



BILL SUMMARY

Ag and DNR Budget SF 494

Status of Bill: House Appropriations
Committee: Appropriations
Lead Democrats: Rep. Ourth
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May 5, 2015

SF 494 makes appropriations to the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Iowa State University (ISU). The funding comes from the general fund, Environment First Fund (EFF), and the Fish and Game Trust Fund.

SF 494 passed the Senate Appropriations Committee 15-4. The bill passed the full Senate 26-23. The Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations House Subcommittee passed the bill 5-4.

DIFFERENCES

- The House version appropriates a total of \$42 million from the general fund for FY 2016; the Senate \$43.1 million.
 - The House appropriates \$1.1 million total less than the Senate proposal.
 - This amounts to \$250,000 less in the administrative division for IDALS, \$360,000 less for in the administrative division for the DNR, and \$50,000 less for the Floodplain Management Program.
 - The House version moves \$450,000 in general fund funding for Forestry Health into the Environment First Fund (for a total of \$500,000 overall when combined with the \$50,000 status quo funding in the Environment First Fund).
- The Senate and House both fund the Environment First Fund (EFF) at \$42 million. The Senate is \$1.25 million below the House in total EFF funding to IDALS and \$1.25 million above the House in overall EFF funding to the DNR.
- The Senate funds REAP at \$16 million, status quo from FY 2015. The House proposal funds REAP at \$13.5 million.

PROVISIONS IN BOTH VERSIONS

- Provides for 1,571 FTE positions, an increase of 98.5 FTE positions from FY 2015.
- Appropriates a one-time \$1.23 million from the Groundwater Protection Fund for a 3 year Data Collection Protect for watershed data at Iowa State University (ISU).
- Extends the repeal date of the Bluffland Protection Program and the Bluffland Protection Revolving Fund from July 1, 2015, to July 1, 2025.
- The FY 2017 appropriations are approximately 50% of the FY 2016 appropriations, except for REAP, which the bill has no appropriation and therefore maintains the statutory \$20 million for FY 2017.

BUDGET SPREADSHEETS

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	Estimated FY 2015	Governor FY 2016	SF 494 FY 2016	House FY 2016	Senate vs. FY 2015	Senate vs. House
Department of Agriculture						
Administrative Division	17,655,492	17,655,492	17,655,492	17,405,804	0	249,688
Milk Inspections	189,196	189,196	189,196	189,196	0	0
Farmers with Disabilities	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	0	0
Local Food & Farm Program	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	0	0
Iowa FFA Foundation	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	0	0
Water Quality Initiative	4,400,000	4,400,000	4,400,000	4,400,000	0	0
Total IDALS	22,474,688	22,474,688	22,474,688	22,225,000	0	249,688
Dept. of Natural Resources						
Natural Resource Operations	12,862,307	12,862,307	12,862,307	12,500,000	0	362,307
Floodplain Management	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	1,950,000	0	50,000
Forestry Health	450,000	450,000	450,000	0	0	450,000
Air Quality Program	0	1,500,000	0	0	0	0
Total DNR	15,312,307	16,812,307	15,312,307	14,450,000	0	862,307
Board of Regents						
ISU – Veterinary Diagnostic Lab	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	0	0
ISU – Nutrient Research Center	1,325,000	1,325,000	1,325,000	1,325,000	0	0
Total Board of Regents	5,325,000	5,325,000	5,325,000	5,325,000	0	0
Total Budget	43,111,995	44,611,995	43,111,995	42,000,000	0	1,111,995

Other Funds

- \$305,516 to the native horse and dog program from unclaimed pari-mutual winnings. (same as FY15)
- \$500,000 to Motor Fuel Inspection from the Renewable Fuel Infrastructure Fund. (Same as FY15)
- \$41.2 million from the Fish and Game Trust Fund to DNR’s fisheries, wildlife, and enforcement bureaus. (Same as FY15)
- \$3.4 million from the Groundwater Protection Fund to DNR to administer the programs. (Same as FY 15)

Designated Appropriations – Miscellaneous

- \$100,000 for administration and enforcement of the snowmobile program. (same as FY15)
- \$200,000 from the unassigned revenue account of the underground storage tank fund for administration of DNR’s underground storage tank section. (same as FY15)

Environment First Fund

- Appropriates \$42 million from the Environment First Fund (EFF). This is status quo from FY15.
- In SF 494, IDALS receives \$13 million from the Environment First Fund, status quo from FY 2015. In the House Amendment, IDALS receives \$14.7 million, an increase of \$1.25 million from FY 2015.
- In SF 494, DNR receives \$28.6 million from the Environment First Fund, status quo from FY 2015. In the House amendment, the DNR receives \$27.3 million, a decrease of \$1.25 million from FY 2015.
- REAP is funded at \$16 million by the Senate; \$13.5 million by the House.

Environment First Fund	Estimated FY 2015	Governor FY 2016	SF 494 FY 2016	House FY 2016	Senate vs. FY 2015	Senate vs. House
DALS – Wetland Incentive Program (CREP)	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	0	0
DALS – Watershed Protection Program	900,000	900,000	900,000	900,000	0	0
DALS – Farm Demonstration Program	625,000	625,000	625,000	625,000	0	0
DALS – Soil Conservation Cost Share*	6,750,000	6,750,000	6,750,000	7,000,000	0	(250,000)
DALS – Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	0	0
DALS – Loess Hills Conservation Authority	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	0	0
Soil and Water Conservation Fund	2,550,000	2,550,000	2,550,000	3,550,000	0	(1,000,000)
Total Agriculture and Land Stewardship	13,425,000	13,425,000	13,425,000	14,675,000	0	(1,250,000)
REAP	16,000,000	16,000,000	16,000,000	13,500,000	0	2,500,000
DNR – Vol. Water Quality (Keepers of the Land)	100,000	100,000	100,000	0	0	100,000
DNR – State Park Maintenance and Operations	6,135,000	6,135,000	6,135,000	7,035,000	0	(900,000)
DNR – Geographic Information System	195,000	195,000	195,000	195,000	0	0
DNR – Water Quality Monitoring Stations	2,955,000	2,955,000	2,955,000	2,955,000	0	0
DNR – Water Quality Protection Fund	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	0	0
DNR – Regulation of Animal Feeding Operations	1,320,000	1,320,000	1,320,000	1,320,000	0	0
DNR – Air Monitoring Equipment	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	0	0
DNR – Water Quantity Program	495,000	495,000	495,000	495,000	0	0
Geological and Water Survey	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	0	0
Keep Iowa Beautiful	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	0	0
Forestry Health	50,000	50,000	50,000	500,000	0	(450,000)
Total Department of Natural Resources	28,575,000	28,575,000	28,575,000	27,325,000	0	1,250,000
Total Environment First Fund	42,000,000	42,000,000	42,000,000	42,000,000	0	0

POLICY PROPOSALS

Agricultural Management Account

- Appropriates \$1.23 million from the Groundwater Protection Fund (Agricultural Management Account) for a 3 year data collection protection for watershed data at College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) at Iowa State University (ISU). The project will improve the ability to track progress in nutrient reduction in waterways from nonpoint sources in accordance with the Nutrient Reduction Strategy.
- The project will develop a database of in-field agricultural practices and analyze the aggregate impacts of those practices. These practices include, but are not limited to, soil and water conservation practices, structures, technologies, and agricultural inputs and outputs. These findings will then be used to develop a system to measure a broader range of watersheds and agricultural practices.
- ISU must enter into private-public partnerships to receive, collect, and hold the data. Any information received, collected, or held shall be confidential. Any aggregate data must be available for public examination. ISU must provide the terms and conditions of the legal and financial arrangement it enters into.

- ISU must provide interim reports to the General Assembly by March 1, 2016, and March 1, 2017. A final report is due to the General Assembly March 1, 2018. The final report must include findings and recommendations.

Bluffland Protection and Revolving Fund

- The Blufflands Protection and Revolving Loan Fund is divided into two accounts. One account is used to purchase blufflands along the Mississippi and its tributaries and the other account is to purchase blufflands along the Missouri River and its tributaries. The fund was created in 1999 to provide loans to conservation groups to purchase these blufflands. The fund was initially funded with \$500,000 from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF) and currently has approximately \$369,000 in the fund.
- Extends the sunset on the Bluffland Protection and Revolving Fund from July 1, 2015, to July 1, 2025.