussion. (Tier 3)

### **Strategic Plan Goal 4: Make progress on the key conservation strategies of the partnership that include 1) protecting fish habitat in freshwater, estuaries and nearshore/marine areas in Southeast Alaska, 2) maintaining water quality and quantity in those areas, and 3) restoring and enhancing fragmented fish habitat in impacted areas.**

- Raise awareness to current habitat protection initiatives such as (TU's Tongass 77, State of Alaska Critical Habitat Areas, and GIS supported private land parcels (land trust support). (Tier 1)
- Elevate regional assessment/prioritization work in Southeast Alaska. (Tier 1)
- Support development of water quality science in transboundary river (TBR) watersheds through exploring programs like the Quick Response Program - between DEC/FWS/USGS for experimental design needs to obtain water quality monitoring in glacial systems or through supporting NHD data gathering efforts in TBR areas (USGS). (Tier 1)
- Foster Activities that protect and restore fragmented and degraded fish habitats such as: 1) Provide preliminary planning support for SE AK Fish Passage Summit in 2015. This may include focal meetings in key communities such as Ketchikan, Petersburg and Sitka and include topics of policy and implementation, 2) Coordinate Waters to Watch Efforts with National FHP staff and the Tongass National Forest, and 3) Participate in field visit (s) to one or more assessment/restoration projects to increase thematic understanding of regional activities. (Tier 1)
- Work with ADF&G staff to support revision efforts for the Alaska State Wildlife Action Plan (Tier 2)
- Support coordination and activities to raise awareness of aquatic invasive species, including outreach efforts resulting in distributing a mail insert created by Trout Unlimited via ADF&G license mailings and also at local dock facilities across the region (Petro Marine). (Tier 2)
- Develop nearshore/marine strategic priorities for SEAKFHP. Support cataloging of estuaries in southeast that are known hotspots for salmonids; similar to what has been done with the anadromous stream catalog. Some key estuary hotspots include the Taku River estuary, the Mendenhall River Wetlands (refuge), Steamer Bay on Etolin Island, and Berners Bay. (Tier 2)
- Work with NOAA partners to raise awareness of the NOAA Blueprint Program and consider ways the partnership can support NOAA blueprint priorities/key areas in Southeast Alaska. (Tier 2)
- Consider tasking SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee to engage southeast partners in continued discussions regarding advancements in restoration effectiveness monitoring. (Tier 2)
- Elevate awareness of ADEC's Alaska Clean Water Actions Program. (Tier 3)
- Consider tasking SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee to review water quality monitoring activities across Southeast Alaska. (Tier 3)

SEAKFHP Strategic Plan Objective or Action	Plan Code	Time Frame to Complete	Doable in 1 year	Key Personnel	Product/Service Provided	Entities Benefitted	Cost	Funding Source
<p>Grow/diversify SEAK partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipal outreach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Update Municipal SC seat as needed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Native Corp outreach</li> <li>• Industry</li> <li>• Marine component <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NPFMC</li> </ul> </li> <li>• NGOs &amp; local groups</li> </ul>	A1.1	9 months	Yes, recurring outreach will continue	Debbie, Neil, Mark, and all SEAK Partners  SEAKFHP S&D	Full membership on SC	All	% Coord Time  In kind partner support	FWS Coastal Grant/?  NA
<p>Provide support to SC, Coordinator and Committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct Coordinator Evaluation</li> <li>• Provide Board/Committee training</li> </ul>	A1.2	9 months	Yes, recurring annually	Debbie, Neil and Mark and all SC/Committee members  River Network webinar/Foraker Group?	Strong organizational structure and support for SEAKFHP	All	% Coord Time  In Kind partner support  Board Trainer	FWS/Coastal Grant/?  NA  ?
<p>Develop SEAKFHP Business Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Secure operational funding support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FWS support</li> <li>• AKSSF proposal(s)</li> <li>• Follow-up with FS/NOAA</li> <li>• NFWF RFP/May</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	A2.1	3 months	Yes, but recurring	Debbie, Neil, Mark and all SEAK SC members	Grant proposal and ultimately secure operational funding for part or all of a year or multiyear; options identified for	SEAKFHP / All	% Coord Time  In kind partner support  Match \$\$ if needed	FWS Coastal Grant/?  New funds through TU, TNC, NFWF,NFHP

• NFHP funds FY15					future project funding			In kind partner support
Science and Data Committee Tasks								
SE AK R. Practitioner's Directory	A1.1	1	Yes, annual	S&D Comm.	Regional Restoration Directory	All	% Coord Time	FWS Coastal Grant
SEAKFHP Endorsement/Application Process	B2.3	3		S&D Comm.	Endorsement and Project review process/service	All	% Coord and In kind partner support	FWS Coastal Grant
Provide necessary coordination and data to NFHP S& D for 2015 National Assessment (coordinate updates accordingly with USFS Watershed Condition Framework 2015 update)	A2.2/ B3.3	9 – 18 months	Yes annual	S&D committee, Debbie, USFS (Sheila), SOA (Jeff/Roger), FWS (Neil, John), NMFS/NOAA (Cindy)	Any/all data needs identified by National program	NFHP and hopefully all SEAK FHP partner entities	In kind partner support	NFHP Funding ?
Host Stream Assessment Workshop/Discussion at the 2014 AFS/AWRA Conference	A2.3/ C3	Complete Oct 2014	No	S&D Comm.	Elevate awareness of stream assessment data processes, importance, usage, value			
Support 2014 AFS/AWRA Conference, workshop/training, film festival	A2.3/ B1.1	Complete Oct 2014	Yes	All	Workshop, meeting session leads/development	All	% Coord Time Workshop/	FWS Coastal Grant (+ \$1800 avail for

							Training /Travel for Plenary Speaker/ Film Festival Venue	meeting support)/ AKSSF FY2014 grant \$ if applicable
<p>2015 Symposium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not in Juneau</li> <li>Theme suggestions TBD</li> </ul> <p>Possible FY2015 AKSSF request</p>	A2.3/ B1.1	Anticipate completion Fall of 2015	No	All	Symposium lead/development	All	% Coord. Time	DIPAC Skags Foundation Sitka Science Center? Goldbelt
<p>Participate in meetings and activities fostering collaboration among adjacent FHPs (ALL AK FHP, WINTI and Coastal FHPs</p> <p>Restore America's Estuaries Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NFHP S&amp;D Session Presentation on AK</li> <li>Coastal FHP Session support</li> <li>NFHP Coordinator Training</li> </ul>	A2.3  A1.2	Complete Nov 2014	Yes	Debbie, AK FHPs, David, Erika, Roger	Elevates AK FHP and S&D efforts at national meeting  Elevates awareness of AK issues for RAE	All	% Coord Time  NFHP \$ Travel to DC	FWS Coastal Grant  ?NFHP funds
<p>Formation of Communications Subcommittee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach templates</li> </ul>	B1.2	9 months	Yes, recurring support	Debbie, key partner communications staff (Paula	Elevation of success stories, partner activities, public	All	% Coord Time  In kind	FWS Coastal Grant/ ?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for planning, implementation, monitoring of projects</li> <li>Case study outreach effort</li> <li>Develop Waters to Watch campaign for SE AK; integrate nomination process to national program</li> </ul>			may be necessary	Dobyn, Julie Speagle, Kate Kanouse, others)	awareness for benefits of restoration and fish habitat conservation		partner support	
<p>Facilitate regional funding teleconference –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AKSSF/NF/other sources</li> <li>Elevate awareness for projects that support additions to AWC and Reservations of Water</li> <li>Clearing house for funding options</li> </ul>	B2.2 / C1.2.1 / C.2.2.1	1-3 months  9 months	Yes, but re occurring efforts required	Debbie, Neil, other SC members  AKSSF/NF staff  SAWC progress	Raises awareness and success for on the grounds proposal projects in SE	All	% Coord Time	FWS Coastal Grant/ ?
<p>Regional data/resource facilitator/provider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Website maintenance</li> <li>Resources page updates/coordinate with UAS GIS Library</li> </ul>	B3	1 month  9 months	Yes, but re occurring effort required	Debbie, Kevin Forester, Kim Homan	Maintain active website and improve regional resource archive	All	% Coord Time  Web support  In kind	FWS Coastal Grant/ ?
<p>Project funding XXXXXXXXXX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outreach to identify potential funding sources for</li> </ul>	B4	?	?	?	Secure regional on the grounds funding for SE	All	?	?

fish/habitat projects DIPAC/NFWF/NOAA Blue print/Skaggs								
Work with ADF&G State Wildlife Action Plan revisers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elevate the regional assessment/prioritization work in SE</li> </ul>	C1.1.1	Anticipated SWAP update in 2015	No	Debbie, Roger, All AK FHPs, other SEAKFHP partners	FHP input to the State Wildlife Action Plan	All	%Coord Time?  In kind	FWS Coastal Grant/ ?
Raise awareness to current habitat protection initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TU's Tongass 77</li> <li>State of AK Critical Habitat Areas</li> <li>GIS supported private land parcels (land trust support) update on POW, Middle Is work, Chilkat/Skagway</li> </ul>	C1.1.3 A.1	9 months  Fall Teleconference Event	Yes, recurring effort	Debbie, Mark	Elevate regional awareness to ongoing protection efforts	All	% Coord Time?  In kind	FWS Coastal Grant/ ?
Support coordination and activities to raise awareness of aquatic invasive species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TU mail insert</li> <li>Petro Marine/ADFG</li> </ul>	C1.3	9	Yes, recurring effort	Debbie, Mark, Tammy Davis	Elevate AIS awareness	All	% Coord Time  In kind	FWS Coastal Grant/ ?
Support development of water quality science in Transboundary River watersheds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore Quick Response Program - between DEC/FWS/USGS for experimental design needs to obtain water quality</li> </ul>	C1.4 A.1	??	??	S&D committee; ADFG /ADEC ; USGS	Water quality monitoring Strategy; legacy data collection	TBR landowners; all SEAK partners	??	??



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>monitoring in glacial systems</li> <li>Support NHD data gathering efforts in TBR areas (USGS)</li> </ul>								
<p>Develop nearshore/marine strategic priorities for SEAKFHP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support cataloging of estuaries in southeast that are known hotspots for salmonids; similar to what has been done with the anadromous stream catalog. Some key estuary hotspots include the Taku River estuary, the Mendenhall River Wetlands (refuge), Steamer Bay on Etolin Island, Berners Bay</li> <li>consider to include NOAA blueprint priorities/key areas</li> </ul>	C1.5	??	??	S&D Committee; expanded expertise Select SC members	Develop key objectives and action the partnership can adopt to advance regional support for assessment, planning, research and monitoring in the marine environment	All	% Coord Time  In kind  Coastal FHP support	FWS Coastal Grant  NOAA?
<p>Elevate awareness of ADEC Alaska Clean Water Actions Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task SEAKFHP S&amp;D to review water quality monitoring activities across SE</li> </ul>	C2	9	Yes, recurring effort	Debbie, Brock?, Gretchen?	ACWA Program Awareness, base line information to inform future SE AK water quality monitoring strategy	All	??	??

<p>Foster Activities that protect and restore fragmented and degraded fish habitats:</p> <p>Provide preliminary planning support for SE AK Fish Passage Summit in 2015. KTN, PSG, or SIT. Policy, implementation,</p> <p>Coordinate Waters to Watch Efforts with National FHP staff and TNF</p> <p>Participate in field visit (s) to one or more assessment/restoration projects to increase thematic understanding of regional activities</p> <p>Facilitate dialogs among practitioners regarding restoration effectiveness monitoring and support partner sponsored session at the 2014 AFS AK Chapter meeting</p>	<p>C3 Page 21 - 22</p>	<p>Complete by end of 2015</p> <p>12 month</p> <p>3 days</p> <p>Milestone - Oct 2014/ AFS meeting</p>	<p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes annually</p>	<p>USFS, FWS, ADFG, ADOT</p> <p>Debbie, Sheila, Sarah Brandy</p> <p>Debbie, SEAKFHP partners</p> <p>Possible task for SD Committee, SEAKFHP Partners</p>	<p>Focused meeting on the status and approach for assessment, remediation, and approach for fish passage through culverts in SE AK into the future. Elevate FS project work in the region consistent with WTW objectives Elevate Coordinator efficacy and skills in habitat sector</p> <p>Guide outcomes from renewed interest in restoration effectiveness monitoring</p>	<p>USFS, FWS, ADFG, ADOT</p> <p>USFS, SEAKFHP, TNC</p> <p>SEAKFHP partners</p> <p>All</p>	<p>% Coord Time</p> <p>In kind % Coord Time</p> <p>In kind partner support % Coord Time</p> <p>In kind partner support</p> <p>In kind partner support</p>	<p>?</p> <p>AKSSF? FS/FWS</p> <p>%Coastal Grant</p> <p>% Coastal Grant (travel funds)</p>
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