

Timber and Resource Roads

FY2013 Request: \$2,000,000

Reference No: 54849

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Construction

Category: Transportation

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: John Maisch

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2012 - 06/30/2017

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project will provide funding for the identification, planning and development of roadways to access timber, minerals, and other potential resources. This project gives a priority to smaller or not yet fully identified projects that will allow for resource development and facilitation of commerce. The funding will be used for staff field location, road design, construction project management and contract construction of resource roads.

Funding:	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	Total
Gen Fund	\$2,000,000						\$2,000,000
Total:	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000

<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	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

New project.

Project Description/Justification:

The development of roadways to access timber and other resources will assist in the promotion of significant revenue, employment, and industry opportunities within the State. This funding will allow the Department of Natural Resources to identify resource development projects that are in need of access roads to be constructed, and pursue the planning and construction of such roads. The development of additional road infrastructure will augment the roads already developed by public sources and private developers. This project will create employment opportunities for Alaskans, facilitate private investment in resource development industries in Alaska, and open up additional potential revenue sources to the State.

Some of the projects that could potentially be funded in Alaska are:

Bostwick Lake to Vallenar Bay Road – Gravina Island

This project would access lands owned by state, University of Alaska and U.S.Forest Service (USFS) to provide harvest opportunities in both old growth and young growth forests.

Edna Bay Log Transfer Facility (LTF) – Kosciusko Island

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This project would provide needed infrastructure for state, USFS, University of Alaska, Alaska Mental Health Trust and Sealaska to transfer timber for shipping.

Ship Moorage and Log Storage System – Southeast Alaska

The development of a moorage site near Wrangell would improve the economics of the proposed timber sales by reducing shipping distance.

Shelter Cove Road – Revillagigedo Island

This road project would complement a proposed Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities road to connect Ketchikan and the Shelter Cover area while improving timber sale economics and accessibility.

Why is this Project Needed Now?

This project is needed now in order to stimulate the economies of Alaska’s rural areas. The economy of Southeast Alaska for example, has deteriorated over the years as the US Forest Service has cut back timber harvesting on the Tongass National Forest to virtually nothing. The State is advancing projects on State lands, and encouraging other development projects on private and Mental Health Trust lands to try and offset the decline of the timber industry. In order to utilize resources on these lands, access must be improved. This project could accomplish this.

The creation of a State Forest in Southeast Alaska has helped in the process of re-energizing the current timber industry. The Southeast State Forest has infrastructure needs that must be dealt with in order to provide a steady dependable flow of fiber to current and future operators. Many parcels of the State Forest are adjacent to other forested ownerships that provide fiber to the industry. The establishment of infrastructure within the State Forest will enable other landowners to assist the Division of Forestry in providing and increasing timber volumes available to the industry. These adjacent landowners (US Forest Service, AK Mental Health Trust Land Office, Sealaska Inc.) may be willing to provide matching funds, in-kind services or pay use fees that will increase the amount of infrastructure that can be developed and provide funds for maintenance of the facilities built.

Specific Spending Detail:

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Personal Services	\$ 300.0	Forester V - PCN 10-9053, Forester V, Ketchikan
Travel	\$ 50.0	In state travel
Services	\$ 1,650.0	Design & construction