

**EVOS Trustee Council Habitat Acquisition of Subsurface Lands on Northern Afognak Island**      **FY2016 Request: \$1,000,000**  
**Reference No: AMD 60290**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation      **Project Type:** Parks / Recreation  
**Category:** Natural Resources      **House District:** Kodiak/Cordova/Seldovia (HD 32)  
**Location:** Afognak      **Contact:** Jean Davis  
**Impact House District:** Kodiak/Cordova/Seldovia (HD 32)  
**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2015 - 06/30/2020      **Contact Phone:** (907)465-2422

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project will use settlement funds to purchase the subsurface estate or a no surface occupancy agreement on approximately 36,370 acres of Northern Afognak Island. Acquisition of these lands or interest in these lands will ensure protected surface habitat values are not impacted by subsurface activities.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>FY2021</u>	<u>Total</u>
EV OSS	\$1,000,000						\$1,000,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input 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	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Prior Funding History / Additional Information:**

No prior funding history.

**Project Description/Justification:**

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council (EVOSTC) civil settlement funds will be used to purchase the subsurface estate or a no surface occupancy agreement on approximately 36,370 acres of subsurface lands on Northern Afognak Island located between Afognak Island State Park, the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and other State lands, and on the Triplet Islands. Acquisition of these lands or interest in these lands will ensure protected surface habitat values are not impacted by subsurface activities.

In FY2015, purchase of the Afognak Island surface estate was approved by the EVOSTC and the State Legislature appropriated \$15 million of civil settlement funds for the acquisition. This project would acquire the subsurface for the surface estate that is currently being negotiated. When the EVOSTC approved acquisition of the surface estate, they explicitly expressed a desire to acquire the full estate (both surface and subsurface) to remove any risk of impacts to the habitat values intended for restoration and the sole purpose for the acquisition.

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The EVOSTC determined that these lands contribute to the restoration of resources and services injured by the Exxon Valdez oil spill and will further restoration objectives. The project will also ensure connectivity and a consistent management strategy between state lands that will support hunting, guiding, fishing, and recreational uses in the area. In addition, this project is consistent with the Department of Natural Resource's management objective of securing lands to meet recreational and access needs consistent with the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation's Ten-Year Strategic Plan.

This appropriation for this project is expected to be fully expended in the first fiscal year.

<b>Line Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>
71000 - Personal Services	0.0
72000 - Travel	0.0
73000 - Contractual	0.0
74000 - Commodities	0.0
75000 - Capital Outlay	\$1,000.0
77000 - Grants	0.0
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$1,000.0</b>

Should this request not be approved the acquisition of land or an interest in lands will not go forward. Landowners will find other interested buyers and these opportunities to address the risk of subsurface development on EVOSTC protected surface estate could be lost. Taking steps to address risk management issues now will likely be more cost effective as settlement funds are available now and land continues to appreciate.