

February 4, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

HOUSE BILL NO. 1017

Introduced by

Appropriations Committee

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the game and fish
2 department; and to provide an exemption.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION.** The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds
5 as may be necessary, are appropriated from other funds derived from special funds and federal
6 funds, to the game and fish department for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the game
7 and fish department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027, as
8 follows:

	<u>Base Level</u>	<u>Adjustments or Enhancements</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
11 Salaries and wages	\$37,008,098	\$0	\$37,008,098
12 Operating expenses	17,788,258	0	17,788,258
13 Capital assets	5,400,661	0	5,400,661
14 Grants - game and fish	10,089,976	0	10,089,976
15 Land habitat and deer depredation	27,183,516	0	27,183,516
16 Noxious weed control	725,000	0	725,000
17 Missouri River enforcement	313,869	0	313,869
18 Grants, gifts, and donations	677,970	0	677,970
19 Nongame wildlife conservation	100,000	0	100,000

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1	Lonetree reservoir	2,156,714	0	2,156,714
2	Wildlife services	500,000	0	500,000
3	Shooting sports grant program	250,000	0	250,000
4	Aquatic nuisance species program	2,533,452	0	2,533,452
5	Total other funds	\$104,727,514	\$0	\$104,727,514
6	Full-time equivalent positions	170.00	0.00	170.00
7	Salaries and wages	\$37,008,098	\$2,052,121	\$39,060,219
8	New and vacant FTE pool	0	1,862,510	1,862,510
9	Operating expenses	17,788,258	2,016,038	19,804,296
10	Capital assets	5,400,661	1,622,479	7,023,140
11	Grants - game and fish	10,089,976	(3,001,997)	7,087,979
12	Land habitat and deer depredation	27,183,516	4,989,565	32,173,081
13	Noxious weed control	725,000	0	725,000
14	Missouri River enforcement	313,869	9,912	323,781
15	Grants, gifts, and donations	677,970	17,110	695,080
16	Nongame wildlife conservation	100,000	0	100,000
17	Lonetree reservoir	2,156,714	(48,117)	2,108,597
18	Wildlife services	500,000	0	500,000
19	Shooting sports grant program	250,000	0	250,000
20	Aquatic nuisance species program	2,533,452	352,055	2,885,507
21	Total other funds	\$104,727,514	\$9,871,676	\$114,599,190
22	Full-time equivalent positions	170.00	0.00	170.00

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING - EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET - REPORT TO

SEVENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act which are not included in the entity's base budget for the 2027-29 biennium and which the entity shall report to the appropriations committees of the seventieth legislative assembly regarding the use of this funding:

	<u>One-Time Funding Description</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>
29	Information technology projects	\$380,000
30	Baukol-Noonan Dam repairs	150,000
31	Equipment	220,200

1	Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery pondliners	1,500,000
2	Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery pumps	300,000
3	Wildlife habitat and access on private lands	<u>5,000,000</u>
4	Total other funds	\$7,550,200

5 **SECTION 3. NEW AND VACANT FTE POOL - LIMITATION - TRANSFER REQUEST.** The
6 game and fish department may not spend funds appropriated in the new and vacant FTE pool
7 line item in section 1 of this Act, but may request the office of management and budget to
8 transfer funds from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the salaries and wages line item in
9 accordance with the guidelines and reporting provisions included in House Bill No. 1015, as
10 approved by the sixty-ninth legislative assembly.

11 **SECTION 4. GRANTS, GIFTS, AND DONATIONS LINE ITEM.** The grants, gifts, and
12 donations line item in section 1 of this Act includes up to \$100,000 received by the game and
13 fish department for surface damage, easements, or reclamation on department-owned or
14 managed properties as a result of mineral exploration and extraction activities.

15 **SECTION 5. MIDTERM CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS.** The game and fish department
16 may spend up to \$2,777,778 from other funds in the land habitat and deer depredation line item
17 in section 1 of this Act for national fish and wildlife foundation midterm conservation agreements
18 with private landowners. The department shall limit the term of these agreements to a maximum
19 of thirty years. The department shall provide buyback provisions after the fifteenth, twentieth,
20 and twenty-fifth years of the agreement if the property owner desires to withdraw all or a portion
21 of acreage from the lease.

22 **SECTION 6. EXEMPTION - LINE ITEM TRANSFERS.** Notwithstanding section 54-16-04,
23 the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer up to \$2,000,000 of
24 appropriation authority between the operating expenses, capital assets, and grants - game and
25 fish line items in section 1 of this Act as requested by the game and fish department during the
26 biennium beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The game and fish department
27 shall notify the legislative council of any transfers made pursuant to this section.