

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

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2011-13 legislative appropriation	157.00	\$300,000 ¹	\$65,687,742	\$65,987,742
2009-11 legislative appropriation	<u>157.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>59,663,938²</u>	<u>59,663,938</u>
2011-13 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2009-11 appropriation	0.00	\$300,000	\$6,023,804	\$6,323,804

¹This amount reflects a \$300,000 transfer from the general fund to the game and fish fund.

²This amount reflects a 2009-11 biennium deficiency appropriation of \$200,000 from the game and fish fund to be transferred to the Agriculture Commissioner for the Wildlife Services program.

Item Description

Capital projects - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$2,448,500 from the game and fish fund and \$1,834,670 of federal funds for the following capital projects for the 2011-13 biennium:

Project	Other Funds
Extraordinary repairs	\$300,000
Wildlife management area improvements	290,170
Fishing area projects	875,000
Land acquisition	800,000
Equipment replacement	791,000
Payment in lieu of taxes	1,000,000
District office storage buildings	200,000
Information technology equipment	27,000
Total	\$4,283,170

Status/Result

The Game and Fish Department anticipates spending the capital project funding by the end of the 2011-13 biennium. The department received Budget Section approval in March 2012 to spend an additional \$2.5 million of federal grant funds for public boat ramp and parking lot repairs related to Missouri River flooding during the summer of 2011.

Funding for Wildlife Services - The Legislative Assembly provided a 2009-11 biennium deficiency appropriation of \$200,000 from the game and fish fund to be transferred to the Agriculture Commissioner for the Wildlife Services program. The Legislative Assembly provided a 2011-13 biennium appropriation of \$868,000 from the game and fish fund to be transferred to the Agriculture Commissioner for the Wildlife Services program.

The Game and Fish Department transferred the \$200,000 deficiency appropriation to the Agriculture Commissioner in June 2011. The department has not yet made any transfers of funding for the 2011-13 biennium.

Funding for Parks and Recreation Department - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$122,000 from the game and fish fund for a grant to the Parks and Recreation Department for state park boat ramp maintenance and improvements. The Legislative Assembly also appropriated \$400,000 from the game and fish fund for a grant to the Parks and Recreation Department to cost-share in the Grahams Island State Park road raise project.

The Game and Fish Department anticipates providing all grant funding to the Parks and Recreation Department by the end of the 2011-13 biennium for state park boat ramp maintenance and the Grahams Island State Park road raise project.

Missouri River law enforcement - The Legislative Assembly appropriated \$200,000 from the game and fish fund for salaries and operating expenses of Game and Fish Department employees coordinating or performing Missouri River law enforcement activities and for grants to local law enforcement agencies performing Missouri River law enforcement activities. Section 5 of 2011 Senate Bill No. 2017 provides that the department may not use any of these funds for the purchase of equipment with a cost of \$3,000 or more.

Big game depredation - Senate Bill No. 2227 (2011) provides for the Game and Fish Department to develop a winter management program to alleviate depredation caused by big game and requires the department to make \$1 million available from its existing appropriations for the big game depredation efforts, including \$100,000 for food plots on private property.

Private land open to sportsmen (PLOTS) program - The Legislative Assembly provided approximately \$10.1 million of funding from the game and fish fund for PLOTS funding for the 2011-13 biennium.

General fund transfer to game and fish fund - The 62nd Legislative Assembly approved a \$300,000 transfer from the general fund to the game and fish fund in Section 3 of 2011 Senate Bill No. 2017. The transfer relates to a portion of funding provided from the game and fish fund to the Agriculture Commissioner for the Wildlife Services program and operations of the State Board of Animal Health.

Due to Missouri River flooding during the summer of 2011, the Game and Fish Department provided fewer grants to local law enforcement agencies than estimated for Missouri River law enforcement activities. The department anticipates using all remaining Missouri River law enforcement funds by the end of the 2011-13 biennium for grants to local law enforcement agencies and related department expenses. From July 2011 through April 2012, the department has spent \$82,912 of the funding.

The Game and Fish Department reported the following activities related to the big game depredation program:

- From July 2011 through April 2012, the department has spent \$636,334 of the \$1 million available for deerproof hay yards, miscellaneous big game depredation tools, and related department salaries and administrative costs.
- From July 2011 through April 2012, the department paid \$13,160 to producers for food plots on 95 acres. The department anticipates more funding will be used for food plots during the 2012-13 winter.

The Game and Fish Department has established various PLOTS programs, including working lands, conservation reserve program (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
2010	1,007,999
2011	969,834

The Office of Management and Budget made the transfer in April 2012.