

Tongass Coast Aquarium, Inc.**FY2006 Request: \$100,000**
Reference No: 40497**AP/AL:** Appropriation**Category:** Development**Location:** Ketchikan Gateway Borough**House District:** Ketchikan (HD 1)**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010**Project Type:** Planning**Recipient:** Tongass Coast Aquarium, Inc.**Contact:** Jo Ellen Hanrahan**Contact Phone:** (907)465-2506**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

A grant for the Tongass Coast Aquarium, which will be a regional facility providing education, research and exhibits focusing on the coastal and marine ecosystems of Southeast Alaska. This project contributes to the Department's mission of promoting a healthy economy and strong communities by providing educational opportunities and economic development in Southeast Alaska.

Funding:	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	Total
Bond Funds	\$100,000						\$100,000
Total:	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000

<input 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
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	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**Project Description/Justification:**

A grant to Tongass Coast Aquarium, Inc. for assistance in the construction of the 28,000 square foot Tongass Coast Aquarium. It will be a regional facility providing exhibits, research, and education focusing on the coastal and marine ecosystems of Southeast Alaska. It will:

- (1) Help Ketchikan diversify its economy;
- (2) Consist of a marine aquarium display targeting the tourist industry. It will also increase Ketchikan's visibility and appeal as a visitor destination.
- (3) Consist of a research component focusing on Southeast Alaska fisheries. It will conduct research activities year-round that support the emerging shellfish, mariculture, and dive fisheries as well as the traditional fisheries.
- (4) Consist of an educational component with programs supporting public and private grades K – 12 and the University of Alaska. Programs will include hands-on experiments, opportunities for students to work with real fishery data, and the practical use of mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics.
- (5) Create 14 full-time jobs and 10 – 15 seasonal positions.
- (6) Generate sufficient revenue to cover its operating expenses, especially with the growth in the number of visitors to the community. It may also attract ongoing funding for research and education programs.

Past funding has included grants from the state and cruise-ship industry, which were used for completing the feasibility study and startup development costs. The City of Ketchikan also provided \$500,000 for startup development costs and the Ketchikan Gateway Borough provided \$25,000 for survey costs. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough is also working with the State to complete the acquisition of the site from the State. Last year the U.S. Congress appropriated \$1,450,000 for planning and design and this year has appropriated an additional \$900,000.

