

Reindeer \$150.0

New reindeer activity by native Alaskans is becoming an important agricultural activity. Reindeer herding in Alaska has always had the potential to be a significant economic activity in terms of jobs and income. This even more important because herding takes place in areas of Alaska without many economic possibilities. Any new or increase economic activity is invaluable. However, for this industry to meet its potential, several issues such as losses to caribou, grazing lease costs, and marketing difficulties need to be addressed. Our participation will help determine ways to move this industry forward and become a significant and viable part of the economy of bush Alaska.

Ethanol \$100.0

Grain production in Delta Junction is now grown as an input for livestock production. Since the livestock industry is relatively small, grain production is limited by the number of head of livestock to be fed, not because of a lack of productive acres. This feasibility study would examine growing barley in Delta Junction to supply Alaska with up to ten million gallons of ethanol. That level of production would require 126,000 acres of barley. Obviously, any ethanol production would be a benefit to Alaskan agriculture. Increased production would benefit the state and provide new jobs, income and markets for a growing agriculture industry.

Hog Operations \$200.0

We have interest in a project to study large-scale hog operations in the state. This possibility has been raised before but has not come to fruition for various reasons including financing, land availability and public support. On the surface, this idea has some merit since Alaska is strategically placed to export pork to major markets. This study would look at defining the parameters for a viable project, versus previous studies which have attempted to evaluate an already defined project.

Why is this Project Needed Now:

Federal farm bill, intent language and support are available. Western United States Trade Association funding is also available. By pursuing this funding now we will be able to lay the groundwork for future development that will increase state revenue.

Specific Spending Detail:

Line Item Expenditures:

Personal Services \$88.0 Description- staff to prepare and issue contracts and oversee the projects.

Travel \$8.0 Description- travel to meet with markets and industry representatives statewide.

Contractual Services \$650.0 Description- feasibility study contracts.

Supplies \$4.0 Description- Operating supplies

Project Support:

Producers and consumers statewide who participate in these programs and supporters of agricultural development and new jobs in the state.

Project Opposition: None expected.