

Long-term Challenges to Alaska's Salmon and Salmon-Dependent Communities

A workshop coordinated by the Center for Salmon and Society

November 1–3, 2016

Dena'ina Center – Anchorage, Alaska



ALASKA

FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIPS



Sockeye salmon running up the Kenai River to spawn. USFWS/photo contest: photographer Kentaro Yasui

Operating under the banner of the [National Fish Habitat Partnership](#), Alaska's recognized fish habitat partnerships are working on behalf of Alaska's wild, native fish.

- [Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership](#)
- [Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership](#)
- [Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership](#)
- [Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership](#)
- [Western Native Trout Initiative](#)

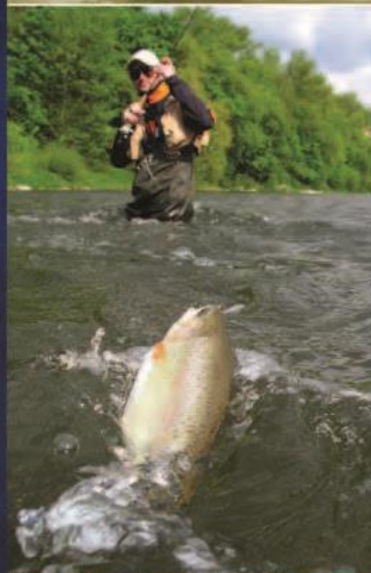
akfishhabitat.org

Working together to **protect, maintain, restore and enhance** fish habitat throughout Alaska.

NATIONAL FISH HABITAT ACTION PLAN

2ND EDITION

COOPERATION
INVESTMENT
STEWARDSHIP



Our Mission and Goals¹



The mission of the National Fish Habitat Partnership 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.

OUR GOALS ARE TO:

- Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems.
- Prevent further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected.
- Reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve the overall health of fish and other aquatic organisms.
- Increase the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species.

¹ The mission and goals of the Partnership remain the same as those published in the first edition of the Action Plan in 2006.



Objective 1.

Achieve measurable habitat conservation results through strategic actions of Fish Habitat Partnerships 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.



The Action Plan and its Partnerships are about *results*: protecting habitat that is healthy and intact, and reversing the decline of damaged habitat. Numerous fisheries and habitats across the country are in need, more than can be repaired or protected at one time, so strategic focus on project selection and completion is critical to achieving positive results.

By acting as a leader for increased cooperation among state, territorial, tribal, and federal agencies, conservation groups, landowners and other stakeholders, Fish Habitat Partnerships will focus existing and new resources to increase effectiveness in achieving long-term, sustainable results.

By design, this objective emphasizes strategic project selection based on sound science and data, that focuses funding to address the causes of, and processes behind fish habitat decline rather than the symptoms of habitat decline.

Our focus on measurable results is to ensure that we are constantly learning from our projects. With increasing public interest in conservation and the



effective use of taxpayer dollars, we must ensure that our conservation efforts are both effective and efficient.



Western Native
Trout Initiative



Mat-Su
salmon
PARTNERSHIP



ALASKA

FISH HABITAT
PARTNERSHIPS

Find our story here: akfishhabitat.org

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Salmon Habitat Protection—Lessons from the Past and Future Directions Panel Presentations:

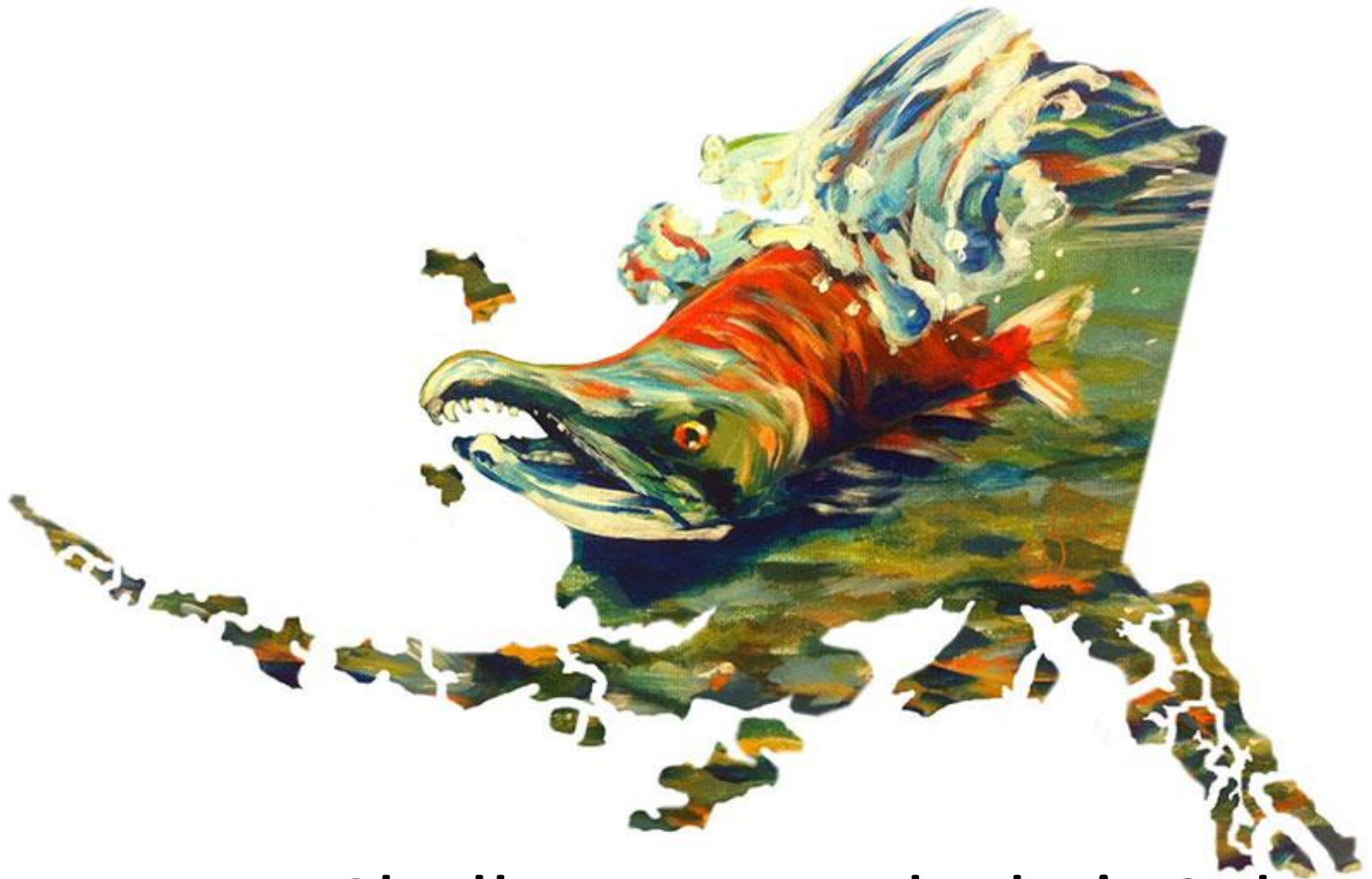
- Legacies & Lessons from the Lower 48
Megan McPhee, University of Alaska Fairbanks
- The State of Alaska's Salmon and People in the 21st Century
Peter Westley, University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Habitat Protections for Alaskan Salmon Populations
Robert Ruffner, Kenai Watershed Forum
- Gaps and Other Issues with Salmon Habitat Protections
Tim Troll, Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership

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Salmon Habitat Protection—Lessons from the Past and Future Directions Panel Q&A Discussion

- What does fully functioning salmon habitat look like?
- What are the threats and habitat related impacts that can diminish salmon in Alaska?
- What are the key lessons from other areas that have lost functioning salmon habitat, do any stand out most in regards to protecting salmon habitat in Alaska?
- What tools are available in Alaska to protect salmon habitat?
- Of the tools available to protect salmon habitat, are there specific ones that this group can elevate in importance (to be flagged for deeper discussion for Day 3 of the workshop)?
- Are there gaps in our ability to protect salmon habitat in Alaska? If so, are there specific gaps we can elevate in importance (to be flagged for deeper discussion for Day 3 of the workshop)?



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