

**Forest Service
Senate Bill No. 2003**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2001-03 executive budget (Governor Schafer) (bill as introduced)	17.81	\$1,768,869	\$1,050,526	\$2,819,395
2001-03 legislative appropriations	17.81	1,768,869	1,050,526	2,819,395
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Legislative increase (decrease) to 1999-2001 appropriations	0.00	\$128,718	(\$1,144,562)	(\$1,015,844)
2001-03 Governor Hoeven's recommendation	17.81	\$1,768,869	\$1,050,526	\$2,819,395
Legislative increase (decrease) to Governor Hoeven's recommendation	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0

GOVERNOR HOEVEN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The Hoeven recommendation did not change the Schafer recommendation.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET (SCHAFER) AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS

Salaries and Wages

The legislative action affecting the recommended appropriation for the Forest Service is in accordance with legislative salary and fringe benefits guidelines as contained in House Bill No. 1015. In addition to the above appropriations, Subdivision 2 of Section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2003 includes a general fund appropriation of \$4,628,824 for an equity and special needs funding pool to be distributed by the State Board of Higher Education. A portion of the equity and special needs funding pool may be used for salary increases to address equity issues.

Major Items

The Legislative Assembly approved the executive recommendation for funding for the Forest Service.

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly approved the executive recommendation which included funding for 17.81 FTE positions, the same as the 1999-2001 biennium. Pursuant to Section 9 of Senate Bill No. 2003, the State Board of Higher Education is authorized to adjust FTE positions as needed for institutions of higher education. Any FTE adjustment must be reported to the Office of Management and Budget prior to submission of the 2003-05 budget request.

Other Income

The Legislative Assembly approved the executive recommendation, as provided in Sections 3 and 24 of Senate Bill No. 2003, to appropriate on a continuing basis (through June 30, 2003) all local funds received by the institutions of higher education during the 2001-03 biennium. Consequently, the legislative appropriation for the Forest Service does not include a specific appropriation for local funds, but the Legislative Assembly did appropriate special funds of \$1,050,526, including \$247,486 from the trees for North Dakota program, \$663,040 from nursery tree sales, and \$140,000 from the State Forester reserve account.

Capital Improvements

The Legislative Assembly approved the executive recommendation to provide capital improvement funding of \$171,061, of which \$31,061 is from the general fund, to the Forest Service. Of the \$171,061, \$31,061 is for extraordinary repairs, \$20,000 is for an equipment storage building at the Lisbon field office, and \$120,000 is for a tree storage building at the Towner nursery. Section 14 of Senate Bill No. 2003 allows the Forest Service, upon approval from the Budget Section, to obtain and utilize any available funds in addition to the \$120,000 of special funds appropriated from the State Forester reserve account to assist in the construction of the Towner nursery tree storage building.

Related Legislation

Senate Bill No. 2122 removes the expiration date for the centennial trees program and changes the name of the program to trees for North Dakota. The bill also adds a new section of North Dakota Century Code to allow for optional contributions to the trees for North Dakota program to be designated on an individual's state income tax return.