

Tsunami Marine Debris Cleanup**FY2014 Request: \$0**
Reference No: 57249

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide **House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)
Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact:** Elaine Busse Floyd
Estimated Project Dates: 04/14/2013 - 06/30/2017 **Contact Phone:** (907)269-7645

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) anticipates receiving up to \$1,000,000 from the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for marine debris cleanup related to the tsunami that struck Japan in March 2011. DEC expects to receive the first allotment of this funding by April 30, 2013.

Funding:	<u>FY2013</u>	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$1,000,000						\$1,000,000
Total:	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000

<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	
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

No prior funding history

Project Description/Justification:

The March 2011 earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan claimed nearly 16,000 lives. The government of Japan estimates that 5 million tons of debris was swept into the Pacific Ocean; about 70 percent sank right away, leaving 1.5 million tons floating off the coast.

Debris identified so far is composed of materials found in urban areas, including bottles, jugs, Styrofoam, building fragments, boats, plastics, wood, docks, ropes, buoys and other items. There are no estimates of how much debris is still floating today or how much could reach Alaska's shores. There are confirmed reports of tsunami debris having reached the coasts of Alaska, British Columbia, Washington and Oregon.

The NOAA Marine Debris Program aims to address marine debris impacts through research, prevention and reduction. Governor Parnell has designated DEC as the lead agency for the state in coordinating with NOAA and other federal and state agencies to address marine debris in Alaska. NOAA's models predict that debris will reach U.S. and Canadian shores throughout the next several years.

On February 7, 2013 DEC signed a Memorandum of Agreement with NOAA outlining the process by which NOAA may provide the state of Alaska with funding to conduct marine debris activities on state,

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tribal, or federal lands or waters, in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011. That agreement provides a mechanism by which NOAA may transfer funds to the state of Alaska marine debris cleanup activities described in the agreement on the basis of submitted and accepted Statements of Work (SOW). DEC anticipates that as much as \$1,000,000 may be transferred to the state from NOAA to facilitate marine debris cleanup activities.