

State Parks Public Use Cabins

FY2019 Request: \$300,000
Reference No: 61853

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Construction

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 project will fund the construction of five new public use cabins in high demand areas, satisfying the public demand for cabins and providing the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation with increased revenue from rental fees.

Funding:	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>FY2021</u>	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>Total</u>
1005 GF/Prgm	\$300,000						\$300,000
Total:	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300,000

<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:

Project Description/Justification:

In developing locations for public use cabins, The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation will work with regional superintendents, local park advisory boards, and park management plans. The five public use cabins will be strategically deployed throughout the state in high volume areas to address demand and provide reliable revenue. High recreational use areas and existing facilities will also be included in the evaluation for cabin placement. Additionally, the public and local stakeholders will be given opportunities to provide input to park staff and their advisory boards.

Public Use Cabins (PUCs) are in increasingly high demand by Alaskans and visitors. Particularly, demand for PUCs that are ADA accessible, on the road system and close to major population centers has grown significantly in recent years; cabins built in the last five years meeting these criteria are among the busiest in the park system.

Public use cabins are utilized by traditional park system users, and additionally encourage different market segments to utilize the park system. PUCs are considered a low impact entry to camping for those who would not otherwise do so, thus increasing park usership and encouraging different demographics to use the parks.

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By private sector standards, PUCs are considered a sound investment. Utilizing a conservative estimate of 45% yearly occupancy, PUCs pay for themselves in just under five years and require little to no maintenance costs. The system's top 10 most popular cabins have an average occupancy rate of 54% and new cabins would be strategically located for a yearly occupancy goal of above 50%.

Making this initial investment will provide services to the public that are in high demand and a revenue source to the division that would continue to make state park operations more sustainable and decrease the general fund dollars used to fund the system.

Line Item	Amount
1000 – Personal Services	\$70,000
2000 - Travel	\$10,000
3000 - Contractual	
4000 - Commodities	
5000 – Capital Outlay	\$220,000
7000 - Grants	
Total Request	\$300,000

Partial funding for existing positions:
 (10-5019) PFT Maint Gen Journeyman
 (10-5179) PFT Maint Gen Journeyman
 (10-5095) PFT Maint Gen Journeyman
 (10-5263) PFT Engineer Asst I/II