

Copper River (Miles Lake) Sonar Site Upgrade and Equipment Purchase

FY2001 Request: \$250,000
Reference No: 32622

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Renewal and Replacement

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Cordova

Contact: Doug Mecum

House District: Delta, Prince William Sound (HD 35)

Contact Phone: (907)465-4210

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2000 - 06/30/2005

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This CIP project has two components. The first component would reengineer and construct a new permanent river bottom profile upon which the sonar counting equipment operates. The second component would replace the Bendix Corporation hydroacoustic equipment (single beam, side scanning sonar), with modern split beam side scanning sonar (SSS) equipment.

Funding:	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	Total
Gen Fund	\$250,000						\$250,000
Total:	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000

<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"/> On-Going
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
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This CIP project has no prior funding.

Project Description/Justification:

The Copper River supports substantial runs of salmon, which are vital to the subsistence, sport, personal use, and commercial fisheries of the region. The ex-vessel value of the Copper River's commercial salmon fishery has ranged from \$10 million to \$25 million in recent years. The personal use fishery at Chitina has attracted as many as 10,000 Alaskans per year and the subsistence fishery has seen a steady increase in participation with over 1,000 Alaskans relying on Copper River salmon to meet their annual subsistence needs. The sonar enumeration project located on the main Copper River at Miles Lake is critical to maintaining healthy salmon populations to sustain these fisheries. The counts of salmon past these counters are used to manage the commercial, personal use, and subsistence fisheries throughout the Copper River drainage, and insure that wild spawning objectives are met to maintain healthy, diverse and productive salmon stocks. Integrity of this project is threatened each year by the outdated equipment and deterioration of the operating site.

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