

Community-Based Watershed Management Forum

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday March 7th, 8th & 9th, 2012

Centennial Hall (7th) and Baranof Hotel- Treadwell Ballroom (8th & 9th)
Juneau, Alaska

Goal: To build the capacity of Alaska's municipalities, tribes, agencies, and organizations to carry out community-based watershed outreach, plans, projects and management actions.

Objectives:

- 1. Connect:** To bring together a diverse group of natural resource and community development professionals, agency staffers, tribes, municipalities, regional organizations, and other user groups who are working on watershed and land management issues in Southeast Alaska and the State.
- 2. Inform:** To offer presentations, trainings and panel discussions that provide participants with specific tools and resources necessary to implement projects and management strategies that promote sustainable water, resource, economic, and community interests.
- 3. Participate:** To identify strategic partnership opportunities and ways to work collaboratively across the region that will continue to support and enhance informed community-based watershed projects and management strategies.

*Co-hosted by the
Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition (SAWC) & the National Forest
Foundation (NFF)*

<http://alaskawatershedcoalition.org>



March 7th - Centennial Hall, Juneau AK

Alaska's Waters: Challenges and Opportunities

Oral sessions will be held in collaboration with the American Water Resources Association: Alaska Section Annual Conference (<http://state.awra.org/alaska/>) being held in Centennial Hall, downtown Juneau.

Presentations will target community-based watershed practitioners and land resource managers and will focus on water resources, management strategies, and research in Alaska.

The AWRA conference committee is currently reading presenter abstracts and will have a formalized agenda for March 7th in a couple weeks. Please check the website above soon!

March 8th- Baranof Hotel, Treadwell Ballroom

Community Based Watershed Management (CBWM)-Identifying the Issues and Planning For Solutions

8:30-9:15 Welcome, Coffee, Introductions

9:15-9:45 Agenda overview and forum goals and objectives

Session 1: Highlighting the Need for CBWM- Case Studies in Alaska

In Alaska, both urban and rural communities are faced with multiple and complex issues related to their watersheds. **These issues are and will continue to have long-term effects on watershed resiliency and community health.**

Session Goal: To raise participant's awareness about watershed related issues in communities in AK and how CBWM efforts are developing projects and programs to respond to these issues

9:45- 10:15 **Building Watershed Education and Outreach Programs:**
Pam Randles, Education Director
Takshanuk Watershed Council, Haines, AK



10:15-10:45 **Wetland Management from Classification and Mapping to Assessment and Planning: Success and Obstacles on the Kenai Peninsula and the Matanuska-Susitna Valley**
Mike Gracz: Ecologist and PhD Candidate
Kenai Watershed Forum and University of Minnesota , Fritz Creek, AK

10:45-10:55 **Break**

10:55-11:20 **Developing a Municipal Ordinance: Citizen education –a necessary component to ensuring a successful outcome**
A.J. Conley Executive Director
Taiya Inlet Watershed Council, Skagway, AK

11:20-11:50 **Addressing Impacts to Critical Watersheds: Protecting and restoring a community’s drinking source**
Mayor Anthony Christianson, Hydaburg, AK (*tentative*)

11:50 – 12:00 **Discussion/Wrap Up**

12:00-1:15 **Buffet Lunch and Keynote:**
“You, Me, Us, Them? How Are We Connected?”
Jon Waterhouse: Executive Director, Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council, Anchorage, AK

Session 2: The First Steps to Identifying the Issues: Community-Driven Watershed Planning and Management

Community-Driven watershed planning and management allows communities to identify and prioritize which areas and/or watershed resources to restore, protect, and/or develop in a way that will promote short and long-term watershed resiliency and sustainable communities.

Session Goal: To build participants awareness of watershed planning and management initiatives statewide.

Part 1 Watershed Planning and Management

1:15-1:45 **The Watershed Approach: Community Planning and Management Strategies**
Matt Lacroix
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Anchorage, AK



1:45-2:15 Wetland Planning and Projects- identifying the issue and working as a community to develop solutions
Frankie Barker, Environmental Planner
Mat-Su Borough, Anchorage, AK

2:15-2:30 Break

Part 2 Breaking it down: Wetland Plans and Management Strategies

2:30- 3:00 Municipal Wetland Management Planning: Overview of the CBJ process and the real life applications of the plan
Teri Camery, Senior Planner and Nicole Jones, Planner
City and Borough of Juneau, Juneau, AK

3:00-3:30 Tools for Community-Based Watershed Planning and Management: Overview of web-based online tools and resources
Beverly Schoonover, Technical Advisor
Juneau Watershed Partnership, Juneau, AK

3:30 – 3:45 Discussion/Wrap-up

3:45- 4:00 Break

Session 3: Engaging Stakeholders: A Training

Community and watershed health is dependent on an aware and active citizen base. A first step in developing this awareness and inspiring action is an understanding of the issue and identifying the target audience.

Session Goal: To provide participants with resources and tools to reach out to target audiences and engage local citizens in watershed and community health issues

4:00-5:00 Building a strong constituency: Supporters and Volunteers
Trainer: Barbara Wyckoff, Dynamica Consulting

5:00-5:30 Wrap-Up

5:30-6:30 Regional Watershed Work: Poster Session - Pizza, Posters, and Porter

7:30 Wild and Scenic Film Festival
Juneau Arts and Humanities Council Building



March 9th - Baranof Hotel, Treadwell Ballroom

Restoration and Regional Projects- putting the plan into action

8:30-9:00 Welcome, Coffee, Introductions

Session 1: Watershed Restoration and Enhancement: implementing projects that improve ecosystems and benefit communities in the long-term

Once watershed issues have been identified, implementing projects that improve watershed resiliency and sustainability can be technically difficult, costly, and require long-term management.

Session Goal: To provide participants with specific examples, strategies, and resources to prioritize and implement credible restoration projects.

Part 1 *Restoration in Southeast Alaska: Lessons Learned*

9:00- 9:30 **Steps to Develop and Implement Restoration and Enhancement Projects**

Neil Stichert, Restoration Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Juneau, AK

9:30 - 10:00 **An assessment of habitat restoration practices in Juneau**

John Hudson, Fish and Wildlife Biologist
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Juneau, AK

10:00 – 10:15 **Discussion**

10:15-10:30 **Break**

Part 2 *Case Studies in Locally Lead Restoration: Tips, tricks and resources from local watershed practitioners*

10:30-11:00 **Changing Local Perceptions: ATV restoration issues in Yakutat**

Bill Lucey: Planner/Biologist
Yakutat City and Borough, Yakutat, AK

11:00- 11:30 **The Starrigavan Forest Restoration Project and the Sitkoh River Restoration Project- Wading in Deep: A Tale of Three Collaborations**



Scott Harris, Restoration Coordinator
Sitka Conservation Society , Sitka, AK
Sheila Jacobson, US Forest Service, Tongass National Forest, AK

11:30 – 11:45 Discussion and Wrap-up

11:45-1:00 Lunch:
Connect, Inform, Participate –Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition – SE communities working together to advocate for productive watersheds and sustainable communities
Jessica Kayser: Director
Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition, Southeast AK

Session 2: Funding for CBWM: Alaska Case Studies

Funding opportunities for watershed planning and projects is limited and often difficult to access. In addition, grant requirements and internal policies differ among agencies and funders.

Session Goal: To provide participants with tips and tricks to navigate federal and state funding and tools for securing strategic partnerships for CBWM on-the-ground implementation.

1:00-1:30 Writing a Good Project Proposal: Ensuring you have all of the components
Kathleen Dowd-Gailey, Regional Director, Northwest Programs
National Forest Foundation, Seattle WA

1:30-2:00 Building a Budget: Finding the match, developing fully loaded rates, and navigating state and Federal granting requirements
Brad Ryan, Executive Director
Takshanuk Watershed Council, Haines, AK

2:00-2:15 Break

Session 3: Building the Alliance

In Alaska, there are several **community-based watershed practitioners**, community development professionals and local land resources managers working in rural and/or isolated communities throughout the State. These individuals are dedicated to promoting local



watershed resources and community health. **The opportunity exists to build a strong alliance** between communities working on watershed and community health issues.

Session Goal: To introduce participants to coalition building – developing an alliance that supports locally based initiatives, builds a regional voice for community-based watershed management and efforts, and brings trainings and resources to local professionals and practitioners.

2:15-3:30 Panel Discussions: Developing Strategic Partnerships that address watershed issues and implement regional projects

Stream Temperature Monitoring Network in Cook Inlet, AK

Sue Mauger: Science Director, Cook Inletkeeper

Water Quality Monitoring Across the Yukon River Watershed

Dr. Ryan Toohey: Science Director, Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council

Wetland and Aquatic Resource Mitigation in Southeast Alaska

Jessica Kayser: Director, Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition

3:30-4:00 Wrap up and next steps

