Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

Fiscal Year FY 2025-2026

Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS *(FORM B1)*	**For FY FY 2025-2026, my agency is (mark "X"):**	
	X	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
	X	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
		Not requesting any changes.

NON-RECURRING REQUESTS *(FORM B2)*	**For FY FY 2025-2026, my agency is (mark "X"):**	
	X	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
		Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
		Not requesting any changes.

CAPITAL REQUESTS *(FORM C)*	**For FY FY 2025-2026, my agency is (mark "X"):**	
	X	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
		Not requesting any changes.

PROVISOS *(FORM D)*	**For FY FY 2025-2026, my agency is (mark "X"):**	
	X	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
		Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
		Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

	Name	***Phone***	***Email***
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Scott Speares	(803) 734-3624	SpearesS@dnr.sc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Caleb Cohoon	(803) 734-3625	CohoonC@dnr.sc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY FY 2025-2026 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	Agency Director	***Board or Commission Chair***
SIGN/DATE:		
TYPE/PRINT NAME:		

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources
Agency Code:	P240
Section:	47

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Employee Recruitment and Retention	3,023,098	-558,578	160,101	204,022	2,828,643	17.00	-7.12	-0.45	-2.43	7.00
2	C - Capital C - Capital	State Lakes - High Hazard Dams	27,755,000	0	0	0	27,755,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	B2 - Non-Recurring	Statewide Flood Inundation Map Modeling	4,500,000	0	0	0	4,500,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Consolidated Insurance and Utility Expense	4,615,000	0	0	0	4,615,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	B1 - Recurring	Technology Equipment Rotation and Communication Lines	2,342,793	0	0	0	2,342,793	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	B1 - Recurring	Agency Operations	5,243,000	0	0	0	5,243,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	B1 - Recurring	Blue Crab and Horseshoe Crab Monitoring and Management Support	680,396	0	0	0	680,396	5.00	-1.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
8	B2 - Non-Recurring	Waterfowl Impoundments Infrastructure Maintenance	4,950,000	0	0	0	4,950,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	B2 - Non-Recurring	Law Enforcement Equipment	4,150,000	0	0	0	4,150,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	B1 - Recurring	Greenville Customer Service Office	492,892	0	0	0	492,892	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
11	B2 - Non-Recurring	Field & Regional Building Maintenance & Construction	1,850,000	0	0	0	1,850,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	C - Capital C - Capital	Field & Regional Building Maintenance & Construction	6,460,000	0	0	0	6,460,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	B1 - Recurring	Wildlife Veterinarian and Venomous Reptiles	583,090	0	0	0	583,090	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
14	C - Capital C - Capital	Habitat Protection and Land Conservation	30,000,000	0	0	0	30,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	B1 - Recurring	Wateree River (Goodwill) HP/WMA Operating	991,724	0	0	0	991,724	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
16	B1 - Recurring	Other and Federal Authority	0	1,153,377	1,258,964	1,603,442	4,015,783	0.00	23.05	-27.30	8.25	4.00
17	B2 - Non-Recurring	Disaster Relief Grant Match Funding	13,333,333	0	0	0	13,333,333	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	B1 - Recurring	Enviromental Attorney	242,560	0	0	0	242,560	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
19	B2 - Non-Recurring	Waterways Protection	750,000	0	0	0	750,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			111,962,886	594,799	1,419,065	1,807,464	115,784,214	39.00	14.93	-27.75	5.82	32.00

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	**1**
	Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.
TITLE	**Employee Recruitment and Retention**
	Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.
	General: $3,023,098

AMOUNT	Federal: ($558,578) Other: $364,123 Total: $2,828,643

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	7.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	Mark "X" for all that apply:	
		Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
		Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
		Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
		Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
		Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
		Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	X	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
		IT Technology/Security related
	X	HR/Personnel Related
		Consulted DTO during development
		Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
		Education, Training, and Human Development
		Healthy and Safe Families
		Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
		Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Requested funding addresses the following in the accountability report:

2.12.3 Conserve and protect the state's natural resources for social, economic, recreational, and commercial benefit while providing maximum human utilization through: (1) the development of public support through outreach, education, and safety programs; (2) the preservation of the peace and protection of human lives and property;, and (3) the enforcement of the state's criminal laws through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of persons who violate those laws.

3.0 Sustain the State's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors.

1.0: Develop and Implement programs that study, manage and conserve the State's land resources through planning, research, technical assistance, public education and the development of a comprehensive natural resources database.

1.1: Provide reliable, science based information to decision makers and the public on earth science, climate, and flood mitigation research and activities; land, soil and river conservation. Measures 1.1.1, 1.1.4

1.2: Provide reliable information and technical assistance to enhance and improve conservation efforts in the state. Measures 1.2.11.2.3

1.3: Monitor and protect cultural and other resources throughout the state on Heritage Trust properties and provide culturally related recreational/educational opportunities. Measures 1.3.11.3.3 (c) 3.0 Sustain the State's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors.

4.1 Conserve and protect freshwater fish and wildlife species in South Carolina.

4.3 Provide quality hunting and freshwater fishing opportunities throughout South Carolina.

5.0 Continuously evaluate and improve administrative and business processes, efficiency, effectiveness, and internal/external service delivery with a focus on transparency, communications, accountability, and the integration of new technologies.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Personal Services: Personnel currently in FTEs and candidates qualified and hired to fill vacant FTEs.

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

This request addresses specific needs within the agency to retain qualified and dedicated staff at the department and attract qualified candidates for vacant positions that have a desire to contribute to the stewardship of the State's natural resources. SCDNR has addressed many occupational categories in the last couple of years through salary studies leaving a few outlier positions to be addressed and step increases for staff agency wide.

(a) Land, Water & Conservation Pay Plan: 24 staff in the Land, Water & Conservation division are eligible for a 3% Additional Knowledge and Skills adjustment after meeting the required performance, training, and length of service plan standards. 21 staff members are recommended for Pay for Performance increases having consistently performed at high levels. 10 pay for performance actions were not funded in the FY 2025 request, and one FTE to go along with funding was approved in the FY25 request with no corresponding position. There is also one FTE position that has been federally funded in the past but is losing that funding. Therefore, the department is requesting to replaces the lost funding with State funding.

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ 154,257	$ 25,588	$ -	$ 19,749
Employer Contributions	$ 43,192	$ 7,165	$ -	$ 5,530
	$ 197,449	**$ 32,753**	**$ -**	**$ 25,279**

Personal Services >	$ 199,594
Employer Contributions >	$ 55,886
Total Request >	**$ 255,480**

(b) Law Enforcement Step Increases: There are 339 officers currently within the Law Enforcement Division. Of these officers 120 are on track to receive their next step increase totaling $794,639.36 including fringe. These officers are in state funded FTEs (with 1 exception) and there is no other fund available to support this recurring request. All other available funds have been committed for their intended purposes. The SC DNR Law Enforcement rank structure provides for increases which are determined by years of service at certain ranks.

Those increases are either 5% or 10% of the base salary. There are also 17 non-sworn full-time employees that are due to receive 3% Pay Plan increases. 6 FTE's are also expected to earn additional certification that would make them eligible for a pay increase ranging from 3% to 5% depending on the certification. 2 FTE's for endpoint technicians for body worn cameras which were funded last year but corresponding FTE's were approved in FY25.

Changes offsetting the reduction in the Boating Safety Grant requires changing 2.62 FTE's from federal funding to state (1.00), earmarked (1.50), and restricted (0.12) in order to retain staff currently funded through that grant and maintain those services to the public.

The immediate impact would be to maintain enforcement of game and fish laws and the department's ability to have staff available to patrol and enforce state laws and incidental presence on the waterways to assist boaters in distress and enforce boating laws. Retaining qualified and knowledgeable staff results in more efficient operations and protection of the State's natural resources. If not approved, we will be unable to fully enforce and protect the Natural Resources of the State of South Carolina.

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ 648,848	$ (156,100)	$ 77,852	$ 7,668
Employer Contributions	$ 181,677	$ (77,957)	$ 37,369	$ 3,286
	$ 830,525	**$ (234,057)**	**$ 115,221**	**$ 10,954**

Personal Services >	$ 578,268
Employer Contributions >	$ 144,375
Total Request >	**$ 722,643**

(c) Marine Resources Pay Plan: 55 staff in the Marine Resources division are eligible for a 3% Additional Knowledge and Skills adjustment after meeting the required performance, training, and length of service plan standards. 13 staff members are recommended for salary actions as a result of accepting additional duties. 3 additional staff members have been recommended for reclassification.

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restrictedl
Salary Actions	$ 560,455	$ (346,656)	$ 33,682	$ (78,539)(
Employer Contributions	$ 266,813	$ (97,064)	$ 9,431	$ (21,991)(
	$ 827,268	**$ (443,720)**	**$ 43,113**	**$ (100,530)(**

Personal Services >	$ 168,942
Employer Contributions >	$ 157,189
Total Request >	**$ 326,131**

(e) Executive Office Pay Plan: 29 staff in the Executive Office are eligible for a 3% Additional Knowledge and Skills adjustment after meeting the required performance, training, and length of service plan standards. 2 staff members are recommended for salary actions as a result of accepting additional duties. 20 staff members have been recommended for Pay for Performance increase and 4 for Reclassification. 1 Position is recommended for a Retention Increase due to ongoing difficulty filling the position at the current salary. 3 staff members need a change in their source of funding. This request also includes 1 new unclassified FTE to lead statewide Land Conservation and Preservation efforts (plus operating expenses) and includes necessary funding to reclassify an existing FTE from Public Information Director II to Director of Strategic Communication (plus operating expenses).

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ 501,134	$ -	$ (84,681)	$ 21,635
Employer Contributions	$ 205,682	$ -	$ (23,711)	$ 6,058
Operating	$ 50,000	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ 756,816	**$ -**	**$ (108,392)**	**$ 27,693**

Personal Services >	$ 438,088
Employer Contributions >	$ 188,029

Operating Expenses >	$ 50,000	
Total Request >		$ 676,117

(f) Internal Operations: 29 Internal Operations Staff are eligible for a 3% Additional Knowledge and Skills adjustment after meeting the required performance, training, and length of service plan standards. 4 staff members are recommended for salary actions as a result of accepting additional duties. 32 staff members have been recommended for Pay for Performance increase and 3 positions for Reclassification. 15 staff have been recommended for a pay increase as a result of a pay study and 3 additional state funded FTE's are needed for 3 endpoint technicians which were funded in the FY2025 request, but no corresponding FTE's were approved.

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ 193,826	$ 1,690	$ 66,717	$ 105,762
Employer Contributions	$ 54,271	$ 473	$ 18,681	$ 29,613
	$ 248,097	$ 2,163	$ 85,398	$ 135,375

Personal Services >	$ 367,995	
Employer Contributions >	$ 103,039	
Total Request >		$ 471,034

(g) Agency Employee Recognition Program:

Funding an Employee Recognition Program would help strengthen employee morale and further the agencies recruitment and retention efforts. This also will establish a maximum amount to be spent on employee recognition that is in accordance with SC Code of Laws Section 81180.

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restrictedl
Salary Actions	$ 5,875	$ -	$ -	$ -
Employer Contributions	$ 1,645	$ -	$ -	$ -
Operating	$ 47,500	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ 55,020	$ -	$ -	$ -

Personal Services >	$ 5,875	
Employer Contributions >	$ 1,645	
Operating Expenses >	$ 47,500	
Total Request >		$ 55,020

(h) Grant – USFWS Leave Accounting Change (2 CFR 200)

Recent accounting changes to the way that the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is requiring state wildlife conservation agencies to charge leave for employees who are paid on USFWS grants has created a liability for

SCDNR. This liability would come from leave earned during a grant period, but not taken until after the grant has ended.

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restrictedl
Salary Actions	$ 60,676	$ -	$ -	$ -
Employer Contributions	$ 16,989	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ 77,665	$ -	$ -	$ -

Personal Services >	$ 60,676	
Employer Contributions >	$ 16,989	
Total Request >		$ 77,665

Total Request

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ 2,148,709	$ (409,632)	$ 119,734	$ 151,683
Employer Contributions	$ 776,889	$ (148,946)	$ 49,096	$ 43,610
Operating	$ 97,500	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ 3,023,098	$ (558,578)	$ 168,830	$ 195,293

Personal Services >	$ 2,010,494	
Employer Contributions >	$ 720,648	
Operating Expenses >	$ 97,500	
Total Request >		$ 2,828,642

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

4

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Consolidated Insurance and Utility Expense

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $4,615,000

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $4,615,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

0.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
X	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Requested funding addresses the following in the accountability report:

(a) 1.0: Develop and Implement programs that study, manage and conserve the State's land and water resources through planning, research, technical assistance, public education and the development of a comprehensive natural resources database.

1.1: Provide reliable, science-based information to decision makers and the public on water resource and aquatic plant management; earth science, climate, and flood mitigation research and activities; land, soil and river conservation. Measures 1.1.11.1.4

1.2: Provide reliable information and technical assistance to enhance and improve conservation efforts in the state. Measures 1.2.11.2.3

1.3: Monitor and protect cultural and other resources throughout the state on Heritage Trust properties and provide culturally related recreational/educational opportunities. Measures 1.3.11.3.3

(b) 2.12.3 Conserve and protect the state's natural resources for social, economic, recreational, and commercial benefit while providing maximum human utilization through: (1) the development of public support through outreach, education, and safety programs; (2) the preservation of the peace and protection of human lives and property;, and (3) the enforcement of the state's criminal laws through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of persons who violate those laws.

(c) 3.0 Sustain the State's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors.

(d) 4.1 Conserve and protect freshwater fish and wildlife species in South Carolina.

4.3 Provide quality hunting and freshwater fishing opportunities throughout South Carolina.

4.3 Provide quality hunting and freshwater fishing opportunities throughout South Carolina.

(e) 5.0 Continuously evaluate and improve administrative and business processes, efficiency, effectiveness, and internal/external service delivery with a focus on transparency, communications, accountability, and the integration of new technologies.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Publicly and privately owned electric, water, sewer and telephone entities. State of South Carolina Insurance Reserve Fund, and state contract vendors providing specialty insurance for certain items.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

The department requests $4,615,000 in recurring General Funds to allow revenue and federal funds currently funding expenses for

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

insurances (State, Non-state and Workers Compensation) and utilities (Water & Sewer, Natural/Propane Gas and Electricity) for regional and field offices, to be reprogrammed to support core functions of wildlife, freshwater fisheries and marine resources field operations and research.

State Insurance, including vehicle and tort insurance costs for the department, have increased $769,704 since FY 2020, a 70% increase over the last five years.

Non-state Insurances, including Ocean Marine and Aircraft policies, have increased $68,193 since FY 2020, a 173% increase over the last five years.

Workers Compensation Insurance has increased $487,594 since FY 2020, a 66% increase over the last five years.

Utilities have increased $223,735 since FY 2020, a 26% increase over the last five years.

While a small of the increases in insurance and utility costs is attributable to increased staffing levels, most are due to increases in utility rates and insurance premiums.

Other than increases effective in FY 2022 for several Saltwater Recreational Licenses and a temporary five-year increase to the State Migratory Waterfowl Permit, all other license fees have not been increased for at least 20 years.

		INSURANCE POLICY TOTALS				
		FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20
5040510000	**INSURANCE-STATE**					
	Auto Liability	436,590.00	384,552.00	414,540.00	388,080.00	396,900.00
	Data Processing	13,950.00	13,950.00		11,160.00	11,160.00
	Buildings	454,426.94	389,513.61	361,839.87	381,484.08	371,112.74
	Inland Marine	377,127.54	333,749.00	310,537.56	295,293.01	272,016.44
	Auto Comp & Collision	1,237.54	1,237.54	1,365.54	1,460.33	1,325.06
	Tort	749,427.00	591,551.00	543,109.00	572,460.00	238,556.00
	Ocean Marine					
	Adjustment/Additions	28,015.84	13,280.43			
		2,060,774.86	**1,727,833.58**	**1,631,391.97**	**1,649,937.42**	**1,291,070.24**
5040520000	**INSURANCE-NON STATE**					
	Ocean Marine	93,744.00	76,148.00	78,082.00	67,097.84	62,640.00
	Drone Policy	5,946.00	5,789.00	5,789.00	4,901.00	3,497.00
	Crime Policy	1,771.00				
	Commercial Aircraft Policy	75,556.00	66,658.00	59,900.00	46,957.00	42,687.00
		177,017.00	**148,595.00**	**143,771.00**	**118,955.84**	**108,824.00**
5130400000	**WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE**					
	Workers' Compensation	**1,319,598.58**	**808,103.38**	**820,285.98**	**783,984.14**	**832,004.32**
		3,557,390.44	**2,684,531.96**	**2,595,448.95**	**2,552,877.40**	**2,231,898.56**
	Report Detail Total	3,557,390.44	2,686,302.96	2,630,176.24	2,562,850.36	2,246,458.17
				UTILITIES		
5150019400	**Water & Sewer**	122,476.07	78,300.66	71,755.99	81,183.67	64,415.35
5150029400	**Gas**	106,327.32	111,576.66	102,330.32	89,982.75	74,637.76
5150039400	**Electricity**	827,448.37	798,199.76	735,801.20	686,927.62	693,464.08
		1,056,251.76	**988,077.08**	**909,887.51**	**858,094.04**	**832,517.19**
	Total Insurance & Utilities	4,613,642.20	3,672,609.04	3,505,336.46	3,410,971.44	3,064,415.75

This request will also increase efficiency when processing invoice payments. Currently these expenses are funded from as many as 50 different accounts, making the most of available funds. Consequently, this decreases the availability of license revenue and grant awards for management and research functions.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

5

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Technology Equipment Rotation and Communication Lines

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $2,342,793

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $2,342,793

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

0.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
X	IT Technology/Security related
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
X	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

5.1 To continuously evaluate and improve administrative and business processes, efficiency, effectiveness, and internal/external service delivery with a focus on transparency, communications, accountability, and the integration of new technologies.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

Technology Equipment Rotation

Currently DNR has approximately 1,200 PC's and laptop deployed to its staff. The average age of this equipment is over 6.5 years old. Many of these devices have expired warranties and are rapidly reaching the end of their serviceable life. Equipment that is no longer supported by a vendor presents various security concerns, with the lack of vendor supplied firmware updates and aging chipsets that may not be able to support future software upgrades. Current industry recommendations are to replacement all PC's/Laptops on a 5-year cycle to ensure reliably and upward compatibility. Contracts utilized by SCDNR to procure PC's and Laptops now include a 5-year warranty that covers all aspects of the equipment to include accidental damage. SCDNR is seeking funding to permit the agency to annually refresh 20% of the PCs/Laptops deployed across the agency. Due to the evolving nature of the work environment, the agency is also seeking to convert most of its equipment to Laptops. This will make for a more dynamic workforce and support efforts to meet Business Continuity requirements the agency is developing. The annual cost to replace 20% of PC/Laptop equipment (approx. 240 devices) is $**560,220**.

Telecommunication Costs and Standardization

DNR has over 37+ locations utilizing various communications/data circuits to connect employees to critical resources. Due to budget constraints, DNR is using Internet circuits provided by cable companies to provide essential access to technical resources. In many cases these circuits provide "Best Effort" connectivity and do not provide any level of QoS. The lack of

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

quality MPLS circuits, providing QoS standards limits the ability of DNR to properly monitor and ensure users are provided with the critical bandwidth needed to perform their job duties.

1. ***Network Connectivity:*** Install MPLS network circuits/conne**ctions** to DNR Data Center for all DNR sites.

Impact: Significant increase in network performance and improved ability to manage each DNR locations circuit.

1. ***Security:*** Installation of MPLS commercial grade circuits will permit SCDNR to implement uniform log and SEIM monitoring.

Impact: Improve monitoring and create a central feed of logs to both the SCDNR SEIM and the State SOC SEIM. This will permit very timely responses to security incidents.

Total Communication Costs - FY 2023	1,456,607
Improved capacity for offices	50,966.00
Telecommunications costs & standardization	**1,507,573**

Costs for telecommunication services represent significant amounts borne by the various revenue sources DNR has available. Freeing this revenue for use in the field will offset increasing operating costs. To provide sufficient band width for all locations using secured circuits $50,966 is included in this request. Total costs are **$1,507,573**

Network Equipment Rotation

The current network equipment being used by SCDNR is very out dated and well past it's useful life. Running the agency's network on equipment that is no longer supported by manufacturers poses serious risks to agency data. To get SCDNR up to the industry standard of a 7 year replacement cycle for network equipment will cost an average of **$275,000** each year.

Other Operating Expenses	**Per FTE**	**Total**
240 Laptops/year	$ 1,585	$ 380,281
240 Docking Stations/year	$ 335	$ 80,411
30 Desktops/year	$ 1,659	$ 49,764
120 Monitors/year	$ 415	$ 49,764
		$ 560,220
Telecommunications costs & standardization		$ 1,507,573
Network Equipment Replacement		$ 275,000
Equipment Rotation		$ 560,220
Telecommunication Lines & Network Equipment		$ 1,782,573
	Total Request >	**$ 2,342,793**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

6

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Agency Operations

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $5,243,000

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $5,243,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

0.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
X	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Requested funding addresses the following in the accountability report:

(a) 1.0: Develop and Implement programs that study, manage and conserve the State's land and water resources through planning, research, technical assistance, public education and the development of a comprehensive natural resources database.

1.1: Provide reliable, science based information to decision makers and the public on water resource and aquatic plant management; earth science, climate, and flood mitigation research and activities; land, soil and river conservation. Measures 1.1.11.1.4

1.2: Provide reliable information and technical assistance to enhance and improve conservation efforts in the state. Measures 1.2.11.2.3

1.3: Monitor and protect cultural and other resources throughout the state on Heritage Trust properties and provide culturally related recreational/educational opportunities. Measures 1.3.11.3.3

(b) 2.12.3 Conserve and protect the state's natural resources for social, economic, recreational, and commercial benefit while providing maximum human utilization through: (1) the development of public support through outreach, education, and safety programs; (2) the preservation of the peace and protection of human lives and property;, and (3) the enforcement of the state's criminal laws through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of persons who violate those laws.

(c) 3.0 Sustain the State's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors.

(d) 4.1 Conserve and protect freshwater fish and wildlife species in South Carolina.

4.3 Provide quality hunting and freshwater fishing opportunities throughout South Carolina.

(e) 5.0 Continuously evaluate and improve administrative and business processes, efficiency, effectiveness, and internal/external service delivery with a focus on transparency, communications, accountability, and the integration of new technologies and internal/external service delivery with a focus on transparency, communications, accountability, and the integration of new technologies

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The department has several operational needs that will improve delivery of services to the public and improve internal processes that bolster accountability, compliance, and efficiency within the agency.

(a) Land Water & Conservation

Geology: operating expenses for the Geological Survey, its Coastal Plain Drilling Program, Coastal Program, Piedmont Program, and GIS Section. Operating costs cover fuel, maintenance and repair of field vehicles, boats, and drill rig, drilling supplies (tools, bits, drill mud, fuel, safety equipment, training, etc.), expendable field equipment, office supplies, and software license costs. Additionally, state funds supporting funded projects can be used as match to grants. **$50,000**

Climatology: The services provided by the State Climatology Office staff have significantly increased over the past four years with no increase in the operating budget. The services provided have increased and the cost to provide those services has also increased. The office also gained a new position in 2000, but no additional operating funds were allocated with the position.

Operating funds are requested to cover travel, supplies and material, fixed charges and IT equipment and subscriptions. **$48,000**

Flood: Over the past 8 years the Flood Mitigation Program has seen an increase in need for the services the program provides to local governments. Funding to provide additional training, outreach, substantial damage assessments and develop new tools for local governments would result in the State being better prepared for flooding and limit bad decisions regarding allowing development in flood prone areas. If the funding is not provided it will limit the program's ability to prepare the state for the next flood, deal with the disasters of the past 8 years and our ability to assist the citizens of SC after a flood or natural disaster. Thus, impacting the economy and quality of life of South Carolina.

Increase in the dedicated funding would increase the amount of inundation mapping needs/updates that can be met and increase the amount of state mapping priorities that can be met that are not funded by the current FEMA Cooperating Technical Partners Cooperative Agreement (grant). Cash match allows the state to potentially increase federal funding. **$200,000**

Archeology: There are a number of projects that are of cultural significance which could be time sensitive due to potential loss from rising tides or storm loss. Additional funding for these projects would allow SCDNR's Archeology team to move swiftly on these projects and preserve their cultural value before it is lost. **$210,000**

Total Land, Water, and Conservation Request: **$508,000**

(b) Law Enforcement

SCDNR Law Enforcement is requesting $900,000 in state recurring funds to assist with the rising costs of boat rotational ordering for the fleet.

The SC DNR Law Enforcement division currently has 54 boats and 91 motors currently active over 15 years old (2010). Within this 15-year usage, we have 10 fiberglass boats and 32 aluminum boats. **$900,000**

(c) Marine Resources

The Marine Resources Division's assets and infrastructure span the Marine Resources Center in Charleston, the McKenzie Field Station in the ACE Basin, and the Waddell Mariculture Center in Bluffton . These three locations support all the Marine Division's strategies as they house the buildings, vehicles, small boats and equipment necessary for ~200 staff to carry out every task supporting research, management, and outreach conducted to promote stewardship of our coastal and marine resources.

Operation of the facilities, at one time fully funded by state funds, is now entirely funded through other sources like grants, contracts, and saltwater license revenue. Because of this funding shift, compounded by increasing costs of goods and services, funding is inadequate to fully maintain the facility costs and maintenance is necessarily reactive. Assets are in poor condition and are only addressed when they are non-functional or a safety hazard. Recurring operating funds, combined with other sources, would allow for proactive facility assessment and addressing of issues.

In addition to facility maintenance these funds would also be used to cover some fuel costs for vehicles and ocean-going research vessels, and utilities for the McKenzie Field Station in the ACE Basin and the Waddell Mariculture Center in Bluffton. **$600,000**

(d) Freshwater Fisheries

Hatcheries Operations: Funds are needed to support the activities in our Fish Hatchery operations area. Rapidly escalating costs associated with utilities, fuel, feed, contractual services, vehicles, and general supplies are unsustainable without additional funds. Additional funding is critical considering the recent reduction of available federal funds. If funds are not received, SCDNR will be forced to reduce hatchery operations resulting in fewer fish to be stocked in public waters. **$600,000**

Fisheries Regional Operations: Funds are needed to support the activities in our Regional Operations area. Rapidly escalating costs associated with utilities, fuel, vehicles, contractual services, and supplies are unsustainable without additional funds. These state appropriated funds will also be available as match for the federal funding in these areas. Additional funding is critical considering the recent reduction in federal funds historically available to support this program. If funds are not received, SCDNR will be forced to reduce population monitoring and habitat enhancement efforts that benefit anglers in SC. **$1,300,000**

(e) Agency Office Buildings

Funds are needed to cover rapidly increasing building related operating costs for several SCDNR offices across the state. This would include things such as building maintenance, contractual services, and supplies. **$380,000**

(f) Executive Office

Along with other state agencies SCDNR continues to deal with increases in the cost of operating it's core functions. These rising operational costs coupled with the fact that, other than increases effective in FY 2022 for several Saltwater Recreational Licenses and a temporary five-year increase to the State Migratory Waterfowl Permit, all other license fees have not been increased for at least 20 years necessitates a request for operating funds for multiple section within the Executive Office to include Boat Titling and Registration $475,000, South Carolina Wildlife Magazine $121,000, Office of Environmental Programs $113,000, Legal Office $86,000, and other administrative functions $160,000. This will fund things such as training, supplies, software licenses, postage, contractual services, etc. **$955,000**

Agency Operations		
Geology	$	50,000
Climatology	$	48,000
Flood Mitigation	$	200,000
Archeology	$	210,000

Law Enforcement	$ 900,000
Marine Resources	$ 600,000
Hatcheries	$ 600,000
Fisheries	$ 1,300,000
Office Building Operations	$ 380,000
Executive Office	$ 955,000
Total Agency Operating Request >	$ 5,243,000

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

7

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Blue Crab and Horseshoe Crab Monitoring and Management Support

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $680,396

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $680,396

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

4.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
X	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Goal 3: Sustain the state's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial, and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors. Strategy 3.1, 3.2, Measures 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2

These funds would allow for more comprehensive and proactive research, management, and outreach that directly supports stewardship of SC marine resources while maintaining the ability to compete for federal funding that would maximize benefits for our marine resources.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Personal Services: Request for new 4 FTEs using general funding. Request to fund 1 current vacant position with general funding.

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

This funding request supports the need for enhanced monitoring and management of two of the state's key marine fisheries – blue crab and horseshoe crab. On July 1, 2024 a new comprehensive law passed related to the blue crab fishery based on data showing a declining population coast-wide. Staff capacity is needed to effectively implement the new programs established in the law for the benefit of the blue crab commercial industry and for the sustainability of the resource. Additionally, the horseshoe crab fishery, which is critically important to the biomedical industry, has become a more heavily managed fishery in recent years due to questions about the status of the population and the related population of red knots, a protected species of shorebird. Recent litigation has resulted in the need for enhanced management capacity.

Additionally, the funding request supports an expansion of existing scientific sampling programs for both blue crab and horseshoe crab. To effectively manage both species to allow for maximum access by the commercial industries while achieving sustainable population levels, enhanced monitoring data is critically needed. The expansion would allow for additional trawl sampling in eight estuaries six times per year, increasing the quantity and precision of data upon which to make management decisions. The expansion of the trawl surveys will additionally benefit other important fisheries in South Carolina including shrimp and finfish. Operating Request total **$227,319**.

1 Position currently exists in Federal funds. Request is also to fund 4 new positions with General funds.

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Classification Description	FTEs	Base Salary Per FTE	Employer Contributions Per FTE	Total Personal Services	Total Employer Contributions
UK03 – Asst Marine Scientist	1.00	$ 77,099	$ 37,008	$ 77,099	$ 37,008
LE70 – Wildlife Biologist III	1.00	$ 66,488	$ 31,914	$ 66,488	$ 31,914
LE60 – Wildlife Biologist II	2.00	$ 55,559	$ 26,668	$ 111,118	$ 53,337
LE50 – Wildlife Biologist I	1.00	$ 51,428	$ 24,685	$ 51,428	$ 24,685
		FTEs >	5.00		
		Personal Services >		$ 306,133	
		Employer Contributions >			$ 146,944
		Other Operating >			$ 227,319
		Total Request >			**$ 680,396**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

10

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Greenville Customer Service Office

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $492,892

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $492,892

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

5.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
X	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

4.1 Conserve and protect freshwater fish and wildlife species in South Carolina.

4.3 Provide quality hunting and freshwater fishing opportunities throughout South Carolina.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Personal Services: Candidates qualified and hired to fill vacant FTEs.

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

SCDNR does not currently have a full-service Boat Titling and Licensing Office in the Upstate area. Customers in that area currently must drive an hour and a half to conduct business. These funds would allow us to establish a 5-person office which will increase accessibility and improve customer service for our clients in the Upstate. This request is for operating and FTE needs to open a full-service boat titling and licensing office in Greenville County. This would allow DNR to have full customer service coverage in the state and provide access to in person customer service to the vast majority of constituents across the state.

This request includes 5 FTE's to staff the office and operating expenses to include lease costs, equipment, mobile devices, computers, software supplies, etc.

Classification Description	FTEs	Base Salary Per FTE	Employer Contributions Per FTE	Total Personal Services	Tota Employe Contribution
AH10 - Administrative Coordinator	1.00	$ 55,559	$ 26,668	$ 55,559	$ 26,668
AA50 - Administrative Specialist II	4.00	$ 39,207	$ 18,819	$ 156,828	$ 75,277

FTEs >	5.00	
Personal Services >	$ 212,387	
Employer Contributions >		$ 101,946
Other Operating >		$ 178,559
Total Request >		$ 492,892

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

13

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Wildlife Veterinarian and Venomous Reptiles

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $583,090

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $583,090

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

3.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
X	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
X	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

4.1.2 At-risk, threatened, and endangered species protected, monitored, and managed following state and/or federal law.

4.1.3 Number of constituents and contacts who attended organized public presentations and workshops to enhance awareness of conservation and natural resources or contacted SCDNR for technical assistance including but not limited to nuisance wildlife issues, wildlife species information, and management advice.

4.3.1 Acreage of Wildlife Management Area Program land available to provide hunting opportunities to the public.

4.3.3 Number of deer quota cooperators, specialty permits issued, lottery hunt participants, and participants in WFF division hunting/fishing events and programs.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Personal Services: Candidates qualified and hired to fill FTEs.

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

The request for an FTE to serve as a wildlife veterinarian will focus on assisting with wildlife disease monitoring and response. With many different wildlife diseases (Chronic Wasting Disease, Avian Influenza, etc.) being monitored throughout the state, it is critical that we have technical expertise on staff to guide management decisions. (4.1.3; 4.3.1, 4.3.3)

$254,886 of operational funds are also requested to assist with testing, temporary/seasonal labor, gas, equipment and supplies to support the veterinary and nongame projects (bird, bat, herp). (4.1.3; 4.3.1, 4.3.3, 4.1.2, 4.1.3)

The request for two FTE's for wildlife biologist II's would work as permitting biologists in our Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries division. This request is in anticipation of legislation passing that would require SCDNR to permit certain venomous reptiles in the possession of SC residents. $50,000 of operating funds are also requested to purchase the necessary supplies and equipment for these positions.

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Total Personal Services and Fringe: **$283,010**

Total Operating: **$300,080**

Classification Description	FTEs	Base Salary Per FTE	Employer Contributions Per FTE	Total Personal Services	Total Employer Contributions
LE10 - Veterinarian	1.00	$ 80,105	$ 38,450	$ 80,105	$ 38,450
LE60 – Wildlife Biologist II	2.00	$ 55,559	$ 26,668	$ 111,118	$ 53,337
		FTEs >	3.00		
		Personal Services >		$ 191,223	
		Employer Contributions >			$ 91,787
		Other Operating >			$ 300,080
		Total Request >			**$ 583,090**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

15

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Wateree River (Goodwill) HP/WMA Operating

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $991,724

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $991,724

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

8.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
X	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

1.3: Monitor and protect cultural and other resources throughout the state on Heritage Trust properties and provide culturally related recreational/educational opportunities. Measures 1.3.11.3.3

2.12.3 Conserve and protect the state's natural resources for social, economic, recreational, and commercial benefit while providing maximum human utilization through: (1) the development of public support through outreach, education, and safety programs; (2) the preservation of the peace and protection of human lives and property;, and (3) the enforcement of the state's criminal laws through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of persons who violate those laws.

3.0 Sustain the State's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors.

4.1 Conserve and protect freshwater fish and wildlife species in South Carolina.

4.3 Provide quality hunting and freshwater fishing opportunities throughout South Carolina.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Personal Services: Candidates qualified and hired to fill vacant FTEs.

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

If SCDNR is able to acquire property to expand the Wateree River HP/WMA - Goodwill tract (as reference in Priority 14) there will be recurring personnel and operating costs necessary to maintain and manage this large 736 acre tract of property, which includes many historical structures, and provide public access.

Classification Description	FTEs	Base Salary Per FTE	Employer Contributions Per FTE	Total Personal Services	Total Employer Contributions
LE90 - Natural Resource Tech II	2.00	$ 39,892	$ 19,148	$ 79,784	$ 38,296
KA20 - Building and Grounds Supervisor	1.00	$ 46,578	$ 22,357	$ 46,578	$ 22,357
KA15 - Building and Grounds Spec III	3.00	$ 39,207	$ 18,819	$ 117,621	$ 56,458
KA30 - Building and Ground Manager	1.00	$ 66,488	$ 31,914	$ 66,488	$ 31,914
AH35 - Program Coordinator I	1.00	$ 55,559	$ 26,668	$ 55,559	$ 26,668

FTEs >	5.00	
Personal Services >	$ 366,030	
Employer Contributions >		$ 175,694
Other Operating >		$ 450,000
Total Request >		**$ 991,724**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

16

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Other and Federal Authority

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $0

Federal: $1,153,377

Other: $2,862,406

Total: $4,015,783

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

4.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

X	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

Requested funding addresses the following in the accountability report:

2.12.3 Conserve and protect the state's natural resources for social, economic, recreational, and commercial benefit while providing maximum human utilization through: (1) the development of public support through outreach, education, and safety programs; (2) the preservation of the peace and protection of human lives and property;, and (3) the enforcement of the state's criminal laws through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of persons who violate those laws.

3.0 Sustain the State's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial, and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors.

1.0: Develop and Implement programs that study, manage, and conserve the State's land and water resources through planning, research, technical assistance, public education, and the development of a comprehensive natural resources database.

1.1: Provide reliable, science based information to decision makers and the public on water resource and aquatic plant management; earth science, climate, and flood mitigation research and activities; land, soil, and river conservation.

1.2: Provide reliable information and technical assistance to enhance and improve conservation efforts in the state.

1.3: Monitor and protect cultural and other resources throughout the state on Heritage Trust properties and provide culturally related recreational/educational opportunities.

3.0 Sustain the State's living marine resources for cultural, recreational, commercial, and economic benefit of the state's citizens and visitors.

4.1 Conserve and protect freshwater fish and wildlife species in South Carolina.

4.3 Provide quality hunting and freshwater fishing opportunities throughout South Carolina.

5.0 Continuously evaluate and improve administrative and business processes, efficiency, effectiveness,

and internal/external service delivery with a focus on transparency, communications, accountability, and the integration of new

technologies.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Personal Services: Personnel currently in FTEs and candidates qualified and hired to fill vacant FTEs.

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

2.25% General Increase

Additional Authority for Other and Federal Funds will fund the 2.25%/$1,500 Base Pay Increase authorized by the General Assembly effective for FY2025.

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ -	$ 393,353	$ 172,305	$ 416,567
Employer Contributions	$ -	$ 110,139	$ 48,245	$ 116,639
	$ -	**$ 503,492**	**$ 220,550**	**$ 533,206**

Personal Services >	$ 982,225
Employer Contributions >	$ 275,023
2.25% General Increase	**$ 1,257,248**

Earmarked and Restricted FTE's

Additional authority and FTE's needed for two positions: a Program Manager I and a Geospatial Analyst I

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ -	$ -	$ 25,955	$ 80,933
Employer Contributions	$ -	$ -	$ 12,458	$ 38,848
	$ -	**$ -**	**$ 38,413**	**$ 119,781**

Personal Services >	$ 106,888
Employer Contributions >	$ 51,306

Federal Authority

There are a number of grants that SCDNR receives on a recurring annual basis. The below amounts are requested to facilitate the expenditure of those grant awards

Classification Description	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ -	$ 275,192	$ -	$ -
Employer Contributions	$ -	$ 132,092	$ -	$ -
Operating Expenses	$ -	$ 242,601	$ -	$ -
	$ -	**$ 649,885**	**$ -**	**$ -**

Operating Authority

$786,000 to fund the payment of additional transaction and merchant fees related to continued increased use of the enterprise solution for licenses and boat titling/registration payments.

$1,000,000 to expend funds obtained from SC Conservation Bank used to match grants as provided in a portion of Proviso 47.16.

Request Total

Summary	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted
Salary Actions	$ -	$ 668,545	$ 198,260	$ 497,500
Other Operating	$ -	$ 242,601	$ 1,000,000	$ 786,000
Employer Contributions	$ -	$ 242,231	$ 60,704	$ 155,487
	$ -	**$ 1,153,377**	**$ 1,258,964**	**$ 1,438,987**

Personal Services >	$ 1,364,305
Other Operating >	$ 2,028,601
Employer Contributions >	$ 458,422
Total Request >	**$ 3,851,328**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

18

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Enviromental Attorney

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

General: $242,560

Federal: $0

Other: $0

Total: $242,560

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS

1.00

Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:

	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
X	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
X	HR/Personnel Related
	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

4.1.1 - Acres of habitat owned by SCDNR and managed to promote species diversity and richness through planting, burning, maintenance and wetlands enhancement.

4.1.2 - At-risk, threatened and endangered species protected, monitored and managed following state and/or federal law.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Personal Services: Candidates qualified and hired to fill FTEs.

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

The SCDNR is involved in a variety of activities on agency property and across the landscape in looking at impacts to natural resources where a lawyer, specializing in environmental issues, is needed. The agency reviews and provides comment on ways to minimize or reduce impacts to the state's natural resources. This is done through a variety of avenues including through existing regulatory frameworks where input is requested by the Department of Environmental Services and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, through SC Public Service Commission proceedings and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) hydroelectric re-licensing and compliance. The agency is also responsible for acting as the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) Trustee associated with impacts that may occur as a result of incidental releases of pollutants.

Since FY 16 to date, excluding Public Service Commission, NRDA and FERC responsibilities, the agency has reviewed a total of 3,474 projects. On average between FY16 and 24, the agency reviewed 340 projects annually. In FY 25 to date, staff have reviewed 410 projects. In addition, there are 22 FERC licensed facilities that impact SC waters and fisheries that staff provide comment and negotiate terms of settlement agreements and mitigation offset financial agreements. Similarly, through NRDA processes, agency counsel and environmental review staff are needed to review proposed restoration plans, financial agreements and consent decrees for damages incurred to natural resources associated with these incidental pollution events.

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The SCDNR is often the recipient of lands associated with Clean Water Act compensatory mitigation that are donated. The SCDNR reviews all documentation including the mitigation plan and conservation easements associated with the project, but also agreements outlining obligations of all parties involved.

In addition, under agency policy, the SCDNR process request to use or acquire real property under the jurisdiction of the SCDNR for purposes of public necessity and benefit (e.g., water lines, transmission lines, etc.). The agency receives several of these a year that require coordination and review for impacts to natural resources and public recreation on SCDNR owned lands. This process requires an understanding of obligations under federal grants or Heritage Trust protections on the property and coordination with agency staff, Director, Heritage Trust Advisory Board (when applicable) and the SCDNR Board. In addition, if the request for use is granted, it requires coordination with the Department of Administration and the requestor to finalize the terms of use of property that must consider natural resource protections and continued public use of SCDNR lands. In years past, this process has been handled across a variety of staff and the agency needs to centralize the request for use process coordination and tracking of licenses issued for compliance and expiration. Additionally, having this controlled and coordinated by a lawyer will ensure consistency for the requestor and protections for the public of their SCDNR lands.

Having a dedicated lawyer to assist in reviewing a variety of documents such as settlement agreements and license agreements and provide guidance on existing statutes and regulatory authority will aid in maintaining agency consistency and efficiency.

Classification Description	FTEs	Base Salary Per FTE	Employer Contributions Per FTE	Total Personal Services	Total Employer Contributions
AE50 - Attorney V	1.00	$ 147,000	$ 70,560	$ 147,000	$ 70,560
		FTEs >	1.00		
		Personal Services >		$ 147,000	
		Employer Contributions >			$ 70,560
		Other Operating >			$ 25,000
		Total Request >			**$ 242,560**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

3

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Statewide Flood Inundation Map Modeling

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

$4,500,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	Consulted DTO during development
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

1.1.4: Outreach to communities that participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Mitigation Assistance, Cooperating Technical Partners, Community Assistance Program-State Support Services Element Programs.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Strategic Statewide Resilience and Risk Reduction Plan Recommendation

The SCDNR Flood Inundation Modeling and Mapping Project will provide emergency responders and others with the information needed for evacuations, search and rescue, road closures, and other emergency response activities. The SCDNR Flood Mitigation Program was tasked with assisting with search and rescue through the production of inundation mapping for the resulting flooding from Hurricane Matthew in 2016. In 2018, the Flood Mitigation Program provided a prediction one week prior to Hurricane Florence making landfall and updated the information through the resulting flooding. The response to these flood events along with others since 2015 resulted in the development of the SC Flood Inundation and Mapping for Action website (scfloodimpact.com) that provides inundation information to the public and emergency officials. This funding request will cover the cost to develop and add the remaining 25 HUC 8 watersheds and 4 coastal county tidal areas to the SC Flood IMPACT website so that the entire state has been modeled and mapped.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of

impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

8

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Waterfowl Impoundments Infrastructure Maintenance

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

$4,950,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
X	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
X	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
X	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	Consulted DTO during development
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

4.1.1 Acres of habitats owned by DNR and managed to promote species diversity and richness. This includes but is not limited to activities such as acres planted, burned, roads mowed and maintained, and wetlands enhanced.

4.3.1 Acreage of Wildlife Management Area Program land available to provide hunting opportunities to the public.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

A portion of these funds will improve and restore habitat on our state waterfowl impoundments. DNR needs to continue controlling Phragmites (an invasive aquatic plant) and other aquatic nuisance species on its Category 1 Waterfowl Areas. Much of this control must be done via contract helicopter spraying.

Trackhoes are a critical infrastructure tool on our waterfowl areas. They conduct regular maintenance of berms and dikes as well as clean ditches and make emergency repairs. These funds will replace one amphibious trackhoe and replace a tracked trackhoe for use on waterfowl areas. Both pieces of equipment are showing significant signs of aging.

Marshmasters are another critical piece of equipment for managing wetland impoundments. They are built to traverse extremely wet areas where a standard tractor cannot go and are used for spraying, mowing, disking, and ditching these areas.

Boats are utilized to transport members of the public on waterfowl hunts as well as transport staff and equipment to islands.

The remaining supplies and items listed are necessary for management and maintenance of the waterfowl impoundments/infrastructure and providing quality waterfowl habitat.

Other Operating Expenses	Total
Phragmites/Nuisance Aquatic Vegetation Control	$ 2,000,000
Marshmaster Replacements/Additions	$ 450,000
Mudboats, pusher boats, motors, tractor, implements	$ 500,000
Trackhoes for Waterfowl Areas	$ 1,135,000
Pumps, fencing, trunks, water control structures, lumber, supplies	$ 865,000

Total Request >	**$4,950,000**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	9
	Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.
TITLE	Law Enforcement Equipment
	Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.
AMOUNT	$4,150,000
	What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	Consulted DTO during development
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
X	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

2.1-2.3 - Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security

Conserve and protect the state's natural resources for social, economic, recreational, and commercial benefit while providing maximum human utilization through: (1) the development of public support through outreach, education, and safety programs; (2) the preservation of the peace and protection of human lives and property; and (3) the enforcement of the state's criminal laws through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of persons who violate those laws.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The SCDNR Law Enforcement Division is looking to purchase a new Cessna 206 to replace an older Cessna 210-Centurian (built in 1984) with 9700 hours. In addition, we will be selling our Cessna 206 (built in 1985) with 7700 hours to assist with the offsetting the cost of the new Cessna purchase. The sale of these aircraft will go through the State Surplus process, and we will not be able to use trade in value for new purchase. Therefore, we must continue to use both planes until able to procure a new aircraft. There are no safety concerns that would prohibit the sale of these planes at a future date. Both aircraft have high airframe hours, but it is not beyond the "designed life expectancy" for usage. We have confirmed with the SC Division of Aeronautics in detail about our plans and desires and have an attached document with their support and opinions.

The Cessna 206 best fits our mission parameters and is an exceptionally well-made and study platform for DNR-specific missions. The Cessna 210 and 206 are being replaced due to the extreme hours on the airframe and the difficulty in finding parts for planes that has not in production for some time. The overall cost for the new Cessna 206 with updated avionics and navigation is estimated at $2,625,000.

- Estimated cost $2,625,000.00

Aircraft Purchase Total: $2,625,000.00

Vehicles - Inflation of vehicle cost since last requested funding now dictates that we increase our petition for funding for Vehicle Fleet rotation.

New costs for vehicles:

Base Vehicle 54,000

	Cradle System Handheld 2,000 Emergency Lights/Equip 9,000 **Total nonrecurring cost: $65,000** **$65,000.00 X 23 Replacement Vehicles: $1,500,000.00** The needed funds of **$1,500,000.00** would allow for the 23 new vehicles.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

11

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Field & Regional Building Maintenance & Construction

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

$1,850,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	Consulted DTO during development
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
X	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

4.1.1 Acres of habitats owned by DNR and managed to promote species diversity and richness. This includes but is not limited to activities such as acres planted, burned, roads mowed and maintained, and wetlands enhanced.

4.3.1 Acreage of Wildlife Management Area Program land available to provide hunting opportunities to the public.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Start-up costs for new properties:

DNR is in the process of acquiring multiple new properties. Once properties are acquired and before they are opened for public use, DNR must ensure that the boundaries are properly marked, gates are installed to protect sensitive areas and direct traffic flow, and roads are passable for vehicles during a variety of weather conditions. DNR purchases large amounts of gravel and crusher run to establish such access. These funds will allow DNR to move quickly while ensuring that properties are well prepared for public access and activities. **$850,000**

WMA Building and Dove Field Maintenance:

Many SCDNR properties have buildings and structures in need of repair. The ones covered by this request will be items that do not rise to the level of a capital project but are still critical to protecting the integrity and functionality of the structure. Needs include window replacement, painting, plaster repairs, plumbing, etc. **$500,000**

Dove fields require a significant investment in fuel, seeds, fertilizer and herbicides. DNR is continuously facing damage from both deer and hogs and has begun installing permanent fencing around fields to protect this investment. Funds received will be applied towards fencing of additional fields. **$380,000**

Historic Building Survey:

The department maintains many structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places located on Wildlife Management Area properties. Planning a comprehensive maintenance schedule that incorporates special needs and restrictions unique to historic structures is needed. The department plans to utilize a specialist to conduct a survey of these structures generating a feasibility study for near future maintenance needs on each structure. **$120,000**

Other Operating Expenses	Total
New Property Start-up Costs	$ 850,000

WMA Buildings and Sheds	$ 500,000	
Dove Field Fencing	$ 380,000	
Historic Structure Maintenance Study	$ 120,000	
	Total Other Operating Expenses >	$ 1,850,000
	Total Request >	**$ 1,850,000**

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	17
	Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.
TITLE	Disaster Relief Grant Match Funding
	Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.
AMOUNT	$13,333,333
	What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	Consulted DTO during development
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
X	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

1.0: Develop and Implement programs that study, manage and conserve the State's land and water resources through planning, research, technical assistance, public education and the development of a comprehensive natural resources database.

1.1: Provide reliable, science based information to decision makers and the public on water resource and aquatic plant management; earth science, climate, and flood mitigation research and activities; land, soil and river conservation.

Measures 1.1.11.1.4

1.2: Provide reliable information and technical assistance to enhance and improve conservation efforts in the state.

Measures 1.2.11.2.3

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

Allocations: Homeowners, and communities impacted by Hurricane Debby and Hurricane Helene.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

SCDNR was recently awarded a federal grant as part of FEMAs Swift Current grant program which sets aside funding for states that are impacted by disasters. SC has a high number of National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies and was directly impacted by Hurricane Debby and Hurricane Helene. This allows a set aside for SC to be directly allocated $20,000,000 for Debby and $20,000,000 for Helene. Swift Current has a maximum match requirement of 25%. SCDNR is requesting $13,333,333 in state funding to cover the required match. The state funding will be utilized for the following:

- Project scoping funds to assist communities in application development.
- Management costs funds to cover the administration of the grant.
- Local cost share (used for elevation, acquisition, demolition/rebuild and floodproofing of NFIP insured buildings)

Project scoping funds and management costs are allowed up to 10% or $2,000,000 of the federal portion for each storm but require a match of 25%. The match for each of these will be $666,667 for project scoping and management costs. These project scoping and management costs would be the minimum match needed for SCDNR to accept the grant award, but would leave the match portion for community assistance entirely up to the homeowners and/or

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

communities.

With the number of disasters SC has experienced since 2015 match at the local level is extremely limited. Therefore, a request of $12,000,000 in state funding to cover the match requirement for the projects. Providing the match for the building owners will help the State to fully leverage the federal dollars being allocated to SC and will assist citizens and communities that are vulnerable to flooding to be economically stable.

Disaster	Project Scoping and Mangement		Community Assistance		Total
	Match	Federal	Match	Federal	
Hurricane Debby	$ 666,667	$ 2,000,000	$ 6,000,000	$ 18,000,000	$ 26,666,667
Hurricane Helene	$ 666,667	$ 2,000,000	$ 6,000,000	$ 18,000,000	$ 26,666,667
Total	$ 1,333,333	$ 4,000,000	$ 12,000,000	$ 36,000,000	$ 53,333,333

If matching funds are not received, SCDNR is unlikely to receive enough grant applications to fully leverage the $40M state set aside.

If all the funding is not expended under this grant program, then the remaining funds will be utilized by the other programs under the flood mitigation program such as match for the traditional Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program, match for the Community Assistance Program – State Support Services Element and/or the Cooperating Technical Partners program for map updates.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

19

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Waterways Protection

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

$750,000

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

Mark "X" for all that apply:	
	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	IT Technology/Security related
	Consulted DTO during development
	HR/Personnel Related
X	Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
	Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding
	Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority #

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	Education, Training, and Human Development
	Healthy and Safe Families
X	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	Government and Citizens

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

2.1-2.3 - Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security

Conserve and protect the state's natural resources for social, economic, recreational, and commercial benefit while providing maximum human utilization through: (1) the development of public support through outreach, education, and safety programs; (2) the preservation of the peace and protection of human lives and property; and (3) the enforcement of the state's criminal laws through the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of persons who violate those laws.

What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Other Operating: Goods and services for program operations obtained by following the state procurement code. Most of these expenditures would be provided through state contract vendors.

What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?

JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

Abandoned boats in South Carolina waterways are an ongoing challenge. SCDNR Law Enforcement is in the process of establishing Abandoned Boat case files to better maintain and confront this ongoing challenge. This issue is handled by both our Marine Theft and Investigations sections. They work together to identify and, in some cases, facilitate the disposal of these vessels. At our best estimate, we have at least 35 abandoned vessels to address. Currently, we address these vessels on a case-by-case basis and each boat/hazard is specific to condition, material, and location. In addition to SCDNR's efforts there are also other state and local government agencies, as well as non-government entities that may assist with this process.

SCDNR also maintains over 750 hazard buoys statewide. These buoys require periodic replacement and are important in maintaining the safety of South Carolina's waterways.

SCDNR is requesting $750,000 in non-recurring appropriations to begin to address these challenges to maintain and improve the safety of South Carolina's waterways.

Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of

impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	2
	Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.
TITLE	State Lakes - High Hazard Dams
	Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.
AMOUNT	$27,755,000
	How much is requested for this project in FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.
CPIP PRIORITY	(a) Lake Paul Wallace - 2025 #1, (c) Lake Edgar Brown - 2025 #32, (b) Lake Mountain 1 and 2 - 2026 #1
	Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.
OTHER APPROVALS	Approvals must be secured from JBRC and SFAA as required.
	What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)
LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	Expected life of repairs will be dependent upon future catastrophic events and flooding. New dams and water control structures will be designed to be more dependable and reduce risk of failure thereby protecting downstream assets.
	What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?
SUMMARY	The Department of Environmental Services maintains a list of dams in SC and classifies them upon hazard level and condition. As part of DNR's State Lakes Program, we maintain several dams which are classified as high hazard in poor condition. (a) Lake Paul Wallace in Marlboro County is a 300-acre impoundment which consists of a "fishing side" and "boating side" separated by a center dike. Two vulnerable communities –Shady Rest and Richardson Park – lie immediately downstream. On May 6, 2024, the dam at Lake Paul Wallace breached, draining the boating side and forcing the evacuation of downstream residents. Immediately following the breach, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (now South Carolina Department of Environmental Services) issued an Emergency Order requiring SCDNR to engage an engineer and follow their recommendations regarding measures necessary to safeguard life and property. At the engineer's recommendation, SCDNR immediately lowered water levels on the fishing side of the lake. The Emergency Order was then followed by Inspection and Repair Order 24-031-W, requiring SCDNR have a Detailed Inspection, as defined by SC Code Ann 49-11-110, performed on the dam. Should the findings indicate the dam is hydraulicly or structurally deficient, SCDNR is required to submit a plan to either repair the dam to address the deficiencies or decommission the dam. $25 million will be allocated towards A&E, construction, permitting, and any other activities needed to repair the dam and reopen the lake. (b) Mountain Lakes 1 and 2, Chester County, are adjacent impoundments in Chester County. Both lakes drain into Lake Ashley, located immediately downstream and surrounded by waterfront homes that would be at risk should either of the Mountain Lakes dams fail. Due to their condition and hazard class, DHEC, via the FEMA High Hazard Potential Dams Rehabilitation Grant, conducted an engineering inspection and risk analysis of the dams at Mountain Lakes 1 and 2. During their field sampling, DHEC's contracted engineers noted several deficiencies which justified lowering water levels. At the primary spillways of both lakes, engineers noted outfall pipe compaction; outfall pipe joint separation; and evidence of sediment transport, which could indicate internal dam erosion. At Mountain Lakes 1's emergency spillway, they observed cracking of the slab at the emergency spillway and voids between the slab and the bridge piles. In addition, trees larger than 4" in diameter on the downstream slope of both dams must be removed and their root systems backfilled to prevent internal erosion. $2 million will go towards the architecture, engineering, and construction work needed to address the deficiencies at the dams at Mountain Lakes 1 and 2. (c) Lake Brown, Barnwell County is a 100-acre impoundment located within the city of Barnwell and consists of a fishing side and boating side separated by a center dike. Several businesses and facilities, including the Barnwell State Fish Hatchery, are located immediately downstream. The fishing side of the lake is highly eutrophic, and there is little water exchange between the two sides. Algal blooms occur often during the summer months. Although these blooms are frequently benign, a harmful algal bloom in 2020 resulted in a weeks-long recreational water advisory.

During a routine dam inspection in June 2024, DHEC inspectors noted an area of erosion on the right downstream slope of the dam. $755,000 will be used on architecture, engineering, and construction to improve water exchange across the center dike and stabilize the downstream erosion area.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY

12

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE

Field & Regional Building Maintenance & Construction

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT

$6,460,000

How much is requested for this project in FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

CPIP PRIORITY

Ft Johnson - multiple projects , Fire and Safety System Replacements - 2026 #3, Bennet's Point - 2025 #17, Samworth House - 2025 #25, Belfast Roof - 2025 #31, Dennis Wildlife Center - 2026 #6, Waterfowl Area Enhancements - multiple projects

Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.

OTHER APPROVALS

No approvals have been obtained for these projects. Additional approvals must be secured from Office of State Engineer and Joint Bond Review Committee.

What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)

LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

State Funds are being invested in MRD Infrastructure for HVAC, Boat Slip, and Central Energy Plant Maintenance. Approvals, for what would be classified as Legislative projects, will be needed from Office of State Engineer and Joint Bond review Committee Staff.

What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?

This request is to fund improvements and restore infrastructure at many of DNR's Wildlife Management Areas, Waterfowl Impoundments, Field Offices, and the Fort Johnson Buildings. Many of the existing facilities are in need of new HVAC systems, roofs, windows, plumbing upgrades, painting, and/or siding, etc. Funding will allow us to ensure that we are properly addressing issues and protecting such facilities from further damage and more costly repairs and providing necessary facilities to manage said areas.

Fort Johnson Building Exterior Maintenance

Estimated Cost - $1,800,000

The scope of this project will include building envelope renovations including window repair, siding and trim restoration, mortar repairs, porch railings and column replacement/repair, and associated renovation/repairs. Such work is required to preserve the integrity and historical significance of these structures that are actively used by SCDNR programs and staff.

The Marshlands House and Quarantine Officers Quarters (QOQ) are multi-story historic houses located at SCDNR's Fort Johnson location. Both houses were constructed in the 1800's and are both listed on the national historical register. The Marshlands House is a 6,260 sq. ft. building providing office space for 15 staff, a marsh-side environmental training classroom and meeting room, a staff workshop, two dorm room facilities for visiting scientists, and restroom and shower facilities. the QOQ building is a 2,300 sq. ft. building providing offices and restrooms for 8 SCDNR staff, and a small meeting room.

Fire and Safety System Replacements

Estimated Cost $330,000

Funds are needed to address safety, security, and ADA compliance needs across eight office and laboratory buildings as well as outdoor areas including:

ADA compliance projects to include Replace ramp for the Marine Resources Research Institute, Restroom and office space improvements in MRD facilities, Parking areas grade correction for MRD's Charleston facilities, Field Station classroom access improvements, and walkways.

Life and Safety Updates and Improvements would include Secured exterior locks for all remaining buildings, Campus lighting improvements and additions, Walk-in freezer air monitoring, Upgrade Fire-alarm panels and alerting system in all buildings, Add Sprinklers in auto bay of Maintenance Building, Emergency alert system for MRRI, Admin and LE buildings (SLED recommendation).

Bennett's Point Renovation – Final Phase

Estimated Cost $400,000

The ultimate outcome of this project is to provide an energy efficient, quality facility for staff, visitors, students, and researchers in the ACE Basin Reserve.

Bennett's Point Field Station refurbishment to include but not limited to: replacing the Fire Alarm Systems, water tank

SUMMARY

and pump system and floor coverings, renovate the kitchen, restrooms, dorms and classroom, refurbish the outdoor classroom, and assess feasibility of and install solar panels to lower energy costs.

The saltwater from the adjacent river has contributed to the need to refurbish the structure. Once the project is established, the time frame for completion is 6-12 months

Wildlife Management Area Facility Repairs and Maintenance

Estimated Cost $1,280,000

Funds will be utilized to conduct deferred maintenance on houses, offices, and sheds located on Wildlife Management Areas throughout the state in addition to constructing a new workshop. Many of the existing facilities are in need of new HVAC systems, roofs, windows, plumbing upgrades, painting, and/or siding, etc. Funding will allow us to ensure that we are properly addressing issues and protecting such facilities from further damage and more costly repairs and providing necessary facilities to manage said areas.

Facilities maintenance:

Samworth House - $200,000

Belfast House Roof-$130,000

Dennis Center renovation and damage repairs - $700,000

Walhalla Manager's House water damage repair: - $250,000

Waterfowl Impoundment Enhancements

Estimated Cost $2,250,000

Funds will be utilized to enhance Waterfowl impoundment across the state.

Geology Core Repository Expansion

Estimated Cost $400,000

The Core Repository serves as a library of geologic information for the State. Private industry, developers, land use planners use archived sample material to serve multiple purposes. The current facility is now beyond storage capacity, and there is an opportunity to acquire new material from Savannah River Site. The availability of core information is a major cost- and time-saving to interested parties. The funds requested would allow SCDNR to expand the core repository capacity with a new extension (50'x40'); approximate cost $400,000 ($200/sq ft).

Project Expenses	Total
Ft Johnson Building Exterior Maintenance	$ 1,800,000
Fire and Safety System Replacements	$ 330,000
Bennett's Point Field Station Renovation	$ 400,000
Samworth House	$ 200,000
Belfast Roof	$ 130,000
Dennis Wildife Center Repair	$ 700,000
Walhalla Manager's House Repair	$ 250,000
Waterfowl Area Enhancements	$ 2,250,000
Geology Core Repository Expansion	$ 400,000
Total Request >	**$ 6,460,000**

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM C – CAPITAL REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	14
	Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.
TITLE	Habitat Protection and Land Conservation
	Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.
AMOUNT	$30,000,000
	How much is requested for this project in FY FY 2025-2026? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.
CPIP PRIORITY	Multiple Tracts
	Identify the project's CPIP plan year and priority number, along with the first year in which the project was included in the agency's CPIP. If not included in the agency's CPIP, please provide an explanation. If the project involves a request for appropriated state funding, briefly describe the agency's contingency plan in the event that state funding is not made available in the amount requested.
OTHER APPROVALS	The SCDNR works to obtain all the necessary approvals in acquiring properties, some of which vary dependent upon the type of property designation and may include: Heritage Trust Advisory Board, the DNR Board, JBRC, SFAA, County School District, County Council and/or City Council, Legislative Delegation, and the State Historic Preservation Office.
	What approvals have already been obtained? Are there additional approvals that must be secured in order for the project to succeed? (Institutional board, JBRC, SFAA, etc.)
LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY	SCDNR staff work creatively to leverage the use of state funds made available to leverage federal dollars from a variety of funding sources including U.S. Forest Service Federal Legacy Grant Program; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Grant Program, National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program and North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant program; and local sources of funding such as the SC Conservation Bank, Lynches River Conservation Fund and various funding associated with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hydroelectric licenses issued in the State of South Carolina.
	What other funds have already been invested in this project (source/type, amount, timeframe)? Will other capital and/or operating funds for this project be requested in the future? If so, how much, and in which fiscal years? Has a source for those funds been identified/secured? What is the agency's expectation with regard to additional annual costs or savings associated with this capital improvement? What source of funds will be impacted by those costs or savings? What is the expected useful life of the capital improvement?
SUMMARY	SCDNR staff work creatively to leverage the use of state funds made available to leverage federal dollars from a variety of funding sources including U.S. Forest Service Federal Legacy Grant Program; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Grant Program, National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program and North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Program; and small sources of funding such as the Lynches River Conservation and various funding associated with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hydroelectric licenses issued in the State of South Carolina. The purpose of the request for an additional $30,000,000 would allow the SCDNR to quickly act in a real estate market that is booming. When utilizing existing strategies for land acquisition, the SCDNR often has to rely on partner organizations, such as the Open Space Institute or The Nature Conservancy, to negotiate contracts quickly with landowners who are not willing to wait on grant funding award letters. Having a dedicated source of funds for SCDNR Habitat Protection would enable the agency to: 1) react quicker in today's real estate market; 2) purchase key properties in areas of the state where habitat protection is needed most as development increases, driving the fair market value cost of land beyond what SCDNR can obtain; 3) acquire large, more contiguous acreage instead of putting together puzzle over time as time is running out in many high development pressure settings and 4) bring additional dollars to further leverage federal funds when time to negotiate a contract and close with a landowner is not a constraint. The Habitat Protection funding request is important to allow the SCDNR the opportunity to act efficiently and compete in a booming real estate market to acquire key properties important for sustaining wildlife, fish and plants, as well as provide outdoor recreation opportunities for future generations of South Carolinians. Of this $30,000,000 approximately $17,500,000 would be used to purchase the Goodwill tract, a piece of property that would expand the Wateree River Heritage Preserve by approximately 736 acres. An additional $2,000,000 would be used to repair a spillway on the Goodwill tract as part of the property start-up costs. A portion of these funds could also be used to perform due diligence activities such as surveying, marking boundaries, etc. The remaining balance of these funds will be used to acquire 1,802 acres in Pickens county, 85 acres in Florence county, 595 acres in Horry county, and 223 acres in Lancaster county.

Provide a summary of the project and explain why it is necessary. Please refer to the budget guidelines for appropriate questions and thoroughly answer all related items.

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	47.1 *Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*
TITLE	DNR: Publications Revenue *Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*
BUDGET PROGRAM	II.A.2. Magazine 6000.050500.000 *Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*
RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	Priority #1 and #6. *Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY FY 2025-2026? If so, cite it here.*
REQUESTED ACTION	Amend *Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	No other agencies are affected by this change. *Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*
SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	This proviso allows the Department to retain revenue generated from *South Carolina Wildlife* Magazine subscription fees and sale of by-products. Revenues are required to support production of the magazine and to promote a self-sustaining operation. The Department may adjust subscription rates as needed to promote a self-sustaining operation. The magazine is a price sensitive product. Subscriptions remain within a narrow band of 25,000 to 27,000 annual subscribers and additional subscription increases will negatively impact subscription renewals. The Department must maintain a minimum number of pages considered as advertising. We currently hold a Not-for-Profit status with the US Post Office. As a Not-for-Profit entity the magazine receives the benefit of a lower postage rate per issue mailed. Increasing advertisements will jeopardize that rate. *Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

FISCAL IMPACT	The Department has requested General Fund salary and operations support for the magazine that totals $377,702. Amending the proviso allows general funds to support the program. Without the change, the magazine cannot utilize General Funds and will continue to draw funding from Fish & Wildlife Protection Fund and Boat Titling Fund. These funds are needed to support other Department operations. The method is simple replacement for salaries/employer contributions and operating to cover postage and contract cost for external writes/photographers.

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT	For the current fiscal year all revenue generated from the sale of the "South Carolina Wildlife" magazine, its by-products and other publications, shall be retained by the department and used to support the production of same in order for the magazine to be self-sustaining. In addition, the department is authorized to sell advertising in the magazine and to increase the magazine's subscription rate, if necessary, to be self-sustaining. **~~No general funds may be used for the operation and support of the "South Carolina Wildlife" magazine.~~**

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	47.20 *Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*
TITLE	DNR: Barnwell County *Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*
BUDGET PROGRAM	Nonrecurring Appropriation *Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*
RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	N/A *Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY FY 2025-2026? If so, cite it here.*
REQUESTED ACTION	Delete *Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	No other agencies are affected by this change. *Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*
SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	The proviso allowed DNR to disburse funds originally designated for the Steel Creek Boat Landing Repair project to be repurposed and disbursed to Barnwell County for construction of an amphitheater. The proviso is no longer needed as all funds were disbursed to Barnwell County during FY 2024-2025. *Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

FISCAL IMPACT	There is no fiscal impact to any funds. The funds have been disbursed to Barnwell County

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT	~~**Funds remaining of the $200,000 appropriated in Act 94 of 2021, Section 118.18(B)(77) to the Department of Natural Resources for the Steel Creek Boat Landing Repair shall be redirected to the County of Barnwell for the Barnwell Outdoor Amphitheater.**~~

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	55.14 *Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*
TITLE	DES: Water Recreational Resource Funds Transfer *Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*
BUDGET PROGRAM	Program was transferred to P500 Department of Environmental Services *Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*
RELATED BUDGET REQUEST	N/A *Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY FY 2025-2026? If so, cite it here.*
REQUESTED ACTION	Amend *Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*
OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED	**The Department of Environmental Services** *Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*
SUMMARY & EXPLANATION	Requires the Department of Natural Resources to transfer $708,000 to the Department of Environmental Services. This amount was composed of the 1) projected carry forward balance for the fund from FY 2024 to FY 2025, and 2) estimated annual allocation to the fund based on the formula derived in 12-28-2730 items (B) and (D). *Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.*

FISCAL IMPACT	Without the change, Aquatic Nuisance Species will receive approximately $258,000 more in Water Recreational Resource Funds which will decrease funds allocated to DNR Law Enforcement. As the allocation from SCDOT to SCDNR is capped at 1% from the first thirteen cents of the gasoline user fee, a decrease in gallons consumed results in a decrease in taxes transferred. If the $708,000 exceeds the portion available for Law Enforcement and Aquatic Nuisance Species, then the amount available for distribution to county accounts is impacted.

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

PROPOSED PROVISO TEXT	For the current fiscal year, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 12-28-2730(D), the Department of Natural Resources shall transfer the amount **calculated for the Aquatic Nuisance Species** ~~**of $708,000**~~ from the special water recreational resources fund to the Department of Environmental Services to fund the hydrology and aquatics nuisance species programs transferred to and devolved upon the Department of Environmental Services pursuant to Act 60 of 2023.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN

TITLE

Agency Cost Safings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan

AMOUNT

$2,265,619

What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.

ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS

There are no FTE reductions.

How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT

Budget Line	Program Name	3%
I.	Administration	-
II.A.1.	Outreach	67,573
II.A.3.	Web Services & Technology Devel	82,609
II.B.1.	Boat Titling & Registration	12,642
II.C.1.	Boating Access	4,021
II.D.1.	Wildlife-Regional/Statewide Operations	201,386
II.D.4.	Fisheries-Hatchery/State Lakes	115,724
II.E.1.	Conservation Enforcement	1,434,429
II.F.2.	Marine Research & Monitoring	174,861
II.G.1.	Earth Sciences	75,929
II.G.2.	Conservation	86,512
II.G.3.	Heritage Trust	8,386
II.G.4.	Environmental Review	1,548
P240	Total	2,265,619

What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?

SUMMARY

The impacts to programs are as follows:

1. Administration - N/A

II.A.1. Outreach - Reduction in outreach media efforts, travel, supplies, and fuel

II.A.3. Web Services and Technology Development - Reduction in equipment replacement

II.B.1. Boat Titling & Registration - Reduction in office supplies

II.C.1. Boating Access - Reduction in office supplies and fuel

II.D.1. Wildlife Regional/Statewide Operations - Reduction in Wildlife Management Area Management, supplies, and fuel

II.D.4. Fisheries-Hatcheries/State Lakes Statewide - Reduction in State Lake maintenance, supplies, and fuel

II.E.1. Conservation Enforcement - Reduce vehicle rotation by 22 units and fuel

II.F.2. Marine Research & Monitoring - Reduce vehicle and lab equipment purchases, travel, and supplies

II.G.1. Earth Sciences - Reduce field travel, supplies and materials for drill rig, reduce vehicle rotation by 1 unit

II.G.2. Conservation - Reduce supplies, travel, and flood mapping projects; reduce Aid to Conservation Districts by $750 per district

II.G.3. Heritage Trust - Reduction in supplies and fuel

II.G.4. Environmental Review - Reduction in office supplies and fuel

Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.

Savings realized from reductions in mileage for Law Enforcement used to afford fuel.

AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS	

What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than $50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?

Agency Name:	Department Of Natural Resources		
Agency Code:	P240	Section:	47

FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

TITLE	Law Enforcement use of Warning Tickets

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS	$2,732,625 in fines and 13,012.50 hours of court time saved.

What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST	**Mark "X" for all that apply:**
	Repeal or revision of regulations.
X	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.
	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.
	Other

METHOD OF CALCULATION	Approximately 26,025 warning tickets were issued, multiplied by the minimum fine of $105.00 for most violations of SC Code Title 50. Case prosecution would take approximately 15 minutes per case multiplied by 26,025 violations. Officer's hourly rate of at least $30.10 per hour multiplied by 6,506.25 hours of court time. The defendant's time plus the court staff's time would determine the total hours saved by citizens and businesses.

Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.

REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES	Fines for violations of SC Code Title 50. Enabling authority is derived from SC Code 50-3-110.

Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?

REDUCTION OF REGULATION	This action would not require any amendments or deletions of current regulations.

Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?

SUMMARY	During FY 2023-2024 a total of 26,025 warning tickets were issued. Using warning tickets versus courtesy summons for documented violations, the expected savings in fines is $2,732,625. Savings from court appearances are unknown for court personnel, it takes approximately 15 minutes per case for prosecution which would save at least 6,506.25 hours of officer time in court. Based on a starting officer's hourly rate of $30.10 per hour, will generate an additional savings of $195,838. These reductions are based on the minimum fine of $105 for most violations of SC Code Title 50 which also includes court fees. The public would save a minimum of 6,506.25 hours of personal or employer time due to not attending court. Court personnel would also see a savings of 6,506.25 hours due to not hearing these cases. This action does not affect agency operations.

Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?