

ALMR Emergency Response Equipment Replacement for Forestry/Fire and Parks **FY2007 Request: \$1,291,500**
Reference No: 41410

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Equipment
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide **Contact:** Nico Bus
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2406
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2006 - 06/30/2008

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project funds DNR's migration to the FCC mandated narrowband efficiency standards, Alaska Land Mobile Radio (ALMR), and supports the state's telecommunication plan. The objective of ALMR is to provide essential communication across federal, state and local jurisdictions, and to build and operate a secured interoperable trunked radio system that enhances personnel safety, public safety, and operational capability. Sharing of a common radio infrastructure should eliminate duplications of capital investment projects, eventually reducing total radio communications cost for each participating agency.

Funding:	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>FY2012</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$1,291,500	\$1,355,600					\$2,647,100
Total:	\$1,291,500	\$1,355,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,647,100

<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:

This is a new project request for DNR.

Project Description/Justification:

Division of Forestry:

It is critical that Forestry migrate the Division's repeaters, base stations, portable and mobile radios to Project 25 standards while transitioning to the new statewide trunked system. Forestry will replace analog radio equipment with equipment (repeaters, base stations, links, radios) that will comply with FCC narrow banding standards and operate on the new statewide trunking system, allowing for seamless federal, state, and municipal communications for emergency response.

Forestry has wildland fire suppression responsibility for 150 million of acres of land within the State and responds to 300-400 wildland fires a year, the majority in the urban interface. The Division of Forestry currently has an extensive two-way radio communications system that utilizes the state's microwave system and a series of thirty-one mountain top repeaters. In addition to wildland and urban interface fires, Forestry personnel, resources, village emergency fire fighting crews and the inter-agency Type II and Type I incident command teams have also successfully responded to and managed other incidents such as the 1988 Exxon-Valdez oil spill, 1992 Wind Storm in the interior, 1994 Koyukuk flood, 1995 Kenai Floods, 1998 Alaska Fisheries Disaster, 2002 Denali Earthquake, 2001 Koyuk Flood, 2002 Salcha Flood, 2002 Kenai Peninsula Floods, 2001 World Trade Center disaster and most recently Hurricane Katrina.

Forestry assists the Alaska State Troopers with search and rescue missions on the average of 5-6 times a year. It is conceivable and highly probable that the Division's personnel and resources, including use of its extensive off road radio

State of Alaska Capital Project Summary Department of Natural Resources
FY07 Governor's Capital Budget Reference No: 41410
12/29/10 1:29:19 PM Page 1 Released December 15, 2006

ALMR Emergency Response Equipment Replacement for Forestry/Fire and Parks

FY2007 Request: \$1,291,500
Reference No: 41410

system, cache of portable radios and fire fighting engines with mobile radios, in addition to responding to wildland fires, would be called upon to assist in responding to any man made or natural disaster within the State.

Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation:

It is critical that Parks migrate the Division's system to the ALMR system. These radios will be used in the 121 parks throughout the state and along the road systems accompanying these parks. In FY05 these Parks had over 2.3 million visitors during the season that participated and participated in a myriad of activities. Park rangers staff work in isolated areas and are frequently the first contact for first aid, law enforcement, search & rescue and other emergencies.

In FY 05 alone Parks staff handled 5 fatalities, 78 injury accidents, 12 non injury accidents, requested medical assistance on 36 occasions, and provided medical assistance to 29 people. Parks lead/participated in 32 search & rescue operations saving 30 lives. Park staff are first responders in state parks to criminal activity involving assaults on people, suicides, personal and state park property damage. Parks law enforcement made 77 arrests requiring mandatory court appearances, 899 bailable offenses arrests, over 500 written warnings and 3,000 verbal warnings.

The project will fund the acquisition of digital radios for Park Rangers that participate in law enforcement, respond to life threatening incidents and rescue activities, ensuring they have radio communications with other agencies to provide the necessary assistance. Once Parks law enforcement and rescue workers are equipped remaining Parks staff including maintenance workers, park specialists, and natural resource technicians who work in remote areas will be equipped.

Why is this Project Needed Now:

Site build-out of ALMR is occurring now and is completed in some areas of the state. Migrating to the new system is essential to maintaining the ability to communicate. For Forestry this communication is critical when dealing with cooperators in the urban interface. Incompatible communication systems contributed greatly to the Miller's Reach fire problems. The Alaska State Troopers will complete their transition to ALMR by July 2006. The Troopers work closely with Park Rangers and in some areas provide dispatch services for Parks. It is imperative to the safety and well-being of the Park Rangers and state park visitors that we maintain this communication ability by switching to the ALMR system.

Specific Spending Detail:

FORESTRY	FY07			FY08			TOTAL PROJECT		
	Units	Cost/Unit	Total	Units	Cost/Unit	Total	Units	Cost/Unit	Total
Vehicle/Mobile Radios	17	4.0	68.0	20	4.0	80.0	37	4.0	148.0
Portable Radios	97	2.0	194.0	225	2.0	450.0	322	2.0	644.0
Flash Upgrades	275	0.650	178.7	225	0.650	146.2	500	0.650	324.9
Consoles	0	22.5	0.0	2	22.5	45.0	2	22.5	45.0
Repeaters	3	23.0	69.0	2	23.0	46.0	5	23.0	115.0
Installation/Programming			105.9			158.4			264.3
			<u>615.6</u>			<u>925.6</u>			<u>1,541.2</u>

PARKS	FY07			FY08			TOTAL PROJECT		
	Units	Cost/Unit	Total	Units	Cost/Unit	Total	Units	Cost/Unit	Total
Vehicle/Mobile Radios	39	4.0	156.0	15	4.0	60.0	54	4.0	216.0
Portable Radios	44	2.3	101.2	99	2.3	227.7	143	2.3	328.9
Consoles	4	25.0	100.0	0	25.0	0.0	4	25.0	100.0
Repeaters	9	23.0	207.0	3	23.0	69.0	12	23.0	276.0
Installation/Programming			111.7			73.3			185.0
TOTAL			<u>675.9</u>			<u>430.0</u>			<u>1,105.9</u>

TOTAL DNR REQUEST			<u>1,291.5</u>			<u>1,355.6</u>			<u>2,647.1</u>
--------------------------	--	--	----------------	--	--	----------------	--	--	----------------

**ALMR Emergency Response Equipment Replacement for
Forestry/Fire and Parks**

**FY2007 Request: \$1,291,500
Reference No: 41410**

Project Support:

State agencies participating include the Alaska Court System, Alaska Railroad, DOA, DCCED, DOC, DEED, DEC, DFG, DNR, DOR, DOT&PF, the Office of the Governor and the University of Alaska.

Federal agencies participating include the US Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Interior, Treasury and Transportation. US Air Force and Army are also participants in this project.

Cities and Municipalities participating include Anchor Point, Bear Creed, Chena, Fairbanks, Homer, Hope, Kenai, North Pole, Palmer, Seldovia, Seward, Soldotna, Wasilla, Delta Junction, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Kenai Peninsula Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Moose Pass, Municipality of Anchorage, Nenana, Nikiski, Ninilchik, Salcha, Tok, Cantwell and Whittier.

Both the State Telecommunications Plan and the ALMR Steering Committee and Executive Council support this project.

Project Opposition: None known.