

Introduced by:	Sprague
Date:	05/17/05
Action:	Adopted
Vote:	9 Yes, 0 No

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH  
COMMENDING RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE KENAI RIVER CENTER AND THE KENAI  
WATERSHED FORUM AS RECIPIENTS OF THE 2004 COASTAL AMERICA  
PARTNERSHIP AWARD AND COMMENDATION FROM PRESIDENT BUSH FOR  
THEIR COOPERATIVE EFFORT TO RESTORE SILVER SALMON CREEK**

**WHEREAS,** The Coastal America Partnership was established in 1992 to protect, preserve and restore our coastal watersheds by integrating federal actions with state and local government and non-governmental efforts. Federal partners include the Departments of Agriculture, Air Force, Army, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Navy, State, Transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Executive Office of the President; and

**WHEREAS,** A road crossing of Silver Salmon Creek near Ninilchik, Alaska was identified in 2001 as a high priority site for restoration. The replacement of an undersized culvert and restoration of the stream channel would reopen eight miles of stream for unimpeded use by chinook and coho salmon, as well as dolly varden char, rainbow trout and other aquatic species. The project was further complicated by flood damage, and resulted in partnering with additional organizations. Final restoration of this site was completed during the summer of 2004; and

**WHEREAS,** The project to restore the natural gradient and velocity of Silver Salmon Creek has been selected to receive a Coastal America Partnership award; and

**WHEREAS,** The Silver Salmon Creek Restoration Team is one of ten partnership initiatives selected to receive the 2004 award from Coastal America; and

**WHEREAS,** In his letter of congratulations, President George W. Bush stated, "I applaud the Silver Salmon Creek Restoration Team's hard work and dedication to conserving America's natural wonders.....Your efforts help protect our environment and maintain the beauty of our country for future generations"; and

**WHEREAS,** Timothy R. E. Keeney, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, US Department of Commerce added, "It brings me great pleasure to be presenting this award," Keeney said. "Your

efforts - from the federal and state government, to non-profit organizations, to private citizens and tribal organizations - indicates your collective dedication to preserving the historic and natural resource values of this special place"; and

**WHEREAS,** The Kenai River Center is a multi-agency permitting, information and education center working cooperatively to protect the rivers of the Kenai Peninsula, its watersheds, and its fish and wildlife resources. Agencies at the River Center include Alaska State Parks, the Kenai Peninsula Borough Resource Planning Department and Floodplain Administrator, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources Office of Habitat Management and Permitting, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. The Kenai Watershed Forum staffs the River Center's Outreach and Education program. KRC personnel also work closely with local offices of the US Army Corps of Engineers, KPB Coastal Zone Management Program, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game and other agencies; and

**WHEREAS,** The Kenai Watershed Forum is private non-profit organization based in Soldotna, Alaska. Its mission of Working Together For Healthy Watersheds on the Kenai Peninsula is accomplished through three major programs: 1) Education & Outreach, 2) Research and 3) Restoration;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly commends and congratulates the Kenai River Center and the Kenai Watershed Forum as Recipients of the 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award and Commendation from President Bush for Their Cooperative Effort to Restore Silver Salmon Creek.

**SECTION 2.** That a copy of this resolution shall be provided to the Kenai River Center and the Kenai Watershed Forum.

**SECTION 3.** That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 17TH DAY OF MAY, 2005.**

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Gary Superman, Assembly President

ATTEST:

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Sherry Biggs, Borough Clerk