

# Arizona Game and Fish Department

	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ESTIMATE	FY 2026 APPROVED
<b>OPERATING BUDGET</b>			
<i>Full Time Equivalent Positions</i>	273.5	273.5	273.5
Personal Services	17,147,200	19,591,500	19,810,800
Employee Related Expenditures	6,354,800	7,205,800	7,495,900
Professional and Outside Services	1,763,800	1,838,300	1,838,300
Travel - In State	225,000	227,100	227,100
Travel - Out of State	113,900	101,200	101,200
Other Operating Expenditures	10,584,200	9,907,000	15,100,900
Equipment	803,200	623,300	623,300
<b>OPERATING SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>36,992,100</b>	<b>39,494,200</b>	<b>45,197,500</b>
<b>SPECIAL LINE ITEMS</b>			
Livestock Loss Compensation	0	0	250,000
Pittman-Robertson/Dingell-Johnson Act	3,058,000	3,058,000	3,058,000
<b>AGENCY TOTAL</b>	<b>40,050,100</b>	<b>42,552,200</b>	<b>48,505,500 <sup>1/</sup></b>

## FUND SOURCES

### Other Appropriated Funds

Capital Improvement Fund	814,200	1,001,200	1,001,200
Game and Fish Fund	34,927,900	36,079,800	41,781,900
Game, Non-Game, Fish and Endangered Species Fund	315,000	391,700	646,100
Watercraft Licensing Fund	3,993,000	5,063,300	5,060,100
Wildlife Endowment Fund	0	16,200	16,200
<b>SUBTOTAL - Other Appropriated Funds</b>	<b>40,050,100</b>	<b>42,552,200</b>	<b>48,505,500</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds</b>	<b>40,050,100</b>	<b>42,552,200</b>	<b>48,505,500</b>
Other Non-Appropriated Funds	40,399,600	48,518,100	48,518,100
Federal Funds	59,006,000	62,508,400	62,508,400
<b>TOTAL - ALL SOURCES</b>	<b>139,455,700</b>	<b>153,578,700</b>	<b>159,532,000</b>

**AGENCY DESCRIPTION** — The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) manages Arizona wildlife populations through the operation of hunting and fishing license programs, enforcement actions for the unlawful taking of game, and wildlife habitat protection and development. A 5-member commission appointed by the Governor oversees department operations.

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1/</sup> General Appropriations Act funds are appropriated as an Operating Lump Sum with Special Line Items by Agency.

### **Operating Budget**

The budget includes \$45,197,500 and 273.5 FTE Positions in FY 2026 for the operating budget. These amounts consist of:

	<b>FY 2026</b>
Capital Improvement Fund	\$1,001,200
Game and Fish Fund	38,723,900
Game, Non-Game, Fish and Endangered Species Fund	396,100
Watercraft Licensing Fund	5,060,100
Wildlife Endowment Fund	16,200

Adjustments are as follows:

### **Wildlife Habitat Enhancement**

The budget includes an increase of \$2,300,000 from the Game and Fish Fund in FY 2026 to pay for costs associated with maintaining suitable habitats for various wildlife.

### **Wildlife Surveys and Relocations**

The budget includes an increase of \$600,000 from the Game and Fish Fund in FY 2026 to conduct censuses of Arizona species and to relocate wildlife as agency needs require.

**Federally Listed Endangered Species Surveys**

The budget includes an increase of \$300,000 from the Game and Fish Fund in FY 2026 to fulfill federal requirements for surveying species on the federally endangered or in-need species lists.

**Wildlife Area Operations/Property Management**

The budget includes an increase of \$1,200,000 from the Game and Fish Fund in FY 2026 to cover operations and property maintenance costs at the Department's wildlife areas.

**Dams/Hatcheries Operations and Maintenance**

The budget includes an increase of \$600,000 from the Game and Fish Fund in FY 2026 to fund operating and maintenance costs at the Department's dams and hatcheries. The budget also includes \$550,000 in capital appropriations for dam and hatchery capital maintenance (please see the *Capital Outlay – Arizona Game and Fish Department section*).

**Annual Outdoor Expo**

The budget includes an increase of \$200,000 from the Game and Fish Fund in FY 2026 for operating costs associated with the Department's annual Outdoor Expo.

**Statewide Adjustments**

The budget includes an increase of \$503,300 in FY 2026 for statewide adjustments. This amount consists of:

Game and Fish Fund	\$502,100
Game, Non-Game, Fish and Endangered Species Fund	4,400
Watercraft Licensing Fund	(3,200)

Of these amounts, \$219,300 from the Game and Fish Fund is for a 5% salary increase for AZPOST-certified staff. (Please see the *Agency Detail and Allocations section*.)

**Livestock Loss Compensation**

The budget includes \$250,000 from the Game, Non-Game, Fish and Endangered Species Fund in FY 2026 for livestock loss compensation. Adjustments are as follows:

**One-Time Funding**

The budget includes a one-time increase of \$250,000 from the Game, Non-Game, Fish and Endangered Species Fund in FY 2026 to fund the activities of the Livestock Loss Board, which compensates livestock owners who have suffered losses in this state due to wolf depredation.

**Pittman-Robertson/Dingell-Johnson Act**

The budget includes \$3,058,000 from the Game and Fish Fund in FY 2026 for the Pittman-Robertson/Dingell-Johnson Act. This amount is unchanged from FY 2025.

This line item funds the state's 25% match for federal aid matching funds for wildlife restoration projects. The department also uses \$2,600,000 in non-appropriated funds to match Pittman-Robertson/Dingell-Johnson Act grants.

**Other Issues**

**Statutory Changes**

The Environment Budget Reconciliation Bill makes the following statutory changes:

- As permanent law, increases the fund balance cap for the Game and Fish Publications Revolving Fund from \$80,000 to \$250,000.