HJR

19

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
Bill Version: HJR 19
(H) Publish Date: 3/29/01

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____
Dept. Affected: Natural Resources
Title: Digital Orthoimagery & Elevation Data
BRU: _____
Component: _____
Sponsor: House Resources Committee
Requester: House Resources Committee
Component Number: _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )						

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

It is estimated that there will be no fiscal impact from this resolution.

Prepared by: House Resources Phone 465-2689

Representative: DREW SCALZI & BEVERLY MASEK Date 3/28/01
Committee Co-Chairs

Alaska State Legislature

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House Resources Committee

House Joint Resolution 19 Sponsor Statement

"Urging the United States Congress to pass legislation to fund the acquisition of high-resolution digital orthoimagery and digital elevation data for the entire state of Alaska."

Orthoimagery combines the image characteristics of aerial photography with the geometric qualities of a map. Major uses of this imagery include hazard prevention and public safety, land transfer programs, resource assessment, exploration and development, and community and economic development.

Current maps and imagery of Alaska are very old, inaccurate and of limited usefulness. The majority of our current maps were produced in the 1950s and the latest statewide imagery was produced mainly between 1978 and 1982. Neither of these mapping efforts reflects the current conditions of Alaska's landscape and environment. In addition, both are in analog form and are difficult to incorporate into modern geographic information systems.

Reliable geographic data is necessary for the economic and resource development of our state. Orthoimagery and digital elevation data for Alaska will greatly enhance our land management capabilities and benefit resource development and conservation as well as public access, recreation, safety, emergency response to wild fires and other natural disasters, design and management of transportation corridors, community development and tourism, environmental assessments and permitting. Most of the coterminous states now have this technology and geological information available to them. This resolution seeks to encourage Congress to offer the same benefit to Alaska that it has provided to other states.

The data management for these geographic systems strives to provide a nationally consistent and cost effective means to share geospatial data at all levels of government and industry. An Internet-based network, the Alaska Geospatial Data Clearinghouse (AGDC), would be the initial focal point where data users could access the digital orthoimagery and elevation data produced by the initiative. Currently AGDC is investigating the potential of setting up an in-state repository for this data in the Supercomputer Facility at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Doing so would provide real-time access and long-term management of the data and an important, secondary data archive site in addition to the Earth Resource Observation Systems (EROS) Data Center in Souix Falls, South Dakota.

Over 50 organizations have expressed support for this mapping effort. Organizations including Resource Development Council (RDC), Alaska Land Managers Forum (ALMF), Arctic Power, Inc. and the Alaska Airmen's Association as well as many state departments, native corporations, oil companies, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the US Fish & Wildlife Service and the US Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited and the Sierra Club.

Given the numerous advantages of digitally accessible geophysical data and its broad support, I encourage your positive consideration of this resolution.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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February 9, 2001

Randy Phillips
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Phillips:

Thank you for the letter on the Alaska Geographic Data Committee Orthoimagery Initiative. I appreciate your concern for federal funding of digital elevation modeling and orthoimagery efforts in Alaska. We would all like to have better topographic data and orthoimagery for Alaska.

It is my understanding that this year the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) has included an approximately $6 MM Initiative in their federal FFY02 budget submittal to Congress for the Alaska Orthoimagery Initiative. I also understand other Interior Department agencies may supplement this request. As part of the normal federal budget process, this Initiative is now progressing through the various steps that are required of all federal budgets. DNR applauds the federal recognition of the shortcomings of topographic elevation data and orthoimagery in Alaska and we certainly support the funding effort they are making to address the issue.

This initiative is becoming a part of the President's budget and funding has already been officially requested. Endorsements will probably not affect the outcome of this initiative in the federal Office of Management and Budget one way or the other and if the Initiative reaches the Senate Appropriations Committee, I believe the chances are good that it will receive favorable consideration.

DNR supports the work that the Alaska Geologic Data Committee is doing to bring this matter to the attention of the USGS National Mapping Division at the national level.

Sincerely,

Pat Pourchot
Commissioner

LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT SUMMARY LIST

1. Resource Development Council for Alaska, Inc
2. Alaska Land Managers Forum
3. Arctic Power Inc.
4. Institute of the North
5. Alaska Airmen's Association, Inc.

6. Association of ANCSA Regional Corporation Presidents and CEOs, Inc.
7. NANA Corporation
8. Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.
9. Calista Corporation
10. Chugach Alaska Corporation
11. Bering Straits Native Corporation
12. Ahtna Inc.
13. Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.
14. Bristol Bay Native Corporation

15. State of Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources
16. State of Alaska Dept. of Community and Economic Development
17. State of Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation
18. State of Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game
19. State of Alaska Dept. of labor and Workforce Development
20. State of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service

21. Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
22. Phillips Alaska Inc.
23. BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.
24. URS Corporation
25. AeroMap U.S.
26. Racal Pelagos
27. Evergreen Helicopters of Alaska, Inc.
28. GeoNorth

29. National Digital Orthophoto Program
30. US Air Force
31. Federal Aviation Administration
32. "CAPSTONE" Project
33. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
34. Joint Pipeline Office
35. Corps of Engineers
36. Census Bureau
37. Environmental Protection Agency
38. US Fish and Wildlife Service
39. Bureau of Land Management

40. National Park Service
41. Bureau of Indian Affairs
42. US Forest Service
43. Alaska Soil and Water Conservation District

44. North Slope Borough
45. Municipality of Anchorage
46. Matanuska-Susitna Borough

47. The Nature Conservancy of Alaska
48. Ducks Unlimited National Office
49. Ducks Unlimited Western Regional Office
50. Sierra Club

51. Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors
52. American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
53. Urban Regional Information Systems Association

EXCERPT FROM: ALASKA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

March 2001

ASTF Invests In Project that Paves the Way for Better, More Accurate Maps of Alaska

Alaska remains the least-mapped state in the nation. For useful maps, Alaskans determine the specifications for the maps so the resulting product is useful for the many applications that Alaskans will use higher resolution images for: mining exploration, environmental monitoring, land use changes, resource assessment and others. While vendors and different government agencies propose different mapping standards, the challenge is to have both public and private users define requirements so the Alaskan end user has a product that is useful and cost effective.

At its February Board Meeting in Juneau, the ASTF Board of Directors voted to support a $20,000 project that would provide different sample products so Alaskans can better determine user requirements. ASTF is working with a number of key vendors (Aeromap, Intermap, etc.) who have competitive technologies (airborne vs. satellite, etc.) to produce a catalog of products. The catalog will help Alaskans determine appropriate mapping standards for different applications. The project will also involve the Alaska Geographic Date Committee, United States Geological Survey (USGS) and private users such as mining companies and regional corporations to take the next step in creating a consensus on the degree of resolution needed in different areas of the state. The project also will also recommend the most useful format for remote sensing data.

For information on the Alaska Science & Technology Foundation (ASTF), visit the web site at www.astf.org or call (907) 272-4333.

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