



Washington State Conservation Commission

2015 - 17 SUPPLEMENTAL Operating and Capital Budget FY Comparisons

Supplemental Operating Budget Proposals

	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Gov Proposed</u>	<u>FINAL Gov Sign</u>
FY 2016	6,775,000	6,811,000	6,778,000
FY 2017	6,810,000	6,855,000	6,848,000
Wildfire Recovery		8,800,000	6,800,000
Firewise			1,000,000
Food Policy Forum			50,000

Legislative Budget Provisos and Descriptions

Wildfire Recovery: \$6.8 million of the disaster response account is provided solely to protect water quality, stabilize soil, prevent crop damage, replace fencing and help landowners recover from losses sustained from wildfires. \$300,000 of this amount shall be provided to the Okanogan county noxious weed control board to control weeds and revegetate lands damaged by wildfires. **NOTE: One time funding.**

Firewise: \$1,000,000 of the disaster response account is provided solely for the commission to provide to conservation districts for the firewise program. **NOTE: One time funding.**

Food Policy Forum: (NOTE – One Time Funding)

(4)(a) \$50,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 is provided solely for the commission to convene and facilitate a food policy forum. The director of the commission is responsible for appointing participating members of the food policy forum in consultation with the director of the department of agriculture. In making appointments, the director of the commission must attempt to ensure a diversity of knowledge, experience, and perspectives by building on the representation established by the food system roundtable initiated by executive order No. 10-02.28

(b) In addition to members appointed by the director of the state conservation commission, four legislators may serve on the food policy forum in an ex officio capacity. Legislative participants must be appointed as follows:

(i) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one member from each of the two largest

caucuses of the house of representatives; and

(ii) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

(c) The commission shall coordinate with the office of farmland preservation and the department of agriculture to avoid duplication of effort. The commission must report to the appropriate committees 43.01.036, with the forum's recommendations by October 31, 2017.

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Supplemental Capital Budget

The only change to the SCC capital budget is a change to the proviso language in the existing allocation for match for the Federal RCPP Program. The Supplemental Capital Budget adds the Spokane River Watershed Resource Conservation Partnership to the list of eligible entities to receive RCPP state match funding.

This addition was requested by the Conservation Commission.

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Other Budget Items of Interest

Ecology Supplemental Operating:

Sec. 302 (14) The department shall transfer responsibilities for ongoing operation and maintenance of the rain gauge network installed in Okanogan county and provide related technical assistance to the Okanogan county conservation district.

Governor Veto Message:

Section 302(14), page 161, Department of Ecology, Rain Gauges

This proviso requires the Department of Ecology to transfer responsibility for ongoing operation and maintenance of the rain gauge network in Okanogan County to the Okanogan Conservation District. The Okanogan Conservation District has neither the funding nor expertise needed to operate the network reliably. For this reason, I have vetoed Section 302(14). However, I have directed the Department of Ecology and the State Conservation Commission to work with local authorities in Okanogan County to provide funding, including local funding, to continue network operations to ensure public safety.

Dept of Agriculture Supplemental Operating:

Sec 309

(7) \$100,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 is provided solely for: (a) Assisting dairy farmers with deep soil sampling and record keeping; (b) assessing, analyzing, and reporting on lagoon storage on dairy farms in northern Puget Sound and Yakima basin counties; (c)

working with Washington State University research and extension and the United States natural resources conservation service on improving effluent analysis and developing storage assessment tools and protocols to identify dairy lagoons and effluent storage systems that are a significant risk to state groundwater resources; and (d) providing engineering technical assistance to dairy farmers for effluent storage lagoon engineering to meet United States natural resources conservation service standards via conservation districts in northern Puget Sound and Yakima basin counties. The department of agriculture in cooperation with the department of ecology shall report to the legislature by July 1, 2017, with recommendations based on dairy lagoon and field assessments, including estimated public and private costs and benefits for reducing groundwater risk from lagoons and fields on dairy farms, and the role, scope, and associated costs and benefits of a state groundwater permit for dairy farmers.

Ecology Supplemental Capital:

Sec. 3017 - Reduces funding in the Drought Response Account by \$7,277,000 leaving \$6,723,000 in the account.

Sec. 3018 – Provides new funding for low interest loans for drought wells to allow agricultural or public entities to drill or retrofit wells to mitigate the effects of drought. The loan fund is capitalized at \$4,000,000

State Parks Supplemental Operating:

Sec. 303 (4) \$100,000 of the parks renewal and stewardship account—state appropriation is provided solely for conducting noxious weed treatment and vegetation management on the John Wayne pioneer trail to protect adjacent land owners from noxious weeds with priority in areas where there is adjacent agricultural use. Control of noxious weeds must follow an integrated pest management approach including the use of biological, chemical, and mechanical control prescriptions in accordance with chapter 17.15 RCW and consistent with state and county weed board requirements. The commission must report on its progress in meeting this requirement to the appropriate committees of the legislature by September 30, 2016.

Fish and Wildlife Supplemental Operating:

Sec. 307

(11) \$642,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for wildland fire restoration activities on state wildlife areas.

(12) \$100,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2016 and \$375,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 are provided solely for the department to establish a work unit to engage and empower diverse stakeholders in decisions about fish and wildlife.

(13) \$300,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 is provided solely to fund cost share partnerships between the department and landowners via livestock damage prevention cooperative agreements. The agreements are part of the department's efforts to help landowners implement measures

to reduce the potential for wolf-livestock conflict.

(14) \$25,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 is provided solely to pay claims for confirmed cougar depredations on livestock.

(17) \$100,000 of the state wildlife account—state appropriation is provided solely for ongoing department efforts to address elk hoof disease including monitoring prevalence in affected areas, evaluating survival of affected elk, and assessing management options in affected areas.

Dept of Natural Resources Supplemental Operating:

Sec 308

(10) \$1,200,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for joint wildland fire training of department of natural resources, Washington national guard, local fire agency, and tribal firefighters. Of this amount, \$200,000 is provided solely to train local fire agencies on the use of firefighting equipment.

(11) \$215,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for the department to develop a twenty-year strategic plan to treat areas of state forest land that have been identified by the department as being in poor health.

(12) \$629,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for the department to update the smoke management plan in consultation with the department of ecology, other relevant state and federal agencies, and relevant stakeholders.

(13) \$696,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely to enhance the department's capacity to respond to large wildfires using in-state resources.

(14) \$443,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely to enhance capacity for aerial attack of wildfires. Within this amount, the department must develop a pre-certified list of aerial contractors that may be available for fire suppression in fire-prone areas and report the list to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2016.

(15) \$1,000,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely to provide firefighting equipment to local fire agencies.

(16) \$417,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for wildfire prevention education, community outreach programs, technical assistance to landowners; and to ensure landowner compliance with grant and contract requirements, burn permit conditions, and industrial fire precaution levels.

(17) \$569,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for portable and mobile radios.

(18) \$700,000 of the resources management cost account—state appropriation is provided solely for fuel reduction and forest health activities on state lands.

(19) \$800,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for implementation of Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 2928 (outdoor burning). Of this amount, two percent is provided solely for the department's administrative costs, five percent is provided solely for the department to provide forest health collaboratives for burn technician costs, and ninety-three percent is provided solely for the department to provide forest health collaboratives for implementation of forest resiliency burning. The department shall direct the forest health collaboratives to complete the forest resiliency burning under this subsection by January 1, 2017. If the bill is not enacted by June 30, 2016, the amount provided in this

subsection shall lapse.

(20) \$100,000 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for fuel reduction and creating firebreaks in and around the city of Walla Walla's mill creek watershed.

(21) \$5,057 of the disaster response account—state appropriation is provided solely for the Asotin county sheriff's office for the grizzly bear complex fire.

(22) The appropriations provided in this section may not be used for activities related to increasing the amount of land managed by the department as natural area preserves.