

**Homer Soil & Water Conservation District in partnership with  
Cook Inlet Keeper  
“Cook Inlet Watershed Health Monitoring”**



*FY02 Grant Award: \$130,000*

*Project Match: \$174,351*



**Description and Purpose:**

**Component A:** Gather professional level water quality and flow data from four Kenai Peninsula salmon streams (Anchor River, Deep Creek, Stariski Creek, and Ninilchik River), and coordinate an information and education program targeted toward residents and communities in these four watersheds.

**Component B:** Use Cook Inlet Keeper's established citizen-based monitoring program as a model to foster and guide similar monitoring efforts, and as a basis to provide quality assurance support

and oversight for other citizen-based monitoring projects in the Cook Inlet basin. This component includes two discrete and complementary documents: 1) a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) which outlines procedures and protocols citizens must follow to collect defensible data; and 2) a Quality Assurance Management Plan (QMP) which details the quality assurance that is necessary to manage and oversee multiple groups implementing citizen-based water quality monitoring projects.

**Evaluation of Environmental Benefits:**

Project success will be determined by the following measures:

- Number of citizens trained to monitor water
- Number of water quality sample stations regularly monitored
- Number of Cook Inlet communities in which volunteer monitoring occurs as a result of project support
- Achievement of goals established in the QAPP's for both components of the project
- Initial identification of water quality status
- Number and diversity of monitoring partners
- Distribution and use of Annual Water Quality Summary Reports
- Number of citizens attending educational presentations
- Distribution and use of Anchor River watershed interactive kiosk and CD ROM
- Distribution of by-monthly District newsletter
- Requests for assistance from groups, agencies and private landowners regarding water quality issues
- Number and distribution of GIS maps for local watersheds



- Number of hits on Keeper and HSWCD web sites which displays water quality data and reports related to this project
- Agency, scientific, and public interest in and use of water quality data

**Deliverables for this project include:**

- Annual Water Quality Status Summary Reports for both components
- PowerPoint presentation of salmon stream monitoring project
- Draft Anchor River Watershed Landowner's Development Guide
- Bi-monthly newsletters
- ATV trail hardening demonstration site
- Refined water quality database interfaced with STORET and accessible on the Internet
- Annual meeting among citizen monitoring groups and agencies
- GIS maps of water quality monitoring sites and local watersheds
- Quality Assurance Management Plan to guide and coordinate citizen monitoring efforts in the Cook Inlet basin

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