

**Game and Fish Department
Budget 720
House Bill No. 1017**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2009-11 legislative appropriation	157.00	\$0	\$59,463,938	\$59,463,938
2007-09 legislative appropriation	<u>155.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>58,033,045</u>	<u>58,033,045</u>
2009-11 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2007-09 appropriation	2.00	\$0	\$1,430,893	\$1,430,893

Item Description

Capital projects - The Legislative Assembly did not change the executive recommendation to provide \$2,902,500 from the game and fish fund and \$1,112,500 of federal funds for the following capital projects:

Project	Other Funds
Extraordinary repairs	\$400,000
Wildlife management area improvements (\$250,000 federal funds)	400,000
Fishing area projects (\$350,000 federal funds)	450,000
Land acquisition	800,000
Equipment replacement (\$312,500 federal funds)	540,000
Aircraft replacement	150,000
Payment in lieu of taxes (\$200,000 federal funds)	1,200,000
Information technology equipment	75,000
Total	\$4,015,000

Funding for Department of Agriculture - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$768,800 from the game and fish fund for Wildlife Services and \$200,000 from the game and fish fund for grants to the Board of Animal Health.

Funding for Parks and Recreation Department - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$222,000 from the game and fish fund for a grant to the Parks and Recreation Department for state park boat ramp maintenance and improvements. Of this amount, \$100,000 is designated for one-time improvements to the boat ramp and courtesy dock at Lewis and Clark State Park.

Funding for sovereign lands law enforcement - House Bill No. 1020 provided that the State Water Commission provide a \$200,000 grant to the Game and Fish Department to provide grants to local law enforcement agencies to assist in law enforcement activities on sovereign lands in the state.

Status/Result

The Game and Fish Department received Budget Section approval in September 2009 to spend \$105,000 for the purchase of 63.35 acres of land in Morton County and \$80,000 for the purchase of 160 acres in Grand Forks County.

The department is planning to purchase an aircraft by July 2010 to replace its 1982 Cessna 182.

The Game and Fish Department anticipates transferring all funding to the Department of Agriculture by the end of the 2009-11 biennium.

The Game and Fish Department anticipates providing all grant funding to the Parks and Recreation Department by the end of the 2009-11 biennium for state park boat ramp maintenance and improvements.

The Game and Fish Department anticipates providing all grant funding to local law enforcement agencies by the end of the 2009-11 biennium to assist in Missouri River law enforcement activities.

Private land open to sportsmen (PLOTS) program - The Legislative Assembly provided approximately \$9.9 million of funding from the game and fish fund for PLOTS funding for the 2009-11 biennium.

The Game and Fish Department has established various PLOTS programs, including working lands, CRP cost-sharing, coverlocks, wetlands reserve, tree planting cost-sharing, food plot, and private forest conservation.

The following table summarizes the total annual PLOTS acreage available for public access:

Year	Acres
2001	154,147
2002	227,734
2003	374,245
2004	745,979
2005	853,954
2006	978,735
2007	1,027,088
2008	1,041,611
2009	1,010,384