

**Wildlife Management, Research and Hunting Access**

**FY2022 Request: \$0**  
**Reference No: 60594**

**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:** Eddie Grasser  
**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2020 - 06/30/2025 **Contact Phone:** (907)267-2339

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This multi-year project designates significant short-term investments in the wildlife management infrastructure to use a dramatic increase of available federal Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration funding. The project enables the department to plan for hunter access improvements.

<b>Funding:</b>	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>	<b>FY2025</b>	<b>FY2026</b>	<b>Total</b>
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$7,500,000						\$7,500,000
1024 Fish/Game	\$50,000						\$50,000
1108 Stat Desig	\$2,450,000						\$2,450,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>

<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"/> Ongoing
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	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Prior Funding History / Additional Information:**

- Sec1 Ch3 SLA2019 P4 L16 SB19 \$3,200,000
- Sec1 Ch19 SLA2018 P5 L26 SB142 \$20,000,000
- Sec8 Ch1 SLA2017 P91 L17 HB57 \$12,000,000
- Sec1 Ch38 SLA2015 P4 L30 SB 26 \$12,250,000
- Sec1 Ch18 SLA2014 P52 L25 SB 119 \$4,000,000
- Sec1 Ch5 SLA2011 P83 L7 SB 46 \$2,225,000
- Sec1 Ch5 SLA2011 P83 L20 SB 46 \$720,000
- Sec4 Ch30 SLA2007 P93 L8 SB 53 \$2,000,000
- Sec1 Ch82 SLA2006 P70 L29 SB 231 \$1,600,000

Past capital project reference numbers include FY2015 - 58645, FY2012 - 53833 & 41452, FY2008 - 43393, and FY2007 - 42114.

**Project Description/Justification:**

Due to strong gun and ammunition sales nationally, the federal excise taxes collected on those products have been at all-time highs in recent years. Those federal taxes for wildlife conservation are distributed to states and Alaska receives the maximum apportionment. To fully obligate those

increased federal dollars, this project will use those funds and will prevent their reversion. It will also continue to fulfill commitments made to the constituent groups who successfully lobbied for increased hunting license and tag fees.

A 25 percent match is required from non-federal sources. Fish & Game Fund will be used as match, and the department will accept applications from other non-federal sources to meet the federal grant management guidelines of 25 percent match to receive 75 percent federal funding.

**Hunter Access – \$10 million (\$7.5M Federal, \$2.45M Statutorily Designated Program Receipts, \$50K Fish & Game Fund):** Limited access to hunting grounds results in crowding in accessible areas and has been identified as a constraint to new participation in hunting. Focused use of trails, including legal easements through native corporation lands, can also result in degraded fish and wildlife habitat. This project will construct new or improve existing hunter access across Alaska including land purchases and/or public access easements as necessary. The department will partner with State and local agencies and organizations to improve existing and establish new access on public lands.

Projects will be identified through the process outlined at the department's Hunter Access Grant Program website ([www.hunteraccess.adfg.alaska.gov](http://www.hunteraccess.adfg.alaska.gov)).

Because Pittman-Robertson funds can be dedicated to trail and access improvements for hunting, these projects and others around the state have and will continue to provide an opportunity to use the currently available federal dollars to enhance public hunting access for Alaskans.