Parks and Outdoor Recreation Deferred Maintenance - FY2012 Request: \$356,000 Northern Region Reference No: 51713

AP/AL: Allocation Project Type: Deferred Maintenance

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Fairbanks Areawide House District: Fairbanks Areawide (HD 7-

11)

Impact House District: Fairbanks Areawide (HD 7- Contact: Jean Davis

11)

**Appropriation:** Natural Resources Facilities Deferred Maintenance Projects

#### **Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The division is striving to protect visitor health and safety by providing safe, clean, and well maintained parks but State Parks has over \$65.8 million in deferred maintenance. This request will fund two projects in the Northern Area of the state; the Delta Area Parks Visitor Station and the Upper Chatanika Erosion Control Project and also include upgrades, repairs or replacement of roads, trails, shelters, outhouses, drinking water systems, parking areas and other facilities to keep them from becoming an urgent health and safety hazard.

Funding:	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	Total
Gen Fund	\$356,000						\$356,000
Total:	\$356,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$356,000

☐ State Match Required ☐ One-Tim	e Project	☐ Phased - underway	✓ On-Going	
0% = Minimum State Match % Required	Mental Health Bill			
•				
Operating & Maintenance Costs	:	<u>Amount</u>	Staff	
Operating & Maintenance Costs	: Project Development:	Amount 0	Staff 0	

One-Time Startup:

Totals:

# **Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

SLA 10 / CH 43 \$6,000.0 SLA 09 / CH 15 \$3,380.0

#### **Project Description/Justification:**

AS 41.21.020 directs the Department of Natural Resources to maintain state park areas for the general health, welfare, education, and enjoyment of Alaskans and visitors to the state. The Alaska State Park system is a key player in the state's tourism industry, providing outdoor recreation opportunities for over 5 million visits annually. The importance of maintaining park infrastructure so that it is safe, accessible and meets the needs of a variety of park users is a key element of the division's mission. While the division's staff is able to do minor repairs to annually maintain park facilities, the overall condition of park facilities has declined so much that the back log of deferred maintenance work totals \$65.8 million.

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This proposal for Northern Area will reduce the deferred maintenance backlog and will assist in restoring the quality and safety of state park facilities for Alaskans and visitors.

#### Why is this Project Needed Now?:

Years of deferring maintenance because funds were not available to take care of problems has resulted in a state park system where many facilities are "vintage 70's and 80's". Campsites that are unlevel and undersized for today's modern recreation vehicles, worn out and pot-holed roads, muddy trails, and old, difficult-to-maintain restrooms are examples of park infrastructure that need repairs. For the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation to fulfill our agency mission and implement the 2007-2017 Strategic Plan, reducing the backlog of deferred maintenance is critical.

This request will fund only a fraction of the total needed to address all current deferred maintenance needs, which is \$65.8 million. Because park facilities are used so regularly and so heavily, routine maintenance, repairs and replacement will always be required to keep parks safe and to make sure that park facilities provide the amenities visitors need. A detailed deferred maintenance list is prepared every year and park managers identify the most critical needs so that when funding is available the broken facilities that pose the greatest threat to the public are fixed.

Specific Spending Detail:

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION (text)	
Personal Services	\$ 90.0	State Park Design and	
		Construction staff and	
		maintenance staff	
		designing and contracting	
		for construction. Existing.	
Travel	\$ 10.0	Travel to facilities	
Services	\$ 10.0	Construction contracting	
		using procurement	
		procedures	
Capital Outlay	\$ 246.0	Equipment & supplies	

Location	Election District	Site/Area	Description of Repairs	FY12 Request
Northern	33	Upper Chatanika  Delta Area	Erosion control, fire rings, picnic tables \$100.0 Visitor contact station - \$141.0	241.0
Northern	Fairbanks Area- wide (HD7-11)	Northern Area Park Facilities	Health and sanitation replacement and repairs toilets and wells.	100.0
Northern	Fairbanks Area- wide (HD7-11)	Northern Area Park Facilities	Park signage replacement and repairs	15.0
			TOTAL	356.0

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State	Match	Req	uired:
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$\bowtie$	NO
	YES

### **Project Support:**

- State Park Advisory boards in the following areas, parks or communities:
  - o Northern (Fairbanks area),

## **Project Opposition:**

None.