

SOUTHEAST ALASKA WATERSHED RESTORATION WORKSHOP

HOSTED BY

SOUTHEAST ALASKA
WATERSHED COALITION



CONNECT - INFORM - PARTICIPATE

MARCH 5-7

ELIZABETH
PERATROVICH
HALL

“STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE FOR
COLLABORATIVE RESTORATION”

Building our region's capacity to develop collaborative solutions
for the restoration and informed management of Southeast
Alaska's watersheds

HOSTED WITH SUPPORT FROM THE NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SEAK FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP
& THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

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Symposium Goal: The 2018 Southeast Alaska Watershed Symposium will build capacity to develop collaborative solutions for the restoration and informed management of Southeast Alaska’s watersheds. The event that will bring together community leaders and resource managers from across Southeast Alaska to share stories of restoration efforts – successes, techniques, and lessons learned, to network and develop partnerships for collaborative projects, and to provide tools and resources to build the capacity of our region’s land managers to carry out watershed restoration across the Tongass National Forest and its neighboring lands.

Background: Over the last decade, the restoration and community based management of our watersheds and land has become an increasingly important component of land management in Southeast Alaska. Numerous different tribal organizations, communities, landowners, and agencies have engaged in restoration and collaborative management projects. Challenges still exist, but these examples provide lessons to learn from. The central issues that impede watershed or landscape scale restoration in the region of Southeast Alaska include: technical capacity and experience implementing watershed restoration within the region, adequate watershed assessment information to determine key stressors and restoration needs, coordination between NGO’s, agencies, landowners and communities working together to facilitate on the ground restoration, and funding to implement restoration projects.

Past watershed symposiums and meetings of the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP) and American Fisheries Society have helped resource professionals share information, tools, and methods. This has included a successful 2016 US Forest Service/North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative/Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership conference on informing management of water and fisheries in the context of climate change and a 2013 Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition and Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Watershed Symposium geared towards the science and methods to promote fish habitat conservation.

This Watershed Symposium is geared towards the community leaders and resource managers that need to “Step up to the Plate” in order to bridge the gaps needed to scale up restoration and collaborative land management in Southeast Alaska.

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SPECIAL EVENTS and BREAKOUTS

Tuesday Lunch: Discussion of habitat issues in the Klawock Lake watershed

Tuesday Evening: *Salmon Forest* screening at Amalga Distillery

Wednesday morning breakout groups: #1: HNFP Triple Bottom Line discussion.
#2: Sustainable Southeast Partnership

Wednesday Lunch: Southeast Alaska Mitigation Fund presentation

AGENDA

Monday, March 5

2:00-5:00 **Science Communication Workshop** with **Dr. Anne Beaudreau** (University of Alaska Fairbanks) and **Karson Coutre** (ERT Inc., NOAA Auke Bay Laboratories). Participants will learn about approaches and techniques for communicating science to a variety of audiences.

Tuesday, March 6

8:30 – 8:40 Welcome (Rob Cadmus, Rebecca Bellmore)

8:40 – 9:30 **Keynote Speaker #1: Jim Capurso** (Fisheries Biologist, USFS Region 6) – *The Drinking Water Providers Partnership: Restoring municipal watersheds in the PNW*.
The Drinking Water Providers Partnership is a multilayer partnership forged in the overlap between the interest in protecting and restoring municipal watersheds and providing clean, inexpensive drinking water to communities dependent upon them. Grassroots partnerships are formed at the municipal watershed scale and they are supported by a regional interagency/organizational partnership.

9:30 – 11:00 **SESSION 1: How do you get community groups, agencies, and the private sector to work together successfully?**

Objectives: Presenters will share models for partnerships that have proved successful in the region and lessons learned. Presentations can address the who, how, why, outcomes, lessons learned, etc. of collaborations.

Moderator: Debbie Hart, Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Coordinator.

- **Ian Johnson** (Hoonah Indian Association and Sustainable Southeast Partnership) – *Lessons in Collaboration from the Hoonah Native Forest Partnership*
- **Michael Kampnich** (The Nature Conservancy) – *Prince of Wales Landscape Assessment Team*
- **Christine Woll** (The Nature Conservancy) – *The Tongass Collaborative Stewardship Group – lessons and next steps*

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- **Derek Poinsette** (Takshanuk Watershed Council) – *How the engage a community: Examples of Success from the Takshanuk Watershed Council in Haines, AK.*
- **Jenn Hamblen** (Sitka Tribe of Alaska) – *Strategies for Effective Community-Based Watershed Management: Creating & Facilitating the Indian River Watershed Working Group*

11:00 – 11:10 **Break**

11:10 – 12:00 **Panel Discussion 1** with above presenters, **Jim Capurso** (Fisheries Biologist, Region 6 US Forest Service), **Laurie Cooper** (Partnership Coordinator, US Forest Service), **Samia Savell** (USDA-NRCS)

12:00 – 1:15 **Lunch** (No host) OR

Working lunch in the main room to discuss habitat issues in the Klawock Lake watershed. If interested, please contact Debbie Hart at coordinator@sealaskafishhabitat.org

1:15 – 3:45 **SESSION 2. What are the technical, social, and political bottlenecks that slow completion of restoration projects, and what are you doing to overcome them?**

Objectives: Presenters will share their experiences in restoration and highlight the next steps needed to fill gaps that limit restoration, such as technical training, watershed assessments and capacity.

Moderated by: John Hudson, Restoration Biologist, Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition

- **Julianne Thompson** (Hydrologist, Watershed Program Manager, Tongass National Forest, US Forest Service) – *Forest Service's Watershed Assessment Approaches and Restoration Priorities.*
- **Bob Christensen** (Sustainable Southeast Partnership, SEAWCAD and The Nature Conservancy) – *Integrating Community Values into Watershed Assessments in the Hoonah Native Forest Partnership.*
- **Neil Stichert** (Habitat Restoration and Coastal Program Biologist, Juneau Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) – *Addressing Bottlenecks: Perspectives on Fish Passage Restoration in Southeast Alaska.*
- **Cathy Needham** (Owner, Environmental Scientist, Kai Environmental) – *Building a local natural resource workforce on Prince of Wales Island*
- **Dennis Nickerson** (Prince of Wales Tribal Conservation District and Tribal Stewardship Consortium) – *Addressing capacity gaps through a new partnership, Prince of Wales Tribal Conservation District.*

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- **Bob Girt** (Senior Environmental Compliance & Liaison Specialist, Sealaska) – *Workforce Development: Case Study - TRAYLS Program and School Interface*

3:45 – 4:00 Break

4:00 – 5:00 **Panel Discussion 2** with above presenters and Tim Beechie (NOAA).

5:00 – 7:00 **Dinner** (No host).

7:00 – 8:30 **Evening Entertainment**

Cocktails and viewing of *Salmon Forest* documentary at 8 PM. Hosted at the Amalga Distillery: www.amalgadistillery.com

Wednesday, March 7

8:00 – 9:30 **POSTER SESSION.** See below for contributors. Coffee and light breakfast provided.

Concurrent breakout group #1: HNFP Triple Bottom Line discussion

Concurrent breakout group #2: Sustainable Southeast Partnership

9:30 – 11:15 **SESSION 3. How do we find funding (and match) needed to bring restoration to scale?**

Objectives: Presenters will discuss case study examples and new strategies for securing the funding necessary to bring restoration to scale. Presenters may also provide information on specific funding sources, constraints around applying for various funding sources, and who has the ability to tap into them.

Moderated: Christine Woll, The Nature Conservancy SE AK Program Director

Presenters: Review of funding sources that are available and exemplary projects supported by these programs.

- **Debbie Maas** (Program Coordinator, Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund, ADF&G) – *Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund.*
- **Samia Savell** (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) – *Conservation Programs for Alaska*
- **Jessica Kayser Forster** (Mitigation Coordinator, Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition) – *Accessing the New Southeast Alaska Mitigation Fund.*
- **Gretchen Pikul** (Environmental Program Specialist, Division of Water, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation) – *Alaska Clean Water Action, BEACH, and Clean Vessel Grant Programs.*
- **Erika Ammann** (Fisheries Biologist, NMFS Restoration Center, NOAA) – *Restoration of Coastal Areas for habitat and community Resiliency*

11:15-11:30 Break

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11:30 – 12:15 Panel Discussion 3: How can we leverage more funding towards restoration?

Above presenters, and:

- **Jim Capurso**, Fisheries Biologist, Region 6 US Forest Service
- **Mark Kaelke**, Southeast Alaska Project Director, Trout Unlimited
- **Mike Barber**, Executive Director, Alaska Conservation Foundation
- **Amy Skilbred**, Executive Director, Juneau Community Foundation

12:15 – 1:30 Lunch (No Host) OR –

Presentation on the Southeast Alaska Mitigation Fund in Lieu Fee program in the main room. This presentation will provide an introduction to how the regulated public can partner with the Mitigation Fund to offset authorized impacts to wetlands and stream and how interested organizations, governments, tribes and landowners can work with SAMF to carryout aquatic resource restoration projects throughout Southeast Alaska.

1:30 – 3:45 SESSION 4. New tools and analyses for understanding the watershed and regional context of restoration.

Objectives: Presenters will discuss tools/analyses/schemes that can help us better select and design restoration projects that will lead to long-term local and regional resilience in the face of environmental change.

Moderated by Ryan Bellmore

Keynote #2: Tim Beechie (NOAA NW Fisheries Science Center) – *Process-based restoration: overview of analysis tools and guidance for climate adaptation*

- **Julianne Thompson** (Watershed Program Manager, Tongass National Forest, Craig) – *Preparing for the Effects of a Changing Climate*
- **Chris Sergeant** (PhD Program, University of Alaska Fairbanks, College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences) – *Categorizing streamflow patterns to support conservation efforts in Southeast Alaska*
- **Bernard Romey** (Fisheries Biologist, Romey Environmental) – *Modeling potential chum and pink salmon spawning habitat in relation to landscape characteristics in coastal Southeast Alaska*
- **Emily Whitney** (Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center, University of Alaska Southeast) – *An interactive demonstration of the Aquatic Trophic Productivity model highlighting how food webs can be incorporated into river restoration planning*
- **Jessica Davila** (Fish Biologist, Tongass Supervisor's Office, Ketchikan) – *Watershed restoration effectiveness monitoring on the Tongass*

3:45-4:00 Break

4:00-4:45 Panel Discussion 4 with above presenters

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4:45-5:00. **Closing.**

Poster Session Contributors:

Southeast Alaska Freshwater Temperature Monitoring Network

Rebecca Bellmore * and Michael Winfree, Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition

Hoonah Stewards App demonstration

Jon Bonkoski, EcoTrust

Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

Debbie Hart, SEAKFHP

Fishes from the forest: quantifying the economic value of Alaskan forests to commercial salmon fisheries

Adelaide Johnson, US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station

The Hoonah Native Forest Partnership: Collaborative Strategies for Conservation

Ian Johnson, Sustainable Southeast Partnership Community Catalyst

Alaska ShoreZone

Mandy Lindeberg, Steve Lewis, and **Cindy Hartmann Moore**, NOAA Fisheries Alaska Regional Office

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Helping people help the land in southeast Alaska

Samia Savell, Resource Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Baseline Water Quality Studies on Southeast Alaska Transboundary Rivers

Kenneth Weitzel, Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska