



Steering Committee Meeting

Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Suite 4
1800 Glenn Highway, Palmer

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 9:30 – 12:30 pm

Call in # (907) 746-6347 ← ADFG conference room

MEETING NOTES

Facilitator: Tom Capiello

Notetaker: Jessica Johnson

Attendees: Tom Capiello, Laura Eldred, Ted Eischeid (came in late)

On the Phone: Erika Ammann, Trent Liebich, Jessica Speed, Jess Johnson

Partnership Business

- Review Proposals for NFHP funding
 - Discuss proposals and increase committee understanding of proposals to assist with their individual scoring process.
 1. Assessing and Developing Communications Strategies to Reduce Impacts from OHV Use on Salmon
 2. Upper Susitna Area Fish Passage Improvements
 3. Caswell Creek at Hidden Hills Dr. Fish Passage Culvert
 4. Temperature and Water Quality Monitoring in the Little Susitna Watershed
 5. Deshka River Juvenile Salmon Distribution and Instream Flow Monitoring, Year 2
 6. Riparian Mapping in the Mat-Su Core Area
 7. 2020 Mat-Su Water Reservation Program Flow Data Acquisition in Kroto Creek
- House Keeping for the Proposals
 - Thanks to the SDC and Laura for all of their work on these
 - We need to use the updated score sheet that was sent out by Jessica on 11/18/19
 - All scores are due to Jessica by December 4th
 - Jessica will send out a Doodle Poll to see when we can meet via phone (week of December 9th) to finalize the scoring
- Reviewing the proposal brought up some side conversations
 - SC in the future needs to give more guidance on Objective CS11, Motorized Off-Road Recreation. We had two proposals this year that we had discussion on how they were looking at the same thing but very different proposals altogether.
 - There was a lot of discussion about getting final reports for projects that the partnership has completed, especially for proposals that are ongoing, but just at different sites. These reports are required as part of the cooperative agreement that

the proponents sign when they accept the funding. Once these final reports are turned in, they need to be available on the Partnership's webpage. It doesn't make sense to have to track down the proponent's webpage to find the report since the Partnership funded the project. There was some debate on who would be responsible for putting these onto the Partnership webpage. It was decided that this needs to be worked out before the next RFP goes out.

- The match ratio and leverage need to be worked on some also before the next RFP goes out. Specifically, there needs to be something addressing where the match source is coming from.

If time allows:

- The September meeting notes were approved.
- Process to fill At-large Steering Committee Seats (Jessica)
 - There are currently two At-Large Seats that will be open.
 - Native Village of Eklutna
 - They are ending their second 2-year term and per the bylaws need to step down for a year.
 - Tom Capiello
 - Is ending his first 2-year term. He can choose to stay for a second term if he would like to.
 - At the time of the meeting Tom stated that he would have to think on it.
 - The Alaska Center might also be stepping down from their seat as they might be having some capacity limitations right now. Jessica will ask them later this week if they are still interested in being on the SC or not. If not, this will be another seat that will need to get filled.
 - For parties interested in filling these seats they need to send a letter on interest to Jessica by December 30th. Jessica will send out the letters to the SC for review so that we can vote them in before the next meeting on January 14, 2020, and that way they can attend this meeting.
 - Some ideas of potential interested parties are Theo Garcia with Knik, MatSu Health Foundation, DNR, Anchorage Parks Foundation, Doug McBride, Trout Unlimited.
- Update on Partnership support from BLM
 - The Partnership received \$30K from BLM through an interagency agreement.
 - Jessica has been working with the Capacity and Development Committee to figure out how to best spend those funds. Thus far the ideas have been supporting the Outreach Committees goals, SDC goals such as fact sheets, and the Aquatic Invasive Species specifically more direct support around Elodea. SC members should get this information by the next meeting so that we might decide on how to spend the funds.

Committee Updates

- Mat-Su Salmon Symposium - feedback and follow-up
 - Jess Johnson voiced concerns about how inappropriate it was for the Partnership to have the Symposium focus on indigenous salmon management, as the Partnership's

main objective is salmon habitat. It was not explained well at the September meeting that the focus would be on salmon management. She also heard from some people that the round table wasn't run well and made some people feel very uncomfortable.

- There was general discussion about how other members also had concerns with getting into salmon management since the Partnerships focus is salmon habitat. Overall other SC would like to see the Partnership stay focused on salmon habitat in the future. The focus of indigenous salmon management came up after the Keynote speaker was chosen and that they set the tone for the meeting.
 - Another issue was that only 17 to 20 people filled out the evaluation forms after the Symposium. This makes it difficult to get any feedback about the Symposium, especially with Jess' concern about inappropriateness of the indigenous salmon management focus. Jessica will send out blank evaluation forms for people to fill out and get back to her.
- Science and Data
 - SDC would like to get some factsheets up on the website about ATV stream crossings, riparian corridors, etc.
 - Jon Gerken has been the co-chair for several years and he is going to step down
 - Laura's term is up, and she is also going to step down as co-chair. She thinks it would be best to bring new co-chairs in during one of the spring meetings. She also let us know that Anjanette is interested she just needs to get approval from her supervisor.
 - Laura would be willing to stay on for a little bit until to help the new co-chair get up to speed. She found it helpful having Jon there when she came on as a co-chair.
 - Outreach
 - Hasn't been very active lately
 - Ted is the new chair for this committee and wants to get it up and running again
 - Capacity and Development
 - They have been working on how best to use the \$30K from BLM
 - Christy is the chair for this committee
 - General thought is that there are a lot of committee's and is there any way to get a better understanding of them or update some of them. A question was asked if the coordinator is involved in all these committees and yes, the coordinator is. Currently, all the chairs for the different committees are on the SC.

Other/Partner Updates

- Trout Unlimited has asked for a letter of support as they are applying to the NFWF grant that closes 11/21/19. Jessica sent out the email for review on 11/19/19. TU is seeking funding to help with some habitat work at the old Eklutna Dam. It was voice that this is a quick turn around and not all the SC members are available to make the unanimous decision to for the letter.
- Tom thought for next year's site tour that maybe we should get out on some ATV and cross some streams

- Ted has a new supervisor, Kim Sollien. She has worked with the Partnership before (former Steering Committee member) & GLT.
- Erika there is a funding opportunity through NOAA's Restoration Center Coastal and Marine Habitat Restoration. She would send out the RFP.
- Jess nothing.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 14th, 2020

** need Facilitator and Notetaker*

Upcoming Events

- Western Division American Fisheries Society(AFS)/ Washington and BC AFS Chapter joint meeting, Vancouver, BC, April 12-16, 2020