

## Appendix:

### Program Goals, Pathways, and Key Programs

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**Goal 1: Culturally Responsive Science Outreach** - *Science outreach is relevant, co-created, and culturally responsive to our regional communities, leading to increased public utilization of available knowledge related to the EVOS.*

#### Achievements:

- Seldovia Science Friday weekly programming with rotating partners throughout school year
- Ocean Sciences Festival, Cordova Science Gathering, and Seward Science Symposium engaging broad community audiences
- AKSEA co-creation model bringing together knowledge experts, researchers, and educators
- AMSS workshops providing scientists with community communication resources
- AMSS workshop making science accessible to all age ranges and encouraging active teaching
- Prince William Sound Science Symposium format adjustment to include accessibility activities between science presentations (ASG)
- CCC leader training (ASG), Educator cultural training (CRRC)
- Tuesday Night Science Talks in Cordova (PWSSC)
- ASLC rural community outreach paired with distance learning
- Wildlife cruise education partnerships
- AMAR - grand opening after completing a major building renovation. The project added 3,400 square feet, expanding public education opportunities and collection care.
- Seabird outreach product creation (PWSSC, CRRC, CACS)
- CANP -Cultural competency training (CRRC)

**Goal 2: Youth Pathways to Science Professions**- *Regional youth participate in community-based pathways to science professions, building diversity among Alaska's scientists and reinforcing an emerging community-based approach to future science and restoration projects.*

#### Achievements:

- PWSSC Discovery Room program for elementary students
- Tsunami Bowl (National Ocean Science Bowl) engaging PWSSC, CRRC, and ASLC
- COMPASS programs in Cordova (environmental monitoring) and Seward (seabird curriculum) (CRRC, ASLC)
- Seward High School SeeBird presentations showcasing year-long scientific investigations (CRRC, ASLC)
- Science and Snacks weekly after-school program (PWSSC)
- ROV Challenge in Cordova (PWSSC)
- Boat ecology and oceanography field trips (CACS, ASLC)
- Summer camps across all age ranges in partner communities
- Community Coastal Camp (CCC) for middle school youth
- Student Lunch and Learns featuring local scientists and career pathways in Seward (CRRC, ASLC)
- Chugach School District place-based science learning in Whittier, Tatitlek, Chenega and Voyage School
- CCE - participants to connect with specialists in long-term research and monitoring, mariculture, archaeology, restoration, wildlife response, science communication, community-based science, and place-based education in Southcentral Alaska.

**Goal 3: Scientists as Community Partners** *Scientists are active partners in communicating and fostering STEM skills in communities where Long-Term Research & Monitoring, Mariculture, and Restoration projects are integrated with community-identified needs.*

#### Achievements:

- AKSEA program led by ASG, executed collaboratively across network
- Seward High School Science Week (ASLC, CRRC)
- Seward Science Symposium (ASLC, CRRC, PWSSC)
- Ocean Sciences Festival (PWSSC, ASG, CRRC, ASLC)
- COMPASS collaborative research and education program (ASLC, CRRC, PWSSC)
- Mariculture Conference of Alaska (ASG, PWSSC, CRRC)
- Kodiak Kelp Festival (ASG)
- Alaska Seaweed and Shellfish Festival (ASG)
- ASG mariculture community engagement
- Integration of active researchers into community programming and events

**Goal 4: Network Capacity Building** -*Network collaborations across the region are supported and sustained by capacity-building activities such as cultural and communication learning opportunities, internships, and community connections.*

**Achievements:**

- Community Coastal Experience (CCE) adult career pathway program
- ASLC and CRRC high school internship program
- Seasonal internships across ASLC, CRRC, AMAR, and CACS
- WORMS program for internal partner learning and capacity building
- Cultural competency training through CANP and AMAR programs
- Communication learning through collaborative newsletter and marketing development
- Community connections strengthened through coordinated event presence

**Goal 5: Leveraged Regional Resources**- *EVOSTC-funded resources across the region are effectively leveraged through an active, collaborative, cross-agency network of partners so that integrated projects demonstrate greater impact than the sum of individual projects.*

**Achievements:**

- Coordinated presence and programming at AMSS
- AKSEA collaborative curriculum development
- CCE and CCC collaborative programming
- CCC experienced substantial expansion of camp and partners in 2025,. Adding five new community partners two new communities, and funding to both train leaders and offer camps locally in Seward, Valdez, Whittier, and Kodiak. Also utilized and trained a Community Engaged Fellow in the program Science Fridays rotating partner model
- Seward Science Symposium and Ocean Sciences Festival multi-partner events
- Elders and Youth Conference network participation
- Shared marketing resources and unified messaging
- Cross-partner program support and co-creation

**Goal 6: Self-Sustaining Network Development**- *Utilizing developmental evaluation techniques over the course of the 5-year program, the CORaL Network becomes a self-sustaining mechanism for ongoing collaborations and community-based restoration activities beyond the grant period.*

**Achievements:**

- Website launch providing an outlet for communicating CORaL resources and opportunities to stakeholders.

- Established internal communication committee
- Marketing kit development for sustained partner outreach
- Newsletter framework for ongoing community engagement
- WORMS program establishing culture of mutual support and learning
- Annual meeting structure for continued coordination
- Collaborative Learning Series for iterative adaptation
- Framework established for future community outreach collaborations

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**Program Pathways Implementation** The CORaL Network organized its work into six inclusive pathways to collaboration:

### **1. Website and Digital Presence**

- Network website launched and operational
- Information kiosks installed at several partner locations
- Marketing kits deployed at each partner location
- The CORaL Newsletters that have been shared in prior years, are being streamlined into a more consistent monthly newsletter distribution beginning in January, expanding reach to community members and partner organizations.

### **1. Community Sharing**

- Seward World Ocean Day integrating culture, science, education, art, and community
- Plankton workshops combining science, art, and community engagement
- AMSS booth and workshop presence
- Elders and Youth Conference participation and resource sharing
- Marketing kits enabling cohesive communication across diverse community events
- Cordova Tuesday Night Science Talks
- Shorebird Festivals across partner communities (PWSSC, CACS, ASLC, CRRC)
- Natural History Symposium presentations and community watch parties
- Mariculture Conference of Alaska (ASG, PWSSC, CRRC)
- Kodiak Kelp Festival (ASG)
- Alaska Seaweed and Shellfish Festival (ASG)
- Alaska Mariculture Research and Training Center listserv and social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram)
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### **2. Cultural & Competency Learning Opportunities**

- Collective Alaska Native Perspectives (CANP) training course
- AMAR cultural resources and training programs
- ASLC Audio Tour development with Elder stories, Sugt'stun language, and new zooplankton terminology
- ASLC seasonal and intern training including Native Alaska culture orientation and subsistence practices
- Qutekcak Native Tribe Sobriety Celebration support
- AMAR lecture series and Native American Heritage Month programming
- Cultural competencies training available online and in-person with Dehrich Schmidt-Chya - AMAR

### **3. Community Coastal Experience**

- CCE collaborative implementation focused in Homer (CACS) and Cordova (PWSSC)
- Planning, content, and logistic support from ASLC, ASG, and CRRC
- Career pathway exploration in marine science, archaeology, and cultural history

- Integration of Western and Indigenous knowledge approaches

#### **4. Community Science & Outreach**

- Seldovia Science Friday weekly programming
- Ocean Sciences Festival community celebration
- Seward Science Symposium research showcase
- AKSEA curriculum co-creation program
- AMSS workshop provision for scientist communication training
- CCC hands on science activities

#### **5. Iterative Adaptation**

- Collaborative Learning Series for continuous improvement
- WORMS program providing internal observation, learning, and capacity building
- CORaL Annual Meeting for strategic planning and evaluation
- Communication committee for ongoing refinement of messaging and outreach

### **Key Program Descriptions**

#### **AKSEA (Alaska Knowledge, Science, and Education Alliance)**

AKSEA aims to foster connections across the region and share knowledge from and with all community members. It brings together local knowledge experts, researchers, graduate or recent graduate students, and school educators to co-create lessons focused on marine-related anchoring phenomena in the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill region. An anchoring phenomenon is either a fascinating real-world event or a meaningful design problem for students to investigate. Teams work together with the support of CORaL educators over six months to create and pilot lessons. Participants develop skills in communicating and understanding place-based knowledge, teaching strategies, regional understanding, and collaboration.

#### **Community Coastal Camp (CCC)**

CCC is a week-long camp for middle school youth that creates connections to place, self, and peers while building science, critical thinking, and personal, scientific, and local confidence. Each day includes outdoor exploration, hands-on science, art, team-building, and personal resilience skills. The program trains camp leaders and is implemented through a camp-in-a-box model for broad resource utilization across several communities.

#### **Collective Alaska Native Perspectives (CANP)**

CANP is an Alaska Native relations training course covering cross-cultural communication, true Alaska Native histories, collaborative management, subsistence, applied Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and related topics. This training ensures network partners and community members can engage respectfully and effectively with Indigenous communities and knowledge systems.

#### **Community Coastal Experience (CCE)**

The annual CCE provides adults ages 18 and up an opportunity to explore career and internship pathways in marine science, archaeology, cultural history, and related fields. The program introduces participants to diverse career options while emphasizing community-based approaches to science and cultural preservation.

## **COMPASS**

COMPASS was launched to support STEM education by building a regional network of partnerships while gathering crucial data in the Gulf of Alaska ecosystem. The program engages students in authentic scientific research, connecting them with professional scientists and real-world environmental monitoring.

## **Alaska Marine Science Symposium (AMSS)**

AMSS, Alaska's premier marine research conference, has brought together scientists, educators, resource managers, students, and the interested public for over thirty years to discuss the latest marine research in Alaskan waters. CORaL Network partners maintain active presence through workshops and exhibition.

## **Ocean Sciences Festival**

The Ocean Sciences Festival, designed by the CORaL Network, brings together researchers and leaders in ocean industry from across south-central Alaska to share their work with the community, making cutting-edge science accessible and relevant to local residents.

## **Seward Science Symposium**

This annual event showcases local scientific research, builds community pride, and promotes environmental stewardship. The focus on marine science emphasizes local activities, Indigenous-led research, and the impact of science on the region. Organized by ASLC, CRRC, NPS Ocean Alaska Learning Center and UAF Seward Marine Center, the symposium strengthens connections between researchers and community members.

## **WORMS Program**

An emerging program, Witnessing, Observing, Relationship building, Mentoring and Support (WORMS) is an internal Network program designed to support greater collaboration and learning amongst partners. The program is structured to provide opportunities for partners to offer programming support, build capacity, observe and learn programs and techniques from partners, co-create programs and opportunities, and gain better perspective and understanding of each partner's roles, capacity, and expertise.