

Alaska Department of Fish & Game
Habitat and Restoration Division
“Stream Condition and Restoration Evaluation – Wasilla Creek”



FY02 Grant Award: \$ 48,673 Match Amount: \$ 32,448



Description and Purpose: The project goals are to characterize the major physical, chemical, and biological stream ecosystem characteristics at 8 locations within Wasilla Creek and to evaluate the success of selected south central Alaska stream restoration projects in reducing non point sources of pollution and providing for fish habitat. The purpose of this work is to provide an ecological characterization of Wasilla Creek in order to identify where conditions change markedly from upstream to downstream stations, determine pre-restoration baseline conditions, prioritize sites for restoration activities, evaluate future restoration effectiveness, and determine the ability of the creek to support fish.

In addition, the project will develop restoration evaluation methods by applying designed procedures to at least 4 projects in order to ensure that applied restoration practices are effective at controlling NPS pollution and restoring fish habitat.

Evaluation of Environmental Benefits:

- Establish reference conditions for Wasilla Creek
- Develop base line data for evaluation of future impacts to the stream.
- Evaluate significance of the collected data toward monitoring the effectiveness of restoration projects.
- Evaluation of the project will be accomplished through a peer review process with reviewers from DEC, ADF&G, and federal agency personnel (EPA, NMFS, USF&WS) active in stream bank restoration.

Deliverables for this project include:

Technical Report No. 02-05 “*Wasilla Creek Stream Condition Evaluation*” describing site locations, methods, data results, any trends and the interpretation of the data; the quality assurance and quality control used in the project and any problems with data collection or analysis; include a map of sampling sites, project evaluation and recommendations for



future monitoring and, if appropriate, considerations for the selection, design, and prioritization of restoration projects on Wasilla Creek. The report provides a thorough evaluation of current physical, biological, and chemical conditions of Wasilla Creek so restoration activities and progress to improve water quality can be evaluated by comparing current with future conditions.

The final report also describes the evaluation methods used and any suggestions for modification of these methods. The report contains the results of the application of the methods to the 4 projects as well as results of the quality assurance procedures and suggestions for future work.

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