

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATE FINANCE NATURAL RESOURCES BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

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Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Fiscal Year 2019 Senate Finance Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee Narrative Report
April 3, 2018

Subcommittee meetings

The Senate Finance Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee heard an agency budget overview on February 27, 2018, held a hearing on a budget request for the Trust Land Office on March 15, 2018, and wrapped up on April 3, 2018.

Recommendations

The chair of the Senate Finance Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee recommends to the Senate Finance Committee a Fiscal Year 2019 operating budget for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources as follows:

Fund Source (with dollars in thousands)

Unrestricted General Funds (UGF)	\$56,583,300
Designated General Funds (DGF)	\$33,893,300
Other Funds	\$35,775,500
Federal Funds	\$16,644,300
Total	\$142,896,400

Positions

Permanent Full-Time	625
Permanent Part-Time	215
Temporary	62
Total	902

Highlights of Subcommittee Actions

- \$1.1 million in additional vehicle rental tax receipts to replace unrestricted general funds (UGF) for parks management and access in the Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.
- Reduce the compensatory mitigation program in the Office of Project Management and Permitting within the Support Services Division by \$100,000 UGF.
- \$732,000 UGF for firefighting air tanker contracts in the Fire Suppression, Land, & Water Resources appropriation by reducing \$732,000 UGF in the Fire Suppression Activity allocation

and adding it to the Fire Suppression Preparedness allocation – a net-zero transaction that provides the agency greater certainty for this service.

- Reject the governor’s proposed cut of \$107,000 UGF for a position within the Division of Mining, Land, & Water for Northern Region’s permits and easements section. When filled, this job will help cut down on the backlog of those seeking mining, land, or water permits.
- \$84,000 in non-UGF – \$63,000 in interagency/receipts and \$21,000 vehicle rental tax receipts – for a grants administrator to help identify projects that may be eligible for federal Pittman-Robertson funding for projects relating to wildlife and the great outdoors. This is a temporary increment good for Fiscal Years 2019-2021.
- Increase the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office by \$326,000 in Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts. According to testimony heard in subcommittee, without the increment, the state may lose up to 8 percent or \$900,000 of revenue from trust land resource development – funds that are used to help pay for the state mental health budget.
- Make the following budget requests one-time items:
 - \$100,000 UGF for the Alaska Geospatial Council within the Office of Project Management and Permitting.
 - \$102,000 UGF for a forester in Haines.
 - \$250,000 UGF for reservoir modeling software licensing.
 - \$101,800 – \$40,700 federal receipts and \$61,100 UGF – for a development specialist to support the Division of Agriculture’s veterinarian program.

Reports from the Alaska Division of Legislative Finance

The Senate Finance Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee has adopted the following, attached reports for the Alaska Department of Natural Resource’s Fiscal Year 2019 operating budget:

1. Agency Totals for Natural Resources, All Funds, FY19 Senate Structure
2. Transaction Comparison1 for Natural Resources, FY19 Senate Structure
3. Transaction Comparison2 for Natural Resources, FY19 Senate Structure
4. Wordage Report for Natural Resources, FY19 Senate Structure

Sincerely,

Senator Click Bishop, Chair
Senate Finance Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee