

Naknek: Bridge

FY2006 Request: \$3,000,000

Reference No: AMD 40569

AP/AL: Allocation

Project Type: Construction

Category: Transportation

Location: Naknek

Contact: John MacKinnon

House District: Bristol Bay/Aleutians (HD 37)

Contact Phone: (907)465-6973

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010

Appropriation: Congressional Earmarks

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Begin evaluation of a bridge crossing the Naknek River at Fishery Point based on recommendations from the Naknek Crossing Intermodal Economic and Land Use Study. The scope of Work includes development of an Environmental Impact Statement, Preliminary Engineering and Design of the Bridge and associated access roads.

Funding:	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$3,000,000						\$3,000,000
Total:	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000,000

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
20% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input checked="" 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:

The communities of King Salmon, Naknek, and South Naknek are located on the Naknek River on the northern side of the Alaska Peninsula. The community of South Naknek is located directly across the Naknek River from Naknek, a distance of about 1/2 mile. Residents of these two communities use skiffs and aircraft to travel between the communities when the river is open. When the river is sufficiently frozen local residents cross the river on snow machines and other vehicles at a site upriver beyond the area of tidal influence.

The proposed project would construct a bridge approximately 2,300 feet long spanning the Naknek River and connecting three communities of the Bristol Bay Borough. The distance between South Naknek and King Salmon using the crossing would be about 15.5 miles and about 9.5 miles between South Naknek and Naknek.

The Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan of 2002 recommended a study to define the appropriate level of transportation investment, and examine the distribution of costs and benefits among various interests. The study quantified costs and benefits using a system-wide analysis, comparing the future costs and benefits of a highway crossing with various airport options, to those of airport improvements only. The Naknek Crossing Intermodal Economic and Airport Use Study concluded that a bridge crossing was justified. Some documented benefits include:

Improved educational and social benefits for school-age children. The school district flies South Naknek junior and senior high school students to Naknek regional high school and middle school in Naknek. The school flights operate under Visual Flight Rules (VFR) in daylight only. Thus, in mid-winter, children arrive at school at 9:45 a.m., 45 minutes after school commences.

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Improved access to hospitals and clinics for residents of South Naknek. A bridge would improve access to the regional clinic in Naknek

Improved response time for emergency services and public safety. A bridge would enable quicker response times, reduce training and certification costs for emergency services personnel, and improve retention of volunteers. Fire equipment and personnel from Naknek and King Salmon could not assist in fighting a major fire in 2001 that destroyed 30 fishing boats and burned down the Peter Pan Seafood Plant.

Removing barriers to economic activity in the Bristol Bay Borough. Fish processors have concentrated their remaining infrastructure to the north (Naknek) side of the river because of the high costs imposed on South Naknek plants due to the lack of transportation infrastructure

Reduced expenditures for redundant facilities and services. At present, there is a duplication of some public facilities and services in South Naknek because the community is not readily accessible to the other towns except by air and water.