



Copper River Watershed Project

Upriver and Down, Salmon are Common Ground

Board Member Job Description

Background:

The Copper River Watershed Project (CRWP) is a private, non-profit corporation; our mission is to foster the health of the Copper River watershed's salmon-based communities, economies, and cultures. Our vision is to make collaborative and informed decisions for a thriving watershed system. As part of this, our goal is to have eight board members representing watershed communities, with no more than 4 board members from any one community.

The board provides strategic leadership to the CRWP and is involved in shaping priorities, planning and budgeting, and attracting financial support. Board meetings of approximately 1.5 hours are conducted 8 – 10 times a year in the Cordova office with several members attending by telephone conference. Agendas are constructed cooperatively between board members and staff, and meetings are conducted in an informal yet structured style. While the board operates as a cohesive body, we also strive to utilize and make the most of individual board members' strengths and expertise.

Specific Board Member Responsibilities:

- Define and oversee the mission of the CRWP and keep it relevant to the needs of the watershed and its communities.
- Provide strategic guidance to the organization and its executive director.
- Ensure financial solvency and accountability and help raise resources.
- Select, support and evaluate the executive director; ensure he or she has what he or she needs to do his or her job.
- Ensure continuous board improvement.

Commitments:

- Be a positive advocate for the CRWP.
- Become knowledgeable about the role of a director and the CRWP's goals and projects in order to make informed decisions.
- Attend board meetings, read the materials sent to the board and come prepared to the board and committee meetings.
- Contribute in one or more of the following: serve on a committee, attend a board training, write newsletter article, draft documents as needed, speak the message of the CRWP publicly at a civic meeting, volunteer for CRWP on the ground projects such as trail restoration and stream bank re-vegetation.
- Hold the CRWP to a high standard of performance.
- Participate in direct fundraising activities such as asking for donations, thanking donors, writing letters to potential donors.
- Participate in the board's annual retreat.
- Listen carefully to other board members and staff with an open mind and an objective

P.O. Box 1560 · Cordova, AK · 99574 · (907)424-3334 (ph.)/(907)424-4318 (fax)

www.copperriver.org · e-mail: info@copperriver.org

perspective

- Ask for clarification on any matters or materials that you do not understand before making a decision
- Actively work toward decisions and solutions that are in the CRWP's best interests (speaking with one voice).
- Make an annual gift that is personally meaningful and significant to you.
- Recruit and orient new board members.