

FY 2017-18: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Summary: Conference Report
Article XV, House Bill 4323 (H-1) CR-1



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IDG/IDT	FY 2016-17 YTD as of 2/8/17	FY 2017-18 Executive	FY 2017-18 House	FY 2017-18 Senate	FY 2017-18 Conference	Difference: Conference From FY 2016-17 YTD	
						Amount	%
	\$1,375,900	\$232,200	\$232,200	\$232,200	232,200	(\$1,143,700)	(83.1)
Federal	72,765,400	70,095,700	70,095,700	70,095,700	70,095,700	(2,669,700)	(3.7)
Local	0	0	0	0	0	0	--
Private	7,446,400	7,446,000	7,446,000	7,446,000	7,446,000	(400)	(0.0)
Restricted	283,956,400	274,553,100	274,553,100	289,248,500	274,248,500	(9,707,900)	(3.4)
GF/GP	43,410,000	64,047,300	48,984,000	45,197,300	58,447,300	15,037,300	34.6
Gross	\$408,954,100	\$416,374,300	\$401,311,000	\$412,219,700	\$410,469,700	\$1,515,600	0.4
FTEs	2,243.8	2,270.8	2,261.8	2,268.8	2,267.8	24.0	1.1

Notes: (1) FY 2016-17 year-to-date figures include mid-year budget adjustments through February 8, 2017. (2) Appropriation figures for all years include all proposed appropriation amounts, including amounts designated as "one-time."

Overview

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages Michigan's natural and cultural resources through conservation and protection. State parks, wildlife, fisheries, forests, and minerals management are all administered by DNR.

Major Budget Changes From FY 2016-17 YTD Appropriations		FY 2016-17 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/17)	FY 2017-18 Conference Change
1. Wetland Mitigation Bank Grants One-Time Funding	Gross	\$500,000	(\$500,000)
Executive increases by \$3.4 million in one-time GF/GP funding for the initial development and construction of wetland mitigation banks to be used by the Michigan Municipal Wetland Alliance, agricultural producers, and blueberry farmers. Wetland mitigation banking is the creation or restoration of wetlands to compensate for unavoidable impacts to wetlands at another location.	GF/GP	\$500,000	(\$500,000)
House increases by \$1.7 million in one-time GF/GP funding.			
Senate and Conference do not include this one-time funding.			
2. Wildlife Management – Wetland Mitigation Banking Program	Gross	\$400,000	\$3,500
Executive increases by \$3,500 in federal funding to administer the Wetland Mitigation Banking Program.	Federal	400,000	3,500
House, Senate, and Conference concur with Executive.	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
3. Land Ownership Tracking System One-Time Funding	Gross	\$4,000,000	(\$1,100,000)
Executive decreases by \$1.1 million Gross for the second year of funding for a project to convert an outdated land management IT system to a web-based system that can interact with current databases.	Federal	100,000	(100,000)
House decreases by \$2.0 million Gross.	Restricted	3,900,000	(2,900,000)
Senate and Conference concur with Executive.	GF/GP	\$0	\$1,900,000
4. Abandoned Mines One-Time Funding	FTE	NA	0.0
Executive adds 1.0 FTE and \$2.0 million GF/GP funding to close abandoned mine shafts on DNR-managed lands. There are about 100 sites total, the majority of which are located in the western Upper Peninsula. This funding would provide for the closure of about 50% of these sites.	Gross	NA	\$0
House does not fund this program.	GF/GP	NA	\$0
Senate funds this program with 1.0 FTE and \$1.5 million GF/GP.			
Conference concurs with the House.			

Major Budget Changes From FY 2016-17 YTD Appropriations		FY 2016-17 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/17)	FY 2017-18 Conference Change
5. General Law Enforcement – Conservation Officers			
<u>Executive</u> increases by 11.0 FTEs and \$1.7 million GF/GP for additional conservation officers in the Great Lakes enforcement and special investigations units.	FTE	273.0	11.0
<u>House</u> increases by 7.0 FTEs and \$1.1 million GF/GP.	Gross	\$40,506,000	\$1,718,600
<u>Senate</u> and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Federal	6,477,500	0
	Restricted	24,630,500	0
	GF/GP	\$9,398,000	\$1,718,600
6. Fisheries Resource Management – Conservation Officers			
<u>Executive</u> increases by 1.0 FTE and \$108,900 GF/GP for additional conservation officers in the Great Lakes enforcement and special investigations units.	FTE	156.5	1.0
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Gross	\$20,378,600	\$108,900
	Federal	4,205,800	0
	Private	136,200	0
	Restricted	15,777,400	0
	GF/GP	\$259,200	\$108,900
7. Recreation Improvements – Road Funding Revenue			
<u>Executive</u> adds 9.0 FTEs and \$2.8 million in restricted funding for recreational improvements made possible by increased road funding revenue as a result of Public Act 176 of 2015. This funding would be divided among forest recreation and trails, recreational boating, recreation improvement fund grants, and the snowmobile local grants program.	FTE	NA	9.0
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Gross	NA	\$2,817,500
	Restricted	NA	2,817,500
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
8. Forest Fire Equipment – Fire Equipment Replacement			
<u>Executive</u> provides an additional \$350,000 in GF/GP funding to replace outdated forest fire equipment. Replacement will be determined by age and condition of equipment.	Gross	\$581,500	\$350,000
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Restricted	581,500	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$350,000
9. Minerals Management – Environmental Compliance			
<u>Executive</u> provides an additional 2.0 FTEs and \$304,600 from the Michigan state parks endowment fund to provide environmental compliance with oil, gas, and mineral leases, on DNR-managed lands.	FTE	17.0	0.0
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> do not provide increase.	Gross	\$2,828,600	\$0
	Restricted	2,828,600	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
10. Michigan Historical Center – Public Infrastructure Records			
<u>Executive</u> provides an additional 3.0 FTEs and \$565,100 GF/GP funding to provide long-term access to public infrastructure records at the Michigan Historical Center.	FTE	51.5	3.0
<u>House</u> provides an additional 1.0 FTE and 188,400 GF/GP funding.	Gross	\$5,576,300	\$565,100
<u>Senate</u> and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Federal	327,600	0
	Private	411,200	0
	Restricted	758,200	0
	GF/GP	\$4,079,300	\$565,100
11. Michigan Wildlife Council – Promotion of Wildlife Conservation			
<u>Executive</u> provides an additional \$500,000 from the wildlife management public education fund to the Michigan Wildlife Council to promote the importance of wildlife conservation in Michigan.	Gross	\$1,600,000	\$500,000
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Restricted	1,600,000	500,000
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
12. State Parks Repair and Maintenance			
<u>House</u> reduces by \$195,400 Gross funding. An increase of \$304,600 in Michigan State Parks Endowment Fund support is exceeded by a \$500,000 decrease in GF/GP funding.	Gross	\$13,500,000	\$0
<u>Senate</u> does not include reduction.	Restricted	12,000,000	0
	GF/GP	\$1,500,000	\$0
13. Michigan Conservation Corps			
<u>House</u> reduces by \$1.0 million GF/GP to eliminate program funding.	Gross	\$1,000,000	\$0
<u>Senate</u> and <u>Conference</u> do not include reduction.	GF/GP	\$1,000,000	\$0
14. Wildlife Management (One-Time)			
<u>House</u> provides \$1.0 million in one-time GF/GP funding for chronic wasting disease mitigation.	Gross	NA	\$1,000,000
<u>Senate</u> does not include increase.	GF/GP	NA	\$1,000,000
<u>Conference</u> concurs with House.			

		FY 2016-17 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/17)	FY 2017-18 Conference Change
Major Budget Changes From FY 2016-17 YTD Appropriations			
15. Bay City State Recreation Area Playscape Reconstruction (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$500,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$500,000
<u>Conference</u> provides \$500,000 GF/GP for the reconstruction of a playscape at Bay City State Recreation Area.			
16. Invasive Species (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$200,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$200,000
<u>Conference</u> provides \$200,000 GF/GP for the invasive species control, mitigation, and prevention.			
17. Mineral Extraction Summit (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$50,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$50,000
<u>Conference</u> provides \$50,000 GF/GP to help fund the Michigan Extractive Industry Summit event.			
18. Off-road Vehicle Trail Improvement Grants (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$176,200
	GF/GP	NA	\$176,200
<u>Conference</u> provides \$176,200 GF/GP to maintain existing ORV facilities, develop new facilities, and restore natural resources damaged by ORV use.			
19. Onaway State Park, Pavilion Reconstruction (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$500,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$500,000
<u>Conference</u> provides \$500,000 GF/GP for the reconstruction of a pavilion at Onaway State Park.			
20. Shooting Range Construction, Repair, and Maintenance (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$250,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$250,000
<u>Conference</u> provides \$250,000 GF/GP for the construction, repair, and maintenance of shooting ranges.			
21. Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grants (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$100,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$100,000
<u>Conference</u> provides \$100,000 GF/GP for grants to local enforcement agencies for patrols along highway rights-of-way and/or groomed snowmobile trails.			
22. Snowmobile Local Grants Program (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$226,200
	GF/GP	NA	\$226,200
<u>Conference</u> provides \$226,200 GF/GP for grants to local units of government, nonprofit incorporated snowmobile clubs, and other organizations to maintain existing snowmobile trails and expand trail system when possible.			
23. Removal of FY 2016-17 Supplemental Funding	Gross	\$9,800,000	(\$9,800,000)
	Restricted	6,800,000	(6,800,000)
	GF/GP	\$3,000,000	(\$3,000,000)
<u>Executive</u> removes \$9.8 million Gross (\$1.7 million GF/GP) for FY 2016-17 supplemental appropriations included in Public Acts 340 and 382 of 2016. Appropriations included support for local and state boating infrastructure maintenance, recreational boating and improvement fund grants, snowmobile local grants, chronic wasting disease mitigation, and special maintenance on Mackinac Island (PA 340) as well as funding to address aquatic invasive species (PA 382). <u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with <u>Executive</u> .			
24. Removal of FY 2016-17 One-Time Funding	Gross	\$5,050,000	(\$4,800,000)
	Restricted	3,400,000	(3,400,000)
	GF/GP	\$1,650,000	(\$1,400,000)
<u>Executive</u> removes \$5.1 million Gross (\$1.7 million GF/GP) for one-time projects included in the previous fiscal year's budget. Projects included fisheries resource management, forest fire equipment, forestry investment (vegetative management system), invasive species funding, swimmer's itch pilot program, and water trail development. <u>House</u> concurs with <u>Executive</u> . <u>Senate</u> concurs with <u>Executive</u> but retains the swimmer's itch pilot program and doubles funding to \$500,000 GF/GP in FY 2017-18. <u>Conference</u> concurs with <u>Executive</u> but retains the swimmer's itch pilot program and funds it at \$250,000 GF/GP in FY 2017-18.			

Major Budget Changes From FY 2016-17 YTD Appropriations	FY 2016-17 Year-to-Date (as of 2/8/17)	FY 2017-18 Conference Change	
25. Capital Outlay Project Adjustments	Gross	NA	\$7,399,900
<u>Executive</u> makes current services baseline adjustments to capital outlay projects by reducing federal and restricted funding and increasing GF/GP funding for a net increase of \$10.4 million Gross. Funding is increased for the following: state parks repair and maintenance, wetlands restoration, enhancement, and acquisition, East Tawas state harbor, local boating infrastructure maintenance, state boating infrastructure and maintenance, and trail development.	Federal	NA	(2,700,000)
<u>House</u> increases funding for state parks repair and maintenance by \$4.0 million GF/GP (rather than the recommended \$10.0 million GF/GP) and for trail development by \$2.0 million GF/GP (rather than the recommended \$5.0 million GF/GP) for a Gross increase of \$1.4 million.	Restricted	NA	(1,900,100)
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive but changes GF/GP funding to restricted funding.	GF/GP	NA	\$12,000,000
<u>Conference</u> increases funding for state parks repair and maintenance by \$7.0 million GF/GP (rather than the recommended \$10.0 million GF/GP) and for trail development by \$5.0 million GF/GP for a Gross increase of \$7.4 million.			
26. Technical Adjustments	Gross	NA	(\$1,171,500)
<u>Executive</u> reduces IDG/IDT and federal authorization and increases restricted authorization for a net decrease of \$1.2 million Gross to reflect available funds. Adjustments include realignment of appropriation authority for over-appropriated funds and the reclassification of interdepartmental grants as restricted funding where necessary.	IDG/IDT	NA	(1,156,000)
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Federal	NA	(139,900)
	Restricted	NA	124,400
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
27. Economic Adjustments	Gross	NA	\$2,421,200
<u>Executive</u> reflects increased costs of \$2.4 million Gross (\$292,300 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage increases (3.0% ongoing after removing the FY 2016-17 one-time 1.5% lump sum), actuarially required retirement contributions, worker's compensation, building occupancy charges, and other economic adjustments.	IDG/IDT	NA	12,300
<u>House</u> , <u>Senate</u> , and <u>Conference</u> concur with Executive.	Federal	NA	266,700
	Private	NA	(400)
	Restricted	NA	1,850,300
	GF/GP	NA	\$292,300

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2016-17

Sec. 218. Retention of Reports – RETAINED

Requires DNR to retain copies of all reports funded from appropriations. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 219. Waterways Fund Projects – DELETED

Requires DNR to report on activities of Waterways Commission during the previous fiscal year; list of completed Waterways Fund projects to be provided to Legislature and State Budget Director by January 31. Executive, Senate, and Conference delete, House retains.

Sec. 220. Disciplinary Action Against State Employees – RETAINED

Prohibits DNR from disciplining state employees for communicating with members of the Legislature and their staffs. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 251. Invasive Species Initiative – RETAINED

Requires \$3.6 million of funding for the Invasive Species Initiative be allocated for grants for prevention, detection, eradication, and control of invasive species. Executive and Senate delete, House and Conference retain.

Sec. 503. Invasive Species Order Enforcement – RETAINED

Requires report on efforts taken to enforce the Natural Resources Commission's invasive species order concerning raising feral swine in Michigan. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 504. Cervid Operation Fees – RETAINED

Requires report on the use of registration fees from privately owned cervid operations. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 505. Urban Deer Management – DELETED

Requires the department to develop a plan for urban deer management. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2016-17

Sec. 602. Water Control Structure Certification – RETAINED

Directs Fisheries Division to not interfere with the certification process for dams and other water control structures. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 706. Grand River Waterway Study – DELETED

Directs DNR to work with the State Budget Office to ensure that the Grand River Waterway Study carryforward as a work project appropriation. This study was originally appropriated in 2013. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Sec. 808. Forest Management and Timber Market Development – RETAINED

Requires DNR to use increased funding available from the increased timber harvest for the purpose of forest management and timber market development, including investments in technology and equipment aimed at growing the timber economy. Renumbered section to 808 and revised to exclude technology and equipment enhancements and include a departmental requirement to develop corresponding metrics to assess performance. Executive and Senate delete, House and Conference retain.

Sec. 809. Forest Fire Equipment Replacement – DELETED

Requires DNR to use increased funding available for forest fire equipment and forestry investment for the replacement of aging forest fire equipment. The department is also required to develop corresponding metrics to assess performance. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Sec. 901. Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grants – RETAINED

Provides snowmobile law enforcement grant funds to county law enforcement agencies in counties with state snowmobile trails. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 902. Marine Safety Grants – RETAINED

Requires report on the Marine Safety Grant Program. Report to include watercraft registrations revenues, revenues and expenditures of the Marine Safety Fund, grant distribution methodology, and a list of grant awards by county. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 903. Conservation Officers – NEW

Directs the use of the increased appropriation in part 1 for conservation officers to hire, train, and equip ten detectives and two support staff. Executive adds new section numbered 701, House revises to six detectives and renumbers 903, Senate and Conference adds new section numbered 903.

Sec. 1201. Forest Management and Timber Market Development Technology – DELETED

Requires DNR to use increased funding available for the increased timber harvest for the purpose of forest management and timber market development which includes investments in technology aimed at growing the timber economy. The department is also required to develop corresponding metrics to assess performance. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Sec. 1202. Land Ownership Tracking System – DELETED

Requires DNR to use increased funding available for the land ownership tracking system to implement a new electronic system to facilitate state land records management for the purpose of increasing access to public land records and updating systems. The department is also required to develop corresponding metrics to assess performance. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Sec. 1203. Invasive Species – DELETED

Requires DNR to use increased funding available for invasive species and control to prevent, detect, eradicate, and control invasive species. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Sec. 1201. Swimmer's Itch Pilot Program – REVISED

Designates \$250,000 GF/GP in part 1 to be distributed to a Michigan-based nonprofit organization for swimmer's itch mitigation and research. Executive and House deletes, Senate renumbers to 1201 and designates appropriation as a work project, Conference concurs with Senate and adds progress reporting requirement.

Sec. 1201. Wetland Mitigation Banking – DELETED

Requires DNR to use the funds appropriated in part 1 for the wetland mitigation banking program to increase available wetland mitigation bank credits to 1,800 total. Executive and House add new section, Senate and Conference delete.

Sec. 1202. Abandoned Mine Shafts – DELETED

Requires DNR to use the funds appropriated in part 1 for abandoned mine shafts to close 50 mine shafts on DNR-managed lands. Executive adds new section, House and Conference delete, Senate adds new section and revises to 30 mine shafts.