

**Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the
Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January,
one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine**

SENATE BILL NO. 2019
(Appropriations Committee)
(At the request of the Governor)

AN ACT to make an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the state game and fish department; and to amend and reenact section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the minimum balance of the game and fish fund.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the game and fish fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the state game and fish department for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the various divisions of the department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001, as follows:

Salaries and wages	\$12,218,261
Operating expenses	7,779,014
Equipment	771,505
Capital improvements	1,602,122
Grants	3,397,050
Noxious weed control	200,000
Land habitat and deer depredation	2,703,224
Grants, gifts, and donations	100,000
Nongame wildlife conservation	120,000
Waterbank program	200,000
Wildlife services	100,000
Lonetree reservoir	1,314,860
Total special funds appropriation	<u>\$30,506,036</u>

SECTION 2. LAND HABITAT AND DEER DEPREDATION. The amount of \$2,500,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled land habitat and deer depredation in section 1 of this Act, is from the habitat and depredation fund, to lease privately owned lands for wildlife habitat to reestablish wildlife population, to improve wildlife habitat on private lands, and to alleviate big game and furbearer depredation for the biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001. These funds may be spent only for the purposes and using the guidelines contained in sections 20.1-03-12.1 and 20.1-02-05.

SECTION 3. NONGAME WILDLIFE. The amount of \$60,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled nongame wildlife in section 1 of this Act, is from the nongame wildlife fund for the purpose of preservation, inventory, perpetuation, and conservation of nongame wildlife, natural areas, and nature preserves in this state for the biennium beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2001.

SECTION 4. WATERBANK PROGRAM. The amount of \$200,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled waterbank program in section 1 of this Act, is from the game and fish department operating fund and must be used to increase water storage and enhance wildlife habitat in North Dakota. Contracts and agreements relating to the waterbank program may be entered into by the director of the game and fish department, in cooperation with the commissioner of agriculture.

SECTION 5. WILDLIFE SERVICES. The amount of \$100,000, or such lesser amount as may be available, for the line item entitled wildlife services in section 1 of this Act, is from the game and fish fund and must be used to provide grants to the wildlife services agency for projects to alleviate wildlife depredation and damage. Projects funded may include projects to alleviate waterfowl depredation and damage and must be approved by the director of the game and fish department.

SECTION 6. AMENDMENT. Section 20.1-02-16.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

20.1-02-16.1. ~~Use of game~~ Game and fish fund - Use - Required balance - Budget section approval. All income of the state game and fish department; deposited by the director with the state treasurer must be credited to the state game and fish fund and the fund may be used only by the department. All money derived from the investment of the fund or portions ~~thereof~~ of the fund must be credited to the game and fish department private land habitat and access improvement fund. The department shall spend moneys in the game and fish fund within the limits of legislative appropriations, only to the extent the balance of the fund is not reduced below ten million dollars, unless otherwise authorized by the budget section.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2019.

Senate Vote: Yeas 47 Nays 0 Absent 2

House Vote: Yeas 92 Nays 4 Absent 2

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 1999.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 1999.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1999,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State