2024 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB6001 (Chapter 2)

Department of Wildlife Resources

Item 369	First Year - FY2025	Second Year - FY2026
Administrative and Support Services (59900)	**$13,145,586**	**$13,145,586**
General Management and Direction (59901)	$8,043,115	$8,043,115
Information Technology Services (59902)	$5,102,471	$5,102,471
Fund Sources:		
Dedicated Special Revenue	$11,642,651	$11,642,651
Federal Trust	$1,502,935	$1,502,935

Authority: Title 29.1, Chapter 1, Code of Virginia.

A. The department shall recover the cost of reproduction, plus a reasonable fee per record, from persons or organizations requesting copies of computerized lists of licenses issued by the department.

B. Funds previously appropriated to the Lake Anna Advisory Committee for hydrilla control and removal may be used at the discretion of the Lake Anna Advisory Committee upon issues related to maintaining the health, safety, and welfare of Lake Anna.

C.1. Subject to review and approval by the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, the Director of the Department of Wildlife Resources may issue to the Department of Transportation an interim permit to relocate the nest and eggs of any state listed threatened bird species from critical areas of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel Expansion Project's South Island associated with the ingress and egress to the island; the delivery, assembly, and immediate operations of the tunnel boring machine; or other project critical locations as mutually agreed to by the Commissioner of Highways and the Director, which, if not relocated, would effectively require all substantial construction activities to cease.

2. Prior to the issuance of an interim permit as described in section 1, (i) the Director must determine that the Department of Transportation and its design-build contractor have taken all reasonable steps to prevent birds from nesting on the South Island, in accordance with the Colonial Nesting Bird Management Plan dated March 27, 2020, (ii) the Commissioner of Highways must determine that substantial construction activities will have to cease if the nest and eggs are not relocated, and (iii) the Director shall require as a condition of the interim permit that the nest and any eggs will be relocated under the supervision of the Department of Wildlife Resources to a location acceptable to the Director that is as close as possible to the original nesting location while allowing construction activities to continue.

3. Within 30 days of the adoption by the Board of Wildlife Resources of any regulation governing the take of migratory birds or threatened and endangered species, the Department of Transportation shall apply for a permit covering such take for the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel expansion project.

D. Any references to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries within this Act shall convey to the Department

of Wildlife Resources.