

Fire Suppression Engine and Truck Replacements**FY2006 Request:****\$400,000****Reference No:****33955****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment**Category:** Public Protection**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Jeff Jahnke**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-3379**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project is the continuation of Forestry's multi-year fire truck replacement plan. This project replaces the out-dated fire trucks currently in use with state of the art fire trucks to be used in the initial attack of wildland fires in the full and critical protection lands located in the urban interface areas of the state. Forestry utilizes fire trucks to respond to and control an average of 400 wildland fires each year mostly in the high-value, high-risk urban interface areas of the state.

Funding:	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	Total
Bond Funds	\$400,000						\$400,000
Gen Fund		\$400,000			\$150,000	\$150,000	\$700,000
Total:	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$1,100,000

<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:

SLA02/CH1 - \$400,000

SLA01/CH61 - \$100,000

SLA00/CH135 - \$175,000

Project Description/Justification:

Prior Funding History and Status: This project will be the fourth CIP received by Forestry to enable it to continue with its multi-year fire truck replacement plan. To date, \$675.0 has been received over three years (SLA01, SLA02, SLA03) and that funding in conjunction with the vehicle credits collected from the existing fire trucks has facilitated the replacement of 12 of the 18 initial attack fire trucks utilized by the Division. This FY06 project will fund 3 of the 6 remaining fire trucks needing replacement. A similar project will be submitted for FY07.

Detailed Project Justification: AS 41.15.010 - 170 gives the wildland fire protection responsibility to the Department of Natural Resources. This project is the continuation of the Division's multi-year fire truck replacement plan replacing outdated fire trucks with state of the art equipment. These trucks are utilized by the Division's initial attack firefighters to suppress wildland fires in the urban interface areas of the state that threaten human life and property.

This project has the potential to save the state millions of dollars in suppression costs by improving the success of initial attack operations on wildland fires in the populated areas of the state. A successful initial attack costs an average of \$500 to \$2,000 and a fire that escapes initial attack can cost the state millions of dollars to suppress. This project will not generate revenue for the state. However, the potential for these initial attack fire trucks to save the state from spending millions of dollars is very great.

Project costs are based on the actual costs for replacement fire trucks that will be purchased from an existing GSA contract through the federal government. This project will fund three initial attack fire trucks. These replacement trucks will be purchased from an existing GSA contract currently written by the USDOJ Bureau of Land Management. The 12 fire trucks already purchased came from the same GSA contract.

An alternative to this project would be to purchase truck chassis as Forestry did in the past and buy components to build its fire trucks. This process was found to cost nearly the same amount as purchasing the professionally engineered trucks from the GSA contract. Also there were some serious drawbacks to building fire trucks. Once the components were placed on the chassis, the manufacturer's warranty was voided. Another drawback was that since the fire trucks were not professionally engineered, the addition of the utility body, water tank, and other components over grossed the vehicle's operating weight creating safety and maintenance issues. Purchasing professionally engineered fire trucks from a dealer eliminates the aforementioned drawbacks and the fire trucks are under warranty and meet or exceed all DOT and OSHA safety standards.

Why is this Project Needed Now: The Division needs to continue with its plan to replace its aging fleet of first response fire trucks. Most of the trucks being replaced were purchased in the mid 1980s and are far beyond their useful life. The fire trucks being replaced were all purchased as chassis and then turned into fire trucks by the addition of the utility body, tank and other components that void warranties and in most cases, over grossed vehicle's operating weight. Replacing them with new state of the art trucks will make for safer and more effective initial attack responses on wildland fires that occur in the urban interface areas of the state, which threaten human life and improved property.

Specific Spending Detail:Line Item Expenditures:

Personal Services \$ 0
Travel \$5.0
Services \$ 35.0
Commodities \$ 0
Capital Outlay \$360.0

Line Item Detail Description:

Personal Services – No personal services would be charged to this project.
Travel – This would fund two Division employees to travel to the factory for final inspection of the fire trucks prior to shipment.
Services – This would fund the shipment of the three fire trucks to Alaska.
Commodities – None
Capital Outlay – This would fund the purchase of 3 fire trucks for the Division.

Project Support: Cooperating local government fire departments, property owners and the general public will support this project. The State Fire Marshals office and federal government fire agencies will also support this project.

Project Opposition: None known or anticipated.