



THE STATE  
*of* **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Natural Resources**  
DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION  
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

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August 15, 2016

Ms. Elise Hsieh  
EVOS Trustee Council  
4210 University Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Re: Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation  
Habitat Restoration/Protection Project Proposals

Dear Ms. Hsieh:

Attached are six project proposals that the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DNR-DPOR) is submitting for funding under the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill (EVOS) Restoration Program. Listed in order of descending priority, the six projects are:

1. Kenai River Special Management Area (KRSMA): Kenai River Flats Riverbank Protection, Phase I
2. KRSMA: Eagle Rock<sup>†</sup> Riverbank Protection
3. Crooked Creek State Recreation Site Riverbank Restoration
4. KRSMA: Kenai River Ranch<sup>†</sup> Riverbank Restoration
5. KRSMA: Pipeline Crossing Riverbank Restoration
6. Anchor River State Recreation Area Riverbank Protection

These six projects address fish habitat restoration and protection of spill area ecosystems that support numerous species affected by EVOS. The primary goal of each project is to restore fish habitats that have been adversely impacted by human activity and to provide continuing habitat protection into the future. These projects restore and protect fish habitats that have been and continue to be adversely impacted by human activities and will limit future access so that those restored areas will be protected while still accommodating human activities, such as recreational use. These projects are very similar in character, scope, and objective as the previous EVOSTC-funded project "Kenai River Habitat Restoration and Recreational Enhancement Project" (Restoration Project 96180/99180), which was performed during the late 1990s. Additionally, these projects are also aligned with DNR-DPOR management documents or development plans such as the Kenai River Comprehensive Management Plan.

DNR-DPOR is constantly pursuing funding to meet the needs identified in those management documents and development plans. In many cases, state funds secured for projects are used to leverage federal funds through matching grants and partnerships. This is the case with the Eagle Rock project where state funds are being used to match Sport Fish Restoration/Recreational Boating funds (federal funds managed by the Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport

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<sup>†</sup>Eagle Rock and Kenai River Ranch were acquired through the EVOS Small Parcel Process

Fish) to enhance the site's recreational uses. An opportunity exists for the Kenai River Flats project to leverage Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) funds through the Alaska Transportation Alternatives Program (ATAP), which is administered by the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. Generally speaking, however, these projects will unlikely advance to design and construction without funding from the EVOS program, resulting in continued unmanaged recreational access and fish habitat deterioration at those sites.

All costs presented in the preliminary engineer's estimate are direct project costs. Indirect costs such as office administrative support and general office expenses will be borne by DNR-DPOR's Design and Construction Section's operating budget and will not be funded by the projects.

The expected design life of the proposed projects is 25 years. DNR-DPOR will design the elevated light-penetrating (ELP) walkways to have structural steel framing and the river access stairs will consist of structural aluminum. Structural steel and aluminum are the current standard for DNR-DPOR's ELP walkways and river access stairs because they offer longer service life and reduced maintenance needs when compared to timber structures. More specifically, steel ELP walkways are more favorable because they perform better at resisting ice forces commonly experienced by riverside structures and are also less buoyant making them more stable during flood events. The revegetation components will follow the industry manual "*Streambank Revegetation and Protection: A Guide for Alaska*" and will be self-maintaining after the construction period. DNR-DPOR will assume all maintenance responsibilities upon completion of the projects. Signs will be posted to educate the public about the need to permanently protect stream-and-estuarine-edge habitats to aid multiple species injured by the spill.

The attached spreadsheet summarizes the proposed projects and the benefits each afford to spill injured species. The separate proposal worksheet for each individual project includes a narrative, preliminary engineer's estimate, proposed site plan, and other supporting documents. These projects have been developed to a concept level, which is reflected on the proposed site plan and confidential preliminary engineer's estimate.

The preliminary engineer's estimate consists of the following five major line items:

1. **Basic Bid.** The basic bid item is the estimated construction contract cost. That amount is broken out into specific contract components, (shown at the upper portion of the estimate) which encompass the full extent of the proposed construction work. This amount is an estimate and is based on quantities derived from the concept site plan and unit prices from historical bid data and general knowledge of construction practices at the project location. "All Req'd" is used as a quantity for lump sum and contingent sum items and means to capture all work associated with that pay item. Variation in unit prices from site to site is a product of economy of scale or unique circumstances at a specific location that may affect the cost of construction. Final unit prices will vary depending on the low bid determined during the bidding process and final quantities will vary through the course of construction.
2. **Project Contingency.** The project contingency is intended to cover unforeseen costs as the project develops. Those unforeseen costs may include things such as contractor bids

coming in higher, increases in final quantities, and change orders during construction. This cost is calculated at 10% of the basic bid, which is typical of projects of these sizes and complexity.

3. **Design Services.** Design services represent the work associated with developing the conceptual plans into a bid-ready, engineered document for construction. Activities include surveying, site planning, engineering, environmental impact analysis, permitting, and publicly advertising the plans for construction. This cost is estimated at 12% of the basic bid on most of the projects, which is typical of projects of these sizes and complexity.
4. **Construction Administration.** Construction administration work entails supervising the construction project as required by AS 35.10.030. Construction administration activities include documenting daily work progress, resolving field questions, inspecting and approving completed work, addressing unforeseen conditions, issuing change orders, tracking the project budget, and performing all other duties necessary to ensure project compliance and success. This cost is estimated at 15% of the basic bid, which is typical of projects of these sizes, location, and complexity.
5. **Interpretation and Education.** Interpretation and education captures the costs associated with producing interpretive panels. These costs include research work, graphic development, panel design, and panel procurement. This cost is calculated at \$7k per panel and is based on historical data. Opportunity exists to save on costs if multiple projects with the same or similar panels are funded.

Some of the enclosed project worksheets contain visitation data for their respective project site. Those numbers are tallied by various methods which include mechanical counters, correlating fees collected at those park units, and site hosts regularly surveying the facilities. The numbers are fairly conservative, erring on the low side, since the methods described are only as accurate as they imply, however, the data holds true to the overall visitation trends.

Please let me know if you need additional information regarding any of these projects.

Sincerely,



Rys Miranda, P.E.  
Chief of Design and Construction  
Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

Attachments as stated