

**National Recreational Trails Grant Federal Program**

**FY2014 Request: \$2,600,000**

**Reference No: 6854**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation

**Project Type:** Parks / Recreation

**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

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**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Alaskans rely on trails for recreation, subsistence, and transportation. These trails need maintenance to ensure safe passage and to ensure that they remain open and available for use. Funds are distributed by 80-20 matching grants for trail and trailhead development and maintenance, and for education programs relating to trail safety and responsible trail use. Grants are awarded to organizations, agencies and local governments. The end result is a variety of safe, high-quality, year-round, motorized and non-motorized, trails.

<b>Funding:</b>	<b>FY2014</b>	<b>FY2015</b>	<b>FY2016</b>	<b>FY2017</b>	<b>FY2018</b>	<b>FY2019</b>	<b>Total</b>
Fed Rcpts	\$2,600,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$10,100,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,600,000</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>\$10,100,000</b>

<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:**

Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P125 L11 SB 160 \$2,600,000  
 Sec1 Ch5 SLA2011 P93 L6 SB 46 \$1,500,000  
 Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P31 L23 SB 230 \$2,000,000  
 Sec1 Ch15 SLA2009 P18 L7 SB 75 \$900,000  
 Sec13 Ch29 SLA2008 P153 L25 SB 221 \$150,000

**Project Description/Justification:**

As more and more residents and visitors turn to Alaska's vast trail system for recreation, subsistence and basic transportation between communities, the need for a more extensive and better maintained trail system continues to grow. Many existing trails are being lost as property is sold, subdivided, or developed without reserving trail easements.

This program is effectively identifying, maintaining and expanding the Alaska trail system. Legal, safe, well maintained and easy to use trails are reducing trespass situations, search and rescue occurrences, and public safety concerns. Because this is a matching grant program, grantees provide cash, labor and equipment to match at least 20 percent of grant funds, effectively stretching existing funding. Public recreational trails contribute to Alaska's economy by providing construction

and maintenance jobs, attracting tourists and visitors, and by stimulating the business of outfitters, guides and tour companies. In addition, the Recreational Trails Program ensures that:

- Grantees obtain legal access
- Projects are consistent with federal, state and local land use plans
- Social and economic impacts are analyzed
- Archeological and historical resources are protected
- The project is analyzed for any impact on threatened or endangered species
- The project is analyzed for any impact on fish and wildlife
- The project is analyzed for its effect on wetlands, flood plains and bodies of water
- Water quality is maintained
- Hazardous waste is checked for and identified
- Air quality is checked
- The noise resulting from the project is analyzed
- There is public involvement

This program recommends the split of the funding to be 30% non-motorized, 30% motorized, and 40% diversified if possible.

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

Alaska's trails are gradually being lost due to community expansion and development pressure, the lack of legal easements, and the lack of maintenance. The recreational trails grant program provides an opportunity to maintain what we have, establish new trails, and preserve existing recreational access throughout the state.

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

In FFY2008, 29 grants awarded, in FFY2009, 36 grants awarded, in FFY2010, 39 grants awarded, in FFY2011, 41 grants awarded, in FFY2012, 11 grants awarded.

FY2011:

Project Name	Grantee
NAOI - Wilderness Survival	North American Outdoor Institute (NAOI)
YEP Curriculum	Municipality of Anchorage
CSP Equipment Purchase	State Parks
Kanatak Trail	Alaska Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge
Copper Center Trail	Copper Valley Development Association
Training and Outreach - Phase II	State Parks
Skaters Lake Trail	Metlakatla
Southfork Trail Reconstruction Contract	State Parks
Trails Costing - Phase II	AK Trails

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Kincaid Single Track Trail	AK Trails
Tanana Lakes Non-Motorized Trail	Fairbanks North Star Borough
Girdwood Nordic Ski Trails	Girdwood Nordic Ski Club
Archangel Trail Brushing	Mat-Su Trails Council
Stiles Creek Extension	State Parks
Mastodon Trail	State Parks
South Fork Trail Rehabilitation Crew	State Parks
South Fork Trail Crew - Modification	State Parks
Campbell Creek Estuary Trail	The Great Land Trust
Peninsula Sled Dog Race Trail	Peninsula Sled Dog and Racing Association
Napaimute Trail System	City of Napaimute
Treadwell Ditch Rehabilitation	Trail Mix
Peterson Lake Trail	Trail Mix
SnowTRAC Supplemental Amend. Revised	State Parks
Chugach State Park Trail Crews (2012)	State Parks
Kenai Trail Crews (2012)	State Parks
Mat-Su Trail Crews (2012)	State Parks
Northern Area Trail Crews (2012)	State Parks
Southeast Trail Crews (2012)	State Parks
Kodiak Area Trail Crews (2012)	State Parks
Mile-16 Mountain Bike Trails	State Parks
Northwest Arctic Borough Trail Staking II	Northwest Arctic Borough
Upper-Dewey Lakes - Phase III	Municipality of Skagway
Archangel Snowmobile Trail	State Parks
Nancy Lake State Recreation Areas - Snowmobile Trail	State Parks
Trail Assessment Project	State Parks
Fairbanks Ski Trail Grooming Equipment	Nordic Ski Club of Fairbanks
Goldstream Bike Pump Park	Goldstream Lions Club
Big Lake Trail Groomer	Big Lake Ski Club
Trail Brushing	Mat-Su Trails Council
Rex Trail Condition Assessment	Division of Mining, Land & Water
Juneau Trails Wayfinding Project	Trail Mix

FY2012:

Grantee	Project Name
Metlakatla	Skater's Lake Modification
Girdwood Nordic Ski Club	Girdwood Modification
Parks	Mastodon Modification
Parks	Stiles Creek Modification
Trail Mix	Treadwell Ditch Modification
Parks	2012 Admin Allowance
Parks	Statewide grooming pool for 2012-2013
Parks	Statewide Trail Crew - Chugach
Parks	Statewide Trail Crew - Southeast
Parks	Statewide Trail Crew - Northern
Parks	Statewide Trail Crew - Kenai
Parks	Statewide Trail Crew – Mat-Su

**SPECIFIC SPENDING DETAIL:**

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Personal Services	\$ 100,000	Fund program coordinators and administrative staff
Travel	\$ 10,000	Travel for program coordinators and complete site inspections
Services	\$ 5,000	Phone and other related core charges for staff using Recreational Trails funds
Commodities	\$ 5,000	Supplies
Capital Outlay		
Grants	\$2,480,000	Grants to public, state and cities.
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,600,000</b>	

**Project Support:**

In addition to all the grantees listed above dozens of Alaska communities, agencies and trail user groups have received grants and support this program.

Some of the communities that have received grants include: Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, City of Wasilla, Native Village of Fort Yukon, City of Kotlik, City of Homer, City of Barrow, City of Galena, City of Cordova, City of Aleknagik and the Circle Village Council.

Some of the user groups include: Boy Scouts of America, Trail Mix, Inc., Fairbanks Snow Travelers, Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers, Fairbanks Nordic Ski Club, Peninsula Sled Dog Racing Association, Sitka Recreational Riders, Norton Sound Sled Dog Club, Alaska Botanical Gardens and the Goldstream Valley Trail Users Association.