

Department 720 - Game and Fish Department
 Senate Bill No. 2017

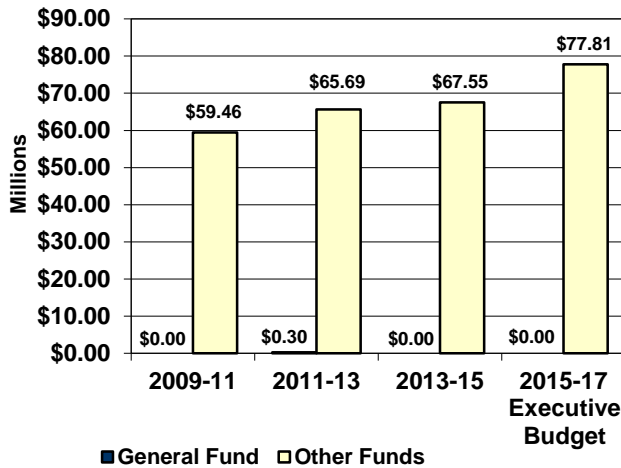
Executive Budget Comparison to Prior Biennium Appropriations

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2015-17 Executive Budget	162.00	\$0	\$77,808,277	\$77,808,277
2013-15 Legislative Appropriations ¹	158.00	0	67,553,639	67,553,639
Increase (Decrease)	4.00	\$0	\$10,254,638	\$10,254,638

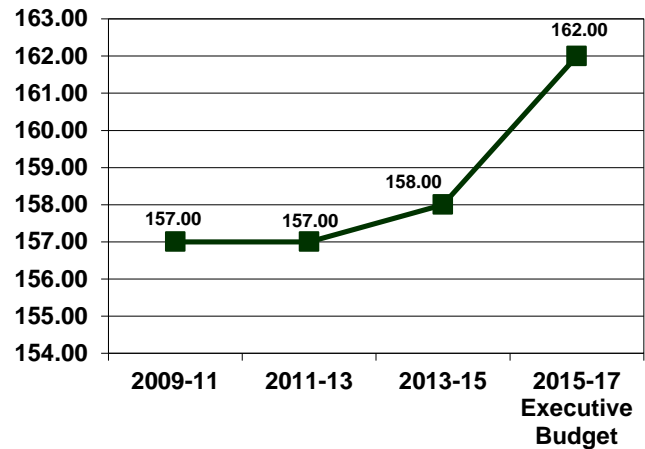
¹The 2013-15 appropriation amounts do not include the following:

- Other funds (\$86,214) allocation to the agency from the state agency energy impact funding pool for rental assistance payments for agency employees located in areas of the state affected by energy development.

Agency Funding



FTE Positions



Executive Budget Comparison to Base Level

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2015-17 Executive Budget	\$0	\$77,808,277	\$77,808,277
2015-17 Base Level	0	67,553,639	67,553,639
Increase (Decrease)	\$0	\$10,254,638	\$10,254,638

First House Action

Attached is a comparison worksheet detailing first house changes to base level funding and the executive budget.

Executive Budget Highlights
 (With First House Changes in Bold)

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Provides funding for state employee salary and benefit increases, of which \$1,453,994 relates to performance increases, \$198,407 is for market equity adjustments, \$686,537 is for health insurance increases, and \$149,695 is for retirement contribution increases. The Senate provided funding for performance salary increases of 2 to 4 percent per year and funding for health insurance increases, but did not include funding for market equity increases or funding for retirement contribution increases.	\$0	\$2,488,633	\$2,488,633
2. Adds 1.00 administrative officer II FTE position	\$0	\$139,475	\$139,475
3. Changes 3.00 part-time employees to full FTE positions:			
• 1.00 administrative assistant I FTE position - Williston. The Senate did not add this FTE position.	\$0	\$92,966	\$92,966
• 1.00 administrative assistant I FTE position - Bismarck	0	92,966	92,966
• 1.00 biologist I FTE position	0	136,683	136,683
Total part-time to FTE positions	\$0	\$322,615	\$322,615

4. Increases capital assets	\$0	\$847,935	\$847,935
5. Increases grants	\$0	\$211,912	\$211,912
6. Increases operating expenses. The Senate provided \$634,114 for operating expenses.	\$0	\$549,114	\$549,114
7. Increases land habitat and deer deprecation funding	\$0	\$2,758,157	\$2,758,157
8. Wildlife division general adjustments	\$0	\$200,161	\$200,161

Other Sections in Bill

Grants, gifts, and donations line - Section 2 includes in the grants, gifts, and donations line item \$400,000 received by the Game and Fish Department for surface damage, easements, or reclamation on department-owned or department-managed properties from oil or mining activities.

Governor's proclamation - The Senate added Section 3 to authorize a Governor's proclamation to provide an elk tag to Annie's House at Bottineau Winter Park to be raffled with proceeds used to support the operations of Annie's House. Section 4 provides an expiration date of June 30, 2017, for the section.

Continuing Appropriations

No continuing appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

The performance audit of the Game and Fish Department conducted by the State Auditor's office as of April 9, 2014, included significant audit findings related to the following:

- The private land open to sportsmen program's goal of one million acres was not reasonable based on significant changes affecting the program.
- The department was in noncompliance with procurement requirements.
- The department had not established appropriate agreements for services being received.
- The department provided funds as sponsorship payments to various private organizations.
- The department's employees received payments they were not entitled to.
- The department has areas that need improvement with the use of public funds.
- The department treated a temporary position as an FTE position even though no legislative authorization existed for the position.
- The department was in noncompliance with general legislative salary increase requirements.
- The department needs improvements to adequately safeguard sensitive information obtained and maintained by the department.
- The department had not properly inventoried and was unaware of the location of over 100 guns used in its volunteer hunter education program.

Major Related Legislation

Senate Bill No. 2077 - Provides for the Game and Fish Department to request criminal history checks on volunteers and final applicants for employment at the discretion of the Director.

House Bill No. 1053 - Excludes the Game and Fish Department from required use of centralized desktop support services.

House Bill No. 1081 - Amends North Dakota Century Code Section 20.1-04-07 regarding the Governor's proclamation concerning the taking of wild turkeys and provides up to two licenses to hunt a turkey in the spring to the Outdoor Adventure Foundation for raffle.

House Bill No. 1156 - Creates a new section to Chapter 20.1-03 to require the Game and Fish Department to provide an option for unsuccessful deer lottery applicants to donate their refund to the private land open to sportsmen program.

House Bill No. 1158 - Amends Section 20.1-03-17 to remove the requirement for county auditors to issue game and fish licenses.

House Bill No. 1175 - Requires a permit for dredging on any body of water designated by the Director of the Game and Fish Department.

House Bill No. 1197 - Prohibits the purchase of certain real property and easements by nongovernmental nonprofit organizations with public funds. This does not apply to a state governmental entity in a partnership with a nongovernmental entity.

Game and Fish Department - Budget No. 720
Senate Bill No. 2017
Base Level Funding Changes

	Executive Budget Recommendation				Senate Version			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2015-17 Biennium Base Level	158.00	\$0	\$67,553,639	\$67,553,639	158.00	\$0	\$67,553,639	\$67,553,639
2015-17 Ongoing Funding Changes								
Base payroll changes			\$336,636	\$336,636			\$336,636	\$336,636
Salary increase - Performance			1,453,994	1,453,994			1,083,770	1,083,770
Salary increase - Market equity			198,407	198,407				0
Retirement contribution increase			149,695	149,695				0
Health insurance increase			686,537	686,537			682,219	682,219
New FTE - Administrative officer II	1.00		139,475	139,475	1.00		139,475	139,475
Part-time to FTE - Administrative assistant I - Williston	1.00		92,966	92,966				0
Part-time to FTE - Administrative assistant I - Bismarck	1.00		92,966	92,966	1.00		92,966	92,966
Part-time to FTE - Biologist I	1.00		136,683	136,683	1.00		136,683	136,683
Capital assets increase			847,935	847,935			847,935	847,935
Grants increase			211,912	211,912			211,912	211,912
Operating expenses increase			549,114	549,114			634,114	634,114
Land habitat and deer depredation increase			2,758,157	2,758,157			2,758,157	2,758,157
Wildlife Division general adjustments			200,161	200,161			200,161	200,161
Total ongoing funding changes	4.00	\$0	\$7,854,638	\$7,854,638	3.00	\$0	\$7,124,028	\$7,124,028
One-time funding items								
Devils Lake storage building			\$200,000	\$200,000			\$200,000	\$200,000
State Fair shooting skills building			200,000	200,000			200,000	200,000
Wildlife private land initiative adjustments			2,000,000	2,000,000			2,000,000	2,000,000
Total one-time funding changes	0.00	\$0	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000	0.00	\$0	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	4.00	\$0	\$10,254,638	\$10,254,638	3.00	\$0	\$9,524,028	\$9,524,028
2015-17 Total Funding	162.00	\$0	\$77,808,277	\$77,808,277	161.00	\$0	\$77,077,667	\$77,077,667

Other Sections in Senate Bill No. 2017

	Executive Budget Recommendation	Senate Version
Grants, gifts, and donations line	Section 2 includes in the grants, gifts, and donations line item \$400,000 received by the Game and Fish Department for surface damage, easements, or reclamation on department-owned or department-managed properties from oil or mining activities.	Section 2 includes in the grants, gifts, and donations line item \$400,000 received by the Game and Fish Department for surface damage, easements, or reclamation on department-owned or department-managed properties from oil or mining activities.
Governor's proclamation		Section 3 adds a new section to North Dakota Century Code Chapter 20.1-08 to provide a Governor's proclamation to provide Annie's House at Bottineau Winter Park with an elk tag for raffle.
Expiration date		Section 4 provides an expiration date for Section 3.