

# Budget Unit Brief

## FY 2017



## Department of Natural Resources Operations

### Purpose and History

The [Department of Natural Resources](#) (DNR) is a broad-based agency that enforces over 100 Chapters of the Iowa Code related to natural resources and environmental protection. The Department was created in 1986, and is managed by the Director; an official appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Iowa Senate. Beginning in FY 2003, the Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee appropriated all of the General Fund moneys to the Natural Resources Operations in the Department. This allows the agency to prioritize program funding when funding is reduced.

### Funding

Funding to the Natural Resources Operations includes appropriations from the General Fund, the Environment First Fund, Fish and Game Protection Fund, and the Groundwater Protection Fund. The Department receives federal funds, collects fees, and receives other revenue. Major expenditures include personnel services, state aid to landowners for various projects, capital projects, contract and professional services, and state vehicle operations.

### Other States

The FY 2016 General Fund appropriations for 30 other state natural resources departments were reviewed and the average appropriation level was \$52.5 million. The appropriation level ranged from a low of \$2.0 million to a high of \$175.4 million. However, the organization of each state may vary and the programs in the Iowa DNR may not be the same programs funded with General Fund moneys in other states.

### Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [455A](#), [455B](#), [455C](#), [455D](#), [455E](#), [455F](#), [455G](#), [455H](#), [455I](#), [455J](#), [455K](#), [456](#), [456A](#), [456B](#), [457A](#), [457B](#), [458A](#), [459](#), [459A](#), [459B](#), [460](#), [461](#), [461A](#), [461B](#), [461C](#), [462A](#), [462B](#), [463B](#), [463C](#), [464A](#), [464B](#), [465A](#), [465B](#), [465C](#), [466](#), [466A](#), [466B](#), [481A](#), [481B](#), [481C](#), [482](#), [483A](#), [484A](#), [484B](#), and [484C](#)

Iowa Administrative Code: [561 IAC](#) (Natural Resources Department), [567 IAC](#) (Environmental Protection Commission), [571 IAC](#) (Natural Resource Commission), [575 IAC](#) (State Advisory Board for Preserves), and [591 IAC](#) (Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Board).

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### More Information

Department of Natural Resources: <http://www.iowadnr.gov>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

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