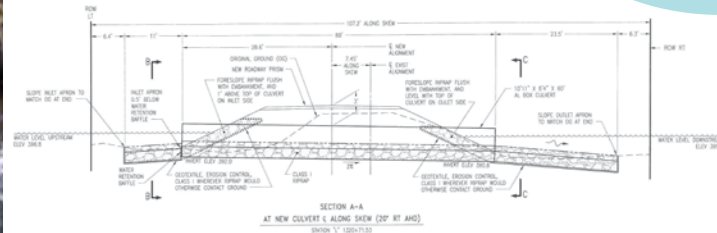


# COPPER RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT



## PROGRAM UPDATE

### CHOKOSNA POND: PARTNERS, PLANNING, & POND RETENTION

BY KRISTIN CARPENTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*October, 2012 saw the completion of another culvert project, at Chokosna Pond on the McCarthy Road, that the Copper River Watershed Project started working on 2010. This story began with an e-mail I received from our program contact at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The forwarded message contained the photo above left and the comment that "It's my understanding that if only one culvert on that road could be replaced, this would be a priority."*

The McCarthy Road threads its way into our largest national Park, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve, between the base of the Wrangell Mountains and the Chitina River, winding through low-lying pond and wetland complexes until it reaches the Kennicott River, at the tongue of the Kennicott and Root Glaciers. In many places, the road functions like a dike, altering drainage and blocking fish passage. Of all the roads in the Copper River drainage, this one in particular passes through the most valuable fish habitat waters because of the diversity and abundance of fish in the Chitina River sub-basin streams and ponds.

We're always on the lookout for good projects to submit to grant programs, so when I received this message I made some calls to our network – hydrologists and planners from the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT/PF), a regional fish biologist for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game and another at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, a residential property owner along the road, the State's Fish Passage Inventory Database manager, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife program manager. All agreed to participate in an initial conference call. I needed to have enough detail to be able to put together a funding proposal, and to represent in our application that the proposed solution was agreeable to all parties involved.

I have to report that the CRWP was not successful in this particular grant application effort. That could have been the end of the story. But because we had facilitated the initial teleconference, and two more after that plus setting up a listserv for all the partners involved, the culvert design decisions were made early enough to be incorporated into work that the ADOT/PF was doing to upgrade the McCarthy Road.

In this case, the most challenging part of the design task was embedding a culvert at the stream grade to enable fish passage but keeping the pond from draining out, as it supports waterfowl as well as fish. During our planning calls with partners, the fish biologists from the permitting agencies and the Park had registered their preferences for how the culvert should function.

*continued on page 2*

## CRWP MISSION

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

*continued on page 1*

They wanted the old, perched culvert to be replaced with a bigger pipe, to enable fish passage at all flow level and to create a backwater to retain the pond. A water retention baffle was added to the design at the inlet end of the new culvert. When ADOT/PF submitted its permit applications, then, there were no surprises or modifications needed to the engineer's drawings.

The CRWP will keep building on its relationships with these partners to tackle culverts throughout the watershed, including McCarthy Road and the Copper River highway. Visit our online, updated Culvert Mapper tool that assists in these planning efforts by identifying high priority culverts for replacement: [http://www.crks.org/CRWP\\_CulvertMapper/](http://www.crks.org/CRWP_CulvertMapper/).

## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends of the Copper River,

I'm on the ferry to Cordova, riding the swells back across Prince William Sound. We just had our annual board retreat this past weekend. Getting our board members together face to face, seated around one table, happens only once a year, and is a bit of a road trip. It means half of our group taking the ferry and driving several hours to the upper basin of our watershed, or the reverse for traveling to Cordova. Often when we do this, several of our board members are meeting each other in person for the first time, or visiting the other part of our watershed for the first time.

The Copper River watershed's span, one of its greatest features, might also be the greatest challenge in our work. It's difficult to forge relationships with partners who are located several hundred miles away and not connected by a road system.

But as one of our donors observed in a conversation with board members, "Political boundaries don't acknowledge the geographic realities in our state." And this trip, for which we traveled the long way around from one end of our drainage to the other, is a metaphor for the work we do: joining with partners throughout the region to deal with the geographic realities of our watershed, and encourage decision-making that treats the Copper River and its tributaries as one system, one watershed.

I always come back from these meetings rejuvenated, recharged about our mission, because of the time spent working with our board members. These volunteers have spent their weekend talking about their passion for the Copper River and how we can be a stronger voice for community growth that takes fish habitat into account. Thank you for the support that keeps us all going.

And now I need to stop writing, to keep from getting seasick. Hope you're enjoying a glorious spring,

*Kristin Carpenter*

CRWP BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF AT OUR FEBRUARY RETREAT IN GLENNALLEN, AK



### CRWP STAFF

Kristin Carpenter, *Executive Director*  
Kate Morse, *Program and Membership Coordinator*  
Roger Johnson, *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*  
Joel Azure, *Cordova*

Denny Patnode, *Gakona*  
Audubon Bakewell IV, *Paxson*  
Mike McQueen, *Copper Center*  
Maria Wessel, *Cordova*

# CLASSROOM CURRENTS

## GROWING STEWARDSHIP

BY KATE MORSE, PROGRAM DIRECTOR

*“When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect.” Aldo Leopold*

Aldo Leopold’s words from A Sand County Almanac have helped to inspire the direction of CRWP’s education programs that take students outside and involve them in hands-on learning and restoration right out their backdoor. To continue this tradition, CRWP is working with local school districts, parents, and community partners to develop hands-on gardening opportunities for students throughout the watershed.

In Cordova, seeds have literally been planted in K-12 classrooms. At the elementary school, vegetable and herb seed cups line classroom windowsills as students anxiously wait for their seeds to sprout. Successful sprouts will be transplanted in the springtime into a garden bed outside the District Office, sold to parents and other community members, and each student will be able to take a plant home at the conclusion of the school year.

The working group of parents, school staff, and community partners also hope to do a trial run for composting food waste from school meals in hopes of generating compost for the school garden project as well as for selling to the community for sustaining the project. The ultimate goal is to

establish a greenhouse and raised beds to be used throughout the school year by students of all ages.

At the high school, the seed cups lining the windowsill are filled with native plant seeds. Students in the 10th grade class are working with the CRWP and City of Cordova to establish a native plant garden on the banks of Odiak Pond, a habitat these students became intimately familiar with during their 7th grade science class. *(In fact, this is the group of students who successfully nominated Odiak Pond into the State of Alaska’s Anadromous Waters Catalog in 2010).*

Working with the Alaska Plant Materials Center south of Palmer, students have started seedlings in their classroom for transplanting to the garden. Each student has also selected a specific plant for studying and will create educational materials about his or her plant’s life history and traditional uses as a class project. This information will be distributed at the CRWP office and displayed at the garden site.

Planning meetings with Copper River School District have been initiated in hopes of leveraging the experiences and resources from the downriver efforts to establish similar learning opportunities for upriver students, with CRWP helping to bridge the programs. We sincerely appreciate your membership support that has helped to get these programs growing.



CORDOVA 10TH GRADERS WORK WITH U.S.D.A. FOREST SERVICE BIOLOGISTS TO IDENTIFY THE TYPES OF PLANTS GROWING AROUND ODIAK POND.



*Please contact Kate if you are interested in getting involved or contributing to these efforts through in-kind, equipment, or monetary donations!*



# HIGH PRIORITY SPECIES WATCH LIST

## CORDOVA AREA

### KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR INVADERS!

BY KATE MORSE



#### REED CANARYGRASS

*Phalaris arundinacea*

Forms dense, persistent monocultures in wetlands and in disturbed areas. Dense stands can promote silt deposition and constrict waterways, and may even alter soil hydrology.

PHOTO: JAMIE NIELSEN,  
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS,  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE



#### ORANGE HAWKWEED

*Hieracium aurantiacum*

Spreads by seed, rhizomes and horizontal runners and establishes dense monocultures, lowering biodiversity and outcompeting native species. Gardeners often introduce it to an area because they are attracted to its colorful flower. Spreads effectively along roads, riparian areas and beaches.

PHOTO: MICHAEL SHEPHARD, USDA FOREST SERVICE

*They ride on boats, ATVs, cars and trucks. You can find them on your feet, your produce and veggies, and in your plant seeds and dirt! They are invasive plants, and they are likely located in a yard or along a stream or trail near you.*

As defined by the National Invasive Species Information Center, an invasive species is a species that is “non-native (or alien) to the ecosystem under consideration and whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.” Invasive species are capable of causing extinctions of native plants, reducing biodiversity, and can alter habitat, resulting in economic and ecosystem impacts that are expensive to address.

Invasive plants alter the landscape by creating a monoculture, with one dominant plant growing in a large area rather than a diverse range of grasses, wildflowers and shrubs important for birds, bugs, and other wildlife. They can even establish in areas where other plants have not yet taken root, like in stream channels and gravel bars. They can affect the flow of

water through the ecosystem and can send migrating fish off course and reduce available spawning habitat.

People are the means for how they get here, by traveling from one location to another and unintentionally bringing along seeds on our vehicles, boats, waders or boots. Wind, birds, other animals can also disperse invasive seeds, so it is difficult to keep invasive plants contained within a flowerbed or garden. Because of the role humans play in spreading invasive plants, we are also responsible for their eradication, and for protecting our natural ecosystems from the effects of invasive species.

In order to protect the Copper River watershed, CRWP has helped establish invasive plant programs both up and downriver. By partnering with public land managers, tribal organizations and other private landowners, a cooperative system has been developed for addressing invasive plants across land boundaries and throughout river drainages.

Cooperative Weed Management Areas have been developed for Cordova and the Copper Basin, and CRWP oversees the coordinator position for each program.

## COPPER BASIN



**WHITE SWEETCLOVER**  
*Melilotus alba*

Forms dense stands, overshadows lower growing plants, and changes soil chemistry to make it inhospitable to native plants. It contains coumarin that is toxic to animals, and has the potential to alter sedimentation rates of river systems due to its ability to colonize on gravel bars, especially in glacial systems.

PHOTO: ROB ROUTLEDGE, SAULT COLLEGE



**BIRD VETCH**  
*Vicia cracca*

Reproduces by seed and vegetatively by underground rhizomes, making it a very aggressive weed. It climbs fencing, trees, bushes and other vegetation, outcompeting its host for sunlight, space and moisture. Spreads along roads, trails and other disturbed areas.

PHOTO: BONNIE MILLION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## WATERSHED-WIDE



**ELODEA**  
*Elodea sp.*

Elodea can form dense mats, displace native plants, decrease productivity in plankton and lower biodiversity. Elodea has recently been identified as a state-wide priority and has been found in Eyak Lake in Cordova. Eyak Lake is used frequently for floatplane docking and take-off and poses a significant threat as a point of distribution for Elodea to more remote, pristine lakes and aquatic systems on the Copper River Delta, in the Copper Basin, and in Prince William Sound.

PHOTO: ROBERT VID

This collaborative approach allows for the sharing of resources and expertise and helps develop a strategic approach for invasive plant management beyond traditional boundaries. Not only does this increase the effectiveness of the eradication efforts for removing invasive species, but it is also a more efficient use of agency and organization resources.

*Please report any infestations to your local coordinator — in the Cordova area, Roger Johnson (424-3334) and Don Hofstetter (259-5059) in the Copper Basin. For other areas, contact your local Soil & Water Conservation District and/or Extension Service to find out the contact near you.*

### Sources

AK Exotic Plant Information Clearinghouse:  
<http://aknhp.uaa.alaska.edu/botany/akepic>  
*Selected Invasive Plants of Alaska*, 2004, United States Forest Service

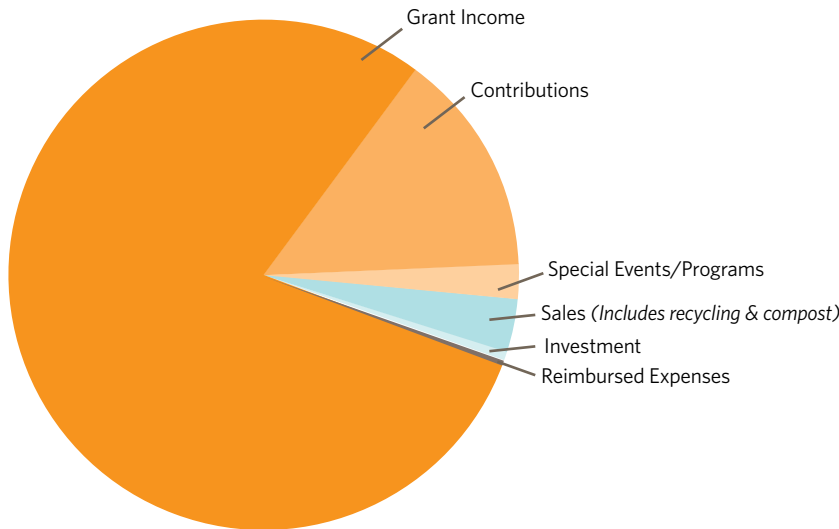
Copies available at CRWP office, or by contacting us at 424-3334, [kate@copperriver.org](mailto:kate@copperriver.org)

## WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

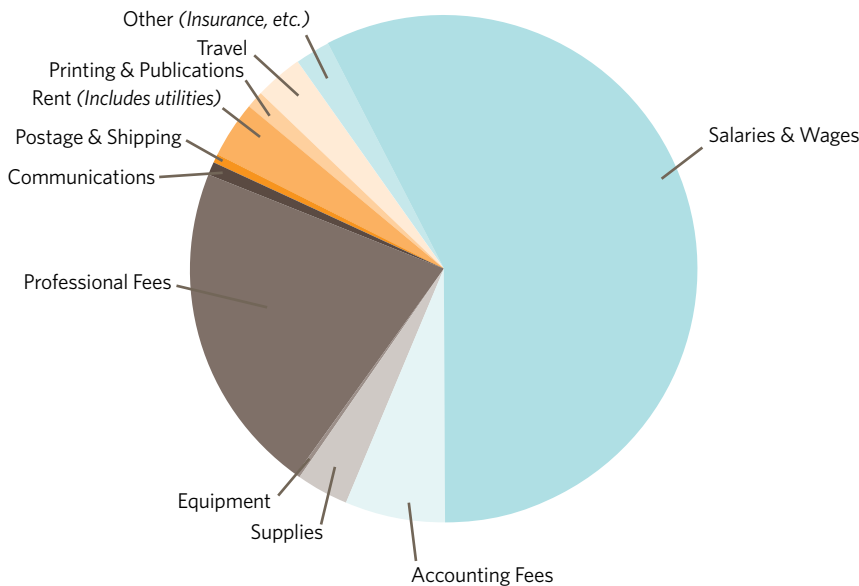
- \* **Clean the bottom of boots, trailers, boats, ATVs, etc. before moving from one trail/lake/stream to another.** When possible rinse at the site before departing, or in a driveway or an area that can be easily monitored for new infestations—it is very difficult to kill seeds. *Note: Felt-soled waders are illegal—do not wear them!*
- \* **Clean hitchhiking seeds from your dog,** preferably before leaving the site.
- \* **Buy certified weed free gravel, topsoil, seeds, hay, etc.** When using packhorses in the backcountry, use pellet food when possible.
- \* **Verify that plants you are buying for your garden or yard are not invasive.** Due to the ability of plants to disperse via wind, rain, animals, etc., it is not possible to contain invasive plants to your garden—it is better not to plant them to begin with! See the Alaska Cooperative Extension Service Invasive Garden Plants publication for verification or contact the Cooperative Extension in your state.
- \* **Avoid areas where invasive species are prevalent,** especially when they have gone to seed.
- \* **Do not release aquarium fish and plants, live bait or other exotic animals into the wild.**
- \* **Volunteer to help** remove invasive species and help educate others about the threat. Contact CRWP to learn more about how to help in your neighborhood!

# 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

## REVENUES: \$358,523



## EXPENSES: \$368,463



## STATEMENT OF REVENUES & EXPENSES

### REVENUES

Grant Income	\$285,750
Contributions	\$50,418
Special Events	\$7,465
Sales (Includes recycling & compost)	\$12,399
Investment	\$1,923
Reimbursed Expenses	\$568

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$358,523</b>
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### EXPENSES

Salaries & Wages	\$212,386
Accounting Fees	\$23,288
Supplies	\$13,017
Equipment	\$508
Professional Fees	\$77,672
Communications	\$3,550
Postage & Shipping	\$1,900
Rent (Includes utilities)	\$13,487
Printing & Publications	\$4,103
Travel	\$11,139
Other (Insurance, etc.)	\$7,413

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$368,463</b>
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Note: we covered our 2012 deficit with carry-over funds from 2011.

### 2012 FUNDING SOURCES:

Alaska Conservation Foundation  
 Alaska Geographic  
 Alaska Humanities Forum  
 National Association of Counties  
 National Fish & Wildlife Foundation  
 Native Village of Eyak/CARE  
 Newman's Own Foundation  
 NOAA/Trout Unlimited  
 North Pacific Research Board  
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 U.S.D.A. Forest Service



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

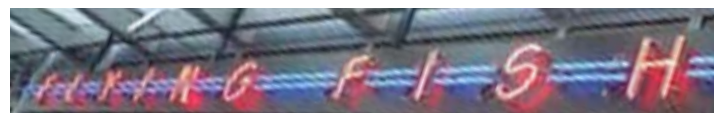
I live in Cordova, part of the Copper River watershed. Like many in Cordova, in January, 2012 I gave my home special attention to keep the snow from accumulating to dangerous levels on the roof. I was on the roof shoveling snow in order to protect the integrity of my home. Taking care of a house (or apartment or boat or 4-wheeler) is a constant project, from keeping it clean and pleasant to general maintenance, repairing things that break, and keeping an eye on it to prevent damage. Sometimes it requires a lot of hard physical work and attention and sometimes it just needs observation and good judgment.

In a sense, the Copper River watershed is my larger home. It is where I live, hike, ski, boat and fish. Just like my house, the watershed requires clean up, maintenance, protection, observation and thoughtful

consideration. That's the mission of the Copper River Watershed Project. It uses reliable information to carefully and competently make decisions that maintain, restore and protect the watershed. It also provides people and organizations with sound information so they too can make thoughtful, informed decisions that effect the watershed.

I became a board member so I could learn more about what is going on in my watershed home and so I could help the Copper River Watershed Project continue to take care of that home. Just as I was on my house roof shoveling snow in order to take care of my house, I am on the CRWP board to help take care of my watershed.

Molly Mulvaney  
Board President



*Starting at our 2012 board retreat, we drafted and then completed a three year strategic plan for 2012 - 2015. The full report is available at our web site under About Us. Here we are sharing the summary version.*

### MISSION

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

### VISION

Making collaborative and informed decisions for a thriving watershed system.

### VALUES

- Community voices + partners
- Source of reliable, accurate information
- Watershed education for all audiences
- Maintain watershed health (*cultures, communities, economies, ecology, salmon, game*)
- Responsible resource use (*game, fish, berries, firewood, mining, recreation*)
- Collaborative projects with on-the-ground results

### GOAL 1: *Increase public awareness and stewardship of watershed health*

CRWP objectives for this goal include broadening our base of supporters along the pipeline corridor for TAPS citizen oversight, and build organizational support among new audiences. To do these things, we'll expand our education programs, build on our role as a TAPS education/campaign leader, continue work on Traveling by Story oral histories, and continue to facilitate the Copper River WILD! Salmon Festival.

### GOAL 2: *Become the primary facilitator and information source for watershed-related issues.*

Our strategy for becoming a clearinghouse for information on the watershed and salmon management will focus on developing a social media package, and on addressing data gaps in salmon habitat through Salmon Blitz, a volunteer-driven effort to record undocumented salmon habitat.

### GOAL 3: *Perpetuate the physical health of the watershed.*

Restoring fish passage and fish habitat is one of our core objectives. We continue to focus on addressing "hot spots" for habitat restoration and access to habitat, work on controlling and eradicating invasive weeds, and are initiating work on establishing a wetlands mitigation bank.

### GOAL 4: *Increase organizational capacity, visibility and credibility.*

We want to enhance our membership and major donor programs with more frequent and improved contacts. We also want to do a better job of celebrating our successes, and we will work more methodically on evaluating our programs and board and staff performance.



## 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

*Our 2012 highlights are a mix of organizational capacity building and program achievements:*

CRWP board members and staff completed a **2012 – 2015 Strategic Plan** (excerpt on preceding page).



To add to our culvert database, CRWP completed **surveys on 17 McCarthy Road culverts** in upriver basin. With Ecotrust assistance, we also refined our on-line culvert mapper tool so that culverts are searchable by road name and milepost (see [www.crks.org/CRWP\\_CulvertMapper/](http://www.crks.org/CRWP_CulvertMapper/)).



We continue to work on ways to reduce stormwater pollution in Cordova. As part of a comprehensive approach to Odiak Pond habitat restoration, we completed an **Odiak Pond Stormwater Assessment**, identifying ten possible sites for mitigating stormwater pollution draining to Odiak Pond in Cordova. Kate Morse and volunteers gathered materials for planting a native seed garden, which will be used to cultivate native plants and seeds for restoration work around Cordova.



As many members have heard (because their contributions may not have appeared where they should have), we worked on a **membership database transition to WaterGrass** (using Salesforce platform, donated for non-profit use). Now we have a foundation for integrating e-mail, on-line donations, volunteer sign-ups, and on-line purchases into one system.



Invasive weeds: **covered 12,000 square feet of reed canary grass** with tarps along Copper River Highway; took inventory of white sweetclover infestations along Richardson and Glenn Highways in Copper Basin, drafted Cooperative Weed Management Plan for Copper Basin.



In an effort to contribute to cultural preservation and enhance Copper Basin tourism resources, we worked with partners to document stories of the watershed in a project we call **Traveling by Story**. Contract creative writer Wendy Erd held three talking circles, collected four new oral history interviews, and our 2012 summer intern Pippa Stanley produced one sample audio collage. Listen to the Kenny Lake audio collage at <http://copperriver.org/watershed-tour/podcasts/kenny-lake-audio-collage-draft/view>.



With the generous support of Chef Christine Keff, we celebrated the Copper River and Copper River salmon with supporters at the **Flying Fish Restaurant** in Seattle, Washington. Look for details on this year's Salmon Enchanted Evening at the Flying Fish restaurant to be announced, and if you'd like to help plan a house party, please contact us! (kristin or kate @copperriver.org)



Kate met monthly during the school year with 100 school-aged students from up- and down-river communities in **outdoor, hands-on watershed education programs**, including a special Cordova-based adventure for Kenny Lake and Cordova 2-3rd graders. Cordova 5th graders **released 150 coho fry into the wild** after hatching and raising them in a tank in their classroom.



CRWP partner Ken Hodges of the Chugach National Forest/Cordova Ranger District **guided restoration of coho spawning habitat** on the Copper River delta. At mile 25 on the Copper River Highway, the CRWP crew of Ralph Bullis and Stanley Francois-Aime removed silt from a stream channel and used rock to form pools for spawning by coho in about 600 feet of stream channel.

# RIDGELINES: AROUND THE WATERSHED

## EXECUTIVE TRANSITION AT WRANGELL INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT (WISE)

WISE was sad to accept the resignation of Executive Director Bruce James in December 2012. Bruce is unable to continue his duties due to complications from cancer treatment. Bruce was with WISE for three years and made great strides in growing the organization, increasing programs, and developing strong partner relationships. He is loved by youth and adults alike as he gave of his heart, knowledge and humor while teaching and organizing programs. In 2012 he received two awards, one from the National Park Service and one from the Copper Valley Development Association for his community service. He will be missed in this capacity by all.

In January, 2013 WISE welcomed Robin Underwood as the new Executive Director. She has great organization and business skills, as well as experience working with non-profits and other partners. She has jumped right in and kept things running smoothly. Please help us in welcoming her aboard.

*The CRWP thanks Bruce for the energy and time he has dedicated to fostering stewardship in future generations of watershed residents. We will certainly miss working with you, but look forward to continuing to grow our partner programs with Robin and WISE.*

## GENETICALLY MODIFIED SALMON BEING CONSIDERED FOR FDA APPROVAL

As reported by the Organic Consumers Association, AquaBounty Technologies created the "AquAdvantage" salmon by injecting a fragment of DNA from an ocean pout fish, a type of eel, along with a growth hormone gene from the Chinook Pacific salmon, into a fertilised Atlantic salmon egg. This genetically engineered (GE) fish can reach market weight in just 18 months, instead of the usual three years. The FDA is

expected to approve the GE salmon after a 60-day public comment period. If approved, it will be the first approved food from a transgenic animal application to enter the U.S. food supply. Michael Hansen, PhD, senior scientist with the Consumers Union, called the FDA's Environmental Assessment of GE salmon "flawed and inadequate." Because AquaBounty proposes to sell the GE Chinook eggs to companies operating in Canada and Panama "for production and grow-out", the FDA stated that "effects on the local environments of Canada and Panama have not been considered and evaluated in this Environmental Assessment". Without genetically modified organism labeling, consumers will not be able to avoid " Frankenfish" when it arrives in grocery stores and fish markets. [Comments to the FDA are due by April 26, 2013: see \[www.fda.gov\]\(http://www.fda.gov\) and search for Genetically Engineered Salmon. See \[organicconsumers.org\]\(http://organicconsumers.org\) for more detail.](#)

## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR WRANGELL MOUNTAINS CENTER SUMMER PROGRAMS

Registration is open for an exciting line up of Wrangell Mountains Center programs. The 2013 season features new and recurring residential and day programs for all ages, including its 31st annual Wildlands Studies college program (scholarship available), a fantastic new Ecology of Migratory Birds program in Nabesna with Carol McIntyre, a family music camp with Mary Schallert, a songwriting workshop with Michelle McAfee, an introduction to Lichen Identification field course, Kristin Link's field sketching and natural history journaling workshop, a plein air painting workshop with Linda Lyons, a rafting-based writing workshop with Sherry Simpson and Derek Burlison, and more. Renovations continue at the newly acquired buildings on the expanded WMC McCarthy campus. [Learn more about the WMC's programs and register at \[www.wrangells.org\]\(http://www.wrangells.org\).](#)

## TURNING PLASTIC INTO OIL

Imagine a world in which plastic waste could be converted into a valuable, precious resource: fuel! The Native Village of Gakona is doing just that. During 2012, the Village expanded its recycling program to include converting plastic recyclables into usable oil. An EPA grant facilitated by the Zender Environmental Group enabled the Village to purchase a Be-H Plastic-to-Oil machine (demonstration model) from the Japanese company Blest. Discarded plastic waste such as forks, bags, bottle caps, lids, Styrofoam, and plastic numbers 2, 4, 5 and 6 are collected through village recycling efforts and converted into gasoline, diesel, kerosene and heating oil. The total capacity of the table top-sized machine is small, and the Native Village of Gakona hopes to purchase a larger machine that converts roughly 450 pounds of plastic into 50 gallons of oil each day. By using this unwanted plastic, landfills will have a longer life expectancy. [Contact: Erin Emmons, Gakona Village Environmental Technician, for more information or a demonstration, \[gakonaepa@gmail.com\]\(mailto:gakonaepa@gmail.com\) or \(907\)822-5777.](#)

## SCHOOL OF THE EARTH RETREAT IN KENNY LAKE, AK

School of the Earth is a weeklong retreat in which participants explore Copper River Country while investigating their own individual contributions to solving the problems that challenge human success on Planet Earth. The program will take place this summer, July 22 - 28, at Wellwood Center Nature Preserve in Kenny Lake. School of the Earth is sponsored by Wellwood Conservancy, a nonprofit corporation dedicated to education, conservation, and effective management of the nature preserve. [To find out more and see if you might like to attend, go to \[SchoolOfTheEarth.org\]\(http://SchoolOfTheEarth.org\), or send an email to \[info@sotearth.org\]\(mailto:info@sotearth.org\).](#)

# THANK YOU, MEMBERS

## ANCESTORS' LEGACY, \$1000+

Bill & Marion Alexander  
Tom Hall & Elizabeth  
McLoughlin  
Bob Hallam  
Connie & Bill Jones  
Riki Ott  
Anonymous  
Charles Wilson

## WATERSHED STEWARDS, \$500

Carroll Barclay  
Phil Blumstein & Rich Ervin  
Allison & Chris Bovard  
Danny & Kristin Carpenter  
Gail & Peter Cinelli  
Arthur J. Donald Family  
Foundation  
Bert Lewis & River Gates  
Deirdre Henderson  
Karen Hyer & Ken Carlson  
Diane & Gregory Morgan  
Katherine & James Nelson  
Mimi & Steve Rothchild  
Kimberly Snyder

## TRIBUTARIES, \$250

Copper River Seafoods  
Wrangell Mountain Air  
Agnew-Beck  
Kory & Jeannie Blake  
Peter & Robin Blake  
Tim Brabets  
Dino Ciabattoni  
Bob & Susan Clausen  
Stuart Elsberg  
Mary Hall  
David Hartley & Helen  
Weagraff  
Diane & Kent Herschleb  
Ken Hodges  
Marie & Charles Hoffman  
Black Rapids Lodge  
Gretchen Hull  
Dan Hull & Nancy Pease  
Wells Fargo Glennallen  
Branch  
Peter & Tanya Johnson  
Jeff Johnson & Lisi Ott  
Cordova Telephone  
Cooperative  
Bayside Storage  
Cathy & Fred Keuthen  
Prime Select Seafoods, Inc.  
KLAM/KCDV  
Jack & Lynn Loacker  
Cordova Wireless  
Communications  
Eric Manzer & Molly  
Mulvaney  
Bill & Kim McAuliffe  
Copper Moose B&B  
Rebecca Nourse  
Kate & Reid Smith  
Alaskan Real Estate  
Terry & Ann Talcott  
Cherri Thomas  
Harborside Pizza

## WRANGELL PEAKS CIRCLE \$100

Rob Alexander & Chip Brown  
Rich & Shannon Alloway

Leo Americus  
Kate & Alex Arduser  
Jeff Bailey & Helen Howarth  
Laura's Liquors  
Howard & Jean Baumann  
William Beattie & Evonette  
Aponte-Beattie  
Lou Beaudry  
Gil & Bobbie Beck  
April & Robert Beedle  
Bob & Joanie Behrends  
Robert Berceci  
Judy & Mark Berger  
Laurie Berger & John Jenkins  
Nancy & Mary Anne Bishop  
Bill Black  
Brittany Blain  
Toni & John Bocci  
Chris & John Booren  
Hanley Brite & Nancy  
Bancroft  
Sharon Brumbley  
Picnic Basket  
Carolyn Chaney  
Jim & Marilyn Chu  
Becky Clausen & Dirk Lang  
Ocean Beauty Seafoods  
Richard & Debbie Collins  
Xiomara & Steve Copeland  
Linda Crider  
Jonah Dart-Mclean  
Brent Davis  
Baja Taco  
G. Warren Elliott  
Peter & Nancy Fenner  
The Hub of Alaska  
Ruth Franklin  
Tony Gasbarro  
Alaska Marine Response LLC  
Michael Webber  
Janet & Donald Groschel  
Crowley Petroleum  
Distribution  
Karen & Josh Hallquist  
Denton & Tamara Hamby  
Kent & Lynda Hamby  
Darcy Harris  
Peter & Diana Hartwell  
Mark Heidbrink & Becca  
Dodge  
Phil Hess & Gwen Sensenig  
Cindy Hjort  
Kirk Hoessle & Gabrielle  
Markel  
Teresa & Jim Holley  
Dragonfly Design Images  
Betsy Howes-Bean &  
Charles Bean  
Copper Center Lodge  
Margaret Hunt  
Gary Jacobs  
Meg Jensen & Mike  
McQueen  
Jim & Patti Kallander  
Tom Killeen  
Seth Landau  
Bill & Renee Lindow  
Matt & Roni Luck  
Mike Mahoney  
Grigsby Markham  
Copper River Fleece  
LFS Marine Supplies  
Donna McBain Evans &  
Sam Evans  
Tom McGann and Sue Laird

Virginia & Jack Miller  
Debra Miller D.M.D.  
Kate & Andy Morse  
Kim & James Mykland  
Orca Book & Sound  
Company  
Eve & Oliver Osborn  
Alaska Glacial Mud  
Janat & Jack Parker  
Jeff Phillips  
Orca Adventure Lodge  
Bill Reid  
Kristen Richardson  
Mountain View Grocery,  
Gas & Liquor  
Lawrence Rinder  
Bruce & Kari Rogers  
Bill & Mary Earl Rogers  
Lee Rolfe & Tony Angell  
David Rosenthal  
Brian & Vera Rutzer  
Kathrine & Richard Santen  
Clair & Steffan Scribner  
Cathy & Dixon Sherman  
Wayne & Diann Smith  
Roy & Dede Srb  
Cece Stack & Britt Pedicord  
Bert Stammerjohan &  
Liz Senear  
Sandra & Rich Staples  
Jim Staszewski  
Jennifer Sutton &  
Todd Smith  
Karen & Paul Swartzbart  
Lisa & David Totemoff  
Mark Vail  
Gonzalo Villalon  
Philip & Joanne Von Blon  
Jennifer Wagner &  
Tim Seaver  
Seth Walker  
Eric & Janice Warga  
Leighty Foundation  
Jim & Barbara Webber  
William & Irene Webber  
Violet & Joe Whaley  
Bob & Dotty Widmann  
Elizabeth Wiggins  
NAPA/ Anchor Auto  
Marine Inc  
Copper Valley Telecom  
Forest Fusion

## RAVEN'S CLAN, \$50

Debra & Ken Adams  
Ellen Americus  
Jim Annicelli  
Torie Baker & Troy Tirrell  
Dave & Laura Beam  
Teresa & Andy Benson  
Paul Boos & Janelle Eklund  
Michele Buchhorn  
Lindsay Butters  
Rob Campbell  
Barbara Cellarius  
Kent Chandler  
Dan Clark & Erica Thompson  
William & Diane Cobb  
Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld  
Carolyn Comilang  
William Cone  
A Rogue's Garden  
Joe and Belen Cook  
Erin Cooper  
Margaret Cost  
Copper Valley Electric  
Association  
Julie de Boer & Robert Carr

Cliff Eames & Ruth McHenry  
Rob & Deb Eckley  
Micah Ess & Michelle Dockins  
Michael Ferraro  
Carole Fisher  
Crickets  
Kurt Goetzinger  
Lilly Goodman &  
Michael Allwright  
Chris & Leah Grey  
Cheri & John Grocott  
Vicki & Greg Hamm  
Kendra's Creations  
Laurie & Bruce Hauptli  
Jeff Hawley  
Ernest & Lois Hess  
Pete's Treats  
Alaska Marine Lines  
Marvin Holz  
Elizabeth & Martin Hubbe  
Phil & Audrey Huffman  
Deborah Jacob  
Auklet Charter Services  
Julie Jessen  
William Kenyon  
Katy Killory  
Vera Kinzer & Dan Sharp  
Alyssa Kleissler &  
Curtis Herschleb  
Rodger & Geraldine Koechling  
Clay & Lila Koplin  
Rebecca Kull  
Les & Joan Larson  
Cory & LeAnn Larson  
Liz & William Larzelere  
Barb Logan  
Eric Lutz & Cynthia Buchanan  
James McConville  
Molly McCormick  
Patty & Dennis McGuire  
Full Circle Farm  
Silver Fox Jewelry  
Johnny & Johana McMahan  
Pamela Moe  
Melinda & Chuck Moos  
First National Bank Alaska/  
Glennallen  
Justin & Tracey Nuzzi  
Linden O'Toole  
Denny Patnode & Jane Flygstad  
William Pearson  
Rich Pribyl  
Park's Place  
Gordie & Meg Reeves  
Jonathan Riehle &  
Angela Bohmann  
Alaska Seafood Sales, Inc.  
Al Rule and Jane Browning  
NAPA Auto Parts/Glennallen  
Christine Sager &  
Dan Bilderback  
Diana Schaney  
Beth & Rich Schluter  
Steve Schoonmaker  
Dawn Smallwood  
Allison & Doug Smith  
Carla & Mark Somerville  
John Stack & Barbara Solomon  
James Stratton  
Deborah Zary

## KINGFISHERS, \$25

Phillip Bounous  
Jerry Bowers  
Bruce & Karen Butters  
Charlette & Virgil Carroll  
John Cholish  
Jill & David Crowley  
Let's Talk About Beer  
Judy & John Day  
Rick Ballas & Sarah Ecolano  
Fred Finkelstein & Nora Paille  
Thomas Andersen &  
Rebecca Garland-Andersen

Dick & Kay Groff  
Kathy Halgren  
Shelley & Stan Held  
David & Judy Heller  
Chocolate Spoon Espresso  
Joan & Mike Jackson  
Deborah Jacob  
Roger Johnson  
Sue Kesti & Dan Logan  
Amy Knudsen  
Heath & Shelly Kocan  
Raquel & John Koch  
R.J. Kopchak & Barclay  
Jones-Kopchak  
Matt & Judith Lorenz  
Buck Meloy  
Terry & Carol Merritt  
Hunter & Jeri Merritt  
Cheryl Nice  
Jennifer Pickett  
Malcolm Poole  
Lynn & Carol Potter  
Frederic Reid  
Julie & Brad Reynolds  
Kitty & Jim Rogers  
Frances Samuelson  
Dick & Sue Shellhorn  
Barbara Sherman  
Dana & Anita Smyke  
Timeless Beauty Endless Health  
Doyle & Norma Traw  
Chris VanCleve  
Marv & Mazie Van den Broek  
Ken Van Gilder  
Jordan Watson  
Gay & David Wellman  
Jim & Maria Wessel

## SUBSISTENCE LIVING, \$10

Dave & Sarah Abbott  
Penny Ewan  
Colby Hawkinson  
Robert Henrichs  
Janet Hoppe  
Kara Johnson  
Joyce Levine  
David Little  
Arctic Lutz  
Jackie McMahan  
Aaron Minks  
Mitch & Gail Nowicki  
Klutina Quilter  
Michael Poole  
John Rodgers  
Erin Smith  
James Thorne  
Jennifer Vaughn  
Julie & Thumper Williamson  
Stephen Witsoe  
Lisa & Kyall Yoshimoto  
Rebecca Zandstra

*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

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COPPER RIVER



# Newsletter

## SPRING 2013

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inside  
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- \* Growing Stewardship in the region's young people
- \* Invasive plants
- \* 2012 annual report
- \* Submit your comments on Frankenfish!

TO



## WHY I SUPPORT CRWP



**BILL & IRENE WEBBER,**  
CORDOVA, ALASKA

*"I love the Copper River and the watershed because they have been my home and my livelihood. I started fishing the Copper River flats when I*

*was 8 with a 16' skiff and 50 fathoms of net. I've taught my kids to fish there too – how to watch the tides and currents, how they affect the swells. We've got to watch out for the river, no one else is going to do it for us. We've watched the work you've done on Eyak Lake from our house, and it's great to see some of the lake's spawning habitat being restored."*

## PLANNED GIVING: A GIFT TODAY FOR A FUTURE OF SALMON

*Seven out of ten Americans do not have an up-to-date will. **Are you one of them?***

Is it time to update your will? If it is, it's also a time to consider including bequests to organizations you value and want to see continue. Making a bequest can be as simple as designating your favorite charity as a beneficiary of an asset like a bank account, retirement savings, or a life insurance policy. A bequest is one of the best known ways to make a lasting gift. Designating transfer of a specific asset to a charity like the Copper River Watershed Project in your will makes it possible for you to make your wishes known today without relinquishing needed assets during your lifetime.

If you don't have an up to date will, special people in your life may not be provided for as you would like. In addition, the cost and time involved in dealing with your estate will increase significantly. Your contributions create a legacy for the special places in your life and your most cherished values.

*Please call or visit us for more information about charitable giving and tax planning options.*