



Monday November 13, 2023

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

8:30 Registration

9:00 Symposium Welcome

Laurie Stuart (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee member, Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

Kevin Toothaker (Cultural Exchange Program Administrator, Knik Tribe)

Mike Wood (Member, Alaska Board of Fisheries)

9:30 Keynote Address: *Some Modest Advice for Managers and Practitioners: Key Lessons from Salmon Conservation Science* – Dr. Peter Westley

Introduction: Nate Cathcart (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

10:30 Networking Break

11:00 Salmon and Salmon Ecosystem Science

Moderator: Erika Ammann (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

Moose Creek Juvenile Salmon Research Project – Laura Pevan (Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

Tyonek Tribal Conservation District: Anadromous Fish and Elodea Surveys in the Remote Mat-Su – Andy Wizik (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

Restoring Salmon Abundance in the Eklutna for Cook Inlet Beluga Recovery – Cooper Freeman (Center for Biological Diversity)

11:45 Eklutna River Restoration: Coming Home Film and Mitigation of Eklutna Hydroelectric Project

Carrie Brophil (Native Village of Eklutna)

12:00 LUNCH

1:00 Updates from the Mat-Su Borough Fish and Wildlife Commission

Andy Couch (MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission)

1:15 Tidbits

Moderator: Jillian Jablonsky (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

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.

1:45 Poster Session & Art Showcase

Moderator: Luke Byker (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)

Poster authors and artists from Palmer High School will be on hand to answer questions about their work.



Patterns of Aquatic Insect Emergence in Cold and Warm Urban Streams in Anchorage – Molly Legg (Alaska Pacific University)

*The Effects of Warm Water Temperature and Heat Stress on Juvenile Chinook *Oncorhynchus Tshawytscha* and Coho Salmon *Oncorhynchus Kisutch* Growth in the Deshka River Watershed* – John Hermus (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Effects of Watercraft Wakes on Shoreline Erosion, and Potential Impacts for Salmon at Big Lake, Alaska – Elias Wilson (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Salmon Spawning in the Eklutna River – Kyle Robillard (Native Village of Eklutna)

Tracking Water Temperature, Thermal Stress, and Chinook Salmon Spawning Success in the Deshka River – Bailey Korkoske (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Multimedia Salmon Art Showcase – students (Palmer High School)

2:15 Break

2:30 Science to Conservation Outcomes: Data Transfer

Moderator: Mike Daignault (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

This session follows a discussion at last year's Symposium on a pilot effort to assist in moving science to conservation outcomes, focused on cold water refugia, by sharing updates and will include presentation and a panel discussion about data availability and transfer.

Update on Science to Conservation Outcomes: Cold Water Refugia Pilot – Sue Mauger (Cook Inletkeeper)

Open Source Spatial Data - Tips and Tricks – Colton Percy (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

AKTEMP: Presenting a Fully Functional Stream and Lake Temperature Database for Alaska (Including the Mat-Su!) - Marcus Geist (University of Alaska Anchorage Center for Conservation Science)

Engaging Communities in Critical Habitat Data Collection: Fish Map App – Aaron Poe (Alaska Conservation Foundation)

4:00 Announcements & Adjourn

Mike Campfield (Mat-Su Borough)

4:15 Evening Social & Music Jam

Feather and Flour, 927 S Cobb St., Palmer

Come visit with colleagues and listen to or play music by joining an acoustic open music jam.

We'll have a few guitars and upright bass to share, otherwise bring your own instrument and join us. Everyone is welcome. The Mat-Su Salmon Partnership is providing appetizers, and a cash bar will be available till 7:15, when the social ends.

Tuesday November 14, 2023

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

8:30 Registration



9:00 Symposium Welcome

Ted Eischeid (National Fish Habitat Partnership Board)

9:15 Updates from the Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership

Jessica Speed (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Coordinator, Trout Unlimited)

9:30 Potential Impacts on Salmon and their Habitat from Invasive Species

Moderator: Andy Wizik (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

Introduced Northern Pike Predation and Consumption of Juvenile Salmon in a Warming World–

Benjamin Rich (University of Alaska Fairbanks)

Out of sight, out of mind? The unrealized devastation from invasive northern pike – Parker

Bradley (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

Mayday, Mayday... European bird cherry on the move – Hannah Thompson (Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation District) and Joni Johnson (U.S. Forest Service)

10:15 Networking Break

11:00 Restoring Habitat for Fish: Stream Restoration and Fish Passage

Moderator: Jessica Straub (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Mat-Su Cost Share Program Overview and Update – Amy LaBarre (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

Salmon Habitat Rehabilitation at Wasilla Creek Trail Crossings in the Matanuska Valley State Moose Range – Mike Campfield (Mat-Su Borough)

Capacity Building among Alaskan Tribal Entities: A New Approach to Fish Passage Restoration– Andrea James (Chickaloon Village Traditional Council)

Free Flowing Streams and Cook Inlet Salmon: The Past, Present, and Future of Tyonek Tribal Conservation District's Fish Passage Program – Jillian Jablonski (Tyonek Tribal Conservation District)

12:00 LUNCH

1:00 Monitoring, Maintenance of and Potential Threats to Water Quality

Moderator: Sue Mauger (Cook Inletkeeper)

Recent Changes to Clean Water Act Jurisdiction – Matt LaCroix (Environmental Protection Agency)

Implementing the Lake Lucile Management Plan through Alaska Clean Water Actions – Ashley Oleksiak (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation), Robert Walden and Eric Schaal (City of Wasilla)

Waterbody Setbacks in the Mat-Su Borough – Matt LaCroix (Environmental Protection Agency)

Cottonwood Creek Pathogen Monitoring– Ashley Oleksiak (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation)

History and Trajectory of the West Susitna Industrial Corridor – Margaret Stern (Susitna River Coalition)



2:00 Tidbits

Moderator: Alexa Millward (Trout Unlimited)

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.

2:15 Networking Break

2:30 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding: Opportunities and Resources

Moderator: Michael Mazzacavallo (Alaska Department of Fish and Game)

This session will include presentations and a panel discussion to assist partners in learning more about funding opportunities through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)

Erika Ammann and Monica Keim (NOAA).

Mike Daigneault (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Troy Hildreth (U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service)

Trisha Sims (Alaska Municipal League)

3:45 Conclusions

Matt Varner (Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership Steering Committee member, Bureau of Land Management)

4:00 Adjourn