

ARKANSAS STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

(AGENCY 0080) - 2007-09 BIENNIUM

BUDGET INFORMATION ACCORDING TO ACTS 1240 & 1239 of 2007

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

Amendment 35 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 levied an additional 1/8 of 1% Sales & Use Tax, of which the Commission receives 45%. The Commission is composed of eight members, seven appointed by the Governor & one ex-officio member who is Chairman of the Dept. of Biological Sciences at the Univ. of Arkansas.

TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

The total budget for the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission is \$87,136,747 for FY08 and \$91,296,048 for FY09 with a separate appropriation for Gas Lease Revenue totaling \$3 million each year of the biennium.

FUNDING SOURCE

Game and Fish Commission is funded primarily by special revenues (66%) consisting of 45% of the 1/8th of one % Conservation tax, the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, tags and permits; Federal Aid funding (18%); non-revenue, such as timber sales (5%); and fund balances (11%).

II) CHANGES/APPROPRIATIONS

Gas Lease Revenue separate appropriation for \$3M each year of the biennium.

Issuance of Bonds for 'AGFC Acquisition Projects', \$23M July 2007

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS:

Total Positions for FY 2007-09 Biennium:598

Total Positions for FY 2005-07 Biennium:590

Additional 8 Positions* (*includes 4 positions previously authorized)

NEW POSITIONS: 4

- Grade 23 Asst. Div. Chief
- Grade 21 Biologist III
- Grade 20 Staff Development Coordinator
- Grade 96 Deputy Director

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- * **Growth Pool** - Establishes a growth pool of 10 classified positions
- * **Professional Certification** - Authorizes a 2% increase to any full-time, certified Enforcement employee after prior review by the ALC.
- * **Payment of Rewards** - Authorizes reward payments from the Game & Protection Fund.
- * **Professional Certifications** - Authorizes a 6% pay increase to biologists possessing or acquiring professional certification from the Wildlife Society or the American Fisheries Society after prior review by ALC.
- * **Assistant Wildlife Officer Supervisors (Lieutenants)**- Authorizes a 6% pay increase for any Wildlife Officer III serving in the capacity of an Assistant Wildlife Officer Supervisor (Lieutenant)
- * **Field Training Officers (Sergeants)**- Authorizes a 6% pay increase for any Wildlife Officer III serving in the capacity of a Field Training Officer (Sergeant)
- * **K-9 Officers & Search & Recovery Dive Team Officers** - Authorizes a 6% pay increase for any Wildlife Officer I, II or III serving in the capacity of a K-9 Officer or Search & Recovery Dive Team Officer
- * **Professional Certification** - Authorizes a 6% pay increase to biologists serving in the capacity of a forester possessing or acquiring professional certification from the Society of American Foresters and registration with the Arkansas State Board of Registration for Foresters with prior approval of ALC.
- * **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 1800 hours in any single fiscal year.