



COPPER RIVER
WATERSHED PROJECT



Girl Scout Troop 148 took action to clean up a local spawning bed all because of your commitment to hands-on learning.

Hello CRWP MEMBER!

You'll notice we're shifting our approach to our mailed newsletter, we hope you like it! This change is motivated by several things, including the overwhelming headlines we see every day. Allow us to share some exciting, positive stories worth celebrating. Additionally, it can be hard to comprehend the change we can make as individuals. We are here to confirm that you are changing lives. Our watershed education programs, including salmon tanks, are the only CRWP programs that are 100% funded through individual gifts. We hope you feel the impact you are making by reading a few of the stories.

Your Gift Brought the Wonder of Salmon Science to Local Girl Scout Troop 148

Thanks to your generosity, something magical has happened in Cordova. Girl Scout Troop 148 took action to protect local salmon habitat!

Their journey began with the classroom salmon tank at Mt. Eccles Elementary, an experience made possible by your commitment to hands-on learning.

Inspired by their time caring for baby salmon in school, the Troop decided to give back. They organized a cleanup at a well-loved site near salmon spawning beds in Eyak Lake and installed a fire ring to help reduce human impact on the baby salmon.

Lianna, one of the Girl Scouts, said, "we got to see the whole lifecycle of a salmon. We saw big salmon that were spawning and salmon eggs, alevin, fry, and smolt. We were part of helping the salmon keep their habitat clean."

Your gift is not just funding a program—it's creating unforgettable experiences that connect kids to their environment in ways no textbook ever could.

"From the initial field trip where the Troop was introduced to a salmon habitat and the challenges the salmon are facing, to designing signs that will educate the public, the girls learned how they can affect change in the world and what steps go into that process", said Girl Scout troop leader, Malani Towle.

Because of you, more children are connecting to salmon through hands-on learning, taking what they learn, and making a positive difference in their community.

Thank you for making these moments possible. Your kind gifts are nurturing the next generation of environmental stewards, one salmon tank at a time.

FROM CRWP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Thank you for inspiring students to know they can make a difference!

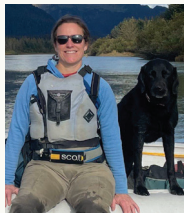
Because of you, students in the watershed get to play salmon babysitter—watching them hatch, grow, and wiggle their way through classroom life.

Students’ curiosity grows as they explore streams wearing chest waders you help provide. In high school, they join the Copper River Stewardship Program for hands-on fieldwork and many return as interns and technicians, helping to sustain the health of the Copper River watershed.

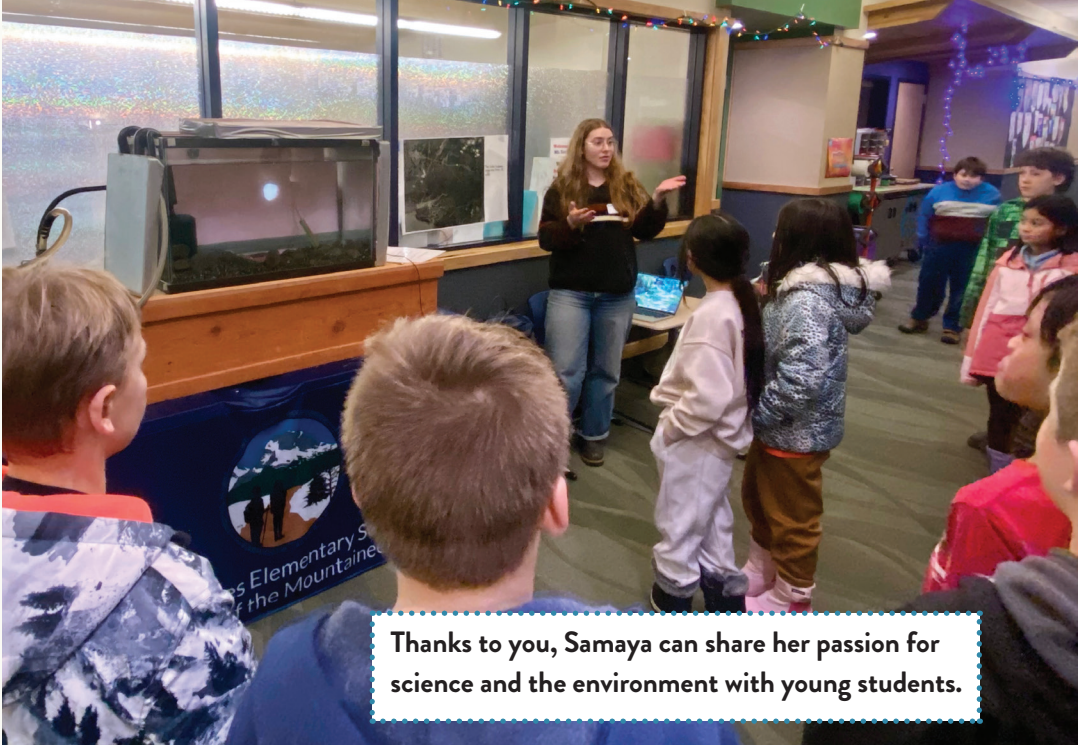
I hope you feel the same pride and hope for the future of the Copper River as you read these stories. It’s your support that keeps this beacon of light shining. Your generosity helps inspire the next generation, ensuring today’s youth become tomorrow’s leaders in protecting this vital watershed.

Thanks for your part in making the future better, one fry and one steward at a time.

With Gratitude,



Kate Morse
Kate Morse
Executive Director



Thanks to you, Samaya can share her passion for science and the environment with young students.

FROM STUDENT TO MENTOR, ONE SALMON AT A TIME

Thanks to generous support from donors like you, our salmon in the classroom program is inspiring students. Let me tell you about one of those students, Samaya Faber.

Samaya may be preparing for graduation, but she’ll never forget the lesson that began with a baby salmon in her hands years ago.

“I was from a fishing family, and the project really resonated with me. Before I understood the salmon life cycle, I tried to hatch eggs in a bucket—unsuccessfully, of course—but that’s when I realized my passion for science and the environment.”

Samaya watched the baby salmon develop, all because of your generosity. Years later, Samaya is now mentoring younger students, monitoring the tank at Mt. Eccles Elementary, ensuring the right water conditions and preparing the baby salmon for release into local waters.

From curious student to stewardship intern, Samaya’s journey is all possible because of donors like you. Your support keeps this program thriving for the next generation of watershed stewards.

WHEN A SALMON TANK FAILED, THE REAL LEARNING BEGAN—Thanks to You

“When do we get our salmon?” students eagerly ask on the first day of school.

Thanks to you, Salmon in the Classroom continues to inspire students year after year. “One of my students told me that the salmon tank is the one thing they really remember,” said Jennifer Hodges. “Hands-on learning like this sticks with them for life. We need more of that in this world.”

Because of your generous gift, Hodges partnered with the Copper River Watershed Project to bring one of the first salmon tanks to Kenny Lake School, launching a program that would do far more than teach students about fish.

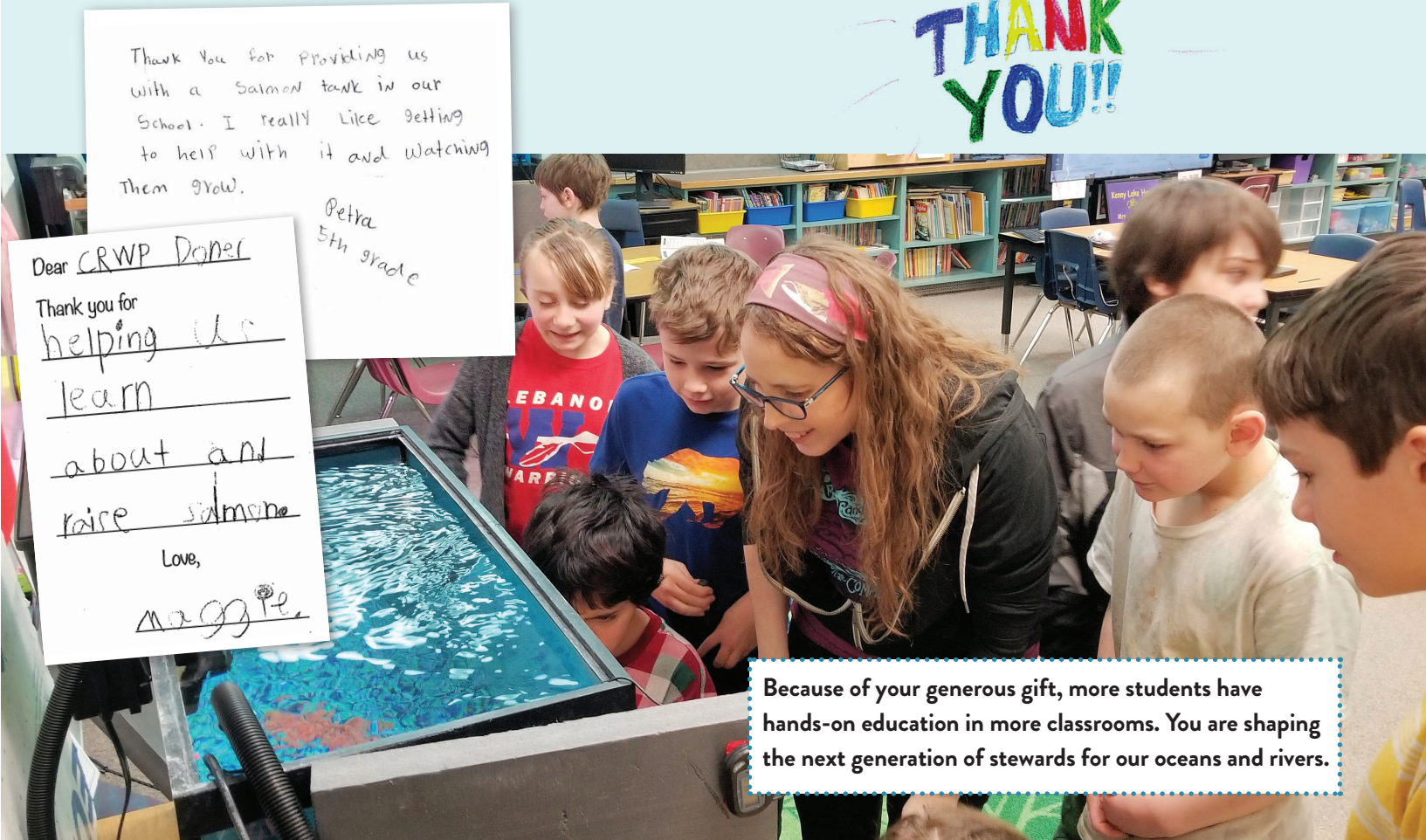
All thanks to you, what began as a simple science project quickly turned into an important lesson in responsibility, problem-solving, and caring for the environment.

Third graders step into the program like eager interns, mentored by fourth and fifth graders who have already mastered the care of the tank. Students feed the baby salmon, monitor water quality, and maintain the delicate temperature balance needed for salmon survival.

And one winter night, a power outage changed everything. The chiller failed, the water temperature got too hot, and by morning, the eggs were gone. Instead of giving up, the students used this moment to explore real-world challenges—climate change, habitat loss, and the delicate balance of nature.

“That year had the biggest impact,” Hodges shared. “It wasn’t just about what went wrong—it was about what we learned from it.”

Because of your generous gift, more students have hands-on education in more classrooms. You are shaping the next generation of stewards for our oceans and rivers.



Thank You for providing us with a Salmon tank in our School. I really like getting to help with it and watching them grow.

Petra
5th grade

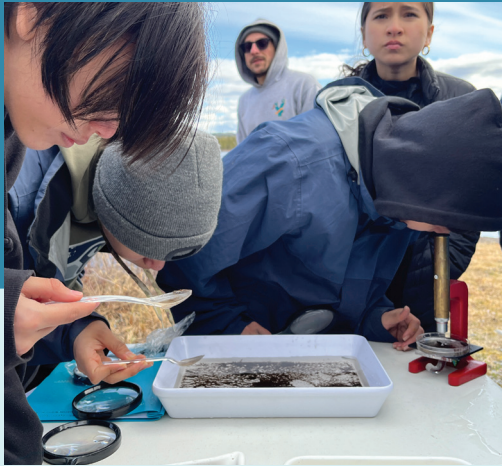
Dear CRWP Donor
Thank you for helping us learn about and raise salmon.
Love,
Maggie

THANK YOU!!

Because of your generous gift, more students have hands-on education in more classrooms. You are shaping the next generation of stewards for our oceans and rivers.

DON'T LET STUDENTS MISS OUT ON REAL-WORLD SCIENCE!

Shrinking state and federal funding, along with larger classes and fewer resources, is putting salmon science education at risk. You have the power to give students a hands-on learning and inspiring experience.



Will you make a gift today to help a child understand the role salmon play in our environment?

Salmon education starts in the classroom with salmon tanks. As a student continues through school, they can participate in field-based experiences designed to help them explore and connect to local waterways and potential careers in the region.

Your gift will bring a salmon education program to life for students, sparking curiosity and connection that will ripple far beyond the school day and into their futures - in a space that is currently underfunded and at risk of being cut.

By giving today, you will be part of inspiring the next generation of stewards, strengthening the bond between students and their environment, and ensuring that salmon education remains a cornerstone of our watershed's future.

While you have our newsletter in your hand, will you please make a gift to bring salmon education into the classroom and support all the work the Copper River Watershed Project is doing?

SALMON SCIENCE VOUCHER

☒ **YES!** Please use my gift to provide a hands-on learning experience bringing salmon science into the classroom. My gift will also support the other wonderful programs at the Copper River Watershed Project.

Please use my gift of:

- ☐ \$25 to help purchase minnow traps for field-based trips.
- ☐ \$50 to help purchase a rain jacket for a student.
- ☐ \$100 to help purchase a pair of rain bibs for a student.
- ☐ I'd like to send my own amount of \$_____ to provide a hands-on learning experience bringing salmon science into the classroom.



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