

**Replacement of R/V Resolution**

**FY2013 Request: \$3,700,000**

**Reference No: 47181**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation

**Project Type:** Renewal and Replacement

**Category:** Natural Resources

**Location:** Kodiak

**House District:** Kodiak (HD 36)

**Impact House District:** Kodiak (HD 36)

**Contact:** Jeff Regnart

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

**Contact Phone:** (907)267-2350

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The existing R/V Resolution was built in 1970 and requires substantial capital funds to keep the vessel seaworthy. The vessel supports research and stock assessment operations in the Gulf of Alaska, which uses sophisticated electronics, requiring continual platform modifications to support. Without a replacement vessel, the division risks interrupting long-term data series that ensure reproductive goals are met and may be unable to sustain fisheries on stocks of fish and shellfish based upon control and regulation of harvests through responsive management systems.

<b>Funding:</b>	<b>FY2013</b>	<b>FY2014</b>	<b>FY2015</b>	<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>	<b>FY2018</b>	<b>Total</b>
Gen Fund	\$3,700,000						\$3,700,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,700,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,700,000</b>

<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
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

It is anticipated that the department would receive between \$300,000 and \$500,000 from the sale of the R/V Resolution, and those proceeds would be used to upgrade the vessel.

**Project Description/Justification:**

This capital request provides funding to replace the *R/V Resolution*. As part of the overall funding plan, ADF&G anticipates selling the *R/V Resolution* and utilizing the proceeds towards the cost of the new vessel.

The *R/V Resolution* was built in 1970, and has been operated by the department for 39 years. The *R/V Resolution* is the oldest vessel in the division's inventory. The vessel is at sea approximately 130 days a year and engages in applied research for biological surveys and assessments, or fishery monitoring, that forms the core responsibility of the Division of Commercial Fisheries.

Because of the *R/V Resolution's* age, mechanical systems need periodic replacement or overhaul. This maintenance requires substantial annual capital funds to keep the vessel in a seaworthy condition. In 2009 and 2010, major maintenance costs were about \$500,000.

Research and stock assessment operations are becoming more sophisticated, and are tending toward more use of sophisticated electronics which are not "off the shelf" devices. Supporting these

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types of operations requires platform modifications. A larger trawl vessel in the 110-120 foot range would allow staff to configure the vessel to accommodate electronic-based data entry thereby speeding the time and reducing the expense of data entry.

The *Resolution's* size limits the quantity of fishing gear that can be carried on-deck and space is inadequate to accommodate a larger biological crew or separate accommodations for mixed-gender crews. Because space is limited the vessel is unable to accommodate additional research projects that could be conducted in coordination with the existing vessel schedule. A larger vessel would be capable of operating in rougher weather and accommodate more research projects utilizing the existing vessel schedule and work in offshore areas.

A new vessel is vital to continued long-term data collection and assessment of marine resources in the Gulf of Alaska. Without a replacement vessel the division runs the risk of interrupting the long-term data series to ensure reproductive goals are met, and may be unable to sustain fisheries on stocks of fish, and shellfish based upon the control and regulation of harvests through responsive management systems.

Replacement of the R/V Resolution will contribute to the mission of the Division of Commercial Fisheries by allowing the division to continue managing fisheries important to the economy. In 2011, fisheries where the R/V Resolution provided stock assessment data were valued at over \$40 million; additionally the R/V Resolution contributes logistical support to salmon fisheries that were valued at about \$28 million in 2011.

The vessel supports the core service of Stock Assessment and Applied Research through enumeration and assessment of salmon, herring, groundfish, and shellfish stocks. To achieve the end result of maintaining economic yield, the vessel monitors reproductive goals and biological reference points for all harvested stocks.