

**Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act
 Reauthorized by Public Law 115-141
 Title II Project Submission Form
 USDA Forest Service**

**Prince William Sound
 Resource Advisory Committee
 Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official):
 Funding Fiscal Year(s): 2022**

2. Project Name: <i>Million Dollar Bridge Aircraft Landing Area/Public Lands Access</i>	3a. State: Alaska 3b. County(s): Valdez/Cordova
4. Project Submitted By: <i>Recreational Aviation Foundation</i>	5. Date: September 15, 2021
6. Contact Phone Number: Al Clayton: 907-250-1649 Troy Tirrell: 907-424-5235	7. Contact E-mail: Al Clayton: aclayton@theraf.org Troy Tirrell: tms@gci.net

8. Project Location: <i>North end of Million Dollar Bridge, Mile 52, Copper River Highway, Cordova, Alaska</i>	
a. National Forest(s): <i>Chugach National Forest</i>	b. Forest Service District: <i>Cordova Ranger District</i>
c. Location (Township-Range-Section) <i>T14S, R4E, Sec. 8</i>	

9. Project Goals and Objectives:
Improve access to public lands and safety for aviators by maintaining existing aircraft landing area and expanding it to 80' x 1800' and clear of obstacles on approaches.

10. Project Description:

a. Brief: *Project will meet deferred maintenance needs by improving an existing aircraft landing area through brush cutting, tree removal and removal of rock pile hazard.*

b. Detailed: *Complete deferred maintenance tasks at the Public Lands Access for Recreation Aircraft Landing Area north of the Million Dollar Bridge to bring it up to industry standard of 80' x 1800' and clear of obstacles. Deferred maintenance tasks include brushing an area 400' X 80' at the north end of the landing area, removing roughly 16 trees within 200' from the north end of the landing area, clearing the aircraft turnaround at north end of the landing area, limited brush trimming out to 80' throughout the landing area, and removal of rock piles from south end of the landing area. These tasks will be accomplished using a 6-person crew to fell trees and remove brush along with excavating equipment and operator to remove wood material and rock piles. The prescribed deferred maintenance tasks will occur entirely on the existing DOT roadway to restore landing area surface conditions and clearing widths to industry standard, reducing hazards to the public, and providing access to public lands and recreation opportunities.*

11. Types of Lands Involved?
State/Private/Other lands involved? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Land Status: <i>Existing roadbed, Alaska DOT right-of-way on Eyak Corporation land</i>
If Yes, specify: <i>Existing roadbed, Alaska DOT; no current access to road due to washouts at bridge and road at Miles 36 and 42 of the Copper River Highway.</i>

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

13. Project Type	
a. Check all that apply: (check at least 1)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES , Road Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Decommission/Obliteration	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): <i>Aircraft Landing Area for public safety, access to public lands, and recreational opportunities.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES , Watershed Restoration & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish Habitat Restoration	<input type="checkbox"/> Control of Noxious Weeds
<input type="checkbox"/> Reestablish Native Species	<input type="checkbox"/> Fuels Management/Fire Prevention
<input type="checkbox"/> Implement CWPP Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify):
b. Primary Purpose (select only 1 from above): <i>Other Infrastructure Maintenance: Aircraft Landing Area for public safety, access to public lands, and recreational opportunities.</i>	

14. Identify What the Project Will Accomplish
Miles of road maintained: <i>Clear old roadbed for 1800' x 80' runway</i>
Miles of road decommissioned/obliterated:
Number of structures maintained/improved: <i>Reliable and safe access to all the existing USFS Child Glacier Recreation Area and Campground structures for annual maintenance and regular condition surveys.</i>
Acres of soil productivity improved:
Miles of stream/river restored/improved:
Miles of fish habitat restored/improved:
Acres of native species reestablished:

Acres of hazardous fuel treatment
Miles of trail maintained:
Miles of trail obliterated:
Acres of forest health improved (including fuels reduction):
Acres of rangeland improved:
Acres of wildlife habitat restored/improved:
Acres of noxious weeds controlled:
Timber volume generated (mbf):
Jobs generated in full time equivalents (FTE) to nearest tenth. One FTE is 52 forty-hour weeks: 0.5 FTE
People reached (for environmental education projects/fire prevention):
Direct economic activity benefit: <i>Provides reliable and safe access to a very popular and fully developed recreation area that has limited access due to road washouts isolating the area from the remaining road system.</i>
Other: <i>Improves safety for aviators and others recreational users especially in emergencies (weather-related and otherwise).</i>

15. Estimated Project Start Date: 6/1/22	16. Estimated Project Completion Date: 9/30/22
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17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.

Recreational Aviation Foundation, USFS, ADF&G, Native Village of Eyak, Eyak Native Corporation, Student Conservation Association, Pioneers of Alaska Foundation and nearby private landholders

18. Identify benefits to communities.

This project will address public safety and access to National Forest lands including recreation opportunities for the community of Cordova and visiting public. This will include improved multimodal access to the public boat landing at the Million Dollar bridge; improved access by federal, state and tribal fishery managers at the Miles Lake Sonar station and the Baird Canyon research station; improved emergency evacuation capability by fixed wing aircraft for the public and federal, state and tribal fishery managers operating in the area. Additionally, the community of Cordova benefits financially from the influx of tourists who travel to Cordova to recreate in the National Forest and stay in hotels/B&Bs and purchase food/supplies during the summer months. It will also provide job opportunities for local contractors and unemployed workers.

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

This project directly helps maintain in a safe condition an existing access point to National Forest lands including the Childs Glacier Recreation Area. The project improves access to the public boat landing at the Million Dollar bridge for maintenance and intermodal access by the public. In addition, an adequately maintained public access point without an excessive backlog of deferred maintenance tasks on an established route reduces impacts to resources and erosion susceptibility.

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

21. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Timber? No

22. Anticipated Project Costs
a. Title II Funds Requested: <i>\$50,000</i>
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes

23. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding:

Recreational Aviation Foundation, Tirrell Marine, Pioneers of Alaska Foundation

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. **Seasonal Field monitoring with inspections before and after field work. Planning and coordinating of contractor work.***
- b. *Identify who will conduct the monitoring: **Al Clayton, Troy Tirrell and their delegates***
- c. *Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Worksheet 1, Item k): **\$5,500.00***

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

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

- Yes, 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 1

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	1,500	2,500	2,000	6,000
b. NEPA/CEQA	850	0	0	850
c. ESA Consultation	0	0	0	0
d. Permit Acquisition	0	0	0	0
e. Project Design & Engineering	0	1,000	1,000	2,000
f. Contract/Grant Preparation	0	1,000	1,000	2,000
g. Contract/Grant Administration	1,000	2,500	2,500	6,000
h. Contract/Grant Cost	0	40,000	0	40,000
i. Salaries	0	0	0	0
j. Materials & Supplies	0	500	500	1,000
k. Monitoring	0	2,500	3,000	5,500
l. Other FS Equipment Cost Partner Indirect Cost	5,000	0	0	5,000
m. Project Sub-Total	8,350	50,000	10,000	68,350
n. FS Indirect Costs	0	0	0	0
Total Cost Estimate	8,350	50,000	10,000	68,350

NOTES:

Col. A: FS costs incurred as part of proposal implementation. Coordinate with FS to identify any FS cost for items in Col. A.

Col. B: Title II funding requested to implement the proposal.

Col. C: Matching funds being contributed by proponent or third parties. Proposals funded with a Participating Agreement will require a minimum 20% match.

Col. D: Sum of columns A, B, and C for each individual row.

Row A: Costs associated with project planning, not project implementation, such as assessment of miles of trail needing maintenance. Assessments and planning needed to develop a specific proposal. For Col. B: proponents must request permission in advance to request Title II funds to complete NEPA/CEQA analyses, as this is expected to be completed prior to proposal submission.

Rows B, C, D, and E: cost associated with environmental compliance and project design. Proponents must request permission in advance to request Title II funds to complete NEPA/CEQA analyses, as this is expected to be completed prior to proposal submission.

Row G: Costs associated with preparation of contract or agreement instruments used to implement the proposal. Contracts used to complete projects have special provisions; contact the FS to identify these early in the process.

Row G: Costs associated with administration of contract or agreement instruments used to implement the proposal.

Row H: Estimated value of any contracts/agreements used to implement proposal. Contracts/agreements used to complete projects have special provisions; contact the FS to identify these early in the process.

Row I: Cost of salaries to implement project

Row L: Examples include overhead charges from other partners, vehicles, equipment rentals, travel, etc.

Row K: Costs associated with performing monitoring described in Items 24a, 24b, and 24c. Amounts should be similar between Item 24 and Row K.

Row N: Forest Service indirect costs, including contracting/grant officer costs if needed.



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Fish and Game

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
CORDOVA OFFICE

401 Railroad Ave
P.O. Box 669
Juneau, Alaska 99574
Main: 907.424.3212
Fax: 907.424.3235

September 20, 2021

To whom it may concern:

We would like to express our support for the Recreational Aviation Foundation's pursuit of grant funding from the Prince William Sound Resource Advisory Committee to conduct deferred maintenance on the remote runway at the North end of Million Dollar Bridge, Mile 52, Copper River Highway, Cordova, Alaska. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) is tasked with the management of Copper River salmon commercial, subsistence, personal use and sport fisheries. Commercial, personal use and sport fisheries are important economic drivers in the Prince William Sound and Upper Copper River region. State and federal subsistence fisheries provide a stable food resource for all state residents.

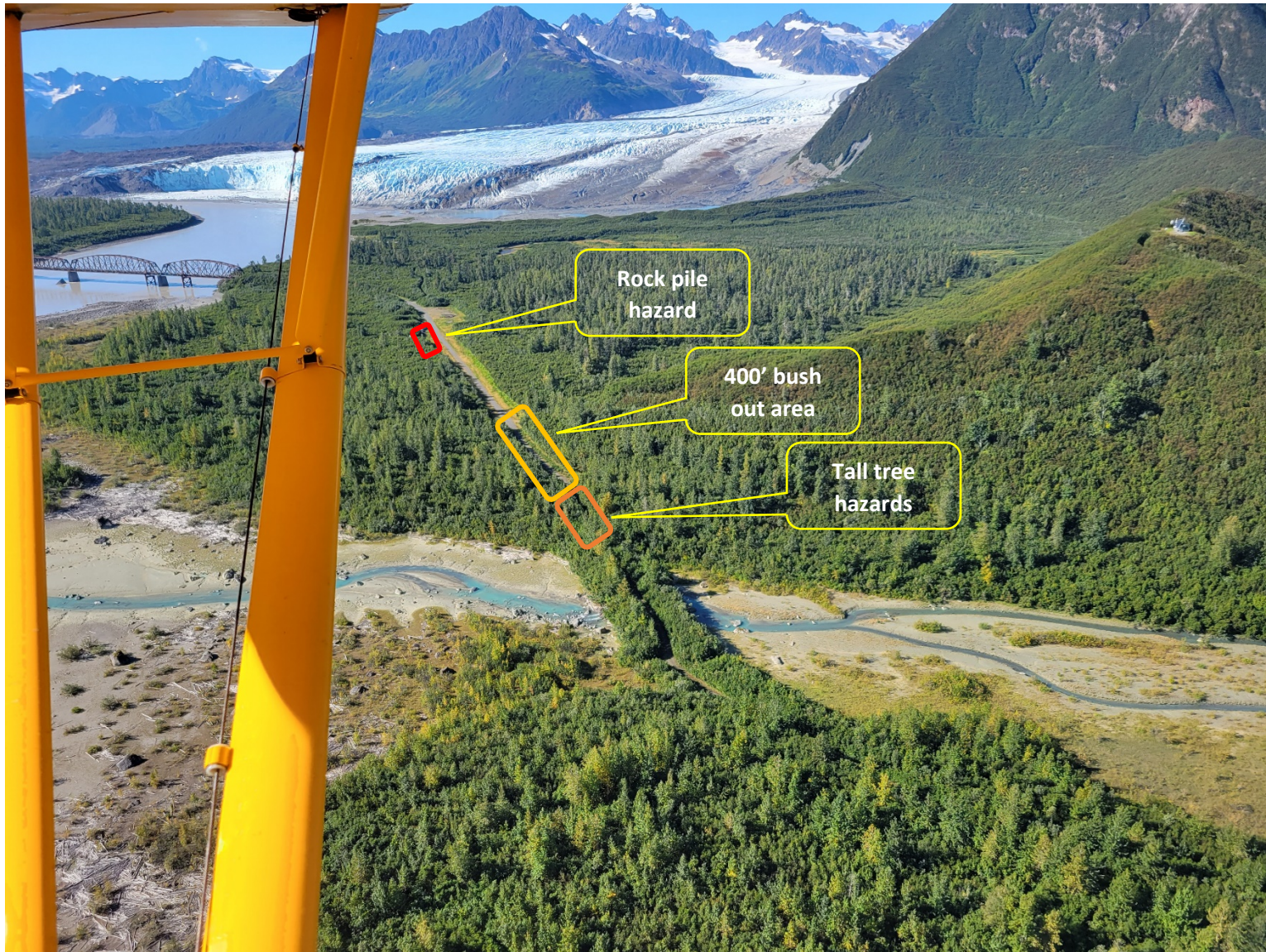
Since 1978, ADF&G has utilized information from the Miles Lake Sonar Project at the Million Dollar Bridge to evaluate inriver abundance of salmon. The Copper River Highway is washed out in two locations and road access to the camp is no longer an option. Currently the camp is resupplied and closed-out each season by jet skiff. Navigating the Copper River between Miles Lake and 34-mile (first wash out of the highway) is challenging and requires experienced personnel to do safely. Improvements to the runway would provide an alternate option for conducting resupplies inseason. The runway improvements would also allow for more consistent fixed-wing aircraft assistance in emergency situations.

ADF&G Commercial Fisheries staff in Cordova may be able to provide on-the-ground assistance with the runways improvements if staff work schedules allow. If you have any question, please feel free to contact any of us.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Botz
Area Management Biologist
Commercial Fisheries Division
Cordova, Alaska 99574
907-424-3212

Million Dollar Bridge Landing Strip Maintenance



Million Dollar Bridge Landing Strip Maintenance



Million Dollar Bridge Landing Strip Maintenance

Proposed tasks, starting from north to south:

- Brush out north end for 400' x 80'
- Cut down (16) 50' tall trees within 200' from end of extended runway
- Clear and excavate new turnaround area at north end of extension
- Limited trimming out of existing strip to 80' wide
- Mitigate/reduce hazardous rock piles using excavating equipment

Work crew requirements:

- Transportation, housing & food (6) man crew working for 10 days cutting and removing brush: est. \$20,000
- Excavating equipment and operator, 50 hours: est. \$20,000

Million Dollar Bridge Landing Strip Maintenance



Tall cottonwood trees, north end



Cut down 16-20 50' tall trees for 200' from end of extended runway

Million Dollar Bridge Landing Strip Maintenance



Proposed turnaround area, north end of start strip



Brush out north end for 400' x 80'

Million Dollar Bridge Landing Strip Maintenance



Problem currently is very limited turnaround area north end



Hazards are (2) 7' high rock piles 22' from center line

Detail photos
9.13.2021

Million Dollar Bridge Landing Strip Maintenance



Rock pile as seen from center of strip



Adding 400' to north end and cutting cottonwood trees from additional 200' at north end will yield a reasonably safe bush strip

Detail photos
9.13.2021