



COPPER RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT

COPPER RIVER

Runner

SPRING 2014



SPRING BREAK-UP CAN BE A TOXIC TIME

BY DANIELLE VERNA, PROJECT MANAGER

What comes to mind when you think of Alaska? For most people, it's cold and snow. Although our long days of summer sunshine are what call most people to visit, the lingering winter season and the snow that goes with it make our backs strong and our skiing spectacular. But there's also a down side to the massive piles of snow that accumulate from load after load of street and parking lot clean up. With every sweep of the plow, there's a chance for pollutants to be transported with the snow, including debris, oil, grease, sediment, and metals. These contaminants remain concentrated in snow piles until spring melt, when they are typically swept away to water bodies where they can impact wildlife, habitat, and water quality.

To mitigate some of these impacts the Copper River Watershed Project is working with the City of Cordova, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and local construction companies to assess possible ways to improve our snow management techniques. We've teamed up with DOWL HKM, an engineering firm with an office in Anchorage, to study current practices and document the water quality of melt-water from snow piles before and after making improvements and implementing best management practices. Our goal is to reduce the amount of pollutants entering our water bodies, particularly Orca Inlet.

During the winter of 2011 – 2012 Cordova received record snowfall (340 inches), but this winter we've had unseasonably warm and rainy weather, with only 64 inches of recorded snow from November to February. The variability in our winter conditions can make snow management a challenge, especially when snow levels can change considerably even within a season due to frequent melt and freeze fluctuations. But learning how and why snow management happens can help us brainstorm practical ways to make it more efficient and help reduce pollutant loads.

Maintaining healthy habitat is a critical part of our mission aimed at sustaining the long-term benefits of our natural resources. As a coastal community, Cordova particularly values its fisheries habitat. Improving water quality in the marine coastal environment of Orca Inlet will benefit fish species such as salmon and herring. We'll also be helping out our fresh water bodies, Eyak Lake and Odiak Pond, which are important salmon spawning and rearing grounds. In addition to our other efforts to reduce polluted stormwater and melt-water runoff, like the Don't Run Off Salmon campaign and the Scoop the Poop project, the Copper River Watershed Project hopes to decrease the volume and types of pollutants entering our waters. In the long run, the health of our ecosystems may depend on it. *This project is supported by funding from the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council.*

CRWP MISSION

To foster the health of the Copper River watershed's salmon based cultures, communities, and economies.

LETTER FROM THE

ACTING ED - KATE MORSE

When geese migrate long distances, individuals take turns at the front of the flock. The lead birds not only help to guide the rest of the birds towards their nesting or feeding grounds, but they make the flight easier for others because of the drafts created by the beating of their wings. At the Copper River Watershed Project, our leader from the beginning, Kristin Carpenter, has received a generous grant from the Rasmuson Foundation that has allowed her to take a three-month sabbatical and let others take a turn at the front of the flock.

I see our CRWP “flock” made up of individuals and organizations that value the health of Copper River salmon and the dynamic, largely intact watershed that support them. Perhaps you’ve joined the flock because you’ve visited this amazing place, or know the world is better because places like this exist. Or perhaps you enjoy eating Copper River salmon. Maybe your life depends on it because your job relies on healthy salmon runs or your family has been sustained by eating salmon for generations. Regardless of the reason you’ve chosen to join the flock, Kristin’s sabbatical presents an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the accomplishments of the first fifteen years of the organization, our role in these successes, and our responsibility to speak up for where CRWP should focus our efforts moving forward.

For the past 15 years, we have turned grassroot ideas and support into tangible results on the ground: implementing restoration, monitoring, and education programs that take the entire watershed system into account and result in healthier salmon habitat and a more engaged watershed community. Today we are seen as a “go-to” organization by partners in the region who come to us to assist with facilitation and implementation of restoration, monitoring, and education programs.



We have continued to grow support for these programs thanks to the generous contributions of our membership, our partners, and volunteers. We have increased the types and numbers of grants we manage at any one time. We continue to recruit new members while our existing membership continues to grow more generous with their giving. More volunteers are on the ground assisting with project implementation, and we continue to work with new partners to address the complex challenges and overcome the complicated logistics of managing the Copper River region as an entire watershed.

If recent winters are any indication of the future, we know we need to be prepared for “extremes” and unpredictable conditions. Preparation requires the pooling of resources and expertise. It requires strengthening relationships and lines of communication within the watershed and with our partners and stakeholders living elsewhere. And it requires engaging the young minds and future leaders in learning about the watershed and recognizing their potential to make a positive difference in their communities, including their watershed community.

While Kristin takes this time to re-energize after her time leading the flock, I ask all of you to consider your role in keeping this flock flying confidently forward. We look forward to hearing from you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate".

CRWP STAFF

Kristin Carpenter, *Executive Director*
Kate Morse, *Program Director*
Danielle Verna, *Invasive Weeds Coordinator/Cdv.*
Don Hofstetter, *Invasive Coordinator/Copper Basin*
Thomasina Andersen, *Operations Manager*

CRWP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Molly Mulvaney, *President, Cordova*
Gloria Stickwan, *Vice-President, Copper Center*
Brad Reynolds, *Secretary, Cordova*
Audubon Bakewell IV, *Paxson*

Maria Wessel, *Cordova*
Copper Basin Open Seats (2)
Cordova Open Seat (1)

CLASSROOM CURRENTS

A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

GABRIELLE BROWN
CORDOVA HIGH SCHOOL (11TH GRADE)

It is a blessing growing up in a community that supports science.

I've lived in Cordova my entire life and am so happy that I grew up in such an awesome community. Throughout elementary school I was involved with Discovery Room and going to multiple science camps every summer. These camps and early experiences started my interest in science.

The experiences didn't end in elementary school; in 7th grade life science I started to work with the Copper River Watershed Project. We worked on monitoring Odiak Pond throughout the school year. This work led to my class getting Odiak Watershed accepted into the Anadromous Waters Catalog. This catalog will help protect the pond in the future because it supports coho salmon. I really enjoyed working on this project, especially the field trips! Working in Odiak Pond provided me with real life experience to see what it would be like working as a field scientist.

The summer after 8th grade I went on the Copper River Stewardship Program. There aren't words to describe what a blast this trip was! I was able to explore parts of my state I had never been to, meet other teenagers that live upriver from me, and learn about different career fields available in science.

This year I have been more involved in CRWP than I ever have been. I started a revegetation project in Odiak Pond at the beginning of my junior year. For one class period a day, I go to CRWP and work on this project. This involves writing grants, organizing volunteer events, and so much more. In October, I was able to travel to the World Wilderness Congress in Salamanca, Spain to present my project. Also, in February I went to the Alaska Forum on the Environment in Anchorage, Alaska to present this project. Being able to attend these large conferences has helped me gain connections around the world in environmental fields.

The Copper River Watershed Project has allowed me to see how amazing science can be and why it's important. Without the experiences I've had with CRWP, I wouldn't be as sure of what I plan to study in college. After studying natural resource management, I would love to work for a non-profit like CRWP because I've seen the impact they can have. Thank you to Kate Morse and everyone else at CRWP, including CRWP members, for supporting the education of youth in the watershed and giving me these incredible opportunities.



2006 GABBY'S OBSERVATION OF NATIVE PLANTS AND HER SURROUNDINGS WERE INSPIRED BY EARLY SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCES.



7TH GRADE GABBY HELPS COLLECT WATER QUALITY DATA DURING A FIELD TRIP TO ODIAK POND.



CRSP GABBY AND HER STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM PEERS SPENT TIME EXPLORING KENNECOTT MINES.



GABBY HELPS TRANSPLANT NATIVE GRASS PLANTS TO THE NATIVE PLANT GARDEN BY ODIAK POND.

BOARD OF FISHERIES 101

BRAD REYNOLDS, CRWP BOARD OF DIRECTORS



It is said the world is run by those who show up. The process for influencing how fishery resources are harvested throughout Alaska is no exception.

It is said the world is run by those who show up. The process for influencing how fishery resources are harvested throughout Alaska is no exception. The Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) is regarded as one of the most open public processes for driving regulatory change. The role of the seven-member board is to conserve and develop the fishery resources of the State. As part of this process they are also charged with allocative decisions that impact a wide range of user groups. It is the input of these user groups and fisheries managers that guide the BOF's decisions.

Regulations and allocations for subsistence, commercial, personal use, and sport fisheries are not set in stone. The BOF operates on a three year cycle, rotating through the different fisheries and regions of Alaska. Before each cycle the BOF accepts proposals from the public and fisheries managers for changes to fishing regulations. Within the cycle, the BOF holds regional meetings to consider these proposals alongside public comments and scientific testimony. As a result, the BOF adopts and amends regulations including boundaries, catch methods, bag limits, allocations, and seasons.

Additionally, there are more than 80 advisory committees established across the state to provide forums for discussion, drafting commentary, and

submitting recommendations on board agendas. Committee meetings are open to the public and are often attended by staff from the local Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G). The ADF&G is tasked with managing fisheries according to the regulations adopted by the BOF.

For the Copper River fisheries, the first management priority is to ensure that the number of salmon migrating upriver beyond ADF&G's fish counting sonars is sufficient to achieve a sustainable fishery. This is a management concept known as escapement. After this goal is met, each user group harvests fish based on allocations determined by the BOF and outlined in regulation, and downriver commercial fishing effort is managed to meet the upriver harvest and escapement targets.

For the Prince William Sound, Copper River, and Upper Susitna finfish fisheries, the next Board of Fisheries meeting is scheduled for December 3-8 2014 and will be held in Cordova. The proposal book will be available sometime in early August, and the deadline for comments is November 21. For more information about the Alaska Board of Fisheries, please visit the Alaska Department of Fish & Game website at www.alaska.adfg.gov.





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I WRITE THIS FAR FROM THE COPPER RIVER WATERSHED and yet part of my mind is never far from it. I suspect in some ways, it is like that for the salmon who travel so many hundreds of miles away but have something in them that brings them back year after year - the Copper River Watershed is part of them.

Even though I've been away for a couple of months this year, in today's phone and Internet connected world, I've been able to stay in touch with folks in the Watershed. I've managed to keep up with my board duties via email and phone and also attend a board meeting. I like not having to give that connection up during my travels.

No matter how far you are from the Copper River Watershed, any one of you can connect with the organization, give us feedback and chime in on where you think the Copper River Watershed Project should be heading. This annual report highlights our accomplishments in 2013 as well as our growth in recent years that is directly a result of the support of our membership. At our upcoming annual board retreat, the one time a year when upriver and downriver board members are all together in the same room, we'll be

reviewing our strategic plan and talking about how to best engage with you, our members, moving forward. Do let us know any suggestions or ideas you may have for fostering the health of this wonderful watershed's salmon-based cultures, communities, and economies. We strive to make collaborative and informed decisions so this watershed system can thrive. Hearing from you helps us stay informed.

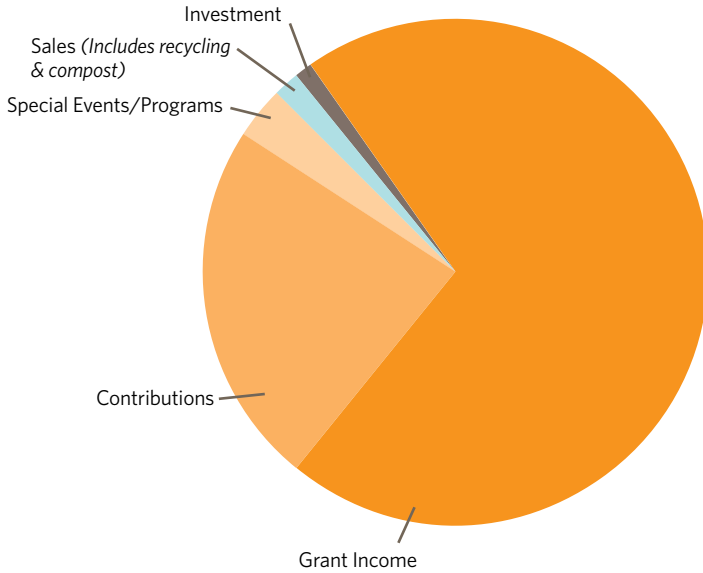
Whether you live in the area, have visited, have friends or family here, or are in the watershed seasonally, I'm guessing part of it, as for me and the salmon, is always in you as a place you care about. We want to thank you for your support that has gotten us this far, and we'd love to hear your thoughts on how you think we can keep doing the best job possible. We're all ears so please feel free to call, email, drop by the office or write an old fashioned letter! I suppose you could even swim up the river with a message, but me, I'm leaving that mode to the salmon and will take a plane home instead.

Molly Mulvaney
Board President

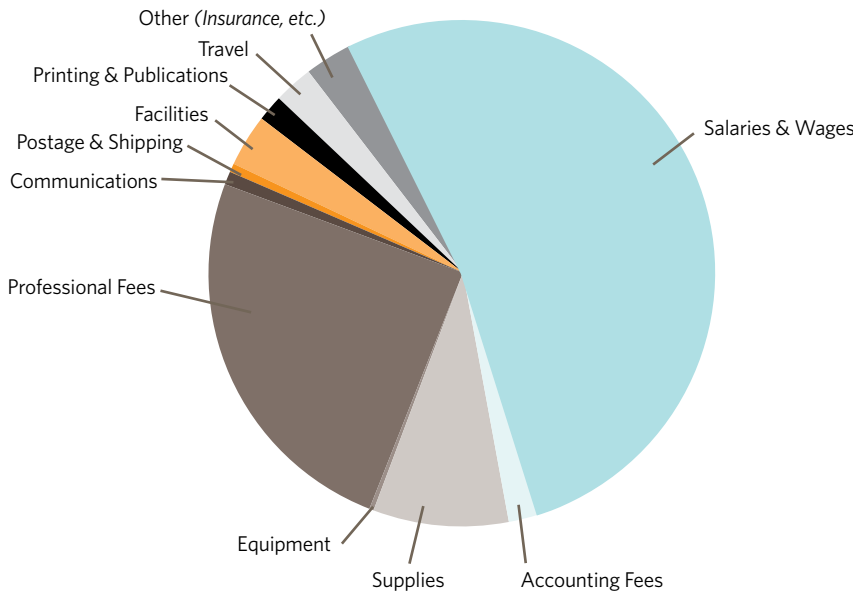


2013 ANNUAL REPORT

REVENUES: \$404,503



EXPENSES: \$368,463



STATEMENT OF REVENUES & EXPENSES

REVENUES

Grant Income	\$286,388
Contributions	\$93,583
Special Events	\$13,815
Sales (Includes recycling & compost)	\$6,964
Investment	\$3,753

Total Revenue	\$404,503
----------------------	------------------

EXPENSES

Salaries & Wages	\$205,044
Accounting	\$7,481
Supplies	\$32,741
equipment	\$982
Professional Fees	\$96,349
Communications	\$3,022
Postage & Shipping	\$2,070
Facilities	\$13,503
Printing & Publications	\$6,162
Travel	\$10,274
Other	\$10,879

Total Expenses	\$388,508
-----------------------	------------------

2013 FUNDING SOURCES:

Alaska Geographic
 Alaska Humanities Forum
 BLM Glennallen Field Office
 The Mountaineers Foundation
 National Association of Counties
 National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
 Native Village of Eyak
 Newman's Own Foundation
 North Pacific Research Board
 Prince William Sound Science Center
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
 U.S.D.A. Forest Service
 Wells Fargo
 Wrangell Institute of Science
 and Environment
 5-Star Restoration Grant Program funders:
 Southern Company, FedEx, EPA

2013 HIGHLIGHTS



SALMON BLITZ engaged over 100 volunteers in the collection of salmon habitat data at 16 sites around Cordova. Habitat data on almost 15 stream miles was nominated to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game for inclusion in the Anadromous Waters Catalog.

A demonstration **BIOSWALE** was constructed in Odiak Watershed. This “green infrastructure” will use native plants to filter stormwater run-off draining from the parking lot of Cordova Community Medical Center before it empties into Odiak Pond. Cordova High School students will re-vegetate the bioswale this spring and will install an educational sign adjacent to the project site.

A **NATIVE PLANT GARDEN** has been established on the shores of Odiak Pond. This garden will serve as an educational tool as well as a source of native plant seeds for re-vegetation projects where invasive plants have been removed.

INVASIVE PLANT COORDINATION ACROSS THE WATERSHED continues. CRWP presented a poster describing the Cordova and Copper Basin Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) at the annual Alaska Invasive Species Conference in Fairbanks, November 5 – 7, 2013. Upriver, CRWP and partners have finalized the Copper Basin CWMA Memorandum of Understanding, a 5-year eradication plan for white sweetclover, and the first ever weed smackdown in Glennallen, engaging volunteers to hand-pull the highly invasive white sweetclover. In Cordova, control efforts continued for reed canarygrass, orange hawkweed, and Bohemian knotweed.

CRWP continues to **PARTNER WITH CHEFS AND SALMON CONNOISSEURS** across the country to promote Copper River salmon and the work we do to sustain healthy salmon habitat. Thanks to John and Kate Williams for hosting a house party in McKinney, TX and to TJ's Fresh Seafood in Dallas for hosting two dinner seatings to generate support for CRWP. We were also thrilled to work with Chad Greer, chef at Lark Creek Blue in San Jose, CA, who traveled to Cordova to cook dinner at our first ever Wild Harvest Feast that was part of the fall Cordova Fungus Festival. We will be working with Chef Kevin Davis at Blue Acre Seafoods in Seattle, WA to host a celebration of Copper River salmon on June 5th, 2014, and are happy to bring salmon to your neighborhood if you're interested in hosting an event! Please contact us to learn more (Kristin or Kate@copperriver.org.)

K-12 YOUTH WERE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN HANDS-ON LEARNING in the watershed.

Middle school students from Cordova, Kenny Lake, and Glennallen were literally immersed into local aquatic ecosystems while learning about water quality, fish habitat, and macro-invertebrates (bugs!) that live in the Copper River watershed. Cordova and Kenny Lake elementary students exchanged monthly weather data over the course of the year, and 5th grade students in Cordova released over 200 salmon fry into the wild after raising them from eyed-eggs in a classroom tank. Jack Dalton was a special guest instructor on the 5th annual Copper River Stewardship program. Interpretive panels featuring student writing about the Copper River watershed are on display at the CRWP office.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

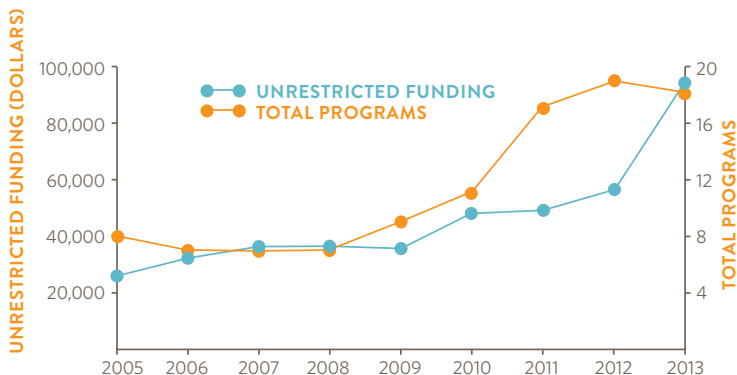
UNRESTRICTED FUNDING...

What does it mean for the Copper River Watershed Project?

In the world of nonprofits, “unrestricted funding” refers to those funds that can be used for any purpose to support the organization’s mission, including operating expenses, program development, and membership development. On the other side are “restricted” funds that are typically awarded through a foundation or public agency for a specific project.

Unrestricted funds are raised through our membership program and annual events. Since 2008, the Copper River Watershed Project has put forth a greater effort to increase our unrestricted funds by asking donors to consider larger gifts and recruiting new members. **This has more than doubled our unrestricted revenue, from about \$35,000 to over \$80,000, which has directly translated into CRWP’s ability to support more staff who in turn are implementing additional programs that foster the health of the region’s salmon.** In 2005-2009 we managed an average of 7 programs/year and from 2011-2013 we managed an average of 18 program/year. Unrestricted funds also enable us to maintain existing programs once restricted funds are spent.

Unrestricted funds are also essential for supporting tasks that might not be covered by grant funding. For example, unrestricted funds allow CRWP to participate in public processes to speak on behalf of the fish and our communities that depend on clean water and healthy, intact salmon habitat. They allow us to meet with partners and community members to develop new projects, for example the recent edition of Salmon Blitz to our program line-up was made possible in part by unrestricted funding. They help us develop new, innovative ways to connect with people who care about Copper River salmon, through



our website, social media, and events outside the watershed. Most of all, unrestricted funding allow us to remain flexible and responsive to unexpected opportunities or events that occur.

We appreciate the support of our donors who have helped make this growth possible, and hope you will continue to keep our momentum moving forward as we take your grassroots support and participation and turn it into tangible benefits on the ground, including healthy salmon habitat, thriving local economies, and informed watershed residents.

ADD IMPACT TO YOUR GIVING

* THROUGH YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Please encourage your friends and family to join if they are not already members. You can donate online at copperriver.org.

*** DOES YOUR COMPANY OFFER A MATCHING PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYEES WHO GIVE TO NONPROFITS?** *Let us know if we can help approach your company to double your donation.*

*** ALASKANS, IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE THROUGH YOUR PFD!** *Through August 31st you can log on to <http://www/pfd.state.ak.us> and click on “Add or Change Your Pick.Click.Give Donation.”*

*** DO YOU SHOP AT FRED MEYER?** *You can connect your reward cards with Copper River Watershed Project and a small percentage of your purchase will benefit our programs, without compromising the reward points, fuel points and rebates you earn. Just log on to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and search for us (by name or number 81607).*

*** BUY FISH THROUGH OUR WEBPAGE!** *See back panel for more information.*

THANK YOU, MEMBERS

ANCESTORS' LEGACY, \$1000+

Antioch International, Inc.
Bill & Marion Alexander
Lili Colby
Tom Hall & Elizabeth
McLoughlin
Curt & Betty Jones
Dr. James & Katie Nelson
Riki Ott
Russell & Joan Smith
Lorna Stern
Charles Wilson

WATERSHED STEWARDS, \$500

Carroll Barclay
Phil & Rich Blumstein-Ervin
Allison & Chris Bovard
Copper River Seafoods
Arthur J. Donald Family
Foundation
Harborside Pizza
Deirdre Henderson
Karen Hyer & Ken Carlson
Prime Select Seafoods, Inc.
Bert Stammerjohan &
Liz Senear
St. Elias Alpine Guides &
Copper Oar Rafting
The Triton Foundation

TRIBUTARIES, \$250

Alaska Biological Research, Inc.
Rob Alexander & Chip Brown
Agnew::Beck Consultants
Kory & Jeannie Blake
Tim Brabets
Dino Ciabattoni
Bob & Susan Clausen
Copper Moose B&B
Linda Crider
Andra & Nathan Doll
Stuart & Margery Elsberg
Sue Farzan
John & Liz Garner
Glennallen Rustic Resort B&B
Mary Hall
Anne & John Herschleb
Ken Hodges
Marie & Charles Hoffman
Gretchen Hull
Dan Hull & Nancy Pease
Gary & Mickey Jacobs
Meg Jensen & Mike McQueen
Peter & Tanya Johnson
Cathy & Fred Keuthen
KLAM/KCDV Radio
Bert Lewis & River Gates
Jack & Lynn Loacker
Eric Manzer & Molly Mulvaney
McCarthy River Tours
& Outfitters
Debra Miller D.M.D.
Diane & Greg Morgan
Mary Jane & Alan Morse
NAPA/Anchor Auto
Marine, Inc
Rebecca Nourse
Ocean Beauty Seafoods
Dr. Oliver & Eve Osborn
Mimi & Steve Rothchild
Brian & Vera Rutzer
Shoreside Petroleum
Kate & Reid Smith

Rocky Stone & Robert Sullivan
Terry & Ann Talcott
Cherri Thomas
Tom Douglas Restaurants
Lisa & David Totemoff
Cliff Ward
Jim & Barbara Webber
Charlotte & Lance Westing

WRANGELL PEAKS CIRCLE \$100

Alaska Glacial Mud
Alaska Marine Lines
Rich & Shannon Alloway
Ron Andersen
A Rogue's Garden
Heidi Babic
Baja Taco
Audubon Bakewell IV
Dr. Howard & Jean Baumann
Bayside Storage
William Beattie & Evonette
Aponte-Beattie
Lou Beaudry &
Bonnie Makinson
Gil & Bobbie Beck
April & Robert Beedle
Ann Behnke
Bob & Joanie Behrends
Judy & Mark Berger
Laurie Berger & John Jenkins
Dan Bilderback &
Christine Sager
Mary Anne & Nancy Bishop
Bill Black
Brittany Blain
David & Donna Blount
Toni & John Bocci
Katy Boehm
Dr. Chris & John Booren
Paul Boos & Janelle Eklund
Jim Bovard
Joan & Charles Bovard
Hanley Brite & Nancy Bancroft
Sharon Brumbley
Carolyn Chaney
Danny & Kristin Carpenter
Jim & Marilyn Chu
Elizabeth Clark
Becky Clausen & Dirk Lang
Beth & Al Clayton
Rich & Debbie Collins
Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld
Copper River Fleece
Cordova Drug
Andy Craig &
Seawan Gehlbach
Cricket's
Crowley Petroleum Distribution
AnnaMarie Davis
Brent Davis & Lauren Padawer
Julie de Boer & Robert Carr
Gail Dickenson &
Ronald Peshock
Eric Downey & Cathy Hart
G. Warren Elliott
First National Bank
Alaska Glennallen
Tony Gasbarro
Janet & Donald Groschel
Karen & Josh Hallquist
Denton & Tamara Hamby
Kent & Lynda Hamby
Mark Heidbrink &
Becca Dodge

Diane & Kent Herschleb
Dr. Donald &
Louise Heyneman
Cindy Hjort
Kirk Hoessle &
Gabrielle Markel
Teresa & Jim Holley
Phil & Audrey Huffman
Margaret Hunt
Cynthia Jones & Phil Oman
R.J. Kopchak & Barclay
Jones-Kopchak
Adam Kenyon
Tom Killeen
Andrew Klonecke
Seth Landau
Laura's Liqueurs
Bill Leighty & Nancy
Waterman
LFS Marine Supplies
Bill & Renee Lindow
Ian Lindsay
Mike Mahoney
Donna McBain Evans &
Sam Evans
Tom McGann & Sue Laird
Patty & Dennis McGuire
Cliff Eames & Ruth McHenry
Johnny & Johana McMahan
Mike Anderson Pottery
Virginia & Jack Miller
Pamela Moe
Bill Mohrwinkel
Kate & Andy Morse
Stuart & Sallye Norris
Omni Park's Place Grocery
Orca Book & Sound Company
Janat & Jack Parker
Jackie Reeves &
Matt Bronson
Monika Reghetti
Jonathan Riehle &
Angela Bohmann
Larry Rinder
Ed & Melissa Robert
Bruce & Kari Rogers
Bill & Mary Earl Rogers
Arlene & Danny Rosenkrans
David Rosenthal
Diana Schaney
Beth & Rich Schluter
Steve Schoonmaker
Sheridan Ski Club
Cathy & Dixon Sherman
Dawn Smallwood
Allison & Doug Smith
Jennifer Sutton & Todd Smith
Wayne & Diann Smith
Roy & Dede Srb
Cece Stack & Britt Pedicord
Sandra & Rich Staples
Jim Stratton & Colleen Burgh
Mark Vail
Tamara & Terry VanWhye
Gonzalo Villalon
Jennifer Wagner &
Tim Seaver
Eric & Janice Warga
David Hartley &
Helen Weagraff
Mike Webber
Jim & Maria Wessel
Violet & Joe Whaley

RAVEN'S CLAN, \$50

Lilly Goodman & Michael Allwright
Kris Anderson
Lee Rolfe & Tony Angell
Auklet Charter Services
B. Innovative Creative, Inc.
Dave & Laura Beam
Teresa & Andy Benson
John Bodner
Tim Bowman & Judy Engh
Abigail Bridge & Mark Casey
Robert Bundy
Barbara Cellarius
Bill & Diane Cobb
William Cone
Joe & Belen Cook
Xiomara & Steve Copeland
Copper Valley Electric Association
Peyton Coyner
Pere Davison
Lloyd Dolby & Darlene Kline-Dolby
Micah Ess & Michelle Dockins
Tom Brigham & Ginny Fay
Michael Ferraro
First National Bank Alaska
Cordova
Carole Fisher
Denny Patnode & Jane Flygstad
Forest Fusion
Patricia & S Walter Foulkrod
Mark & Cindy Frohnapfel
Kristina & Gerry Garcia
Glennallen Building Supply
Glenn Transport
Toni Godes
Kurt Goetzinger
Marnie Graham &
Douglas Vollman
Cheri & John Grocott
Dick & Kay Groff
Laurie & Bruce Hauptli
Becky Hawley & Bruce Harvie
Jeff Hawley
Ernest & Lois Hess
Marvin Holz
Deborah Jacob
Julie Jensen
Kara Johnson
Jim & Patti Kallander
Kendra's Creations
Vera Kinzer & Dan Sharp
Knot Crazy!
Rodger & Gerri Koechling
Rebecca & Matt Kull
Les & Joan Larson
Liz & William Larzelere
Let's Talk About Beer
Sue Kesti & Dan Logan
Judith & Matt Lorenz
Bob & Becky Lowry
Matt & Roni Luck
Megan McBride
Molly McCormick
Robert & Lucille Montplaisir
Avery Mozen
Justin & Tracey Nuzzi
Bill Pearson
Pete's Treats
Peter Bronz Pottery
Jennifer Pickett
Virginia Reinhart
Julie & Brad Reynolds
Clair & Steffan Scribner
Dick & Sue Shellhorn
Tommy & Ellen Sheridan
Dustin Solberg & Ann Harding
Carla & Mark Somerville
John Stack & Barbara Solomon
James Thorne
Timeless Beauty Endless Health
Tolsona Lake Resort
Barbara Vaile
Gay & David Wellman

KINGFISHERS, \$25

Jim Annicelli
Mike Babic
Jeff Bailey & Helen Howarth
Karl Becker & Nancy Bird
Mark & Janet Bloch
Mimi & Tim Briggs
Bruce & Karen Butters
Charlette & Virgil Carroll
Brian Charlton
John Cholish
Jill & David Crowley
Judy & John Day
Dragonfly Design Images
Chris Dunlap
Sarah Ecolano & Rick Ballas
Xiomara & Steve Copeland
Kathy Halgren
David & Judy Heller
Lucas Hyce
Mike Jackson & Joan
Bugbee Jackson
Caleb Jacobson
Justin Johnson
Heath & Shelly Kocan
Chris & Heather Maxcy
Caitlin McKinstry
Megan McKinzie
Jackie & Bryan McMahan
Kim Menster
Terry & Carol Merritt
Mitch & Gail Nowicki
Linden O'Toole
Purvi Patel
Lynn & Carol Potter
Rich Pribyl
Frederic Reid
Reggie Robinson
Lois & Bob Rodrigues
Dana & Anita Smyke
Danny & Lisa Sparrell
Kathryn Stoltzfus
John & Joann Thomas
Doyle & Norma Traw
Upriver Art
David & Chris VanCleve
Ken Van Gilder
John Page Williams

SUBSISTENCE LIVING, \$10

Tracy & Lisa Brown
David & Marilyn Buchanan
Chocolate Spoon Espresso
Erica Thompson & Dan Clark
Barbara Hoover
Jillian Jablonski
Sandy Keller
Klutina Quilter
Arctic Lutz
Scott & Romee McAdams
Pet Projects
Judy Shaw
Barbara Sherman
Stephen "Hoots" Witsoe

watershed
(wa'ter-shed)
the region or area drained
by a river or stream:
all the land that carries
rain to the same river system

RIDGELINES: AROUND THE WATERSHED

U.S. FOREST SERVICE WELCOMES NEW DISTRICT RANGER TO CORDOVA

The Chugach National Forest Cordova Ranger District welcomes Robert Skorkowsky as the new District Ranger. Robert will be moving from the small town of Oak Creek, Colorado where he is a District Wildlife Biologist and Region 2 Avian Program Coordinator on the Hahns Peak Bears Ears Ranger District in the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest. Robert has a M.S. in Ecology from Colorado State University and a B.S. in Wildlife & Fisheries Science from Texas A&M.

He started his natural resource career in the Student Conservation Association Resource Assistant Program in 1992. He broadened his wildlife biologist experience through a variety of details and assignments in the USFS. Robert has assisted in migratory bird conservation efforts in USFS international Programs, attending the Bird life International meeting in Argentina, creating partnership agreements associated with grassland birds that winter in Mexico, and coordinating with the International Crane Foundation.

Robert has delivered his district/ multi-region programs and projects through partnerships with the goal of defining and delivering the mutual needs and outcomes of all parties. In 2013, Robert accepted the USFS/ BLM Joint Conservation Project of the Year award on behalf of the Integrated Monitoring in Bird Conservation Regions Partnership.

He is married with two children, Sora and Gannon. As a family, they love to explore the outdoors with their weekends spent in the woods, skiing in the winter and fishing, hiking and searching for mushrooms in the summers and fall.

NATIVE VILLAGE OF GAKONA HOSTS YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT

The Native Village of Gakona will be hosting the Youth Environmental Summit (YES), a day camp event where children from the Copper River region come together to participate in activities that give them a foundation to become good environmental stewards. Intended for kindergarten through eighth graders, this event is supported by a team of volunteers, partners, and sponsors from the local community and beyond. It will be held at the Copper Center School campus during the week of May 25th and serves one hundred children from 9 different communities in the Copper Basin. This year's theme is "Master of Disaster," and will focus on teaching youth about environmental dangers and wilderness safety. *For more information, contact Tim Skiba at the Native Village of Gakona at (907) 822-5777 or gakonaec@gmail.com. Registration sheets can be found at www.nvgakona.com.*

INVASIVE PLANT LECTURE IN COPPER BASIN

Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment will be hosting a lecture on Invasive Plants in the Copper River Valley by Gino Graziano from Cooperative Extension Service. This presentation is scheduled for June 13, 7pm at the PWSCC Copper Basin Center. WISE will also be helping to coordinate the 2nd annual Weed Smackdown July 12. We will need volunteers to help pull invasive weeds from the junction of the Richardson and Glenn Highways. Lunch and door prizes for volunteers! *Contact Robin at (907) 822-3575, or visit www.wise-edu.org. WISE would like to thank Alyeska Pipeline Service Company for their generous support of this year's lecture series.*

IS THERE RADIATION IN ALASKAN SALMON? HERE ARE SOME FACTS ON FUKUSHIMA.

On March 11, 2011 a large earthquake struck northeastern Japan and caused significant damage to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. The event caused radiation-contaminated water to seep into the ocean near the plant. Since the incident, questions of food safety have arisen, specifically related to the safety of Alaskan seafood for consumption. There was some concern that migratory fish that passed through the eastern Pacific, near Fukushima, may transport the radiation towards the western United States. However, studies from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute found this concern to be unfounded. Cesium levels of tuna that were caught in the eastern Pacific were thousands of times lower than the naturally occurring levels of radiation found in most seafood. Both of these levels were significantly less than the typical radiation exposure from a dental X-ray and thus pose very little threat to human health. According to researchers at Oregon State University, a person would need to eat 4,000 pounds of albacore a year just to increase their average annual dose of radiation by 1 percent. "It's not going to be anywhere close to being a food safety impact," said Delvan Neville, a radiation health physicist at Oregon State, who's testing the fish. Furthermore, most of the fish harvested in Alaska's waters do not travel anywhere near Fukushima and typically spend most of their lives in the Gulf of Alaska. Studies have been conducted by numerous organizations including the Food and Drug Administration and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and they have all reached the same conclusion: consumption

of Pacific seafood poses no threat to human health. The Alaska Seafood marketing institute is confident that Alaska seafood is 100 percent safe and most people would be healthier with a diet that includes more Alaska seafood rather than less. So with Copper River salmon season nearly upon us, time to empty out those freezers, ready your vacuum sealer, and clean up your jars for this year's catch!

MEET THE COLORFUL BIRDS OF KENNY LAKE

Behind the willows that encircle and conceal Kenny Lake, a brightly colored throng of birds cruises, dips, and dives. For many of them, this is a fueling stop on the way north from Cordova and beyond, but some stay to nest and raise their young. Most people drive past, unaware. Copper Country Alliance invites you to stop and get acquainted with the ducks, grebes, and shorebirds. Kenny Lake is famous among birdwatchers for birds rare to Alaska, such as the Ruddy Duck, Eared Grebe, and Sora. Binoculars, telescopes, and bird guides will be provided for sharing among those who don't have their own. The date—probably in late May—will depend upon the whims of breakup and the birds' arrival. *Please look for an announcement in the Copper River Record and on KCAM and KCHU. Prepare to be amazed!*

WETLANDSLIVE RECEIVES BLUE WING TEAL AWARD

Over the course of the 2012-2013 school year, WetlandsLIVE, an educational program led by the Chugach National Forest's Cordova Ranger District, encouraged outdoor learning and wetlands stewardship through free webcasts in English and Spanish. In March 2014, WetlandsLIVE received the North American Waterfowl Management Plan's prestigious Blue Wing Teal award in acknowledgement of the program's use as a powerful educational tool for wetlands conservation on an international level. This award recognizes partners whose activities result in substantial benefits to waterfowl, other wetland-associated migratory birds, or wetland habitats.

The planning and production for WetlandsLIVE was an international collaboration of natural resource-based organizations and federal agencies, including the Copper River Watershed Project and the Cordova Ranger District. In the Cordova installment of WetlandsLIVE, CRWP's Program Director Kate Morse can be seen teaching the 5th grade students of Mt. Eccles Elementary School about the importance of wetlands and their restoration through hands-on projects, a meaningful message for viewers around the world. *All programs remain archived on the WetlandsLIVE website at <http://wetlandslive.pwnet.org> for continued use in wetlands education.*



NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #8
CORDOVA, AK 99574

P.O. BOX 1560, CORDOVA, ALASKA 99574
tel 907.424.3334 email INFO@COPPERRIVER.ORG
web COPPERRIVER.ORG

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**COPPER RIVER
WATERSHED PROJECT**

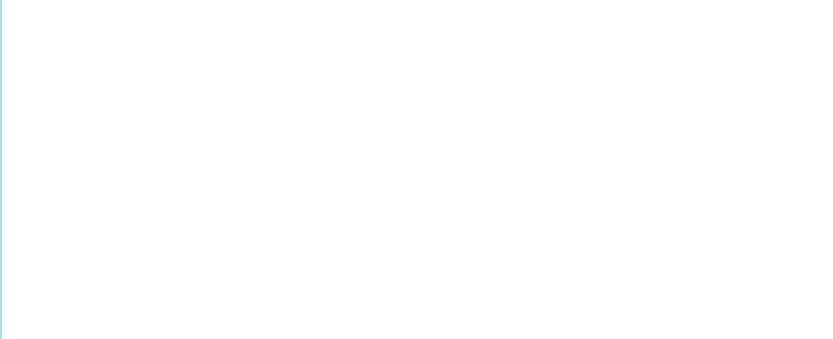


Newsletter SPRING 2014

- *****
inside

- * Toxic break-up
 - * Board of Fisheries 101
 - * 2013 annual report
 - * A student's perspective
 - * Unrestricted funding update
- *****

TO



WHY I SUPPORT CRWP



**BILL &
CONNIE JONES**
NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

"People go to the wilderness for the good of their souls."
—SIGURD OLSON

"The richest values of wilderness lie not in the days of Daniel Boone, nor even in the present, but rather in the future."—ALDO LEOPOLD

Anyone who has a passion for the wilderness will tell you that their soul is healthier from their wilderness experiences. But to be effective, passion needs to be translated into action. We have a passion for the Copper River wilderness...and we believe we are doing something good for our souls—and for the souls of future generations—by supporting CRWP's work to protect and conserve the River, and the communities, economies and cultures associated with it.

SUPPORTING CRWP NEVER TASTED SO DELICIOUS!

By mid-May Copper River salmon will be hitting the market. Visit our website at <http://www.copperriver.org/buy-fish> to order fresh (or frozen) king, sockeye, and coho salmon and other seafood products as soon as they are available!

Our friends at Prime Select Seafoods, Inc. buy from local family-owned fishing operations and work hard to deliver a quality product right to your door. By ordering Prime Select fish through our website, a percentage of your purchase goes to CRWP to support fish habitat restoration, monitoring, and educational programs throughout the watershed. So do your part to save wild salmon and their habitat today: purchase fish through us and enjoy at your next meal!

