

ARKANSAS STATE GAME & FISH COMMISSION (0080)
FISCAL YEAR 2014 & 2015 – ACT 1027 OF 2013

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 levied an additional 1/8 of 1% Sales & Use Tax, of which the Commission receives 45%.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total budget is \$100,022,431 the first year and \$104,073,545 the second fiscal year.

FUNDING SOURCE

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

II) SIGNIFICANT CHANGES:

Operations Appropriation – appropriation increase of \$11.3M each year for regular salary and personal services matching of \$828,658 for eleven new positions and multiple reclassifications; a reallocation of \$5.5M from the operating expenses line item to the game and fish grants line item to accurately reflect expenditures; a new overtime line item for \$250,000 to provide for the payment of overtime; and capital outlay of \$10.5M.

Gas Lease Revenues Appropriation – FY14 - net decrease in appropriation of \$1.6M; includes a reallocation of \$7.4M from the operating expenses line item to the gas lease grants line item for \$2.5M and capital outlay line item for \$3.5M to accurately reflect expenditures. **FY15** - net appropriation increase of \$2,622,685 includes \$1M for capital outlay and \$10.5M for debt service to pay off bonds.

III) POSITIONS: multiple reclassifications and (11) new positions – (1) AGFC Division Chief - C129, (1) Maintenance Technician - C113, (1) Fiscal Support Technician - C112, (1) Database Administrator - C124, (6) Corporal - C121, and (1) Multi-Media Specialist - C113

Total Positions FY 2015: 612

Total Positions FY 2014: 612

Total Budgeted Positions for FY 2013: 602

Extra Help Positions: 185

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE:

Transfer Provision – new language, 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 – new language allowing for payments of overtime.

Reporting Requirement – new language adds ACA 15-41-119 regarding funds received as damages from any lawsuit. Any funds received as damages should be used to benefit the property that was the subject of the litigation. AGFC shall report to the ALC – Game & Fish/State Police subcommittee general information with respect to any such lawsuit.

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.

