

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Sing Out Salmon: Cordova Festival Celebrates
Salmon, Supports Art!***

(MAY 15, 2018 - CORDOVA, ALASKA) There is one magical weekend each summer in the small fishing town of Cordova, when fireweed is blooming, berries are ripening, salmon are running hard; and the whole town is dancing, racing, learning and creating. For 16 years, this fish-forward community has invited locals and visitors to join them at **Copper River Salmon Jam**, two days celebrating what sustains them year-round: *Salmon and Art!* During the day, enjoy family fun at road races for all ages and levels and free kids' activities. In the evenings, indulge in some delicious Copper River Salmon and live music. Joining in the fun also means you're supporting a good cause. Ticket sales benefit the Cordova Arts Council and fund year-round cultural activities in this remote, coastal community.

The Salmon Jam music festival brings in world-class musicians to share the stage with local and regional talent as the town and its guests kick up their heels for two evenings of dancing. This year's headliners, **Big Fat Buddha**, offer music in flavors that satisfy rock, funk, soul, and even bluegrass aficionados. Salmon Jam is also a great opportunity to spot burgeoning talent with over five hours of live music each night! **Taste of Cordova**, a wild food cook-off, gives visiting food writers, chefs and festival attendees the chance to sample Cordova's locavore flavors featuring salmon and other wild and foraged delights. Saturday's **Alaska Salmon Runs** road race event marks their 32nd anniversary this year! Distance events include a King Salmon Marathon, Sockeye Half-Marathon, Coho 10K, Smolt 5K, and a one mile fun run/walk. Runners from all over the US and abroad travel to this destination race to take in the fantastic scenery along the Copper River delta course – mile after mile of mountains, glaciers, blue water lakes and wildlife. Massage tables await you after the race and a wild salmon barbecue at the end of the day celebrates the achievements of all walkers and runners.

Kids and families can explore salmon together on Saturday afternoon at the **Small Fry Arts and Education** activities, while Prince William Sound Science Center, Copper River Watershed Project, Chugach National Forest Service and other organizations host fun, educational activities for the whole family. Learn techniques for preserving and enjoying the fish you catch; be entertained as processors send their fastest hands to demonstrate speed filleting techniques; and find a piece of Cordova talent to take home at the **Artisan Craft Fair**.

Whether you're drawn to the kids' activities, running events, Artisan Craft Fair, or to the musical or culinary events, you'll find yourself well-fed and entertained all weekend at the sixteenth annual Copper River Salmon Jam. Most festival events are held at Mt. Eyak Ski Area, with views of the Chugach Mountains, Orca Inlet, and Cordova's working fishing harbor. A free shuttle runs throughout the weekend to and from festival grounds. Alaska Salmon Runs commence from the Cordova Community Medical Center parking lot Saturday morning. Cordova's daily air service provided by Alaska Airlines and Ravn Air and ferry service on the Alaska Marine Highway make it easy to join in the fun. For more travel and visitor information, contact the Cordova Chamber of Commerce at 907-424-7260, cordovachamber.com. **Free event Press Passes are available!** Email marketing@cdvarts.org. Event partners include Cordova Arts & Pageants, Copper River Watershed Project, Mt. Eyak Ski Area, Prince William Sound Science Center, Cordova Chamber of Commerce, Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Cordova District Fishermen United, and the Chugach National Forest/Cordova Ranger District. For more info, full festival schedule and to buy tickets, visit www.salmonjam.org.

CONTACTS:

Marita Kleissler, Salmon Jam Producer
(907)429-7338, marita.kleissler@gmail.com
Kate Morse, Festival Coordinator
(907)424-3334, salmonfest@copperriver.org
Kristin Carpenter, AK Salmon Runs
(907)424-3334, runningwild@copperriver.org
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