

**EVOS Purchase of Interest in Land - Kachemak Bay**

**FY2018 Request: \$1,500,000**

**Reference No: 61665**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation

**Project Type:** Renewal and Replacement

**Category:** Natural Resources

**Location:** Homer

**House District:** Homer/South Kenai (HD 31)

**Impact House District:** Kenai Areawide (HD 29-31)

**Contact:** Fabienne Peter-Contesse

**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2017 - 06/30/2022

**Contact Phone:** (907)465-2422

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Trustee Council is proposing to fund the purchase of approximately 2,000 acres of surface estate in Kachemak Bay, including lands on Gull Island, other nearby Barrier Islands, and a portion of a spit in China Poot Bay. All of these parcels are within the Kachemak Bay State Critical Habitat Area. The purchase also includes nearby uplands encompassing portions of the Jakalof and Rocky River headwaters immediately adjacent to Kachemak Bay State Park. Funds would be drawn from the EVOS Trust Fund to accomplish this purchase.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>FY2021</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>Total</u>
1018 EVOSS	\$1,500,000						\$1,500,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000

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

**Prior Funding History / Additional Information:**

No prior funding history.

**Project Description/Justification:**

The Kachemak Bay lands proposed for purchase encompass critical habitat for the largest seabird colony in Kachemak Bay. It also provides nesting, rearing, feeding, resting and winter concentration habitats for many tens of thousands of shorebirds, sea birds and other migratory species. The coastal parcels are all within the Kachemak Bay State Critical Habitat Area, which supports several significant fisheries, as well as shellfish production. The islands and China Poot Spit receive high recreational visitor use due to their proximity to the City of Homer and Kachemak Bay State Park. Gull Island, in particular, is one of the most visited islands within the entire Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge due to its accessibility (by sea) and the 17,000 Black-legged Kittiwake colony for which it is most well-known. In 1993 the EVOS Trustee Council contributed monies to help the State purchase over 23,000 acres of private lands within Kachemak Bay State Park and adjacent to the spit and barrier Islands in China Poot Bay. Approximately half of China Poot Spit was conserved at that time and now provides a kayak landing and state park trailhead. The proposed purchase would bring Gull Island, the remainder of the spit, the nearby Barrier Islands and uplands into public ownership. In addition to the habitat protection benefits of conserving these high value coastal habitats, the purchase would benefit public recreational use, which is a stated purpose of the EVOS Trust Fund. This project meets EVOS

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Trust Fund guidelines for funding as it will assist the EVOS Trustee Council in fulfilling its long-term restoration objectives. Legislative approval to expend Trust Fund monies is needed in order to complete the purchase.

<b>Line Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1000 – Personal Services	\$0.0
2000 – Travel	\$0.0
3000 – Services	\$0.0
4000 – Commodities	\$0.0
5000 – Capital Outlay	\$1,500,000
7000 – Grants	\$0.0
<b>Total Project</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>