

National Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation Program (NGGDPP)

FY2023 Request: \$3,290,000
Reference No: 64331

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Life / Health / Safety

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Theresa Cross

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2022 - 06/30/2027

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project proposes acquisition of multispectral scanning equipment to leverage the value of the Geologic Materials Center (GMC) energy and mineral core and rock collections using petrophysical, hyperspectral, and optical analytical digital scanning technologies to expand global access to Alaska geologic datasets and stimulate the exploration and development of Alaska’s resources.

Funding:	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	Total
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$2,290,000						\$2,290,000
1003 G/F Match	\$1,000,000						\$1,000,000
1004 Gen Fund							\$0
Total:	\$3,290,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,290,000

<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"/> Ongoing
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:	3,290,000	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	3,290,000	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

The federal portion of this grant is an annual competitive, non-formula grant program for all state geological surveys.

SFCS2 4/27/2022 changed \$1,000.0 UGF to GFM

Project Description/Justification:

Over the next four federal fiscal years, the November 2021 Federal Infrastructure Act allocated \$23,668,000 to the National Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation Program (NGGDPP). This will fund state geological surveys and performing geological and geophysical data preservation projects with an emphasis to increase understanding and access to domestic sources of critical minerals.

DGGS needs federal authorization to apply for and receive these funds from the federal agency. The grant requires a 1-to-1 federal-to-state match. DGGS can meet this match requirement by using the Geologic Materials Center Multispectral Scanning CIP appropriated to DGGS in FY2022. The FY2022 CIP consist of \$865,000 Unrestricted General Fund (UGF), \$275,000 General Fund

Program Receipt (GF/PR), and \$150,000 in Statutory Designated Program Receipts (SDPR).

The ability to receive these federal funds would increase the available equipment for scanning and lengthen the term DGGs could employ technicians to scan the collection, resulting in a greater percentage of the collection being scanned, made available and digitally archived.

It is imperative that the State of Alaska preserve the collection of data at the GMC, estimated at ~\$38 billion in replacement cost, as it will not last forever. Some core samples are already beginning to degrade to the point of limited use.

An overarching objective of the GMC is to curate the collection and expand global access to these materials to stimulate the exploration and development of Alaska’s resources physically and digitally. Digitalization of GMC rock samples extends the reach of Alaska geologic datasets to the diversity of expertise and interests of worldwide explorationists.

Local access to scanning equipment will incentivize Alaska exploration companies to share their drill-core samples with DGGs, thereby benefiting both the company with more detailed datasets in the short-term and resource industries in the long-term. Online access to a new generation of multi-spectral geologic datasets will support applied industry, government, and university research to increase the understanding of Alaska’s rich and complex geologic history.

It is important that the State uses this opportunity to further scan the collection and improve the storage, visualization, and distribution of these digital datasets and make them available to the global geologic community. The existence of in-hand, state funding as match makes Alaska well situated, relative to other states, to preferentially benefit from Infrastructure Bill funding.

Initial purchase and operation of multispectral equipment involves front-loaded capital expenditures to initiate the program. We will continue to utilize the two Natural Resource Technicians approved in the previous CIP. A new long-term non-permanent Analyst/Programmer will be required due to the additional data types and volumes. This new LTNP position will help expand the multispectral datasets by improving web applications and perform database modifications for the storage and dissemination of large digital geologic datasets.

Line Item Breakdown	Amount
1000 Personal Services	250,000
2000 Travel	50,000
3000 Services	350,000
4000 Commodities	79,000
5000 Capital Outlay	2,561,000
Total	3,290,000