

**Game and Fish Department
Budget No. 720
Senate Bill Nos. 2017 and 2293**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2019-21 legislative appropriations	165.00	\$0	\$85,303,632	\$85,303,632
2019-21 base budget	163.00	0	83,227,498	83,227,498
Legislative increase (decrease) to base budget	2.00	\$0	\$2,076,134	\$2,076,134

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE BASE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS
Changes to Base Budget**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Adjusted funding for base payroll changes.			(\$149,363)	(\$149,363)
Added funding to provide employee salary increases of 2 percent on July 1, 2019, with a minimum monthly increase of \$120 and a maximum monthly increase of \$200, and 2.5 percent on July 1, 2020.			914,200	914,200
Added funding for employee health insurance premiums to reflect a revised premium estimate of \$1,426.74 per month.			696,084	696,084
Underfunded salaries and wages and reduced funding for temporary employees.			(385,721)	(385,721)
Reduced grant funding.			(1,703,549)	(1,703,549)
Increased funding for operating expenses, primarily for fees and services and reclassified funding from grants for boat access and development, Save Our Lakes program, and aquatic nuisance species (\$400,000) and for state wildlife grant projects (\$200,000).			1,074,294	1,074,294
Increased federal funds for shooting range grants to provide a total of \$1,762,500.			500,000	500,000
Reduced funding for motor vehicles.			(179,859)	(179,859)
Reduced funding for capital assets.			(213,930)	(213,930)
Reduced other information technology funding.			(207,000)	(207,000)
Added funding for Microsoft Office 365 licensing expenses.			122,634	122,634
Increased funding for equipment over \$5,000.			108,344	108,344

Added funding from the aquatic nuisance species program fund for use in aquatic nuisance species education, inspection, and monitoring programs under North Dakota Century Code Chapter 20.1-17 and authorized 2 FTE positions for the program (Senate Bill No. 2293).

2.00

1,500,000

1,500,000

Total

2.00

\$0

\$2,076,134

\$2,076,134

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly approved 165 FTE positions for the Game and Fish Department for the 2019-21 biennium, an increase of 2 FTE positions from the 2017-19 biennium authorized level of 163 FTE positions. In Senate Bill No. 2293 (2019), the Legislative Assembly added 2 FTE positions to support the aquatic nuisance species program.

Supplemental Appropriations

The Legislative Assembly in Section 6 of Senate Bill No. 2293, appropriated \$467,100 from the game and fish fund to provide for a one-time transfer to the aquatic nuisance species program fund for the purpose of administering aquatic nuisance species education, inspection, and monitoring programs during the 2017-19 biennium.

Capital Assets, Payments, and Projects

The Legislative Assembly provided \$6,564,891 from other funds for capital assets, payments, and projects during the 2019-21 biennium. The schedule below details funding provided in the 2017-19 and 2019-21 bienniums for capital assets, payments, and projects:

Projects	2017-19 Biennium	2019-21 Biennium
Extraordinary repairs	\$1,215,790	\$1,119,721
Wildlife management area improvements	653,170	653,170
Fishing area projects	1,387,000	1,385,000
Shooting range improvements	1,030,000	500,000
Lonetree wildlife management area improvements	50,000	20,000
Land acquisition	800,000	800,000
Payment in lieu of taxes	1,363,000	1,383,000
Enforcement division equipment	245,000	175,000
Fisheries equipment	170,000	205,000
Lonetree wildlife management area equipment	30,000	57,000
Wildlife Division equipment	232,000	267,000
Airplane replacement	250,000	
Total	\$7,425,960	\$6,564,891

Other Sections in Senate Bill No. 2017

Grants, gifts, and donations line - Section 3 identifies \$400,000 received by the Game and Fish Department in the grants, gifts, and donations line item for surface damage, easements, or reclamation on department-owned or managed properties as a result of mineral exploration and extraction activities.

Game and fish fund - Investment - Section 4 amends Section 20.1-02-16.1 to authorize the investment of up to \$15 million of the balance of the game and fish fund when the minimum fund balance is greater than \$15 million. The investment by the department must be under the supervision of the State Investment Board and invested by the investing authority according to the laws relating to state investments.

Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1209 - Authorizes dogs and artificial light to be used in the recovery of big game animals.

Senate Bill No. 2009 - Section 5 identifies \$614,430 transferred from the Game and Fish Department to the Agriculture Commissioner to defray the expenses of various Department of Agriculture programs during the 2019-21 biennium.

Senate Bill No. 2019 - Section 3 identifies \$122,000 transferred from the Game and Fish Department to the Parks and Recreation Department for maintenance, operating, and extraordinary repairs expenses relating to boat ramps at state parks during the 2019-21 biennium.

Senate Bill No. 2293 - Establishes a surcharge on fishing and hunting licenses and increases the fee on motorboat licenses to provide funding for an aquatic nuisance species program fund. The bill also provides a \$467,100 appropriation, from the game and fish fund, to the Game and Fish Department, for the purpose of administering aquatic nuisance species education, inspection, and monitoring programs for the 2017-19 biennium. The bill requires that funds deposited in the aquatic nuisance species program fund be transferred to the game and fish fund to repay any game and fish fund money expended for the program. The bill also appropriates \$1.5 million from the aquatic nuisance species fund to the Game and Fish Department, for use in aquatic nuisance species education, inspection, and monitoring programs under Chapter 20.1-17 during the 2019-21 biennium and authorizes 2 FTE positions to support the program.