

Agency: Department of Fish and Game

Project Title:

Project Type: Other

Kincaid Car Dump Cleanup

State Funding Requested: \$100,000
One-Time Need

House District: 27 / N

Brief Project Description:

This is a one time project to clean up an old vehicle dump within Kincaid Municipal Park and the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuges.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$150,000

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Other Funds	\$50,000					
Total	\$50,000					

Explanation of Other Funds:

The Anchorage Wetlands Advisory Council, through the Great Land Trust has committed \$50,000 toward this project. There have also been substantial contributions by 19 organizations--including individuals, community groups, businesses, non profits, and local, state and federal agencies-- who gave equipment and over 350 hours of time to do cleanups.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

These funds would be used to hire a contractor to remove approximately 200 vehicles that have been abandoned in the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge in the coastal marsh, and on the bluff. Volunteers, community groups and local businesses have done substantial cleanup of the area--removing 2,000 tires and 20 tons of debris--but removing cars is beyond their abilities. This next step needs to be done properly by a contractor, and supervised by the regional Fish and Game office for hazardous waste contamination discharge.

This project will restore a natural area in Anchorage that is a State of Alaska wildlife refuge in a popular recreation area. It will also remove sources of hazardous waste contamination in sensitive coastal wetlands used by tens of thousands of migratory birds and other wildlife.

Project Timeline:

This clean up will take place in the summer of 2010.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

n/a--it's a one time project

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

**\$100,000
Approved**

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Joe Meehan
Address:	Div of Wildlife Conservation 333 Raspberry Road Anchorage, AK 99518
Phone Number:	(907)267-2281
Email:	joe.meehan@alaska.gov

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No



REPRESENTATIVE BILL THOMAS

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House Finance Budget Subcommittee FY 10 Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Subcommittee Report FY 10

February 27, 2009

GF \$57,112.7 Fed \$54,962.5 Other \$67,010.1 Total \$179,085.3

Alaska Department of Fish and Game House Finance Budget Subcommittee FY 10 Highlights

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game Budget Subcommittee authorizes \$1,120.0 less general funds than the Governor's FY 10 amended request and \$765.3 less general funds than the FY 09 revised management plan.

The subcommittee was very concerned with the low returns of salmon to the AYK region of the state and approved four increments totaling \$190.0 general funds for projects to allow for better management of the region's salmon resource.

The subcommittee approved \$708.6 general funds to pay for 'unrealizable' salary fund source changes related to salary adjustments.

Requests for FY 10 program expansions and replacing lost federal funds with general funds were looked at closely. A \$190.0 GF increment for a Wildlife Conservation Response Team pilot program was denied. An increment of \$930.0 GF to replace lost federal funds for pinniped research was also denied.

note → { The subcommittee recognizes that many state wildlife refuges have a problem with people illegally abandoning vehicles and dumping trash within their boundaries. As such, the subcommittee recommends that the full finance committee support an amendment to the capital budget to clean-up and make our wildlife refuges safer.

email: Representative.Bill.Thomas@legis.state.ak.us

webpage: www.akrepublicans.org/thomas/

The following Legislative Finance reports are attached:

1. Agency Totals – FY 10 Operating Budget – House Structure
2. Appropriation/Allocation Summary (GF) – House Structure
3. Appropriation/Allocation Summary (all funds) – House Structure
4. Transaction Comparison (Adj. Base and House Subcom)
5. Transaction Comparison (Gov. Amd and House Subcom)
6. Wordage Report – FY 10 Operating Budget – House Structure
7. Transaction Comparison (Gov. and House Subcom)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Thomas", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Representative Bill Thomas
House Finance Subcommittee Chair
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Project Title: Kincaid Dump Cleanup

Funding Sought: \$150,000 (the Anchorage Wetlands Advisory Committee through the Great Land Trust has committed \$50,000).

Project Goal: Clean up an old vehicle dump within Kincaid Municipal Park and the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge in Anchorage.



Project Benefits: 1) Restore a natural area in the city park and State of Alaska wildlife refuge in a popular recreation area, and 2) remove sources of hazardous waste contamination in sensitive coastal wetlands used by tens-of-thousands of migratory birds and other wildlife.

Project Detail: 1) Hire a contractor to remove 100 to 200 vehicles that are in the coastal marsh or are exposed on the bluff, 2) monitor hazardous waste contamination discharge from the dump, and 3) stabilize bluff to stop erosion and exposure of buried vehicles.



Background: After the Great Alaskan Earthquake in 1964, the Greater Anchorage Borough was faced with the challenge of disposing hundreds of damaged vehicles, which they did by crushing and pushing them over a 400' high bluff on what was then the edge of the city. This site was used for nearly 15 years until concerns of environmental impacts ceased operations. As many as 2,000 vehicles may have been dumped here and many are now buried within the bluff. Illegal dumping of vehicles and other debris continued at this site for years and still occurs on occasion today.

Efforts to Date: The City of Anchorage (Parks and Recreation Department) has taken steps to prevent additional illegal access and dumping. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Friends of Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge (FAR), and the Alaska Moose Federation have organized several community-based volunteer cleanup efforts. Community volunteers and businesses have donated ~550 hours of labor as well as equipment including Snowcats and excavators. ADF&G has invested approximately 230 staff hours in organizing this project. About 2,000 tires, 25 tons of debris (appliances, lawn mowers, motorcycles, furniture, etc.) and 20 vehicles have been removed from the dump site.

Partners: ADF&G, FAR, Alaska Moose Federation, GCI, Anchorage Parks and Recreation, Old Seward/Ocean View Community Council, Bayshore/Klatt Community Council, Anchorage Soil and Water Conservation District, Kincaid Racing Lions, Alaska Extreme 4-Wheelers, Defenders of Wildlife, Anchorage Waterways Council, Anchorage International Airport, Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Solid Waste Services, Anchorage Audubon, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Frontier Construction, Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage, Sand Lake Community Council, Great Land Trust, Beeks Construction, NC Machinery, Nordic Skiing Association of Anchorage.



Contact:

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**FRIENDS OF
THE
ANCHORAGE
COASTAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE**

*Formerly known as
Friends of Potter
Marsh*

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The Honorable Lesil McGuire,
Alaska State Senate
The Honorable Bob Buch
The Honorable Craig Johnson,
Alaska State House of Representatives
Juneau, Alaska (Sent by email to all)

Subject: Capitol Improvement Project (CIP) Funding for Kincaid Dump Clean-Up

15 February 2010

Dear Senator McGuire and Representatives Buch and Johnson:

Friends of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge (FAR) urges the State to help fund the Kincaid Dump Clean-up by awarding \$100,000 in CIP funds to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game for the project. This site is located in and adjacent to the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge (ACWR). Last year we requested \$140,000 to no avail. This year, although costs have risen, after FAR wrote to recommend that the Kincaid Dump Clean-Up be considered for POA mitigation funds, the Anchorage Wetlands Advisory Committee set aside \$50,000 for this project [personal communication, Phil Shepherd, The GreatLand Trust, 23.oct.09]. In the meantime, while the marsh is frozen, community NGOs and business collaborations with ADF&G continue to diligently chip away at the mess. During two massive efforts in January and February more was undertaken.

The attached document describes what has been done so far and what remains to be accomplished as of 21.jan.10. The current amount of donated time, services and equipment are not included in the summary since work continues. Last week's collaborative efforts (with ADF&G, MOA support) Granite Construction, GCI, and the Alaska Moose Federation alone would have cost the State & City \$80,000. This month we are in the process of removing another 50 or so vehicles, but a huge amount remains. We have persevered with superhuman efforts to demonstrate that we believe that it is critically important to accomplish this clean-up, but we need your help.

FAR is a 501 c-3 non-profit organization of professionals and citizens whose mission is to preserve the integrity and biological diversity of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge. This easily damaged saltmarsh system supports an unusual diversity of plants, birds, mammals, invertebrates and is of continental conservation importance. The proximity of the refuge to Alaska's largest city makes it important for public education and enjoyment but also makes it highly vulnerable. The ACWR is a rare saltmarsh, even in Alaska, and is of enormous value for wildlife viewing, hunting and refuge-appropriate recreation. The eyesore that spills over from the old car and refuse dump at the Jodhpur (Kincaid) motocross area is a dangerous embarrassment that should have been cleaned up long ago.

Kincaid Dump Clean-up (see auxiliary attachment description with photos): The ACWR is a precious resource to citizens, visitors and future generations and FAR asserts that this funding is needed now to help the State properly manage and care for this public land. A prime example of how we have neglected our State refuges is the mess that has remained and, sadly, continued to grow until recently below the Kincaid (Jodhpur) Motocross. Although a series of volunteer efforts have been spearheaded through ADF&G staff, both on and off hours, with volunteer groups, an enormous job remains to be completed. The Kincaid Dump Cleanup will remove old vehicles and other debris from this 1964 Earthquake-era vehicle dump at Kincaid Park. If we clean it up, people are more likely to help monitor the site to keep it that way. This site is used by FAR for both of our major citizen science projects; as well as by hikers, birders; photographers and many other user groups.

FAR strongly encourages you to dedicate funding for the support of ADF&G in their responsibility of managing and protecting the ACWR by funding the Kincaid Dump Cleanup. As a volunteer stewardship organization over the last 15 years our members have been involved year-round in activities that support wildlife data collection, education and conservation of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge and work directly or indirectly on a daily basis with many ADF&G biologists as they do their jobs. We observe that there is inadequate funding to accomplish this important job without your help.

Please, help clean up the Kincaid Dump by awarding \$100, 000 of CIP funds to ADF&G for this project. Do it: Do it now. I am available for any questions regarding FAR's support and work. Joe Meehan, with ADF&G, is also available to answer questions and discuss the project. His contact information is on the attached project summary.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara Švarný Carlson
President and Executive Director

cc: Dan Burgess, Sand Lake Community Council
Bob Hoffman, Bayshore Klatt Community Council
Berni Bradley, Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council
Joe Meehan, Lands and Refuge Programs
Rick Sinnott, Refuge Manager, ACWR

Kincaid Clean-Up Pictures from the Friends of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge Scrapbook



Alaskans believe that we should take care of what we've got. In the west Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge this picture shows high value salt-marsh wetlands and the natural bluff barrier protecting the ACWR from W Dimond Blvd. This taken east of the Kincaid Dump site. Eventually we hope that the dump area will once again resemble its original state more closely. Barbara Carlson, FAR



During October of 2007 volunteers descend the steep 444' bluff below Kincaid (Jodhpur) Park to help remove illegally dumped garbage and stack tires for later removal. Barbara Carlson, FAR.



In winter of 2008 2 volunteers hike down the high Kincaid (Jodhpur) bluff to join the crew at the base loading tires. The loaned snow cat can be seen below hauling one of many loads of tires stacked for removal earlier in the year. Barbara Carlson, FAR



Representative Bob Buch discusses plans to clean up the Kincaid Dump with Dave Mitchell (GreatLand Trust), Joe Meehan (ADF&G), Eugene Harnett (Senator McGuire's office), Joe Gallagher (MOA Parks & Rec), and Brad Dunker (MOA Parks & Rec). Not pictured, Dave Carter, Bayshore/Klatt Community Council. October 2009, Barbara Carlson, FAR



Margaret Klatt (Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council), Dave Theriault (Representative Les Gara's office) and Joe Meehan (ADF&G) discuss the difficulties and possibilities of continuing to clean up the Kincaid Dump in the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge. November 2009, Barbara Carlson, FAR



At the end of two long clean-up days in the winter of 2008 intrepid crews finished “one last run” leaving an ice road in the marsh of the ACWR. Daylight hours to work were short. Barbara Carlson, FAR



Work continues with donated equipment, time and operators from Granite Construction, the Alaska Moose Federation, GCI, Meeks Machinery and others. Seen here is the termination of the ice road (at the base of the Kincaid (Jodhpur) Motocross bluff) constructed for the last two month's efforts. By Barbara Carlson, FAR, 10.Feb.10



Donated operators, donated equipment and donated time have helped stack about 50 more vehicles slated for removal as soon as either the weather cools off enough again for the ice road to support the heavy trucks that will haul them out, or, the collaborative management will punt to a sled operation to avoid damage of the fragile saltmarsh. By Barbara Carlson, FAR, 10.Feb.10