

Federal and Local Government Funded Forestry and Fire Projects **FY2010 Request: \$3,500,000**
Reference No: 37769

AP/AL: Appropriation **Project Type:** Life / Health / Safety
Category: Natural Resources
Location: Statewide **Contact:** Leta Simons
House District: Statewide (HD 1-40) **Contact Phone:** (907)465-3379
Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2009 - 12/31/2011

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project provides receipt authority for federal and local government funds. Funds provide support to educate, mitigate, prepare for and respond to threats of wildland fire, including the ability of the State and local government to achieve improved local volunteer fire department capabilities, Community Wildfire Protection Planning and Firewise Education, enhanced local community environmental conditions with planting and community forestry, increased productivity from non-industrial private forest landholdings. This project meets the mission of continued protection, development, and management of the State's natural resources by enlisting cooperation at the local level throughout Alaska.

Funding:	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>FY2012</u>	<u>FY2013</u>	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$2,700,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,300,000	\$2,100,000	\$1,900,000	\$1,700,000	\$13,200,000
Stat Desig	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$4,800,000
Total:	\$3,500,000	\$3,300,000	\$3,100,000	\$2,900,000	\$2,700,000	\$2,500,000	\$18,000,000

<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 \$3,000.00 10% Complete
 SLA07/CH30 \$2,800.00 70% Complete
 SLA06/CH82 \$4,600.00 85% Complete
 SLA05/CH3 \$4,900.00 95% Complete
 SLA04/CH159 \$4,600.00 Complete

Project Description/Justification:

This CIP supports the Department's mission to develop, conserve and enhance natural resources for present and future Alaskans by delivering federally and local funded forest management, development and wildfire preparedness programs. AS 41.17.030 gives management of state forests to the Department of Natural Resources. This CIP will enable the Division to meet specific program requirements with federal and local support, including but not limited to the responsibilities of providing wildland fire protection services on state, private and municipal lands as mandated in AS41.15.010 – 170. These federal funds and federal fund pass through grants will allow the Division to improve and enhance its abilities to support both resources and wildland fire programs that benefit

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the citizens and resources of Alaska. The threat of catastrophic wildland fires in the urban interface areas in the state is increasing as the citizens of Alaska continue to move into the forested areas of the state and drought conditions persist. Grant funds can go to local cooperators and local governments supporting local economies and jobs as well improving conditions and capabilities. More forest resource productivity in local areas results from development of forest land management plans by landowners and professional foresters. Enhanced community environments result from community trees/forest that are healthy, attractive and safe. Increased fire protection is the result of additional training and equipment purchases by volunteer fire departments, community planning for wildfires and an active Firewise education program. Additional federal grant funds may be anticipated to support forest resource management projects that may include:

- Forest resources and management
- Insect and Disease projects
- Urban and Community Forestry
- Forest Stewardship
- Forest Practices
- Forest Land Enhancement
- Forest Resource Inventory
- Cooperative forest resource research projects
- Improvement of the Division’s initial attack and extended attack capabilities.
- Improvement of local government and volunteer fire department capabilities to respond to structure and wildland fire incidents in the urban interface and rural areas of the state
- Type I hotshot crew to be utilized in Alaska and the lower 48 to aid in the suppression of wildland fires
- Fuels mapping and community planning for wildland fire
- Hazardous fuels mitigation projects
- Prevention and education emphasizing Firewise concepts
- Forest stewardship planning with private landowners and native corporations
- Development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans

The Project does not directly raise state revenue. However; it expands the state’s effectiveness in both forest management and wildland fire management.

Why is this Project Needed Now?

This CIP will provide the Division with needed capacity to support increasing program demands in both forest resources and wildland fire management brought about by increasing public need for services in forest resources (i.e., Forest health, etc.), increased risks to public health and safety (i.e., Wildland/urban interface education, prevention, and suppression) and puts federal funding into local economies. Benefits bolster local security from fire losses, strengthen local communities, improve climate for residential expansion and business opportunities and enhance local community infrastructure (trees).

Specific Spending Detail:

<u>LINE ITEM</u>	<u>DOLLAR AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Personal	\$ 1,250,000	Federally funded initial attack positions and

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Services		extension of seasonal positions to train and test volunteer fire personnel to fight wildland fires. CIP receipt funding for emergency or seasonal employees to perform hazard fuel mitigation work in cooperation with boroughs and municipalities
Travel	\$ 225,000	Travel and per diem for state and local government to present & receive specialized fire training. Travel associated with implementation of National Fire Plan and USFS grant funds.
Services	\$ 1000,000	Contractual Services related to the Fire and Aviation Program, fuels mitigation, education for forest landowners, imagery acquisition, and mechanical fuels treatment.
Commodities	\$ 325,000	Miscellaneous supplies and training materials associated with Fire and Aviation Program, education projects, and fuels treatment.
Capital Outlay	\$ 200,000	Purchase of specialized equipment for use by DOF, local government and volunteer fire departments.
Grants	\$ 500,000	Pass thru grants to volunteer fire departments, native corporations and local government.

Project Support:

Broad support is anticipated from the general public, local government, volunteer fire departments and numerous state and federal government cooperating agencies.