Alaska Department of Fish & Game

Senate Finance Subcommittee

FY2022 Budget Overview

Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lang

February 25, 2021

Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Constitutional and Statutory Mandates

The Constitution of the State of Alaska

Article 8 – Natural Resources; § 4. Sustained Yield

Fish, forests, wildlife, grasslands, and all other replenishable resources belonging to the State shall be utilized, developed, and maintained on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses.

The Alaska Statutes

Title 16. FISH AND GAME; Sec. 16.05.020. Functions of the Commissioner

(2) manage, protect, maintain, improve, and extend the fish, game and aquatic plant resources of the state in the interest of the economy and general well-being of the state.

Mission Statement

To protect, maintain, and improve the fish, game, and aquatic plant resources of the state, and manage their uses and development in the best interest of the economy and the well-being of the people of the state, consistent with the sustained yield principle.

Management

Provide hunting, fishing and trapping opportunities, protect state's rights to manage its fish and wildlife resources, conserve and improve habitat and access.

Stock Assessment and Research

Ensure sustainability and harvestable surplus, improve assessment and research capabilities, invest in new technologies, anticipate changing conditions.

Customer Service and Public Involvement

Make improvements to information and education services, the Boards and other regulatory processes, licensing and permitting.

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Return on Investment

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game turns a $198 million dollar (of which $62 million is GF) into a return of over $11 billion annually

Economic Value of Commercially Harvested Alaska Seafood:

- Directly employs 60,000 workers annually, more than any other industry in Alaska – Largest private sector employer in Alaska
- Contributes $146 million in taxes, fees, and self-assessments which help fund state, local and federal government
- Alaska seafood contributes an annual average of $5 billion in economic output to the Alaska economy
- Alaska exports over 1 million metric tons of seafood each year, returning over $3 billion of new money into the U.S. economy

Economic Value of Sport Fisheries

- 15,879 Jobs supported
- $246 million in taxes contributed (adjusted for inflation, $298.64 million in 2019 dollars)
- $545 million in income provided (adjusted for inflation, $661.63 million in 2019 dollars)
- $1.6 billion industry output. (adjusted for inflation, $1.950 billion in 2019 dollars)

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Economic value of Wildlife

- More than 27,000 Jobs supported
- 1.4 billion in labor income (adjusted for inflation, 1.566 billion in 2019 dollars)
- 3.4 billion spent by hunters and wildlife viewers (adjusted for inflation, 3.87 billion in 2019 dollars)
- $4.1 billion economic activity statewide. (adjusted for inflation, 4.59 billion in 2019 dollars)

Economic Value of Subsistence

- 2014 Nutritional replacement value schedules show that subsistence provides Alaskans with between $183,878,022- $367,756,045 ($200,826,510- $391,020,417 adjusted for inflation to 2019 dollars) worth of wild food per year.

Last Year

The Department worked to ensure we had the necessary research and management infrastructure in place to safely conduct fisheries and hunts across Alaska

- Nearly all commercial fisheries were conducted, allowing commercial fishermen to fish their permits and thereby make a living and contribute to the state and local economies through collected fish taxes.
- Sport and personal use fisheries operated, allowing anglers an opportunity to fill their freezers, feed their families, and get outside.
- Subsistence fisheries and hunts occurred, allowing subsistence harvesters opportunities to feed their communities and pass on traditions.
- Hunts occurred throughout Alaska giving Alaskans opportunities to hunt, fill their freezers and pass on traditions.
- Charter fishing and guided hunting operated, providing needed recreational opportunities and economic boosts to the state and local economies.

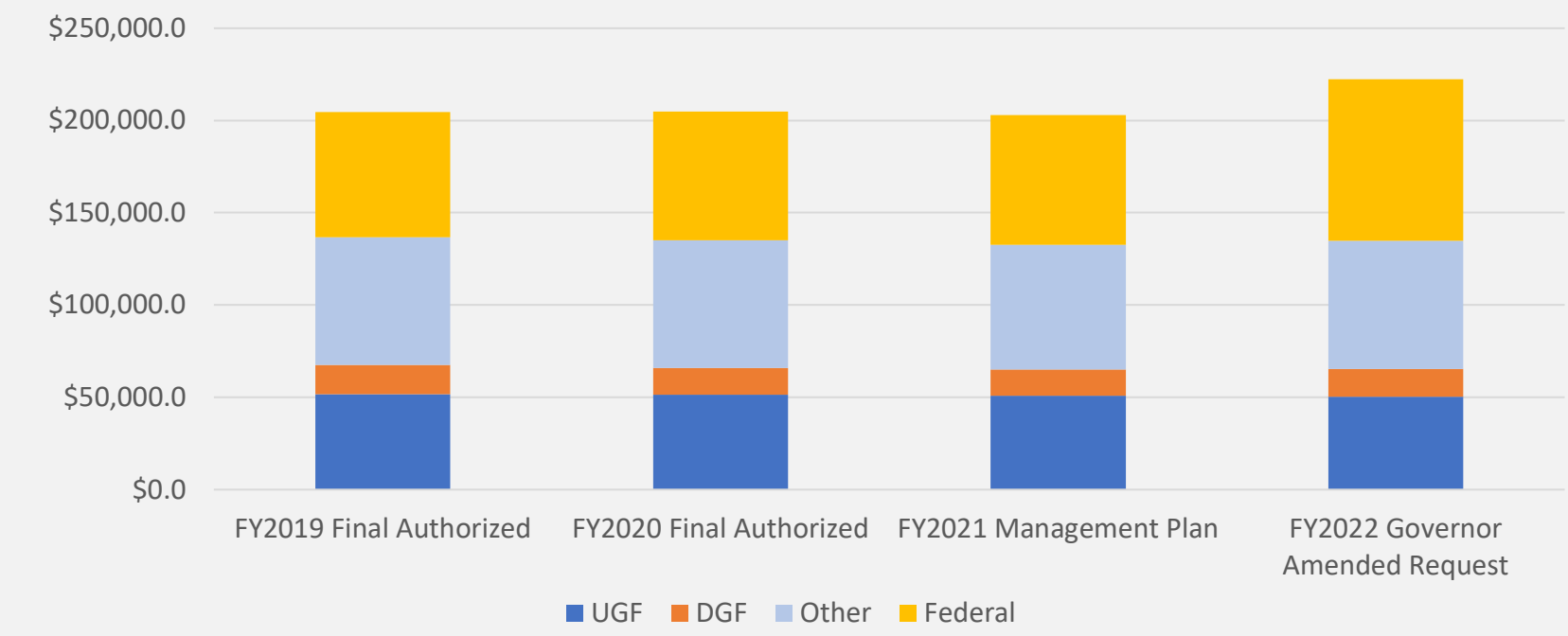
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FY 2022 Budget Overview

- The Department will be able to continue to provide an excellent return on investment as we have in the past under the governor's proposed budget.
- The proposed budget includes $26 million to fisheries, wildlife, and resource projects.
- We do not anticipate any reduction in services as a result of the proposed budget.
- We were able to use alternative funding sources and cost efficiencies to reduce our general fund needs.
- We are proposing to consolidate the various budget components in the Division of Commercial Fisheries into a single unit to improve efficiency.

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FY2022 Operating Budget Comparison (all $ in thousands)



	FY2019 Final Authorized	FY2020 Final Authorized	FY2021 Management Plan	FY2022 Governor Amended Request	Difference FY19 and FY22	% Difference FY19 and FY22
UGF	$51,583.2	$51,351.3	$50,780.5	$50,253.2	(1,330.0)	-2.6%
DGF	$15,914.8	$14,543.1	$14,257.3	$15,025.5	(889.3)	-5.6%
Other	$69,188.0	$69,241.5	$67,606.4	$69,491.5	303.5	0.4%
Federal	$67,812.4	$69,643.9	$70,136.5	$87,483.2	19,670.8	29.0%
Total	**204,498.4**	**204,779.8**	**202,780.7**	**222,253.4**	**17,755.0**	**8.7%**

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FY2022 Fund Source Breakdown by Fund Category (all $ in thousands)

UGF	1003 General Fund Match	$	1,055.8
	1004 General Fund Receipts	$	49,104.1
DGF	1005 General Fund/Program Receipts	$	3,434.2
	1109 Tesh Fisheries Receipts	$	3,432.2
	1201 Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Receipts	$	8,159.1
Other	1007 Interagency Receipts	$	17,747.2
	1018 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement	$	2,478.1
	1024 Fish and Game Fund	$	34,363.6
	1055 Interagency/Oil & Hazardous Waste	$	111.5
	1061 Capital Improvement Project Receipts	$	6,322.6
	1108 Statutory Designated Program Receipts	$	8,418.5
Fed	1002 Federal Receipts	$	84,483.2

- **Division of Commercial Fisheries**
  - Commercial Fisheries Budget Component Restructure (No Fiscal Impact)
  - Increase Use of Commercial Crew License Revenues to Replace UGF and Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Receipts (-$783.5 UGF, +$783.5 DGF)
  - Align Budget Authority to Current Revenue Levels for Commercial Fisheries (+$1,250.0 OTHER, +$4,000.0 FED)
- **Division of Sport Fish**
  - State Wildlife Grant for Conservation Needs (+$900.0 FED)
  - Dingell-Johnson Apportionment for Sport Fish Restoration (+$2,100.0 FED)

- **Division of Wildlife Conservation**
  - Align Budget Authority to Current Revenue Levels for Wildlife Conservation Pittman-Robertson (+$1,500.0 OTHER, +$9,500.0 FED)
  - Pittman-Robertson Grant for Shooting Ranges (+$100.0 FED)
  - Replace Authority for Pittman-Robertson Grant for Shooting Ranges (-$535.0 OTHER, +$535.0 FED)
- **Division of Administrative Services**
  - Transfer Procurement Staff to Department of Administration for Procurement Consolidation (-3 PFT)
  - Transfer Human Resources Staff to Department of Administration for HR Consolidation (-2 PFT)
- **State Facilities Maintenance**
  - Transfer from Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities to Align Maintenance and Operations with Occupying Agency (+$99.3 UGF)

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Capital Budget – FY 2021 Supplemental

Capital Projects	UGF	DGF	Other	FED	Total
Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook Fishery Mitigation				7,700,000	7,700,000
Sport Fish Recreational Boating and Angler Access			750,000	2,250,000	3,000,000
Facilities, Vessels and Aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Upgrades		500,000			500,000
Wildlife Management, Research and Hunting Access			2,500,000	7,500,000	10,000,000
FY2021 Fast Track Supplemental Total	1,000,000	500,000	3,250,000	20,450,000	25,200,000

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Capital Budget – FY 2022 Request

Capital Projects	UGF	DGF	Other	FED	Total
Copper River Boat Launch Facilities Improvement			165,000		165,000
Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook Fishery Mitigation				7,700,000	7,700,000
2018 Sockeye Salmon Disaster - Chignik Area				2,000,000	2,000,000
Pacific Cod Disaster Funding - 2018 Gulf of Alaska				1,000,000	1,000,000
Facilities, Vessels and Aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Upgrades		500,000			500,000
Sport Fish Recreational Boating and Angler Access			750,000	2,250,000	3,000,000
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund				4,400,000	4,400,000
Wildlife Management, Research and Hunting Access			3,750,000	11,250,000	15,000,000
Endangered Species Act - Legal and Research Needs to Protect State Right to Manage	1,000,000			3,000,000	4,000,000
FY2022 Governor Request Total	1,000,000	500,000	4,665,000	31,600,000	37,765,000

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FY21 Legislative Additions Included in FY22 Base Budget

- $245K for SE Alaska to conduct an assessment of Red King Crab
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- $152K for Bristol Bay fishery assessment
- $94K for PWS otolith assessment
- $50K for Kodiak building maintenance
- $50K for AYK region
- $38K for Upper Cook Inlet Research

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COVID Impacts

ADF&G received $135,484 in federal COVID funds in FY2020

- $65,500 in personal services
- $70,000 in commodities

Un-reimbursed Fiscal Impacts to ADF&G related to COVID in FY2021

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
Impacts to Fish & Game Fund collection of licenses and stamps due to COVID - Sport Fish	-$1,036,200	-$5,252,200	-$3,278,100
Impacts to Hatchery Surcharge added to licenses due to COVID - Sport Fish	-$628,300	-$957,550	$0
Impacts to Fish & Game Fund collection of licenses and tags due to COVID - Wildlife Conservation	$0	-$1,700,000 ($5.1M possible Pittman-Robertson Fed loss)	-$1,500,000 ($4.5M possible Pittman-Robertson Fed loss)
Commercial Crew Licenses (GFPR)	$0	-$1,280,000	-$640,000

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Issues/Challenges

- Reduced marine survivals of salmon
- Federal intrusion into state management authority
- COVID-19 and its impacts, e.g., lost license revenue to Fish and Game Fund
- Impacts associated with implementation of the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Urban wildlife management issues
- Hatchery-wild salmon stock interactions

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Legislative Priorities

- Sport Fish hatchery surcharge bill (SB 60 & HB 80)
- Sport Fish marine logbook bill (SB 59 & HB 79)
- Intensive management surcharge sunset repeal (SB 22)