

Sport Fish Recreational Boating and Angler Access

FY2020 Request: \$3,000,000
Reference No: 30432

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:** Thomas E Brookover
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2019 - 06/30/2024 **Contact Phone:** (907)267-2150

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project allows the Division of Sport Fish to continue to construct and upgrade recreational power boating and sport fish angler access facilities statewide using Sport Fish Restoration apportionment funds comprised of 75% federal assistance and 25% non-federal match. Federal regulations require that 15% of the annual Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson/Wallop-Breaux Amendment) apportionment be dedicated to projects that benefit recreational power boaters. Projects include boat launches, mooring floats, parking lots, restrooms, fish cleaning facilities, and other services or like projects.

Funding:	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Total
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000	\$2,250,000		\$11,250,000
1024 Fish/Game	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000		\$3,750,000
Total:	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$15,000,000

<input checked="" 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
25% = 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	
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

- Sec1 Ch1 SLA2018 P4 L30 SB23 \$3,000,000
- Sec1 Ch1 SLA2017 P4 L30 SB23 \$3,000,000
- Sec1 Ch2 SLA2016 P4 L21 SB138 \$3,000,000
- Sec1 Ch38 SLA2015 P4 L28 SB26 \$3,000,000
- Sec1 Ch18 SLA2014 P52 L33 SB119 \$3,000,000
- Sec1 Ch18 SLA2013 P64 L7 SB18 \$3,000,000

Project Description/Justification:

Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) funds require a match of one state dollar for every three federal dollars, or a state match of 25% of the total project cost. The required match dollars are an investment that produces an instant threefold return. Since federal SFR funds are derived from excise taxes on the sale of sport fishing tackle, this capital project is a user pay/user benefit approach to providing access facilities.

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The facilities that result from this project improve recreational boating and sport fishing angler access to the fish and wildlife resources of the state. The Federal Assistance in SFR Act (16 USC 777-777k), also known as the Wallop-Breaux / Dingell-Johnson program mandates that 15% of the federal funds available to the state be set-aside for boating access improvement and development projects. The annual amount of the federal receipts request is based on a set five-year 15% average of Alaska's federal apportionment of SFR funds, (currently covering Federal FY2013-2017). Any portion of the 15% set-aside for boating access projects that is unused reverts to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and is lost to the state; therefore, it is in the state's best interest to utilize these funds.

Sites will be selected so that all regions of the state receive a share of this program. Site development projects will be accomplished in cooperation with local government units and other state agencies. It has been the experience of the department that local communities are very supportive of better access facilities.

This project will provide some new access sites and will renovate or upgrade other sites. Many of the existing access sites throughout the state have either reached the end of their useful life and/or do not meet current standards. These sites no longer adequately serve the public and are very expensive to maintain. The facilities provided by this project will be designed for minimal maintenance over a service life of 20 years. The facilities will also be accessible to users with disabilities in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

User fees can be established for new and renovated facilities to place them on a self-supporting basis. User fees will be charged where feasible and will be used to offset the cost of site operation and maintenance. Under federal regulations, user fees charged at a facility developed with federal funds must be used for the operation, maintenance, or improvement of the facility. Fees collected in excess of actual site operation and maintenance costs must be credited back to the federal program. This ensures that the users of the facility benefit from the fees they pay.

Development and maintenance of sport angler and recreational boating access facilities and improvements is a core function and goal of the Division of Sport Fish Strategic Plan. One of the performance measures of this goal is to complete construction of five priority boating access projects per year over a five-year period. Additional and enhanced recreational boating access facilities are needed to provide improved and greater sport fishing opportunity throughout the state.