

**Summary: Executive Budget Recommendation  
for Fiscal Year 2024-25  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**



**Analyst: Austin Scott**

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Difference: FY 2024-25	
	Enacted as of 2/7/24		Executive	Amount
<b>IDG/IDT</b>	\$202,600	\$207,000	\$4,400	2.2
<b>Federal</b>	122,923,800	96,140,700	(26,783,100)	(21.8)
<b>Local</b>	0	0	0	--
<b>Private</b>	7,289,200	7,609,200	320,000	4.4
<b>Restricted</b>	353,778,000	371,056,200	17,278,200	4.9
<b>GF/GP</b>	88,054,500	67,757,000	(20,297,500)	(23.1)
<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$572,248,100</b>	<b>\$542,770,100</b>	<b>(\$29,478,000)</b>	<b>(5.2)</b>
<b>FTEs</b>	2,555.3	2,545.3	(10.0)	(0.4)

Note: Appropriation figures for FY 2024-25 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 2023-24 Enacted Appropriations</b>		<b>FY 2023-24 Enacted (as of 2/7/24)</b>	<b>Executive Change from Enacted</b>
<b>1. Recreation Passport Default Opt-in Revenue</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$17,190,300</b>
Includes \$17.2 million in new restricted authorization in anticipation of Recreation Passport sales changing from an opt-in model to an opt-out model. Motorists would purchase a passport by default unless they choose to opt-out when renewing motor vehicle registration. Passports would be provided free of charge to resident military veterans.	Restricted	NA	17,190,300
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
<b>2. Capital Outlay Adjustments</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$58,475,000</b>	<b>(\$8,725,000)</b>
Provides a net reduction of \$8.7 million Gross (\$0 GF/GP) for funding decreases to Forest Development Infrastructure; Shooting Range Development, Enhancement, and Restoration; State Game and Wildlife Area Infrastructure; and State Parks Repair and Maintenance. Funding increases are included to Wetlands Restoration, Enhancement, and Acquisition; Local Boating Infrastructure and Maintenance; and State Boating Infrastructure and Maintenance.	Federal	20,000,000	(5,300,000)
	Private	250,000	(250,000)
	Restricted	34,725,000	(3,175,000)
	GF/GP	\$3,500,000	\$0
<b>3. Nature Awaits</b>	FTE	13.8	0.0
Reduces GF/GP authorization by \$4.0 million 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>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>	<b>(\$4,000,000)</b>
	GF/GP	\$8,000,000	(\$4,000,000)
<b>4. Michigan Historical Center – Archives of Michigan</b>	FTE	56.5	(14.5)
Reduces funding for the Michigan Historical Center by \$1.9 million GF/GP and 14.5 FTE positions to reflect Executive Order 2023-6 which transferred the Archives of Michigan from DNR to DTMB.	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$8,201,900</b>	<b>(\$1,915,300)</b>
	Federal	1,016,000	0
	Restricted	2,223,900	0
	GF/GP	\$4,962,000	(\$1,915,300)
<b>5. Vehicle Travel Services</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$890,300</b>
Appropriates \$890,300 Gross (\$343,100 GF/GP) to cover increased travel costs related to vehicle mileage rates and leasing costs.	Federal	NA	23,000
	Restricted	NA	524,200
	GF/GP	NA	\$343,100

<b>Major Budget Changes from FY 2023-24 Enacted Appropriations</b>		<b>FY 2023-24 Enacted (as of 2/7/24)</b>	<b>Executive Change from Enacted</b>
<b>6. Modem and Radio Replacement for Law Enforcement and Wildfire Protection</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$878,300</b>
	GF/GP	NA	\$878,300
Includes \$878,300 GF/GP to replace modem and radio equipment for law enforcement and wildfire protection.			
<b>7. General Law Enforcement – Records Management and Reporting System</b>	FTE	293.0	0.0
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$51,479,500</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>
	Federal	6,901,700	0
	Restricted	27,376,600	0
	GF/GP	\$17,201,200	\$700,000
Provides \$700,000 GF/GP for replacing the conservation officer records management and reporting system.			
<b>8. Land and Water Conservation Fund Program</b>	FTE	NA	1.0
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$151,100</b>
	Federal	NA	75,000
	GF/GP	NA	\$76,100
Appropriates \$151,100 Gross (\$76,100 GF/GP) and 1.0 FTE position to administer the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program which provides payments to local units of government to acquire and develop public recreation lands and facilities.			
<b>9. Accounting Service Center</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$1,501,900</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
	Restricted	1,359,300	108,600
	GF/GP	\$142,600	\$11,400
Includes \$120,000 Gross (\$11,400 GF/GP) to support departmental accounting services.			
<b>10. Spending Authorization Alignment</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$341,600</b>
	Private	NA	570,000
	Restricted	NA	(228,400)
	GF/GP	NA	\$0
Increases private funding by \$570,000 and reduces restricted funding by \$228,400 across divisions to align spending authorization with available resources.			
<b>11. Cultural Resource Management</b>	FTE	2.0	3.5
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	GF/GP	\$1,000,000	\$0
Provides 3.5 FTE positions for cultural resource management which supports departmental archaeological operations and manages identification, treatment, and disposition of Native American cultural items.			
<b>12. Removal of FY 2023-24 One-Time Appropriations</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$42,000,000</b>	<b>(\$42,000,000)</b>
	Federal	22,500,000	(22,500,000)
	Restricted	2,500,000	(2,500,000)
	GF/GP	\$17,000,000	(\$17,000,000)
Removes \$42.0 million Gross (\$17.0 million GF/GP) of one-time funding that was included in the FY 2023-24 budget to support the following:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aggregate mapping (\$5.0 million Gross)</li> <li>• Cultural resource management (\$1.0 million Gross)</li> <li>• Dam management program (\$1.3 million Gross)</li> <li>• Forest land management equipment (\$2.5 million Gross)</li> <li>• Fresh water research and innovation center (\$15.0 million Gross)</li> <li>• Great Lakes splash pads (\$1.0 million Gross)</li> <li>• Invasive species prevention and control (\$2.0 million Gross)</li> <li>• Michigan conservation corps (\$500,000 Gross)</li> <li>• State water trail organizations (\$500,000 Gross)</li> <li>• Swimming pool repair project (\$200,000 Gross)</li> <li>• Swimming pool restoration project (\$5.0 million Gross)</li> <li>• Urban and community forestry assistance (\$7.5 million Gross)</li> <li>• Wetland restoration in urban areas (\$550,000 Gross).</li> </ul>			
<b>13. Economic Adjustments</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>\$6,890,700</b>
	IDG/IDT	NA	4,400
	Federal	NA	918,900
	Private	NA	0
	Restricted	NA	5,358,500
	GF/GP	NA	\$608,900
Reflects increased costs of \$6.9 million Gross (\$608,900 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage increases (5.0% on October 1, 2024), actuarially required retirement contributions, worker's compensation, building occupancy charges, rent, and other economic adjustments.			

## **Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2023-24**

### **Sec. 207. 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 2023-24.)*

### **Sec. 212. Expenditure Posting on Internet – DELETED**

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

### **Sec. 213. 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. 214. Website Scorecard – DELETED**

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

### **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 2023-24.)*

### **Sec. 221. Receipt and Retention of Reports – DELETED**

Requires department to receive and retain copies of all reports.

### **Sec. 222. 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. 223. Severance Reporting – DELETED**

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

### **Sec. 224. 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 2023-24.)*

### **Sec. 229. Energy and Noise Efficiency – DELETED**

Requires preference for goods and services that are energy efficient and minimize noise pollution.

### **Sec. 230. Transparency – DELETED**

Provides process requirements for grants or projects awarded to single recipient organizations or local governments.

### **Sec. 231. General Receive and Expend – NEW**

Allows the department to receive public or private revenue and expend said revenue for a defined purpose if specified; allows public or private revenue to carryforward to succeeding fiscal years without lapsing to the general fund; requires the department to notify HFA and SFA within 10 days of approval of additional spending authorization by SBO.

### **Sec. 242. Testing Laboratories – DELETED**

Prohibits the department from consolidating their testing laboratories.

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

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

### **Sec. 501. Work Project – Nature Awaits – DELETED**

Authorizes unexpended funds for Nature Awaits totaling \$8.0 million to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used to support the Nature Awaits program in the Parks and Recreation Division.

### **Sec. 1201. Work Project – Aggregate Mapping – DELETED**

Authorizes unexpended funds for aggregate mapping totaling \$5.0 million to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used to map aggregate deposits of this state.

### **Sec. 1202. Work Project – Dam Management Grant Program – DELETED**

Authorizes unexpended funds for Dam Management Grant Program totaling \$1.3 million to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used for dam management grants.

**Major Boilerplate Changes from FY 2023-24**

**Sec. 1203. Work Project – Forest Land Management Equipment – DELETED**

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.

**Sec. 1204. Fresh Water Research and Innovation Center – DELETED**

Awards \$15.0 million GF/GP to nonprofit Discovery Great Lakes in Traverse City to build a fresh water research and innovation center on Lake Michigan.

**Sec. 1205. Invasive Species Prevention and Control Fund Deposit – DELETED**

Deposits funding for Invasive Species Prevention and Control into the Invasive Species Fund.

**Sec. 1206. Work Project – State Water Trail Organizations – DELETED**

Authorizes unexpended funds for State Water Trail Organizations totaling \$500,000 to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used to support state water trail organizations.

**Sec. 1207. Swimming Pool Repair Project – DELETED**

Awards \$200,000 GF/GP to the City of Ypsilanti to repair a public swimming pool.

**Sec. 1208. Swimming Pool Restoration Project – DELETED**

Awards \$5.0 million GF/GP to the City of Lansing to restore a public swimming pool.

**Sec. 1209. Work Project – Urban and Community Forestry Assistance – DELETED**

Authorizes unexpended funds for Urban and Community Forestry Assistance totaling \$7.5 million to be considered a work project appropriation and carried forward into succeeding fiscal year; funds will be used to increase equitable access to urban tree canopy and associated human health benefits, broaden community engagement in local urban forest planning, and increase resilience to climate change.

<b><u>Supplemental Recommendations for FY 2023-24 Appropriations</u></b>		<b><u>FY 2023-24 Recommendation</u></b>
<b>1. Straits State Park Interpretive Site</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$3,600,000</b>
Authorizes spending of a \$3.6 million private grant to enhance the grounds and construct an interpretive/meeting building in the west unit of Straits State Park.	Private	3,600,000
	GF/GP	\$0
<b>2. Decree Negotiations</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$2,300,000</b>
Provides \$2.3 million GF/GP to acquire and retire a state commercial fishing license now prohibited under the new Great Lakes Consent Decree (2023) signed by Michigan, the United States, and five tribal governments.	GF/GP	\$2,300,000
<b>3. Brandon Road Lock and Dam</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>
Includes \$1.5 million GF/GP to support the Brandon Road Interbasin Project to block invasive species from Lake Michigan.	GF/GP	\$1,500,000
<b>4. Employee Lump Sum Payments</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$561,900</b>
Includes \$561,900 GF/GP to cover costs of one-time lump sum payments for eligible state employees. The Civil Service Commission approved payments of \$2,250 for staff employed full-time as of December 23, 2023.	GF/GP	\$561,900