



# Accountable Budget Process Voting Results

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee

Lacey Moore and Ivan Djambov | Interim 2024

## State Parks

The committee passed a motion to adopt the following recommendations:

### Recommendations to the Legislature

1. We recommend that the Legislature eliminate outdated sections referring to the parks board, discontinue the Riverway enhancement grants, remove the provisions allowing State Parks to access Boating Account funds, and correct any typographical errors.  
**Note:** requires statute change/bill file to be opened.
2. We recommend the Legislature restructure the division's operations line item to include the following appropriation units: Executive Management, Support Services, This Is The Place, Golf Courses, Recreational Parks, Heritage Parks.
3. We recommend the Legislature reduce the division's base budget by \$1,010,800 ongoing from the Park Fees Restricted Account, starting in FY 2025.
4. We recommend the Legislature change the name of the "Annual Repository Agreement, Annual Agreement Fee, Fee Collection, Return Checks, and Duplicate Document (per storage unit)." fee to "Repository and Annual Agreement Fee."

### Recommendations to the Division

5. We recommend that the division ensure all information on their website is accurate and reviewed regularly.
6. We recommend the division establish guidelines for the maximum boats allowed at each boating park based on the water levels.
7. We recommend that the division continue to work with LFA and GOPB to align its performance metrics with its defined objectives.
8. We recommend that the division comply with statutory fee requirements and provide to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst by November 15, 2024, a detailed report of all fee revenues received in FY 2024, including each fee's name, amount, the park where it was collected, the date of collection, and an explanation of what is included in the fee.
9. We recommend the division provide a comprehensive price comparison and a proposal for boating slips and storage rates.
10. We recommend the division revise its current methodology for calculating the costs to administer each fee, work with the Division of Finance to enable separate tracking of revenue and expenses for each fee, and report its progress during the 2025 General Session.



## Outdoor Recreation

The committee passed a motion to adopt the following recommendations:

### Recommendations to the Legislature

11. We recommend the Legislature review and reconcile the statutes governing the use of the Boating Account and consider eliminating the Utah Children's Outdoor Recreation and Education Fund.

**Note:** requires statute change/bill file to be opened.

12. We recommend the Legislature approve the following restructure recommended by the division:

#### Operations Line Item

- a. Directors Office
- b. Boating
- c. Law Enforcement
- d. OHV
- e. Outdoor Services
- f. Outdoor Shop

#### Capital Line Item

- g. Boating Access Grants
- h. Land and Water Conservation
- i. Outdoor Infrastructure
- j. Off-highway Vehicle Grants
- k. Recreational Trails program
- l. Outdoor Capital

13. We recommend that the Legislature replace \$88,900 in General Fund in the division's operations line item with restricted funds in proportion to the funding mix of the line item, allowing the General Fund to be used for other legislative priorities.

### Recommendations to the Division

14. We recommend the division revise its current methodology for calculating the costs to administer each fee, work with the Division of Finance to enable separate tracking of revenue and expenses for each fee, and report its progress during the 2025 General Session.
15. We recommend that the division include the specific registration fees for each type of off-highway vehicle as outlined in statute 41-22-8 in their fee proposal for the 2025 General Session. The proposed fees should not exceed the amounts specified in the statute.



## Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office

The committee passed a motion to adopt the following recommendations:

### Recommendations to the Legislature

16. The Legislature should open a bill file which clarifies that the director of the Public Lands Policy Office reports to the executive director of the Department of Natural Resources.  
**Note:** requires statute change/bill file to be opened.
17. The Legislature should consider removing or amending [UCA 63A-16-507](#) since the committee does not function as intended.  
**Note:** requires statute change/bill file to be opened.
18. The legislature should consider a different oversight policy for R.S. 2477 litigation and road adjudication, as the current format is not being implemented as designed.  
**Note:** requires statute change/bill file to be opened.
19. To increase transparency and improve reporting, the Legislature should create appropriation units in the PLPCO line item that reflect the programs administered and pass through funding supported.

### Recommendations to the Division/Department

20. The Office should work with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to improve line item performance measures based on the 2024 strategic plan that demonstrate the Office's value to the state and provide accountability.
21. The Office should reallocate funding within the existing operating and capital budget to hire a full-time finance manager.
22. Include PLPCO in the regularly occurring internal audits conducted by the Department of Natural Resources.



## School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration

The committee passed a motion to adopt the following recommendations:

### Recommendations to the Legislature

23. The Legislature should create the following appropriation unit within the operations line item: GIS. The Legislature should combine the following appropriation units: Director + Board, Grazing and Forestry + Surface.
24. For clarity and consistency, the Legislature should standardize that SITLA's fee schedule is either fully subject to or fully exempt from the budgetary procedures act.  
**Note:** requires statute change/bill file to be opened.
25. The Executive Appropriations Committee should consider having all parts of the Land Trust report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee.
26. The Legislature should establish performance measures for SITFO based on industry standards.

### Recommendations to the Division/Department

27. SITLA should develop a performance measure based on individual transactions that demonstrates they are maximizing revenue for the Permanent Trust, also considering the needs of local counties, cities, towns and adjacent state lands.