

State Park Sanitation and Safety Projects

FY2010 Request: \$500,000
Reference No: 43321

AP/AL: Allocation **Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide **Contact:** Leta Simons
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-3379
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2009 - 06/30/2014
Appropriation: State Parks Deferred Maintenance and Emergency Repairs

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project was moved to the FY 2009 supplemental request.

This project is intended to keep replacing the worst of the toilets in the state park system as well as addressing the most pressing public safety needs. We intend to keep bear-proofing the trash cans in all of Alaska State Parks.

Funding:	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	Total
CSG Tax	\$500,000						\$500,000
Gen Fund		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,000,000
Total:	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,500,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" 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	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

SLA2008/CH29 \$850,000 25% complete

Project Description/Justification:

This project will replace the worst 20 of the 156 toilets already identified as being a health hazard to the recreating public. Many of the toilets have cracked tanks and are leaking with the potential to contaminate nearby wells. These toilets are an important aspect of the quality of public recreation and health for the over 4.8 million visitors. These toilets are also closely related to the image of the community where the state park is located.

This project will also bear proof Alaska State Parks dumpsters and trash cans to deter bears from being attracted to the 121 facilities located within the state park.

Why is this Project Needed Now?

Restrooms are at the core of maintenance in park units. One of the biggest turn-offs by the recreating public is smelly, unclean or aged restrooms. This often results in less-than-respectful use and higher than typical maintenance requirements. Replacing these toilets will reduce maintenance

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costs and present a better image for the state as well as the local communities in which these park units are located.

Alaska State Parks is the largest state park system in the nation. Its heavily visited units are typically adjacent to the major cities which attracts users and wildlife. Because of this, there needs to be bear management programs functioning around the state. We already have a program that includes the removal of artificial food sources, information and education, the control of problem bears, and monitoring.

Last year a pedestrian next to Eagle River Campground was attacked by a bear. In another incident, a biker was mauled in Anchorage's Kincaid Park. As urban growth continues to push up against the parks, incidents will continue. Unsecured garbage has been identified as one of the major bear attractants to these areas. Bear proof garbage cans along with camper education will go a long way toward reducing this problem.

Alaska State Parks now needs to join all the cities in the state in sanitary measures that include closing of open garbage and the installation of bear-proof dumpsters and trash containers.

Specific Spending Detail:

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Personal Services	\$ 25,000	Project management and oversight
Services	\$ 475,000	Contracts for toilets and bear proof containers.

Project Support:

Numerous State Park Area Advisory Boards, Eagle River Nature Center, Lifetime Adventures