

Recreational Shellfish Beach Monitoring Pilot Program**FY2012 Request:****\$400,000****Reference No:****50943****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety**Category:** Health/Human Services**Recipient:** Various**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Kristin Ryan**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)269-7645**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2011 - 06/30/2016**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

There have been several occurrences recently of Alaskans eating recreational and subsistence harvested shellfish and becoming ill from paralytic shellfish poison (PSP) and other shellfish related pathogens. We are requesting a pilot program to collaborate with four communities to monitor recreational shellfish harvesting areas for paralytic shellfish poison. This project contributes to the Department's End Result A - Citizens are Protected.

Funding:	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	Total
Gen Fund	\$400,000						\$400,000
Total:	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$400,000

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

New project - no prior funding history

Project Description/Justification:

The Department of Environmental Conservation requests \$400,000 for a recreational shellfish beach monitoring pilot program to collaborate with four local communities to monitor recreational shellfish harvesting areas for paralytic shellfish poison. There have been several occurrences recently of Alaskans eating recreational and subsistence harvested shellfish and becoming ill from PSP and other shellfish related pathogens. Over the years there have been several deaths as well. This year, an individual from Juneau died after harvesting cockles from Auke Bay. Beaches are open for harvesting throughout the State and hundreds of Alaskans participate in this recreational and subsistence activity. Other states have monitoring programs on recreational and subsistence shellfish harvest sites to prevent this from occurring. Because of Alaska's immense size, a similar program is unfeasible. Instead, the State proposes to partner with four local communities and/or tribal entities that want to monitor common harvest areas. Because a pilot program requires participation on the local level, communities have not yet been selected. The Department believes the most benefit would occur in the communities of Kodiak, Clam Gulch, Juneau and Homer due to the size of the harvest coming from these beaches. The Aleutian Pribilof Island Association (APIA) has developed such a program and achieved success in reducing PSP related incidences in their area. Local interest would drive the establishment of any monitoring efforts including sample collection, shipment and posting of testing results. The State's role would be technical assistance and testing.

