

Wildland Fire Truck Replacement**FY2010 Request: \$750,000****Reference No: 33955****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety**Category:** Public Protection**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Leta Simons**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-3379**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2009 - 06/30/2010**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project funds replacement of eight wildland fire engines in road accessible protection areas. Engines are essential for attacking wildland fires and meeting the primary objective of containing 90% of fires at 10 acres or less on lands in "full" or "critical" protection. Overall, the Division responds to an average of 400+ wildland fires/year, primarily in high value urban interface areas. Replacement decreases the reliance on out-dated engines and increases the margin of safety for fire fighters. This project supports the mission to manage fires in the most effective and cost efficient manner possible, meeting statutory requirements to provide fire protection on all state, municipal, and private lands.

Funding:	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	Total
Gen Fund	\$750,000	\$775,000	\$800,000		\$800,000	\$800,000	\$3,925,000
Total:	\$750,000	\$775,000	\$800,000	\$0	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$3,925,000

<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	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

SLA08/CH29 \$ 625.0 Specifications determined. Acquisition to occur in FY09.

Project Description/Justification:

This project will fund eight replacement engines. It is anticipated that the purchase will include three Type 4 (medium size) fire engines and and five Type 6/7 (light size) fire engines. In areas, Forestry fire engines are first responders to high population urban/wildland interface fires. It is essential that the State maintain equipment to industry standards in order to limit liability, ensure public and fire fighter safety, and provide reliable response capability.

The Type 6/7 engines provide quick response and maneuverability as well as the capability of patrolling long distances in Division of Forestry's protection areas. Engine crewmembers often provide first on-scene evaluation of values at risk, potential fire behavior, additional resources needed, and mobile communications. Type 4 engines can provide additional crewmembers (up to five); up to 500 to 750 gallons of water with fire suppressant foam, and provide additional equipment that can be used to keep potentially large fires at their minimum acreage.

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The Division of Forestry has developed a long term engine replacement plan designed to meet increasing maintenance and operational costs determined by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF). Under phase one of the CIP, engine specifications are designed to meet National Fire Protection Association standards and manufacturer availability have been determined. Engines are currently being ordered for Delta, Kenai (Homer), Fairbanks, and Copper River under the FY2009 CIP.

Why is this Project Needed Now?

Maintenance costs on outdated equipment increase proportionately to age and use. Engines needing replacement have out dated technology such as two point safety restraints as well as deteriorating utility bodies. In working with or directly in support of local fire departments, the cooperative effort benefits the public with improved service, reduced costs, and successful engine response to wildland fire.

Engine replacement requires lead time and planning as the vehicles are manufactured by specialty GSA contractors. Engines must be ordered as far as a year in advance. Wildland fire activity in unurban-interface areas has been increasing in the past several years in all of the Division of Forestry's protection responsibilities. This is a reflection of the increased population, their propensity in building in both remote and urban fire prone areas, and fire seasons that are starting earlier, have increased in intensity, and prolonged in duration.

Specific Spending Detail:

LINE ITEM	DOLLAR AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Personal Services	\$ 10,000	Contract and purchase monitoring
Travel	\$ 15,000	Engine inspection and packaging
Services	\$ 30,000	Shipping
Capital Outlay	\$ 695,000	Engine purchase

Project Support:

Continued support from the Alaska State Fire Chiefs Association, Interior Fire Chiefs Association, Kenai Peninsula, Mat/Su, Fairbanks North Star, and Denali Boroughs, 60+ local fire departments, and the general public who receive the benefit of increased wildland fire protection.

The State of Alaska Division of Forestry provides the engine support for wildland fire control for our fire suppression cooperators (Alaska Fire Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Park Service, and local cooperators).