

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Kenai Peninsula Borough****Federal Tax ID: 92-0030894****Project Title:****Project Type: Other**

Kenai Peninsula Borough - Kasilof River Safety and Habitat Protection

State Funding Requested: \$150,900**House District: 34 / Q**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Provide a set of functions to provide educational community outreach, habitat protection coordination of human waste and trash disposal and public safety support for the Kaslof River to protect the dunes area along the river

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$150,900
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$150,900)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Cohoe-Kasilof Community Council, Inc. with this proposal is requesting funding to perform a set of functions, tasks, and service to provide educational community outreach, habitat protection, coordination of human waste disposal, and public safety support to the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and/or Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) to encourage positive behavior and outcomes for the Personal Use Fishery participants in the Cohoe-Kasilof Communit and to help protect the Kasilof Rivefr dunes area.

Project Timeline:

Summer 2011

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

Cohoe-Kasilof Community Council

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name:	Debra Brown
Title:	Community Council Chair
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Total Project Snapshot Report

2011 Legislature

TPS Report 56639v1

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

KASILOF RIVER
SAFETY & HABITAT
PROTECTION

2011

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY

OF

COHOE~KASILOF
COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC.

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Background

The Personal Use Fishery for Alaska residents has been authorized in various forms by the Alaska Board of Fisheries (BOF) since 1981. In 2009 there were 29,600 Personal Use Permits issued. In Kristine J. Dunker's December 2010 Personal Use Fishery report to the Board of Fisheries, she writes "*Although some very large households obtained permits, households of 5 people or less comprised 93.1% of the total permits*". Using this information we conservatively estimate 90,000 or more Alaskans participate in the Personal Use fishery. The Kasilof River is currently the only area in Alaska where both set gill net and dip net fishing methods are authorized. The Kasilof River Personal Use Fishery takes place June 15 through June 24 (set gill net) and June 25 through August 7 (dip net) for a total of 54 days. For comparison, the Kenai River experiences 22 days of Personal Use dip net fishing.

Personal Use fishing at the confluence of the Kasilof River and shores of Cook Inlet have become increasingly popular contributing to habitat concerns, human and fish waste disposal issues, and public safety concerns. This proposal, submitted by the Cohoe-Kasilof Community Council, Inc. (CKCC) will contribute to reducing these problems. Primary objectives will be protecting the environment, waste management, and providing support for public safety enforcement agencies.

In 2010 the Kasilof Regional Historical Association applied and received funding from the State of Alaska to construct a fence line to help identify important habitat in need of protection near the mouth of the river on the South side. The intent for spring 2011 is to construct the fence, and post signage to instruct vehicular traffic to keep on the seaward side of the fence line. Enforcement of the fence line using existing 11 AAC 96.020 Generally Allowed Uses On State Land, with Community Safety Officer support, and existing Alaska State Trooper, Wildlife Troopers, or ADF&G enforcement officers, will promote public safety, improve habitat protection, and reduce negative impacts. Additionally, other generally allowed uses on state land and interests can continue freely, all year, without additional restriction.

Purpose Statement

A primary purpose for this proposal is to provide private enterprise, local community directed solution to problems created by the actions of the State of Alaska Board of Fisheries.

The Cohoe-Kasilof Community Council, Inc. with this proposal is requesting funding to perform a set of functions, tasks, and service to provide educational community outreach, habitat protection, coordination of human waste disposal, and public safety support to the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and/or Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) to encourage positive behavior and outcomes for the Personal Use Fishery participants in the Cohoe-Kasilof Community.

A parallel purpose of this proposal is to eliminate the need or justification by DNR Division of Land, Mining & Water to create a new 3,000 acre boundary and land designation, called Kasilof River Special Use Area (KRSUA). And to eliminate the need or justification by DNR to create a new enforcement agency within DNR's Division of Land, Mining and Water for the express purpose of issuing citations to violators of future KRSUA rules and regulations. In 2010 the City of Kenai's Safety Enforcement Officers issued only five (5) dip net fishery related citations.

Scope of Work

- Program Management:** The Cohoe~Kasilof Community Council will hire a Program Director to oversee and direct Kasilof River Safety & Habitat Protection. This position will also perform Community Safety Officer (CSO) work.
- Educational Outreach:** Program Director will hire and supervise Community Safety Officers. Community Safety Officers will distribute literature to personal use fishery participants to ensure the habitat is protected and waste disposal facilities are used.
- Waste Management:** Program Director will use Request for Proposal (RFP) process to select a waste management service company for placement and maintenance of portable toilets and dumpsters on both the North and South sides of the Kasilof River.
- Public Safety Support:** Program Director will meet with the Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Department of Fish & Game to establish procedures and training schedule for Community Safety Officers. Community Safety Officers will patrol beaches to ensure personal use fishery participants respect the habitat protection fence, signage, and Regulations set forth in 11 AAC 96.020 Generally Allowed Uses On State Land. Community Safety Officers will contact the appropriate enforcement agency as needed to handle public safety, traffic, or fishing violations such as individuals harvesting more fish than allowed.
- Fish & Game Support:** Community Safety Officers may assist in collecting Personal Use Harvest cards in an effort to improve the collection of harvest data.
- Emergency Response:** Program Director will establish emergency response procedures in collaboration with Kenai Peninsula Central Emergency Services (CES). Community Safety Officers will call for Trooper support or 911 as needed.

Budget

Kasilof River Safety & Habitat Protection

Category	Cost	Purpose	Notes
Staff	68,000	(10) Community Safety Officers*** (CSO)	\$20/hr (10 CSO) 3400hrs = \$68,000 payroll *** (1) CSO will also serve as Program Director
Fringe Benefits	8,000		Wc/Ss/Medicare/Futa
General Liability	1,500		Insurance

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Kenai Peninsula (907) 262-4551*

Uniforms	600		Vests
Uniforms	300		Hats
Equipment	12,000	(2) off road vehicles	4-wheeler (New-\$6000)
CSO Quarters	5,000	(2) Mobile Office/Shelters	Camper Rental / RV Rental for Cohoe & Kasilof
Office Supplies	3,000	General Office items	
Printing	5,000	Educational Materials	
Signs	500	Mobile Office Shelter Signs	
Accounting	2,000		
Toilet & Dumpster Maintenance	40,000	Placement and maintenance of portable toilets and dumpsters	Cohoe & Kasilof sides of the river
Fuel	2,000	Vehicle fuel	
Contingency	3,000	Unknown expenses	Meetings/Planning/Training & Supplies
Total Cost	<u>150,900</u>		

Conclusion

In the Cohoe~Kasilof Community our lives are shaped by the activities taking place in the Kasilof River watershed. Local residents and property owners regularly utilize the many natural resource related work and recreational opportunities in or around the river on a daily, weekly, or annual basis. Activities such as, fishing, bird watching, hunting, trapping, picnicking, hiking, skiing, dogsled racing, beachcombing, horseback riding and many other 11 AAC 96.020 generally allowed uses on state water or land.

We believe a community based solution, as proposed, will be a benefit to the local area and provide immediate improvement to most of the Personal Use Fishery related concerns for the Kasilof River.