

Project Title: Alaska Long Trail - Little Coal Creek Trail Upgrades

TPS Number: 68764

Priority: 12

Agency: Natural Resources

FY2025 State Funding Request: \$450,000

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Upgrade and repair degraded sections of Little Coal Creek Trail in Denali State Park to DPOR standards.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost: \$450,000

Funding Already Secured: (\$0)

FY2025 State Funding Request: (\$450,000)

Project Deficit: \$0

Explanation of Other Funds:

Funds have been used to clear the trail over the years, but no trail tread work has been completed.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The Little Coal Creek Trail was originally established in the late seventies. It is what would be characterized as a "fall line" trail. These types of trails are prone to degradation due to erosion. They were never designed in what we would define as a sustainable approach. They were punched in at the time when considerations for proper trail design simply didn't happen.

Little Coal Creek is one of three primary access trails to the Kesugi Ridge Trail and a key connector in the Alaska Long Trail (AKLT) system, providing access to the Denali State Park segment of the AKLT. The purpose of this funding request is to make trail tread repairs within the trail corridor, reroute the trail as much as possible where feasible, to improve trail tread gradients that better align with our trail standards.

We will hire contractors to complete all phases of the work required including but not limited to; trail assessment, planning, clearing, and trail construction.

All trails within Denali State Park are incorporated in the Denali State Park Management Plan. The planning process included extensive public input. Trail reconstruction is a consideration in management recommendations to improve public access.

Project Timeline:

Depending on the availability of trail contractors, funding would be spent over the course of two seasons (2024-2026).

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

DNR-DPOR

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Stuart Leidner

Address: 7278 East Bogard Road
Wasilla, AK 99654

Phone Number: (907)745-3975

Email: stuart.leidner@alaska.gov