

Bill authorizes 3 port projects

Three port and water projects in Alaska totaling nearly \$42 million have been authorized by an omnibus water resources bill approved recently by Congress, according to Congressman Don Young.

The three projects include \$15 million for a small boat harbor at Dog Bay near Kodiak, \$15.1 million for bank stabilization in Bethel and \$11.8 million for construction of a breakwater on St. Paul Island.

"These projects are vitally important to the three communities," Young said.

"The Dog Bay harbor project is needed to relieve critical overcrowding. Bank erosion is an ongoing problem in Bethel," he said. "The breakwater at St. Paul will continue efforts to develop the rich bottom-fishery in the area."

Young said he expects an appropriation bill for the projects — to be built under a federal-state cost-sharing program — to be introduced early in the next Congress.

The state share for the project at Dog Bay will be about \$2 million. Young said the state already has committed \$6 million for stabilization in Bethel.