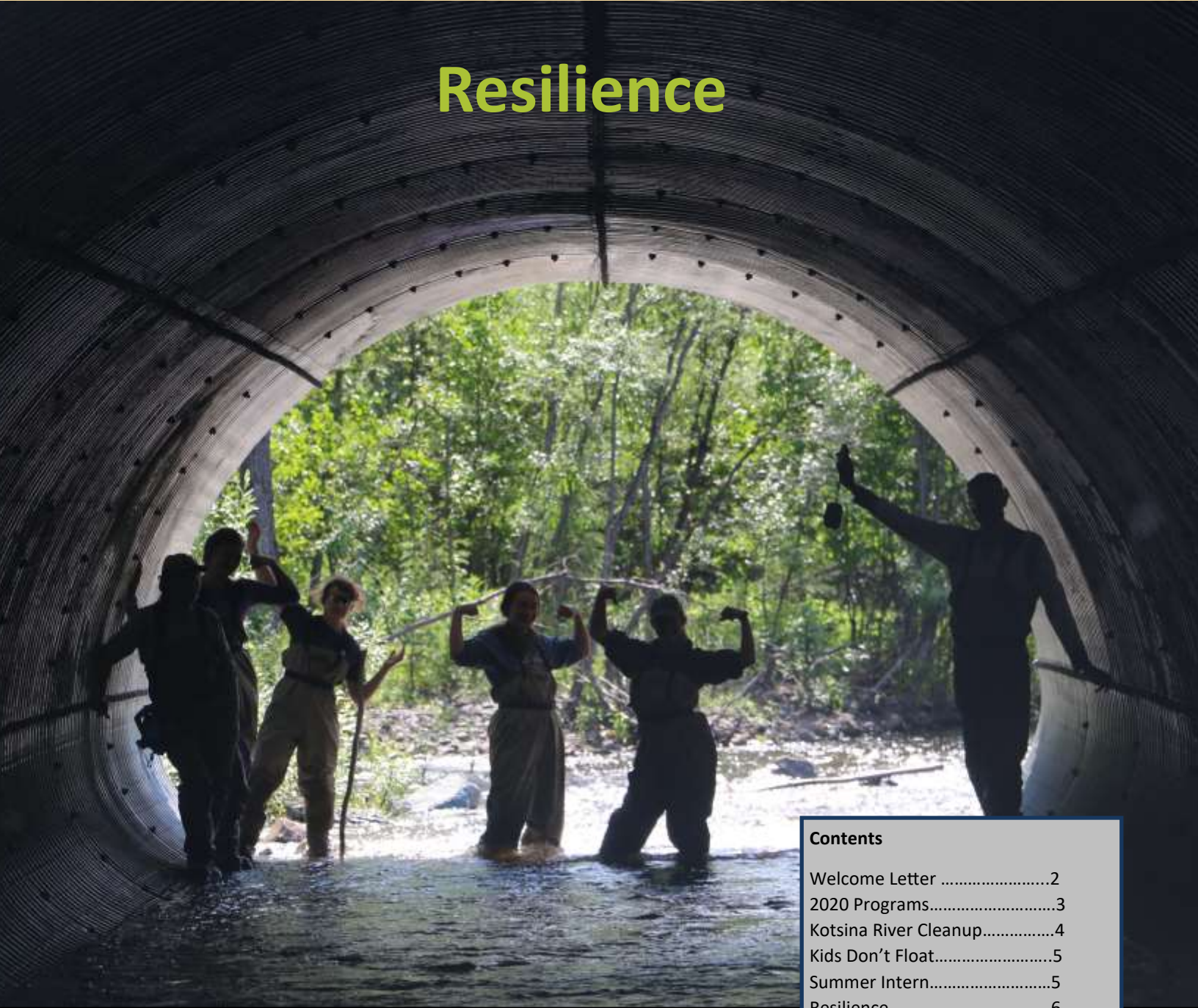




Resilience



Copper River Stewardship Program students take measure of a culvert as part of their quest to learn more about the world’s northernmost population of Rainbow Trout.

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Welcome!

Welcome Friends of WISE,

Once again we are grateful to all who have contributed whether directly or indirectly to making WISE such a wonderful organization for all these years. We hope this Newsletter will show you at least some of the creative ways we are managing to make our programs work during this rather upside down year.



Gay works as an educator and advocate for Alzheimers Resource of Alaska, and is very active in the Kenny Lake Community, bringing her superpowers of building consensus and inspiring laughter and positive action.

Our theme this year is Resiliency. Being resilient and adaptive has always been important for people of all ages but this year is showing how important those traits actually are. Being able to be flexible, resilient, and adaptive is critical if we are to be safe, creative, and intelligent in how we deal with and relate to our world. One of the major goals of WISE is to help “youth” of all ages develop and strengthen their abilities to be resilient. There have been multiple studies in the past that show how important it is for us to have connections with others who model these traits or attributes as we continue to grow up.

Most of us have heard the phrase “It takes a village to raise a child.” There are many parts to a village including the family unit, the schools, the spiritual/religious and other community groups, anything that provides opportunities to explore, practice, make mistakes, be of service, learn new things with good mentors.

This year of 2020 has only emphasized just how critical these particular traits are. When you read through this newsletter you will see just how successfully WISE, with Executive Director Robin Mayo at the helm, has been in modeling how one “does” being resilient. With the help of her leadership, and in cooperation and support from our multiple partners throughout the watershed, just look at how WISE has continued to provide new ways to counter act that social distancing mandate.

We started in early May with the Science Lecture via Zoom and then helping to release salmon fry raised by the school children in two locations in the Copper Basin. We figured out how to conduct successful virtual programs for the school children for Earth Discovery Day. Then in June and July there were three Virtual hikes as well as the creation of

family bubbles to safely lead small groups on hikes. With the help of the Paycheck protection funds we were able to hire a part time worker, Jolene Nashlund and a local youth, Moses Korth to help with the final year of the important 10-year Willow Creek Research Project as well as doing other much needed projects and maintenance work around the WISE office. One such project that Moses was able to do was building the “Kids Don’t Float” life vest station at Phippen Lake in memory of Sam Lightwood.

We then moved on to a successful Copper River Stewardship Program using a modified format, and finally in a grand finale, helping with the Kotsina River Cleanup and Volunteer Day.

All of this and more was made possible not only with the help of the government COVID relief and all our partners but also and even more importantly by the fact that our membership donations and additional generous contributions from our donors went up. In this way you are all part of this “village” that is helping all of us to become even more resilient and adaptive so we can continue to stay not only safe but sane during this crazy year.

We would love to hear stories from you all about how you have been putting your resiliency into practice. What ways have you been able to find that Silver Lining?

Gay Wellman

Chair, WISE Board of Directors

Thank You!

Cover Photo: Amanda Friendshuh, BLM
Newsletter Photos: Paul Boos, Janelle Eklund, Elvie Underwood, Amanda Friendshuh, Moses Korth, WISE program participants.
Layout and Graphics: Carol Teitzel, Robin Mayo
Printing: Donated by Victor Bailey

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2020 Program Highlights

Winter Fun Day 2019 was held at Wrangell-St. Elias NP Visitor Center during the winter break, and about 80 people came for crafts, skiing, snowshoeing, building a quinzee, and homemade salmon chowder.

Copper River Basin Symposium in February was a first-ever event with dozens of presentations sharing research and knowledge of the area. See the story on page 8.

WISE Annual Meeting in February featured a storytelling circle where WISE founders, partners, and program participants shared inspiring and funny moments.

Like the rest of the world, Covid19 brought many WISE activities to a screeching halt in March. Since then, we have been regrouping and learning how to continue our work while protecting the health of our communities. Some early events had to be cancelled, but we are now committed to thinking outside the box and finding a substitute for every program.

In-Class Science Lessons took us to all the area schools before Covid shut us down in March. We are now working on making many of the lessons into "Discovery Packs" which can be checked out from 3 local libraries.

Earth Discovery Day in May was our first virtual program, with



Mission Control for Earth Discovery Day! Our first online program required a steep learning curve for everyone, but laid the foundation for our new plan.

creative presenters joining 4th, 5th, and 6th graders in "Zoom" classrooms for adventures including measuring a standing tree, visiting the mews of an education owl, and cleaning up a mock oil spill. In the fall we visited schools to give students a chance at throwing the Atlatl and learning about ancient hunters.

Science Lecture Series went online, with a talk on tracking Wolverines in May, and more to come. In December, board member and ADF&G Area Biologist Heidi Hatcher will share her knowledge of the Nelchina Caribou herd as well as some seasonal lore.

Copper River Stewardship Program went forward with a "hybrid" plan, with virtual meetings of our watershed-wide cohort, and small group field work in local streams. See article on page 8.

WISE/BLM Summer Hikes were held for families and small groups, and included adventures like searching for fossils and an art hike in the Boreal Forest.

Virtual Adventures were online summer programs, exploring the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, Copper Valley Farms, and Kennecott. We teamed up with educators from Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and the BLM Glennallen Field Office, and it was a great learning experience for all.



We caught this juvenile Slimy Sculpin during a day of Aquatic Ecology activities at Silver Lake.

Aquatic Ecology Camp at Silver Lake was just one day, but three families came together for plenty of fishy, muddy fun.

Willow Creek Research Project wrapped up a tenth and final year, collecting valuable data and providing employment for our intern and tour guide.

Nic'anilen na', our property at Lower Tonsina, is growing! 20 additional acres were donated, expanding the protected area and providing access to the banks of the Copper River.

Changing Seasons Program was able to happen "live and in person" at two area schools, plus we assembled packets of activities for 40 remote and homeschooled students.

Winter Fun Day 2020 will be a virtual event for local families, including holiday crafts and sharing photos of winter adventures.

Sadly, we had to cancel many programs, including **Camp Chosen Frozen, Family Ice Fishing Day, Project Healing Waters, Geology Camp, and Pop-Up Natural Playgrounds.** But going forward, we plan on adapting every program we possibly can, to make sure everyone is still learning, growing, and getting outside.

Two program closures had a different effect. With the almost complete shutdown of the tourist season, **Copper Country Discovery Tour** and **Field Sketching and Watercolor Tour** were cancelled. We missed the chance to show guests our amazing backyard, and we sorely miss the income usually generated by these programs, about 30% of WISE's annual budget.

WISE also assists with partner programs throughout the year. For details see the 2020 Annual Report at www.wise-edu.org.

~ ~ ~



Russell Scribner, Education Specialist at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, shows great form with the Atlatl.

Mission Statement

WISE provides science and environmental education, supports scientific research, and shares the natural wonders of Alaska's Copper River Valley.

Core Values

Stewardship - Grassroots Involvement - Partnerships
Integrity - Sense of Place - Mentorship

Kotsina River Cleanup

This series of photos by Paul Boos show the extraction of an RV chassis from the main channel of the Kotsina River near the confluence with the Copper River.

In the midst of all the things we missed because of Covid, there were also some chances to say “YES” to extraordinary opportunities. In July we received a surprise phone call from Dave Cruz from Cruz Construction, offering to help clean up one of the Copper River Valley’s most notorious eyesores, the Kotsina River Floodplain. Over the years it had become littered with abandoned vehicles, RV’s, and fishwheels, many stranded by the natural shifting of the river channel.

Dave was willing to volunteer his expertise and use of heavy equipment, but was looking for nonprofit partners to help with the project. WISE teamed up with our frequent partner Copper River Watershed Project. We launched a crowdfunding campaign, and focused on a late-fall date, when low water levels would be on our side.

For once in 2020, everything lined up in our favor. There was remarkable response to the crowdfunding, raising the \$15,000 needed to haul away and dispose of the debris. Dave and a crew of volunteers spent three days at the site in late September, and although it was certainly hard work, they were clearly enjoying themselves. Some of the RVs had been nearly buried by the river, but were nevertheless located and extracted. Everything was loaded into oversized rock hauling truck and taken to a staging area, where they were crushed and loaded into highway trucks for the final trip to recycling facilities and the landfill.

The following weekend, a team of volunteers spent a day cleaning up the staging area, and also sweeping the entire Chitina area for trash. Crews went downriver as far as Haley Creek, circumnavigated Town Lake, and scoured all the local campsites. About 30 bags of garbage were collected before the crew enjoyed a lunch catered by Copper Basin Creations.



Partner Focus: Copper River Watershed Project

There was no doubt who to call first when looking for partners for the Kotsina River Cleanup. The Copper River Watershed Project promotes a salmon-rich, intact watershed and culturally diverse communities by forming partnerships for watershed-scale planning and projects. We work together on education and public service projects, share inspiration and challenges, and strengthen the connections between the different regions of our watershed.



Throughout this project, we’ve had many conversations about how to prevent a repeat. Clarity in responsibility among the many land managers in the region will be key, but we believe the most important thing we can do is education. Nurturing a stewardship ethic in our community is the long-term solution. In the meantime, we hope to have local youth help make signs to remind the masses of visitors who come to this area of their responsibility to take care of the resource.

Robin Mayo

Kids Don't Float

By Moses Korth

Kids Don't Float is a statewide project where lifeguard loaner stations are installed and serviced by local organizations.

This project was inspired and founded by the family of the late Kenny Lake homesteader Sam Lightwood. It was his dream to build a swimming pool, but a pool would be too much up-keep, so his family compromised by helping fund this project. The life jackets and sign were obtained, but no one stepped forward to build the kiosk. Then Covid came, and WISE was looking for projects.

I'm the intern here at WISE, and when I first heard about this project I was super excited. I had never heard of Kids Don't Float, and had no idea what went into setting up a kiosk. Building this sign has been a very educational experience. First I had to get permission from DOT, then I had to build a blueprint to find out what materials I needed, and after I had the materials I had to build it. I had lots of help along the way. My dad helped me build it and let me use his tools, and Robin, her daughter Elvie, and part of the Upstream Student Council helped install it. We ate pizza and had a blast.

I'd also like to thank everyone who was a part of making this a success. Especially BLM and the Lightwood family for funding, and Doug Vollman who obtained the life jackets. The Upstream student council, and my dad. Robin, Elvie, and Paul Boos who provided the trailer. And most importantly everyone who is using and enjoying the fruits of our labor.



Intern Moses Korth designed and built this "Kids Don't Float" life-jacket loaner station at Pippin Lake, a popular local spot for swimming and boating.



Summer Intern

By Robin Mayo

In late March, having an intern this summer didn't seem likely. Funding fell through, travel was uncertain, and we had no idea what the summer would look like. But we decided to go ahead with recruitment, and were thrilled to find a local candidate who was willing to accept a very vague offer.

Moses Korth grew up in Glennallen, and just graduated from Upstream Learning High School. I remember the first time I met him, when he cheerfully helped his infant and toddler siblings on a WISE hike at the park Visitor Center. In 2017, Moses participated in Copper River Stewardship Program, where he told me he was interested in experiencing different points of view.

The Paycheck Protection Program gave us the means to employ Moses full time. Our WISE summer included fewer hikes and camps than usual, and more unique opportunities like the Kids Don't Float project. Moses also did some long-overdue maintenance at the house and office, and learned to collect hydrology data on the Willow Creek Research Project.

Moses took on the challenges and uncertainty with grace and a relentless sense of humor. He powered through assignments that pushed him outside his comfort zone. On long van rides, we enjoyed conversations which explored our very different worldviews and backgrounds, always grounded in learning and mutual respect.

These conversations often hinged on questions of ethics and justice, so it is no surprise that Moses is looking at a career in criminal justice. He is currently studying at Alaska Christian College and plans to transfer to UAF in the spring. Moses, thanks for sharing your summer with WISE, and your vision with the world.

Resilience: The ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change – Webster’s seventh New Collegiate Dictionary

By Janelle Eklund

Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment (WISE) has learned the intricacies of being resilient amidst the Covid 19 pandemic. Lots of thought and planning with our resilient and courageous leader, Robin Mayo, goes into redirecting how we deliver programs and continue to do business. Robin has put her heart and can-do attitude into making the challenging changes necessary to be safe and stay healthy. Through these changes we have been able to continue to connect with our community. We are able to bring the outdoors in, or incorporate the necessary precautions with outdoor activities.

The lecture series worked well on zoom with just as many or more participants. Positive feedback tells us it works. With the coordination and partnership of the Copper River School District, Earth Discovery Day in May also saw the likes of zoom. Thanks to the many presenters who got very innovative with their presentations in an outdoor setting. Fish were dissected, trees were measured, Leave No Trace Camp Oh NO was visited, along with other activities. Students were given materials ahead of time so they could be part of the process with hands on learning. Summer hikes were limited to individual family requests. Aquatic camp turned into a one day event with three compatible families and using all the precautions. Changing Seasons had small groups of 4-5 2nd and 3rd graders. Presentations were the same as past years with adjustments for physical distancing, materials going to each student, along with other safety precautions.

WISE took a lesson on resilience from mother earth. I have seen her resilience from the record heat and dryness of last year to the cool wetness of this year. Last summer the leaves on the trees and plants were parched from lack of water, dry and dead looking. This year there was a brightness not seen in a long time. Kettle ponds were on the brink of no water last year. This year they are drinking well. Last year(s) I observed no snow patches throughout the summer on mountain shadows. This summer they lingered all year. I noticed this summer there were very few leaf miners that have been sucking the life out of the aspen and balsam poplar leaves for the last many years. The trees and plants all seemed to say, “I’m Happy!” with their bright green summer foliage and dazzling yellows, oranges, and reds of autumn.

Teaching the stewardship ethic for our mother earth is more important now than ever. We need to give back to mother earth to make this reliance she has shown us easier and long lasting.



“This fall my family made as we usually do. We sta get together than had grandma on the comp changed in her lifetime ” get better. I hope in some chosen family realize ha cre

An opportunity isolation and ch unable to ma hopefully leading the need to ma and thi An increase in injustices inh neces An increased opp An opportunity to are all around us, from on

A greater appreciation for the times when we can connect and visit with loved ones, and thankfulness for the ways technology helps us stay in touch.

The pandemic offer me more time to exp meditation, to le matter, and find inn that do matter hap

“Missing out on in-person visits with my family has led to more virtual visits than we ever used to have! COVID-19 has also been a great excuse to avoid going to “town.” I honestly can’t remember the last time I went to Palmer, much less Anchorage. Has to have been 6 months or more! More quality weekends at home. :)”

Silver Linings

WISE Board Members and Staff share some of the ways they were able to make the best of 2020

the collective decision not to travel to see each other started doing video calls, which allowed more of us to travel to visit, and even got my 97 year old mother participating. "Boy", she said, "Have things changed, and she doesn't know when, but insists things will be the way, this pandemic has helped your biological and how important it is to maintain connections and find creative ways to stay in touch."

...for more people to experience the challenges felt by folks who have been able to move around freely prior to this year ...giving to more empathy and awareness of ...some changes in the way we treat ...about the care they need. ...our awareness of the inequities and ...erent in our society, an awareness ...sary for change to happen ...ortunity for us to strengthen our own ...esilience to adversity ...o wake up and "smell those roses" that ...the ones we've been too busy rushing ...e thing to the next to notice.

...s the ability to adjust. It has given ...and my garden, to study the art of ...t some things go that just don't ...ovative ways to make those things ...open. These are the silver linings.

The Covid pandemic has forced all of us to think outside the box to get the job done and realize how impactful it is to lose our freedom to visit our friends and loved ones.

Like that old country song, "you'll find out who your friends are when you ain't got a dime," the pandemic has caused us to lean more heavily on our partners, volunteers, and donors. From the people who donated their stimulus checks to the board members who learned to attend virtual meetings, the WISE community has shown remarkable resilience.



"We can hear you but we can't see you..." "You're muted..." "Whoops, that was my cat walking across the keyboard..." WISE Board meetings, which have included phone and virtual participants for years, went totally online this year.

- *working from home saves time & money; keeps roads uncongested; and cuts down on pollution & traffic accidents.*
- *C-9 has shown how crucial schools and working women are to the overall economy.*
- *I like how having to do old things new ways makes them fresh and relevant again. For example, this spring's graduations were accessible to more than just those who could travel to the graduate's school, a nice blend of tradition and technology that made them new enough to jazz them up and more time efficient but still the touching ceremony that grabs my heart, and more comfortable to watch from my couch than the bleachers.*
- *Women leaders successfully handling C-19 show why we need more women in politics/policy.*
- *Kids have more time with less schedule, and that offers the chance to learn self-reliance, the time and need to be creative, and the opportunity to have less stress and be a kid more.*

WISE Board of Directors

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- Paul Boos, Treasurer**
- Janelle Eklund, Director**
- Rebekah Donohue, Director**
- Jenny Moser, Director**
- Mark Proch, Director**
- Heidi Hatcher, Director**

Staff

- Robin Mayo, Executive Director**
- Jolene Nashlund, Development**

Copper River Stewardship Program

Four years ago, I received a letter at the WISE office from ten year old Tracey, telling me she couldn't wait until she was old enough to go on Copper River Stewardship Program. She was sending a "heads-up" so I'd know to watch for her application when she was fourteen. Finally, this was her year! But it was also 2020, and there was uncertainty whether we'd be able to hold the program at all. Camping and travelling for ten days in close quarters with students from different communities wasn't looking good.

I put my head together with the program partners and we came up with a plan. All the applicants were assured that they would be first in line for the full program, hopefully in the summer of 2021. In the meantime, we convened the whole cohort with online video conferences, and did field work with small local groups. The Copper Basin team spent two days exploring Moose Creek in "downtown" Glennallen, looking for evidence of the world's northernmost



The team works together to identify juvenile fish captured in Moose Creek.

population of Rainbow Trout. A short stretch of creek offered challenging terrain, ferocious mosquitos, and exciting finds in our traps.

At the first online meeting, the teens were quiet and shy, and we wondered what it would take to get them talking. But after two days of

field work, writing, and exploring, they were excited to share their adventures.

This program was an awesome reminder of the resilience of youth. Instead of mourning what could have been, they were focused on making the best of the situation. While many adults are seeing this year as an interruption of real life, a time to suspend normality, for youth this is a significant chunk of their lives. They can't afford to miss a single day of learning, and have much wider views of what "normal" looks like.

Robin Mayo

Copper River Basin Symposium



Stewardship Program alumni Lindsey Gordon and Elvie Underwood designed the meeting logo.

In February, WISE joined a team of partners to host the first ever Copper River Basin Symposium, giving scientists, resource managers, indigenous leaders, and area residents a chance to share knowledge. With the theme of "Tradition, Science, and Stewardship," the symposium included 26 oral presentations, keynote speakers, a poster session, and lots of chances to informally meet and share.

An unusual feature of the symposium was that it included research from a wide variety of disciplines, including anthropologists, biologists, and linguists. In keeping with the theme of stewardship, many presentations highlighted

the shared nature of the resource and the connections between

disciplines. For example, the archaeologists recognized that they had essential help from geologists to locate sites on the shores of ancient Lake Atna. One keynote speaker, Terry Chapin, spoke about the need for all scientists to speak with a unified voice about the need for policies to address climate change.



Stewardship Program alumni made a presentation, and assisted with the running of the symposium, including registering guests and shoveling snow.

The partners hope that this will become a regular event, not every year, but often enough to keep the momentum going. For the participants and audience, it was a chance to share our love of this place, and our determination to be the best stewards possible of our resources.

Program Partners:

- Ahtna Heritage Foundation**
- Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission**
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game**
- Copper River Watershed Project**
- Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment**
- Wrangell Mountains Center**
- Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve**

2020 WISE Outstanding Youth Leader Cassidy Austin-Merlino

Every year, WISE recognizes a program participant who exemplifies leadership, stewardship, and community service. This year, we are honoring Cassidy Austin-Merlino of McCarthy. She has participated twice in Copper River Stewardship Program, and used that experience as a springboard to get involved in statewide youth advocacy.

Cassidy first came to the Wrangells in 2012, when her family started McCarthy River Tours and Outfitters. Of summers in McCarthy, she said “My most important childhood memories were here, with the community and going on adventures. Because of that I fell in love with the environment, wanting to find different ways to explore it, and preserve it for future generations.”

WISE first met Cassidy when she joined our inaugural Geology Camp in 2016. It was the first time we gathered youth from the Copper Basin and McCarthy to explore and learn together. For Cassidy, it was a chance to meet a larger circle of youth and introduce them to her beloved home.

The next year, she came on Copper River Stewardship Program, spending 10 days with a cohort of youth from diverse communities. Cassidy quickly emerged as a leader with her knack for making friends, infectious enthusiasm, and eagerness to learn.

“That trip was super life changing for me.....it inspired all of the activism I do now. I started falling more in love with the watershed I live in.”

In 2018 Cassidy participated in Alaska Forum on the Environment, and Alaska Youth for Environmental Action’s Civics and Conservation Summit. “It was youth from all over the state bringing in different perspectives, from the Arctic and Indigenous Communities, that was



Cassidy (lower left) was one of the organizers of the Youth Climate Strike in Anchorage.

super eye opening for me.” From her winter home in Anchorage, she started getting involved with statewide campaigns such as salmon habitat conservation. She led the

committee that organized the student Climate Strike last September, and was featured in a story on KTUU News.

In 2019 Cassidy once again came on Copper River Stewardship Program as youth leader, with additional tasks including organizing media files, leading group discussions, and mentoring other students. At home in McCarthy she worked long shifts as a dishwasher, organized a community action group, and still found time for boating, biking, making art, and exploring the wilderness.

Cassidy is currently attending Western Washington University, with a major in Political Science and a minor in Environmental Studies. In October she was honored by Alaska Conservation Foundation with the Denny Wilcher Award for Young Environmental Activists, recognizing her statewide leadership.

When asked how the present pandemic is going to change her life, Cassidy chose to take a big-picture view. “I think it could definitely help people realize that we need to live more sustainably, and take good care of our resources... When you walk into a grocery store and it’s empty, for a lot of people it may be the first time realizing that we don’t always have all of the resources we need, so we need to be really careful of what we use and what we waste.”

The advice Cassidy would like to pass on to other youth is to encourage them to get involved in activities like Copper River Stewardship Program, to learn about their home. She also encouraged youth to “use your voice, speak up, it is extremely powerful.”

Thank You Cassidy for stepping up as a leader, we are proud of you.

Robin Mayo



Cassidy Austin-Merlino serenades a riverside camp on Copper River Stewardship Program.

Education Partners

Copper River School District
Prince William Sound College
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Valdez City Schools
Campbell Creek Science Center

*"You'll get mixed up, of course, as you already know.
You'll get mixed up with many strange birds as you go.
So be sure when you step. Step with care and great tact
and remember that life's a great balancing act."*

Dr. Seuss, Oh, the Places You'll Go!



Lisa Docken of Copper River Watershed Project compares forest treasures with a student at Changing Seasons.

Government and Tribal Partners

Ahtna Intertribal Resource Commission
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Copper River Native Association
Chitina Village Council
Gakona Village Council
Gulkana Village Council
Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium
Native Village of Kluti-Kaah
Native Village of Tazlina
US Bureau of Land Management
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve

Nonprofit Partners

Alaska WildBird Rehabilitation
Ahtna Heritage Foundation
Copper River Watershed Project
Copper Country Alliance
The Foraker Group
Greater Copper Valley Chamber of Commerce
Kenny Lake Community League
Kenny Lake Public Library
Prince William Sound Science Center
Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council
Project Healing Waters Alaska
Renewable Energy Alaska Project
Wrangell Mountains Center
Willow Creek Water Consortium
Wellwood Conservancy

Partner Spotlight: Willow Creek Water Consortium

This summer was the final fieldwork season for the Willow Creek Research Project, which has been collecting data on the Willow Creek Watershed for a decade. Masterminded by volunteer Dave Wellman with assistance from a professional hydrologist, volunteers, and WISE interns, this project seeks a greater understanding of the dynamics of this system in the southern Copper River Valley.

As the climate changes, this sort of baseline study will become even more important in understanding our world.



2020 Funders



**Alaska
Conservation
Foundation**



**Kate Svitek Memorial Foundation
Glenn Transport
Gulkana Fuel
Copper River Record
Copper Country Alliance
State of Alaska Community
Assistance Program
Fred Meyer Community Rewards
Amazon Smile
Gulkana Village Council
Gakona Village
Copper River Native Association**

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Diamond Willow

up to \$100

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Beryl Wardlaw & Victor Bailey
Copper River Record
WISE Board of Directors and Advisory Board
Janelle Eklund and Paul Boos
All WISE Volunteers

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Pick.Click.Give if you live in Alaska

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Purchase cards or books

Ask us about Legacy Giving

Volunteer at a program

Attend a fundraising event

Don't forget to smile!

We splash through the water,
Always looking around.
There the streams connect,
Eternally moving forward.
Rounding a bend,
Salmon swim with a purpose.
Helping life and nature,
**Even when it's hard,
Don't forget to smile!**

Mia R.

Copper River Stewardship Program

