

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FY16 - Increment/ Decrement Status**

Legislative Additions and Deletions

Item #	Appropriation/ Allocation	Description	Amount/ Fund Source	Comment	GF Dec?	LFD Notes/Questions	Agency Comments
1	Administration & Support Services/Office of Project Management & Permitting (OPMP)	Funding for Development of Wetlands Mitigation Bank	\$200.0 UGF	The legislature added \$200.0 UGF to create a wetlands mitigation bank. This funding will be used to work with the US Army Corps of Engineers to establish a statewide program that will allow for compensatory mitigation in the regulatory process.		What is the status of this program?	OPMP continues to advance efforts to establish a statewide DNR sponsored In-Lieu Fee program (ILFP). OPMP is drafting the ILFP prospectus to submit to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) by March, 2016. Approval from the USACE will allow DNR to administer and manage state lands as a mitigation option for developers to offset impacts as required by the Clean Water Act and the USACE's 404 program. OPMP is maintaining robust outreach efforts among the mitigation community including state and federal agencies, mitigation bank sponsors, native corporations, municipalities, and other interested parties. Accomplishments to date have included data gathering, mitigation priority selection, regulatory adherence to the Clean Water Act and USACE's Federal Mitigation Rule and associated guidance policies, all to equip and build the state's ILFP application to the USACE.
2	Various	FY16 Branch-Wide Unallocated Reduction	(\$1,173.7) UGF	FY16 Branch-Wide Unallocated Reduction: (\$1,173.7) UGF. HB 2001 (Chapter 1, SSSLA 2015) included a \$29.8 million UGF unallocated reduction spread among Executive Branch agencies. The Governor allocated \$1,173.7 UGF of the reduction to the Department of Natural Resources. The agency spread its reduction across most allocations with the following actions: 1. Mandatory five day furloughs for exempt positions (such as division directors); 2. Hiring delays that may result in less timely responses in some cases while certain positions remain unfilled; and 3. Reductions in administrative expenses, such as mail service and maintenance of computer equipment.		What effects have these reductions had on DNR's operations?	The unallocated reduction resulted in the following: 1. Delays in filling positions and reductions in work months for a variety of seasonal positions result in a reduction in the number of land use authorizations and inspections, delays in lease sales, best interest findings, and permitting decisions, and increased workload for remaining staff. 2. Mandatory 5-day furloughs for all exempt and partially exempt positions. 3. Fewer professional service agreements used by the Commissioner to support natural resources management decisions. 4. A reduction in royalty reopener authorization potentially causing an inadequate defense of the state's financial interest in royalty negotiations. 5. Reduction in small commercial and personal use timber sales. 6. A reduction in providing technical land record support to the department and other state agencies lowering the quality and timeliness of this service. 7. Deletion of the Mail Services Courier position resulting in an increased workload for existing staff and reduced service to divisions. 8. A reduction in travel to, and participation in conferences and meetings. 9. Delays in maintaining and replacing broken field and office equipment. 10. Reduction in media and print advertising.