

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations

Budget Summary

The subcommittee oversees the budgets for the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture and Food, Department of Environmental Quality, Public Lands Policy Coordination Office, Office of Energy Development, and School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration. Major budgetary considerations of the subcommittee during the 2014 General Session included air quality, sovereign lands, catastrophic fire prevention, and endangered species.

Operating and Capital Budget* (in millions)

	All Sources	GF/EF
FY 2013 Actual	\$283.0	\$81.8
FY 2014 Revised	\$300.5	\$66.1
<i>Percent Change</i>	6.2%	-19.2%
FY 2015 Appropriated	\$331.0	\$70.9
<i>Percent Change</i>	10.1%	7.2%

* includes expendable funds and accounts

Major Funding Initiatives

General Fund

- Sage Grouse Control - \$2 million one-time
- Air Quality Research - \$1.4 million one-time
- Utah State Fair Corporation - \$600,000 one-time
- Clean Air Initiative - \$500,400 ongoing
- Air Quality FTEs - \$400,000 ongoing
- Huntington Creek Mitigation - \$400,000 one-time
- Animal Identification - \$384,300 one-time
- Office of Energy Administration - \$265,000 ongoing
- Lake Powell Quagga Mussel Containment and Prevention - \$245,000 one-time
- Snake Valley Water Monitoring - \$106,000 ongoing

Non-General Fund

- Cedar City Regional Administration Building - \$2.95 million one-time
- Ogden Bay Waterfowl Management Area - \$2.4 million one-time
- Stewardship of Public Lands Line Item - \$2 million one-time
- Catastrophic Fire Prevention Projects - \$1.9 million one-time
- Sovereign Lands Management Projects - \$1.8 million one-time
- RS 2477, Sage Grouse, Roads Funding for Public Lands Office - \$1.7 million one-time
- DWR Compensation Increase - \$1.2 million ongoing
- Drinking Water Support Program - \$800,000 one-time
- Bear Lake Public Access - \$750,000 one-time
- Carp Removal - \$500,000 one-time
- DWR Motorpool Increase - \$500,000 one-time
- Increased Demand on Warm-Water Fish - \$375,000 ongoing
- DWR Loss of Federal Funds - \$300,000 ongoing
- DWR Sportsmen Access - \$300,000 ongoing
- Community Fisheries Increased Demand - \$300,000 ongoing
- DWR Urban Wildlife Removal Specialist - \$75,000 one-time and \$125,000 ongoing

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- Food Inspector - \$225,000 ongoing (one half from the General Fund and the other from Dedicated Credits)
 - Fuel Station Inspector - \$182,000 ongoing (\$63,000 from the General Fund and \$119,300 from Dedicated Credits)

Bills with Fiscal Impact

- **H.B. 61, *Clean Air Programs***: A one-time appropriation of \$200,000 to the Division of Air Quality for grants to implement clear air technologies for vehicles and equipment.
- **H.B. 154, *Wood Burning Amendments***: A one-time appropriation of \$750,000 to the Division of Air Quality for public education and reimbursement of wood burning stoves.

Significant Intent Language and Legislative Actions

- *The Legislature intends that the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office provide to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by May 30, 2014 an itemized schedule and costs for the economic analysis from H.B. 142, 2013 General Session.*
- *The Legislature intends that the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office use up to \$20,000 to secure the compilation of Utah-specific data from the Nevada's Public Land Management Task Force Report and report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee by June 30, 2014.*
- *The Legislature intends that the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office present to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee by September 30, 2014 a minimum of three performance measures that are quantifiable and reflect the office's mission and objectives.*
- *The Legislature intends that the sage grouse appropriation of \$2,000,000 in FY 2015 be used by the Department of Natural Resources to solicit responders and award a contract or contracts, in compliance with the requirements of the Utah Procurement Code, to hire a contractor or contractors for the purpose of delaying a possible sage grouse listing as an endangered species. The Legislature further intends that the contractor or contractors use the funding for the following purposes: (1) legal strategies; (2) educating members of Congress; and (3) engaging the public in the process. The contractor or contractors shall provide written, quarterly progress reports to the Department and to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee. The Department and the contractor or contractors shall report on or before November 2014 to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee on the progress and results achieved.*
- *The Legislature intends that the State Fair Corporation provide monthly reports on their budgets to the chairs of the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee in FY 2014 and FY 2015.*
- *The Legislature intends that the Division of Water Rights report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee on the status of the water commissioners' compensation before November 2014.*
- *The Legislature intends that the last \$200,000 of \$500,000 appropriation in FY 2015 for carp removal be met with a one-to-one match by the Utah Lake Commission.*
- *The Legislature approved the creation of two new line items in the Department of Agriculture and Food: Regulatory Services and Marketing and Development.*