

WATER WAYS

Juneau Watershed Partnership Spring/Summer 2009

Southeast Alaska Watershed Councils Convene for Regional Conference

Thanks to a generous grant from the National Forest Foundation (NFF) and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, watershed councils in Southeast Alaska will convene for a conference in Juneau during the week of April 27th. Staff and board from watershed councils in Yakutat, Haines, Skagway, Juneau, Kasaan, and Klawock will meet in Juneau to network, receive technical trainings, and participate in capacity building workshops hosted by NFF and other regional partners and agencies.

This conference is a part of a two-year grant project to build the organizational capacity of our regional watershed councils. The first step in this process was to conduct organizational assessments for each watershed council in Southeast Alaska, and this winter NFF hired Juneau based Sheinberg and Associates to conduct our assessment. The results of our final assessment were not surprising.

Our organizational strengths include a proven track record as a community resource and informational clearinghouse on watershed issues. Our web-based library was recognized for excellence and we were commended for remaining a politically neutral organization. Feedback gathered from the public and our partners agree that our organization brings sound science and technical expertise to local watershed issues in Juneau.

JWP has a few areas that need improvement including diversifying our funding base and developing a stronger volunteer program. We also need to develop a long term strategic plan and create a formal evaluation process to monitor the success of our projects. Other areas that need improvement are Board development and recruitment and strengthening our accounting and financial reporting methods.

The organizational assessment was a great process for JWP staff and Board and we are always grateful for a chance to get an outside perspective on our work. The best part of this experience is that NFF is granting us \$30,000 in funds over the next two years to address areas that JWP needs to improve on. We are still working out the details, but we will hopefully start working on some of these capacity building projects this summer. For more information about the National Forest Foundation, please check out their website at <http://www.nationalforests.org/>.

Community Invited to Reception for Watershed Conference

You are invited to a reception for the SE AK Watershed Council Conference. Join us on Tuesday, April 28, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Hangar on the Wharf Ballroom for some fun, food and a no-host bar. This event is being hosted by NFF and the Southeast Alaska Watershed Coalition.

This reception is a great opportunity to meet regional watershed council staff, NFF staff, and our agency partners and talk about local and regional watershed issues. We hope to have a good Juneau turn-out for this, so please come if you can.

All are welcome and hope to see you there!



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Dr. Eran Hood, Vice Chair

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Beverly Schoonover, Director

Michelle Kaelke, Accountant

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*Grab your party hat and
let's have some fun!*

JWP Projects 2009-2010

Auke Lake Management Plan

JWP has recently completed our Auke Lake Watershed Assessment and this year we are going to build on this report to create an Auke Lake Management Plan. This will be a long term workplan for Auke Lake and will include management and restoration recommendations for the watershed. We hope that this plan will be used by the CBJ and other resource managers to maintain the quality and health of this lake system.

Funding for this project comes from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Conservation program.

Juneau Cooperative Weed Management Area (JNU-CWMA)

Juneau Invasive Plants Action, or JIPA, is a group of agency folks, tribal reps, CBJ staff and other stakeholders that have been working since 2001 to eradicate Garlic mustard in downtown Juneau. JIPA has recently changed its name to the Juneau Cooperative Weed Management Area (JNU-CWMA).

JWP has been involved with JNU-CWMA for many years and thanks to funding from the Alaska Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) and the Forest Service, this year we will continue working on the Garlic mustard infestation and address the large infestation of Bohemian Knotweed growing on the banks of Twin Lakes. JWP staff will also help create a long term integrated weed management plan for Juneau so that the JNU-CWMA and the CBJ can work strategically to map, assess and eradicate other species of concern in our community.

Stormwater Best Management Practice Demonstration Sites

The CBJ recently completed a "Manual for Stormwater Best Management Practices" and this year we will utilize that manual to create two stormwater BMP demonstration sites. The stormwater treatments will include either/or a biofiltration swale, and infiltration basin and/or a rain garden.

Many thanks to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the City and Borough of Juneau for supporting this project.

Stream and Beach Garbage Clean-Up Events

Since 1999, our dedicated volunteers have removed over 400 tons of garbage from local streams, rivers and beaches during our bi-annual stream clean-up events. Thanks to funding from the Alaskan Brewing Company's CoastalCode Foundation and the Center for Alaskan Studies this year we will host 4 community clean-up events and try to remove at least 4 tons of garbage from local creeks and beaches.

The areas we plan to target for these clean-up events are: public beach access areas in Juneau, Montana Creek, the Mendenhall Wetlands State Game Refuge, and the Mendenhall Valley watershed. Many thanks to the Alaskan Brewing Company and the Alaska Center for Marine Studies for all of their support.

Potential JWP Projects for FY 2009-2010

We have also applied for funding for the following 2009-2010 projects:

1. Salmon Riparian Habitat Protection- Public and Municipal Outreach Campaign.
2. Juneau Fish Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Assessment Report
3. Juneau Fish Habitat Assessment 2012 Update

JWP News and Events

Volunteers Needed for Juneau Clean-Up Day, May 2nd

Join us at Duck Creek Market on Saturday, May 2nd from 8:00 am to 11:30 am to help us clean up public access areas of Juneau. Over 300 volunteers hauled out 40,000 lbs of garbage and recyclables from public areas around town last year, and this year we want to pick up even more garbage!

JWP recruits volunteers to clean up sections of Jordan and Duck Creeks. If you are interested in picking up a particular area, please call us at 586-6853. After the clean-up come back to Duck Creek Market for a free hot dog BBQ at noon.

Many thanks to Litter Free, Alaskan Brewing Company, Coastal Code Foundation, Duck Creek Market, and Wal-Mart for sponsoring this event and our community BBQ.



*It is so that time of year again...
ACF intern Ashley gets down and dirty in Vanderbilt Creek in 2008*

Say Buddy- Can You Spare Some Time?

- Do you want to help guide the future of a very successful, community-based watershed council?
- Can you spare 4 hours a month to keep our drinking water clean and our streams and rivers full of fish?
- Do you work well with others?

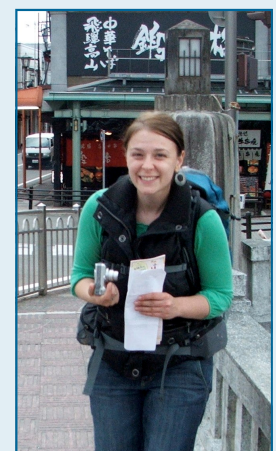
If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, we want you to consider becoming a member of our Board of Directors. We need to fill 4 Board seats by the end of 2009 and we want to recruit scientists, business owners, students, fishing folks, or anyone who cares about healthy watersheds to join our board.

Our board meets once a month in the evening and board members are encourage to participate in our bi-annual stream clean up events, and other public events when needed. If you are interested, please call us or drop us a line at jwp@alaska.net.

Help our Intern...Help the World!

Our amazing new intern Lia will be in town from May 25th to August 15th and we need to find her free or cheap housing in downtown Juneau. If you have a safe, fun, and clean place for her to stay this summer please let us know ASAP.

Lia is a graduate student from the University of Pennsylvania. This summer her work will be focused on community outreach, stormdrain stickering, and grant writing. Our summer internship program is generously funded through the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alaska Conservation Foundation.



*Still searching for a good Juneau home.
Welcome Lia!*

To Keep Working for Healthy Watersheds-We Need Your Support

Like most non-profits during these hard economic times, we are in a tight spot right now financially. We are experiencing a budget shortfall this fiscal year of approximately \$5,000 in general operating support and we are asking our friends and neighbors for a little help. Here are four reasons why you should join the Juneau Watershed Partnership-

- 1. WE GET THINGS DONE.** Over the years, JWP has recruited and trained more than 1000 volunteers to pick up over 8 tons of garbage and debris from our local streams and rivers. We have also authored 8 watershed assessments, led 4 community hikes, and hosted 11 community workshops and technical trainings.
- 2. WE DO IT FOR CHEAP.** JWP has an annual operating budget of less than \$66,000, yet in 10 years we have utilized our meager resources to raise more than \$909,000 in grant funding and more than \$402,500 of in-kind and cash donations.
- 3. WE DO IT LOCALLY.** We focus our work on watersheds within the City and Borough of Juneau. That means we work every day to protect the health and integrity of your drinking water, your favorite streams and rivers, your salmon, and your other fish and wildlife populations.
- 4. WE WORK WELL WITH OTHERS.** We bring the community, the municipality and local resource agencies together to work on important watershed issues. We regularly work with the DEC, Fish and Game, DNR, USFWS, CBJ, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida, USDA-Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Natural Resource Conservation Service, USGS, NMFS/NOAA, UAS, local businesses, environmental groups, user groups and you! Join us now so that we can work together for health watersheds.

Juneau Watershed Partnership

Membership Form

Name: _____

Business/Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City. State. Zip +4: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Sign up for Email list? Y N

Donation Levels:

\$1000 \$500 \$100 \$50

\$30 \$10

Please send you donation to:
Juneau Watershed Partnership
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 20649
Juneau, AK 99802

Many thanks to our members

Thank you to the Anderson's, Elizabeth Bishop, Teri Camery, Dave Hanna, Eran Hood, Sheinberg & Associates, Jan Caulfield, Allan Heese, The Kahklen's, The Koski's, The Larson's, Jack Manning, Mark J. Millea, Ed Neal, Cathy Needham, The Reifenstein's, Ora Schoonover, Kathy Siefert, Shannon Siefert & Terry Schwarz, Nancy Waterman & Bill Leighty, Alicia Wendlandt, and our most generous anonymous donors.

Thank you for your support!