

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Division of Legislative Finance



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 1, 2017
TO: Legislative Budget and Audit Committee
FROM: David Teal, Director *Lacey Sanders for David Teal*
SUBJECT: Preparation for the December 14, 2017 LB&A Meeting

OMB submitted the following FY18 RPL for consideration at the December 14, 2017 Legislative Budget and Audit Committee meeting. This RPL, along with Legislative Finance comments, is posted on our web site at <http://www.legfin.akleg.gov>.

RPL#	Agency	Subject	Amount	Fund Source
10-8-5024 Operating	Natural Resources	Intergovernmental Personnel Act Agreement with Bureau of Land Management	\$297,000	Federal Receipts (1002)

If you have any questions that you want an agency to address at the meeting, please call us so we can help ensure the agency has a response prepared.

**Department of Natural Resources
Administration and Support
Office of Project Management & Permitting**

Subject of RPL: Intergovernmental Personnel Act Agreement with Bureau of Land Management	ADN/RPL #: 10-8-5024
Amount requested: \$297,000	Appropriation Authority: Sec1 Ch1 SSSLA2017 pg26 ln15
Funding source: \$297,000 (1002 Federal Receipts) Operating	Statutory Authority: AS 38.05.020(b)(9)

PURPOSE

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Office of Project Management and Permitting (OPMP) is requesting an increase of \$297,000 in the federal receipt authority in its operating budget. This authority will allow the department to continue the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) agreement between the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and DNR, for the assignment of Sara Longan as the Executive Director of the North Slope Science Initiative (NSSI). This assignment is fully funded by BLM under the IPA agreement.

This agreement has been a great resource to DNR and ensures that the State has a seat at the table to guide efforts by the NSSI that benefit the public. The development of an NSSI program that focuses on science-based approaches to responsibly develop North Slope resources while limiting negative impacts, proactively responding to the needs of the region, and protecting cultural values are important to the state.

PREVIOUS LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION

There was no previous legislative consideration for the increment.

TIMING ISSUES

If this RPL is not approved OPMP will run out of federal authority in January 2018 and be unable to make payroll for this IPA. Additionally, OPMP will not be able to accept two new federal grants, one which has been approved. When developing the FY2018 budget it was not known if the contract was going to be extended for an additional calendar year (January 2018 – January 2019). Through recent discussions with BLM the intent is to extend this agreement through January 2019.

BUDGETARY ISSUES

Without this additional authority, OPMP would be unable to accept funds from BLM for this agreement. This increment request will not have a long-term impact on OPMP’s general funds and will allow OPMP to continue its valuable partnership with NSSI and BLM.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Comment: Upon request, the Department provided additional information about this request. The FY18 budget included federal receipt authority of \$269.6. This authority was sufficient for two expected grants and six months (July-December) of Personal Services for the BLM agreement. However, the Department was awarded two additional grants: \$50.0 from EPA Wetlands and \$50.0 for Iliamna Islands. In addition, the BLM employee agreement was extended, requiring an additional \$148.5 of authority. In total, the agency is anticipated to be \$186.4 short of federal authority for FY18.

Agency Contact: Jeff Bruno (Executive Director OPMP), 907-269-7476
LFD Contact: Alexei Painter, 907-465-5414

DNR's request is for \$297.0, the full amount of the BLM agreement. The existing receipt authority of \$269.6 will be used for the four grants the agency expects in FY18. DNR included an increment in its FY19 budget submission to ensure sufficient receipt authority in future years.

There are no technical issues with this RPL.