

Regional Haze Trans-boundary Monitoring Project**FY2006 Request: \$750,000****Reference No: 40129****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Planning**Category:** Natural Resources**Location:** Southcentral Alaska**Contact:** Tom Chapple, Director**House District:** Southcentral Areawide (HD 12-35)**Contact Phone:** (907)269-7686**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2008**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

To establish a monitoring network that will generate quality data which can be used to determine the contribution of internationally transported pollutants to regional haze impacts within three of Alaska's Class I areas-Denali Park, Tuxedni Island (lower Cook Inlet), and Simeonof Island (southwest of Kodiak).

Funding:	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$750,000						\$750,000
Total:	\$750,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$750,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**Project Description/Justification:**

In order to protect the environment the federal Clean Air Act established a visibility protection program for Class 1 areas (specific national parks and wildlife refuges) which protected them from visibility impairment caused by manmade sources of regional haze. Alaska has four Class I areas: Denali National Park, and three Wilderness Areas, Simeonof, Tuxedni and Bering Sea. These federal lands are subject to special protection under the Clean Air Act's Regional Haze Rule. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regional haze rule requires states to determine if they have a regional haze problem. If so, States must develop a State Implementation Plan (SIP) to reduce levels of haze to near natural background conditions. Alaska does not have sufficient information on the levels of regional haze in our Class 1 areas to develop and meet our required state implementation plan demonstration requirements.

In addition to limited data coverage, the existing monitoring data can not adequately define the level of contribution from many of the suspected sources. Alaska runs the risk of being required to implement onerous control strategies to reduce emission sources wrongly attributed to Alaska transportation, construction or industrial activities. International transport of air pollutants into the Alaska from Asia and Russia/Eastern Europe (Arctic haze and Asian Dust) may be impacting Alaska's air quality. Although generally low, this pollution becomes important when considering what controls will be effective for improving visibility in the Class I areas.

The objective of this monitoring plan is to establish a monitoring network that will generate quality data, which can be used to determine the contribution of internationally transported pollutants to regional haze impacts within three of Alaska's Class I areas - Denali, Tuxedni, and Simeonof. Funding will provide for a long term nonpermanent position to oversee and coordinate the project.

