

**Cooperative Water Resource Program****FY2011 Request: \$805,000****Reference No: 37762****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment / Commodities**Category:** Natural Resources**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Leta Simons**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-3379**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2010 - 06/30/2015**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The federal government can match local government and private sector funds for installation and operation of equipment to obtain hydrologic data if those funds are passed through a state agency. This budget request provides the authorization needed for DNR to pass through such funds to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The data acquired is needed for resource development and permitting projects such as mining, hydroelectric or public water supply.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>FY2012</u>	<u>FY2013</u>	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stat Desig	\$805,000						\$805,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$805,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$805,000

<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
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

SLA2009/CH15	\$300,000	Implemented/Ongoing
SLA2008/CH29	\$300,000	Ongoing
SLA2007/CH30	\$545,000	Ongoing
SLA2006/CH82	\$501,000	Complete

**Project Description/Justification:**

The Division of Mining, Land and Water (DMLW) has a long-standing and beneficial relationship with the USGS and NRCS. The continuation of this program will benefit the state, local governments, native associations and the private sector by allowing them to participate with the state, USGS and NRCS to fund stream gauging projects. Past participants in this program have included Teck-Cominco Red Dog Mine, Usibelli Coal Mine, Teck-Pogo, Dorothy Lake Hydro, Greens Creek Mining, Falls Creek Hydro and the Southeast Power Agency. Each of these projects accommodates multiple gauging stations. In addition, an anticipated twenty proposed hydroelectric project sites will require gauging within the next five years. This program has the potential of saving developers and the state

hundreds of thousands of dollars due to federal matching funds, at minimal or no cost to the State of Alaska.

**Why is this Project Needed Now?**

This project is needed in order to participate in the USGS and NRCS cooperative water resource programs and to provide data necessary for DMLW to continue monitoring studies which enable state and federal agencies to understand and manage the effects of mining and/or other development activities on aquatic communities, and to permit and report on these activities. If authority to accept and pass through these funds is not approved, many current and future resource development projects will have to bear the burden of funding the gauging at full cost.

**Specific Spending Detail:**

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION (text)
Services	\$350,000	Pass through funds to USGS/NRCS for hydrologic data collection projects.

**Project Support:**

State agencies, USGS, NRCS, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and mining and other development companies including Teck-Cominco, Kennecott Greens Creek Mining, Usibelli Coal Mine, Chugach Electric, Haida Corporation, Terror River Hydro, Lake Dorothy Hydro, Reynolds Creek Hydro, and other resource developers and environmental groups.

**Project Opposition:**

None