



WATER RIGHTS

NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
STAFF: IVAN DJAMBOV

BUDGET BRIEF

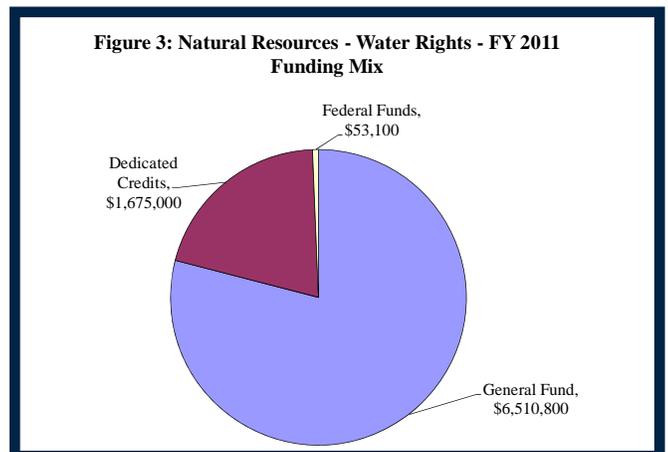
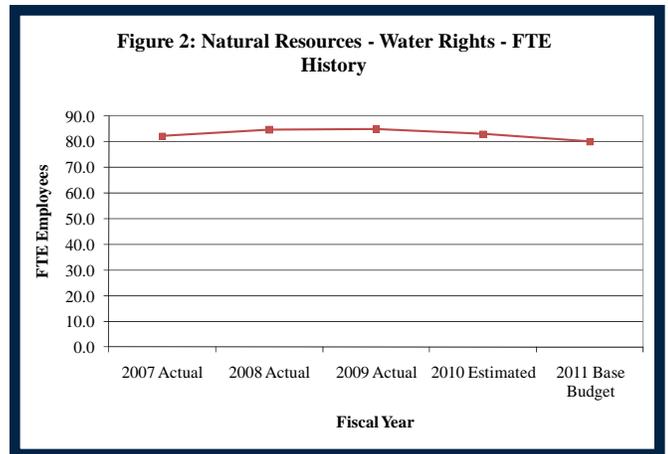
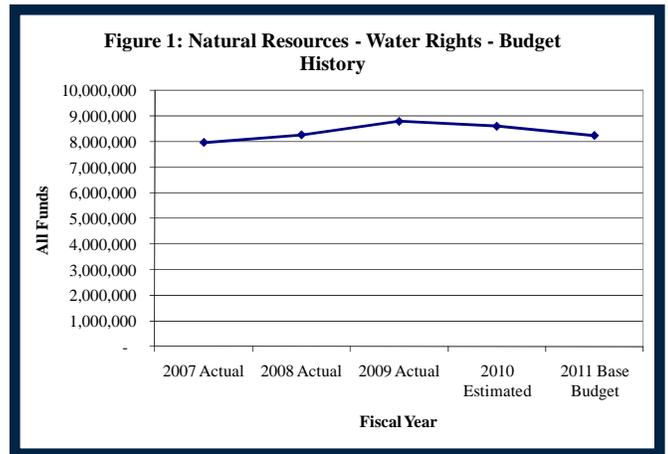
SUMMARY

The Division of Water Rights is administered by the State Engineer and is responsible for the measurement, appropriation, apportionment, and distribution of water in the State. The State Engineer and his staff oversee dam safety, stream channel alterations and water well drilling. This Division is the only one in the Department of Natural Resources that does not have an oversight board.

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Extension of the Backfill

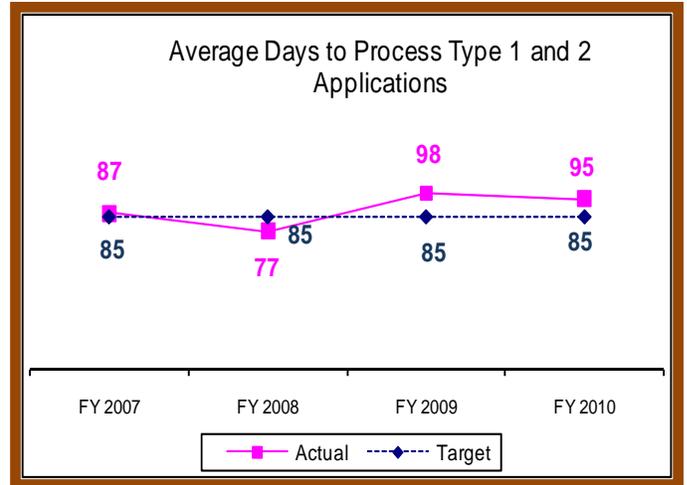
During the 2009 General Session, the Division received an ongoing General Fund reduction of -\$737,700 with a one-time backfill of \$369,000 for FY 2010. The Department of Natural Resources leadership has requested that funding for a backfill be provided for at least one more year. The Analyst recommends that the Legislature approve a transfer of \$369,000 one-time General Fund from the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to the Division of Water Rights for that purpose.



ACCOUNTABILITY DETAIL

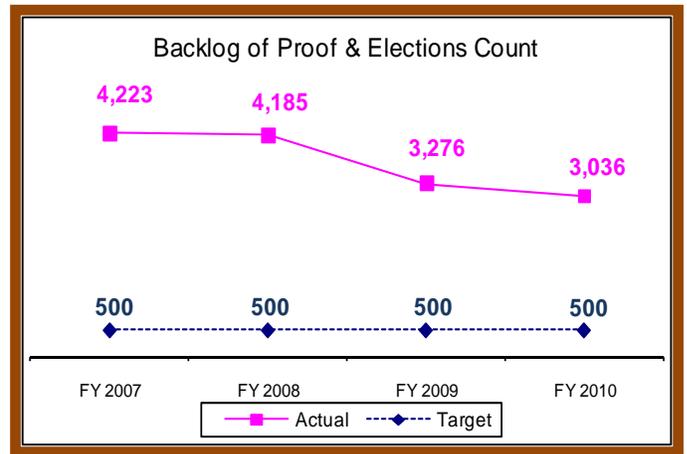
Days to Process Applications

One of the Division’s goals is to process applications in a timely manner. They have classified the different types of applications into 4 groups, and this performance measure provides data for the type 1 and 2 applications, which are the small domestic type applications not protested.



Backlog

This indicator measures the number of proofs or elections that have been filed by applicants that have not yet been processed.



BUDGET DETAIL

Base Budget Bill and Budget Reductions

As a result of the projected 2% revenue shortfall in FY 2011, the Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) adopted for FY 2011 General and Education Fund revenue estimates that are 2% less than the original FY 2010 ongoing appropriations. This will be reflected in the FY 2011 base budget bills (S.B. 1 and H.B. 1), which reduce appropriations for all programs proportionately by 2%. If enacted, these base budget bills will ensure a passage of a balanced budget for FY 2011 in the beginning of the 2010 Legislative Session. The Budget Detail Table at the end of this Brief presents the FY 2011 base budget for this line item, as included in the base budget bill (see the column on the far right).

However, the FY 2011 base budget will be further adjusted during the course of the General Session through supplemental appropriation bills, giving a chance for some of the initial, across-the-board reductions to be restored and others to be increased, all within the available forecasted revenues. To prepare for these adjustments, EAC allocated 95% of original FY 2010 ongoing appropriations to each subcommittee and directed the subcommittees to compile a list of options equal to a 5% ongoing cut. Items from these lists will then be used by EAC, and the whole Legislature, to finalize the reductions and make sure that the state has a balanced budget for FY 2011.

Intent Language

Under the terms of 63J-1-603 of the Utah Code, the Legislature intends that appropriations provided for Water Rights in Item 191, Chapter 396, Laws of Utah 2009, shall not lapse at the end of FY 2010. Expenditures of these funds are limited to: Equipment/Supplies \$75,000; Special Projects/Studies \$275,000.

BUDGET DETAIL TABLE

Natural Resources - Water Rights						
Sources of Finance	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Appropriated	Changes	FY 2010 Revised	Changes	FY 2011* Base Budget
General Fund	7,369,600	6,643,600	0	6,643,600	(132,800)	6,510,800
General Fund, One-time	103,600	369,000	0	369,000	(369,000)	0
Federal Funds	33,800	25,000	28,100	53,100	0	53,100
Dedicated Credits Revenue	1,056,000	1,894,300	(644,300)	1,250,000	425,000	1,675,000
Beginning Nonlapsing	524,700	0	288,800	288,800	(288,800)	0
Closing Nonlapsing	(288,800)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$8,798,900	\$8,931,900	(\$327,400)	\$8,604,500	(\$365,600)	\$8,238,900
Programs						
Administration	1,047,400	1,034,300	37,800	1,072,100	(45,900)	1,026,200
Advertising	163,000	154,000	(154,000)	0	0	0
Applications and Records	1,215,300	1,408,000	(105,300)	1,302,700	(176,600)	1,126,100
Cooperative Studies	478,200	315,000	110,000	425,000	(33,000)	392,000
Dam Safety	734,300	699,000	44,100	743,100	(13,800)	729,300
Field Services	1,482,900	1,418,800	(5,600)	1,413,200	(57,500)	1,355,700
Regional Offices	2,834,000	2,763,800	123,400	2,887,200	(57,700)	2,829,500
Technical Services	843,800	1,139,000	(377,800)	761,200	18,900	780,100
Total	\$8,798,900	\$8,931,900	(\$327,400)	\$8,604,500	(\$365,600)	\$8,238,900
Categories of Expenditure						
Personnel Services	6,869,900	7,088,400	(340,200)	6,748,200	(308,000)	6,440,200
In-state Travel	30,300	50,500	(20,200)	30,300	0	30,300
Out-of-state Travel	12,000	16,600	(4,600)	12,000	0	12,000
Current Expense	929,900	900,500	(38,400)	862,100	0	862,100
DP Current Expense	457,000	568,600	(41,700)	526,900	(24,600)	502,300
Capital Outlay	21,600	0	0	0	0	0
Other Charges/Pass Thru	478,200	307,300	117,700	425,000	(33,000)	392,000
Total	\$8,798,900	\$8,931,900	(\$327,400)	\$8,604,500	(\$365,600)	\$8,238,900
Other Data						
Budgeted FTE	85.0	92.7	(9.7)	83.0	(3.0)	80.0

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