

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Construction
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide **Contact:** Leta Simons
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2400
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2008 - 06/30/2013

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a 50/50 matching grant program that provides funding for the development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. More than any other state in the union, Alaskans recreate outdoors. LWCF is consistent with DNR's mission in that, in terms of outdoor recreation, it develops, conserves and maximizes Alaska's natural [outdoor recreation] resources consistent with the public interest.

New or rehabilitated LWCF projects increase the number of park visits, furthering a desired end result. Privatizing the management of a LWCF assisted site is consistent with LWCF policy, addressing a second desired end result.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$600,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,600,000
Total:	\$600,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,600,000

<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:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

SLA2007/CH30	\$ 1,250,000	Active/on-going
SLA2006/CH82	\$ 1,000,000	Complete
SLA2005/CH3	\$ 1,500,000	Complete
SLA2004/CH159	\$ 1,250,000	Complete
SLA2003/CH82	\$ 675,000	Complete

Project Description/Justification:

The need for outdoor recreation facilities continues to grow with Alaska's population. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides an opportunity for local, regional or state applicants to receive up to 50% of the cost of projects that are important to the people those recreation providers serve.

This federal grant program was established through the LWCF Act in 1965 to provide a nationwide legacy of high quality outdoor recreation. Projects such as downhill ski areas, ADA compliant trails, neighborhood parks, rifle ranges, sports fields, etc. have been funded in Alaska through LWCF. Projects located in Alaska's most urban areas to our most rural have received LWCF assistance.

50% matching grants provide crucial funding that can make the difference between build/no build for important outdoor recreation opportunities. These projects benefit the people of Alaska by providing both facility development and open space. Each development project provides short-term jobs for planning, construction and management during the construction phase as well as continued long term positive economic impact from the ongoing utilization of the park site.

Why is this Project Needed Now?:

To meet the growing outdoor recreation and open space needs of Alaskans, existing park facilities must be updated, new facilities developed and in some cases, property acquired to expand existing recreational opportunities. This program will help provide current and future Alaskans continuing opportunities to recreate in safe facilities that meet their needs.

Specific Spending Detail:

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION (text)
Grants	\$ 600,000	Grants to local and state governments

Project Support:

LWCF projects are currently located in approximately 60 communities throughout Alaska. These communities all benefit not only by the increased recreational opportunities created, but also by the financial investment associated with actual development at the site, and subsequent positive financial impact many of these facilities create by drawing users to the area. These communities and the multitude of individuals and groups that use the effected facilities support LWCF.

Project Opposition:

None.