

Alaska Trails Initiative

FY2007 Request: \$2,368,500
Reference No: AMD 42018

AP/AL: Appropriation
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2006 - 06/30/2011

Project Type: Planning
Contact: Nico Bus
Contact Phone: (907)465-2406

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

The Alaska Trails Initiative program will distribute funds through a grant program to trail organizations statewide. Grant funds will be used for trail and trail related facility development, maintenance and construction, assisting trail organizations and agencies with much needed funding for trail projects statewide. Funding comes through the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Western Federal Land Highway Division (FHWA/WFLHD).

Funding:	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$2,368,500						\$2,368,500
Total:	\$2,368,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,368,500

<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 checked="" 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:

\$3,752.0 Federal authorization approved by LB&A on ADN#10-6-5035.

Project Description/Justification:

This funding was congressionally directed as the Alaska Trails Initiative in the federal FY06 budget.

This funding will provide for enhanced recreational trail opportunities for Alaskans through the partnership and administration of federal and state grant programs.

The program will be administered similar to the Recreational Trails Program Grants, which is currently administered by Alaska State Parks staff.

Approval is sought to help expedite the program and proceed with trail project work. A timely approval is requested to efficiently utilize the grant time frame imposed by FHWA/WFLHD.

Why is this Project Needed Now:

This is the second year that the funding has been congressionally directed for trail projects in Alaska. Last year the AK Trails Initiative named 14 different entities to receive the funding (see list below). This year's earmark does not name specific entities allowing other organizations statewide to apply for funding. Of the 14 entities that were awarded grants last year, only one project will be completed in its entirety. The other 13 projects are only completed to certain phases. The total request for funding from these 14 entities was \$8.2 million. Approval of this funding would allow these 13 entities to complete some of the projects and would allow others to compete for the grants.

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2006 Alaska Trails Initiative:

Project Name/Applicant Organization/Grant Amount

Sitka Trail Works/Sitka Trail Works, Inc./\$450,000.00
Girdwood Trails Municipality of Anchorage/Girdwood Trails Committee/\$104,000.00
Kodiak Trails/DPOR - Kodiak/\$332,128.00
Iditarod National Historic Trail Seward to Girdwood/Chugach National Forest/\$308,000.00
Perseverance Trail Repairs/Trail Mix, Inc./\$736,212.00
Juneau Nordic Trails/Eaglecrest Ski Area/\$98,800.00
Russian River Anglers Trail Proposal/Chugach National Forest/\$425,297.00
Hatcher Pass Trails/Mat-Su Borough/\$188,513.00
Arctic Valley Trails/Anchorage Ski Club Inc./Chugach State Park/\$108,000.00
Sitka World War II Causeway/Sitka Trail Works, Inc./\$150,000.00
Iditarod Trail Committee, Trail Enhancement Project/Iditarod Trail Committee/\$480,000.00
Juneau Thunder Trails/Trail Mix, Inc./\$100,000.00
State of Alaska Wildlife Trails/Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game/\$247,550.00
MatSu Gorsuch Trails/Western Alaska Council, Boy Scouts of America/\$28,000.00
Wrangell St. Elias Crystalline Hills Trailhead/Wrangell St. Elias Natl Park & Preserve/\$53,500.00

Specific Spending Detail:

- Personal Services \$121.2 - Program Coordinator, grants administrator and grant accountant for the duration of the grants (grants are good for 5 years).
- Travel \$5.0 - Outdoor Recreational Trails Advisory Board Board and inspection of work completed for grants.
- Grants \$2,242.2