

FY 2022-23: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Summary: Conference Report
Article 11, House Bill 5783 (H-2) CR-1



Analyst: Austin Scott

	FY 2021-22 YTD as of 2/9/22	FY 2022-23 Executive	FY 2022-23 House	FY 2022-23 Senate	FY 2022-23 Conference	Difference: Conference From FY 2021-22 YTD	
						Amount	%
IDG/IDT	\$203,100	\$203,100	\$203,100	\$203,100	\$203,100	\$0	0.0
Federal	91,291,300	93,630,000	93,499,900	93,630,000	93,630,000	2,338,700	2.6
Local	0	0	0	0	0	0	--
Private	7,039,200	7,039,200	7,039,200	7,039,200	7,039,200	0	0.0
Restricted	317,195,300	337,504,200	324,735,900	337,504,200	340,206,500	23,011,200	7.3
GF/GP	48,612,500	95,775,700	48,079,900	86,514,300	94,404,000	45,791,500	94.2
Gross	\$464,341,400	\$534,152,200	\$473,558,000	\$524,890,800	\$535,482,800	\$71,141,400	15.3
FTEs	2,360.9	2,418.8	2,360.9	2,360.9	2,418.8	57.9	2.5

Notes: (1) FY 2021-22 year-to-date figures include mid-year budget adjustments through February 9, 2022. (2) Appropriation figures for all years include all proposed appropriation amounts, including amounts designated as "one-time."

Overview

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages Michigan's natural and cultural resources through conservation and protection. State parks, wildlife, fisheries, forests, and minerals management are all administered by DNR.

		FY 2021-22 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/22)	FY 2022-23 Conference Change
Major Budget Changes from FY 2021-22 YTD Appropriations			
1. State Fish Hatchery Upgrades and Improvements (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$30,000,000
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$30.0 million GF/GP for biosecurity, equipment, and infrastructure updates at state fish hatcheries including expansion of facilities and fish production at the Wolf Lake hatchery in Van Buren County.	GF/GP	NA	\$30,000,000
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.			
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$133,500 GF/GP.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
2. Equipment Lifecycle Replacement (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$11,550,000
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$12.4 million Gross (\$10.9 GF/GP) to replace aging equipment and vehicles in multiple DNR divisions including Fisheries, Forest Resources, and Law Enforcement.	Restricted GF/GP	NA NA	1,550,000 \$10,000,000
<u>House</u> appropriates \$1.6 million in restricted funding for equipment lifecycle replacement.			
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$1.7 million Gross (\$133,500 GF/GP).			
<u>Conference</u> appropriates \$11.5 million Gross (\$10.0 million GF/GP).			
3. Great Lakes Research Vessel (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$4,000,000
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$4.0 million GF/GP to replace the aging Lake Michigan Survey Vessel.	GF/GP	NA	\$4,000,000
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.			
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
4. Mass Timber Facility Newberry Customer Service Center (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$0
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$2.0 million GF/GP for the construction of a facility in Luce County for departmental staff and equipment storage.	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.			
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$133,500 GF/GP.			
<u>Conference</u> does not appropriate.			

Major Budget Changes from FY 2021-22 YTD Appropriations		FY 2021-22 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/22)	FY 2022-23 Conference Change
5. Wildfire Protection	FTE	115.0	0.0
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$751,900 GF/GP to expand wildfire prevention and protection by funding staff overtime and vacancies.	Gross	\$15,030,900	\$751,900
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.	Federal	1,370,200	0
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$133,500 GF/GP.	Restricted	7,212,500	0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	\$6,448,200	\$751,900
6. Fisheries Resource Management	FTE	158.0	4.0
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$652,800 GF/GP and authorizes 4.0 FTE positions to improve state and tribal relations in the co-management of fisheries.	Gross	\$21,714,000	\$652,800
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.	Federal	4,382,400	0
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$133,500 GF/GP and no new FTE positions.	Private	136,700	0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.	Restricted	16,653,200	0
	GF/GP	\$541,700	\$652,800
7. Archives of Michigan Digitization (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$485,000
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$485,000 GF/GP to digitize and index decaying physical historical records.	GF/GP	NA	\$485,000
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.			
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$133,400 GF/GP.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
8. Parks and Recreation Division Employee Initiatives	FTE	NA	40.8
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$9.2 million in available restricted revenue from the Forest Recreation Account, Michigan State Waterways Fund, and Park Improvement Fund and authorizes 40.8 FTE positions for division employee recruitment and retention initiatives, including increases in work hours and wages.	Gross	NA	\$9,159,700
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.	Restricted	NA	9,159,700
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$9.2 million in restricted funding and no new FTE positions.	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
9. Off-Road Vehicle Trail Improvements	FTE	NA	13.1
<u>Executive</u> appropriates an additional \$3.1 million of available restricted revenue and authorizes 13.1 FTE positions to support trail improvement grants and law enforcement across Michigan's ORV system.	Gross	NA	\$3,059,900
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.	Restricted	NA	3,059,900
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$3.1 million in restricted funding and no new FTE positions	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
10. State Parks Improvement Revenue Bonds – Debt Service	Gross	\$1,201,800	(\$1,201,800)
<u>Executive</u> eliminates \$1.2 million from the Park Improvement Fund as no debt payments are required after FY 2021-22.	Restricted	1,201,800	(1,201,800)
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
11. Parks and Recreation Division Campsite and Harbor Operations	Gross	NA	\$2,820,000
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$2.8 million in available restricted revenue from the Forest Recreation Account, Michigan State Waterways Fund, and Park Improvement Fund to increase funding for state campsites and harbors.	Restricted	NA	2,820,000
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			

Major Budget Changes from FY 2021-22 YTD Appropriations		FY 2021-22 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/22)	FY 2022-23 Conference Change
12. Pay Increases for Recruitment and Retention of Short-Term Employees	Gross	NA	\$2,531,100
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$678,800 in available federal and restricted revenue to provide pay increases for short-term employees in fisheries, shooting ranges, and cultural centers.	Federal	NA	130,100
<u>House</u> does not appropriate.	Restricted	NA	2,401,000
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive and adds \$1.9 million in restricted funding from Executive Budget Revision 2023-2 for a total increase of \$2.5 million Gross (\$0 GF/GP).			
13. Marketing and Outreach	FTE	137.3	0.0
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$297,800 in available restricted revenue to align spending authorization with available Youth Hunting and Fishing Education and Outreach funding, to support the increased online credit card processing of hunting and fishing licenses, and to support maintenance of the MiConnect Outdoors license sales system.	Gross	\$14,705,400	\$297,800
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Federal	1,721,600	0
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.	Restricted	12,682,400	297,800
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	\$301,400	\$0
14. Wildlife Management	FTE	221.5	0.0
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$100,000 in available restricted revenue to align spending authorization with available Pheasant Hunting License fee revenue.	Gross	\$46,042,300	\$100,000
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Federal	25,638,700	0
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.	Private	315,700	0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.	Restricted	15,635,300	100,000
	GF/GP	\$4,452,600	\$0
15. Capital Outlay – State Parks Repair and Maintenance	Gross	\$16,100,000	\$3,100,000
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$3.1 million in available restricted revenue from Recreation Passport Fees for state park infrastructure maintenance, renovation, and upgrades.	Restricted	14,600,000	3,100,000
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	\$1,500,000	\$0
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
16. Capital Outlay – State Game and Wildlife Area Infrastructure	Gross	NA	\$1,400,000
<u>Executive</u> establishes new appropriation of \$1.4 million Gross (\$0 GF/GP) for facility improvements and wildlife restoration projects at state game areas.	Federal	NA	1,050,000
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Restricted	NA	350,000
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
17. Capital Outlay – State Boating Infrastructure Maintenance	Gross	\$7,752,500	\$1,100,000
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$1.1 million in available federal and Michigan State Waterways funding for facility maintenance and infrastructure projects at state harbors and boating access sites.	Federal	1,075,000	400,000
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Restricted	6,677,500	700,000
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			

<u>Major Budget Changes from FY 2021-22 YTD Appropriations</u>		<u>FY 2021-22 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/22)</u>	<u>FY 2022-23 Conference Change</u>
18. Capital Outlay – Wetlands Restoration, Enhancement, and Acquisition	Gross	NA	\$1,000,000
	Restricted	NA	1,000,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Executive</u> reestablishes appropriation of \$1.0 million from Waterfowl Hunt Stamp revenue to facilitate access for public recreation in wetland areas. This program was last funded in FY 2020-21.			
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
19. Capital Outlay – Local Boating Infrastructure Maintenance and Improvements	Gross	\$3,322,500	\$300,000
	Restricted	3,322,500	300,000
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
<u>Executive</u> appropriates \$300,000 in available Michigan State Waterways funding for local grants for facility maintenance and infrastructure projects at publicly-accessible local harbors and boating access sites.			
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
20. Removal of FY 2021-22 One-Time Funding	Gross	\$7,995,800	(\$7,995,800)
	Restricted	6,000,000	(6,000,000)
	GF/GP	\$1,995,800	(\$1,995,800)
<u>Executive</u> removes \$8.0 million Gross (\$2.0 million GF/GP) for one-time projects included in the FY 2021-22 budget. Projects included Fish Hatchery Energy Efficiencies and Kalamazoo River Watershed Improvements.			
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			
21. Chronic Wasting Disease Testing (One-Time)	Gross	\$500,000	\$0
	GF/GP	\$500,000	\$0
<u>Executive</u> eliminates funding for the provision of CWD check stations or drop stations in core CWD areas, management zones, or surveillance areas.			
<u>House</u> appropriates an additional \$500,000 GF/GP.			
<u>Senate</u> and <u>Conference</u> maintain current funding.			
22. Body Cameras for Conservation Officers (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$1,000,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$1,000,000
<u>House</u> appropriates \$1.0 million GF/GP on a one-time basis for the provision of body cameras to Conservation Officers.			
<u>Senate</u> does not appropriate.			
<u>Conference</u> appropriates \$400,000 GF/GP on a one-time basis, \$600,000 GF/GP on an ongoing basis.			
23. Michigan Conservation Corps	Gross	\$934,400	\$0
	GF/GP	\$934,400	\$0
<u>Executive</u> maintains funding for the for the Michigan Conservation Corps. This statewide summer employment program for at-risk youth and returning veterans allows partner organizations to hire individuals for work that is approved or managed by DNR employees.			
<u>House</u> eliminates funding.			
<u>Senate</u> eliminates funding.			
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive,			
24. Michigan State Parks Endowment Fund (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$0
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$133,500 GF/GP to the Michigan State Parks Endowment Fund.			
<u>Conference</u> does not appropriate.			
25. Mackinac Island State Park Infrastructure and Maintenance (One-Time)	Gross	NA	\$0
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<u>Senate</u> appropriates \$30.0 million GF/GP to reduce Mackinac Island State Park's maintenance and repair backlog and \$5.0 million GF/GP to renovate scout barracks at the park.			
<u>Conference</u> does not appropriate.			

<u>Major Budget Changes from FY 2021-22 YTD Appropriations</u>		<u>FY 2021-22 Year-to-Date (as of 2/9/22)</u>	<u>FY 2022-23 Conference Change</u>
26. Michigan Historical Center	Gross	\$7,071,500	\$850,000
<u>Conference</u> appropriates \$850,000 in available restricted funding included in Executive Budget Revision 2023-2 for historical and cultural education programming throughout the state park system.	Federal	1,013,900	0
	Restricted	1,215,200	850,000
	GF/GP	\$4,842,400	\$0
27. Economic Adjustments	Gross	NA	\$6,180,800
<u>Executive</u> reflects increased costs of \$6.2 million Gross (\$897,600 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage increases (5.0% on October 1, 2022 and 0.5% to annualize the FY 2021-22 1.0% increase that began on April 1, 2022), actuarially required retirement contributions, worker's compensation, building occupancy charges, and other economic adjustments.	Federal	NA	758,600
<u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Restricted	NA	4,524,600
<u>Senate</u> concurs with Executive.	GF/GP	NA	\$897,600
<u>Conference</u> concurs with Executive.			

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2021-22

Sec. 206. Disciplinary Action Against State Employees – RETAINED

Prohibits department from disciplining state employees for communicating with members of the legislature and their staffs, unless communication is prohibited by law. (Governor's signing letter stated this section was unenforceable.)
Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 208. Legal Services – RETAINED

Denies permission to hire attorneys to provide legal services provided by attorney general.
Executive, House, and Conference retain, Senate revises to provide permission to hire attorneys to provide legal services provided by attorney general.

Sec. 209. GF/GP Lapse – RETAINED

Requires report of estimated GF/GP appropriation lapses at close of previous year.
Executive and Senate revise due date to December 31, House and Conference retain November 30 due date.

Sec. 210. Contingency Fund Transfer Authority – RETAINED

Provides authority for contingency fund transfers of up to \$5.0 million restricted; authorizes expenditure after legislative transfer to specific line items.
Executive revises to include contingency authority of \$3.0 million federal, \$10.0 million restricted, and \$1.0 million private;
House and Conference retain without change.
Senate deletes.

Sec. 215. Businesses in Economically Deprived or Depressed Communities – RETAINED

Requires director to take reasonable steps to ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for and perform contracts.
Executive, House, and Conference retain, Senate deletes.

Sec. 216. FTE Vacancies and Remote Work Report – RETAINED

Requires department to report the number of FTE positions filled, FTE vacancies, the number of employees working remotely, the number of employees authorized to work remotely, estimated cost savings from remote work, and reduction in office space due to working remotely.
Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 217. Expending Available Work Project Authorization – RETAINED

Advises department not to expend appropriations until existing work project authorization for the same purpose has been expended. (Governor's signing letter stated this section was unenforceable.)
Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 218. State Administrative Board Transfers – RETAINED

Authorizes legislature to adopt a concurrent resolution to intertransfer funds within the department's budget if the State Administrative Board transfers appropriated funds. (Governor's signing letter stated this section was unenforceable.)
Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2021-22

Sec. 219. Receipt and Retention of Reports – RETAINED

Requires department to receive and retain copies of all reports.
Executive and Senate delete, House and Conference retain.

Sec. 220. Report on Policy Changes Made to Implement Public Acts Affecting Department – RETAINED

Requires the department to report on each specific policy change made to implement a public act affecting the department that took effect during the prior calendar year by April 1.
Executive and Senate delete, House and Conference retain.

Sec. 221. Severance Reporting – RETAINED

Requires department to report details of severance pay for certain departmental employees.
Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 222. COVID-19 Vaccine Disclosure – RETAINED

Prohibits state officials from requiring COVID-19 vaccine disclosure as a condition of receiving state services or developing a vaccine passport.
Executive and Senate delete, House and Conference retain.

Sec. 225. Contracts and Grants for Local Governments, Colleges and Universities, Nonprofits – RETAINED

Authorizes department to contract with or provide grants to local governments, institutions of higher education, or nonprofits.
Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 240. Remote Working – NEW

Prohibits the department from permitting employees to work remotely unless they were working remotely prior to February 28, 2020.
House adds new section, Senate does not add, Conference revises to state legislative intent to prioritize in-person work where possible.

Sec. 408. Land Transactions – RETAINED

Requires detailed report to legislature on land purchases, sales, and exchanges.
Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 506. USDA Wildlife Services Deer Harvesting – RETAINED

Encourages United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services to harvest all deer during targeted removal required under Enhanced Wildlife Biosecurity Program.
Executive deletes, House and Senate retain.

Sec. 507. Antlerless Deer License Discounts – DELETED

Permits department to discount antlerless deer licenses in the northeast Lower Peninsula to achieve deer management objectives; earmarks up to \$505,000 of funding for wildlife management to supplant lost revenue that would otherwise be collected from full-price antlerless deer licenses sold in the northeast Lower Peninsula; permits department to terminate the license discount once lost revenue reaches \$505,000. If lost revenue does not exceed \$505,000 by February 1 then the department is required to end the discount and allocate remaining funding to the Habitat Improvement Partnership Initiative.

Executive revises lost revenue date to a date to be specified by the department but not before November 15 and replaces the Deer Habitat Initiative with "costs associated with testing for chronic wasting disease that were harvested outside the areas designated as chronic wasting disease surveillance areas where sample collection sites are available" and provides for the department to implement this change "in a form and manner prescribed by the department."

House replaces the Deer Habitat Initiative with "costs associated with testing for chronic wasting disease that were harvested outside the areas designated as chronic wasting disease surveillance areas where sample collection sites are available."

Senate retains.

Conference deletes.

Sec. 601. Stream Habitat Improvement Grant – DELETED

Appropriates \$758,000 to watershed councils, resource development councils, soil conservation districts, local governmental units, and other nonprofit organizations for stream habitat improvement projects.
Executive, Senate, and Conference delete, House retains.

Sec. 602. Water Control Structure Certification – DELETED

Directs Fisheries Division to not interfere with certification process for dams and other water control structures.
Executive and Conference delete, House and Senate concur.

Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2021-22

Sec. 802. Timber Marking – RETAINED

Requires department to report quarterly on number of acres of state forest land marked or treated for timber harvest. Executive revises to exclude specific reporting requirements, House, Senate, and Conference retain without change.

Sec. 803. Federal Forest Fire Compact Expenditure Authorization – REVISED

Authorizes expenditure of funds for forest fire suppression efforts on federal lands, provided DNR is reimbursed. Executive revises to add hazard incidents as allowable expenditure, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Sec. 901. Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grants – RETAINED

Authorizes snowmobile law enforcement grant funds to county law enforcement agencies in counties with state snowmobile trails. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 902. Marine Safety Grants – RETAINED

Requires report on Marine Safety Grant Program; requires report to include watercraft registration revenues, revenues and expenditures of Marine Safety Fund, grant distribution methodology, and list of grant awards by county. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 903. Body Cameras for Conservation Officers – NEW

Directs expenditure of funding for body cameras for conservation officers. Conference adds new section.

Sec. 1201. Chronic Wasting Disease Testing – RETAINED

Directs expenditure of funding for the provision of CWD check stations or drop stations in core CWD areas, management zones, or surveillance areas before the next hunting season. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference retain.

Sec. 1202. Kalamazoo River Watershed Improvements – Capital Outlay – DELETED

Directs expenditure of funding for Kalamazoo River watershed improvements in accordance with the Kalamazoo River Supplemental Restoration Plan. Executive deletes, House, Senate, and Conference concur.

Sec. 1202. Work Project – Great Lakes Research Vessel – NEW

Authorizes unexpended funds appropriated for Great Lakes Research Vessel to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used to replace and upgrade the Lake Michigan survey vessel. Senate and Conference add new section.

Sec. 1203. Work Project – Mackinac Island State Park Infrastructure and Maintenance – DELETED

Authorizes unexpended funds appropriated for Mackinac Island State Park Infrastructure and Maintenance to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used to reduce the park's maintenance and repair backlog and renovate facilities. Senate adds new section, Conference does not include.

Sec. 1203. Body Cameras for Conservation Officers, One-Time – NEW

Directs expenditure of funding for body cameras for conservation officers, one-time. Conference adds new section.

FY 2021-22 Supplemental Appropriation Items

Article 15, House Bill 5783 (H-2) CR-1

1. Departmentwide Fuel Costs

Appropriates \$845,400 GF/GP to support increased fuel costs resulting from a fuel surcharge assessed by DTMB Vehicle and Transportation Services due to rising gasoline prices. Affected DNR programs include wildlife management, fish production, fisheries resources management, law enforcement, parks and recreation, forest management and timber market development, and wildfire protection.

	Appropriation Change
Gross	\$845,400
GF/GP	\$845,400

2. Pay Increases for Recruitment and Retention of Short-Term Employees

Appropriates \$6.3 million in available federal and restricted revenue to provide pay increases for short-term employees in fisheries, parks and recreation facilities, and cultural centers.

Gross	\$6,369,500
Federal	106,300
Restricted	6,263,200
GF/GP	\$0

FY 2021-22 Supplemental Appropriation Items
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3. *Shooting Range Development, Enhancement, and Restoration (One-Time)*

Appropriates \$7.7 million in available federal funding for maintenance of shooting ranges throughout the state.

**Appropriation
Change**

Gross	\$7,650,000
Federal	7,650,000
GF/GP	\$0