

Homer: Beluga Lake Float Base Improvement**FY2005 Request: \$1,235,000****Reference No: 39171****AP/AL:** Allocation**Project Type:** Construction**Category:** Transportation**Location:** Homer**Contact:** Kip Knudson**House District:** Homer/Seward (HD 35)**Contact Phone:** (907)269-0724**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2004 - 06/30/2009**Appropriation:** Airport Improvement Program**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Construct an access road and ramp between Homer Airport and Beluga Slough Float Plane Lake, and a rescue boat house and lake-side floats for transient aircraft parking on Beluga Slough. This project contributes to the Department's Mission by reducing injuries, fatalities and property damage and by improving the mobility of people and goods.

Funding:	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$1,235,000						\$1,235,000
Total:	\$1,235,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,235,000

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
7% = 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:

None.

Project Description/Justification:

This project enables construction of vital access between the Homer Airport support services and the Beluga Slough Float Plane facilities. Currently aircraft owners must move aircraft up or down a muddy incline in the slough, and block off a one mile stretch of the Sterling Highway, a National Highway System Route with an average daily traffic count of 8587 vehicles, in order to transport a float plane between the two locations. A cutoff consisting of a 700' access road and ramp between Beluga Lake and the Homer Airport operations area will remove the need to move aircraft along the highway. In addition, pilots often tie planes to the Sterling Highway guardrail and park their vehicles on the Sterling Highway when loading and unloading planes. Lakeside floats for transient parking will eliminate this safety concern. The rescue boat house will eliminate the need for the rescue crew to rush down the one mile stretch of Sterling Highway to launch the rescue boat at the muddy ramp. Instead, the 700' cutoff will allow direct access from the airport terminal to the rescue boat, drastically reducing the time necessary to reach a crashed or sinking plane in the Slough.