

Office of Natural and Historic Resources

The Honorable Travis Voyles, Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources



The Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources advises the Governor on natural resources issues and works to advance the Governor's top environmental priorities. The Secretary oversees five agencies that protect and restore the Commonwealth's natural and historic resources.

Office of Natural and Historic Resources Includes:

[Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources](#)

[Department of Conservation and Recreation](#)

[Department of Environmental Quality](#)

[Department of Wildlife Resources](#)

[Department of Historic Resources](#)

[Marine Resources Commission](#)

For agency details, click the applicable link above to open the agency budget document page.

Operating Summary for Office of Natural and Historic Resources (Dollars in Millions)

Funds	FY 2025 Base Budget	FY 2025 Changes	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026 Base Budget	FY 2026 Changes	FY 2026 Total
Total	\$1,087.61	\$100.77	\$1,188.38	\$614.65	\$1.86	\$616.51
General	\$615.22	\$100.77	\$715.99	\$210.51	\$0.24	\$210.75
Special	\$61.22	\$0.00	\$61.22	\$61.09	\$0.22	\$61.31
Commonwealth Transportation	\$0.59	\$0.00	\$0.59	\$0.59	\$0.00	\$0.59
Enterprise	\$14.32	\$0.00	\$14.32	\$14.32	\$0.00	\$14.32
Trust and Agency	\$107.06	\$0.00	\$107.06	\$39.06	\$0.00	\$39.06
Dedicated Special	\$220.31	\$0.00	\$220.31	\$220.31	\$0.82	\$221.12
Federal	\$68.89	\$0.00	\$68.89	\$68.77	\$0.59	\$69.36

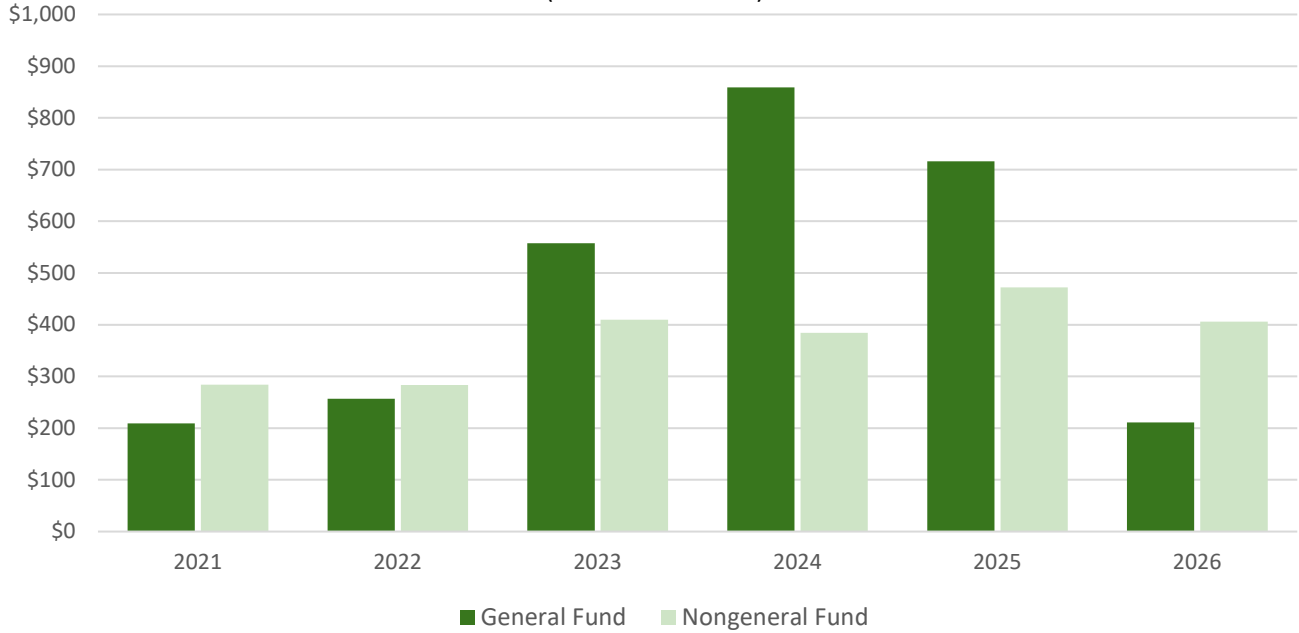
Authorized Positions for Office of Natural and Historic Resources

Funds	FY 2025 Base Budget	FY 2025 Changes	FY 2025 Totals	FY 2026 Base Budget	FY 2026 Changes	FY 2026 Totals
Total	2,289.50	0.00	2,289.50	2,290.50	6.00	2,296.50
General Fund	1,125.50	0.00	1,125.50	1,126.50	2.00	1,128.50
Nongeneral Fund	1,164.00	0.00	1,164.00	1,164.00	4.00	1,168.00

Operating Budget History

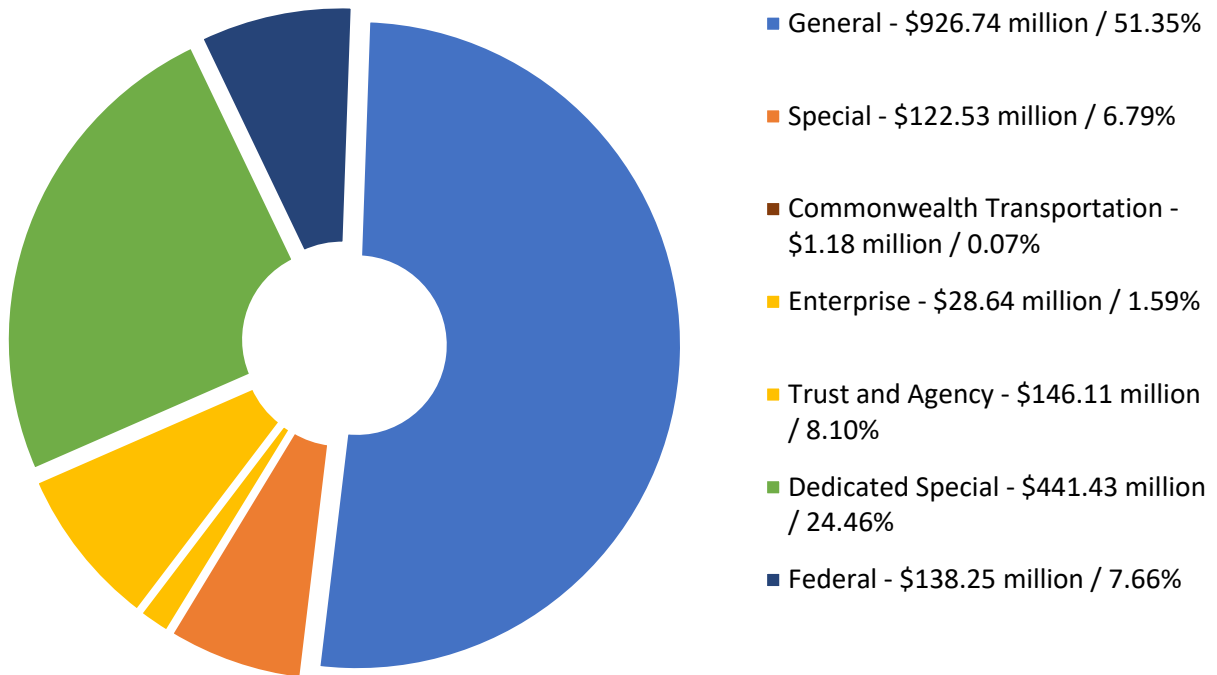
Office of Natural and Historic Resources

(Dollars in Millions)



2024-2026 Biennium Total Proposed Operating Budget

Office of Natural and Historic Resources



Part B: 2025 Amendments to the Biennial Budget - 2024-2026 Biennium

Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

	Operating Budget Summary			Authorized Position Summary		
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Personnel Cost	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Total Positions
2021 Appropriation	\$640,939	\$107,492	\$676,516	5.00	0.00	5.00
2022 Appropriation	\$640,939	\$107,492	\$676,516	5.00	0.00	5.00
2023 Appropriation	\$669,542	\$113,698	\$697,590	5.00	0.00	5.00
2024 Appropriation	\$669,542	\$113,698	\$697,590	5.00	0.00	5.00
2025 Appropriation	\$1,235,149	\$124,478	\$1,189,930	8.00	0.00	8.00
2025 Intro Changes	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2025 Total	\$1,235,149	\$124,478	\$1,189,930	8.00	0.00	8.00
2026 Appropriation	\$1,235,149	\$124,478	\$1,189,930	8.00	0.00	8.00
2026 Intro Changes	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2026 Total	\$1,235,149	\$124,478	\$1,189,930	8.00	0.00	8.00

Department of Conservation and Recreation

	Operating Budget Summary			Authorized Position Summary		
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Personnel Cost	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Total Positions
2021 Appropriation	\$133,055,585	\$57,858,814	\$52,445,325	435.50	46.50	482.00
2022 Appropriation	\$152,531,045	\$58,058,814	\$53,596,197	443.50	46.50	490.00
2023 Appropriation	\$431,138,368	\$172,452,771	\$60,355,180	474.50	49.50	524.00
2024 Appropriation	\$556,564,758	\$146,799,665	\$60,651,200	480.50	50.50	531.00
2025 Appropriation	\$377,268,801	\$211,635,974	\$71,929,522	512.50	53.50	566.00
2025 Intro Changes	\$26,296,400	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2025 Total	\$403,565,201	\$211,635,974	\$71,929,522	512.50	53.50	566.00
2026 Appropriation	\$106,220,728	\$148,389,674	\$71,929,522	512.50	53.50	566.00
2026 Intro Changes	\$933,846	\$1,034,305	\$1,659,043	2.00	4.00	6.00
2026 Total	\$107,154,574	\$149,423,979	\$73,588,565	514.50	57.50	572.00

Capital Outlay Budget Summary

	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Bond Proceeds	Capital Outlay Total
2025 Appropriation	\$750,000	\$20,951,050	\$17,000,000	\$38,701,050
2025 Intro Changes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2025 Total	\$750,000	\$20,951,050	\$17,000,000	\$38,701,050
2026 Appropriation	\$0	\$16,100,000	\$0	\$16,100,000
2026 Intro Changes	\$0	\$10,399,475	\$0	\$10,399,475
2026 Total	\$0	\$26,499,475	\$0	\$26,499,475

Operating Budget Changes

Introduced Budget Non-Technical Changes

Deposit part of the surplus to the Water Quality Improvement Fund and the Virginia Natural Resources Commitment Fund

Provides the required 15 percent of the Part A mandatory surplus to the Water Quality Improvement Fund Reserve. Out of the remaining amount, \$17.4 million is provided for deposit to the Virginia Natural Resources Commitment Fund to support Agriculture Best Management Practices needs in the next biennium.

	2025	2026
General Fund	\$26,296,400	\$0

Part B: 2025 Amendments to the Biennial Budget - 2024-2026 Biennium

Initiate membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System for conservation officers

Provides funding to support the department's membership in the Virginia Law Officers' Retirement System. Chapter 416, 2024 Acts of Assembly, which would add conservation officers to the program, requires reenactment by the General Assembly in the 2025 session.

	2025	2026
General Fund	\$0	\$610,000

Provide support for capital outlay in the Division of Planning and Recreation Resources

Establishes funding and two positions to support project managers in the Division of Planning and Recreation Resources for design and construction. The section manages all maintenance, capital, and small technical projects across the department.

	2025	2026
General Fund	\$0	\$323,846
Authorized Positions	0.00	2.00

Establish a nongeneral fund revenue specialist position

Provides appropriation and one position, supported by the State Park Conservation Resources Fund, to establish a revenue specialist to analyze and optimize park revenue.

	2025	2026
Nongeneral Fund	\$0	\$216,371
Authorized Positions	0.00	1.00

Increase positions to provide oversight and assistance for districts

Authorizes the agency to support three additional positions from interest earnings in the Water Quality Improvement Fund and the Virginia Natural Resources Commitment Fund to support efforts of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

	2025	2026
Nongeneral Fund	\$0	\$462,541
Authorized Positions	0.00	3.00

Provide funding for district dam rehabilitation engineers

Authorizes the agency to utilize interest earnings in the Soil and Water Conservation District Dam Maintenance, Repair, and Rehabilitation Fund to support administration of the fund.

	2025	2026
Nongeneral Fund	\$0	\$355,393

Capital Outlay Budget Changes

Introduced Budget Non-Technical Changes

Provide additional appropriation for state park acquisitions

Authorizes additional nongeneral fund appropriation and updates the list of parks for which the department is authorized to complete land acquisitions.

	2025	2026
Nongeneral Fund	\$0	\$10,399,475

Department of Environmental Quality

Operating Budget Summary

	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Personnel Cost
2021 Appropriation	\$42,863,491	\$141,856,299	\$84,240,449
2022 Appropriation	\$81,437,752	\$141,856,299	\$96,954,989
2023 Appropriation	\$67,826,042	\$149,785,826	\$100,195,605
2024 Appropriation	\$264,896,002	\$149,785,826	\$100,195,605
2025 Appropriation	\$168,565,104	\$158,626,904	\$107,265,913
2025 Intro Changes	\$68,890,600	\$0	\$0
2025 Total	\$237,455,704	\$158,626,904	\$107,265,913
2026 Appropriation	\$71,823,598	\$158,626,904	\$107,265,913
2026 Intro Changes	\$53,600	\$589,192	\$47,116
2026 Total	\$71,877,198	\$159,216,096	\$107,313,029

Authorized Position Summary

	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Total Positions
2021 Appropriation	413.50	564.50	978.00
2022 Appropriation	416.50	564.50	981.00
2023 Appropriation	416.50	564.50	981.00
2024 Appropriation	416.50	564.50	981.00
2025 Appropriation	422.50	564.50	987.00
2025 Intro Changes	0.00	0.00	0.00
2025 Total	422.50	564.50	987.00
2026 Appropriation	423.50	564.50	988.00
2026 Intro Changes	0.00	0.00	0.00
2026 Total	423.50	564.50	988.00

Operating Budget Changes

Introduced Budget Technical Changes

Adjustment nongeneral fund base appropriation

Aligns nongeneral fund appropriation within the same fund group to reflect anticipated expenditures. This amendment is technical in nature.

Part B: 2025 Amendments to the Biennial Budget - 2024-2026 Biennium

Increase federal appropriation to account for anticipated revenues Increases federal appropriation to account for a multi-year Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant award.	Nongeneral Fund	<u>2025</u> \$0	<u>2026</u> \$486,250
Introduced Budget Non-Technical Changes			
Build Coal Combustion Residuals grant into the base Increases federal appropriation to accommodate new federal funding.	Nongeneral Fund	<u>2025</u> \$0	<u>2026</u> \$102,942
Fund upgrades at the Richlands Regional Water Treatment Facility Provides general fund support for water treatment plant upgrades at the Richlands Regional Water Treatment Facility.	General Fund	<u>2025</u> \$1,500,000	<u>2026</u> \$0
Meet increase in Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin contribution Updates general fund appropriation provided for membership in the Commission, for which the contribution amount is anticipated to increase.	General Fund	<u>2025</u> \$0	<u>2026</u> \$53,600
Appropriate funds to support the Richmond Combined Sewer Overflow project deposit to the City of Richmond to continue its Combined Sewer Overflow project.	General Fund	<u>2025</u> \$50,000,000	<u>2026</u> \$0
Deposit part of the surplus to the Water Quality Improvement Fund to support the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty Program Appropriates a portion of the mandatory deposit associated with excess general fund revenue collections and discretionary year-end general fund balances required for deposit to the Water Quality Improvement Fund. Funds will support the reimbursement of entities as provided for in the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty Program.	General Fund	<u>2025</u> \$17,390,600	<u>2026</u> \$0
Delay Polystyrene Ban Effective Date Removes language modifying the effective date of legislation that prohibits the use of polystyrene containers for retail food establishments operating in the Commonwealth.			
Modify language to reappropriate one-time amounts for two water quality initiatives Amends language to reappropriate general fund balances provided for the City of Richmond's Combined Sewer Overflow project and the agency's new Pay-for-Outcomes water quality initiative.			

Part B: 2025 Amendments to the Biennial Budget - 2024-2026 Biennium

Department of Wildlife Resources

Operating Budget Summary				Authorized Position Summary		
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Personnel Cost	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Total Positions
2021 Appropriation	\$0	\$67,952,102	\$41,071,258	0.00	496.00	496.00
2022 Appropriation	\$0	\$66,841,461	\$41,071,258	0.00	496.00	496.00
2023 Appropriation	\$200,000	\$70,783,646	\$41,371,258	2.00	496.00	498.00
2024 Appropriation	\$200,000	\$70,783,646	\$41,371,258	2.00	496.00	498.00
2025 Appropriation	\$200,000	\$81,498,458	\$49,874,446	2.00	498.00	500.00
2025 Intro Changes	\$4,431,141	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2025 Total	\$4,631,141	\$81,498,458	\$49,874,446	2.00	498.00	500.00
2026 Appropriation	\$200,000	\$79,498,458	\$49,874,446	2.00	498.00	500.00
2026 Intro Changes	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2026 Total	\$200,000	\$79,498,458	\$49,874,446	2.00	498.00	500.00

Capital Outlay Budget Summary

	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Bond Proceeds	Capital Outlay Total
2025 Appropriation	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$8,000,000
2025 Intro Changes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2025 Total	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$8,000,000
2026 Appropriation	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000
2026 Intro Changes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2026 Total	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000

Operating Budget Changes

Introduced Budget Non-Technical Changes

Leverage federal funds for the relocation of Virginia's largest seabird colony

Provides one-time general fund support for 35 percent of the estimated total cost of an Army Corps of Engineers project to construct a permanent habitat for Virginia's largest seabird colony, which is currently displaced by a transportation expansion project.

	2025	2026
General Fund	\$4,431,141	\$0

Part B: 2025 Amendments to the Biennial Budget - 2024-2026 Biennium

Department of Historic Resources

	Operating Budget Summary			Authorized Position Summary		
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Personnel Cost	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Total Positions
2021 Appropriation	\$16,654,432	\$3,243,824	\$4,983,184	29.50	19.00	48.50
2022 Appropriation	\$6,299,178	\$3,243,824	\$5,335,221	33.00	19.00	52.00
2023 Appropriation	\$36,310,796	\$3,614,068	\$5,810,377	35.00	19.00	54.00
2024 Appropriation	\$19,887,956	\$3,614,068	\$5,810,377	35.00	19.00	54.00
2025 Appropriation	\$45,499,301	\$3,855,604	\$5,418,363	38.00	19.00	57.00
2025 Intro Changes	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2025 Total	\$46,499,301	\$3,855,604	\$5,418,363	38.00	19.00	57.00
2026 Appropriation	\$12,329,501	\$3,855,604	\$5,418,363	38.00	19.00	57.00
2026 Intro Changes	(\$750,000)	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2026 Total	\$11,579,501	\$3,855,604	\$5,418,363	38.00	19.00	57.00

Operating Budget Changes

Introduced Budget Non-Technical Changes

Provide funding for additional legal assistance

Provides funding for outside legal counsel to increase the Office of the Attorney General's capacity to assist with drafting battlefield easements and conduct legal reviews of battlefield easements drafted by the Department of Historic Resources. It is anticipated that assistance will be needed for 18 to 24 months to address a backlog of easement processing.

	2025	2026
General Fund	\$250,000	\$0

Move pass-through funding to the first year

Redistributes a total of \$750,000.00 for the Jefferson School African American Heritage Center and the Center for Local Knowledge Programs and Black Women United for Action from the second year to the first year of the budget.

	2025	2026
General Fund	\$750,000	(\$750,000)

Modify tribal internship language

Expands allowable uses for funding to provide additional flexibility in its distribution while still serving the recognized needs of the Tribes. The expanded language allows the agency to use the funds to provide grants, consultation, and trainings in addition to paid internships. Currently, internships supported with the funds are for data collection activities.

Marine Resources Commission

	Operating Budget Summary			Authorized Position Summary		
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Personnel Cost	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	Total Positions
2021 Appropriation	\$16,070,313	\$13,160,364	\$14,109,563	138.50	31.00	169.50
2022 Appropriation	\$16,181,245	\$13,045,064	\$14,183,151	138.50	31.00	169.50
2023 Appropriation	\$21,558,834	\$13,005,787	\$16,564,724	142.50	29.00	171.50
2024 Appropriation	\$17,033,534	\$13,005,787	\$16,564,724	142.50	29.00	171.50
2025 Appropriation	\$22,453,165	\$16,645,136	\$17,704,359	142.50	29.00	171.50
2025 Intro Changes	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2025 Total	\$22,603,165	\$16,645,136	\$17,704,359	142.50	29.00	171.50
2026 Appropriation	\$18,703,165	\$13,645,136	\$17,704,359	142.50	29.00	171.50
2026 Intro Changes	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0.00
2026 Total	\$18,703,165	\$13,645,136	\$17,704,359	142.50	29.00	171.50

Operating Budget Changes

Introduced Budget Non-Technical Changes

Retrofit office space and increase building safety

Provides general fund appropriation for safety upgrades and workplace enhancements at the agency's main office.

	2025	2026
General Fund	\$150,000	\$0