

National Recreational Trail Grants Federal Program

FY2009 Request: \$1,500,000

Reference No: 6854

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Deferred Maintenance

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

Contact: Leta Simons

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact Phone: (907)465-2400

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2008 - 06/30/2013

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Alaskans rely on trails for recreation, subsistence, and travel between communities. These trails need maintenance to ensure safe passage and to ensure that they remain open and available for use. Funds are distributed by 90-10 matching grants for recreational trail and trailhead development and maintenance, and for education programs relating to trail safety and environmental protection. Grants are awarded to organizations, agencies and local governments.

| Funding: | FY2009 | FY2010 | FY2011 | FY2012 | FY2013 | FY2014 | Total |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fed Rcpts | \$1,500,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$7,750,000 |
| Total: | \$1,500,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,250,000 | \$7,750,000 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <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 |
| <u>One-Time Startup:</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| Totals: | 0 | 0 |

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

| | | |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| SLA2007/CH30 | \$ 850,000 | 15% complete |
| SLA2006/CH82 | \$ 695,000 | 70% complete |
| SLA2005/CH3 | \$ 695,000 | 80% complete |
| SLA2004/CH159 | \$ 695,000 | 95%Complete |
| SLA2003/CH82 | \$ 695,000 | Complete |

Project Description/Justification:

As more and more residents and visitors turn to Alaska's vast trail system for recreation, subsistence and basic transportation between communities, the need for a more extensive and well-maintained trail system continues to grow. The growing population is also putting development pressure on the existing trail system and many trails are being lost as property is subdivided or sold to private owners. We can assist in slowing the loss of our existing trail system through this granting program and will sustain and improve that system as well.

State funds are saved by the availability of these federal grant funds for development and maintenance of Alaska's public recreational trails. Public safety is improved by having well maintained trails. Trespass is reduced by securing trail easements with grant funds. Search and rescue costs are reduced by having well marked and maintained trails that are easy to follow. Because this is a matching grant program, grantees provide cash, labor and equipment to match at least 10-20 percent of grant funds, effectively stretching state funds. Public recreational trails contribute to Alaska's economy

by providing construction and maintenance jobs, attracting tourists and visitors, and by stimulating the business of outfitters, guides and tour companies. In addition, the Recreational Trails Program ensures that:

- ? Grantees obtain legal access
- ? Projects are consistent with Federal, State and local land use plans
- ? Social and economic impacts are analyzed
- ? Archeological and historical resources are protected
- ? The project is analyzed for any impact on threatened or endangered species
- ? The project is analyzed for any impact on fish and wildlife
- ? The project is analyzed for its affect on wetlands, flood plains and bodies of water
- ? Water quality is maintained
- ? Hazardous waste is checked for and identified
- ? Air quality is checked
- ? The noise resulting from the project is analyzed
- ? There is public involvement

Why is this Project Needed Now?:

Alaska’s trails are gradually being lost due to community expansion and development pressure. The grant program provides an opportunity to establish new trails and reserve existing recreational access throughout the state.

The following Recreational Trail Projects have been approved for FFY07. Park & Outdoor Recreation is in the process of completing the FFY08 awards

| 2007 Recreational Trail Grants | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| Grantee | Project Name | Grant Amount |
| Chugach National Forest - Glacier Ranger District | Grandview Interpretive Trail | \$48,200.00 |
| B.A.A.R.T | Avalanche Awareness and Hazard Recognition | \$14,800.00 |
| City of Skagway | Upper Dewey Lake Trail Restoration Phase I | \$18,852.03 |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough Trails Advisory Commission | Trail Etiquette Signage | \$18,000.00 |
| Fairbanks North Star Borough Dept. of Parks and Recreation | Isberg Recreation Area Trail Construction | \$50,000.00 |
| City of White Mountain | White Mountain Recreational Trails Improvements | \$32,711.67 |
| Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District | Hatcher Pass Latrines | \$4,500.00 |
| Division of Mining, Land & Water | Alaska Heritage Trails Program; Trail Easement Recording Project | \$140,851.00 |
| Mat-Su Trails Council, Inc | Mini-excavator with boom attached flail mower | \$50,000.00 |
| Curry Ridge Riders | Trapper Creek & Petersville Winter Trail Grooming | \$20,000.00 |

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| Curry Ridge Riders | Chulitna Bluff & Rabidux Trail Construction | \$50,000.00 |
| North American Outdoor Institute | Alaska Winter/Summer Outdoor Safety Education Presentations | \$36,000.00 |
| City of Hoonah | Hoonah Community Trails | \$49,986.50 |
| Yakutat Salmon Board | Historic CCC Trail Conversion to ADA Standards | \$45,815.00 |
| Division of Mining, Land & Water | Eska Creek Trail Improvements | \$32,178.00 |
| Division of Mining, Land & Water | Glacier Lake Trail Re-route | \$15,822.00 |
| Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District | Kroto Creek Trailhead trash removal | \$2,160.00 |
| Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District | Denali State Park Flood Damage Repair Crew | \$33,206.25 |
| Wasilla Soil & Water Conservation District | Mat-Valley Moose Range Trail Restoration | \$27,909.00 |
| Alaska Bird Observatory | Chickadee Loop Trail | \$3,546.95 |
| Alaska Skijoring and Pulk Association (ASPA) | Creamer's Field Winter Trails Grooming | \$14,875.00 |
| Telida Village Council | Telida-Nikolai Trail Maintenance Project | \$50,000.00 |
| Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Kenai District | Shoup Bay Trail Improvements | \$30,200.00 |
| Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Northern District | Stiles Creek Trail Re-route, phase II | \$49,990.00 |
| Girdwood Trails Committee | Girdwood Public Trails Maintenance | \$24,000.00 |
| Copper River Watershed Project | Cordova Breakwater Trail | \$31,872.70 |
| Homer Soil and Water Conservation District | Trail Improvements and Signage in the Homer Demonstration Forest | \$22,538.24 |
| Ketchikan Gateway Borough | Point Higgins Trail Extension Phase II | \$50,000.00 |
| Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Mat-Su District | Trail Crew Leader, NLSRA | \$10,566.00 |
| Alaskan Sled Dog & Racing Association | Winter Grooming & Bridge Maintenance | \$11,365.00 |
| Alaskan for Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge | Reflections Lake Trail Renovation | \$16,522.00 |
| Northwest Arctic Borough | Northwest Alaska Trail Staking | \$49,471.00 |
| Lake Louise Snowmachine Club | Purchase 1990 Bombardier Snocat | \$15,000.00 |
| Alaska Dog Mushers Association | Burglin 80 Acre Trail Easement Purchase and Re-route | \$5,681.00 |
| USDA, Forest Service, Thorne Bay Range District | Memorial Beach Trail Maintenance | \$7,185.00 |

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| Upper Susitna Soil & Water Conservation District | Byers Lake Trail Maintenance & Improvements | \$20,816.00 |
| Matanuska-Susitna Borough | Matanuska-Susitna Borough Trail Marking & Signing | \$19,103.70 |
| Total Recreational Trails Grants | | \$1,123,724.04 |
| 2007 Trails Initiative Grants | | |
| Grantee | Project Name | Grant Amount |
| Mobile Tool Caches | Alaska Trails Inc | \$14,990.00 |
| Pinky's Park Running Trail | City of Bethel | \$50,000.00 |
| Angel Creek Trail Reroute | Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation; Northern Area | \$125,000.00 |
| Tsalteshi Trails Improvement Project | Tsalteshi Trails Association | \$100,000.00 |
| Perseverance Trail Phase II | Trail Mix, Inc. | \$100,000.00 |
| Helen Louise McDowell Sanctuary Trail Program | Great Land Trust | \$99,391.00 |
| Auke Lake Trail | University of Alaska Southeast | \$100,000.00 |
| Hillside Singletrack Trails Project | Upper Susitna Soil & Water Conservation District | \$50,000.00 |
| Talkeetna Lakes Park Loop Trail & Access | Upper Susitna Soil & Water Conservation District | \$50,000.00 |
| Lookout Mountain Recreation Area | Kachemak Nordic Ski club | \$66,200.00 |
| FNSB Recreational Trails Easement Project | Fairbanks North Star Borough | \$136,620.00 |
| Layout and Prescription for Eska Creek Area Trails | Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water | \$18,000.00 |
| Grandview Interpretive Trail | USDA FS Chugach National Forest, Seward Ranger District | \$100,000.00 |
| Girdwood Trail Pedestrian Bridge | Municipality of Anchorage & Girdwood Parks and Recreation | \$100,000.00 |
| Gravelly Creek Trail | USDA FS Thorne Bay | \$15,850.00 |
| Nugget Falls Accessible Trail | USDA FS Tongass National Forest, Juneau Ranger District | \$135,000.00 |
| Trail Easement Recording Project | Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water | \$80,000.00 |
| World War II Causeway | Sitka Trail Works, Inc. | \$69,825.00 |
| Lake Louise - McClaren Trail Survey and Construction | Lake Louise Snowmobile Club | \$91,215.00 |

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| Red Bay Trail Improvement Project | USDA FS Thorne Bay | \$19,226.00 |
| Bogus Creek Trail and Shelter Cabin | Kuskokwim 300 Race Committee | \$60,717.00 |
| Billings Pass Trail | City of Whittier | \$52,339.00 |
| Total Trails Initiative Grants | | \$1,634,373.00 |

Specific Spending Detail:

| <u>LINE ITEM</u> | <u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION (text)</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| Personal Services | \$ 350,000 | State Trails Office |
| Travel | \$ 35,000 | |
| Services | \$ 200,000 | Grants (RSA's) to state agencies |
| Commodities | \$ 40,000 | |
| Grants | \$ 875,000 | Grants to federal and local governments and non profit agencies. |

Project Support:

In addition to all the grantees listed above dozens of Alaska communities, agencies and trail user groups have received grants and support the program.

Some of the communities that have received grants include: Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, City of Wasilla, Native Village of Fort Yukon, City of Kotlik, City of Homer, City of Barrow, City of Galena, City of Cordova, City of Aleknagik and the Circle Village Council.

Some of the user groups include: Boy Scouts, Trail Mix Inc., Fairbanks Snow Travelers, Caribou Hills Cabin Hoppers, Fairbanks Nordic Ski Club, Peninsula Sled Dog Racing Association, Sitka Recreational Riders, Norton Sound Sled Dog Club, Alaska Botanical Gardens and the Goldstream Valley Trail Users Assn.

Project Opposition:

None