

EVOS Eagle Rock (Bookey Parcel) Improvements

FY2022 Request: \$6,419,010

Reference No: AMD 63137

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Economic Assistance

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Eagle River (Chugach State Park)

House District: Eagle River/Chugach State Park (HD 14)

Impact House District: Eagle River/Chugach State Park (HD 14)

Contact: Cheri Lowenstein

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2021 - 06/30/2026

Contact Phone: (907)465-2422

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This funding request is independent of previous EVOS-funded projects in FY2018 and FY2020. Parking at the existing Eagle Rock facility is very limited compared to the demand and overflows into a ditch line at the other side of the Kenai Spur Highway causing boaters to run across the busy highway. This project will remedy those two major issues by (1) constructing a 60-stall parking facility at the Bookey Parcel, suitable for truck with trailer design vehicle, and (2) constructing an access road directly off of Kenai Spur Highway, through the Bookey Parcel, and into Eagle Rock, completely bypassing the residential neighborhood.

Funding:	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>Total</u>
1018 EVOSS	\$6,419,010						\$6,419,010
Total:	\$6,419,010	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,419,010

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input checked="" 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:

Project Description/Justification:

This funding request is independent of previous EVOS-funded projects in FY2018 and FY2020. Those funds are being used to advance their respective scopes through preliminary design, environmental, design, permitting, and construction phases. This funding request is in conjunction with another request to purchase the Bookey Parcel through the EVOS parcel acquisition process.

The department is committed to providing safe access to recreational opportunities at its park units. Currently, parking at the existing Eagle Rock facility is very limited compared to the demand and overflows into a ditch line at the other side of the Kenai Spur Highway (Figure 1) and boaters running across the busy highway. Additionally, access into the facility is through a residential neighborhood. This project will remedy those two major issues by (1) constructing a 60-stall parking facility at the Bookey Parcel, suitable for truck with trailer design vehicle, and (2) constructing an access road

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directly off of Kenai Spur Highway, through the Bookey Parcel, and into Eagle Rock, completely bypassing the residential neighborhood.

In addition to the safety improvements, this project will also protect habitat and improve manage access to the parcel's Kenai River frontage. Habitat protection will come in the form of elevated light-penetrating walkways and stairs to keep foot traffic off of sensitive riparian vegetation while maintaining access. Floating docks will also be constructed to help shield the riverbank from erosive boat-induced wave action. Concrete vaulted toilets will help maintain sanitary conditions. Miscellaneous amenities will be installed to assist with overall site management. Those strategies help protect sensitive, natural resources and reduce maintenance burdens.

The project is necessary now because DOT&PF is in the process of improving this section of the Kenai Spur Highway that will reduce the buffer at the ditch parking and creating more of a safety concern for boaters parking there. Further delays in this project will only exasperate the safety problems.

This project will help support the construction and tourism/outdoor recreation sectors of the Alaskan economy. Private consultants and contractors will be employed to assist with the design and development of the facility, estimated to account for 80% of the requested project funding. 100% of the construction cost will be awarded to a private construction contractor in accordance with the State Procurement Code. In the long-term, the finished facility will help sustain Alaska's \$3.2B outdoor recreation sector and the 38,100 jobs that it supports.

State match or GF is not required for this project. Estimated line item breakdown is as follows:

Line Item	Amount
1000 Personal Services	\$1,180,010
2000 Travel	\$50,000
3000 Services	\$100,000
4000 Commodities	\$26,500
5000 Capital Outlay	\$5,062,500
7000 Grants	\$0
Total Request	\$6,419,010

Funding for this project will be considered non-federal and may be used to leverage federal-aid funds from programs such as Dingell-Johnson Act (DJ) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

This project is fully supported by the Kenai River Special Management Area Citizens Advisory Board and the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, who already approved funding in their FY20-21 work plan.