

ARKANSAS STATE GAME & FISH COMMISSION (0080)
FISCAL YEARS 2018 & 2019
PER EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATION

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

Amendment 35 of 1945 to the State Constitution establishes the Game & Fish Commission's responsibility and authority "for the control, management, restoration, conservation and regulation of birds, fish, game and wildlife resources of the State..."

Amendment 75 of 1996 to the State Constitution established the one-eighth of one percent Conservation Sales Tax, of which the Commission receives 45% of the net collections.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total appropriation for the Commission is \$142,736,919 in FY2018 and FY2019.

FUNDING SOURCES

AGFC is funded primarily by special revenues consisting of 45% of the 1/8th of one percent Conservation Sales Tax; proceeds from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, tags and permits; Federal Aid funding; non-revenues such as timber sales; gas lease revenues and available fund balances.

II) CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

OPERATIONS

The total appropriation is increased by \$26,416,763 each year to reflect the inclusion of a Miscellaneous Federal Grant for Chronic Wasting Disease, the establishment of a self-managed pay plan, the addition of an Education and Nature Center, and to restore an additional nine positions.

GAS LEASE REVENUE

This appropriation will be used for a hydrology study of the Bayou Meto Basin and for specialized equipment needed to meet the goals of the project. The total appropriation increase is \$2,300,000 each year.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS (Total FY2017 Authorized Positions: 616)

Total Positions FY2019: 625

Total Positions FY2018: 625

Total Base Level Positions FY2017: 616

Increase / (Decrease): 9

Extra Help Positions FY2018 & FY2019: 185 (Total FY2017 Authorized Extra Help: 185)

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

Hunters Feeding the Hungry - special language encouraging the AGFC to explore opportunities available in efforts to help sustain the Hunters Feeding the Hungry program, including the establishment of a check-off or similar program or other appropriate method to raise revenues for support of the program.

Payment of Rewards - Authorizes reward payments from the Game & Protection Fund.

Extra Help Restriction - No employee may receive an amount to exceed 85% of the maximum annual salary for a comparable position during one fiscal year nor they be employed more than 1,800 hours in a single fiscal year.

Transfer Provision - upon approval from CFO and review by ALC/JBC, authorizes transfer authority between commitment items within the Operations and Gas Lease Revenues appropriations.

Overtime Payments - provides for the payments of overtime, amended to include "Payment of overtime is the preferred method of implementing the provisions of this section."

Payment of Accrued Leave - Allows for payment of accrued annual, holiday,

and sick leave to the estate of any wildlife officer who dies in the line of duty.

October 25, 2016