July 20, 2022

Katherine Brown  
USEPA Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

Hello Katherine,

Since the year 2000 Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF) has led efforts to monitor and improve water quality in the Kenai River. We rely on partnerships with many entities including state, federal, municipal, tribal, and non-profit organizations to make these efforts successful. Today we are grateful for the opportunity to renew collaboration with Kenaitze Indian Tribe (KIT) as well as begin more formal collaboration with Salamatof Native Association (SNA).

Details of the collaborations with Kenaitze and Salamatof continue to evolve, but a first step is reviewing the project Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) to ensure it meets appropriate standards. KWF is currently in the process of applying technical updates throughout the QAPP to reflect current standards and techniques. In addition to the technical updates in progress

more formally collaborate with local tribal organizations

Thank you for assisting with coordinating

Sincerely,



Benjamin Meyer, Interim Coordinator  
 CC: Moses Jordan, Kenaitze Indian Tribe  
 Yvonne Weber, Salamatof Native Association

***EPA-Requested Updates to QAPP***

* Add Kenaitze Indian Tribe and Salamatof Native Association and EPA to the distribution list
* Add Kenaitze and Salamatof Environmental Programs to Field Monitoring staff pool/agencies that receive training
* Have KIT collect samples at nearby or additional site(s)?
  + *Response: this potential addition would best benefit from completing review of existing results, then reviewing where additional sampling sites would be best located if deemed necessary*
* Resume temperature monitoring element?
  + *Response: local expert consensus…*
* Add KIT to pre-public notification if results exceed WQS

**KWF Technical Updates Currently in Progress**  
\**Note that some technical updates are reflected in the draft QAPP, while others are still in the editing process. The most current draft QAPP document may be downloaded at*

* Transition data management SOP to use the Ambient Water Quality Management System (AQWMS)
* Modify field collection SOP to reflect that sample filtration for dissolved metals sample will be performed in the laboratory rather than in the field by sampling crews
* Remove language specific to a previously concluded project that focused on sampling for copper and zinc data specifically
* Outline in greater detail steps of action if some results do not fully meet QA/QC standards (e.g. results from duplicate samples > 20% relative percent difference; others)