

Westward Region Chignik Weir Improvements and Repairs **FY2006 Request:** **\$121,500**
Reference No: **39981**

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Renovation and Remodeling
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Chignik Bay **Contact:** Doug Mecum
House District: Bristol Bay/Aleutians (HD 37) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-4150
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project would fund the reconstruction of the Chignik weir piledriver, which is a piece of equipment that is necessary to install and remove the Chignik salmon weir annually. During this year's weir removal the tower (a 45' structure that supports the piling and the 3,000-pound hammer that drives the piling into the streambed) gave way due to metal fatigue. The engines/winches on the piledriver are also old and one of them is seriously compromised (blowing soot and the clutch will not disengage). The engines/winches will likely need to be replaced because the cost of repairing them may be as much or more than new equipment. The tower is beyond repair and needs to be replaced.

Funding:	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bond Funds	\$121,500						\$121,500
Total:	\$121,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$121,500

<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	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

None

Project Description/Justification:

Salmon have been enumerated through a weir on the Chignik River since 1922. The weir is currently fabricated with pile driven supports and spans the 350' width of the Chignik River. Within the Chignik Management Area, commercial and subsistence salmon are the economic mainstay for five villages. There are 100 purse seine permits in the Chignik Management Area and the majority of fishing occurs in Chignik Bay targeting sockeye salmon returning to the Chignik River. The weir is critical for enumerating the escapement and thus providing commercial and subsistence fishing time. There are no alternative shallow draft piledrivers in the vicinity. Timing for the weir installation must be during the highest monthly tides in May and the removal must be during the highest monthly tides in September. Without the piledriver the weir will not be installed and management of the Chignik fishery will be extremely conservative. Estimates include costs for the large engine/winch combination (\$55,000), small engine/winch (\$45,000), materials for tower reconstruction (\$15,000) plus freight for several tons of material and equipment.

The CIP request addresses fundamental management aspects of the Chignik salmon fishery. Specifically, it helps "maintain total annual value of commercial harvests and mariculture production at over \$1 billion" (Target #1) within the end result of "Stable or increasing economic benefits derived from the harvest and use of fish, shellfish, and aquatic plants in Alaska."

It directly addresses two strategies to achieve those end results: Target #3 (Achieve reproductive goals in 80% of monitored systems) of the strategy to "Ensure the conservation of natural stocks". It also addresses Target #1 (Harvest State of Alaska Capital Project Summary Department of Fish and Game
 FY06 Governor's Capital Budget Reference No: 39981
 1/3/11 3:32:28 PM Page 1 Released December 15, 2005)

Westward Region Chignik Weir Improvements and Repairs **FY2006 Request:** **\$121,500**
Reference No: **39981**

80 percent of maximum biologically sustainable harvest in monitored systems) and Target #3 (Achieve allocation objectives plus or minus 10%) of the strategy to "Sustain fisheries on stocks of fish...based upon control and regulation of harvests..."