

**Summary: Executive Budget Recommendation  
for Fiscal Year 2023-24  
NATURAL RESOURCES**



**Analyst: Austin Scott**

	FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date as of 2/8/23	FY 2023-24 Executive	Difference: FY 2023-24 vs. FY 2022-23	
			Amount	%
IDG/IDT	\$203,100	\$202,600	(\$500)	(0.2)
Federal	93,630,000	100,409,600	6,779,600	7.2
Local	0	0	0	--
Private	7,039,200	7,289,200	250,000	3.6
Restricted	340,206,500	356,126,400	15,919,900	4.7
GF/GP	94,404,000	120,136,100	25,732,100	27.3
<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$535,482,800</b>	<b>\$584,163,900</b>	<b>\$48,681,100</b>	<b>9.1</b>
FTEs	2,418.8	2,546.5	127.7	5.3

Notes: (1) FY 2022-23 year-to-date figures include mid-year budget adjustments through February 8, 2023. (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.

<b>Major Budget Changes from FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (YTD) Appropriations</b>	<b>FY 2022-23 YTD (as of 2/8/23)</b>	<b>Executive Change from YTD</b>
<b>1. Belle Isle Park Infrastructure (One-Time)</b> Appropriates \$43.0 million GF/GP for physical plant renovations, maintenance, and safety upgrades at Belle Isle Park in Wayne County.	<b>Gross</b> NA <b>GF/GP</b> NA	<b>\$43,000,000</b> \$43,000,000
<b>2. Invasive Species Prevention and Control</b> Provides \$11.9 million GF/GP and authorizes 12.0 FTE positions to establish a team to address invasive species and habitat deterioration; \$5.8 million GF/GP is appropriated on a one-time basis.	FTE 13.0 <b>Gross</b> \$5,101,600 <b>GF/GP</b> \$5,101,600	12.0 <b>\$11,880,300</b> \$11,880,300
<b>3. Nature Awaits</b> Appropriates \$4.0 million GF/GP for grants to schools to cover transportation and other costs related to connecting all Michigan fourth grades to the state park system.	<b>Gross</b> NA <b>GF/GP</b> NA	<b>\$4,000,000</b> \$4,000,000
<b>4. Wildfire Protection and Technology</b> Provides \$3.7 million GF/GP and authorizes 22.0 FTE positions to expand state firefighting personnel and equipment.	FTE NA <b>Gross</b> NA <b>GF/GP</b> NA	22.0 <b>\$3,738,800</b> \$3,738,800
<b>5. General Law Enforcement</b> Appropriates \$3.5 million GF/GP for pay increases to Conservation Officers to approach compensation rates of comparable law enforcement personnel, including the Michigan State Police.	FTE 293.0 <b>Gross</b> \$47,253,700 Federal 6,921,000 Restricted 27,426,300 <b>GF/GP</b> \$12,906,400	0.0 <b>\$3,549,500</b> 0 0 \$3,549,500
<b>6. Great Lakes Splash Pads (One-Time)</b> Provides \$3.5 million GF/GP for three splash pad playgrounds on the shores of Lake Michigan: Grand Haven State Park (Ottawa County), Holland State Park (Ottawa County), and Warren Dunes State Park (Berrien County).	<b>Gross</b> NA <b>GF/GP</b> NA	<b>\$3,500,000</b> \$3,500,000

<b>Major Budget Changes from FY 2022-23 Year-to-Date (YTD) Appropriations</b>		<b>FY 2022-23 YTD (as of 2/8/23)</b>	<b>Executive Change from YTD</b>
<b>7. Outreach and Engagement to Underrepresented Communities in Parks and Museums</b>	FTE	NA	7.0
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>
Appropriates \$1.5 million Gross (\$780,900 GF/GP) and authorizes 7.0 FTE positions for outreach to disadvantaged communities and underrepresented populations for engagement with state parks and Michigan History Center museums; restricted funding comes from the Park Improvement Fund.	Restricted	NA	719,100
	GF/GP	NA	\$780,900
<b>8. Michigan Historical Center and Technology</b>	FTE	NA	3.0
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$450,000</b>
Provides \$450,000 GF/GP and authorizes 3.0 FTE positions to support collaboration between the state archives and local governments to meet statutory requirements for retention of records.	GF/GP	NA	\$450,000
<b>9. Body Cameras for Conservation Officers</b>	FTE	0.0	5.0
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$600,000</b>	<b>\$258,900</b>
Appropriates \$258,900 GF/GP and authorizes 5.0 FTE positions to manage body camera data and FOIA requests.	GF/GP	\$600,000	\$258,900
<b>10. Capital Outlay Adjustments</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>
Provides a net of \$10.0 million Gross (\$0 GF/GP) for funding increases to Forest Development Infrastructure; Shooting Range Development, Enhancement, and Restoration; State Game and Wildlife Area Infrastructure; and State Parks Repair and Maintenance. Funding decreases are also included to Local Boating Infrastructure and Maintenance; State Boating Infrastructure and Maintenance; and Wetlands Restoration, Enhancement, and Acquisition.	Federal	NA	4,575,000
	Private	NA	250,000
	Restricted	NA	5,175,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>11. Parks and Recreation Division Operations</b>	FTE	NA	54.7
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$7,753,500</b>
Appropriates \$7.8 million in available restricted revenues from the Forest Recreation Account, Michigan State Waterways Fund, and Park Improvement Fund and authorizes 54.7 FTE positions to expand personnel and support for operations across state parks system.	Restricted	NA	7,753,500
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>12. Forest Land Management Equipment (One-Time)</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>
Provides \$2.5 million in available restricted revenue from the Forest Development Fund to support management of forest resources and to purchase new forestry equipment.	Restricted	NA	2,500,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>13. Federal Funding for Fire Protection</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$1,751,500</b>
Appropriates \$1.8 million in available federal revenues to expand state and local fire protection.	Federal	NA	1,751,500
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>14. Climate and Carbon Sequestration Program Expansion</b>	FTE	NA	4.0
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$1,463,600</b>
Provides \$1.5 million in available restricted revenues from the Forest Recreation Account, Michigan State Waterways Fund, and Park Improvement Fund and authorizes 4.0 FTE positions to support current sales and expansion of the carbon offset credit program.	Restricted	NA	1,463,600
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>15. Restricted Authorization Alignment</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>(\$1,432,400)</b>
Reduces restricted funding by \$1.4 million across divisions to align spending authorization with available resources.	Restricted	NA	(1,432,400)
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>16. Fleet Rate Increase</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$1,229,100</b>
Appropriates \$1.2 million Gross (\$0 GF/GP) to cover increased mileage rates and transportation leasing costs.	Federal	NA	2,900
	Restricted	NA	1,226,200
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>17. Finance and Operations Expansion</b>	FTE	NA	5.0
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$724,700</b>
Provides \$724,700 Gross (\$0 GF/GP) and authorizes 5.0 FTE positions to manage departmental grants, land transactions, and procurement processes.	Federal	NA	23,900
	Restricted	NA	700,800
	GF/GP	NA	\$0

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<b>18. Forest Management and Timber Market Development</b>	FTE	185.0	15.0
Provides \$540,800 in available federal revenues (\$0 GF/GP) and authorizes 15.0 FTE positions to expand the Forest Health and Good Neighbor Authority programs within the Forest Resources Division.	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$44,532,400</b>	<b>\$540,800</b>
	Federal	10,435,600	540,800
	Private	930,400	0
	Restricted	33,166,400	0
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
<b>19. Michigan Wildlife Council</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$1,600,000</b>	<b>(\$200,000)</b>
Reduces funding from the Wildlife Management Public Education Fund by \$200,000 to align spending authority with available revenues and rolls up the four extant Michigan Wildlife Council appropriations into a single line item.	Restricted	1,600,000	(200,000)
	GF/GP	\$0	\$0
<b>20. Information Technology Services and Projects</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$10,562,500</b>	<b>\$54,200</b>
Appropriates \$54,200 in available restricted revenues (\$0 GF/GP) to cover increases resulting from increased use of the MiLogin system.	Restricted	9,330,200	54,200
	GF/GP	\$1,232,300	\$0
<b>21. Cross-Divisional Internal Transfers</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Transfers the Shooting Range Specialist Program from Departmental Administration and Support to Communication and Customer Services; transfers the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program, Off-road Vehicle Trail Development and Maintenance, and Snowmobile Trail Development and Maintenance programs from the Grants section to Capital Outlay; all changes net to zero.	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>22. Removal of FY 2022-23 One-Time Funding</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$46,935,000</b>	<b>(\$46,935,000)</b>
Removes \$46.9 million Gross (\$45.4 million GF/GP) for one-time programs included in the FY 2022-23 budget. Programs included Archives of Michigan Digitization, Body Cameras for Conservation Officers, Chronic Wasting Disease Testing, Equipment Lifecycle Replacement, Great Lakes Vessel Modernization, and State Fish Hatchery Upgrades and Improvements.	Restricted	1,550,000	(1,550,000)
	GF/GP	\$45,385,000	(\$45,385,000)
<b>23. Economic Adjustments</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>(\$646,400)</b>
Reflects a net reduction of \$646,400 Gross (\$41,300 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage increases (2.0% on October 1, 2023), actuarially required retirement contributions, worker's compensation, building occupancy charges, rent, and other economic adjustments.	IDG	NA	(500)
	Federal	NA	(114,500)
	Private	NA	0
	Restricted	NA	(490,100)
	GF/GP	NA	(\$41,300)

### **Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2022-23**

#### **Sec. 206. Disciplinary Action Against State Employees – DELETED**

Prohibits department from disciplining state employees for communicating with members of the legislature and their staffs, unless communication is prohibited by law. (*Governor deemed this section unenforceable in FY 2022-23.*)

#### **Sec. 209. GF/GP Lapse – REVISED**

Requires report of estimated GF/GP appropriation lapses at close of previous year. Revises due date from November 30 to December 31.

#### **Sec. 210. Contingency Fund Transfer Authority – REVISED**

Allows for the legislative transfer process to increase state restricted authorization by up to \$5.0 million. Revises to increase federal authorization by up to \$10.0 million, state restricted authorization by up to \$3.0 million, and private authorization by up to \$1.0 million.

#### **Sec. 211. Access to State and Local Services – NEW**

Prohibits appropriations from being used to restrict or interfere with actions related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, to restrict or impede community access to government programs, or restrict an individual's ability to exercise the right to reproductive freedom; requires local governments to report on actions that attempt to restrict duties of local health officers.

## **Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2022-23**

### **Sec. 211. Expenditure Posting on Internet – DELETED**

Requires expenditures to be reported on the internet on a searchable website, including specific expenditure information.

### **Sec. 212. Restricted Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balances – DELETED**

Requires annual report on fund balances, revenues, and expenditures for state restricted funds for previous and current fiscal years.

### **Sec. 213. Website Scorecard – DELETED**

Requires department to maintain on a publicly accessible website a department scorecard with key metrics concerning the department's performance.

### **Sec. 214. Identification of Legacy Costs – DELETED**

Estimates annual appropriations for legacy costs, including pension-related legacy costs and health care-related legacy costs.

### **Sec. 216. FTE Vacancies and Remote Work Report – REVISED**

Requires department to report on 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. Revises by removing remote work provisions.

### **Sec. 217. Expending Available Work Project Authorization – DELETED**

Advises department not to expend appropriations until existing work project authorization for the same purpose has been expended. (*Governor deemed this section unenforceable in FY 2022-23.*)

### **Sec. 218. Remote Working – DELETED**

States legislative intent to prioritize in-person work for the state's workforce where possible unless they were working remotely prior to February 28, 2020.

### **Sec. 219. State Administrative Board Transfers – DELETED**

Allows legislature to adopt a concurrent resolution to intertransfer funds within the department's budget if the State Administrative Board transfers appropriated funds. (*Governor deemed this section unenforceable in FY 2022-23.*)

### **Sec. 220. Receipt and Retention of Reports – DELETED**

Requires department to receive and retain copies of all reports.

### **Sec. 221. Report on Policy Changes Made to Implement Public Acts Affecting Department – DELETED**

Requires 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.

### **Sec. 222. Severance Reporting – DELETED**

Requires department to report details of severance pay for certain departmental employees.

### **Sec. 223. COVID-19 Vaccine Disclosure – DELETED**

Prohibits state officials from requiring COVID-19 vaccine disclosure as a condition of receiving state services or developing a vaccine passport.

### **Sec. 241. Incident Management Team Notification – DELETED**

Requires department to notify local legislators when Incident Management Team has been activated in their district.

### **Sec. 252. Invasive Species Fund – NEW**

Authorizes department to expend the Invasive Species Fund for invasive species response efforts; requires report to legislature.

### **Sec. 304. Receive and Expend for Carbon Offset Credits – NEW**

Authorizes department to receive and expend revenues to pay vendors for administering carbon offset credits.

### **Sec. 408. Land Transactions – DELETED**

Requires detailed report to legislature on land purchases, sales, and exchanges.

### **Sec. 506. USDA Wildlife Services Deer Harvesting – DELETED**

Encourages United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services to harvest all deer during targeted removal required under Enhanced Wildlife Biosecurity Program.

### **Sec. 802. Timber Marking – DELETED**

Requires department to report quarterly on number of acres of state forest land marked or treated for timber harvest.

**Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2022-23**

**Sec. 901. Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grants – DELETED**

Authorizes snowmobile law enforcement grant funds to county law enforcement agencies in counties with state snowmobile trails.

**Sec. 902. Marine Safety Grants – DELETED**

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.

**Sec. 903. Body Cameras for Conservation Officers – DELETED**

Requires appropriation to be expended on body cameras for conservation officers.

**Sec. 1201. Chronic Wasting Disease Testing – DELETED**

Requires appropriation to be used for provision of CWD check stations or drop stations in core CWD areas, management zones, or surveillance areas before the 2023 hunting season.

**Sec. 1202. Work Project – Great Lakes Research Vessel – DELETED**

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.

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

Requires one-time funding to be used for body cameras for conservation officers.

**Sec. 1201. Invasive Species Prevention and Control Fund Deposit – NEW**

Deposits \$5.0 million GF/GP for Invasive Species Prevention and Control into the Invasive Species Fund.

**Sec. 1202. Work Project – Forest Land Management Equipment – NEW**

Authorizes unexpended funds for Forest Land Management Equipment totaling \$2.5 million to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used to acquire new forest land management equipment.

<b><u>Supplemental Recommendations for FY 2022-23 Appropriations</u></b>		<b><u>FY 2022-23 Recommendation</u></b>
<b>1. Brandon Road Lock and Dam</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$64,000,000</b>
Appropriates \$64.0 million GF/GP as Michigan’s share of nonfederal match for planning and construction of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project to block invasive carp from Lake Michigan; \$8.0 million was appropriated from Michigan Infrastructure Fund for this multistate project in 2020 PA 150.	GF/GP	\$64,000,000
<b>2. State Game and Wildlife Area Infrastructure</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$2,300,000</b>
Provides \$2.3 million GF/GP repair or removal of the damaged Net River Dam in Baraga County.	GF/GP	\$2,300,000
<b>3. State Parks</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$1,250,000</b>
Appropriates \$1.3 million Gross to fund initial operations at the forthcoming Flint State Park (\$800,000 GF/GP) and to replace Belle Isle Park revenue lost due to the relocation of the Grand Prix race (\$450,000 from the Park Improvement Fund).	Restricted GF/GP	450,000 \$800,000
<b>4. Office of Public Lands</b>	FTE	5.0
Provides \$1.7 million in restricted funding and authorizes 5.0 FTE positions to support current sales and expansion of the carbon offset credit program.	<b>Gross</b> Restricted GF/GP	<b>\$1,662,000</b> 1,662,000 \$0