
VIRGINIA STATE BUDGET

2018 Session

Budget Amendments - HB30 (Member Request)

By Member » Report

Report for: Member Request

Chief Patron: Bulova

Co-Patron(s): Krizek, Plum, Robinson

State Parks Operational Needs

Item 363 #9h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
Natural Resources			
Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$2,140,866	\$2,140,866	GF
	\$497,030	\$497,030	NGF

Language

Page 326, after line 49, insert:

"H. Included in the appropriation for this item is an increase of \$2,140,866 in the first year and \$2,140,866 in the second year from the general fund and \$497,030 in the first year and \$497,030 in the second year from nongeneral fund resources to provide supplemental support to State Parks operational and non-capital maintenance needs."

Explanation

(This amendment requests \$2.1 million from the general fund and \$500,000 of nongeneral fund resources to support the ongoing operational and non-capital maintenance cost requirements at Virginia's State Parks not met through existing appropriation levels. The general fund amounts would be utilized to cover routine and ongoing operations. Without an increase in funding, critical repairs may become necessary at a greater expense and State Parks will be forced to again hold staff vacancies in order to free up funds for other operating necessities. There is an additional need for \$1.0 million for new equipment replacement each year as State Parks will have 12 new cabins, 3 new lodges and 47 new yurts coming online in 2019.)

Chief Patron: Campbell

Co-Patron(s): Morefield, Pillion

Land Acquisition New River State Park

Item 363 #6h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
Natural Resources			
Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$120,000	\$0	GF

Language

Page 326, after line 49, insert:

"H. Included in the amounts for this item is \$120,000 the first year from the general fund to acquire additional land

abutting the New River State Park."

Explanation

(This amendment provides \$120,000 from the general fund in the first year to acquire land abutting the New River State Park and to provide new river access to the trail.)

Chief Patron: Carroll Foy

Phase 2 and 3 of Widewater State Park

Item 363 #8h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
Natural Resources			
Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$965,310	\$590,944	GF
	6.00	6.00	FTE

Language

Page 326, after line 49 insert:

"H. Included in the amounts for this item is \$965,310 the first year and \$590,944 the second year from the general fund and 6 FTE positions to support the operational costs associated with Phases 2 and 3 of Widewater State Park."

Explanation

(This amendment provides \$965,310 the first year, \$590,944 the second year and 6 FTE positions to support the operational costs of Phases 2 and 3 of Widewater State Park.)

Chief Patron: Carroll Foy

Widewater State Park Phase 2

Item C-27.10 #2h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
Natural Resources			
Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$7,000,000	\$0	GF

Explanation

(This amendment requests general fund to construct Widewater State Park, Phase 2.)

Chief Patron: Fariss

Amend DCR Land Acquisition Restrictions (language only)

Item 363 #5h

Natural Resources

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Language

Page 326, strike lines 39 through 49 and insert:

"G. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Code of Virginia, the department shall not initiate or accept by gift, transfer, or purchase with nongeneral funds any lands for use as a State Park without a specific appropriation for such purpose by the General Assembly. However, the department is authorized to acquire in-holdings or additions to an existing State Park, as well as additions to or new Natural Area Preserves. The department shall inform the Chairmen of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee of all planned new land acquisitions."

Explanation

(This amendment modifies language included by the General Assembly to limit the acceptance of additional lands for State Parks or Natural Area Preserves. Companion amendments in DCR's Capital Outlay appropriations in Part 2 of the budget eliminate similar limitations of State Park and Natural Area Preserves expansions.)

Chief Patron: Fariss

DCR Property Acquisition (language only)

Item C-25 #1h

Natural Resources

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Language

Page 442, strike lines 8 through 12.

Explanation

(This amendment removes property acquisitions restrictions proposed in the introduced budget.)

Chief Patron: Fariss

DCR Property Acquisition (language only)

Item C-26 #1h

Natural Resources

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Language

Page 442, strike lines 16 through 22.

Explanation

(This amendment removes property acquisitions restrictions proposed in the introduced budget.)

Chief Patron: Gilbert

Co-Patron(s): Landes

Seven Bends Park Operations

Item 363 #7h

First Year - FY2019

Second Year - FY2020

Natural Resources

Department of Conservation and Recreation

	\$167,548	\$198,752	
	1.00	2.00	FTE

Language

Page 326, after line 49, insert:

"H. Included in the amount for this item is \$167,548 and one FTE position the first year and \$198,752 and two FTE positions the second year from the general fund to support the limited operation of Seven Bends State Park."

Explanation

(This amendment provides funding to support the limited opening of Seven Bends State Park. Funds would be used to provide minimal staffing and recreational facilities such as hiking trails, gravel parking areas, signage, and two water access points for visitors to have hand launch facilities for canoes and kayaks. In fiscal year 2015 \$2.2 million was provided for the removal of several dilapidated buildings and for the construction of parking and recreational areas and the development of river access. This activity will be completed by the end of the upcoming biennium. Not funding the request for operational costs would result in the Park not opening for public access even after the investment in capital improvements have been made.)

Chief Patron: Kilgore

Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Interpretive Center

Item 363 #3h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
Natural Resources			
Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$209,532	\$159,252	GF
	1.00	1.00	FTE

Language

Page 326, line 35, after "provided." insert:

"Included in the amounts for this item is \$209,532 and one FTE position from the general fund in the first year for start-up costs and \$159,252 from the general fund in the second year for ongoing operational funding for the Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Interpretive Center."

Explanation

(This amendment provides start-up and operational costs for the Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Interpretive Center that is being transferred to the Department of Conservation and Recreation to operate as a satellite of the nearby Natural Tunnel State Park in 2018. The DBWTIC will enable visitors to understand how settlers who came through the region united themselves to create a new and distinctly unique culture that ultimately defined America. The funds will cover first year start-up costs, one FTE position, ongoing operational costs and 3 wage positions. The project has been supported and developed by a broad coalition including Scott County, VCEDA, the Appalachian Regional Commission, VDOT, the Virginia Tobacco Commission, Scenic Byways, the Virginia Tourism Corporation and Eastman Credit Union. The Center will provide tourism promotion and create a significant economic impact to the region through the presentation of this story and the promotion of state, local and regional tourism assets.)

Chief Patron: Kilgore

State Parks Staffing and Operations Costs

Item 363 #4h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
Natural Resources			
Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$4,981,883	\$4,981,883	GF
	63.00	63.00	FTE

Language

Page 326, after line 49, insert:

"H. 1. The Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Secretary of Natural Resources, in consultation with the Chairmen of the House Appropriations, Senate Finance and House and Senate Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committees, shall develop a plan to fully and adequately fund all of the Commonwealth of Virginia's State Parks. This shall include, but is not limited to, fully funding the operations, maintenance and staffing of all Virginia State Parks. An interim report on the progress of such plan shall be completed and transmitted to the General Assembly no later than November 15, 2018, with a final plan to be submitted no later than November 15, 2019.

2. Included in the amounts for this item is \$4,981,883 in the first year and \$4,981,883 in the second year and 63.00 FTE positions from the general fund to supplement current funding levels for the State Parks. Of this amount, \$2,841,017 in the first year and \$2,841,017 in the second year from the general fund is provided to fund the additional full-time equivalent positions and \$2,140,856 in the first year and \$2,140,856 in the second year from the general fund is provided to fund the backlog of routine maintenance projects for parks buildings, grounds and equipment."

Explanation

(This amendment seeks to address needs identified by the Virginia Association of Parks for additional staffing and capital improvements at Virginia's state parks and provides \$4.98 million each year from the general fund to address such purpose. It also directs the DCR director and the Secretary of Natural Resources to develop a plan to fully fund all of the Commonwealth's state parks.)

Chief Patron: LaRock

Loudoun State Park

Item C-27.10 #1h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
Natural Resources			
Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$2,900,000	\$0	GF

Explanation

(This amendment requests general fund to acquire property contiguous to Loudoun State Park.)

Chief Patron: Pillion

Breaks Interstate Park Dam

Item 363 #1h	First Year - FY2019	Second Year - FY2020	
--------------	---------------------	----------------------	--

Natural Resources

Department of Conservation and Recreation	\$112,500	\$0	GF
---	-----------	-----	----

Language

Page 326, line 14, after "Park." insert:

"In addition to these amounts provided for operations and maintenance, an additional \$112,500 the first year from the general fund is appropriated to undertake emergency repairs at the Breaks Interstate Park dam."

Explanation

(This amendment would provide \$112,500 from the general fund in the first year to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for replacement of the emergency drain system widening of the primary spillway, and deletion of the two pressurized waterlines by filling them with concrete at the Breaks Interstate Park dam. Full costs of the project are estimated at \$250,000.)