

Stream Watch 2024 Season Summary



Volunteers Making a Difference Since 1994



Volunteers/Staff at K'Beq' private tour (Drzazgowski, 2024)

Introduction

Stream Watch is a national award-winning volunteer program promoting river stewardship on the Kenai Peninsula. A group of enthusiastic citizens and the US Forest Service founded Stream Watch in 1994 in order to share river protection information with visitors on the Russian and Kenai Rivers. After the popularity of the program grew, the Kenai Watershed Forum adopted the program in 2011 and now runs it jointly with the Forest Service. Over 30 years, the program has grown to incorporate additional sites on the Russian, Kenai, and Kasilof Rivers.

Today Stream Watch volunteers assist land management agencies with stewardship of important recreational sites and help ensure the health of the region's watersheds. Stream Watch volunteers remove litter found in high-use natural areas; install habitat protection fencing; complete fish habitat restoration projects; and share critical information with the general public on river stewardship, agency regulations, and bear safety during the summer season (June-September).

In the past 30 years, Stream Watch volunteers dedicated 30,323.5 hours of time within the program, provided peer-to-peer education to 89,930 individuals, picked up 46,939 pounds of trash, and recycled 1,410 pounds of fishing line. Alongside these successes the program helped revegetate miles of riverbank by installing habitat fencing and by encouraging visitors to use boardwalks and designated river access points.

Volunteers can participate in Stream Watch either as a trained "Ambassador" by committing to at least 24 hours of service each season, or through participation in a "Stewardship Day" where individuals, groups, or businesses help with a one-day, river protection project.

- Northern Peninsula Program
 - Kenai-Russian River Confluence (including Angler Trail & Falls Trail), Kenai-Russian River Ferry
- Central Peninsula Program
 - Bings Landing, Moose Range Meadows (East & West), Centennial Park, N. Kenai Beach, Kasilof River State Recreation Site, and the Kasilof River Special Use Area
- Southern Peninsula Program
 - Clam Gulch, Deep Creek, Ninilchik, and Anchor Point
- Ambassador Volunteer Season:
 - Northern Peninsula Program: June 1—September 14
 - Central Peninsula Program: June 1 – September 30
 - Southern Peninsula Program: July 1 – September 22



Stream Watch ambassadors after habitat fencing installation at the Russian River. (Mason, 2024)

Season Recap

Stream Watch experienced another successful season in 2024. The number of trained volunteers grew to 79, and marked an all time high for the program. 53 of those ambassadors were returning volunteers and 26 were new volunteers this season. Although 79 volunteers took the training, not all ambassadors were able to complete their 24 hours with the program due to health issues, scheduling issues, or other life changes. Over 120 individuals joined the program on Stewardship Days including trained and untrained volunteers. The Stream Watch program set all-time records for total volunteer hours (2,673), travel mileage (22,001), and public contacts (9,166), as seen below in Table 1.

Table 1: 2014-2024 Stream Watch Program Statistics

Year	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Volunteer Hours	2691	2414	1894	2263	862	1557	1896	1504	1282	1492	1217
Public Contacts	9166	9117	3476	5759	2256	4031	2616	3962	2870	4618	3195
Trash (lbs.)	3420	4487	2654	2925	4590	4258	6921	3110	2413	1808	1446
Fishing Line (lbs.)	136	131	254	138	99	127	124	81	75	148	97
Cigarette Butts	7163	5006	6957	6789	3072	5549	3485	2257	-	-	-

Table 2: Site Specific Data from the 2023 Season

Site	Travel Mileage	Hours	Number of Contacts	Pounds of Trash	Pounds of Line	Cigarette Butts
Northern Peninsula						
Russian River Campground	13469	827.5	5965	128.34	20	519
Russian River Ferry	2122	175.5	1323	96.89	43.68	847
Central Peninsula						
Bings Landing	473	75.5	165	61.31	10.6	687
Centennial Park	908	143.15	297	143.47	44.57	1923
Moose Range Meadows	240	39	66	30	9.5	555
Kasilof	1478.3	134.75	302	362.84	3.16	1537
Kenai Mouth	270	37.5	563	32.5	0	24
Southern Peninsula						
Deep Creek	100	5	4	3.38	.67	101
Anchor River	240	5.5	17	2.71	.67	101
Ninilchik	45	5.5	0	9	0.5	55
Other	217	66.5	391	33.25	1.1	250
Orientations	-	474	-	-	-	-
Stewardship Days	2438.5	695.45	73	2516.68	1.1	564
Totals:	22001	2691	9166	3420	136	7163

Table 2 shows the distribution of Stream Watch activities across all program sites. The Northern Peninsula program consists of the Russian River Ferry and Russian River Campground, where Stream Watch originated in 1994. More than half of the season's ambassador hours were spent in the Northern Peninsula sites. The Russian River Campground saw the highest number of volunteer hours, public contacts, and volunteer travel mileage compared to other Stream Watch sites. Of the Central Peninsula sites, Kasilof received the most volunteer attention due to a mix of ambassador patrols and dipnet booth shifts. On the Southern Peninsula, all sites had similar volunteer hours. Volunteer hours and trash collected from Southern Peninsula sites were low compared to other areas of the program. The Kasilof River Special Use Area actually saw the majority of trash collected, but most of this trash resulted from weekly clean-up events during the dipnet fishery and was noted under "Stewardship Days".

In Table 2, “Other,” is considered volunteer time such as data entry, cleaning fishing line at home, assisting with grant writing, visitation at high use sites without supply sheds available, and other tasks that are not included on the Stream Watch data sheets. “Orientation” is a tally of the time spent by volunteers doing the online or in-person orientation, which was automatically considered six hours of volunteer time upon completion. “Stewardship Days” refer to scheduled work days with volunteers such as habitat fencing, beach cleanups, or outreach days. Stewardship Days are a great way to achieve significant conservation impacts in a short period of time.



Jr Stream Watch Technician, Alexis McDonald standing outside a newly installed supply shed at the Russian River Ferry.
(Drzazgowski, 2024)

The Stream Watch program also saw an expansion of available volunteer supplies during 2024. In late August and early September, two new supply caches were ordered by staff and produced by the owners of Peninsula Refuse. These new 8x8ft wooden sheds were installed in two locations to help refine supply storage at program locations. One shed was installed at the Russian River Ferry to replace an old plastic shed previously used by the program. The installation of a new wooden shed helps to improve security of supplies throughout the year and presents the program in a more professional light.

The second supply cache was installed at the Kasilof River Special Use Area (North Kasilof Beach). This cache was installed to help expand the area where ambassadors have regular supplies available to them. The program chose to install the cache at the Kasilof River Special Use area because it is regularly visited by volunteers and is home to multiple Stewardship day events like Trashercise Tuesday, the Kasilof Dipnet Booth, and invasive species volunteer days. The new shed allows for storage of supplies, and reduces the amount of time needed to prepare for stewardship days.

Program Administration

Stream Watch is jointly administered by Chugach National Forest and Kenai Watershed Forum. To fulfill its mission, Stream Watch operates cooperatively with the following land management agencies:

- US Forest Service, Chugach National Forest (Russian River Recreation Site)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge (Kenai-Russian River Ferry, Moose Range Meadows)
- Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Alaska State Parks (Bings Landing, Kasilof River Recreation Area, Anchor River, Deep Creek, and Ninilchik Recreation Sites) & Division of Mining Land and Water (Kasilof River Special Use Area)
- City of Soldotna (Centennial Park)
- City of Kenai (Kenai Beach)

Stream Watch activities are primarily conducted by volunteers. The Chugach National Forest and the Kenai Watershed Forum hired the following staff to facilitate volunteer activities:

- Volunteer Coordinator, Brandon Drzazgowski (Kenai Watershed Forum)
- Volunteer Coordinator, Shannon Mason (Chugach National Forest)
- Intern, Row Dirks (Kenai Watershed Forum)
- Intern, Ashlynn Moretti (Kenai Watershed Forum)
- Intern, Ceili DeMarais (Kenai Watershed Forum)
- Intern, Ellis Addleman (Kenai Watershed Forum)



Stream Watch staff constructing monofilament collections tubes. (Moretti, 2024)

Program Funders

Funding from a variety of agencies and organizations makes Stream Watch possible. Cash funding or in-kind contributions for the 2024 season was provided by the following entities: Alaska Conservation Foundation; Alaska Department of Natural Resources—Alaska State Parks and Department of Mining, Land and Water; Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund; Alaska Recreational Management; Chugach National Forest; City of Soldotna; City of Kenai; Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council; Kachemak Heritage Land Trust; Kenai National Wildlife Refuge; Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership; Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge; Kenai Watershed Forum; the Mullen Family; National Forest Foundation; Sovereign Nation of the Kenaitze ; and private donations.

Major Program Funders	In-kind	Cash
AKDNR: Division of Mining Land and Water	X	X
Alaska Conservation Foundation		X
Alaska Recreation Management	X	
Alaska State Parks	X	
Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund		X
Chugach National Forest	X	X
City of Kenai	X	
City of Soldotna	X	
ConocoPhillips		X
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council		X
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust		X
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge	X	
Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership		X
Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge	X	
Kenai Watershed Forum	X	X
Mullen Family		X
National Forest Foundation		X
Sovereign Nation of the Kenaitze	X	

Stream Watch Outreach and Volunteer Recruitment

Recruitment for the 2024 season was performed through a variety of methods including posting on social media, posting fliers, public presentations about the program, informational booths at events/project sites, word of mouth by staff and volunteers during regular patrols, and through information provided on the Kenai Watershed Forum website. Stream Watch volunteers were also provided with a variety of uniform items all containing the Stream Watch logo to ensure that the program is being represented by volunteers during stewardship efforts, regardless of weather.

The two recruitment methods that proved to be the most effective were word of mouth by current volunteers, and educational booths at community events. The program leaned into these methods and hosted educational/recruitment booths at various community events. Events where a booth was present included; The Kenai River Fair, Soldotna Wednesday Market, CompassionThruFishing's Surf Fishing Tournament, and Cooper Landing Emergency Services Casting Competition. Outreach booths allowed staff and volunteers to have more in-depth discussions about the program with those interested in joining.

Program staff also encouraged volunteers to provide others with information on how to get involved and bring friends/family to stewardship days to allow them to experience the program. Overall, having volunteers share their positive experience with the program is the most valuable recruitment tool the program has. Majority of recurring ambassadors that join the program do so because of a positive interaction with a current volunteer. Having a constant volunteer presence at high use sites helps present the program as more accessible for those wishing to join.

Majority of Stewardship Day recruitment occurred from pairing with separate organizations that had a group of volunteers interested in working with the program, or ambassadors that are notified of stewardship days via the newsletter. Some groups from separate organizations recur every season while others reach out during winter months to inquire about scheduling a date with the program. Stream Watch coordinators also network with partners at various community events to find new pairings for the program and establish new stewardship days.

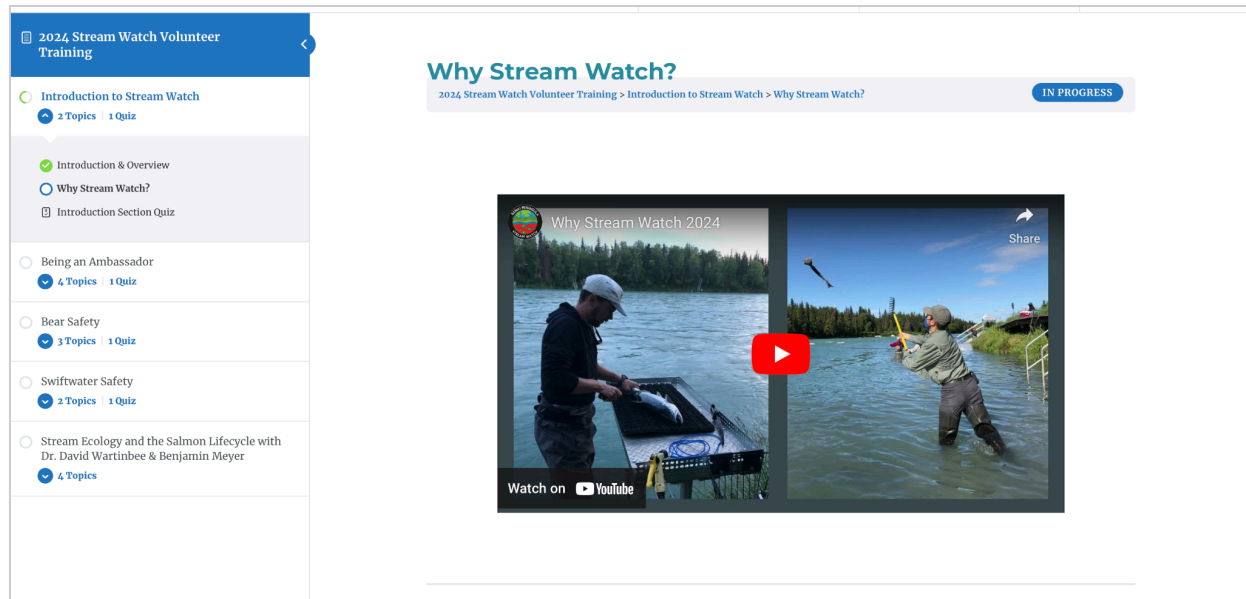
Ambassador Training/Orientation

One in-person orientation was held at the Kenai Wilderness Princess Lodge on June 1st. It was very well attended, with 53 ambassadors present. In-person orientation covered regular content, but included additional activities in order to make the orientation more engaging for volunteers. Additional content included peer-to-peer education scenarios and a guest presentation about the geologic history of the Kenai Peninsula by Dick Reger. Princess Lodge was nice enough to provide the program with the training location and lunch for all participants as a donation to the program. The in-person orientation received large amount of positive feedback from volunteers, and coordinators will look to continue expansion of the in-person training for future season

The online orientation stayed available this season as well and was a valuable tool for volunteers that were unable to attend in-person orientation. Online orientation also allowed for consistent volunteer recruitment throughout the entire season compared to previous seasons where recruitment slowed dramatically after in-person orientations were concluded. After online content was completed, by volunteers, they would meet coordinators at a Stream Watch site nearest to them for an on-river meeting to receive their volunteer uniform, walk through a Stream Watch cache, and perform hands-on bear spray training. Coordinators were able to revise the online orientation before the 2024 season to help shorten content, add information about new sites, and clarify confusing content from the old version of the online training. Overall, 26 ambassadors took the online training.



Ambassadors and partners at in-person training hosted at Princess Lodge. (Drzazgowski, 2024)

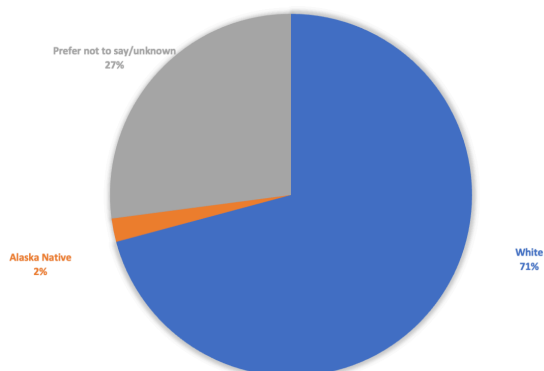


Screenshot from the online volunteer orientation updated in the spring of 2024.

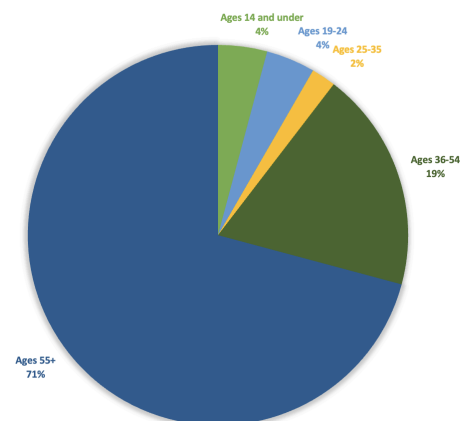
Ambassador Demographics/Surveys

Demographic information was collected from Stream Watch ambassadors as part of the Forest Service volunteer agreement paperwork. For the 2024 season, all ambassadors were required to fill out a USFS volunteer agreement in case they chose to volunteer at upper river sites. As seen in the charts below, most ambassadors are older than 55, and the majority are white. There is a very close split of male and female ambassadors with females making up the slight majority. One of the goals of the Stream Watch program going forward is to diversify volunteer participation across all demographic categories. Stewardship Day participants are typically younger and more diverse than ambassadors, but their information is not captured in the demographic data. The coordinators are developing a form that asks for demographic information from all Stream Watch participants. With the Jr, SW program 78 volunteers under the age of 20 participated.

NORTHERN PENINSULA AMBASSADOR RACE & ETHNICITY DISTRIBUTION



NORTHERN PENINSULA AMBASSADOR AGE DISTRIBUTION



NORTHERN PENINSULA AMBASSADOR GENDER DISTRIBUTION



Volunteer surveys were also produced and sent to all ambassadors involved in the program during the 2024 season. Overall, feedback from participants was positive with few suggestions for improvement. All volunteers that filled out the survey noted feeling appreciated by program facilitators and noted a high likelihood of returning to volunteer with Stream Watch for future seasons. Volunteers also felt that the variety of experiences offered to them were enough that involvement didn't feel repetitive or boring. Training and supplies available were noted as sufficient to help volunteers feel prepared for regular stewardship activities with the program.

There was some constructive feedback given during volunteer surveys including volunteer partners, public handouts, and the length of training. Majority of volunteers have established partners that they perform stewardship activities with, however, some individual volunteers noted that it was difficult to locate others to patrol with. This season, a list of volunteers that agreed to have their information shared with others was created to mitigate this issue. Program staff will focus on other ways to make this information more widely available to those looking for volunteer partners. Surveys also indicated volunteers wanting more educational materials/handouts for members of the public that interact with the program. Although the program supplies stickers and fish identification cards for volunteers to hand out on patrols, volunteers noted that the public would sometimes inquire about more local information. Staff plans to reach out to program partners during the winter season to acquire a larger variety of educational handouts for volunteers during regular patrols. Finally, regularly returning volunteers noted that training was too long for those that have been a part of the program for many years. Majority of content included in training is required by the program. To deal with this issue, staff has started to incorporate more guest speakers and hands-on portions to training. Although this won't shorten the majority of the content, it will make training more engaging and fun for volunteers returning to the program.

Habitat Restoration

In the spring of 2023, the Kenai Watershed Forum was awarded funding by the Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund to perform a habitat restoration project on the Mullen Conservation Easement, located in Soldotna. This project consists of cabling spruce tree tops along the Kenai riverbank, establishing native vegetation in areas that see high foot traffic, and installing new signage to inform visitors of the project and special regulations set on the property.

In May of 2024, more spruce tree tops were donated to the Kenai Watershed Forum by a community member who had seen a story about the project in local news outlets. Trees were transported to the KWF office until a date was set with volunteers to perform cabling of new trees and maintenance of trees installed in 2023. On May 28th, Stream watch volunteers joined staff to stage trees along the river, establish native plant starts that were collected last season, and gather new plants for future planting days.

On May 30th, a group of volunteers from an FFA organization paired with the Stream Watch program to cable trees that were staged two days prior. The FFA group assisted KWF staff with installing new anchors and cables into the riverbank. After cables were installed, volunteers split into two groups. One group assisted with bank revegetation and watering plant starts that were previously planted while the other helped to move spruce trees and secure them into the damaged riverbank. After half of the spruce trees were installed into the bank, the two groups switched until cabling was complete.

Stream Watch staff also paired with personnel from the Kachemak Heritage Land Trust to install new conservation easement signs at various locations on the property and on adjacent land owned by the City of Soldotna. New signs help to contact visitors when staff/volunteers aren't present to inform them on special regulations that apply to the property. 8 signs in total were installed with 6 being located on the conservation easement and 2 being located on City of Soldotna land to reach visitors before they enter the property.

Vegetation efforts occurred on a regular basis throughout the remainder of the summer season. Unfortunately, vegetation planted along the bank struggled to establish itself due to foot traffic along the property. Although habitat fencing was installed in some areas to protect new plant starts, trampling was still seen along the river. Because of this, a funding extension was requested and approved for the 2025 season. Stream Watch and other KWF staff will continue spruce tree maintenance and revegetation efforts in the following season in order to further stabilize the bank.



FFA group performing spruce tree cabling and revegetation along the Kenai River. (Drzazgowski, 2024)

Kenai/Kasilof Dipnet Booth

The Kenai Dipnet Booth is a volunteer-staffed information table located at the entrance to Kenai Beach off of South Spruce St. in Kenai, Alaska and the entrance of the Kasilof River Special Use Area off of Kasilof Beach Stub. The booth is facilitated by Kenai Watershed Forum's Stream Watch program with support from Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, the City of Kenai, Alaska Beluga Monitoring Program, and Alaska Wildlife Alliance. The booth started in 2018 to inform the public about public health threats posed by bacteria problems produced by fish and seagull waste on the beach. The booth's focus has since shifted to provide additional information on regulations, emergency orders, fish identification, health concerns, invasive species, and other work being done by Stream Watch and KWF. New to the booth this year were belugas. Stream Watch collaborated with Alaska Wildlife Association (AWA) and Alaska Beluga Monitoring Program (ABMP) to increase awareness and general public knowledge of the Cook Inlet beluga population. Aside from information, booth volunteers also conduct trash cleanups along the beach and give away stickers, tide books, regulation books, various brochures, and more.

Both the Kenai and Kasilof Dipnet Informational Booths are staffed by KWF and Stream Watch volunteers. The ABMP also shared the opportunity with their volunteers. Shifts are four hours long and scheduled during each day's expected high tide. As most dipnetters fish during high tide, having a presence during this time provides a greater chance of reaching more anglers and visitors. The Dipnet Booth was on site at Kenai Beach from July 10 until July 31. During this time a total of 7 shifts out of 16

were filled. The Kasilof Dipnet Informational Booth was operational from June 25th to August 7th. The booth was staffed 11 of the 32 shifts scheduled. Volunteers and staff reached out to a total of 742 visitors at both beaches combined. The addition of the Beluga Trivia game to both booths, provided by the AWA, was successful in enticing more adults and children to come to the booth. After completing their trivia question, these participants were more likely to ask additional questions about the other information the booth provided.



Stream Watch staff hosting a dip net booth shift before a Trashercise Tuesday event. (Taylor, 2024)

Marine Debris Cleanups

Stream Watch has been attending to coastal issues with increasing efforts over the past seven years. The most notable marine debris cleanup event facilitated by the program is the Trashercise Tuesday cleanup series. Trashercise Tuesday is a series of marine cleanups hosted every Tuesday of the dipnet season from 5pm to 7pm at Kasilof Beach. Trashercise Tuesday focuses on gathering volunteers to remove large amounts of litter left behind by the dipnet fishery. After the 5 weekly cleanups, 1,657.72lbs. of trash were removed from the beach and 74 volunteer hours were recorded during Trashercise Tuesday events alone. This makes an average of 330 lbs of trash collected each week!

Stream Watch also collaborated with various organizations and volunteer groups in an effort to have a larger impact on marine ecosystems. Groups that Stream Watch paired with for marine debris cleanups include CompassionThruFishing, Marathon Petroleum, Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, and groups of individuals from the general public.

Individual efforts were also seen by volunteers performing patrols in marine ecosystems. Most volunteers that enjoy marine patrols frequented the North and South Kasilof Beaches. Stream Watch hopes that with the installation of new supply sheds in the Kasilof, more volunteers will choose these areas for regular patrols. Having bags and other materials present on site will drastically increase how easy it is to perform stewardship activities at our marine areas.



A family of volunteers after the South Kenai Beach Clean-up paired with Kenaitze. (Drzazgowski, 2024)



A group of volunteers after the Deep Creek Cleanup with the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies. (Drzazgowski, 2024)

Stewardship Events

Over the course of 2024, multiple stewardship events were held to get large groups of people involved in hands-on conservation efforts. The summer season saw the return of popular stewardship days hosted in the past and some new to the program.

One stewardship day that was introduced during the 2024 season was a private tour of the K'Beq' Interpretive Site. The K'Beq' Interpretive Site saw its grand re-opening since its closure in 2019. This location helps to inform the public about Kenaitze history, artifacts, and cultural practices. Stream Watch paired with the Kenaitze Indian Tribe to offer volunteers a personal tour of this historical site, and to learn about the history of the Cooper Landing area. Volunteers were able to see a foundation from a historic Kenaitze housing unit, hear stories from Kenaitze culture, and view various artifacts. Ambassadors that joined for this stewardship day had lots of positive feedback and noted wanting more informational/learning days in future seasons. This stewardship day wasn't focused around removing trash or restoring habitat, however it showed its own value. This stewardship day help to increase the base knowledge about the areas that volunteers frequent and provided them with more talking points to pull from while performing regular patrols

A Stewardship day that saw a return in 2024 was the Group Line Cleaning Day. This is an event where volunteers met at the Russian River Ferry to perform outreach with the public while preparing fishing line to be recycled by removing tackle left on the line. This event was first introduced in late August of 2023. Due to its original timing, few public contacts were made in 2023. This season, the event was held during peak sockeye fishing season in late July. Ambassadors cleaned 3 large garbage bags worth of fishing line by removing hooks, weights, and other tackle. Ambassadors also connected with the public about the damage that can be caused by improperly discarded fishing line, ethical angling practices, and other educational topics regularly shared by the program. Some members of the public also joined line cleaning efforts while conversing with volunteers. This event also helped to create new volunteer pairings by allowing ambassadors that don't regularly interact to meet each other and exchange information.



Staff/Volunteers connecting with the public at Group Line Cleaning Stewardship Day. (Mason, 2024)

Stream Watch also saw the return of invasive species management days through a day centered around removing *Prunus* trees from a local conservation easement property. Stream Watch paired with the KWF Invasive Species program to remove the invasives with hand pulling methods. Ambassadors first had to hike through a DNR owned property with pulling equipment including a tree puller, bags, gloves, and safety supplies. From there, the invasive species team directed them to various infestations throughout the property and guided them on how to properly remove the *Prunus* trees in order to stop further spreading. Volunteers greatly enjoyed the hands-on and exploratory nature of this stewardship day and requested more invasive species management days.



Staff and volunteers removing invasive *Prunus* trees with hand pulling/mechanical methods. (Drzazgowski, 2024)

Youth Involvement

In an effort to engage with volunteers from various demographics, Stream Watch paired with multiple organizations to host youth stewardship days and saw the first season of the Jr. Stream Watch program. Jr. Stream Watch is focused around providing youth, ages 13-18, a chance to explore careers in conservation and perform stewardship at high use sites. There is a portion of overlap between activities offered by Stream Watch and Jr. Stream Watch, however, Jr. Stream Watch is able to focus on the individual interests of participants due to the small number of volunteers. Jr. Stream Watch was able to recruit 4 recurring volunteers for the 2024 season who participated in litter clean ups, educational days, fence maintenance, native plant identification, and more.

Youth Stewardship Days were facilitated with organizations including the Qutekcak Tribe, Salamatof Tribe, Kenai Mountains Turnagain Arm, Apogee Adventures, and Future Farmers of America. Stewardship activities with large groups differed depending on locational restrictions and the needs of partners, but included line cleaning, litter clean-ups, restoration projects, educational walks, trail maintenance, and invasive species control. Engaging large groups of youth volunteers showed to give

them a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the natural areas of the Kenai Peninsula. By engaging youth, Stream Watch hopes to properly prepare the next generation to support our natural resources by equipping them with the knowledge and experience they need to do so. Overall 78 youth were engaged by the program to gain a total of 335 volunteer hours.



Stream Watch/ADF&G Staff, with a volunteer group from Kenai Mountains Turnagain Arm Pathfinders program.
(Drzazgowski, 2024)

Events

Below is a list of events hosted by the program in 2023. The many stewardship events the program hosted complemented Ambassador efforts and increased program impact. The list below includes all stewardship opportunities provided to Stream Watch volunteers hosted by parent organizations and those hosted by program partners.

Date	Time	Name of Event	Host	Location	Classification
5/17	10am-5pm	Halibut Tournament/Clean Up	CompassionThruFishing	Ninilchik Area	Paired Stewardship Day
5/18	10am-5pm	Halibut Tournament/Clean Up	CompassionThruFishing	Ninilchik Area	Paired Stewardship Day
5/19	10am-6pm	Halibut Tournament/Clean Up	CompassionThruFishing	Ninilchik Area	Paired Stewardship Day
5/28	11-5pm	Spruce Tree Restoration Project	KWF	Mullen Conservation Easement	Stewardship Day
5/30	1-5pm	Spruce Tree Restoration Project	KWF	Mullen Conservation Easement	Stewardship Day
6/1	10am-4pm	In-person Volunteer Orientation	KWF/USFS	Kenai Wilderness Princess Lodge	Orientation

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6/3-6/5	9am-3pm	Russian River Fencing	USFS	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
6/6	10am-4pm	Russian/Kenai River Fencing	USFS/USFWS	Russian River Ferry	Stewardship Day
6/7	9-1pm	Kenai River Festival Set-Up	KWF	Soldotna Creek Park	Stewardship Day
6/8	11m--5pm	Stream Watch Booth @ Kenai River Fair	KWF	Soldotna Creek Park	Stewardship Day/Informational Booth
6/8	10am-5pm	Backcountry Hunters & Anglers Fencing	USFS	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
6/9	10-4pm	Trout Unlimited Planting Day	TU/KWF	Centennial Park	Stewardship Day/Informational Booth
6/12	10am-6pm	Wednesday Market SW Booth	KWF	Soldotna Creek Park	Stewardship Day/Informational Booth
6/14	10am-3pm	Moose Range Meadows Fencing	KWF/USFWS	Moose Range Meadows	Stewardship Day
6/18	10am-3pm	KMTA Pathfinders Youth Day 1/2	KWF/KMTA	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
6/19	10am-3pm	KMTA Pathfinders Youth Day 2/2	KWF/KMTA	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
6/27	1pm-5pm	Navigate Centennial Fencing	KWF	Centennial Park	Stewardship Day
6/28	10:30-4pm	Ellis Family Volunteer Day	KWF	Kasilof	Stewardship Day
7/3	10am- 2pm	Apogee Adventures #1	KWF	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
7/9	5pm-7pm	Trashercise Tuesday	KWF	Kasilof Beach	Stewardship Day
7/10	10am-6pm	Wednesday Market SW Booth	KWF	Soldotna Creek Park	Stewardship Day/Informational Booth
7/16	11am-12pm	K'Beq' Educational Day	KWF/Kenaitze Indian Tribe	K'Beq' Interpretive Site	Stewardship Day
7/16	5pm-7pm	Trashercise Tuesday	KWF	Kasilof Beach	Stewardship Day
7/19	10am-2pm	Apogee Adventure Visit	KWF	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
7/23	5pm-7pm	Trashercise Tuesday	KWF	Kasilof Beach	Stewardship Day
7/25	12pm-3:30pm	Group Line Cleaning Day	KWF/USFS	Russian River Ferry	Stewardship Day
7/30	5pm-7pm	Trashercise Tuesday	KWF	Kasilof Beach	Stewardship Day
8/2	10am-11am	NFHP Board Visit	KWF	Russian River Campground	Educational Stewardship Day

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8/3	10am-2pm	Kenaitze Beach Clean-up	KWF/Kenaitze Indian Tribe	South Kenai Beach	Stewardship Day
8/4	10am-2pm	Apogee Adventure Visit	KWF	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
8/6	5pm-7pm	Trashercise Tuesday	KWF	Kasilof Beach	Stewardship Day
8/7	10am-6pm	Wednesday Market SW Booth	KWF	Soldotna Creek Park	Stewardship Day/Informational Booth
8/13	10am-3pm	Russian River Fencing Removal	USFS	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
8/14	10am-3pm	Russian River Fencing Removal	USFS	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
8/15	10am-3pm	Russian River Fencing Removal	USFS	Russian River Campground	Stewardship Day
8/23	10am-2pm	Invasive Prunus Removal Day	KWF	King Salmon Conservation Easement	Stewardship Day
8/24	10am-4pm	Stream Watch Appreciation Event	KWF/USFS	KNWR Visitor Center	Appreciation Event
8/29	11am-3pm	Russian River Ferry Fencing Removal	KWF/USFWS/USFS	Russian River Ferry	Stewardship Day
9/6	9am-3pm	CLES Casting Competition Educational Booth	CLES/KWF/USFS	Cooper Landing Community Center	Stewardship Day
9/13	10am-3pm	Moose Range Meadows Fencing Removal	USFWS/KWF	Moose Range Meadows	Stewardship Day
9/22	10am-2pm	Deep Creek Beach Clean-up	KWF/ACCS	Deep Creek	Stewardship Day



Ellis family volunteer group at Kasilof Beach (Dirks, 2024)

Conclusion

The 30th anniversary season of the Stream Watch program showed to be very productive. New areas to store volunteer supplies were implemented to expand volunteer impact to the southern peninsula, relations were strengthened with returning partners, and new relationships were formed with organizations from all over the Kenai Peninsula. Stream Watch volunteers were able to gain knowledge during new educational opportunities, gain experience in invasive species management and habitat restoration, and continue regular patrols to help support high-use areas. Volunteers noted high enjoyment of the program with little complaints on facilitation. Stream Watch was also able to engage a younger age group with the implementation of the Jr. Stream Watch program and pairing with multiple youth based organizations. Stream Watch has had 30 strong years of volunteering and Stewardship at local areas and wants to thank funders, partners, and volunteers for continued support and helping the program to grow.