

**Cooperative Water Resource Program Pass-through to USGS for Stream Gaging Projects**

**FY2014 Request: \$2,500,000**  
**Reference No: 37762**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation **Project Type:** Water / Sewer / Solid Waste  
**Category:** Natural Resources  
**Location:** Statewide **House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)  
**Impact House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact:** Jean Davis  
**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2013 - 06/30/2018 **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2422

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This program permits the Department of Natural Resources to accept funds from both the private sector and local governments and to pass these funds through to the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service as part of funding agreements for cooperative water resource programs. The funding agreements provide overhead to cover the administrative costs associated with pass-through process. The data gathered in these projects are useful for mining activities, dam safety and construction, hydroelectric power generation, and instream flow reservations.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
Stat Desig	\$2,500,000						\$2,500,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$2,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" 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>

**Prior Funding History / Additional Information:**

**Project Description/Justification:**

**WHAT IS THE ISSUE OR PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED?**

Industry and local governments often provide funding for the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service to install instrumentation for obtaining hydrologic data. These data are needed for resource development and permitting projects such as mining, hydroelectric, dam safety, and instream flow reservations. If funding is passed through a state agency, funds can be matched up to 100% by the federal government.

**WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED?**

Department of Natural Resources staff process the paperwork for these projects. The funding agreements provide overhead to cover administrative costs associated with the pass-through process.

**WHAT RESULTS WILL BE ACHIEVED AND/OR PRODUCTS PRODUCED?**

Participation in this program results in faster reporting times and increased cooperation among the participating agencies. The Department of Natural Resources also receives the final reports and/or end products of these projects. Additionally, technological knowledge is transferred between the participating agencies which ensure that Department of Natural Resources staff remains technologically astute of recent advancements.

**WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED NOW – WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF REMAINING STATUS QUO?**

Data collection and resource information will be lost should the Department of Natural Resources terminate participation in this project.

**WHAT ALTERNATIVES WERE CONSIDERED TO SOLVE THE ISSUE OR PROBLEM, AND WHY WERE THEY NOT SELECTED?**

There is no alternative funding mechanism to accomplish this hydro-data collection.

**WHAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED WITH PRIOR YEAR FUNDING?**

Mining Projects – (Pebble, Usibelli, Red Dog, Pogo, and Fort Knox) involved operation and maintenance of streamflow gages, discharge measurements, development of stage-discharge rating curves, water temperature, and/or monitoring reservoir levels. Data collection is ongoing at these locations.

Hydroelectric Projects – (Terror River, Tylee Lake Outlet, Solomon Gulch, and Solomon Tailrace) involved operation and maintenance of streamflow gages. Data collection is ongoing at these locations.

StreamStats (Cook Inlet Basin) – is an application used to obtain streamflow statistics, basin characteristics, and other information at ungaged sites. These data are useful for water use appropriations, hydroelectric power generation, and dam design. The statistical equations are being revised to account for the recent Fall 2012 flooding events.

**SPECIFIC SPENDING DETAIL:**

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LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Personal Services	\$ 0	
Travel	\$ 0	
Services	\$ 2,500,000	Pass through funds to U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service for hydrologic data collection
Commodities	\$ 0	
Capital Outlay	\$ 0	
Grants	\$ 0	
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>	

**Project Support:**

The U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service.