

# Missouri Department of Conservation

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## Who we are. What we do. Why this matters.

### Who We Are

The Missouri Department of Conservation was conceived at the low point in U.S. conservation history when unregulated hunting, fishing and trapping, and the abuse of forests had depleted the state's natural resources. First envisioned by Missouri sportsmen and conservationists, the Department was created by a constitutional amendment in 1936 as the world's first apolitical, science-based conservation agency with exclusive authority over fish, forests, and wildlife.

The four-member Missouri Conservation Commission approves the *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, as well as the Department's policies, long-term strategic planning, budget, and major expenditures. Commission members, who are appointed by the governor, serve staggered, unpaid, six-year terms.

### What We Do

The Conservation Department protects and manages the fish, forest, and wildlife resources of the state and provides opportunities for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about these resources. Conservation staff sustain and improve the fish, forest, and wildlife resources, manage nearly one million acres of public land with 1,000 conservation areas, work with private landowners and communities to deliver conservation locally, and provide outreach and education through nature centers, schools, and events. Staff also work with dedicated volunteers and partner agencies to ensure a greater conservation reach both in Missouri and across the

nation. Conservation-related concerns can be addressed by MDC staff dedicated to customer service in every county of the state by going to [mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage](http://mdc.mo.gov/contact-engage) to find your local contacts.

### Why This Matters

The health of our natural habitats and the species that live here has an impact on our very quality of life. Whether feeding birds, watching wildlife, hiking, hunting, canoeing or boating, target shooting, fishing, or spending time at a nature center, Missourians are engaged with the outdoors. For more than 80 years, the Conservation Department has worked with Missourians to sustain healthy fish, forests, and wildlife for all to enjoy, and will continue to do so.

### Conservation Pays Its Way

The amount of state sales tax revenue generated from fish, forest, and wildlife recreation spending is more than the amount of sales tax revenue received by the Conservation Department from the one-eighth of one percent Conservation Sales Tax. Conservation-related expenditures generate more than \$507 million annually in state and local tax revenue. The Conservation Department's budget represents less than 1 percent of the entire state budget. No state general revenue is received. In Missouri, the total economic impact of fish and wildlife recreation and the forest products industry is more than \$12 billion annually. Expenditures and retail sales from fish and wildlife recreation and forest products support over 99,000 jobs.

# DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	FY 2019 EXPENDITURE	FY 2020 APPROPRIATION	FY 2021 REQUEST	FY 2021 GOVERNOR RECOMMENDS
Conservation Programs				
<b>DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 143,885,307</b>	<b>\$ 170,642,115</b>	<b>\$ 168,673,822</b>	<b>\$ 169,443,220</b>
PERSONAL SERVICE	79,272,757	88,062,546	90,542,428	91,322,249
EXPENSE AND EQUIPMENT	55,291,481	66,460,650	62,207,603	62,197,180
PROGRAM SPECIFIC DISTRIBUTION	9,321,069	16,118,919	15,923,791	15,923,791
TOTAL				
Conservation Commission Fund	143,885,307	170,642,115	168,673,822	169,443,220
<b>Total Full-time Equivalent Employees</b>	<b>1,603.54</b>	<b>1,791.81</b>	<b>1,790.81</b>	<b>1,790.81</b>
Other Funds	1,603.54	1,791.81	1,790.81	1,790.81

### Fiscal Year 2021 Governor's Recommendations

- \$1,000,000 Conservation Commission Fund to assist landowner and community conservation and outdoor recreation efforts.
- \$500,000 Conservation Commission Fund to modernize Chronic Wasting Disease monitoring.
- \$250,000 Conservation Commission Fund for additional equipment and supplies to combat feral hogs.
- \$1,153,089 Conservation Commission Fund to implement the department's employee compensation plan.
- \$779,821 Conservation Commission Fund for pay plan.
- \$1,118,196 Conservation Commission Fund for the remaining pay periods of the Fiscal Year 2020 approved pay plan.
- (\$6,000,001) Conservation Commission Fund and (one) staff core reduction from the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriation level.