

DIDSON Sonar Equipment Purchase**FY2005 Request: \$300,000****Reference No: 39293****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment**Category:** Natural Resources**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Doug Mecum**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-4150**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2004 - 06/30/2009**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The DIDSON (Dual Frequency Identification Sonar) is newly developed imaging sonar that has demonstrated itself to be easy to use, the data easy to interpret, and the results highly accurate. It is a system that provides accurate passage estimates with minimal required training and supervision. At this time, the department has settled on the use of DIDSON sonars built by the Applied Physics lab at the University of Washington and has identified twelve sites for installation. This request seeks funding to purchase three DIDSON units.

Funding:	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	Total
AHFC Bonds	\$300,000						\$300,000
Total:	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$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"/> 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:

No prior capital funds were appropriated for this project. In FY04, four units were purchased with operating funds.

Project Description/Justification:

Sonar systems are used by department managers to count fish in silt-laden waters where visual counting is not possible. The long range plan is to use this sonar equipment to count migrating salmon at twelve sites identified by the department: the Nushagak, Copper, Kenai (2), Kasilof and Yentna rivers within Central Region; at the Aniak, Anvik, Chena, and Sheenjek rivers in AYK Region; and at Alitak Bay and Chignik in Westward Region.

This capital request is for the purchase of three additional DIDSON (Dual Frequency Identification Sonar) units. The cost of each unit is about \$100.0, including transducer rotator, and computer equipment for a total requested amount of \$300.0. The DIDSON is newly developed imaging sonar that has demonstrated itself to be easy to use, the data easy to interpret, and the results highly accurate. The system provides accurate passage estimates with minimal required training and supervision. At this time, the department has settled on the use of DIDSON sonars built by the Applied Physics Lab at the University of Washington.

In Central Region, the Bendix sonar systems used to count salmon escapement into the Nushagak, Copper, and Kenai Rivers are obsolete and were replaced in the summer of 2003. The conversion from Bendix to DIDSON began in FY03 with the purchase of those three units, one each for the Copper, Nushagak, and Kenai Rivers, and one additional unit was also purchased for AYK Region and was split-deployed in the Anvik and Sheenjek Rivers. This CIP request would provide funding for three more units to be deployed in rivers within Central and AYK Regions, as determined by the sonar committee according to priority. An additional five units will be recommended for inclusion in the FY06 capital budget.

