

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

Protect and develop forest resources, detect and suppress wildfires, monitor forest health, promote reforestation, provide forest management assistance to private landowners, and assist rural fire departments.

TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

The total budget is approx. \$23.3 million in the first year and \$23.3 million in the second year.

FUNDING SOURCE

Funding is from General Revenue (approx. 30%), Special Revenue (approx. 23% from seedling sales), Federal funds (approx. 20%), and Non-revenue receipts (approx. 5%, from interest, timber sales, and portion of seedling sales), and Trust, Revolving and Other funds (approx. 22%).

II) SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

- Provides additional appropriation and general revenue funding in Operating Expenses of \$300,000 each year for increases in aviation fuel, vehicle fuel and utilities.
- Provides \$17,225 each year for Grants and Aid for the Fire Wise Communities Program.
- Provides additional \$11,210 per year in Grants and Aid for financial assistance to landowners who implement forest management plans.
- Provides additional \$28,000 per year in Grants and Aid for the Wild Land Fire Assistance Program to implement prescribed burns to reduce fuel loads in natural areas adjacent to Forest Service lands and thereby protect nearby communities.
- Provides additional \$35,650 per year in Grants and Aid to allow management of invasive weed species on private non-industrial forest land.
- Provides for the Silvicultural Nonpoint Program to provide assistance for forest Best Management Practices.

The Executive Recommendation provides for consolidation of all operations and appropriations of the State Forestry Commission into the Arkansas Agriculture Department.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Total positions for FY 2007-09: 329

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IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

EXTRA HELP PROVISION: No Extra Help employee may receive an amount to exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ or 75% of maximum annual salary for comparable position or be employed for more than nine months or 1400 hours in any single fiscal year.

FUND BALANCES. STATE FORESTRY FUND: Should fund balances fall below 50% of the 7-1-2001 balance (\$531,022), disbursing officer notifies agency head who requests and justifies future expenditures to the CFO who approves or disapproves such expenditures after seeking review by the Leg. Council; agency head also files an impact plan, measures to be taken or programs to be cut to restore the balance, and a statement that expenditures will not permanently deplete the fund or jeopardize the health of the agency.

TRANSFER PROVISION: Provides that if temporary firefighters, dispatchers, pilots, or seasonal help are needed, then appropriation may be transferred or contracted out from Extra Help, Professional Fees and Services, or General Operations to the proper character code or line item.