

Natural Resources

Adopted Adjustments (\$ in millions)				
	FY 2019 Adopted		FY 2020 Adopted	
	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>NGF</u>
2016-18 Base Budget, Ch. 836	\$109.8	\$265.5	\$109.8	\$265.5
Adopted Increases	54.0	11.8	9.6	11.1
Adopted Decreases	<u>(6.5)</u>	<u>(3.6)</u>	<u>(2.0)</u>	<u>(3.6)</u>
\$ Net Change	47.4	8.2	7.6	7.6
Ch. 2 (HB 5002, as Adopted)	\$157.3	\$273.7	\$117.4	\$273.1
% Change	43.2%	3.0%	6.9%	2.9%
FTEs	1,030.50	1,159.5	1,032.50	1,159.5
# Change	8.00	4.00	10.00	4.00

- **Secretary of Natural Resources**

- *Reporting on Settlements.* Retains language, included in Chapter 836 of the 2017 Acts of Assembly, requiring the Secretary of Natural Resources to report annually on all settlement agreements to which the Secretary is a signatory and provide copies of any finalized settlements to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance committees within 15 days of finalization. The adopted budget contains multiple actions relating to the recent DuPont settlement and Surry-Skiffes Creek mitigation agreements.

- **Department of Conservation and Recreation**

- *Provide Water Quality Improvement Fund Deposit.* Includes \$22.5 million GF in FY 2019, representing the statutory deposit to the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) based on the FY 2017 revenue surplus and unexpended balances. Out of this deposit, a series of designations are made, including: (1) the required deposit of 15 percent, or about \$2.0 million, to the WQIF reserve fund, (2) the transfer of \$19.8 million to the Virginia Natural Resource Commitment Fund of which \$18.4 million is agricultural best management practices, (3) the provision of \$2.4 million to soil and water conservation districts for technical assistance, and (4) the use of

\$750,000 to provide \$250,000 to develop a tracking and reporting module for the Ag BMPs database and \$500,000 to be used as match for the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).

- ***Establish Dedicated Funding to the WQIF Reserve.*** Appropriates an additional \$2.6 million GF each year to the WQIF reserve fund from increasing the transfer of un-refunded marine fuels sales from \$7.4 million to \$10.0 million each year.
- ***Increase Nongeneral Fund Appropriations.*** Increases the department’s nongeneral fund appropriation by \$3.9 million each year to align anticipated revenues and spending levels.
- ***Appropriate Nongeneral Fund Settlement Monies to Support Middle Peninsula State Park.*** Includes a nongeneral fund appropriation of \$509,955 the first year and \$317,124 the second year as well as 3.00 FTE positions from mitigation settlement amounts relating to the Skiffes Creek settlement. These amounts will cover operating costs at Middle Peninsula State Park for the biennium. Beginning in FY 2021, these costs will have to be covered by the General Fund. Accompanying language exempts the acquisition of property resulting from mitigation settlements from the prohibition on the acceptance of property that result in additional operating expenses. A companion amendment in Capital Outlay authorizes the acceptance of this property which is being donated as a State Park as part of the Skiffes Creek settlement.
- ***Increase Virginia Land Conservation Fund.*** Provides an additional appropriation of \$312,500 to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund to reflect revenue received from the Skiffes Creek mitigation settlement.
- ***Dam Rehabilitation Plan.*** Extends the date for the submission of the Plan for the Rehabilitation of Soil and Water Conservation District Dams by one year to November 1, 2018.
- ***Capital Outlay Authorizations.*** In addition to the language authorizing the acceptance of land for the Middle Peninsula State Park as part of the Skiffes Creek Settlement, there are four other Capital Outlay amendments relating to DCR. The first provides a nongeneral fund appropriation of \$3.6 million in the first year to acquire three additional Natural Areas Preserves (two being provided from funds generated by the DuPont Settlement and one from the Skiffes Creek Settlement). The second provides \$1.5 million NGF the first year to acquire land from the U.S. Navy to expand the York River State Park. The third provides \$120,000 GF the first year to acquire additional land abutting the New River State Park. Finally, Chapter 2 of the 2018 Special Session I Acts of Assembly (HB 5002) authorizes \$7.5 million

in bonds for cabin improvements at Douthat, First Landing and Fairy Stone State Parks.

- ***Repairs to Breaks Interstate Park Dam.*** Provides \$112,500 GF the first year for emergency repairs at the Breaks Interstate Park dam. Repairs include replacement of the emergency drain system, widening of the primary spillway, and deletion of two pressurized waterlines.
- ***Operational Funding for Widewater State Park.*** Provides \$965,310 GF the first year and \$590,944 GF the second year for start-up and ongoing operational costs at Widewater State Park in Stafford County. Includes funding for 6.00 FTEs each year, including a Park Manager, Office Manager, three Park Rangers and wage staff.
- ***Funding for Seven Bends State Park.*** Appropriates \$167,548 GF and 1.00 FTE the first year and \$198,752 GF and 2.00 FTEs the second year to support the limited opening of Seven Bends State Park in Shenandoah County. Funding will provide for minimal staffing, the opening of recreational facilities, signage, and a gravel parking lot.
- ***Hearthstone Lake Dam.*** Includes \$420,000 GF the first year to match federal and local funding for the rehabilitation of the Upper North River Watershed Dam Number 77 on Hearthstone Lake in Augusta County.
- ***Park Development Prioritization.*** Directs the Board of the Department of Conservation and Recreation to develop a prioritization process which evaluates the relative priority of improvements for all properties that have not yet been fully developed as a state park or natural area preserve. The report is due by November 1, 2018.
- ***First Landing State Park.*** Provides \$50,000 GF the first year for the Department to develop a plan to expand bike facilities at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach.
- ***Soil and Water Conservation District Engineer.*** Appropriates \$100,000 GF and 1.00 FTE the first year, and \$200,000 GF and 2.00 FTEs the second year to fund additional engineering staff to support the Commonwealth's 47 Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The Department currently has one engineer and one engineering technician.

- **Department of Environmental Quality**

- ***Water Quality Monitoring.*** Provides \$14,000 GF each year to support increased water monitoring activities.

- ***Clean Power Plan Language.*** Eliminates language that had been included in Chapter 836 which prohibited the use of air protection program funds to develop a Clean Power Plan as the federal requirement has been repealed.
- ***Expedited Review Process and Fees.*** Authorizes the Department to offer an optional expedited stormwater review process at a fee of \$30,000 for land disturbance acreage equal to or greater than 100 acres. The additional fee revenue above the existing \$9,600 fee may be retained by the department to provide staffing for the expedited process.
- ***Lynnhaven River Study.*** Provides \$250,000 GF each year for an environmental evaluation of Buchanan Creek, a tributary of the Lynnhaven River. The study will look at adequacy of the channel, shoreline deterioration, and potential contamination from a former private sewage treatment facility. A report is due by October 1, 2019. Complementary funding of \$403,000 GF the second year is provided to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science to develop the State of the Elizabeth River Scorecard 2020 as part of the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of water quality in Hampton Roads.
- ***Payoff Wastewater Facility Upgrades at Skelton Educational Conference Center.*** Includes \$319,200 GF the first year to retire debt and interest incurred at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake. In 2001, the Center voluntarily agreed to a consent order from DEQ to replace the wastewater system which was completed in 2005. Previous general fund appropriations only partially covered the costs of the upgrade.
- ***Stormwater Local Assistance Fund.*** Provides \$20.0 million GF appropriation the first year for the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund.

- **Department of Game and Inland Fisheries**

- ***Appropriate Settlement Revenues.*** Increases the agency's nongeneral fund appropriation by \$768,400 each year resulting from the dedication of a portion of the Skiffes Creek mitigation settlement funds for improvements to Hogg's Island.
- ***Capital Outlay.*** Amendments in Capital Outlay provide nongeneral fund appropriations totaling \$9.4 million the first year and \$10.4 million the second year for the department. These amounts include \$1.9 million each year for maintenance reserve projects; \$1.0 million for wildlife management area improvements; \$5.0 million each year for the acquisition of additional land; \$500,000 each year for dam improvements; and \$1.0 million the first year and \$2.0 million the second year to improve boating access.

- *Game Protection Fund Transfers.* Includes the appropriation of \$33.7 million nongeneral fund over the biennium, representing transfers from the general fund of sales tax revenues generated from the sale of watercraft and from hunting, fishing and sporting activities.

- **Department of Historic Resources**

- *Easement Coordinator.* Provides \$97,799 NGF and one nongeneral fund position each year to support an additional easement coordinator to assist with negotiating conservation easements. Current staffing levels only support the process of approximately 50 percent of the 30 easements proposed each year. The cost of the position will be supported by an administrative fee authorized in accompanying language. The level of the fee is not set out.
- *Project Review Archeologist.* Includes \$93,004 GF each year for an additional archaeologist to support environmental and historic reviews of projects impacting historic resources.
- *Federal Grant Funding.* Provides a nongeneral fund appropriation of \$500,000 each year to support federal grant awards for which the department serves as a pass-through agent.
- *Appropriate Settlement Funds.* Provides \$200,000 NGF the first year and \$100,000 NGF the second year to reflect anticipated revenue from the Surry-Skiffes Creek mitigation agreement.
- *Battlefields Preservation Fund.* Continues to provide \$1.0 million GF each year for land acquisition and preservation of battlefields across the Commonwealth. This is one of three amendments in the Natural Resources and Agriculture & Forestry Secretariat that provide dedicated general funds each year for land conservation activities.
- *Historic African American Graves.* Provides an additional \$960 from the general fund each year to support African American graves at the Daughters of Zion Cemetery in Charlottesville. The payment rate is set at \$5.00 per grave per year. In addition, \$1,330 GF each year is provided to support the preservation and care of graves at the Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Portsmouth and \$220 GF each year for the African-American Burial Ground for the Enslaved at Belmont in Loudoun County.
- *Revolutionary War Graves.* Provides an additional \$20,250 GF each year for Revolutionary War graves. This amendment implements the provisions of Chapter 639 of the 2018 Acts of Assembly (HB 153), which increases the number of recognized graves from 150 up to a maximum of 4,200.

- **Marine Resources Commission**

- *Tangier Island Seawall Project.* Provides \$245,687 GF the first year and \$233,637 GF the second year for the state share of the federally-funded Tangier Island Seawall Project. A companion amendment reduces FY18 funding amounts.
- *Relocate Headquarters to Fort Monroe.* \$175,000 GF the first year and \$225,000 GF the second year is provided for relocation costs of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission headquarters and operational facilities to publicly owned land at Fort Monroe.
- *IT Upgrade for New Headquarters.* Includes \$52,000 GF each year to cover increased costs associated with upgrading internet bandwidth at the Commission’s new headquarters which will be located at Fort Monroe.
- *Funding for Clontz Park Public Access Boat Ramp.* Provides \$160,000 GF the first year to complete a public access boat ramp project at Clontz Park in the Town of Smithfield.
- *Increase Oyster Restoration.* Increases funding for oyster replenishment and restoration activities by \$750,000 GF the first year and \$1.0 million GF the second year.

- **Virginia Museum of Natural History**

- *Satellite Location Study.* Provides \$250,000 GF the first year for a preliminary planning study to establish a satellite location of the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Waynesboro.