

Statewide Sport Fishing Surveys

FY2014 Request: \$250,000

Reference No: 42115

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Research / Studies / Planning

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact: Charlie Swanton

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2013 - 06/30/2015

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project will provide funding to conduct two surveys: (1) Statewide Stocked Waters Economic Survey and (2) Economic Impacts and Contributions of Sport Fishing in Alaska Survey for the Division of Sport Fish (Division). The first survey will be an update to a previously conducted survey that will be expanded to get a statewide perspective. The second survey will provide updated information on the economic impacts of sportfishing on a statewide, regional, and sub-regional level, which is not available from any other source at the level of detail needed by the Division of Sport Fish (Division) and other users of the information.

Funding:	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$250,000					\$250,000	\$500,000
Total:	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$500,000

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

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec1 Ch82 SLA2006 P70 L33 SB231 \$200,000

\$300,000 in Sport Fisheries operating was included in SLA 2006 for the Stocked Waters Program Economic Survey

Project Description/Justification:

The Statewide Stocked Waters Economic Survey will be an update of the 2007 Survey and will include Southeast Alaska to get a statewide perspective.

The Economic Impacts and Contributions of Sport Fishing in Alaska Survey will provide updated information on the economic impacts of sportfishing on a statewide, regional, and sub-regional level, which is not available from any other source at the level of detail needed by the Division and other users of the information. The survey will be designed to supplement traditional fisheries information on angler effort, catch, and harvest data collected by the Division of Sport Fish Statewide Harvest Survey and enable the Division to develop, implement, and evaluate projects, policies and management strategies in ways that seek to optimize social and economic benefits to Alaskans. The study will provide managers, regulators, and policy-makers with up-to-date information on the economic contributions of the sportfishing industry and associated businesses to the Alaska

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economy. This information can be used to help evaluate the relative merits of alternative land and water resource management decisions in Alaska. The results will be used to assess whether the Division is meeting established performance measures related to optimizing social and economic benefits of sportfishing in Alaska as outlined in the Division of Sport Fish Strategic Plan and state of Alaska performance measures documents. In addition, reliable economic information will help the Division fulfill its conservation and management mission.

A commitment was made to both the public and legislature in 2006 that a sport fish economic survey would be conducted every five years so as to develop trends in value and expenditures. The calendar year the data was originally collected from was 2007, making 2012 the next installment on a five year basis. Delaying the project would be problematic based upon public and industry expectations for updates on a five year cycle.