



**National Fish Habitat Board**  
**FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION**  
**For The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**  
**Appendix Information**

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- US Fish and Wildlife Service – Alaska Region
- NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service – Alaska Region
- USFS, Tongass National Forest (**note additional letter of support from USFS, Alaska Region**)
- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) - **pending**
- City and Borough of Yakutat
- Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Trout Unlimited
- The Nature Conservancy
- Sitka Conservation Society
- Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition
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Appendix C. 3 – Letters of support for application to Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund

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(including minutes from July 2013 IMFC Committee meeting)

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## SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

### Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, Alaska 99824  
(907) 723-0258  
[www.seakfhp.org](http://www.seakfhp.org)

#### Vision

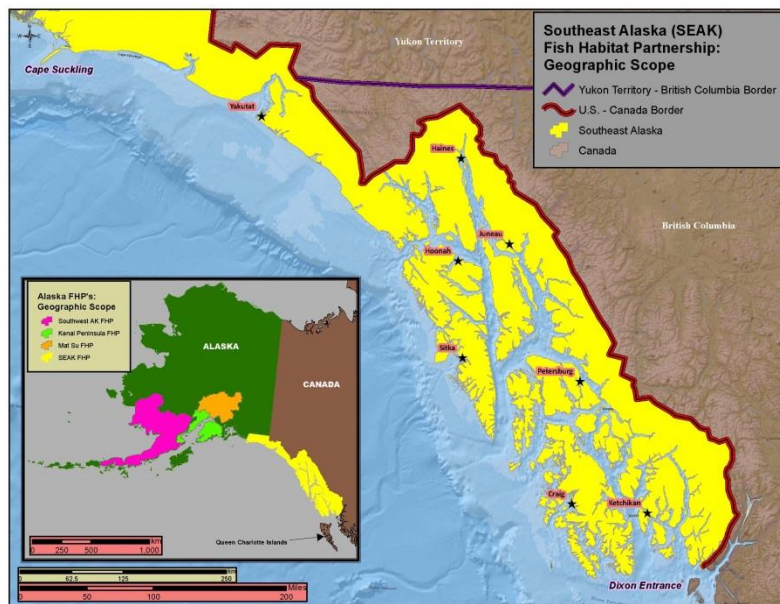
Our partners share a common vision to ensure healthy, thriving habitats that support all life stages of resident, anadromous, estuarine and marine-dependent fishes across their historical range in Southeast Alaska.

#### Mission

We work to support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration and management across Southeast Alaska with consideration of economic, social and cultural interests of local communities in our endeavors.

#### Geographic Scope

Our partnership encompasses the lands, freshwaters, estuaries, nearshore areas, marine ecosystems and communities of Southeast Alaska. It is defined as extending from Dixon Entrance at the South, to Cape Suckling in the North, eastward to the U.S. border, and includes all associated lands, freshwater and marine waters in between.



#### Core Partnership Functions

- Grow diversity and capacity of the partnership linking natural resource science and management with regional interests, local and traditional values and community needs
- Build organizational strength & perseverance of the partnership for long-term sustainability and functionality
- Provide services to partners that foster regional cooperation and understanding and result in improved on-the-ground conservation efforts across Southeast Alaska
- Facilitate regionally relevant fish habitat conservation strategies across Southeast Alaska - specific conservation priorities are to protect fish habitat in freshwater systems, estuaries and the nearshore/marine areas of Southeast Alaska, maintain and restore water quality and quantity in the region, and restore and enhance fragmented and degraded fish habitats in impacted areas.

#### Growing Partner Network

*Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition – Sitka Conservation Society – Trout Unlimited – The Nature Conservancy  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game – City and Borough of Yakutat – Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
US Fish and Wildlife Service – NOAA – US Forest Service – Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*

#### For More Information Contact

**Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**  
**Deborah Hart, Coordinator**  
**907-723-0258**  
[coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org](mailto:coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org)  
[www.seakfhp.org](http://www.seakfhp.org)

The SEAKFHP is a candidate partnership recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board and follows guidelines set out in the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. More information at [www.fishhabitat.org](http://www.fishhabitat.org)





## Coastal Fish Habitat Partnerships

### Our Vision:

To help ensure coastal and nearshore marine environments are intact and have healthy fish habitats

PROTECTING, RESTORING, AND ENHANCING FISH HABITATS IN MARINE ENVIRONMENTS

## Coast to Coast . . . One Vision

Ten of the 18 nationally recognized (and one candidate) fish habitat partnerships (FHP) help to protect, restore, and enhance fish habitats in coastal marine environments through:

- Outreach to enhance understanding and support for fish habitat improvements in marine systems
- On-the-ground fish habitat restoration projects
- Scientific research
- Fish habitat assessments
- Securing, leveraging and distributing resources
- Coordinating projects at a variety of scales
- Developing decision support tools
- Sharing information

Coastal fish habitat partnerships seek to:

- Achieve measurable habitat conservation results through strategic actions that improve ecological condition, restore natural processes, or prevent the decline of intact and healthy systems, leading to better fish habitat conditions and increased fishing opportunities.
- Communicate conservation outcomes as well as new opportunities and voluntary approaches for conserving fish habitat to the public and conservation partners.
- Broaden the community of support for fish habitat conservation by increasing fishing opportunities, fostering the participation of local communities in conservation activities, and raising public awareness of the role healthy

fish habitats play in the quality of life and economic well-being of local communities.

- Conduct fish habitat assessments in coastal and nearshore marine environments to empower strategic conservation actions supported by broadly available scientific information.
- Integrate socio-economic data to improve people's lives consistent with fish habitat conservation goals.
- Work with partners that bring resources toward achieving shared goals of fish habitat conservation.

*The sea provides us with food and livelihoods along every coast of the United States and its territories.*

~ Marine Conservation Institute

## KENAI PENINSULA FHP

We create and foster effective collaborations to maintain healthy fish, people, habitats, and economics on the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

### Our Focal Areas:

-  **Partnership:** Ensure organizational capacity and effective operating systems are in place for the Partnership to make positive and lasting contributions to the protection and the restoration of fish and aquatic habitat.
-  **Biological Complexity:** Protect, restore and maintain the biological integrity of ecosystems that support healthy fish habitat.
-  **Water Quality and Quantity:** Ensure necessary water quality and quantity to support healthy fish communities and aquatic ecosystems.
-  **Science and Technology:** Facilitate and increase the use and availability of scientific knowledge to guide Partnership priorities, policy development and management decision making.
-  **Education:** Increase the awareness and knowledge of the goals and objectives of the Partnership for everyone that lives, works, recreates, visits, regulates or otherwise has an influence on the strategic issues of the Partnership.
-  **Policy:** Identify, prioritize and communicate the importance of adequate regulations, policies and planning processes to support the protection of fish habitat which are necessary to support self-sustaining fish populations.

<http://www.kenaifishpartnership.org>



Photo credit: Kenai River Alaska Fly Fishing Guides.







Kenai Peninsula FHP  
Mat-Su Basin Salmon HP  
Southeast Alaska FHP  
Southwest Alaska Salmon HP

## MAT-SU BASIN SALMON FHP

We believe that thriving fish, healthy habitats, and vibrant communities can co-exist. Because wild salmon are central to life in Alaska and here in the Mat-Su, we work to ensure quality salmon habitat is safeguarded and restored.

The success of our partnership hinges on collaboration and cooperation to get results.

-  Extending from North America's highest mountain to sea level at Cook Inlet, the Mat-Su Basin supports all 5 species of Pacific salmon, including the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Chinook salmon run in the State. It's also the fastest growing area in Alaska and some salmon populations are showing signs of stress.
-  In 10 years, partners have improved habitat connectivity at 80+ sites where roads cross salmon streams. These projects restored access to well over 100 miles of historic spawning and rearing habitat.
-  Partners have conserved over 7,000 acres of coastal wetlands, estuarine and nearshore habitats important for salmon migration and rearing through conservation easements and acquisitions.
-  Our annual Salmon Science and Conservation Symposium brings together over 100 attendees annually and spans topics covering the Partnership's broad conservation goals: protecting salmon and their habitats in freshwater, nearshore, estuarine and marine waters of Mat-Su Basin and Upper Cook Inlet, mitigating threats, restoring connectivity, and increasing knowledge about salmon and their use of these habitats.

<http://www.matsusalmon.org>



## SOUTHEAST ALASKA FHP

We seek to ensure healthy, thriving habitats throughout Southeast Alaska that support all life stages of resident, anadromous, estuarine and marine dependent fishes across their historical range.

### Our Core Functions:

- Grow diversity and capacity of the partnership linking natural resource science and management with regional interests, local and traditional values and community needs.
- Build organizational strength & perseverance of the partnership for long-term sustainability and functionality.
- Provide services to partners that foster regional cooperation and understanding and result in improved on-the-ground conservation efforts across Southeast Alaska.
- Facilitate regionally relevant fish habitat conservation strategies across Southeast Alaska — specific conservation priorities are to protect intact and healthy freshwater systems and estuaries, maintain and restore water quality, restore hydrologic conditions and reconnect fragmented fish habitats for fish in fresh water headwaters and floodplain areas.

<http://www.seakfhp.org>

*The estuaries and nearshore marine waters provide the foundation of cultural and economic activities in Southeast Alaska.*



## SOUTHWEST ALASKA SALMON HP

We protect habitats that support the greatest wild salmon fishery remaining on earth.

### Our Core Functions:

The partnership prefers to acquire conservation easements on Native lands. Easements protect habitat while retaining Native ownership and preserving traditional use.

The partnership collected traditional ecological knowledge to help determine location of traditional use areas for conservation protection. Most of these areas are also important salmon habitat.

By protecting important salmon habitat from inappropriate development, the Southwest Alaska Salmon HP also protects:

- The local sportfishing economy
- The local commercial fishing economy
- And a traditional way of life

The partnership has raised over \$30 million in 10 years and protected thousands of acres of salmon habitat in Southwest Alaska.

<http://www.southwestsalmon.org>



Photo credit: Camille Lieske, The Center for Alaska Native Health Research

## Appendix B

### **B.1 Current developmental history of Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and NFHAP-Related Activities:**

#### **2010**

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game awarded Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI) FHP funding in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2010 for **Reservations of Water in Trophy Cutthroat Trout Lakes Project;**
- USFWS/ADFG/NOAA/USFS/TU/TNC initial scoping meeting held February 2010;
- Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Working Group formed;
- Hosted five subsequent meetings of Working Group;
- Hosted formal session at the American Fisheries Society, Alaska Chapter Meeting, November 2010:
  - Meeting Session: Effective Fish Habitat Restoration
  - Meeting Session: Fish Habitat Partnerships in Alaska; with invited representatives from WNTI, PMEP, Salmon Stronghold, Mat-Su FHP's
  - Luncheon and Discussion: SE Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership formation and scoping

#### **2011**

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Juneau Field Office jointly awarded FFY 2011 WNTI funding for **Coastal Cutthroat Trout in Alaska: An Assessment of Distribution, Life History, and Status;**
- March-June – Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Request for Candidacy Letter drafted by Working Group;
- April – SEAKFHP Workgroup sponsors Fish Passage Workshop in Juneau with 47 registered attendees and 7 speakers;
- June – Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Request for Candidacy Letter submitted to National Fish Habitat Board by Trout Unlimited;

- **August – National Fish Habitat Board recognized SEAKFHP as a Candidate Partnership;**
- **October – SEAKFHP application submitted to the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF). Matching funds secured through Trout Unlimited;**
- **December – Successful award notification to SEAKFHP from AKSSF.**

## **2012**

- **January-March – SEAKFHP Interim Steering Committee releases hiring request for SEAKFHP Coordinator;**
- **April – SEAKFHP Coordinator hired;**
- **May – SEAKFHP Interim Steering Committee and Coordinator meet to set goals and strategies for partnership recognition and set steering committee meeting schedule;**
- **June – SE Partnership initial membership solidified, Coordinator introduced at National Fish Habitat Board meeting;**
- **July – SEAKFHP draft governance structure and formal bylaws developed;**
- **August – SEAKFHP bylaws adopted and partner agreement process developed;**
- **September – 1<sup>st</sup> regional teleconference hosted by SEAKFHP on regional funding opportunities (AKSSF/ACWA/NOAA);**
- **October – SEAKFHP Steering Committee initiates strategic action planning process; initial large group strategic planning session held October 16 and 17;**
- **November – SEAKFHP Coordinator provides overview presentation at Mat-Su Salmon Science and Conservation Symposium in Wasilla, Alaska. Dr. Robert Lackey guest speaker and public event hosted by SEAKFHP in Juneau.**

## **2013**

- **January – SEAKFHP Steering Committee initiate Science and Data Committee framework document; 2<sup>nd</sup> regional teleconference hosted by SEAKFHP on regional funding opportunities (NOAA's Coastal and Marine Restoration Grant); participated in the NFHP Excellence Workshop in Portland, Oregon;**
- **February – SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee (S&D) formalized with expanded partner participation; S&D initiated project endorsement process development; SEAKFHP Steering Committee endorses 1<sup>st</sup> regional project – Tongass Keystone Initiative sponsored by USFS and TNC; 2<sup>nd</sup> SEAKFHP strategic planning session where TNC CAP process is embraced; SEAKFHP website goes live;**
- **March-April – SEAKFHP initiates outreach effort and provides numerous presentations to variety of stakeholder groups**
- **May – S&D makes outreach to NFHP Science and Data Committee and Michigan State University staff pursuing 2015 National Assessment information; S&D begins regional assessment identification, aggregation and archive efforts**
- **June – SEAKFHP Steering Committee members and fiscal sponsor make presentation to the NFHP Board; dates and venue set for 2013 Southeast Alaska Watershed Symposium; SEAKFHP strategic planning sessions continue through small group work to develop draft conservation strategies and goals/objectives/actions for all core SEAKFHP functions**
- **July – SEAKFHP Steering Committee member Roger Harding makes presentation to the WAFWA Inland and Marine Fisheries Committee (IMFC); IMFC takes action to support SEAKFHP request for full recognition under NFHAP; 3<sup>rd</sup> regional teleconference hosted by SEAKFHP on regional funding opportunities (AKSSF and Pacific Salmon Commission's Northern Fund); SEAKFHP Steering Committee awards project endorsement Coastal Cutthroat Trout Assessment;**



- **August – SEAKFHP begins application process for full recognition to NFHP Board, outreaches to neighboring FHPs for letters of support and increased engagement with partners for formal agreement form commitment; continues strategic planning meetings in small group settings and begins drafting strategic plan report; SEAKFHP applies to both the AKSSF and Northern Fund grant opportunities; SEAKFHP joins Coastal FHP efforts with newsletter materials submitted on upcoming watershed symposium and overview of the FHP in SE AK (materials shared at the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission meeting); 2013 SE AK Watershed session agenda developed**
- **September/October - 2013 SE AK Watershed Symposium presenter contacts made and final details completed; SEAKFHP Strategic Plan draft and small group work continues with focus on regional conservation strategy development; Abbreviated draft plan prepared to share as part of the symposium.**
- **November/December 2013 - 2013 SE AK Watershed Symposium co-hosted by SEAKFHP November 4-6; shared draft SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan and requested regional review; followed with online survey to solicit broader regional outreach and review for draft strategic plan. Revised NFHP application for recognition.**

## **2014**

**January – Steering Committee approves final draft strategic action plan for inclusion with the NFHP application materials, submitted to the NFHP Board on January 10<sup>th</sup>.**

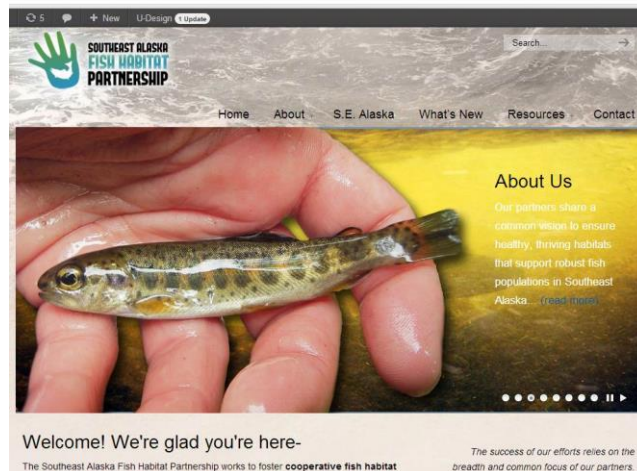
## Progress Report



2012  
To  
2013

### Organizational Development and Partnership Governance Progress

- ✓ Formalized Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) Steering Committee
- ✓ Drafted and approved partnership bylaws and created a working organizational framework document
- ✓ SEAKFHP Partnership Agreement form developed and shared with current partners:
  - US Fish & Wildlife Service
  - US Forest Service
  - NOAA Alaska Region - Office of Habitat Restoration
  - Alaska Department of Fish and Game
  - Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
  - Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
  - City and Borough of Yakutat
  - Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition
  - Trout Unlimited
  - The Nature Conservancy
  - Sitka Conservation Society
- ✓ Geographic scope and extent defined
- ✓ Logo developed, unique web and email accounts set up ([coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org](mailto:coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org)/[www.seakfhp.org](http://www.seakfhp.org))
- ✓ Participated in the NFHP Excellence Workshop – Portland, January 2013
- ✓ Science & Data Committee formalized, February 2013



Screen shot of SEAKFHP Webpage

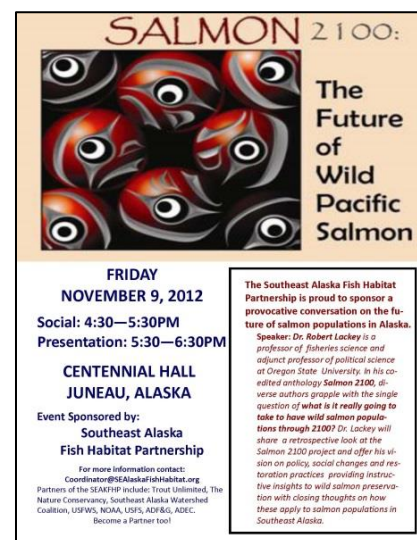
### Outreach/Service Opportunities Achieved

#### ❖ SEAKFHP presentations/events

- July 2012/13 NFHP Board meetings – Progress update of SEAKFHP
- 2012/13 NFHP Partnership Committee meetings – SEAKFHP Updates
- Participating presenter at Mat-Su Salmon Science & Conservation Symposium (Wasilla – November 7-8, 2012)
- Hosted evening lecture by Dr. Robert Lackey to share the Salmon 2100 work and discuss insights to preserving wild salmon in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. (Juneau – November 9, 2012)
- Participating presenter at 2013 SE Alaska Environmental Forum (Juneau – March 20, 2013)
- Participating presenter at University of Alaska Fairbanks Fisheries Seminar Series (statewide – April 19, 2013)
- Participant at the Beyond Adaptive Management Workshop (Sitka – April 29, 2013)
- November 2013 – Co-host of the 2013 Southeast Alaska Watershed Symposium

#### ❖ Regional Collaborative Working Group Participation:

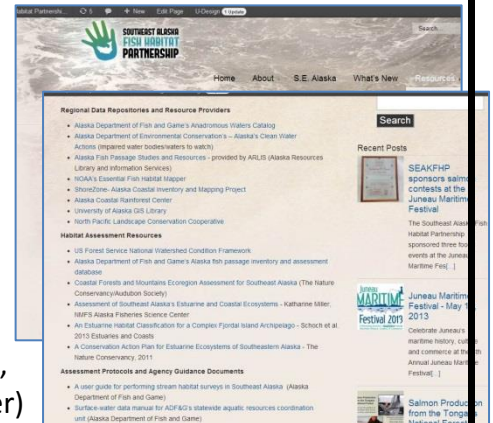
- All Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Working Group
- SE Alaska Cluster Initiative - Ocean Products/Research & Development Clusters
- Tongass National Forest Collaborative Stewardship Working Group



Poster for evening lecture by Dr. Robert Lackey

## ❖ Services Provided:

- Partner updates included as major agenda component to all SEAKFHP Steering Committee meetings
- Facilitated region-wide funding discussions:
  - September 2012 - hosted a regional funding discussion highlighting major funding programs for the region including:
    - Debbie Maas – Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund Program
    - Brock Tabor – ADEC's Alaska Clean Waters Action Program
    - Norman Cohen from TNC with updates from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
    - Erika Ammann with funding updates from NOAA's Conservation Division
  - January 2013 –hosted regional funding discussion on NOAA's marine and coastal habitat restoration grant
  - August 2013 – hosted regional funding discussion on AKSSF and PSC's Northern Fund
- Provided project endorsement of the Tongass Keystone Initiative (see page 3 for endorsement letter)
- Developed regional fish habitat conservation practitioner's directory
- Initiated effort to identify, aggregate and archive regional assessment resources - archived on the SEAKFHP website
- Facilitated communication and introductions with key regional practitioner's and Michigan State University staff pursuing NFHP Science and Data efforts in Southeast Alaska – May 6, 2013
- Participant and sponsor of the Salmon and People in Alaska: A Workshop on Salmon Decision Tools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Anchorage – May 9, 2013)
- Sponsored 3 fish-focused events at the 2013 Juneau Maritime Festival, one coordinated with our local brewery (hopeful new SEAKFHP partner)



## Strategic Action Plan Progress

- ❖ Large group strategic planning sessions held Oct 16 & 17, 2012 and February 21, 2013; small workgroup discussions June 2013 – December 2013
- Developed 4 broad **CORE FUNCTIONS** for the Partnership to concentrate on over the next 3-5 years:
  - 1) **Grow diversity and capacity of the Partnership**
  - 2) **Develop organizational strength & perseverance of the Partnership**
  - 3) **Provide services to Partners**
  - 4) **Develop regionally relevant fish habitat conservation strategies**
- ❖ Utilized the Conservation Action Planning Process to guide development of SEAKFHP priorities – small working groups developed a situation analysis identifying threats and contributing factors impacting fish habitat for three focal habitat areas in SE Alaska – Estuaries & Nearshore Regions, Freshwater Headwaters and Freshwater Floodplains
- ❖ SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee – tasked to identify and aggregate regional assessment resources to create scientific assessment baseline for inclusion in the SEAKFHP Strategic Plan and support NFHP Science and Data Committee efforts to update the 2015 National Assessment
- ❖ Draft Strategic Action Plan shared at the 2013 Southeast Alaska Watershed Symposium
- ❖ Final Draft completed for inclusion in NFHP recognition request application materials – January 2014

Regional assessments archived on the SEAKFHP website



Award for winner of the Salmon & Beer on the Pier Contest





## Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, Alaska 99824  
(907) 723-0258  
[www.seakfhp.org](http://www.seakfhp.org)

Norman Cohen  
The Nature Conservancy  
416 Harris Street, Suite 301  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Greg Killinger  
U.S. Forest Service, Tongass National Forest  
204 Siginaka Way  
Sitka, Alaska 99835-7316

February 15, 2013

Mr. Cohen and Mr. Killinger:

On behalf of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP), thank you for submitting the *Tongass Keystone Initiative* for endorsement consideration. We are pleased you have sought recognition from SEAKFHP for this effort.

SEAKFHP works to address threats impacting fish habitats along and within the Alexander Archipelago of Southeast Alaska. As a "candidate" partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP) the SEAKFHP operates under NFHAP goals and has a strong interest in reversing declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve overall productivity and health of fish in Southeast Alaska. After reviewing your application materials, the SEAKFHP Steering Committee has approved the *Tongass Keystone Initiative* for endorsement, as it is described in the application and supporting documentation you provided.

Our committee applauds the robust watershed assessment, restoration planning, and prioritization efforts that have gone into developing the approaches outlined in your proposal to address habitat threats in the watersheds of North Kuiu Island and Luck Lake located on Prince of Wales Island. Our committee believes the projects addressed in this proposal lead the way in our region toward successful process-based instream restoration. In addition, this proposal specifically addresses a number of SEAKFHP and NFHAP goals and will help guide how the SEAKFHP develops its restoration-focused habitat conservation strategies for the broader region of Southeast Alaska.

SEAKFHP offers that the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership endorsement logo (attached) be placed on project products and correspondence as desired. If you have any questions regarding the review of your application, please contact the SEAKFHP coordinator, Deborah Hart, at [coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org](mailto:coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org).

SEAKFHP is made up of resource managers, scientists and professionals from different state, federal, tribal and non-governmental entities working together to conserve habitat for resident, anadromous, estuarine and marine dependent fishes in Southeast Alaska. We commend your efforts in fish habitat conservation and for forging public-private partnerships. Congratulations and we look forward to news as the initiative progresses!

Best Regards,

Mark Kaelke

Neil Stichert

Steering Committee Co-Chairs, Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

Disclaimer: The application of the techniques used, and effects of the efforts on identified habitats or analogous system are not endorsed beyond the scope of the current project, as it is defined. SEAKFHP expressly endorses projects as stand-alone efforts, only. This endorsement does not imply SEAKFHP commitment of funds, staff time or circumvention of laws. SEAKFHP is endorsing this project with the understanding that the project must obtain all relevant federal and state permits prior to initiating appropriate work.

*Partners sharing a common vision to ensure healthy, thriving habitats that support robust fish populations in Southeast Alaska*

*Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition – Trout Unlimited – The Nature Conservancy – City and Borough of Yakutat\**

*US Fish and Wildlife Service – NOAA\* – US Forest Service\* – Alaska Department of Fish and Game\**

*Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation\* – Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska\**

*\*Invited partners*



## Appendix B

### Appendix B.3 Financial resources leverage by SEAKFHP

**Anticipated financial resources leveraged by SEAKFHP through 2014: in excess of \$170,000.00**

- **Organizational development funded through competitive application to the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF). Matching funds secured through Trout Unlimited. \$110,000 in combined support through April 2014**
- **USFWS Coastal Program (pending)—\$35,000 in combined support, funds coordinator travel, symposia planning, and support services; anticipated support through December 2014**
- **In-kind support – Trout Unlimited (TU) (fiscal sponsor, event sponsor), USFWS (WebEx and teleconference services), TNC (event sponsor), ADF&G (coordinator travel), and Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (symposia co-sponsor); in kind support for working group activities pre-candidacy including planning services, symposia and grant proposal services**

**Leveraged resources (January 2010- December 2014):**

Budget Item	Non-federal Cash/ In-kind support	AKSSF Grant	Federal Alaska Coastal Grant	TOTAL \$
Wages: Working Group TU Staff SEAKFHP Coordinator.	\$5,000 \$5,000 \$30,000	\$60,000	\$18,000	\$118,000
Publication Materials:		\$5,000	\$2,500	\$7,500
Event Coordination:	\$10,00	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$19,500
Website:		\$5,000		\$5,000
Supplies:	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$500	\$5,000
Travel:	\$700	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$8,200
Communications	\$5000			\$5,000
Indirect expenses (TU)		\$5000		\$5,000
TOTAL:	\$58,200	\$85,000	\$30,000	\$173,200

## **Appendix C.1**

### **Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Directory**

#### **SEAKFHP Steering Committee Members and Alternate Contacts:**

##### **USFWS**

Neil Stichert, Steering Committee, Chair  
Habitat Restoration and Coastal Program Biologist  
Juneau Fish and Wildlife Field Office  
3000 Vintage Blvd. Suite 200, Juneau, AK 99801  
[neil\\_stichert@fws.gov](mailto:neil_stichert@fws.gov)  
907-780-1180 (phone)  
907-586-7099 (fax)

Bill Hanson, Special Projects Coordinator, Alaska Regional Office  
[bill\\_hanson@fws.gov](mailto:bill_hanson@fws.gov)  
907-780-1170

John Hudson, Habitat Restoration and Coastal Program Biologist  
[john\\_hudson@fws.gov](mailto:john_hudson@fws.gov)  
907-780-1169

##### **US Forest Service**

Shelia Jacobson, Forest Fisheries Biologist  
Tongass National Forest  
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Phone: 907.826.1629; Cell 907.401.0870  
FAX: 907.826.2972  
[jacobson@fs.fed.us](mailto:jacobson@fs.fed.us)

##### **NOAA**

Cindy Hartmann Moore, Fish Biologist  
NMFS, Alaska Region, Habitat Conservation Division  
P.O. Box 21668  
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[Cindy.Hartmann@noaa.gov](mailto:Cindy.Hartmann@noaa.gov)

##### **Alaska Department of Fish and Game**

Roger Harding, Fishery Biologist  
Division of Sport Fish  
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907-465-4311 (phone)

Jeff Nichols, Habitat Biologist  
Division of Sport Fish  
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907-465-8576

**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation**

Brock Tabor, Environmental Program Specialist  
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Gretchen Pikul,  
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**Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska**

**Raymond E. Paddock III**  
Environmental Coordinator  
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**City and Borough of Yakutat**

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Phone (907) 784-3329  
Fax (907) 784-3281  
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**Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition**

Brad Ryan  
Executive Director  
PO BOX 1203  
Haines, AK 99827  
[alaskawatersheds@gmail.com](mailto:alaskawatersheds@gmail.com)  
907-766-3745

Nina Horn, Juneau Watershed Partnership  
[jwp@alaska.net](mailto:jwp@alaska.net)

Jessica Kayser, Southeast Alaska In Lieu Fee Program Coordinator

**Trout Unlimited**

Mark Kaelke, Steering Committee Vice-chair  
Southeast Alaska/Tongass Project Director  
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907-321-4464 (phone)

**The Nature Conservancy**

Norman Cohen, Southeast Alaska Program Director  
416 Harris Street, Suite 301  
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[ncohen@tnc.org](mailto:ncohen@tnc.org)  
907-789-1791 (phone)  
907-586-8622 (fax)

Christine Woll, Spatial Ecologist  
[cwoll@tnc.org](mailto:cwoll@tnc.org)  
907-586-8623

**AT-LARGE Steering Committee member**

Dr. K. Koski, Habitat Restoration Ecologist  
[koskik@gci.net](mailto:koskik@gci.net)  
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**SEAKFHP Coordinator:**

Debbie Hart  
SEAing Ahead  
220 St. Ann's Ave.  
Douglas, AK 99824  
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907-723-0258 (phone)  
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**Alaska FHP Advisors:**

- USFWS FHP Coordinator: David Wigglesworth  
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Cecil Rich, National Science and Data Committee – Alaska FHP Contact  
[Cecil\\_rich@fws.gov](mailto:Cecil_rich@fws.gov)  
(907) 786-3510
- ADF&G FHP Coordinator: Roger Harding  
[roger.harding@alaska.gov](mailto:roger.harding@alaska.gov)  
(907) 465-4311
- NOAA FHP Coordinator: Erika Ammann  
[Erika.Ammann@noaa.gov](mailto:Erika.Ammann@noaa.gov)  
907-271-5118



## **SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee Members\* and key contacts:**

### **US Forest Service**

- \*Sheila Jacobson, Tongass National Forest Fish Ecologist [sajacobson@fs.fed.us](mailto:sajacobson@fs.fed.us)
- \*Julianne Thompson, Tongass National Forest Hydrologist [jethompson02@fs.fed.us](mailto:jethompson02@fs.fed.us)
- \*Dave D'Amore, Pacific Northwest Research Station, [ddamore@fs.fed.us](mailto:ddamore@fs.fed.us) (Rick Edwards, [redwards@fs.fed.us](mailto:redwards@fs.fed.us))

### **US Fish and Wildlife Service**

- \*Neil Stichert Habitat Restoration Biologist, [neil\\_stichert@fws.gov](mailto:neil_stichert@fws.gov)
- \*Bill Hanson, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative liaison, [bill\\_hanson@fws.gov](mailto:bill_hanson@fws.gov)

### **NOAA**

- \*Cindy Hartmann Moore (Committee Co-chair), NOAA –Alaska Region, Office of Habitat Conservation, [Cindy.Hartmann@noaa.gov](mailto:Cindy.Hartmann@noaa.gov)
- \*Katharine Miller, NOAA NMFS Alaska Science Center, [Katharine.Miller@noaa.gov](mailto:Katharine.Miller@noaa.gov)
- Linda Shaw, [Linda.Shaw@noaa.gov](mailto:Linda.Shaw@noaa.gov)

### **US Park Service**

- Scott Gende, Glacier Bay representative, [Scott\\_Gende@nps.gov](mailto:Scott_Gende@nps.gov) (Chad Soiseth [Chad\\_Soiseth@nps.gov](mailto:Chad_Soiseth@nps.gov))

### **ADF&G**

- \*Roger Harding, Sport Fish Division, [roger.harding@alaska.gov](mailto:roger.harding@alaska.gov)
- \*Jeff Nichols (Committee Co-chair), Sport Fish Division, [jeff.nichols@alaska.gov](mailto:jeff.nichols@alaska.gov)
- Jackie Timothy, Habitat Division, [jackie.timothy@alaska.gov](mailto:jackie.timothy@alaska.gov)
- Kate Kanouse, Habitat Division, [kate.kanouse@alaska.gov](mailto:kate.kanouse@alaska.gov)
- Steve Heintz, Commercial Fisheries Division, [steve.heintz@alaska.gov](mailto:steve.heintz@alaska.gov)
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### **ADEC**

- \*Brock Tabor, Water Division, [brock.tabor@alaska.gov](mailto:brock.tabor@alaska.gov)
- \*Gretchen Pikul, Water Division, [gretchen.pikul@alaska.gov](mailto:gretchen.pikul@alaska.gov)

### **University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) and University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)**

- \*Allison Bidlack, Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center, [Allison.Bidlack@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:Allison.Bidlack@uas.alaska.edu)
- Sanjay Pyare, UAS GIS and Landscape Ecology, [sanjay.pyare@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:sanjay.pyare@uas.alaska.edu)
- \*Kim Homan, UAS GIS Library, [krhoman@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:krhoman@uas.alaska.edu) (Jason Seifert, [jmseifert2@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:jmseifert2@uas.alaska.edu))
- \*Shannon Atkinson, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, [shannon.atkinson@alaska.edu](mailto:shannon.atkinson@alaska.edu)
- Anne Beaudreau, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, [abeaudreau@alaska.edu](mailto:abeaudreau@alaska.edu)
- Megan McPhee, UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, [mvmcphee@alaska.edu](mailto:mvmcphee@alaska.edu)
- Sherry Timone, UAS Marine Science, [sherry.tamone@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:sherry.tamone@uas.alaska.edu)
- David Tallmon, UAS Environmental Science, [david.tallmon@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:david.tallmon@uas.alaska.edu)

## NGO's

- **The Nature Conservancy**
  - \*Christine Woll, spatial ecologist, [cwoll@tnc.org](mailto:cwoll@tnc.org)
  - Dave Albert, Science Director, [dalbert@tnc.org](mailto:dalbert@tnc.org)
- **Sitka Conservation Society**
  - \*Scott Harris, [scott@sitkawild.org](mailto:scott@sitkawild.org)
- **Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition**
  - \*Brad Ryan, [alaskawatersheds@gmail.com](mailto:alaskawatersheds@gmail.com)
- **Alaska Conservation Foundation**
  - Bob Christensen, [baidarkabob@gmail.com](mailto:baidarkabob@gmail.com)
- **Southeast Alaska Conservation Council**
  - Guy Archibald, [guy@seacc.org](mailto:guy@seacc.org)
- **Sitka Sound Science Center**
  - Victoria O'Connell, [voconnell@sitkascience.org](mailto:voconnell@sitkascience.org)
- **Southeast Alaska Land Trust**
  - Diane Mayer, [setrust@ptialaska.net](mailto:setrust@ptialaska.net)

## Southeast Alaska Tribes

- Cathy Needham, Local and Traditional Knowledge expert, [kecs@kaienvironmental.com](mailto:kecs@kaienvironmental.com)

## Others

- \*Dr. K Koski, SEAKFHP At-Large seat, [koskik@gci.net](mailto:koskik@gci.net)
- Jon Martin, [joninalaska@gmail.com](mailto:joninalaska@gmail.com)

## **Appendix C**

### **Appendix C.2 SEAKFHP Partner Agreement Form**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership elected to have a very simple, non-binding agreement to help establish relationships with SEAKFHP Partners. Since July of 2012 SEAKFHP Partner Agreement Forms have been circulating among participating agencies and organizations. To date we have completed forms from partners, including:

- USFWS – Alaska Region
- NOAA – Alaska Region
- USFS – Alaska Region
- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
- City and Borough of Yakutat
- Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Trout Unlimited
- The Nature Conservancy
- Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition
- Sitka Conservation Society

These signed forms are included in the following pages. A partner agreement form continues to make its way through various communication and leadership channels for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and we anticipate a signed agreement form very shortly.

Benefits for using this type of informal partner agreement form include:

- Provides a direct communication mechanism to confirm support of the SEAKFHP from the participating agency, organization or individual.
- Provides a communication tool that helps confirm this support at all levels of an agency or organization.
- Helps relay the intent and activities of the SEAKFHP.
- Raises awareness of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan to our prospective partners.

**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The Partnership will work towards formal recognition under nationally directed guidelines and proceed in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP.

The SEAKFHP is reaching out to traditional and new partners, and providing forums where all interested partners can participate in the conservation of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska.

**Purpose**

This partner agreement formalizes the support of federal, state, and local governments, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations, industry representatives, and others that are interested in supporting fishery and habitat conservation projects, which help advance and accomplish the mission and objectives of the SEAKFHP.

**Mission:** The Mission of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is: *"to foster and facilitate regionally relevant strategies to support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration, and management in freshwater, estuarine and nearshore marine ecosystems across Southeast Alaska and includes consideration of economic, social, and cultural interests of Southeast Alaska communities in its endeavors."*

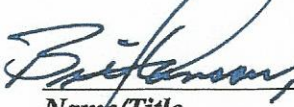
**Objectives**

SEAKFHP members will participate in and support a partnership that focuses on developing collaborations that extend traditional boundaries of resource conservation responsibilities and establishes a commitment to work together for the benefit of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. It forms and recognizes a meaningful working relationship between its members and the public on matters relating to protecting, conserving, and restoring aquatic habitats in freshwater and nearshore marine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. It is believed that many benefits will result from multiple partners working together, sharing resources, aligning strategic actions, and speaking with a united voice about the conservation and value of productive and intact fish habitat at local and regional scales.

**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to the SEAKFHP is NEIL STICHERT.

  
Debbie Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

 JUNEAU FWF0  
Name/Title  
US Fish and Wildlife Service



**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

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**Objectives**

SEAKFHP members will participate in and support a partnership that focuses on developing collaborations that extend traditional boundaries of resource conservation responsibilities and establishes a commitment to work together for the benefit of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. It forms and recognizes a meaningful working relationship between its members and the public on matters relating to protecting, conserving, and restoring aquatic habitats in freshwater and marine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. It is believed that many benefits will result from multiple partners working together, sharing resources, aligning strategic actions, and speaking with a united voice about the conservation and value of productive and intact fish habitat at local and regional scales.

**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Alaska Region to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. However, nothing in this partner agreement shall obligate NMFS to obligate or transfer funds. The point of contact from NMFS, Alaska Region to the SEAKFHP is Cindy Hartmann Moore.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Debbie Hart, Coordinator**  
**Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dr. James Balsiger, Regional Administrator**  
**NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service,**



**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The Partnership is working towards formal recognition under nationally directed guidelines and is proceeding in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP.

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**Objectives**

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**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and of the U.S. Forest Service - Alaska Region, Tongass National Forest to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Region, Tongass National Forest to the SEAKFHP is Sheila Jacobson.

  
Debbie Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

 12.16.2013  
Forrest Cole, Forest Supervisor  
U.S. Forest Service, AK Region, Tongass NF



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Alaska Region

P.O. Box 21628  
Juneau, AK 99802-1628

File Code: 2670

Date: JAN - 8 2014

Tom Busiahn  
National Fish Habitat Board  
4401 North Fairfax Drive  
ARLSQ 770  
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear National Fish Habitat Board members:

The US Forest Service, Alaska Region, supports the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership's (SEAKFHP) request for full-recognition as a recognized fish habitat partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

As a federal agency, with the majority of landownership and management responsibilities in Southeast Alaska, we have direct interests and investment in the success of this partnership. We currently provide staff support to the SEAKFHP governing body and collaborate with their science and data committee. The Partnership will improve the ability of agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other interested parties to collaborate. This collaboration, on populations of resident and anadromous salmonids in freshwater watersheds as well as anadromous and marine species in near shore habitats in Southeast Alaska, will lead to improved conservation across the region.

It is the intention of the USFS Alaska Region to continue working in collaboration with SEAKFHP and we look forward to new opportunities to work together to ensure our goals and activities are complementary.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

BETH G. PENDLETON  
Regional Forester





**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The Partnership will work towards formal recognition under nationally directed guidelines and proceed in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP.

The SEAKFHP is reaching out to traditional and new partners, and providing forums where all interested partners can participate in the conservation of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska.

**Purpose**

This partner agreement formalizes the support of federal, state, and local governments, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations, industry representatives, and others that are interested in supporting fishery and habitat conservation projects, which help advance and accomplish the mission and objectives of the SEAKFHP.

**Mission:** The Mission of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is: *"to foster and facilitate regionally relevant strategies to support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration, and management in freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems across Southeast Alaska and includes consideration of economic, social, and cultural interests of Southeast Alaska communities in its endeavors."*

**Objectives**

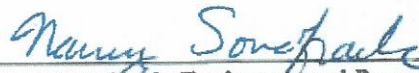
SEAKFHP members will participate in and support a partnership that focuses on developing collaborations that extend traditional boundaries of resource conservation responsibilities and establishes a commitment to work together for the benefit of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. It forms and recognizes a meaningful working relationship between its members and the public on matters relating to protecting, conserving, and restoring aquatic habitats in freshwater and marine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. It is believed that many benefits will result from multiple partners working together, sharing resources, aligning strategic actions, and speaking with a united voice about the conservation and value of productive and intact fish habitat at local and regional scales.

**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to support water quality and fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to the SEAKFHP is Gretchen Pikul.



Debbie Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership



Nancy Sonafank, Environmental Program Manager II  
Division of Water, Water Quality Standards  
Assessment / Restoration Program  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation



**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

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**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and of the City and Borough of Yakutat to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from NMFS, Alaska Region to the SEAKFHP is Bill Lucey, Biologist and Coastal Planner, City and Borough of Yakutat.



**Debbie Hart, Coordinator**  
**Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**



**City and Borough of Yakutat**  
**Skip Ryman - Borough Manager**



**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

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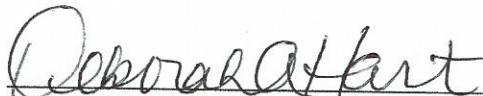
**Mission:** The Mission of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is: *"to foster and facilitate regionally relevant strategies to support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration, and management in freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems across Southeast Alaska and includes consideration of economic, social, and cultural interests of Southeast Alaska communities in its endeavors."*

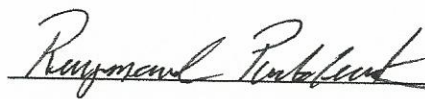
**Objectives**

SEAKFHP members will participate in and support a partnership that focuses on developing collaborations that extend traditional boundaries of resource conservation responsibilities and establishes a commitment to work together for the benefit of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. It forms and recognizes a meaningful working relationship between its members and the public on matters relating to protecting, conserving, and restoring aquatic habitats in freshwater and marine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. It is believed that many benefits will result from multiple partners working together, sharing resources, aligning strategic actions, and speaking with a united voice about the conservation and value of productive and intact fish habitat at local and regional scales.

**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and of the Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from CCTHITA to the SEAKFHP is Raymond Paddock.

  
Debbie Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

  
Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian  
Tribes of Alaska



**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

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**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and Trout Unlimited to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from Trout Unlimited to the SEAKFHP is Mark Kaelke, Southeast Alaska/Tongass Project Director.

  
**Debbie Hart, Coordinator**  
**Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**

  
**Name/Title** *Mark Kaelke SE. AK Proj. Dir.*  
**Trout Unlimited**

August 21, 2013

Deborah Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership  
419 6th Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

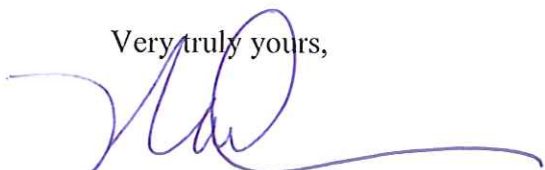
Dear Debbie,

TNC looks forward to working with the other members of SEAKFHP and is returning to you the form which TNC has signed in order to join the organization, but we do need to make clear that, although this form speaks in terms of a "partnership" and of the SEAKFHP members working cooperatively:

- (i) there is no intent by TNC that the SEAKFHP members will constitute a legal "partnership" of any kind, or be in any way responsible for one another's debts;
- (ii) TNC is not at this time making any specific funding or staffing commitments, or agreeing to take any other specific actions, and is not authorizing anyone to make any such commitments for TNC, or otherwise to speak for TNC;
- (iii) TNC will remain free to undertake such activities as TNC may deem appropriate from time to time, without any obligation to seek approval from anyone else by reason of being a member of SEAKFHP; and
- (iv) any specific funding, staffing, or other commitments on the part of TNC in furtherance of the goals of SEAKFHP will depend on TNC's available funding at the time, as well as how well the proposed activities fit into TNC's mission, and may be created only through one or more future written agreements which are signed by TNC and all of the other affected parties.

Again, we look forward to our work with you and the partnership as it continues to develop its programs for the benefit of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska.

Very truly yours,



Norman A. Cohen  
Southeast Alaska Program Director



**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The Partnership will work towards formal recognition under nationally directed guidelines and proceed in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP.

The SEAKFHP is reaching out to traditional and new partners, and providing forums where all interested partners can participate in the conservation of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska.

**Purpose**

This partner agreement formalizes the support of federal, state, and local governments, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations, industry representatives, and others that are interested in supporting fishery and habitat conservation projects, which help advance and accomplish the mission and objectives of the SEAKFHP.

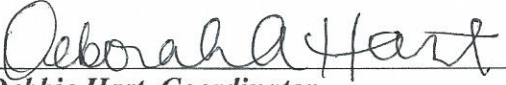
**Mission:** The Mission of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is: *"to foster and facilitate regionally relevant strategies to support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration, and management in freshwater, estuarine and nearshore marine ecosystems across Southeast Alaska and includes consideration of economic, social, and cultural interests of Southeast Alaska communities in its endeavors."*

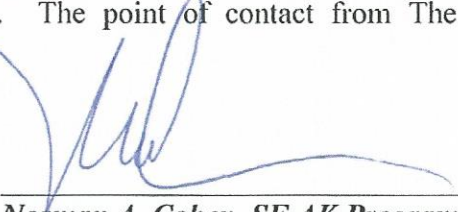
**Objectives**

SEAKFHP members will participate in and support a partnership that focuses on developing collaborations that extend traditional boundaries of resource conservation responsibilities and establishes a commitment to work together for the benefit of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. It forms and recognizes a meaningful working relationship between its members and the public on matters relating to protecting, conserving, and restoring aquatic habitats in freshwater and nearshore marine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. It is believed that many benefits will result from multiple partners working together, sharing resources, aligning strategic actions, and speaking with a united voice about the conservation and value of productive and intact fish habitat at local and regional scales.

**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and The Nature Conservancy to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from The Nature Conservancy to the SEAKFHP is Norman Cohen.

  
Debbie Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

  
Norman A. Cohen, SE AK Program Dir.  
The Nature Conservancy





**SOUTHEAST ALASKA  
FISH HABITAT  
PARTNERSHIP**

**Partnership Agreement**

**Background**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The Partnership will work towards formal recognition under nationally directed guidelines and proceed in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP.

The SEAKFHP is reaching out to traditional and new partners, and providing forums where all interested partners can participate in the conservation of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska.

**Purpose**

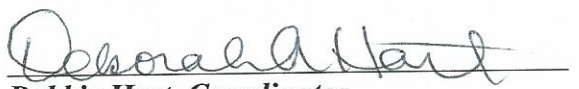
This partner agreement formalizes the support of federal, state, and local governments, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations, industry representatives, and others that are interested in supporting fishery and habitat conservation projects, which help advance and accomplish the mission and objectives of the SEAKFHP.

**Objectives**

SEAKFHP partner members will participate in and support a partnership that focuses on developing collaborations that extend traditional boundaries of resource conservation responsibilities and establishes a commitment to work together for the benefit of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. It forms and recognizes a meaningful working relationship between its members and the public on matters relating to protecting, conserving, and restoring aquatic habitats in freshwater and marine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. It is believed that many benefits will result from multiple partners working together, sharing resources, aligning strategic actions, and speaking with a united voice about the conservation and value of productive and intact fish habitat at local and regional scales.

**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and Sitka Conservation Society to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that they will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from Sitka Conservation Society to the SEAKFHP is Scott Harris.

  
**Debbie Hart, Coordinator**  
**Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**

Scott Harris (via e-signature)  
**REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE**

*Partners sharing a common vision to ensure healthy, thriving habitats that support all life stages of Southeast Alaska resident, anadromous, estuarine and marine dependent fishes across their historical range.*



**PARTNER AGREEMENT**  
**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**

**Background**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The Partnership will work towards formal recognition under nationally directed guidelines and proceed in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP.

The SEAKFHP is reaching out to traditional and new partners, and providing forums where all interested partners can participate in the conservation of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska.

**Purpose**

This partner agreement formalizes the support of federal, state, and local governments, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations, industry representatives, and others that are interested in supporting fishery and habitat conservation projects, which help advance and accomplish the mission and objectives of the SEAKFHP.

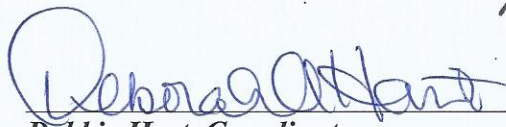
**Mission:** The Mission of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is: *"to foster and facilitate regionally relevant strategies to support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration, and management in freshwater, estuarine and nearshore marine ecosystems across Southeast Alaska and includes consideration of economic, social, and cultural interests of Southeast Alaska communities in its endeavors."*

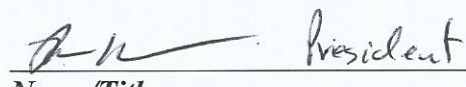
**Objectives**

SEAKFHP members will participate in and support a partnership that focuses on developing collaborations that extend traditional boundaries of resource conservation responsibilities and establishes a commitment to work together for the benefit of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. It forms and recognizes a meaningful working relationship between its members and the public on matters relating to protecting, conserving, and restoring aquatic habitats in freshwater and nearshore marine ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. It is believed that many benefits will result from multiple partners working together, sharing resources, aligning strategic actions, and speaking with a united voice about the conservation and value of productive and intact fish habitat at local and regional scales.

**Partner Affirmation**

Whereas it is in the best interests of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership and the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition to support fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska, it is agreed that SEAKFHP and the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition will work cooperatively to achieve the goals and objectives of both organizations whenever and wherever such opportunities arise. The point of contact from the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition to the SEAKFHP is Jessica Kayser.

  
Debbie Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

  
Name/Title  
Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition



January 5, 2014

National Fish Habitat Board  
c/o Tom Busiahn  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4401 North Fairfax Drive  
ARLSQ 770  
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear National Fish Habitat Board members:

On behalf of the University of Alaska I am writing to express our support for the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) which is under consideration as a fully recognized fish habitat partnership.

We support efforts guided by the SEAKFHP to improve the ability of agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other interested parties, including the “Southeast Alaska GIS Library”, to support collaborative actions that improve fish habitat conservation efforts across southeast Alaska.

The GIS Library is a cooperative project sponsored by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the Geographic Information Network of Alaska, The Nature Conservancy of Alaska, the National Marine Fisheries Service of NOAA, the US Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Geological Survey and the University of Alaska Southeast.

Our goal is to promote the use of regional geospatial data and applications to further research and improve management of public resources in southeast Alaska. In addition, the GIS Library provides a framework for coordinating the acquisition and sharing of spatial data between the public, researchers, educators, and managers. It also provides a forum for discussing regional data standards, future data needs, and opportunities for collaboration.

The GIS Library is working closely with the SEAKFHP to archive and make accessible regional geospatial data and applications that support their efforts to identify, aggregate and archive regional data sets and information important for conservation and restoration of freshwater and nearshore marine ecosystems of southeast Alaska.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Sanjay Pyare, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor

Kim Homan  
Coordinator, Southeast Alaska GIS Library

cc: Deborah Hart, SEAKFHP Coordinator

# STATE OF ALASKA

Sean Parnell, GOVERNOR

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

*Division of Sport Fish / Region I*

P.O. BOX 110024  
JUNEAU, AK 99811-0024  
PHONE: (907) 465-4270  
FAX: (907) 465-2034

Peter Bangs and AKSSF Reviewers  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
AKSSF Program Coordinator  
PO Box 115526  
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

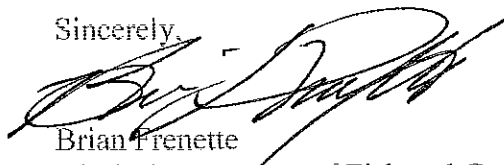
Dear AKSSF Reviewers,

The Southeast Region Sport Fish Division of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game supports the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) proposal to the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund, August 2011 CFP.

We believe that through this proposal SEAKFHP will be improve the ability of agencies, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties to collaborate on salmon and steelhead habitat conservation projects. In so doing, the work of SEAKFHP will benefit both these fisheries and the region overall.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Brian Frenette  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Southeast Alaska Regional Supervisor  
Sport Fish Division  
PO Box 110024  
Juneau AK 998114

(907) 465-8590

From: The Nature Conservancy  
416 Harris St; Juneau, Alaska  
Contact Information: Rob Bosworth, Restoration Coordinator

Date: 10/3/2011

To the Members of the AKSSF 2011 Review Committee:

The Nature Conservancy in Alaska (the Conservancy) is pleased to support the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership proposal to the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund, August 2011 CFP, Organizational Development and Habitat Symposia.

The Nature Conservancy's participation in fish habitat conservation is well known and long established; we are prepared to help build the types of fish habitat partnerships and programs that have proven successful in Alaska and elsewhere. Successful collaborative projects have included stream channel repair, culvert repair and replacement, protecting sensitive areas, and promoting community participation in conservation land planning. These projects have generally reflected the priorities of participating agencies or groups. A coordinated, regional project selection process, as proposed, could enhance our ability to identify regional needs, and could encourage non-traditional collaborations, greater communication, and new ways to obtain funding.

Fisheries conservation groups depend on organizations such as the AKSSF for the technical, fiscal, and human capital that make it possible to set priorities. The proposal may be able to streamline dissemination in obtaining fisheries information in the SE region, and improved access to that information. By supporting the implementation of this project, you will be strengthening the region's capacity to undertake projects that identify, plan for, and restore important salmon habitat and keep mitigation funds in the communities where unavoidable impacts occur.

Thank you for your time in reviewing these project proposals and for considering this letter of support for the SEAKSSF project. Please feel free to call to discuss this letter of support in more detail.

Sincerely

  
Rob Bosworth, Restoration Coordinator  
The Nature Conservancy



Brian Sandoval  
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA  
**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE**

1100 Valley Road  
Reno, Nevada 89512  
(775) 688-1500 • Fax (775) 688-1595

TONY WASLEY  
Director

RICHARD L. HASKINS, II  
Deputy Director

PATRICK O. CATES  
Deputy Director

August 22, 2013

National Fish Habitat Board  
c/o Mr. Tom Busiahn  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4401 North Fairfax Drive  
ARLSQ 770  
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear National Fish Habitat Board Members:

The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) – Inland and Marine Fisheries Committee (IMFC) supports the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership's (SEAKFHP) application to be recognized as a new fish habitat partnership by the National Fish Habitat Partnership Board. WAFWA's membership includes 19 western state fish and wildlife agencies and resource agencies from four Canadian provinces or territories.

At the 2013 IMFC summer meeting in Omaha, a presentation was given by Roger Harding (SEAKFHP Steering Committee member) that provided an introduction, overview, and recent accomplishments of the candidate SEAKFHP. A motion was made and unanimously passed by the IMFC to support the candidate SEAKFHP in its effort to gain full recognition as a fish habitat partnership. Formal committee notes summarizing these activities are attached. The recommendation from the IMFC was unanimously approved by the WAFWA directors at the annual business meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Richard L. Haskins II".

Richard L. Haskins II, Chair  
Inland and Marine Fisheries Committee  
Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

cc: Deborah Hart, SEAKFHP Coordinator  
Roger Harding, SEAKFHP Steering Committee member/ADF&G



*Appendix C.4. Items of interest concerning SEAKFHP presentation during the WAFWA Inland and Marine Fisheries Committee and actions for support of SEAKFHP can be found on page 3 of the summary notes below highlighted in yellow.*

## WAFWA Inland and Marine Fisheries Committee

July 22, 2013 1 P.M.

### **Welcome, Announcements and Introductions:**

21 attendees, 15 states represented – NV, ND, WA, ID, WY, SD, UT, AZ, CO, KS, OR, NE, OK, AK, MT. Others present representing USFS, USFWS and WNTI.

### **Approval of July 2012 Committee Meeting Minutes:**

#### **Action IMFC**

A motion was made to approve the minutes. Approval was unanimous.

### **Report and recommendations from the Fish Chief's meeting (Don Gabelhouse):**

28 in attendance representing 15 states. Key topic; earlier state involvement in federal processes that affect us greatly, as well as programs and the public, esp. sportfishing programs and the economic and social/mental health benefits they provide. Key issues related to this include:

- USFWS national fish hatchery system review
- Stocking on FWS and BLM lands
- Surrogate species for landscape scale conservations

A need was identified to provide NFHAP board an update on habitat improvements done by states separate from NFHAP funding.

### **Report on NFHAP Board, WAFWA States habitat partnerships, & benefits from the overall effort (Mike Stone):**

A power point was provided on NFHAP update:

- History of NFHAP development through 2006,
- Endorsed by fish chiefs and ARDs in 2006 and approved by AFWA in March 2006.
- Guidance for FHPs etc summer 2006
- Some controversy on strategy with final emphasis that it should be a bottom-up approach for developing and implementing FHPs.
- First 5 FHPs approved in October 2007 (4) and February 2008 (1, WNTI).

NFHB and NFHAP achievements:



- 2010 objectives reached
- Completed 1<sup>st</sup> national assessment of fish habitat (some issues remain)
- Approved 18 FHPs covering all 50 states
- Contributed to 341 conservation projects in 46 states
- Timing for interagency agreements and expanded funding packages has not been good but IA with DOI, Ag and Commerce has finally been completed
- Annual “10 waters to watch” program
- Web based map and data tool [www.fishab.org](http://www.fishab.org)

Funding issues continue, there has been a recurring available base funding but not increased to correspond with larger number of FHPs.

Board priorities for 2013:

- Advance NFHAP policy and legislative agenda e.g. pass the NFHAP conservation action and adopt secretarial order
- Enhance the leadership, managerial and conservation delivery of FHPs
- Strategies for new funding sources

National Conservation strategies development – NFHB Habitat Conservation Committee established with guiding principles developed. Draft conservation strategies developed, idea is that all FHPs should conform to *some* strategies but don't have to fit with *all of them*. Also working on conservation targets and effectiveness reporting strategy/requirements.

- Protect intact and healthy waters
- Restore hydrologic conditions for fish
- Reconnect fragmented fish habitats
- Restore water quality

Secretarial agreement: promote collaborative, science-based conservation and direction to provide Federal support for implementing state-based FHPs, all DOI Ag and Commerce agencies bureaus and offices

NFHB approved approach to develop a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation to provide a group tax exemption for at least 17 FHPs, establish direct fund raising abilities at the national level, etc.

NFHB has also received a MSCG to assist with organizational needs development of FHPs

### **Action Items IMFC**

A motion was made to support Mike Stone continuing to serve as WAFWA's representative on the National Fish Habitat Partnership Board through the

remainder of his term which ends July 31, 2015, and having WAFWA cover his related travel and compensation costs for that period of time. Discussion ensued regarding Mike's long standing involvement with board and the necessity of having effective representation on the board. Approval was unanimous. Direction was given to thank the Directors for their support of all of the partnerships within the WAFWA Region. Without their support many of the partnerships would not exist.

### **WNTI (Robin Knox):**

WNTI steering committee was yesterday:

- New chair of WNTI SC elected, Julie Carter from AGF, new vice chair Roger Wilson UDWR
- Budget status report, in good financial shape through at least next year
- Coordinator's contract approved to go to IMFC
- Goals and operational objectives for next year approved
- Director of Strategic Partnerships (DSP), efforts to gain additional support with fly fishing industry and other partners. DSP will likely be resigning due to personal reasons so SC will be evaluating how to proceed with hiring a new DSP and ongoing projects
- Approved nomination to replace Charlie Corrarino, representing Oregon, to go to IMFC for approval
- Reviewed 10 small grant proposals and approved 6 for funding
- Special thanks to Charlie for his many years of service

### **Action Items IMFC**

A motion was made to approve Bruce McIntosh, OR, as new member of steering committee. Approval was unanimous.

A motion was made to approve contract for Robin Knox WNTI Coordinator. It was noted that contract is basically the same as last year. Approval was unanimous.

### **Updates on other NFHPs:**

Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership – report from Roger Harding on development and status of the candidate FHP and other AK FHPs

Brief updates from Desert Fish and Reservoir FHPs

### **Action Items IMFC**

A motion was made to support the application by Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership to become a National Fish Habitat Partnership. Approval was unanimous.

### **FWS National Fish Hatchery Assessment (Greg Gerlich):**

Colorado River Fish and Wildlife Council (CRFWC) and WAFWA Fish Chiefs have concerns regarding preparation of the National Fish Hatchery Comprehensive Workforce Analysis and Implementation Planning. CRWC is developing a letter to go to Secretary of the Interior emphasizing issues with mitigation hatcheries and affect of potential changes to state hatcheries and sportfish programs. Concerns were expressed over the lack of coordination with state partners as the plan is developed. Consultation on decisions affecting federal hatcheries is critical as these facilities are part of a larger integrated native and sportfish production program in the west. It is unclear if budget cuts will impact other important programs such as fish health and aquatic drug approval programs.

Hannibal Bolton expressed recognition of the important long-standing partnership on this issue with FWS and the states. The long term solution (for mitigation hatcheries) is to address organic legislation to deal with mitigation funding needs among all federal agencies so we aren't dealing with this ongoing problem is every five or so years.

### **Action Items IMFC**

A motion was made to approve the draft resolution prepared by the Fish Chiefs. The resolution was approved with minor edits. The resolution will be forwarded to the WAFWA resolutions committee.

### **Invasive Species Working Group report (Larry Riley):**

Summarized report to Directors; 20 participants in ISWG. Working with Western Regional Panel to convey messages and information not otherwise relayed through states to Directors, is an important strategy to continue. Participation is encouraged in workshop next month regarding decontamination strategies. DOI needs to emphasize funding for QZAP. DOI should restore FY14 funding for State AIS implementation grants and regional panels. Resolution from WGA to develop contacts for AIS coordinator survey, Larry sent out email on this.

### **Double-crested cormorant & white pelicans (Jeff Dillon– Idaho):**

Issue for Idaho is predation on sportfish and YCT restoration efforts in Blackfoot Reservoir. There are at least 4K nesting birds on one island. Drawn by carp &

sucker population but also very deleterious impact on spawning YCT. Depredation permit application process with FWS has been difficult. Responses included, if birds are eating your fish you should stop stocking. This has been slowly improving and ID has increased data collection to frame the issue and build predation rate estimates. Some APHIS support but what control measures have been authorized have been primarily a State action.

There is no desire to eliminate pelican populations but a desire to control pelican populations in balance with fish recovery needs.

Pilot study of 6 waters to develop better information on consumption, distances to predation events and predation rates – forage distances can be up to 200 km. The study is continuing this year with more waters – to assess more general impacts on sport fishing programs and anglers.

AZ and UT described similar problems finding effective solutions particularly related to cormorants and stocked (esp. urban) fisheries

On lower Columbia River this is an issue too with cormorants taking twenty million salmon per year during spawning run. Currently working on an EIS for multiple control strategies.

Within some agencies there seems to be reluctance by avian programs managers to acknowledge the need to manage predatory birds populations which have increased due to anthropogenic causes.

### **Action Item IMFC**

There was recognition that this issue needs to be monitored and Directors need to be reminded of the importance of this issue.

### **Angling license sales trends – Charlie C:**

No report, this was covered in other venues.

### **Fish Consumption Messaging Resulting from High Mercury Levels in Fish Populations (Ty Gray):**

Ty Gray representing RI&E committee followed up on a proposed action item from 2012 WAFWA meeting. Is there a need from member states to develop common messaging regarding the consumption of fish with elevated levels of mercury? AZ has developed FAQs to accompany any press releases regarding fish health issues.

Discussion followed about differing state standards for fish health advisories and interpretation of various state health division and DEQ recommendations.



**Action Items IMFC**

There was agreement that the RI&E Committee will work on developing some generic FAQs for review by IMFC.

**Other Federal legislative issues:**

Larry Riley – need to watch bills related to the invasive animal screens.

**Federal agency reports:**

Amy – Ann Zimmerman USFS retiring.

Bull trout – USFS being sued relative to critical habitat, etc.

**Other Business**

No other new topics introduced.

**Closing Comments and Adjourn**

Thanks were expressed to Nebraska staff for a great meeting.



**WESTERN  
NATIVE  
TROUT  
INITIATIVE**

August 22, 2013



**WNTI Steering  
Committee**

**Julie Meka-Carter**  
Arizona Game and Fish  
Department

**Roger Harding**  
Alaska Department of  
Fish and Game

**Jon Sjoberg**  
Nevada Division of  
Wildlife

**Lee Nelson**  
Montana Fish, Wildlife  
and Parks

**Jeff Dillon**  
Idaho Department of Fish  
and Game

**Roger Wilson**  
Utah Division of Wildlife  
Resources

**Craig Burley**  
Washington Department  
of Fish and Wildlife

**Bruce McIntosh**  
Oregon Department of  
Fish and Wildlife

**Jay Thompson**  
Bureau of Land  
Management

**Scott Spaulding**  
U.S. Forest Service

**Robert Clarke**  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
Service

**Warren Colyer**  
Trout Unlimited

**Rich Haskins**  
Western Association of  
Fish and Wildlife

National Fish Habitat Board  
c/o Tom Busiahn  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4401 North Fairfax Drive  
ARLSQ 770  
Arlington, VA 22203

**To the National Fish Habitat Partnership Board:**

The Western Native Trout Initiative (WNTI) supports the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership's (SEAKFHP) request for full-recognition as a recognized fish habitat partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

As an overlapping/adjacent fish habitat partnership to the SEAKFHP WNTI supports their efforts to develop and implement a comprehensive conservation and restoration strategy for freshwater and nearshore marine ecosystems of Southeast Alaska. We believe SEAKFHP will be able to improve the ability of agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other interested parties to collaborate on aquatic habitat conservation in order to sustain Southeast Alaska's fisheries, and traditional ways of life that depend on those resources.

When and where possible the WNTI will work with the SEAKFHP to conserve priority habitats that benefit both our partnerships, and to collaboratively promote the National Fish Habitat Partnership Action Plan and native fish conservation programs.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

**Robin Knox**  
Coordinator  
Western Native Trout Initiative

*Western Native Trout Initiative, 134 Union Blvd., Suite 665, Lakewood, CO 80236*  
Visit [www.westernnativetrout.org](http://www.westernnativetrout.org)





National Fish Habitat Board  
c/o Tom Busiahn  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4401 North Fairfax Drive  
ARLSQ 770  
Arlington, VA 22203

August 23, 2013

**To:** National Fish Habitat Board Members  
**RE:** Support for the recognition of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

The Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership supports the National Fish Habitat Board recognition of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) as one of 19 nationally recognized fish habitat partnerships in the United States.

The recreational, commercial, cultural, and economic importance of fish to the communities and people of Southeast Alaska, and the complex and unique challenges (habitat diversity, road system, development, e.g.) within this geography highlight the need for a fish habitat partnership in this region. Establishment and recognition of the partnership will foster communication, enhance funding opportunities, provide for a more comprehensive technical review and endorsement of fish habitat projects, and support the coordination necessary to efficiently conduct fish habitat assessments and share data along the entire West Coast of the United States.

The SEAKFHP has made significant progress in the development of its strategic framework, the coordination of committed and valued partners, and the articulation of key strategies that will help advance the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

NHFP tasked the PMEP to work with other West Coast FHPs, British Columbia, and Mexico to collaborate where our interests and concerns intersect. Recognition of the SEAKFHP will foster outreach to British Columbia to promote community-supported fish habitat protection in a manner that complements our national fish habitat action plan.

Therefore, our partnership is pleased to offer our support for the establishment and recognition of SEAKFHP as a national fish habitat partnership.

Sincerely,



Lisa A. DeBruyckere, Coordinator  
Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership

cc: Deborah Hart, SEAKFHP Coordinator





National Fish Habitat Board  
c/o Tom Busiahn  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4401 North Fairfax Drive  
ARLSQ 770  
Arlington, VA 22203

December 1, 2013

Dear National Fish Habitat Board members:

The Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership supports the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership's (SEAKFHP) request for full-recognition as a recognized fish habitat partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

As an adjacent fish habitat partnership to the SEAKFHP we support their efforts to develop and implement a comprehensive conservation and restoration strategy for freshwater and nearshore marine ecosystems of southeast Alaska. We believe that through efforts guided under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan SEAKFHP will be able to improve the ability of agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other interested parties to collaborate on populations of resident and anadromous salmonids in freshwater watersheds as well as anadromous and marine species in nearshore habitats in order to sustain southeast Alaska's fish habitat, fisheries, and traditional way of life.

In addition, our partnership is pleased to share with the Board that we have appreciated many very positive interactions with the SEAKFHP to date, and are looking forward to continuing to work collaboratively with SEAKFHP. We look forward to new opportunities to partner and build expanded regional communication and collaboration and ensure that our goals and activities are complementary when able and appropriate.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on behalf of the Steering Committee of the Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jessica Speed", is located below the "Sincerely," text. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail.

Jessica Speed, Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Coordinator

cc:  
Deborah Hart, SEAKFHP Coordinator

National Fish Habitat Board  
c/o Tom Busiahn  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
4401 North Fairfax Drive  
ARLSQ 770  
Arlington, VA 22203



12/24/2013

Dear National Fish Habitat Board members:

The Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership supports the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership's (SEAKFHP) request for full-recognition as a recognized fish habitat partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

As a neighboring fish habitat partnership to the SEAKFHP we support their efforts to develop and implement a comprehensive conservation and restoration strategy for freshwater and nearshore marine ecosystems of southeast Alaska. We believe that through efforts guided under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan SEAKFHP will be able to improve the ability of agencies, nongovernmental organizations and other interested parties to collaborate on populations of resident and anadromous salmonids in freshwater watersheds as well as anadromous and marine species in nearshore habitats in order to sustain southeast Alaska's fish habitat, fisheries, and traditional way of life.

In addition our partnership is pleased to share with the Board that we intend to continue to work collaboratively with SEAKFHP and look forward to new opportunities to work together to build expanded regional communication and collaboration and ensure that our goals and activities are complementary when able and appropriate.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erika Ammann".

Erika Ammann Co-chair  
Southwest Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

cc:  
Deborah Hart, SEAKFHP Coordinator



## Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, Alaska 99824  
(907) 723-0258  
[www.seakfhp.org](http://www.seakfhp.org)

Dr. James Balsiger, Regional Administrator  
NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service Alaska Region  
PO BOX 21668  
Juneau, Alaska 99802

August 16, 2013

Dear Dr. Balsiger,

Thank you for your organization's early involvement in helping to establish the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP), a growing collaboration of federal, state, and local stakeholders all sharing an active interest in the stewardship of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska (Southeast).

Through the direct efforts of your participating staff (Jeanne Hanson, Erika Ammann, Cindy Hartman Moore, and previously K Koski) and other founding partners the SEAKFHP is now recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board (Board) as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. The SEAKFHP will seek formal recognition by the Board at its October, 2013, meeting. We plan to submit a completed application and supporting materials by August 23, 2013.

As a part of this formal recognition process we are soliciting formal recognition from our founding partners through the Partner Agreement Form (attached). Becoming a formally recognized member of the SEAKFHP means that your organization is committed to continuing to work together for the benefit of local fish habitat resources and highlights your organization's initiative to be involved in fostering and facilitating regionally relevant strategies that will directly influence fish habitat conservation efforts in Southeast. Our partners share a common vision to ensure healthy, thriving habitats which support all life stages of Southeast resident, anadromous, estuarine, and marine dependent fishes across their historical range.

The success of the Fish Habitat Partnership model continues to garner momentum nationally and performs successfully in Alaska, as demonstrated by the Mat-Su, Kenai, and Southwest Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships. We believe similar success will happen in Southeast as already there has been much interest expressed by our founding partners and we have easily been able to schedule collaborative outreach events and activities. Our current core functions include: growing diversity and capacity of the partnership; developing organizational strength and perseverance; providing services to partners and Southeast communities; and developing regionally relevant fish habitat conservation strategies. Your continued involvement in the partnership will greatly influence the effectiveness of the SEAKFHP.

Please review the attached SEAKFHP Partner Agreement Form and discuss as needed within your organization. With all of our federal partners we are including a copy of the federal MOU with this request highlighting the strong support among federal agencies regarding formation and support for regional fish habitat partnerships. Return a signed copy to me at 419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Juneau, AK 99801 or via email to [coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org](mailto:coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org). Please feel free to contact me with any questions, 907-723-0258.

The SEAKFHP Steering Committee sends our best wishes and sincerest thanks for considering formalizing your organization's partnership with the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah A. Hart".

Deborah A. Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

cc: Jeanne Hanson; Erika Ammann; Cindy Hartmann Moore





## Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, Alaska 99824  
(907) 723-0258  
[www.seakfhp.org](http://www.seakfhp.org)

Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

January 3, 2014

Dear Commissioner Campbell,

Thank you for your organization's early involvement in helping to establish the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP), a growing collaboration of federal, state, and local stakeholders all sharing an active interest in the stewardship of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska (Southeast).

Through the direct efforts of your participating staff (Roger Harding, Jeff Nichols, and previously Sue Rodman) and other founding partners the SEAKFHP is now recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board (Board) as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. The SEAKFHP will seek formal recognition by the Board at its March 2014, meeting. We plan to submit a completed application and supporting materials by January 10, 2014.

As a part of this formal recognition process we are soliciting formal recognition from our founding partners through the Partner Agreement Form (attached). Over the last few months we have worked through your NFHP Coordinator Roger Harding to brief each of the Southeast Regional Supervisors on efforts of the SEAKFHP. We have received positive support from each of them as well as helpful input to our developing strategic action plan.

The success of the Fish Habitat Partnership model continues to garner momentum nationally and performs successfully in Alaska, as demonstrated by the Western Native Trout Initiative and the Mat-Su, Kenai, and Southwest Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships. We believe similar success will happen in Southeast as already there has been much interest expressed by our founding partners and we have easily been able to schedule collaborative outreach events and activities – such as the recent 2013 Southeast Alaska Watershed Symposium. Our current core functions include: growing diversity and capacity of the partnership; developing organizational strength and perseverance; providing services to partners and Southeast communities; and developing regionally relevant fish habitat conservation strategies. Your continued involvement in the partnership will greatly influence the effectiveness of the SEAKFHP.

Please review the attached SEAKFHP Partner Agreement Form and discuss as needed within your organization. Return a signed copy to me at 419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Juneau, AK 99801 or via email to [coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org](mailto:coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org). Please feel free to contact me with any questions, 907-723-0258.

The SEAKFHP Steering Committee sends our best wishes and sincerest thanks for considering formalizing your organization's partnership with the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Deborah A. Hart".

Deborah A. Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

cc: Kelly Hepler, ADFG; Roger Harding, ADF&G

**SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP**  
C/O Trout Unlimited – 419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200 – Juneau, Alaska 99801

December 20, 2013

Dear Representatives of Central Council Tlingit Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska,

Thank you for your organizations early involvement in helping to establish the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP), a growing collaboration of federal, state, and local stakeholders all sharing an active interest in the stewardship of fish habitat resources in Southeast Alaska. Our partners share a common vision to ensure healthy, thriving habitats which support all life stages of resident, anadromous, estuarine, and marine dependent fishes across their historical range in Southeast Alaska.

Through the direct efforts of your participating staff (Raymond Paddock, Helene Bennett, Jennifer Hanlon, and previously Leilani Knight and Kate Jensen) and other founding partners the SEAKFHP is now recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board (Board) as a 'candidate' National Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. The SEAKFHP will seek formal recognition by the Board at its March, 2014, meeting. We plan to submit an application and supporting materials by January 10, 2014.

As a part of this recognition process we are soliciting support from our founding partners through a Partner Agreement Form (attached). This non-binding agreement form helps to communicate your organizations participation with the SEAKFHP and conveys a direct contact to the partnership. Currently CCTHITA holds the tribal seat on the SEAKFHP Steering Committee and Ray continues to be a strong asset to the partnership providing insight and coordination on behalf of tribal entities throughout the region.

The success of the Fish Habitat Partnership model continues to garner momentum nationally and performs successfully in Alaska, as demonstrated by the Mat-Su, Kenai, and Southwest Alaska Fish Habitat Partnerships. We believe similar success will happen in Southeast Alaska as already there has been much interest expressed by our founding partners and we have easily been able to schedule collaborative outreach events and activities. Our current core functions include: growing diversity and capacity of the partnership; developing organizational strength and perseverance; providing services to partners and communities; and developing regionally relevant fish habitat conservation strategies.

Your continued involvement in the partnership will greatly influence the effectiveness of the SEAKFHP. Please review the attached SEAKFHP Partner Agreement Form and discuss as needed within your organization. Return a signed copy to me at 419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Juneau, AK 99801 or via email to [coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org](mailto:coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org). Please feel free to contact me with any questions, 907-723-0258.

The SEAKFHP Steering Committee sends our best wishes and sincerest thanks for your organization's partnership with the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership.

Sincerely,



Deborah A. Hart, Coordinator  
Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

## **Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership**

### **Governing By-Laws**

#### **Article I. Partnership Scope**

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is a collaboration of federal, state and local governments, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations, industry representatives and members of the public dedicated to the protection, conservation and restoration of fish habitat in freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems throughout Southeast Alaska.

#### **Article II. Name**

The name of the organization shall be the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership. The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership may be abbreviated to SEAKFHP or Partnership in these bylaws and within other internal documents.

#### **Article III. Background**

The SEAKFHP is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a candidate National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). The Partnership will work towards formal recognition under Board directed guidelines and proceed in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP. Concurrent to its organizational development, the Partnership will develop, coordinate, and implement plans, events, workshops, symposia, and other work products in support of fish habitat conservation in Southeast Alaska.

#### **Article IV. Partnership Purpose**

The mission of the SEAKFHP is to support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration and management across Southeast Alaska. The long-term vision of the Partnership is to ensure *healthy, thriving habitats that support all life stages of resident, anadromous, estuarine and marine-dependent fishes across their historical range in Southeast Alaska*. It is also understood that the mission and vision of the Partnership will take into consideration economic, social, and cultural interests of Southeast Alaska communities in its endeavors.

#### **Article V. Geographic Scope**

The geographic scope of the Partnership will encompass the lands, freshwaters, estuaries, marine ecosystems and communities of Southeast Alaska. For the purposes of the Partnership Southeast Alaska is defined as extending from Dixon Entrance at the South, to Cape Suckling in the North, eastward to the U.S. border, and including all associated lands, freshwater and marine waters in between.



## **Article VI. Guiding Principles**

The SEAKFHP formed and operates with these guiding principles:

- The Partnership will be consistent in composition and operation under National Fish Habitat Board guidance and will be comprised of representatives of local, state, and federal governments, tribal entities and other organizations providing a broad regional representation of stakeholders interested in fish habitat conservation in Southeast Alaska.
- The Partnership will coordinate with Alaska-based partnerships and other regional fish habitat partnerships which include Alaska to share information, identify common issues, and support common initiatives when possible.
- The Partnership will ensure accountability and transparency for all of its activities.
- Partnership activities will focus on issues pertaining to fish habitat conservation (as contrasted with other issues such as fishery management allocation decisions) and the development of scientific information that informs decisions about fish habitat conservation. For purposes of the Partnership 'conservation' includes land and water protection, habitat and fish passage restoration, and habitat enhancement. It is recognized that the Partnership is not a regulatory authority governing lands or waters.
- The Partnership will apply the best available scientific information to Partnership funding decisions and the development and evaluation of Partnership projects.
- The Partnership is a voluntary, self-directed organization actively working to achieve the goals and objectives of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan and the SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan.
- The Partnership works to achieve the goals of its Strategic Action Plan through collaboration of its partners and support and guidance from standing and ad hoc committees.
- Individual member groups of the Partnership retain their various missions and activities and participate in the Partnership to the extent they are able to support the Partnership's vision, mission, and strategic action plans. All resource agencies who are members of the SEAKFHP maintain all statutory authorities and do not relinquish any of their responsibilities for managing fish or habitat related resources or budgetary responsibilities per their agency missions through partnership participation.

## **Article VII. Membership**

Any governmental or non-governmental entity may request to become a partner of the SEAKFHP; as such SEAKFHP Partners may include governmental agencies, non-profit and non-governmental organizations, tribal entities, businesses, and private citizens.

A Partner Agreement Letter jointly developed with each interested partner and the SEAKFHP will confirm the interest and intent of partners to support and advance the goals and objectives of the SEAKFHP. The agreement letter will indicate a point of contact from the partner group to the SEAKFHP. A partner may dissolve its membership with the SEAKFHP at any time.

SEAKFHP Partners shall:

- Promote conservation of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska;
- Work to meet SEAKFHP goals by contributing funds, people, equipment, or share access to resources and activities when possible;
- Attend annual meetings of the Partnership;
- Serve on Partnership committees and working groups when possible;
- Be eligible to review and comment on the SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan;

- Be listed on Partnership publications;
- Be recognized as a sponsor on Partnership event and activities announcements;
- Be eligible to apply for funding that comes through the Partnership to implement the Strategic Action Plan or other approved SEAKFHP activities, if eligible by the criteria of the funding source;
- Be eligible for project endorsement by the Partnership.

## **Article VIII. SEAKFHP Steering Committee**

The SEAKFHP Steering Committee (Steering Committee, hereafter) is a voluntary, self-directed group of individuals representing a broad array of SEAKFHP organizations. The steering committee is the decision-making body for the partnership; all decisions made by the steering committee are intended to support the strategic framework of the Partnership and advance the goals and strategies defined therein.

### **Section 1. Steering Committee Membership:**

- The Partnership's interim Steering Committee will form the initial membership of the Steering Committee.
- The size of the Steering Committee will not exceed 11 members.
- Composition of the Steering Committee shall include designated seats as follows: 3 standing seats for federal government entities (1-NOAA, 1-USFWS, 1-USFS), 2 standing seats for State of Alaska government agencies (1-ADF&G, 1-ADEC), 1 seat for a local or municipal government entity, 1 seat for a tribal entity, 3 seats for non-governmental organizations where one is a standing seat to be filled by a representative of the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition, and 1 At-large seat. Membership duration for all non-standing seats shall be limited to two year terms, with additional duration coming by reappointment. Terms for non-standing seats will be staggered to provide for continuance of the Steering Committee. Letters of interest will be solicited for open non-standing seats towards the end of the 2-year term in November, the Steering Committee will appoint members at a special meeting in December, and new or reappointed terms will begin in January. The Steering Committee may elect to solicit interest for vacated seats in the midst of an unexpired term and associated appointments will fill the seat to the end of its current term. Organizations with standing seats on the Steering Committee will designate a representative to fill their assigned seat and update over time as needed.
- The Steering Committee will appoint a chair and vice-chair, of which no more than one can be a government representative. Both serve 2-year staggered-term positions, and each cannot serve more than two consecutive terms. The Chair establishes the schedule and agenda for all meetings, with input from other members of the Steering Committee and the SEAKFHP Coordinator. In the event of absence or temporary vacancy by the Chair, the Vice Chair will serve in that capacity.
- No more than one individual from a partner group may sit on the Steering Committee. Steering Committee members are designated representatives from partner organizations, as such each partner organization will designate a representative and if desired provide for an alternate. Active Steering Committee members may recommend a replacement at any time; however the identified replacement must represent the same entity, institution, or organized group. Additional representatives from a partner group may be appointed to standing or ad hoc committees.

- Active Steering Committee members, or their specifically identified alternates, are required to have a high level of attendance at Steering Committee meetings.
- A member of the Steering Committee may be considered for removal if attendance or actions are considered counterproductive or detrimental to the mission of the SEAKFHP. An executive session closed to non Steering Committee members shall be held in these instances. The stated cause for removal will be put forth to the Steering Committee and deliberated with due diligence. The removal of a Steering Committee requires at least a 2/3 majority vote from Steering Committee members.

**Section 2. SEAKFHP Coordinator:** Provided funding is available to support a SEAKFHP Coordinator, the SEAKFHP Coordinator will participate as a non-voting member in all Steering Committee meetings and transactions often fulfilling the role of meeting facilitator. The coordinator will provide primary staff support to the Steering Committee. He/she will be responsible for disseminating information, coordinating meetings, coordinating and facilitating overall implementation of actions and projects of the Partnership, outreach activities, and pursuing funding and grant opportunities. The SEAKFHP Coordinator or his/her designee is responsible for recording official actions, taking notes each time the Steering Committee convenes, and for posting official documents on the SEAKFHP website. The coordinator may be employed and provided office support by one or more of the member agencies or organizations. If a SEAKFHP coordinator is unavailable duties described here will be directed as needed by the Steering Committee chair.

**Section 3. Authority and Responsibility:** The Steering Committee shall govern and have decision making authority and responsibility over all business transactions and activities of the SEAKFHP.

**Section 4. Actions:** The Steering Committee will develop, promote and facilitate the activities and actions described in the Partnership's Strategic Action Plan. These include, but are not limited to the following:

- Assist in coordinating and leading efforts that engage partner organizations;
- Provide strategic advice and vision to the SEAKFHP and offer capacity and technical assistance when possible;
- Support the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of activities described in the Partnership's Strategic Action Plan at appropriate local and regional scales;
- Promote planning and collaboration efforts within the SEAKFHP and among partner affiliates and stakeholders;
- As funding opportunities arise, using consistent criteria evaluate, rank, and support projects or activities for funding;
- Contribute to outreach efforts necessary to obtain additional resources (including non-federal match requirements) to meet SEAKFHP objectives;
- Report to partners and other stakeholders on the status and accomplishments of the SEAKFHP;
- Support as needed the National Fish Habitat Board process for review and evaluation of SEAKFHP activities and actions;
- Provide direction and technical support to the general public, affiliated partners, or other stakeholders interested or involved in efforts to protect, maintain, or restore fish habitats;

- Coordinate with recognized National Fish Habitat Partnerships and other entities involved in fish habitat protection, maintenance, and restoration where potential overlap in jurisdiction, species distribution, or geographic proximity contributes to redundancy;
- Develop and form technical sub-committees on an as-needed basis to assist in the implementation and operation of the SEAKFHP;
- Sponsor or co-sponsor fish habitat training sessions and conferences to better disseminate and share information relating to the practice and benefits of restoring fish habitat in Southeast Alaska;
- Provide guidance and leadership to the SEAKFHP Coordinator. On an annual or bi-annual basis, develop a contract of services for the SEAKFHP Coordinator which identifies coordinator duties and responsibilities. The contract of services will also identify all compensation in the forms of wages, office use, equipment, and travel needs.

**Section 5. Meetings:** A minimum of one all-Partnership meeting will be held annually. These meetings may be held at any location agreed upon by the Steering Committee's participating members, and will be identified in advance by the Chair, Vice Chair, or SEAKFHP Coordinator. Additional meetings of the Steering Committee may be called at the request of the Chair or SEAKFHP Coordinator, where attendance is either in person or via teleconference or webinar.

**Section 6. Quorum of the Steering Committee:** At meetings of the Steering Committee, a simple majority shall constitute a quorum for any transactions undertaken or identified; otherwise a quorum will not be recognized. Once a quorum is recognized it will be in place for the entirety of a meeting until it is adjourned.

**Section 7. Meeting Management:** As a general rule, meetings of the Steering Committee are open to the public. Invited individuals may participate in meetings as needed and appropriate. Each Steering Committee meeting will have an agenda developed by the SEAKFHP Coordinator in consultation with the Chair, Vice Chair, and Steering Committee. The agenda will be forwarded to all Steering Committee members in advance of meetings. Steering Committee meetings will be led by the Chair, Vice Chair, or SEAKFHP Coordinator and will generally follow tenets of Robert's Rules of Order to promote orderly and diplomatic business.

**Section 8. Decision Making Process:** Steering Committee members seek to make decisions by consensus with unanimous agreement by all members and without objections to block decisions.

- If agreement does not occur, the Steering Committee will take conscientious steps to provide for options of agreement and use a majority vote to make decisions as a last option.
- To determine if there is consensus any member may call for a vote, and that call must be seconded. Discussion will occur, dissenting positions will be documented, options for consensus will be assessed, and a vote will be taken.
- The Steering Committee must have a quorum (simple majority, i.e., more than half of the total members present) to call for a vote. A simple majority is required for a vote to pass. Each Steering Committee member is entitled to one (1) vote.
- A Steering Committee member cannot give another member, unless that member is a designated alternate, his/her vote.



- Between meetings, the steering committee can make decisions via email but it is understood that if consensus is not attained then a teleconference or meeting will be called to more formally review the issue under consideration.
- To maintain integrity of decisions made during teleconferences and formal meetings only steering committee members, or their alternates, present at the meeting or connected via teleconference may vote.

**Section 9. Meetings Outcome, Action Items, and Future Agenda:** The Coordinator for the SEAKFHP will capture Steering Committee meeting minutes and action items during every meeting. This information and the schedule for the next meeting will be forwarded to all members of the Steering Committee and simultaneously published on the Partnership website.

## **Article IX. Office**

The Steering Committee meetings and central office for the SEAKFHP shall reside in Juneau, Alaska. All records concerning the Steering Committee and Partnership will be housed at the office of the SEAKFHP Coordinator.

## **Article X. Amendments**

Any portion of the governing Bylaws for the SEAKFHP may be amended, assuming the following criteria are met: A) written notice detailing all proposed amendments are provided to the entire Steering Committee membership and SEAKFHP Coordinator; B) a period of 10 days has elapsed since the written notice was received by the Steering Committee and SEAKFHP Coordinator; and C) Bylaw amendments receive at least a 2/3 affirmative majority vote (in favor of amendment) by the Steering Committee.

## **Article XI. Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership, the Steering Committee will cease to exist and SEAKFHP partners will be notified.



## Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Organization and Operating Procedures

### Introduction

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP/Partnership) formed as a result of working group activities that began in 2010 to bring together local communities, non-profit organizations, state and federal agencies, and residents to conserve fish habitat through coordinated strategies and partnership actions.

SEAKFHP partners share a common vision to ensure *healthy, thriving habitats that support all life stages of Southeast Alaska resident, anadromous, estuarine and marine-dependent fishes across their historical range.*

The mission of the Partnership is to “*support cooperative fish habitat conservation, restoration, and management across Southeast Alaska with consideration of the economic, social, and cultural interests of local communities in its endeavors.*”

The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is a collaborative effort. This focus on a bottom-up, locally driven, voluntary and non-regulatory effort was inspired by the approach outlined in the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP; [www.fishhabitat.org](http://www.fishhabitat.org)). The mission of NFHAP is to “protect, restore, and enhance the nation’s fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation and improve the quality of life for the American people.” Currently the SEAKFHP is recognized by the National Fish Habitat Board as a “candidate” fish habitat partnership. The Partnership will work towards formal recognition under Board directed guidelines and proceed in a manner consistent with goals and objectives addressed in the NFHAP.

### Organizing and Operating Principles

The Partnership formed and operates with these principles for decision-making and collaboration:

- Strive to work and make decisions by consensus;
- The Partnership will be consistent in composition and operation under National Fish Habitat Board guidance and will be comprised of representatives of local, state, and federal governments, tribal entities and other organizations providing a broad regional representation of stakeholders interested in fish habitat conservation in Southeast Alaska.
- The Partnership will coordinate with Alaska-based partnerships and other regional fish habitat partnerships which include Alaska to share information, identify common issues, and support common initiatives when possible.
- The Partnership will ensure accountability and transparency for all of its activities.
- Partnership activities will focus on issues pertaining to fish habitat conservation (as contrasted with other issues such as fishery management allocation decisions) and the development of scientific information that informs decisions about fish habitat conservation. For purposes of the Partnership ‘conservation’ includes land and water protection, habitat and fish passage restoration, and habitat enhancement. It is recognized that the Partnership is not a regulatory authority governing lands or waters.
- The Partnership will apply the best available scientific information to Partnership funding decisions and the development and evaluation of Partnership projects.

- The Partnership is a voluntary, self-directed organization actively working to achieve the goals and objectives of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan and the SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan.
- The Partnership works to achieve the goals of its Strategic Action Plan through collaboration of its partners and support and guidance from standing and ad hoc committees.
- Individual member groups of the Partnership retain their various missions and activities and participate in the Partnership to the extent they are able to support the Partnership's vision, mission, and strategic action plans. All resource agencies who are members of the SEAKFHP maintain all statutory authorities and do not relinquish any of their responsibilities for managing fish or habitat related resources or budgetary responsibilities per their agency missions through partnership participation.

### **Organizational Structure**

As noted above, the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership works to achieve the goals of its Strategic Action Plan through collaboration of its partners and guidance from standing and ad hoc committees.

### **Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee is the advisory body for the Partnership. The Steering Committee will be consistent in composition with the National Fish Habitat Board and be comprised of representatives of local, state, and federal governments, tribal entities, academia/conservation entities, and other organizations interested in fish habitat conservation.

There are a total of 11 seats on the Steering Committee. Six of the seats will be held by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, US Forest Service, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition. Currently Trout Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy fill two additional non-designated seats. Additional organizations will be selected from the Partnership to fill three remaining seats, one for a municipal or local government, one for a tribal entity and one At-large seat.

The non-dedicated seats will be for two year terms with the opportunity to extend for additional terms through reappointment. Non-designated seat terms will be staggered so that all seats do not turn over at the same time. Letters of interest in the open seat(s) will be solicited in November, the Steering Committee will select new members at a special meeting in December, and the terms will begin in January.

Letters of interest will explain why the partner organization wants to join the Steering Committee and how they expect to contribute to the guidance of the Partnership.

The Steering Committee shall:

- Act as the guiding body for the Partnership;
- Assist in coordinating and leading efforts that engage partner organizations;
- Provide strategic advice and vision to the SEAKFHP and offer capacity and technical assistance when possible;
- Support the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of activities described in the Partnership's Strategic Action Plan at appropriate local and regional scales;

- Promote planning and collaboration efforts within the SEAKFHP and among partner affiliates and stakeholders;
- As funding opportunities arise, using consistent criteria evaluate, rank, and support projects or activities for funding;
- Contribute to outreach efforts necessary to obtain additional resources (including non-federal match requirements) to meet SEAKFHP objectives;
- Report to partners and other stakeholders on the status and accomplishments of the SEAKFHP;
- Support as needed the National Fish Habitat Board process for review and evaluation of SEAKFHP activities and actions;
- Provide direction and technical support to the general public, affiliated partners, or other stakeholders interested or involved in efforts to protect, maintain, or restore fish habitats;
- Coordinate with recognized National Fish Habitat Partnerships and other entities involved in fish habitat protection, maintenance, and restoration where potential overlap in jurisdiction, species distribution, or geographic proximity contributes to redundancy;
- Develop and form technical sub-committees on an as-needed basis to assist in the implementation and operation of the SEAKFHP;
- Sponsor or co-sponsor fish habitat training sessions and conferences to better disseminate and share information relating to the practice and benefits of restoring fish habitat in Southeast Alaska;
- Provide guidance and leadership to the SEAKFHP Coordinator. On an annual or bi-annual basis, develop a contract of services for the SEAKFHP Coordinator which identifies coordinator duties and responsibilities. The contract of services will also identify all compensation in the forms of wages, office use, equipment, and travel needs.

### **Steering Committee Organizations and Representatives (Seat Terms noted)**

#### **2012 -14: Steering Committee**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Neil Stichert; Co-Chair (dedicated seat, chair term 2013-2014)

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, Cindy Hartmann Moore (dedicated seat)

USFS's Tongass National Forest, Sheila Jacobson (dedicated seat)

Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Roger Harding (dedicated seat)

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Brock Tabor (dedicated seat)

Trout Unlimited, Mark Kaelke, Co-Chair (seat term 2013-2015, chair term 2013-2015)

The Nature Conservancy, Norman Cohen (seat term 2013-2014)

Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition, Jessica Kayser (2012-2013), Brad Ryan (2013-2014)  
(dedicated seat)

Tribal seat – Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Raymond Paddock  
(2013-2015)

Municipal seat – City and Borough of Yakutat, Bill Lucey (2013-2014)

At-large seat – Private Citizen, K Koski (term 2013-2014)



### **Standing Committees and Working Groups**

Several committees and working groups have been established to implement goals of the Partnership and its strategic action plan. Additional committees or work groups may be formed to perform particular tasks or projects of the Partnership.

- **Science and Data Committee:** This working group is in the early stages of forming and specific roles and responsibilities are being determined now. It is anticipated that this committee will provide the science based foundation for actions of the Partnership.
- **Ad Hoc Committees and Working Groups:** Additional committees or work groups may be formed on a temporary basis as to perform particular tasks or projects of the Partnership.

### **Partner Organizations**

The Partners will include agencies, non-profit and non-governmental organizations, tribal entities, businesses and private citizens.

Partners shall:

- Promote conservation of fish habitat in Southeast Alaska;
- Work to meet SEAKFHP goals by contributing funds, people, equipment, or share access to resources and activities when possible;
- Attend annual meetings of the Partnership;
- Serve on Partnership committees and working groups;
- Be eligible to review and comment on the SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan;
- Be listed on Partnership publications;
- Be eligible to apply for funding that comes through the Partnership to implement the Strategic Action Plan, if eligible by the criteria of the funding source;
- Be eligible for project endorsement by the Partnership.

### **SEAKFHP Coordinator**

Dependent upon available funds a SEAKFHP Coordinator assists the Steering Committee in accomplishing goals and objectives of the Partnership. The coordinator provides primary staff support to the Steering Committee. He/she is responsible for disseminating information, coordinating meetings, coordinating and facilitating overall implementation of actions and projects of the Partnership, outreach activities, and pursuing funding and grant opportunities. At times the coordinator may be employed and provided office support by one or more of the member agencies or organizations. Current SEAKFHP Coordinator: Deborah Hart (hartdebbi@gmail.com/907-723-0258)

### **SEAKFHP Business Office and Contact Information**

Currently the office location for the SEAKFHP is provided by Trout Unlimited, located at 419 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200, Juneau,, Alaska 99801. Web, email and phone contacts are: [www.seakfhp.org](http://www.seakfhp.org)  
/Coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org/907-723-0258



## SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee Operational Framework

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### **Purpose**

Provide scientific and data management expertise and oversight to advance the goals and objectives of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) in a scientifically sound and strategic manner.

### **SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee Duties and Roles**

- Provide technical science and data management expertise and support to the SEAKFHP.
  - Identify and facilitate any directed assessment or research needs for the SEAKFHP.
    - Identify additional expertise/staffing or other sub-committees to meet specific information needs that are beyond the capacity of the Science and Data Committee.
  - Provide the science based review and input to regional scientific assessments (Identification of Critical Threats/ SEAKFHP Strategic Action Plan) and provide guidance to the SEAKFHP Steering Committee regarding general science oriented information requests.
  - Review project proposals from entities requesting SEAKFHP endorsement, and ideally provide summary and 'opinion' to the greater SEAKFHP Steering Committee so the larger group makes final decisions based on information gathering and review by the Science and Data committee.
  - Identify, review, recommend, and ensure availability to partners a diversity of relevant spatial datasets and non-spatial information (including protocols) that will assist planning efforts associated with fish habitat identification, delineation, characterization, prioritization, and assessment in Southeast Alaska (SEAK); see Appendix 1 below which outlines more depth to this role.
  - May serve as liaison to regional data resource entities (stream ARC data/SEAK hydro, Southeast Alaska GIS Library, Transboundary Data Working Group, others...).
  - Identify and support cross cutting science based training needs to facilitate strengthening regional professional development and available resources for fish habitat conservation efforts.
    - This may include assisting in the identification and development of 'themes' associated with symposia/events sponsored by the SEAKFHP.
- Serve as a liaison from SEAKFHP to the NFHP Science and Data Committee and other Fish Habitat Partnerships (FHPs).
  - Facilitate coordination and review of science and data needs for national fish habitat assessments and when appropriate assist with assessment teams for data need identification and data acquisition.
  - Serve as a liaison from the SEAKFHP to other FHPs with specific emphasis on Alaska FHP's with respect to coordinating similar or overlapping science and data needs.
- Additional roles or responsibilities as directed by the SEAKFHP Steering Committee.

### **Committee Membership Structure**

- Committee structure, appointments, term-limits, etc... will be broad as the committee initially forms and begins to work through the duties outlined above. The following are initial considerations for committee formation.
- Total committee size is aimed towards 10 individuals with members having scientific expertise or data management experience. Both freshwater and marine interests will be represented on the committee. (It is recognized at the early stages of committee development that building capacity for both freshwater and marine interests will be needed and that at some point tasks may be differentiated based upon expertise and capacity of the committee.)
- Initial outreach to build capacity on the committee will be broad and include the following:
  - 2-USFS Tongass Forest Managers (one seat aimed at a fish ecologist and one for a hydrologist) and 1-USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station, PNW
  - USFSW Habitat Restoration Biologist (Neil has expressed interest)
  - NOAA (Cindy will act as liaison initially and may link in the NMFS Science Center specialist based upon availability or as needs arise)
  - USGS/Water Resources Group (outreach needed for possible interest)
  - ADF&G (Jeff has expressed interest)
  - ADEC
  - 1 to 2 representatives from the University of Alaska Southeast and University of Alaska Fairbanks (outreach will be through the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center, ACRC and the UAS GIS Library to help with university links)
  - TNC (outreach to GIS specialist and Science Director)
  - CCTHITA (Local and Traditional Knowledge expert)
  - Other data stewards (perhaps with SEAK-Hydro or ShoreZone, or other data centers/offices such as the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative, NPLCC)
  - Others with specific expertise or an interest such as K Koski, Don Martin, and Scott Harris

## **Appendix 1. SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee role related to relevant datasets, protocols, and guidelines**

Will identify, review, recommend, and ensure availability to partners a diversity of relevant spatial datasets and non-spatial information (including protocols) that will assist planning efforts associated with fish habitat identification, delineation, characterization, prioritization, and assessment in Southeast Alaska (SEAK). Identifying key datasets complete with metadata, relevant protocols and strategies, and other informational documents and identifying sources of information which provides partner-access will provide consistency and a level of standardization necessary to address strategic planning goals of the Partnership. The S&D committee, upon request from partners or the SEAKFHP Steering Committee, may assist in evaluating and identifying key datasets or protocols to accomplish goals and objectives of projects that align with priorities of the SEAKFHP. The abundance and diversity of fish and fish habitat related protocols presents a potential obstacle to many partners challenged with identifying appropriate measures and means to satisfy project objectives with limited specific capacity.

A short list of protocols that may be used to advance SEAKFHP priorities includes:

- **Fish distribution inventory/survey** (AWC, AFFI, repeated 'index' counts, etc.)
- **Stream habitat inventory/survey** (USFS Tier I-IV, ADF&G-SF modified Tier II, etc.)
- **Watershed Condition Assessment** (USFS Watershed Condition Framework, USFS Proper Functioning Condition Assessment)
- **Culvert and fish passage inventory/assessment** (ADF&G Fish Passage Program, MOU: ADF&G-SF and AKDOT, USFWS Southeast Alaska Fish Passage Program, USFS Upstream Assessment of Fish Habitat)
- **Invasive species inventory and detection** (ADF&G Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan, HACCP, USFWS invasive plant inventory (??), etc.)
- **Road Condition Survey** (ADF&G-SF RCS, USFS (??), etc.)
- **Aquatic, riparian, wetland, upland (?) restoration guidelines** (USFWS-??, ADF&G-SF Streambank revegetation and protection Guide, USFS-Watershed Restoration Plan, etc.)
- **Estuary and nearshore marine habitat surveys** (ShoreZone, NMFS EFH, ??)
- **Stream gauging/in-stream flow requirements and methods** (DRN State of Alaska Instream Flow Handbook, ADF&G-SF methods including the Tennant Method, USGS Water Resources Data for Alaska, etc.)

A separate short list of ecosystems or habitats that require specific protocols for inventory and assessment that need further review by the S&D committee includes:

- Wetlands: identification, delineation, characterization
- Riparian zone assessment, characterization
- Estuarine and nearshore marine environment
- Neritic or offshore marine waters
- Freshwater lakes and ponds
- Ecoregion or broadscale SEAK Assessments