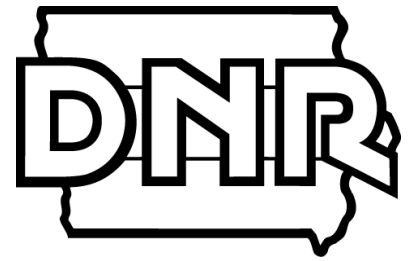


**FY2020**



**ANNUAL REPORT**

# Celebrating Accomplishments



On behalf of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, (DNR), I am pleased to submit the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report. This report highlights the dedication, effort and success put forth and gained by all members of the Department of Natural Resources. It is our hope that after reading this report, you will know the many roles and accomplishments of the Department and learn how we continually serve the citizens of the State of Iowa.

Our Department has been very fortunate and grateful to receive continued support from our citizens, lawmakers and the Governor, allowing us to operate with continued success, continuing to protect and enhance our state's natural resources. This report shows how vital and valuable our services are to our great state.

As you review this report, do not hesitate to contact us with any questions regarding our Department's efforts to serve the State of Iowa. It is truly our privilege to serve the citizens of Iowa. This report shall serve as the annual report required under Iowa Code section 7E.3(4), and all other reports required under 7E., 455A.4, and 481A.10.

We look forward to continuously serving you.

Sincerely,

Kayla Lyon  
Director

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## ABOUT THE DNR:

The DNR manages fish and wildlife programs, ensures the health of Iowa's forests and prairies, and provides recreational opportunities in Iowa's state parks. Just as importantly, the DNR carries out state and federal laws that protect air, land and water through technical assistance, permitting and compliance programs. The DNR also encourages the enjoyment and stewardship of natural resources among Iowans through outreach and education.

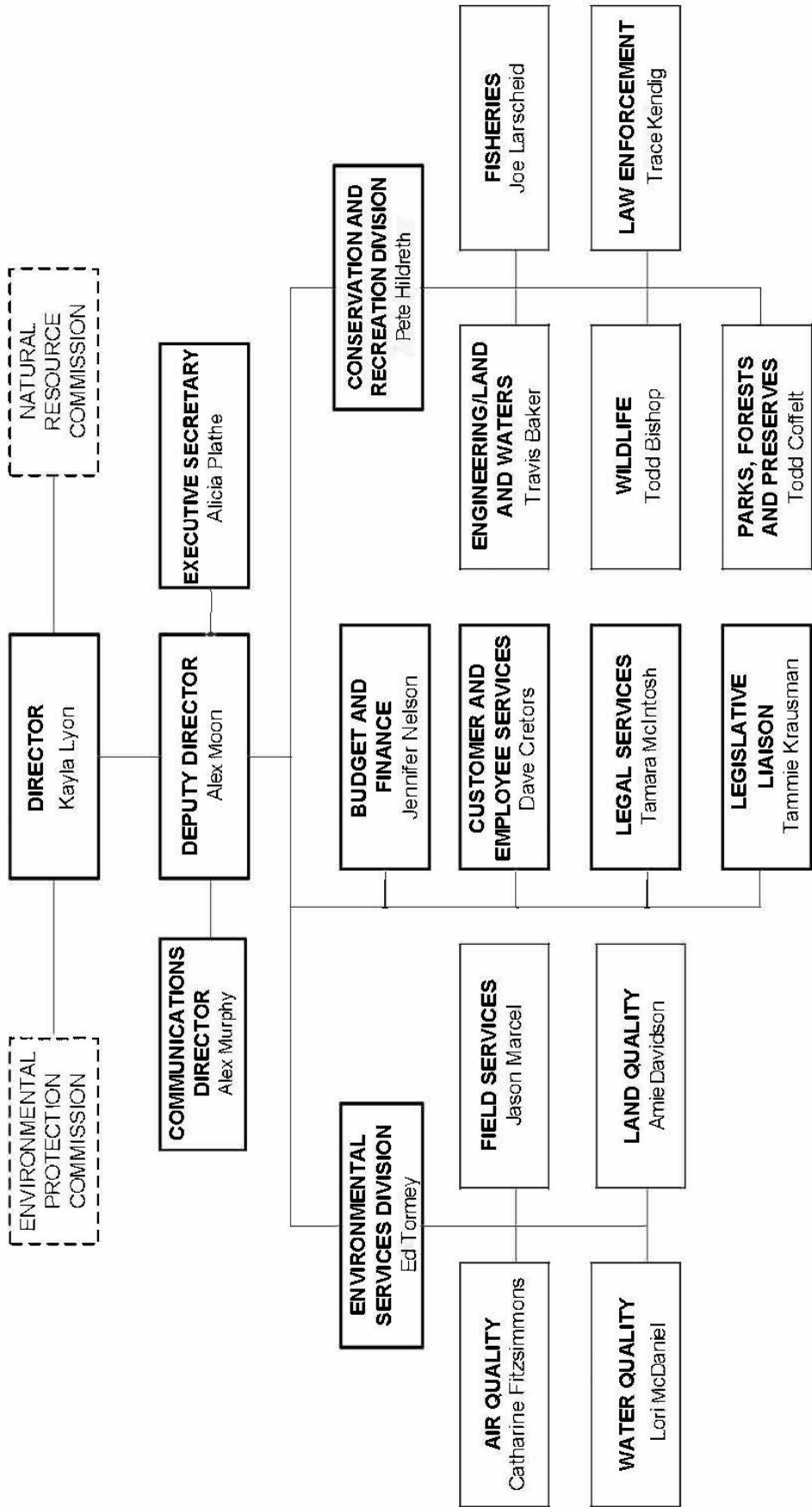
## THE DNR'S MISSION:

To conserve and enhance our natural resources in cooperation with individuals and organizations to improve the quality of life in Iowa and ensure a legacy for future generations.



# Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Leading Iowans in caring for our natural resources



## DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

### Kayla Lyon, Director

The Director serves as the head of the Department of Natural Resources. The Director is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Iowa Senate.

Kayla Lyon was appointed Director of the Department of Natural Resources in July 2019. Before joining the Department, she served as the agriculture and natural resources policy advisor for Governor Branstad and Governor Reynolds before Governor Reynolds asked her to serve as her legislative liaison for the 2019 General Assembly.

The Director works closely with the Natural Resource Commission and Environmental Protection Commission.



Within the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, there are individual staff members, as well as three divisions, which fulfill vital roles for the Department, and most importantly for the citizens of Iowa. Those staff members work as liaisons between DNR employees, Iowans, media and legislators. Every day, the Director's office field inquiries from both citizens and media, and collaborates with employees and assists other state departments and branches of government to serve, give back and fulfill the department's mission.

### Deputy Director & Executive Officer

The Deputy Director is responsible for coordinating and consulting with the Director related to Departmental priorities, initiatives, goals and objectives. The Deputy Director supervises the Executive Officer, Division Administrators for the Conservation and Recreation Division and the Environmental Services Division, Budget and Finance, Customer and Employee Services, and Legal Bureaus along with Application Development and Communication sections.

The Executive Officer assists on daily tasks and operations hand-in-hand with the Director and the Deputy Director.

### LEGISLATIVE LIAISON:

The DNR has one policy advisor or legislative liaisons. The legislative liaison serves both the Conservation and Recreation Division as well as the Environmental Services Division of the Department. The duties include working with a wide range of government officials, as well as non-profit, and private entities on legislation impacting the

Department.

Additional duties include coordinating departmental efforts to implement new laws, which may involve assisting with administrative rulemaking; and educating DNR personnel and other stakeholders. The legislative liaison also assists with resolving questions related to DNR laws, departmental operations generally, including the budget, and assists all divisions and bureaus with

public relations, citizen inquiries, and public information requests related to natural resource policy issues. During FY 2020, the policy advisor provided legislators with information and background on many issues affecting the Department.



# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

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### COMMUNICATIONS TEAM:

The DNR Communications Team is supervised by the Director of Communications and is tasked with all external and internal communications efforts for the Department. The Communications Team is comprised of several different areas:

**Iowa Outdoors magazine:** A section within the DNR Communications Team is in charge of producing the Iowa Outdoors magazine, providing content and photos published quarterly in the magazine.

**Graphic Designer:** A full-time graphic designer is responsible for the entire layout of the Iowa Outdoors magazine each quarter as well as all Department-wide graphic design needs, including marketing content, promotional materials, PowerPoint presentations and documents. This role also serves as the Department's photographer.

**Website:** A full-time web content manager is responsible for keeping the DNR's website up-to-date, error free and with constantly changing and relevant information for the 317,000 unique visitors that make their way to the DNR website monthly.

**Social Media:** A social media manager manages the content on all of the DNR's social media platforms which include: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, LinkedIn, Nextdoor and YouTube. This past year, our social media channels were recognized at the Des Moines Social Club's Hashie Awards with first place awards for Best Overall Social Media Presence, Best Use of Live Video, and Best Social Media Customer Service. The DNR gains approximately 2,500 new followers on social media each month.

**Embedded reporters:** The DNR Communications Team has embedded communications specialists in Land Quality, Water Quality, Parks, Fisheries, Field Services, Air Quality, Wildlife and Law Enforcement. These specialists work daily within these areas to provide advice and fulfill communication material needs from press releases to marketing needs.

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### BUSINESS ASSISTANCE:

The Business Assistance Liaison is responsible for providing environmental permitting guidance to businesses intending to build or expand in Iowa. The liaison conducts a preliminary interview with prospective company leadership to determine the type of business, the proposed location and the anticipated start date of the operations. The liaison facilitates meetings with a company's key staff, their consultants and the Department's permitting staff to identify required permits and to outline a timeline that most expeditiously meets the company's start-up goals. The liaison serves as a resource for companies as projects move forward - either to trouble shoot; research status of permits; or schedule additional meetings to resolve unanswered questions.

In addition, the liaison coordinates the Department's business assistance efforts with Economic Development Authority representatives and other state agency business regulatory coordinators as necessary.

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### COMMISSIONS:

#### Environmental Protection Commission

The Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) is a panel of nine citizens who provide policy oversight over Iowa's environmental protection efforts. EPC members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by vote of the Senate for four year terms. The Commission works with the Environmental Services Division of the Department including the bureaus of Land Quality, Water Quality, Air Quality and Field Services.

The EPC meets monthly, generally the third Tuesday of each month with a tour often scheduled on Monday afternoon the day before the meeting. The meetings are held throughout the state. A meeting agenda is published approximately one week before each meeting. For further information about meetings, you may contact Jerah Sheets at [Jerah.Sheets@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Jerah.Sheets@dnr.iowa.gov).

#### Natural Resource Commission

The Natural Resource Commission consists of seven citizens, appointed to six year terms by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Commission works with the Conservation and Recreation Division of the Department of Natural Resources. This division includes the bureaus of Engineering, Fisheries, Forestry, Land and Waters, Law Enforcement, State Parks, and Wildlife. Some of the substantive work of the Commission includes reviewing and approving hunting and fishing administrative rules, public land acquisitions and easements, construction and general business contracts, leases, grants, and annual budgets as outlined in Iowa Code and Iowa Administrative Code.

The commission meets monthly, generally the second Thursday, with a field tour occasionally scheduled in conjunction with the meeting. Time is normally scheduled at each meeting for members of the public to address the commission about topics related to natural resource management. The meeting agenda will be published approximately a week before the meeting. For further information about meetings you may contact Kim Rasler, Board Administrator, at [Kim.Rasler@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Kim.Rasler@dnr.iowa.gov).



# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

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## LEGAL SERVICES BUREAU:

The Department's legal staff provides legal advice to Department staff and to the Natural Resource Commission, the Environmental Protection Commission and the State Advisory Board for Preserves. Staff consists of a Legal Services Bureau Chief (DNR General Counsel), seven attorneys, and one program planner. The attorneys serve several roles, including program area general counsel, representation of the Department in administrative proceedings, and legal review of department contracts.

In their role as program area general counsel, the attorneys conduct research and deliver legal opinions, both oral and in writing, to their program area. Additionally, members of this bureau draft and review administrative rules and legislation. The attorneys also respond to legal questions from the Legislature and general public.

In their role of providing representation during administrative proceedings, the attorneys support the Environmental Services Division programs in compliance and enforcement efforts by preparing enforcement actions against violators of the state's environmental laws, and support the Conservation and Recreation Division by handling hunting and fishing license suspension hearings.

## Records Center:

The Records Center handles the records for the Department, including filing, storing, and scanning. The Records Center also handles all public records requests the Department receives and maintains and updates the Department's record retention schedules. The Records Center is supervised by the Legal Services Bureau Chief and has three full time staff.

Over the course of the last year, the Records Center has responded to **1,280** requests for public records. In most cases, the public records requests were handled by converting the paper records to electronic formats per the instructions of the requestor.

The Records Center is an integral part of the Department's move to electronic records. Over **15,764** documents were scanned by Records Center staff and are now available in an electronic format.

Environmental Services Division cases referred to the Legal Services Bureau are resolved in one of three ways. First, legal staff may attempt to negotiate settlements by issuing consent orders. If settlement is unlikely, legal staff assists the Director with issuing unilateral orders and handling all administrative appeals of those orders. Lastly, the attorney may present significant violations to the Environmental Protection Commission for referral to the Iowa Attorney General for civil or criminal enforcement.

The bureau has an average caseload of between 100 and 125 cases at any given time. During CY20, there have been 120 enforcement actions. Conservation and Recreation Division suspensions appealed to the Department are handled by the attorneys through an administrative hearing.

Staff in the bureau play a central role in the drafting or review of contracts entered into by the Department. Attorneys and the program planner are assigned to one or more programs and assist program staff in all steps of the contract process. The Legal Services Bureau has drafted standardized contract templates for use by all Department staff.

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

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## CUSTOMER AND EMPLOYEE SERVICES BUREAU:

The Customer and Employee Services Bureau (CESB) supports both the business related needs and internal functions within the DNR as well as provides quality service and support to the general public. CESB is composed of four main sections: Customer Service, Licensing, Human Resources and Training. The CESB provides the following to the department:

### **Human Resources Section:**

#### *Hiring:*

- Hiring assistance is provided by the DNR Hiring Team for all positions within DNR. The Hiring Team works with supervisors to ensure consistency in the hiring process as well as compliance with hiring rules and regulations.
- Provides input and information for vacancies within the Department.

#### *Payroll and Benefits:*

- Maintains and updates Human Resources Information System by reviewing and preparing personnel documents to add or remove employees and positions from payroll system; calculating and inputting pay changes and benefit adjustments, starting or changing employee deductions, personal, and position information.
- Responsible for department payroll of 823 full time employees and 196 temporary staff.
- Provides guidance and information on all pay and benefit matters to employees and beneficiaries.
- Manages employee benefits system.
- Reviews and submits workers' compensation injury reports and calculates compensation rates; tracks medical billings; provides DAS-HRE with information on claims under investigation.

#### *Personnel:*

- Provides information and interprets administrative rules, policies, laws, collective bargaining agreements, agency work rules, and Iowa code.
- Oversees maintenance of agency human resources files and ensures retention procedures comply with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations.
- Tracks and maintains individual evaluations and performance plans.
- Conducts investigations regarding employee misconduct, harassment, general complaints, and all other issues as deemed appropriate.
- Coaches management staff to maximize accuracy and consistency with investigation protocol.

### **Training Section:**

- Employee Onboarding Coordination and Intranet Resources Maintenance (0-3 Months of Employment)
- Most Valuable Resource - Career Empowerment Program (New employees 3-6 months after hire)
- Business and Computer Training Coordination & Enrollments (Classroom and eLearning) through Vendors
- Facilitation of Personal Accountability Workshop
- Educational Assistance and Educational Leave
- Certified Public Manager Program (CPM)
- Employee Recognition / Years of Service Certificates
- Ergonomics Education and Office Modification Coordination
- Google Business Point of Contact & Coordinator / Guru Resource
- Safety Training Materials - Accessibility of Materials and Tracking



## **Customer Service Section:**

### **Internal Customer Service**

#### **Administrative Support and Program Assistance:**

- Assists DNR staff with data entry, transcription, form management, document creation, formatting/proofreading, and document finalization.
- Takes payments for program fees.
- Assists with filing, scanning, and archiving records.
- Provides assistance during work overflows during peak program times and serve as reinforcement during staff transitions and outages.

#### **Mailing Services and Material Management:**

- Performs outgoing daily mail preparation, open and route all incoming staff mail, coordinate bulk mailings, send supply shipments.
- Ensures the DNR is sending mail efficiently and in the most cost-effective manner.
- Orders staff office supplies, special print jobs, and general purchasing assistance.
- Provides storeroom management, maintain brochure inventory and manage shared equipment checkout system. Assist in the proper disposal of unused DNR property through Gov Deals.
- Maintains large copier contracts and maintenance, telephone contract, and provides building maintenance liaison assistance with the Department of Administrative Services.

### **External Customer Service**

#### **Phone Center and Front Desk:**

- Performs 60,000+ customer contacts a year
- Serves as main contact for Wallace Building visitors
- Answers 200+ calls/day and reply to general inquiries submitted by the public through DNR main website.
- Serves as liaison between the general public and all DNR programs by utilizing customer input to ensure public content is accurate, up to date and available.
- Focus on providing timely and accurate information to customers to help them get outside and enjoy Iowa's natural resources.

## **Licensing Section:**

### **System Management**

- Manages the new Go Outdoors Iowa electronic licensing system used to sell 360 types of outdoor recreation and commercial privileges to the public. These privileges include: hunting and fishing licenses; snowmobile and Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) annual use permits; boat registrations and renewals; snowmobile and OHV registration and renewals; recreational vehicle and vessel dealer registrations and renewals, and taxidermy licenses.
- The new electronic licensing app and system was unveiled in early 2019 to hunters, trappers and anglers and has received positive feedback; over a million privileges have been sold to date.
- Oversees the processing of nearly 1.3 million privileges annually, 340,000 boat renewals and registrations during a three year renewal cycle and approximately 80,000 OHV and snowmobile registrations and renewals annually.
- Ensures proper accounting for \$40 million in annual income collected through license sales which accounts for 1/3 of the DNR's operating budget.

### **License Processes and Programs**

- Administers the land-owner tenant program.
- Provides assistance to wildlife biologists on the issuance of depredation and deer management zone hunts.
- Administers the nonresident deer lottery process in which 15,000 preference points are purchased and over 9,000 applications are received.
- Coordinates bonding of Recreational Vehicles and Vessels and Issuance of Commercial, Scientific and Miscellaneous Licenses.
- Oversees the issuance of recreational vehicle and vessel dealer certification.
- Provides assistance to County Recorders on the issuance of Vehicles/Vessel registrations and renewals .
- Provides account manager services to 650 license agents.



# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

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### BUDGET AND FINANCE BUREAU:

The 17 members of the Budget and Finance Bureau are responsible for all financial operations of the Department. In FY20, the Department had an annual spend of \$181 million and more than 200 different funding sources. The Bureau is composed of four main sections:

#### Accounts Payable:

- Received, audited, and processed over 17,000 vendor and travel reimbursements for payment totaling over \$72 million.
- Interprets state rules and regulations when processing payments and ensures compliance with the Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Enterprise (DAS/SAE) guidelines.
- Audits and reconciles receipt transactions I/3 state accounting system, cashiers Great Plains reports, and the initial listing provided by the DNR mail room.
- Performs research on any discrepancies identified and corrects any misstatements to ensure fiscal accountability.
- Provides education to DNR staff members on travel reimbursements, payment processes and procedures, works with vendors to expedite payments.

#### Accounts Receivable:

- Received, reconciled and completed data entry for over 34,000 incoming receipts annually totaling over \$29.8 million.
- Processes all electronic payments and credit card receipts.
- Monitors, distributes, and audits miscellaneous cash receipts books and processes monthly cash reports from field locations with established bank accounts.
- Works with the Department of Revenue for the collection of funds from returned checks.
- Completes monthly and quarterly sales tax reporting in order to E-file taxes with the Department of Revenue.

#### Purchasing/Capital Asset Management:

- Drafts and/or reviews purchasing specifications for solicitations including Request for Proposals, Requests for Information, Request for Bid, and Request for Quote.
- Scheduled, managed, and coordinated 47 major construction procurement (projects over \$100,000) totaling \$19.6 million and 61 minor construction procurement (projects under \$100,000) totaling \$1.28 million through solicitation of formal and informal sealed bids.
- Provides statewide oversight to ensure the Department's capital assets totaling more than \$410 million and over 625 state-owned vehicles are properly inventoried, depreciated, and managed.
- Coordinates new and replacement mobile device orders and serves as the point of contact for more than 850 lines of service.
- Manages more than 388 P-Cards, which generate 17,762 transactions, with an annual spend of \$2.7 million, to ensure purchasing and program compliance.

#### Grant Management/Internal Audit:

- Manages administration of 156 single and multi-year federal grants totaling \$48.4 million, including ensuring fiscal and program compliance, preparation and timely submission of reports, tracking expenditures, and preparing draws.
- Acts as direct liaison with 10 federal grant agencies (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Forest Service; National Park Service; U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Department of Defense; U.S. Geological Survey; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Natural Resource Conservation Service; and the Federal Emergency Management Agency).
- Issues and administer over 200 grants and agreements annually to ensure recipients understand and follow all state and federal program rules and regulations.
- Conducts over 250 recreational inspections annually to verify the permanent protection of state and federal recreational investments.
- Develops and implements internal controls in response to audit concerns and maintains financial records according to appropriate retention schedules.

*\*All data listed is FY20*





# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

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### APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU:

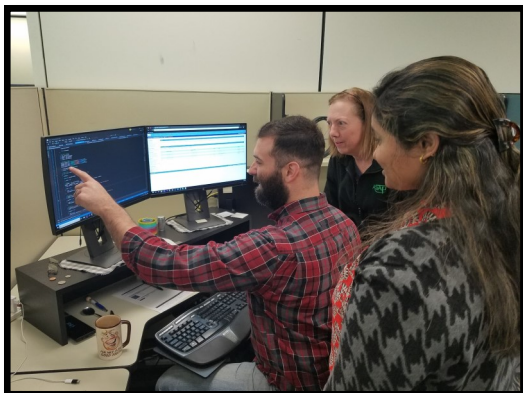
The Application Development Bureau provides programming support for the Department's nearly one hundred applications utilized by DNR programs managing everything from state park playground inspections to leaking underground storage tank pollutant modeling. The bureau includes ten full time employees, six full time contractors currently, and some part time contractors. The bureau is managed by a supervisor with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO). The bureau makes successful use of Agile development methodologies that allows stakeholders daily input and feedback on the development process while working with a team of developers and testers.

### Recent Successes:

- From October 2019 to October 2020, the DNR App Dev team completed over 100 production deployments delivering bug fixes, security patches and upgraded functionality.
- Over the last two years, the average number of open ServiceNow tickets has been reduced from 27 to 11.

### Current Priorities:

- Upgrades to DNR's Animal Feeding Operations database to migrate old functionality to current standards while improving system functionality. Enhancements to the DNR User, consultant and public search pages, New pages created for management of the MMP's, public records page, Reports, Letters, Surveys and metrics.
- Rewrite of the Water Use Allocation Application
- Purchase and deployment of a Fisheries Survey Data off-the-shelf system
- Deployment of NatureServe Biotics software-as-a-service for tracking endangered, threatened, and special concern plant and animal species in Iowa. It informs land managers of sensitive areas in managed areas (parks, preserves, wildlife management areas, state forests, etc.), informs environmental review of proposed development projects (construction of roads, pipelines, subdivisions, etc.) to assist in avoiding conflicts with protected species, and informs land acquisition efforts with regard to opportunities to protect rare and declining species.
- Storm Water enhancements to include CROMERR changes, renewal of permit without certification, auto attachment of authorizations and cover letters, email
- Tanks enhancements to include a new closure report, UI changes to see closure information, inspection data for EPA bi-annual submissions
- Time of Transfer (TOT) new application that will automate the receipt of TOT Inspection reports, notify counties and other recipients of submissions. Additionally it will automatically capture the inspection and attachments and move that to our new Open Text repository. There will be some DNR Admin functionality but it will be minimal. Projected to be completed Spring of 2021.
- HSI AWIA reporting to provide PO's the ability to track AWIA related incidents and report on them



### Grants:

- DNR received a \$300,000 Exchange Network Grant to help cover the cost to integrate Water Container's various drinking water applications with EPA's new SDWIS PRIME system. EPA's SDWIS PRIME project is unfortunately months behind schedule. The grant has been extended for three more years due to delays.
- The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, along with partner IHR-Hydroscience & Engineering (IHR) at The University of Iowa, received a \$193,000 Exchange Network Grant to complete a project that builds upon existing water quality and water monitoring expertise to link U of I's IWQIS to EPA's Currents Discovery Tool (Currents).

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

The **Conservation and Recreation Division (CRD) Management Team** consists of the Division Administrator (DA), two executive officers, the State Forester, and the Chiefs of five Bureaus: Fisheries, Land and Waters, Law Enforcement, State Parks, and Wildlife, who oversee the DNR's management of state-owned recreation lands and waters and associated infrastructure throughout Iowa with approximately 635.70 full time and seasonal employees.

### Funding sources:

65% Fish and Game Trust Fund  
23% Conservation Fund  
12% REAP Administration Fund

### **Management Team Responsibilities**

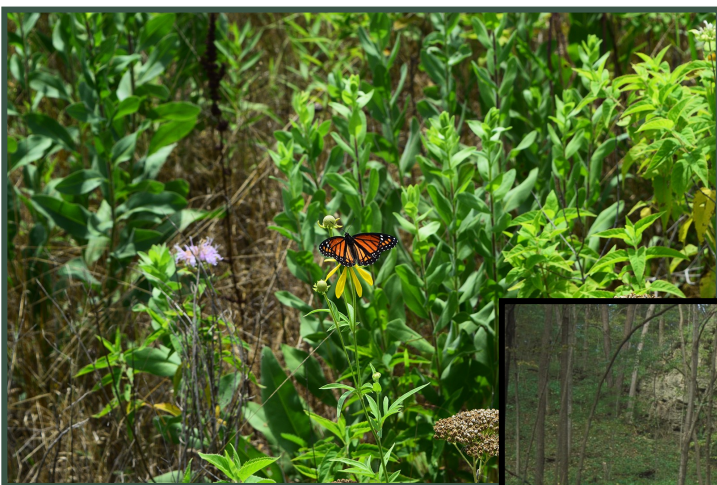
The CRD Management Team helps set policies and budgets, and ensures the bureaus are working together to optimize the resources each brings to the table.

**Division Administrator:** The DA is appointed by the DNR Director and is a key member of the Director's executive management team and, also, ensures the Department's work, mission, vision, and needs are articulated at all levels, internally and publicly. The DA also serves as staff lead for the Natural Resource Commission.

**Administrative Team:** The administrative team is charged with specific division management and agency-wide operation tasks and required reporting, in addition to their core duties.

The Executive Officer 2 manages the Division's capital budget, and serves as the department's educational interpretation program manager and Lean coordinator.

The Executive Officer 1 serves as executive assistant to the Division Administrator, support operations of the division and serves as the Board Administrator to the Natural Resource Commission.





# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## STATE PARKS, FORESTS AND PRESERVES BUREAU:

The State Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau oversees 70 of Iowa's state parks and recreation areas and 10 state forests, which encompass over 95,000 acres. Another 20 state parks are managed by other local political entities. The State Preserves System consists of 97 preserves encompassing 10,795 acres. State parks, recreation areas and forests are some of Iowa's most special places and provide outstanding natural resources and a multitude of recreational opportunities.

### Funding sources:

- 34% Environment First Fund
- 33% Conservation Fund (park receipts)
- 33% General Fund Appropriations

### Staffing:

The State Parks Bureau currently has 111 full time personnel and 330, 780-hour seasonal positions tasked with carrying out a wide variety of responsibilities including natural resource management, recreation planning and development, facility and grounds maintenance, interpretation, law enforcement, park management, public outreach, and grant, program and policy administration.

Staffing can be broken into two sections. The parks bureau chief oversees both sections.

### Field Operations: 104 full time staff, 330, 780-hour seasonal positions

Field operations staff is responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of parks, recreation areas and state forests as well as participates in long range planning. The park system is divided into five districts, each with a district park supervisor.



### Program Administration (Central Office): 7 full time staff

Staff in the program administration section oversee capitals and infrastructure planning and budget, the centralized reservation system, volunteer and friends group programs, marketing and communication, and policy development and administration. Two grant programs are also managed by central office staff. The OHV grant program provides funds to eligible entities for the acquisition and development, operation and maintenance of designated OHV parks in the state. The Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program is a federally funded program that provides match funds of 50% for outdoor recreation area development and acquisition and is open to Iowa's cities and counties.



**Parks BY THE NUMBERS:**

77 Campgrounds (54 parks/forests)

4,592 Campsites

94 Rental Cabins/Yurts

31 Day-use Lodges

157 Picnic Shelters

450+ Miles of Trails

2019 Visitation: **15,208,794\***

2019 Camping Guest Days: **790,078**

2019 Cabin Guest Days: **57,549**

\*Includes overnight guest days



1 – Parks Bureau Chief

**Field Operations**

5 – District Park Supervisors

32 - Park Managers

36 - Park Rangers (certified peace officers)

4 – Area Foresters

23 – Park and Forest Natural Resource Technicians

1 – Program Planner (Cedar Rock)

1 – Interpreter

1 – Carpenter

**Program Administration**

2 – Executive Officers

3 – Program Planners

1 – Information Specialist

1 - Secretary



# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

### Fisheries Bureau:

The Fisheries Bureau manages nearly 71,000 miles of streams and 300,000 acres of Iowa waters to improve fishing and recreational opportunities for more Iowans in more places. Iowa's fishing opportunities are as diverse as the species of fish you can catch. More than 150 million fish are stocked each year into Iowa waters. Most of the walleyes, muskellunge, trout, and channel catfish in our lakes began their life in DNR hatcheries.

### Funding Sources:

100 percent Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund

### WARM & COOLWATER HATCHERIES

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

Four warm and cool water hatcheries spawn and raise a variety of popular Iowa fish species. More than 150 million fish are stocked each year into Iowa waters. Each hatchery specializes in a few fish species. The species raised are based on stocking requests from DNR fisheries management staff.

#### Success Story:

**World Wide Leaders in Walleye Production Techniques-** Iowa hatcheries' success of high survival rates of raising walleye fry to advanced fingerlings is the envy of many surrounding states. Innovation, years of research, a willingness to explore new techniques and persistence has led to this success.



### TROUT PROGRAM

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

Three trout hatcheries produce over 330,000 catchable-sized rainbow trout each year. They also produce over 170,000 fingerling trout that are stocked and allowed to grow in the stream. Stream improvement partnerships has stabilized 1,700 feet of eroding stream banks and added 600 feet of trout habitat along 3 cold-water streams in FY20. The trout program has added 1.83 miles of public fishing access through fee title (0.91 miles) or water quality and angler access easements (0.92 miles).

#### Success Story:

**Swiss Valley Trout Habitat Improved with Partnerships-** The Swiss Valley area of Catfish Creek is a popular trout fishing destination near Dubuque. Catfish Creek watershed and trout habitat was improved over the past decade through a partnership with private landowners; community volunteers; city, county, state and federal governmental agencies; non-governmental organizations; conservation clubs; trout anglers and private contractors. This work has spurred natural reproduction of Brown Trout and has increased angler use from 10,000 angler trips in 2006 to over 18,000 in 2016 at Catfish Creek.



### FISHERIES RESEARCH

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

Seven research stations evaluate existing fisheries management practices, innovate new techniques, and advance the science and technology used to improve fishing in Iowa's lakes, rivers, and ponds. Each research team works on multiple studies that were carefully designed to solve questions posed by district fisheries managers and fish hatcheries.

#### Success Story:

**Quality Walleye Fishing Close to Home-** Iowa's interior river walleye fisheries are unique resources that have been greatly expanded over the last 20 years as a result of nearly 15 years of fisheries research. Research focused on fine-tuning the walleye fingerling stocking program by identifying the best genetic strain of walleye fingerlings to stock, the most effective stocking rates and locations, and conditions which determined stocking success. The result is quality walleye populations in our interior rivers all across the State of Iowa for anglers.





## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

### Programs, Services & Activities:

Sixteen fisheries management offices restore and maintain high quality habitat within Iowa's watersheds, streams and lakes. Management staff are excellent resources for fishing information for anglers in their local areas.

Management biologists spend a significant portion of their time working with other agency experts and local stakeholders on watershed improvement projects.

### Success Story:

**Hybrid Striped Bass Management**– Hybrid Striped Bass, also known as Palmetto bass, is the cross of a female ocean striped bass and a male white bass. This fish, which does not occur in natural populations, can grow fast and reach sizes much larger than the native white bass. Hybrid striped bass in Iowa can weigh over twenty pounds and are explosive fighters when hooked. Hybrid striped bass are stocked annually into 28 lakes or reservoirs to provide a trophy fishery. To find where to catch Hybrid striped bass in Iowa go to <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Fishing/Iowa-Fish-Species/Fish-Details/SpeciesCode/SBH>



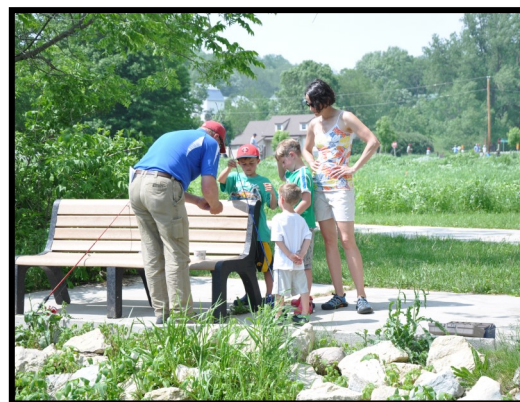
## COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM

### Programs, Services & Activities:

Helps cities improve the fishing in their ponds by offering tools and tips to solve common problems like lots of aquatic plants, small fish and undesirable fish species. Partnerships with city officials, community and neighborhood groups help boost community pride while providing a safe, convenient place to fish.

### Success Story:

**Fishing Friendly Storm water Basins**- City officials, engineers and developers now have the option to design and build a storm water basin that can provide good fishing and cleaner water for generations to come. Many metro developments have fishing friendly stormwater basins – a great place for the community to gather, spend time together, and share fishing stories.



## AQUATIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

### Programs, Services & Activities:

Teaches beginners of all ages and abilities to fish. Strives to create safe anglers, stewards of Iowa's aquatic resources, and fishing opportunities for all Iowans. Includes training for educators and youth leaders, educational resources, and free loan rods and reels at more than 100 locations across Iowa. Supports conservation education workshops and courses designed to increase educator knowledge and understanding of Iowa's aquatic resources.

### Success Story:

**Kanesville Kids Hooked on Fishing**- Mat Daniels, social studies and science teacher at Kanesville Alternative Learning Center in Council Bluffs, has used the *Fish Iowa!* curriculum with at-risk students in the Passages Program for four years. He works with 150 students each year in his nine week course and upon completion students get an elective "Fish Iowa!" credit on their transcript. "I believe that fishing is something students can take with them forever," said Daniels.





# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## LAW ENFORCEMENT BUREAU:

It is the mission of the Law Enforcement Bureau to protect the State's natural resources, to provide public safety and to educate and serve the public. We enhance, promote, and protect the natural resources of this state through public relations, education, and law enforcement, thus ensuring for future generations the rights, privileges and benefits we now enjoy.

Natural resources law enforcement is one responsibility of the Iowa DNR, which is the state government agency that protects and enhances Iowa's natural resources.

The Law Enforcement Bureau has 82 conservation officers including six supervisors, five recreational safety officers, and 71 field officers. All are fully certified state peace officers with the authority to enforce all Iowa laws. As U.S. federal deputy game wardens, they also may cross state lines when violations of federal wildlife laws have been committed.

### Funding sources:

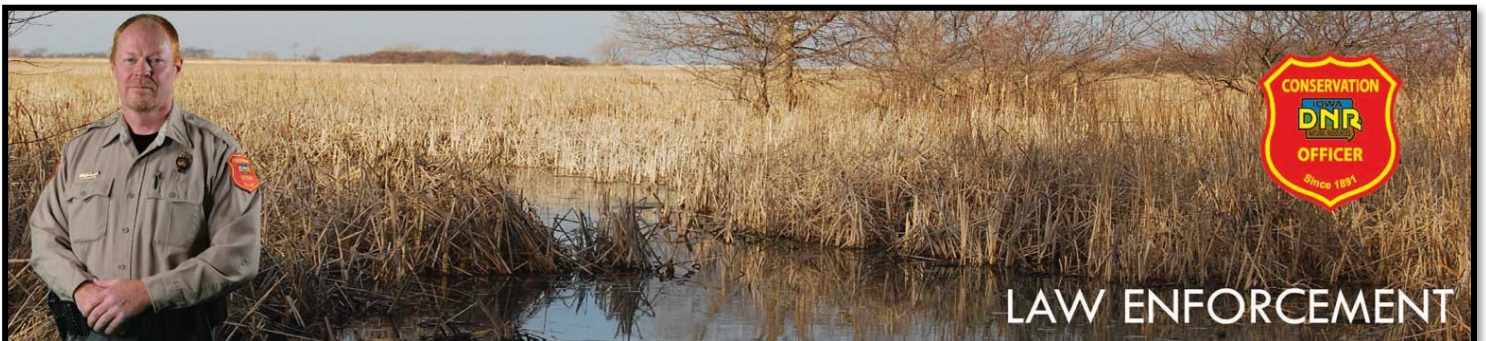
100% Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

The primary responsibilities of **DNR Conservation Officers:**

- Enforces laws related to hunting, trapping, fishing, navigation, commercial fishing, snowmobiling and all-terrain vehicles.
- Investigates incidents involving outdoor recreation.
- Inspects game breeders, taxidermists, bait dealers and other commercial users.
- Educates adults and youth through hunter education, outdoor skills workshops, and other courses.
- Communicates with schools and community groups through public programs, and with the media through TV, newspaper, and radio shows.

The **DNR Hunter Education Program** goals:

- Educates Iowans about hunter safety
- Promotes hunter education and ethics
- Trains volunteer instructors to teach hunter education
- Continues to keep hunting the safe activity it has become by providing hunter education to the public, the DNR will help ensure the safety of hunters throughout our state by continuing to promote ethics and fair chase, hunter responsibility and landowner relations. The safety, recruitment, and retention of hunters are important in continuing the tradition of hunting in Iowa's GREAT Outdoors!



## BOATING SAFETY EDUCATION:

- Educate Iowans about Boating Safety
- Continue to promote boater education in the schools
- Train volunteer instructors to teach boater education
- Make Iowa's waterways safe through education



## SCHOLASTIC CLAY TARGET PROGRAM (SCTP)

SCTP is a team-based youth development program that uses the clay target sports of trap, skeet, and sporting clays to instill life skills such as discipline, safety, teamwork, ethics, mental focus, self-discipline, and self-confidence in Iowa's youth. Athletes from grade school through college may participate in any or all of these clay target sports.

The program uses these shooting disciplines to teach hunting skills through the safe use of hunting equipment including firearms and their relationship to hunting situations.



## NATIONAL ARCHERY IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM (NASP)

NASP is an in-school program aimed at improving educational performance among students in grades 4th - 12th. And through it students are learning focus, self-control, discipline, patience, and the life lessons required to be successful in the classroom and in life.

## SCHOLASTIC ACTION SHOOTING PROGRAM (SASP)

SASP is a team-based youth development program that uses pistols, rifles, and steel targets to instill life skills such as discipline, safety, teamwork, ethics, mental focus, self-discipline and self-confidence in Iowa's youth.



## SHOOTING RANGES

The Iowa DNR operates 11 public shooting ranges located throughout the state. Two of these ranges, Olofson and Banner (both in central Iowa), are fully modernized and staffed.





# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## LAND AND WATERS BUREAU:

The Land and Waters Bureau works collaboratively to ensure the effective implementation of environmental and conservation goals for the benefit of Iowa's citizens, providing a range of natural resource services to internal and external DNR stakeholders, including the following:

- Facility Maintenance & Improvement
- Restoration and Resource Enhancement
- Conservation & Compliance
- Land Protection
- Outdoor Recreation

## CONSTRUCTION SERVICES SECTION

### Funding sources:

20% Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund  
18% Lake Restoration  
15% REAP Land Management  
13% Marine Fuel Tax Capitals  
11% Park and Institutional Road Fund  
11% REAP Open Spaces  
10% Infrastructure - Health & Safety  
2% ATV

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Construction Services-** This program oversees the Department's capital improvement projects. Professional staff provide and put into practice the most advanced technology to ensure safe and cost effective solutions to architectural and engineering projects. Services provided include: planning and development, engineering surveys, professional engineering and architectural design services, contract administration, project management and construction inspection, federal emergency management, emergency response projects, consultant selection and contract negotiations, and investigative reporting.

## REALTY SERVICES SECTION

### Funding sources:

20% Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund  
18% Lake Restoration  
15% REAP Land Management  
13% Marine Fuel Tax Capitals  
11% Park and Institutional  
11% REAP Open Spaces  
10% Infrastructure - Health & Safety  
2% ATV

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Public Land Acquisition and Donation Program-** The Department of Natural Resources purchases land to manage and protect natural resources and to provide recreational opportunities to all the people of the state. Through the land acquisition program, wetlands, forests, scenic areas, prairies, wildlife and fish habitat, rare species habitat, and other resources are being protected and managed. Appraisal services include contracting and reviewing independent fee appraisers for land acquisitions and conservation easements, including providing appraisal review for several DNR Grant programs assisting city and county municipalities with land projects.

**Public Land Management Program-** DNR land management services include handling land title issues, unauthorized land use issues, boundary agreements, and drainage district issues. Land use agreements such as leases, permits, management agreements, and the issuance of easements are negotiated by land management personnel. Other services include facilitating state title transfers to other





government agencies, agricultural lease program coordination and oversight, contracting for land surveys, building disposal, and management of DNR field office leases.

Conservation Easement Program- Conservation easements are a voluntary, legal means to protect and preserve land. There are many types of conservation easements including wetlands easements, angler and hunter access easements, trail and portage easements and forest, farm, ranchland protection easements to name a few. Conservation easements assist in protecting and improving water quality, wildlife habitat and natural resources in general. They are used to promote the personal desires of the landowner as well as preserving, protecting and improving the overall quality and character of the natural resources for future generations.

## NATURAL AREAS INVENTORY SECTION

### Funding sources:

68% Federal

32% General Fund

### Programs, Services & Activities:

Natural Areas Inventory (NAI)- Section is responsible for the Department's programs protecting sovereign lands and waters and Iowa's rare plants and animals and habitats, emphasizing those of conservation concern. The group manages a database of protected species and natural communities; coordinates conservation efforts for endangered species including over 400 state-listed plant and animal species and 18 federally-listed species; serves the State Preserves Advisory Board; oversees research and management activities on 97 preserves statewide on lands with significant biological, geological, archaeological, historic, or scenic value; administers grants under Section 6 of the ESA (Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund); and issues Sovereign Lands Construction permits (SLCP). Services provided include environmental review of potential impacts of proposed construction and development projects and endangered species consultation for the Department's development projects and land management activities.



## LAKE RESTORATION PROGRAM SECTION

### Funding sources:

100% State Appropriation (LRP)

### Programs, Services & Activities:

Lake Restoration Program- Many of our Iowa Lakes, similar to our nation's lakes, are impaired and suffer from excessive algae growth and sedimentation due to nutrient loading and soil loss. The Lake Restoration Program's focus is on restoring Iowa's significant publicly-owned lakes and publicly-owned shallow lakes/wetlands.



## RIVER PROGRAMS SECTION

### Funding sources:

35% Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

28% Marine Fuel Tax Capitals

21% Water Trails/Low Head Dam Appropriation

16% REAP Protected Water Areas

### Programs, Services & Activities:

Low-Head Dams- low-head dam mitigation projects to remove or reduce hazards to public safety and/or fish passage

Education- moving water education instruction and training

Protected Water Areas (PWA)- comprehensive conservation efforts, in partnership with local groups and stakeholders, in identified protected water areas

Water Trails- water trail outreach, mapping, planning, designing, constructing and signing. 964 miles of dedicated water trails have been developed with 764 additional miles under study.

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## WILDLIFE BUREAU:

### Funding sources:

100% Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

### Programs, services & activities:

The Wildlife Bureau manages 403,201 acres of state and federal land and water resources to maximize benefits to wildlife and to realize recreation potential to its citizenry. Money from the sales of hunting and fishing licenses, federal excise taxes paid on hunting and fishing equipment, and federal and nongovernmental grants are deposited into the Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund that is the sole source of funding for the Wildlife Bureau.

### **Management Section**

The state is divided into five districts comprised of 16 multi-county units that focus on providing places for wildlife to thrive and for people to enjoy. Work involves restoring or maintaining prairies, wetlands and forests using a holistic ecosystem focus to provide the most benefits to the most species. Healthy native ecosystems support native wildlife populations.



### **Research Section**

The wildlife research section monitors forest, upland, furbearers and wetland wildlife and nongame wildlife to track population trends, distribution and improve management in partnership with education institutions or government agencies. The research sections track harvest and population trends of game species as part of its season setting responsibility to ensure healthy, sustainable wildlife populations.

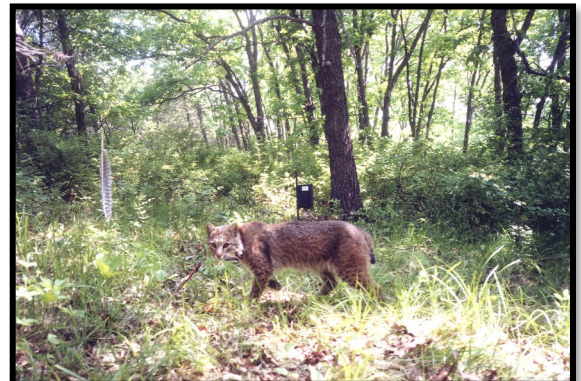
### **Wildlife Diversity Program**

The wildlife diversity program within the research section collects population data on non-game species through the Multiple Species Inventory & Monitoring Program, designs and executes research projects on specific areas or for specific species, provides funding to partners through the REAP license plate funds for small management projects and creates educational materials for outreach events. The program oversees the Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program which allows

citizens to record information on various bird nesting or frog calling surveys.

### **Wildlife Action Plan**

The Wildlife Action Plan provides a conservation roadmap for Iowa's wildlife for the next 25 years. The plan guides the Wildlife Bureau's work to conserve wildlife and natural places, which are important to Iowans' health and family traditions. It is reviewed and updated every 10 years.





### Private Lands Program

Private lands program provides wildlife and forestry technical assistance to landowners; plans and carries out wildlife habitat improvement projects, forest stewardship projects, and helps find financial opportunities using federal programs available for conservation. It is successful because of its many partnerships including Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Forest Service, Pheasants Forever, Fish and Wildlife Service, Local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Iowa's landowners. The popular Iowa Habitat and Access Program, providing public hunting access to private land, is managed by the private lands program.



### Wildlife Depredation Program

The depredation program works with landowners and communities to evaluate the impacts from wildlife and help to find a solution to resolve human-wildlife conflict. Assistance could include technical advice, alternative practices, working with neighbors, increasing hunting pressure or harassing wildlife to discourage them from damaging crops or other resources.

### Habitat and Special Projects

Priority wildlife habitat needs across the state are proactively addressed through partnerships. These programs oversee strategic efforts such as land protection, public access to wildlife recreation, and development of best practices for land management.



### Forestry

Professional district foresters in the Wildlife Bureau help manage and improve Iowa's forest resource by working with private landowners and public land managers to provide technical assistance and create forest stewardship plans to implement forest improvement practices. The bureau's twelve district foresters provide technical advice to cities, counties and private landowners for battling disease and invasive species, conduct outreach through landowner field days, and promote the planting of bare root, native seedlings from the State Forest Nursery.





# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

### Forestry Section:

The Forestry Section works to help Iowans expand and care for the state's roughly 2.8 million acres of rural and urban forests. The forestry section utilizes professionally trained foresters and natural resource technicians to provide direct assistance to private landowners, Iowa communities, and to the ten State Forests. In addition, the Forestry Section manages a State Forest Nursery that provides at cost seedlings to enhance, protect, and restore Iowa's forest resources. The Forestry Section oversees forest health issues, land stewardship, forest legacy, fire training and management, and the bonded timber buyer program as part of the daily routine.

#### **Forest Health Program**

##### Funding sources:

70 percent Federal

30 percent State Woodland Health Funding

##### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Forest Insects-** Registers and maintains records of forest insects and the damage they are causing. Assist landowners, communities, and state lands in creating management plans to prevent outbreaks.

**Forest Diseases-** Oversees and models the top forest pathogens and helps develop plans to control them for landowner, communities, and state lands.

**Non-Native Invasive Plants-** Maintain a list of known non-native forest plants and develop management plans for the public to use.



#### **Urban Forestry Program**

##### Funding Sources:

50 percent Federal

50 percent General Fund & Services

Programs, Services & Activities:

**Urban Forestry-** Program activated result in for a sustainable and healthy natural resource. Last year the program was able to use two full-time employees, one seasonal employee and partial time commitments from 12 District Foresters.

The Iowa Urban and Community Forestry program provides technical and assistance to communities, individuals and organizations. The program combines federal, state, and other funds to provide support and technical assistance to over 400 Iowa communities annually.

#### **Stewardship Program**

##### Funding sources:

50 percent Federal

50 percent General Fund

##### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Rural Landowner Assistance-** The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) encourages Iowa's 138,000 private woodland owners to engage in more active and sustainable forest management of non-industrial private forest land, which comprises over 92% of Iowa's forest resource and harbors 156 wildlife species of great conservation need. Activities promoted by the FSP help to strengthen Iowa's rural economy and advance the goals of the State's Forest and Wildlife Action Plans, the State's Nutrient Reduction Strategy, and the Iowa DNR's Strategic Plan.

The FSP is delivered by the DNR Wildlife Bureau's twelve District Foresters who provide educational programs, field days, and one-on-one technical assistance to over 7,500 private landowners annually, resulting in over 345 new written Forest Stewardship Plans covering 13,000 acres of woodland each year.



## Fire Program

### Funding sources:

50% Federal  
25% General Fund Appropriations  
25% Pass-Through Match

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**State Fire Assistance-** Promotes fire prevention, fire and prescribed fire training, critical preparedness, mobilization readiness for efficient suppression of wildfires on all State and private lands, and promotes and supports the National and Regional Cohesive Strategy goals to help maintain healthy forests and promote working relationships and service excellence.

**Volunteer Fire Assistance-** Provides financial, technical, and other assistance to organize, equip, and train small, local fire departments in rural communities with populations under 10,000 to prevent and suppress rural fires. Work contributes to healthy forests, forest stewardship, and sustainable economic development.

**Federal Excess Property Programs-** Provides access to two federal excess property programs (DOD-FFP and FEPP) which provide property at no cost to fire departments and emergency responders throughout the state. This works to provide departments and responders on minimal budgets with needed/beneficial equipment.

**Forest Reserve Tax Exemption-** DNR Foresters work to provide private forest and woodland owners with forest management incentives. This tax incentive is a tool in that toolbox. Annually the Fire Forester collects Forest Reserve data from each county, per state law.

## State Forest Nursery

### Funding sources:

100% Tree Sales

### Programs, Services & Activities:

The State Forest Nursery was originally established in Ames in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The nursery provides native, bareroot tree and shrub material at low-cost to encourage permanent plantings within the landscape.

The Nursery has sold more than 150 million seedlings since its establishment, including more than 40 million in the past 20 years. Each year 40 acres are in production, growing over 30 species for one or two years for nearly 3,000 customers.



## Forest Legacy, Bonded Timber Buyers, State Land Technical Assistance

### Funding sources:

#### **Forest Legacy:**

50% Federal  
50% General Fund

#### **Bonded Timber Buyers:**

100% General Fund

#### **State Land Technical Assistance:**

100% Timber Sales

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Forest Legacy-** The goal of the Forestry Legacy Program is to protect working forestland from development by using federal USDA Forest Service dollars to purchase permanent Conservation Easements on private forest land. Iowa currently has 10 Forest Legacy properties on 1,986 acres. The DNR holds title to these conservation easements, and is responsible for annually monitoring and reporting to the USDA Forest Service.

**Bonded Timber Buyer -** The Code of Iowa 456A.36 requires DNR to maintain bonds or certificates of deposit (CD's) for timber buyers. Any person engaged in the business of buying timber must file a bond or surety with the DNR. The DNR manages the application process for timber bonds and maintains a list of all bonded buyers.

**State Land Technical Assistance -** The Forestry Section oversees the administration of all state land timber sales and forest management practices. Income derived from timber sales is reinvested in state land management to promote forest sustainability and regeneration.





# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

### REAP:

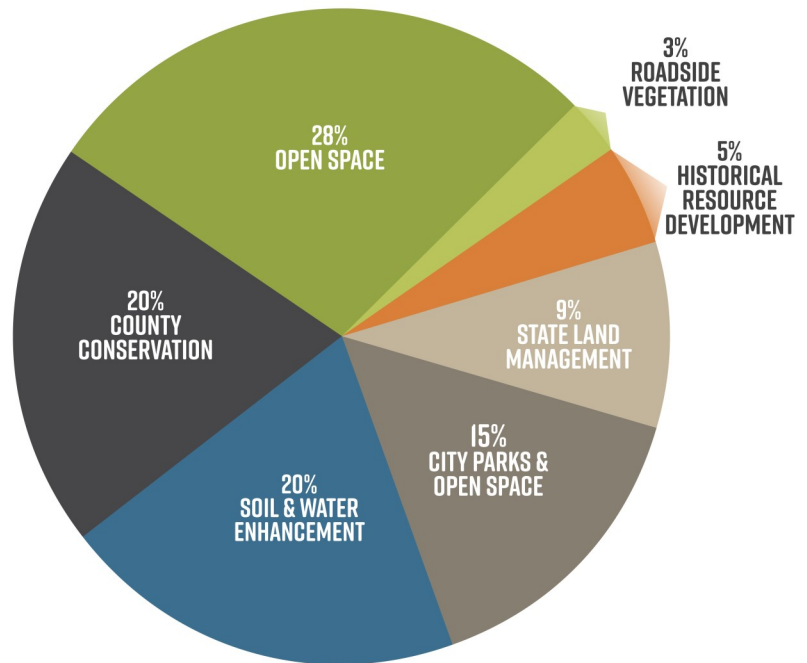
REAP stands for Resource Enhancement and Protection. It is a program in the State of Iowa that invests in the enhancement and protection of the state's natural and cultural resources. Iowa is blessed with a diverse array of natural and cultural resources, and REAP is likewise diverse and far reaching. Depending on the individual programs, REAP provides money for projects through state agency budgets or in the form of grants. Several aspects of REAP also encourage private contributions that help accomplish program objectives.

REAP is funded from the state's Environment First Fund (Iowa gaming receipts) and from the sale of the natural resource license plate. The program is authorized to receive \$20 million per year until 2021, but the state legislature sets the amount of REAP funding every year. This year REAP was appropriated \$12 million. When you add license plate and interest income, its total budget is about \$12.4 million. These funds go into eight different programs based upon a percentages that are specified in the law. These percentages, or what many people call the REAP formula, are shown in the following pie chart.




## FUND DISTRIBUTION

\$350,000 CONSERVATION EDUCATION & 1% ADMINISTRATION



## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

**The Environmental Services Division (ESD) Management Team** consists of the Division Administrator and the Chiefs of four Bureaus: Air Quality, Field Services & Compliance, Land Quality and Water Quality. These individuals, along with approximately 324 full-time employees, are responsible for implementing the laws and regulations necessary to protect the quality of Iowa's air, land, and water.

### Management Team Responsibilities

The ESD Management Team helps set policies and budgets, and ensures the bureaus are working together to optimize the resources each brings to the table.

**Division Administrator:** The DA is appointed by the DNR Director and is a key member of the Director's executive management team and, also, ensures the Department's work, mission, vision, and needs are articulated at all levels, internally and publicly. The DA also serves as staff lead for the Environmental Protection Commission.

**Administrative Team:** The administrative team is charged with specific division management and agency-wide operation tasks and required reporting, in addition to their core duties.

The Executive Officer 1 serves as executive assistant to the DA and Board Administrator to the Environmental Protection Commission.





# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

### LAND QUALITY BUREAU:

The Land Quality Bureau works to protect Iowa's groundwater, flood plains and land resources through technical assistance and oversight to industries and organizations. Areas of responsibility include: contaminated sites, underground petroleum storage tanks such as those at gas stations, proper solid waste management at landfills, construction activities in Iowa flood plains, safety of dams on Iowa waterways, geographic information systems (GIS) coordination, and development of sustainable environmental practices through financial and professional assistance.

#### **UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS SECTION**

##### Funding sources:

85% Federal

15% non-GF State (tank registration fees)

##### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Underground Storage Tanks Program (UST)**- Registers and maintains records of active UST sites including financial responsibility. Oversees operation, maintenance and closure of UST systems with the goal of preventing petroleum releases.

**Leaking Underground Storage Tanks Program (LUST)**- Oversees risk assessment of petroleum releases at LUST sites. Ensures adequate cleanup or corrective action at sites where releases are detected.

**Certification and Licensing of UST Professionals**- These include environmental consultants, third party compliance inspectors, and tank installers and removers.

#### **FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT & DAM SAFETY**

##### Funding sources:

80% General Fund (flood plain appropriation)

20% Federal

##### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Flood Plain Development Permits**- Regulates construction on all state flood plains and floodways to protect life and property and to promote orderly development and wise use of flood plains.

**Dam Safety**- Responsible for the state's dam safety program. Reviews and approves the construction of new dams, maintains inventory of existing dams meeting minimum size criteria, and periodically inspects major dams.

**National Flood Insurance Program**- Works with cities and counties to develop and administer local flood plain management programs, coordinates the National Flood Insurance Program, and assists the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Iowa Emergency Management Division in responding to flood disasters.



## SOLID WASTE & CONTAMINATED SITES SECTION

### Funding sources:

65% non-GF State (Solid Waste Tonnage Fees & Hazardous Waste Fees)

35% Federal

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Solid Waste Permitting Program-** Regulates solid waste management facilities and activities including landfills, transfer stations, waste processing sites, compost operations and certain recycling operations.

**Beneficial Use Determinations-** Determines if a specific use of a solid industrial by-product constitutes reuse rather than disposal, and upon review is determined not to adversely affect human health or the environment.

**Emerging and Problem Wastestreams-** Manages programs and initiatives for properly managing problem wastes such as oil filters, mercury containing devices, mass animal mortalities and electronics.

**Special Waste Authorization-** Provides safe and proper management for disposal of wastes which present a threat to human health or the environment or a waste with inherent properties which make the disposal of the waste in a sanitary landfill difficult to manage.

**Federal Superfund-** National Priority List Sites, CERCLA Remedial & Removal Sites. In cooperation with U.S. EPA, addresses sites contaminated by hazardous materials or wastes including removal and remedial components generally targeted at more seriously contaminated sites.

**State Contaminated Site Program-** Addresses contamination situations at sites not covered by other state or federal programs.

**Brownfields-** Works cooperatively with communities and economic development stakeholders to assess, safely clean and sustainably reuse abandoned or idled industrial and commercial facilities where redevelopment is hindered by real or perceived environmental contamination.

**State Voluntary Land Recycling Program-** Allows owners or other stakeholders of a property to voluntarily assess and implement remedial actions at a site that is perceived to be contaminated. The DNR provides a certificate for a site following assessment and implementation of appropriate cleanup remedies to assure protection of public health and the environment.



## FINANCIAL & BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SECTION

### Funding sources:

90% non-GF State (Solid Waste Tonnage Fee, HHM Retailer Permit Fees, AG's office penalties on referral cases)

10% Federal

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Solid Waste Alternatives Program (SWAP)-** Provides waste reduction and recycling project grants and loans.

**Household Hazardous Materials (HHM)-** Provides financial assistance for the establishment and support for statewide collection and education network addressing the proper use and disposal of HHMs.

**Pollution Prevention Services (P2)-** Provides confidential, non-regulatory environmental technical assistance at no cost to Iowa's business and industry, institutions and governmental agencies with 100 or more employees. Administers the P2 program.

**Mobile Education Exhibit-** Created to showcase environmental topics and is an all-inclusive education experience that includes informative displays, touch screen computers with games, flat screen televisions and more.



**Iowa Waste Exchange (IWE)**- Free, confidential and non-regulatory program that matches businesses' by- products with those who can use them as resources.

**Derelict Building Grant Program**- Works with communities with populations of 5,000 or fewer who need assistance with addressing abandoned buildings, while diverting construction and demolition materials from landfills and reducing the environmental, health and safety impacts to the community.

**Comprehensive Planning / Solid Waste Environmental Management System (EMS)**- Comprehensive Planning / Solid Waste Environmental Management System (EMS) - Each community in Iowa is part of a Solid Waste Planning Area. Every five years each Planning Area solicits input and files a Comprehensive Plan Update (IAC 567-101) with the department for review. The plan describes the state of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) along with disposal information, programs and goals. Iowa's Solid Waste EMS is a voluntary alternative program to Comprehensive Planning that encourages responsible environmental management while promoting environmental stewardship and continuous improvement for solid waste planning areas and permitted facility service areas.



## GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

### Funding sources:

50% non-state GF (Solid Waste Tonnage Fees, Water Quality, other state grants)

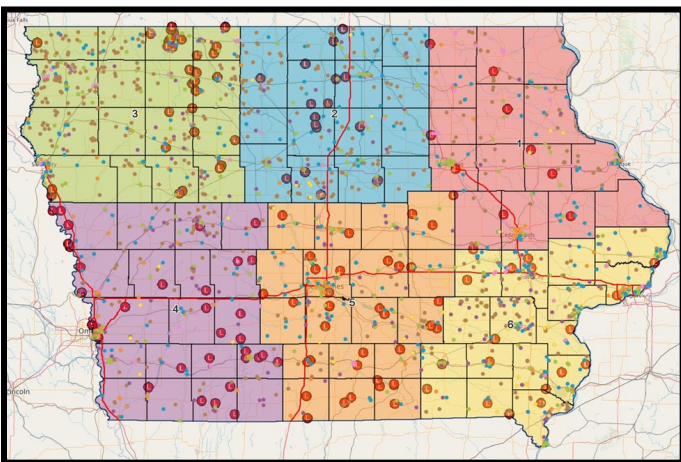
40% General Fund (flood plain appropriation)

10% Federal

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Natural Resource Geographic Information System (NRGIS)**- Develops, manages and distributes DNR's NRGIS, including data collection and analysis required for various resource investigations, to support decision- making and fulfill information requests from the public. Several online applications are maintained to provide information and assistance to DNR staff and the public. The AFO Siting Atlas, Iowa Elevation Tools, Historic Photography Viewer, Recreation Atlas and the Derelict Buildings Viewer are just a few of these. In addition, the many online maps and tools maintained by the GIS Section are accessed for the development and functionality of applications maintained by other DNR

programs, state and federal agencies, and the public. GIS support and training is also provided to other sections of the DNR.



**Flood Plain Mapping**- Partnering with the FEMA and others in creating new, comprehensive, accurate flood plain maps for Iowa cities and counties. Many Iowans will learn if their property is at risk of flooding for the first time.

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

### WATER QUALITY BUREAU:

The Water Quality Bureau works to protect and enhance the Iowa's water to ensure sufficient quality and quantity of water for aquatic life and the use of our citizens, now and into the future. Areas of responsibility include: drinking water and wastewater oversight, water monitoring and assessment, watershed improvement and financial assistance to communities for the funding of water infrastructure improvements.

### WATER SUPPLY OPERATIONS SECTION

#### Funding Sources:

70% Federal

30% Fees (Laboratory Certification Fee, Operator Certification Fee, & Water Supply Application Fee)

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Water Supply Operation Permitting, Compliance and Enforcement Program** - Protect public health by ensuring compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and state regulations through issuance of operation permits, technical assistance, and enforcement actions for over 1800 public water supplies.

**Operator Certification Program** - Responsible for the testing, certification and training of approximately 6,500 wastewater treatment, water treatment, and water distribution operators throughout the State of Iowa.

**Environmental Laboratory Certification Program** - Ensure laboratories generate environmental and public health data of known, consistent, and documented quality to meet regulatory needs.

### WATER SUPPLY ENGINEERING SECTION

#### Funding Sources:

70% Federal

23% Non-General Fund State (Water Use & Private Well Fees, Grants to Counties Program)

7% State General Fund.

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Water Supply Construction Permitting Program** - Ensure that public water supplies provide reliable and safe drinking water through the proper design, construction, and operation of treatment and distribution facilities.

**Water Allocation Program** - Issues water use permits to allocate, manage, and track the withdrawal of water from Iowa's aquifers and surface water sources and administers procedures to resolve water usage conflicts.

**Private Well Program** - Provides oversight and technical assistance to protect groundwater resources and public health through private well permitting, promotion of well owner water testing and well plugging, and tracks and maintains well and water monitoring information for public use.



### WATER QUALITY MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT SECTION

#### Funding sources:

18% Federal

82% non-GF State (Environment First Fund)

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Ambient Monitoring Programs** - Provides State-wide monitoring of river chemistry and stream aquatic life, lakes, groundwater, wetlands, and fish tissue. The program provides consistent, unbiased information about the condition of Iowa's water resources to support decisions affecting the development, management and protection of these resources.

**Targeted Monitoring Programs** - Provides tailored approaches that are beyond the scope of the ambient monitoring program including: swimming beach advisory development; nonpoint source pollution control planning and evaluation; assists with the development of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) development; lake restoration planning and evaluation.

**Use Assessment & Attainability (UAA)** - Collects field data to determine the highest level of recreation and aquatic life uses a stream segment is capable of supporting and assigning the most appropriate use classification to the segment. A UAA is required before NPDES permits can be reissued.



**Waste Load Allocation Program (WLA)** - WLAs are part of the NPDES and wastewater construction permitting processes and are required before treated wastewater can be discharged. A WLA is calculated in order to assure that the State permitted point source discharge meets applicable State Water Quality Standards.

**Water Quality Standards Program (WQ Std)** - The federal Clean Water Act requires states to designate beneficial uses (UAA) and develop water quality standards to protect each use. The State can either adopt the EPA recommendation or use other scientifically-defensible methods to develop their own standard. New or updated standards are developed in Iowa as the need is identified.

**401 Water Quality Certifications** - The federal Clean Water Act requires state certification for any federally permitted or licensed project that may result in a discharge to ensure that the project will not violate state water quality standards. A 401 Certification is required before the Corps can issue their 404 permit.

## WASTEWATER ENGINEERING SECTION

### Funding sources:

70% Federal

30% non-GF State (Wastewater permit fees)

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Municipal Wastewater Construction Permitting**- Engineering review, approval and permitting of treatment and collection systems for Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan funded and self-funded wastewater projects which includes facility plan, plans and specifications, determine funding priority and eligibility and perform final inspection to ensure that public municipal and semi-public wastewater systems provide adequate and reliable wastewater treatment and disposal to protect the environment and public health.

**Industrial Wastewater Construction Permitting**- Engineering review, approval and permitting of industrial facilities to ensure that the wastewater treatment systems including new industrial categories provide adequate and reliable wastewater treatment and disposal to protect the environment and public health.

**Wastewater Land Application Permitting**- Engineering review and approval of wastewater land application treatment and disposal systems planning, design and operation permits in order to protect soil and groundwater and to prevent runoff into surface waters.

**Technical Assistance**- Guidance and outreach to municipal, industrial customers and other regulatory agencies to review and degradation alternatives analyses for non-degrading or less degrading alternatives to protect beneficial uses of the surface water and public health; coordination of proper treatment and disposal of municipal bio solids to ensure compliance with federal and state regulations and promote beneficial use; review alternative and innovative technologies for projects; develop and update wastewater design standards and rules used by customers and consulting engineers and approve standard specifications.

## NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) SECTION

### Funding sources:

60% Federal (PPG)

40% State (permit fees)

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Municipal Permits**- Issues individual NPDES discharge permits to municipal and semi-public wastewater disposal systems.

**Industrial Permits**- Issues individual and general NPDES discharge permits to industrial wastewater disposal systems.

**Storm Water Permits**- Issues individual and general permit authorizations for wastewater disposal from storm water sources.

**Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO)**- Issues individual NPDES discharge permits to confined animal feeding operations.

**On-site Program**- Issues general permit authorizations for on-site wastewater disposal systems. Provides support to county sanitarians.

## WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT SECTION

### Funding sources:

100% Federal

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program** - Conducts targeted, detailed water quality monitoring, develops water quality and watershed modeling, calculates TMDLs, and



prepares Water Quality Improvement Plans (WQIP) consistent with the requirements of Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act for all impaired waterbodies on Iowa's Impaired Waters List in accordance with Iowa's 10-Year 303(d) Vision document. These WQIPs serve as a template for issuing NPDES Permits and guiding local nonpoint source watershed improvement efforts in order to achieve water quality standards for the intended uses of Iowa's lakes, rivers and streams.

**Section 319 Nonpoint Source Program** – Manages Iowa's US EPA Section 319 nonpoint source grant program and oversees the development and implementation of Iowa's federal Clean Water Act-mandated Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan. Since 1990, the DNR Nonpoint Source Program has funded 634 local, regional and statewide Iowa clean water projects, totaling \$102 million, through the US EPA's Section 319 grant program. Currently, the DNR annually receives approximately \$3.7 million in federal Section 319 grant funds and provides at least 50% of those funds to 13 locally-led watershed projects. The Section 319 Program also supports the creation of Watershed Management Authorities in Iowa, bringing together Iowans across cities and counties for the common good of improving a shared lake, stream or river. The DNR has supported the development of 26 new authorities since 2011.

## STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF) SECTION

The State Revolving Fund is operated through a partnership between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Iowa Finance Authority (IFA). IFA provides financial assistance including loan approval and disbursements. The DNR administers the environmental and permitting requirements of the program to get ready for financing. This includes engineering and design approval, construction permits, and conducting environmental reviews.

The SRF Program provides low-interest or no-interest construction loans, planning & design loans, source water protection loans and non-point source loans with financing terms up to 30 years, when applicable, based on the average life of the project.

### Programs, Services & Activities:

#### **Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)**

##### Funding Sources:

Federal Grant (83.33% Federal, 16.67% non-GF State (leverage bonds))

Loan fees and interest

Loan Principal Repayments (Revolving)

The CWSRF Loan Program funds wastewater treatment, sewer rehabilitation, and stormwater quality improvements, as well as non-point source projects. The CWSRF loan program consists of three main program areas:

- Purchase of debt obligations for publicly owned facilities for wastewater and some storm water projects
- Direct loans or linked deposit financing approaches address nonpoint source programs
- Water Resource Restoration Sponsored Projects address nonpoint source problems via interest rate reduction on wastewater loans

Publicly owned wastewater treatment works, including those owned by cities, counties, sanitary districts and utility management organizations are eligible. For non-point source projects, both public and private entities are eligible, including farmers, landowners, watershed organizations, landfills and rural homeowners.



#### **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)**

##### Funding sources:

Federal Grant (100% Federal)

Loan fees and interest

Loan Principal Repayments (Revolving)

The DWSRF Loan Program funds construction of new water treatment plants, improvements to existing facilities, water line extensions to existing unserved properties, water storage facilities, wells, and source water protection efforts.

Public and private community water systems whether they are for profit or not for profit, non-transient non-community public water supplies if they are either publicly owned or are not for profit and transient non-community systems if they are owned by government entities are eligible.

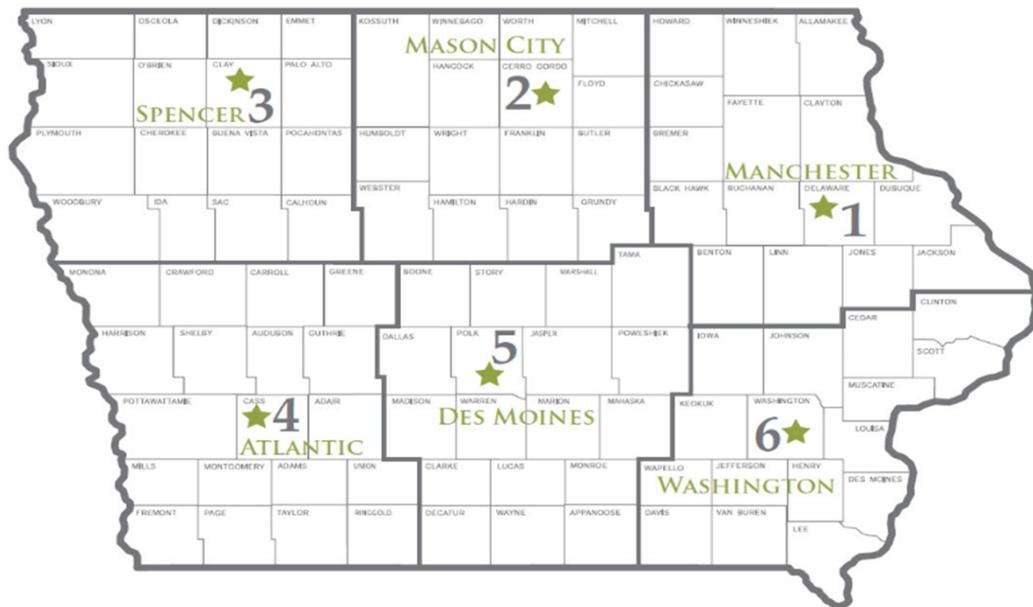


# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

## FIELD SERVICES AND COMPLIANCE BUREAU:

The Field Services & Compliance Bureau helps citizens, businesses, industries, and municipalities achieve compliance with Iowa's environmental programs. We serve as local responsive contact points in six regional field offices to help protect Iowa's air, land and water resources. Technical assistance and oversight is provided in program areas that include safe drinking water, wastewater, storm water, source water protection, air quality, solid waste, underground tanks and leaking underground tanks, animal feeding operations, floodplains, and emergency response.



Jason Marcel,  
Bureau Chief  
P: 515-344-8496

<u>Field Office 1</u>	<u>Field Office 2</u>	<u>Field Office 3</u>	<u>Field Office 4</u>	<u>Field Office 5</u>	<u>Field Office 6</u>
Joe Sanfilippo, Supervisor	Trent Lambert, Supervisor	Scott Wilson Supervisor	Jessica Montana, Supervisor	Ted Petersen, Supervisor	Kurt Levetzow, Supervisor
909 W. Main Street, #4 Manchester, IA 52057 P: 563-927-2640	2300 15th St. SW Mason City, IA 50401 P: 641-424-4073	1900 N. Grand Ave., Ste. E17 Spencer, IA 51301 P: 712-262-4177	1401 Sunnyside Ln. Atlantic, IA 50022 P: 712-243-1934	7900 Hickman Rd., Ste. 200 Windsor Heights, IA 50324 P: 515-725-0268	1023 W. Madison Washington, IA 52353 P: 319-653-2135





# Compliance Assistance

DNR’s trained field specialists are on the same mission you’re on – to protect Iowa’s air, land and water.

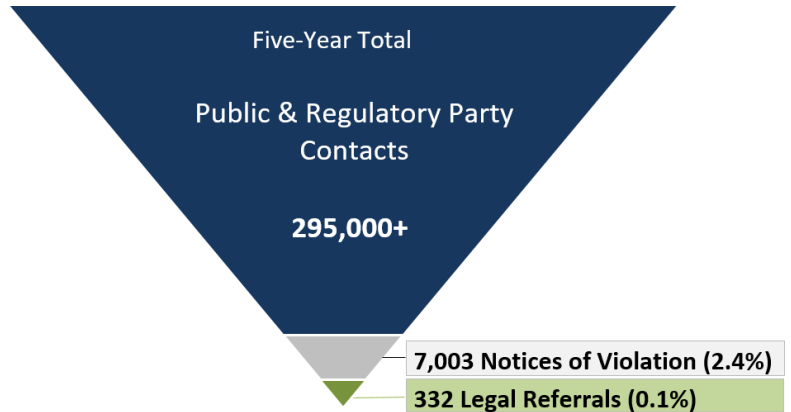
providing valuable assistance to the regulated community and to the citizens of Iowa.

Our goal is coaching for compliance – providing the needed technical assistance – rather than pursuing costly enforcement actions.

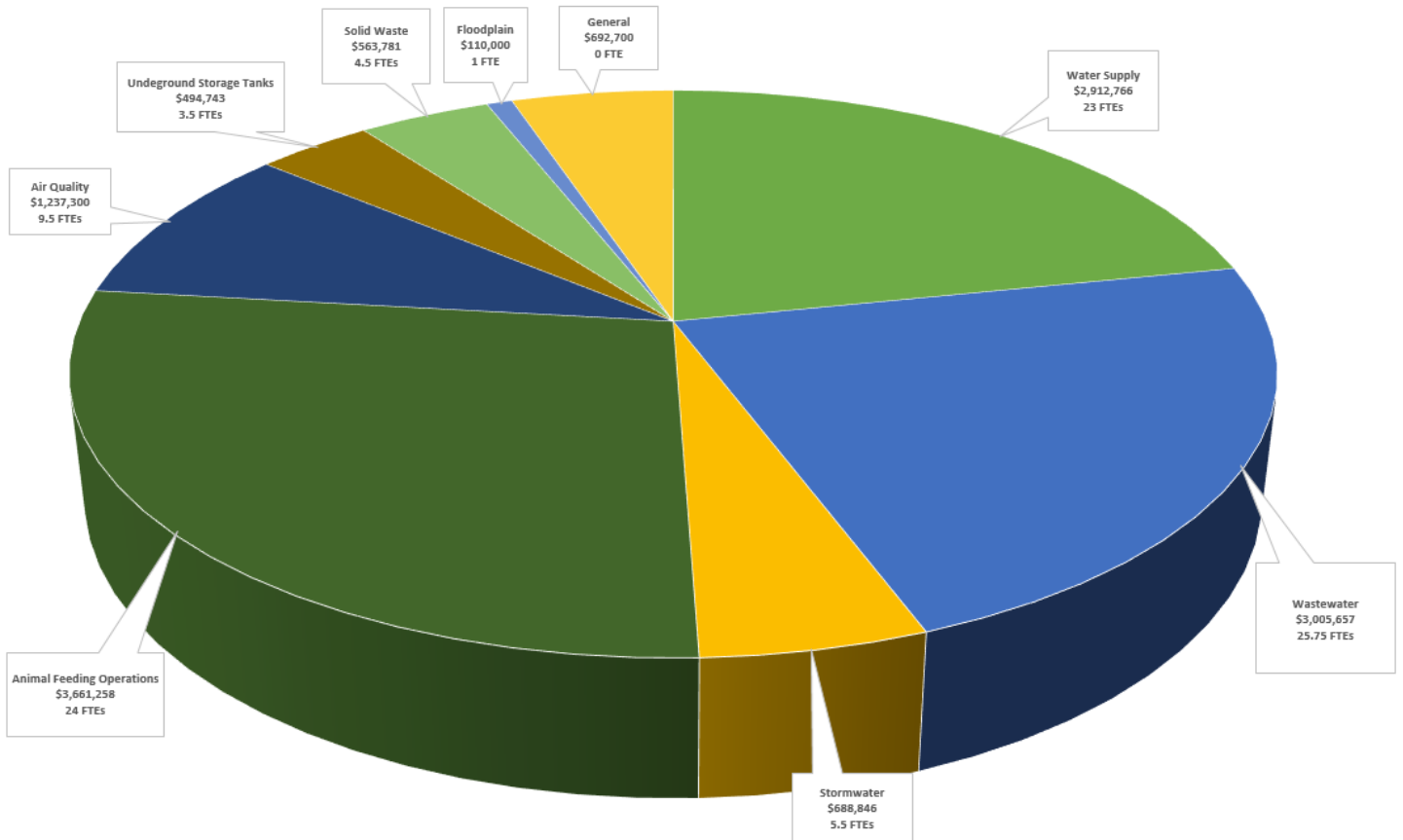
In the past five years, notices of violation (which do not involve fines or penalties) only represented about 2.4 percent of the 300,000+ contacts staff had with regulated parties. Violations that resulted in additional enforcement were at an even lower rate (0.1 percent).

Achieving high compliance rates is a direct result of DNR staff working effectively with facilities –

**Iowa DNR Field Services Environmental Program Activities (2015 - 2019)**



## FY 2021 Bureau Budget



# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LEADING IOWANS IN CARING FOR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

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### AIR QUALITY BUREAU:

The Air Quality Bureau works to assure that National Ambient Air Quality standards for public health and welfare protection complements continued economic growth in the state. In collaboration with the Iowa Economic Development Authority, local business development groups, large and small business, and the public, the bureau employs Lean government techniques to streamline application and permitting processes and technical and regulatory assistance.

### **AIR QUALITY CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING**

#### Funding sources:

66% Application Fees

22% Emission Fees

5% General Funds

7% Federal Funds

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

*Pre-Construction Permits (Major and Minor New Source Review)* – Reviews and issues permits to construct new or modified equipment that emits air pollution. Permits establish enforceable emission limits to assure that National Ambient Air Quality and emission standards, potential to comply emissions testing, and operational requirements are met. Annually approximately 1,800 applications are submitted and permits or determinations for exemptions are issued. On average, these permits take 30 days to issue.

*Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality Permits* – At facilities that emit large quantities of air pollution, the application and review process requires significantly more review of information to determine the level of air pollution control required for equipment that emits air pollution. These permits, on average take 150 days to issue.

### **OPERATING PERMITTING AND EMISSIONS INVENTORY**

#### Funding sources:

53% Application Fees

42% Emission Fees

2% General Funds

4% Federal Funds

#### Programs, Services & Activities:

*Title V Operating Permits* – Reviews and issues permits to operate to facilities considered as major sources of air pollution. Permits are renewed every 5 years to include new and modified equipment and ongoing emissions monitoring and testing to assure continuous compliance.

*Emissions Inventory* – Collects emissions reports from major facilities annually, and minor facilities triennially to report on air pollution trends for air resource planning. Provides training to businesses, analyzes data, and reports greenhouse gases to the governor and legislature.



## PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

### Funding sources:

91% Emissions Fees  
4% General Funds  
5% Federal Funds

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**State Implementation Plans** – Development and modification of bureau plans and programs designed to assure that permitting, air pollution dispersion modeling, compliance assistance and ambient monitoring all work together to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Infrastructure, attainment, and maintenance plans are developed and updated to meet changing ambient, visibility, and air pollution transport requirements. Coordinates bureau budgeting and funding activities with stakeholders.

**Program Support** - Data system development and support. Provide training to large and small industries in their use of electronic application, notification, and reporting systems. Includes provision of air quality technical information to assure that quality data is provided by users.

## COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE AND MONITORING

### Funding sources:

60% Emissions Fees  
21% Federal Funds  
9% Environment First Funds  
7% State General Funds  
3% Asbestos Notification Fees

### Programs, Services & Activities:

**Ambient Air Monitoring** – Collection of ambient air quality samples across the state in collaboration with the University of Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory, Linn County, and Polk County. Establish quality assurance and quality control requirements for data collection and handling, standard operating procedures, obtain and repair equipment, and operate equipment. Review and analyze data, and report results to the public and US EPA. Provide and report in real-time on high pollution episodes so that the public can take cautionary measures to reduce exposure.

**Stack Test Observation** – Provide technical assistance and regulatory oversight of emissions testing conducted at facilities emitting air pollution.

**Compliance Assistance & Enforcement** - Provide regulatory assistance to facilities to help them to comply with air construction and operating permits. Review and issue requests for variances from rules when appropriate. Review semi-annual Title V operating permit compliance reports. Review and consult on compliance plans and excess emission reports.

**Asbestos Compliance Assistance & Inspections** - Provide technical assistance to the owners of commercial, industrial, and governmental buildings on the proper inspection for asbestos containing materials prior to renovations and demolitions. Inspect and provide guidance at asbestos remediation sites.



