

**Agriculture Commissioner
Budget 602
Senate Bill Nos. 2009, 2179, 2338; House Bill No. 1014**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2007-09 legislative appropriation	67.50	\$5,969,937 ¹	\$11,414,326	\$17,384,263
2005-07 legislative appropriation	<u>61.00</u>	<u>4,581,242²</u>	<u>9,486,532</u>	<u>14,067,774</u>
2007-09 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2005-07 appropriation	6.50	\$1,388,695	\$1,927,794	\$3,316,489

¹This amount includes \$90,836 of one-time funding and a transfer of \$150,000 from the general fund to the environment and rangeland protection fund. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing general fund appropriation is \$5,729,101.

²This amount includes the 2005-07 deficiency appropriation of \$58,130 from the general fund approved by the 2007 Legislative Assembly in Senate Bill No. 2023.

NOTE: The 2007-09 legislative appropriation amounts include \$56,277, of which \$30,277 is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$10 million funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget for special market equity adjustments for classified employees.

Item Description

Salary equity adjustments - The Legislative Assembly provided funding of \$259,000, of which \$151,000 is from the general fund and \$108,000 from special funds, for salary equity adjustments based on market.

One-time funding - In Section 12 of Senate Bill No. 2009, the Legislative Assembly identified the general fund appropriation for one-time funding of \$90,836 for an animal tracking database as provided for in Senate Bill No. 2338. This amount is not to be considered part of the agency's base budget for preparing the 2009-11 executive budget, and the Agriculture Commissioner is to report to the Appropriations Committees during the 2009 legislative session on the use of this funding.

Wildlife Services - The Legislative Assembly provided funding of \$1,050,000 for Wildlife Services, of which \$240,000 is from the general fund and \$810,000 is from the game and fish fund. The Legislative Assembly provided that \$130,000 is available beginning with the effective date of the bill.

Section 16 of Senate Bill No. 2009 provides for a performance audit to be conducted by the State Auditor's office of the services provided pursuant to the cooperative agreement between the Agriculture Commissioner and the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services during the 2007-09 biennium. The performance audit must include a review of all funding

Status/Result

The Agriculture Commissioner has provided salary equity adjustments, ranging from \$331 to \$1,094 per month, to the following 15 FTE positions:

- 4 veterinarians.
- 5 program directors/managers.
- 1 accounting/budget specialist.
- 2 marketing specialists.
- 2 public information specialists.
- 1 computer and network specialist.

The Agriculture Commissioner has begun the animal tracking database project and is currently testing the system.

The State Auditor's office is in the process of conducting a performance audit of Wildlife Services. The audit is to be completed during the summer of 2008.

sources, including grants from the Agriculture Commissioner, game and fish funds, and federal funds, for the wildlife damage management program in North Dakota for the 2003-05, 2005-07, and 2007-09 bienniums. The results of the audit are to be presented to the Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee and filed with the Appropriations Committees during the 61st Legislative Assembly.