

King Cove Road - Izembek Right-of-Way and Permitting**FY2015 Request:****\$100,000****Reference No:****58594****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Construction**Category:** Development**Location:** King Cove**House District:** Bethel/Aleutians (HD 37)**Impact House District:** Bethel/Aleutians (HD 37)**Contact:** Jean Davis**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2019**Contact Phone:** (907)465-2422**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project provides for coordinating right-of-way and permitting to connect the community of King Cove to the all-weather airport in Cold Bay by road through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness as directed in congressional and state legislation.

Funding:	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$100,000						\$100,000
Total:	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000

<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

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Through prior funding via reimbursable services agreement between the Department of Natural Resource and the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the state participated and commented on the development of the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Project Description/Justification:**What is the issue or problem to be solved?**

This project will connect the community of King Cove to the all-weather airport in Cold Bay by road through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. The Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 (Act) directed the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) to proceed with an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate a land exchange allowing construction of a road between Cold Bay and King Cove. The project's proponent is the King Cove Group, a combined team of the Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove, the Belkofski Tribal Council, the King Cove Corporation, the Aleutians East Borough, and the City of King Cove.

What is the scope of the project to be performed?

As a result of the Congressional Legislation, the Alaska State Legislature unanimously passed Chapter 119 SLA 2010 (HB210), which offered to exchange approximately 43,000 acres of state land with the federal government for a road corridor of approximately 206 acres through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge and the Izembek Wilderness Area. The native corporation offered an additional approximate 18,000 acres, making for a grand total of 61,000 acres of state and corporation lands.

State agencies, led by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), are supporting the exchange of lands and construction of a single lane gravel road. Because of the high profile and complex nature of this project, a multi-agency state team was formed between DNR, the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), and the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT). This effort will bring together the needed state expertise and assistance to the project and utilize an EIS expert so that DOT may use either state or federal funds to build the road. General funds will maintain this flexibility. The DOI Secretary is expected to make a Public Interest Determination and sign the Record of Decision (ROD) soon. Dependent on the direction of that decision, DNR will prepare to conduct additional coordination work and studies in support of additional permitting, the design phase of the road or in defense of a legal argument to challenge an unfavorable decision.

What results will be achieved or products produced?

If a positive Public Interest Determination (PID) is made by the DOI Secretary, these funds will assist state agencies in the development and execution of a land exchange agreement for real properties and mitigation measures identified in the Act. This effort will require additional permitting, for example wetland delineation under jurisdiction of the Army Corps of Engineers.

Why is this project needed now – What is the impact of remaining status quo?

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), under DOI, is conducting the EIS which was originally slated to be completed by February 2012. Although USFWS published a final draft of the EIS in February 2013, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior has not made a final decision nor issued an ROD. A decision is expected in the winter of 2013 or early 2014.

What accomplishments have been achieved with prior year funding?

With prior funding via a reimbursable services agreement of approximately \$83.0 with DOT, DNR in conjunction with DOT and DFG, participated and commented on the development of the final EIS.

Specific Spending Detail:

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Personal Services	\$ 31,000	
Travel	\$ 10,000	Travel costs for site visits
Services	\$ 59,000	Contractual and RSAs
Project Total	\$100,000	

Personal Services Detail:

Number of new position(s) : Type of Position(s): PFT NP NP
Number of existing position(s): Type of Position(s): PFT NP NP

(10-4219) Large Project Coordinator, Anchorage (partial funding)