

WATER WAYS

Juneau Watershed Partnership

Fall/Winter 2007-2008

Celebrating 10 Years of Working Together for Healthy Watersheds

The Juneau Watershed Partnership (JWP) is turning 10 in 2008, and we are going to celebrate our achievements all year long.

The JWP, formerly known as the Mendenhall Watershed Partnership, was formed in 1998 by a group of dedicated Juneauites who cared about the environmental and economical health of the Mendenhall Watershed.

The Partnership incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1999 and in 2006 we decided to expand our scope and work throughout all of the watersheds located in the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ).

In the last ten years, Juneau's local watershed council has:

- Hosted annual stream clean-ups, created an outdoor classroom at Floyd Dryden, stenciled storm

drains, and replaced culverts at Cinema and Cessna Drives.

- Conducted watershed assessments on Duck, Lemon, Jordan and Vanderbilt Creeks.
- Hosted trainings in biological monitoring, managing urban stormwater, bank stabilization, and controlling erosion at construction sites.
- Conducted water quality testing of Duck, Jordan, and Vanderbilt Creeks.

Our mission is to promote watershed integrity in the CBJ through education, communication and research while encouraging sustainable use and development.

Our vision is that the Juneau community will consider the streams and other water features as important assets of

the natural landscape that benefit the whole community.

As a community we need to work together to keep our streams, beaches and rivers healthy. Juneau has some of the best urban salmon streams in the country, and JWP is working to maintain, protect and enhance our local waterways for everyone to enjoy.

We sent you this newsletter because you are a current or past member, you have attended a meeting of ours, or you have volunteered on one of our projects. We would like to thank you for your support.

We want to celebrate another 10 successful years working to keep Juneau's rivers and streams clean, running clear, and full of salmon. Join us today, and together we can work to ensure that Juneau has clean water and salmon in our streams forever.

JWP Receives Over \$129,000 in Grants for FY 2007-2008

The JWP received a total of \$129,887 in State and Federal grants for our FY 2007-2008.

We received two grants from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) to work on water quality issues pertaining to Jordan and Vanderbilt Creeks.

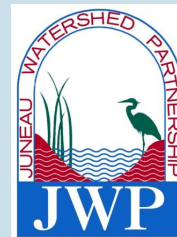
We also received a grant from

the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to conduct a watershed assessment of Auke Lake and to create an electronic resource watershed library for the CBJ.

We must provide matching funds for each of these grants, and our total match liability for FY 2007-2008 is

\$41,445. That means that we have to raise that amount in cash or in-kind services this year in order to receive our grant funds.

Many thanks to the ADEC and the FWS for their continuing support and friendship. We could not do our work without you!



The Juneau Watershed Partnership

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2007-2008 Projects (Cont.)

'Salmon-Friendly' Snow Management

Where should the snow go? It seems like everyone was sledding, skiing, or shoveling snow last winter during our record snowfall. All that snow has to go somewhere, and streams and wetland areas are often used for snow storage because they are open, low-lying areas.

Plowed and shoveled snow can contain oil and grease, sand, salt, garbage, heavy metals, antifreeze, and other pollutants. After the snow melts these pollutants can clog drainages, hurt plants and aquatic life, contaminate surface and ground water, and damage fish habitat.

In order to reduce pollution in our local salmon streams due to snow storage, the JWP will advocate 'salmon-friendly' snow management practices. We are going to talk to local property owners, businesses, the CBJ and the Alaska Department of Transportation to ask them to use best management practices (BMP's) for plowing and snow storage.

For more information on BMP's for snow management, check out our website at: www.juneauwatersheds.org.



A pile of sediment left behind from snow storage on Duck Creek. April 2007.

Stormwater Runoff Management

It rains in Juneau. When rainwater flows into our stormwater drainage system, it picks up whatever is lying on the ground. Dirt, sand, oil and garbage runs off with the rainwater into our streams and eventually out into Gastineau Channel. Stormwater conveyances, such as sediment traps, constructed wetlands, and oil and water separators, can help reduce the impact of stormwater pollution. This year the JWP is partnering with the CBJ to help advocate for best management practices (BMP's) for local stormwater conveyances.

We plan to hold a training on BMP's for stormwater management late next spring, and are creating user-friendly outreach materials about 'salmon-friendly' stormwater conveyances. We also submitted a grant proposal to hire an intern next summer to work with the CBJ on an ongoing GIS mapping project of Juneau's stormwater system.

The final goal of this project is to provide the CBJ with a comprehensive stormwater map to help guide "smart" development on CBJ lands. We are excited about working on this project this year. Stay tuned to hear more about this project in the future.



A very simple stormwater conveyance in the Lemon Creek area. September 2007.

Juneau Watershed Electronic Resource Library

For all of you who enjoy an interesting read, the JWP received a grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to create a one-stop electronic reference library on Juneau watersheds.

We will gather all of the reference and research documents relating to local watersheds and local watershed management in Juneau and convert them to electronic files to be posted on our website for public use. This effort will increase efficiency in watershed research and provide a data management tool that will preserve historic documents. We also want to offer the public a comprehensive and easy to access reference library to be more informed on watershed issues in our region.

As a part of this process, we have hired a local website design business, Skunk Cabbage Designs, to create a new website for the JWP. Our new website will debut in January 2008. Check it and our resource library out at: www.juneauwatersheds.org.

If you enjoy scanning documents, we could use your help. Call us at 586-6853 if you have some time to come in and scan. You might learn something new, too.



Check us out on the web: www.juneauwatersheds.org

We need YOU to be a member of the JWP!

To celebrate our 10th anniversary we are kicking-off a membership drive, and our goal is to grow our roster to 90 members in the next year. We want you to consider becoming a member of the JWP.

As a member you will receive our "Water Ways" newsletters and will be added to an email list to receive information regarding upcoming events and volunteering opportunities. We are a member-based organization, and your ideas and input will help steer the JWP in the future.

You can make a difference in Juneau by raising your concerns and voicing your suggestions on how we can work together to maintain healthy watersheds. **Won't you join us?**



Local heroes from Alaskan Brewing Co. and the CBJ pose next to the garbage and recycling they hauled out of Vanderbilt Creek in June 2007.

JWP Membership Form

Name: _____

Business/Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City. State. Zip +4: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Sign up for Email list? Y N

Membership Levels:

\$500 ___ \$100 ___ \$50 ___ \$30* ___ \$10 ___

I am not able to donate money, but I am happy to offer my time when volunteer opportunities arise _____

*A donation of \$30 or more entitles you to a free William Spear enamel pin!

Please select one of the following: Cutthroat Trout ___ Steelhead ___ Coho Salmon ___ King Salmon ___

Sockeye Salmon ___

Please contact me about becoming a Corporate Sponsor _____

(Corporate sponsorship levels are from \$100 to \$5000)

Please make your checks payable to "Juneau Watershed Partnership."

Please send this form with your payment to:

Juneau Watershed Partnership

Attn: Membership

P.O. Box 32559

Juneau, AK 99803

