



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: Cook Inlet Beluga Whale Research

Project Location: Upper Cook Inlet Alaska

Project Description (please attach additional pages as required):

This project will continue necessary funding for additional research for the status of the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale. Currently, the National Marine Fisheries Service is conducting a status review of the CIBW whose population has been petitioned for listing under ESA by outside advocacy groups. At the Delegation's urging, NFMS continued its status review with attention to its annual population survey. The 2007 survey showed what many think is the case—the CIBW appears to have stabilized, setting the stage for increases in future years. It is critical that this funding continue because the ESA listing petition must be responded to with updated scientific information. Much more information is necessary to determine the status of the population. These whales inhabit the Upper Cook Inlet in the summer but migrate elsewhere in the winter. Because of inadequate funding and attention, there is data on the CIBW winter migration. This request will fund a full year-round scientific study program to insure that the CIBW's status is fully understood. This will include tagging and census data over the winter as well as the summer with emphasis on the status of the juvenile population and winter migrat

Related Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Justice, State

Amount of federal funding requested for FY09: \$750,000

Total funding to complete this project: \$1,500,000

Number of years to fund this project: 2

Matching funds from the State of Alaska: Not applicable

Matching funds from local and private entities:

This is a federally conducted study by NMRS

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

\$350,000--FY 2008 CJS bill

Amount included in the President's FY09 Budget: No

Amount included in the State of Alaska FY09 Budget: No

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

List legislation that authorizes this project:

Marine Mammal Protection Act, 16 USC 1361 et.seq.
Endangered Species Act, 16 USC 1531 et. seq.

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)

Alaska Contact Information

Name/Org.: Tri-Borough Comm.--Mayors Mat-Su, Kenai, and Anchorage