



**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: 18180120**

**Project Title: Copper River Watershed Enhancement**

**Principal Investigator(s):**

Erika Ammann, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Megan Marie, Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
Anna Senecal, US Fish and Wildlife Service  
Stormy Haught, US Forest Service

**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:** September 1

**Project Website:**

Internal for project partners: <https://copperriver.org/copper-river-evos-project-page/> Password: culvert

Informational website: <https://copperriver.org/programs/fish-habitat-restoration/restoration/copper-river-watershed-enhancement/>

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

☒ **Project progress is on schedule.**

☐ **Project progress is delayed**

☐ **Budget reallocation request.**



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☐ **Personnel changes.**

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**1. Summary of Work Performed:**

During this period, the following activities occurred:

Cop 33 & 1:

- The proposal submitted to Western Native Trout Initiative to request additional construction funding for Cop 33 was forwarded on to the National office with a recommendation for funding. We will know more in fall 2022 as to whether or not the funding is awarded.
- Submitted a proposal to the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund to request additional construction funding for Cop 33 and Cop 1.

Remaining crossings (Cop 9, Sher 1, Cab 2/1):

- Convened a meeting with partners to discuss the H&H and 15% design review for these crossings in May. We are exploring re-locating the Sher 1 crossings to convey water under the Copper River highway vs. the USFS Road 220. Topographic survey for relocation was completed in May.
- Partners are pursuing additional funding sources in order to implement restoration at these sites.

2022 Field Work:

- Removal of material on the upstream side of site Cop 20 occurred in early May 2022 to restore wetland connectivity.
- Vegetation monitoring at completed restoration sites. Working with the USFS plant ecologist, revegetation plans are being formulated for the fall. Tasks include removal of invasive plants observed at the 18 miles sites and seed areas with native plant seeds to be completed in August and in late fall woody shrubs and vegetated mats will be planted at selected sites. Willow collection and planting may also occur late fall. If planting does not occur, willow cuttings will be stored over winter to be planted in the spring of 2023.
- USFS will not be implementing road work on USFS Road 220 to remove the undersized Sher 2 culvert and install a low-water ford. We anticipate this will occur in 2023 instead.

Hydrology updates:

- Downloaded and maintained stream loggers at 8 sites.

Other updates:

- Visited multiple sites on the Copper River Delta with 13 teenagers participating on the Copper River Stewardship Program to learn about how stream smart culvert support connectivity between habitat types for juvenile salmon and other aquatic organisms.
- The Copper River EVOS Project Page (for partners) was updated during this quarter. All reports, comments, meeting notes, and hydrology data was shared with project partners through our website. All project materials can be viewed at: <https://copperriver.org/copper-river-evos-project-page/> . Password: culvert



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## **2. Abstract:**

Two crossings, Cop 1 and 33, are in the final design stages and partners have submitted multiple funding requests to help construct these projects. Design work continues for the remaining four crossings (Cop 9, Sher 1, Cab 2/1), with partners exploring re-locating of Sher 1 as well as pursuing funding for construction. Post-restoration monitoring and touch-ups continue at the first six sites that were constructed in 2020 (Cop 43, 44, and 45) and 2021 (Cop 20, 22, and 25). CRWP also continues to collect hydrology data on crossings under design, as well as maintain the project website to keep partners up to date and all design materials accessible.

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## **3. Coordination and Collaboration:**

All progress on these projects requires extensive coordination with partners, including resource managers and landowners. See Table 1 for a list of active project partners. We invite partners to review project designs and invite them to discussions to work through comments and questions and make sure the project continues to meet objectives of all partners. We coordinate with Prince William Sound Science Center on various education programs, including the Copper River Stewardship Program that takes ten teens from the region on an in-depth exploration of the watershed. While the 2022 theme was invasive species, we did visit a couple sites, including recently completed restoration at Cop 20, 22, and 25, in order to talk about fish passage and how culverts can impact fish migration and habitat quality.

Table 1: Copper River EVOS partners and affiliations

Kevin Keith/ADFG	Kate Morse/CRWP	Brennan Cain/Eyak Corporation
Michael Mazzacavallo/ADFG	Kirsti Jurica/CRWP	Tiffany Beedle/Eyak Corporation
Megan Marie/ADFG	Lisa Docken/CRWP	Trent Liebich/USFWS
Jeff Stutzke/ADOT	Ashley Taylor/CRWP	Heather Hanson/USFWS
Robbie Mattson/ADOT	Erika Ammann/NOAA	Anna Senecal/ USFWS
Matt Billings/ADOT	Steve Namitz/USFS	Franklin Dekker/USFWS
Dan Adamsczk/ADOT	Stormy Haught / USFS	
Luke Boles/ADOT	Ron Britton/ USFS	
Artem Ruppert/ADOT	Griff Berg/USFS	
	Jason Johnston/USFS	



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

none

#### 5. Budget:

As a result of conversations between PI Erika Ammann (NOAA) and Dr. Shiway Wang, an EVOSTC formatted budget summary will be submitted with Q4 report. In the meantime, the following are some summary tables reflecting actual and anticipated costs for completed and future restoration efforts.

Table 2: EVOS culvert status

-	Stream Name	ADFG Number	CRWP Culvert ID	EVOSTC Total Request	Current Estimated Total costs	Ownership	Solution	Status	Upstream Miles
2020	Lower Copper River	20100508	COP 43	\$ 616,842	\$ 790,499	DOT	Replace	Constructed/Monitoring	2.4
		20100510	COP 44	\$ 616,847	\$ 790,504	DOT	Replace	Constructed/Monitoring	
		20100511	COP 45	\$ 187,846	\$ 790,503	DOT	Replace	Constructed/Monitoring	
2021	18 Mile System	20100486	COP 20	\$ 714,342	\$ 708,324	DOT	Replace	Constructed/Monitoring	2.32
		20100488	COP 22	\$ 1,006,842	\$ 993,248	DOT	Replace	Constructed/Monitoring	5.64
		20100491	COP 25	\$ 714,344	\$ 1,108,688	DOT	Replace	Constructed/Monitoring	2.38
	Sheridan River Tributary	20101902	SHER 2	\$ 58,842	\$ 187,039	USFS/Eyak	Remove	Designed, going to bid spring 2023	0.7
2023	Black Hole Creek	20100499	COP 33	\$ 1,006,845	\$ 1,566,107	DOT	Replace	surveyed, in design, go to bid fall 2022 for 2023 construction	3.2
Remaining	Sheridan River Tributary	20100467	COP 1	\$ 1,006,842	\$ 1,065,024	DOT Airport Leasing	Replace	surveyed, in final design stages	1.5
	Sheridan River Tributary	20100475	COP 9	\$ 616,843	\$ 1,205,555	DOT/Eyak	Replace	surveyed, in design	same as 20201903
		20101903	SHER 1	\$ 331,842	\$ 936,425	USFS/Eyak	Replace	surveyed, in design	
	Elsner River Tributary	20101904	CAB 1	\$ 56,342	\$ 196,554	DOT Airport Leasing/Eyak	Remove	surveyed, in design	0.3
		20101905	CAB 2	\$ 544,344	\$ 820,554	DOT Airport Leasing/Eyak	Replace	surveyed, in design	
	Total Direct Cost			\$ 7,478,963	\$ 11,159,024				21.74
	9% GA			\$ 673,107	\$ 1,004,312				
	Total Cost			\$ 8,152,070	\$ 12,163,336				
MATCH		20100482	COP 16			DOT	Replace	complete	



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Table 3: Major expenses by category (will be updated annually in Q4 report)

<b>Copper River EVOS Watershed Enhancement Expense Summary</b>	
<b>Item or Activity</b>	<b>Estimated cost</b>
<b>Engineering and Design contracts</b>	
Geotechnical @ all sites & design @ 25 mile: Cop 43, 44, 45	\$ 318,248.00
Design @ 18 mile: Cop 20, 22, 25	\$ 177,682.50
Design for Cop 1 & 33	\$ 234,836.00
Design for Cab 2, Cop 9, Sher 1	\$ 210,871.00
<b>Total Estimated Design and Other Contracts</b>	<b>\$ 941,637.50</b>
<b>Construction Costs</b>	
Construction @ 25 mile: Cop 43, 44, 45	\$ 1,744,839.00
Construction @ 18 mile: Cop 20, 22, 25	\$ 2,178,145.96
Construction inspection	\$ 230,527.65
Compaction testing (2020)	\$ 18,988.50
<b>Total Estimated Construction Costs</b>	<b>\$ 4,172,501.11</b>
<b>Project Management</b>	
CRWP	\$ 297,130.70
USFWS	\$ 93,367.38
USFS	\$ 68,597.00
ADFG	\$ 23,100.00
NOAA	\$ 17,538.00
ADOT	\$ 56,498.33
Audit Costs (2020 only)	\$ 18,517.50
<b>Total Estimated Project Management Costs</b>	<b>\$ 574,748.91</b>
<b>Total estimated costs</b>	<b>\$ 5,688,887.52</b>
<b>Award</b>	<b>\$ 8,152,070.00</b>
<b>Funds remaining</b>	<b>\$ 2,463,182.48</b>