



Sportsmen's Priorities in President Trump's FY18 "Skinny Budget" Proposal

Subject: This document lists the deep agency and program cuts that would most likely impact fish and wildlife habitat and access, and therefore affect hunting and fishing in America. President Trump's Fiscal Year 2018 budget proposal does allow agencies to have a great deal of discretion in how to implement cuts. The proposal does not include revenue projections or policy statements, and there is no language addressing mandatory spending.

Agency Level Cuts:

- The Environmental Protection Agency budget would be cut by 31 percent or \$2.6 billion. The current enacted funding level is \$8.3 billion.
- The Department of the Interior budget would be cut by 12 percent or \$1.5 billion. The current enacted funding level is \$13.1 billion.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture budget would be cut by 21 percent or \$4.7 billion. The current enacted funding level is \$22.6 billion.
- The Department of Commerce budget would be cut by 16 percent or \$1.5 billion. The current enacted funding level is \$12.3 billion.

Specific Program Reductions or Eliminations:

- Under the Department of Commerce, some programs under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration would be zeroed out with more than \$250 million in cuts to coastal and marine management, research, and educational grant programs, like the Sea Grant program.
- At the DOI, the National Wildlife Refuge Fund and National Heritage Areas would be eliminated.
- Combined, both DOI and USDA would lose more than \$100 million in funding for the acquisition of high priority public lands, acquisitions that can actually serve to reduce the costs of federal lands management over time.
- The DOI would have to cut funds Land and Water Conservation Fund, used to conserve key habitats and expand public access, by more than \$120 million.
- USDA would be forced to cut staff at rural county offices across America's heartland who provide critical services to farmers and ranchers. The staff who would be eliminated are arguably some of the most widely-trusted individuals in government service.
- The Payment-In-Lieu-of-Taxes program (PILT) is identified for reduction, another disproportionate cut for rural America.
- Zeroed out are the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Chesapeake Bay Program at EPA, cuts that would bring clean water work in iconic American waters to a complete halt, jeopardizing years of progress and forcing huge new expenditures onto already cash-strapped states.