

**2014 - 2015 Secure Rural Schools  
Public Law 110-343  
Title II Project Submission Form  
USDA Forest Service**

**Name of Resource Advisory Committee:**

**Project Number** (Assigned by Designated Federal Official): **Funding Fiscal Year(s):**

<b>2. Project Name:</b> Improving Recreational Access to Chugach National Forest and Prince William Sound, with two options: Version I, Two Platforms and Two Ramps, submitted June 2016; Version II, One Ramp and One Platform, submitted 2/3/2107.	<b>3a. State:</b> Alaska <b>3b. County(s):</b> Valdez-Cordova
<b>4. Project Submitted By:</b> Copper River Watershed Project	<b>5. Date:</b> Modification Date 02/03/2017
<b>6. Contact Phone Number:</b> 907-424-3334	<b>7. Contact E-mail:</b> kate@copperriver.org

<b>8. Project Location:</b>	
a. National Forest(s): Chugach National Forest	b. Forest Service District: Cordova Ranger District
c. Location (Township-Range-Section): Township 15S, Range3W, Section 27	

**9. Project Goals and Objectives:**

Fleming Spit is located on Orca Road, a five minute walk from the Alaska Marine Highway Ferry Terminal and about one mile from downtown Cordova. Since 1990, Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation, and later Alaska Department of Fish & Game (1999), has been releasing coho and Chinook salmon smolt at Fleming Spit to enhance the sport fishing opportunities in an accessible location in Cordova. The City of Cordova, landowner at this site, has been working to improve the recreational opportunities at this area, including the establishment of public restrooms, tent platforms, a fish cleaning station, and spaces for RVs to camp. The goals and objectives of this project are to:

- ✓ Create a safe, public point of access for kayakers and other recreational users to access Prince William Sound and Chugach National Forest. Currently there is no public kayak launch in Cordova.
- ✓ Create safe, public access for anglers, meeting ADA guidelines, to a popular sport fishing location in Cordova, AK.
- ✓ Create safe, public access for educational programs exploring the intertidal and near-shore environments.

**10. Project Description:**

a. Brief: (*in one sentence*)

With community input, we will design and have fabricated custom stainless steel platforms, ramps, and stairs constructed to ADA standards to support multiple recreational uses and access to Prince William Sound at Shelter Cove, Cordova, AK.

b. Detailed:

This project can be implemented in a phased approach if full funding is not initially available. The full version of this project is pictured to include at least two stainless steel platforms, with a wheel chair access ramp from the road level to a platform and an extension ramp across the embankment rip rap connecting to the second platform, to accommodate sportfishing access for many users and a greater reach across the tide flat for kayak launching (total cost, \$119,254.88). The scaled back version will result in a ramp from the road level to a modestly-sized multi-use platform (sportfishing use and kayak launching, total cost, \$80,000). Our original request included additional funds for construction of extensions off of the main platform to allow different types of access at different tide levels. These extensions can be added in the future if funds become available. Until we have a final design completed the exact cost of fabrication is difficult to estimate, and

design considerations will be driven largely by community planning and comments from recreational users of the Shelter Cove area.

Fleming Spit is located on Orca Road, a five minute walk from the Alaska Marine Highway Ferry Terminal and about one mile from downtown Cordova. Since 1990, Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation, and later Alaska Department of Fish & Game (1999), has been releasing coho and Chinook salmon smolt at Fleming Spit to enhance the sport fishing opportunities in an accessible location in Cordova.

The City of Cordova, landowner at this site, has zoned this area for conservation uses. Recreational use is an approved use of this zone district, and the City is not able to sell these lands. The Parks and Recreation Department has been working to improve the recreational opportunities since the 1990s, including the establishment of public restrooms, tent platforms, a fish cleaning station, and spaces for RVs to camp. In 1997 the current access infrastructure was installed and includes a cement ramp for wheel-chair access and cement “pillows” to provide easier access to the tidal flats rather than walking over boulder rip-rap. According to the 2013 City of Cordova’s Park and Recreation Plan revision, “The area that was developed to increase accessibility has failed in many ways.” The roadside is eroding onto the ramp and the cement “pillows” are extremely slippery and many people fall trying to walk on them.

In a community surrounded by water, there currently is no public kayak launching access in Cordova. The Chugach National Forest encircles Prince William Sound and access by water is the only way to reach a significant amount of National Forest lands. The main boat ramps in Cordova are dominated by commercial fishing boats and with so many large boats moving around, neither ramp is a safe place to launch kayaks. Currently many kayakers access Prince William Sound via waterfront in front of private businesses like Orca Adventure Lodge, however parking and interruption of lodge services have been a problem.

This proposed project will help the City of Cordova improve recreational access at Fleming Spit and build off of existing plans in place for the site. In 2017, Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) is planning to replace the Fleming Creek culverts crossing Orca Road. During this culvert replacement DOT will remove the existing cement infrastructure, including the ramp and pillows. They will install large boulder rip-rap to reduce road embankment erosion.

While this project is in progress, the Copper River Watershed Project (CRWP) will facilitate community meetings, including with City of Cordova staff and Parks and Recreation commissioners, to gather broad input on the design needs for recreational access at this site. CRWP will also work with staff at the U.S. Forest Service Cordova Ranger District to compile any necessary environmental documentation (\$3,000 - \$4,000 has been included in our project budgets to cover some of USFS time to assist with this task).

Upon completion of DOT’s culvert replacement, CRWP will contract with Mike’s Welding in Sterling, AK to design and build stainless steel platforms that support the recreational access needs identified by the community, including kayaking and wheelchair accessible sport fishing. During the design phase a Mike’s Welding representative will visit Cordova to see the site first hand. Mike’s Welding has extensive experience designing and fabricating custom docks, ramps and stairs to support boat, sport fishing and other recreational access in steep, difficult to access locations around Alaska and has provided preliminary feedback for what is possible at this site (<http://www.mikesweldingak.com/>, website includes photos of numerous projects around the State).

Once the pieces are fabricated, Mike’s Welding will package the pieces and ship them to Cordova. As many materials as possible will travel with Mike via box truck on the Alaska Marine Highway System. Mike will work with City of Cordova Parks and Recreation staff to install the recreational access infrastructure. Ultimately City staff will take on the long-term maintenance of the site. This maintenance agreement will be put into writing and kept on file with CRWP and the City of Cordova.

CRWP will monitor the project site through the following winter to ensure the new infrastructure remains stable during the stormier season in Cordova.

<b>11. Types of Lands Involved?</b>
State/Private/Other lands involved? Yes <b>Land Status:</b> City of Cordova
If Yes, specify: The City of Cordova owns the tidal flats and the project site is in the DOT right-of-way. The proposed project is in an area zoned for conservation, where recreation is an allowable use.

<b>12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation?</b> (Check at least 1)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure.
Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems.
Restores and improves land health.
Restores water quality

<b>13. Project Type</b>	
a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)	
Road Maintenance	Trail Maintenance
Road Decommission/Obliteration	Trail Obliteration
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): Improve kayak, sport fishing and other recreational access to Chugach National Forest and Prince William Sound	
Soil Productivity Improvement	Forest Health Improvement
Watershed Restoration & Maintenance	Wildlife Habitat Restoration
Fish Habitat Restoration	Control of Noxious Weeds
Reestablish Native Species	Fuels Management/Fire Prevention
Implement CWPP Project	Other Project Type (specify):
b. Primary Purpose (select only 1): Infrastructure maintenance	

<b>14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of structures maintained/improved: one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 52 forty hour weeks: 0.12
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention):
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct economic activity benefit: Support Recreational Tourism in City of Cordova
Other:

<b>15. Estimated Project Start Date:</b> 1/1/17	<b>16. Estimated Project Completion Date:</b> 12/31/18
---	--

**17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.**

This project maximizes multiple partnerships and collaborative opportunities. By coordinating project implementation with DOT's work at the site, SRS Title II funds will not be used to pay for the removal or disposal of the existing infrastructure.

We have been working with the City of Cordova since the beginning to ensure this project aligns with their priorities for this city-owned site. As stated earlier in the proposal, this project is addressing shortcomings identified in 2013 by the Parks and Recreation Commission in its recreation plan revision and supports its vision of providing safe recreational access for people of all abilities at Fleming Spit. Existing infrastructure like public parking, restrooms, and a fish-cleaning station are already in place and will enhance the recreational experience that will be supported by the new platforms and ramps.

Finally, CRWP and its partners in education like the U.S. Forest Service, Cordova School District, and Prince William Sound Science Center lead outdoor field trips and host kids fishing events at Fleming Spit. The new infrastructure will support safe access for students to the intertidal and nearshore environments for these fun, educational activities.

**18. Identify benefits to communities.**

Cordova’s main economy is supported by the commercial fishing industry that dominates the waterfront of our community. However, a 2003 Tourism Plan completed by the CRWP, the City of Cordova and the Cordova Chamber of Commerce (with broad community input) identified small-scale independent travelers as a target audience for supporting Cordova’s tourism economy and minimizing impact on existing natural and community resources. This proposed project is helping to improve infrastructure for recreational tourists by providing a public kayak launch with public parking in an easy to access location and safe access for anglers of all abilities (including wheelchair users) to fish for coho and Chinook salmon. By providing facilities like this proposed project, Cordova can proudly market itself as a destination for travelers seeking to experience more of Chugach National Forest and Prince William Sound.

**19. How does the project benefit federal lands/resources?**

Currently there is no public kayak launch in the community of Cordova, however much of Chugach National Forest surrounds Prince William Sound and is only accessible via water. This project will create a public kayak launch with parking available for kayakers to access safely Prince William Sound via Orca Inlet. In addition, Fleming Spit provides a safe and accessible opportunity for anglers of all abilities to try their luck at catching coho or Chinook salmon. By supporting a safe and enjoyable fishing opportunity, successful anglers will have a greater appreciation for the natural resources that can be harvested from our local environment. This experience can help instill a stewardship ethic in resource users to help ensure the opportunity continues to exist into the future, and this stewardship ethic can extend to the rest of Chugach National Forest.

<b>20. What is the Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment?</b> (check at least 1)	
X Contract	Federal Workforce
County Workforce	Volunteers
Grant	X Agreement
Americorps	YCC/CCC Crews
Job Corps	Stewardship Contract
Merchantable Timber Pilot	Other (specify):

**21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Timber?** No

<b>22. Anticipated Project Costs</b>
a. Title II Funds Requested: Original Requested Amount = \$119,254.88 (\$4,000 for Cordova Ranger District staff to assist with environmental documentation) Total Approved Amount = \$80,000.00 (\$3,000 for Cordova Ranger District staff to assist with environmental documentation)
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? Yes

**23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding:**

**Alaska Department of Transportation** will be paying for the removal and disposal of the existing infrastructure. The **City of Cordova** will support staff time to participate in the planning and design stages of the project. They will assist Mike’s Welding staff with the installation of the new platforms and ultimately be responsible for the long-term maintenance of the site and infrastructure.

**24. Monitoring Plan (provide as attachment)**

- a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above.
  - 1. In order to assess whether this project meets community goals for recreational access, we will compare the priorities identified during the public planning process to the final project outcome. Ideally we will be able to create recreational access that matches the public’s vision.
  - 2. We will also evaluate the success of project implementation by ensuring the upgraded infrastructure is installed as intended, and we will provide design drawings of the platform to the City for its records. Mike

Kunz of Mike's Welding (mikesweldingak.com), the contractor with the most experience with this kind of facility, will make a trip to Cordova to oversee this task.

3. The City of Cordova Parks and Recreation Department and Commission are responsible for the long-term planning and maintenance of Cordova's parks and recreation facilities. The project manager will maintain a clear paper-trail of conversations and communication with City staff and Commissioners to ensure the final project is an improvement over the existing infrastructure. During early meetings we will identify the priorities for the project, and at the conclusion of the project we will evaluate whether or not we were successful in addressing those priorities.
  4. In order to ensure the infrastructure continues to support safe, public access to Prince William Sound and Chugach National Forest, the project manager will facilitate the creation and signing of a maintenance agreement that solidifies the City's responsibility to maintain the platform and ramps in the long-term. b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring:
  5. The CRWP project manager will oversee the implementation of the monitoring plan. When necessary, she will coordinate communication with contractors and project partners to get broad feedback when evaluating the project.
- c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k):

**25. Identify remedies for failure to comply with the terms of the agreement.**

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

X Unused funds will be returned to the RAC account.

Other, please explain:

**Project Recommended By:**

*/s/ (INSERT Signature)*

**Chairperson**

Resource Advisory Committee

**Project Approved By:**

*/s/ (INSERT Signature)*

**Forest Supervisor**

National Forest

## Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet, Shelter Cove Platform (Approved Funding)

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA/CEQA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00 *		\$ 5,000.00
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition		See salaries		
e. Project Design & Engineering		See salaries		
f. Contract/Grant Preparation		See salaries		
g. Contract/Grant Administration		See salaries		
h. Contract/Grant Cost		See salaries		
i. Salaries		\$5,000	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
j. Materials & Supplies		\$200		\$ 200.00
k. Monitoring		\$2,605		\$ 2,605.00
l. Other				
1. Contractual-Welding		1. \$50,000.00		1. \$50,000.00
2. Contractual-Shipping		2. \$3,000.00		2. \$3,000.00
3. Contractual -Installation		3. \$900.00		3. \$900.00
4. Contractual-Travel for site visit		4. \$1,075.27		4. \$1,075.27
5, Partner Indirect Cost		5. \$14,219.73		5. \$14,219.73
m. Project Sub-Total				
n. FS Indirect Costs				
<b>Total Cost Estimate</b>		\$80,000.00		\$ 83,000.00

\* \$3,000 has been included for the U.S.F.S. to assist with the environmental assessment work related to this project. This amount has not been included in our indirect cost calculation as the intent is not for it to come to us at all.

### NOTES:

- a. Pre-NEPA Costs
- g. Includes Contracting/Grant Officer Representative (COR) costs. Excludes Contracting/Grant Officer costs.
- i. Cost of implementing project
- l. Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.
- n. Forest Service indirect costs, including contracting/grant officer costs if needed.

## Project Cost Analysis Worksheet

Worksheet, Shelter Cove Platform + Ramp and Extensions (Requested Funding)

Please submit this worksheet with your proposal

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution	Column B Requested Title II Contribution	Column C Other Contributions	Column D Total Available Funds
a. Field Work & Site Surveys				
b. NEPA/CEQA	\$2,000	\$4,000*		\$6,000
c. ESA Consultation				
d. Permit Acquisition		See salaries		
e. Project Design & Engineering		See salaries		
f. Contract/Grant Preparation		See salaries		
g. Contract/Grant Administration		See salaries		
h. Contract/Grant Cost		See salaries		
i. Salaries		\$7,000	\$1,000	\$8,000
j. Materials & Supplies		\$200		\$200
k. Monitoring		\$3,176.20		\$3,176.20
l. Other				
1. Contractual-Welding		1. \$90,000		1. \$90,000
2. Contractual-Shipping		2. \$3,000		2. \$3,000
3. Contractual -Installation		3. \$900		3. \$900
4. Contractual-Travel for site visit		4. \$1,076.2		4. \$1,076.2
5. Partner Indirect Cost		5. \$9,902.48		5. \$9,902.48
m. Project Sub-Total				
n. FS Indirect Costs				
<b>Total Cost Estimate</b>		\$119,254.88		\$118,254.88

\*\$4,000 has been included for the U.S.F.S. to assist with the environmental assessment work related to this project. This amount has not been included in our indirect cost calculation as the intent is not for it to come to us at all.

### NOTES:

- a. Pre-NEPA Costs
- g. Includes Contracting/Grant Officer Representative (COR) costs. Excludes Contracting/Grant Officer costs.
- i. Cost of implementing project
- l. Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.
- n. Forest Service indirect costs, including contracting/grant officer costs if needed.