

**Forestry Federal Funded Grants for Fire and Forest Resource Projects**

**FY2004 Request: \$2,800,000**  
**Reference No: 37769**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation

**Project Type:** Health and Safety

**Category:** Natural Resources

**Location:** Statewide

**Contact:** Jeff Jahnke

**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)

**Contact Phone:** (907)269-8474

**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2003 - 06/30/2006

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project provides receipt authority for federal funding including that provided to the State through the federal government's National Fire Plan. Federal funding provides specific program support including that intended to improve the ability of the State and local government to educate, mitigate, prepare for and respond to the threats of wildland fire. This authority, for primarily US Forest Service funds, will allow state participation in cooperative forestry projects in which the state and federal government have mutual interest to participate. Such projects also include forest health initiatives, insect and disease studies, internships, and community and urban forest inventories and planning.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$3,000,000				\$8,600,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,600,000

<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
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

In FY03 the Division received \$2.0M in federal authority (SLA 2002, Ch1); this authority is expected to be fully obligated by June 30, 2003. In FY02 the Division received federal authority and statutory designated program receipt authority totaling \$5.6M (SLA 2001, Ch 61). Projects funded with this authority include fuels mitigation on the Anchorage Hillside, spruce bark beetle-kill fuels removal on the Kenai Peninsula, public education, Type I hotshot crew sponsorship, volunteer fire department grant as

**Project Description/Justification:**

This CIP will enable the Division to meet specific program requirements with federal support, including but not limited to the responsibilities of providing wildland fire protection services on state, private and municipal lands as mandated in AS41.15.010 – 170. These federal funds will allow the Division to improve and enhance its abilities to support both resources and wildland fire programs that benefit the citizens and resources of Alaska. The threat of catastrophic wildland fires in the urban interface areas in the state is increasing as the citizens of Alaska continue to move into the forested areas of the state.

Additional federal grant funds may be anticipated to support forest resource management projects that may include:

- Forest resources and management
- Insect and Disease projects
- Urban and Community Forestry
- Forest Stewardship

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- Forest Practices
- Forest resource inventory
- Cooperative forest resource research projects

The additional federal grant funds will be utilized for the following wildland fire projects:

- ? Improvement of the Division's initial attack and extended attack capabilities.
- ? Improvement of local government and volunteer fire department capabilities to respond to structure and wildland fire incidents in the urban interface areas of the state.
- ? Provide funding for EFF type I hotshot crew to be utilized in Alaska and the lower 48 to aid in the suppression of wildland fires.
- ? Community planning with GIS for wildland fire.
- ? Fuels mapping for wildland fire.
- ? Hazardous fuels mitigation projects.
- ? Prevention and education emphasizing Firewise concepts.
- ? Stewardship

The Project does not directly raise state revenue. However; it expands the state's effectiveness in both forest management and wildland fire management.

**Why is this Project Needed Now:**

This CIP will provide the Division with needed capacity to support increasing program demands in both forest resources and wildland fire management brought about by increasing public need for services in forest resources (ie. Forest health, etc.), increased risks to public health and safety (i.e. Wildland/urban interface education, prevention, & suppression).

**Specific Spending Detail:**

Line Item Expenditures:

- Personal Services – 200,000
- Travel - \$150,000
- Contractual Services - \$1,620,000
- Supplies \$50,000
- Equipment - \$780,000

Line Item Detail Description:

Personal Services – Federally-funded initial attack positions; extension of permanent seasonal positions to train and test volunteer fire department personnel as EFF, and rural community members as EFF crew members; and personal services associated with National Fire Plan projects.

Travel – Travel and per diem costs for state and local government personnel to travel to and present and receive specialized and required re currency training. Travel associated with implementation of National Fire Plan mitigation and educational projects.

Contractual Services – Contractual services funding to facilitate intermediate and advanced Incident Command System (ICS) training and specialized fire training; hazardous fuels mitigation by contractors or by rural 16-person crews; sponsorship of an EFF hotshot crew; and other National Fire Plan projects.

Supplies – Miscellaneous supplies associated with the fire and aviation program

Equipment –Purchase of specialized firefighting equipment for use by the Division's firefighters and local government and volunteer fire departments.

**Project Support:** Broad support is anticipated from the general public, local government, volunteer fire departments and numerous state and federal government cooperating agencies.)

**Project Opposition:** No opposition is anticipated for this CIP.

**State Match Required:** There is a 50% match of State funds to receive these federal grant funds. The match will be met by in-kind general funds already obligated to the Division's Fire & Aviation Program.