

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES (FIN SUB) COMMITTEE



Official Business

Chair:

Rep. Calvin Schrage

Binder Index

Members:

Rep. Robyn Niayuuq Burke

Rep. Maxine Dibert

Rep. Carolyn Hall

Rep. Donna Mears

Rep. Zack Fields

Rep. Dan Saddler

Rep. George Rauscher

Rep. Julie Coulombe

Rep. Bill Elam

Agency Budget Graphs

Transaction Comparison

FY26 Subcommittee Book

FY25 Enacted Budget

Book FY25 Intent

Midyear Status Report

Statewide Graphs Meetings

#TBD

Close-Out

Non-Voting Member:

Rep. Frank Tomaszewski

Committee Aide:

Caroline Hamp



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE



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(907) 465-4939
Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov

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Rep. Neal Foster
State Capitol, Room 511
(907) 465-3789
Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov

DATE: January 21st, 2025

TO: House Finance Subcommittee Chairs

FROM: Representative Andy Josephson, Co-Chair
House Finance Committee

RE: FY26 Operating Budget Subcommittees

This memo provides a high-level framework for reviewing the operating budget by the House Finance Operating Budget Subcommittees. The subcommittee process is meant to increase members' understanding of the responsibilities and challenges facing the agencies and make recommendations to the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) budget.

The *Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Overview of the Governor's Request* is available at <https://www.legfin.akleg.gov/Overview/Overview2026.pdf>. Please begin to work with your Legislative Finance Analyst and review the Legislative Finance Division's (LFD) overview.

SUBCOMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION

Meetings

House Finance Committee (HFIN) majority members will be the chair of three or four agency budget subcommittees. The membership of each subcommittee is an existing standing or special committee. Minority HFIN members have also been added to various subcommittees as non-voting members. If necessary, any HFIN co-chair may be called upon to serve as an alternate subcommittee chair or member.

The subcommittee chair should work in conjunction with the standing/special committee chair. Subcommittees should be given the highest priority possible during the scheduled time frame for standing and special committees until the subcommittee closes out. This may require devoting at least 50% of each standing/special committee meeting to the subcommittee. Subcommittees are not to be scheduled during the normal House Finance Committee meeting time of 1:30 to 3:30pm, Monday through Friday without prior approval and notification.

Preparation for subcommittees is no different than for standing/special committees. The following preparations are necessary for a smooth meeting process:

- Work with agency staff and the LFD analyst assigned to the department when planning the subcommittee schedule and agenda.
 - Coordinate with each agencies Administrative Services Director for agency staff subcommittee availability.
 - Include the respective LFD analyst in all facets of the budget process and correspondence with subcommittee members/agency staff.
 - Include the respective OMB analyst to correspondence with subcommittee members/agency staff.
- Use the teleconference network to request streaming of each meeting to the akleg.gov (Gavel Alaska) website and, when necessary, to accommodate testifiers not located in Juneau.
- Request finalized meeting materials be provided by 5:00pm the day prior to the scheduled meeting to allow for distribution to subcommittee members.
- Post all subcommittee documents on BASIS with adequate time before the scheduled start time for the subcommittee meeting.

Note: Subcommittee meetings will follow the same five-day public notice requirement as standing/special committees. A signed subcommittee scheduling memo must be delivered to the House Clerk's office by 4:00pm, Thursday the week before. If you are scheduling a Monday meeting, you must inform the House Clerk by Wednesday at 4pm.

Resources for Subcommittee Members

The committee aide of each subcommittee is responsible for preparing and providing a binder of information for each subcommittee member. The binder should at least contain the following:

- 1) This memo
- 2) Agency Graphs
- 3) Transaction Comparison with notes (FY26 Adjusted Base to FY26 Governor's Amended Request)
- 4) FY26 Subcommittee Book
- 5) FY25 Enacted Budget Book
- 6) Department's Portion of FY25 Intent Letter
- 7) Midyear Status Report
- 8) Relevant Department-Specific Legislative Audit Reports
- 9) Appendix: Statewide Budget Items

Binders and the detailed information should be made available to all subcommittee members online by the first meeting of the subcommittee.

SUBCOMMITTEE BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS & REQUIREMENT

Budget Review

The purview of the subcommittee is the numbers section of their agency budgets. Subcommittees are also to review the governor's budget amendments that will be submitted February 19th. The purpose of the subcommittee process is to review and discuss agency budget transactions such as

increments, decrements, transfers, new positions or position changes, fund source changes, etc., and then provide the reports and a memo with recommendations to HFIN.

The language sections of the operating budget are not under the purview of subcommittees. Any recommendations for language section changes should be discussed with my office prior to including in the subcommittee's close-out report.

The subcommittees should utilize the LFD and various materials specific to the Departments to help subcommittee members understand the historic significance of previous Legislatures and review of the departments. LFD can also provide and assist with performance measures of each agency at your request.

Subcommittees can begin as early as January 27th. In the first subcommittee meeting, you should have the agency provide an overview. In subsequent meetings, the subcommittee should reach the following goals:

- 1) Review the FY25 department budget, including Governor's vetoes and other changes made between the Conference Committee Budget and the Enacted Budget.
- 2) Analyze the FY26 Proposed Budget; including increments, decrements, and any requests related to the overall success in completing the department's mission offered in the Governor's proposed budget.

Requirements

During the subcommittee process members should consider:

- 1) How the past year's FY25 budget changes were implemented in each program, and how they impact the future budget of the department.
- 2) Changes between the FY25 Enrolled budget and the Governor's Management Plan.
- 3) Changes the department anticipates in the future and the sustainability of services the department provides.
- 4) How the Governor's proposed FY26 budget changes will be implemented if approved.
- 5) Accepting and/or declining Interdepartmental Transfer-Ins (ATrIns) and Transfer-Outs (ATrOuts) require coordination between both subcommittees impacted, LFD, and the Operating Budget Co-Chair.
- 6) Review how legislation from the Governor impacts revenues and expenditures.
- 7) Budget items not to be considered by the Subcommittee:
 - a. Governor's Supplemental Budget
 - b. Changes to the Language section (as mentioned previously)
 - c. Structural changes to appropriations

SUBCOMMITTEE CLOSE-OUT

The agency budgets should be reported out of subcommittee and subcommittee closed out no later than March 5th.

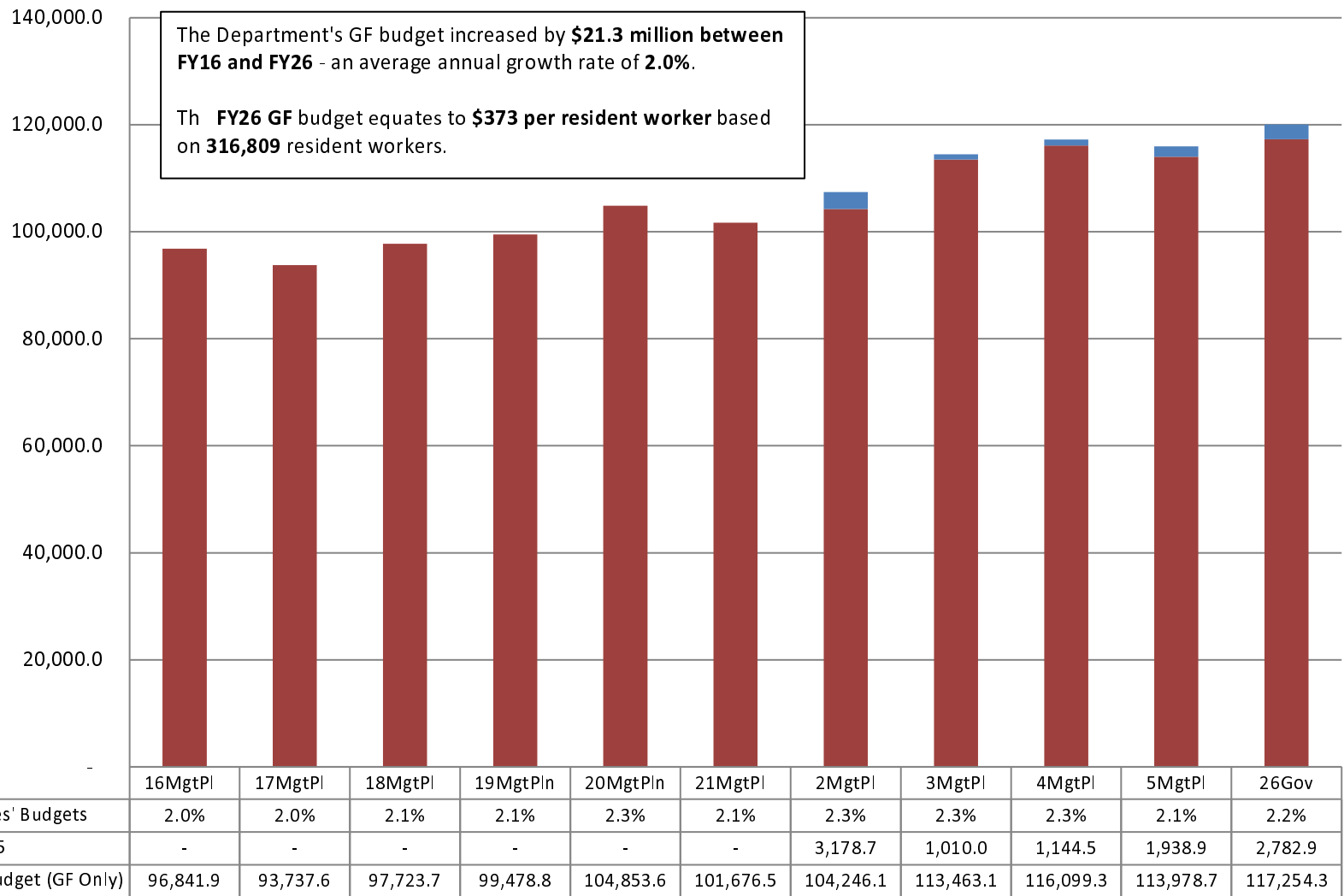
Subcommittee chairs should use the Budget Action (BA) reports provided by LFD as part of the close-out procedures. In addition to the BA reports and the associated reports, Chairs will also need to prepare a subcommittee narrative that highlights actions taken in subcommittee. A Detailed Close-Out Memo is forthcoming and will be provided before subcommittees close-out.

Plan for one close-out meeting. Work with your LFD analyst to figure out how many meetings your subcommittee will need to make the close-out deadline.

CONTACT

Please feel free to contact me or my staff, Alexander Schroeder at 465-4939 or Erin Page at 465-4939, if you have any questions or suggestions.

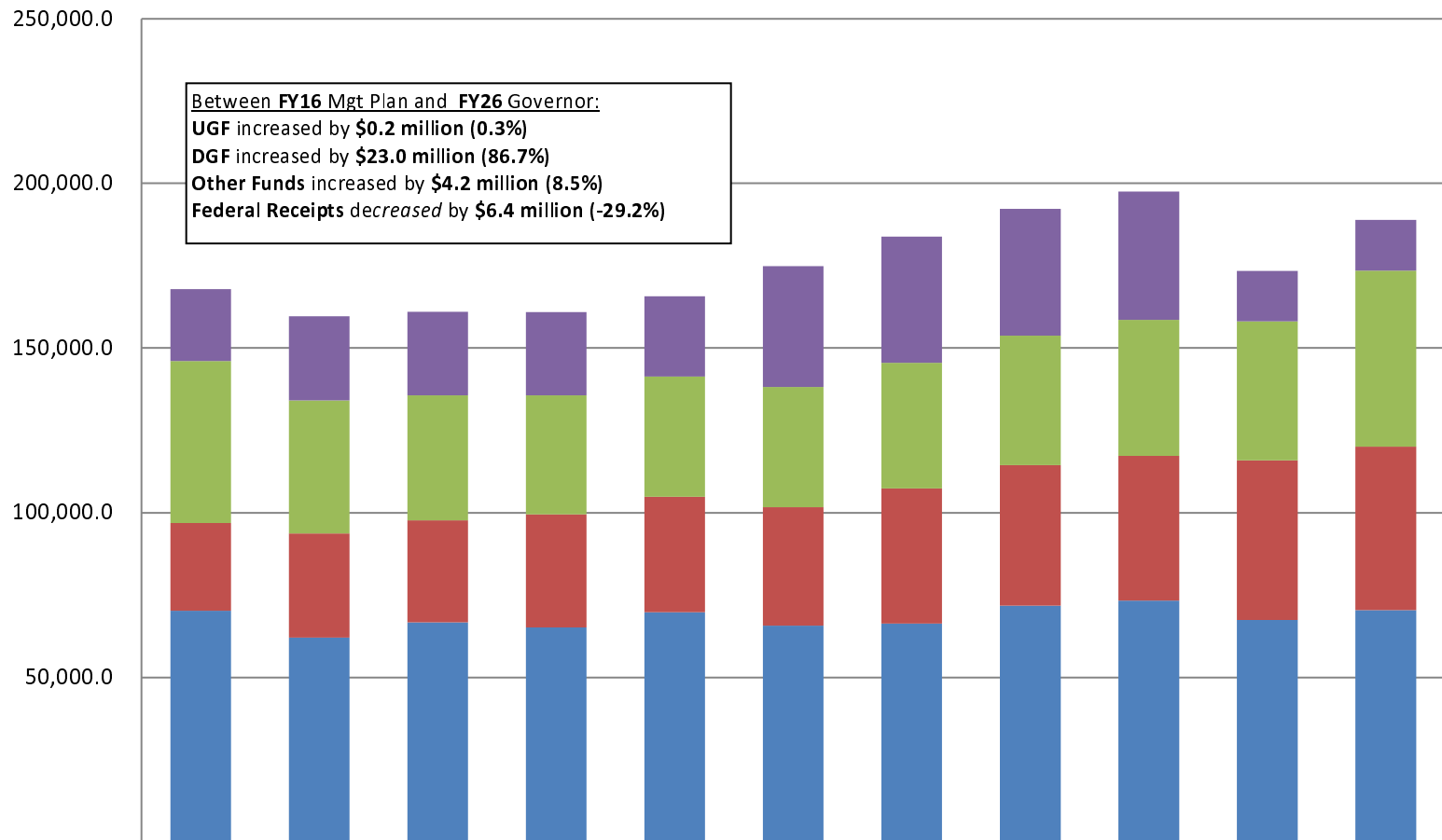
Department of Natural Resources Total General Fund Budget (\$ Thousands)



Department of Natural Resources

Total Funding Comparison by Fund Group

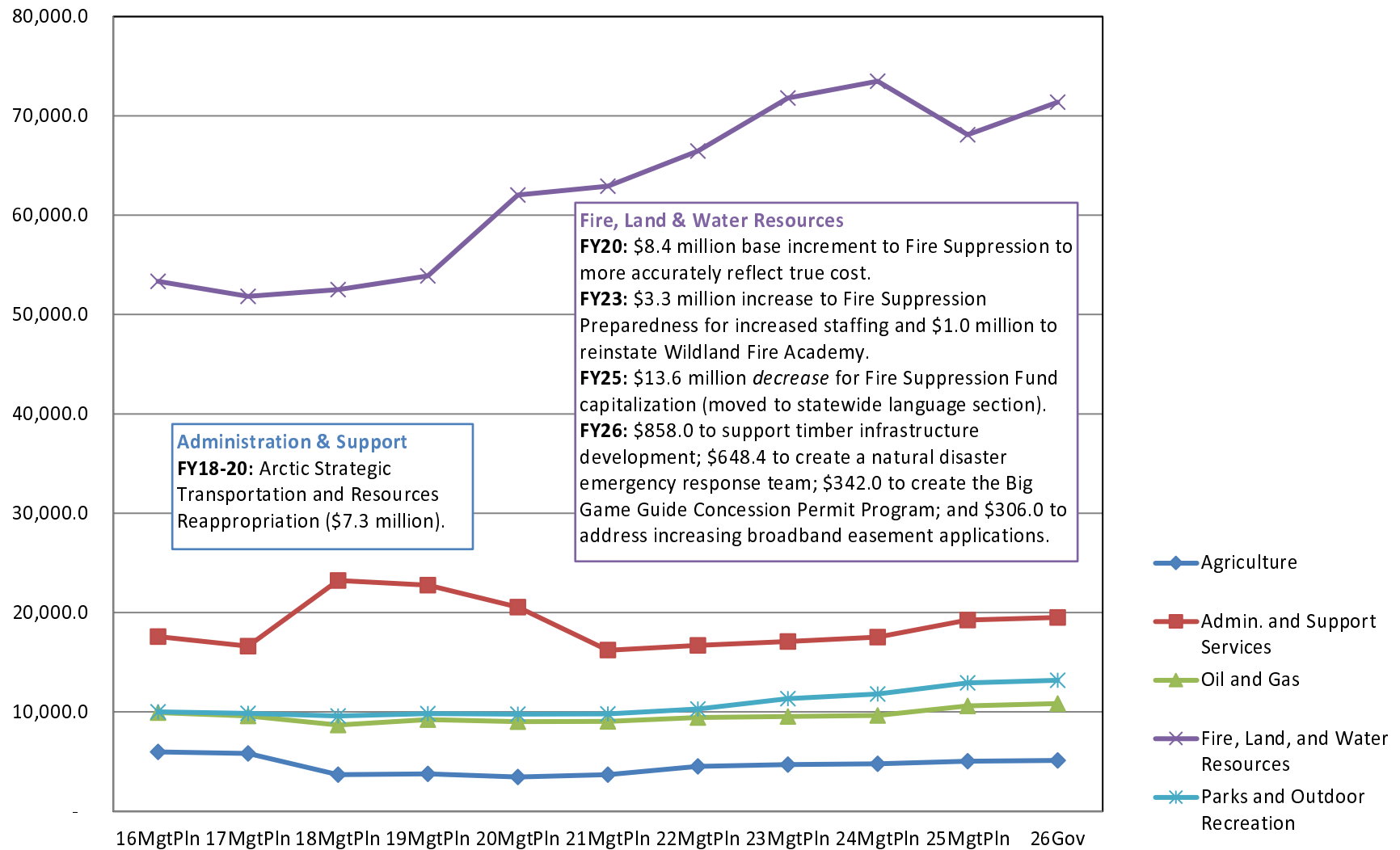
(\$ Thousands)



	16MgtPln	17MgtPln	18MgtPln	19MgtPln	20MgtPln	21MgtPln	22MgtPln	23MgtPln	24MgtPln	25MgtPln	26Gov
■ Federal Receipts (Fed)	21,757.3	25,506.8	25,320.1	25,244.7	24,355.1	36,670.2	38,329.3	38,473.3	38,930.9	15,301.4	15,402.1
■ Other State Funds (Other)	49,246.1	40,377.6	37,959.1	36,164.5	36,526.2	36,499.4	38,065.7	39,278.1	41,307.4	42,180.3	53,413.7
■ Designated General (DGF)	26,551.3	31,621.7	30,994.2	34,324.3	35,032.6	35,946.8	41,072.6	42,677.6	43,890.1	48,428.7	49,567.0
■ Unrestricted General (UGF)	70,290.6	62,115.9	66,729.5	65,154.5	69,821.0	65,729.7	66,352.2	71,795.5	73,353.7	67,488.9	70,470.2

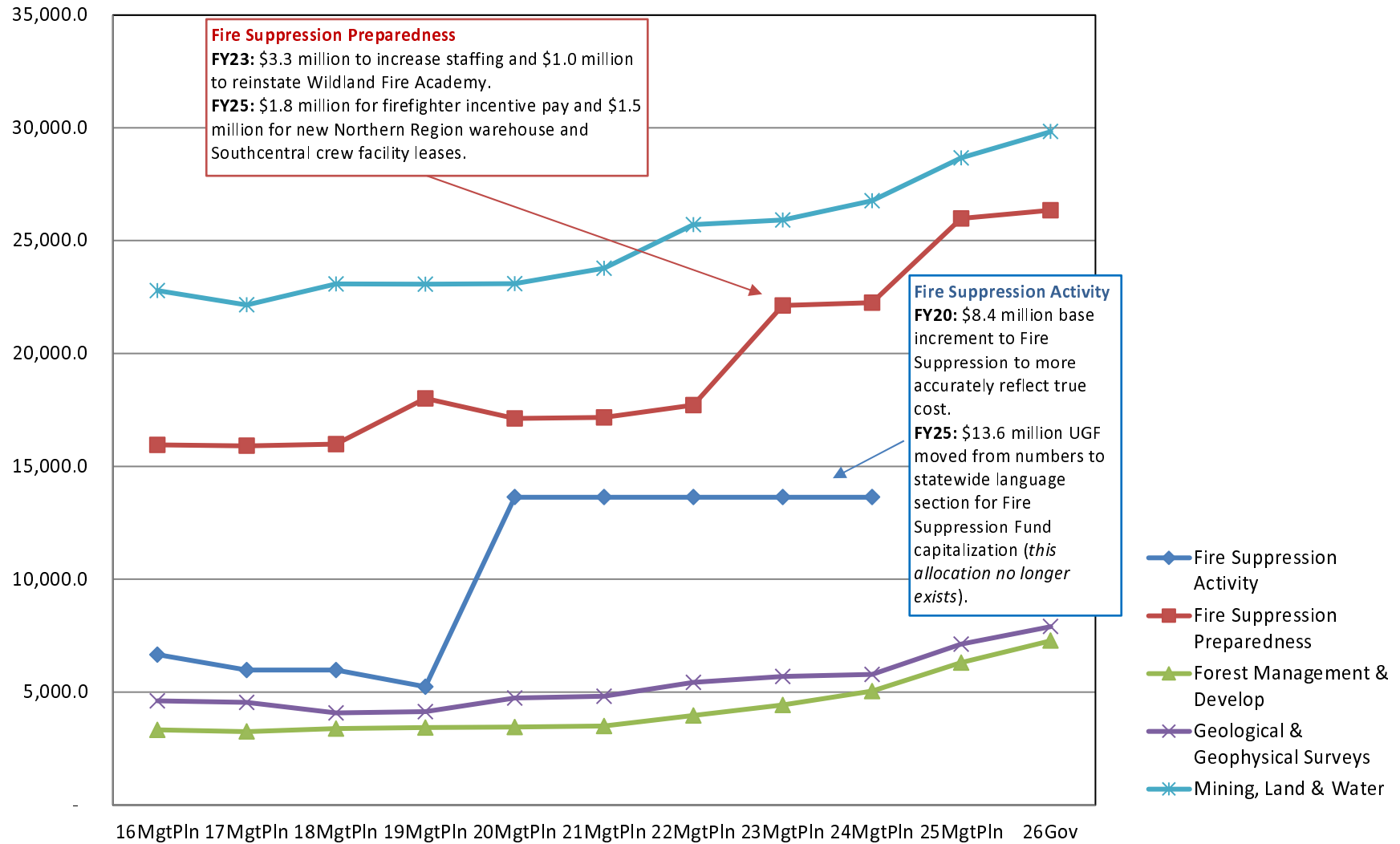
Appropriations within the Department of Natural Resources

(GF Only)
(\$ Thousands)



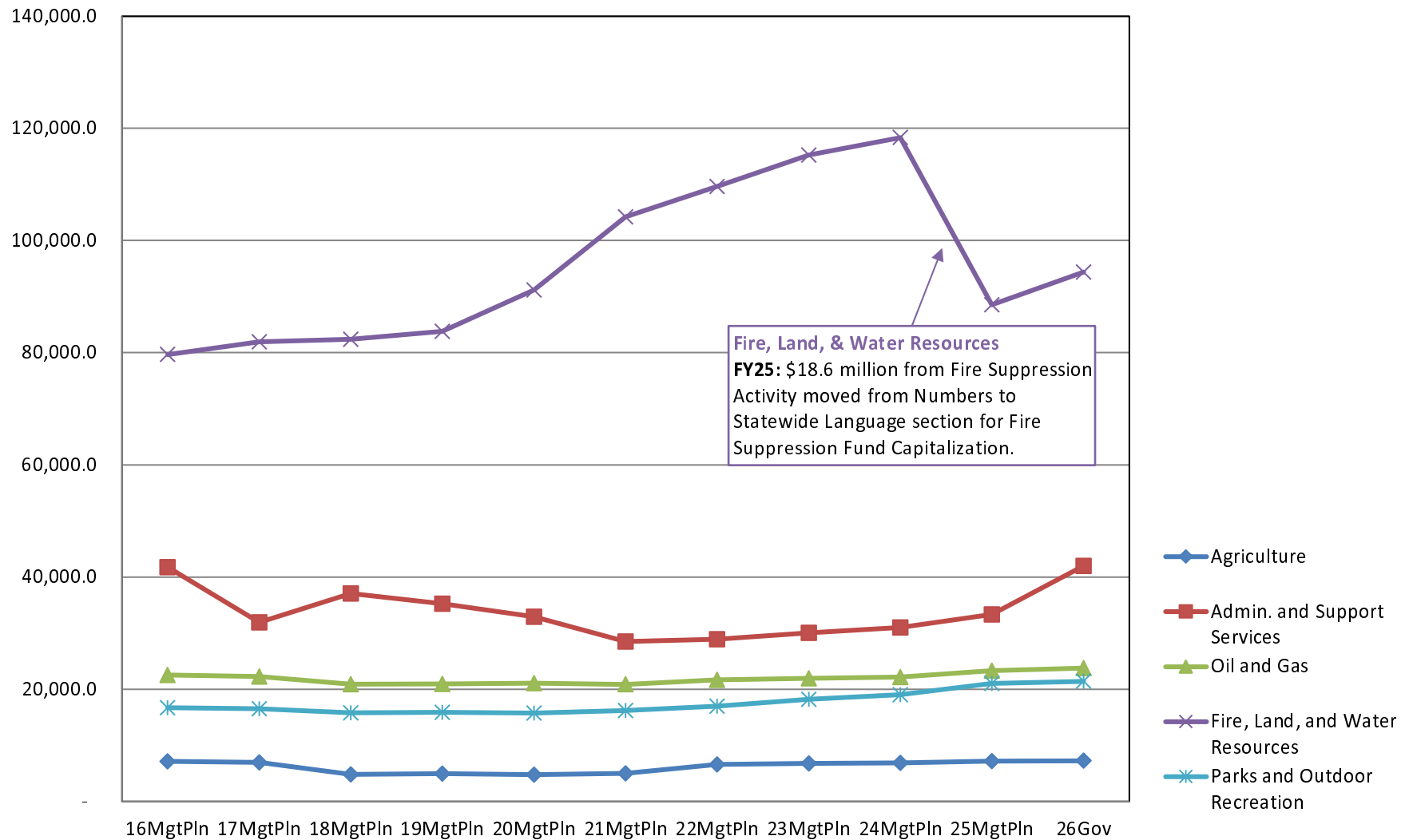
Allocations within Fire Suppression, Land, and Water Resources

(GF Only)
(\$ Thousands)

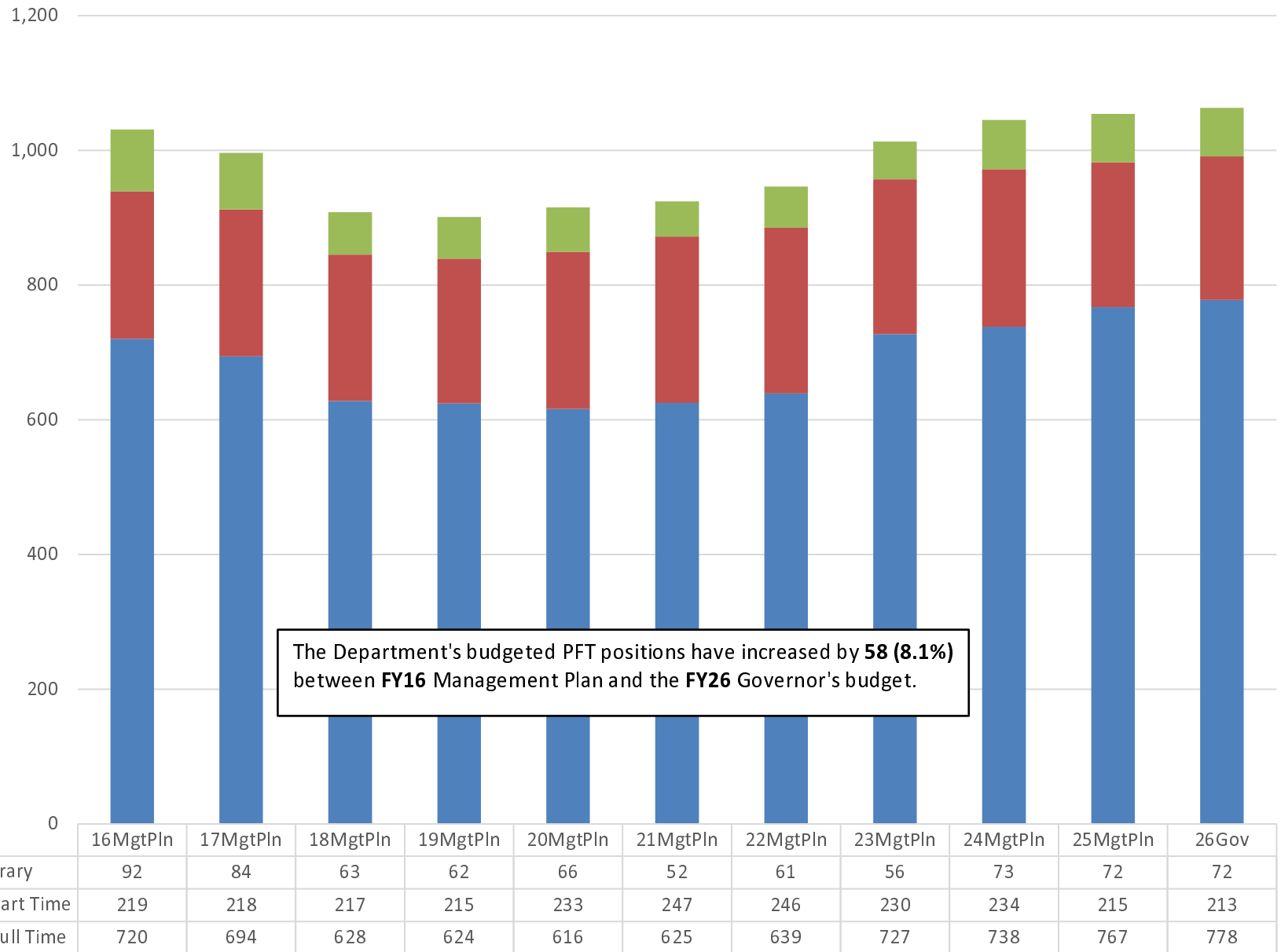


Appropriations within the Department of Natural Resources

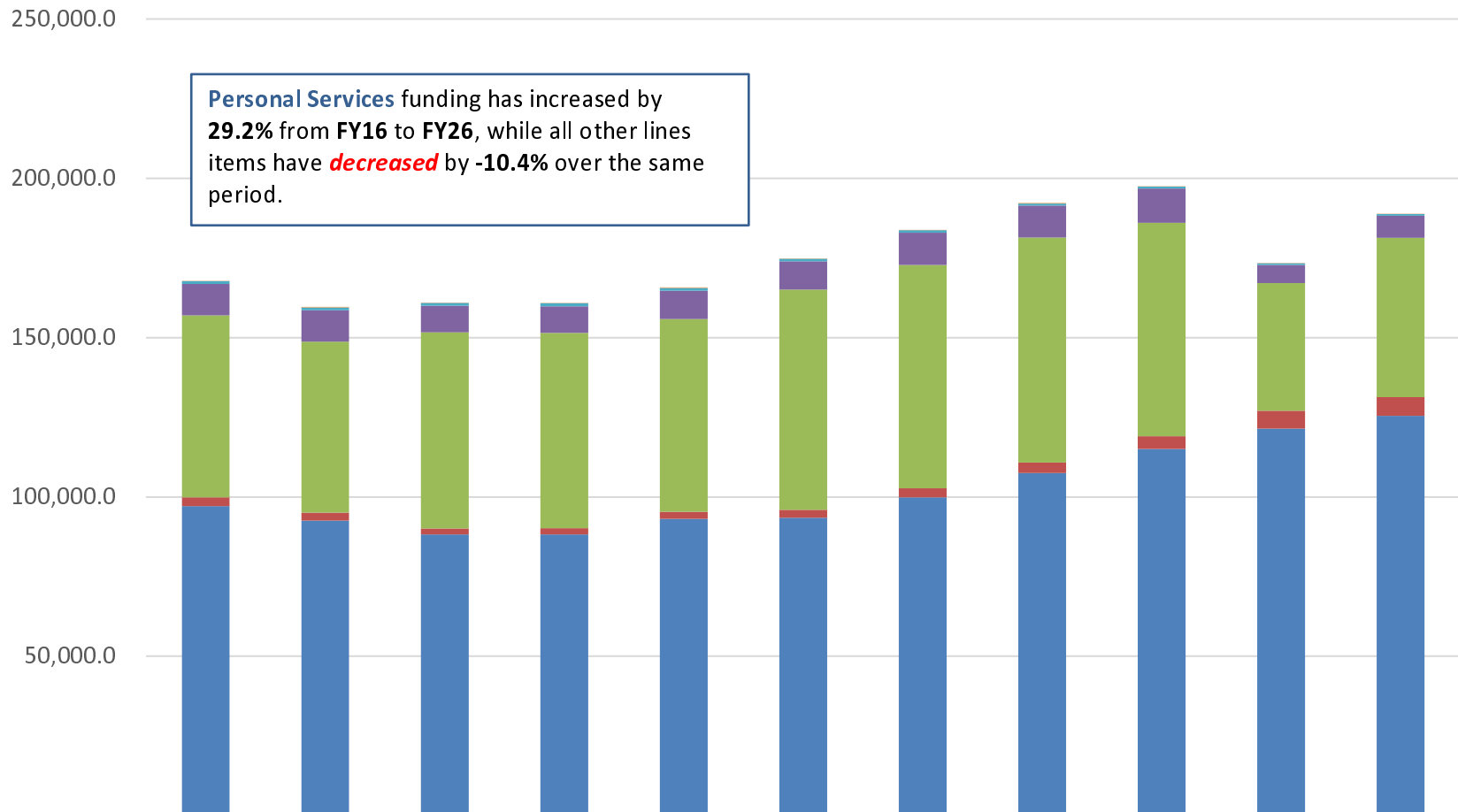
(All Funds)
(\$ Thousands)



Budgeted Positions in the Department of Natural Resources



Department of Natural Resources Budget by Line Item



	16MgtPln	17MgtPln	18MgtPln	19MgtPln	20MgtPln	21MgtPln	22MgtPln	23MgtPln	24MgtPln	25MgtPln	26Gov
7 Grants, Benefits	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	115.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
5 Capital Outlay	915.9	915.9	915.9	920.7	920.7	819.6	819.6	686.1	589.1	472.1	472.1
4 Commodities	9,873.5	9,831.0	8,336.6	8,358.8	8,842.9	8,833.8	10,118.1	10,017.3	10,777.2	5,694.7	6,985.5
3 Services	57,065.7	53,720.9	61,515.9	61,298.9	60,515.6	69,115.6	70,062.5	70,615.1	66,916.0	40,061.7	49,973.2
2 Travel	2,735.6	2,472.3	1,910.0	1,965.1	2,225.8	2,487.5	2,831.1	3,275.7	4,075.4	5,635.8	5,837.8
1 Personal Services	97,139.6	92,566.9	88,209.5	88,229.5	93,114.9	93,474.6	99,873.5	107,515.3	115,024.4	121,435.0	125,484.4

2025 Legislature - Operating Budget
Transaction Compare - Governor Structure
Between AdjBase and Gov

Numbers and Language Differences Agencies: DNR

Agency: Department of Natural Resources

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
Administration & Support Services													
Office of Project Management & Permitting													
Add Authority for Increases in Permitting Activity	Gov	Inc	140.0	130.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
The Office of Project Management and Permitting anticipates new projects in mining, energy, and broadband. Additional interagency receipt authority is needed to ensure there is no delay in construction and operations that will advance the State's economy.													
1007 I/A Rcpts (Other)			140.0										
* Allocation Difference *			140.0	130.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Mental Health Trust Lands Administration													
MH Trust: Increase Trust Land Office	Gov	Inc	139.5	114.4	0.0	24.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Administration Budget													
1092 MHTAAR (Other)			139.5										
* Allocation Difference *			139.5	114.4	0.0	24.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
State Facilities Maintenance and Operations													
Add Receipt Authority to State Facilities	Gov	Inc	7,881.0	0.0	0.0	7,850.7	30.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Maintenance and Operations to Track													
Maintenance and Operations Expenditures													
Add an interagency receipt appropriation to State Facilities Maintenance and Operations to track, manage and report facilities, utilities, repairs, and related costs across the department.													
1007 I/A Rcpts (Other)			7,881.0										
* Allocation Difference *			7,881.0	0.0	0.0	7,850.7	30.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
** Appropriation Difference **			8,160.5	244.4	10.0	7,875.0	31.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources													
Mining, Land & Water													
Big Game Guide Concession Area	Gov	Inc	342.0	292.0	10.0	30.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2	0	0
Implementation, SB 189 (Ch. 15 SLA 24)													
Senate Bill 189 (Ch 15 SLA 2024), effective FY2025, granted the Alaska Board of Game authority to create Big Game Guide Concession Areas. The Division of Mining, Land, and Water will draft and adopt regulations, develop selection criteria and guiding qualifications, evaluate applications, and issue permits.													
This request reflects the cost of adding two new positions needed to start the program and add funding to the base budget.													
Full-time Natural Resource Specialist 2/3, range 16/18, located in Fairbanks or Anchorage													
Full-time Natural Resource Manager 2, range 20, located in Fairbanks or Anchorage													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			342.0										
Add Two Natural Resource Specialist Positions to	Gov	IncT	306.0	256.0	10.0	30.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2	0	0
Address Increased Broadband Easement													
Applications (FY26-27)													
As part of the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA), the federal government has earmarked grants to incentivize companies to build essential broadband infrastructure in communities where communication and connectivity are crucial for safety, healthcare, and education. The complex nature of utility-centric projects on State													

2025 Legislature - Operating Budget Transaction Compare - Governor Structure Between AdjBase and Gov

Numbers and Language
Differences
Agencies: DNR

Agency: Department of Natural Resources

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources (continued)													
Mining, Land & Water (continued)													
Add Two Natural Resource Specialist Positions to Address Increased Broadband Easement Applications (FY26-27) (continued)													
land demands authorization for easement development, necessitating an increase in staffing within the Division of Mining, Land, and Water.													
This request adds two new Natural Resource Specialist 2/3 positions to efficiently process easement applications across the state and effectively execute major broadband and highway projects.													
Full-time Natural Resource Specialist 2/3, range 16/18, located in Fairbanks or Anchorage Full-time Natural Resource Specialist 2/3, range 16/18, located in Fairbanks or Anchorage													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			306.0										
* Allocation Difference *			648.0	548.0	20.0	60.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4	0	0
Forest Management & Development													
Add UGF to Replace Expiring CIP and Federal Funds that Support 4 Foresters, 5 GIS Analysts, and 3 Equipment Operators	Gov	Inc	437.6	437.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
The division's top priority is to expand access to State forests and timber resources, thereby increasing the availability of timber sales to drive economic development. These efforts will enable the division to access new areas of the State forest and provide more timber sales to purchasers, who, in turn, create value-added products.													
This request is essential to secure stable funding for heavy equipment operators, Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping services, and foresters, who currently rely on capital and federal funding that will soon lapse. Additionally, the request includes the addition of a new Forester 3 in Haines, and an Engineer/Architect 2 and an Accounting Technician 3 in Anchorage, to optimize the team's capacity.													
Full-time Accounting Technician 3, range 16, located in Anchorage Full-time Forester 3, range 18, located in Haines Full-time Engineer/Architect 2, range 23, located in Anchorage													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)			437.6										
Add One Forester, One Engineer/Architect, and One Accounting Tech to Support Development of New Lands for Timber Sales	Gov	Inc	420.4	420.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3	0	0
The division's top priority is to expand access to State forests and timber resources, thereby increasing the availability of timber sales to drive economic development. These efforts will enable the division to access new areas of the State forest and provide more timber sales to purchasers, who, in turn, create value-added products.													
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Full-time Accounting Technician 3, range 16, located in Anchorage													

**2025 Legislature - Operating Budget
Transaction Compare - Governor Structure
Between AdjBase and Gov**

**Numbers and Language
Differences
Agencies: DNR**

Agency: Department of Natural Resources

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources (continued)													
Forest Management & Development (continued)													
Add One Forester, One Engineer/Architect, and One Accounting Tech to Support Development of New Lands for Timber Sales (continued)													
Full-time Forester 3, range 18, located in Haines													
Full-time Engineer/Architect 2, range 23, located in Anchorage													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF)	420.4												
Add Authority for Anticipated Denali Commission Grant to Perform Forest Management Activities on Private Lands	Gov	Inc	800.0	0.0	0.0	500.0	300.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
The division anticipates grant funding opportunities through the Denali Commission for forest management activities on private lands in Alaska and, therefore, requests the expansion of statutory designated program receipt authority.													
This cooperative program helps fund reforestation, fire mitigation, and forest health treatments on private lands.													
Leveraging this non-State funding will prevent large-scale disturbances like the spruce beetle outbreak in Southcentral Alaska and provide safety to Alaskans.													
1108 Stat Desig (Other)	800.0												
Reduce Federal Receipt Authority Due to Increased Use of Capital Budget Grants	Gov	Dec	-1,247.8	0.0	0.0	-1,247.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Transfer federal receipt authority that is no longer needed in Forest Management and Development due to grants structured against the capital budget.													
1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)	-1,247.8												
* Allocation Difference *			410.2	858.0	0.0	-747.8	300.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3	0	0
Geological & Geophysical Surveys													
Increase Federal Receipt Authority for Natural Disaster Hazard Assessment Studies	Gov	Inc	2,200.0	500.0	0.0	1,000.0	700.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Transfer federal receipt authority from Forest Management and Development and Fire Suppression Preparedness to Geological and Geophysical Surveys. Recent flooding and landslides in Alaska prove that the State needs hazard characterization to better understand its environmental conditions. These studies can save Alaskans' lives, homes, and communities. The division needs additional federal receipt authority to leverage grants anticipated from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to assess remote areas of Prince William Sound and Southeast Alaska.													
1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)	2,200.0												
Add Two Positions to Create Response and Prevention Team for Natural Disaster Emergency Responses and Public Outreach	Gov	Inc	648.4	347.2	24.0	27.2	250.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2	0	0
Alaska is facing more frequent and severe floods, landslides, and avalanches. The Division of Geologic and Geophysical Surveys is unable to respond to the State Emergency Operations Center's request for assistance due to a shortage of dedicated staff and funding to provide resources to different locations in Alaska during disasters.													
This request aims to establish a team specifically dedicated to emergency response and prevention of natural disasters. The team will conduct geologic hazard assessments promptly and proactively manage land to mitigate geological risks.													

**2025 Legislature - Operating Budget
Transaction Compare - Governor Structure
Between AdjBase and Gov**

**Numbers and Language
Differences
Agencies: DNR**

Agency: Department of Natural Resources

	Column	Trans Type	Total Expenditure	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants	Misc	PFT	PPT	TMP
Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources (continued)													
Geological & Geophysical Surveys (continued)													
Add Two Positions to Create Response and Prevention Team for Natural Disaster Emergency Responses and Public Outreach (continued)													
Full-time Geologist 2, range 17, located in Fairbanks													
Full-time GIS Analyst 2, range 17, located in Anchorage													
1004 Gen Fund (UGF) 648.4													
* Allocation Difference *			2,848.4	847.2	24.0	1,027.2	950.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2	0	0
Fire Suppression Preparedness													
Improve Maintenance of Fire Fighting Fleet with Revenues from Regional Sharing of Firefighting Resources	Gov	Inc	1,500.0	0.0	0.0	1,500.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
The Fire Suppression Preparedness component requires increased statutory designated program receipt authority to collect revenues from parties of the Northwest Compact Agreement (NWC) and Federal Fire Cooperators.													
This revenue is earned when these parties utilize the division's fleet aircraft.													
The revenues collected from its partners will assist the Division of Forestry and Fire Protection (DOF) in maintaining a safe and efficient aviation fleet and saving money on contracted and call-when-needed aircraft.													
1108 Stat Desig (Other) 1,500.0													
Reduce Federal Receipt Authority Due to Increased Use of Capital Budget Grants	Gov	Dec	-952.2	-952.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
Transfer federal receipt authority that is no longer needed in Forest Management and Development due to grants structured against the capital budget.													
1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed) -952.2													
* Allocation Difference *			547.8	-952.2	0.0	1,500.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
** Appropriation Difference **			4,454.4	1,301.0	44.0	1,839.4	1,270.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9	0	0
Parks & Outdoor Recreation													
Parks Management & Access													
L Boating Safety Program Receipts	Gov	Inc	302.0	0.0	0.0	302.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
* Sec. XX. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.													
(d) A sum, estimated to be \$274,638 and not to exceed \$302,000, is appropriated from the boat receipts collected under AS 05.25.096 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, to the Department of Natural Resources, division of parks and outdoor recreation, for the boating safety program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.													
1216 Boat Rcpts (DGF) 302.0													
* Allocation Difference *			302.0	0.0	0.0	302.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
** Appropriation Difference **			302.0	0.0	0.0	302.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
*** Agency Difference ***			12,916.9	1,545.4	54.0	10,016.4	1,301.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	9	0	0
**** All Agencies Difference ****			12,916.9	1,545.4	54.0	10,016.4	1,301.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	9	0	0

Column Definitions

AdjBase (FY26 Adjusted Base) - FY25 Management Plan less One-Time Items (OTIs), plus FY26 Position Adjustments (PosAdjs), Transfers In/Out of allocations (TrIns and TrOuts), Line Item Transfers (LITs), Temporary Increments (IncTs) initiated in prior years, adjustments to formula programs in language, and additions for statewide items such as Salary Adjustments (SalAdjs). The Adjusted Base is the base to which the Governor's and the legislature's Increments (Incs), Decrements (Decs), and Fund Changes (FndChg) are added.

Gov (FY26 Gov (12/12)) - Includes FY26 Adjusted Base plus the Governor's operating budget requests submitted on December 12, 2024.

**Department of Natural Resources
FY25 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
1	Administration & Support Services / Office of Project Management & Permitting	Increase Funding in Accordance with Carbon Offset Program (SB48 (Ch. 2, SLA 2023)) FY2025 Fiscal Note Projection	\$116.0 Gen Fund (UGF) 1 PFT Position Inc	Has this position been filled, and if so, when? Is the State Lands Survey complete, and if not, when is completion expected?
Agency Response There was a bit of delay in recruitment due to setting up the new job class in the system. Recruitment closed on 11/26/24 and interviews are being conducted. The state lands survey has been encumbered and is anticipated to be spend by the end of FY2025 on feasibility studies and initial development work on forest carbon projects on state forestlands in one or more areas in the Tanana Valley, Haines, Mat-Su Valley, and Kenai Peninsula.				
2	Oil & Gas / Oil & Gas	Add General Fund Program Receipt Authority and Replace UGF	Total: \$385.0 (\$500.0) Gen Fund (UGF) \$885.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Does the agency expect to fully utilize the additional program receipt authority? Please detail how the increased program receipt authority will be expended.
Agency Response The Division of Oil and Gas expects to fully utilize the additional program receipt authority. The increased general fund program receipt authority allows the division to meet increased .850 easement inspection workloads. This includes travel to the North Slope to conduct more inspections, funding for existing DOG employees to complete the work, and utilization of enhanced GIS data management systems from items that were purchased with this funding in the first half of FY2025 (drones, thermistors, etc.).				
3	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Mining, Land & Water	Advancing State's Rights in Navigability and Revised Statute 2477	\$741.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Please provide information on scope and monetary amounts for any third party contracts. Does the agency anticipate this program continuing indefinitely?

**Department of Natural Resources
FY25 Midyear Status Report**

Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
Agency Response A \$10,000 contract with Dr. Joseph Livengood is in effect from 10/01/24-09/30/25 with 5 one-year renewal options. The purpose of this contract is to provide emergency medical consulting services to staff while in the field. The Division of Mining, Land & Water anticipates this program continuing indefinitely.				
4	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Mining, Land & Water	Add GF Program Receipts for Reclassification and Addition of Range Flexibility for Natural Resource Specialist Positions	\$400.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Has retention improved as a result of this change? Are any of these positions currently vacant, and if so, is the agency actively recruiting or planning to recruit for them?
Agency Response Yes, retention has improved. The division's vacancy rate has gone from 11.3% to 9.4%. Only one position which was reclassified is currently vacant, and it is being actively recruited for.				
5	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Forest Management & Development	Add UGF to Allow Existing Timber Sale Receipts to Fund Expanded Forestry Road Infrastructure Projects	\$900.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Please provide a status update on the funding for each maintenance/construction project.

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Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
	Agency Response July 2024: Graded and ditched 27 miles on Standard Creek Road and 12 miles on Two Rivers roads in the Tanana Valley State Forest; scarified 27 acres of timber sales off the Hipas road for reforestation August 2024: Graded, ditched and brushed 6.7 miles of the Willer-Kash road and 6.6 miles of the Zero lake road in the Matanuska Susitna area; scarified 10 acres of old timber sales to meet reforestation requirements September 2024: Developed a material site on Cache Creek road in the Tanana Valley State Forest; stockpiled 1000 cubic yards for extension of the Cache Creek road to the Standard Creek East road October 2024: Following the ice storm in the Fairbanks Area, opened up Cache Creek, Standard Creek, Two Rivers and Bonanza Creek roads; this project included plowing, brushing and tree falling to regain access to firewood cutting and commercial timber sales November and December 2024: Maintain access by plowing main haul roads in the Tanana Valley State Forest as needed			
6	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Geological & Geophysical Surveys	Conduct Research on Geothermal Energy Potential in Alaska (FY25-FY27)	\$1,000.0 Gen Fund (UGF) 2 PFT Positions IncT	Have these position been filled, and if so, when? Please provide information on scope and monetary amounts for any third party contracts. Does the agency have the ability to complete this research by FY27?
	Agency Response These positions have been created in the system and will be filled soon. The division determined that it is important to fill the geothermal manager position first, which is going through an extensive national recruitment effort. The division anticipates filling the geothermal manager position by end of January. Helicopter and fuel contracts to support fieldwork, ground and airborne geophysical data acquisition and processing, and laboratory analytical studies of field samples are just a few of anticipated contracts. These vary from \$500,000 to \$650,000. The division anticipates making substantial progress by FY2027. The division is also working to attract new exploration interest in Alaska via participation in the flagship national geothermal meeting and notable improvements to our geothermal web application that provides access to available data.			

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Item No.	Appropriation / Allocation	Description	Amount / Fund Source	LFD Questions
7	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Fire Suppression Preparedness	New Leases for Northern Region Warehouse and Southcentral Crew Facility	\$1,500.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Have locations been identified and any leases secured? If so, please provide the final cost of the new leases.
Agency Response Fire Warehouse Lease (Fairbanks) Request for Proposal (RFP) development with Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Division of Facilities Services Leasing Office (ADOT&PF) began in June 2024 with the intent to award on Jan 27, 2025. This is a limited competition solicitation sent to four contractors that responded to a Request for Information from ADOT&PF on behalf of the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection on Feb 27, 2024, to determine level of interest prior to issuing the RFP. Mat-Su Crew Facilities Lease (Palmer) Request for Proposal (RFP) development with the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Division of Facilities Services Leasing Office began in March 2024. An RFP for limited competition was issued to two proposers on April 9, 2024. One proposer responded and was declared non-responsive. ADOT subsequently canceled the RFP on June 3, 2024 in accordance with policy & procedures. ADOT&PF then sought and received authorization to engage in sole-source negotiations with the responder and proceeded in July 2024. The contractor is currently working on costs for a new facility in advance of negotiation meetings anticipated in January 2025.				
8	Fire Suppression, Land & Water Resources / Various	Incentive Pay for Wildland Firefighters	\$1,200.0 Gen Fund (UGF) Inc	Has recruitment and retention improved as a result of this LOA? What is the projected FY25 total costs, and how much additional expenditures have been incurred to date?
Agency Response The significant increase to the number of applicants on the Wildland Fire and Resource Technician (WFRT) classification is a direct reflection of the positive impacts related to the Mission Critical Incentive Pay letter of agreement. Applicant pools have increased from having to extend recruitments due to no applicant interest to now having anywhere from 30-80 applicants. The division is continuing recruitment efforts and expects to fill the majority of the WFRT PCNs by the beginning of the fire season (April 1, 2025). Due to this being a relatively new development, the projected costs are not easily identified.				

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9	Parks & Outdoor Recreation / Parks Management & Access	Add Two Park Specialist Positions to Improve Management of Delta Area State Park Units	\$199.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) 2 PFT Positions Inc	Have these position been filled, and if so, when? Where are these positions based?																																			
				Agency Response Both positions have been filled and are located in Delta Junction. The Park Ranger was hired on 08/19/24, and the Park Specialist was hired on 10/28/24.																																			
10	Parks & Outdoor Recreation / Parks Management & Access	Maintain Boat and Off-Road Vehicle Fleet	\$300.0 GF/Prgm (DGF) Inc	Will the agency fully utilize this funding for maintenance and stocking of parts? Please detail the costs and locations of maintenance events and/or stocking of spare parts.																																			
				Agency Response These items are currently being purchased or have been purchased and are routinely maintained per manufactures requirements: <table><tr><th>Region</th><th>Equipment</th><th>Equipment Amount</th></tr><tr><td>Matsu</td><td>Snowmachines (2)</td><td>37.0</td></tr><tr><td>Chugach</td><td>Skidsteer extra attachments and tools</td><td>15.0</td></tr><tr><td>Chugach</td><td>Snowblowers (2)</td><td>10.0</td></tr><tr><td>Chugach</td><td>ATV (3)</td><td>36.0</td></tr><tr><td>Chugach</td><td>Side by side</td><td>34.0</td></tr><tr><td>Kenai</td><td>ATV (2)</td><td>30.0</td></tr><tr><td>LE</td><td>LE equipment for vehicle</td><td>14.2</td></tr><tr><td>Southeast</td><td>Field truck upfitting</td><td>40.0</td></tr><tr><td>Northern</td><td>Plow/sander, ATV</td><td>30.0</td></tr><tr><td>Southwest</td><td>ATV (2)</td><td>14.0</td></tr><tr><td>Southwest</td><td>Boating motors (on list)</td><td>17.0</td></tr><tr><td>Southwest</td><td>Helmet (aircraft)</td><td>3.0</td></tr></table>	Region	Equipment	Equipment Amount	Matsu	Snowmachines (2)	37.0	Chugach	Skidsteer extra attachments and tools	15.0	Chugach	Snowblowers (2)	10.0	Chugach	ATV (3)	36.0	Chugach	Side by side	34.0	Kenai	ATV (2)	30.0	LE	LE equipment for vehicle	14.2	Southeast	Field truck upfitting	40.0	Northern	Plow/sander, ATV	30.0	Southwest	ATV (2)	14.0	Southwest	Boating motors (on list)
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