

**Game and Fish Department
Budget No. 720
House Bill No. 1017**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2009-11 executive budget (bills as introduced)	157.00	\$0	\$59,566,703	\$59,566,703
2009-11 legislative appropriations	157.00	0	59,463,938	59,463,938
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	0.00	\$0	(\$102,765)	(\$102,765)
Legislative increase (decrease) to 2007-09 appropriations	2.00	\$0	\$1,430,893	\$1,430,893

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

Salaries and Wages

The legislative action affecting the recommended appropriation for the Game and Fish Department is in accordance with legislative salary and fringe benefits guidelines as contained in House Bill No. 1015.

	Major Items			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Removed funding added in the executive budget for state employee salary equity adjustments			(\$302,765)	(\$302,765)
Added funding from the State Water Commission to provide grants to local law enforcement agencies to assist in Missouri River law enforcement activities			200,000	200,000
Total	0.00	\$0	(\$102,765)	(\$102,765)

FTE Changes

The 2009-11 biennium appropriation includes funding for 157 FTE positions, an increase of 2 FTE positions from the 2007-09 biennium authorized level of 155 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly did not change the executive recommendation to add 1 FTE pilot game warden position and 1 FTE graphic artist position.

Funding for Department of Agriculture

Wildlife Services

The Legislative Assembly did not change the executive recommendation to provide \$768,800 from the game and fish fund for Wildlife Services, an increase of \$88,800 from the 2007-09 biennium appropriation of \$680,000. The funding will be made available to the Agriculture Commissioner to contract with the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services to alleviate wildlife depredation and damage in North Dakota.

State Board of Animal Health

The 2009-11 biennium appropriation includes \$200,000 from the game and fish fund for a grant to the Department of Agriculture for the State Board of Animal Health, a decrease of \$9,684 from the 2007-09 biennium appropriation of \$209,684.

Funding for Parks and Recreation Department

The 2009-11 biennium appropriation includes \$222,000 from the game and fish fund for a grant to the Parks and Recreation Department for state park boat ramp maintenance and improvements. Of this amount, \$100,000 is designated for one-time improvements to the boat ramp and courtesy dock at Lewis and Clark State Park.

Capital Projects

The Legislative Assembly did not change the executive recommendation to provide \$2,902,500 from the game and fish fund and \$1,112,500 of federal funds for the following capital projects:

Project	Other Funds
Extraordinary repairs	\$400,000
Wildlife management area improvements (\$250,000 federal funds)	400,000
Fishing area projects (\$350,000 federal funds)	450,000
Land acquisition	800,000
Equipment replacement (\$312,500 federal funds)	540,000
Aircraft replacement	150,000
Payment in lieu of taxes (\$200,000 federal funds)	1,200,000
Information technology equipment	75,000
Total	\$4,015,000

Other Sections in Bill

Land acquisitions - Section 2 amends North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) Section 20.1-02-05.1 to require the Game and Fish Department to have land appraised prior to acquisition by the department. The section also provides that the department may not acquire land for more than its appraised value except for parcels or tracts of land consisting of less than 40 acres which may be acquired for up to 200 percent of the appraised value.

Gun dog training area - Section 3 creates a new section to NDCC Chapter 20.1-04 to allow a professional dog trainer to apply for and obtain a permit from the Game and Fish Department for a specific gun dog training area.

Aquatic nuisance species - Section 4 amends NDCC Section 20.1-17-01 to require the Game and Fish Department to conduct a cost-benefit analysis for any rule proposed that is designed to prevent the movement of aquatic nuisance species into or within the state.

Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1009 - Section 4 provides that \$968,800 of the Department of Agriculture's estimated income line item is from the game and fish operating fund for various Department of Agriculture programs for the 2009-11 biennium.

House Bill No. 1020 - This bill provides that the State Water Commission provide a \$200,000 grant to the Game and Fish Department for law enforcement activities on sovereign lands in the state.