

National Recreational Trail Grants Federal Program

FY2009 Request: \$1,500,000

Reference No: 6854

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Deferred Maintenance

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:

Alaskans rely on trails for recreation, subsistence, and travel between communities. These trails need maintenance to ensure safe passage and to ensure that they remain open and available for use. Funds are distributed by 90-10 matching grants for recreational trail and trailhead development and maintenance, and for education programs relating to trail safety and environmental protection. Grants are awarded to organizations, agencies and local governments.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$1,500,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$7,750,000
Total:	\$1,500,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$7,750,000

<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
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

SLA2007/CH30	\$ 850,000	15% complete
SLA2006/CH82	\$ 695,000	70% complete
SLA2005/CH3	\$ 695,000	80% complete
SLA2004/CH159	\$ 695,000	95%Complete
SLA2003/CH82	\$ 695,000	Complete

Project Description/Justification:

As more and more residents and visitors turn to Alaska's vast trail system for recreation, subsistence and basic transportation between communities, the need for a more extensive and well-maintained trail system continues to grow. The growing population is also putting development pressure on the existing trail system and many trails are being lost as property is subdivided or sold to private owners. We can assist in slowing the loss of our existing trail system through this granting program and will sustain and improve that system as well.

State funds are saved by the availability of these federal grant funds for development and maintenance of Alaska's public recreational trails. Public safety is improved by having well maintained trails. Trespass is reduced by securing trail easements with grant funds. Search and rescue costs are reduced by having well marked and maintained trails that are easy to follow. Because this is a matching grant program, grantees provide cash, labor and equipment to match at least 10-20 percent of grant funds, effectively stretching state funds. Public recreational trails contribute to Alaska's economy

by providing construction and maintenance jobs, attracting tourists and visitors, and by stimulating the business of outfitters, guides and tour companies. In addition, the Recreational Trails Program ensures that:

- Grantees obtain legal access
- Projects are consistent with Federal, State and local land use plans
- Social and economic impacts are analyzed
- Archeological and historical resources are protected
- The project is analyzed for any impact on threatened or endangered species
- The project is analyzed for any impact on fish and wildlife
- The project is analyzed for its affect on wetlands, flood plains and bodies of water
- Water quality is maintained
- Hazardous waste is checked for and identified
- Air quality is checked
- The noise resulting from the project is analyzed
- There is public involvement

Why is this Project Needed Now?:

Alaska's trails are gradually being lost due to community expansion and development pressure. The grant program provides an opportunity to establish new trails and reserve existing recreational access throughout the state.

The following Recreational Trail Projects have been approved for FFY07. Park & Outdoor Recreation is in the process of completing the FFY08 awards

2007 Recreational Trail Grants		
Grantee	Project Name	Grant Amount
Chugach National Forest - Glacier Ranger District	Grandview Interpretive Trail	\$48,200.00
B.A.A.R.T	Avalanche Awareness and Hazard Recognition	\$14,800.00
City of Skagway	Upper Dewey Lake Trail Restoration Phase I	\$18,852.03
Fairbanks North Star Borough Trails Advisory Commission	Trail Etiquette Signage	\$18,000.00
Fairbanks North Star Borough Dept. of Parks and Recreation	Isberg Recreation Area Trail Construction	\$50,000.00
City of White Mountain	White Mountain Recreational Trails Improvements	\$32,711.67
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District	Hatcher Pass Latrines	\$4,500.00
Division of Mining, Land & Water	Alaska Heritage Trails Program; Trail Easement Recording Project	\$140,851.00
Mat-Su Trails Council, Inc	Mini-excavator with boom attached flail mower	\$50,000.00
Curry Ridge Riders	Trapper Creek & Petersville Winter Trail Grooming	\$20,000.00

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Curry Ridge Riders	Chulitna Bluff & Rabidux Trail Construction	\$50,000.00
North American Outdoor Institute	Alaska Winter/Summer Outdoor Safety Education Presentations	\$36,000.00
City of Hoonah	Hoonah Community Trails	\$49,986.50
Yakutat Salmon Board	Historic CCC Trail Conversion to ADA Standards	\$45,815.00
Division of Mining, Land & Water	Eska Creek Trail Improvements	\$32,178.00
Division of Mining, Land & Water	Glacier Lake Trail Re-route	\$15,822.00
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District	Kroto Creek Trailhead trash removal	\$2,160.00
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District	Denali State Park Flood Damage Repair Crew	\$33,206.25
Wasilla Soil & Water Conservation District	Mat-Valley Moose Range Trail Restoration	\$27,909.00
Alaska Bird Observatory	Chickadee Loop Trail	\$3,546.95
Alaska Skijoring and Pulk Association (ASPA)	Creamer's Field Winter Trails Grooming	\$14,875.00
Telida Village Council	Telida-Nikolai Trail Maintenance Project	\$50,000.00
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Kenai District	Shoup Bay Trail Improvements	\$30,200.00
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Northern District	Stiles Creek Trail Re-route, phase II	\$49,990.00
Girdwood Trails Committee	Girdwood Public Trails Maintenance	\$24,000.00
Copper River Watershed Project	Cordova Breakwater Trail	\$31,872.70
Homer Soil and Water Conservation District	Trail Improvements and Signage in the Homer Demonstration Forest	\$22,538.24
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	Point Higgins Trail Extension Phase II	\$50,000.00
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District	Trail Crew Leader, NLSRA	\$10,566.00
Alaskan Sled Dog & Racing Association	Winter Grooming & Bridge Maintenance	\$11,365.00
Alaskan for Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge	Reflections Lake Trail Renovation	\$16,522.00
Northwest Arctic Borough	Northwest Alaska Trail Staking	\$49,471.00
Lake Louise Snowmachine Club	Purchase 1990 Bombardier Snocat	\$15,000.00
Alaska Dog Mushers Association	Burglin 80 Acre Trail Easement Purchase and Re-route	\$5,681.00
USDA, Forest Service, Thorne Bay Range District	Memorial Beach Trail Maintenance	\$7,185.00

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Upper Susitna Soil & Water Conservation District	Byers Lake Trail Maintenance & Improvements	\$20,816.00
Matanuska-Susitna Borough	Matanuska-Susitna Borough Trail Marking & Signing	\$19,103.70
Total Recreational Trails Grants		\$1,123,724.04
2007 Trails Initiative Grants		
Grantee	Project Name	Grant Amount
Mobile Tool Caches	Alaska Trails Inc	\$14,990.00
Pinky's Park Running Trail	City of Bethel	\$50,000.00
Angel Creek Trail Reroute	Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Northern Area	\$125,000.00
Tsalteshi Trails Improvement Project	Tsalteshi Trails Association	\$100,000.00
Perseverance Trail Phase II	Trail Mix, Inc.	\$100,000.00
Helen Louise McDowell Sanctuary Trail Program	Great Land Trust	\$99,391.00
Auke Lake Trail	University of Alaska Southeast	\$100,000.00
Hillside Singletrack Trails Project	Upper Susitna Soil & Water Conservation District	\$50,000.00
Talkeetna Lakes Park Loop Trail & Access	Upper Susitna Soil & Water Conservation District	\$50,000.00
Lookout Mountain Recreation Area	Kachemak Nordic Ski club	\$66,200.00
FNSB Recreational Trails Easement Project	Fairbanks North Star Borough	\$136,620.00
Layout and Prescription for Eska Creek Area Trails	Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water	\$18,000.00
Grandview Interpretive Trail	USDA FS Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District	\$100,000.00
Girdwood Trail Pedestrian Bridge	Municipality of Anchorage & Girdwood Parks and Recreation	\$100,000.00
Gravelly Creek Trail	USDA FS Thorne Bay	\$15,850.00
Nugget Falls Accessible Trail	USDA FS Tongass National Forest, Juneau Ranger District	\$135,000.00
Trail Easement Recording Project	Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water	\$80,000.00
World War II Causeway	Sitka Trail Works, Inc.	\$69,825.00
Lake Louise - McClaren Trail Survey and Construction	Lake Louise Snowmobile Club	\$91,215.00

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Red Bay Trail Improvement Project	USDA FS Thorne Bay	\$19,226.00
Bogus Creek Trail and Shelter Cabin	Kuskokwim 300 Race Committee	\$60,717.00
Billings Pass Trail	City of Whittier	\$52,339.00
Total Trails Initiative Grants		\$1,634,373.00

Specific Spending Detail:

<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION (text)</u>
Personal Services	\$ 350,000	State Trails Office
Travel	\$ 35,000	
Services	\$ 200,000	Grants (RSA's) to state agencies
Commodities	\$ 40,000	
Grants	\$ 875,000	Grants to federal and local governments and non profit agencies.

Project Support:

In addition to all the grantees listed above dozens of Alaska communities, agencies and trail user groups have received grants and support the program.

Some of the communities that have received grants include: Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, City of Wasilla, Native Village of Fort Yukon, City of Kotlik, City of Homer, City of Barrow, City of Galena, City of Cordova, City of Aleknagik and the Circle Village Council.

Some of the user groups include: Boy Scouts, Trail Mix Inc., Fairbanks Snow Travelers, Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers, Fairbanks Nordic Ski Club, Peninsula Sled Dog Racing Association, Sitka Recreational Riders, Norton Sound Sled Dog Club, Alaska Botanical Gardens and the Goldstream Valley Trail Users Assn.

Project Opposition:

None