

Fishery Management Report No. 03-08

**Summary of Public Education, Outreach and
Information Activities Conducted by Southcentral
Region's Information and Education Program,
July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000**

by

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and

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June 2003

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Division of Sport Fish



Symbols and Abbreviations

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Weights and measures (metric)

| | |
|------------|----|
| centimeter | cm |
| deciliter | dL |
| gram | g |
| hectare | ha |
| kilogram | kg |
| kilometer | km |
| liter | L |
| meter | m |
| metric ton | mt |
| milliliter | ml |
| millimeter | mm |

Weights and measures (English)

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| cubic feet per second | ft ³ /s |
| foot | ft |
| gallon | gal |
| inch | in |
| mile | mi |
| ounce | oz |
| pound | lb |
| quart | qt |
| yard | yd |
| Spell out acre and ton. | |

Time and temperature

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| day | d |
| degrees Celsius | °C |
| degrees Fahrenheit | °F |
| hour (spell out for 24-hour clock) | h |
| minute | min |
| second | s |
| Spell out year, month, and week. | |

Physics and chemistry

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| all atomic symbols | |
| alternating current | AC |
| ampere | A |
| calorie | cal |
| direct current | DC |
| hertz | Hz |
| horsepower | hp |
| hydrogen ion activity | pH |
| parts per million | ppm |
| parts per thousand | ppt, ‰ |
| volts | V |
| watts | W |

General

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| All commonly accepted abbreviations. | e.g., Mr., Mrs., a.m., p.m., etc. |
| All commonly accepted professional titles. | e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc. |
| and | & |
| at | @ |
| Compass directions: | |
| east | E |
| north | N |
| south | S |
| west | W |

Copyright

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Copyright | © |
| Corporate suffixes: | |
| Company | Co. |
| Corporation | Corp. |
| Incorporated | Inc. |
| Limited | Ltd. |

| | |
|--|---------------|
| et alii (and other people) | et al. |
| et cetera (and so forth) | etc. |
| exempli gratia (for example) | e.g., |
| id est (that is) | i.e., |
| latitude or longitude | lat. or long. |
| monetary symbols (U.S.) | \$, ¢ |
| months (tables and figures): first three letters | Jan, ..., Dec |
| number (before a number) | # (e.g., #10) |
| pounds (after a number) | # (e.g., 10#) |
| registered trademark | ® |
| trademark | ™ |

| | |
|---|---|
| United States (adjective) | U.S. |
| United States of America (noun) | USA |
| U.S. state and District of Columbia abbreviations | use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, DC) |

Mathematics, statistics, fisheries

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| alternate hypothesis | H _A |
| base of natural logarithm | e |
| catch per unit effort | CPUE |
| coefficient of variation | CV |
| common test statistics | F, t, χ^2 , etc. |
| confidence interval | C.I. |
| correlation coefficient | R (multiple) |
| correlation coefficient | r (simple) |
| covariance | cov |
| degree (angular or temperature) | ° |
| degrees of freedom | df |
| divided by | ÷ or / (in equations) |
| equals | = |
| expected value | E |
| fork length | FL |
| greater than | > |
| greater than or equal to | ≥ |
| harvest per unit effort | HPUE |
| less than | < |
| less than or equal to | ≤ |
| logarithm (natural) | ln |
| logarithm (base 10) | log |
| logarithm (specify base) | log ₂ , etc. |
| mid-eye-to-fork | MEF |
| minute (angular) | ' |
| multiplied by | x |
| not significant | NS |
| null hypothesis | H ₀ |
| percent | % |
| probability | P |
| probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true) | α |
| probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false) | β |
| second (angular) | " |
| standard deviation | SD |
| standard error | SE |
| standard length | SL |
| total length | TL |
| variance | Var |

FISHERY MANAGEMENT REPORT NO. 03-08

**SUMMARY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND
INFORMATION ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY SOUTHCENTRAL
REGION'S INFORMATION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM, JULY 1,
1999-JUNE 30, 2000**

by

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June 2003

Development of this manuscript was partially financed by the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777-777K) under Project F-31-11, Job No. F-31-11b.

The Fishery Management Reports series was established in 1989 for the publication of an overview of Division of Sport Fish management activities and goals in a specific geographic area. Fishery Management Reports are intended for fishery and other technical professionals, as well as lay persons. Fishery Management Reports are available through the Alaska State Library and on the Internet: <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/statewide/divreports/html/intersearch.cfm> This publication has undergone regional peer review.

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This document should be cited as:

Kraus, F. R., and L. Olson. 2003. Summary of public education, outreach and information activities conducted by Southcentral Region's information and education program, July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fishery Management Report No. 03-08, Anchorage.

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INTRODUCTION

The aquatic education and information activities for the Southcentral Region of Sport Fish Division are conducted under the regional “Information and Education” program. The program has two components: Aquatic Education and Information Services.

AQUATIC EDUCATION BACKGROUND

Aquatic education in Southcentral Alaska began in 1989 with an experimental classroom salmon egg incubation program supported by the former Fisheries Rehabilitation Enhancement Division (FRED) of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). This program was based out of the Big Lake Hatchery and initially concentrated on Matanuska-Susitna Valley schools, but by school year 1990/1991 supported projects in five Matanuska-Susitna Valley and five Anchorage area schools.

During this same time, FRED Division had plans to initiate a project to conduct research on stream rehabilitation techniques and structures the division was planning to construct in Anchorage area streams, with emphasis on Campbell Creek. The program was to be funded in part by the Alaska Science and Technology Foundation (ASTF), which was interested in the development of low cost stream restoration techniques that the general public and other agencies could afford and utilize along streams around Alaska. The projects would be small in design and materials would be inexpensive and easy to install.

A union of the fledgling aquatic education program and the new stream restoration effort occurred in July 1991 when the new project biologist realized there was an opportunity to combine these efforts to create an educational outreach program, which was named the Salmon Trout Restoration Education and Aquatic Management (STREAM) Program.

The main goal of the program was, as it remains today, to increase the public’s awareness of Alaska’s healthy wild salmon stocks through education and the offering of hands-on opportunities. In this way it is hoped that members of the public will become personally involved with, and become better stewards of, this valuable resource. In 1996, the STREAM Program was transferred to the Division of Sport Fish (SF). At that time, angler education and outreach became the main goal of the STREAM Program.

The STREAM Program’s activities have been modeled after other existing agency aquatic education and outreach programs such as the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (ODF&W) Salmon Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) and Canada Department of Fisheries and Ocean’s (DFO) Salmonid Enhancement Program (SEP) in British Columbia. Components of these programs have been incorporated into STREAM Program activities; however, these programs use activities to concentrate on enhancement of depleted salmon stocks while the ADF&G program focuses on maintaining already healthy stocks around the state. Salmonid enhancement is not an integral part of the STREAM Program.

The STREAM Program continues to expand its efforts and currently supports projects in the Anchorage, Kenai Peninsula, Matanuska-Susitna Valley, Kodiak and the Fairbanks (Region III) areas. The program has also continued to support Cooperative Extension Service (CES) classroom salmon

egg incubation projects statewide on a technical basis since the CES program was established in the early 1990s.

The success and popularity of the STREAM program is due as much to the high visibility of the program as to the solid biological practices and information provided. Staff are in the schools and field with those students and volunteers who have the desire to learn more about Alaska's salmon resources. This allows the department not only to inform the public, but also to enable the public to become more aware of the department's concerns and to understand why and how the resource is managed.

INFORMATION SERVICES BACKGROUND

In 1997, the region identified the need to dedicate personnel and resources specifically to respond to the increasing demands of the public for information about sport fishing and Alaska's fish resources. Previously, administrative staff responded to the majority of the thousands of telephone, in-person, mail, and e-mail inquiries for sport fishing information, while trying to complete the administrative duties for which they were hired. Regional management and research biologists were also handling many requests for basic, simple information, and it was recognized that their time spent responding to these "low-level" requests, rather than doing the management and research duties for which they were originally hired, was not the most efficient use of their expertise or of funding.

Occasionally, management or research biologists would also have to suspend their regular duties and "fill in at the front office" when administrative staff had conflicts in trying to fulfill the Commissioner's mandate to keep offices open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (except state holidays).

In February 1998 an Information Officer was hired. During her first few months, all the regional informational brochures and publications were updated with new information provided by area biologists and regional management staff. The brochures were also reformatted so that they looked consistent, the ADF&G logo was prominently displayed, and brought into a page layout program so that the handouts could be more efficiently and cheaply produced. In addition, the Information Officer instigated formal procedures for handling and tracking the public contacts and inquiries.

In April 1999, a full-time Administrative Clerk III was hired to assist with the day-to-day operation of the Sport Fish Information Center, and to prepare for the sale of fishing licenses, stamps, and game tags. Finally, in June 1999, a seasonal Fisheries Technician II was hired to assist with public contacts from May through September, the peak of the fishing season.

The Fisheries Information Center, especially the Sport Fish Information Center (SFIC), arose from the region's commitment to better serve the thousands of visitors to the division's Anchorage regional offices by having a facility designed especially for public inquiry. Prior to 1999, both the Sport Fish and the Commercial Fisheries facilities consisted of "windows" cut into the walls of the offices of administrative staff. The Sport Fish window, furthermore, was located on the second floor, and down a hallway, and was only 6 feet long. The sport fish and personal use fishing public would then have to wait in the hall for services. In July, the line for services often extended through the hallway, down the stairs, and into the lobby. The large volume of visitors to the narrow, confined space was often disruptive to staff whose offices opened to the hallway.

The Fisheries Information Center was completed in June 1999. The new center was created by vacating and then remodeling six offices on the ground floor of the Raspberry Road building. The staffing plan, move, and remodel were deemed acceptable by the Commissioner in a memo dated February 12, 1999.

Since the 1,440-sq ft informational space is shared by the front office staff for the Commercial Fisheries division, the overall space is called the Fisheries Information Center. Being on the first floor, and with one counter at wheelchair height, the Fisheries Information Center is better accessible to those in wheelchairs or whose mobility is otherwise impaired. There is now over 16 feet of counter space for Sport Fish visitors and 6 feet of counter space for Commercial Fisheries visitors. The open, well lit, fisheries-themed design has a friendlier “feel” than the window in the upstairs hallway, which helps the public feel welcome when visiting their agency. Fish-shaped brochure racks are also ADA-accessible. The Information Officer provided the initial fish/water concept for the etching of the windows overlooking the lobby and the information center doors, so that the new center blended in with the rest of the lobby.

The Fisheries Information Center is located across the lobby from the Wildlife Information Center, thus consolidating the three most-frequently visited divisions (Wildlife Conservation, Sport Fish, and Commercial Fisheries) into one easily accessible space.

STREAM PROGRAM ACTIVITIES JULY 1, 1999 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000

The STREAM Program accomplishes its goals in many ways, but primarily incorporates and develops hands-on activities to increase the public’s awareness of our salmon resources. The program focuses on education and outreach as its primary tools to accomplish its goals; however, with the ever-increasing demand for educational activities and materials, and the ever-decreasing budgets, the time-consuming, small scale stream restoration outreach activities have decreased significantly since the early days of the program.

Activities conducted by the STREAM Program are summarized in two categories: education and outreach. Education activities include classroom salmon egg incubation, classroom visits and presentations, field educational experiences, teacher workshops/in-services, Adopt-A-Stream program and educational materials. The outreach component includes stream restoration/habitat activities; shows and special events; fulfilling requests for educational information, materials and equipment; maintaining and developing educational web pages; and continuing and enhancing media coverage of educational events. These activities are summarized below for fiscal year 2000.

EDUCATION

Classroom Salmon Egg Incubation

As one of the original aquatic education tools, classroom salmon egg incubation activities have long been the backbone of the educational effort in Southcentral Alaska. Classroom salmon egg incubation came to Alaska using technology developed by the DFO-SEP in British Columbia. Classroom salmon egg incubation projects are used as a part of SEPs *Salmonids in the Classroom* program. From its origins at the Big Lake Hatchery, these projects now exist in 75 (up from 60 in 1999) ADF&G STREAM Program-sponsored schools in Southcentral, Interior Alaska, and other locations across the state

through approximately 60 Cooperative Extension Service (CES) sponsored schools. These incubation projects continue to be for educational purposes only and not for enhancement.

Most schools are using 29-gallon aquariums with standard undergravel filter plates, powerheads and aquarium gravel. The tanks are insulated and darkened using 1-inch high density Styrofoam and the recirculated water is cooled using specially designed refrigeration units. If schools are on a treated water system they must dechlorinate their water before introduction of eggs into their tank. These systems incubate up to 250 eggs. Coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch* is the species used to obtain salmon eggs for Southcentral and Interior (Region III) Alaska school projects because its egg development stages from spawning to fry emergence coincide best with a school year.

Anchorage area incubator equipment is funded cooperatively between CES and the STREAM Program. The CES receives approximately \$5,000 from EXXON U.S.A. to purchase refrigeration units for Anchorage schools. CES orders the units and turns them over to the STREAM Program for distribution. The STREAM Program supplies the other equipment and accessories required. Schools in other districts (Matanuska-Susitna, Kenai Peninsula, Kodiak and Region III) may be responsible for acquiring their own equipment, depending on availability, or can receive assistance from the STREAM Program if they purchase a refrigeration unit themselves.

Several schools utilize a technique developed by the STREAM Program when the school cannot afford to purchase a refrigeration unit. This technique uses a small one-gallon aquarium inside of a regular refrigerator to incubate approximately 50 salmon eggs through the fry stage.

The classroom salmon egg incubation program enables students, teachers, parents, and other community members to witness and monitor the early development of a salmon from egg to fry, probably the least understood stages of the salmon's life cycle, but a period over which we humans have great control. Classes are responsible for monitoring tank temperature on a daily basis and performing water exchanges once a week. Classroom salmon egg incubation projects focus on increasing student awareness of salmonid life histories, biology, anatomy and habitat requirements of these fish.

Educational materials have been developed and continue to be developed to complement this program. The STREAM Program modified the primary version of *Salmonids in the Classroom* with permission from DFO. This curriculum package has been well received and the intermediate version of this same series is in the process of being modified. *A Guide to Classroom Salmon Egg Incubation in Alaska* also continues to be distributed to teachers. A modified life-cycle poster originally produced by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDF&W) and salmon egg vial displays constructed by high school students are also made available to educators.

In 2000, 46 Anchorage area schools conducted classroom salmon egg incubation projects (Table 1); an increase of three from the previous year. There were 13 participating schools in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley area (Table 2), no change from the previous year; 4 schools on the Kenai Peninsula (Table 3), an increase of 1 school from the previous year; 5 schools in Kodiak (Table 4) where there had been no STREAM Program sponsored projects in the past; and 8 schools in the Fairbanks (Region III) area (Table 5), where there had been 2 projects. Tables 1 through 5 also document the growth of incubation projects in each area from their origin to the present.

Table 1.-Anchorage area classroom salmon egg incubation projects by school, 1991 through 2000.

| School | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Susitna Elementary | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Gruening Middle School | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Girdwood | X | | X | X | | X | | | X | X |
| Sand Lake Elementary | X | | | | | | | | | |
| Chugiak High School | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Inlet View Elementary | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Steller Alternative | | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Rogers Park Elementary | | X | | | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Central Junior High School | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Bear Valley Elementary | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Northwood Elementary | | | X | X | X | | | | | |
| Dimond High School | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Denali Elementary | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Service High School | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Eagle River Elementary | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| St. Elizabeth Ann Seton | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Fairview Elementary | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Chinook Elementary | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Chugach Optional | | | | X | X | X | | X | | |
| East High School | | | | X | X | | X | X | | |
| Chester Valley Elementary | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Wendler JHS | | | | | X | X | | | | |
| Polaris Alternative | | | | | X | X | X | | | X |
| Hanshew Middle School | | | | | X | X | | | | |
| Scenic Park Elementary | | | | | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Baxter Elementary | | | | | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Nunaka Valley Elementary | | | | | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Taku Elementary | | | | | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Aurora Elementary | | | | | | X | | X | X | X |
| Alpenglow Elementary | | | | | | X | X | X | X | X |
| O'Malley Elementary | | | | | | X | X | X | X | X |

-continued-

Table 1.-Page 2 of 2.

| School | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Bayshore Elementary | | | | | | X | | | | X |
| Tudor Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Homestead Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Gladys Wood Elem. | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Kasuun Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Willard Bowman Elem. | | | | | | | X | X | | |
| Turnagain Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Mt. View Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | |
| Orion Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Chugiak Elementary | | | | | | | X | | | |
| Government Hill Elem. | | | | | | | X | X | | |
| Ocean View Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Rabbit Creek Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Abbott Loop Elementary | | | | | | | X | | | X |
| Huffman Elementary | | | | | | | X | | X | X |
| Ursa Major Elementary | | | | | | | X | | | |
| Anchorage Montessori | | | | | | | X | | X | |
| Pacific Northern Acad. | | | | | | | X | | | |
| Lake Otis Elementary | | | | | | | | X | X | |
| John F. Kennedy Elem. | | | | | | | | X | | |
| William Tyson Elem. | | | | | | | | X | | |
| College Gate Elementary | | | | | | | | X | X | X |
| Mirror Lake MS | | | | | | | | X | X | X |
| Goldenview MS | | | | | | | | X | X | X |
| King Career Center | | | | | | | | X | X | X |
| Birchwood ABC | | | | | | | | | X | |
| Kincaid Elementary | | | | | | | | | X | X |
| Klatt Elementary | | | | | | | | | X | X |
| Williwaw Elementary | | | | | | | | | X | X |
| Creekside Park Elem. | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Northern Lights ABC | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Lake Hood Elementary | | | | | | | | | | X |
| SAVE HS | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Willow Crest Elementary | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Total | 5 | 6 | 14 | 19 | 21 | 29 | 41 | 41 | 42 | 46 |

Table 2.-Matanuska-Susitna Valley area classroom salmon egg incubation projects by school, 1991 through 2000.

| School | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Palmer High School | X | X | X | X | | | | | | |
| Wasilla High School | X | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Houston Junior HS | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| Colony High School | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Big Lake Elem. | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| Colony High School | | X | X | X | | | | | | |
| Palmer Middle School | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Goose Bay Elem. | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Snowshoe Elementary | | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Sherrod Elementary | | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Finger Lake Elem. | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Butte Elementary | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Wasilla Middle School | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Tanaina Elem. | | | | | | | | X | X | X |
| Susitna Valley High School | | | | | | | | X | | |
| Swanson Elementary | | | | | | | | | X | X |
| Academy Charter | | | | | | | | | X | |
| Midnight Sun | | | | | | | | | X | X |
| Pioneer Peak Elementary | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Total | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 11 | 13 | 13 |

In late September and early October, classes from Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Valley came to Campbell Creek and Spring Creek, respectively, to participate in a coho salmon egg take. The children witnessed the beginning of the life of a salmon and left with up to 250 fertilized eggs, which they then observed and monitored throughout the winter. Schools on the Kenai Peninsula received their coho salmon eggs in November, at the eyed stage, from the ADF&G Sport Fish Fort Richardson Hatchery in Anchorage because there is no local egg-take site currently available. Those eggs were shipped at no charge to the STREAM program via commercial air carrier. Kodiak and Region III schools both attended their first local coho salmon egg takes in the fall of 1999 at newly established egg collection sites. Kodiak schools attended their first egg take at the Buskin River in Kodiak in early November. The Fairbanks area schools' egg take was combined with a scaled down version of the "Salmon Celebration" (hands-on activity booths) in early October at the Delta Clearwater River in Delta Junction. Copper River basin schools (part of Region III projects) received fertilized (green) coho salmon eggs from an egg take at the privately operated Solomon Gulch Hatchery in Valdez. Eyed eggs were transported to Nuiqsut (North Slope) from the Ft. Richardson Hatchery.

The classroom eggs eventually hatched and turned into fry, at which point classes received salmon food supplied by the ADF&G Sport Fish Fort Richardson Hatchery. The coho fry were released in mid to late May into landlocked lakes: Taku-Campbell Lake in Anchorage, Matanuska Lake in Palmer, several lakes in the Kenai/Soldotna area, and Island Lake in Kodiak. Fairbanks area schools may release their fry into either Bathing Beauty Pond (North Pole) or the Delta-Clearwater River (system of

origin), while the Copper River area school release is held at Strelna Lake near the community of Kenny Lake.

Egg-take and release summary information for each area can be found in Tables 6-15. Due to the large number of participating schools, Anchorage area events continue to provide the largest numbers of participants: 1,690 students; 67 classes at egg takes; and 1,400 students at releases. Egg takes in Anchorage were held over a 2-day period. In addition, an egg take was conducted on a third day (Saturday) for instructors who could not attend with their class. In 2000 the program saw an increase in egg-take participation in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley (474 students, 19 classes in 2000 as compared to 335 students, 17 classes the previous year). The Kodiak egg take had a first time attendance of 345 students (13 classes).

The fry releases in Anchorage, Palmer, and Kodiak were the only organized releases in the region where classes came out on a single day to release their fry. These releases were combined with a “Salmon Celebration” so that students could participate in hands-on salmon related activities after releasing their fry.

Table 3.-Kenai Peninsula area classroom salmon egg incubation projects by school, 1997 through 2000.

| School | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Nikiski Elementary | | X | X | X |
| Tustumena Elementary | | X | X | X |
| Sears Elementary | | | X | X |
| Redoubt Elementary | | | | X |
| Total | 0 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Table 4.-Kodiak area classroom salmon egg incubation projects by school, 1999 through 2000.

| School | 1999 | 2000 |
|-----------------------|------|------|
| East Elementary | | X |
| Main Elementary | | X |
| North Star Elementary | | X |
| Peterson Elementary | | X |
| Kodiak HS | | X |
| Total | 0 | 5 |

Table 5.-Fairbanks (Region III) area classroom salmon egg incubation projects by school, 1997 through 2000.

| School | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Kenny Lake Elementary | | X | X | X |
| Weller Elementary | | | X | X |
| Joy Elementary | | | | X |
| North Pole Middle School | | | | X |
| Delta Junction HS | | | | X |
| Tok Elementary | | | | X |
| Mentasta Lake | | | | X |
| Nuiqsut Trapper | | | | X |
| Total | 0 | 1 | 2 | 8 |

Table 6.-Anchorage area school egg-take information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Stream | # Students |
|-------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| 09/23 | Anchorage | Campbell Creek | 800 (36 classes) |
| 09/24 | Anchorage | Campbell Creek | 740 (31 classes) |
| 09/25 | Anchorage | Campbell Creek | 150 |
| Total | | 3 | 1,690 (67 classes) |

Table 7.-Anchorage area school fry release information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Lake | # Students |
|-------|-----------|--------------------|------------|
| 05/14 | Anchorage | Taku-Campbell Lake | 1,400 |
| Total | | 1 | 1,400 |

Table 8.-Matanuska-Susitna Valley area school egg-take information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Stream | # Students |
|-------|----------|--------------|------------------|
| 09/30 | Palmer | Spring Creek | 239 (9 classes) |
| 10/01 | Palmer | Spring Creek | 235 (10 classes) |
| Total | | 2 | 474 (19 classes) |

Table 9.-Matanuska-Susitna Valley area school fry release information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Lake | # Students |
|-------|----------|----------------|------------|
| 05/09 | Palmer | Matanuska Lake | 280 |
| Total | | 1 | 280 |

Table 10.-Kenai Peninsula area school egg-take information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Stream | # Students |
|-------|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| 11/13 | Anchorage | Ft. Rich Hatch. | N/A |
| Total | | 1 | 0 |

Table 11.-Kenai Peninsula area school fry release information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Lake | # Students |
|-------|----------|-----------------|------------|
| 05/00 | Soldotna | Chugach Est. L. | 30 |
| 05/00 | Kasilof | Centennial Lake | 110 |
| 05/00 | Soldotna | Longmere | 0 |
| Total | | 2 | 140 |

Table 12.-Kodiak area school egg-take information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Stream | # Students |
|-------|----------|--------------|------------------|
| 11/05 | Kodiak | Buskin River | 345 (13 classes) |
| Total | | 1 | 345 (13 classes) |

Table 13.-Kodiak area school fry release information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Lake | # Students |
|-------|----------|-------------|------------------|
| 05/23 | Kodiak | Island Lake | 345 (13 classes) |
| Total | | 1 | 345 (13 classes) |

Table 14.-Fairbanks (Region III) area school egg-take information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Stream | # Students |
|-------|------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 10/99 | Valdez | Solomon Gulch | 23 (1 classes) |
| 10/06 | Delta Jct. | Delta Clearwater | 150 (5 classes) |
| 12/03 | Nuiqsut | Ft. Rich Hatchery | 53 (5 classes) |
| Total | | 3 | 226 (11 classes) |

Table 15.-Fairbanks (Region III) area school fry release information, 2000.

| Date | Location | Lake | # Students |
|-------|------------|------------------|------------|
| 05/00 | Kenny Lake | Strelna | 23 |
| 05/00 | Fairbanks | Bathing Beauty | 75 |
| 05/00 | Delta Jct. | Delta Clearwater | 20 |
| Total | | 3 | 118 |

Egg shipments to the three Kenai Peninsula schools were successful and approximately 140 students released fry at Chugach Estates and Centennial lakes. Longmere Lake is also a designated fry release location but has yet to be used as a release site by any of the Kenai Peninsula schools.

Four of the five Kodiak schools incubating salmon successfully released fry into Island Lake.

Two of the three schools in Fairbanks had fry to release into Bathing Beauty Pond. Delta Junction High School was the only school to release fry back into the Delta-Clearwater River.

Kenny Lake School in the Copper River basin successfully incubated, hatched, and released fry in Strelna Lake.

Fry from the Nuiqsut project were destroyed at the completion of the project.

Lakes that are approved for school fry releases are landlocked so that school-raised fry cannot breed with or cross-contaminate wild salmon or other fish in anadromous systems. Teachers may also elect to sacrifice their fry if they do not wish to release them. Classes may, by state policy, also release their fry into the system from which the eggs originated; however, projects sponsored by the STREAM Program are not offered this option in Southcentral Alaska. Due to travel logistics, Interior road system schools are allowed, if they desire, to release Delta Clearwater fry back into that system of origin.

Classroom Visits and Presentations

Presentations are one of the more conventional means of getting information out to interested groups. The STREAM Program, however, prefers to be very interactive and hands-on when staff visit classrooms or adult groups to present topics relating to salmon. The audience must participate in some fashion, so that they may better remember the principles taught. Interaction is achieved by asking

questions to the audience during the presentation or by giving them a hands-on activity to do while a presentation is occurring. Hands-on activities include puzzles, rubber stamps, fish dissections, and button making. Presentations focus on many salmon-related topics including salmon life histories, biology, habitat requirements, anatomy (dissections), coded wire tag demonstrations, watersheds, stream ecology or sport fishing techniques.

Table 16 contains summary information on classroom visits and presentations for 2000. During this year, 83 presentations (up from 73 in 1999) were made to groups ranging in size from 2 to 135. Various presentations were made to 3,477 individuals from kindergarten through adult age levels. Almost 73% of the presentations were conducted for elementary age children, 13% to junior high students, 12% to high school students, and 2% to adult groups.

In 2000 the STREAM Program continued the salmon dissection program, in which teachers could pick up salmon provided by the STREAM Program, then conduct their own dissections in the classroom. Teachers could also elect to have STREAM Program staff bring fish and lead the dissection. North Alaska Fisheries, a local fish processor in Anchorage, again donated 500 pink salmon to support the program this year. With those fish, along with coho salmon from the Elmendorf Hatchery and school egg takes, the STREAM program distributed 836 fish, which were utilized by 3,234 students, for classroom dissections this year. In many instances, coded wire tag demonstrations were conducted, in which salmon heads were dissected and the coded wire tags removed. The majority of school presentations this year were requests for salmon dissections, life cycle/habitat requirements and the very popular “Fly Tying in the Classroom Program.” ADF&G staff and volunteers from the Alaska Fly Fishers visited 18 schools and worked with 704 students (31 classes) to tie flies mimicking the four egg stages (egg, eyed egg, alevin, fry) students observe in their classroom incubators, and to teach students about fly fishing opportunities.

Field Educational Experiences

The STREAM Program occasionally receives requests from groups to lead outdoor presentations at a local stream or river. These presentations range from assisting a Girl Scout Troop in earning their nature badges, to more detailed discussions with technical groups to consult on stream problems. Most of the field trips are based on a watershed perspective so that participants can become more aware of the “big picture:” fish and aquatic organisms require more than just water to survive, and our impacts on a watershed can impact aquatic life. Hands-on activities usually always accompany these presentations. Several sites along the stream are visited to discuss changes that have occurred in the system. Hands-on activities may include: sampling aquatic macroinvertebrates using nets, trapping juvenile salmonids or testing water quality with Hach test kits. All these activities are incorporated into the presentation so that the “big picture” becomes clear.

In 2000, 13 streamside presentations were made to 243 attendees (Table 17). Most of the requests were made by an organization or group that wanted to educate its members about a specific stream, watershed and the life (juvenile and adult salmonids, resident fish, macroinvertebrates) found within the stream.

Table 16.-Classroom visits and presentations conducted by the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Date | School | # Students | Age Group | Subject |
|-------|-----------------------------------|------------|-------------|--|
| 09/16 | Weller Elem. (FBK) | 25 | Elementary | Salmon life cycle (LC), inc. project, dissection |
| 09/16 | Joy Elementary (FBK) | 23 | Elementary | Salmon (LC), inc. project, dissection |
| 09/17 | North Pole MS (FBK) | 28 | Junior High | Salmon (LC), inc. project |
| 10/05 | Delta Jct. HS (FBK) | 8 | High School | Fairbanks area Salmon Celebration training |
| 10/12 | Bayshore Elementary | 49 | Elementary | Salmon dissections (2 classes) |
| 10/12 | Talkeetna Elementary ^a | 38 | Elementary | Salmon, lakes, watershed, dissection, activities |
| 10/14 | Snowshoe Elementary ^a | 42 | Elementary | Watershed, salmon, habitat, slide show (2 classes) |
| 10/15 | Gladys Wood Elem. | 60 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (3 classes) |
| 10/15 | SEAS School | 21 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT |
| 10/19 | Colony MS ^a | 30 | Junior High | Salmon dissections |
| 10/19 | Palmer Middle School ^a | 125 | Junior High | Salmon dissections (5 classes), slide present. |
| 10/20 | Colony MS ^a | 72 | Junior High | Watershed, slides, activities (2 classes) |
| 10/21 | Palmer Middle School ^a | 75 | Junior High | Salmon and slide presentation (3 classes) |
| 10/25 | Sears Elementary (KP) | 23 | Elementary | Salmon (LC), inc. project |
| 10/26 | Redoubt Elem. (KP) | 52 | Elementary | Salmon (LC), inc. project, dissection (3 classes) |
| 10/27 | Palmer Middle School ^a | 18 | Junior High | Hands-on activities (2 classes) |
| 10/28 | Lake Hood Elementary | 51 | Elementary | Salmon dissections (2 classes) |
| 11/02 | Main Elem. (KOD) | 52 | Elementary | Salmon (LC), habitat, inc. project |
| 11/03 | Peterson Elem. (KOD) | 68 | Elementary | Salmon (LC), habitat, inc. project |
| 11/03 | North Star El. (KOD) | 135 | Elementary | Salmon (LC), habitat, inc. project |
| 11/03 | East Elementary (KOD) | 70 | Elementary | Salmon (LC), habitat, inc. project |
| 11/04 | Kodiak HS (KOD) | 20 | High School | Salmon (LC), salmon farming |
| 11/08 | Swanson Elementary ^a | 18 | Elementary | Chucky Chum activity |
| 11/09 | AK Sportfish Assoc. ^a | 25 | All | Mat-Su stocked lakes, stocking plan |
| 11/12 | Williwaw Elementary | 42 | Elementary | Salmon dissections (2 classes) |
| 11/16 | Goose Bay Elem. ^a | 26 | Elementary | Lakes, habitat, fish ID, slides, activity |
| 11/17 | East HS | 2 | High School | Fisheries student competition project |
| 11/17 | Orion Elementary | 60 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (2 classes) |
| 11/27 | Abbott Loop Elem. | 46 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (2 classes) |
| 12/03 | Nuiqsut Trapper (FBK) | 53 | K-12 | Salmon LC/inc. project, stamps, dissection |
| 01/18 | Oceanview Elementary | 38 | Elementary | Salmon dissections (2 classes) |
| 01/24 | Weller Elem. (FBK) | 23 | Elementary | Salmon scales/inc. maintenance |
| 01/24 | North Pole MS (FBK) | 78 | High School | Salmon dissections (3 classes) |
| 01/25 | Joy Elementary (FBK) | 21 | Elementary | Salmon anatomy, feeding |
| 01/26 | Delta Jct. HS (FBK) | 12 | High School | Watershed/water presentation |
| 01/28 | Kenny Lake (FBK) | 65 | Elementary | Hands-on activities (3 classes) |
| 01/29 | 4H – AK Flyfishers ^a | 16 | All | Lakes, habitat, fishing opps. |
| 02/03 | SEAS School | 21 | Elementary | SC reg. art contest presentation – Robert Kraus |
| 02/04 | Abbott Loop | 17 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 7 volunteers |
| 02/04 | Gladys Wood Elem. | 45 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 2 classes - 10 volunteers |
| 02/07 | Orion Elementary | 29 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 7 volunteers |
| 02/07 | Aurora Elementary | 28 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 7 volunteers |

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Table 16.-Page 2 of 2.

| Date | School | # Students | Age Group | Subject |
|-------|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|--|
| 02/08 | King Career Center | 43 | High School | Fly tying – 5 egg patterns – 2 classes – 7 volunteers |
| 02/09 | Fairview Elementary | 72 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 4 classes – 5 volunteers |
| 02/10 | Rogers Park Elementary | 64 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 3 classes - 12 volunteers |
| 02/11 | Nunaka Valley Elem. | 23 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 8 volunteers |
| 02/11 | Willow Crest Elem. | 24 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 8 volunteers |
| 02/14 | Bear Valley Elementary | 25 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 8 volunteers |
| 02/14 | Oceanview Elementary | 22 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 8 volunteers |
| 02/17 | Snowshoe Elementary | 46 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (2 classes) |
| 02/18 | Homestead Elementary | 68 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 2 classes – 7 volunteers |
| 02/18 | Scenic Park Elementary | 45 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 2 classes – 7 volunteers |
| 02/23 | Chugach Optional | 21 | Elementary | SC reg. art contest present. – Hannah Hilowitz |
| 02/24 | Bear Valley Elementary | 78 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (3 classes) |
| 02/24 | CES Watershed Stew. ^a | 5 | Adult | Cottonwood Cr. Watershed, volunteer sampling |
| 02/25 | Rabbit Creek Elem. | 26 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 9 volunteers |
| 02/25 | Klatt Elementary | 54 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 2 classes – 9 volunteers |
| 02/28 | Denali Elementary | 25 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 6 volunteers |
| 02/28 | Inlet View Elementary | 64 | Elementary | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 3 classes – 6 volunteers |
| 02/29 | Redoubt Elem. (KP) | 42 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (2 classes) |
| 02/29 | Nikiski Elem. (KP) | 39 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (2 classes) |
| 03/01 | Sears Elementary (KP) | 24 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (2 classes) |
| 03/03 | SAVE HS | 30 | High School | Fly tying – 4 egg patterns – 2 classes – 6 volunteers |
| 03/08 | Fairview Elementary | 74 | Elementary | Salmon dissections (4 classes) |
| 03/10 | Butte Elementary ^a | 24 | Elementary | SC reg. art contest presentation – Gia Homstad |
| 03/14 | Main Elem. (KOD) | 52 | Elementary | Alevin, fry, feeding, water exchanges |
| 03/14 | East Elementary (KOD) | 64 | Elementary | Alevin, fry, feeding, water exchanges |
| 03/15 | North Star El. (KOD) | 76 | Elementary | Salmon dissections (3 classes) |
| 03/20 | Goldenview MS | 114 | Junior High | Salmon dissections (4 classes) |
| 03/21 | Creekside Park Elem. | 57 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT (3 classes) |
| 03/23 | Klatt Elementary | 45 | Elementary | Salmon dissections (2 classes) |
| 03/23 | Taku Elementary | 21 | Elementary | Salmon dissections/CWT |
| 04/03 | Village Charter School | 20 | Elementary | Salmon LC, habitat |
| 04/06 | King Career Center | 32 | High School | GASS training – watershed, LC, habitat (2 classes) |
| 04/07 | King Career Center | 32 | High School | GASS training – dissection, CWT, scales (2 classes) |
| 04/18 | Ravenwood Elementary | 60 | Elementary | Watersheds, salmon LC, habitat, macroinverts |
| 04/19 | King Career Center | 26 | High School | GASS awards presentations |
| 04/25 | Watershed Stewards | 10 | Adult | Watersheds, salmon LC, habitat, macroinverts |
| 05/08 | Wasilla HS | 62 | High School | Mat-Su Salmon Celebration training |
| 05/22 | Kodiak HS (KOD) | 15 | High School | Kodiak Salmon Celebration training |
| 05/22 | North Star El. (KOD) | 70 | Elementary | Kodiak Salmon Celebration training |
| 06/22 | Youth Restoration Corp | 12 | High School | Watersheds, salmon LC, habitat, macroinverts |
| 06/26 | Trailside Discovery | 21 | Elementary | Salmon LC, habitat, dissection/CWT |
| Total | 83 | 3,477 | | |

^a Presentations made by STREAM Program Technician – Palmer office

Table 17.-Field educational experiences conducted by the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Date | School/Organization | # Students | Age Group | Location | Subject |
|-------|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 07/07 | Youth Restoration Corps. | 12 | High School | Quartz Creek | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 09/25 | Alaska 4-H ^a | 7 | All | Matanuska L. | Fly fishing instruction |
| 09/28 | Rogers Park Elementary | 25 | Elementary | Chester Creek | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 09/28 | CES Watershed Stewards | 19 | Adult | SF Campbell | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 10/08 | AK Pacific University | 18 | College | Campbell Cr. | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 10/15 | Snowshoe Elementary ^a | 12 | Elementary | Cottonwood Cr. | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 11/30 | Colony Middle School | 5 | Junior High | Ft. Rich Hatch. | Hatchery tour |
| 03/25 | CES Watershed Stewards | 10 | Adult | SF Campbell | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 05/03 | Ravenwood Elementary | 65 | Elementary | Fire Creek | Juvenile fish ID |
| 05/10 | Gladys Wood Elementary | 17 | Elementary | Campbell Creek | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 06/17 | Eagle R. Nature Center | 20 | All | NF Eagle River | Stream habitat/fish ID |
| 06/22 | Youth Restoration Corps | 12 | High School | Russian River | Stream ecology/sampling |
| 06/26 | Trailside Discovery Camp | 21 | Elementary | SF Campbell | Macroinvertebrate/fish ID |
| Total | 13 | 243 | | | |

^a Presentations made by STREAM Program Technician – Palmer office

Teacher Workshops/In-services

Teachers are becoming increasingly more interested in educating their students about salmon and streams. If trained properly, these teachers can assist the department's and division's missions and goals. Teacher participants become even more important when the demand for STREAM Program staff exceeds available time and budgets. It is for this reason that the proper training of instructors is a high priority of the STREAM Program. It is more efficient to teach several teachers at once, rather than on a one-on-one basis. Teacher workshops are defined as formal or informal. Informal training sessions are not required by a school district. Other informal sessions may involve the training of volunteers to assist at a STREAM Program event. In-services are formal training sessions required by a district.

During FY00, five training sessions were held and attended by 122 instructors (Table 18). Workshops included the annual Cooperative Extension Service fisheries/incubation project training, stream sampling and watershed education. College credit courses were offered for the first time in FY99 to school instructors on the Kenai Peninsula and the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, but none were held this year. These courses should be available again in FY01.

Table 18.-Teacher workshops and in-services conducted by the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Date | District | # Teachers | Location | Subject |
|-------|-----------|------------|-----------|--|
| 09/16 | Statewide | 24 | Fairbanks | CES incubation/fisheries program workshop |
| 11/16 | Anchorage | 21 | Anchorage | Cycles – 2 nd grade science curriculum |
| 11/17 | Anchorage | 26 | Anchorage | Cycles – 2 nd grade science curriculum |
| 03/17 | Anchorage | 25 | Anchorage | Watershed 101 presentation |
| 05/13 | Anchorage | 26 | Anchorage | Educational level stream sampling protocol (field) |
| Total | 5 | 122 | | |

Adopt-A-Stream Program

Adopt-A-Stream (AAS) programs have become increasingly popular across the country. These programs enable the general public to care for or to monitor a favorite section of stream. In Southcentral Alaska these AAS projects are also used as an educational tool. The STREAM Program works primarily with schools and non-profit groups to establish AAS projects. The program has grown from a single project in 1996 to 13 projects in 2000 (Table 19) with approximately 654 stream watchers. Participating adult groups are most interested in cleaning up sections of stream. Over half (7) of these groups are currently working in the Kenai River drainage and Ship Creek, and in the past year have collected several thousand pounds of debris from these two systems.

Table 19.-Adopt-A-Stream programs sponsored by the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Stream | School/Organization | Number Participants | Activity | Sign |
|---------------|--|---------------------|---------------|------|
| Ship Creek | Aerospace 3 rd EMS Ground Equip. and Flight | 100 | cleanup | yes |
| Ship Creek | 3WG Maintenance Operations Center | 40 | cleanup | yes |
| Kenai River | Alaska Fly Fishers | 90 | cleanup | yes |
| Chester Cr. | Rogers Park Elementary | 30 | clean/monitor | no |
| Chester Cr. | Fairview Elementary | 30 | clean/monitor | no |
| Meadow Cr. | Eagle River Elementary | 30 | clean/monitor | no |
| Soldotna Cr. | Soldotna Elementary | 100 | clean/monitor | no |
| Swanson R. | Nikiski Elementary | 30 | clean/monitor | no |
| Moose River | Sterling Elementary | 50 | clean/monitor | yes |
| Slikok Cr. | Kalifornsky Beach Elementary | 50 | clean/monitor | no |
| Crooked Cr. | Tustumena Elementary | 50 | clean/monitor | no |
| Campbell Cr. | Gladys Wood Elementary | 30 | clean/monitor | no |
| Russian River | Youth Restoration Corps | 24 | restoration | no |
| Total | 13 | 654 | | |

Schools may participate in AAS stream sampling projects for educational purposes. During FY2000 the STREAM Program worked with the University of Alaska's Environment and Natural Resources Institute (ENRI) to develop a stream sampling protocol for educators. Teachers may now use this standard protocol to sample their streams for basic information as it relates to stream condition, habitat, flow, water quality and macroinvertebrates. The information collected by instructors can be forwarded to ENRI for addition to their already existing database. The educational-level sampling program will eventually allow classes to view and share information with other schools doing studies of their watersheds as well as other areas. Teachers are informed that the focus of the program is educational and not scientific in nature, although their data may represent the only available data for a stream and therefore may become quite valuable.

Water quality sampling equipment kits for the educational-level sampling program are made available to teachers in Anchorage, the Matanuska Valley and the Kenai Peninsula. Kits were upgraded to meet the new sampling protocol, except on the Kenai Peninsula. Instructors who have completed a training course may check out the kits for use at their AAS site. These kits are currently available for check out at the King Career Center (KCC) in Anchorage, the ADF&G area office in Palmer and the Kenai River Center in Soldotna.

Schools may participate at varying levels in activities, which may include stream cleanup (litter), stream and habitat surveys, macroinvertebrate (aquatic insect) surveys, water quality testing using chemical test kits, or involvement in an actual small-scale stream restoration project if they determine one may be necessary. A teacher's level of participation is self-determined.

Several stream crossing signs have been in place for several years to acknowledge groups who have adopted sections of stream. Due to budget constraints the signage program has been discontinued unless the interested group can fund the materials necessary to erect the signs themselves.

Educational Material Development

As the STREAM Program's educational effort continues to expand, so too does the need for new materials to meet the demands of the growing program. The STREAM Program continues to design new effective hands-on ways to increase the public's awareness of Alaska's salmon resources.

The STREAM Program continues to work on modifications to the intermediate version of the Canadian *Salmonids in the Classroom*. The primary version has been completed for several years now and is currently in use in conjunction with most incubation projects across the state. The intermediate version will eventually allow extension of the elementary level information to upper elementary grades.

Editing of ODF&W's *The Fish Hatchery Next Door* and *Why Wild* curriculum have been placed on hold due to staffing and budgetary constraints in both ODF&W and ADF&G.

During FY00, the STREAM Program began investigating the possibility of soliciting funding for a mobile classroom/field studies trailer similar to a trailer operated by the Springfield (Oregon) School District. There has been some interest from the private sector to assist with the funding of such a trailer. Work on this project will continue in FY01.

Other STREAM Program educational developments from 2000 (Table 20) include:

1. *Streamkeeper's Field Guide* manuals continue to be widely used by teachers and ADF&G staff as a valuable stream reference tool. Twenty-two copies were distributed in FY00.
2. Water quality testing kits were updated in the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Valley.
3. Classroom sets of *Pacific Salmon, Alaska's Story* were distributed to schools participating in salmon egg incubation projects. Six hundred and sixty copies were distributed.
4. "First Catch" cards were again printed, laminated and distributed to children catching their first fish during STREAM Program ice fishing events and the Great Alaska Sportsman's Show. Three hundred and twelve cards were distributed.
5. Salmon life cycle posters (315) and egg development vial displays (20) continue to be distributed to instructors.
6. Educational web pages continue to be created and updated for use by instructors. In FY00 a live salmon cam was set up so that the public and schools could follow the development of a group of coho salmon eggs. Educational activities are also included.
7. A watershed education model was contributed to the STREAM Program by the Youth Restoration Corps as part of a cooperative effort to educate school children about the importance of maintaining a healthy watershed.
8. Several dissecting scopes were purchased, one with projection hook-up capabilities, to use during macroinvertebrate studies or coded wire tag demonstrations.
9. Proposals were submitted to three potential funding sources for education and outreach materials. Only one was successful and four event tents were purchased thanks to an \$800.00 grant from Sam's Club.

OUTREACH

Stream Restoration/Habitat Activities

Integration of small-scale stream restoration projects with education has been an effective tool in increasing the public's awareness of salmon, especially the protection of fish habitat. These projects are often very time consuming to plan, coordinate and implement, and unfortunately, the STREAM Program had to decrease its efforts in this area, but will make opportunities available to the public should they come at a reasonable time and cost.

During 2000 two streamside projects were completed (Table 21). The first was a tree revetment bank stabilization project along Ship Creek below Reeve Boulevard in Anchorage. Fifteen volunteers from the Anchorage Waterways Council helped to anchor recycled Christmas trees along an eroding section of Ship Creek to slow erosion and to provide fish habitat. The trees had been collected after the Christmas holidays and stockpiled until their installation in the summer. The second was the installation of two informational kiosks along Campbell Creek in Anchorage by an Eagle Scout and his volunteers. The kiosks were erected adjacent to viewing/fishing platforms at Folker Street and at Dimond Blvd. The Scout later returned to finish the kiosk work and also installed two benches he had constructed at the Folker viewing deck.

Table 20.-Educational materials developed by the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Educational Aid | Comments |
|---|---|
| Salmon dissection program | 836 salmon distributed and utilized by 3,234 school children |
| Adopt-A-Stream Streamkeepers manual | 22 copies to participating AAS schools and agency people |
| Stream sampling kits | 5 sampling kits upgraded to meet new ed. level protocol |
| Pacific Salmon Alaska's Story | 660 copies distributed to participating schools |
| Salmon life cycle poster | 315 copies distributed FY00 |
| Salmon Odyssey interactive CD | 1 copy distributed FY00 |
| Kenai River Watershed interactive CD | 23 copies distributed FY00 |
| Salmon egg vial displays | 20 distributed FY00 |
| CES incubator set-up video | 15 distributed FY00 |
| First Catch Card program | 312 cards distributed to kids catching their first fish |
| Salmonids in the Classroom (primary version) | 5 copies of the curriculum distributed in FY00 |
| Classroom salmon egg incubation manual | 51 copies distributed in FY00 |
| Field clipboards | 250 clipboards received from WC and distributed |
| Watershed education model | YRC supplied interactive watershed model to STREAM Program to use at events |
| "Salmonid Education" pins | received order to replenish supply – used as prizes |
| Rubber fish print materials | art activity for students and events |
| Dissecting scopes | purchased 4 dissecting scopes for events. One trinocular model allows attachment of Ken-a-Vision scope. |
| Dissecting trays | for classroom dissection program |
| Elmendorf Hatchery HS student intern program | two KCC students assisted at Ft. Rich and Elm. Hatcheries |
| Alaska Fly Fishers fly fishing mentorship program | teaching kids to fly fish through AFF/4H mentorship – Palmer staff |
| Live salmon cam | internet site allows public/schools to watch salmon egg development. Activities included. |
| Egg-take and release web pages | web pages updated with information maps and dates of events |
| Life cycle poster web page | added to resource materials section |
| Canada DFO Community Involvement Directory | listing of Alaska schools in BC/Yukon directory |
| Williams Alaska grant proposal | event bags and large pond tent request – not processed |
| Royal Caribbean settlement funding proposal | chillers and educational trailer – not selected |
| SAMS Club Spirit Committee grant (\$800.00) | 4 EZ-Up tents for events – accepted – purchased tents |

During FY00 a small picket weir was again erected in Chester Creek to count returning adult coho salmon in the system. The weir was installed and manned by staff from the Alaska Greenhouse.

Shows and Special Events

Large events or shows (Table 22) are excellent ways to reach out to segments of the population that may not have access to or a specific interest in fish or fishing. The activities at events in which the STREAM Program participates are always very hands-on and easy to understand by the general public.

Table 21.-Stream restoration/habitat activities (outreach) conducted by the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Date | Location | No. Volunteers | Man Hours | Coop Agency/Org | Project |
|-------|----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 08/08 | Chester Creek | 2 | 15 | Alaska Greenhouse | adult coho weir – 1 fish |
| 08/21 | Ship Creek | 15 | 75 | Anchorage Waterways | bank tree revetment |
| 10/02 | Campbell Creek | 7 | 35 | Boy Scouts of America | kiosk installation (2 sites) |
| 05/27 | Campbell Creek | 4 | 12 | Boy Scouts of America | deck bench and kiosk roof |
| Total | 4 | 28 | 137 | | |

The STREAM Program ice fishing event continues to be a popular pre-Christmas field trip and is definitely a hands-on activity for instructors who are interested in expanding their classroom salmon projects. This project serves as an introduction to winter fishing opportunities around Southcentral Alaska with ice fishing events held in Anchorage (Jewel Lake) and the Matanuska-Susitna Valley (Matanuska Lake). In Anchorage, 1,325 students (51 classes) caught 1,001 fish, almost exclusively catchable-sized chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*. Of the Anchorage student anglers, 200 (15%) caught their first fish. In the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, 349 student anglers (12 classes) caught 39 fish and 3 (1%) of these caught their first fish. These students caught catchable-sized chinook salmon and coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch*, as well as rainbow trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss* and Arctic char *Salvelinus alpinus* from Matanuska Lake.

In March, in cooperation with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, STREAM Program staff and volunteers arranged to help a young cancer patient from Texas fulfill his dream to ice fish in Alaska. After visiting two local lakes, the boy and his family caught their limits of large landlocked coho salmon and rainbow trout.

The year 2000 again saw expansion of the “Coho Carnival” program. In FY00 each event was newly named a “Salmon Celebration” because all locations were not releasing exclusively coho salmon, as had been the case during previous years. Inaugural events were held this year in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley (Matanuska Lake), Kenai Peninsula (Johnson Lake) and Fairbanks (Delta-Clearwater River) areas, along with the already existing Anchorage (2) and Kodiak events. All of the Salmon Celebrations are associated with a spring fish release, with the exception of the Fairbanks area, where the Salmon Celebration occurs during the fall egg take.

The two Anchorage events had a combined attendance of 2,900 students. The first Anchorage Salmon Celebration was held in conjunction with the release of classroom incubated coho fry by participating Anchorage area schools. The second event was a district-wide event where Anchorage school students were given coho smolt to release as part of ADF&G’s urban coho stocking program. The smolt came from the ADF&G Sport Fish Ft. Richardson Hatchery.

Table 22.-Shows and special events attended or sponsored by the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Date | Event | Location | Attendance | # Volunteers | Purpose | Comments |
|-------|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 08/26 | Alaska State Fair | Palmer | ? | 0 | display at cooperative agency booth | live juvenile salmon display/life cycle |
| 08/27 | Alaska Zoo | Anchorage | 75 | 0 | salmon education at zoo | 3 adult coho salmon in bear tank for display – eaten within hour |
| 09/25 | Elmendorf PX | Elmendorf AFB | 300 | 0 | children’s fishing opp. | stocked and monitored fishing pond event |
| 10/06 | Fairbanks area egg take and Salmon Celeb | Delta Clearwater River | 150 | 12 (48 man-hours) | salmonid awareness | School egg take and hands-on activity booths |
| 12/06 | Mat-Su Borough School District ice fishing | Matanuska Lake – Palmer | 120 (5 classes) | 5 (+parents) | winter fishing opps. | 39 fish caught, 3 first catch cards – both days |
| 12/07 | MSBSD ice fishing | Matanuska Lake – Palmer | 229 (7 classes) | 6 (+parents) | winter fishing opps. | |
| 12/13 | Anchorage School District ice fishing | Jewel Lake | 362 (15 classes) | 12 (+parents) | winter fishing opps | 274 fish caught, 55 first catch cards |
| 12/14 | ASD ice fishing | Jewel Lake | 374 (14 classes) | 14 (+parents) | winter fishing opps | 260 fish caught, 41 first catch cards |
| 12/15 | ASD ice fishing | Jewel Lake | 340 (13 classes) | 17 (+parents) | winter fishing opps | 308 fish caught, 57 first catch cards |
| 12/16 | ASD ice fishing | Jewel Lake | 249 (9 classes) | 14 (+parents) | winter fishing opps | 159 fish caught, 47 first catch cards |
| 1/13 | Sport Fish Regulations Art Contest | 2 areas | SC – 461 (49 schools) BB – 90 | 0 | student artwork for regulation covers | Robert Kraus (SC) Courtney Natwick (BB) |
| 02/12 | Fur Rendezvous Parade | downtown Anchorage | 3,000 | 120 | salmonid and fishing awareness | 120 children, parents and teachers construct float – 1 st place/grand prize |
| 3/11 | Make-A-Wish ice fishing | Jewel/Sand/Johnson L. | 5 | 2 | young cancer patient wish – from Texas | visited 3 lakes in Anchorage and Palmer – 20 fish |
| 03/09 | Abbott Loop Science Night | Abbott Loop Elementary | 200 | 4 | salmonid awareness | hands-on salmonid activities to increase awareness |

-continued-

Table 22.-Page 2 of 2.

| Date | Event | Location | Attendance | # Volunteers | Purpose | Comments |
|-------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 03/16 | Kasuun Science Night | Kasuun Elementary | 100 | 4 | salmonid awareness | hands-on salmonid activities to increase awareness |
| 04/08 | Great Alaska Sportsman Show | Anchorage | 3,000 | 26 (440 man- hours) | ASA Kids Fishing Pond | KCC Volunteers – booths, pond, stocking, fish cleaning, 112 1 st catch cards |
| 04/26 | ASA pond Scholarship presentation | King Career Center | 150 | 0 | scholarship awards | Zack Pickett - \$1,000 Robert Johnston - \$500 Vanessa Watson - \$500 Debra Reger - \$500 |
| 05/09 | MSBSD Salmon Celeb | Matanuska Lake - Palmer | 1,500 | 65 (260 man- hours) | salmonid/ fishing awareness | fry/catchable fish release and hands-on activity booths |
| 05/12 | ASD fry release/Salmon Celeb | Taku – Campbell L. | 1,400 | 25 (125 man- hours) | salmonid/ fishing awareness | fry release and hands-on activity booths |
| 05/16 | Kenai Peninsula Salmon Celeb | Johnson Lake - Kasilof | 1,100 (46 classes) | 30 (150 man- hours) | salmonid/ fishing awareness | catchable fish release and hands-on activity booths |
| 05/23 | Kodiak Coho Carnival | Kodiak – Island Lake | 1,100 | 86 (430 man- hours) | salmonid/ fishing awareness | fry release and hands-on activity booths |
| 05/26 | Anchorage smolt release/Coho Carnival | Campbell Cr | 1,500 | 30 (180 man- hours) | salmonid/ fishing awareness | smolt release and hands- on activity booths |
| 06/10 | Kenai River Festival | City of Kenai | 1,000 | 32 (100 man- hours) | | |
| 06/10 | Ft. Richardson Kids Fishing Derby | Otter Lake | 150 | 0 | kid's fishing event | stocked 1,000 rainbow trout in confinement net |
| 06/24 | Cordova USFS Kid's Fishing Fair | Fleming Spit | 100 | 0 | salmonid/ fishing awareness | hands-on salmonid activities to increase awareness |
| Total | 25 | | 17,055 | 504 (1,733 man-hours) | | |

The Salmon Celebration held in Kodiak had an attendance of 1,100 students. The event was held at North Star Elementary School and children from all the attending classes released coho salmon fry that had been raised at their schools. The fry were released into nearby Island Lake. In addition, Safeway and other organizations donated over 1,100 hot dogs and buns, chips, soft drinks, plates, utensils and condiments. The crowd numbered approximately 10% of the population of Kodiak.

The Matanuska-Susitna Valley Salmon Celebration was a combined fish release event. Students who had raised coho salmon in their classrooms released their fish into Matanuska Lake. Other district-wide students who were in attendance received catchable rainbow trout and Arctic char from the ADF&G Sport Fish Ft. Richardson Hatchery to release as part of the annual stocking program. Overall attendance was 1,500 students, which was an excellent turnout for this first annual event.

The Kenai Peninsula Celebration was also successful with an attendance of 1,100 students. Students from the Kenai Peninsula School District were given catchable rainbow trout from the ADF&G Sport Fish Ft. Richardson Hatchery to release into Johnson Lake in Kasilof. These catchable fish were also part of the stocking allocation for that lake.

After releasing their fish, classes visited the hands-on booths where they learned more about various salmon, stream and fishing topics. The activity booths included salmon life cycle rubber stamps, macroinvertebrate touch tank, live fish display, button making, salmon habitat “wheel of misfortune,” watershed model, salmon scale aging, coded wire tag fish display and detector, radio tagging, salmon anatomy puzzles, handouts (including fishing regulations), fly tying and fly casting stations, and spin casting station.

The Fairbanks area Salmon Celebration was held in the fall during the school egg take, due to Fairbanks school district spring scheduling difficulties. One hundred and fifty students from Mentasta Lake to Fairbanks attended the event at the Delta-Clearwater River. After doing the hands-on activities the classes left with their eggs for their classroom projects.

Overall attendance for all the Salmon Celebration events was 6,750 students. Two hundred and forty eight volunteers made these events possible this year.

Other major events this past year included the annual Kid's Fishing Pond and activity booths at the Anchorage Great Alaska Sportsman's Show (GASS) (3,000 children), the annual Kenai River Festival (1,000 children) and the annual Anchorage Fur Rendezvous Parade, for which a local elementary school builds a salmon-related float. The parade was attended by approximately 3,000 people and the 120 students from Inlet View Elementary won the “best float” award, as well as first prize in the non-commercial youth division.

Aurora Productions, organizers of the GASS, again donated 50% of the children's show admission fee to the King Career Center's Natural Resources class for running the activity booths and Kid's Fishing Pond. Four scholarships (one at \$1,000 and three at \$500) were awarded to college-bound students interested in pursuing careers in fish or wildlife. Some of the money was also used to hire two high school interns from the class to gain some hatchery and fish culture experience at the ADF&G Sport Fish Ft. Richardson Hatchery. These interns replaced the volunteers in the hatchery tour program.

This year's Sport Fish regulations cover art contest was held for the Southcentral region and for the Bristol Bay region. There were 551 entries received from both areas and fishing poles and other small prizes were awarded to the first through third place winners. In addition, each child who entered received a special STREAM Program pin.

Many volunteers make these large events possible. In 2000, 504 volunteers spent at least 1,733 hours ensuring that events were a success. Just over 17,000 people participated in or attended this year's events.

Media Coverage

The media (Table 23) continues to play an important role in getting the goals of the STREAM Program out to the public. Anchorage area media are very interested in the various projects that the STREAM Program conducts, which also assists the department and division in educating the public about ADF&G mission and goals. In addition, the positive nature of these stories helps the department and division overcome their sometimes negative image. The STREAM Program also continues to work with a local network to produce several child-oriented segments relating to salmon. Media in other areas of the state are becoming interested in STREAM Program activities as it expands. In 2000 STREAM Program events or topics were covered 61 times, doubling last year's coverage. The STREAM Program will continue to take advantage of the media when there is interest in helping the department get more information out to the public. Examples of news articles that appeared in 2000 are presented in Appendix A1.

Table 23.-Media coverage of the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Date | Media Organization | Event | Coverage Type |
|-------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 08/13 | Anchorage Daily News | Specialists help schools | special school section |
| 08/19 | Anchorage Daily News | Reeve revetment project | press release |
| 08/19 | Anchorage Press | Reeve revetment project | press release |
| 08/20 | KTUU – Channel 2 | Reeve revetment project | television news |
| 08/21 | KTUU – Channel 2 | Reeve revetment project | television news |
| 08/21 | KTVA – Channel 11 | Reeve revetment project | television news |
| 08/21 | Anchorage Daily News | Reeve revetment project | newspaper article |
| 08/23 | KTUU – Channel 2 | Reeve revetment project | Morning Edition |
| 09/02 | KTUU – Channel 2 | Alaska Zoo coho/bears | television news |
| 09/02 | KTVA – Channel 11 | Alaska Zoo coho/bears | television news |
| 09/23 | KTUU – Channel 2 | ASD egg takes | television news |
| 09/23 | KTVA – Channel 11 | ASD egg takes | television news |
| 10/01 | Valley Frontiersman | MSBSD egg takes | newspaper article |
| 11/01 | Water Pipeline | CES Fisheries in-service | newsletter article |
| 11/06 | Anchorage Daily News | Turnagain Elem. thank you | editorial |
| 11/12 | Kodiak Daily Mirror | Kodiak schools egg takes | newspaper article |
| 12/15 | KTVA – Channel 11 | ASD ice fishing – Jewel Lake | television news |
| 01/16 | KIMO – Channel 13 | Youth Restoration training (KP) | Paul Gray's Alaska |
| 01/23 | KIMO – Channel 13 | Youth Restoration training (MSV) | Paul Gray's Alaska |
| 02/01 | Peninsula Clarion | Sears Elementary incubator picture | newspaper article |
| 02/03 | FOX 4 Kids Club | Winter outdoor survival | children's TV program |
| 02/04 | FOX 4 Kids Club | Winter outdoor survival | children's TV program |
| 02/07 | KTVA – Channel 11 | Fly tying in the classroom | television news |
| 02/07 | KIMO – Channel 13 | Fly tying in the classroom | television news |
| 02/08 | Valley Frontiersman | Snowshoe stream life center | newspaper article |
| 02/09 | KTUU – Channel 2 | Fly tying in the classroom | television news |
| 02/10 | Anchorage Daily News | Rogers Park – fly tying | newspaper article |
| 02/13 | Anchorage Daily News | Fur Rendezvous parade float | newspaper article |
| 02/22 | ASD – Bus. Partnership | Fairview Elem. salmon program | video production |

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Table 23.-Page 2 of 2.

| Date | Media Organization | Event | Coverage Type |
|-------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 03/02 | Alaska Star | Homestead Elem. – fly tying | newspaper article |
| 03/03 | FOX 4 Kids Club | Bear Valley salmon dissection | children’s TV program |
| 03/09 | Anchorage Daily News | Kassandra Kohler (KCC) | newspaper article |
| 03/16 | Kodiak Daily Mirror | North Star Elem. salmon dissection | newspaper article |
| 03/23 | FOX 4 Kids Club | Fairview Elem. fly tying | children’s TV program |
| 04/09 | Anchorage Daily News | GASS Kids Fishing Pond | show supplement |
| 04/14 | KTUU – Channel 2 | GASS Pond – special needs opener | television news |
| 04/15 | Anchorage Daily News | GASS Kids Fishing Pond | newspaper article |
| 04/18 | Anchorage Daily News | K-Beach Elem. AAS | newspaper article |
| 05/06 | Anchorage Daily News | Salmon Celebration info. | press release |
| 05/09 | KTVA – Channel 11 | Mat-Su Salmon Celebration | television news |
| 05/09 | Valley Frontiersman | Mat-Su Salmon Celebration | press release |
| 05/12 | KTUU – Channel 2 | ASD – fry release | television news |
| 05/12 | KTVA – Channel 11 | ASD – fry release | television news |
| 05/12 | FOX 4 Kids Club | ASD – fry release | children’s TV program |
| 05/12 | Valley Frontiersman | Mat-Su Salmon Celebration | newspaper article |
| 05/15 | Anchorage Daily News | Salmon Celebration | press release |
| 05/17 | Peninsula Clarion | Kenai Pen. Salmon Celebration | newspaper article |
| 05/18 | FOX 4 Kids Club | ADF&G office tour (part 1) | children’s TV show |
| 05/19 | FOX 4 Kids Club | ADF&G office tour (part 2) | children’s TV show |
| 05/24 | Kodiak Daily Mirror | Kodiak Salmon Celebration | newspaper article |
| 05/25 | FOX 4 Kids Club | ADF&G office tour (part 3) | children’s TV show |
| 05/26 | KTUU – Channel 2 | ASD Salmon Celebration | television news |
| 05/26 | KTVA – Channel 11 | ASD Salmon Celebration | television news |
| 05/26 | KIMO – Channel 13 | ASD Salmon Celebration | television news |
| 05/26 | FOX 4 Kids Club | ASD Salmon Celebration | children’s TV show |
| 05/26 | FOX 4 Kids Club | ADF&G office tour (part 4) | children’s TV show |
| 05/26 | KFQD radio | ASD Salmon Celebration | radio interview |
| 05/29 | Anchorage Daily News | ASD Salmon Celebration | newspaper article |
| 06/10 | KSRM radio | Kenai River Festival fish activities | radio interview |
| 06/14 | Anchorage Daily News | ASD Salmon Celebration | newspaper article |
| 06/27 | Make-A-Wish Found. | Aaron Cavazos ice fishing wish | foundation newsletter |
| Total | 61 | | |

Requests for Educational Information or Materials

Table 24 documents requests for educational information or materials during 2000. In FY00, the STREAM Program responded to 424 requests. These requests range from phone information about the program to loans of scientific or educational materials.

Table 24.-Requests for educational information, materials and equipment from the ADF&G STREAM Program, 2000.

| Type of Request | Number |
|---|--------|
| Requests for educational materials or information | 385 |
| Educational material loans | 33 |
| Scientific or field equipment loans | 6 |
| Total | 424 |

INFORMATION CENTER ACTIVITIES JULY 1, 1999 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000

The Sport Fish Information Center (SFIC) is mandated by the director to be open 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. all the days that the State of Alaska is open for business. In FY00, this added up to 2,277 hours that the SFIC was open for business, and that staff were immediately available to answer inquiries. SFIC staff rotate and overlap 7.5 hour shifts to meet this 9-hour-per-day mandate, and other departmental staff occasionally serve as substitutes.

GOALS AND TASKS, MARCH PROGRAM REVIEW

In March 2000, SFIC staff teamed up with Educational and Internet staff to host an Information and Education Program Review, held at the Rabbit Creek Rifle Range. Area and regional staff attended to hear the mission and goals of the Information and Education programs. The result of the program review was a task list for Information and Educational staff, complete with timelines (Appendix A2).

Informational tasks for 2000 were to oversee and operate the SFIC; re-do regulation summary booklet to get rid of the codes and put everything in text; coordination of the booth and presentations for the Great Alaska Sportsman Show; update regional informational handouts; edit and distribute emergency orders and news releases; visit area offices; coordinate with the Division of Commercial Fisheries and the Division of Wildlife Conservation on Raspberry Road lobby activities; media interaction (“feed” stories to the media); track and distribute Commissioner’s log items; license sales and accounting; issue and sell permits; coordinate distribution and recording of inseason weekly fishing updates; and respond to e-mail, mail, and telephone inquiries for mail-out information. Additionally, the I&E program was tasked with coming up with a plan for the pending Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) funding; coordinate the issuance of Chitina/Glennallen Subsistence Salmon Permits; assist with developing an education plan for the region at current funding levels; maintain the web pages; coordinate the Educational Fishery permits; and pursue special legislation to create a “Free Fishing Day” and “Kid’s Fishing Stream.”

Of the 21 informational tasks assigned, 17 have been completed. Completed tasks include overseeing and operating the SFIC; re-writing the regulation summary booklet; coordinating of the booth and presentations at the Great Alaska Sportsman Show; updating of regional informational handouts; editing and distributing Emergency Orders and News Releases; coordinating with other divisions on lobby

space; tracking and distributing Commissioner's log items; license sales and accounting; issuing and selling permits; coordinating distribution and recording of inseason weekly fishing reports; responding to e-mail, mail, and telephone requests for mailed information; coordinating the issuance of Chitina/Glennallen Subsistence Salmon Permits; maintaining the web pages; and coordinating the Educational Fishery Permits.

Visiting area offices and feeding the media were not done due to time constraints.

Educational tasks assigned included taking the lead in developing an educational plan for the region; maintaining current school programs; coordinate and possibly conflate educational efforts with the Division of Wildlife Conservation; and coordinate the Kid's Fishing Pond at the Great Alaska Sportsman Show.

Of the four educational tasks assigned, three were completed. Completed tasks include taking the lead in developing an educational plan for the region; maintaining current school programs; and coordinating the Kid's Fishing Pond at the Great Alaska Sportsman Show.

SPORT LICENSE SALES

FY00 was the first year that departmental licensing products were sold at the SFIC (Table 25). Licensing products are offered in an on-going effort to become a full-service, one-stop center for the public to fully realize its sport fishing and personal use/subsistence fishing opportunities.

Products sold include fishing/hunting/trapping licenses, state duck stamps, state king stamps, and big game locking tags. After training was provided by ADF&G Licensing Section, sales commenced August 1999. Transactions included cash, check and MasterCard or Visa. A courier service was employed to take weekly receipts to the bank. Accounts receivables and licensing reports are processed by the SFIC Administrative Clerk III.

In the first fiscal year of sales, the SFIC generated a total of \$53,750.25.

CHITINA SUBDISTRICT SUBSISTENCE SALMON DIPNETTING PERMITS

FY00 was also the first year that Chitina Subdistrict subsistence salmon dipnetting permits were issued/sold at the SFIC. SFIC staff also issued Glennallen Subdistrict subsistence salmon permits, which are free of charge. In prior years, the Chitina permits were available only at the Chitina permitting station, the Glennallen ADF&G office, and the Fairbanks regional office, and only at certain hours, which often resulted in long drives and short tempers for the user group.

Glennallen staff traveled to Anchorage in January 2000 to train SFIC staff in how to correctly issue permits and how to correctly report sales. The first sales were recorded in May 2000, after an intensive print and broadcast media campaign coordinated by the Information Officer, and designed to inform the public about the new opportunity. Permits were also issued/sold from the Palmer ADF&G office.

From May 2000 through June 30, 2000, SFIC staff issued/sold 1,283 Chitina permits (Table 26), the most by any ADF&G outlet for those dates, and 48 more than it's closest office, Fairbanks. The SFIC processed \$19,950 of permit fees for FY00.

Table 25.-Summary of license, stamp, and tag sales, August 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000.

| License Type | Number Sold | Revenue Generated |
|---|--------------|--------------------|
| Resident Sport Fishing ^a | 551 | \$12,402.25 |
| Non-Resident Sport Fishing ^b | 119 | \$6,009 |
| Resident King Stamps | 266 | \$3,110 |
| Non-Resident King Stamps ^c | 44 | \$1,620 |
| Resident and Non-Resident Hunting | 140 | \$5,319 |
| Big Game Locking Tags | 100 | \$23,400 |
| Commercial Crew Member License | 31 | \$1,890 |
| TOTAL | 1,251 | \$53,750.25 |

^a Number sold includes six classes of license: Class 1 Sport Fishing (\$15.00); Class 4 Hunting/Sport Fishing (\$39.00); Class 5 Hunting/Trapping/Sport Fishing (\$53.00); Class 1A Blind Sport Fishing (\$.25); Class 5A Income-Restricted Hunting/Trapping/Sport Fishing (\$5.00); and Class 18 Duplicate (\$5.00)

^b Number sold includes seven classes of license: Class 6A 14-Day Sport Fishing (\$50.00); Class 6B 3-Day Sport Fishing (\$20.00); Class 6C 1-Day Sport Fishing (\$10.00); Class 6D 7-Day Sport Fishing (\$30.00); Class 7 Annual Non-Resident Sport Fishing (\$100.00); Class 9 Non-Resident Hunting/Sport Fishing Annual (\$185.00); and Class 9C Non-Resident 7-Day Sport Fishing and Annual Hunting (\$115.00).

^c Number sold includes five types of king stamp: 1-Day (\$10.00); 3-Day (\$20.00); 7-Day (\$30.00); 14-Day (\$50.00); and Annual (\$100.00).

Table 26.-Chitina Subdistrict subsistence salmon permits issued, by area office, January 1, 2000 through June 30, 2000.

| Area Office | Total number of Chitina Subdistrict Permits Issued |
|----------------|--|
| Anchorage | 1,283 |
| Fairbanks | 1,235 |
| Palmer | 567 |
| Chitina | 341 |
| Delta Junction | 115 |
| Glennallen | 101 |

IN-PERSON VISITORS

In FY00 the Sport Fish Information Center (SFIC) staff served over 11,000 in-person visitors in 250 working days (Table 27). The highest number of visitors occurred in the week of July 5, which saw 824 in-person visits, and the slowest weeks were in mid-December. The total number of visitors represents a 151% increase over FY99. The increase may be due to the advertised availability of Chitina permits, since the number of visitors in May and June increased dramatically from prior years.

Table 27.-In-person visitors requesting sport fishing information or products from the Anchorage Sport Fish Information Center, by week, FY00.

| 1999 | | | 2000 | | |
|----------------|------|------------|-----------|-----|----------|
| Week | Days | Visitors | Week | Day | Visitors |
| 5-Jul | 4 | 824 | 3-Jan | 5 | 59 |
| 12-Jul | 5 | 808 | 10-Jan | 5 | 63 |
| 19-Jul | 5 | 671 | 17-Jan | 4 | 67 |
| 26-Jul | 5 | 311 | 24-Jan | 5 | 86 |
| 2-Aug | 5 | 157 | 31-Jan | 5 | 54 |
| 9-Aug | 5 | 258 | 7-Feb | 5 | 80 |
| 16-Aug | 5 | 224 | 14-Feb | 4 | 78 |
| 23-Aug | 5 | 156 | 21-Feb | 5 | 105 |
| 30-Aug | 5 | 179 | 28-Feb | 5 | 64 |
| 6-Sep | 4 | 81 | 6-Mar | 5 | 103 |
| 13-Sep | 5 | 103 | 13-Mar | 5 | 100 |
| 20-Sep | 5 | 78 | 20-Mar | 5 | 101 |
| 27-Sep | 5 | 90 | 27-Mar | 5 | 107 |
| 4-Oct | 5 | 59 | 3-Apr | 5 | 120 |
| 11-Oct | 5 | 52 | 10-Apr | 5 | 200 |
| 18-Oct | 4 | 53 | 17-Apr | 5 | 197 |
| 25-Oct | 5 | 40 | 24-Apr | 5 | 203 |
| 1-Nov | 5 | 46 | 1-May | 5 | 389 |
| 8-Nov | 4 | 47 | 8-May | 5 | 485 |
| 15-Nov | 5 | 37 | 15-May | 5 | 320 |
| 22-Nov | 4 | 29 | 22-May | 5 | 507 |
| 29-Nov | 5 | 56 | 29-May | 4 | 562 |
| 6-Dec | 5 | 56 | 5-Jun | 5 | 472 |
| 13-Dec | 5 | 37 | 12-Jun | 5 | 623 |
| 20-Dec | 4 | 27 | 19-Jun | 5 | 717 |
| 27-Dec | 4 | 46 | 26-Jun | 5 | 672 |
| Sub-total | 123 | 4,525 | Sub-total | 127 | 6,534 |
| Total for FY00 | | 250 11,059 | | | |

A “visitor” is one person interacting with SFIC staff in some manner, including visitors needing direction to other divisions and meeting rooms within the building, as well as package deliveries. ADF&G staff members are counted as a “visitor” only when utilizing the public services aspect of the SFIC, such as buying licenses, checking fishing hot spots, or picking up permits. They are not counted as a “visitor” if they come to SFIC staff with work requests.

In addition to license and Chitina Subdistrict subsistence permit sales, SFIC staff provided information about sport, personal use, and subsistence regulations; fishery enforcement; access to fisheries; run timing; legal tackle and effective tackle, including best baits, lures and flies; species and sample identification; status of research projects; hatchery procedures and locations; and stocking procedures and timing. The majority of the inquiries were about regulations and opportunity (where and when to go, and what to do once the angler is there).

The SFIC is also a one-stop center for other regulatory products necessary to participate in sport, personal use, and subsistence fisheries. Table 28 details those products.

Table 28.-Other regulatory products issued and/or validated by SFIC staff FY00.

| | |
|--|---|
| 3,482 Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Dipnet Permits | 283 Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay Shellfish Permits |
| 152 Salt Water Charter Vessel Logbooks | 741 Proxy Fishing Information Forms |
| 17 Emergency Orders | 36 News Releases |
| Harvest Record Cards | 5 Subsistence Permits for Kodiak area |
| Board proposal forms | 2 Subsistence Permits for Yentna area |
| 569 Guide Registration Forms ^a | 193 Fishing Services Business Registration Forms ^b |
| Disabled Veteran's Identification Card applications | Permanent Identification Card applications |
| 210 Glennallen Subdistrict Subsistence Salmon Permits ^c | |

^a All entries for 1999 show RTS as the issuing office.

^b All entries for 1999 show RTS as the issuing office.

^c This is a seasonal total.

MAIL-OUTS IN RESPONSE TO TELEPHONE, MAIL, AND E-MAIL INQUIRIES

In addition to the walk-in visits, information center staff responded to 531 phone inquires, 126 mail inquires, 18 inquiries referred from other divisions, 59 e-mail inquires, and 9 fax inquiries; all specifically asking for information to be sent. These inquiries resulted in 743 mailings to nearly all 50 states and 19 foreign countries. Nearly 1,060 Southcentral Region regulation books and 900 handouts were distributed in these mailings alone.

These inquiries are in addition to the thousands of telephone and in-person inquiries which did not result in a mailing.

SUPPORT OF REGIONAL AND AREA RESEARCH & MANAGEMENT PROGRAM BY SFIC STAFF

SFIC staff also provide administrative and public information services to ADF&G staff.

In FY00, the Fisheries Technician II designed and completed one lure and seven fly displays for the SFIC, and for display at presentations and trade shows. The flies were donated, and the technician designed the backgrounds, framed the flies, and hung them in the SFIC. Fish mounts were cleaned up and hung in the SFIC, as well as in the lobby.

Also in FY00 the Information Officer was invited to attend the regional Area Reviews, so that she could become more familiar with area concerns, and so that area managers could become more familiar with the Information Services program. The Information Officer attended the Homer, Groundfish, Soldotna, Anchorage, Kodiak, Bristol Bay, Resurrection Bay, Prince William Sound, and Hatchery program reviews.

INFORMATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Nearly 40 handouts (Table 29) are produced by the Information Program working in cooperation with regional research and management biologists. The major impetus that drives the production of the handouts is the annual Great Alaskan Sportsman Show, held every spring in Anchorage. This outlet provides the regional Information Program the largest opportunity to distribute hard copies, since over 20,000 people attend the show every year.

In addition to the Sportsman Show, distribution includes hard copy at the SFIC; hard copy in regional area offices; originals provided to visitor's centers and chambers of commerce for their own copying and distribution; hard copy distribution in response to telephone, mail, and e-mail requests; and Adobe Portable Document Format posting on the regional web pages.

In FY00, the Information Officer received two new publications from the Bristol Bay area office, and had them duplicated for distribution at the Great Alaska Sportsman Show. In addition, a new handout, Seasonally-Closed Banks on the Kenai River, was developed for distribution through the SFIC, area offices, Great Alaska Sportsman Show, and visitor's centers. The Glennallen area office sent an original of their Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Basin Roadside Fishing Guide, which was duplicated for the Great Alaska Sportsman Show. The Administrative Clerk III put together a new handout telling people where to find ADF&G Sport Fish web pages; copies were distributed from the SFIC and at the show.

The SFIC also serves as a clearinghouse for the distribution of informational handouts from sport fish headquarters in Juneau (Table 30).

The SFIC also distributes regulation booklets. Procedures are now in place to determine the number distributed from the SFIC.

Table 29.-Sport fishing informational handouts developed and/or duplicated by regional staff, and available from the Anchorage sport fish information center, FY00.

| Document Title | Status in FY00 | No. Distributed FY 00 |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|
| <u>REGIONAL</u> | | |
| Great Alaska Sport Fishing Spots for the Disabled | Updated | 56 |
| Pacific Halibut | Updated | 2,100 |
| Upper Cook Inlet Personal Use Salmon Regulations | Updated | 4,005 |
| Alaska Board of Fisheries | No change | 50 |
| Ice Fishing in Southcentral Alaska | Updated | 400 |
| Find ADF&G on the Internet | New | 8,800 |
| <u>ANCHORAGE</u> | | |
| Sport Fishing in the Anchorage Area | Updated | 2,070 |
| Anchorage Area Fish Run Timing | Updated | 800 |
| <u>BRISTOL BAY</u> | | |
| Southwest Alaska Rainbow Management Policies | No change | 0 |
| Fishing Lodges and Charter Services for Bristol Bay | Updated | 0 |
| Sport Fishing in the Naknek River | Updated | 500 |
| Sport Fishing in the Togiak, Goodnews, and Kanektok Rivers | Updated | 300 |
| Sport Fishing in the Newhalen River | No change | 0 |
| Sport Fishing in Talarik Creek | No change | 0 |
| Southwest Alaska Management Outlook | New | 63 |
| Sport Fishing in Southwest Alaska | New | 299 |
| <u>HOMER</u> | | |
| Sport Fishing in Kachemak Bay | Updated | 756 |
| Tidepooling Etiquette | No change | 0 |
| Sport Fishing on the Lower Kenai Peninsula | Updated | 862 |
| <u>KENAI</u> | | |
| Kenai Peninsula Stocked Lakes | Updated | 2,075 |
| Recreational Fishing in the Kenai River | Updated | 2,584 |
| Kenai Peninsula Razor Clams | Updated | 800 |
| Russian River Sockeye Salmon | Updated | 2,150 |
| Kenai Peninsula Run Timing | Updated | No count |
| Kenai Peninsula Dolly Varden | Updated | 1,500 |
| Seasonally-Closed Banks on the Kenai River | New | No count |
| <u>MATANUSKA-SUSITNA VALLEY</u> | | |
| Matanuska-Susitna Valley Lakes Fishing Forecast | Updated | 2,537 |
| Northern Cook Inlet King Salmon Sport Fishing | Updated | 3,050 |
| Matanuska, Susitna and Anchorage Northern Pike | Updated | 2,500 |
| Mat-Su Valley Silver Salmon | Updated | 2,000 |
| Major Northern Cook Inlet Sport Fisheries Availability Timing | Updated | No count |
| Terminal Tackle in Southcentral Alaska | No change | 0 |

-continued-

Table 29.-Page 2 of 2.

| Document Title | Status in FY00 | No. Distributed FY 00 |
|---|----------------|-----------------------|
| <u>PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND</u> | | |
| Cordova Road System Recreational Fishing | Updated | 150 |
| Valdez Arm Recreational Fishing | Updated | 650 |
| Rockfish in Prince William Sound | Updated | 800 |
| Prince William Sound Run Timing | Updated | No count |
| Fishing for Salmon in Prince William Sound | Updated | 942 |
| <u>RESURRECTION BAY/SEWARD</u> | | |
| Sport Fishing on the Eastern Kenai Peninsula, Seward and Res. Bay | Updated | 1,450 |
| <u>GLENNALLEN</u> | | |
| Upper Copper/Upper Susitna Basin Roadside Fishing Guide | New | 200 |

Table 30.-Informational handouts forwarded from Sport Fish Headquarters to the Sport Fish Information Center for distribution.

| DOCUMENT TITLE | DESCRIPTION | No. Distributed FY 00 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Selective Harvest Catch-and-Release | Trifold | 15 |
| Elmendorf Hatchery | Trifold | 0 |
| Federal Aid | Booklet | 15 |
| Hooked on Fishing | Booklet | 270 |
| Lifecycle of the Pacific Salmon | Poster | No count |
| Sport Fishing in Alaska | Fold-out poster | No count |
| Alaska Sport Fishing Guide | Roadside guide booklet | |
| Bear Facts | Trifold | |
| Saltwater Catch-And-Release | Trifold | No count |
| Game Fishes of Alaska | Fold-out poster | |

STOCKED LAKE MAPS SERIES

Another component of information services that was brought into the Information Services Program in 1997 was the further development of the "Stocked Lake Maps" series. In 1995 the staff in the Palmer area office initiated the publication of a series of maps for the lakes stocked in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley area. This series included bathymetric (underwater contour) maps (if available), description of public access to the lake, average depth, maximum depth, volume, map location, stocking history, surface area, Statewide Harvest Survey information and stocking plan.

In 1996, this series was expanded to include an Anchorage Lake Map series. In 1997, lake maps were completed for the Upper Copper and Upper Susitna management area, and in 1999, lake maps were completed for the Kenai Peninsula, and for Southcentral Unstocked (Wild) Lakes. The lake maps are

updated every year, as new information becomes available. All lake maps are also distributed in Adobe Portable Document Format on the regional web pages.

In FY00, research was done to produce lake maps for 22 lakes in Kodiak. The maps include information on access, volumetrics, stocking, Statewide Harvest Survey data, test net sampling and updated stocking numbers.

EMERGENCY ORDERS AND NEWS RELEASES

In FY00, Information Services staff assisted area biologists in issuing 27 emergency orders and 36 news releases. Staff assist by serving as a central clearinghouse for emergency order numbers. SFIC staff issue the emergency order number, and review emergency orders and news releases for clarity and content. Additionally, Anchorage, Resurrection Bay, and Prince William Sound emergency orders and news releases are distributed from the SFIC, and a central record of all regional emergency orders is kept at the SFIC. SFIC staff also prepare emergency orders and news releases for posting on departmental web pages.

In FY00, the Information Officer began the process of updating the distribution lists for emergency orders and news releases. She polled each member of the Anchorage, Resurrection Bay, and Prince William Sound lists, asking (1) Did the contact wish to continue to receive such information; (2) Did the contact prefer fax, e-mail, and/or hard copy mail; (3) Is the contact information correct; and (4) Did the contact have suggestions for additions or deletions to the list.

In addition SFIC staff requested emergency order and news release contact lists from each area office. Information provided was entered into an Excel spreadsheet, and a comparative distribution list was created to decrease redundancy and identify gaps. A centralized list of emergency order/news release contacts is now in draft format.

GREAT ALASKA SPORTSMAN SHOW

The Great Alaska Sportsman Show (GASS), a fishing, hunting, and outdoor recreation trade show held every spring in Anchorage, Alaska, is an event that Sport Fish Division has actively participated in since the mid 1980s. Over the years, the show has attracted nearly 25,000 adult and child visitors over a 4-day period. According to Aurora Productions, producers of the show, over 80% of show visitors are residents of Alaska.

The division's participation and contribution to the show has always been in three arenas: the Kid's Fishing Pond in the Ben Boeke Arena; the set-up, staffing, and tear-down of a large booth in the Sullivan Arena; and the coordination for show management of expert speakers from the Divisions of Sport Fish, Habitat, and Wildlife Conservation. Coordination of the booth area includes set-up for Division of Sport Fish, Division of Wildlife Conservation, and the Division of Habitat & Restoration; as well as set-up for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS) Federal Aid Program and the Bird Treatment and Learning Center.

Because the date coincides with the time people are gearing up for the fishing season, the GASS has also been used as a target date for the distribution of both the current year's sport fishing regulation summary books and the current year's informational brochures describing fishing opportunities in both Region II and Region III. The primary objective of the division's participation in the booth and

coordinating seminar topics is to take advantage of the opportunity to provide a large number of current and potential anglers with accurate and timely information and resources about sport fishing.

The Fishing Pond has been under the wing of the STREAM Program since its inception and was discussed earlier in this report. The responsibility for the booth in the Sullivan Arena has historically been with the Region II area management staff. In the fall of 1997, with the inception of the Information and Education program, the responsibility for organizing and implementing both the booth and the Department speakers at the GASS was placed under the Information Services program.

Shortly after the April 2000 show, regional management, realizing the potential to reach a large segment of the sport fishing population, expressed a desire to present a theme at the following year's show. Regular meetings were held with regional management and Information Services staff to develop the theme, and to streamline and upgrade the booth. Invasive species, particularly the illegal introduction of northern pike into Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Valley lakes, was decided upon as the theme. In addition, it was decided during the meetings that stepped-up license sales and Internet access for visitors to the booth was to be offered in spring 2001.

FUTURE GOALS

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Future goals for education and outreach are:

1. Expand and maintain the classroom salmon egg incubation program where requested in existing areas only. Establish classroom egg-take sites in Soldotna and if possible the North Slope.
2. Continue efforts to develop relationships with Division of Wildlife Conservation education programs staff.
3. Develop present and potential future (CARA) educational plans.
4. Continue to develop community relationships and support for possible projects funding.

INFORMATION SERVICES

Future goals for information services are:

1. Develop new informational brochures as needs are identified and revise and update existing informational handouts, to include photographs and more information about remote fisheries.
2. Continue to develop displays for the information center to inform visitors about Alaska's fish resources, sport-fishing opportunities, regulations and management strategies.
3. Plans for next year's participation in the GASS include the presentation of a theme; sales of licenses at the booth; increasing staff participation at the booth and in the seminars; and revise, update, and standardize presentations so that more presenters are available; and improve signage.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff of the Information and Education programs would like to thank Becky DeArmoun and Eric Burg for their tireless efforts in ensuring that the Sport Fish Information Center continues to run smoothly 8 hours per day, 5 days per week. Thanks are also due to the regional Sport Fish staff and statewide

Research and Technical Services staff who regularly volunteer to assist SFIC staff at the counter and on the telephone: Debby Burwen, Carmen Olito, Dan Bosch, Barry Stratton, Diane Loopstra, Matt Miller, Mike Dean, Donna Buchholz, Joanne MacClelland, Kathy Kush, Sandy Sonnichsen, Larry Peltz, and Bob Clark.

The STREAM Program would like to acknowledge the efforts of all the volunteers as well as regional and area ADF&G staff who have helped at the many events held this year, but especially to ADF&G Fish and Wildlife Technicians Craig Baer (Matanuska-Susitna Valley) and Patti Berkhahn (Kenai Peninsula) for assisting the STREAM Program in their areas as well as during events throughout the Southcentral region. A special thanks to the dedicated volunteer classroom fly tying crew who dedicated many hours of their time to offer a quality learning experience for kids – Bennie Leonard, Frank Willis, Mark Mahoric, Vance Whepley, and Pudge Kleinkauf. A special thanks to volunteer Mark Mahoric for doing lots of legwork for the STREAM Program during the winter and spring of this year, and for helping out at the Salmon Celebrations. Thanks to Mike Woods and his Natural Resources class at the King Career Center for making the Great Alaska Sportsman’s Show Kids Fishing Pond and activity booths a success and for the many hours the students helped during fish releases and carnivals. To SAM’s Club for helping us acquire four new tents for the Salmon Celebrations and egg takes. Thanks to Cecil Ranney and his Kodiak High School fisheries class, the St. Innocent youth, Safeway and the staff at North Star Elementary School in Kodiak for assisting with the Kodiak Salmon Celebration. To George Chapman at Wasilla High School and Judy Dewar at Delta Junction High School for putting together great groups of high school students to man the booths at their Salmon Celebrations in Palmer and Delta Junction. Thanks to the staff at the Fort Richardson Hatchery for supplying staff time, trucks and fish for many of the STREAM Program’s events. To Catherine Moncrieff and the Anchorage Waterways Council volunteers for getting the tree revetment project done on Ship Creek. A special thanks to Peter Stortz and the Cooperative Extension Service for all his hard work in acquiring equipment for the classroom salmon egg incubation program. To the many other community members, agencies and organizations that have helped this year. Finally, to all the teachers and school district staff throughout Southcentral and Interior Alaska who make my job enjoyable and rewarding – thanks for helping me make students more aware of our salmon resources. Without the support of volunteers, teachers and community many of the STREAM Program’s events would not be possible.

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APPENDIX A. NEWS ARTICLES AND MEMOS

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
July 9, 1999



BILL ROTH / Anchorage Daily News

Youth Restoration Corps workers Skyanna Goodwin, Sarah Hansen and Sarah Lemagie dig a trench for the coir log that is lying on the shore behind them during a habitat restoration project Thursday along the Little Susitna River.

River bank restoration project

Teens tackle Little Su

Project to restore river's banks, improve fish habitat

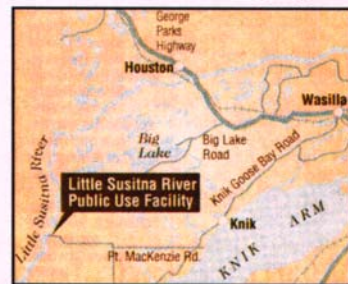
By S.J. KOMARNITSKY
Daily News Mat-Su Bureau

Palmer — Some major construction is under way on the Little Susitna River, but if all goes well there'll be little trace of the work except, perhaps, a few more trees and the slight scent of coconut.

The construction is a river restoration project aimed at improving fish habitat along a popular three-mile stretch of the river near Point MacKenzie .

The stretch abuts the Little Susitna River Public Use Facility, an increasingly popular destination for anglers in recent years because of its easy accessibility and plentiful salmon runs.

But the popularity has come with a price as once-vegetated banks have been trampled bare and boat wakes have eaten away at the remaining soil. A state Department of Fish and Game survey done about four years ago estimated about three miles of shoreline had been damaged.



RON ENGSTROM / Anchorage Daily News

"This is a way to promote environmental stewardship for the teens and do something good for the river."

—Kelly Wolf, Youth Restoration Corps



Dan Trotter and Stephanie Smith of the Youth Restoration Corps place alders into the Little Susitna River to keep the roots moist until they are ready to plant the trees in a habitat restoration project along the Little Susitna River. The group decided on the project at the suggestion of Fish and Game officials.

RIVER: Little Susitna gets help from teens

The \$74,000 project, organized by the Youth Restoration Corps, a non-profit group dedicated to restoring river habitat, aims to rehabilitate some of those crumbling banks as well as fix up several unofficial campsites that have sprung up over the years.

Ten teenagers and their adult supervisors are spending 20 days working on the river, said Kelly Wolf, a retired contractor who serves as the group's executive director.

The teens, who started work Monday, are planting trees, laying down vegetative mats and shoring up the banks with a combination of spruce logs and logs made of coconut husks. The latter help stabilize the bank and encourage plants to grow, Wolf said.

The teens also will work at seven campsites where anglers have caused erosion. They will help build fire pits, outhouses and elevated wooden platforms for tents.

"This is a way to promote environmental stewardship for the teens and do something good for the river," Wolf said.

The group has done similar projects along the Kenai and Russian

ivers. This is the first in the Mat-Su, he said.

The project has the support of state Fish and Game officials and the state Division of Parks, which runs the public use facility. The Alaska Air National Guard plans to lend a hand by airlifting in the 200 spruce logs that will be used to reinforce the bank.

Wolf said the group decided on the Little Susitna project at the suggestion of Fish and Game officials.

In the past decade, the stretch has become among the most popular fishing spots in the Mat-Su with a king salmon run of several thousand and a silver run of up to 40,000.

Last year, more than 25,000 people visited the facility, according to state parks records.

At the peak of the runs, dozens of people can be found working their way along a muddy path that leads from the parking lot and follows the river's edge. Meanwhile, a steady stream of boats motor downstream toward the mouth.

Like the Kenai River, the combination in some spots has led to heavy erosion, widening the river in some spots and making it more shallow, said

Cevin Gilleland, a state habitat biologist.

The loss of the vegetated banks has destroyed good rearing habitat for young silver salmon, which like to hide under banks to cool off, rest and try to make meals of passing insects, he said.

Meg Burgett, who chairs the Wasilla Soil and Water Conservation District, said her group has been watching changes along the Little Susitna River for years. They are concerned about erosion along the banks and development along the river, including a planned ski area near the headwaters in Hatcher Pass. The river winds for more than 100 miles before it ends at Cook Inlet.

"We've watched the pressure increase on the river," she said.

Both Burgett and Gilleland said they're pleased with the work Wolf group has planned.

In addition to helping fix up the river banks, the teens, who range in age from 16 to 19, will be learning about the ecosystem, Wolf said. They'll spend at least one day with a biologist.

The project is scheduled to last through the end of July.

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
August 13, 1999



ERIK HILL / Anchorage Daily News
Inlet View Elementary students help net salmon in Campbell Creek with the help of Alaska Department of Fish and Game personnel. Eggs and milt are collected and the students raise the fry in local schools for release in spring.

Specialist freshen up the learning curve

By CHARLIE ESS
Special to the Daily News

Students are bored? Recent budget cuts have left the curriculum looking a little thin? Want to add depth or try a different approach to a particular subject?

Maybe it's time to call in the specialists, those individuals within the community whose skills make them a hit in any classroom. They're out there, able and willing to lend a fresh angle in history, music, science, dancing, painting and writing.

Carol Ford, a storyteller and actor from Nikiski, got a call from a kindergarten teacher who wanted students to conceptualize shapes in the letters of the alphabet. Ford took her kindergarten-aged son, Alden, to the class as

an accomplice and the two of them put on an impromptu play about the letter A.

All went well during the performance, according to Ford - well enough, anyway, that what has transpired over the years has been more plays based on children's literature. The Dr. Seuss yarn, "Horton Hears a Who" has been popular as have been the "Frog and Toad" series by Arnold Lobel.

"They read simple, but they go much deeper when you play them out," says Ford of the comedies. "We talk about what's funny. Then we talk about why it's funny. The more we play with them, the more we find out that the silliness is grounded in real life."

But acting and storytelling doesn't end at children's literature. Think history. Think local history for that matter, and you might wind up inviting Ford to tell local stories and have students plot them along a timeline to learn the relationship between homesteaders and Alaska's first roads.

Or have her husband Larry in for a visit. He'll teach kids to start a fire with a bow and drill or chip stone to make tools the way of the Dena'ina Athabaskan Indians,

who inhabited the Kenai Peninsula long before Vitus Bering and Captain Cook landed.

Teachers in the Anchorage School District spike their science classes with visits from Fritz Kraus of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. He set up egg incubators so kids could study the life cycle of salmon.

Jim Utter, coordinator for ASDs School/Business Partnership, says that high school students visit streams and extract the milt and roe from adults. Elementary kids incubate the eggs, watch them hatch in the classroom and later release the smolts in Campbell Creek.

The program has been going on for eight years, Utter says, adding that watching the life cycle of the fish "opens a whole lot of other avenues that you'd just not read about in a book."

Perhaps nowhere are the resources more abundant than the Artists in Schools, a program offered by the Alaska State Council on the Arts, which receives appropriations from the Alaska State Legislature and the federally-funded National Endowment for the Arts.

Among specialists working within the program is Mike Morgan, a Kasilof-based folk guitarist and songwriter who has tied music to his graduate work in English and poetry.



PHOTO COURTESY JULIE MATTHEWS

Wolves Island Park was created by students and designed by local artist Julie Matthews.

involved, Morgan says a good starting point is the melody to "This Land is Your Land."

"We look at the structure of the lyrics, then I say lets make up our own lyrics - about life at this school." He gives the students 15 minutes to come up with four lines that fit the tune.

Teachers have come to depend on people like Morgan to supplement programs lost to funding cuts, says Lucy Bikulcs, a special education pre-school and kindergarten teacher in the Mat-Su School District. "Unfortunately most of our art programs have been cut and cut," says Bikulcs, "and this gives us an opportunity to have art in our schools where we might not."

SPECIALISTS: Fresh approach is their forte

Perhaps nowhere are the resources more abundant than the Artists in Schools, a program offered by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

Teachers whose students have become bored with English and other subjects have called upon him for help. "Teachers come up and say, 'I teach Beowulf every year and the kids hate it. Would you come in and sing it?'" says Morgan.

From week-long residencies in schools all over the state, Morgan's singing stints have also broadened the way students think about American history. "If the kids are studying the Civil War, I'll dig up music and lyrics and try to bring it to life through song." When comes to getting the kids in-

The Artists in Schools program needn't be limited to the classroom.

When students at Goose Bay Elementary wanted to make a park out of a small wedge of land near the school building, Bikulcs wrote a grant to capture funding from the State Arts Council and the Goose Bay PTA. Grant funds were requested for building materials and design services from a local artist.

Students in the fourth and fifth grades, meanwhile, perused gardening literature and field guides. When artist Julie Matthews was awarded the contract, students then submitted their ideas and she came up with the design.

Under Matthew's direction, students created clay signs, pavers and

concrete and clay tiles; made stone paths, and painted benches and picnic tables purchased from the Mat-Su Alternative School. The result was named Wolves Island Park.

Matching an artist to a particular project or area of study has been made easier lately through Decker Art Services, an Anchorage-based agency acting as a liaison between the artists and schools. A quick spin to the Alaska Center for the Arts web site at www.aksca.org/page6.htm reveals links to grant information and a catalog of participating artists listed by alphabetical order of their disciplines.


Reprinted From *Anchorage Daily News*
August 20, 1999


SHIP CREEK RESTORATION: Today and Saturday, volunteers and officials from the Department of Fish and Game, the Anchorage Waterways Council and the Ship Creek Restoration Group will work to restore 150 feet of eroding stream bank at Anchorage's Ship Creek immediately downstream of the Reeve Boulevard bridge.

Volunteers are still needed. The project will start, rain or shine, today at 9 a.m. at the Elmendorf Fish Hatchery at the corner of Reeve Boulevard and Post Road. On Saturday, volunteers will be needed from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Officials ask that volunteers bring chest waders or hip boots and a lunch.

For more information, call Fritz Kraus at Fish and Game (267-2265) or Catherine Moncrieff at the AWC (277-9287).

Reprinted From www.msnbc.com/local/ktuu
August 23, 1999






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Anchorage, AK



Station Home Page & More Local Information



The volunteer Ship Creek revetment crew prepares to use an earth anchor to hold the string of recycled Christmas trees to the bank. The group placed the anchors every fourth tree.



Jennifer MacDonald

Ship Creek bank revetment

Anchorage, August 22-

A mostly volunteer crew worked Saturday restoring a 150 foot section of the bank of Ship Creek with recycled Christmas trees.

THE GANG OF A DOZEN volunteers under the supervision of two project managers from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game systematically chained the trees together and imbedded them in the bank.

Project organizers hope the Christmas tree revetment project will slow down the rapid erosion of the banks. The bank has eroded almost 2 feet since June due, apparently, to natural causes.

The tree embankment will not only slow erosion, it will encourage sedimentation, the natural process by

which stream banks are rebuilt, and provide a rearing habitat to juvenile salmon.

In layman's terms, material that is washing downstream, like dirt, vegetation and sediment, will get caught in the trees and eventually rebuild the bank naturally over time.

The project on the section of bank immediately downstream from the bridge at Reeve Blvd. utilized about 150 trees that had been donated after Christmas last year. If one left a tree in the Carr's parking lot there is a reasonable chance the tree has been returned to service.

The trees had been pre-drilled through the base of the trunk on Friday. Saturday the volunteers strung the trees together and drove them as much as possible into the eroding bank.

The crew used cord to string the trees and anchored every fourth tree with an earth anchor designed to hold the trees firmly to the bank.

Volunteers worked in and out of the water. In fact, they were asked to wear chest or hip waders.

The project was cooperatively coordinated by ADF&G, the Anchorage Waterways Council and the Ship Creek Restoration Group.

There are two similar projects planned in the area for next year. One is nearer to Elmendorf Air Force Base along Ship Creek; the other is near the Comfort Inn.



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Reprinted From *Anchorage Daily News*
September 22, 1999

Ship Creek gets a little help



NIKKI KAHN / Anchorage Daily News

Volunteers join officials from the state Department of Fish and Game, the Anchorage Waterways Council and the Ship Creek Restoration Group on Saturday to help restore the eroding bank of Ship Creek downstream from the Reeve Boulevard bridge. The wall of 150 old Christmas trees affixed to the stream's bank will slow erosion and provide habitat in which small fish can escape from predators.

Reprinted From *Anchorage Daily News*
September 23, 1999

EGG-SCLENT EGG-CERCIZE: Fish is the main course these days for hundreds of Alaska students who are participating in the annual egg-take of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. About 1,600 students will visit Campbell Creek in shifts today, Friday and Saturday to collect salmon eggs to raise to fishhood in their classrooms.

For each group, thousands of eggs are scooped out of a female silver salmon and fertilized. The classes take the eggs back to their classrooms, where they raise them in 30-gallon, refrigerated aquariums. They monitor the temperature, keep the water clean, add food and watch the eggs develop into fry, which are released to landlocked lakes in the spring. They'll be released into Taku-Campbell Lake in mid-May.

"It makes a wonderful educational tool — that's why we do it," said Fish and Game fisheries biologist Fritz Kraus, who started the program in 1989. Through the program, the students learn about wildlife conservation, the life cycle, watersheds and biology.

About 50 schools in Anchorage are participating, along with 13 in the Mat-Su valleys, three on the Kenai Peninsula, five in Kodiak and three in Fairbanks. Mat-Su students will collect eggs next week at Spring Creek near Palmer and release them in spring at Matanuska Lake.

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
September 23, 1999

Destruction of beaver dam kills salmon



EVAN R. STEINHAUSER / Anchorage Daily News

Alaska state Troopers Scott Carson, left, and Bill Zamora talk about the location of the beaver dam with Donald Morfield of VEI Consultants. Zamora said troopers have no idea who did the damage.

Fish trapped as pool subsides

By ELIZABETH MANNING
Daily News Reporter

Someone has illegally removed a beaver dam that once spanned Campbell Creek, stranding and killing in the process about 1,600 juvenile silver salmon.

Whoever dismantled the dam neatly piled the birch and alder branches on both sides of the creek. Apparently, all the work was done by hand, leaving no equipment tracks.

State Fish and Wildlife Protection troopers are investigating but still had no leads Wednesday - almost a week after the dismantled dam was first discovered.



JOE MEEHAN / Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Young silver salmon died after being trapped when the beaver pond was drained.

DAM: Beavers rebuilding Campbell site

Bill Zamora, the trooper in charge of the investigation, said he has interviewed construction workers who are building two new softball fields in the area, but they didn't know anything about the beaver dam. I

"We have no idea who did it at this point," Zamora said.

The dismantled dam was located on a section of the north fork of Campbell Creek about a quarter mile south of the end of Bragaw Street, in a marshy area behind the police station and the city animal control shelter. The new ballfields are being built on land between the creek and the shelter but not in an area that was flooded by the beaver dam.

Troopers also plan to talk to area landowners and to people who frequent the area, like dog mushers.

Removing a beaver dam is sometimes allowed if the dam causes flooding to homes, roads or other structures and if a permit is obtained from the state Department of Fish and Game. But even with a permit, beaver dams must be taken apart slowly to prevent fish kills like the one at Campbell Creek.

With the dam gone, flooding in the area subsided, leaving silver fry and some juvenile Dolly Varden stranded in depressions and channels on both sides of the creek.

The beavers are already rebuilding the dam, according to Zamora and Fish and Game biologists.

Fish and Game was first alerted to the flooding Sept. 8, when a federal Environmental Protection Agency official touring the wetlands with city officials noticed young salmon swimming through grassy areas. The group was looking at the time for a possible creek restoration project to compensate for wetlands lost during the construction of the ballfields.

Heather Dean of the EPA called Fish and Game to tell biologists about the flooding.

About a week later, on Sept. 16, Fish and Game biologists visited the area, only to find that the flooding had sub-



EVAN R. STENHAUSER / Anchorage Daily News

Trooper Bill Zamora says salmon fry were stranded in pools and grassy areas when someone dismantled a beaver dam on Campbell Creek.



RON ENGSTROM / Anchorage Daily News

sided. They soon found the dismantled dam and thousands of dead and dying fish. Over the next two days, biologists used mesh scoops to transport salmon back into the creek. They saved 239 silver fry and 18 juvenile Dolly Varden, according to Joe Meehan, a habitat biologist with Fish and Game.

Such a large fish kill is unusual. Meehan said.

"People don't think they're destroying salmon habitat when they destroy a beaver dam," he said.

When Meehan and other habitat biologists arrived, they counted at least 1,600 silver fry stranded in puddles and ponds. The fish were dying of asphyxiation and flopping to the surface, trying to breathe oxygen through their gills. Magpies and kingfishers were feeding on them, Meehan said.

"This incident has opened our eyes about the habitat," Meehan said. "We're probably going to discourage people when they ask to remove dams in the future."

Rick Sinnott of the Department of Fish and Game said he estimated in 1995 that Anchorage is home to about 200 beavers. The dams they build provide them homes and aquatic habitat to protect them from predators. The ponds created by the dams also provide excellent habitat for juvenile fish.

The North Fork of Campbell Creek supports all salmon species except chum salmon, according to Meehan. Some of the silvers in Campbell Creek are wild, but most of the fry come from a hatchery at Fort Richardson.

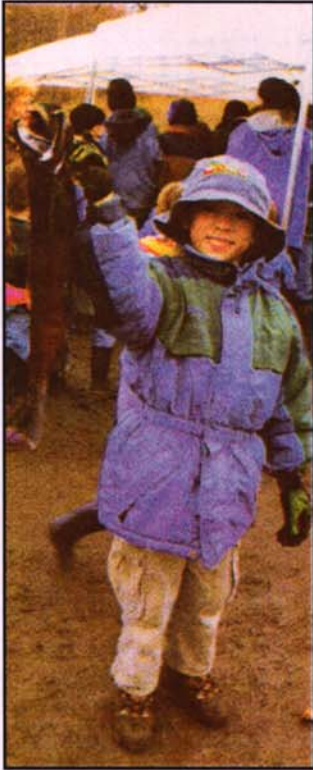
Each spring, Fish and Game dumps about 75,000 smolts in the creek, which should produce about 1,500 adult salmon who return to the creek to spawn.

"This may impact the wild stocks," said Fish and Game biologist Fritz Kraus. "But it won't affect the angling."

"People are so focused on the beavers," said Sinnott. "They don't think what wonderful rearing habitat this is for the salmon."

Anyone with information about the dismantled dam can call trooper Bill Zamora at 269-5541. To leave an anonymous tip, call 800-478-3377.

Reprinted From *The Frontiersman*
October 8, 1999



GETTING A HANDLE ON SALMON SCIENCE

Mat-Su students from the Midnight Sun Family Learning Center and Finger Lake Elementary get a lesson in salmon cycles at Spring Creek last week. Biologists from the Department of Fish and Game taught the children about the spawning and fertilization life cycle and then gathered eggs, which the students will watch hatch and develop in their classroom. Above, Craig Baer with the Palmer Fish and Game office talks about salmon with Valley students. At left, Finger Lake third-grader Kory Russell holds up a salmon during a field trip at Spring Creek.

NEW ON THE SPORT FISH SOUTHCENTRAL (REGION 2) WEB SITE

Working in conjunction with programmers from the Sport Fish Policy and Technical Services section (PTS), this summer the regional website debuted new capabilities to help anglers discover sport fishing opportunities. Two new links allow visitors to search the stocking database, and to view in-season and historical sonar estimates and weir counts. Since the search capabilities came online, there have been zero requests for printed stocking information from the Region 2 Sport Fish Information Center (last summer there were over 50 requests for a document that could be up to 25 pages long).

Another brand-new “egg-citing” link is the Region 2 Egg Cam, a camera pointed at an aquarium redd of coho eggs. As assistance to classrooms unable to participate in an Aquatic Education Classroom Salmon Incubation project, the Egg Cam allows teachers and students to observe and chart the progress of live salmon eggs as they develop into fry. Video and temperature data are posted on the Region 2 website, thanks to the efforts of Jennifer Bond and Jeff Sabrowksi, PTS section, and Andy Hoffmann, Region 2 Webmaster. If you’re “redd-y” for an “egg-citing” time, check out this link: <http://www.sf.adfg.state.ak.us/Region2/iande/html/videocam.cfm>. For additional information, contact Andy Hoffmann at 267-2238.

Reprinted From *Anchorage Daily News*
November 6, 1999

SALMON IN SCHOOLS: Turnagain Elementary third-graders thank Fritz Kraus and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for teaching them about salmon and giving them coho eggs to hatch. “We know you did a lot preparing. ... We’ll watch our eggs hatch into alevin. When the egg sac is gone, we will feed them until it’s time for us to release them with you. We wish all students could participate in the Salmon in the Schools program.”

Reprinted From

Kodiak Daily Mirror
November 12, 1999



TALK ABOUT HANDS ON! — ADF&G biologist Fritz Kraus, right, milks milt from a coho as North Star students look on.

Life-cycle education for students

By **LEN SCHWARZ**
Special to the Mirror

More than 350 Kodiak area elementary students from 13 classes braved windy, wet weather to witness first-hand the birth of nearly 100,000 coho salmon at an egg-take coordinated by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game's Fritz Kraus, Craig Baer and Lisa Olson.

During the egg-take on the storm-swept shore of the Buskin Lake outlet, the kids "oohed" and "aahed" as they helped deposit ripe salmon eggs into waiting buckets and milk the male salmon of its milt.



ANATOMY LESSON — Biologist Craig Baer describes identifying features of a salmon to attentive sixth graders and teachers. (Steve Avery photos)

The students were involved with fertilizing eggs destined for Kodiak classroom aquaria as part of ADF&G's Salmonids in the Classroom incubation program. Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association (KRAA) annually provides technical and logistical support.

"The classroom incubation program is part of a hands-on salmonids curriculum designed to educate students about the life-cycle, habitat requirements and importance of one of Alaska's most valuable resources," Kraus said.

"The Kodiak kids, teachers and parents were great," he added. "We've had a warm welcome from the community, which helped keep us warm on Friday.

"I especially appreciate the assistance and support of (former ADF&G biologist) Pat Holmes." Pillar Creek

Hatchery staff, ADF&G sport fish staff and Jane Eisemann's high school fisheries students also assisted with Friday's egg-take.

ADF&G and Pillar Creek staff set up incubation tanks with about 500 eggs each at Peterson, East, Main and North Star elementary schools as well as Eisemann's classroom.

Students will practice mathematics and language arts skills by keeping a daily log of water temperatures, testing water quality and watching as their eggs develop into eyed eggs, alevin and then fry. The fry are scheduled to be released in May into Potato Patch Lake during the Kodiak Coho Carnival, another students-meet-fish activity.

Most of the eggs will be incubated and reared at the Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association's hatchery at Pillar Creek. Next summer, fin-

Students to keep daily log of development

Continued from Page 1

gerlings will be stocked along the Kodiak road system to produce adult coho returns at Mill Bay, Mission and Mayflower beaches. Pony and Southern lakes are also stocked to produce landlocked coho fisheries.

Hatchery manager Chris Clevenger has improved the project by setting up a raceway that will allow him to raise the coho fingerlings to a much larger size before stocking, which will improve the adult coho returns. Clevenger used a surplus raceway from the ADF&G sport fish division hatchery at Elmendorf

Air Force Base, which also provided food to raise the fish.

The Kodiak Sport Fish Association also supports this project and is working with ADF&G and the aquaculture association to develop a king salmon enhancement project for the Kodiak road system. These projects are an example of organizations working together to produce fish for the people of Kodiak.

Len Schwarz is a sport fish biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish & Game.



MIXING IT UP — Kraus and a student mix eggs and milt (Steve Avery photo)

Classroom turned into Stream Life Center

By **GENE JANSEN**
Frontiersman reporter

WASILLA - The hallways of Snowshoe Elementary School on Fairview Loop Road look like those of any other grade school in the Valley, until you go upstairs and enter a student-made aquatic world.

It's as if the Alaska SeaLife Center had been transplanted from Seward to Mat-Su - except visitors can get in for free.

"Hello, my name is Gabe Sarrow," a sixth-grader said.

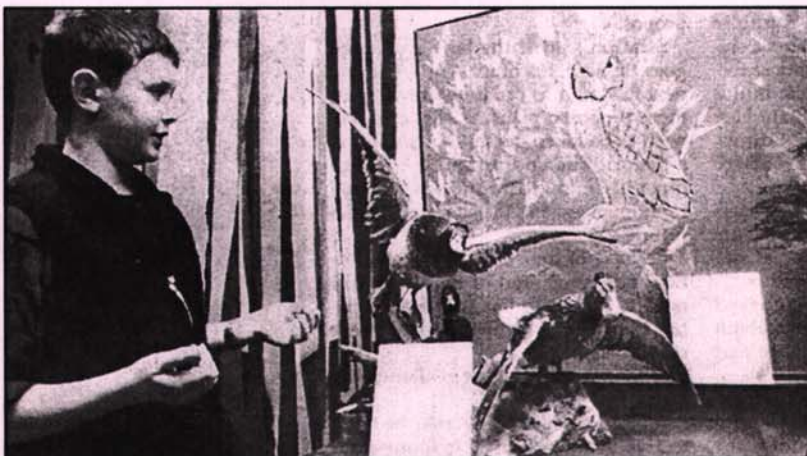
"And I am Nick Tandecki," a fourth-grade student, said, pausing to look at Gabe to see if he said the words correctly.

"We will be your tour guides for the Snowshoe Stream Life Center orientation," Gabe continued in an official-sounding voice. "Step into our classroom and we will walk you through our slide show."

Snowshoe Elementary School is unlike most other schools in the district. Instructors team-teach to fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders, grouping them according to their academic proficiency.

With the help of Craig Baer, a Department of Fish & Game biologist who teaches aquatic education in the schools, team teachers Linda Frey and John Brown have converted the school's computer lab into a walk-through tour of the Valley's aquatic life story, using Cottonwood Creek's bed of living information.

"What's cool about it is that the older kids who have been through it teach the younger ones who haven't," team teacher John Brown said. "The



GENE JANSEN / Frontiersman

Snowshoe Elementary School fifth-grader Sam Thomas explains the habitat of mallards Wednesday at this diorama of aquatic birds at the school's Stream Life Center, modeled after the Alaska Sea Life Center.

idea is modeled after our trips to the Seward SeaLife Center."

Since the start of the school year, 55 kids in three grades have contributed to the project, Brown said.

"We were real lucky to have a classroom available to build the center," he said. "We probably have had 450 kids and 100 adults tour the project this year."

Gabe adroitly clicked through slides, while his "protégé" Nick, watched.

Gabe paused to explain they had gathered photographs of various freshwater-dwelling critters on the school's digital camera and converted them into a computer-generated slide show.

"Do you know what a stickleback looks like?" Nick said as Gabe, brought one up on the screen. "They live in most freshwater lakes and streams and have been around since the dinosaur age."

Nick explained further that you can tell them apart by their fins.

"If you touch one," he said, "they will poke you. Other fish won't eat them either. They eat small insects and algae."

Gabe explained the various stages of salmon egg growth.

"First, a salmon egg grows into an eyed egg," he said, pointing to a cluster of tiny-eyed eggs on the screen, "then it evolves into an alvin (just hatched) and grows into a fry, then a smolt and on to an adult. A smolt is like a teen-aged fish."

Predacious diving beetles, Cottonwood Creek pH levels and salmon anatomy are also among the things you'll learn about from the kids at the Stream Life Center.

"Welcome to the aquatic birds part of your tour," fifth-grader Sam Thomas said. "Do you know the difference between male and female

mallards?" he said. "Males have green heads and females have brown heads."

And if you need to know more about birds, Kaitlin Johnson is a good person to ask.

"Do you know why the hawk owl is named after a hawk?" the fourth-grader said, while exhibiting a mounted version. "Because, see here, it has a long tail."

Wall murals of other birds are colorful substitutes for the real thing.

"We're still looking for a stuffed great horned owl and a stuffed sandpiper to add to our display," Sam said. "So we're not able to compare their differences for you."

Visitors who continue through the tour eventually have to stop at the giant salmon mural which displays the internal parts of the fish.

"The reason we made it so big is to teach the younger kids about the anatomy of the salmon. In two weeks, we'll be dissecting real salmon," Ayla Brown said. "And we compare, for the older kids, the fish's anatomy with human anatomy."

Fourth-grader Kahle Ess said she know all about the Cottonwood Creek food chain.

"The dragonfly eats the flower, the fish eats the dragonfly, the eagle eats the fish and the eagle dies," she said, "Mushrooms decompose the eagle and the flowers get their nutrients."

With help from their parents and teachers, Trevor Lavin and Zachary Benne made an aquatic mural puzzle using plywood, lots of paint and a jigsaw. Other students made an aquatic trivia game using small fish made of plaster for game pieces.

A whale of a Rondy parade

'Millennium Magic' includes orca float

By **MOLLY BROWN**
Daily News reporter

Cheers erupted from the sidewalks lining Sixth Avenue as Inlet View Elementary School students, parents and teachers swam, paddled and marched in the annual Anchorage Fur Rendezvous parade Saturday morning.

The award-winning float featured a big truck-driven orca followed by students wearing papier-mache kayaks who used paper paddles to row down the street. Parents and kids walked hand in hand waving sticks attached to papier-mache pink and red salmon. Others waved puffins and owls.

The school's float was one of many tries in the parade down Fifth and Sixth avenues. Unseasonably warm weather made the 10:30 a.m. start time easy to handle for people dressed in boots, jackets, hats and gloves. Kids jockeyed for the best candy-catching positions, and others climbed the crusty snowbanks near Town Square to catch a glimpse.

This year's parade, called "Millennium Magic," featured antique cars, steam engines and fur- and tiara-wearing title holders from the Miss Alaska competition, and Fur Rondy's own Lord and Lady Trapper.

Kristina Bellamy, Miss Alyeska, rode down Sixth Avenue in a Cor-

vette, dressed in a fur coat and blowing kisses and waving at people.

"It was freezing," Bellamy said of her feet. But the "wow, a princess" expressions on some of the little kids' faces made it bearable, she said.

Some parade participants were animals. Members of the Chugach Range Riders rode horses, and members of a Bernese mountain dog club showed off their pets and waved "Y2K9" signs.

Dorey Carlson, representing Fairview Community Patrol, drove her tan van down the street. Carlson's dog Sunshine stuck its head out of the driver's-side window and looked at the crowd.

Mary Smith and her daughter Lola Ferguson stood on Sixth Avenue watching the parade. The two women, along with Karen Shavings-Stein, her 3-year-old daughter Brianna, and Marian Shavings, wore coats made of mink, wolf, calf skin, beaver and squirrel. Bluish green and red beads hung from their handmade coats.

In years past, the women have been on Fur Rondy floats that have received first and second place, Marian Shavings said.

"This year, we're spectators," she said.

On the other side of Town Square, four or five people involved with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals participated in the group's annual seminude protest. They laid a mattress on the crusty snowbank. As fur-clad Rondy participants walked down Fifth Avenue, the protesters discreetly took off their clothes and cuddled under white sheets in the 30-degree weather.



BOB HALLINEN / Anchorage Daily News

Carrie Beal waves to a float in Saturday's Fur Rondy parade while her son Rick protects his ears from the blast of an air horn. Carrie Beal's mother made her traditional squirrel parka.

Their message: "Fur Out - Love In."

As parade participants rounded the corner near the Mesa Grill, crazed Rondy fans cheered from a balcony at the Westmark Inn.

On a scale of 1 to 10, most floats received an 11.

Fly-tying class gets kids hooked on fishing

By STEVE KADEL
Alaska Star

Homestead Elementary student Jilene Galle wrinkled her nose and stared quizzically at the tuft of orange yarn in front of her. The bright ball was attached to a fishhook, which was clamped securely in a vise.

"Is this an egg?" Galle asked.

"Yes, it's supposed to be a salmon egg," said Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologist Fritz Kraus, bending down beside the girl.

Dozens of other Homestead second-graders joined Galle Feb. 18 in learning the art of fly tying. They squinted and leaned close to their work.

Some stuck out their tongues to aid concentration. And before long, they had created flies representing the four salmon

egg patterns they've seen developing in their classroom salmon egg incubators.

That wasn't the best part, though.

"These flies you've created today will catch fish," Kraus told the children.

Fish and Game's project called "Fly Tying in the Classroom" has a couple of goals. It's intended to reinforce students' understanding of the

salmon life cycle, a study which began in September when the youngsters were given salmon eggs at Campbell Creek. They've incubated them in classroom tanks and will release the silver salmon fry in Taku Lake in May.

"Our theme in second grade is cycles," said Homestead teacher Mike

said, there wouldn't be adequate funding to manage fish.

That's why Kraus and members of Alaska Flyfishers are visiting classrooms across the municipality to teach fly tying.

"We offer a hands - on chance to appreciate the resource," Kraus said.

"We hope that carries over to their families and friends.

"We want kids to know the resource is there and to take care of it. We want them to understand the biology."

Homestead's second-graders clearly enjoyed the recent project, as did the parents and other volunteers who roamed among them to help.

Kraus smiled at the enthusiasm, knowing several children will try fishing for the first time when they test the flies they made themselves.

"All too often in this busy world fishing falls by the wayside," he said.



Volunteer Robert Johnston gives second-grader Victoria Lomen some help during a fly-tying workshop at Homestead Elementary School.

STAR PHOTO BY STEVE KADEL

Herbert. "This is something they can do to see the salmon's whole cycle."

But Kraus also hopes youngsters will connect fishing with their classroom work.

Because the number of young fishers is declining, Fish and Game is looking for ways to boost interest in the sport. Without sport fishers and the money they pay for licenses, Kraus

Reprinted From

O'Malley Malemites
Newsletter of O'Malley Elementary
January 2000

O'Malley Malemites

Thank you Mr. Kraus

Second grade wishes to thank Mr. Fritz Kraus of Fish and Game, and an O'Malley parent, for his unfailing support of our salmon-raining project. He's done it all - from answering every pesky question to rushing over to the school at dinnertime to fix the tank. Our tank was suddenly cleaned this week and we know it must have been our own Fish Fairy!

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
March 9, 2000



“You need to go home and do your homework.”

Having lived more of her life in Dillingham than Anchorage, Alaska Native Cassandra Kohler found adjusting to city life difficult. “I was with the wrong crowd. I knew I wasn’t supposed to be there.” Her disabled mother tried to instill positive values. Daily she asked Cassandra if she thought her grandmother would be proud of what she was doing. What would grandma say, her mother asked.

No longer able to ignore her mother’s words and thoughts of disappointing her grandmother, Cassandra began to make positive changes in her life

Seeking a different environment, Cassandra transferred to SAVE and enrolled in Natural Resources Management at the King Career Center. Mike Woods, her instructor, encouraged her to volunteer for BLM “Fun Days.” Her first reaction was unenthusiastic. Working with 6th graders,

she showed them how to pan for gold and tie flies. Since discovering the joy of giving, she has volunteered for many activities — picking up litter on trash days, bagging beans for Bean’s Cafe, and working through Fish and Game on Campbell Creek projects to educate people on fish and water issues.

Last summer and fall Cassandra worked for the National Park Service. Graduating high school this year, Cassandra wants to continue her education in Natural Resource Management.

Cassandra wants her family to be proud of her and especially wants to be a positive role model for her two younger brothers aged 11 and 6. Recognizing the value of education and having found her direction, Cassandra now actively encourages other youth to “stay in school and do a good job.” Smiling she tells them, “You need to go home and do your homework.”

GOOD NEWS
Great Kids!

A salute to the youth of Anchorage from the Office of Mayor Rick Mystrom, the Anchorage Daily News and AT&T Alascom.

Reprinted From Kodiak Daily Mirror
March 16, 2000

Fishy business



How it's done

Fritz Kraus, biologist in the sports fish division of ADF&G in Anchorage, slits open a pink salmon (top photo) for North Star sixth-grader Ryan Bateman, while Amanda LeDoux and Cinthia Halstead start their own dissection (below). All three sixth-grades participated in the fish dissection exercise, which included Q&As and extensive note-taking. (Steve Avery photos)



Reprinted From **Anchorage Daily News**
Advertising Supplement
April 9, 2000

Kids 12 and Under Head For the ASA Trout Pond

Youngsters 12 and under will want to take a parent and head for the Alaska Sportfishing Association trout pond in Ben Boeke Arenas. The pond will be operating throughout the Sportsman Show and is a unique and enjoyable experience for kids, a great way to introduce them to the gentle art of fishing.

Like many events at the Great Alaska Sportsman Show, the trout pond is a joint effort involving a sportsman group, professional experts and dedicated volunteers. The trout pond is owned and operated by the Sportfishing Association, stocked with fish and overseen by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and staffed by student volunteers from the King Career Center natural resources class.

The fish will be stocked in the pond daily with rainbow trout from the state's Elmendorf Hatchery. New fish will be added occasionally during the day to liven things up. At the end of each day, trout not hauled out by young anglers will be stocked in Cheney Lake and the pond restocked from Elmendorf the next day. Youngsters can keep the fish they catch. Unwanted fish will be cleaned by King Career Center students and donated to Beans Cafe.

Fritz Kraus, an ADF&G fisheries biologist, trains the King Career Center volunteers and oversees the stocking, fish handling, life support and associated activities. Mike Woods of the King Career Center supplies and helps prepare the students. Bob Pence, assistant manager of Elmendorf Hatchery, supplies the fish and helps out at the trout pond. Among other things, the King Center students will staff activity booths to keep the youngsters busy while waiting their turn to fish. Even the Anchorage Fire Department gets involved by supplying tank trucks of dechlorinated water for the fish.

Phil Cutler, president of the Anchorage Sportfishing Association, said the trout pond will have two new features this year. Magician Don Russell will entertain kids while they wait and photographer Doug Ogden will take pictures of the youngsters fishing and either with their trout catch or a king salmon he will have available. The photos will be for sale but everything else is free.

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
April 15, 2000



Charles Dalmolin helps his son Devin, 2, fish at the pond in the Ben Boeke Ice Rink.

By CRAIG MEDRED
Daily News reporter

On what several attendees at the Great Alaska Sportsman Show characterized as a sunny and glorious Friday, young angler Jordan Witt hooked a rainbow trout big enough to make other anglers jealous, said Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologist Fritz Kraus.

The fish, Kraus said, must have weighed four or five pounds.

A computer display of a smiling Witt holding the fish showed it to be silvery bright. Biologists thought it probably would have sparkled in the sun.

But there was no sun to shine on this fish. Witt was angling indoors at the youth fishing pond run by the Alaska Sportfishing Association at the sportsman show.

Rainbow trout, arctic char and grayling supplied by the state Fish and Game agency milled in the pond while young anglers and their parents dipped what Kraus described as "ant patterns" in front of the fish.



Photos by **MARC LESTER** / Anchorage Daily News

Kids and parents try their luck at the Alaska Sportfishing Association youth fishing pond at the Great Alaska Sportsman Show.

Young anglers get early- season taste

Fishing pond draws crowd at sportsman show

GREAT ALASKA SPORTSMAN SHOW is open 10 a.m.-9 p.m. today and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday at the Sullivan and Ben Boeke arenas. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$2 for children ages 12 and under.

Sometimes the kids fished, said volunteer net man Aaron DeBruhl. Sometimes, he added, the parents fished. "I'd say it's 80 percent parents," he added.

By mid-afternoon, DeBruhl said he'd watched dozens of kids catch fish in a corner of the Ben Boeke arena where Kraus said the lights had been dimmed to make the fishing better.

DeBruhl well remembered Witt's lunker.

"One kid caught one this big," he said, holding his hands at least 20 inches apart. "We had to corral him into the nets."

DeBruhl said he was enjoying his job. He described it as "official netter-slash-clubber. It's fun clubbing the fish."

Joseph Psenak from Palmer said it was fun to catch them, too. Psenak was what organizers consider one of

FISH: Kids snag hundreds at ice arena

the lucky; he caught a rainbow trout that appeared to be about 8 inches long.

The young Psenak was an experienced angler, said his father, Jim.

"He's been ice fishing," Jim said.

Joseph said he just tried to get his ant pattern in front of a small school of fish circling in the pond.

"Two fish were coming for it and then wonko," he said.

Kraus said he expects young anglers to pull close to 1,000 trout, char and grayling from the pond over the course of the sportsman show, which runs through Sunday.

Fish and Game biologists and the sportfishing association, he said, have done their best this year to locate the pond away from the halogen lights that last year appeared to force the fish into hiding under the edges of the pool.

Having the fishing pond sitting on the covered ice of the Ben Boeke arena - one of several sportfishing show venues - is also an asset Kraus said, because the ice cools the water. That encourages the fish to move and feed.

"They're milling around a lot more," Kraus said. "Fishing's been pretty good here."

Every 10 minutes through the day, organizers said, 20 young anglers and their parents are allowed onto a wooden deck surrounding the pond. At that rate, Kraus said, 120 to 150 younger anglers per hour get a shot.

"We put about 300 fish per day in," he added. "We had some in here that were four or five pounds."

Fish, he said, are dumped in the pool all day long to keep a fresh supply in stock. He hoped that would encourage the fish to bite.

But it was not enough help, according to 12-year-old Emily Wilson of Anchorage. She couldn't hook a fish despite what appeared to be constant jigging. She put down her Zebco Snoopy rod and reel after her 10 minutes and left emptyhanded.

As she and her group were herded off the deck, a new group arrived.

Kraus said the young anglers came with big hopes.

"We're still after that elusive 10-pounder, he said.

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
May 5, 2000

Copper permits in Anchorage

Copper River dipnetters from the Anchorage area will no longer need to make a long drive to Chitina in the middle of the night to stand in line for a permit for the season opening in June. For the first time Tuesday, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game says, permits will be sold in Anchorage and Palmer. Permits will be available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fish and Game offices in both cities. The permits are limited to people who have lived in the state for a full year or more. Cost is \$25. Starting June 1, permits will be available at the Glennallen, Fairbanks and Chitina offices of Fish and Game. The first 36-hour fishing period in the dipnet season is set to open June 10 at 8 a.m. Openings of increasing length are scheduled into July, depending on run size. The fishery has a limit of 30 salmon per family with only one king permitted.

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
May 6, 2000

Agency to offer dipnet permits

Beginning Tuesday at 8 a.m., the Anchorage and Palmer Alaska Department of Fish and Game offices will be offering subsistence permits for dipnetting in the Chitina Subdistrict - downstream of the Chitina-McCarthy bridge.

The permits were previously only available at the Glennallen, Chitina and Fairbanks locations. The Anchorage office is located at 333 Raspberry Road. The Palmer office is located at 1800 Glenn Highway, Suite 4.

Applicants must have lived in Alaska for at least 12 months and are required to have a Alaska driver's licence or state ID to receive a permit. The access fee is \$25, and office hours at both locations are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The dipnetting opening in the Chitina Subdistrict is tentatively scheduled to open June 10 at 8 a.m. and close June 11 at 8 p.m.

The seasonal limit is one king salmon per permit and the total seasonal limit is 15 salmon for a household of one, 30 for household of two or more.

For more information, call 267-2218 (Anchorage) or 907-746-6300 (Palmer).

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
May 6, 2000

Celebrate salmon

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game STREAM program will hold two Salmon Celebrations and fish releases in Anchorage this summer.

The Salmon Celebrations are made up of five events held at various sites around the state. According to the Department of Fish and Game, the series is designed to increase children's awareness of this natural resource.

At the first Anchorage event, to be held Friday at Taku-Campbell Lake, 1,200 elementary school children from the Anchorage School District will be releasing their own silver salmon fry. The fry were raised in classrooms from eggs collected from Campbell Creek last September.

On May 26, there will be a second celebration at Campbell Creek Park. There, 1,500 kids will release hatchery-raised silver salmon smolt into the creek.

Both of these events start at 10 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. They will include hands-on salmon-related activity booths and fishing stations. The booths will be manned by King Career Center high school students, local angling enthusiasts and other volunteers.

Fish and Game estimates 6,500 kids will participate in the five Salmon Celebrations.

For more information, call Fritz Kraus at 267-2265 or 441-8837.

Reprinted From **Anchorage Daily News**
May 7, 2000



CHITINA DIPNETTERS

Early Bird Special Opportunity

Chitina Subdistrict dipnetting permits
will be available at
the Anchorage and Palmer Fish and Game offices beginning
Tuesday, May 9

ADF & G offices are open 8 am to 5 pm

- Permits are \$25.00 and no fishing license is required.
- You must be able to demonstrate Alaska residency and have proof of ID (ADL or Alaska State ID).
- Limits are 15 salmon for household of one and 30 salmon for household of two or more. Only 1 of the household limit may be a king salmon.
- Fishery openings will be announced by Emergency Order.

Reprinted From *Frontiersman*
May 9, 2000

Salmon Celebration launched in Palmer today

PALMER - The Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Sport Fish Division's STREAM Program will launch its 1st annual Salmon Celebration in Palmer today at the Matanuska Lake state recreation site.

The Salmon Celebration will start at 10 a.m. and continue until 1 p.m. The event is one of five being held this year around Southcentral Alaska to increase awareness of salmon and foster a sense of stewardship towards this valuable natural resource.

Elementary school children from the Mat-Su school district will be releasing coho salmon fry they raised from eggs in their classroom, as well as rainbow trout and arctic char from the Ft. Richardson Hatchery, as part of ADF&G's lake stocking schedule. Hands-on, salmon-related activity booths and fishing stations will also be set up for the children to visit during the event. The booths will be manned by Wasilla high school students and by local volunteers from other organizations and government agencies.

Call Fritz Kraus at 267-2265 for more information.

Reprinted From Anchorage Daily News
May 15, 2000

•**School of fish** Students are gearing up to release fish they raised from the egg state in the annual Salmon Celebrations, sponsored by Alaska Department of Fish and Game, STREAM Program. Five celebrations are planned for Southcentral Alaska, and organizer Fritz Kraus expects 6,500 students overall, including 2,800 for Anchorage's two events. The first was Friday at Taku-Campbell Lake; the second will be May 26 at Campbell Creek Park. For more information, call 267-2265 or 441-8837.

Reprinted From Peninsula Clarion
May 17, 2000

Mountain View Elementary

The PTA would like to thank everyone who made the staff appreciation week a great success.

Fifth-grade classes are going to Seward Friday to see the Kenai Fjords. Students need to be at the school by 6:40 a.m., and the bus will leave promptly at 6:45 a.m.

The Quest class is presenting "A Mid-Summer's Night Dream" Monday in the Mountain View gym. Performances are at 1:40 and 2:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

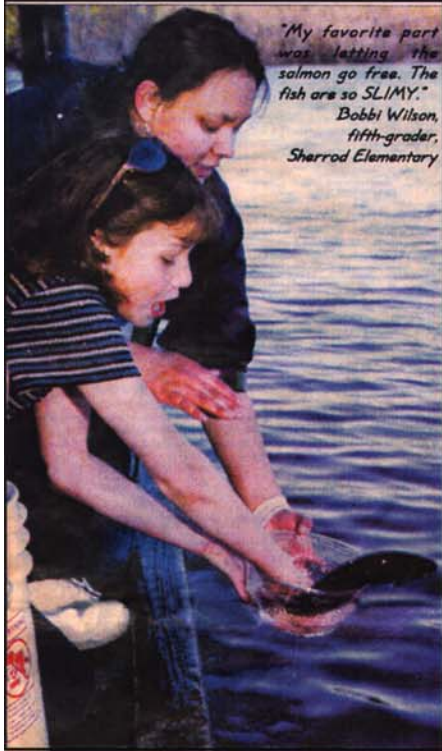
The school thanks Alaska Department of Fish and Game for the Salmon Celebration at Johnson Lake on Tuesday. It was a great learning experience for everyone.

Field days began Tuesday and continue today and Thursday. Volunteers are still needed.

Friday is Hat Day.

Reprinted From

Frontiersman
May 12, 2000



*"My favorite part was letting the salmon go free. The fish are so SLIMY."
Dobbi Wilson,
fifth-grader,
Sherrod Elementary*

Snowshoe Elementary fifth grader Samatha McCleod releases her fish off the dock at Matanuska Lake. Among the activities kids got to participate in at the park on Tuesday were spin and fly-fishing demonstrations and fly tying.

"I liked watching the fish go. You actually get to see how FAST they can really swim."

*Aaron Sharrow,
third-grader,
Snowshoe Elementary*

"It was cool to see how the FISH ACT when you let them go for the first time."

*Dan Prince,
third-grader,
Snowshoe Elementary*

Celebrating at the Coho Carnival

MAT-SU — More than 1,300 elementary school students from around the Valley converged on Matanuska Lake Tuesday to put their mark on the ecosystem.

The students released Alaska Department of Fish and Game trout and salmon into Matanuska Lake, as well as fish they incubated throughout the year, as part of the first Coho Carnival in the Valley.

"We've done it in Anchorage, and the teachers out here wanted the program," said Craig Baer of the Palmer office of ADF&G. "The response has just been tremendous."

Tremendous is an understatement. Nearly every school attended the carnival, which included how-to workshops on casting, fly tying, pollution awareness and various stages of a fish's life.

Rather than classroom instruction, the carnival allowed students to get up close and actually use their hands to learn about the environment. To study life cycles of salmon, stamps were used. To learn about how a fish lives, puzzles and an aquarium were utilized.

"The kids are really responsive to it," Baer said.

The event was not just for the elementary school students, however. More than 50 Wasilla High School biology students assisted Baer and his ADF&G personnel. The high school students manned the activity booths and helped teach their younger peers.

Similar programs took place around Southcentral Alaska this week.



Above, fourth-grade Academy Charter student Adam Escobedo gets ready to free an arctic char into Matanuska Lake.

**Story and quotes by Casey Ressler
Photographs by Gene Jansen**

Reprinted From

Peninsula Clarion
May 17, 2000

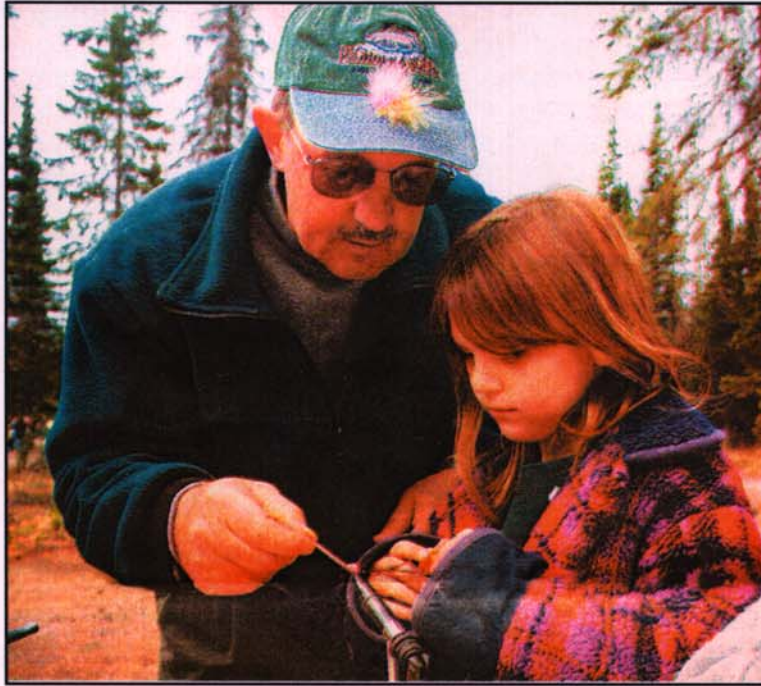


Photo by Jay Barrett

Stormy Walkoff, an 8-year-old second-grader from Ninilchik School, gets a lesson in tying a fishing fly from Greg Daniels during the "Salmon Celebration" Monday at Johnson Lake in Kasilof.

Spawning salmon awareness

'Celebration' teaches elementary school students to value resources

By JAY BARRETT
Peninsula Clarion

Hundreds of students converged on Johnson Lake in Kasilof Tuesday morning to celebrate salmon.

A joint program between the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, State Parks and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the "Salmon

Celebration" allowed elementary school children to get very hands-on with fish.

The Johnson Lake event was one of five salmon celebrations being held around the state this year, according to Fritz Kraus of Fish and Game Sport Fish Division.

"(It's) to increase school children's awareness of salmon

and to foster a sense of stewardship toward this valuable natural resource," he said in a press release.

The most popular of the activities was the fish release. Students lined up scores deep to hand-release a rainbow trout into the landlocked lake.

Fish and Game brought 8,000 young rainbows to



Above, Ft. Richardson hatchery fish tech Katy Whitmore dumps some trout into a bucket before handing them out to some 1,300 students who participated in the Coho Carnival.



Students gather around a pollution demonstration.

"I learned how to CAST a fishing rod."

*Nathan Winburn, third-grader,
Snowshoe Elementary*

"I am not TOUCHING that thing. Just pour it into the lake."

Overheard

...Fish

Kasilof from a hatchery at Elmendorf Air Force Base in a specially designed truck filled with water. Coho salmon some classes raised from eggs this school year were released earlier into Centennial Lake.

Johnson Lake is stocked every spring with rainbows, but this is the first time students here have helped with the release.

After the kids got to toss a fish into the water, school district teacher specialist Dorothy Gray got the honor of throwing the lever on the truck that released the rest of the fish into the lake.

“It was a fascinating thing,” she said. “I didn’t even know that truck existed.”

She said the next most popular activity was fly tying and fly casting.

“I heard many, many positive comments from parents and teachers and students about how much they learned about salmon and fish habitat,” Gray said.

“I also heard positive comments from people that this was hands-on science education that truly reflects the type of science that we know is most valuable in the classroom,” she added. “When students become scientists and collect and analyze data instead of just reacting, it makes a greater impression.”

Other activities included a demonstration of how pollutants get into groundwater, an examination of invertebrate life in the water, and a game that illustrates how hard it is for a salmon egg to make it to maturity and spawn again.

Gray said there were 46 teachers who brought, on average, 20 students each, totaling close to 1,000. Students from 20 of the district’s elementary school attended, some from as far away as Nikolaevsk.

Gray praised the state agencies that sponsored the event.

“A lot of credit should go to them” she said. “They put this on for the students absolutely free to give them the opportunity to learn about the environment.”



Photo by Jay Barrett

During the “Salmon Celebration” Monday at Johnson Lake, Whitney Doty, a 10-year-old fourth-grader from North Star Elementary School in Nikiski, plays The Hazardous Game of Life, depicting how long the odds are that a salmon egg will mature into a spawning adult. While Whitney, like the salmon eggs, had a one-in-100 chance of winning, she missed the prize by one space.

Reprinted From

Anchorage Daily News
May 30, 2000



Hundreds of elementary school children from Anchorage schools blanketed the banks of Campbell Creek Park near Lake Otis Parkway and Tudor Road on Friday to help release silver salmon smolt into the creek one at a time. In all, about 75,000 young salmon raised at the Fort Richardson hatchery were released. It's an annual effort by the state Department of Fish and Game.

Dalton Anderson, 10, a fourth-grader at Kincaid Elementary School displays a single silver salmon Friday before releasing it into Campbell Creek.



Photos by EVAN R. STEINHAUSER / Anchorage Daily News

Reprinted From

Kodiak Daily Mirror
May 24, 2000



IT'S A FIGHTER — Ryan Fish and Marie O'Phelan practice casting technique during the salmon celebration.
(Naomi Kirkwood photo)

Salmon show delights kids

By **NAOMI KIRKWOOD**
Special to the Mirror

A traveling salmon road show hit town yesterday, and over 1,000 kids had a blast!

Formerly known as the Coho Carnival, the second annual Kodiak Salmon Celebration was hosted by North Star Elementary School in conjunction with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Kodiak Island Borough School District. Set up carnival-style, each booth holds an activity designed to help students increase their knowledge and awareness of salmon — Alaska's most valuable resource.

"It's a hands-on program,"

said fish and game biologist Fritz Kraus about the event. Event coordinator Kraus traveled to Kodiak on the ferry, using an army of over 150 community volunteers of all ages to orchestrate the well-organized fair.

"This is the fourth of five salmon celebrations around the state from Anchorage and Palmer to the Soldotna area," Kraus said. "Students have released salmon at each celebration — either hatchery fish or salmon they've raised." Each elementary school had a salmon raising project, and students released salmon throughout the day into Island Lake, he said.

"It's a great event," North Star principal Larry LeDoux said of the crowd of excited kids who moved seamlessly from one activity to another.

At 12 booths volunteers taught skills including fly tying, how salmon are tagged and how salmon scales can be used to gauge age and species.

Anyone who believes there's no free lunch wasn't at this fair. Students were treated to lunch in the sunshine courtesy of Safeway, KIBSD food services and Al Burch and the F.V. Dawn. "The only costs to the school district were for buses, and a lot of kids were able to walk here," said LeDoux.

"This is a lot of fun," said Ryan Fish, practicing his fly-casting technique under the watchful eye of an expert volunteer. And that's just what Kraus and his salmon carnies wanted to hear.

Reprinted From

Make-A-Wish
Foundation Newsletter
June 2000



Cool Fishing Trip

Ten year-old **Aaron** loves to fish with his Dad and Grandpa in his hometown of Haslet, Texas, but was curious what it would be like to try ice fishing in Alaska. Here is a letter that Aaron wrote to Fritz Kraus of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, who was thrilled to escort Aaron on his fishing adventure...



Aaron (left) and his brothers display their day's catch.

Hi Mr. Fritz Kraus,

I am Aaron. I am ten years old and in 5th grade. I have two brothers who are five and eight. I got diagnosed with A.L.L. in June of 99 and I should be through with my treatments in two years, God willing. I am doing well right now and I hope you are too. It took me a long time to decide what my wish was going to be. So why did I decide Alaska? Good Question. Well, there were certain parts of movies that I had seen that showed people ice fishing. I figured since I love to fish I would sure love to try ice fishing. So here it is, seven days till I'm on the ice and I couldn't be more excited!!!

I'm looking forward to meeting you in Anchorage. Thanks for doing this with the

Make-A-Wish Foundation ... I sure appreciate it.

Your new friend, Aaron PS. Save the big fish for me.

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Alaska Fish & Game Sport Fishing Division, Alyeska Prince Hotel, Clarion Suites/Hawthorne Suites, Craig Bear, Fritz Kraus, Mark Mahoric

Reprinted From

Anchorage Daily News
June 14, 2000



EVAN R. STEINHAUSER / Anchorage Daily News

Trying not to get their feet wet

Three Anchorage elementary school students carefully cross Campbell Creek after releasing silver salmon smolt on May 26. Hundreds of local schoolchildren went to Campbell Creek Park, near Lake Otis Parkway and Tudor Road, to help release the young salmon. About 75,000 smolt raised at the Fort Richardson hatchery were released that day.

Appendix A2.-I & E Review priorities summary.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

MEMORANDUM

SPORT FISH DIVISION

TO: Distribution
FROM: Andy Hoffmann
 Lisa Olson

DATE: 3/24/2000
SUBJECT: I&E Review, Summary

The review season is over. Whew! At least one member of the Region 2 Information and Education program staff was able to attend each of the area reviews; we had our own Program Review on March 6; and on March 14 Andy and Lisa met with Doug McBride, Bob Clark, Larry Peltz, and Craig Whitmore to discuss where to go from here.

We learned quite a bit as we sat in on the area reviews, and were able to take many good suggestions from staff throughout the region. As with every program in the region, there is not enough manpower to make it all happen at once. The purpose of the March 14 meeting with regional staff was to sort through the issues uncovered in the area review process, pare down the list, and then prioritize those issues and tasks to be accomplished this coming year (at current staffing levels).

We wanted to let you know the outcomes of all these meetings, at least in regards to the Region 2 I&E Program.

Immediate Tasks for 2000

| <u>Lisa</u> | <u>Fritz</u> | <u>Becky</u> | <u>Andy</u> |
|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee Info Center • 2000 Regulations • GASS • Brochure updates • EOs & News Rel. • Area Office Visits • Coordinate w/CF &WC Info Ctr. including Anch Atrium • Media interaction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop education plan for the region at current funding level with Andy • Maintain current school programs • Coordinate with Wildlife program • GASS (fish pond) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate Info center • Log items • License sales accounting • Permits etc. • Weekly fishing updates • Email, phone, mail inquiry response • EO coordination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for CARA • Coordinate Chitina permits w reg 3 • Develop education plan for the region at current funding level with Fritz • Maintain web • Educational Fisheries • Legislation |

What's involved with these tasks?

LISA

Oversee Info Center – Lisa is responsible for the overall supervision of the staff (Becky and Eric) and overall operations at the Sport Fish Information Center (SFIC) in Anchorage. Anchorage Staff are encouraged to spend an hour or so a week in the SFIC. There are three purposes for this: on-site visitation will give you a better feel for what we are doing, give us a better feel for what issues are hot at the moment, and the public a better understanding of what Sport Fish is doing when we call you with a need.

The reason for this suggestion stems from one of the things that was lost when we moved downstairs: daily communication with Anchorage staff. What we gained in serving the public was perhaps lost in communicating with staff. In addition, the more Anchorage staff familiar with SFIC operations, the larger pool available at those rare times once or twice a year when I&E staff must be elsewhere, which helps out those folks who always volunteer.

2000 Regulations – Since August 1999, Lisa has been re-organizing the 2000 Cook Inlet regulation book with the two primary goals of incorporating the Prince William Sound and Resurrection Bay regulations; and getting rid of the matrices. What the regulation summary process will look like next year has yet to be decided. Two of the options being considered are: 1) Craig is the conduit between area staff and Juneau, and 2) Lisa works directly with Craig and area staff to produce the Southcentral and Bristol Bay regulation summaries independently of Juneau.

GASS – Great Alaska Sportsman Show. This year it is April 13-16. Operations are essentially the same as the previous two years, with Lisa coordinating the arrangement of the various divisions in the “booth” area, coordinating presentations, and soliciting sign up for manning the booth. She is also updating and printing brochures.

Brochure updates and creation – This is a continual process, however the GASS is a target date to get things updated and ready for the coming season.

The process for updating **current** informational handouts we outlined at the program review is:

- In early January, Lisa will request revisions and distribute WORD files of each publication to the appropriate AMB and AAMB (cc:-ing area Admin). Deadlines will be established in this communication.
- The AMB (or designee) will edit the WORD file and include any requests for changes in layout or graphics and return it to Lisa.
- Lisa will incorporate changes and edit the wording to “General Public” language in Page Maker, then send another WORD file as well as a PDF file to the AMB (or designee) and area Admin. for review or approval.
- Once she has the verbal, e-mail, or written approval from the AMB (or designee), Lisa will finalize and publish.

- Publishing includes having handouts photocopied for GASS and the Anchorage Info Center, and, if requested, have handouts photocopied (under the area's account code) and sent to area offices. Electronic publishing includes sending finalized handouts in WORD and PDF format to each area office and to Andy for posting on the web.

The process for creating **new** informational products

- Either I&E staff or other Sport Fish staff may initiate this process
- An informational need is perceived and informational issues defined.
- Content information and informational product concept (media advertising, news release, or "feeder" story; printed and/or electronic brochure and/or poster; web page; lapel pin; imprinted tackle boxes, etc.) are defined. "Content information" does not mean area staff have to come up with a complete draft; I&E staff can work from area staff's handwritten notes, short-hand e-mails, bulleted lists, pasted-up AMRs, notes on Chuck E. Cheese napkins, etc.
- Area staff and I&E staff work together to refine the message
- Lisa will create a draft of informational product through "Current publications" process, above. New products may also require review by appropriate regional staff.

EOs & News Releases – No change to the process here. Call Lisa or Becky for an EO number, and then forward an electronic copy to Lisa or Becky for posting on the web. It is extremely important that we receive an electronic copy of both EOs and news releases ASAP so the web can be updated as quickly as possible.

If not printed on official letterhead, please include an ADF&G logo on your news release (or Lisa will be sure it has a logo).

We also maintain a master file of all Region 2 EOs from 1970-1999.

Area Office Visits – We would like to have Lisa (and, if possible, other members of the Region 2 I&E staff) visit the area offices on a regular basis (schedule to be decided) with the goal of improving communications and support **to AND from** the area offices. Area staff are welcome to visit the Anchorage SFIC to accomplish the same thing.

Coordinate w/ Anchorage WC & Comm. Fish Information Centers – Lisa will investigate ways to cross-train with new Anchorage Comm. Fish information staff (they are currently hiring to fill "customer service" positions), and to represent Sport Fish in any Anchorage atrium re-design efforts with Comm Fish, WC, Habitat, Subsistence, and Boards

Media interaction – Currently, most of the region's outreach effort utilizing the media as the primary tool has been through the excellent rapport that Fritz has cultivated with the newspapers and local television personnel. Much of the SFIC's outgoing media contact is faxing out EOs and news releases. Much of the region's (and area's) outgoing media contacts have been in response to media inquiries on "hot topics."

A goal identified in the I&E program review is for the region to further cultivate our positive outreach to the media, and through this channel, to the general public. One option considered is to regularly "feed the media" articles on a variety of sport-fishing-related issues. In addition to the

Anchorage Daily News, Chugiak/Eagle River Star, Valley Frontiersman, Peninsula Clarion & Seward Phoenix Log, articles should go out to any local news outlets in Kodiak, Valdez, Cordova, Homer, and Bristol Bay/Kuskokwim Bay. I&E staff will be developing a list of potential topics and article content, with input from AMBs/AAMBs/PTS staff on every level (so as not to jeopardize in any way the current excellent media relations Sport Fish staff have with their newspapers). Topics could include issues to be considered at the next BOF meeting, results of BOF meetings, halibut limits, or conservation concerns such as rockfish management. Again, any ideas you have for topics will be welcomed.

FRITZ

Develop an educational plan for the region at current funding levels – Work with area staff to identify educational needs in each area and identify current area staff that can coordinate with Fritz to implement the activities. The most common theme heard throughout the area reviews was that Fritz needs to be cloned. This education plan is the first step toward accomplishing that. The generalized concept is that Fritz will train and supervise area staff to meet the educational needs identified by the area. Fritz would reduce his “in-class” time to provide training needed for area staff to make the programs work. This would help to assure that our program is consistent throughout the region. This will also set the groundwork for directing funding into the designated staff positions specifically for I&E.

Maintain current school programs – Fritz will continue the current program run the programs that are in operation this year. Fritz currently has ... LETS GET FRITZ TO ELABORATE) No new schools or programs will be implemented until the “education plan” described above is developed and in place.

Coordinate with Wildlife educational program - Both Sport Fish and Wildlife Conservation divisions have growing education programs. Currently we are not very well coordinated in our efforts. During the next year we will be exploring ways for our programs to work together to more efficiently get our messages out.

GASS (fish pond) – Fritz will continue to spearhead this operation with the ASA pond and a vast amount of volunteer assistance from the hatcheries and the Natural Resource class at King Career Center. This program touches several thousand kid who not only get to fish, but also are provided a number of fish and fishing related activities that teach them something about the resource.

BECKY

Daily Operation of the Sport Fish Information Center – Handling walk-in inquiries, issuing permits, selling licenses, maintaining publication inventories, maintaining fishing reports and information manual. Eric assists from May 15-Sept. 15, and Lisa, Andy, and Fritz jump in whenever things get really busy (June, July, August).

Log items – Becky receives all log items, tracks them in a central file, then routes them to regional staff as requested by Juneau.

License sales accounting – Becky is the primary person selling licenses at the Anchorage Info Center (Lisa, Andy, and Eric also sell licenses). She is also responsible for weekly or monthly license sales

reconciliation, and weekly or monthly license sales accounts receivables. Lisa completes accounting if Becky is unavailable.

Permits, etc. – In addition to selling licenses, Becky (and the I&E staff) issues as many ADF&G regulatory products as we are allowed to by various ADF&G staff. "Regulatory products" include Cook Inlet personal use salmon permits, Cook Inlet-Resurrection Bay shellfish permits, Chitina subsistence permits, Kodiak subsistence permits (via fax), Upper Yentna subsistence permits, harvest cards, proxy fishing information forms, permanent ID applications, guide and guiding business registration forms, salt water charter vessel logbooks, CFEC applications, disabled angler applications--any of the regulatory products an angler might need to take advantage of fishing opportunities.

Weekly fishing updates – Becky reviews the weeklies for grammar & style, and publishes them in a consistent format for distribution through the SFIC to the media and to the web. May through September we would like to get electronic copies of weekly fishing updates by **Thursday morning** at the latest from each management area (ADN publishes a weekly fishing section each Friday in the summer). E-mail to either Lisa or Becky or both.

We would like to encourage you to send us info throughout both the winter and spring seasons. Although inquiries October-April decrease, there is still steady traffic. For example, right now it would be great to have something to whet the angler's appetite: is ice fishing still good?... what will be the earliest flowing water fishing available?... season projection... etc.

Email, phone, mail response – Becky is also responsible for fulfilling informational inquiries delivered by e-mail, phone, and snail mail. (Lisa and Andy jump in when needed). Having been through a busy summer, she very proficient in dealing with the majority of the general inquiries. If she is unable to answer the questions, she turns first to I&E staff, then to Sport Fish staff as appropriate. She'll contact Sport Fish staff either by phone or e-mail.

We are aware that each area office also receives a flood of information requests. Feel free to forward e-mails requesting general information to Becky. However, if the request is specific to your area and/or expertise, please take the time to answer it! With this type of request, Becky may just turn around and refer the question back to you. In addition, it's a good idea to copy Becky, Lisa and Andy with your response (as well as the question). This will educate us on some of the more specialized information so that we may be able to answer those questions the next time around, and help us identify gaps in our information resources.

EO Coordination - Becky and/or Lisa will be contacting all the area offices for an updated list of all your EO contacts, so that we may crosscheck the distributions lists and better coordinate EO distribution.

ANDY:

Plan for CARA – Andy will be developing a plan that involves laying the groundwork for how this region will handle CARA funds. As described by Jonne Slemmons at the I&E program review the CARA (Conservation and Reinvestment Act) legislation could providing a sizable chunk of money for a variety of programs, including I&E.

Coordinate Chitina permits with Region 3 – The new world order has finally reached Chitina. This year the new Chitina subsistence permits will be sold at the Anchorage, Palmer, Glennallen, Delta, and Fairbanks Fish and Game offices. Next year Chitina subsistence permits will be available at the vendors, along with the Cook Inlet PU permits. Andy and Lisa will be working on how to accomplish sales at the Anchorage and Palmer offices. One task assigned to us is designing a "media blitz" to inform Chitina dipnetters that permits are available now in Palmer and Anchorage. Two primary goals of the media blitz are (1) to inform anglers that they don't have to drive like maniacs to make it to the Chitina station before it closes; and (2) to help Region 3 distribute the sales pressure and traffic. Anchorage and Palmer will continue to offer Chitina permits throughout the season.

Maintain web – Andy will continue with the care and feeding of the Region 2 web pages. This is a continual process, which, like any other computer-related process, the final output is only as good as the initial input. If you want to see something out there contact Andy.

Educational Fisheries – Andy will continue to issue the Educational Fishery permits. He circulated a fairly detailed process last year at about this time. The process requires fairly detailed input by the area managers to be sure the proposal fits with in the management constraints. Andy then molds it into a format digestible by Juneau. We have already received 4 applications for the 2000 season (all repeats so far), so some area managers will be getting a call from us soon.

Legislation – Andy will be pursuing two specific pieces of Alaskan legislation. There are programs that have been used successfully in other states to recruit adult non-anglers to sport fishing without the expense of a license, and to provide youth sport fishing opportunities without competition from more experienced adults. In Alaska, programs such as these must be accomplished at the statute level rather than the regulatory level. Andy will be looking into getting legislation sponsored for a "Free Fishing Day," a successful angler recruitment tool that other states use in association with "National Fishing Week."

The second piece of legislation Andy will be pursuing is the establishment of "youth only" fisheries, with Anchorage's Campbell Creek the first selection. "Youth only" fishing areas should be developed in waters that cannot support a full-blown, competitive, "get 'em all" fishery. Additionally, youth only areas should also be conducive to learning angling techniques. A youth only water would be open only to kids under 16 years old.

Although we realize both of these ideas have been considered in the past, and haven't flown, we'd like to try it again.

And Finally...

This memo addresses only the immediate priorities for 2000. Don't fret if your project is not mentioned here; the list of project ideas for the Region 2 I&E staff is long, which speaks, perhaps, to the need of the Region to continue to pursue informational, educational, and outreach efforts. Naturally, as tasks are accomplished, priorities will be re-assessed. As time allows, Becky will still continue as "catch-all" Admin, and Lisa as "Graphics Central." Feel free to call any of the I&E staff: Andy 267-2238; Fritz 267-2265; Lisa 267-2219; and Becky 267-2221. Also, please feel free to distribute the phone number for the Sport Fish Information Center: 267-2218.

Distribution (Please feel free to further distribute at your discretion)

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