

Budget Brief – DNR Species Protection

NUMBER: NRAS-BB-06-02

SUMMARY

The purpose of the Species Protection program is to take action to protect any plant or animal species identified as sensitive by the state or as threatened by the federal government.

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Analyst recommends for the Species Protection line item for FY 2007 a base budget appropriation of \$3,006,200 (see Budget Detail Table).

The Analyst does not recommend any supplemental appropriations for FY 2006.

ACCOUNTABILITY DETAIL

Listed Species

GOAL: to recover species and remove from Endangered Species List, as well as to help counties, cities, and private entities comply with Endangered Species Act.

RESULTS:

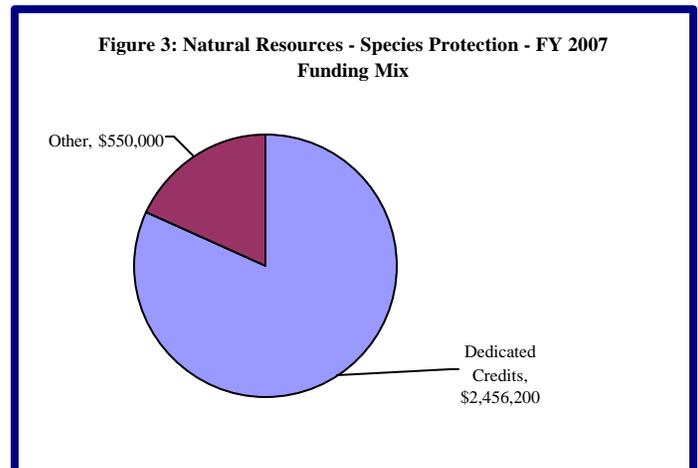
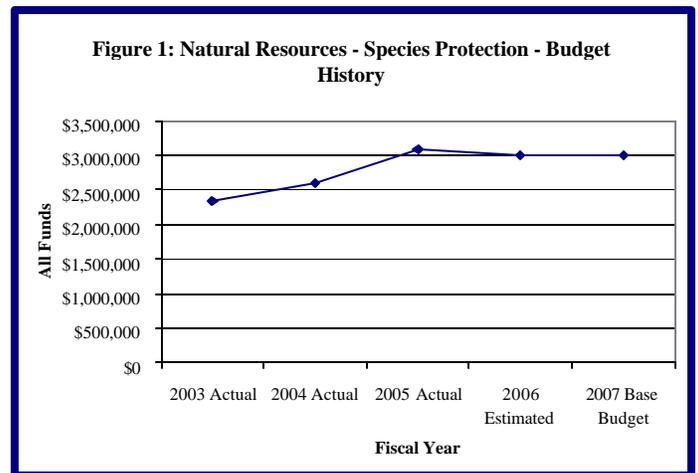
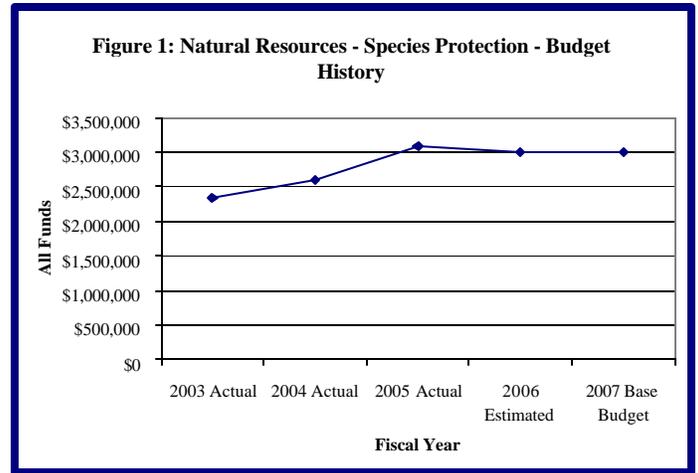
- Funded recovery programs for 7 listed fish, allowing continued historical and future water use in Colorado, Virgin and Provo River Basins.
- Resolving prairie dog issues affecting Cedar City Golf Course, Panguitch City Cemetery, and housing/economic development in Iron County.
- State water rights system protected from federal preemption.
- Federal/other funding matches state up to 9:1.
- Tortoises, prairie dogs and several listed fishes are increasing in numbers.

Sensitive Species

GOAL: to restore species and habitats and avoid new Endangered Species Act listings.

RESULTS:

- No new animals listed in Utah since 2000
- Least chub, Virgin spinedace, Columbia spotted frog, Colorado and Bonneville cutthroat trout conservation agreements completed and implemented



BUDGET DETAIL***Intent Language***

It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Natural Resources report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee and the Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee on or before their November, 2006 meeting, providing detailed information on how funds are expended for the Colorado River, June Sucker, and Virgin River plans, including detailed information on contracts issued, deliverables required, and deliverables accomplished.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

This section is a summary of what actions might be taken if the Legislature wishes to adopt the recommendations of this brief. The Analyst recommends the Legislature consider adopting for FY 2007:

- A base budget for the Species Protection program of \$3,006,200, as detailed in the “Budget Detail Table.”
- The intent language as presented in this Budget Brief.

BUDGET DETAIL TABLE

Natural Resources - Species Protection						
Sources of Finance	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Appropriated	Changes	FY 2006 Revised	Changes	FY 2007* Base Budget
Dedicated Credits Revenue	2,450,000	2,456,200	0	2,456,200	0	2,456,200
GFR - Species Protection	1,105,000	550,000	0	550,000	0	550,000
Lapsing Balance	(481,700)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$3,073,300	\$3,006,200	\$0	\$3,006,200	\$0	\$3,006,200
Programs						
Species Protection	3,073,300	3,006,200	0	3,006,200	0	3,006,200
Total	\$3,073,300	\$3,006,200	\$0	\$3,006,200	\$0	\$3,006,200
Categories of Expenditure						
Personal Services	154,600	153,300	93,800	247,100	(800)	246,300
In-State Travel	8,700	6,800	10,600	17,400	0	17,400
Out of State Travel	0	800	(800)	0	0	0
Current Expense	2,903,500	2,843,000	(106,800)	2,736,200	800	2,737,000
DP Current Expense	6,500	2,300	3,200	5,500	0	5,500
Total	\$3,073,300	\$3,006,200	\$0	\$3,006,200	\$0	\$3,006,200
Other Data						
Budgeted FTE	1.8	2.0	1.0	3.0	0.0	3.0

*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.