September 9, 2022

Kenaitze Indian Tribe  
150 N Willow St  
Kenai, AK 99611

Dear staff of Kenaitze Indian Tribe,

Since the year 2000 Kenai Watershed Forum (KWF) has led efforts to monitor, maintain, 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) on this project.

Details of our collaboration with KIT continue to evolve, with some important steps already completed. A first step for projects involving tribal participation in water quality monitoring work is EPA approval of a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). In August 2022 technical staff at the EPA Region 10 office reviewed and approved our existing QAPP, clearing the opportunity for formal participation by Kenaitze staff.

Having cleared this important technical hurdle, KWF is able to provide opportunities for hands-on experience and training to KIT staff. Additionally, funds originally allocated in 2018 for KWF to support this collaboration are now able to be invoiced.

The opportunity to formalize our collaboration with Kenaitze Indian Tribe is a meaningful and valuable mileposts in the life of this project. We look forward to continuing to provide important environmental data to our community. For the most current news on KWF’s water quality monitoring efforts, see the “Latest News” section on the water quality section of our website[[1]](#footnote-1).

Thank you for your assistance and support. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,  


Benjamin Meyer, Water Quality Coordinator  
[hydrology@kenaiwatershed.org](mailto:hydrology@kenaiwatershed.org)  
(907) 232-0280

CC: Moses Jordan, Environmental Coordinator  
 Jennifer Anderson, Accounting Manager  
 Tami Murray, Procurement Manager

**Services form Kenai Watershed Forum supported with funding from Kenaitze Indian Tribe**

A total of $13,000 will support Kenai Watershed Forum’s ongoing Baseline Water Quality Monitoring Program, including hands-on training for fieldwork provided to Kenaitze Indian Tribe staff. Invoice for services rendered includes the following:

* Complete update of the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)[[2]](#footnote-2)
* Two annual training sessions on water quality sampling procedures
* Support in interpretation of research and results for Kenaitze staff and tribal members, including presentations as requested

The above services will be provided by KWF to KIT for the perpetuity of Kenaitze staff participation in water quality monitoring activities, renewed annually.

A summary of hands-on training that will be provided biannually is found in the QAPP document (available for download at <https://bit.ly/kwf_qapp_2022>) in “Appendix B: Fieldwork Sampling SOP.”

Additional services may be provided based on discussion with the KIT Environmental Coordinator, and will be reviewed annually by KIT and KWF.

1. <https://www.kenaiwatershed.org/science-in-action/research-information/water-quality/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Current draft available for download at <https://bit.ly/kwf_qapp_2022> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)