



**Goal:** Facilitate regionally-relevant strategies to support cooperative fish habitat conservation and management in Southeast Alaska

Above photo courtesy of Darren Dorris

# Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership

## Objectives

- o information sharing
- o interagency and partner coordination and collaboration
- o strategic funding facilitation/allocation

## Regional Issues & Focal Projects



### Freshwater Watersheds

- *Region-wide multi-jurisdictional fish passage inventory and database*
- *Watershed assessment to support habitat restoration and protection*
- *Anadromous Waters Cataloging*
- *Protect fish habitat through reservation of water*
- *Storm water monitoring and outfall mapping in anadromous streams*
- *Regional methodology for developing municipal riparian setbacks*
- *Restoration monitoring and performance evaluation*
- *Merger of hydrographic datasets into USGS National Hydrographic Dataset*

### Estuarine

- *Region-wide estuarine classification*

### Marine

- *Marine debris and stranded fishing gear removal*

### Coordination

- *Topical workshops and conferences*
- *Staffed Fish Habitat Partnership coordination of services*
- *Regional digital watershed library*

## Timeline: A Partnership in Progress

### 2010

- Western Native Trout Initiative funded *Reservations of Water in Trophy Cutthroat Trout Lakes Project*
- State, federal, and non-governmental organizations held scoping meeting;
- Workgroup formed to explore creation of a Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership (SEAKFHP)
- SEAKFHP formation formally discussed at American Fisheries Society meeting (Alaska Chapter)

### 2011

- WNTI funded *Coastal Cutthroat Trout in Alaska: an assessment of distribution, life history, and status*
- Workgroup sponsored a fish passage workshop in Juneau (47 registered attendees, 7 speakers)
- Workgroup drafted Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership Request for Candidacy Letter
- Trout Unlimited submitted SEAKFHP Request for Candidacy Letter to the National Fish Habitat Board
- SEAKFHP recognized by National Fish Habitat Board as a Candidate Partnership

### Next Steps:

1. Establish a steering committee that represents the range of interests in the region
2. Develop mission/operating procedures; identify geographic scope; formalize goals/objectives
3. Pursue funding for facilitation and coordination of near-term SEAKFHP organizational development
4. Evaluate habitat condition, known threats, and opportunities
5. Initiate planning process to identify strategic priorities
6. Apply to NFHAP board for formal recognition

Photo courtesy of K.Mueller/USFWS

### Potential Partners

Trout Unlimited (Alaska Program)  
Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition  
The Nature Conservancy (Southeast Alaska Field Office)  
Southeast Alaska Land Trust  
Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska  
Sealaska Regional Corporation  
Alaska Native Village Corporations  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Natural Resources  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
City and Borough of Juneau  
City and Borough of Yakutat  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Alaska Region)  
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (Habitat Conservation Division)  
U.S. Forest Service (Alaska Region and Alaska Forestry Sciences Lab)  
U.S.D.A Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Alaska District)



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