

Marine Fisheries Patrol Improvements**FY2006 Request: \$2,500,000****Reference No: 35825****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Health and Safety**Category:** Public Protection**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Dan Spencer, Director, Administrative Services**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-5488**Estimated Project Dates:** 10/01/2005 - 09/30/2006**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Alaska State Legislature urged the division to seek additional funds for its patrol efforts in federal waters of the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea. This project is a result of lengthy negotiations with the National Marine Fisheries Service. Federally regulated marine fisheries occur on a year-round basis in the coastal and offshore waters of the State of Alaska. Both the federal and state governments share an interest in ensuring these fisheries are protected.

Funding:	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000		\$12,500,000
Total:	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$0	\$12,500,000

<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:	1,499,900	22
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	1,499,900	22

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Sec 1, Ch 159, SLA 2004, \$1,080,300 (JEA#4)

Sec 1, Ch 82, SLA 2003 and Sec 25, Ch 159, SLA 2004 \$1,250,000 (JEA#3)

Sec 1, Ch 1, SLA 2002, \$1,001,450 (JEA#2)

RPLs 12-2-0075 and 12-2-100 for a total of \$1,001,450 Federal Receipts were combined and approved as a single capital RPL by the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee on October 23, 2001 (JEA#1)

Project Description/Justification:

This project will provide state authorization to spend funds anticipated to be received from a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) grant.

Recognizing enforcement needs in the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, the Department of Public Safety cooperates with the NMFS in enhanced patrols available through the Coastal Stewardship Act. The NMFS recognizes that Alaska maintains the assets and personnel for efficient patrols and rather than create a redundant infrastructure, they prefer to augment the state's programs.

Fish and wildlife law enforcement in Alaska's coastal and offshore environments is of broad common interest to both the state and federal governments. However, these large geographic expanses suffer an absence of federal logistical support for patrolling, monitoring, and investigating fish and wildlife related activities and impacts.

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Even though Alaska's enforcement logistical capabilities are well beyond those available to the NMFS and other federal agencies, the Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement is unable to broaden or enhance its field presence without additional funding. In many cases, enhancing state funding will provide additional air and sea patrols during which state and federal concerns can be met concurrently. Such enhancement of existing state assets and infrastructure will be much more cost effective than developing similar assets in the federal government.

This cooperative project is consistent with long-term state enforcement. For decades, the State of Alaska has been delegated federal enforcement authority in federal waters. These fisheries are of common concern to both state and federal managers. This project demonstrates that the federal government is concerned for enforcement presence and has agreed to share in the high costs of marine offshore enforcement in support of Alaska Bureau of Wildlife Enforcement (ABWE) expanded resource patrols.

The need for additional dockside monitoring and enforcement presence has increased with the change in federal fisheries from open competitive to quota share systems. These quota share systems are being developed, further resulting in newly designed fisheries that have significantly changed the scope of enforcement. It has created fisheries that are open nearly all year and has resulted in a significant need for increased dockside monitoring of landings. NMFS has requested assistance and has agreed to enhance state funding to provide increased department shore-side presence to monitor landings.

All grant funding is intended to augment the work currently performed by ABWE using existing personnel. The grant funds will also fund a full-time Joint Enforcement Agreement coordinator (state trooper) and eight Public Safety Technician II positions. These positions will be primarily assigned to dockside monitoring and inspections for IFQ/IPQ fishery compliance. Funding used for personal service costs will also pay for premium pay (sea day pay and overtime, plus related benefits) due to the additional enforcement efforts that the division will provide. It is anticipated that the division will increase the Public Safety Technician II's dockside inspection efforts, including increasing the number of federally-funded positions from 8 to over 15 in the next fiscal year. The increased need is primarily due to the new federal crab/groundfish rationalization fisheries scheduled for implementation in September 2005.

The following table shows the projected cost breakdown for the project:

Personal Services:	\$ 1,499,900
Travel:	57,700
Contractual:	900,400
Equipment:	42,000
Total Costs:	\$ 2,500,000

The division will provide a minimum of 119 large vessel patrol sea days and a minimum of 175 King Air aircraft patrol hours as well as 221 additional small aircraft patrol hours to patrol coastal and offshore waters under terms of the agreement. Public Safety Technicians will be added to the following communities: Dutch Harbor, Kodiak, Anchorage, Homer, Seward, and Sitka. Two new State Troopers will provide supervision of the program, one in Kodiak and one in Dutch Harbor with a new administrative position to assist in Dutch Harbor.

This project will not result in any additional operating costs requiring state general fund appropriations. These federal funds cannot be used to reduce current state enforcement efforts.