



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: 25220612

Project Title: Eyak Lake Weir Restoration

Principal Investigator(s): Kate Morse, CRWP; Steve Namitz, USFS; Jeff Stutzke, DOT

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: August 28, 2025

Project Website:

<https://copperriver.org/programs/fish-habitat-restoration/restoration/eyak-lake/eyak-lake-weir/>
and

<https://copperriver.org/eyak-lake-weir-project-page/> Password: available upon request

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

☒ **Project progress is on schedule.**

☒ **Project progress is delayed**

☒ **Budget reallocation request. (no cost extension requested)**



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1. Summary of Work Performed:

During the May–July 2025 reporting period, the Eyak Lake Weir Replacement Project made significant progress on several critical pre-construction steps, with a focus on contract establishment, funding execution, and community engagement. CRWP staff, in coordination with Granite Construction LLC, DOWL, The Eyak Corporation, and agency partners, worked to finalize the construction contract, strengthen oversight capacity, and prepare for the transfer of ownership of the new structure to the City of Cordova. A new Watershed Restoration Specialist was hired to provide on-site representation during construction. Outreach and communications were also prioritized, including community engagement at Salmon Jam and development of a winter 2025 communications campaign. Despite earlier delays caused by the federal funding freeze in January, the project remains on track with the original RFP implementation schedule. Final contract execution with Granite Construction is anticipated in August 2025, with active construction expected to begin in winter 2025–2026.

Key Milestones Achieved (Q2 2025):

- Federal Funding Award Executed: \$3.44M in Federal Highway Administration funds awarded to The Eyak Corporation (July 2025).
- Contract Advanced: Draft construction contracts circulated to Granite Construction; significant input and revisions made in coordination with DOWL and legal review (July 2025).
- Engineering Oversight Authorized: Notice to Proceed issued to DOWL for construction oversight and contract administration (July 2025).
- Staff Capacity Expanded: CRWP hired a Watershed Restoration Specialist (Darcy Saiget) to serve as the organization's on-site representative during construction (July 2025).



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- Ownership Transfer Work Initiated: Draft MOA developed with the City of Cordova to transfer ownership of the new weir from the State of Alaska to the City; in-person meetings held in mid-July 2025 to advance this process.
- Community Engagement: CRWP hosted an outreach booth at Salmon Jam (July 2025), sharing project information and answering community questions.
- Future Communications Campaign Planned: Proposal received from a Cordova-based journalist for a community storytelling and outreach campaign to launch during construction (May 2025).
- Visual Communication Enhanced: Digital rendering of the completed weir design shared with partners and on social media (July 2025).
- Supplemental Funding Pursued: Proposal submitted to the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF) for ~\$651,000 to strengthen contingency and support post-construction habitat restoration (June 2025).

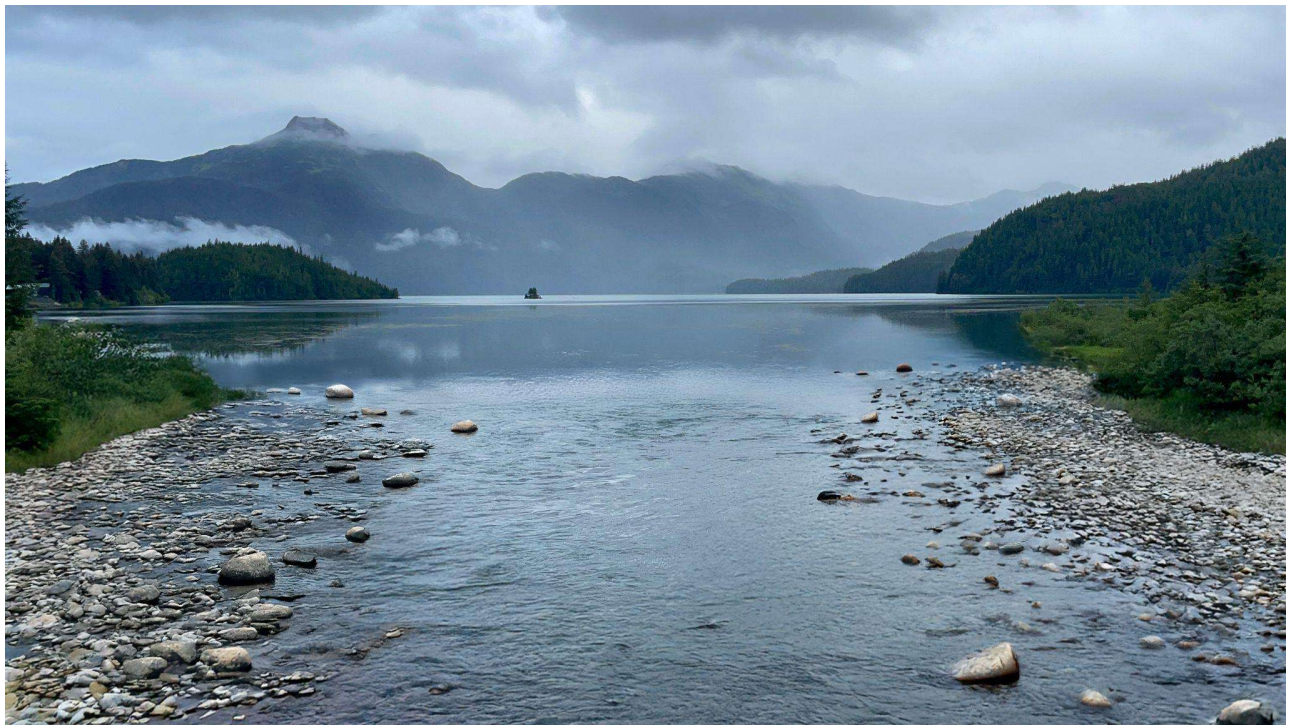
Outreach & Communications:

During this reporting period, CRWP continued strong outreach and education efforts related to the Eyak Lake Weir Project. In May 2025, staff provided updates to project partners and shared information through CRWP's social media channels. In July 2025, CRWP also distributed a digital rendering of the finished weir design from DOWL, which has been a helpful communication tool with partners, funders, and the public. CRWP had a visible community presence at both days of Salmon Jam in Cordova (July 2025), hosting a booth with project information, maps, and outreach materials, and answering questions from community members about the weir. These conversations offered valuable feedback and helped keep local residents engaged and informed about the project.



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Additionally, CRWP received a communications proposal from a Cordova-based journalist to develop an outreach campaign during the construction phase this winter. Planned deliverables include four community photo portraits with quotes, a nine-part social media package, a feature article in *The Cordova Times*, a regional/national media pitch, a press release, a fact sheet, and a publication calendar to guide the rollout. This campaign will highlight community voices and boost awareness of the project during its most visible phase. CRWP also continued collaboration with partners at The Eyak Corporation (11 coordination meetings) and used communication channels to provide regular updates. Together, these efforts have built a solid foundation for transparent communication and broad community engagement as the project moves into construction.



This image shows a digital rendering of the Eyak Lake outlet area following the planned weir replacement. While only an approximation and not a final “after” photo, it offers a glimpse of the improvements to come. We can’t wait to share the real completed images with you in 2026!



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Funding & Budget Updates

In addition to the EVOSTC and Federal Highways funding milestones, CRWP submitted a proposal to AKSSF requesting approximately \$651,000 for the Eyak Lake Weir and post-construction habitat restoration. If awarded, this funding would help build a near 10% contingency buffer for the project, a critical safeguard given market volatility in steel, shipping, and construction costs.

2. ABSTRACT

Between May 1 and July 30, 2025, the Eyak Lake Weir Replacement Project reached key pre-construction milestones, mainly focusing on establishing contracts and executing federal funding. The Copper River Watershed Project (CRWP), partnering with Granite Construction LLC and the engineering firm DOWL, drafted, shared, and negotiated the construction contract, coordinating with legal teams and funders to ensure compliance. Draft contracts were sent to Granite in July, while CRWP issued Notices to Proceed to DOWL for construction oversight and contract management. To enhance local capacity, CRWP hired Watershed Restoration Specialist Darcy Saiget as the organization's primary on-site representative.

A significant milestone was achieved in July 2025 when \$3.44 million in federal Highway Administration funding was awarded and finalized with The Eyak Corporation, the designated recipient. This long-delayed funding provided vital financial support for construction, alongside EVOSTC funds and a pending \$651,000 proposal to AKSSF to support contingency planning and post-construction habitat restoration. Outreach efforts continued, with CRWP engaging partners at The Eyak Corporation through 11 coordination meetings, maintaining a visible presence at Salmon Jam in Cordova, and planning a communications campaign to support the construction phase.

Overall, the project remains on schedule despite earlier federal delays. Final contract signing with Granite Construction is expected in August 2025, setting the stage for active



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construction in winter 2025–2026.

3. COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

Between May 1 and July 30, 2025, the Copper River Watershed Project (CRWP) engaged in extensive coordination and collaboration with partners to advance the Eyak Lake Weir replacement project through its final pre-construction phase. Key partners during this period included The Eyak Corporation, Granite Construction LLC, DOWL, the City of Cordova, the Native Village of Eyak (NVE), and federal and state agency partners, including the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF). CRWP worked closely with The Eyak Corporation, holding 11 coordination meetings to discuss project logistics, Federal Highways grant administration, materials storage locations, and communications. Collaboration with Granite Construction and DOWL focused on refining contract language, addressing technical and administrative questions, and preparing for oversight and inspection roles during the construction phase. In July 2025, CRWP issued a Notice to Proceed to DOWL, requesting engineering oversight and contract administration support.

A key milestone achieved during this period was the execution of the \$3.44 million Federal Highway Administration award to The Eyak Corporation, restoring momentum after the earlier federal funding freeze. CRWP also worked directly with EVOSTC staff on contract compliance and legal review, and submitted a proposal to the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund (AKSSF) for approximately \$651,000 to strengthen project contingency and support post-construction habitat restoration.

CRWP staff worked with the City of Cordova to establish a draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the transfer of ownership of the new weir structure from the State of Alaska to the City. CRWP provided staff time, technical support, and drafting assistance, including in-person meetings with the City of Cordova in mid-July 2025 to continue advancing this piece. Together, these collaborations positioned the project for final contract execution with Granite Construction in August 2025 and construction initiation in winter 2025–2026.



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Table of Eyak Lake Partners:

Table 1. Eyak Lake Weir Restoration Project Partners			
Brittany Blain/ADFG	Ben Wagner/DNR	Robert Mattson/DOT	Christy Mog/USFS
Jay Baumer/ADFG	Cliff Larson/DNR	Ryan Anderson/DOT	Kim Clark/USFS
Jeremy Botz/ADFG	Kim Bustillos/DNR	Mitch Paine/FEMA	Robes Parrish/USFS
Stormy Haight/ADFG	Tom Barrett/DNR	Erika Ammann/NOAA	Steve Namitz/USFS
Kevin Keith/ADFG	AJ Wait/DNR	Johnse Ostman/NOAA	Tim Marshall/USFS
Megan Marie/ADFG	Joni Sweetman/DNR	Angela Butler/NVE	Angela Coleman/USFS
Michael Mazzacavallo/ADFG	Daniel Adamczak/DOT	Matt Piche/NVE	Marguerite Tibbles/USFWS
Doug Bonham/ Field Data Technologies	David Fischer/DOT	Aaron Prussian/ Trout Unlimited	Anna Senecal/USFWS
Kevin Johnson/City of Cordova	Douglas Kolwaite/DOT	Pete Rand/PWSSC	Nate Clifton/USFWS
Sam Greenwood/City of Cordova	Jeff Stutzke/DOT	Rob Campbell/PWSSC	Franklin Dekker/USFWS
Alexis Cooper/CRWP	Judy Chapman/DOT	Brennan Cain/TEC	Heather Hanson/USFWS
Kate Morse/CRWP	Luke Boles/DOT	Tiffany Beedle/TEC	Jacob Adams/USFWS
Kirsti Jurica/CRWP	Matt Billings/DOT	Madeline Lee/CRRC	Jeremy Karchut/USFWS
Ashley Taylor/CRWP	Robert Mattson/DOT	John Maygard/CTC	Jess Straub/USFWS
Amy Scudder/CRWP	Sarah Katherine/ CTC	Adrian Smith/CTC	Devan Fitzpatrick/USFWS

4. Response to EVOSTC Review, Recommendations and Comments:

Email updates were provided as the project progressed, directly to EVOSTC during this reportin period. Updates and corrections on the 2024 Q3/Q4 and 2025 Q1 budgets were completed by CRWP.



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5. Budget:

Summary:

Budget Category:	Actual FY 22	Actual FY 23	Actual FY 24	Proposed FY 25	Proposed FY 26	5-YR TOTAL PROPOSED	QUARTERLY EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL CUMULATIVE
Personnel	\$15,091	\$27,058	\$63,207	\$454,474	\$63,550	\$623,380	\$15,261.31	\$144,086.69
Travel	\$61	\$192	\$1,367	\$11,153	\$2,003	\$14,776	\$577.20	\$2,196.99
Contractual	\$98,140	\$266,343	\$224,168	\$3,765,356	\$0	\$4,354,008	\$12,490.50	\$609,915.43
Commodities	\$687	\$5,339	\$6,371	\$70,677	\$0	\$83,074	\$314.49	\$13,470.24
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Indirect Costs (30%)	\$14,106	\$9,892	\$25,022	\$111,980	\$0	\$161,000	\$8,481.67	\$65,873.64
SUBTOTAL	\$128,084	\$308,825	\$320,136	\$4,413,639	\$65,553	\$5,236,237	\$37,125	\$835,542.99
General Administration (9% of subtotal)	\$11,528	\$27,794	\$28,812	\$397,228	\$5,900	\$471,261	\$3,341	\$75,198.87
PROJECT TOTAL	\$139,612	\$336,619	\$348,948	\$4,810,867	\$71,453	\$5,707,498	\$40,466	\$11,455,462
Other Resources (In-Kind Funds)	\$21,180	\$16,380	\$11,580	\$0	\$0	\$49,140		



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