

Parks Capital Improvements through Reinvestments

FY2001 Request: \$225,000
Reference No: 32536

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Deferred Maintenance

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

Contact: Nico Bus

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact Phone: (907)465-2406

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2000 - 06/30/2001

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Fund upgrading of existing facilities with park user fee receipts. Capital improvement will accommodate increased use and new user patterns.

Funding:	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	Total
Gen Fund	\$225,000	\$350,000	\$400,000	\$450,000	\$500,000	\$550,000	\$2,475,000
Total:	\$225,000	\$350,000	\$400,000	\$450,000	\$500,000	\$550,000	\$2,475,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" 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	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

State Parks has not received capital improvement funding for campground, boat ramp, picnic area construction in the last four years. Morgan's Landing Campground near Sterling, the last capital improvement program funded State Park campground constructed, was funded in 1993. State Parks is not keeping up with the recreational needs in many areas of the state.

Project Description/Justification:

Description of Work to be done: Improve existing campgrounds, trailheads, boat launches, historic buildings and sites, visitor centers, trails, and picnic sites to accommodate increase use and new user patterns.

Project Benefits: Many campground were designed decades ago and simply are too small for today's recreational vehicles. Resource damage is occurring because today's hikers, bikers and campers have developed different use patterns than original park development intended. The improved facilities will provide park visitors with better opportunities to the enjoy the recreational aspects of the site.

Economic Development: Whether park users are from Alaska or Outside, local communities benefit greatly from the economic impact of these people buying groceries, gas, fishing tackle, souvenirs, restaurant meals, showers, guidebooks, fishing guides, and sightseeing tours. To continue attracting these visitors, facilities must be updated to meet the needs of today's users. In addition, each project provides funding for local suppliers of materials needed for these improvements.

Projected Revenue to the State: Updated, user friendly park facilities are more pleasing to the public, which increases use and the amount of fees collected.

Project Support: State Park visitors, Alaska Visitors Association, Alaska Wilderness Recreation Tourism Association, State Park Advisory Boards, local Chambers of Commerce, recreational user groups, and highway travelers.

Project Opposition: None.

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Specific Spending Detail: Park facilities capital improvements will be accomplished by construction. Construction contracting is typically 20% design, procurement and contract administration and 80% contractual cost.

Parks Capital Improvements through Reinvestments - \$225.0 :
(to be funded from Park User fees collected above budget in FY2000)

Building Upgrade/Repair - \$90.0

Eagle River Nature Center Roof (Chugach State Park)	\$40.0
Independence Mine Visitor Center	10.0
Kodiak Ranger Station	10.0
Point Bridget State Park-sceptic systems	15.0
Wood-Tikchik/Agulukpak-ranger station	15.0

Tables, fire rings, road gravel, etc. - \$78.0

Northern Area	\$40.0
Kenai Area	25.0
Kodiak Ranger District (bear-proof garbage and food lockers)	13.0

Interp and Education - \$45.0

Wood-Tikchik directional and interp signs	\$10.0
Division-wide interp signs	35.0

Equipment - \$12.0

Mat-Su ATV and Snowmobile	\$12.0
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Does this project leverage other funding for the state? Funding for the General Fund/Program Receipts would be from park user fee receipts. With this project, parking, boating, cabin rental, commercial use, and camping fees paid for the park system will be reinvested in the park system to improve park facilities.

Alternative Approaches/Financing Considered: The Park Capital Improvement program could be funded by General Funds. ISTE/TEA21 transportation enhancement funds through the TRAAK program has updated roadside rest facilities through reconstruction projects, but restrictions on the fund does not allow improvements to many of the park system's recreational facilities. Marine Recreation and EVOS funds were used in the past but these sources of funding are no longer available.