

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION (0455)
FISCAL YEAR 2016
As Enacted by Act 270 of 2015

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The Commission is responsible for promoting the equitable, effective and safe use of water and land resources by administering regulatory programs, planning efforts, and water rights allocations. It also provides financial assistance for community water and waste disposal systems and dispenses educational information through the 75 conservation districts.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total appropriation for the Natural Resources Commission is \$127,478,338 for FY2016.

FUNDING SOURCE

The budget is funded by general revenue, federal funds, trust funds from bond proceeds, cash funds and the water, sewer, & solid waste revolving fund.

II) CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

Beaver Eradication Program

- Increase of \$150,000 each year in appropriation for Beaver Eradication Program.

Dam Inventory

- Restoration of one position and increase of \$80,000 each year for Professional Fees and increase of \$20,000 each year for Capital Outlay in Dam Inventory appropriation to inspect Arkansas Dams.

Operations

- Increase of \$750,000 in appropriation only each year for Conservation District Expenses Grants.

Grants & Attorney Services

- Increase of \$1,500,000 in appropriation only each year for Conservation Projects.

Flood Insurance Program

- Increase of \$1,590,000 in Operation Expenses, Conference & Travel, Professional Fees, Grants and Capital Outlay for Federally Funded Flood Insurance Program. Additional appropriation will cover contracts for Engineering Services (\$1,000,000), Hazard Mitigations Assistance program grants (\$500,000) and Capital Outlay (\$30,000) to purchase equipment.

Water/Sewer/Solid Waste - State

- Increase of \$681,196 in appropriation only for Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Grants.

Water Quality Implementation

- Increase of \$200,000 in appropriation only for Water Quality Match Grants.
- Increase of \$445,000 in appropriation only for Water Quality Technicians to support the Nutrient Management Program.

Rural Fire Protection Program

- Increase of \$825,000 in appropriation only for Rural Fire Protection Program Grants.

Natural Resources Commission - Cash

- Increase in Cash appropriation for Operating Expenses (\$200,000) and Professional Fees (\$800,000) to continue the implementation of the State Water Plan.
- Increase in Cash appropriation for Capital Outlay to purchase equipment for the Wetland Mitigation Program.
- Increase in for additional Conference and Travel expenses.

NonPoint Source Pollution Control Program

- Increase in Capital Outlay to replace field equipment for Water Quality Projects.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS (Total FY2015 Authorized Positions: 93)

Total Positions for FY2016: 93

Total Base Level Positions: 92

Increase/(Decrease)Over Base Level: 1

1 position over base - Restoration of Engineer Position in Dam Inventory that was authorized through MFG.

Extra Help Positions FY2016: 8 (Total FY2015 Authorized Extra Help: 8)

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- Transfer Provision: Chief Fiscal Officer shall transfer obligated water, sewer, and solid waste funds from the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste-State appropriation (from Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account) to the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Revolving Fund.
- Carry Forward: Chief Fiscal Officer shall authorize the carry forward of funds to support the amount of obligated grants in the Grants/Aids line item in the Water Quality Plan Implementation appropriation.
- Carry Forward: Chief Fiscal Officer shall authorize the carry forward of funds to support grants for Water Quality Technicians in the appropriation entitled "Water Quality Plan Implementation".