

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Big Lake Chamber of Commerce****Federal Tax ID: 92-0117171****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

# Big Lake Chamber of Commerce - Mat-Su Kids Ice Fishing Program

**State Funding Requested: \$5,000****House District: Mat-Su Areawide (7-11)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

The Mat-Su Kids Ice Fishing Program is designed to promote ice fishing in the Mat-Su Valley and increase awareness and usage by our youth of Big Lake and other Mat-Su Lakes.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$5,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2014 State Funding Request:	(\$5,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

*The Fishing Program has no prior funding as it is new in conception.*

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The mission of the program is to promote ice fishing in the Mat-Su Valley and increase awareness and usage by our youth of Big Lake and other Mat-Su Lakes. Youth new to the sport and those who might not have the necessary equipment are encouraged to participate. The project would make 50 poles available as well as bait and a knowledgeable instructor. Ice Augers and Ice Shanties that can hold up to eight people for protection against the elements in the winter months are also requested. The intent is to partner with existing Derbies and provide a fishing pole loan program as well as sponsoring our own derby. Big Lake Chamber would be responsible for setting up a table at each of several derbies (including the Veterans Derby, Wounded Warriors and Mat-Su Kids Fishing Derby) and provide loaner poles and bait at no cost for the youth that need them to participate.

The investment of the poles, augers, and shanties would be a long term investment in the youth of the Mat-Su Valley. Encouraging them to get outside and enjoy the quality of life Alaska offers by fishing our great lakes.

**Project Timeline:**

Funds would be expended in the winter of this year.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Big Lake Chamber of Commerce

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No