

Federal Funded Grants for Forest Resource and Fire Program Projects

FY2005 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)

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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 direction to 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 examination, internships, and community and urban forest inventories and development.

Funding:	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$16,800,000
Total:	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$2,800,000	\$16,800,000

<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
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

FY04 \$2,800,000 federal (SLA03/CH82)

FY03 \$2,000,000 federal (SLA02/CH1)

FY02 \$5,600,000 federal and statutory designated program receipt (SLA01/CH61)

Projects funded with these authorities 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 assistance, and hazard fuels mapping to name a few.

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

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- ? Forest Stewardship
- ? Forest Practices
- ? Forest land enhancement
- ? 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 and rural 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.
- ? Forest stewardship planning with private landowners and native corporations

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 (ie. Wildland/urban interface education, prevention, & suppression).

Specific Spending Detail:

Line Item Expenditures:

- Personal Services - (350.0)
- Travel - (\$200.0)
- Contractual Services - (\$1420.0)
- Supplies (\$50.0)
- Equipment - (\$780.0)

Line Item Detail Description:

Personal Services – Twenty federally-funded initial attack firefighter positions, and extension of seasonal positions to train and test volunteer fire department personnel to fight wildland fires. (Forest Technician II's, III's, and IV's).

Travel – Travel and per diem costs for state and local government personnel to travel to and present and receive specialized and required recurrency 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:

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Some federal grants have a 50% state match requirement and some require no state contributions. The match will be met by in-kind contributions and general funds already obligated to the Division's Forest Management & Development and Fire & Aviation programs.