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Labor Receives \$800,000 for Recovery Funded Green Jobs Project

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development has received an \$800,000 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-Labor Market Information Improvement grant aimed at building a skilled workforce for green jobs in Alaska.

"Opportunities are and will be available for those willing to pursue career paths in green industries," Labor Commissioner Click Bishop said. "This project will allow Alaskans to learn where green jobs are in Alaska's labor market, how many we'll need, what skills are needed – and what this means to Alaska."

The project will combine existing federal and state research with the department's analysis to determine Alaska's green industries and occupations, and identify the skills most needed by green industries, so that training programs can be developed around those needs. Interested job seekers can then be connected with green jobs-related workforce development services, training providers and job opportunities.

"People pursue career options that they're aware of and that they have information about," Bishop said. "This project will help us develop career information about green and environmental jobs. We'll have a way to connect the future labor market with the interest of today's youth – enhancing the map from career aspirations to career awareness to real jobs."

This effort is being led by the Alaska Department of Labor's Research and Analysis section. Key partners in the grant, which will provide targeted information about training, education and workforce investments, are three entities within the department – Alaska Workforce Investment Board, Division of Business Partnerships and Division of Employment Security – and the University of Oregon's intoCareers program.

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Alaska Workforce Investment Board
<http://labor.alaska.gov/awib/home.htm>

Business Partnerships
<http://labor.alaska.gov/bp/home.htm>

Employment Security
<http://labor.alaska.gov/esd/home.htm>

Research and Analysis
<http://laborstats.alaska.gov>

University of Oregon intoCareers
<http://cis.uoregon.edu>