

**Department of Trust Lands
Budget No. 226
Senate Bill No. 2013**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 legislative appropriation	34.00	\$0	\$11,960,015 ¹	\$11,960,015
2023-25 legislative appropriation	33.00	0	14,823,925 ²	14,823,925
2025-27 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2023-25 appropriation	1.00	\$0	(\$2,863,910)	(\$2,863,910)

¹The entire amount shown is ongoing funding from other funds.

²The amount shown includes \$4,954,900 of one-time funding and \$9,869,025 of ongoing funding from other funds.

Item Description

Full-time equivalent position changes - The Legislative Assembly approved 34 FTE positions for the Department of Trust Lands for the 2025-27 biennium, an increase of 1 FTE position from the 2023-25 biennium authorized level of 33 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly added 1 FTE unclaimed property position.

New and vacant FTE pool - The Legislative Assembly transferred \$419,754 for the new and vacant FTE pool line item, of which \$218,610 is for new FTE positions and \$201,144 is for estimated savings from vacant positions.

Revenue diversification and development collaboration - Section 4 of Senate Bill No. 2013 directs the Commissioner of University and School Lands and the Commissioner of Commerce to collaborate to identify revenue diversification and development opportunities on trust lands.

State land lease income - The department manages permanent trust assets consisting of approximately 706,000 surface acres and 2.6 million mineral acres. Surface acres are leased to ranchers and farmers across the state, and mineral acres are offered for oil, gas, coal, gravel, and scoria leasing.

Status/Result

The FTE unclaimed property position was filled in September 2025.

The department transferred \$206,208 from the new and vacant FTE pool line item to the salaries and wages line item for the cost of the new FTE position filled in September 2025.

Through January 2026, the department had estimated vacant FTE position savings of \$76,291 and used \$8,860 of the savings for extra temporary salary funding. The department had 1 vacant FTE position through December 2025 and no vacant positions in January 2026.

Through March 2026, staff from the Department of Trust Lands have met with staff from the Department of Commerce to identify industries and programs that could expand revenue opportunities on trust lands, but no projects have been secured.

The tables below reflect revenues generated from the lease of state land for fiscal years 2021 through 2025 based on information in the department's financial reports.

Surface Lease Rental Revenue					
Trust Fund	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Strategic investment and improvements	\$67,873	\$12,466	\$142,028	\$59,191	\$54,163
Capitol building	187,671	213,587	195,270	195,405	259,002
Permanent trusts					
Common schools	11,769,950	13,589,170	13,143,824	14,211,701	16,554,960
Other permanent	1,069,016	1,131,057	1,159,462	1,266,274	1,231,931
Total	\$13,094,510	\$14,946,280	\$14,640,584	\$15,732,571	\$18,100,056
Percentage increase (decrease)	(10.1%)	14.1%	(2.0%)	7.5%	15.0%

Royalty Revenue					
Trust Fund	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Strategic investment and improvements	\$109,747,506	\$190,853,663	\$207,090,499	\$207,024,976	\$182,226,991
Capitol building	991,389	3,683,206	2,467,434	2,325,550	1,680,319
Permanent trusts					
Common schools	153,825,247	266,787,464	278,482,487	282,197,359	262,681,481
Other permanent	11,618,169	21,667,285	19,994,552	17,035,298	15,039,717
Total	\$276,182,311	\$482,991,618	\$508,034,972	\$508,583,183	\$461,628,508
Percentage increase (decrease)	15.8%	74.9%	5.2%	0.1%	(9.2%)