



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1011 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-6199



November 13, 2008

Dear Partners in Alaska Coastal Conservation:

Greetings from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Conservation Program! Coastal areas in Alaska provide critical ecological functions vitally important to sustaining fish and wildlife populations and contribute to the health of our local communities.

In partnership with a diverse array of organizations, Alaska's Coastal Program implements projects in south coastal Alaska that restore and protect coastal habitats and their fish and wildlife resources. To date, we have provided technical assistance and matching funds for more than 150 projects, ranging from site-specific wetland, upland, and stream habitat protection and restoration efforts to development of watershed-scale conservation plans. These projects typically involve assessment, restoration and protection activities on private, municipal, state, and Native lands. USFWS contributions to projects have ranged from \$1,700 to \$35,000, with comparable matching funds from project partners.

We encourage our partners to communicate directly with the Coastal Program Manager in your area to discuss coastal habitat conservation needs and project concepts.

If a project concept is accepted by FWS program staff, we will work with you to refine the work plan and prepare a cooperative agreement. While final 2009 funding allocations for the Coastal Program projects in Alaska are not yet available, we anticipate receiving a project allocation of approximately \$400,000.

I am pleased to announce that David Wigglesworth has taken over my former duties as Southcentral Alaska Coastal Program Manager in the Anchorage field office. The Southcentral program supports projects throughout Southcentral Alaska, Kodiak, Southwestern Alaska north to the mouth of the Yukon, and the Aleutian Islands. David's phone number is (907) 271-3764 and his email address is [david\\_wigglesworth@fws.gov](mailto:david_wigglesworth@fws.gov).

The Southeast Alaska Program staff remains the same. Neil Stichert is based in the Juneau Fish and Wildlife Field Office and can be reached at (907) 780-1180 or [neil\\_stichert@fws.gov](mailto:neil_stichert@fws.gov). The Southeast program supports projects throughout Southeast Alaska, from Icy Bay south to Portland Canal.



Please contact David or Neil to discuss your project concept to determine whether it is appropriate for this program. I can also be reached at (907) 786-3925 or [john\\_delapp@fws.gov](mailto:john_delapp@fws.gov). Although there is no deadline to discuss project ideas, we encourage you to communicate with your Coastal Program Manager as early as possible, as funding becomes more limited as the fiscal year progresses.

The Coastal Program is an effective collaborative conservation program – striving for innovation, flexibility, and responsiveness to address Alaska's myriad coastal conservation needs. Our coastal conservation partners are essential to helping the Service achieve its Coastal Program objectives.

We look forward to working with you to conserve Alaska's coastal ecosystems.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John DeLapp', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

John DeLapp  
Conservation Partnerships Coordinator