

## Discovery Southeast “Vanderbilt Creek Stewards Project”



FY02 Grant Award: \$4,500 Project Match: \$3,550



**Description and Purpose:** The Vanderbilt Creek Stewards Project is a hands-on stream study restoration education program that addresses the objectives for recovery of polluted waters described in the TMDL for Vanderbilt Creek, Juneau, Alaska. The activities of this program result in tangible improvements in the stream habitat and water quality of Vanderbilt Creek, and provide effective education and public outreach – listed objectives of the TMDL. Middle school students working with Discovery Southeast naturalists, and aided by experts from DEC, DF&G, CBJ and private organizations will study stream and habitat conditions in the Vanderbilt Creek watershed and complete restoration projects that address stormwater treatment, habitat improvement, and/or public awareness.

**Evaluation of Environmental Benefit:** The Vanderbilt Creek Stewards Project provides a cost-effective strategy to achieve high quality education regarding stewardship of Alaska waters while implementing provisions of the TMDL for Vanderbilt Creek that result in improved stormwater treatment and stream habitat for salmon. The restoration components of this project will receive regular but informal evaluation. By consulting with experts from DEC or DF&G, the Vanderbilt Creek Stewards will implement sound restoration activities. Evaluation of the measures undertaken will be more qualitative than quantitative as it is difficult to evaluate the impacts of each discreet project. DEC staff will be invited to assess each student project as it is completed.

### Deliverables for the Project Include:

1. Project report including water quality data;
2. Documentation of restoration or pollution control measures implemented;
3. Poster display.



### Project Contacts:

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