



MICHIGAN UNITED *Since 1937* CONSERVATION CLUBS

Uniting Citizens to Conserve, Protect and Enhance Michigan's Natural Resources and Outdoor Heritage

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April 18, 2019

Dear House Appropriations Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Environmental Quality,

As you look towards the upcoming budget negotiations for the Michigan Fiscal Year 2019-2020, we expect that you will leverage the substantial investment that hunters, anglers, and trappers make by continuing to support and enhance key General Fund contributions to protecting and managing fisheries and wildlife and protecting and improving water quality contained in the budgets for the Department of Natural Resources and the soon-to-be Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy.

Specifically, MUCC's high priority General Fund/General Purpose funding requests for the Department of Natural Resource FY 2020 Budget are as follows:

- **\$2.3 million GF/GP for Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance and control**
 - Ongoing funding for wildlife disease lab support and funding for research into new methods of disease surveillance and control are critical to protecting our deer herd and ensuring continued hunter participation.
- **Retain or increase the \$5.1 million GF/GP for Invasive Species Prevention and Control**
 - This has been included in the last several Executive Budgets, which MUCC fully supports.
- **\$1.4 million for an inventory of hazardous pipeline crossings.**
 - While much attention has been paid to the potential risks of Line 5, there are hundreds of other places in Michigan where the same types of underground infrastructure interface with our natural waterbodies. Knowing more about the pipeline infrastructure and the habitat that surrounds it is important to determine potential risks.

MUCC's high-priority General Fund/General Purpose funding requests for the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's FY 2019 Supplemental and FY 2020 Budget proposal are as follows:

The fiscal year 2019 supplemental includes one key investment:

- **\$120 million for a new Drinking Water Protection and Innovation Initiative** (general fund), which includes (among other things) funding for the response to PFAS and emerging contaminants.

The Governor's recommended fiscal year 2020 budget includes many key investments, but the one we want to call attention to is as follows:

- **\$69 million for Renewing Michigan's Environment** (restricted) to continue the program created in fiscal year 2019. Approximately \$45 million (65%) is dedicated to environmental cleanup and redevelopment; approximately \$9 million (13%) will be used for the waste

management program; and approximately \$15 million (22%) will be used for the recycling program.

While drinking water and environmental cleanup is, of course, important to human health and the public, MUCC wants to add our support for these efforts. The direct connection between PFAS and other environmental contaminants to fish and game consumption advisories is of great concern to Michigan's hunters and anglers. Ensuring our fish and wildlife populations are healthy and also having confidence in them as a source of high-quality protein is a key reason for many hunters and anglers to pursue their passions in the outdoors. We must do all we can to protect these resources.

Hunters, anglers and trappers in Michigan contribute more than \$80 million of their own money through license fees to fisheries and wildlife management, along with the enforcement of these regulations each year. Additionally, the economic impact of the related expenditures in hunting, fishing, and trapping amount to \$11.2 billion each year and sustain 171,000 jobs in this state. We hope that you will strongly consider our support for these General Fund items to continue to leverage this investment and protect our outdoor heritage and the considerable economic impact it generates for Michigan.

Sincerely,

Amy Trotter
Executive Director



SPORTSMEN'S IMPACT *on Michigan's Economy*

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

\$11.2B

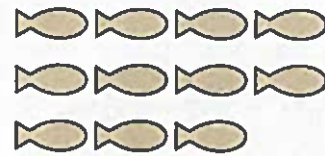


The amount generated by **MICHIGAN'S HUNTING AND FISHING** industry for the state economy each year

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

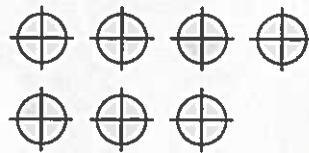
Anglers

1.1 MILLION



Hunters

700,000



JOB CREATION

The hunting and fishing industry supports more than **171,000** jobs in Michigan

HUNTING **135,579 JOBS**

FISHING

35,422 JOBS

SALARIES & GDP



The hunting and fishing industry contributes **\$3.3 BILLION** in salaries and wages to Michigan households



The hunting and fishing industry also has a **\$7.2 BILLION** value-add to Michigan's GDP

INDUSTRY

Michigan is No. 1 among Great Lakes states for jobs created from hunting and fishing purchases. In every region of Michigan, the number of jobs created and supported by hunting and fishing puts the industry in the **TOP 10 PERCENT OF JOB-CREATION** industries





TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

of hunting and fishing spending by region

