



# NEWS RELEASE

## Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **\$675,000 in Alaska Clean Water Actions grants available**

*State lists 31 high priority waters in need of restoration, monitoring*

**April 3, 2007--** A total of \$675,000 is available for clean water projects through the Alaska Clean Water Actions (ACWA) grants, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced today.

Each year, DEC along with its ACWA partners, the Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Game, solicits proposals for clean water projects to be funded through ACWA grants. The funds are granted to local communities and citizens groups for projects that monitor and restore Alaska's targeted high priority water bodies.

"ACWA grants have had very positive impacts on water quality, quantity and habitat for the state," said DEC's Director of Water Lynn Kent, who added that local governments are encouraged to apply.

"Among notable successes is the Granite Creek restoration project in Sitka. Efforts include sediment controls, inventorying salmon populations and seeding and stabilizing erosion areas, as well as routine maintenance of ponds, ditching and other pollution control systems. The end result is healthier water for Alaska," continued Kent.

This year, \$125,000 in funds are also available through the national BEACH grant program for community beaches that may have sewage pollution (fecal coliform or enterococci). A DEC survey of 125 coastal communities and Alaska Native Tribes found several beaches that ranked high for the possibility of bacteria pollution that should be further monitored.

For more information about the ACWA grants priorities and the solicitation, log onto DEC's website at:

[www.dec.state.ak.us/water/acwa/acwa\\_index.htm](http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/acwa/acwa_index.htm)

The solicitation opens March 30, 2007. All applications must be submitted to Marcie Fader, DEC, 555 Cordova Street, Anchorage, AK 99501 by 4:30 PM, April 30, 2007.

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