

National Recreational Trail Grants Federal Program

FY2011 Request: \$2,000,000

Reference No: 6854

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Parks / Recreation

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

Contact: Leta Simons

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact Phone: (907)465-3379

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2010 - 06/30/2015

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Alaskans rely on trails for recreation, subsistence and transportation. These trails need maintenance to ensure safe passage and to ensure that they remain open and available for use. Funds are distributed by 80-20 matching grants for trail and trailhead development and maintenance and education programs relating to trail safety and responsible trail use. Grants are awarded to organizations, agencies and local governments. The result is a variety of safe, high quality, year-round trails.

Funding:	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$2,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$9,500,000
Total:	\$2,000,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$9,500,000

<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	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

SLA2009/CH15	\$ 900,000	31% Complete
SLA2008/CH29	\$ 1,500,000	85% Complete
SLA2007/CH30	\$ 850,000	88% Complete
SLA2006/CH82	\$ 695,000	Complete
SLA2005/CH3	\$ 695,000	Complete

Project Description/Justification:

As more and more residents and visitors turn to Alaska's vast trail system for recreation, subsistence and basic transportation between communities, the need for a more extensive and better-maintained trail system continues to grow. Many existing trails are being lost as property is sold, subdivided or developed without reserving trail easements.

This program is effectively identifying, maintaining and expanding the Alaska trail system. Legal, safe, well-maintained and easy to use trails are reducing trespass situations, search and rescue occurrences and public safety concerns. Because this is a matching grant program, grantees provide cash, labor and equipment to match at least 20 percent of grant funds, effectively stretching existing funding. Public recreational trails contribute to Alaska's economy by providing construction and

maintenance jobs, attracting tourists and visitors, and by stimulating the business of outfitters, guides and tour companies. In addition, the Recreational Trails Program ensures that:

- Grantees obtain legal access
- Projects are consistent with Federal, State and local land use plans
- Social and economic impacts are analyzed
- Archeological and Historical resources are protected
- The project is analyzed for any impact on threatened or endangered species
- The project is analyzed for any impact on fish and wildlife
- The project is analyzed for its affect on wetlands, flood plains and bodies of water
- Water quality is maintained
- Hazardous waste is checked for and identified
- Air quality is checked
- The noise resulting from the project is analyzed
- There is public involvement

The following Recreational Trail Projects have been approved for FFY09. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation is in the process of completing the FFY10 awards

2009 Recreational Trail Grants		
Grantee	Project Name	Grant Amount
Serve Alaska Youth Corps	SAGA Reimbursement (Amendment)	\$ 8,958
Serve Alaska Youth Corps	SAGA Reimbursement (Amendment)	\$ 5,255
Alaska State Trails Office	Increase in 2008 Admin shortfall	\$ 7,476
Alaska State Trails Office	Admin Allowance	\$ 135,181
Willow Trail Committee	Susitna Corridor Trail Signage	\$ 3,500
DPOR Mat-Su Area Office	Trail Crew Leader, Nancy Lake SRA	\$ 44,730
DPOR Mat-Su Area Office	Deception Area Highland Tr. Survey	\$ 8,250
Denali Highway Trail Club	Denali Highway Trail Maintenance	\$ 30,000
The Nature Conservancy	Nagoonberry Loop Tr.	\$ 50,000
USFS – Tongass NF.	Middle Dangerous River Trail	\$ 50,000
South Central Regional Office, Mining Land and Water	Seven-Mile Lake Trail Reroute	\$ 50,000
Alaska Trails	Ester Dome Singletrack Tr.	\$ 50,000
DPOR Mat-Su Area Office	Independence Mill Site - Trail Reconstruction	\$ 50,000
Northwest Arctic Borough	NW Arctic Borough Trail Staking	\$ 50,000
DPOR Northern Area	Compeau Connector - Phase II	\$ 49,860
Homer Soil and Water Conservation District	Calvin & Coyle Woodland Park Tr.	\$ 21,098
Kuskokwim Race Committee	Kuskokwim 300 Trail Staking	\$ 44,555
Copper Center Development Association	Copper Center School Trail Project	\$ 24,000
Hollis City Council	Hollis Harris River Recreational Tr.	\$ 50,000

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City of Bethel	Sockeye Run Bike Path \$ Fitness Tr.	\$ 50,000
Sitka Trail Works	Sitka Cross Trail Reconstruction	\$ 50,000
Mat-Su Borough Trails Council	Iron Dog Trail Restoration Project	\$ 50,000
Interior Alaska Land Trust	Chena Flats Greenbelt Project	\$ 50,000
DPOR - Northern Area Office	Northern Area Trail Crews	\$ 64,389
DPOR - Mat-Su Area Office	Mat-Su Area Trail Crew	\$ 65,000
DPOR – Chugach Area Office	Chugach Area Trail Crew	\$ 71,008
DPOR – Kenai Area Office	Kenai Area Trail Crew	\$ 65,000
DPOR – Kodiak Area Office	Kodiak Area Trail Crew	\$ 65,000
DPOR – Southeast Area Office	Southeast Trail Crew	\$ 65,000
Tsalteshi Trails Association	Tsalteshi Trails Maintenance Project	\$ 39,800
Friends of Eagle River Nat. Center	Eagle River Nature Center Tr. Maint.	\$ 14,550
Alaska State Trails Office	Trail Assessment Project	\$ 71,156
Alaska State Trails Office	Supplemental Snowmobile Trails Program Funding	\$ 46,233
Total Recreational Trails Grants		\$ 1,499,999

Why is this Project Needed Now?

Alaska’s trails are gradually being lost due to community expansion and development pressure, the lack of legal easements and the lack of maintenance. The grant program provides an opportunity to maintain what we have, establish new trails, and reserve existing recreational access throughout the state

Specific Spending Detail:

<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION (text)</u>
Personal Services	\$160,000	State Trails Office
Travel	\$15,000	Costs associated with State trails office
Services	\$372,500	Grants to State agencies
Commodities	\$10,000	Costs associated with State trails office
Grants	\$1,442,500	Grants to federal and local governments and non-profit agencies.

State Match Required:

- NO
 YES

Match is provided by the grantees.

Project Support:

In addition to all the grantees listed above, dozens of Alaskan communities, agencies and trail-user groups have received grants and support the program. Some of the communities that have received grants include Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, City of Wasilla, Native Village of Fort Yukon, City of Kotlik, City of Homer, City of Barrow, City of Galena, City of Cordova, City of Aleknagik and the Circle Village Council. Some of the user groups include Boy Scouts, Trail Mix Inc., Fairbanks Snow Travelers, Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers, Fairbanks Nordic Ski Club, Peninsula Sled Dog Racing Association, Sitka Recreational Riders, Norton Sound Sled Dog Club, Alaska Botanical Gardens and the Goldstream Valley Trail Users Assn.

Project Opposition:

None