

UAF Seward Marine Center-Infrastructure and Shore Side Ship Support Facility Renewal and Replacement **FY2026 Request: \$85,300,000**
Reference No: 66181

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: University
Location: Seward

Project Type: Construction
House District: Kodiak/Seward/Cordova (HD 5)

Impact House District: Kodiak/Seward/Cordova (HD 5)

Contact: Michelle Rizk

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2025 - 06/30/2030 **Contact Phone:** (907)450-8187

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The UAF has submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support the construction of a new dock in Seward, that will support continued operations of the Research Vessel (R/V) Sikuliaq. If awarded, a new dock for year-round servicing/berthing of the R/V Sikuliaq will be constructed with federal grant funds. However, the grant does not include funding for the necessary replacement of the shoreside facility that must be completed alongside the dock after the current warehouse, mooring shop, and machine shop are demolished to accommodate the new dock. This project is critical for ensuring Alaska stays at the forefront of Arctic research and maintaining partnership with the NSF for ship operations.

Funding:	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	Total
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$85,300,000						\$85,300,000
Total:	\$85,300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$85,300,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" 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:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Project Description/Justification:

The current dock and shoreside facilities at the Seward Marine Center have considerably exceeded their useful life and no longer provide effective ship support. Construction and renovation of modern forward-looking sea and shore-side infrastructure is needed to support future Arctic Ocean observation, prediction, and scientific breakthroughs. This project will construct new logistics support facilities including a staging warehouse and mooring shop to directly support efficient and effective high-latitude maintenance, operations, and research.

The UAF Seward Marine Center is located at the head of Resurrection Bay, one of the primary docking facilities for visiting research vessels and homeport of the NSF-owned and UAF-operated Global Class R/V Sikuliaq, the only ice-capable research vessel in the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS). Research vessels, and other vessels in the federal

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fleet, such as the United States Coast Guard Cutter Healy, rely on essential shoreside facilities that are connected to the road system in Alaska, to efficiently stage, mobilize, and demobilize expeditions. Seward is the only ice-free port in Alaska that is connected by rail and road to a major city and international airport, thus holds strategic importance in supporting a wide variety of research missions in the Arctic. The current dock and shoreside facilities at the Seward Marine Center have exceeded their useful life and no longer provide effective ship support. Construction and renovation of modern forward-looking sea and shoreside infrastructure is needed to support future Arctic Ocean observation, prediction, and scientific breakthroughs. This project will construct new logistics support facilities including a staging warehouse and mooring shop to directly support efficient and effective high-latitude maintenance, operations, and research.

This project removes \$55 million in deferred maintenance projects from the university's backlog.

The Board of Regents approved the Statement of Requirements (SOR) on September 6, 2024.