

SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE A GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, AND REQUIRED MATCH FUNDING FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 AREAWIDE BUDGET APPROPRIATION, APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET, AND AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR COTTONWOOD CREEK AT FERN STREET FISH PASSAGE, AND APPROVING THE TIME EXTENSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 AREAWIDE BUDGET APPROPRIATION FOR FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENTS MATCH FUNDS.

AGENDA OF: September 16, 2025

ASSEMBLY ACTION: Adopted without objection 10/07/25 - BJH

AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED: Introduce and set for public hearing.

Route To	Signatures
Originator	8 / 2 9 / 2 0 2 5 X M i c h a e l C a m p f i e l d Signed by: Mike Campfield
Public Works Director	Recoverable Signature X T o m A d a m s , P E Signed by: Tom Adams
Purchasing Director	9 / 2 / 2 0 2 5 X R u s t i n K r a f f t Signed by: Russ Krafft
Finance Director	Recoverable Signature X C h e y e n n e H e i n d e l Signed by: Cheyenne Heindel
Borough Attorney	9 / 2 / 2 0 2 5 X N i c h o l a s S p i r o p o u l o s Signed by: Nicholas Spiropoulos
Borough Manager	9 / 2 / 2 0 2 5 X M i c h a e l B r o w n Signed by: Mike Brown
Borough Clerk	9 / 5 / 2 0 2 5 X B r e n d a J . H e n r y f o r Signed by: Brenda Henry

ATTACHMENT (S) : Fiscal Note: Yes x No
 NFHP Grant #F25AC02562-00 (16 pp)
 Ordinance Serial No. 25-107 (2 pp)
 Resolution Serial No. 25-089 (2 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Public Works Department has been notified by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) that the Borough's grant application has been approved for a total amount of \$60,000 to improve the Cottonwood Creek fish passage at Fern Street.

This fish passage project will reopen at least 13.2 kilometers of upstream habitat above the crossing of Cottonwood Creek and Fern Street. The prioritization of this culvert is congruent with the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership Fish Passage Improvement Plan. This project is a part of a larger effort to improve fish passage throughout the Cottonwood Creek system.

The grant requires the Borough to match funds in the amount of \$60,000. Full match funding is available from the FY23 Areawide Budget Appropriation for fish passage improvement matching funds.

This match funding is scheduled to expire 6/30/2026. The Public Works Department requests the expiration date of the funding be extended to 12/31/2026 to coincide with the expiration date of the grant funding.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION: Recommend adoption of legislation as presented.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

FISCAL NOTE

Agenda Date: September 16, 2025

SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE A GRANT FROM THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, AND REQUIRED MATCH FUNDING FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 AREA WIDE BUDGET APPROPRIATION, APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET, AND AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR COTTONWOOD CREEK AT FERN STREET FISH PASSAGE, AND APPROVING THE TIME EXTENSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 AREA WIDE BUDGET APPROPRIATION FOR FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENTS MATCH FUNDS.

FISCAL ACTION (TO BE COMPLETED BY FINANCE)	FISCAL IMPACT YES NO
AMOUNT REQUESTED \$120,000	FUNDING SOURCE
FROM ACCOUNT: 480.000.000 4XX.XXX (\$60,000)	PROJECT # 99999
TO ACCOUNT: 410.000.000 3XX.XXX	PROJECT # 30114
VERIFIED BY: 9 / 2 / 2 0 2 5 ☒ M e r i s s a C a r r e l l Signed by: M e r i s s a C a r r e l l	

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
Personnel Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land/Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING						

CAPITAL		120.0				
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REVENUE						
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FUNDING:

(Thousands of Dollars)

General Fund						
State/Federal Funds		60.0				
Other		60.0				
TOTAL		120.0				

POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

APPROVED BY:	9 / 2 / 2 0 2 5 ☒ C h e y e n n e H e i n d e l Signed by: C h e y e n n e H e i n d e l
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Ordinance Serial No. 25-107
 Resolution Serial No. 25-089
 IM 25-205

1. DATE ISSUED MM/DD/YYYY		1a. SUPERSEDES AWARD NOTICE dated	
08/25/2025		except that any additions or restrictions previously imposed remain in effect unless specifically rescinded	
2. ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER			
15.686 - National Fish Habitat Partnership			
3. ASSISTANCE TYPE Cooperative Agreement			
4. GRANT NO. F25AC02562-00		5. TYPE OF AWARD	
Originating MCA #		Other	
4a. FAIN F25AC02562		5a. ACTION TYPE New	
6. PROJECT PERIOD MM/DD/YYYY		MM/DD/YYYY	
From 10/01/2025		Through 12/31/2026	
7. BUDGET PERIOD MM/DD/YYYY		MM/DD/YYYY	
From 10/01/2025		Through 12/31/2026	

8. TITLE OF PROJECT (OR PROGRAM)	
Cottonwood Creek fish passage culvert replacement	

9a. GRANTEE NAME AND ADDRESS	
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH	
350 E Dahlia Ave	
Palmer, AK, 99645-6411	

10a. GRANTEE AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL	
Mr. Mike Brown	
350 E Dahlia Ave	
Palmer, AK, 99645-6411	
Phone: 907-861-8689	

9b. GRANTEE PROJECT DIRECTOR	
Mr. Mike Campfield	
350 E Dahlia Ave	
Palmer, AK, 99645-6411	
Phone: 907-861-7719	

10b. FEDERAL PROJECT OFFICER	
Ms. Anna Senecal	
1849 C St NW	
Washington, DC, 20240-0001	
Phone: 0000000000	

11. APPROVED BUDGET (Excludes Direct Assistance)			
I Financial Assistance from the Federal Awarding Agency Only			
II Total project costs including grant funds and all other financial participation			
II			
a. Salaries and Wages	\$	0.00	
b. Fringe Benefits	\$	0.00	
c. Total Personnel Costs	\$	0.00	
d. Equipment	\$	0.00	
e. Supplies	\$	0.00	
f. Travel	\$	0.00	
g. Construction	\$	0.00	
h. Other	\$	0.00	
i. Contractual	\$	120,000.00	
j. TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	→ \$	120,000.00	
k. INDIRECT COSTS	\$	0.00	
I. TOTAL APPROVED BUDGET		\$	120,000.00
m. Federal Share	\$	60,000.00	
n. Non-Federal Share	\$	60,000.00	

12. AWARD COMPUTATION	
a. Amount of Federal Financial Assistance (from item 11m)	\$ 60,000.00
b. Less Unobligated Balance From Prior Budget Periods	\$ 0.00
c. Less Cumulative Prior Award(s) This Budget Period	\$ 0.00
d. AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THIS ACTION	\$ 60,000.00
13. Total Federal Funds Awarded to Date for Project Period	\$ 60,000.00
14. RECOMMENDED FUTURE SUPPORT	
(Subject to the availability of funds and satisfactory progress of the project):	
YEAR	TOTAL DIRECT COSTS
a. 2	\$
b. 3	\$
c. 4	\$
YEAR	TOTAL DIRECT COSTS
d. 5	\$
e. 6	\$
f. 7	\$
15. PROGRAM INCOME SHALL BE USED IN ACCORD WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES:	
a. DEDUCTION	
b. ADDITIONAL COSTS	
c. MATCHING	
d. OTHER RESEARCH (Add / Deduct Option)	
e. OTHER (See REMARKS)	
16. THIS AWARD IS BASED ON AN APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO, AND AS APPROVED BY, THE FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY ON THE ABOVE TITLED PROJECT AND IS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCORPORATED EITHER DIRECTLY OR BY REFERENCE IN THE FOLLOWING:	
a. The grant program legislation	
b. The grant program regulations.	
c. This award notice including terms and conditions, if any, noted below under REMARKS.	
d. Federal administrative requirements, cost principles and audit requirements applicable to the grant.	
In the event there are conflicting or otherwise inconsistent policies applicable to the grant, the above order of precedence shall prevail. Acceptance of the grant terms and conditions is acknowledged by the grantee when funds are drawn or otherwise obtained from the grant payment system.	

REMARKS (Other Terms and Conditions Attached -	
15e. No program income.	

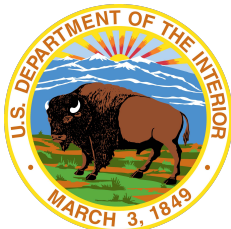
15. No program income.	
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GRANTS MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL:	
Tina Le, Grants Management Specialist	
5275 Leesburg Pike	
Falls Church, VA, 22041-3803	
Phone: 571-531-8012	

17. VENDOR CODE	
0070215415	
18a. UEI QRK7LJ2Y3RJ1	
18b. DUNS 081482960	
19. CONG. DIST.	
00	
LINE#	FINANCIAL ACCT
1	0054005809-00010
AMT OF FIN ASST	\$60,000.00
START DATE	10/01/2025
END DATE	12/31/2026
TAS ACCT	1611
PO LINE DESCRIPTION	
Mat-Su Borough fish passage	

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OR 25-107	
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NOTICE OF AWARD



AUTHORIZATION (Legislation/Regulations)

America's Conservation Enhancement Act—National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships (Pub. L. 116-188 [S. 3051], 134

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SCOPE OF WORK

1. Project Description

The Service hereby incorporates the recipient's application submitted to and approved by the Service into these award terms and conditions.

Fish passage has been a focus of restoration activities in the Mat-Su Borough for over 15 years. Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) has assessed more than 580 crossings on fish-bearing streams with about 70% of them presenting some type of barrier to fish movement. To date over 100 culverts have been replaced with roads or bridges through the program, most on Borough-owned roads. This request will assist with funding one of these barrier removals within the Mat-Su Borough and primarily be used to re-open upstream habitat above the crossing of Cottonwood Creek and Fern Street. The project will result in at least 13.2 kilometers of upstream habitat being re-opened to juvenile salmonid movement. The prioritization of this culvert is congruent with the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership Fish Passage Improvement Plan. The proposal addresses Objective 4.2 of the current 2019 MSSHP Strategic Plan to restore culverts for improved fish passage.

The USFWS will coordinate with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Borough) to be onsite for specific construction milestones to ensure that the constructed projects conforms to FWS design standards, as planned. Milestones include site dewatering, culvert bedding, stream channel reconstruction, and re-watering of the channel. Additionally, we remain on call for technical assistance throughout the project lifespan. We are available for consultation on trouble shooting and field fitting structural and bioengineered/vegetative aspects of the plan.

PAYMENTS

1. Domestic Recipients Enrolled in Treasury's ASAP System

The recipient will request payments under this award in the [U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payment \(ASAP\)](#) system. When requesting payment in ASAP, your Payment Requestor will be required to enter an Account ID. The number assigned to this award is the partial Account ID in ASAP. When entering the Account ID in ASAP, the Payment Requestor should enter the award number identified in the notice of award, followed by a percent sign (%). Refer to the ASAP.gov Help menu for detailed instructions on requesting payments in ASAP.

REPORT

1. Small Grants-Interim Financial Reports

The recipient is required to submit interim financial reports on an annual basis by email to the FWS Project Officer named in the Notice of Award. The recipient must follow the financial reporting period end dates and due dates provided in the Notice of Award. The recipient is required to complete the SF-425, "[Federal Financial Report](#)" form. See also our instructional video on "[Completing the Federal Financial Report \(SF-425\)](#)".

2. Small Grants-Interim Performance Reports

The recipient is required to submit interim performance reports on an annual basis by email to the FWS Project Officer named in the Notice of Award. The recipient must follow the performance reporting period end dates and due dates provided in the Notice of Award.

3. National Fish Habitat Partnership Interim Reporting Requirements

Special Terms and Conditions for Awards Funded Under the National Fish Habitat Partnership

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Interim Performance Reports should include the following information in addition to standard requirements:

Estimated (for active projects) or Final (for completed projects) for any of the following accomplishment metrics:

- Number of habitat enhancements (i.e. barriers removed, habitat installations)
- Miles conserved/restored (include habitat type)
- Acres conserved restored (include habitat type)
- Number of science products
- People engaged (events, presentations)
- Number of project partners
- Results (URL of final project reports, link to datasets, final assessment report);
- Other (not represented above)

4. Small Grants-Final Reports

The recipient must submit a final performance report no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date. Performance reports must contain 1) a comparison of actual accomplishments with the goals and objectives of the award as detailed in the approved scope of work; 2) a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and 3) any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. Please include the Service award number on all reports.

The recipient must follow the final Federal Financial Report and the final Performance Report reporting period end dates and due dates provided in the Notice of Award. The final Federal Financial Report and the final Performance Report must be submitted by email to the FWS Project Officer named in the Notice of Award.

5. National Fish Habitat Partnership Final Reports

The recipient must liquidate all obligations incurred under the award and submit a *final* financial report in GrantSolutions no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date.

The recipient must submit a *final* performance report no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date.

6. Small Grants-Reporting Due Date Extensions

Reporting due dates may be extended for an award upon request to the FWS Project Officer identified in the notice of award. The request should be sent by email to the FWS Project Officer and must include the type of report to be extended, the requested revised due date, and a justification for the extension. The Service may approve an additional extension if justified by a catastrophe that significantly impairs the award Recipient's operations. The recipient must submit reporting due date extension requests to the FWS Project Officer before the original due date. The FWS Project Officer will respond to the recipient after approval or denial of the extension request.

7. Small Grants-Reporting Due Dates

Federal Financial Report Cycle

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Reporting Period Start Date	Reporting Period End Date	Reporting Type	Reporting Period Due Date
10/01/2025	09/30/2026	Interim Financial Report	12/29/2026
10/01/2026	12/31/2026	Final Financial Report	04/30/2027

Federal Performance Report Cycle			
Reporting Period Start Date	Reporting Period End Date	Reporting Type	Reporting Period Due Date
10/01/2025	09/30/2026	Interim Performance Report	12/29/2026
10/01/2026	12/31/2026	Final Performance Report	04/30/2027

8. Significant Developments Reports

See [2 CFR §200.329\(e\)](#). Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates that have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Service in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify the Service in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

AWARD CONDITIONS

1. Matching Requirements

Required 1:1 match per F-FWS-FAC-25-040. See also 2 CFR §200.306.

STAFF CONTACTS

1. Program Officer Contact Information:

Program Officer Name: Anna Senecal

Program Officer Email Address: anna_senecal@fws.gov

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Program Officer Phone Number: 907-267-9675

Terms and Conditions

1. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

General Award Terms and Conditions

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) grant and cooperative agreement award recipients must follow the terms and conditions in their Notice of Award. Award terms and conditions can change. The Service will notify recipients of any changes in writing with a description of the change and the effective date.

Recipients accept their award by starting work, drawing down funds, or electronically indicating acceptance. Recipients must make their subrecipients and contractors aware of applicable award terms and conditions and ensure they comply with them. Recipient failure to comply with award terms and conditions may lead to actions described under 2 CFR §§200.339—343.

A library of the Service's general award terms and conditions with embedded links to all regulations is available on the Service's website

at: <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/financial-assistance-general-award-terms-and-conditions>. Refer to the general terms and conditions in this library in effect as of the signature date on your award. See also the Department of the Interior's General Award Terms and Conditions on their website at: <https://www.doi.gov/grants/doi-standard-terms-and-conditions>.

Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements

These requirements and cost principles are applicable to all awards except those to individuals receiving the award separate from any business or organization they may own or operate. Foreign public entities and foreign organizations must comply with special considerations and requirements specific to their entity type, unless otherwise stated in this section. Foreign public entities must comply with those for states.

2 CFR Part 200, Subparts A—D, as supplemented by 2 CFR Part 1402

Foreign public entities must follow payment procedures in 2 CFR §200.305(b). For foreign public entities and foreign organizations, the requirements in 2 CFR §§200.321—323 do not apply.

2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E—Cost Principles

Applicable to all domestic and foreign non-Federal entities except non-profit organizations identified in Appendix VIII to 2 CFR Part 200. Non-Federal entities include for-profit organizations.

48 CFR Subpart 31.2—Contracts with Commercial Organizations

Applicable to non-profit organizations identified in Appendix VIII to 2 CFR Part 200.

Indirect Cost Proposals

Requirements for development and submission of indirect cost rate proposals are contained in Appendix III (Institutions of Higher Education), Appendix IV (Nonprofit organizations), and Appendix VII (States, local government agencies, and Indian tribes) to 2 CFR Part 200. See also the DOI negotiated indirect cost rate deviation policies at 2 CFR §1402.414. For-profit entities should contact the DOI National Business Center, Office of Indirect Cost Rate Services at: <https://ibc.doi.gov/ICS/indirect-cost>.

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2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F—Audit Requirements

Applicable to U.S. states, local governments, Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations. Not applicable to foreign public entities, foreign organizations, or for-profit entities.

Statutory and National Policy Requirements

These requirements are applicable to all awards, including those to individuals, for-profits, foreign public entities, and foreign organizations, unless otherwise stated in this section.

Appendix A to 2 CFR Part 25—Universal Identifier and System for Award Management

Not applicable to individuals or any entity exempted by the awarding bureau or office prior to award per 2 CFR §25.110(a)(2) and bureau or office policy.

Appendix A to 2 CFR Part 170—Award term for reporting subaward and executive compensation

Not applicable to individuals. See 2 CFR 170 for other exceptions.

2 CFR 175.15—Award Term for Trafficking in Persons

Applicable to awards to private entities as defined in 2 CFR 175.25(d), states, local governments, and Indian tribes. Applicable to awards to foreign public entities if funding could be provided to a private entity as a subrecipient under the award. Recipients receiving more than \$500,000 for activities outside the U.S. must comply with the plan and certification requirements in 2 CFR 175.105(b) before receiving an award and submit an annual certification each year the award is in effect.

2 CFR Part 184—Buy America Preference for Infrastructure Projects

None of the funds under an award may be obligated for an infrastructure project unless all the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States, unless subject to an approved waiver. This part applies to an entire infrastructure project even if funded by Federal and non-Federal funds under one or more awards. Recipients must include this preference in all subawards, contracts, and purchase orders related to infrastructure projects under Federal awards. Service awards subject to this preference will include a Buy America Provision for Infrastructure.

Appendix XII to 2 CFR Part 200—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters

Applies to awards with a total Federal share of more than \$500,000, except for awards to individuals and foreign public entities.

2 CFR Part 1400—Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension

All recipients must ensure they do not enter into any covered transaction with an excluded or disqualified participant or principal. See also 2 CFR Part 180—OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement).

2 CFR Part 1401—Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Financial Assistance)

Not applicable to foreign public entities or foreign organizations.

43 CFR Part 18—New Restrictions on Lobbying

If the Federal share of the award is more than \$100,000, the recipient must disclose making or agreeing to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the award. To make such a disclosure, the recipient must complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" form to the Service. This form is available at: <https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/post-award-reporting-forms>. For more information on when additional

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submission of this form is required, see 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100. These restrictions are not applicable to such expenditures by Indian tribe, tribal organization, or any other Indian organization that is specifically permitted by other Federal law.

41 U.S.C. §6306—Prohibition on Members of Congress Making contracts with Federal Government

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AWARD ATTACHMENTS

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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1. Small Grants Application

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USFWS Small Grant Process

Submission Instructions:

The complete project proposal must be submitted to the USFWS Program Officer associated with your application.

Before submitting an application, please review the following requirements:

Obtain Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): A UEI is a unique, 12-character alphanumeric ID assigned by the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) that allows the applicant to do business with the Federal government. An applicant can begin the process of obtaining a new UEI by following the instructions provided here: <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>.

Register in SAM.gov: All applicants other than individuals, must be registered in SAM.gov before submitting a formal application for Federal funding to a Federal awarding agency. Applicants must maintain an active registration by annually updating information with SAM.gov. If your SAM.gov registration expires, the USFWS will be unable to approve financial amendments to your grant until your registration is reactivated. New applicants can find further information on registering in SAM.gov here: <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>.

Enroll in ASAP: Applicants who receive a USFWS grant will be required to enroll in the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) to receive payments under their grant. Applicants that have not previously registered with ASAP should contact the USFWS Project Officer to obtain the ASAP Enrollment Form. This form must be completed and submitted with your application package if applicable. Applicants with projects approved for funding will be initiated for enrollment in the ASAP system with further instructions provided by Treasury on completing the enrollment process. Please note, any recipient of federal funding may only draw down funding from ASAP on an as needed basis. Payments must minimize the time between requesting funds and your subsequent disbursement of those funds to pay for allowable costs on a reimbursable basis.

Assistance is available to all applicants needing to register with SAM.gov and/or enroll in ASAP by emailing fwfqfasupport@fws.gov.

Small Grant Application and Project Details:

Applicant Name: Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Opportunity Number: F-FWS-FAC-25-040
Descriptive Project Title: Cottonwood Creek fish passage culvert replacement
USFWS Grant Program: National Fish Habitat Partnership

Project Abstract Summary/Public Description:

The Project Abstract is a concise (*4,000 characters or less*) summary of a grant project. The summary typically describes the mission and goals of the project, the population it will serve, and what impact it may have on the community.

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NOTE: In accordance with OMB Memorandum M-22-02, DOI recommends use of the listed minimum OMB project description elements within the GS Project Abstract Summary. Reference core elements below:

- Should avoid acronyms or Federal or agency-specific terminology, and
- Include a plain language description Award purpose, and
- Activities to be performed,
- Deliverables and Expected Outcomes, and
- Intended beneficiary(ies) as well as
- Subrecipient activities if known or specified at the time of award

Fish passage has been a focus of restoration activities in the Mat-Su Borough for over 15 years. Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) has assessed more than 580 crossings on fish-bearing streams with about 70% of them presenting some type of barrier to fish movement. To date over 100 culverts have been replaced with roads or bridges through the program, most on Borough-owned roads. This request will assist with funding one of these barrier removals within the Mat-Su Borough and primarily be used to re-open upstream habitat above the crossing of Cottonwood Creek and Fern Street. The project will result in at least 13.2 kilometers of upstream habitat being re-opened to juvenile salmonid movement. The prioritization of this culvert is congruent with the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership Fish Passage Improvement Plan. The proposal addresses Objective 4.2 of the current 2019 MSSHP Strategic Plan to restore culverts for improved fish passage

Project Narrative Critical Elements:

Need – This section identifies an eligible issue, problem, or opportunity that must be addressed in order to ensure the conservation of fish, wildlife, or habitat.

- Explain why the project is necessary for funding under the respective grant program and how completion of the project helps to fulfill the purpose for which the program was established by Congress.
- Provide a brief summary of any data or evidence to support the need statement (i.e., fish/wildlife/habitat surveys, population metrics, angler/hunter/wildlife watcher surveys) and why the proposed project is necessary for funding.
- Articulate the null alternative (the consequence of not funding and completing the project).

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) is one of the most populous and rapidly growing areas of Alaska. Between 2000 and 2005, the MSB grew by 25 percent and exceeded 80,000 residents by 2007. According to 2023 Alaska Department of Labor estimates there are now almost 114,000 residents. According to a 2014 report from the University of Alaska's Institute of Social and Economic Research, if the MSB continues to experience population growth at its historic rate of 2%, the region's population is expected to reach 180,000 by 2040. One consequence of such growth is the rapid development of local road networks for access and transportation to residences, commercial centers, and recreational areas. The salmon and trout produced in MSB streams support commercial, sport, and recreational fishing industries and contribute in excess of several hundred million dollars to the Southcentral Alaska economy.

Juvenile anadromous fish, such as Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon, spend up to three years in fresh water during which they must move up and downstream or between watersheds to access favorable habitat. Unrestricted access via stream corridors to spawning, rearing, and overwintering habitats is essential to maintaining salmonid production as well as healthy populations of resident trout and other fish (Jackson 2003). Movement of juvenile salmon and resident trout has been observed in response to a variety of environmental factors, including high and low flow events, changes in stream temperature, predation pressure, population densities and the availability of food or shelter (Gowan et al. 1994, Robison et al. 1999, Kahler and Quinn 1998). Studies in coastal Washington streams documented the movement of juvenile coho salmon, steelhead trout, and coastal cutthroat trout and determined that movers grew faster than non-movers (Taylor and Love 2003).

Improperly installed culverts and other fish passage barriers reduce or eliminate access to these preferred habitats, particularly for juvenile, small and weak swimming fish. One study estimated the loss in habitat from culverts on forest roads as 13% of the total decrease in coho salmon summer rearing habitat in the Skagit river basin in Washington State (Beechie et al., 1994).

Objective(s)

- State the outcome(s) of the proposed project in terms, to the best of your ability, that are specific and quantifiable.
- The stated outcome(s) should be specific to what will be achieved by the end of the proposed project (not the outcomes that happen 2, 5, or 10-years later).
- The proposed project may have one or more objectives.

Fern Street is the lowest remaining barrier on Cottonwood Creek, blocking a large proportion of the upstream Cottonwood Creek watershed, 71% of the watershed overall. Its removal will improve passage of fish 13.2 km up to Wasilla Lake (266.77 hectares) and various other lakes upstream. Providing significant habitat for adult and juvenile salmon upstream of the culverts as well as ensuring salmon can smolt out during periods of low flow.

Approach

- Describe the methods and activities that will be funded and implemented to achieve each of the stated objectives of the proposed project.
- The approach section should clearly articulate the full scope of the proposed project to include:
 - Who will be involved in completing the various aspects of the project. Please include information about potential or identified contractors or subrecipients will be involved in the project.
 - Where will the project be completed. Please describe all project areas.
 - When will the project be completed.
 - How will the project be completed. Please describe all activities (from start to finish) to include earth moving activities, equipment utilized, sampling methods.
- The approach section must be written to include a level of detail so that USFWS staff are fully aware of and understand the proposed project. This is important for USFWS staff to review and document the proposed project activities are compliant with various Federal statutes such as the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and National Historic Preservation Act.

This site at Cottonwood Creek and Fern Street represents three open-bottom arch culverts that are a barrier to both adult and juvenile salmon. The Borough's design standards for fish passage culverts are based on stream simulation and are consistent with the USFWS Culvert Design Guidelines for Ecological Function. A construction contract and a design contract will be issued for services from local private business, which will benefit the local economy. Construction equipment will take out the existing culverts and replace them with a larger, embedded culvert that will simulate the creek. Root wads or brush layering will be placed along any disturbed stream channel as necessary and disturbed areas will be revegetated with natural seed or vegetative mat from local areas. In addition to improving fish passage, installing correctly sized stream simulation culverts will greatly reduce the likelihood of catastrophic road failures in the future (Cafferata et al. 2004) and enhance aquatic habitat quality in the area adjacent to the road crossings for all aquatic organisms, especially for juvenile salmonids.

Partners involved in the project include the MSB, UFWS, and ADF&G. MSB will provide project management, contract the design engineering, construction and inspection activities and review and approve engineering plans. USFWS and ADF&G will also review the stream simulation design and advise the MSB. Additional outreach will be conducted by the Mat-Su Borough at the annual Transportation Fair, held every winter.

Timeline

- State the desired time period during which work on the proposed project will begin and end. Include timeline of when significant project events or milestones are anticipated.

February 2024 (current status): Design at 65% level
Summer 2024: Right-of-way acquisition
September 2025: Design complete
October 2025: Contractor selected
October 2026: Project completion
December 2026: Final Agreement Report

Project Budget:

Enter dollar amounts needed in each category to complete award activities.

Expenses	Project Costs
Personnel	
Fringe (__ %)	
Travel	
Supplies	
Equipment	
Contractual (Total)	120,000.00
Other (Specify)	
<i>Subtotal</i>	120,000.00
Total Direct Costs	
Indirect Costs*(__ % MTDC)	
Total Expenses	120,000.00

Budget Narrative:

Explain all requested budget items/costs in the Budget Narrative. Demonstrate a clear connection between costs and the proposed project activities. Describe how cost estimates for your project were determined.

Equipment is defined as tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost, which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$10,000. If requesting equipment costs, the applicant must provide a statement explaining the nature and purpose of the equipment to be purchased along with a per unit cost.

Design and Construction services are contracted out. The design effort is currently in progress and was funded by a separate grant. The NFHP grant will go towards the construction costs along with other grant funding received from NOAA and the USFWS and match money provided by the MSB.

Indirect Cost Rate: Applicants must indicate how they will charge indirect costs, including the rate to be applied. *Individuals applying for grant funding are ineligible to receive reimbursement for indirect costs and must not include them in the proposed budget.*

- De Minimis Rate: If eligible, state if your organization is opting to use the de minimis rate of up to 15% of total modified direct costs. Entities that do not have a current Federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate) may propose to use the de minimis rate. For more information, refer to 2 CFR 200.414(f).
- Negotiated Rate: State if you will negotiate with your cognizant agency. If your organization has previously negotiated a rate, attach a copy of the most recently negotiated rate agreement (active or expired).

We are an organization that does not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate. In the event an award is made, we elect to charge the de minimis rate of 15% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR 200.1. We understand we must use this methodology consistently for all Federal awards until such time as we negotiate a different rate with our cognizant agency. We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if during the award period we establish a rate that changes the methodology used to charge indirect costs to the award. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in indirect costs and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.

Required Statements:

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:

Applicants must state in their application if the activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel proposed in this application overlap with those in any other Federal proposal or award or not. If no overlap exists, include a statement to that effect. If any overlap exists, provide:

- Activities: Description any overlapping activities.
- Costs: Description of any overlapping costs.
- Time: Description of any overlapping key personnel time.
- A copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity.
- Details on when any overlapping proposal was submitted, to whom, and the expected date of the funding decision.

There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects, including in regard to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel.

Pre-award Costs:

To qualify for pre-award cost reimbursement, an applicant must demonstrate in the application that the pre-award activities are necessary and reasonable for accomplishing the overall program objectives and would have been approved had they occurred within the project period. Applicants should include in the Required Statements section of the application a statement on whether or not pre-award costs are requested. Should a recipient request pre-award costs, a detailed explanation of why pre-award costs are necessary must be included.

Not Requested

Applicant Contact Information:

Principal Investigator

Name: Michael Campfield
Title: Environmental Engineer
Phone: 907-861-7719
Email: mike.campfield@matsugov.us

Authorized Representative

Name: Mike Brown
Title: Borough Manager
Phone: 907-861-8689
Email: mike.brown@matsugov.us

USFWS Contact Information:

Program Officer

Name: Anna Senecal
Title: Fish and Wildlife Budget
Phone: 907-267-9675
Email: anna_senecal@fws.gov

By signing this application, I certify that I am authorized so apply for federal financial assistance on behalf of this organization. I also certify that all statements contained in this application are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Authorized Representative: Michael Brown Digitally signed by Michael Brown
Date: 2025.07.11 12:07:21 -08'00'