

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety
Category: Public Protection
Location: Statewide **Contact:** Leta Simons
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-3379
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2010 - 10/01/2012

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) requires agencies to upgrade to narrowband operations by 1/1/2013. The Division of Forestry (DOF) is continuing to migrate to narrow banded frequency, incorporating a trunked radio system, Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR). ALMR covers most of the main road system. However, it does not cover "off road," requiring DOF to augment with rural communication equipment. These funds will be used to purchase motobridges to allow access to an area's local conventional frequencies along with the ALMR trunking system.

Funding:	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	Total
Gen Fund	\$625,000						\$625,000
Total:	\$625,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$625,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input 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	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

SLA08/CH29 \$450,000 Implemented/Ongoing
 SLA06/CH82 \$615,600 Implemented

Project Description/Justification:

Communication during wildland fires and other emergencies plays a key role in safety of DOF personnel, other emergency responders and the public. Lack of compatible communication systems amongst agencies is a critical safety concern. The FCC requires agencies operating under their license to upgrade to 12.5 kHz narrowband operation by January 1, 2013. Federal agencies and other partners have already migrated.

With prior CIP funds, DOF area dispatch offices and fire engines operating on major road systems have been equipped with ALMR capable radios. The Department of Administration (DOA) has sponsored three motobridges for Mat-Su, Glennallen and Kenai Area Dispatch offices. This will help alleviate the problem of non-interoperability between the ALMR trunking system and conventional radio systems. However, area offices in Tok, Delta Junction and Fairbanks do not have a motobridge system. The requested CIP funding will be used to purchase motobridges in those three areas, thus allowing access to local conventional frequencies as well as the ALMR trunking system.

Why is this Project Needed Now?

FCC mandates that all agencies operating with FCC licenses upgrade to 12.5 kHz narrowband operation by January 1, 2013. In order to meet FCC deadlines and maintain communication in areas where ALMR is not useable, motobridges are required.

Specific Spending Detail:

<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Personal Services	\$25,000	Project management, coordination and install with ETS
Services	\$63,000	ETS labor / time; Helicopter
Commodities	\$50,000	Supplies, helicopter fuel, support
Capital Outlay	\$487,000	Repeaters, radios

Project Support:

Project supporters include the Department of Administration (Enterprise Technology Services), local fire departments, boroughs and municipalities, emergency services, the Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs, Alaska Forest Service, the National Park Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Services, the Division of State Parks and Outdoor Recreation, and other state agencies.

Project Opposition:

None at this time.