

Submission Date: _____

Priority: _____ of _____



Ted Stevens

United States Senator for Alaska

Please Note:

- Fill out one request form for each request
- This form (and any attachments) can be returned via:

Fax - (202) 224-2354
 Mail - The Honorable Ted Stevens
 United States Senate
 522 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
 Washington, D.C. 20510

- Requests are due by February 15, 2008.

FISCAL YEAR 2009 PROJECT REQUEST FORM

Project Name: Denali High Adventure Base - Boy Scouts

Project Location: Just south of Denali National Park in the Matanuska Valley between the Susitna and Chulitna Rivers.

Project Description (please attach additional pages as required):

The project is to develop previously purchased land for use as a self-sustaining, High Adventure Base for teenage youth (estimated 6,000 Boy and Girl Scouts annually from around the country) for training and skill development and assessment preparatory to participation in aggressive outdoor programs to glaciers, rivers and mountains in the vicinity for unparalleled outdoor wilderness experiences. Additionally, the camp will be used for scouting: hiking, swimming, canoeing, sailing, fishing, and nature studies for boy scouts and, to help defray costs of maintenance and support the self-sustaining aspect of the camp, will be made available for rent for meeting and events by community organizations and Outside venture groups consisting of boys and girls when not used for scouting.

Related Appropriations Bill: CJS; THUD; Interior; AG

List legislation that authorizes this project:

Amount of federal funding requested for FY09: \$3.0 million

N/A

Total funding to complete this project: \$7.5 M

Number of years to fund this project: 2-3

Matching funds from the State of Alaska: \$1 M being sought

Matching funds from local and private entities:
\$2.5 M in-hand; Capital Campaign underway to raise another \$9 M

Check all that apply:

- A change in the current law is necessary in order to proceed with the project. (If so, attach language and a list of laws that need to be amended)
- Bill or report language is needed. (If so, attach requested language)

If this project was funded in prior appropriations bills (within the last five years), list each bill and the amount funded:

Transportation - Federal Lands program - \$2 Million
 HUD Economic Development - \$1 Million
 Transportation - Trails Initiative - \$500K intended but only \$16,000 actually came through
 Energy - (EPA) Water/wells system - \$500K

Amount included in the President's FY09 Budget: \$0

Amount included in the State of Alaska FY09 Budget: \$0

Check this box if state funding was sought but not provided.

AK Boy Scouts - Denali High Adventure Base Camp

2/15/2008

Total Fed \$\$\$ Requested (FY09) \$ 3,000,000
 Total Fed \$\$\$ Requested (FY10) \$ 4,500,000
 Total \$ 7,500,000

FY08

Item	Amount Needed	Funded to Date	Funding Requested	Future/Private Funding Needed	Approp Vehicle Transportation
Camp Roads Improvements	\$ 687,500	\$ -	\$ 450,000	\$ 237,500	Total Transportation Bill \$ 450,000
Water & Wastewater Upgrades Power Generation and Distribution	\$ 740,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 190,000	Energy and Water Total Energy & Water \$ 600,000
Main Lodge	\$ 6,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 4,300,000	Ag, Rural Development
Shower/Latrine Facilities	\$ 755,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 505,000	Ag, Rural Development
Total FY08 \$ 3,000,000					Total Ag, Rural Development #####

Executive Summary

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to serve as a framework for establishing the Denali High Adventure Base, a venue for older scouts (14-18 yrs. old) and their adult leaders. The Denali High Adventure Base (D.H.A.B.) will welcome participants from both local Scouting units as well as Scouts from across the nation. D.H.A.B. will be operated by the Great Alaska Council (G.A.C.) located in Anchorage Alaska and will operate on 2,000 acres of G.A.C. owned property north of Talkeetna Alaska as well as surrounding wilderness including Denali State Park and Denali National Park.

Location

D.H.A.B. is to be located on 2,000 recently acquired acres adjacent to Denali State Park for the sole purpose of establishing an Alaskan Boy Scout Camp and High Adventure Base. The property is currently called Blair Lake due to a 130 acre lake that serves as the center piece of the property. It is located approximately 45 miles north of the town of Talkeetna in the foothills of the Alaska Range. Situated between the Chulitna and Susitna Rivers, the Blair Lake property is bordered by Denali State Park to the north and thousands of acres of Alaskan Wilderness to the south. Close proximity to both Denali State Park and Denali National Park allow for thousands of acres of wilderness adventure in a habitat abounding with any number of flora and wildlife. Both Black and Grizzly Bear call the surrounding wilderness home as well as any number of Moose, Caribou, Wolves and Bald Eagles.

Need for High Adventure Programs

Over the past ten years the need for more BSA High Adventure Programs has increased steadily across the country. Philmont Scout Ranch, Boy Scouts of America national High Adventure Base, has been unable to meet the demand for Boy Scout Troops and Venture Crews seeking a high adventure experience with its waiting list reaching over 20,000 participants for the 2006 summer season. Boy Scout Troops across the country are looking for new programs that provide safe BSA approved high adventure. D.H.A.B. would serve as an ideal destination for Troops and Crews seeking such adventure. Anticipating a high demand for D.H.A.B., the Great Alaska Council will always give first priority to those Alaska Scouting units wishing to use D.H.A.B. Advantages given to Alaskan Scouting units will be twofold; first Alaskan units will access to an exclusive early registration period not available to out of state units. Secondly Alaskan units have been given a significant price break.

Unique Opportunity

Surrounded by an immense wilderness that offers a sweeping variety of landscapes and wildlife D.H.A.B. offers a Scouting High Adventure experience like no other in the United States. Troops will have the opportunity to explore glaciers one day, hike through the sub tundra of Denali Park the next while culminating their trek by navigating one of Alaska's wild rivers, all the while encountering an abundance of wildlife and majestic views that can be found no where else in the country.

Benefits of the Alaska High Adventure Base

Besides those scouts attending D.H.A.B., beneficiaries could include but are not be limited to, surrounding Alaskan communities as well as the Great Alaska Council. First and foremost D.H.A.B. will serve as an easily accessible and affordable High Adventure option for the Boy Scouts of the Great Alaska Council. Secondly D.H.A.B. will allow Scouts from across the country the opportunity to see an Alaska that few others get to see, and learn first hand about the vegetation, wildlife, and culture of America's last frontier. Local communities such as Trappers Creek and Talkeetna will see an added influx of outside dollars to their respective summer economy. Finally the benefit to the Great Alaska Council will be two fold, by first being able to offer a first class, affordable High Adventure opportunity to local Scouts and secondly being able operate a profitable High Adventure Program that will generate consistent income stream for either camp improvements and/or the day to day operation of the Great Alaska Council.

Alaska High Adventure Program Outline

Overview

The Alaska High Adventure Program is designed to provide each unit with a 7 day High Adventure trek allowing for an initial 1 day base camp training component followed by a 6 day wilderness experience offering up to 4 different program electives * depending on each crew's preference.

Crew Size

Due to the remoteness of the Denali wilderness and the restrictions of both Denali National Park and Denali State Park crew size will be limited to no more than 12 persons including adult advisors. This standard will be strictly enforced. Each crew is required to have a majority of youth participants with a maximum number of adults (over 21) being four per crew. However, ***the minimum number of adults for an D.H.A.B. crew will be three (3).***

Travel Arrangements

Travel arrangements to Anchorage will be the responsibility of each crew. Each crew will travel to the D.H.A.B. by the method of their own choosing. Potential relationships with local motor coach companies and the Alaska Railroad could create a variety of travel packages from Anchorage to the Blair Lake property a possibility.

Arrival

Upon arrival, crews will be met by a member of the D.H.A.B. staff to begin the process of check in, logistics, medical check in and base camp orientation. Crews will be assigned a tent area for their stay in base camp, while in the field all extra crew equipment will be stored in a secure locker. An opening program will be conducted for each crew upon their first night at D.H.A.B.

Base Camp Orientation

During each crew's stay in base camp a standard orientation with that crew's guide will be conducted ensuring each crew is instructed in the following topics:

- Basic First Aid
- Bear/Wildlife Awareness
- Emergency Procedure
- Map/Compass
- Use of D.H.A.B. communication devices/ procedures

Trek Itineraries

The following chart is an example of a sample itinerary for a crew participating in each of D.H.A.B.'s five proposed trek options.

Option # 1: Week Long Alaska Trek (no electives¹) (Cheechako Package)

In State Fee \$475
Out of State Fee \$675

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Arrive at A.H.A.B., Begin base camp orientation	Finish base camp orientation, depart for the trail	On the trail	On the trail	On the trail	On the trail, return to base camp, closing campfire	Depart for Anchorage

Option # 2: Week Long Alaska Trek with one elective (Sourdough Package)

In State Fee \$625
Out of State Fee \$825

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Arrive at A.H.A.B., Begin base camp orientation	Finish base camp orientation, depart for the trail via elective 1	On the trail	On the trail	On the trail	On the trail, return to base camp, closing campfire	Depart for Anchorage

¹ Electives are described on page 6

Option # 3 Week Long Alaska Trek with two electives (Kodiak Package)

In State Fee \$775

Out of State Fee \$975

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Arrive at A.H.A.B, Begin base camp orientation	Finish base camp orientation, depart for the trail via elective 1	On the trail	On the trail	On the trail	On the trail, return to base camp via elective 2, closing campfire	Depart for Anchorage

Option #4 Week Long Alaska Trek with three electives (Northern Lights Package)

In State Fee \$925

Out of State Fee \$1125

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Arrive at A.H.A.B, Begin base camp orientation	Finish base camp orientation, depart for the trail via elective 1	On the trail, participate in elective 2	On the trail	On the trail, participate in elective	On the trail, return to base camp via elective 3, closing campfire	Depart for Anchorage

Option #5 Week Long Alaska Trek with four electives (Denali Package)

In State Fee \$1075

Out of State Fee \$1275

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Arrive at A.H.A.B, Begin base camp orientation	Finish base camp orientation, depart for the trail via elective 1	On the trail, participate in elective 2	On the trail, participate in elective	On the trail, participate in elective 3	On the trail, return to base camp via elective 4, closing campfire	Depart for Anchorage

Great Alaska Council Denali High Adventure Base Proposed Program Electives

All electives described below will be performed by BSA approved vendors that meet all BSA policy procedures and standards. The estimated cost of each elective is \$150

River Boat Safari

Blair Lake can serve as a staging area for River Boat Safaris up either of Alaska's Susitna or Chulitna rivers. Both rivers offer spectacular views and ample wildlife viewing opportunities. Each crew's river boat experience will culminate in that crew being dropped off to begin their trek in the pristine wilderness of Denali State Park. Existing relationships that G.A.C. has with local merchants gives D.H.A.B. the potential to provide an excellent river boat venue.

River Float Trip

D.H.A.B. can serve as either a staging area or dropping off points for floats down the Chulitna River. Crews can choose to culminate their trek with a day long float along the Chulitna River accompanied by an experienced guide. Other crews can choose to use D.H.A.B. as a staging area for a float into the town of Talkeetna for an extended Alaska Adventure. Existing relationships that G.A.C. has with local merchants gives D.H.A.B. the potential to provide an excellent rafting venue.

Horse Back Riding Adventure

Relationship with current local merchants allows participants to see much of Alaska's backcountry from horseback. Spectacular views of Mt. McKinney and surrounding peaks of the Alaska Range are featured on either half day, day long or multi-day treks.

Gold Mining Adventure

Participants will have an opportunity to experience a true Sourdough adventure by panning for Gold at any of D.H.A.B.'s numerous Gold Mining Claims.

Salmon Fishing

Participants will have opportunity to fish for any of Alaska's abundant species of wild Salmon along either the Chulitna or Susitna Rivers while enjoying spectacular views in a once in a lifetime wilderness setting.

Fly Fishing

Participants will have a chance to Fly Fish in a wilderness like no other along D.H.A.B.'s whiskey Creek.

Future Program Elective Opportunities

Glacier Exploring and Ice Climbing

Existing concessionaires in the city of Talkeetna make traveling to nearby glaciers for activities such as glissading and ice climbing a real possibility. Local air taxi services such as Talkeetna Air and K2 aviations would shuttle crews to local glaciers or attractions such as the base camp for Mt. McKinley. Relationships can be established with local outfitters to create an off property Scout Friendly Ice climbing and glissading experience.

Outdoor Photography Program

The beauty of the Alaska wilderness surrounding Blair Lake and it abundance of wildlife is a natural training ground for participants interested in wilderness photography. D.H.A.B. has the potential to develop relationships with a large number of local outdoor photographers that can be leveraged to develop a top notch summer photography program.

William T. Hornaday Award Program

The surround environment of the D.H.A.B. is abundant with service, conservation, ecology, and wildlife project opportunities that can support the earning of the Hornaday bronze, silver and gold awards. This program alone would be of great service to surrounding parks; mainly Denali State Park and Denali National Park. Local park services have offered to work with Scouts attending the Alaska Lake High Adventure base to create meaningful unit level service projects.