

Copper River Fire Facility Modular Replacements

FY2012 Request: \$400,000

Reference No: 51056

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Valdez

Project Type: Renewal and Replacement

Impact House District: Richardson/Glenn Highways (HD 12)

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Contact: Jean Davis

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2011 - 06/30/2016 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2422

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project replaces the Copper River initial attack trailer (32 year old trailer converted to office use), which also has substantially deteriorated structurally. This building houses work space for up to 20, and was identified in the 2002 USKH Study as not cost-effective to repair.

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:

None

Project Description/Justification:

The USKH Building Surveys of 2002 identified the Copper River Suppression Office as uneconomical to repair compared to the cost of replacement. The mobile home in Copper River was converted to an office in 1978. It is at least 32 years old, and the USKH Buildings Condition Survey of 2002 recommended that the building be replaced in lieu of spending over \$164,000 in needed repairs. With inflation and further degradation of the building since 2002, the costs of repairs now likely exceed \$330,000. Repairing the building at this time would still leave the State with a 32+ year old fixed-up building. This building minimally provides work and preparatory area to six personnel throughout the field season and supports as many as four times that number of emergency firefighters during the height of each fire season.

By Statute (AS41.15.010 – 41.15.170), the Division of Forestry manages state forested lands for sustainable use and protects more than 180 million acres of natural resources and other values at risk from threat of wildland fire. The Division’s geographic areas of responsibility encompass 6 large parts of the State and include offices for Fairbanks, Delta, Tok and interior Alaska; Soldotna/Kenai and the Kenai Peninsula; Palmer/Wasilla and the Mat-Su Valley and Southcentral Alaska including Anchorage; McGrath and Southwest Alaska; Glennallen and the interior and coastal Copper River Valley; and Haines and the northern portion of Southeast Alaska. State offices, including many

Forestry buildings where the public visits and where staff regularly works, have critical deferred maintenance needs.

Continued stopgap repairs to substandard structures and limited funding available for permanent maintenance solutions have resulted in operational inefficiencies, damage to goods and equipment, and compromise to safe storage of fuel, equipment, and hazardous materials. The state continues to occupy deteriorating buildings where the public regularly visits to obtain burning and wood-cutting permits ; negotiate and sign timber sale contracts; provide contracted firefighting equipment and services; obtain fire and resource information; and attend public meetings. State staff also works from these to prepare for and manage wildland fires, and administer forest management activities.

Why is this Project Needed Now?:

The building needing replacement is more than 32 years old. Assuring that spaces in state public facilities meet state needs is critical to continuing division operations.

Specific Spending Detail:

<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION (text)</u>
Personal Services	\$ 12,000	Construction project oversight, specification development.
Services	\$ 388,000	The work will be accomplished by private sector contractors and small businesses.

State Match Required:

- NO**
- YES**

Project Support:

Project support comes from the public served from facilities; state, federal, and local governments cooperating in wildland firefighting and resource management activities (volunteer and structure fire departments, boroughs, municipalities, Alaska Fire Service, US Forest Service); state employees labor organizations (ASEA, APEA, Local 71); local suppliers of professional services, labor, materials and equipment for the project; State employees; resources and fire management organizations (Alaska Fire Chiefs Association, Board of Forestry, forest councils and citizens advisory boards).

Project Opposition:

None known.