



South Carolina  
**Forestry Commission**

**2021-22**  
BUDGET REQUEST





# South Carolina Forestry Commission

FY 2021-22 Budget Request Packet  
for  
Economic Development & Natural Resources Subcommittee Hearing  
Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021

## Table of contents

List of key officials.....	3
Agency overview.....	4
Organizational chart and FTE information .....	4
Performance update .....	5
Financial update .....	7
Budget request summary, prioritized .....	8
Proviso request summary .....	37
Additional information .....	38

# South Carolina Forestry Commission key officials

**Scott Phillips**

State Forester

(803) 896-8801 | [sphillips@scfc.gov](mailto:sphillips@scfc.gov)

**Tom Patton**

Deputy State Forester

(803) 896-8849 | [tpatton@scfc.gov](mailto:tpatton@scfc.gov)

**Larry Moody**

Acting Legislative Liaison

(803) 530-0249 | [lmooddy@scfc.gov](mailto:lmooddy@scfc.gov)

*\* key contact for legislative issues*

**Cathy Nordeen**

Director of Administration

(803) 896-8865 | [cnordeen@scfc.gov](mailto:cnordeen@scfc.gov)

**Doug Wood**

Director of Communications & Public Information

(803) 896-8820 | [dwood@scfc.gov](mailto:dwood@scfc.gov)

**Darryl Jones**

Chief, Protection Section

(803) 896-8817 | [djones@scfc.gov](mailto:djones@scfc.gov)

**Russell Hubright**

Chief, Management Section

(803) 896-8823 | [rhubright@scfc.gov](mailto:rhubright@scfc.gov)

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Dr. Walter McPhail**, Chair (Mauldin)

**H. Stro Morrison III**, Vice-Chair (Estill)

**Sam R. Coker** (Leesville)

**Amy McFadden** (Georgetown)

**Eric Smith** (Summerville)

**Jesse Neville** (Walhalla)

**Josh Sandt** (Murrells Inlet)

**W. McLeod “Mac” Rhodes** (Charleston)

**Dr. Keith Belli** (Clemson)

# Agency overview

## History and mission

HISTORY: The SC Forestry Commission was created in 1927 with its general duties defined in State Code 48-23-90. In summary, the Code requires the agency to make an annual report to the General Assembly on “forest conditions ... including recommendations to the public as to reforestation. ... to prevent, control and extinguish fires, including the enforcement of ... laws pertaining to the protection of the forests and woodlands .... ... give such advice, assistance and cooperation to private owners of land and promote ... appreciation by the public of the advantages of forestry and the benefits ... ... cooperate with the federal government in the distribution of funds allotted to the State for forestry ...”

MISSION: Our mission is to protect, promote and enhance South Carolina’s forests for the benefit of all.

## Major program areas

### Forest Protection

- Wildland Fire Suppression
- Forest Health (insects & disease)
- Law Enforcement

### Forest Management

- Landowner Assistance
- State Forests
- Urban & Community Forestry

### Forest Development

- Industry recruitment
- Forest Inventory & Analysis (FIA)
- Water quality protection (BMPs)
- Nursery & Tree Improvement

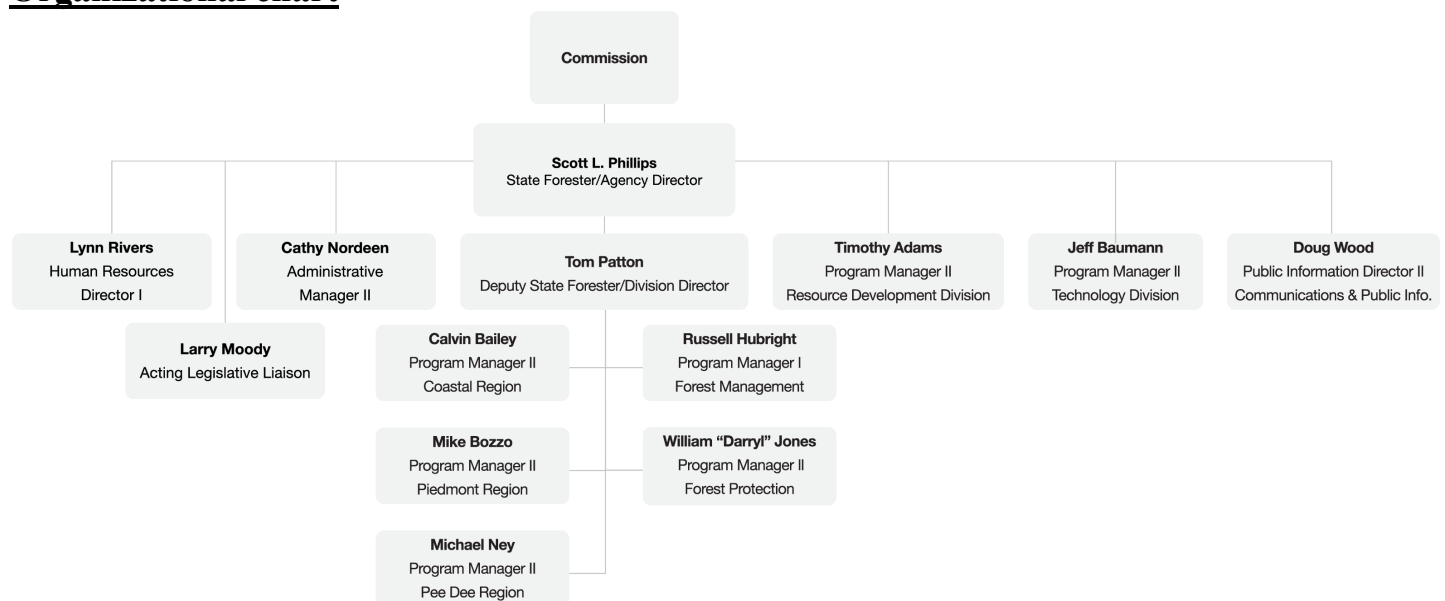
### Communications

- Public information
- Environmental education
- Media relations
- Creative services

### Technology

- I.T. services
- Dispatch operations
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

## Organizational chart



## FTE breakdown

<u>Authorized</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Federal</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Filled</u>	<u>Vacant</u>
365.80	309.65	15.70	40.45	326.80	39.00



# Performance update: executive summary of FY19-20 Accountability Report

The South Carolina Forestry Commission was established in 1927 to protect, manage, develop and raise awareness about the forest resources of the state. In fulfilling those charges, the agency occupies a unique space in state government, first as an emergency response organization, but also as an economic development institution, a highly rated customer service agency and a champion for natural resource conservation. Our work continues to effectively support the responsible and sustainable growth of the state's woodlands, the industries that use them and the way of life their bounty supports.

## **Accomplishments**

As documented in the agency's FY20 Accountability Report, the Forestry Commission's accomplishments are numerous and varied, with progress in each of our five primary goals as identified in the agency's Strategic Plan. As you review these achievements it is important to note the General Assembly's funding of our Benefits & Retention budget request in FY20, which enabled the implementation of a new pay plan that is having a positive impact, reducing turnover and increasing production.

### **Goal 1: Develop the Forest Resource**

- FIA plot production was 102% of the target for FY20. This is an 11% improvement from FY19, and accuracy scores remain very high (>96%).
- Completed the analysis of and published a report on the economic contribution of forestry to SC's economy for reference year 2018. The results indicated that forestry continues to be one of the strongest sectors of SC's economy, contributing \$21.2 billion to the state's economy annually while providing more than 98,000 jobs and \$4.9 billion in labor income.
- Approximately \$522 million in capital investment projects announced in FY20. Announced projects will create 385 new jobs. The largest announcement was in York County where New Indy plans to invest \$240 million to convert the facility to ultra-lightweight, virgin kraft linerboard.

### **Goal 2: Protect the Forest Resource**

- The agency purchased 12 safer enclosed-cab dozers, toward the 160 target.
- Participated in an audit and inventory of the Federal Excess Personal Property Program and Firefighter Property Program by the USDA Forest Service. The audit produced no significant adverse findings and reflects well on the Forestry Commission effort to work with fire departments around the state to help fill equipment needs through these two programs. More than 2,500 items valued at over \$52 million are in use statewide.
- The agency's Type 2 Incident Management Team (IMT) continues to support an increasing role assisting with all-hazard emergency response efforts. During FY20 the IMT deployed to Charleston in response to Hurricane Dorian, to Richland County in support of the Seeking Nevaeh Mission, and to four different sites around the state to assist the Department of Social Services with logistical planning for a COVID-19 mission focused on getting supplies for childcare facilities to facilitate reopening.

### **Goal 3: Manage the Forest Resource**

- The agency assisted 2,542 landowners during FY20. This is a 26% increase from FY19. Customer satisfaction for forest management assistance remains high at 97%.
- The State Forest system generated nearly \$3.8 million in total revenue (\$566,406 net revenue) from the sale of forest products and paid nearly \$918,000 to counties in which they operate. The agency operates its State Forests 100% from revenue generated by the management of these properties, using no state-appropriated funds to support their operation. The agency's ability to operate the State Forests without state funding, while providing 25% of its gross proceeds to the counties in which they are located, illustrates the productive capacity of actively managed forests and the good stewardship of this agency. Since 2010, the SCFC has paid more than \$8.3 million to schools in the counties in which the State Forests are located.
- The Urban and Community Forestry Program's outreach served an estimated 2.8 million citizens. A significant project completed by this program was the Conservation Development Guide, which is a best management practices tool that illustrates how to develop for commercial and residential use while maximizing forest connectivity.

#### **Goal 4: Raise Awareness about the Forest Resource**

- Agency staff conducted forestry education programs reaching nearly 4,400 participants during FY20. This is 27% below the target. Shortfall is due to a drastic reduction of outreach activities because of COVID-19.
- The SCFC made significant strides this year in ramping up efforts to shed a positive light on forestry in SC. Produced a combination of 13 radio and TV public service announcements that aired on 110 radio stations and 37 TV outlets across the state from March to June.

#### **Goal 5: Prepare to Meet Future Demands**

- During FY20 the agency revised the agency's Strategic Plan and Forest Action Plan in a way that truly integrates these documents, aligns agency actions and drives the Forestry Commission towards our vision. The agency will transition to this new plan during FY21.
- Agency efforts to address compensation issues in recent years have greatly improved recruitment and retention efforts. The new pay plan for frontline firefighters, which has reduced turnover rates for these positions, resulted in less than 4% turnover in FY20. The agency's overall turnover rate for FY20 is 8%.

#### **Challenges**

The challenges noted in the agency's Accountability Report provide the basis for, and are in fact directly linked to, our current budget requests for FY2021-22.

- 21% of the agency's frontline firefighting bulldozers exceed the 15-year safe service life, and 37% frontline firefighting bulldozers are the less safe open-cab models. Act 273's \$1.8 million annual funding and the current \$1 million recurring state funding is insufficient to fill a \$3.8 million annual need for firefighting equipment.
- Inadequate IT staffing and operating funds to implement State Information Security initiatives, reduce risks and meet agency operational requirements.
- Inadequate FTEs for much-needed workforce/succession planning and implementation. 43% of the agency's workforce is eligible to retire within 5 years, and 29% are currently beyond the eligibility to retire.
- Limited capacity in critical program areas is causing firefighters and foresters to cover greater territory, increasing response time, fire size and wildfire damage risk while reducing landowner assistance, wildfire prevention and outreach.
- Difficulty recruiting new firefighters (bulldozer operators) is impacting our ability to respond to wildfires. Currently 8% of frontline firefighter positions are vacant, with the average position being vacant nearly 9 months. Four of these positions have been vacant for more than a year.
- Average wildfire response time, 37.75 minutes in FY20, exceeded the 35-minute target due to firefighter vacancies and the resulting larger coverage areas.
- While the agency assisted 2,542 landowners during FY20, this is 24% below historical metrics. Current capacity does not allow the agency to provide technical assistance and outreach to family forest owners as we did historically or to the level that we feel is appropriate given current forest conditions and trends.
- Understaffing in the Communications & Public Information Division creates the lack of specialization needed for a more robust integrated marketing communications program, which also leads to missed opportunities for public relations and outreach.



## Financial update: budget vs. actual, FY19-20 & FY20-21

Major Budget Categories	Fiscal Year	General Funds Appropriations	General Funds Expenditures	Federal Funds Appropriations	Federal Funds Expenditures	Other Funds Appropriations	Other Funds Expenditures
Personal Services	2019-20	\$12,115,274.00	\$11,181,910.00	\$1,028,518.00	\$660,795.00	\$1,390,000.00	\$757,097.00
	2020-21	\$12,347,719.00	\$4,651,600.83	\$1,046,659.00	\$375,125.24	\$1,390,000.00	\$388,350.83
Other Operating	2019-20	\$2,997,655.00	\$4,881,070.00	\$2,499,567.00	\$1,638,255.00	\$5,828,713.00	\$5,531,693.00
	2020-21	\$2,997,655.00	\$525,200.66	\$2,499,567.00	\$784,957.68	\$5,898,713.00	\$779,382.00
Special Items (Forest Renewal)	2019-20	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00			\$850,000.00	\$821,488.00
	2020-21	\$200,000.00	\$179,142.73			\$800,000.00	\$138,958.80
Distributions to Subdivisions	2019-20			\$800,475.00	\$953,293.00	\$1,100,000.00	\$917,676.00
	2020-21			\$800,475.00	\$170,059.98	\$1,100,000.00	
Fringe Benefits	2019-20	\$6,150,033.00	\$5,624,874.00	\$435,000.00	\$306,171.00	\$510,000.00	\$472,055.00
	2020-21	\$6,459,218.00	\$2,354,945.29	\$435,000.00	\$155,589.79	\$510,000.00	\$191,104.10
Non-Recurring	2019-20	\$1,510,578.00	\$1,510,578.00				
	2020-21						
Carryforward	2019-20	\$1,883,416.00					
	2020-21	\$2,170,432.00					
Total	2019-20	\$24,856,956.00	\$23,398,432.00	\$4,763,560.00	\$3,558,514.00	\$9,678,713.00	\$8,500,009.00
	2020-21	\$24,175,024.00	\$7,710,889.51	\$4,781,701.00	\$1,485,732.69	\$9,698,713.00	\$1,497,795.73

\* Additional federal authority was a one-time increase.

# Prioritized summary of FY2020-21 budget request

FY2021-22 Prioritized Budget Request Summary												
SC Forestry Commission												
BUDGET REQUESTS				FUNDING					FTEs			
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	Brief Description	General - Recurring	General - Non-recurring	Other	Federal	Total	State	Other	Federal	Total
1	recurring	Firefighting Equipment	\$1 million recurring funds to stay on 15-year replacement cycle for dozer units. \$2 million other funds authority to help minimize additional authority requests through the Executive Budget Office.	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$3,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	recurring	IT Security	Funding for salary/fringe for 3 positions and operating expenses to adhere to mandates set up by the Dept. of Administration related to cyber security.	\$560,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$560,000	3.00	-2.00	0.00	1.00
3	recurring	Firefighting and Service Capacity	Funding for salary/fringe for 14 positions and operating expenses to support those positions. Additional .25 federal position to increase a federally funded position to full time.	\$2,260,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,260,000	14.00	-4.00	.25	10.25
4	recurring	Outreach Capacity	Funding for salary/fringe for 1 position and operating expenses to support that position.	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
5	non-recurring	Firefighting Equipment	\$1 million non-recurring funds to stay on 15-year replacement cycle for dozer units if recurring funding is not available.	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL BUDGET REQUESTS				\$3,920,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$-	\$6,920,000	18.00	-6.00	0.25	12.25



Agency Name: Forestry Commission  
 Agency Code: P120

Section: 43



Fiscal Year FY 2021-2022

Agency Budget Plan

**FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY**

**OPERATING  
REQUESTS**  
*(FORM B1)*

For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting General Fund Appropriations.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Federal/Other Authorization.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

**NON-RECURRING  
REQUESTS**  
*(FORM B2)*

For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Appropriations.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting Non-Recurring Federal/Other Authorization.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

**CAPITAL  
REQUESTS**  
*(FORM C)*

For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Requesting funding for Capital Projects.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any changes.

**PROVISOS**  
*(FORM D)*

For FY 2021-2022, my agency is (mark "X"):	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Requesting a new proviso and/or substantive changes to existing provisos.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Only requesting technical proviso changes (such as date references).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not requesting any proviso changes.

Please identify your agency's preferred contacts for this year's budget process.

**PRIMARY  
CONTACT:**  
**SECONDARY  
CONTACT:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Scott Phillips	(803) 896-8801	SPhillips@scfc.gov
Cathy Nordeen	(803) 896-8865	CNordeen@scfc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2021-2022 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

**SIGN/DATE:**  
**TYPE/PRINT  
NAME:**

<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>
Scott Phillips	Walter McPhail

This form must be signed by the agency head – not a delegate.

Agency Name:	Forestry Commission
Agency Code:	P120
Section:	43

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING					FTES				
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Firefighting Equipment	1,000,000	0	2,000,000	0	3,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Information Technology and Security	560,000	0	0	0	560,000	3.00	0.00	-2.00	0.00	1.00
3	B1 - Recurring	Firefighting and Service Capacity	2,260,000	0	0	0	2,260,000	14.00	0.25	-4.00	0.00	10.25
4	B1 - Recurring	Outreach Capacity	100,000	0	0	0	100,000	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
5	B2 - Non-Recurring	Expedited Equipment Replacement	1,000,000	0	0	0	1,000,000	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS			4,920,000	0	2,000,000	0	6,920,000	18.00	0.25	-6.00	0.00	12.25



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

### **AGENCY PRIORITY**

1

*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

### **TITLE**

**Firefighting Equipment**

*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

### **AMOUNT**

**General: \$1,000,000**

**Federal: \$0**

**Other: \$2,000,000**

**Total: \$3,000,000**

*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2021-2022? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

### **NEW POSITIONS**

0.00

*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

### **FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST**

#### **Mark "X" for all that apply:**

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | IT Technology/Security related  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Consulted DTO during development  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority # 5                  |

### **STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

#### **Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:**

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Education, Training, and Human Development     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Healthy and Safe Families                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Public Infrastructure and Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Government and Citizens                        |

### **ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS**

This funding request supports the following objective:

- 2.1 – Ensure prompt and effective response to wildfires and other natural disasters.
- 5.2 – Provide employees with a safe and productive working environment.

This request advances this strategy by providing mission-critical recurring funds to purchase firefighting equipment, ensuring the Forestry Commission can protect the lives and property of SC citizens.

This request will be evaluated by monitoring the percentage of frontline dozers that are within the 15 year safe service life. The percentage should increase annually until 100% of dozers are within the 15-year safe service life and then remain constant.

*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

Funds will be received by current state contract vendors.

## RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

## JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The Forestry Commission is tasked with protecting the forest lands and citizens of South Carolina. Ensuring the safety of SCFC firefighters and the public is our agency's top priority. Most wildfires in SC are suppressed by using dozer units. Maintaining a fleet of reliable and safe units is the key to protecting the public and fulfilling our wildfire control mission. When firefighting dozers exceed 15 years of age, reliability decreases and repair and maintenance costs increase. Reliable dozers result in less risk to our firefighters and the general public, faster response times and fewer acres burned. In addition to reliability, the newer enclosed-cab units provide much greater protection for the firefighters from exposure to heat, smoke, limbs and debris. The enclosed cabs also increase the likelihood of survival if the unit were to become trapped and a burn-over occurred.

To maintain a reliable dozer fleet, dozer units should be kept on a 15-year replacement cycle. In order to meet a 15-year replacement cycle, the agency needs to purchase 11 to 12 dozer units (dozer, plow and transport) annually. Each unit cost approximately \$330,000 which requires \$4 million each year. Currently the agency receives approximately \$2 million through Act 273 plus \$1 million recurring received in FY2020 appropriations. The requested \$1 million in recurring funds will guarantee the \$4 million annual need to maintain a reliable fleet and ensure that safe firefighting equipment is available to fulfill the agency's mission.

The agency is also requesting an additional \$2 million in other funds authority. The procurement process, from receiving bids to the delivery of the firefighting equipment usually takes more than one year. When equipment is not received prior to year-end, the agency has to roll the purchase orders forward into the next fiscal year. Since Other Authority resets every year the agency is forced to use existing authority to cover the prior year purchase orders. The Commission has to request additional authority through the Executive Budget Office every year that the equipment is not received before year-end so the current year order can be made. Having the additional authority would minimize staff time and increase efficiency within our agency and at the Executive Budget Office.

If funding is not received, more units in the agency's fleet will exceed the 15-year safe service life, putting the public and firefighters at increased risk and could result in larger wildfires and greater loss of property and lives. Delaying this funding will compound the issue by significantly extending the time required to equip all firefighters with enclosed cab tractors.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	2
------------------------	---

*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

<b>TITLE</b>	Information Technology and Security
--------------	-------------------------------------

*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<p><b>General: \$560,000</b></p> <p><b>Federal: \$0</b></p> <p><b>Other: \$0</b></p> <p><b>Total: \$560,000</b></p>
---------------	---

*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2021-2022? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	1.00
----------------------	------

*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark "X" for all that apply:</b>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<p>This funding request supports the following objectives:</p> <p>2.1 -- Ensure prompt and effective response to wildfires and other natural disasters.</p> <p>3.1 -- Provide improved land management services to landowners, including administering reforestation programs and providing technical forest management assistance designed to meet landowner's goals.</p> <p>4.2 -- Enhance the image of the Forestry Commission as an initial source for forest management information and assistance.</p> <p>5.1 -- Maintain a capable, well-trained and diverse work team.</p> <p>5.2 -- Provide employees with a safe and productive working environment.</p> <p>This request advances these strategies by providing agency employees with better access to technology, allowing them to perform their jobs effectively, efficiently and safely. It will also ensure that the Commission has the security measures in place to protect the private information of citizens and our employees and increase our ability to deliver information to our constituents.</p> <p>These funds will be evaluated by tracking an increase in IT infrastructure and enhanced network security. It will also increase employee efficiency in delivery of landowner assistance and wildfire protection services.</p>
--------------------------------	---



*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

## RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Funds will go towards salary and fringe for 1 new FTE and the shifting from other to state for 2 FTEs as well as state contract holders for IT hardware and software.

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

## JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The Information Technology Division supports all of the mission-critical functions of the agency including wildland firefighting. The funding of this request will provide positions and equipment that will better serve the public and our employees; and adopt standards and guidelines developed by the Department of Administration. The 2020-2021 Appropriation Act Section 93.9 (and previous years' Budget Provisos) mandates that state agencies adopt and implement cyber security policies and reporting of information technology and security plans of the Department of Administration's Division of Technology.

At the direction of the Board of Commissioners we have been strategically reviewing our agency's staffing needs. During this review we identified 6 vacant and unfunded FTEs that could be better leveraged to meet the agency's most critical needs. We are requesting to shift 2 of these FTEs from other to state and \$190,000 salary and fringe to support a much needed Privacy Liaison and IT Technician position. We request to add one new FTE and \$80,000 salary and fringe to support a GIS Analyst position.

IT Technician III (\$95,000): Prior to 2008, the agency had 4 FTEs associated with end-user, network infrastructure, application and hardware support. Agency currently has just 2 FTEs supporting nearly 400 employees. This state funded position is needed to support the significant increase in demand for field technology and mobile devices, increased cybersecurity threats, and growing federal and state mandates for data protection.

Privacy Liaison (\$95,000): State of South Carolina - Human Resources Division InfoSec/Privacy Workforce Professional Development Handbook, Appendix 8.1 Data Classification Roles and Responsibilities provides guidelines to help agencies adopt an information security and privacy framework for personnel. Based on the criteria provided in Appendix 8.1, Forestry Commission falls under Tier 3 due to having restricted data from the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, and other agencies/organizations for use in its wildfire dispatch system and used by the State's only Type 2 Incident Management Team; and personally identifiable information (PII data) of landowners. The reference chart suggests Tier 3 agencies have a minimum of 2 FTEs to cover all the information security and privacy roles. Currently the Forestry Commission doesn't have a single FTE dedicated to performing these roles. This state funded position is needed to support state and federal privacy compliance requirements and controls.

GIS Analyst (\$80,000): Visualizing data geographically in a GIS application can greatly improve understanding, decision-making, efficiency, and communications. Technology now allows this information to be available to decision makers, other agencies and organizations, and the general public. This new position will assist the agency in updating GIS applications used in fire dispatch, forest management, fire protection and other areas; and improve capability and context to analyze data in near real time.

Smartphones for suppression unit operators (\$90,000): New, recurring State funding is needed to cover cellular plans, apps and security software (i.e. mobile device management) for 160 suppression unit operators.

Electronic mail system upgrade (\$50,000): Migration of agency's On-Premise email system to a system hosted by DTO or an approved "Emerging Technology Tier" service to comply with Department of Administration's Electronic Email Standards.

Laptop, desktop, and server upgrades (\$150,000): Forestry has continued to request recurring funds for orderly replacement, upgrade, annual maintenance and licensing fees of information technology equipment and software. This budget request covers systematic replacement of  $\geq 5$  years old computers and servers. Agency is currently using Federal grants to cover the majority of these costs. Some item costs are somewhat high because Forestry Commission purchases high-end machines due to



the length of time their machines are in service; need for faster processors and more RAM for GIS software; need for larger hard drive storage for GIS data and aerial imagery; and more ruggedized laptops. The agency is primarily a Dell environment but will look at other state contract vendors when considering ruggedized laptops for specific field positions that need that type of device.

If funds are not received the agency will continue to operate dated equipment, which will impact the effectiveness and efficiency of our employees' work. In addition, the agency will be exposed to increased risk of security breaches.

The Commission does not have the state funds to fill two requested positions (IT Technician III and Privacy Liaison) or the FTE and state funds to fill the third (GIS Analyst).

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*

Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST**

<b>AGENCY PRIORITY</b>	3
------------------------	---

*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

<b>TITLE</b>	Firefighting and Service Capacity
--------------	-----------------------------------

*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

<b>AMOUNT</b>	<p><b>General: \$2,260,000</b></p> <p><b>Federal: \$0</b></p> <p><b>Other: \$0</b></p> <p><b>Total: \$2,260,000</b></p>
---------------	---

*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2021-2022? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>	10.25
----------------------	-------

*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark "X" for all that apply:</b>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #	

<b>STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:</b>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, and Human Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Families
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens

<b>ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS</b>	<b>This funding request supports the following objectives:</b>	
	1.2	– Provide policy makers, the forestry community, and the interested public accurate and timely information on the state's forest inventory and health.
	2.1	– Ensure prompt and effective response to wildfires and other natural disasters.
	3.1	– Provide improved land management services to landowners, including administering reforestation programs and providing technical forest management assistance designed to meet landowners' goals.
	4.2	– Enhance the image of the Forestry Commission as an initial source for forest management information and assistance
	5.1	– Maintain a capable, well-trained and diverse work team.
5.2	– Provide employees with a safe and productive working environment.	
<p>This request will allow the agency to increase its capacity to respond to wildfires, enhance aerial detection and suppression support, improve capabilities to predict fire weather, increase capacity to provide forest management technical assistance and services to landowners, enhance aerial suppression support for wildfires which will decrease wildfire risk. and It will establish much needed shift supervisor positions for</p>		



successional planning and career path development for our dispatchers and foresters as well as improve customer service to our internal and external customers to include landowners, employees, other state and federal agencies and the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.

The use of these funds will be evaluated by demonstrating a decrease in wildfire response times, and increase in the number of landowners assisted, improved forest management customer satisfaction levels and enhanced ability of the agency to prepare our workforce for future demands.

*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

## RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Funds will go towards the salary, fringe and operating for 10 new FTEs and 4 FTEs shifted from Other to State.

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

## JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

The Forestry Commission's mission is to protect, enhance and nurture the forest lands of South Carolina. The agency accomplishes this mission primarily through our Forest Protection and Forest Management operations. Limited capacity in these critical program areas has resulted in firefighters and foresters covering greater territory, increasing response time, fire size and wildfire damage risk, while reducing landowner assistance, wildfire prevention and outreach activities. Also, with this request the agency has the unique opportunity to fill four critical positions through the transfer of existing unfunded FTEs.

We are requesting funding in our Forest Protection division for a fire support position (\$105,000) to provide forward-looking fire weather outlooks and fire intelligence information and operating (\$425,000) to support our Forest Protection programs. Having a dedicated fire support position would allow the Forestry Commission to provide accurate fire weather and fire intelligence to agency firefighters and cooperating fire agencies which would result in increased public and firefighter safety. The operational funds will allow the Commission to strengthen our wildland fire program and our partnerships with the US Forest Service, SC National Guard, and other agencies that provide wildland fire support. We are also requesting an additional .25 federal FTE to increase a federally funded fire support position from part time to full time.

We are also requesting two FTEs transferred from Other to State (\$120,000) for shift supervisor positions for nighttime dispatch shifts and an additional \$50,000 for salary and fringe to promote six daytime dispatchers to shift supervisor positions. Currently we only have three supervisory employees for our three dispatch centers (one in each center) which does not provide adequate supervisory coverage for full shifts or on weekends and holidays. We need to create shift supervisor positions to provide a clear chain of command at all times while also addressing succession planning needs and career path development. In addition to the salary and fringe we are requesting \$175,000 in operating to cover annual maintenance costs at our dispatch centers that cannot be covered due to reductions in federal funding. This request will benefit the landowners of South Carolina and Forestry Commission personnel by having our dispatch centers adequately staffed and managed 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

In addition to the Forest Protection funding request, we are requesting funding for eight FTEs, seven new and one shifted, (\$760,000) and operating to support these positions (\$300,000) in our Forest Management division. These FTEs will improve supplemental firefighting capacity and increase landowner assistance while also providing much-needed training and supervisory experience for succession planning efforts. These positions will benefit the landowners of South Carolina by providing additional supervisory positions for fire response, increasing timber supply, improving forest health, ensuring soil and water quality and reducing wildfire risk which increases forestry's economic impact.

We are requesting two new FTEs and \$200,000 to hire two full-time pilots. These positions will provide necessary aerial support/detection information to firefighters on the ground regarding fuels, fire behavior and values at risk during wildfire suppression which will increase public and firefighter safety while also improving the efficacy of the agency's fire suppression efforts. We currently only have two full-time pilots to support the agency's 24/7 firefighting mission across the whole state. The



addition of two full-time pilots will provide much better coverage.

We are requesting \$125,000 and to shift one FTE from other to state to fund a General Counsel position. The agency currently has no legal staff and must rely on private attorneys for legal matters involving landowner, human resources, regulatory and legislative issues. This position would also assist with contractual, strategic planning and accountability issues related to the agency.

If funds are not received the effectiveness of wildfire prevention efforts will be reduced, leading to more damage to homes and forest resources. The agency will also lack the capacity to provide needed technical assistance to forest landowners, causing a reduction in active forest management that will lead to less healthy and productive forests, which will in turn increase wildfire risks.

The amounts of this request were calculated by using the average salary and fringe benefits of like positions within the agency and operating costs associated with those positions related to forest protection and management efforts.

With the exception of the four requested transfers, the Forestry Commission does not have the vacant positions to fulfill this request, as they are obligated to other areas within the agency.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

### AGENCY PRIORITY

4

*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

### TITLE

Outreach Capacity

*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

### AMOUNT

**General: \$100,000**

**Federal: \$0**

**Other: \$0**

**Total: \$100,000**

*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2021-2022? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

### NEW POSITIONS

1.00

*Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.*

### FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

#### Mark "X" for all that apply:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | IT Technology/Security related  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Consulted DTO during development  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority #                    |

### STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

#### Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Education, Training, and Human Development     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Healthy and Safe Families                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Public Infrastructure and Economic Development |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Government and Citizens                        |

### ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

4.1 Provide forestry education programs for targeted audiences.

4.2 Enhance the image of the Forestry Commission as an initial source of forest management information and assistance.

The Forestry Commission's Communications and Public Information Division would be able to better perform media relations, handle emergency communications, produce content for a wide range of media channels and conduct outreach for the agency.

This request will be evaluated by monitoring the communications and outreach that the Communication and Public Information Division is able to provide to the citizens of South Carolina.

*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

### RECIPIENTS OF

Funds will go towards the salary and fringe for one new FTE and provide operating expenses for our Communications and Public Information Division.

## FUNDS

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)? How would these funds be allocated – using an existing formula, through a competitive process, based upon predetermined eligibility criteria?*

## JUSTIFICATION OF REQUEST

A core function of the Forestry Commission is to promote the advantages of forestry and the benefits of active forest management. The agency has done a great job in recent years promoting the economic benefits of forestry and establishing the forestry sector as a pillar of SC's economy. As our state's population becomes more urbanized, we must strengthen our message on the environmental benefits of working forests and the role strong markets and family forest owners play in keeping our forests healthy.

Currently we have a very small (3 FTEs), but talented, group of employees working in the Communication and Public Information Division but we need additional capacity to tell our story. Understaffing in this area creates the lack of specialization needed for a more robust integrated marketing communication program, which also leads to missed opportunities for public relations and outreach.

We are requesting one FTE (\$75,000) and \$25,000 in operating funds to increase communications and outreach capacity that will allow the Commission to better promote the advantages of forestry and the benefits of active forest management to landowners and the public.

If the funding is not received the Commission will continue to have an insufficient level of communications support during wildfire suppression/emergency operations. The agency will also continue to miss opportunities to promote the benefits of forestry to the general public, media and agency partners.

The Forestry Commission does not have the vacant positions to fulfill this request, as they are obligated to other areas within the agency. The SCFC does not currently receive any grant funds or any other sources of income that can be used to fund this position.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

### AGENCY PRIORITY

5

*Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.*

### TITLE

Expedited Equipment Replacement

*Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.*

### AMOUNT

\$1,000,000

*What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2021-2022? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.*

### FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST

#### Mark "X" for all that apply:

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Change in cost of providing current services to existing program audience |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Change in case load/enrollment under existing program guidelines          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Non-mandated change in eligibility/enrollment for existing program        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Non-mandated program change in service levels or areas                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Proposed establishment of a new program or initiative                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Exhaustion of fund balances previously used to support program            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | IT Technology/Security related  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Consulted DTO during development  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Related to a Recurring request – If so, Priority # Firefighting Equipment |

### STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

#### Mark "X" for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Education, Training, and Human Development     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Healthy and Safe Families                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Public Infrastructure and Economic Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Government and Citizens                        |

### ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS

This funding request supports the following objective:

2.1 – Ensure prompt and effective response to wildfires and other natural disasters.

5.2 – Provide employees with a safe and productive working environment.

This request advances this strategy by providing mission-critical recurring funds to purchase firefighting equipment, ensuring the Forestry Commission can protect the lives and property of SC citizens.

This request will be evaluated by monitoring the percentage of frontline dozers that are within the 15-year safe service life. The percentage should increase annually until 100% of dozers are within the 15-year safe service life and then remain constant

*What specific strategy, as outlined in the most recent Strategic Planning and Performance Measurement template of agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that strategy? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?*

### RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS

Funds will be received by current state contract vendors.

*What individuals or entities would receive these funds (contractors, vendors, grantees, individual beneficiaries, etc.)?*

**JUSTIFICATION  
OF REQUEST**

The Forestry Commission is tasked with protecting the forest lands and citizens of South Carolina. Ensuring the safety of SCFC firefighters and the public is our agency's top priority. Most wildfires in SC are suppressed by using dozer units. Maintaining a fleet of reliable and safe units is the key to protecting the public and fulfilling our wildfire control mission. When firefighting dozers exceed 15 years of age, reliability decreases and repair and maintenance costs increase. Reliable dozers result in less risk to our firefighters and the general public, faster response times and fewer acres burned. In addition to reliability, the newer enclosed-cab units provide much greater protection for the firefighters from exposure to heat, smoke, limbs and debris. The enclosed cabs also increase the likelihood of survival if the unit were to become trapped and a burn over occurred.

To maintain a reliable dozer fleet, dozer units should be kept on a 15-year replacement cycle. In order to meet a 15-year replacement cycle, the agency needs to purchase 11 to 12 dozer units (dozer, plow and transport) annually. Each unit cost approximately \$330,000 which requires \$4 million each year. Currently the agency receives approximately \$2 million through Act 273 plus \$1 million recurring received in FY2020 appropriations. At present, 58 of our 160 dozers still have open cabs. Of the 58 open-cab units, 34 of those exceed the 15-year service life. The Commission is requesting \$1 million to expedite the replacement of these open-cab dozers.

If funding is not received, more of the agency's fleet will exceed the 15-year safe service life, putting the public and firefighters at increased risk of injury and death. It could also result in larger wildfires and greater loss of property.

*Please thoroughly explain the request to include the justification for funds, potential offsets, matching funds, and method of calculation. Please include any explanation of impact if funds are not received. If new positions have been requested, explain why existing vacancies are not sufficient.*



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

**NUMBER**

43.1

*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*
**TITLE**

Grant Funds Carry-Forward

*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*
**BUDGET  
PROGRAM**

Forest Protection and Development

*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*
**RELATED  
BUDGET  
REQUEST**

N/A

*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2021-2022? If so, cite it here.*
**REQUESTED  
ACTION**

Codify

*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*
**OTHER AGENCIES  
AFFECTED**

N/A

*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*
**SUMMARY &  
EXPLANATION**

Codify Proviso 43.1 – Grant Funds Carry Forward

The Forestry Commission is authorized to use unexpended federal grant funds in the current year to pay for expenditures incurred in the prior year.

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

**PROPOSED  
PROVISO TEXT**

The Forestry Commission is authorized to use unexpended federal grant funds in the current year to pay for expenditures incurred in the prior year.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

**NUMBER**

43.2

*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*
**TITLE**

Retention of Emergency Expenditure Refunds

*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*
**BUDGET  
PROGRAM**

Forest Protection and Development

*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*
**RELATED  
BUDGET  
REQUEST**

N/A

*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2021-2022? If so, cite it here.*
**REQUESTED  
ACTION**

Codify

*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*
**OTHER AGENCIES  
AFFECTED**

N/A

*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*
**SUMMARY &  
EXPLANATION**

Codify Proviso 43.2 – Retention of Emergency Expenditure Refunds

The Forestry Commission is authorized to retain all funds received as reimbursement of expenditures from other state or federal agencies when personnel and equipment are mobilized due to an emergency.



Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

**PROPOSED  
PROVISO TEXT**

**Codify Proviso 43.2 – Retention of Emergency Expenditure Refunds**

The Forestry Commission is authorized to retain all funds received as reimbursement of expenditures from other state or federal agencies when personnel and equipment are mobilized due to an emergency.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

**NUMBER**

43.3

*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*
**TITLE**

Commissioned Officers' Physicals

*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*
**BUDGET  
PROGRAM**

Administration, Forest Protection and Development, State Forests and Education

*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*
**RELATED  
BUDGET  
REQUEST**

N/A

*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2021-2022? If so, cite it here.*
**REQUESTED  
ACTION**

Codify

*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*
**OTHER AGENCIES  
AFFECTED**

N/A

*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*
**SUMMARY &  
EXPLANATION**

Codify Proviso 43.3 – Commission Officers' Physicals

The Forestry Commission is authorized to pay the cost of physical examinations for agency personnel who are required to receive such physical examinations prior to receiving a law enforcement commission.

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

**PROPOSED  
PROVISO TEXT**

The Forestry Commission is authorized to pay the cost of physical examinations for agency personnel who are required to receive such physical examinations prior to receiving a law enforcement commission.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST**

<b>NUMBER</b>	43.4
---------------	------

*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*

<b>TITLE</b>	Compensatory Payment
--------------	----------------------

*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*

<b>BUDGET PROGRAM</b>	Administration, Forest Protection and Development, State Forests and Education
-----------------------	--

*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*

<b>RELATED BUDGET REQUEST</b>	N/A
-------------------------------	-----

*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2021-2022? If so, cite it here.*

<b>REQUESTED ACTION</b>	Codify
-------------------------	--------

*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*

<b>OTHER AGENCIES AFFECTED</b>	N/A
--------------------------------	-----

*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*

<b>SUMMARY &amp; EXPLANATION</b>	<p>Codify Proviso 43.4 – Compensatory Payment</p> <p>In the event a State of Emergency is declared by the Governor, exempt employees of the Forestry Commission may be paid for actual hours worked in lieu of accruing compensatory time, at the discretion of the agency director, and providing funds are available.</p>
----------------------------------	---

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

**PROPOSED  
PROVISO TEXT**

In the event a State of Emergency is declared by the Governor, exempt employees of the Forestry Commission may be paid for actual hours worked in lieu of accruing compensatory time, at the discretion of the agency director, and providing funds are available.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM D – PROVISIO REVISION REQUEST**

**NUMBER**

43.NEW

*Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list (or mark "NEW").*

**TITLE**

Sale of Promotional Items

*Provide the title from the renumbered list or suggest a short title for any new request.*

**BUDGET  
PROGRAM**

Education

*Identify the associated budget program(s) by name and budget section.*

**RELATED  
BUDGET  
REQUEST**

N/A

*Is this request associated with a budget request you have submitted for FY 2021-2022? If so, cite it here.*

**REQUESTED  
ACTION**

Add

*Choose from: Add, Delete, Amend, or Codify.*

**OTHER AGENCIES  
AFFECTED**

N/A

*Which other agencies would be affected by the recommended action? How?*

**SUMMARY &  
EXPLANATION**

The Forestry Commission has a demand from the public for promotional items that advocate forestry and forest culture. Currently the agency would not be allowed to retain the funds generated by the sale of these items. The funds would be used to recoup the costs of items and supplement operations in educational programs.

Without the proviso the agency would have to provide the items at a loss or not provide them at all.

Summarize the existing proviso. If requesting a new proviso, describe the current state of affairs without it. Explain the need for your requested action. For deletion requests due to recent codification, please identify SC Code section where language now appears.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No impact to state appropriated funds and minimal impact to other funds. Funds will be used to offset costs of promotional items and supplement agency educational programs.

Provide estimates of any fiscal impacts associated with this proviso, whether for state, federal, or other funds. Explain the method of calculation.

**PROPOSED  
PROVISO TEXT**

The Forestry Commission may sell promotional items that advocate for forestry and forest culture, including items featuring the South Carolina Forestry Commission Forest Life brand and logo, for the purpose of generating funds for agency operations. Unexpended funds may be carried forward from the prior fiscal year into the current fiscal year and used for the same purpose.

Paste existing text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## **FORM E – AGENCY COST SAVINGS AND GENERAL FUND REDUCTION CONTINGENCY PLAN**

<b>TITLE</b>	Agency Cost Savings and General Fund Reduction Contingency Plan
--------------	---

<b>AMOUNT</b>	\$660,138
	<i>What is the General Fund 3% reduction amount? This amount should correspond to the reduction spreadsheet prepared by EBO.</i>

<b>ASSOCIATED FTE REDUCTIONS</b>	16 FTE's
	<i>How many FTEs would be reduced in association with this General Fund reduction?</i>

<b>PROGRAM / ACTIVITY IMPACT</b>	<p>I. Administration</p> <p>II. Forest Protection and Development</p>
	<i>What programs or activities are supported by the General Funds identified?</i>

<b>SUMMARY</b>	<p>The Forestry Commission's mission is to protect, promote, enhance and nurture the forest lands of South Carolina. To achieve this mission, agency employees provide numerous services to the citizens of South Carolina and to the forest lands themselves. Forestry Commission personnel provide a service to not only protect the forest lands and surrounding communities from wildfires, but they also provide outreach services to landowners who enable forestry to be a top industry and economic driver in South Carolina.</p> <p>In order to accommodate a 3% budget reduction, the Forestry Commission will have to eliminate 16 FTEs. These FTEs directly serve the citizens of South Carolina. By eliminating these positions, services that are currently provided will be significantly reduced. This will be a negative effect on the economic value that the forest industry provides to the state and will further reduce the Commission's ability to protect the forest resource, homes, other structures and lives.</p> <p>The agency will use vacant positions if available at the time of the cut. However, if positions are not vacant, the agency will use other methods to reduce state operating funds. Such methods will include a combination of elimination of at-will employees, temporary employees, furlough of current employees and/or a reduction in operating expenditures.</p>
----------------	---

*Please provide a detailed summary of service delivery impact caused by a reduction in General Fund Appropriations and provide the method of calculation for anticipated reductions. Agencies should prioritize reduction in expenditures that have the least significant impact on service delivery.*

## **AGENCY COST SAVINGS PLANS**

The agency evaluates operations throughout the year to ensure we are operating efficiently and effectively. In FY2018 the agency entered into a 10 year public-private partnership with Arborgen at the Commission's Taylor Nursery. The partnership allows the agency to continue to provide state-of-the-art seedlings to forest landowners for tree planting in the future while mitigating agency budget shortfalls associated with the operation of the nursery. As a result of this agreement, we continue to see savings of approximately \$200,000 annually in salary/fringe and operating costs associated with nursery operations. The agency has repurposed the salary and fringe funds to assist with our recruitment and retention efforts. The operating funds saved are being used to bolster our Tree Improvement program to ensure SC landowners have access to the best available genetics that will be critical to maintaining and improving the productivity and health of our forests in the future.

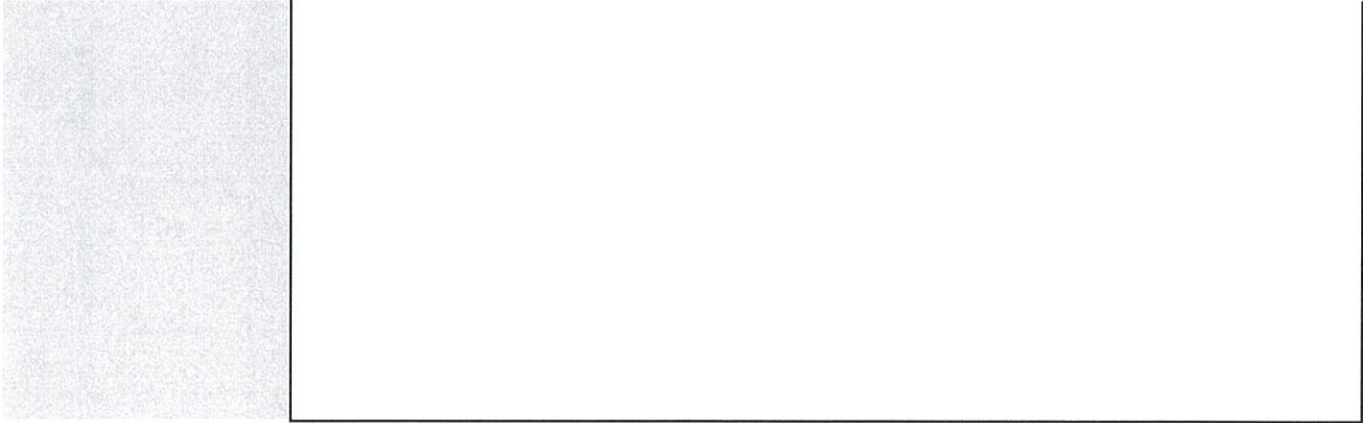
*What measures does the agency plan to implement to reduce its costs and operating expenses by more than \$50,000? Provide a summary of the measures taken and the estimated amount of savings. How does the agency plan to repurpose the savings?*



Agency Name:	Forestry Commission		
Agency Code:	P120	Section:	43

## FORM F – REDUCING COST AND BURDEN TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS

<b>TITLE</b>	Landscape Management Plan <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>								
<b>EXPECTED SAVINGS TO BUSINESSES AND CITIZENS</b>	Reduction by 50% in the amount of time for foresters (SCFC and private consultants) to develop a forest management plan. <i>What is the expected savings to South Carolina's businesses and citizens that is generated by this proposal? The savings could be related to time or money.</i>								
<b>FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REQUEST</b>	<b>Mark "X" for all that apply:</b> <table border="1"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Repeal or revision of regulations.</td></tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.</td></tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.</td></tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Other</td></tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeal or revision of regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeal or revision of regulations.								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduction of agency fees or fines to businesses or citizens.								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greater efficiency in agency services or reduction in compliance burden.								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other								
<b>METHOD OF CALCULATION</b>	Amount of time savings provided by the American Forest Foundation, which has worked with the Florida Division of Forestry and the Alabama Forestry Commission to develop and implement Landscape Management Plans in their states. <i>Describe the method of calculation for determining the expected cost or time savings to businesses or citizens.</i>								
<b>REDUCTION OF FEES OR FINES</b>	N/A <i>Which fees or fines does the agency intend to reduce? What was the fine or fee revenue for the previous fiscal year? What was the associated program expenditure for the previous fiscal year? What is the enabling authority for the issuance of the fee or fine?</i>								
<b>REDUCTION OF REGULATION</b>	N/A <i>Which regulations does the agency intend to amend or delete? What is the enabling authority for the regulation?</i>								
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<p>Forest management plans are needed by landowners to obtain forest sustainability certification (e.g. American Tree Farm System or Sustainable Forestry Initiative certification). Increasing the number of certified acres in South Carolina is desirable because it allows our forest industry to better compete in global markets allowing for the retention and growth of these important businesses and ensuring strong local markets for forest products.</p> <p>The SC Forestry Commission is in the process of testing and implementing a statewide Landscape Management Plan with the American Forest Foundation (AFF), SC Tree Farm Committee and other partners. The development of this plan was funded with a Landscape Scale Restoration grant from the USDA Forest Service with matching funds provided by AFF and the SC Tree Farm Committee. A Landscape Management Plan increases the efficiency of foresters, both agency as well as private consultants, to write management plans that qualify a landowner for certification, by reducing the time to produce such plans by 50%. Not only does this reduce the cost of developing plans, but it also enables foresters to assist more landowners with managing their forests. This increases active forest management, which increases timber supplies resulting in greater returns for landowners while providing the wood resource needed to maintain and grow the forest industry. Forestry is a pillar of South Carolina's economy, generating a \$21 billion impact.</p>								



*Provide an explanation of the proposal and its positive results on businesses or citizens. How will the request affect agency operations?*



## Proviso requests/changes

FY2021-22 Proviso Request Summary						
FY 20-21 Proviso #	Renumbered FY 21-22 Proviso #	Proviso Title	Short Summary	FY of Proviso Introduction/ # of years in budget	Recommended Action	Proviso Language
43.1		Grant Funds Carry Forward	Authorization to use unexpended federal funds in the current year to pay for prior year expenditures.	FY 96/25 Years	CODIFY	The Forestry Commission is authorized to use unexpended federal grant funds in the current year to pay for expenditures incurred in the prior year.
43.2		Retention of Emergency Funds	Authorization to retain funds received through reimbursements from other state and federal agencies when Forestry Commission personnel or equipment are used.	FY 00/21 Years	CODIFY	The Forestry Commission is authorized to retain all funds received as reimbursement of expenditures from other state or federal agencies when personnel and equipment are mobilized due to an emergency.
43.3		Commissioned Officers' Physicals	Authorization to pay costs of physical examinations for agency law enforcement personnel.	FY 06/15 Years	CODIFY	The Forestry Commission is authorized to pay the cost of physical examinations for agency personnel who are required to receive such physical examinations prior to receiving a law enforcement commission.
43.4		Compensatory Payments	Authorization to pay exempt Forestry Commission personnel actual hours worked in lieu of compensatory time, when the Governor has declared a state of emergency.	FY 12/9 Years	CODIFY	In the event a state of emergency is declared by the Governor, exempt employees of the Forestry Commission may be paid for actual hours worked in lieu of accruing compensatory time, at the direction of the agency director, and providing funds are available.
		Sale of Promotional Items	Authorization to sell promotional items that advocate for forestry and forest culture.	FY 22	ADD	The Forestry Commission may sell promotional items that advocate for forestry and forest culture, including items featuring the South Carolina Forestry Commission Forest Life brand and logo, for the purpose of generating funds for agency operations. Unexpended funds may be carried forward from the prior fiscal year into the current fiscal year and used for the same purpose.



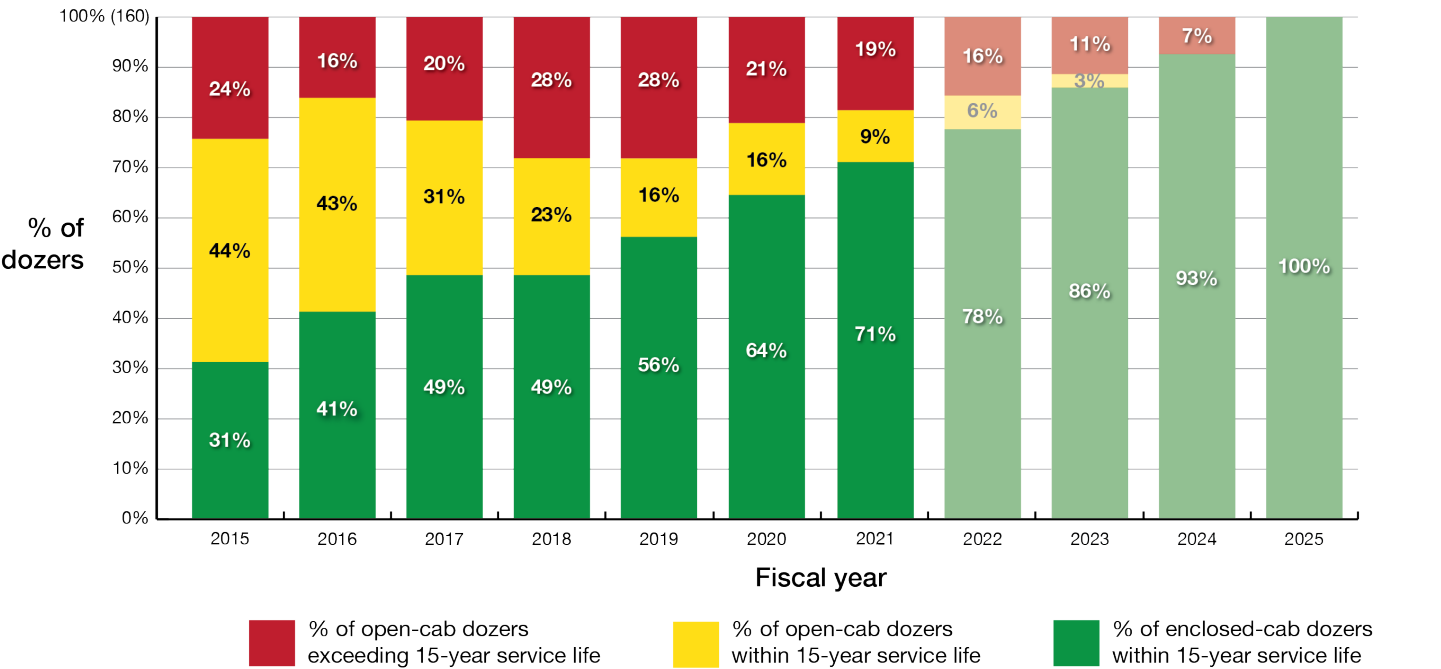
# SAFETY IS JOB #1

## INADEQUATE EQUIPMENT FUNDING EXPOSES RISK

Thanks to help from the General Assembly the Commission has made significant progress since 2012 putting firefighters in safer enclosed-cab bulldozers. Open-cab bulldozers need to be replaced with safer, enclosed environmental cabs as quickly as possible. Replacement reduces the risk of injuries and deaths to firefighters and the public, and provides better property protection. With the requested recurring funding the agency can reach that goal in 2025.

To maintain a reliable dozer fleet, dozer units should be kept on a 15-year replacement cycle. In order to meet a 15-year replacement cycle, the agency needs to purchase 11 to 12 dozer units (dozer, plow and transport) annually. Each unit cost approximately \$318,000, which requires \$3.8 million each year. Currently the agency receives approximately \$1.8 million through Act 273 plus \$1 million recurring received in FY2020 appropriations. The requested \$1 million in recurring funds will guarantee the \$3.8 million annual need to maintain a reliable fleet and ensure that safe firefighting equipment is available to fulfill the agency’s mission.

**Replacement Schedule of Frontline Firefighting Units**  
at requested recurring funding level





# FORESTRY IS BIG BUSINESS

South Carolina's forests are an economic engine that creates wealth, provides jobs and contributes to the state's quality of life as well as its business and environmental health. All of the commercial enterprises that make up the forestry sector constitute one of the largest industries in our state. Forestry continues to be a pillar of our state's economy, contributing **\$21.2 billion** annually while providing more than 98,000 jobs and \$4.9 billion in annual labor income. Compared to other leading industries in the Palmetto State, forestry ranks #1 in jobs, #2 in labor income, and #3 in direct economic output.

#1 in  
JOBS



98,000+  
JOBS IN FORESTRY

#2 in  
LABOR  
INCOME



\$5 BILLION  
CONTRIBUTION

#3 in  
DIRECT  
ECONOMIC  
OUTPUT



\$9 BILLION  
DIRECT ECONOMIC OUTPUT



South Carolina  
Forestry Commission