

**Endangered Species Act - Legal and Research Needs to Protect State Right to Manage**      **FY2022 Request: \$7,000,000**  
**Reference No: AMD 43347**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation      **Project Type:** Research / Studies / Planning  
**Category:** Natural Resources  
**Location:** Statewide      **House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)  
**Impact House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)      **Contact:** Eddie Grasser  
**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2021 - 06/30/2026      **Contact Phone:** (907)267-2339

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This capital project provides funds to fight unnecessary Endangered Species Act (ESA) actions. It will help the state to avoid federal ESA regulatory burdens and maintain the state’s right to manage fish and wildlife. This project enables the state’s legal and scientific engagement on ESA issues.

This amendment increases the general fund appropriation by \$3M.

<b>Funding:</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>	<b>FY2025</b>	<b>FY2026</b>	<b>FY2027</b>	<b>Total</b>
1002 Fed Rcpts	\$3,000,000						\$3,000,000
1003 G/F Match	\$250,000						\$250,000
1004 Gen Fund	\$3,750,000						\$3,750,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,000,000</b>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing
25% = 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	
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Prior Funding History / Additional Information:**

Sec1 Ch3 SLA2019 P4 L6 SB19 \$1,000,000  
 Sec1 Ch17 SLA2012 P116 L27 SB160 \$1,550,000  
 Sec7 Ch43 SLA2010 P26 L26 SB230 \$600,000  
 Sec4 Ch30 SLA2007 P93 L14 SB53 \$473,300

**Project Description/Justification:**

If unchecked, regulatory burdens will expand due to federal endangered species issues. This expansion will restrict states’ rights and the ability of industry to operate in Alaska. For example, the federal government is or has considered designating almost all of the waters off Alaska as critical habitat for marine mammals listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), which would constrain industrial and other activities despite little to no benefit to the listed marine mammals. For the State to successfully defend against existing and potential new, unnecessary regulations, funds are needed to adequately engage in the federal ESA process, from supporting legal challenges to ensuring scientific information is available to make informed decisions and to support successful legal arguments. Legal engagement, along with supporting scientific data, are effective in limiting