

**FY 2014-15: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**Summary: As Reported by House Subcommittee**  
**House Bill 5300(H-1) Draft 1**



**Analyst: Viola Bay Wild**

	FY 2013-14 YTD as of 2/5/14	FY 2014-15 Executive	FY 2014-15 House	FY 2014-15 Senate	FY 2014-15 Enacted	<i>Difference: House From FY 2013-14 YTD</i>	
						<i>Amount</i>	<i>%</i>
<b>IDG/IDT</b>	\$1,412,300	\$1,355,100	\$1,355,100			(57,200)	(4.1)
<b>Federal</b>	67,127,300	67,954,500	67,954,500			827,200	1.2
<b>Local</b>	0	0	0			0	0
<b>Private</b>	7,237,200	10,286,300	10,286,300			3,049,100	42.1
<b>Restricted</b>	241,925,500	256,498,000	256,498,000			14,572,500	6.0
<b>GF/GP</b>	25,436,600	47,091,500	36,091,500			10,654,900	41.9
<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$343,138,900</b>	<b>\$383,185,400</b>	<b>\$372,185,400</b>			<b>29,046,500</b>	<b>8.5</b>
<b>FTEs</b>	2,141.3	2,229.3	2,208.3			67.0	3.1

Notes: (1) FY 2013-14 year-to-date figures include mid-year budget adjustments through February 5, 2014. (2) Appropriation figures for all years include all proposed appropriation amounts, including amounts designated as "one-time." (3) FY 2015-16 figures are projected budget amounts only and would not be legally binding appropriations.

**Overview**

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages, conserves, and protects Michigan's resources. Program areas include forest management, land and minerals management, wildlife and fisheries management, conservation law enforcement, state parks and forest campgrounds, and Michigan's historical programs.

**Major Budget Changes From FY 2013-14 YTD Appropriations**

**1. Funding Adjustments**

Executive removes \$600,000 one-time GF/GP funding for conservation officer academy in FY 2013-14; reduces gross funding authorization by \$1.5 million to align with anticipated revenues; replaces \$1.5 million federal funding with restricted funding for recreational boating; increases restricted funding by \$674,000 for various programs due to available revenue – including \$350,000 for forest fire equipment and \$228,700 for additional recreation passport local grants. House concurs with Executive.

	FY 2013-14 Year-to-Date (as of 2/5/14)	FY 2014-15 House Change
<b>Gross</b>	N/A	<b>(\$689,300)</b>
IDG	N/A	(85,000)
Federal	N/A	(783,700)
Restricted	N/A	779,400
GF/GP	N/A	(\$600,000)

**2. Conservation Officers**

Executive provides \$3.5 million GF/GP to fund 25 additional conservation officers and a conservation officer academy which would begin in first quarter of FY 2014-15. In current year, FY 2013-14, it is projected that there will be 202 officers after the current academy is completed. FTE increases for FY 2014-15 would bring the total to 227 conservation officers. House concurs with Executive.

FTE	N/A	25.0
<b>Gross</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$3,500,000</b>
GF/GP	N/A	\$3,500,000

**3. Annualize Increased Revenue from Hunting and Fishing License Fees**

Executive includes \$8.1 million additional restricted funding and 26.0 FTE authorizations to reflect full-year implementation of the hunting and fishing license fee increase enacted in PA 108 of 2013; increased fees go into effect March 1, 2014. House concurs with Executive.

FTE	N/A	26.0
<b>Gross</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$8,057,500</b>
Restricted	N/A	8,057,500

**4. Invasive Species Initiative**

Executive provides \$4.0 million ongoing GF/GP funding and 16.0 FTEs to develop a comprehensive response program for invasive species. Funding and FTEs would be dedicated to DNR, DEQ, MDARD, and MDOT; DNR would be the lead agency. Program would also fund local grants. One-time funding in FY 2014-15 provides additional \$2.0 million GF/GP for local grants and one-time funding in FY 2015-16 would provide \$4.0 million for grants.

FTE	0.0	16.0
<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>
GF/GP	\$0	\$5,000,000

House appropriates \$3.0 million ongoing GF/GP funding and 16.0 FTEs for program and an additional \$2.0 million GF/GP for local grants in FY 2014-15.

<b>Major Budget Changes From FY 2013-14 YTD Appropriations</b>		<b>FY 2013-14 Year-to-Date (as of 2/5/14)</b>	<b>FY 2014-15 House Change</b>
<b>5. Michigan Conservation Corps</b>	FTE	0.0	0.0
<u>Executive</u> merges the Summer Youth Initiative Program with the Michigan Conservation Corps, increases funding by \$1.0 million GF/GP, and adds 1.0 FTE position. Program would be expanded statewide and year-long to employ individuals up to 27 years old and include returning veterans.	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	GF/GP	\$2,500,000	\$0
<u>House</u> does not include additional \$1.0 million funding and FTE position and funds program at current-year levels.			
<b>6. Forestry Program</b>	FTE	N/A	0.0
<u>Executive</u> provides \$4.0 million GF/GP funding to wildfire protection program to replace \$4.0 million forest development fund revenue that would be transferred to forest management, increasing funding for that program by \$4.0 million (wildfire program funding would not increase). The use of new forestry funding would include enhanced technology, increased contracts and agreements with forestry partners, increased wood fiber extraction, and the hiring of 10 additional foresters.	<b>Gross</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	GF/GP	N/A	\$0
<u>House</u> does not include additional GF/GP funding or FTEs and funds the forestry management and wildfire protection programs at current-year levels.			
<b>7. Forestry – Best Management Practices Audit</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>
<u>House</u> includes \$125,000 GF/GP funding in a new line item to be used to work with public and private forestland owners to conduct site visits and prepare an analysis and audit of state wide best management practices for water quality and forestry.	GF/GP	0	125,000
<b>8. Great Lakes Research Vessel</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>
<u>Executive</u> includes \$2.0 million (\$1.0 million GF/GP) one-time funding to replace the <i>Chinook</i> , DNR's 67-year-old Lake Huron research vessel. <u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Private	N/A	500,000
	Restricted	N/A	500,000
	GF/GP	N/A	\$1,000,000
<b>9. Non-Motorized Trail Initiative</b>	FTE	N/A	0.0
<u>Executive</u> includes additional 10.0 FTE positions and \$2.5 million GF/GP funding to increase funding for non-motorized trail programs. New funding would be distributed to DNR forest recreation and trails program, Mackinac Island State Park, Michigan Historical Center, and trail grants. Funding would also support the development of a 1,000 mile showcase trail stretching from Belle Isle in Detroit to the Wisconsin border.	<b>Gross</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$0</b>
	GF/GP	N/A	\$0
<u>House</u> does not include additional GF/GP funding or FTEs.			
<b>10. State Park Funding</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$58,883,100</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>
<u>Executive</u> includes additional \$2.0 million restricted funding from the State Park Improvement Fund to maintain and operate state parks. <u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Federal	136,300	0
	Private	411,900	0
	Restricted	56,634,900	2,000,000
	GF/GP	\$1,700,000	\$0
<b>11. Capital Outlay Projects – State Parks</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$9,500,000</b>	<b>\$375,000</b>
<u>Executive</u> increases funding for state parks repair and maintenance by \$3.0 million Gross overall (\$4.0 million GF/GP and \$2.5 million private funding are added, restricted funding is reduced by \$3.5 million). <u>House</u> increases funding by \$375,000 Gross overall (\$1.4 million GF/GP and \$2.5 million private funding are added, restricted funding is reduced by \$3.5 million).	Private	0	2,500,000
	Restricted	9,500,000	(3,500,000)
	GF/GP	\$0	\$1,375,000
<b>12. Capital Outlay Projects – Wetlands</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>
<u>Executive</u> includes \$3.0 million restricted funding from the waterfowl hunting stamp in a new line item for wetlands restoration and acquisition. <u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Restricted	0	3,000,000
<b>13. Capital Outlay Projects – Waterways Boating Program</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>\$6,915,600</b>	<b>\$84,400</b>
<u>Executive</u> includes additional \$84,400 Gross funding for waterways boating projects. Restricted funding is appropriated from the State Waterways Fund. <u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	Federal	1,638,000	787,000
	Restricted	5,277,600	(702,600)

<u>Major Budget Changes From FY 2013-14 YTD Appropriations</u>	<u>FY 2013-14 Year-to-Date (as of 2/5/14)</u>	<u>FY 2014-15 House Change</u>
<b>14. Economic Adjustments</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<u>Executive</u> increases funding for increased costs of \$5.6 million Gross (\$254,900 GF/GP) for negotiated salary and wage amounts (2.0% ongoing increase plus 0.5% lump sum payments), actuarially-required retirement rate increases, and other economic adjustments. Insurance costs held flat due to recent state employee health plan revisions. <u>House</u> concurs with Executive.	IDG	\$5,593,900
	Private	27,800
	Federal	49,100
	Restricted	823,900
	GF/GP	4,438,200
		\$254,900

#### Major Boilerplate Changes From FY 2013-14

##### **Sec. 212. Disciplinary Action Against State Employees – RETAINED**

Prohibits Department from disciplining state employees for communicating with members of the Legislature and their staffs. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 217. Retention of Reports – RETAINED**

Requires DNR to retain copies of all reports funded from appropriations. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 223. Waterways Fund Projects – RETAINED**

Requires report on activities of Waterways Commission during the previous fiscal year; list of completed waterways fund projects to be provided to Legislature. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 233. FTE Report – RETAINED**

Requires report on the number of FTEs in pay status; report required quarterly. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 236. Request for Proposal (RFP) Language – DELETED**

Prohibits Department from issuing an RFP for a contract greater than \$5.0 million unless issuing a request for information (RFI) or a request for qualification (RFQ) has been considered. Executive deletes language; House concurs with Executive.

##### **Sec. 237. FY 2014-15 Retirement Costs – NEW**

States that appropriations for legacy costs in part 1 for FY 2014-15 equal \$46.7 million. Of this amount, pension-related legacy costs are estimated to be \$26.1 million and retiree health care legacy costs are estimated to be \$20.6 million. Executive includes new language; House concurs with Executive.

##### **Sec. 408. Land Transactions – RETAINED**

Requires detailed report to Legislature on land purchases, sales and exchanges. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Dec. 409. Oil and Gas Lease Report – RETAINED**

Requires DNR to report on active oil and gas leases entered into before July of 1995 on parcels larger than 160 acres where the producing unit is less than or equal to 1/4 of the total lease acreage. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 503. Invasive Species Order Enforcement – RETAINED**

Requires report on efforts taken to enforce the Natural Resources Commission's invasive species order concerning raising feral swine in Michigan. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 504. Cervid Operation Fees – RETAINED**

Requires report on the use of registration fees from privately owned cervid operations. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 602. Water Control Structure Certification – RETAINED**

Directs Fisheries Division to not interfere with the certification process for dams and other water control structures. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 603. Cormorant Management – DELETED**

Requires quarterly report on the use of cormorant management funding; provides that the Department must submit funding to the USDA to pay for increased taking of cormorants and their nests. Executive deletes language; House concurs with Executive.

##### **Sec. 702. State Park Campground Closures – RETAINED**

Requires DNR to notify Legislature if Department intends to reduce operations or recreation opportunities at any state park or recreation area. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

##### **Sec. 703. Soo-Raco Trail – DELETED**

Requires DNR to work with MDOT, local officials, and local landowners to investigate traffic routing and flow on the Soo-Raco trail through Brimley. Executive deletes language; House concurs with Executive.

**Sec. 802. Timber Marking – RETAINED**

Directs Department to mark and prescribe treatment on 79,000 acres, prepare for harvest 67,500 acres at an average rate of 12.5 to 15.0 cords per acre; requires quarterly report. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 804. Horseback Riding Opportunities – DELETED**

Directs Department to work cooperatively with horseback riding interests to increase horseback riding opportunities. Executive deletes language; House concurs with Executive.

**Sec. 805. Contract Foresters – RETAINED**

Allows Department to hire sufficient contract foresters to mark timber. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 808. Forestry – Best Management Practices Audit – NEW**

Requires Department to use funding in part 1 for forestry best management practices audit to work with public and private forestland owners to conduct site visits and prepare an analysis and audit of state wide best management practices for water quality and forestry. House includes new language.

**Sec. 901. Snowmobile Law Enforcement Grants – RETAINED**

Provides snowmobile law enforcement grants to county law enforcement agencies in counties with state snowmobile trails. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 902. Marine Safety Grants – RETAINED**

Requires report on the Marine Safety Grant Program. Report to include watercraft registrations revenues, revenues and expenditures of the Marine Safety Fund, grant distribution methodology, and a list of grant awards by county. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 1002. Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Trail Improvement Grants – RETAINED**

Requires expenditure of not less than \$980,000 for the development of new ORV trails. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 1101. Capital Outlay Appropriations for the Harbors and Docks Grants in Aid – RETAINED**

Provides for disbursement of Waterways Fund appropriation to the federal government and local governmental units. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 1102. Capital Outlay Lump Sum Appropriations – RETAINED**

Provides for state budget director approval of disbursements of lump sum appropriations for DNR program or facility needs. Funds are available for three years after appropriation. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 1104. Federal Reimbursement For Harbor Dredging – RETAINED**

Requires DNR to seek reimbursement from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) for emergency dredging of harbors under the ACOE's jurisdiction. Any reimbursement received shall be deposited into the Michigan State Waterways Fund. Executive deletes language; House retains language.

**Sec. 1201. FY 2014-15 Anticipated Appropriations – RETAINED**

States legislative intent that the FY 2014-15 line item appropriations will be the same as those for FY 2013-14 with certain economic adjustments. Executive deletes language; House retains language, updates fiscal year.

**Sec. 1202. Identification of Future Retirement Costs – RETAINED**

States legislative intent that the DNR identify the FY 2014-15 retirement costs for line items listed in Part 1. Executive deletes language; House retains language, updates fiscal year.