

National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant

FY2019 Request: \$650,000

Reference No: 39042

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Research / Studies / Planning

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Fabienne Peter-Contesse

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2018 - 06/30/2023

Contact Phone: (907)465-2422

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This federal National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant Program (NCWCGP) from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will acquire a conservation easement from Iliamna Natives Ltd. to protect 1,209 acres of land in Lake Iliamna. The conservation easement will be held and stewarded in perpetuity by the Bristol Bay Heritage Land Trust.

Funding:	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>FY2021</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>Total</u>
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$650,000						\$650,000
Total:	\$650,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$650,000

<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:

Sec1 Ch18 SLA2014 P58 L20 SB119 \$1,000,000
 Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P125 L6 SB160 \$1,060,000
 Sec1 Ch5 SLA2011 P92 L32 SB46 \$1,000,000
 Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P31 L17 SB230 \$1,000,000
 Sec4 Ch30 SLA2007 P98 L6 SB53 \$1,000,000

Project Description/Justification:

The NCWCGP federal funds will be used to acquire a conservation easement on 1,209 acres of islands in Lake Iliamna which will protect the land from development in perpetuity. The Iliamna Islands support a rare population of freshwater harbor seals, one of only five freshwater seal populations in the world. As many as 400 seals use the lake year-round, isolated from their Bristol Bay saltwater relatives. Lake Iliamna produces the largest returns of Sockeye salmon of any lake on earth and the greater Bristol Bay watershed is the largest intact salmon fishery in the world, with salmon returns topping 50 million fish annually. A genetically distinct population of Sockeye salmon spawns exclusively on beaches of the Iliamna Islands. These salmon are the primary food source for the Iliamna seal population as well as a critical resource needed to support the subsistence, recreational, and commercial fisheries of the region.

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The Bristol Bay region is an avian crossroads; four migratory flyways overlap here, with birds from Africa, Asia, the Central Pacific, and the Americas all migrating to and from the region, including species of State or Federal conservation concern.

The Conservation Fund, a national non-profit organization focused on the conservation of land and water that is essential for America’s environmental health and its economic vitality, is the state's partner in this project. They have contributed \$4,400,000 in private funds to purchase a 12,667 acre conservation easement in the Lake Iliamna area. This acquisition will serve as the required non-federal match to the grant; no state match is required.

Acquisition of the conservation easement will protect the islands in perpetuity. Supporters of the project include the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the USFWS, Iliamna Natives Ltd. (the sellers), The Conservation Fund and Bristol Bay Heritage Land Trust.

Line Item	Amount
1000 - Personal Services	16,000
2000 - Travel	
3000 - Contractual	34,000
4000 - Commodities	
5000 - Capital Outlay	545,000
7000 - Grants	55,000
Total Request	650,000

Partial funding for PCN

10-4219, Large Project Coordinator, Juneau