

**Agency: Department of Natural Resources****Project Title:****Project Type: Other**

# Channel Islands Marine Park Debris Removal and Improvements

**State Funding Requested: \$50,000**  
One-Time Need**House District: Juneau Areawide (3-4)****Brief Project Description:**

Improve public camping and/or picnicking facilities at five of the seven higher-use areas identified in Channel Island Park management plan, potentially including fire rings, outhouses, or picnic tables, and ground hardening for high use areas.
--

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$50,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$50,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:****History and Statement of Need**

Prior to creation of the Juneau Channel Islands State Marine Park, the 14 state-owned islands were frequently used, but essentially unmanaged. High use and easy accessibility resulted in damage to many of the best campsites from wood gathering, building of multiple fire pits, and lack of toilet facilities. Careless campers often left trash and debris. Local volunteers sometimes cleaned their favorite sites, but could never keep up with the damage and debris. Providing a modicum of facilities and appropriate signs can dramatically reduce this damage in the future, and was among the primary motivations to create the park.

The 2009 Channel Islands State Marine Park Management Plan identifies appropriate improvements to recreation facilities and specifically mentions fire rings and outhouses for some higher-use camping areas, while acknowledging that many areas will be best managed as unimproved sites. High-use areas on six of the fourteen islands are identified as needing evaluation for campground or picnic area improvements.

The plan also identifies garbage and marine debris accumulation as issues, seeking to improve public education to "Bring Out What You Bring In." Another portion of the plan addresses a number of old building and structures that need to be evaluated for ownership, historical significance, and resource impacts, and notes that a plan will be made for removal if appropriate.

**Project Description**

Project funds will improve camping and/or picnicking facilities at five of the seven higher-use areas identified in the park's management plan. Potential improvements may include fire rings, outhouses, or picnic tables, and possibly ground

hardening for high use, if needed.

The project will also evaluate existing structures at several locations, primarily in the Halibut Cove area of Shelter Island. In addition, it will provide support for marine debris and trash cleanup at several of the most affected sites, primarily in the form of transport for volunteers and collected debris.

Much of the work of cleanup and construction can be accomplished by partnering with local organizations like Turning the Tides for cleanups and Territorial Sportsmen for facility improvements. Juneau area park groups have a strong history of leveraging volunteer labor and contributions.

The current proposed list consists of the following five locations and the work listed. The division is also open to nominations for other sites that may need cleanup and renovation:

- South Portland Island – toilets and fire rings
- Shelter Island, Halibut Cove – major cleanup, possible campground improvements
- Shelter Island, Hantroller Cove – picnic area improvements
- Lincoln Island, (two sites) – cleanup and campground improvements

### Project Timeline:

Work can begin during fall of 2011 and should be complete by fall of 2012 as scheduling with partners and volunteers is arranged.

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

DNR, Division of State Parks and Outdoor Recreation

### Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Mike Eberhardt  
 Title: Park Superintendent  
 Address: 400 Willoughby Ave  
 Juneau, Alaska 99811  
 Phone Number: 465-2481  
 Email: mike.eberhardt@alaska.gov

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