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## Press Release

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### **Up to \$450,000 in Alaska Clean Water Actions Grants Available *Local organizations sought to help improve state water bodies***

(JUNEAU, AK)—Up to \$450,000 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 & Game, solicits proposals for clean water projects to be funded through ACWA grants. The funds are granted to local communities and citizen groups for projects that monitor and restore Alaska's targeted high priority water bodies.

"We are pleased to again provide funds for water quality improvement throughout the state," said Michelle Bonnet Hale, DEC's Director of Water. "We encourage local governments and other local organizations to apply for grants to address environmental stewardship and high priority watershed needs."

Waters that are polluted or at risk of pollution get the highest priority for grant awards. Other priorities for this year's grants include helping local governments address the proper operation and maintenance of on-site septic systems, stormwater controls, and green infrastructure including planning and design work for area-wide programs as well as construction of small demonstration projects.

The solicitation is open now. All applications must be submitted online by 5:00 p.m., February 14, 2013.

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

<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/acwa/onlineACWAapp.htm>.

To see what communities and organizations have accomplished on past ACWA projects, go to: [http://dec.alaska.gov/water/acwa/acwa\\_index.htm](http://dec.alaska.gov/water/acwa/acwa_index.htm).

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