



Press Release

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Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association

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State of Alaska awards 5-year project

Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association is pleased to announce a new project in partnership with the Yukon River Inter-tribal Watershed Council that will focus on the creation of a culturally responsive monitoring program that will integrate science with Traditional Ecological Knowledge of our community members along the Yukon River. We were funded by the state of Alaska for funding this project and through a fiscal sponsorship by the Bering Sea Fishermen's Association.

The creation of this new Monitoring Program will call for community members all along the Yukon River to get involved in various ways; local hires will be requested to do tasks such as water quality monitoring and interviewing Elders to generate a historical timeline of observed changes on the Yukon.

The culturally responsive monitoring program will culminate in a Clearinghouse - a digital location where Traditional Ecological Knowledge and scientific materials alike on the Yukon River can be accessed. Our community members will have a place to connect with historical stories and data in a designated space with self-determination.

As our Yukon "Great River" in Gwich'in or Kwiguk "Larger Stream" in Yup'ik, there is a strong record of our history along this river; and in current times there is a stronger need than ever to address growing concerns about the health of the Yukon River Watershed freshwater ecosystem.

For more information you can go to our website at www.yukonsalmon.org or www.yritwc.org or contact our office.

The Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association is a grass-root non-profit organization that represents the entire Yukon River watershed on fishery issues with the mission to protect and promote all wild fisheries and traditional cultures within the Yukon River drainage.

The Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council is a grassroots non-profit organization that represents the entire Yukon River watershed on environmental issues with the mission to initiate and continue to clean up and preservation of the Yukon River for the protection of our own and future generations of the Tribes/First Nations and for the continuation of our traditional Native way of life.