

Animal Disease Surveillance and Monitoring**FY2006 Request: \$250,000**
Reference No: 40471**AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Health and Safety**Category:** Health/Human Services**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Kristin Ryan, Director**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)269-7644**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2010**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project will build monitoring and surveillance capacity for animal diseases such as Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Mad Cow) and Scrapie in domestic livestock, game farm animals and wildlife in Alaska. It contributes to the department's End Result #2 by protecting against unsafe food and providing information associated with risks from animal diseases.

Funding:	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$250,000						\$250,000
Total:	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000

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

None

Project Description/Justification:

Alaska needs surveillance and monitoring capacity for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and other Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) diseases, including Mad Cow disease. Of the known TSEs, CWD is of most concern to the State. CWD affects certain species of cervids (animals with antlers). Wild game like deer, elk, and possibly moose and caribou may be afflicted. CWD has been diagnosed in farmed and wild deer in Canada. Captive cervid farms have been established in Alaska and, animals on these farms are of unknown CWD status. These populations put the wild cervid populations and the free-ranging reindeer herds of the state at risk of contracting CWD.

Surveillance testing of wildlife and regulatory testing of captive cervids for CWD is the only way to assure the public that Alaska is CWD free. Early identification of infected animals allows for quarantine and eradication, which are key to eliminating the infection and preventing further contamination of Alaska's wildlife and agricultural resources.

The Department of Environmental Conservation is building a new Environmental Health Laboratory, which will be operational in 2005. The new laboratory will be equipped with the proper Biohazard Safety Suites to work on infectious animal diseases. This funding will be used to implement testing systems to perform basic diagnostics for CWD and other TSEs; including equipment, supplies, waste disposal, and training of staff.

Sampling procedures, protocols and training for sample collectors will be developed. These collectors will include; wildlife biologists, hunters, live-stock producers, and veterinarians. Sample collection supplies, equipment, and transportation costs will also be funded by the project during start-up. In collaboration with ADF&G, ADEC will develop outreach and

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education programs intended to prevent introduction of these diseases into the state. Outreach will include web based information and other media.

A project position will be needed to coordinate the development of training programs, train, conduct outreach, coordinate the flow of samples, and to work with laboratory staff to set up the required testing systems. The State Veterinarian will oversee the project.