

# **State of Alaska FY2006 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Natural Resources Office of Habitat Management and Permitting Component Budget Summary**

**Component: Office of Habitat Management and Permitting**

**Contribution to Department's Mission**

The mission of the Habitat component is to protect Alaska's valuable fish and wildlife resources and their habitats as Alaska's population and economy continue to expand.

**Core Services**

- Review applications and issue permits for activities in anadromous waterbodies and fish-bearing waters (Title 41); provide expertise to protect important fish and wildlife habitat; monitor authorized projects.
- Review proposed timber harvest activities; conduct field inspections; work cooperatively with timber operators and other governmental agencies.
- Maintain and revise the Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes.
- Review development projects (e.g., oil and gas, hard-rock mining, hydropower, roads) authorized under other agencies' authorities.
- Conduct research on ways to minimize impacts of development projects on fish and wildlife resources.

End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p><b>A: Protect Alaska's valuable fish and wildlife resources and their habitats during resource development activities.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 100% of resource developers meet agency requirements for protection of fish, wildlife, and their habitats.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Percentage of developers in compliance with their approved permit.</p>	<p><b>A1: Enhance our Title 41 review process by adding appropriate conditions to protect resources, reviewing projects in a timely manner, and monitoring, as needed.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 99% of Title 41 permit applications are approved as is or modified with appropriate conditions to protect resources.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Percentage of Title 41 permits approved as is or modified with appropriate conditions.</p> <p><u>Target #2:</u> 15-day average permit review timeframe.</p> <p><u>Measure #2:</u> Average number of days to complete Title 41 permit reviews.</p> <p><b>A2: Enhance our participation in project reviews coordinated by other agencies by adding conditions to protect important habitat and by reviewing projects in a timely manner.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 85% of coordinated reviews include appropriate conditions to protect important habitat.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Percentage of coordinated reviews where appropriate conditions are included to protect important habitat.</p> <p><u>Target #2:</u> 20-day average review timeframe.</p> <p><u>Measure #2:</u> Average number of days to complete reviews for projects in a coordinated review process.</p>

**Major Activities to Advance Strategies**

- Maintain a web site that includes information on the Anadromous Waters Catalog and how to apply for Fish Habitat Permits
- Develop simple technical guidelines & design criteria for applicants to use to complete and submit permit applications or prepare site rehab plans
- Conduct field research for select projects which can be used as models to develop policies/criteria for mitigation impacts to fish/wildlife resources
- Actively work with project applicants to identify issues, requirements and solutions prior to submittal of permit application packages
- Provide advance identification of fish habitat and stream cataloging in areas where projects are likely to occur
- Actively participate on the state's large project teams for hard rock mines, oil and gas development, and major new road projects
- For specific projects (oil and gas development, hard-rock mines, etc.) issue Fish Habitat Permits that do not expire until use & rehab are complete.
- Issue General Permits (GPs) for certain activities such as vehicle crossings of anadromous fish streams, boat launches, etc.
- Extensively use "general concurrences" in the coastal zone as a tool to decrease permit issuance time for most permit actions
- Maintain an automated permit tracking system, which allows staff to ensure timely responses
- Review and comment on authorizations issued by other resource agencies to ensure that fish and wildlife needs are addressed, as required by law
- Issue over-the-counter recreational placer mining permits for recreational mining using hand tools and small suction dredges

**FY2006 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results**

<b>FY2006 Component Budget: \$3,545,000</b>	<b>Personnel:</b>	
	Full time	37
	Part time	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>

**Performance Measure Detail**

**A: Result - Protect Alaska's valuable fish and wildlife resources and their habitats during resource development activities.**

**Target #1:** 100% of resource developers meet agency requirements for protection of fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

**Measure #1:** Percentage of developers in compliance with their approved permit.

**Percentage of developers in compliance with their approved permit.**

Year	YTD
2002	98.6%
2003	Not Available
2004	99.6%
2005	Not Available

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The division's top priority is the review of Title 41 permit applications. The above percentages reflect projects where permits have been issued and the developer is in compliance with their approved permit. This percentage is an indication of our success in protecting fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

**A1: Strategy - Enhance our Title 41 review process by adding appropriate conditions to protect resources, reviewing projects in a timely manner, and monitoring, as needed.**

**Target #1:** 99% of Title 41 permit applications are approved as is or modified with appropriate conditions to protect resources.

**Measure #1:** Percentage of Title 41 permits approved as is or modified with appropriate conditions.

**Percentage of Title 41 permits approved or modified with appropriate conditions to protect resources.**

Year	YTD
2002	99%
2003	Not Available
2004	99.8%
2005	

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The division's top priority is the review of Title 41 permit applications. This measure is an indication of the quality of our review. In spite of an 18% cut in staff and an 11% cut in budget in FY 04, OHMP exceeded both our FY 04 target (90%) and FY 02 percentage (98.6%). Less than 1% of permits are denied or withdrawn.

**Target #2:** 15-day average permit review timeframe.

**Measure #2:** Average number of days to complete Title 41 permit reviews.

**Average number of days to complete Title 41 permit reviews.**

Year	YTD
2002	13
2003	15.0
2004	14.0
2005	

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The division's top priority is the review of Title 41 permit applications. This measure is an indicator of the timeliness of our review. In spite of an 18% cut in staff and an 11% cut in budget in FY 04, OHMP exceeded our FY 04 target (20 days). FY 03 data is incomplete and only represents data through 4/30/03; EO 107 went into effect on 5/1/03.

**A2: Strategy - Enhance our participation in project reviews coordinated by other agencies by adding conditions to protect important habitat and by reviewing projects in a timely manner.**

**Target #1:** 85% of coordinated reviews include appropriate conditions to protect important habitat.

**Measure #1:** Percentage of coordinated reviews where appropriate conditions are included to protect important habitat.

**Percentage of coordinated reviews where appropriate conditions are included to protect important habitat.**

Year	YTD
2002	98%
2003	Not Available
2004	93.6%
2005	

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The division's top priority is the review of Title 41 permit applications, but we also participate in the coordinated review of other proposed resource development activities described by this target/measure. In spite of an 18% cut in staff and an 11% cut in budget in FY 04, OHMP exceeded our FY 04 target (80%).

**Target #2:** 20-day average review timeframe.

**Measure #2:** Average number of days to complete reviews for projects in a coordinated review process.

**Average number of days to complete reviews for projects in a coordinated review process.**

Year	YTD
2002	18
2003	13.0
2004	14.4
2005	

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The division's top priority is the review of Title 41 permit applications, but we also participate in the coordinated review of other proposed resource development activities described by this target/measure. In spite of an 18% cut in staff and an 11% cut in budget in FY 04, OHMP exceeded both our FY 04 target (25 days) and FY 02 average (18 days). FY 03 data is incomplete and only represents data through 4/30/04; EO 107 went into effect on 5/1/03.

**Key Component Challenges**

Providing a high level of service in spite of large organizational changes during the last two years (e.g., move to the DNR, an 18% reduction in staff, and an 11% reduction in funding). Filling vacant positions with competent personnel and training new personnel as quickly and efficiently as possible. Developing a secure budget, which is challenging as a large percentage of the current budget consists of annually unpredictable funding sources such as RSAs, grants, and contracts with private funding sources, including industry. Actively working as part of the state's large project team to identify and resolve issues affecting permitting, operations, or closure of major resource development projects of critical importance to the state, including Fort Knox, True North, Gil Prospect, Pebble Gold Copper Prospect, Rock Creek Prospect, Donlin Creek Prospect, Kensington, Alpine Satellite Oil Projects, Greens Creek, and Red Dog.

**Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2006**

Continue to develop more efficient means of ensuring the efficient passage of fish through use of General Permits (GPs), stream simulation, and design criteria and specifications. In particular, OHMP has been working to develop a Title 41 general permit to address resident fish stream crossings needed by the timber industry. Also, ensure that OHMP's seven Area Offices are fully-functional and develop consistency in project reviews among diverse geographic areas of the state.

**Major Component Accomplishments in 2004**

- Completed a programmatic MOU with the Department of Fish and Game to delineate the spread of duties and responsibilities with the move of Habitat to DNR. Updated this document, as needed, to provide additional specificity and guidance to staff.
- Initiated an update of the Anadromous Waters Catalog, the first in 5 years, which provides accurate information to applicants regarding the need for a Title 41.14.870 permit from OHMP.
- Participated in FRPA Riparian Review in Region 2 (Southcentral Alaska), in coordination with the DOF. This work will set performance standards in riparian areas for the timber industry operating in Region 2.
- Continued work with the timber industry, to ensure expedited permit processing, including the development of a GP discussed in the above section.
- Worked on a number of Large Mine Projects, including Fort Knox reclamation and monitoring, Pogo construction, Donlin Creek permitting and power studies, Kensington permitting, Tulsequah Chief, Galore Creek, Pebble Gold Copper baseline studies, Red Dog closure plan and bonding, Illinois Creek reclamation and closure, Greens Creek operations, Gil Prospect permitting, and Rock Creek permitting.
- Worked on a number of other large projects, including DOT&PF Roads to Resources, and oil and gas projects, including Alpine, NPRA-E.
- Shifted biologist positions among the 7 Area Offices to provide enhanced services to the public and to respond to shifting permit activity.
- Conducted applied field research to support permitting, monitoring/compliance, and closure of major resource development projects, including fisheries research for North Slope oil and gas projects and aquatic biomonitoring for Greens Creek, Fort Knox, and Red Dog Mines.

**Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

AS 41.14.840-900

Fish Passage and Fish Habitat

AS 41.17  
11AAC 95

Alaska Forest Resources and Practices Act  
Alaska Forest Resources and Practices

**Contact Information**

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**Office of Habitat Management and Permitting  
Component Financial Summary**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	FY2004 Actuals	FY2005 Management Plan	FY2006 Governor
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	2,062.7	2,545.6	2,645.5
72000 Travel	104.6	133.4	138.4
73000 Services	519.3	856.1	656.1
74000 Commodities	102.7	100.0	105.0
75000 Capital Outlay	3.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>2,792.3</b>	<b>3,635.1</b>	<b>3,545.0</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1002 Federal Receipts	2.4	25.7	0.0
1004 General Fund Receipts	1,818.1	2,376.8	2,506.7
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	446.0	808.6	613.3
1061 Capital Improvement Project Receipts	72.2	0.0	200.0
1108 Statutory Designated Program Receipts	453.6	424.0	225.0
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>2,792.3</b>	<b>3,635.1</b>	<b>3,545.0</b>

**Estimated Revenue Collections**

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2004 Actuals	FY2005 Management Plan	FY2006 Governor
<b>Unrestricted Revenues</b>				
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Unrestricted Total</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Restricted Revenues</b>				
Federal Receipts	51010	2.4	25.7	0.0
Interagency Receipts	51015	446.0	808.6	613.3
Statutory Designated Program Receipts	51063	453.6	424.0	225.0
Capital Improvement Project Receipts	51200	72.2	0.0	200.0
<b>Restricted Total</b>		<b>974.2</b>	<b>1,258.3</b>	<b>1,038.3</b>
<b>Total Estimated Revenues</b>		<b>974.2</b>	<b>1,258.3</b>	<b>1,038.3</b>

**Summary of Component Budget Changes  
From FY2005 Management Plan to FY2006 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2005 Management Plan</b>	<b>2,376.8</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>1,232.6</b>	<b>3,635.1</b>
<b>Adjustments which will continue current level of service:</b>				
-FY 05 Bargaining Unit Contract Terms: GGU	12.8	0.1	5.7	18.6
-FY06 Cost Increases for Bargaining Units and Non-Covered Employees	67.1	0.0	0.0	67.1
<b>Proposed budget decreases:</b>				
-Decrement to correctly reflect USGS pass-through grants now budgeted as an FY06 capital project	0.0	0.0	-200.0	-200.0
-Delete uncollectable Federal Receipt Authorization	0.0	-25.8	0.0	-25.8
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>				
-Support Applied Research Projects throughout State	50.0	0.0	0.0	50.0
<b>FY2006 Governor</b>	<b>2,506.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,038.3</b>	<b>3,545.0</b>

**Office of Habitat Management and Permitting  
Personal Services Information**

<b>Authorized Positions</b>		<b>Personal Services Costs</b>		
	<u>FY2005</u> <u>Management</u> <u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2006</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	37	37	Annual Salaries	1,881,015
Part-time	0	0	COLA	24,845
Nonpermanent	0	0	Premium Pay	0
			Annual Benefits	952,689
			<i>Less 4.37% Vacancy Factor</i>	<i>(125,049)</i>
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>Total Personal Services</b>	<b>2,733,500</b>

**Position Classification Summary**

<b>Job Class Title</b>	<b>Anchorage</b>	<b>Fairbanks</b>	<b>Juneau</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>
Administrative Assistant	1	0	1	0	2
Administrative Clerk II	1	0	0	0	1
Administrative Clerk III	0	0	0	3	3
Administrative Manager I	0	1	0	0	1
Administrative Manager II	0	0	1	0	1
Division Director	0	0	1	0	1
Habitat Biologist I	1	0	0	0	1
Habitat Biologist II	3	1	2	2	8
Habitat Biologist III	3	5	1	5	14
Habitat Biologist IV	2	1	1	0	4
Operations Manager	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>37</b>