



SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

DRAFT Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership 2016 Annual Work Plan with Outlook to 2017

Objectives:

Throughout 2016, and with an outlook to 2017, the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) looks to continue to grow the partnership to better reflect the stakeholders in Southeast Alaska that share the vision of the partnership; implement a business plan that will ensure short-term and long-term operational and financial stability for the partnership through 2016 and beyond ; establish SEAKFHP as the go-to source that facilitates coordination and communication among aquatic resource agencies for topics such as fish passage, regional aquatic restoration projects and on other topics related to fish habitat conservation; and make progress on key conservation strategies identified in the 2014-2016 SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan 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. In addition, 2016 provides an important time for our partners to review our current strategic action plan and revise it with an outlook to 2019. As such the following work plan provides tasks associated for this important work.

Work Plan:

This work plan is organized under a series of strategic goals that are reflected in the partnership strategic action plan. The plan can be found online at: <http://www.seakfhp.org/seakfhp-strategic-action-plan/>. The work plan further identifies definitive time bound tasks mostly associated with work to be completed in the 2016 calendar year while others are more long-term and reflect work that will continue into 2017. Tasks are also assigned a priority recognizing the need to prioritize work assignments. The priorities are assigned as follows: **Tier 1** (highest), **Tier 2**, and **Tier 3** (lowest).

2016/17 Work Tasks:

Strategic Plan Goal 1: PARTNERSHIP GROWTH AND DIVERSITY STRATEGY

- G1.T1/2016 Assess stakeholder gaps in partnership participation, initial identified gap areas include: municipalities, native corporations, industry (including various fishing groups and associations). **(Tier 1)**
- G1.T2/2016 Examine what SEAKFHP offers these under represented stakeholders and develop an outreach strategy. **(Tier 1)**
- G1.T3/2016 Expand and maintain participation on the **SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee** to fulfill 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: PARTNERSHIP STRENGTH AND PERSEVERANCE STRATEGY

- G2.T1/2016 Ensure partnership has sufficient management systems and structures in place to meet SEAKFHP mission and strategic priorities.

- G2.T1.1/2016 Incorporate the fiscal accomplishments made in 2015 and implement a business plan for the partnership that lays out a fiscal plan through 2016 and beyond. (Tier 1)
- G2.T1.2/2016 Initiate SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan review process, develop process for freshwater/riverine areas and a separate process and planning for nearshore/marine strategy development. (2016 NFWF project, Tier 1)
- G2.T1.3/2016 Develop and implement a regularly scheduled SEAKFHP Coordinator evaluation. (Tier 1)
- G2.T2/2016 Promote strong constituent relationships in Southeast Alaska, regionally and nationally, for broad support of the partnership.
 - G2.T2.1/2016 Develop fact sheets to promote awareness for fish habitat protection, stewardship and restoration needs in SE AK, share these broadly across the region. (Tier 1)
 - G2.T2.2/2017 Strengthen partner relationships with regional entities such as the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. (Tier 1)
 - G2.T2.3/2017 Identify interested partners who can participate in meetings and activities fostering collaboration among adjacent FHPs (ALL AK FHP, WINTI, Coastal FHPs and new candidate FHP Pacific Lamprey) and the NFHP Board Science and Data Team and other NFHP committees as needed (NFHP Partnership Committee, NFHP Communications Committee). As time allows update the NFHP Partner Project Data-base. (Tier 2)

Strategic Plan Goal 3: PARTNER SERVICE STRATEGY - Provide robust partner services that facilitate coordination and communication among aquatic resource agencies and interested stakeholders across Southeast

- G3.T1/2016 Compile SEAKFHP Partner Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Project Inventory include listing of potential funding sources for SEAKFHP supported fish/habitat projects. Seek fiscal resources to make this resource geospatial. (2016 NFWF project, Tier 1)
- G3.T2/2017 Support implementation of the action items from the 2015 Fish Passage Meeting. (2015 NFWF project, Tier 1)
- G3.T3/2016 Support a technical review for WESPAK-SE regional wetland rapid assessment methodology. (Tier 1)
- G3.T4/2016 Continue to elevate TNC's Klawock Lake Sockeye Retrospective Analysis and convene regional discussions as needed. (Tier 1)
- G3.T5/2016 Develop not less than three invited, scheduled thematic presentations for steering committee meetings. Themes may include: Regional AWC activities, Regional Reservations of Water activities, Action Items from 2015 Interagency Fish Passage Workshop, etc.
- G3.T6/2016 As time and fiscal resources allow support Fall 2016 Coastal Cutthroat Trout Assessment Workshops across Southeast Alaska and Salmon Symposium tentatively planned for November 2016. (Tier 1)
- G3.T7/2016 Provide necessary coordination and data to NFHP Science and Data Committee as needed for the 2015 and 2020 National Assessments and coordinate updates accordingly with USFS Watershed Condition Framework 2016 update. (2015 NFWF project, Tier 1)
- G3.T8/2016 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. Share available clearinghouses for regional grant opportunities. (Tier 1)

- G3.T9/2017 Continue to be a regional data/resource facilitator/provider, archive as time allows to the Alaska Science Catalog. (2015 NFWF project, Tier 2)
- G3.T10/2017 Support formation of the SEAKFHP Communications Subcommittee and develop associated tasks for this committee that include 1) assist in inter-agency communication; 2) develop outreach templates for planning, implementation, and monitoring of regional projects; 3) share case study outreach efforts; and 4) develop a Waters to Watch campaign for Southeast Alaska that integrates into a nomination process to the national program. (Tier 2)
- G3.T11/2017 Form a SEAKFHP Outreach and Education committee to help foster information sharing with the general public and SE Alaska Communities on items such as disseminating the recent “value of restoration” fact sheet, and utilizing community CIP funding for local fish habitat conservation needs (such as addressing invasive species needs, exploring installation of rain garden opportunities and other forms of urban fish habitat improvements). Explore future opportunities with SEABANK.org and their educational video projects planned for 2016-2017. (Tier 2)
- G3.T12/2017 Explore FHP sponsored Alaska Fish Film showing events and proposal to future National and Alaska Chapter AFS meetings. (Tier 3)

SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee Tasks

- G3.T13/2017 Implement the SEAKFHP Endorsement Process as applications are received. (Tier 1)
- G3.T14/2017 Staff technical subcommittees to review revised SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan. (Tier 1)
- G3.T15/2016 Coordinate as needed regional interest in participating in the USFS 2016 National Watershed Condition Assessment. (Tier2)

Strategic Plan Goal 4: SEAKFHP CONSERVATION STRATEGY - 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.

- G4.T1/2017 Work with ADF&G, AK FHP partners, and others to foster regional coordination in support of identifying additional anadromous fish habitat in SE Alaska is included in the Anadromous Waters Catalog (Tier 1)
- G4.T2/2017 Foster Activities that protect and restore fragmented and degraded fish habitats such as: 1) Support implementation activities that result from outcomes from the 2015 SE AK Fish Passage Summit., 2) Coordinate Waters to Watch Efforts with National FHP staff and the Tongass National Forest, 3) begin planning for regional restoration symposium (2016 or 2017) to share projects, innovations, and outcomes, 4) Participate in field visit (s) to one or more assessment/restoration projects to increase thematic understanding of regional activities. (2015 NFWF project, Tier 1)
- G4.T3/2017 Elevate regional assessment/prioritization work in Southeast Alaska, such as support developing USFS landscape-scale assessment efforts on Prince of Wales Island. (Tier 1)
- G4.T4/2017 Support USFS/NPLCC sponsored 2016 Climate Change workshop – planned for April 12-15, 2016. Support outcomes from this meeting including if applicable facilitating regional support for monitoring stream temperatures at key locations across Southeast Alaska. (Tier 1)

- G4.T5/2017 Monitor interagency water quality efforts in transboundary river (TBR) watersheds through supporting Transboundary Environmental Data collection efforts being initiated by ADEC and CCTHITA; support regional efforts to implement a water quality monitoring program (AKMAP efforts planned for 2017). (Tier 1)
- G4.T6/2017 Refine nearshore/marine strategic priorities for SEAKFHP. Elevate the Conservation Action Planning work completed by TNC for estuarine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska as part of the SEAKFHP Strategic Plan revision effort. (Tier 1)
- G4.T7/2017 Support coordination and activities to raise awareness of aquatic invasive species. (Tier 2)
- G4.T8/2017 Task SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee to engage southeast partners in continued discussions regarding advancements in restoration effectiveness monitoring. (Tier 3)
- G4.T9/2017 Foster and support research that informs future restoration activities. (Tier 3)