



NATIONAL
FISH HABITAT
ACTION PLAN

National Fish Habitat Action Plan

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July 31, 2007

Kenai Peninsula Conservation Partnership
c/o Robert Ruffner, Executive Director
Kenai Watershed Forum
PO Box 2937
Soldotna, AK 99669

Dear Mr. Ruffner:

Thank you for your letter of June 16, 2007 to the National Fish Habitat Board, indicating your partnership's intention to seek recognition as a Fish Habitat Partnership under the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

Fish Habitat Partnerships are the primary work units of the Action Plan. Roles of the Partnerships include involving diverse groups of public and private partners in conservation of fish habitat; developing a strategic vision and implementation plan that is scientifically sound and achievable; and providing leadership to develop fish habitat projects at regional and local levels.


The National Fish Habitat Board is responsible for developing appropriate policies and guidance for recognizing Fish Habitat Partnerships. The Board has developed guidance on establishing Fish Habitat Partnerships (accessible on the Internet at www.fishhabitat.org) and has approved procedures and a three-year schedule for recognizing Fish Habitat Partnerships.

The Board will consider your partnership to be a "Candidate Fish Habitat Partnership" as defined in the Guidance, and will notify you when applications for recognition as a Fish Habitat Partnership are requested.

As you work to meet all the criteria in the Guidance, we urge you to continue to recruit public and private partners that are focused on conservation of fish habitat, to consult with neighboring or overlapping partnerships to clarify your respective roles and priorities, and to consult regularly with the Board's staff to ensure that the process is open, transparent, and ultimately successful.

The Board appreciates your dedication to conserving fish habitat and your interest in implementing the Action Plan. If you have questions, please contact Tom Busiahn, Fish Habitat Partnership Coordinator, at 703-358-2056 or e-mail tom_busiahn@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Cooper", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Cooper, Chairman
National Fish Habitat Board