

Community Coastal Impact Assistance Program

Native Lands Conservation Protection

Award Amount

\$ 83,002

Grantee

Nushagak-Mulchatna/Wood-Tikchik Land Trust

Project Contact

Tim Troll

Telephone Number: (907) 842-2832

E-mail Address: nmwlandtrust@hotmail.com

Location

This project will occur in the Nushagak River Watershed

Project Duration

Project Start Date: July 1, 2012

Project End Date: December 31, 2014

Project Duration: 2.5 years

Project Description

Requested CIAP funding is to help implement a program of strategic conservation protections for Native allotments and Native Corporation lands in the Nushagak and Wood River watersheds. Protection of allotments and corporate lands is important for maintaining the vegetative complex within the riparian corridors of the Wood and Nushagak Rivers. This complex creates the in-river and shoreline habitat essential for rearing and migrating salmon.

The Nushagak and Wood River watersheds contain several hundred Native allotments and thousands of acres of land belonging to Alaska Native village corporations. These lands encompass habitat critical for anadromous and resident fish species. In 2008 the Nushagak-Mulchatna/Wood-Tikchik Land Trust (Land Trust) completed a conservation assessment of more than 300 Native allotments to determine which parcels warranted conservation protection due to their importance to protection of fish and wildlife habitat or subsistence use areas. Allotments were scored by biologists and knowledgeable local residents in order to prioritize the allotments for conservation protection.

CIAP funding will be used to help the Nushagak-Mulchatna / Wood-Tikchik Land Trust conserve and protect a high priority Native allotment in the Nushagak River watershed. A conservation easement, or direct acquisition with a deed restriction, will be used to conserve and protect the important habitat values of the land in perpetuity.

Protection of allotments and corporate lands is important for maintaining the vegetative

complex within the riparian corridors of the Wood and Nushagak Rivers. This complex creates the in-river and shoreline habitat essential for rearing and migrating salmon. This effort to leverage protection of Native allotments with protection of adjacent Native village corporation lands is an important step in trying to prevent the legal partition of land that has occurred in the Nushagak watershed over the last 40 years from resulting in habitat fragmentation.

Measurable Goals and Objectives

Protection of the habitat values through direct acquisition of a Native Allotment parcel or a conservation easement on that parcel within the Nushagak River watershed.

CIAP Authorized Use

The activities outlined for this project are consistent with CIAP Authorized Use 1: Projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetlands.

This project will result in a land acquisition and provide conservation protection for habitat within the Nushagak River watershed.