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Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 2:38 PM
To: Christopher Clark <Christopher.Clark@akleg.gov>
Cc: dan.saddler@alaska.gov; Mackey, Dayna M (DNR) <dayna.mackey@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: Senate Finance DNR Budget Subcommittee meeting follow-up

Hi Christopher,

I wanted to get you the information we have, and Dayna follow up with the remaining two items early next week. Thanks!

Permitting Update to Senate Finance 3/28/2019:

http://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?session=31&docid=23924

Hunter access program – What's the status of this and the funds that went into it? Please provide a list of items paid for by **Pittman-Robertson** funds and, if applicable, **Dingell-Johnson** funds – either directly or via interagency receipts.

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (DFG) manages the Pittman Robertson (PR) and Dingell-Johnson (DJ) programs. The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (DPOR) applies for projects under both programs. DFG has been an active and willing partner in the projects that we have requested that have had non-federal match money readily available.

There have also been instances with the DJ projects that DFG has put up the required non-federal match to assist DPOR. DPOR's Design and Construction Section also assists other agencies in the construction of project funded facilities.

DPOR's Design and Construction section chief communicates and coordinates regularly with both the DFG PR and DJ program managers.

This coordination includes project submission, reviews, and construction inspections. DPOR continues to maximize every available state match fund. DPOR's only limiting factor in receiving funds is lack of non-federal match funds.

Local constituents are also involved with the projects via letters of support from advisory boards, special interest groups, and through a formal public process of larger scale projects. Many of the DPOR projects are also identified in planning documents that have gone through the public process or DPOR's deferred maintenance book.

DPOR has \$5,067,371 active PR grants including improvements for the Chena River State Recreation Area (SRA) trailheads, Lower Chatanika River SRA, Moon Lake State Recreation Site (SRS), Chilkoot Lake SRS, and Chugach State Park Penguin Creek Bridge Replacement.

DPOR has \$3,785,348 in pending PR requests. These include facilities from Chugach State Park, Hatcher Pass Management Area, and Chena River State Recreation Area.

DPOR has \$517,050 active DJ projects including Kenai River improvements at Eagle Rock and Bings Landing. Other projects include boat launch ramp renovations at Birch Lake SRS, Clearwater SRS, Finger Lake SRA, Chena Pump SRS. DPOR has \$2,535,000 in pending projects throughout other state park units.

DFG has been an excellent partner and DPOR has greatly benefitted from both PR and DJ programs. DPOR has had a long-lasting relationship with the DJ program for well over 20 years with positive results.

Agricultural land sales (Slide 6) – Provide some data about it. The number of land sales in a year. (Your program guide says 4,985 acres of state land were sold for agriculture over the past eight years. Is there a way to provide a breakdown of that, where the sales were made, and how much the state got for them?) The administration proposes to cut the program by \$169,400. What are the consequences of that cut to land sales? What might get lost with the cut? Can the Division of Mining, Land, and Water sell agricultural lands at the current pace, without loss in the quality of service now provided by the Division of Agriculture?

In the past 10 years, 65 parcels have been deeded to private ownership.

The original sale price of those parcels is \$3.3M.

In addition, in the past 10 years, 15 parcels were written into contract with a total sale price of \$1M. Please note the below information is based upon status change date so it is possible that contracts that were offered prior to the last 10 years were only paid off in the last 10 years, therefore they are included in the conveyed status.

Sales have been made around the state including Kenai Peninsula, Matsu, Fairbanks, and Delta regions.

Ag Land Sales past 10 yrs			Total Sale Price
Status	Parcels	Acres	
Conveyed	65	18,301.844	\$3,303,312.37
Under land sales contract	15	5,082.546	\$1,026,636.12

The ag land sales program will not see any consequences with the reconfiguration of land sale positions or LDIF cut.

The DNR land sale program is expected to be more efficient and savings realized by combining and administering the programs through the more robust Division of Mining, Land and Water land sale program where staff's attention is focused on preparation and sale of land and not split between sale of land and administrative compliance of development plans as is the case within the Division of Agriculture. The ultimate result of this consolidation is a more consistent, efficient, effective and comprehensive statewide land sale program that would benefit both agricultural and non-agricultural interests.

Impacts of cuts on federal funds and other funds – If we approve the administration's proposed cuts to the Division of Agriculture, will farmers still be able to access federal funds like the Specialty Crop Block Grant or the \$4 million for Alaska from the 2018 federal Farm Bill micro-grant program?

With the FY2020 proposed Governor budget, the Division of Agriculture personnel that would typically oversee these grants will be cut in addition to the federal authority.

However, these grants could be accepted by the State through another agency if the federal authority was available, allowing farmers to access the grants.