

Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) FY2026 Budget Overview

**House Finance Committee
February 24, 2025**

**Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lang
Administrative Services Director Bonnie Jensen**



Constitutional & 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 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.

Core Services



Management

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

Stock Assessment & Research

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

Customer Service & Public Involvement

Provide and make improvements to information and education services, the Boards and other regulatory processes; issue licenses and permits





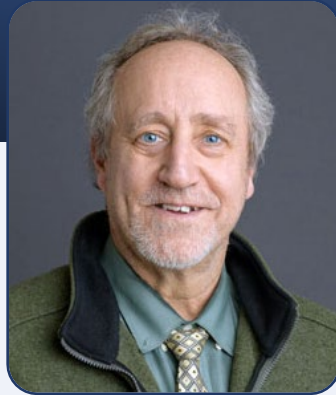
Leadership



Bonnie Jensen
Administrative Services Director



Ben Mulligan
Deputy Commissioner



Doug Vincent-Lang
Commissioner



Rachel Baker
Deputy Commissioner



Joe Felkl
Legislative Liaison



Shannon Mason
Special Assistant



Forrest Bowers
Acting Director
Commercial Fisheries



Israel Payton
Director
Sport Fish



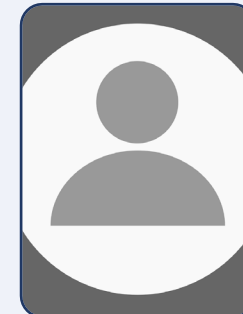
Ryan Scott
Director
Wildlife Conservation



Kristy Tibbles
Executive Director
Board of Game



Art Nelson
Executive Director
Board of Fisheries



Active Recruitment
Director
Division of Subsistence



FY2026 Budget Highlights



The Department will continue to provide an excellent return on investment as we have in the past under the Governor's proposed budget.

-  ADF&G turns ~\$250-million-dollar investment, of which ~\$70 million is general fund, into a return of over ~\$14 billion dollars annually
-  No reduction in services as a result of the proposed budget
-  The proposed budget includes new funding for fisheries and wildlife resource management
-  This includes funding for maintenance of vessels and aircrafts, restoration of commercial fisheries funding to maintain surveys and assessments, and fisheries enhancement activities



Budget Organizational Chart



Sport Fish

- Sport Fisheries
- Sport Fish Facility Operations and Maintenance State Owned
- Sport Fish Facility Operations and Maintenance Non-State Owned

Wildlife Conservation

- Wildlife Conservation
- Hunter Education Public Shooting Ranges
- Wildlife Cons. Facility Operations and Maintenance State Owned
- Wildlife Cons. Facility Operations and Maintenance Non-State Owned

Statewide Support Services

- Commissioner's Office
- Administrative Services
- Boards of Fisheries and Game
- Advisory Committees
- *Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council*
- State Facilities Maintenance and Operations
- Statewide Support Services Facilities Rent State Owned
- Statewide Support Services Facilities Rent Non-State Owned
- Statewide Support Services Facility Operations and Maintenance State Owned
- Statewide Support Services Facility Operations and Maintenance Non-State Owned

Anchorage & Fairbanks Hatcheries

- Anchorage & Fairbanks Hatcheries
- Hatcheries Facility Operations and Maintenance State Owned

Southeast Hatcheries

- Southeast Hatcheries

Habitat

- Habitat
- Habitat Facility Operations and Maintenance Non-State Owned

Subsistence Research & Monitoring

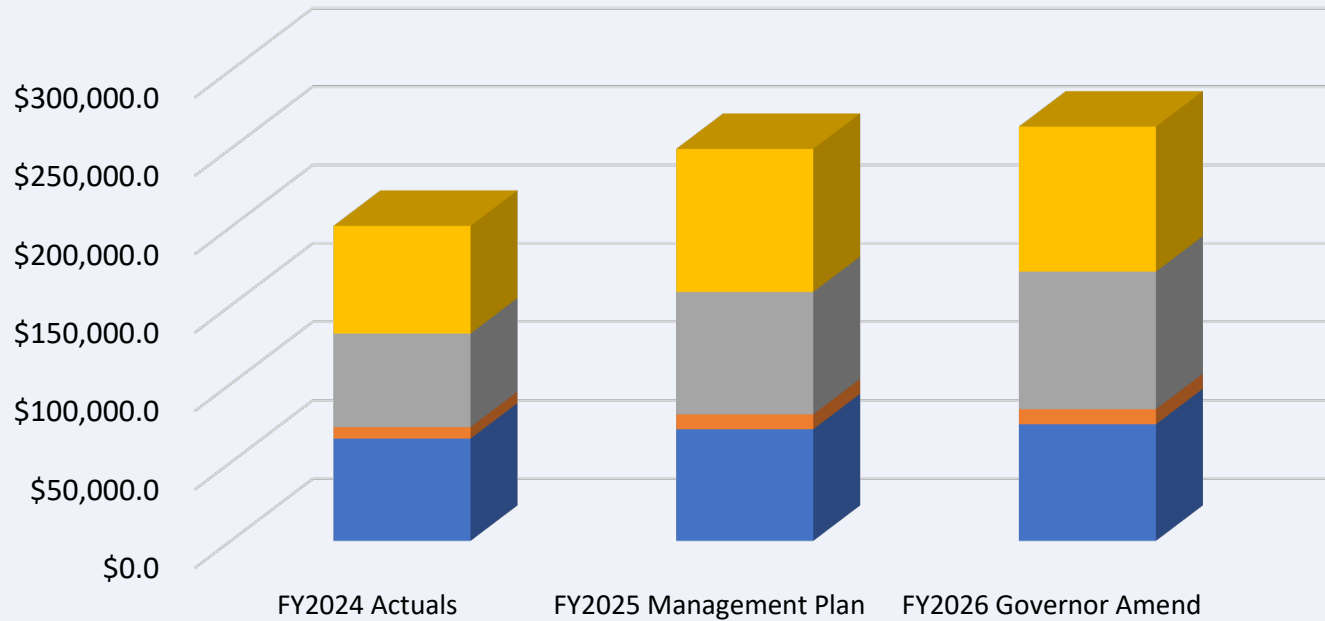
- State Subsistence Research
- Subsistence Facility Operations and Maintenance Non-State Owned

Commercial Fisheries

- Southeast Region Fisheries Mgmt.
- Central Region Fisheries Mgmt.
- Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim Region Fisheries Mgmt.
- Westward Region Fisheries Mgmt.
- Statewide Region Fisheries Mgmt.
- *Commercial Fish Entry Commission (CFEC)*
- Comm Fish Facility Operations and Maintenance State Owned
- Comm Fish Facility Operations and Maintenance Non-State Owned

FY2026 Operating Budget Comparison

(all \$ in thousands)



UGF DGF Other Federal

	FY2024 Actuals	FY2025 Management Plan	FY2026 Governor Amend	FY2025 to FY2026 Difference
UGF	\$65,133.7	\$71,105.1	\$74,264.2	\$3,159.1
DGF	\$7,338.4	\$9,467.0	\$9,611.4	\$144.4
Other	\$59,577.6	\$77,962.3	\$87,670.4	\$9,708.1
Federal	\$68,688.1	\$91,290.4	\$92,503.4	\$1,213.0
Total	\$200,737.8	\$249,824.8	\$264,049.4	\$14,224.6



*Budget totals do not include the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC)

FY2026 Expenditures/Allocations

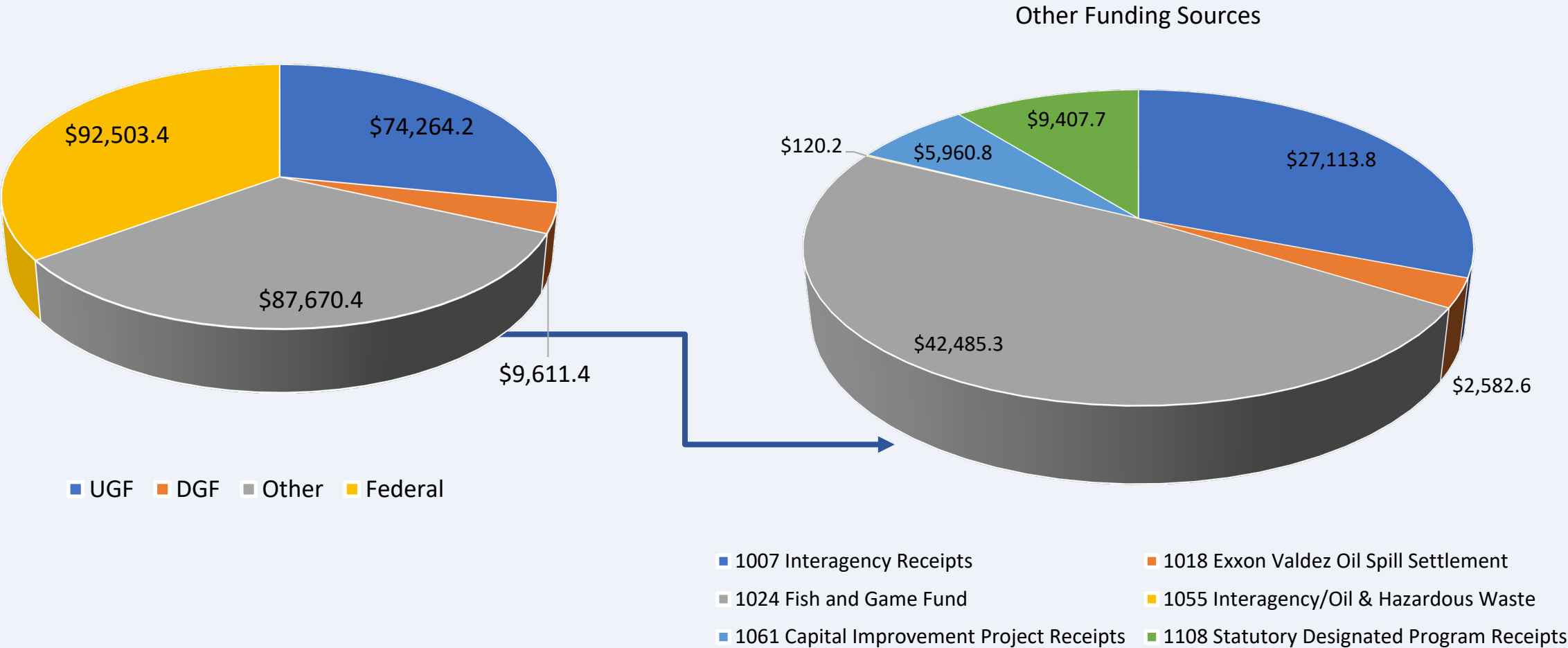
(all \$ in thousands)



	FY2024 Actuals	FY2025 Management Plan	FY2026 Governor Amend	FY2025 to FY2026 Difference
Personal Services	\$128,226.8	\$146,357.9	\$150,615.1	\$4,257.2
Travel	\$3,471.8	\$5,970.2	\$5,992.8	\$22.6
Services	\$55,971.7	\$83,441.1	\$93,076.7	\$9,635.6
Commodities	\$11,139.3	\$11,876.8	\$12,036.0	\$159.2
Capital Outlay	\$1,928.2	\$2,178.8	\$2,328.8	\$150.0
Total	\$200,737.8	\$249,824.8	\$264,049.4	\$14,224.6

FY2026 Fund Group Breakdown

(all \$ in thousands)





Federal Pittman-Robertson (PR) Program

Purpose and Eligible Projects

- 🦌 Restoration, conservation, management, and enhancement of wild birds and wild mammals and their habitats
- 🦌 Public use and access to wildlife resources
- 🦌 Hunter education and development of shooting ranges

Source of Funds

- 🦌 Excise taxes on sporting arms and ammunitions including pistols, handguns, revolvers, bows, archery, and arrow components

How Funds are Distributed Among States

- 🦌 Apportioned to states based on size and number of hunting licenses sold
 - Alaska receives maximum apportionment of 5%
 - Funds must be obligated within two years
 - 75% federal PR funds with 25% state match





Federal Dingell-Johnson (DJ) Program

Purpose and Eligible Projects

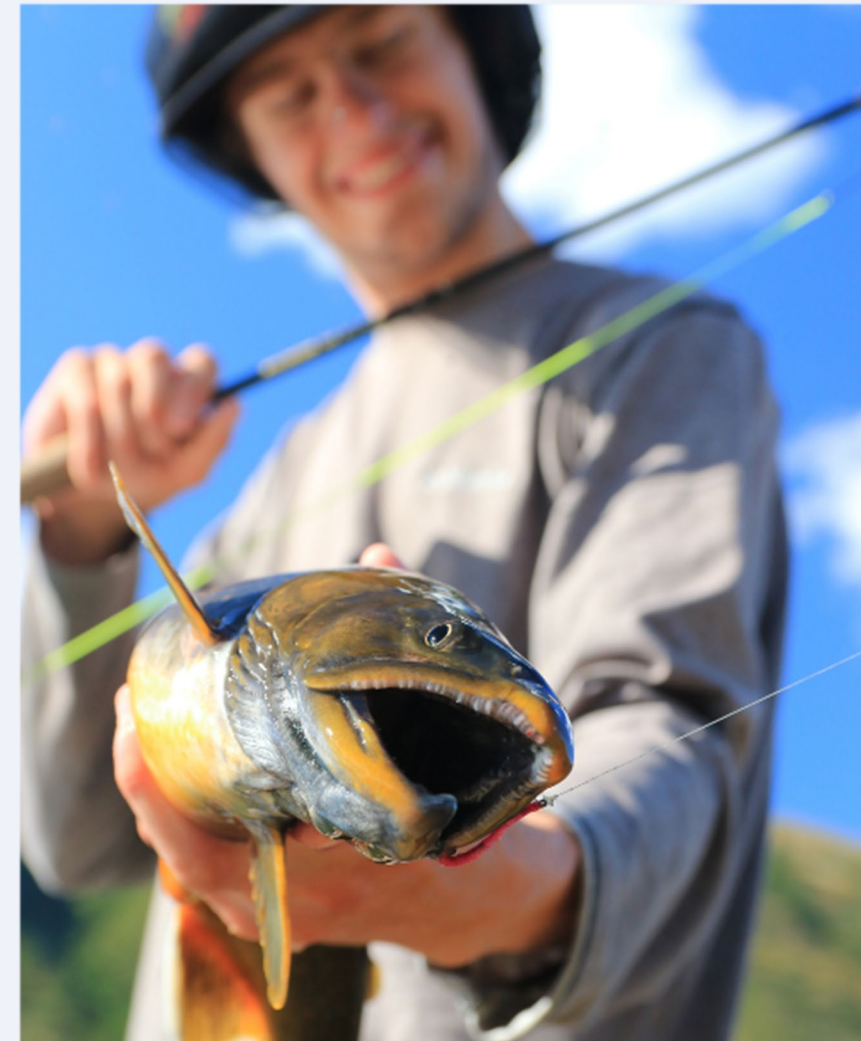
- Restore, conserve, manage, and enhance sport fish, and provide for public use and benefit from these resources
 - *Sport fish are limited to aquatic, gill breathing, vertebrate animals, bearing paired fins, and having material value for sport or recreation*
- Public education on water resources and aquatic life forms

Source of Funds

- Excise taxes on sport fishing equipment, recreational powerboats, and gasoline used in recreational boat

How Funds are Distributed Among States

- Apportioned to states based on acreage and number of angler licenses sold
 - Alaska receives maximum apportionment of 5%
 - Funds must be obligated within two years
 - 75% federal DJ funds with 25% state match





State Match: Fish and Game Fund

Purpose and Eligible Uses

- 🦌 Protection, propagation, investigation, and restoration of sport fish and game resources and the administration of the sport fish and game divisions of the department

Source of Funds

- 🦌 Sale of state sport fishing, hunting and trapping licenses, tags and permits
- 🦌 Settlement of a claim or loss caused by damage to fish and game resources
- 🦌 Money received from other government units or private donors for fish and game purposes

Diversion of Funds Prohibited

- 🦌 State allowance for dedications required for participation in federal programs
- 🦌 Diverting funds jeopardizes the State's ability to use both DJ and PR funds



FY2026 Fund Source Breakdown

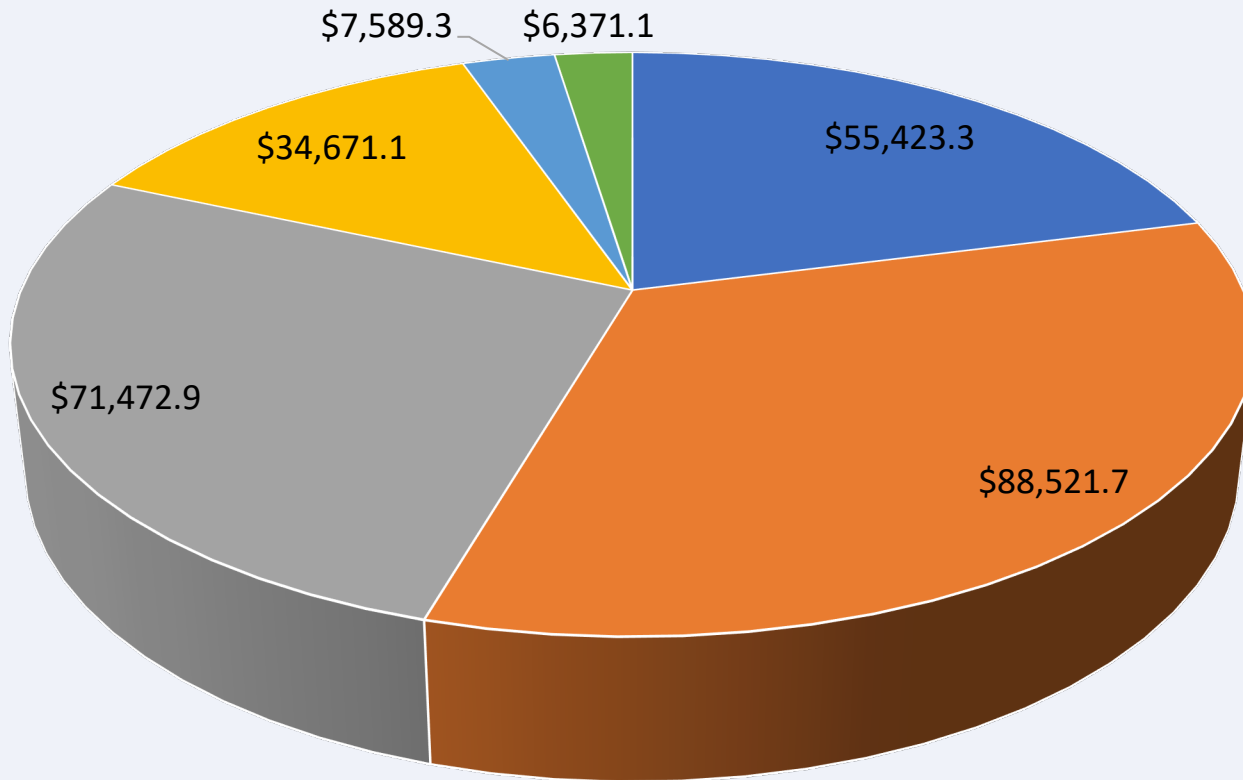
(all \$ in thousands)



		FY2024 Actuals	FY2025 Management Plan	FY2026 Governor Amend	FY2025 to FY2026 Difference
UGF	1003 General Fund Match	\$1,150.0	\$1,219.9	\$1,303.0	\$83.1
	1004 General Fund Receipts	\$63,983.7	\$69,885.2	\$72,961.2	\$3,076.0
DGF	1005 General Fund/Program Receipts	\$3,245.1	\$2,581.7	\$2,603.1	\$21.4
	1109 Test Fisheries Receipts	\$1,184.0	\$3,623.2	\$3,666.2	\$43.0
	1201 CFEC Receipts	\$2,909.3	\$3,262.1	\$3,342.1	\$80.0
Other	1007 Interagency Receipts	\$13,149.5	\$18,865.5	\$27,113.8	\$8,248.3
	1018 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Settlement	\$794.8	\$2,578.9	\$2,582.6	\$3.7
	1024 Fish and Game Fund	\$35,202.3	\$41,273.3	\$42,485.3	\$1,212.0
	1055 Interagency/Oil & Hazardous Waste	\$83.3	\$119.4	\$120.2	\$0.8
	1061 Capital Improvement Project Receipts	\$3,039.1	\$5,886.4	\$5,960.8	\$74.4
	1108 Statutory Designated Program Receipts	\$7,308.6	\$9,238.8	\$9,407.7	\$168.9
Fed	1002 Federal Receipts	\$68,688.1	\$91,290.4	\$92,503.4	\$1,213.0
Total		\$200,737.8	\$249,824.8	\$264,049.4	\$14,224.6

FY2026 Division Breakdown

(all \$ in thousands)



- Division of Sport Fish
- Division of Commercial Fisheries
- Division of Wildlife Conservation
- Statewide Support Services
- Division of Subsistence
- Habitat Section

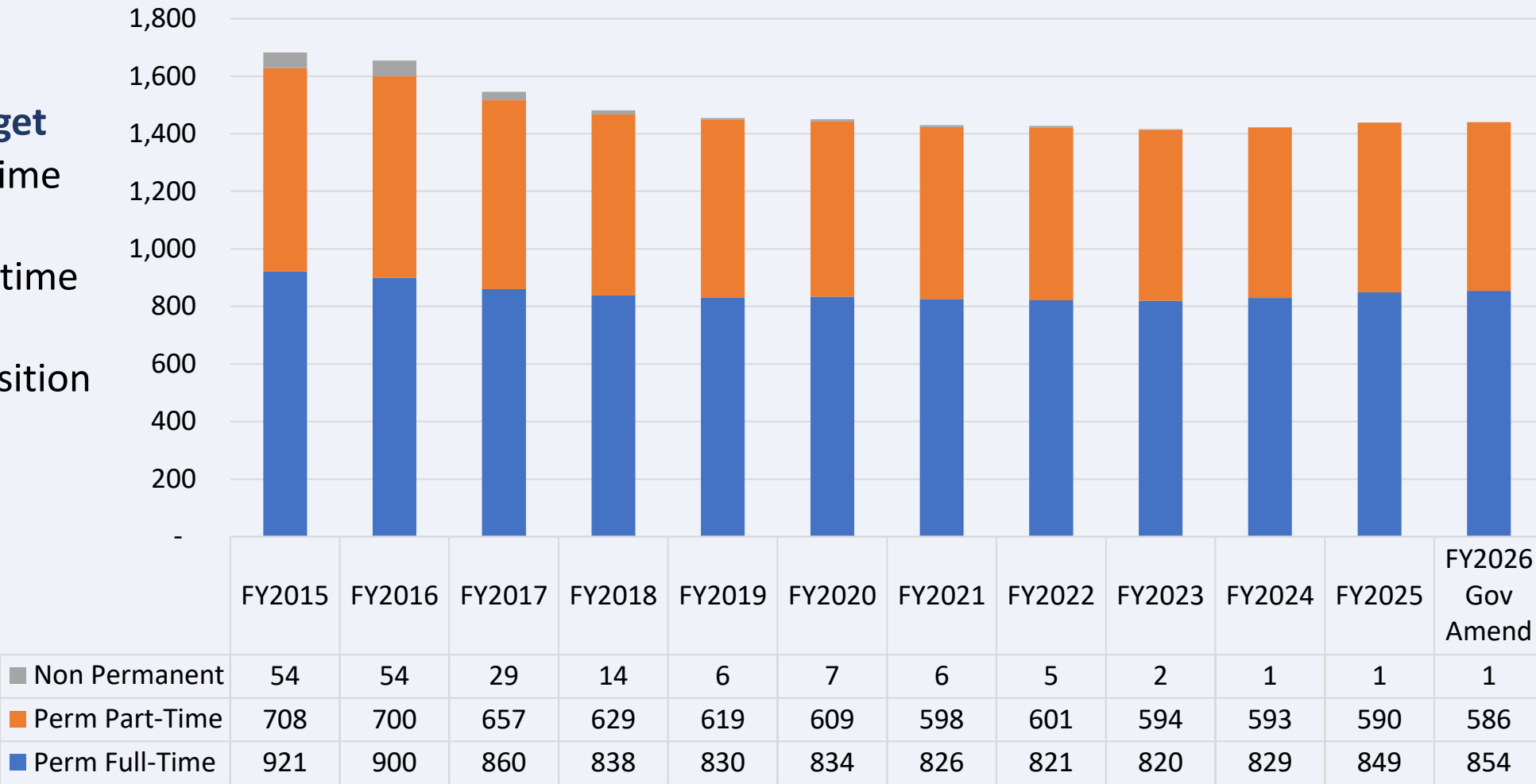




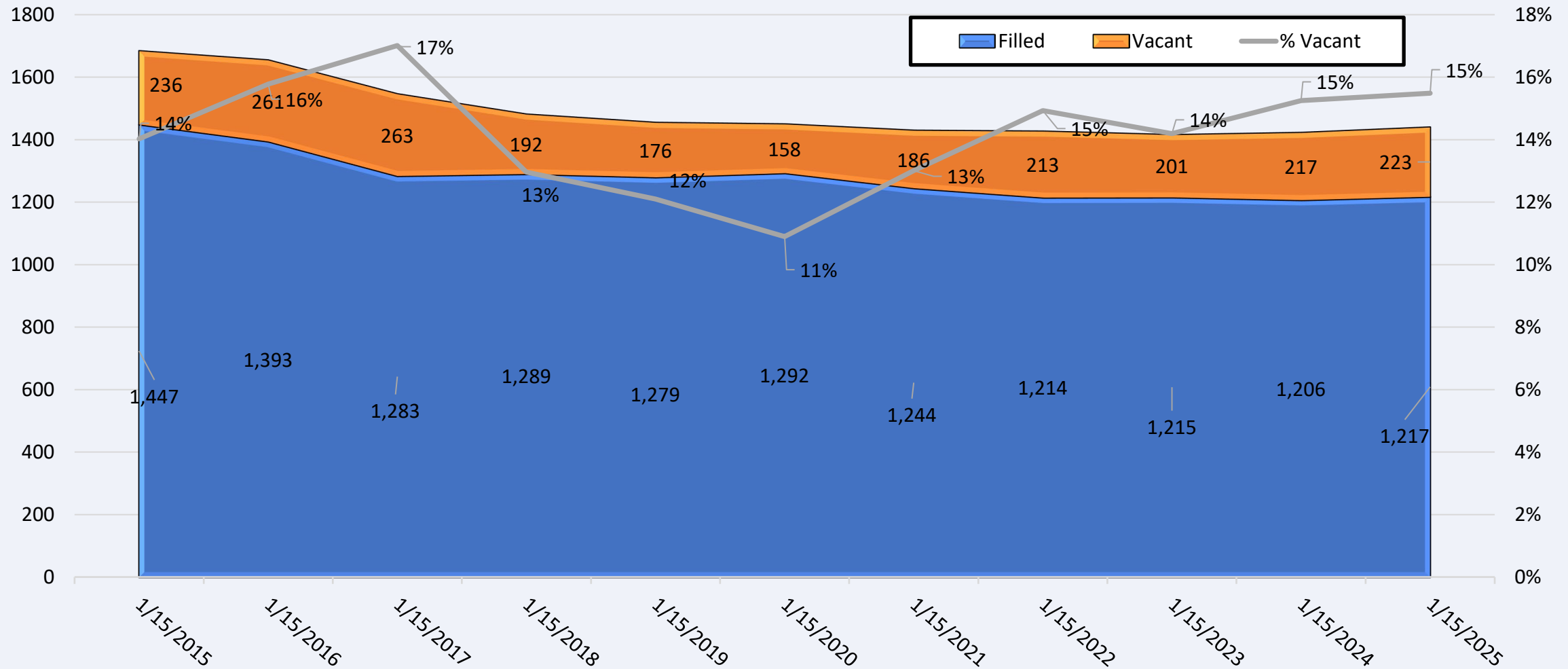
FY2026 Budgeted Positions & History

FY2026 Governor's Budget

-  854 permanent full-time positions
-  586 permanent part-time positions
-  1 non-permanent position



Position Vacancy History



FY2026 Operating Budget Change Highlights

Commercial Fisheries (all \$ in thousands)



Southeast Region Fisheries Management

Maintain Groundfish Project for Assessments and Management Obligations
**one-time increment*

Total Amount

\$	250.0	UGF	1004 Gen Fund
\$	50.0	UGF	1003 Match

Central Region Fisheries Management

Add Full-time Boat Officer 3 for Research Vessel Second in Command

\$	132.0	UGF	1004 Gen Fund
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Statewide Fisheries Management

State Vessel, Vehicle and Aircraft Maintenance Project for Divisional

General Fund Authority for Surveys and Assessments

Replace Genetics Conservation Laboratory Equipment
**one-time increment*

\$	450.0	UGF	1004 Gen Fund
\$	716.5	UGF	1004 Gen Fund
\$	175.0	Other	1024 Fish/Game

FY2026 Operating Budget Change Highlights

Sport Fisheries and Hatcheries (all \$ in thousands)



Anchorage and Fairbanks Hatcheries

Enhancement Activities to Anchorage and Fairbanks Hatcheries

Total Amount

\$	100.0	Fed	1002 Fed Rcpts
\$	100.0	Other	1024 Fish/Game

FY2026 Operating Budget Change Highlights

State Subsistence Research (all \$ in thousands)



Subsistence Research Management

National Pacific Research Board Projects

Total Amount

\$ 100.0 Other 1108 Stat Desig

FY2026 Operating Budget Change Highlights

Habitat (all \$ in thousands)



Habitat

Increase Authority for Federal Grant Opportunities

Total Amount

\$ 100.0 Fed 1002 Fed Rcpts

FY2026 Operating Budget Change Highlights

Wildlife Conservation (all \$ in thousands)



Wildlife Conservation

State Vehicle and Aircraft Maintenance Project for Divisional Maintenance

Total Amount

\$ 217.0 Other 1024 Fish/Game

SB189 Guide Concession Permit Program Fiscal Note

\$ 112.3 UGF 1004 Gen Fund

FY2026 Operating Budget Change Highlights

Statewide Support Services (all \$ in thousands)



Administrative Services

Delete Full-Time Administrative Officer 1 Due to Departmental Efficiencies

Total Amount

\$ (28.1) UGF 1004 Gen Fund

Boards of Fisheries and Game

SB189 Guide Concession Permit Program Fiscal Note

\$ 14.4 UGF 1004 Gen Fund

Commissioner's Office

Federal Funds Received for Fisheries Disasters (FY2026-FY2028)

**multi-year operating appropriation*

\$ 0.0 Other 1108 Stat Desig

FY2025 Operating Budget Supplemental

State Subsistence Research (all \$ in thousands)



Subsistence Research Management

Hunting and Harvesting Pattern Research Projects in Prince William Sound

Total Amount

\$ 50.0 Other 1108 Stat Desig

FY2026 Capital Budget

Commercial Fisheries (all \$ in thousands)



Statewide Fisheries Management

Alaska Marine Salmon Program

Gulf of Alaska Chinook Salmon

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

Pacific Salmon Treaty Chinook Fishery Mitigation

Proceeds of Sale of State-Owned Vessels and Aircraft

Total Amount

\$ 800.0	UGF	1004 Gen Fund
\$ 5,625.0	UGF	1004 Gen Fund
\$ 6,800.0	Fed	1002 Fed Rcpts
\$ 750.0	Fed	1002 Fed Rcpts
\$ 150.0	DGF	1005 GF/Prog

FY2026 Capital Budget

Wildlife Conservation (all \$ in thousands)



Wildlife Conservation

Wildlife Proceeds of Sale from Federal Purchases

Total Amount

\$ 100.0 Other 1024 Fish/Game

FY2026 Capital Budget

Sport Fisheries (all \$ in thousands)



Sport Fisheries

Sport Fish Proceeds of Sale from Federal Purchases

\$ 100.0 Other 1024 Fish/Game

Sport Fish Recreational Boating and Angler Access

\$ 2,250.0 Fed 1002 Fed Rcpts

\$ 750.0 Other 1024 Fish/Game

Mission Critical Equipment Replacement

\$ 500.0 Other 1024 Fish/Game

\$ 500.0 Fed 1002 Fed Rcpts

Questions?



THANK YOU!

[Home Page, Alaska Department of Fish and Game \(adfg.alaska.gov\)](http://adfg.alaska.gov)

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