

DRAFT STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2014–2016

Abbreviated draft under review as part of the 2013 Southeast Alaska Watershed Symposium
November 2013



SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

Facilitating regional services and strategies to
support cooperative fish habitat conservation
in southeast Alaska



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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership** (SEAKFHP) works to foster cooperative fish habitat conservation in freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems across southeast Alaska. Partner expertise and focus is currently on populations of resident species and anadromous salmonids in freshwater systems as well as anadromous and marine species in estuarine and nearshore habitats.

Our mission is to foster and facilitate regionally relevant strategies that will conserve and sustain the region's fish habitat, fisheries-based economy, and culture. To achieve this broad mission our draft strategic action plan focuses on three priority conservation goals supported by four core functions of the partnership. These goals, core functions and supporting action strategies makeup this abbreviated draft strategic action plan. A more detailed plan is in the works to provide deeper background of the unique geographic setting of southeast Alaska as well as provide an information archive of fish habitat needs in the region.

The intent of this plan is to identify long-term goals, strategies, and voluntary actions that the partnership and others can undertake to protect and restore fish habitat in southeast Alaska. Fostering regional strategies, strengthening and advancing multi-entity partnerships, elevating work accomplished and planned by entities throughout the region, incorporating science-based information, and articulating key priorities and needs shared across mixed-ownership watersheds and in estuarine and nearshore areas throughout southeast Alaska will achieve improved on-the-grounds conservation outcomes across the region. Southeast Alaska communities and the numerous fish species that rely on these healthy habitats for all or a portion of their life cycle will benefit.

SEAKFHP is currently a candidate partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP). As such our conservation goals and proposed partnership actions are closely tied to this national plan. In addition to guidance offered through the national plan success of the partnership relies on the collaboration, cooperation, and support of our regional partners including federal, state, local and tribal governments, academic and research institutions, industry, nonprofit organizations, and citizens.

The SEAKFHP Steering Committee (Committee) anticipates revisiting this plan in approximately 3 years. Before finalizing this plan the Committee is soliciting regional input to the draft plan as part of the 2013 Southeast Alaska Watershed Symposium. Regional input will be used to strengthen the plan and raise awareness of it across the region.

The strengths of the draft plan are in articulation of the shared conservation goals of SEAKFHP partners, the objectives and actions for the strategies of growing and strengthening the partnership and in articulating the services that partners feel the SEAKFHP can provide in the region. The partnership's conservation strategy should be considered a work in progress and input from this regional review will greatly shape this important strategy. Thank you in advance for your review and input!



OUR VISION

Partners of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership 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.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership is to foster and facilitate regionally relevant strategies that 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.

OUR CONSERVATION GOALS

- **Protect fish habitat in freshwater systems, estuaries and nearshore/marine areas in southeast Alaska,**
- **Maintain water quality and quantity in those areas, and**
- **Restore and enhance fragmented and degraded fish habitats in impacted areas.**





OUR PLAN

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

It is believed that a broad partnership can build upon previous efforts in the region and increase benefits as multiple partners come together to:

- **share resources,**
- **align actions,** and
- **speak collectively**

about the **value of productive and intact fish habitat**. The Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership formed under this belief and strives to support cooperative fish habitat conservation in southeast Alaska. Our partners seek a framework for improved information sharing, funding coordination and interagency/partner cooperation through the strategic actions and services available under the collaborative umbrella of the SEAKFHP. Benefits our partners hope to gain are improved agency coordination, aligned priorities and management practices among landowners, greater public awareness regarding the value habitat protection and restoration offers our region, improved funding opportunities and successful on-the-ground projects that lead to maintaining and improving habitats and local fishery resources.

The “community of interest” surrounding the formation of SEAKFHP includes a diverse set of stakeholders with a shared interest to sustain southeast Alaska’s fish habitat, fisheries, and traditional way of life; specifically regarding populations of resident and anadromous salmonids in freshwater watersheds as well as anadromous and marine species in nearshore habitats.

The SEAKFHP Steering Committee recognized initial focus of the partnership would be on habitat-related issues and organizational development needs of an early forming partnership. It is anticipated this early strategic focus will provide the greatest benefits to targeted aquatic resources and key habitat areas in southeast Alaska as well as to SEAKFHP partners and stakeholders who share desired outcomes of thriving fish populations, healthy habitats and vibrant communities across the region. As such, **four** strategic operational priorities, termed **core functions** of the partnership were identified and are detailed throughout the plan.

CORE FUNCTIONS OF THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

- **Grow diversity and capacity of the SEAKFHP linking natural resource science and management with regional interests, local and traditional values and community needs;**
- **Build organizational strength & perseverance of the SEAKFHP for long-term sustainability and functionality;**
- **Provide services to partners that foster regional cooperation and understanding that result in improved on-the-grounds conservation efforts across southeast Alaska; and**
- **Facilitate regionally relevant fish habitat conservation actions across southeast Alaska.**



SEAKFHP PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES

- **Organizational Development Strategies**
 - **Partnership Growth and Diversity Strategy**
 - **Partnership Strength and Perseverance Strategy**
- **Partner Services Strategy**
 - **Interagency communication and coordination**
 - **Regional habitat protection/restoration prioritization**
 - **Regional data/resource facilitator**
 - **Project funding provider**
- **Regional Conservation Strategy**
 - **Science and Data**
 - **Intact and Healthy Waters**
 - **Water Quality and Quantity**
 - **Connectivity**
 - **Restoration**

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

SEAKFHP's Strategic Action Plan provides guidance for SEAKFHP partners and others to pursue organizational, service and conservation strategies, referenced as **partnership strategies**, which directly contribute to meeting the partnership's mission and to reaching shared conservation goals in the region. This strategic approach enables the partnership to succeed and follow through with actions based on the best available science, group consensus and collaboration. Guidance identified in the plan allows entities in the region to focus on highest priorities, conduct conservation activities with the best methodologies and protocols, and instills stakeholder and community ownership. Some strategies recommend coordination and interagency participation but in no way bind affected agencies or partners to implement these strategies.

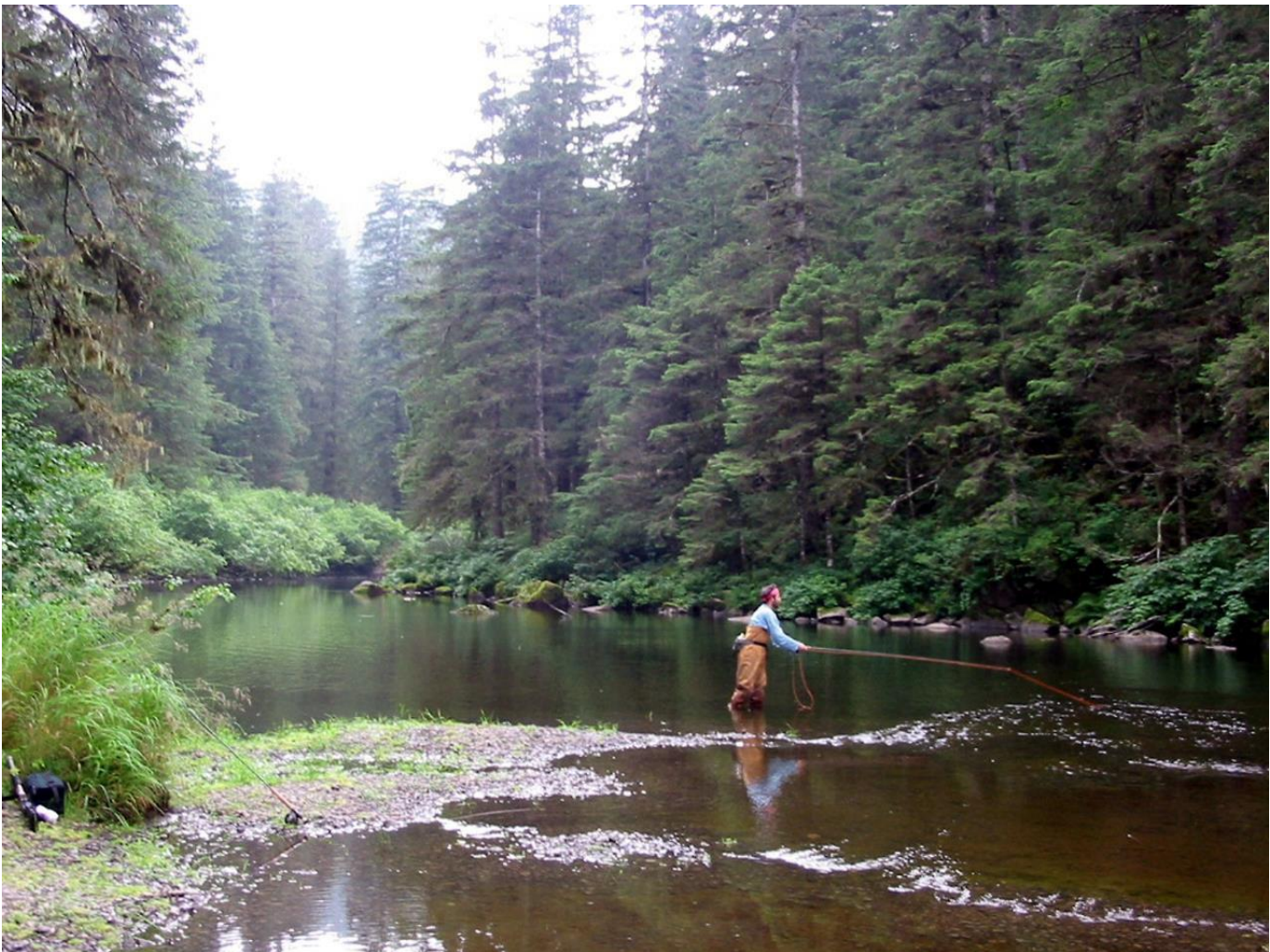
Purposes for the plan include:

1. Communicate SEAKFHP's vision and mission and elevate awareness across southeast Alaska.
2. Identify and elevate regional conservation needs and relevant data assessments and other regional information resources.
3. Identify and elevate conservation goals shared by SEAKFHP partners.
4. Identify regionally-relevant strategies and specific objectives and measurable actions to be achieved by the partnership over the next 3 years.
5. Identify services, collaborations and funding sources SEAKFHP partners and regional stakeholders can leverage to address fish habitat conservation needs.

PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

SEAKFHP is in its early formation and will be so over the next 3 years. During this time it will be important for the partnership to gain a broad and diverse partner base that represents the true identity of the region. Founding partners represent agency and broad land management interests in the region but geographic isolation and strong cultural and user interests around fish habitat conservation issues in southeast Alaska suggest a stronger stakeholder base is needed within the partnership to be truly successful in meeting long-term conservation goals. Additionally, programmatic funds have been pieced together to bring this partnership together, mostly as a result of strong founding partner commitment and leveraged resources. To continue the success of initial formation, SEAKFHP needs to secure a means of its continued operation. The following strategies are intended to grow the partnership, expand its diversity to represent a majority of landowners and stakeholders in the region and provide the needed fiscal security to maintain its strength and perseverance.



Partnership Growth and Diversity Strategy

Objective A1.1: Ensure composition of the SEAKFHP represents landowners and stakeholders of southeast Alaska.

- ❖ **Action A1.1-1.** Identify stakeholder networks in southeast Alaska
 - Support regional efforts by the Southeast Alaska Watershed Council (SAWC) and the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center (ACRC) to identify applicable stakeholder networks in southeast Alaska.
 - Support regional efforts to develop local and regional stakeholder directories.
- ❖ **Action A1.1-2.** Recruit and retain regional partners and by 2016 achieve partner representation across geographic scope of partnership.
 - Develop and implement a partnership outreach strategy.
 - Maintain an active partnership application process.
 - Develop and maintain transparent operations of the SEAKFHP.
- ❖ **Action A1.1-3.** Inform the public on the composition of the SEAKFHP.
 - Communicate partnership composition on the SEAKFHP website and in bi-annual newsletters of the partnership.
 - Quarterly collect and share on the SEAKFHP website stories or accomplishments of SEAKFHP partners.
 - Provide annual updates to partners (Annual Meeting) and the National Fish Habitat Board.



Objective A1.2: Provide exceptional support to our SEAKHFP Steering Committee, SEAKFHP Coordinator and all established SEAKFHP sub-committees to attain partnership vision and goals.

- ❖ **Action A1.2-1.** Recruit and maintain an actively involved SEAKFHP Steering Committee.
 - Develop and maintain an organizational framework document that clearly articulates the expectations of the SEAKFHP Steering Committee.
 - Provide board training for SEAKFHP Steering Committee members.
 - Conduct annual SEAKFHP Steering Committee review process to engage members in activities of the partnership and make improvements to the organizational operations of the partnership.
- ❖ **Action A1.2-2.** Recruit and retain a SEAKFHP Coordinator.
 - Develop and maintain an organizational framework document that clearly articulates the expectations of the SEAKFHP Coordinator.
 - Provide training for SEAKFHP Coordinator.
 - Conduct annual SEAKFHP Coordinator evaluation process.
- ❖ **Action A1.2-3.** Establish SEAKFHP sub-committees as needed to advance the mission and goals of the partnership.
 - Develop and maintain an organizational framework document that clearly articulates the expectations of the SEAKFHP sub-committees.
 - Provide board training for SEAKFHP Steering Committee and Coordinator.

- ❖ **Action A2-4.** Promote a strong team approach between partner members, SEAKFHP Steering Committee members, SEAKFHP Coordinator and representatives on SEAKFHP sub-committees.
 - Maintain a decision making process based upon strong communication, collaboration and consensus building.
 - Ensure partners and committee representatives understand and work toward achieving the SEAKFHP vision and strategic priorities.
 - Provide regular communication among participating partners.
- ❖ **Action A2-5.** Provide SEAKFHP Committee members with sufficient resources to perform assigned work.
 - Conduct and maintain SEAKFHP partner asset inventory.
 - Develop an annual SEAKFHP Operational Budget Plan.
 - Leverage partner assets to ensure SEAKFHP Committee members have appropriate communication tools, technology and equipment, meeting space and operational funding to support SEAKFHP mission and goals.

Partnership Strength and Perseverance Strategy

Objective A2.1: Ensure sufficient funding resources to meet SEAKFHP mission and strategic priorities.

- ❖ **Action A2.1-1.** Seek regional funding opportunities through existing national (NFHAP, NOAA, USFS, NFWF, etc.), regional (AKSSF and Northern Fund), and local granting programs.
- ❖ **Action A2.1-2.** Foster standing cooperative agreements through federal/state agencies to support efforts of the partnership.
- ❖ **Action A2.1-3.** Identify corporate partners that are interested in providing financial support to the partnership.

Objective A2.2: Ensure partnership has sufficient management systems and structures in place to meet SEAKFHP mission and strategic priorities.

- ❖ **Action A2.2-1.** Work with partner affiliates such as the UAS GIS Library and ACRC to identify potential for shared infrastructure resources for science and data needs of the partnership.
- ❖ **Action 2.2-2.** Work with agency partners to identify data management systems and structures the partnership can leverage in advancing its conservation strategies.
- ❖ **Action 2.2-3.** Leverage partner management systems and other assets to advance partnership conservation strategies.

Objective A2.3: Promote strong constituent relationships in southeast Alaska for broad regional support of the partnership.

- ❖ **Action A2.3-1.** Communicate with municipal, regional and legislative entities to share accomplishments of the partnership and elevate fiscal needs the region.
- ❖ **Action A2.3-2.** Host broad public outreach events to share accomplishments of the partnership and identify fiscal needs of conservation efforts in the region.



PARTNER SERVICE STRATEGY

Early strategic planning efforts signaled the strong need for a regional entity that could facilitate coordination and communication among aquatic resource agencies and interested stakeholders across southeast Alaska. As a result a core function of the SEAKFHP is to provide direct and tangible services to SEAKFHP partners and regional stakeholders. Examples of desired services include focused communication on central fish habitat conservation topics, coordination support for alignment of habitat assessments, restoration and prioritization practices, facilitation of regional funding opportunities and coordination support for successful regional project proposal submittals,



including a process for encouraging and providing broad regional project endorsement and technical review. Additionally, the SEAKFHP can provide services to the region by serving as a regional data/resource provider and as funding becomes available serve as a direct project funding provider. The following objectives and actions are intended to outline these anticipated services in greater detail and provide guidance to regional stakeholders on services available by the SEAKFHP.

Communication and Coordination

Objective B1: Facilitate communication and interagency coordination of fish habitat conservation activities among natural resource practitioners and stakeholders in southeast Alaska.

- ❖ **Action B1-1.** Facilitate interagency communication and coordination among agencies, NGO's, user groups and all other constituents/stakeholders in southeast Alaska.
 - Develop, maintain and distribute a regional practitioner's directory.
 - Provide partner updates during all SEAKFHP meetings/event opportunities.
- ❖ **Action B1-2.** Facilitate regional dialogs on projects of interest.
- ❖ **Action B1-3.** Host or co-host annual fish habitat conservation symposium.

Objective B2: Facilitate alignment of regional habitat assessment, protection and restoration practices and prioritizations in southeast Alaska.

- ❖ **Action B2-1.** Coordinate regional meetings and events that increase the awareness and coordination of regional assessment, protection and restoration methodologies, prioritizations and activities.
- ❖ **Action B2-2.** Produce a document that outlines current regional assessment, protection and restoration methodologies in practice in southeast Alaska.
- ❖ **Action B2-3.** Develop a collaborative interagency process for alignment of regional assessment, protection and restoration methodologies and activities in southeast Alaska.

Objective B3: Provide regional fish habitat conservation funding awareness and project proposal coordination opportunities.

- ❖ **Action B3-1.** Develop a clearing house for regional funding opportunities for fish habitat conservation efforts and archive on the SEAKFHP website.
- ❖ **Action B3-2.** Facilitate regional dialogs on regional funding programs (AKSSF, NF, NOAA, USFS, ACWA) .
- ❖ **Action B3-3.** Facilitate regional dialogs on projects proposals of interest.

Regional Data/Resource Facilitator

Objective B4: Serve as regional data/resource facilitator.

- ❖ **Action B4-1.** Maintain an active website with robust archive of fish habitat conservation information for southeast Alaska.
- ❖ **Action B4-2.** Facilitate the long term maintenance of a data repository to hold historical and relevant agency and partner aquatic resource information for southeast Alaska (fish habitat assessments, methodologies, publications, etc...).
- ❖ **Action B4-3.** Coordinate with the National Fish Habitat Partnership Science and Data Committee on updates relevant to data resources available for southeast Alaska as needed for the National Fish Habitat Assessment.

Project Funding Provider

Objective B5: Serve as a regional on-the-grounds project funding provider.

- ❖ **Action B5-1.** Develop an action plan for the SEAKFHP that outlines steps to develop needed funding resources that would enable the partnership the opportunity to become a viable regional fish habitat project funding provider.
 - Work with the National Fish Habitat Partnership framework to secure on-the-grounds project funding.
 - Work with regional and local entities like the Juneau Economic Development Council and other SEAKFHP partners for securing on-the-grounds project funding.
- ❖ **Action B5-2.** Explore the infrastructure need SEAKFHP will require to provide on-the-grounds project funding.
- ❖ **Action B5-3.** Develop request for proposal and evaluation criteria processes and materials the SEAKFHP can use to distribute on-the-grounds project funding to potential proposers.



CONSERVATION STRATEGY:

The conservation strategy embraced by the SEAKFHP focuses on three broad conservation goals and includes objectives and action steps the partnership will engage in to address each goal. The partnership's three **priority conservation goals** are:

- **Protect fish habitat in freshwater systems, estuaries and nearshore/marine areas in southeast Alaska,**
- **Maintain water quality and quantity in those areas, and**
- **Restore and enhance fragmented and degraded fish habitats in impacted areas.**

SEAKFHP's conservation strategy was developed through review of existing strategies used by federal and state agencies and other entities in the region. Close attention was given to the conservation strategy outlined in Chapter 10 of the Coastal Forests and Mountains Ecoregion in Southeastern Alaska and the Tongass National Forest – titled: Southeastern Alaska Conservation Strategy: A Conceptual Approach¹ and the Sustainable Salmon Strategy for Southeast Alaska² developed as an interagency strategy to develop priorities for the Sustainable Salmon Fund. In addition, this strategy was developed as a result of pre-work performed by members of the SEAKFHP Steering Committee and other interested regional stakeholders through the use of a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis and initial elements of a Conservation Action Planning (CAP) process. Broad regional review and input to the strategy along with further investment in the CAP process will guide and refine this strategy in the future.

GOAL C1: Protect fish habitat in freshwater systems, estuaries and nearshore/marine areas in southeast Alaska

- ❖ **Objective C1-1.** Foster regional support necessary to maintain and expand the existing conservation reserve network to include additional intact watersheds throughout southeast Alaska and the Tongass National Forest.
 - **Action C1-1.1.** Elevate assessment work and conservation strategy recommendations completed as part of The Coastal Forests and Mountains Ecoregion in Southeastern Alaska and the Tongass National Forest, edited by J. Schoen and E. Dovichin³ (example: encourage this work be considered as part of the 2015 revision to the State of Alaska Wildlife Action Plan³).

¹ Schoen, J. and D. Albert. 2007. "Southeastern Alaska Conservation Strategy: A Conceptual Approach." In The Coastal Forests and Mountains Ecoregion in Southeastern Alaska and the Tongass National Forest, edited by J. Schoen and E. Dovichin, chap. 10. Anchorage, AK: Audubon Alaska and The Nature Conservancy.

² Skilbred, Amy, editor. 2003. Sustainable Salmon Strategy for Southeast Alaska – 2002: An Interagency Strategy to Determine Priorities for Southeast Sustainable Salmon Funds and Other Initiatives. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 03-07, Anchorage.

³ Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 2006. Our Wealth Maintained: A Strategy for Conserving Alaska's Diverse Wildlife and Fish Resources. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Juneau, Alaska. xviii+824p.

- **Action C1-1.2.** Facilitate regional discussions that consider establishing additional critical habitat areas surrounding state lands and waters that include high-value and/or sensitive fish and wildlife habitats and where multiple land or water jurisdictions overlap, consider developing co-management agreements to safeguard fish and wildlife habitat values.
- **Action C1-1.3.** Facilitate regional discussions to raise awareness and understanding of current habitat protection initiatives such as the Tongass 77 initiative sponsored by Trout Unlimited.
- ❖ **Objective C1-2.** Foster regional support to ensure that all anadromous fish habitat in southeast Alaska is included in the Anadromous Waters Catalog and thus given basic protections afforded under state law.
 - **Action C1-2.1.** Foster regional support for projects that can improve upon the identification of waters important for salmon and result in additions to the Anadromous Waters Catalog.
- ❖ **Objective C1-3.** Facilitate regional support and funding of the evaluation of potential effects for development projects for which there is not a permitting agency that has funding and regulatory responsibility. For example, this funding source is particularly significant for transboundary development projects (e.g., Canadian mining projects) that do not require State of Alaska permits, but in which the State and southeast Alaska communities have a significant habitat protection interest.
 - **Action C1-3.1.** Facilitate regional support for a technical review panel to oversee review of transboundary river development projects proposed adjacent to southeast Alaska and support regional discussions on potential impacts to fish habitats.
 - **Action C1-3.2.** Facilitate funding support for baseline evaluation of potential effects for transboundary development projects.

GOAL C2: Maintain water quality and quantity in freshwater systems, estuaries, and nearshore/marine areas in southeast Alaska.

- ❖ **Objective C2-1.** Foster regional support for baseline and water quality monitoring programs to track and manage changes across southeast Alaska.
 - **Action C2-1.1.** Request SEAKFHP Science and Data Committee review water quality monitoring efforts across southeast Alaska and assess the need for a regional water quality monitoring approach.
 - Example: Review Cook Inlet Keeper’s Stream Temperature Monitoring Network: Water Temperature Data Logger Protocol for Cook Inlet Salmon Streams and the Citizen’s Environmental Monitoring Program to see if a similar program is applicable to southeast.
 - Example: Review the National Park Service Southeast Alaska Monitoring Network
 - **Action C2-1.1.** Work with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) through the Alaska Clean Water Actions program and with other SEAKFHP partners to promote development of a long-term water quality monitoring and tracking program for southeast Alaska.
 - **Action C2-1.2.** Facilitate regional support for monitoring stream temperatures at key locations across southeast Alaska
 - **Action C2-1.3.** Evaluate and support recommended projects that monitor and track changes to biotic communities that can be indicators of degrading water quality or physical habitat.

- ❖ **Objective C2-2.** Foster regional support of projects that quantify flow requirements for life stages of salmonid species and secure reservations of water on important salmon- and steelhead-producing systems.
 - **Action C2-2.1.** Elevate the need to develop and/or improve water quantity estimation models that will provide sufficient accuracy to meet Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR) requirements for filing a Reservation of Water application.
 - **Action C2-2.2.** Support regional projects that provide preparation and adjudication of Reservation of Water applications which includes collection of water quantity and quality data to obtain five years of record.

GOAL C3: Restore and enhance fragmented and degraded fish habitats in southeast Alaska.

- ❖ **Objective C3-1.** Foster activities that protect and restore fish habitat connectivity at road/stream crossings in SE AK.
 - **Action C3-1.1.** Coordinate reauthorization of ADOT/ADFG MOU.
 - **Action C3-1.2.** Encourage adoption of fish passage design guidelines for municipalities.
 - **Action C3-1.3.** Coordinate development of interagency fish passage inventory mapper and database.
 - **Action C3-1.4.** Coordinate regional fish passage barrier/restoration prioritization schema.
 - **Action C3-1.5.** Evaluate effects of partial fish passage on salmon movements.
 - **Action C3-1.6.** Characterize salmon movement within watersheds to inform and improve fish passage models and structure design.
 - **Action C3-1.7.** Develop interagency guidance/acceptance for fish friendly ORV road-stream crossing structures, once problem sites are identified.
 - **Action C3-1.8.** Apply USFS upstream fish habitat assessment protocol to state and private land road-stream crossings, to prioritize crossings for remediation.
 - **Action C3-1.9.** Complete fish passage barrier inventory on ADOT road/stream crossings.
 - **Action C3-1.10.** Convene fish passage remediation workshop.
 - **Action C3-1.11.** Facilitate SE AK fish passage interagency coordination meeting.

- ❖ **Objective C3-2.** Foster activities that restore and enhance fish habitat function and complexity and informs future restoration activities through adaptive management.
 - **Action C3-2.1.** Support development and dissemination of reference watershed condition data that informs establishment of restoration and enhancement objectives.
 - **Action C3-2-2.** Coordinate and participate in the review and analysis of effectiveness of mitigation and restoration projects to continue to improve mitigation and restoration techniques.
 - **Action C3-2-3.** Support fish habitat utilization response to common bank stabilization techniques (eg. rip rap).
 - **Action C3-2-4.** Support development of fish habitat response for in-stream restoration/enhancement activities.
 - **Action C3-2-2.** Support development of fish production response models/tools/protocols for in-stream restoration/enhancement activities.
 - **Action C3-2-2.** Support public outreach to convey regional restoration practices and value.
 - **Action C3-2-2.** Convene regional restoration symposium.
 - **Action C3-2-2.** Support alignment of regional restoration prioritization and best management practices.

GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

BOUNDARIES OF THE PARTNERSHIP

The geographic scope of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (Figure 1) encompasses 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 includes all associated lands, freshwater and marine waters in between; a distance of about 525 miles consisting mostly of a narrow 120 mile strip of land and mountains on the mainland and over a thousand islands – collectively known as the Alexander Archipelago.

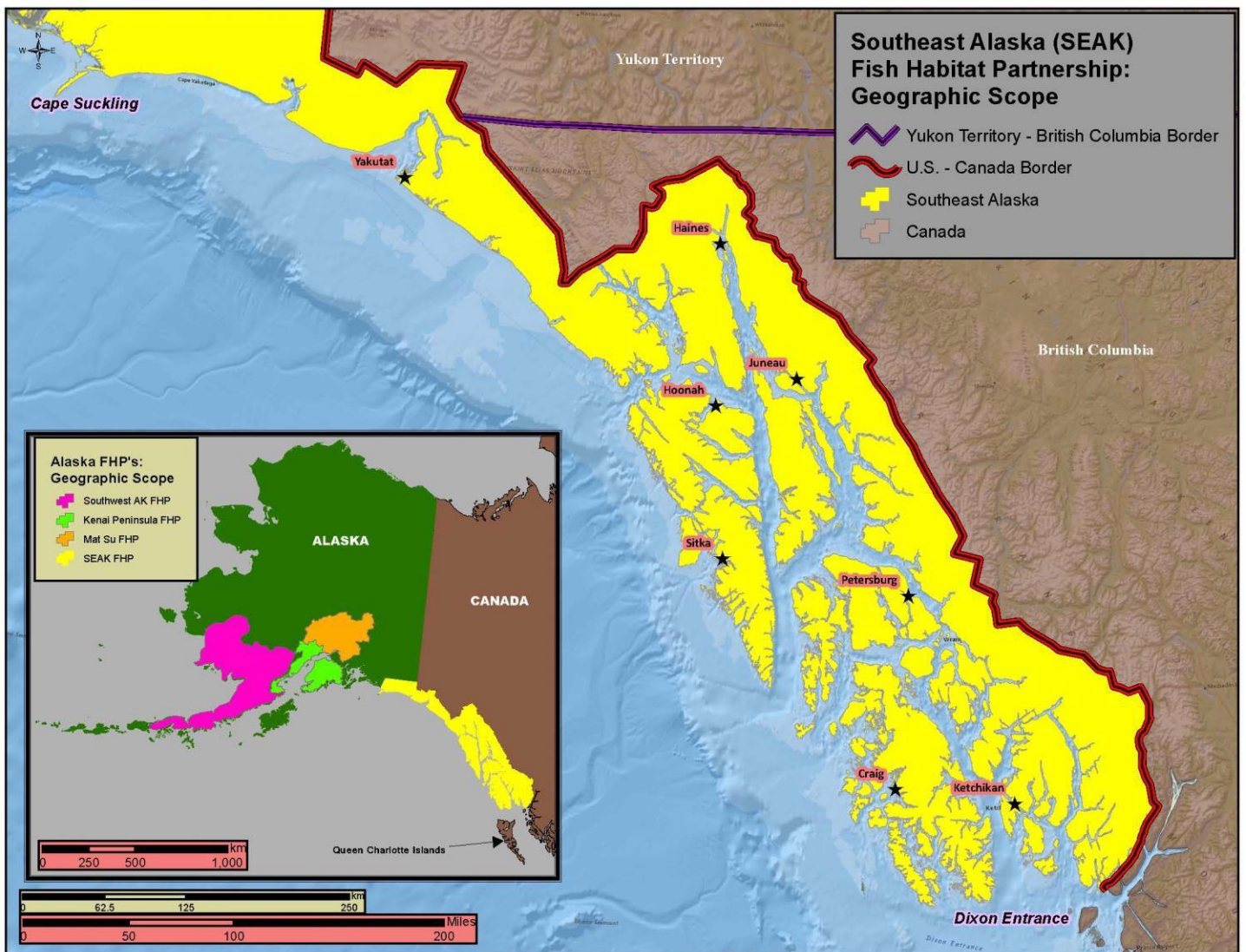


FIGURE 1. Geographic scope of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

SEAKFHP strives to represent the broad range of landowners and jurisdictional authorities operating in southeast Alaska including the diverse matrix of stakeholders who maintain an active interest in local fisheries and habitat conservation. Detailed governance and organization operating procedures are available on the SEAKFHP website at: <http://www.seakfhp.org/seakfhp-documents/>

Steering Committee

An 11 member 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.

Steering Committee Organizations and Representatives (Seat Terms noted)

2012 -2014: 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 (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

Standing committees and working groups will be established to implement goals of the partnership and its strategic action plan.

- SEAKFHP's Science and Data Committee provides scientific and data management expertise and oversight to advance the goals of the partnership in a scientifically sound and strategic manner. Cindy Hartmann Moore, NOAA and Jeff Nichols, ADF&G-Sport Fish Division, serve as co-chairs.

OUR PARTNERS



SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

Current Partners

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- NOAA National Marine Fisheries
- U.S. Forest Service
- 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
- K Koski



BECOME A PARTNER TOO

For more information on becoming a SEAKFHP Partner see our website at: www.seakfhp.org or contact our coordinator directly at coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org

SOUTHEAST ALASKA FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

Draft

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2014-2016

CONTACT INFORMATION

Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership
(SEAKFHP)

C/O Coordinator

419 6th Street, Suite 200 Juneau, AK 99801

907-723-0258

www.seakfhp.org

coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org

