

**Cooperative Water Resource Program Pass-through to
USGS for Stream Gaging Projects**

FY2025 Request: \$175,000
Reference No: AMD 37762

AP/AL: Appropriation

Category: Natural Resources

Location: Statewide

Impact House District: Statewide (HD 1 - 40)

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2024 - 06/30/2029

Project Type: Water / Sewer / Solid Waste

Recipient: NA

House District: Statewide (HD 1 - 40)

Contact: Theresa Cross

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Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project allows the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to accept funds from the private sector and local governments and to pass funds through to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) as part of funding agreements for cooperative water resource programs. Industry and local government often request and pay for USGS and NRCS to install equipment to obtain hydrologic data. This data is needed for resource development and permitting projects such as mining, hydroelectric, or public water supply. If stream gaging funding is passed through a State agency, funds can be matched up to 100 percent by the federal government.

Funding:	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	Total
1108 Stat Desig	\$175,000						\$175,000
Total:	\$175,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$175,000

<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"/> Ongoing
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	
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

Sec8 Ch1 SLA2021 P74 L31 HB69 \$300,000
Sec1 Ch19 SLA2019 P5 L13 SB19 \$500,000
Sec1 Ch19 SLA2018 P7 L24 SB142 \$500,000
Sec1 Ch18 SLA2014 P57 L19 SB119 \$2,500,000
Sec1 Ch16 SLA2013 P71 L22 SB18 \$2,500,000
Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P124 L11 SB160 \$2,500,000
Sec1 Ch5 SLA2011 P91 L11 SB46 \$855,000
Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P29 L18 SB230 \$805,000

Project Description/Justification:

Funding for this program comes from State and local governments, native associations, and the private sector. No allocations of State general funds are included, only the authorization to receive and pass through funding from non-state sources. The project reflects the amount of authorization necessary to cover the total cost of the existing requests on record.

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In many cases, stream gaging is required under federal law for project development. The collected information allows permitting agencies to quantify the predicted impacts to stream flow and water quality because of the proposed water use aspects of a project.

This program allows the funds used for gaging to be matched by the federal government, reducing the cost to the State, local government, and the private sector. Because the gaging is done by a federal agency, the program and funding must interface with the federal fiscal year.

The administration of pass-through money requires a small portion of an existing administrative position whose time will be covered by a 5 percent administrative surcharge added to project billing. The USGS and NRCS require a partner in government for this program to continue in Alaska.

The Division of Mining, Land and Water has a longstanding and beneficial relationship with the USGS and NRCS. The continuation of this program benefits the state, local governments, native associations, and the private sector by allowing them to participate with the state, USGS and NRCS with matching funds provided by the cooperative program. If the program is not approved the cost of gaging for existing or new projects where USGS and NRCS gaging is required, and the cost to developers will be much higher since the federal cooperative matching funds would not be available.

Line-Item Breakdown:

Line Item	Amount
1000 – Personal Services	\$15,000
2000 – Travel	
3000 – Services	\$160,000
4000 – Commodities	
5000 – Capital Outlay	
7000 – Grants	
Total Request	\$175,000