



## Wednesday November 8, 2017

Palmer Community Center (Depot), 610 S. Valley Way, Palmer

### 8:30 Registration & Coffee/Snacks

### 9:00 Symposium Welcome

Sue Mauger (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Science and Data Committee Member, Cook Inletkeeper)

Lisa Wade (Director, Chickaloon Village Health, Social Services and Education) and Albert Harisson (Elder/Member, Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

Sam Cotten (Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

### 9:30 Keynote Address: Tara Martin

#### ***Strategizing How to Avoid Irreversible Loss of Wild Salmon Populations***

Introduction: Jessica Speed (The Nature Conservancy)

### 10:30 Networking Break

### 11:00 Identifying and Conserving Community Assets

Moderator: Kim Sollien (Great Land Trust)

*Building a Salmon-Safe Mat-Su Basin: Guidelines for Fish-friendly Development*

Dan Kent (Salmon-Safe)

*A Model for Identifying Community Assets in the Mat-Su Core Area*

Matt McMillan (Great Land Trust)

*Towards More Integrated Salmon Knowledge Systems*

Rachel Donkersloot (Alaska Marine Conservation Council)

Dan Rinella (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

*The Public Process and Salmon*

Amy O'Connor (The Alaska Center)

### 12:00 LUNCH

### 1:00 Improving our Knowledge of Salmon & Their Habitat

Moderator: Matthew LaCroix (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

*Characterization of Thermal Regimes in the Mat-Su Basin*

Rebecca Shaftel (University of Alaska Anchorage)

*Winter Inter-gravel Temperature Monitoring of Salmon Redds within the Mat-Su Streams*

Michael Mazzacavallo (R2 Resource Consultants Inc.)

*Assessing Watershed Integrity in the Matanuska-Susitna River Watershed*

Kelsey Aho (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

*Sampling Previously Unmapped Streams in the Mat-Su Borough*

Mark Eisenman (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Juvenile Coho Salmon Overwintering Site Selection / Dispersal Strategies in Big Lake Watershed*

Joshua Ashline (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)



**2:15 Break**

**2:30 Tidbits**

Moderator: Catherine Inman (Mat-Su Conservation Services)

Please sign up at the registration desk to present a 3-minute project summary or announcement. If you have a slide or two to project (maximum 2 slides), please load them by the end of lunch.

**2:45 Invasive Species and Fish Passage**

Moderator: Christy Cincotta (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

*Landscape Genetic Diversity of Native and Invasive Northern Pike in Alaska*

Chase Jalbert (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

*Chelatna Lake Invasive Northern Pike Suppression*

Mark Willette (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Elodea Eradication in Remote, Dynamic Systems*

Daniel Coleman (Alaska Department of Nature Resources)

*Assessing Fish Passage Success in Culvert Structures with a Two-dimensional Algorithm*

*Considering Physical Capabilities of Juvenile Salmonids*

Alexandra West Jefferies (PND Engineers, Inc.)

*DOT&PF Culvert Fish Passage Design Strategy*

Paul Janke (Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities)

**4:00 Announcements and Adjourn for Daytime Portion of Symposium**

Moderator: Arni Thomson (Alaska Salmon Alliance)

**6:00 – Evening Public Event: *Salmon Live Here: Stories of the Fish We Love in the Mat-Su Valley***

Palmer Community Center (Depot), 610 S. Valley Way, Palmer

Everyone is welcome to come hear seven, seven-minute fish stories and live music!



## Thursday November 9, 2017

Palmer Community Center (Depot), 610 S. Valley Way, Palmer

### 8:30 Registration & Coffee/Snacks

### 9:00 Symposium Welcome

Christy Cincotta (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee Member, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

### 9:15 Protections for Salmon, Conservation & Restoration Updates

Moderator: Dave Albert (The Nature Conservancy)

*An Introduction to the Division of Habitat, Who We Are and What We Do*

Ron Benkert (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Understanding Stand for Salmon: Protecting Alaska's Fisheries for Future Generations*

Sam Snyder (Stand for Salmon)

*Instream Flow Reservations in the Mat-Su Basin and Upper Cook Inlet*

Ann Marie Larquier, Leah Ellis, Kevin Keith (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Impacts and Mitigation in Waters of the United States within the Mat-Su*

Jeremy Grauf (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

*Tyonek Tribal Conservation District Habitat Monitoring and Restoration Updates*

Nicole Swenson (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

### 10:30 Networking Break

### 10:45 What Has the Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Achieved and What Will the Priorities Be Going Forward?

Bill Rice (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and Tara Martin (University of British Columbia)

*This session will be a look-back on Partnership progress since its formation, as well as an update and look-forward with an upcoming Strategic Action Plan Revision.*

### 12:15 LUNCH

### 1:15 Information Sharing and Open Discussion Groups

Moderator: Katrina Liebich (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

*These topics were proposed prior to the Symposium. Additional discussion topics can be added during the Symposium: please suggest other topics on the signup sheet at the registration table.*

*At mid-point in the session groups will change to discuss another topic.*

*1. Fish Passage Where Roads Cross Streams*

Discussion lead: Mike Daigneault (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

*2. Clean Water for Salmon: Initiating a Salmon Safe Certification Program in the Mat-Su Basin*

Discussion lead: Dan Kent (Salmon-Safe)

*3. Ecosystem Services Success Stories from Alaska: Identifying and Amplifying Those Stories*

Discussion lead: Jimmy Fox (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

*4. Mat-Su Borough Lake Monitoring Program: Indicators to Monitor and Broader Use*

Discussion lead: Melanie Trost (Mat-Su Borough)



5. *Matanuska River Data Needs*

Discussion lead: Jessica Winnestaffer (Chickaloon Native Village)

6. *Invasive Pike Management: How to Prioritize Efforts and Lessons Learned*

Discussion lead: Nicole Swenson (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

7. *Stream Temperature: Looking to the Future – Implementing Pro-active Strategies for Fisheries Management*

Discussion lead: Leslie Jones (University of Alaska Anchorage)

8. *Encouraging Conservation Ethics*

Discussion lead: Ryan Viola (Wasilla Lake Christian School)

9. *ATV Use in the Mat-Su Valley*

Discussion lead: Ron Benkert (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

10. *Inter-communication on Salmon within the Mat-Su and the State*

Discussion lead: Jeremy Grauf (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

**2:30 Networking Break**

**2:45 Understanding Origins of Harvested Salmon in Cook Inlet & Spawning Distribution**

Moderator: Erika Ammann (NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service)

*Where did Commercially-caught Coho Salmon in Cook Inlet Originate: Genetic Stock Identification Sheds Some Light*

Andrew Barclay (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Northern Cook Inlet Chinook Salmon Marine Harvest Stock Composition*

Adam St. Saviour (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

*Spawning Distribution of Susitna River Chinook Salmon*

John Campbell (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

**3:30 Tidbits**

Moderator: Leslie Jones (University of Alaska Anchorage)

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**3:45 Conclusions**

Larry Engel (Mat-Su Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission)

**4:00 Adjourn**