

**Game and Fish Department
Budget No. 720
House Bill No. 1017**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2021-23 legislative appropriations	164.00	\$0	\$92,368,134	\$92,368,134
2021-23 base budget	165.00	0	85,303,632	85,303,632
Legislative increase (decrease) to base budget	(1.00)	\$0	\$7,064,502	\$7,064,502

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE BASE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS
Changes to Base Budget**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
The legislative action:				
Adjusted funding for base payroll changes			\$1,306,947	\$1,306,947
Added funding to provide employee salary increases of 1.5 percent on July 1, 2021, with a minimum monthly increase of \$100 and 2.0 percent on July 1, 2022			777,535	777,535
Added funding for employee health insurance premiums to reflect a revised premium estimate of \$1,428.77 per month			7,908	7,908
Transferred 1 FTE information technology (IT) position for IT unification by reducing salaries and wages (\$159,662) and increasing operating expenses (\$164,028)	(1.00)		4,366	4,366
Adjusted funding for capital assets by increasing extraordinary repairs (\$527,679), motor vehicles (\$568,180), and other capital payments (\$111,292), and reducing land, building, and maintenance (\$50,000), and equipment over \$5,000 (\$243,505)			913,646	913,646
Increased funding for operating expenses by increasing land, buildings, and maintenance (\$172,440), IT (\$233,000), Microsoft Office 365 licenses (\$18,507), and other operating expenses (\$843,653)			1,267,600	1,267,600
Added one-time funding from federal funds (\$1,113,750) and other funds (\$371,250) to allow for 5,000 acres of additional landowner private land open to sportsmen (PLOTS) payments			1,485,000	1,485,000
Added one-time funding from an outdoor heritage grant for a Red River Basin wildlife and water quality enhancement program			500,000	500,000

Added one-time funding from the game and fish fund for replacement of radio equipment			801,500	801,500
Total	(1.00)	\$0	\$7,064,502	\$7,064,502

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly authorized 164 FTE positions for the Game and Fish Department for the 2021-23 biennium, 1 FTE position less than the 2019-21 biennium. The Legislative Assembly transferred 1 full-time IT position to the Information Technology Department for IT unification.

One-Time Funding

The following is a summary of one-time funding items for the Game and Fish Department for the 2021-23 biennium:

	General Fund	Other funds	Total
PLOTS payments		\$1,485,000	\$1,485,000
Red River Basin wildlife and water quality enhancement program		500,000	500,000
Radio equipment replacement		801,500	801,500
Total	\$0	\$2,786,500	\$2,786,500

Capital Assets, Payments, and Projects

The Legislative Assembly provided \$8,316,462 from other funds for capital assets, payments, and projects during the 2021-23 biennium. The schedule below details funding provided in the 2019-21 and 2021-23 bienniums for capital assets, payments, and projects.

Projects	2019-21 Biennium	2021-23 Biennium
Extraordinary repairs	\$1,119,721	\$1,129,000
Wildlife management area improvements	653,170	652,170
Fishing area projects	1,385,000	1,333,692
Shooting range improvements	500,000	595,000
Lonetree Wildlife Management Area improvements	20,000	175,000
Land acquisition	800,000	800,000
Payment in lieu of taxes	1,383,000	1,465,000
Enforcement Division equipment	175,000	460,000
Fisheries equipment	205,000	186,000
Lonetree Wildlife Management Area equipment	57,000	116,500
Wildlife Division equipment	267,000	332,000
State Fair grounds improvements		50,000
Administrative equipment for two park model trailers		20,000
Aquatic nuisance species equipment		200,000
Statewide interoperable radio network state radio equipment		801,500
Total	\$6,564,891	\$8,316,462

Other Sections in House Bill No. 1017

Grants, gifts, and donations line - Section 3 identifies \$100,000 received by the Game and Fish Department in the grants, gifts, and donations line item for surface damage, easements, or reclamation on department-owned or managed properties as a result of mineral exploration and extraction activities.

Line item transfer authority - Section 4 authorizes the Game and Fish Department to transfer up to \$2 million between the operating expenses, capital assets, and grants - game and fish line items, during the 2021-23 biennium. The department is required to report transfers to the Legislative Council.

Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1218 - Small game proclamation - This bill provides for qualified nonresident landowners to hunt during the first 7 days of the pheasant season with a valid hunting license.

Senate Bill No. 2036 - Legislative Management study - Access to lands and electronic posting - This bill provides for a Legislative Management study regarding access to lands and electronic posting.

Senate Bill No. 2144 - Criminal trespass - This bill changes the posting requirements for land and provides for the posting of land in an online database or other electronic application maintained or authorized by the state instead of physically posting.