

Working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula

Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat **Partnership**

By Jeff Anderson, USFWS Acting Field Supervisor

Back in 2009, an article appeared in the winter newsletter about a new player in the area's fish habitat arena: the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership (Kenai Partnership). At the time, this fledgling organization was just getting its feet on the ground and trying to achieve recognition at the national level. Since then, the Kenai Partnership has come a long way toward establishing recognition in the local conservation community and has started funding partners to implement projects on the ground.

The Kenai Partnership was formed in 2008 as a coalition of over 20 organizations here on the peninsula involved with fish habitat issues, and is a locally-driven partnership of a larger national initiative called the National Fish Habitat Partnership (http://fishhabitat. org/). The National Partnership's mission is to protect, restore and enhance the nation's fish and aquatic communities, and is working to reverse the declines of America's fish habitats, raise awareness of fish initiatives, assign priorities, and generate annual congressional support to improve aquatic habitat.



FISH HABITAT



Continue on Page 4, Habitat

CFK - 23 Years of Making a Difference

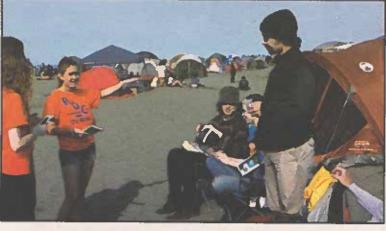
By Merrill Sikorski, CFK Director

Now in its 23rd year, Caring for the Kenai (CFK) stays on the cutting edge of cross curricular environmental education in our school district. With teachers from Homer, Seward, Seldovia, Vosneka, and most

of the high schools in between using the in-classroom assignment, CFK is expecting a record breaking number of entries in 2013. Thanks to our major CFK sponsors Chevron & Tesoro and our

community partners KRSA, Kenai River Raven, ConocoPhillips and Hilcorp, CFK students once again this year will be competing for nearly \$30,000 in cash awards for themselves and their classrooms.

As a result of the CFK Continue on Page 3, CFK



Courtney Stroh ROCs the Kenai! Courtney implemented her Caring for the Kenai entry helping make fish waste from the dipnet fishery a priority issue.

In this Issue...

- Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership
- Science Symposium
- Caring for the Kenai
- Pick.Click.Give. Stories
- Membership Update
- Calendar of Events

Updating your will or estate plan?

Plan today for tomorrow's gift and benefit generations to come.

The development staff at KWF can help you plan for tomorrow and receive maximum benefits today. We would be pleased to work with you and your financial or tax advisor to establish the planned gift(s) that are most appropriate for you to achieve your financial planning goals.

If your plans already include a gift for KWF, please let us know so that we can say "thank you."

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To:

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Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF) is a local 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to maintaining the health of the watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska. KWF is recognized as the regional watershed organization of the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, successfully identifying and addressing the needs of the region by providing high quality EDUCATION, RESTORATION, and RESEARCH programs.

Our mission is "working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula". KWF is a dynamic and maturing organization that is poised to serve the Kenai Peninsula and the State of Alaska with increasing effectiveness in the near and distant future.

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Kenai Watershed Forum

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Connect with us on:



KWF Calendar of Events

February 19 & 20, 2013 • CESCL Class

8am - 5pm daily at Cook Inlet Aquaculture Building
Provided: All course materials, certification of completion, light breakfast, snacks and lunch
Cost: \$350 (cash, check and/or credit card)
Contact Rhonda at rhonda@kenaiwatershed.org

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April 16 & 20 • KWF Hosts the Wild & Scenic Rivers Film Festival

Considered one of the nation's premiere outdoor and adventure film festival's, this year's films combine stellar filmmaking, beautiful cinematography and first-rate storytelling to inform and inspire. KWF will host the first Wild & Scenic Rivers Film Festival on April 16 in Homer and on April 20 in the Soldotna/Kenai area. Keep an eye out for more details.

April 17 & 18, 2013 • Science Symposium

The Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership will host a Science Symposium on April 17 and 18 at the Islands and Ocean Visitor Center in Homer, Alaska.

Guest speakers, presentations and discussions on marine and freshwater habitats across the Kenai Peninsula Borough will be on the agenda. You don't want to miss this! See more info on page 5 in this newsletter.

May 16-19, 2013 • Kenai Birding Festival

Highlighting the natural wonders that draw thousands of birds and visitors to the Kenai Peninsula, the annual Kenai Birding Festival is designed for birders of all levels and interests. With guided hikes, river trips, presentations, children's activities, and self guided tours there is an opportunity for every interest and level! For more information, visit www.kenaiwatershed.org or find the festival on Facebook!

June TBA, 2013 • Stream Watch Ambassador Orientation

Make a difference this summer: Become a Stream Watch Ambassador! Ambassadors provide a stewardship presence on the river by sharing information on ethical angling, bear safety and river health. Meet river enthusiasts from across the state, enjoy a volunteer campsite and make a difference by protecting local rivers. For more information contact StreamWatch@kenaiwatershed.org or (907) 398-4304.

June 7, 8, 9, 2013 • Kenai River Festival

Let's Celebrate! Free, Family Fun for Everyone! The 23nd annual Kenai River Festival, June 7-9, grew out of the Kenai Watershed Forum's desire to provide a free, fun setting for the community to celebrate the river that gives so much. Learn how to give back to the river keeping it healthy and productive for generations to come. Legendary festival highlights include 20 foot long magical Łuq'a the salmon, world famous pioneer salmon dinners, Run for the River 5K/10 mile race, free riverside entertainment and more. To learn more, visit www.kenaiwatershed.org.

Here's what folks are saying about Pick.Click.Give.

From Becky, Soldotna

I love the Pick.Click.Give. option for my PFD. With a full time job and full home life, this option helps me support the charities I love, such as the Watershed Forum. The Kenai River is our most important asset and protecting the watershed and the river is vital to our communities. Thank You Kenai Watershed Forum for being there!!



From Cindy, Soldotna

This was our first year participating in Pick.Click.Give. It felt good for everyone in our family to pay it forward to the Kenai River Watershed Forum. Even though there are many organizations that could have benefited, this one meant the most for our family. They provide amazing support for our wildlife community and their programs and events centered around kids is a great way to get them started in being good stewards for our wildlife!

From Lisa, Funny River

Anne Frank once said: "How wonderful that no one need wait a single moment to improve the world". I say "How wonderful that no Alaskan need wait a single moment to improve Alaska!". It took me 30 seconds to PCG to protect the beautiful watersheds of the Kenai Peninsula by donating to the Kenai Watershed Forum. Now it's your turn!

From Jim, Soldotna

I PCG to the Kenai Watershed Forum because they truly care about the watershed, fish habitat, clean spawning grounds and sustaining the returns of natural salmon stock. Their education program to youth regarding these issues is amazing. An incredibly worthy cause.

From Cora, Age 4, Soldotna

I like helping salmon and the eggs they put under the rocks. I also like helping people that don't have food in their house. Salmon and hungry people need my help. I'm going to give to Kenai Watershed Forum and Kenai Peninsula Food Bank. More people need to Pick.Click.Give. then we will all have food and salmon.

From Rhonda, Soldotna

I LOVE the Pick.Click.Give program! What a simple way for Alaskans to support non-profit organizations in their area! I TOTALLY buy into the concept of "if each Alaskan gave just \$25".... there would be MILLIONS and MILLIONS of dollars going to non-profits across the state.

Each year I chose to donate a portion of my dividend to the Kenai Watershed Forum. Not only is healthy water critical to our survival as a species, but the watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula are critical to the livelihood of the residents of the peninsula for recreational, financial and subsistence purposes. The Kenai Watershed Forum is dedicated to maintaining the health of these watersheds for all through education, research and restoration projects.

I grew up in Soldotna and, as a kid, always took the majestic glacier fed rivers for granted. As an adult, raising a child of my own, I see great value in protecting and maintaining the health of one of our greatest resources to last for my children's children!



CFK, from Page 1

teacher in-service a software program is being customized for CFK that will allow students to submit their entries on line.

Once again CFK finalists are receiving national recognition as they pursue their ideas to improve the environment and prepare for natural disasters. Courtney Stroh's ROC the Kenai (Respect Our Community) was selected by the Environmental Protection Agency's Region #10 to receive the prestigious President's Environmental Youth Award



for 2012. Allie Ostrander raised over \$5,000 for habitat restoration with her Run for the Salmon races last summer and 2011 CFK finalist Bradley Hamilton continues to work with state agencies in pursuit of his idea for placing mile markers along the Kenai River to enhance emergency response.

The success of CFK is an example of the Kenai Watershed Forum's goal of working in partnership with the community to enhance our environment one project at a time. It is exciting to see students working with their families, public officials, educators and professionals to develop their ideas to enter in the CFK competition. For details and important dates on the 2013 Caring for the Kenai visit the website at www. caringforthekenai.com and like us on Facebook.



Another example of youth in the area taking their Caring for the Kenai project to heart and making a difference! Allie Ostrander implemented her Salmon Run Series idea and raised over \$5,000 for invasive species work on the Kenai Peninsula.



- March 6, 2013- Contest Deadline
- March 13, 2013- Select 12 Finalists
- April 6, 2013- Public Presentation of Semi-Finalists
- April 18, 2013- Oral Presentation competition for finalists KCHS Little Theatre - 6pm
- April 27, 2013-23rd Anniversary Awards Banquet

Thank You!

Caring for the Kenai Major Sponsors





CFK Community Partners









5 Years of CFK Student Accolades...

Kenai, April 19, 2007 -- Molly Watkins impressed the judges with her idea to replace incandescent light bulbs with energy efficient compact florescent light bulbs (CFL) but also with her efforts to get local residents to make the switch and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Hanna has received assistance from HEA to further her project to "Make the Switch"

Kenai, April 17, 2008— With the dedication of a new "Kardinal Red" curtain for the KCHS Little Theatre, compliments of Caring for the Kenai sponsors Chevron and Agrium, the annual environmental and disaster preparedness competition got underway Thursday evening. Lincoln Wensley, a KCHS sophomore from Rick Frederic's science class, took first place honors and \$1,500 cash at the 18th Caring for the Kenai (CFK) competition. "I'm really proud to be here and to be a CFK Champion from KCHS," said Wensley, "The competition was really stiff and with only 1 point separating James and me it was pretty amazing." Wensley's winning project focused on educating the public about how important the dunes are to the ecology of the Kenai beach.

2009 - 2008 CFK winner Lincoln Wensley of Kenai Central High School was selected by the Environmental Protection Agency Region #10 to receive the President's Environmental Youth Award (PEYA). This is the fifth past CFK winner who has been chosen for the distinguished PEYA award. Wensley attended the PEYA presentation at the EPA headquarters in Washington D.C. where EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson honored Wensley at a formal ceremony with the prestigious PEYA award on behalf of President Barack Obama. Additionally Lincoln's project to preserve the Kenai Dunes won him the national Prudential Spirit of Community Award which earned him \$1,000 cash and another trip to the nation's capital.

2008-2009 Olivia Pfeifer's winning idea for airport bird control became known as ABC Dog. Olivia went on to contact sponsors and the City of Kenai to raise funds to lease a boarder collie as an experiment for hazing birds at the Kenai airport. With the help of the Kenai Watershed Forum Olivia raises nearly \$10,000 and during the summer of 2010 Rose flushed 1,367 birds from the Kenai airport during 70 runs, preventing bird strikes with aircraft and reducing the number of birds euthanized at the Airport. ABC Dog project is still being evaluated by governmental agencies and has received national media attention.

2009-2010 Governor Sean Parnell signed into law a bill that allows for alternate energy credits to homeowners. The amendment to the bill was the CFK winning project of KCHS Freshman Freya Chay. In the fall of 2010 Chay was selected as one of six young Americans to receive the prestigious Brower Youth Award, a trip to San Francisco, national recognition, and a \$3,000.00 cash award.

2010-2011 Kelsie Leaf CFK winner was invited to Kansas City as part of the City of Kenai's All America City presentation to share with the whole nation her award winning CFK Gift of Green. Kenai won the 2011 All America City and CFK was launched as a national program.

2011-2012 Jenna Hansen a Nikiski freshman took 1st place and launches her own business called Kenai Peninsula Seaglass which utilizes Cook Inlet tides to tumble trash glass bottles into smooth beautiful pieces for jewelry and landscaping. Hansen receives a contract from the City of Kenai to replace the airport flower bed sign with her colored Seaglass.

2011-2012 2nd Place winner Allie Ostrander organized the Peninsula's 1st Salmon Run Series of 5K races and raises over \$5,000 for KWF's invasive plant eradication program.

2011-2012 Courtney Stroh received statewide media recognition for her R.O.C. the Kenai (Respect Our Community) and partners with 4-H & Boys & Girls club members to create a legacy youth group that spent 7 days a week at the mouth of the Kenai River during the dip net fishery cleaning the beach and educating fishers how to properly dispose of their fish waste. Alaska Communications Services honors Stroh with 2012 Summer Hero Award.

2013 Courtney Stroh received President's Environmental Youth Award for EPA's Region 10 and is presented with the Kenai Chamber of Commerce Community Service



Habitat, from Page 1

The Kenai Partnership shares a similar vision to maintain healthy fish, healthy people, healthy habitat, and healthy economies within the Kenai Peninsula Borough, which forms the geographic boundary for the Kenai Partnership. This geographic area includes approximately 25,000 square miles, encompasses 14 major watersheds, and contains over 20,000 miles of stream habitat as well as more than 350,000 acres of wetlands. The goal of the Kenai Partnership is to address habitat needs of freshwater and marine fish species that reside in the waters of the Kenai Peninsula Borough at some point in their lifecycle. The Kenai Partnership is taking a strategic approach to protecting healthy aquatic systems while working to restore degraded systems.

Part of the process for gaining national recognition was the development of a formal plan for the partnership. The Kenai Partnership completed a draft comprehensive plan in 2010 which identified six focal areas to address: Partnership Capacity, Biological Complexity, Water Quality and Quantity, Science and Technology, Education, and Policy. Following are the goals for each of these focal areas.

Partnership Capacity: Ensure organizational capacity and effective operating systems are in place for the Partnership to make positive and lasting contributions to the protection and the restoration of fish and aquatic habitat.

Biological Complexity: Protect, restore and maintain the biological integrity of ecosystems that support healthy fish habitat.

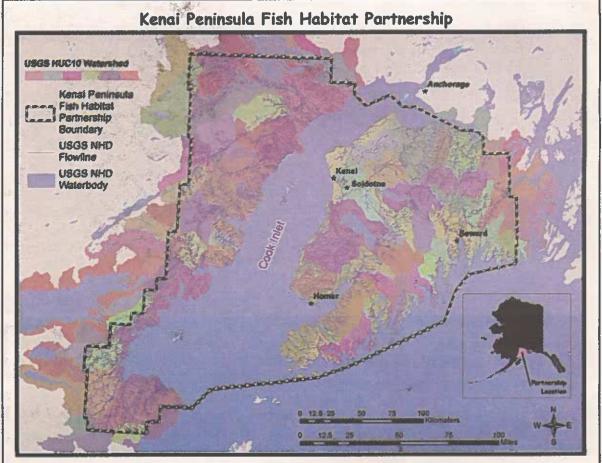
Water Quality and Quantity: Ensure necessary water quality and quantity to support healthy fish communities and aquatic ecosystems.

Science and Technology: Facilitate and increase the use and availability of scientific knowledge to guide Partnership priorities, policy development, and management decision making.

Education: Increase the awareness and knowledge of the goals and objectives of the Partnership for everyone that lives, works, recreates, visits, regulates or otherwise has an influence on the strategic issues of the Partnership.

Policy: Identify, prioritize and communicate the importance of adequate regulations, polices and planning processes to support the protection of fish habitat necessary to support self-sustaining fish populations.

Continue on Page 5, Habitat



The Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership boundaries closely mimic those of the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Consideration of physical watershed delineations was given when finalizing the exact partnership boundary. We work closely with two recognized adjacent partnerships, the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership and the Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership.



Conservation Action Planning (CAP) process developed by The Nature Conservancy which identifies the biodiversity we are trying to conserve, assesses how well those conservation targets are doing across the landscape, identifies potential threats to those targets, and develops objectives and actions to meet our conservation goals. This planning process has been used successfully by other fish habitat partnerships in Alaska and has wide applications in the conservation community.

Projects funded through KPFHP

Project	Partner	Kenai Partnership \$\$	Matching \$\$	Total \$\$
Watermelon trail restoration	Homer SWCD	\$8,100	\$38,825	\$46,925
4th Avenue culvert replacement	KWF	\$11,900	\$300,000	\$311,900
Anchor River juvenile fish habitat assessment	USFWS	\$28,000	\$37,000	\$65,000
Juvenile salmon distribution surveys	KWF	\$30,000	\$45,000	\$75,000
Watershed Planning Symposium	ADNR - Parks	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$60,000
Beaver Loop fish passage project	KWF	\$45,000	\$15,000	\$60,000
Stariski Creek wayside exhibit	Homer SWCD	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$9,000
Soldotna Creek pike eradication	ADF&G	\$16,000	\$27,500	\$43,500
Soldotna Creek hydrology	KWF	\$16,000	\$5,400	\$21,400
Stream temperature monitoring	Cook Inletkeeper	\$21,700	\$21,700	\$43,400
Science-based land conservation	Cook Inletkeeper	\$30,452	\$21,247	\$51,699
Kenai Peninsula science and conservation symposium	KWF	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
Instream debris removal program	Kenai Peninsula Borough	\$12,000	\$75,000	\$87,000
	Total:	\$274,152	\$650,672	\$924,824



Habitat, from Page 4

These focal areas and goals helped identify broad-brush areas for the Kenai Partnership to focus its efforts, but since then the group's Steering Committee has realized that a more strategic approach is necessary given the vast geographic scope (the entire Kenai Peninsula Borough!) and limited funding available.

To that end, the Kenai Partnership is currently developing a strategic plan to help focus activities over the next 5 years. The group is using the Conservation Action Planning (CAP) process developed by The Nature Conservancy which identifies the biodiversity we are trying to conserve, assesses how well those conservation targets are doing across the landscape, identifies potential threats to those targets, and develops objectives and actions to meet our conservation goals. This planning process has been used successfully by other fish habitat partnerships in Alaska and has wide applications in the conservation community.

Two Science Teams were assembled to develop the CAP, one focused on the freshwater environment and the other focused on the marine environment. The teams identified conservation targets as ecological systems that represent the important life history needs for fish in freshwater and marine environments. The assumption of the Science Teams was that fish would be able to thrive if the ecological systems are functioning. The teams then assessed how well each of the ecological systems are currently functioning and identified critical threats to each of the systems. Finally, the Science Teams developed specific conservation strategies to implement based on the current health of the ecological systems and the severity of potential threats.

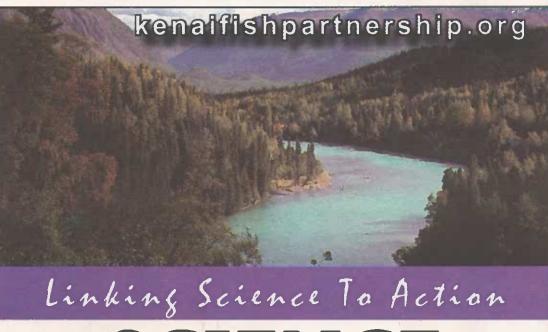
The Science Teams have provided valuable input over the course of three workshops since last May, and will soon have one last duty of reviewing a draft plan that will be unveiled at an upcoming Science Symposium in April (see below). As a sneak peek into the plan, potential threats to aquatic resources identified in the CAP process include aquatic invasive species, warming climate, incompatible road development, and residential development in riparian areas.

Since 2010, the Kenai Partnership has received about \$90,000 each year to fund on-the-ground projects and assessments. Kenai Partnership funding has been matched by project proponents at over a 2:1 rate, leveraging the \$275,000 investment to over \$925,000 of work accomplished on the ground! The page 4 table is a summary of projects selected for funding to date by the Steering Committee.

Another accomplishment of the Kenai Partnership was to highlight efforts in the Anchor River watershed at the national level through the National Partnership's "Waters to Watch" program (http://fishhabitat.org/content/anchorriver-kenai-peninsula-alaska). This national program recognizes 10 of the most prominent projects each year that highlight the work of partnerships that are making an impact through habitat conservation. The Anchor River was nominated for this list because of the important work several partners are doing to enhance and conserve fish and wildlife habitat in the watershed.

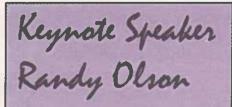
As mentioned above, the Kenai Partnership will be hosting its inaugural Science Symposium in Homer on April 17th & 18th. The Symposium will be an opportunity for all partners and the general public to discuss the draft Conservation Action Plan as well as an opportunity for partners to share their ongoing work and get feedback on ideas for the future. The Symposium will feature a series of presentation sessions and break-out groups, but the

Continue on Page 6, Habitat



SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

April 17 & 18 • Islands & Ocean Visitor Center





A scientist turned filmmaker, Randy Olson was once a marine biology professor at the University of New Hampshire. After fifteen years of telling stories of science he had grown more interested in telling stories about science. Olson resigned and began to explore film as a medium for communicating science. He is the author of "Don't Be Such a Scientist" as well as the Symphony" and "Flock of Dodos". Today, Olson is a communications consultant to organizations including the CDC, NASA, and the National Institute of Health. Olson will engage attendees through a keynote presentation, a small group workshop and a separate question and answer opportunity.

Registration Information

www.kenaifishpartnership.org rhonda@kenaiwatershed.org (907) 260-5449 ext. 1203



Science in Action

Scientists and researchers from across the Kenai Peninsula will come together to facilitate the communication of up-to-date research and encourage idea exchange to better understand the complexities of fish habitats and their effective management. In addition to research presentations the Partnership will introduce their new Conservation Action Plan (CAP) for prioritizing Kenai Peninsula habitat concerns and restoration efforts.



Networking

The symposium will bring together a myriad of people concerned with fish habitat and will offer opportunities to interact with researchers, habitat advocates and the general public. Through scheduled networking and the Meet, Greet, and Eat!, the symposium is poised to increase connections between scientists and researchers across the peninsula and beyond.







Habitat, from Page 5

highlight of the Symposium will be an evening social and presentation by Dr. Randy Olson, scientist turned filmmaker. Dr. Olson's keynote address is titled "Winning Hearts and Minds Through a More Critical Approach to Storytelling".

In addition to the keynote address, Dr. Olson will be leading this special workshop...

Critical Storytelling

Take your message from the lecture hall or laboratory to the masses! Through ritical storytelling attendees will learn to craft messages that inspire and engage their target audience to better understand and embrace the key message. In this four hour breakout workshop with renowned scientist turned filmmaker Randy Olson, the small group will learn to take storytelling to the next level by adding texture, structure and character to make your science rich message engaging and compelling. Your stories will never be the same!

More information about the symposium and registration information is posted on the Kenai Partnership's website: www.kenaifishpartnership.org

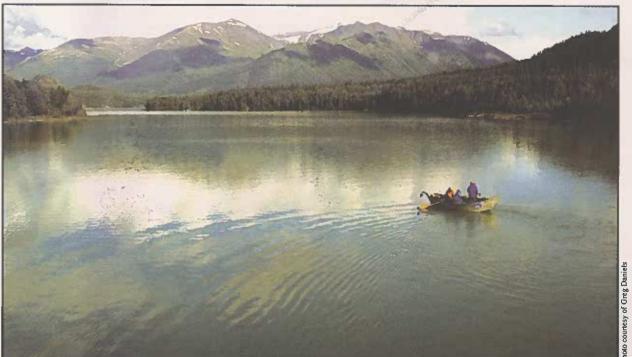
The Kenai Partnership is now one of three recognized fish habitat partnerships here in Alaska, and there are 18 partnerships across the country recognized under the National Fish Habitat Partnership. The Kenai Partnership is excited about its future and is still establishing recognition and roots in the local conservation community. If you or your organization are interested in joining the Kenai Partnership, please contact Robert Ruffner, the Partnership Coordinator, or any of the Steering Committee members.

Cooperation · Investment · Stewardship



Left: Dipnet fishing at the mouth of the Kenai River.

Below: Sportfishing below Kenai Lake.



KPFHP Partners

AK Department of Fish & Game Kenai Watershed Forum U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service U.S. Forest Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin. Kenai Peninsula Borough Kenai River Sportfishing Association Kenai Area Fisherman's Coalition Resurrection Bay Conservation Alliance City of Soldotna City of Seward City of Kenai Kenaitze Indian Tribe Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association AK Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation **AK Department of Transportation** United Cook Inlet Drift Association Aquatic Restoration & Research Institute Soil & Water Conservation District Tyonek Tribal Conservation District **Trout Unlimited** ConocoPhillips The Nature Conservancy of Alaska Renewable Resources Foundation Kachemak Heritage Land Trust Cook Inletkeeper

KPFHP Steering Committee

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A Wanted Fish... for More than One Reason

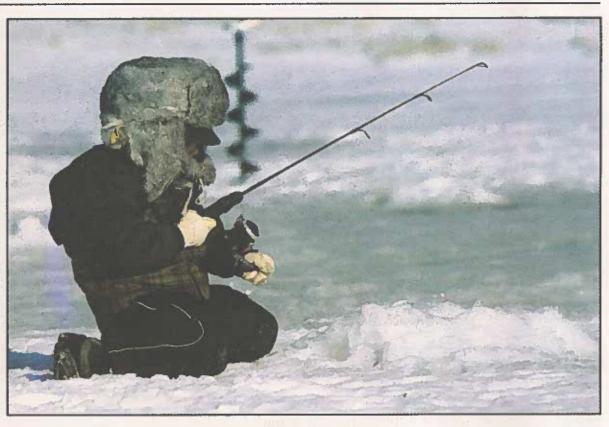
By Rebecca Zulueta, Environmental Specialist

Starting in 1998, Trustworthy Hardware Store has annually hosted the Ice Fishing Derby during the month of February. Participation each year continues to grow, ranging from avid fishermen to children of all ages and proves to be a wonderful reason to get family and friends outside on the ice for some fun and prizes. However, there's another huge benefit to this fishing event; it's a great opportunity to help remove Northern pike from our waters!

While Northern pike (Esox lucius) occur naturally in Alaska north of the Alaska Range, they are not native to South Central Alaska. Illegal stocking of pike in areas like the Kenai Peninsula threaten wild and stocked fisheries because pike act as predators on salmon and trout populations. When pike have been introduced to a lake they can completely diminish these populations and once rich food resources like trout and salmon are depleted pike rely

more on invertebrates and cannibalism. The lack of rich food resources often stunts their growth, resulting in smaller mature fish, which have lower appeal to anglers.

To combat the problem of pike in our waters, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) use a variety of methods to control and eradicate pike such as netting, barriers and chemical treatments. Often with netting and other mechanical control methods the efforts must be repeated each year to keep their numbers suppressed. In many instances it is nearly impossible to eradicate all Northern Pike in a waterbody with nets alone because of the weedy, shallow areas that pike prefer. It can be hard to net and juvenile pike are often too small to entangle themselves. However, when winter comes around and the ice hits, pike often change their preference of habitat. Due to oxygen depletion during the winter months with ice covering much of the lakes and rivers, pike often



seek out larger rivers with deep, slow moving water. Although it is good to note that on the Kenai Peninsula there is evidence that pike can remain in shallow habitat year-round.

While out there participating in the Ice Fishing Derby this month remember that you can help in more than one way. Your efforts to catch the big pike of the derby can also help decrease pike populations before they spawn in the spring just before the ice goes out. In addition, if you happen to find a pike in an area you have never seen one before, make sure to keep the fish and report it to 1-877-INVASIVE. If you're not sure which waters Northern Pike have been found you can go to the following ADF&G site for list of affected waters: www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=invasivepike.areas

So while you may not catch the grand prize fish this year, you can still feel good about helping to eliminate pike from our waters with every catch, big or small!

STREAM WATCH

Make a difference with Stream Watch!

Share the river stewardship spirit and meet like minded river enthusiasts while keeping the great outdoors great. Through one day projects and multiple day opportunities for individuals and groups there is an activity for everyone!

Volunteer benefits include:

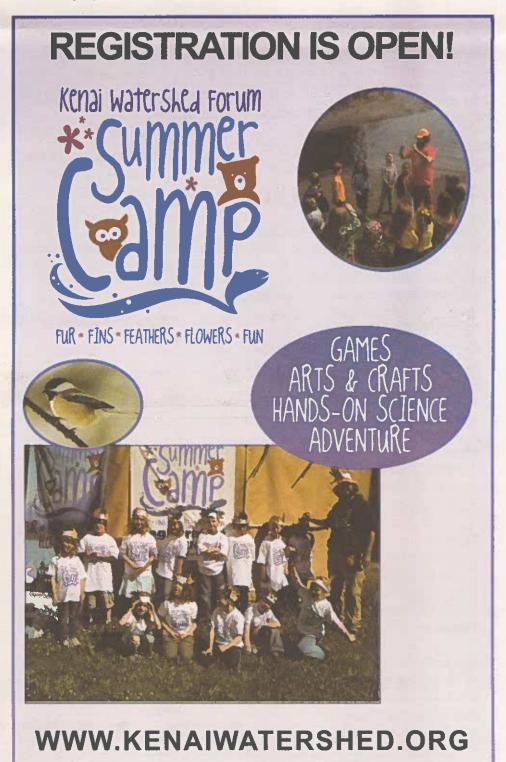
- Training
- Supplies
- Volunteer campsites
- Join an active social network with like minded people
- Making a difference on local rivers!

Stream Watch Season:
June through September
2-4 hour opportunities
Individuals, businesses and groups

Contact Stream Watch now to receive email updates of events or find us on Facebook!



Make a Difference This Summer!





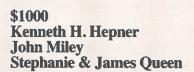
KWF Support • Help shape our Future

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

It is more important than ever to become engaged and help shape the future of our watersheds. Everyone that lives and plays on the Kenai Peninsula is responsible for its future. Support for the Kenai Watershed Forum gives you an opportunity to help shape the future of our watersheds and celebrate KWF's ongoing commitment to healthy natural resources. Please participate and support KWF; become part of the largest community united by a common mission of "working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula."

We encourage you do your part and make a financial contribution to KWF. We continue to provide quality education, restoration, and research to the residents and visitors to the Kenai Peninsula and need your help to continue serving our communities.

Generous support from 12/20/12 to 1/31/13 listed below.



Benefactor \$500 Dr. John Demske Robert & Tara Ruffner **Gary Williams**

\$250 Bob Correia & Liz Schmitt -Northcountry Fair

River Steward \$100 Catherine Cassidy & Erik Huebsch Peggy Mullen - River City Books Randy Haggenstein & Eve Witten Chuck & Betty Obendorf Curt & Debbie Shuey Scott & Kelly Griebel Dale Bagley Paula & Joseph Martin Lori Landstrom & Terry Rude Larry & Carol Marsh Lesley Bechtold

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And many thanks to the numerous anonymous supporters!



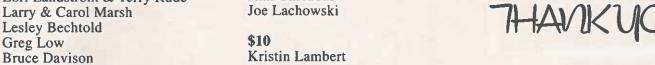


That is no exception at KWF. We depend on volunteers to help make our organization meet its goal of working together for healthy watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula.

In general our volunteer opportunities are posted on VolunteerMatch.org or announced on our Facebook page, but here are some smaller projects that are not currently listed:

- Newsletter mailing preparation (folding, labeling, etc): March 1, 10am-12pm
- KWF mailing preparation: March 8, 10am-12pm
- Science Symposium preparation projects: March/April TBD

If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please let me know! 907-260-5449





Here is your chance to give something back! Help support our mission through a financial contribution. Everyone who lives and plays on the Kenai Peninsula benefits from remarkable natural resources. Your membership gift gives you a role in shaping the future of the Kenai Peninsula watersheds. You will enjoy our newsletter, Currents, invitations to special events, and many other unique benefits.

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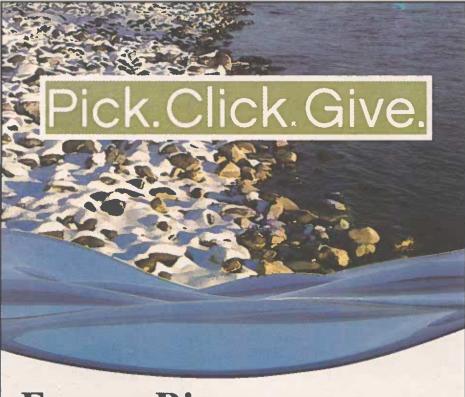
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