



Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council  
General Restoration, Habitat Enhancement, Habitat Protection, and Facilities Projects  
Quarterly Project Reporting Form

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*\*Detailed instructions for each section below are given in Section II. Quarterly Project Reports in the Reporting Policy on the website, <https://evostc.state.ak.us/policies-procedures/reporting-procedures/>*

**Project Number:** 23220610

**Project Title:** Kenai Peninsula Stream Watch

**Principal Investigator(s):** Brandon Drzazgowski (Stream Watch Coordinator at The Kenai Watershed Forum)

**Reporting Periods and Due Dates:**

<i>Reporting Period</i>	<i>Due Date</i>
February, March, April	June 1
May, June, July	September 1
August, September, October	December 1
November, December, January	March 1

**Submission Date:** June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

**Project Website:** <https://www.kenaiwatershed.org/stream-watch/>

Please check all the boxes that apply to the current reporting period.

**Project progress is on schedule.**

**Project progress is delayed**

**Budget reallocation request.**

**Personnel changes.**



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**1. Summary of Work Performed:**

Objectives/Project Success:

Listed below are objectives that were met or partially met during the reporting period, including a short description of the methods used to accomplish said objective.

**Objective A – Recruit, train, and enroll at least 60 volunteers annually to participate in the program**

This objective was not completely filled during the reporting period; however, volunteers were trained during this reporting period. Through networking, an online presence, and community presentations, multiple members of the public reached out to inquire about volunteer training. Potential volunteers were directed to the online training and informed of the in-person orientation to be held in Cooper Landing on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was a split between which option potential volunteers chose to pursue. Some new and returning volunteers have chosen to take the online orientation during the reporting period to fully orient themselves for the 2023 season.

**Objective C – Protect riparian habitat and create a culture of stewardship among members of the public by providing consistent educational messaging to river users at project sites, in social and print media, and through on-site signage**

In February-April, the Stream Watch social media accounts (including Facebook and Instagram) continued to post “volunteer highlights”. Volunteer highlights are posts that focus on individual volunteers, how long they have been a part of the program, why they joined the program, and significant memories they have during their time volunteering. These posts originated for two main reasons - to highlight the impact that individuals can have on riparian habitat and to educate the public on various efforts/events Stream Watch preforms to help grow the culture of stewardship on the peninsula. Through individual recognition, potential volunteers are shown that joining the program would mean getting to experience the outdoors through a new lens and that their efforts would be appreciated on a more personal level.

Multiple presentations about Stream Watch were also given by the Stream Watch Coordinator at community events including the Soldotna Chamber Luncheon and the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership Science Symposium. These presentations shared a general overview of the Stream Watch program, its volunteers, events that the program hosts, and the methods that are used to help manage fish habitat and high-use sites around the peninsula. These presentations were made to help increase awareness of the program, educate the public on the issues that the program helps to mitigate, and inspire others to get involved.

**Objective E – Restore riparian and instream habitat by conducting seasonal stream bank revetment projects in partnership with agency partners as needs arise**

During the reporting period, EVOSTC funds were utilized to help further a spruce tree cabling restoration project that is occurring along the banks of the Kenai River. During the reporting period, meetings were held with property managers and partners of the project to determine supply needs and set forth a rough timeline for the project. Once these were established, spruce tree tops were collected to be cabled into the Kenai River stream bank when weather allowed for access to the project site. Dates have been scheduled for the project and will run in the next reporting period.



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**Objective G – Continue original efforts to expand Stream Watch to the southern Kenai Peninsula by hiring a seasonal southern coordinator position in order to expand partnerships, increase critical outreach, build institutional capacity, provide high quality engagement for volunteers, and reduce personnel turnover**

Applications were received to fill the Junior Stream Watch technician position during the reporting period. After the application window closed, the Stream Watch Coordinator and Education Specialist reviewed applicants. Interviews for the position were held. Daniel Funk was officially hired on as the Junior Stream Watch Technician to be shared between the Stream Watch program and the education program. Dan will begin work in the next reporting period and will assist with various Stream Watch duties in the southern Kenai Peninsula.

**Objective K – Support current program activities by contributing additional staff time and funding for supplies and volunteer training**

During the reporting period, staff time was allocated towards editing the online orientation, the timeline of in-person orientation, and supply needs for the season. Brandon Drzazgowski met with Amanda Goss, the USFS Stream Watch Volunteer Coordinator, to discuss the upcoming season and the supply needs for sites throughout the peninsula, as well as to plan the information to be presented during the orientation. Notes were taken in reference to the online orientation and what content could be shortened or changed. Videos were divided between KWF staff and USFS staff to be reviewed and updated. A location and date were set for in-person orientation along with discussion of additional educational topics that each partner wanted to add. Amanda and Brandon also discussed supply and commodity needs for the program. A list of items needed to refill volunteer caches was created to help track commodity use and ensure that volunteers have continued access to anything they may need during a volunteer shift. After the meeting, Brandon referenced previous online orientation presentations/videos and created a notes document to help track the information that would be beneficial to change in the future. After notes were taken on desired changes, PowerPoint presentations used for videos were edited to include information that would be applicable to a Stream Watch volunteer and remove information that was outdated.

**Objective L – Leverage EVOSTC funding to obtain additional investments in program expansion and to further develop Stream Watch to maximize the beneficial impacts to natural resources and services**

During the reporting period, an application for Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership (KPFHP) 2024 funding was completed. Within this application, EVOSTC funding was leveraged through proposed match to acquire additional investments. In-kind contributions of the Stream Watch Coordinator's time towards the program with funding provided through EVOSTC was one section of proposed match. The application was submitted during the reporting period; however, no confirmation of receipt was received during the reporting period.

Deviation from Original Objectives:

Some deviation from original objectives was seen during this reporting period. The largest deviation was seen on Objective J: "Strengthen relationships with communities and agencies served on the southern peninsula including Ninilchik Village and enroll at least one new member in the Steering Committee from an Alaska Native Community." Coordination was unable to be scheduled with the Ninilchik Village



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during the reporting period. However, two members of an Alaska Native Community have contacted the Stream Watch Coordinator expressing interest in the program. These two individuals were directed towards online training and were added to the program newsletter mailing list.

Problems/Unusual Developments:

There were hardly any problems or unusual developments throughout the reporting period. Majority of the reporting period was dedicated towards scheduling and establishment of events for the summer season. The largest problem that became apparent during the reporting period was the delayed start date for the Junior Stream Watch Technician - from early May to late May. Although this unusual development did not apply to the current reporting period, it did cause a change in scheduling and a reallocation of tasks to the Stream Watch Coordinator, some of which were done during the reporting period.

Additional information:

(none)

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**2. Abstract:**

February through April was a productive time for the Stream Watch program. Preparation for the summer season was the main focus for this reporting period. A new position to help with southern site expansion was hired and scheduled to start within the next reporting period. Meetings were also held with partners at USFS to establish needed changes to orientation and assess supply needs. The Stream Watch program continued to post volunteer highlights and other messaging on social media to inform the public about program activities. Multiple presentations were also given at community events to give a deeper look into the program and to recruit volunteers. A grant was written and submitted to the Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership, utilizing EVOSTC funding as in-kind match. Preparation for a stream bank restoration project was also seen during the reporting period, with the collection of spruce trees and scheduling of volunteers for the project. Few unusual developments were seen during the reporting period with the exception the Junior Stream Watch Technician changing his start date from early to late May. The program also had minimal deviation from goals, missing the fulfillment of objective J. However, steps were taken towards its fulfillment.

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**3. Coordination and Collaboration:**

Listed below are project partners that the Stream Watch program paired with during the reporting period, their involvement with the program, and the proper contact listed.

USFS:

USFS is the Kenai Watershed Forum's main partner for the facilitation of the Stream Watch program. USFS helps run the program jointly with The Kenai Watershed Forum during the busy summer season, by management of the project inside the Russian River Confluence area (including the Russian River Campground and the Russian River Ferry) with the use of the USFS's Stream Watch Volunteer Coordinator. This project partner helps to schedule volunteers at the Russian River Confluence area, assists with the maintenance and removal of habitat fencing along the Russian River, and records data collected from volunteers inside the confluence area. There was turnover in USFS's Stream Watch



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Volunteer Coordinator position at the end of the 2022 season, resulting in Amanda Goss becoming the new Stream Watch Volunteer Coordinator at USFS. On March 27, a meeting was held between Brandon and Amanda to coordinate the facilitation and change of the online and in-person volunteer trainings and assess supply needs for the upcoming season. Multiple calls and contacts were had throughout the reporting period to assess partner needs and schedule multiple events like habitat fencing installation, in-person orientation, and group clean ups in the project area.

**Contact:**

Amanda Goss – Stream Watch Volunteer Coordinator (USFS)

Email: amanda.goss@usda.gov

Office Number: 907-288-7747

**4. Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations and Comments:**

No recommendations or comments were submitted during the project application process or the first reporting period of the project. Thus, the project has no response to EVOSTC review. If recommendations or comments are submitted after this reporting period, they will be properly addressed in the next reporting cycle.

**5. Budget:**

Budget Category:	Proposed FY 22	Proposed FY 23	Proposed FY 24	Proposed FY 25	Proposed FY 26	5-YR TOTAL PROPOSED	QUARTERLY EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel	\$71,430	\$66,225	\$66,225	\$61,020	\$55,815	\$320,715	\$13,292	\$39,586
Travel	\$4,838	\$4,838	\$4,838	\$4,838	\$4,838	\$24,192	\$29	\$533
Contractual	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Commodities	\$1,950	\$1,950	\$1,950	\$1,950	\$1,950	\$9,750	\$0	\$1,127
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Indirect Costs (28.25%)	\$22,097	\$20,626	\$20,626	\$19,156	\$17,685	\$100,191	\$3,763	\$11,652
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$100,315</b>	<b>\$93,640</b>	<b>\$93,640</b>	<b>\$86,964</b>	<b>\$80,289</b>	<b>\$454,848</b>	<b>\$17,085</b>	<b>\$52,898</b>
General Administration (9% of subtotal)	\$9,028	\$8,428	\$8,428	\$7,827	\$7,226	\$40,936	\$1,538	\$4,761
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$109,343</b>	<b>\$102,067</b>	<b>\$102,067</b>	<b>\$94,791</b>	<b>\$87,515</b>	<b>\$495,784</b>	<b>\$18,622</b>	<b>\$57,659</b>
Other Resources (In-Kind Funds)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This summary page provides a five-year overview (FY 22-26) of proposed funding and actual cumulative spending which includes the **non-trustee agency** and **trustee agency worksheets**. **This Summary Page should automatically populate as the formulas reference the cells in the non-trustee agency and trustee agency worksheets. Please make sure the totals given are correct.** The column titled 'Actual Cumulative' will be updated each fiscal year and included in the annual report (include information on the total amount actually spent for all completed years of the project). On the Project Annual Report Form, if any line item exceeds a 10% deviation from the originally-proposed amount; provide detail regarding the reason for the deviation.

**COMMENTS:**

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