



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

**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, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alex Niepoth, U.S. 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: December 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.**

USFS lead Stormy Haught is transitioning to a new agency. Hydrologist Alex Niepoth will be the point of contact for USFS.

1. Summary of Work Performed:

During this period, the following activities occurred:

Cop 33 & 1:

- While it officially occurred after Nov. 1, we are excited that we were awarded the funding from the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund for additional construction funding for Cop 33 and Cop 1.
- During high rain events in early September, the road caved in over Cop 1. We are in discussions with ADOT to determine how they will be allocating resources moving forward to address this crossing, and to ensure they have the final signed copies in hand for the proposed new design at this site.

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

- 65% designs for Cab 1 & 2 were distributed and will be reviewed on Dec. 1st. During this partner meeting we will also discuss the proposed re-route of Sher 1 under the Copper River Highway and away from Goat Camp Road.
- Partners submitted funding request to NOAA for construction at Cop 9, Sher 1, and Cab 2/1. We will know more about this funding by the end of Dec. 2022.

Sher 2:

- U.S. Forest Service issued a contract to Wilson Construction in order to implement the low water ford on Goat Camp Road/Sher 2. Construction will occur in 2023.

2022 Field Work:

- Longitudinal profile surveys were conducted by USFS field crews at Cop 20 and Cop 43 on 9/23. A summary report is under development.

Hydrology updates:

- Downloaded and maintained seven stream loggers.
- Analyzed logger data from September 9th 2022 storm event for Cab 2 and Cop 9 sites to aid with active designs.

Other updates:

- Visited 18-mile culverts with six students and two instructors from Prince William Sound College Natural Resources class. Students participated in culvert and fish habitat surveys to learn more about fish passage, survey methodologies, and tools used to evaluate culverts and fish habitat. Photos of this outing are included at the end of this report, and emailed as separate files.
- 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



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website. All project materials can be viewed at: <https://copperriver.org/copper-river-evos-project-page/> . Password: culvert

2. Abstract:

We completed final designs for Cop 1 and 33 and have received recent funding awards to construct these crossings in 2023. 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.

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. In September we led U.S. Forest Service personnel from the Regional and Supervisor's offices that were visiting Cordova to sites on the Copper River Delta. We showed off the recently completed work as well as crossings under design, and sites needing additional attention. New staff also moved into the Fish Passage program at Alaska Department of Fish & Game, and CRWP staff spent time catching these new staff members up to speed on current projects and priorities on the Copper River Delta.

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 Hought / USFS	
Luke Boles/ADOT	Ron Britton/ USFS	
Artem Ruppert/ADOT	Kim Clark/ USFS	



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Griff Berg/USFS

Jason Johnston/USFS

Prince William Sound College students learn about fish passage during a field trip led by CRWP. Students helped to evaluate fish habitat and a culvert on the Copper River delta. Top left photo courtesy of CRWP, photo of fish in bag and culvert courtesy of PWS College.





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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)

Copper River EVOS Watershed Enhancement Expense Summary	
Item or Activity	Estimated cost
Engineering and Design contracts	
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
Total Estimated Design and Other Contracts	\$ 941,637.50
Construction Costs	
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
Total Estimated Construction Costs	\$ 4,172,501.11
Project Management	
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
Total Estimated Project Management Costs	\$ 574,748.91
Total estimated costs	\$ 5,688,887.52
Award	\$ 8,152,070.00
Funds remaining	\$ 2,463,182.48