



1%

**GREEN BUDGET** FY2013  
**Legacy at Risk**

ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS



## **ORGANIZATIONS THAT ENDORSE THE GREEN BUDGET**

Appalachian Mountain Club  
Arborway Coalition  
Association of Massachusetts Wetland Scientists  
Association to Preserve Cape Cod  
Berkshire Natural Resources Council  
Boston Harbor Island Alliance  
Buzzards Bay Coalition  
Charles River Conservancy  
Charles River Watershed Association  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Emerald Necklace Conservancy  
Environmental League of Massachusetts  
Essex County Greenbelt Association  
Friends of the Blue Hills  
Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts  
Green Decade Newton  
Lakes and Ponds Association of Western Mass  
Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions  
Massachusetts Association of Health Boards  
Mass Audubon  
Massachusetts Climate Action Network  
Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance  
Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition  
Massachusetts League of Environmental Voters  
Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists (MOSES)  
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance  
The Nature Conservancy in Massachusetts  
Nashua River Watershed Association  
Neponset River Watershed Association  
New England Wildflower Society  
North and South Rivers Watershed Association  
OARS: For the Assabet, Sudbury and Concord Rivers  
Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter  
Sudbury Valley Trustees  
The Trustees of Reservations  
The Trust for Public Land  
WalkBoston



# **Green Budget Fiscal Year 2013**

Nancy Goodman

Sarah Moser



**The Environmental League of Massachusetts  
February 2012**

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The Environmental League of Massachusetts is dedicated to protecting the health of our environment and citizenry by safeguarding the land, water and air of our Commonwealth. ELM is focused on environmental advocacy and strengthening the voice and effectiveness of the environmental community. ELM advocates for strong environmental laws and regulations on the broad range of environmental issues, voices the concerns of citizens, ensures that laws are properly implemented and enforced and educates the public.

The Environmental League is a nonprofit educational and advocacy organization. Our work is supported by a combination of individual and foundation philanthropy, dues from citizens and organizational members, and the proceeds from special events.

**For more information about the *Green Budget FY2013* contact:**

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Dear Legislators and Colleagues:

The good news is the Massachusetts economy is on the rebound. The bad news is funding for state environmental agencies is not. We continue to dramatically and disproportionately underfund the agencies that protect our environment and promote jobs for a new green economy.

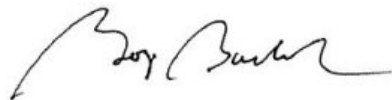
For the second year in a row, the title for this year's Green Budget is simply **1%**. There is no more dramatic statement as to the condition of the environmental budget in Massachusetts. ALL environmental spending in the Commonwealth, in the aggregate, continues to represent LESS than 1% of the overall budget of the Commonwealth...much less. We are penny-wise, but pound-foolish as we undercut our future.

As a result, the subtitle for this year's budget is "**Legacy at Risk.**" Why? Because while Massachusetts may be perceived as a national environmental leader, we simply don't have the resources to follow through on much of the good legislation we've passed. Consider the Mercury Management Act, passed in 2006 and still not fully implemented. We aren't doing a good job of monitoring water quality or coming into compliance with the Clean Water Act in certain areas. While our privatizing of the clean up of hazardous waste sites has been touted as a national model, lack of funds means that oversight of these clean-ups has been cut, and any pro-active identification of new contaminated sites has completely fallen off the radar. Funding for recycling which could be a job generator or for technical assistance to small businesses that could save them thousands of dollars has been slashed. Implementation of landmark legislation passed three years ago – the Green Communities Act, the Global Warming Solutions Act, and the Green Jobs Act is lagging or under attack. And the list goes on.

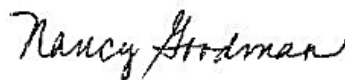
In the final analysis, underfunding state environmental agencies prevents us from realizing our potential. If DCR cannot staff and maintain our parks, pools, rivers and beaches, we put at risk not only our environment and public safety, but also our \$14 billion tourism industry. If DEP staff is decimated, they cannot adequately implement the Global Warming Solutions Act or issue permits "at the speed of business." The question is whether Massachusetts truly wants to be a national leader on energy and the environment. Does this administration and this legislature want to leave a legacy of innovation and leadership on renewable energy, energy efficiency and the protection of our air, land and water? That legacy, once so promising, is at risk.

Securing that legacy begins with this budget. So our mantra is simply 1%...a small investment in our future...not merely to protect our environment, but also to create the jobs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century...green jobs and new technologies. Join us in the fight. Call your legislators and fight for 1%.

Sincerely,



George Bachrach  
President



Nancy Goodman  
Vice President for Policy

# Top Impacts of Environmental Budget Cuts



Enforcement of environmental laws seriously compromised



Discovery of new contaminated sites eliminated



Recycling grants to communities cut



No water quality monitoring in many locations



Pools closed



Farmers forced to sell their farms



## GREEN BUDGET FY2013 INTRODUCTION

In December, Alexandra Dawson passed away. Anyone who has worked in the environmental field over the past 50 years knew Alexandra. She was a long-time champion and voice for the environment. She was instrumental in the drafting and passage of key environmental legislation and a tireless voice for land and wildlife protection.

We are saddened by this loss and also by the fact that Alexandra’s life work is being undermined by ongoing and damaging cuts to our environmental programs. We dedicate this document to her.

The charts below illustrate this continued decline in the environmental budget. We have reached the point where our agencies can no longer fulfill their responsibilities and are becoming dysfunctional.

### Environmental Spending as % of the Entire State Budget<sup>1</sup>

	FY2001 GAA	FY2002 GAA	FY2003 GAA	FY2004 GAA	FY2005 GAA	FY2006 GAA	FY2007 GAA	FY2008 GAA	FY2009 GAA	FY2010 GAA	FY2011 GAA	Final FY2012
<b>Total Environmental Budget</b>	\$225.3 Million	\$209.1 Million	\$185.1 Million	\$169.9 Million	\$170 Million	\$187.1 Million	\$207.6 Million	\$217.1 Million	\$231.2 Million	\$196.6 Million	\$174.1 Million	\$173 Million
<b>Total State Budget</b>	\$22.4 Billion	\$23.3 Billion	\$24.7 Billion	\$23.1 Billion	\$24.1 Billion	\$25.1 Billion	\$26.2 Billion	\$28.3 Billion	\$27.6 Billion	\$26.9 Billion	\$29.8 Billion	\$30.6 Billion
<b>% of State Budget that Supports Environmental Programs</b>	1.00%	0.90%	0.75%	0.73%	0.71%	0.74%	0.79%	0.77%	0.84%	0.73%	0.58%	0.57%

What’s wrong with this picture? **While the state budget continues to increase, the environmental budget continues to decrease.** Surely, clean air, clean water, less toxic pollution and support for three significant economic sectors – tourism, fisheries and agriculture – are worthy of a minimum of 1% of our state’s entire budget.

<sup>1</sup> GAA stands for General Appropriations Act. This chart does not include supplemental budget figures or 9C cuts. To make accurate comparisons between years, we do not include the budgets for the Department of Public Utilities and Division of Energy Resources that were combined with the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs four years ago. These agencies are largely funded through assessments, so have not been subject to cuts at the same levels as the other environmental agencies.

## Breakdown of Funding Cuts by Agency

	FY2008	FY2011	FY2012	% Change FY2008 to FY2012
EOEEA	23.3	22.8	21.5	-8%
DEP	60.0	47.4	45.5	-24%
DFG	19.2	17.4	18.7	-3%
DCR	96.8	72.7 <sup>2</sup>	71.5	-26%
DAR	17.7	16.0	15.8	-11%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$217.1</b>	<b>\$176.3</b>	<b>\$173.0</b>	<b>-20%</b>
<b>Numbers in millions</b>				

The chart above shows that in just the past four years, the environmental agencies have been cut by 20% overall, with DEP and DCR seeing a quarter of their budgets disappear.

Funding our environmental agencies is an investment in our future. Throughout this Green Budget, we document how a small investment in our environmental programs saves businesses money, creates jobs, leverages federal and private dollars and protects our priceless natural resources.

In honor of Alexandra Dawson, we rededicate ourselves to preserving the natural resources we all depend on, the special places that renew our spirits, and the quality of life that makes Massachusetts a place of which we can be proud.


**1% for the ENVIRONMENT.**

<sup>2</sup> This figure includes \$2.1 million from a supplemental budget that was passed in October 2010.

**ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS  
FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR FY2013  
SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS**

		FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended <sup>3</sup>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION</b>				
2200-0100	DEP Administration	\$26,446,561	\$24,682,305	\$33,696,524
2200-0107	Recycling and Solid Waste Management	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$1,459,987
2210-0105	Office of Technical Assistance	\$562,567	\$644,096 <sup>4</sup>	\$1,055,245
2210-0105	Toxics Use Reduction Institute	\$1,657,449	\$1,629,860	\$1,667,454
2260-8870	Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup	\$13,856,441	\$11,973,797	\$16,525,923
2260-8881	Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals	\$336,859	\$345,475	\$412,879
<b>DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION</b>				
2800-0101	Watershed Management	\$1,000,000	\$1,002,565	\$1,455,310
2800-0401	Stormwater Management	\$693,392	\$391,237	\$896,643
2800-0700	Office of Dam Safety	\$410,151	\$290,151	\$435,428
2810-0100	State and Urban Parks	\$44,045,772 <sup>5</sup>	\$42,173,702	\$53,748,330
<b>DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME</b>				
2300-0100	Office of the Commissioner	\$636,569	\$658,880	\$732,986
2300-0101	Division of Ecological Restoration	\$390,002	\$416,974	\$450,000
2310-0300	Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program	\$0	\$150,000	\$250,000
2330-0100	Division of Marine Fisheries	\$4,450,133	\$4,355,647	\$5,077,068
<b>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES</b>				
2511-0100	DAR Administration	\$4,513,132	\$4,300,108	\$4,924,927
<b>EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE</b>				
1790-0150	Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS) <sup>7</sup>	\$70,000	\$820,000	\$880,000 <sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> In most cases, these figures would restore funding to FY2009 levels.

<sup>4</sup> Funding for this line-item is through retained revenues from fees and penalties on industry. The funds support OTA (formerly line item 2020-0100), TURI (formerly line-item 7100-0300), and DEP toxic use reduction work. The line-item is \$3,080,216 total with \$644,096 allocated to OTA and \$1,657,449 that will be passed through to TURI at UMass Lowell.

<sup>5</sup> The FY2011 State and Urban Parks line-item includes \$2.1 million from a FY2011 supplemental budget.

<sup>6</sup> Sustaining MassGIS for the Future: Organization, Funding, and Governance Recommendations, Report of the MassGIS Task Force, April 2010

<sup>7</sup> Formerly line-item 2000-9900 within the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2200-0100 DEP Administration</b>	\$26,446,561	\$24,682,305	\$33,696,524

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is responsible for implementing the Commonwealth's environmental laws and protecting our air, water, land, and health from environmental threats. **DEP has lost 385 staff since FY2003 and is at 70% of the optimal staffing level. The total budget has been cut by almost 30% since FY2009.**

What do these cuts mean? In a typical year, DEP issues 3,000 permits for new development. With the economic downturn the number of development projects slowed so that DEP issued only about 2,000 permits in each of the past few years. **As the economy recovers, these staffing cuts will be acutely felt as DEP does not have sufficient staff to issue permits "at the speed of business."**

These cuts also mean that DEP is seeking to change the way they ensure compliance with some important environmental laws. For instance, DEP plans to allow owners/operators of underground storage tanks (UST) for petroleum fuels or other hazardous substances to "self-certify" even though a leaky tank can pollute valuable drinking water resources. **Staff cuts have meant that only 41% of owners/operators of USTs are in significant compliance compared to the national compliance figure of 71%.** With more than 9,000 USTs in the state, we are taking a huge gamble by not ensuring compliance.

Staff cuts also mean that the Watershed Planning Program (WPP), housed within **DEP cannot fully carry out its mandate under the Clean Water Act** including 1) monitoring our rivers, lakes and marine waters; 2) assessing water quality to determine if our rivers, lakes and marine waters are clean or polluted; 3) developing a list of polluted waters that documents why they are polluted; and 4) developing plans to address water pollution. Seventy to 90 full-time employees (FTE's) are needed to do this work. The WPP was able to maintain the program with a staff of 36-40 FTE's and 10 seasonal staff who assist with monitoring, assessment, and cleanup plan development and with contractual funds to support the program. However, since 2005, the WPP has lost 14 FTE's, about 33% of the program staff, through retirements, layoffs, and attrition; these positions have not been filled due to budget cuts and all contractual funds have disappeared as a result of the budget crisis.

A recent study documents **the benefits of environmental regulations and DEP's critical work.** The study documents that **mercury air emissions are down 91% between 1996 and 2008.** Mercury is a neurotoxin that is particularly harmful to children – causing damage to the developing brain and nervous system. The decline is attributed to reductions in mercury pollution from municipal waste combustors and medical waste incinerators as well as strict curbs on mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. This is a huge accomplishment – yet there is more to do. The Mercury Management Act, passed in 2006, that deals with mercury in products is not being fully implemented due to budget cuts.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2200-0107 Recycling and Solid Waste Management</b>	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$1,459,987

**In FY2001, the budget for recycling and solid waste management was more than \$15 million. By FY2012 the budget has been cut to a mere \$275,000.** The recycling program is now forced to depend entirely on federal grants, a precarious situation, as these grants are not guaranteed from year to year. Staff levels have been reduced from 15 to 8 full-time staff between FY2009 and FY2012.

For paper alone, Massachusetts residents and businesses throw away 1.5 million tons annually – costing about \$100 million a year in disposal fees. **If even half was diverted from disposal to recycling, municipalities and businesses would save \$50 million in avoided disposal costs annually.**

By converting raw materials into products, recycling creates jobs, builds more competitive manufacturing industries and adds significantly to the Massachusetts economy: **Massachusetts has 2,018 recycling business establishments that support 13,905 recycling jobs, \$498 million annual payroll, and \$3.2 billion in receipts.** Recycling businesses also provide important indirect benefits by purchasing goods and services that support other businesses and generate an estimated \$95 million in state tax revenues. Materials recovery facilities create 10 times more jobs than landfills and municipal waste combustors, while recycling-based manufacturers create 25 times more jobs than disposal facilities for the same amount of material. Materials reuse operations create even more jobs, between 28 and nearly 300 times the number of jobs as disposal facilities.<sup>8</sup> **With a relatively small increased investment in recycling, we would certainly see growth in recycling based businesses and jobs.**

In 2008 alone, Massachusetts prevented the disposal of more than 10 million tons of waste through recycling, composting and other waste reduction strategies, eliminating the need for the equivalent of 25 landfills the size of the state’s largest (400,000 tons per year). In addition to saving landfill space, waste reduction conserves natural resources, saves energy, prevents pollution, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. In 2008, Massachusetts is estimated to have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by more than 2.1 million tons of carbon equivalent per year; saved nearly 90 trillion BTUs of energy, equivalent to the annual energy consumption of 15 million barrels of oil or 700 million gallons of gasoline; and avoided the use of 1.3 million tons of iron ore, coal, limestone and other natural resources.<sup>9</sup>

The expanded bottle bill alone would save Mass cities and towns between \$4 million to \$7 million/year in litter clean-up and solid waste disposal costs.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2210-0105 Office of Technical Assistance</b>	\$562,567	\$644,096 <sup>10</sup>	\$1,055,245

The Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) helps businesses reduce the use of toxic chemicals in the manufacturing of their products and works with municipalities to conserve energy and water. OTA staff identify less toxic and safer alternative chemicals and work onsite with manufacturers to transition to more environmentally benign methods of production. **Since its creation in 1990, OTA has worked with over 1,500 facilities. OTA’s work makes Massachusetts’ industries safer, more cost-effective, and globally competitive.**

Everyday OTA works with businesses to create cost saving opportunities. For example, OTA helped a company that manufactures and distributes industrial maintenance products to identify and implement several energy efficiency and energy conservation projects. **Over a period of five months, OTA staff located and repaired compressed air leaks that represented \$33,242 in electricity cost savings. After changing to a new cleaning alternative, a fabric manufacturer was able to significantly reduce the time required for**

<sup>8</sup> *The Massachusetts Recycling Economy: The Economic Benefits of Recycling.* Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

<sup>9</sup> *Environmental Benefits Calculator,* Northeast Recycling Council, April 2009.

<sup>10</sup> Funding for this line-item is through retained revenues from fees and penalties on industry. The funds support OTA (formerly line item 2020-0100), TURI (formerly line-item 7100-0300), and DEP toxic use reduction work. The line-item is \$3,080,216 total with \$644,096 allocated to OTA and \$1,657,449 that will be passed through to TURI at UMass Lowell.

**processing without compromising product quality. Reduced dye cycle times allowed the company to improve manufacturing efficiency by 16%, reduce chemical use by 10%, and lower utility costs by 12%.<sup>11</sup>**

Unfortunately, OTA’s operating budget was slashed by almost 39% from FY2009 to FY2012 and resulted in ten staff layoffs – more than half of OTA’s staff – seriously handicapping the program.

These cuts have severely curtailed outreach to business, transfer of information on new best management practices and cost saving approaches (through conferences and forums), and support for development of innovative technologies. OTA can now only do 50-60 on-site visits a year, down from 150 in years past.

One of OTA’s most important responsibilities is designation of new hazardous chemicals. Recently, formaldehyde and hexavalent chromium compounds were classified as higher hazard substances; this means that facilities that use these chemicals now report if the chemicals reach a threshold of 1,000 pounds rather than 10,000 pounds. While this clearly is a big win for the citizens of the Commonwealth, other chemicals that should also be classified as higher hazard substances, such as trichloroethylene, will have to wait because DEP does not have the resources to perform enforcement and compliance as needed.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2210-0105 Toxics Use Reduction Institute</b>	\$1,657,449	\$1,629,860	\$1,667,454

In 1989, Massachusetts proudly passed the Toxics Use Reduction Act, the first of its kind in the nation. The Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI), located at the University of Massachusetts in Lowell, was established to help implement the Act. TURI provides professional training, research, and grants assistance to communities and businesses.

Through TURI, implementation of the Toxics Use Reduction Act has resulted in a 21% decline in the use of dangerous chemicals, a 38% reduction in toxic byproducts, and a reduction in on-site releases of toxics to the environment by 56%. **TURI recently compiled data from companies it works with and reported a collective savings of \$4.86 million annually** – much of this from avoided safety costs.

TURI helps to make small business safer for workers and the environment through its grants program. A recent grant to the Boston Public Health Commission helped them address environmental health and safety in auto body shops through its Safe Shops program. TURI also awarded grants to dry cleaners in North Andover, Westborough, Medford, Milford and Bellingham to switch from dry cleaning to wet cleaning which completely eliminates the use of perchloroethylene, a chemical known to cause cancer. Switching from dry to wet cleaning also saves money – the dry cleaners in Bellingham saved almost \$3,000 by switching – a small savings, but one that really help small businesses.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2260-8870 Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup</b>	\$13,856,441	\$11,973,797	\$16,525,923

More than 40,000 hazardous waste sites and spills located throughout the Commonwealth have been reported to the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Bureau since 1993. Some of these sites are large industrial facilities or military bases while others are relatively small such as gas stations or dry cleaners. **These sites can pose serious risks to anyone living or working nearby, including risks from contaminated private drinking water wells and vapor intrusion into nearby homes.** About 35,000 sites have been remediated since 1993.

<sup>11</sup> Toxics Use Reduction Program Report FY2011, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, December 2011.

About 6,000 sites are “open” at any one time – i.e., in the process of being cleaned up. In FY2011, 1,400 new sites were reported, and clean up of 1,300 sites was completed.

Since July 2008, the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Program has lost 16% of its staff. **This reduction in staff means that sites are presumed to meet cleanup standards and auditing and enforcement functions are not robust – in fact, the number of mandatory DEP audits has been reduced due to lack of resources.** All efforts to proactively identify new sites have been eliminated. The Waste Site Cleanup Program must now rely entirely on notification from private parties responsible for the contamination.

In addition to overseeing clean-ups of hazardous waste sites, the program also is responsible for emergency response in the event of oil/fuel spills, chemical leaks, and toxic explosions. Recently, the program implemented an online file review system that provides 24/7 access to site cleanup information for municipal officials, the regulated community, developers, neighbors and other interested parties – saving valuable time and money.

**Staff help promote economic development through the Brownfields Support Team that provides focused technical, legal, and funding assistance for complex sites that have important redevelopment potential.**

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2260-8881 Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Professionals</b>	\$336,859	\$345,475	\$412,879

Individuals and companies that are financially responsible under Massachusetts law for assessing and cleaning up hazardous waste sites must retain a Licensed Site Professional (LSP) to oversee the work. In 1993, Massachusetts became the first state in the nation to privatize its hazardous waste site cleanup program in an effort to expedite the cleanups. The Board of Registration of Hazardous Waste Site Professionals (also known as the LSP Board) was established to license and regulate LSPs and ensure high standards of practice so that public health, welfare, and the environment are protected.

**In FY2011, the LSP Board was cut in half. This severely impacts the program’s ability to fulfill its most important role as regulator and enforcer.**

Deep budget cuts have DEP exploring the privatizing of other agency responsibilities. Knowing that oversight and auditing of the hazardous waste site clean up program has been dramatically reduced raises a red flag and calls into question the validity of this approach.

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2800-0101 Office of Watershed Management</b>	\$1,000,000	\$1,002,565	\$1,455,310

**The Office of Watershed Management (OWM) manages and protects the drinking water supply watersheds for 2.2 million residents of Massachusetts.** The Office helps fund critical research on water resources in Massachusetts, including forecasting future drinking water supply needs, developing the science on stream flow issues, flood and drought management, and invasive species removal in lakes, ponds, and rivers. **Since FY2008, the program’s funding has been slashed by 65%.** OWM currently has only 13 staff, down from 16 staff in 2007. Additionally, more than half of OWM’s funding is earmarked for the Town of Clinton’s reservoir, which is part of the MWRA, leaving an operational budget of just over \$400,000 for all of OWM’s programs.

OWM’s data collection, analyses, and reports are critical to good water management in our state and are widely used by regulatory and policy staff in other agencies. One of OWM’s most significant reports is the Water Needs Forecast that helps communities predict their water needs for the next ten years. **The program also provides flood hazard management to communities including assistance visits and the program’s stream gage network is heavily relied upon by all emergency management agencies during times of flood and drought.**

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2800-0401 Stormwater Management</b>	\$693,392	\$391,237	\$896,643

**Stormwater runoff poses a serious pollution threat to all water bodies in the Commonwealth.** The Stormwater Management Program manages stormwater from DCR properties to improve water quality and prevent flooding. Programs include construction and monitoring of stormwater controls, detection and elimination of illicit discharges, and myriad “good housekeeping” activities such as cleaning catch basins and drains and streets sweeping. Between March 2009 and December 2010, the program inspected more than 6,000 catch basins on its properties, cleaned about 4,100 and repaired more than 500. It’s not glamorous work, but it is essential. One example of the program’s contributions is its work with the City of Boston where they completed repairs to catch basins and drainage pipes at five locations where flooding and erosion had become serious problems.

**From FY2009 to FY2012, the stormwater management operating budget was cut by 56% which means that DCR continues to struggle to comply with the federal Clean Water Act** with regards to stormwater runoff from its properties and roads. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently established water quality standards for the Charles River for phosphorus and pathogens that will be extremely difficult to achieve without a substantial increase in funding for this work.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2800-0700 Office of Dam Safety</b>	\$410,151	\$290,151	\$435,428

The Office of Dam Safety (ODS) is responsible for ensuring that dams are inspected and kept in a state of good repair. Since FY2008, **ODS’s budget has been cut from \$1.4 million to \$290,151 – an 80% cut.** These cuts mean ODS cannot fulfill critical oversight, safety and enforcement functions.

According to a January 2011 study produced by the State Auditor, **75% of the 627 dams owned by cities and towns and 69% of the 244 dams owned by the state are classified in the High or Significant Hazard category as having potential to cause harm.** Many of these hazardous dams have substantial structural deficiencies and lack emergency action plans. Staff cuts have left the department unable to effectively monitor unsafe dams in the Commonwealth. Given staff shortages, each engineer is currently responsible for 527 dams – an impossible workload that is more than one and a half times greater than the national average.<sup>12</sup>

In fiscal year 2012, the Office of Dam Safety will complete the Otis Reservoir Dam, continue with the design efforts for the Hemlock Gorge Dam, Benedict Pond Dam, Lost Wilderness North and South Dams, Upper and Lower Highlands Dams and Aldrich Lake Dam. In addition, the FY2012-2016 Capital Plan provides for an increase in dam spending starting in FY2012.

While dam safety and repairs are essential, additional funding would allow ODS to identify dams that should be removed. Many dams no longer serve any purpose as they are remnants of industry that no longer exist. When we remove an obsolete dam, it’s a win-win – we restore rivers to a more natural state and remove the liability of a deteriorating dam.

<sup>12</sup> Local Financial Impact Review, Massachusetts Dam Safety Law. Auditor of the Commonwealth. January 2011.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2810-0100 State and Urban Parks</b>	\$44,045,772 <sup>13</sup>	\$42,173,702	\$53,748,330

The Department of Conservation and Recreation manages the ninth largest park system in the nation – with approximately 30 million visitors annually that generate millions in economic activity. Many who use our state parks have no house on the Cape or in the Berkshires. They depend on these resources for their vacations, their family reunions, and their connection with the natural world.

**DCR’s overall operating budget has been cut by more than 30% since FY2009. The agency has lost approximately 250 staff positions, reducing the overall workforce by more than 25%.** These staff reductions translate into on-the-ground impacts on service delivery – park supervision, visitor services, natural resource protection and park safety and cleanliness.

When adjusted for inflation, DCR’s operating budget for FY2012 is \$17 million below the lowest budget appropriated to the agency in the last 25 years and \$184 million below the agency’s 25-year inflation adjusted budget high water mark. The enormity of these cumulative reductions in funding has severely limited the agency’s effectiveness.

While DCR has been attempting to adjust to budget cuts, at the same time communities rely on the agency to help with recovery efforts from natural disasters. **This year alone, DCR has assisted communities in responding to three enormously damaging weather events.** After the June 1<sup>st</sup> tornado more than 87 DCR employees were deployed to assist in storm recovery efforts – focusing primarily on tree removal and debris cleanup – and helped MEMA and local authorities as needed. DCR employees assisted in a similar capacity with the cleanup from Hurricane Irene in late August and the late October snowstorm.

As was the case last year, most campgrounds will open later and close early for the summer of 2012. The season will be shortened by an average of three weeks at 16 different campgrounds.

The following facilities were closed last season and will be closed again this season:

- Ashland State Park
- Chester-Blandford State Forest
- Windsor State Forest
- Berry Pond in Harold
- Dean Pond in Brimfield State Forest
- Fearings Pond in Myles Standish State Forest in Plymouth

In addition, three additional properties will be closed in 2012 due to budget cuts:

- Lake Lorraine in Springfield
- Harold Parker State Forest in North Andover
- Gardner Heritage State Park

Without additional funding, the shortened season will continue in FY2013, and additional closures of campgrounds, parks, waterfronts and visitor facilities are expected.

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<sup>13</sup> The FY2011 State and Urban Parks line-item includes \$2.1 million from a FY2011 supplemental budget.

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

		FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
2300-0100	Office of the Commissioner	\$636,569	\$658,880	\$732,986

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) is responsible for stewardship of the Commonwealth's marine and freshwater fisheries, wildlife species, plants and natural communities. **Since FY2008, the DFG Office of the Commissioner has experienced close to a 20% funding decrease.** These cuts mean essential positions in the Commissioner's Office that coordinate the functions of the four divisions cannot be filled.

The Commissioner's Office also includes the Land Acquisition and Habitat Protection Program. In FY2011, through DFG's efforts, a total of 3,037 acres of critical fish and wildlife habitat in 34 towns was protected and added to the 190,000+ acres currently under DFG's care. One example: last year, DFG protected eight parcels on the western boundary of the Haskell Swamp Wildlife Management Area in southeastern Massachusetts. This included a 90-acre parcel containing a pristine Atlantic Cedar Swamp that has been identified as crucial for the long-term survival of rare species and makes a significant contribution to the Commonwealth's diversity of natural communities and intact ecosystems.

		FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
2300-0101	Division of Ecological Restoration <sup>14</sup>	\$390,002	\$416,974	\$450,000

The mission of the Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) is to restore and protect the Commonwealth's rivers, wetlands, and watersheds for the benefit of people and the environment. DER staff coordinates restoration projects that improve stream flow, protect drinking water, reduce flooding, restore habitat, and provide fish passage. DER also provides timely technical assistance to communities on a range of aquatic habitat issues.

Since FY09, DER's budget has been cut by 36%. The combined staff of the two programs that merged to form DER is down from 18.5 full-time employees in FY2009 to 13.8 full-time employees in FY2012, a 25% reduction in workforce.

Since 2007, **DER has leveraged approximately \$26 million in non-state funds and is poised to secure millions of dollars of additional grants and funds. DER partner-based projects produce an average employment demand of 12.5 jobs and \$1,750,000 in total economic output from each \$1 million spent, contributing to a growing "restoration economy" in Massachusetts.** Many DER projects are considered "climate smart" and advance strategies outlined in the Commonwealth's recent climate change adaptation report. Securing federal and other funds is dependent upon staff capacity to properly manage the funds and implement the projects.

DER ecological restoration projects help support a number of economic sectors, including design and engineering, construction, wholesale construction materials, and nursery products. Because of this diversity of contributing sectors and the non-export nature of the projects, the "ripple effects" from a dollar spent on ecological restoration directly benefit the Massachusetts economy.

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<sup>14</sup> In 2009, DER combined the Department of Fish and Game's Riverways Program with the Wetlands Restoration Program, formerly part of MA Coastal Zone Management.

Any further cuts to DER’s budget directly impacts staffing levels and the ability of DER and partners to implement on-the-ground restoration, create jobs, and attract millions of dollars of non-state investments that stimulate the Massachusetts economy.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2310-0300 Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program</b>	\$0	\$150,000	\$250,000

The Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) is responsible for the conservation and protection of more than 430 species of plants and animals listed as Endangered, Threatened, of Special Concern in Massachusetts. In 2010, NHESP released an update of the acclaimed *BioMap*, called *BioMap2*, which is an interactive online map based on rigorous data collection and designed to guide biodiversity conservation over the next decade. This year the NHESP, assisted with funding provided by the Department of Fish and Game, is beginning an initiative to put additional resources from this critical conservation planning tool in the hands of local governments and conservation organizations.

In FY2004, the line-item for NHESP was eliminated from the budget and the program was forced to rely solely on federal grants, fees charged for environmental review services, and the small amount of funding generated by the check-off on the state income tax. **Last year the NHESP line-item was restored at \$150,000, an important step in re-establishing a sound fiscal foundation for the program. Before the line-item was eliminated, funding for NHESP was more than half a million dollars.** We seek an increase in funding to \$250,000 that will enable the program to support the long-term protection of the Commonwealth’s biological diversity.

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2330-0100 Division of Marine Fisheries</b>	\$4,450,133	\$4,355,647	\$5,077,068

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has a broad suite of responsibilities including managing the fishery with the largest landing value port in the nation in the City of New Bedford. Additionally, **the marine economy for the Commonwealth generates approximately \$5 billion in revenue each year.** The agency has endured difficult budget cycles the past several years, experiencing reductions of nearly 25% since FY2009.

Most people do not appreciate the national leadership role DMF plays in fisheries science and management on the federal and interstate level. DMF has become more prominent in the past decade by expanding its influence in the areas of protected marine species, habitat protection and restoration, and ocean planning. With modest funding increases, DMF could continue to build on its expertise and sound stewardship of marine resources and increase strategic partnerships, such as those currently held with UMass at its Amherst, Lowell, Dartmouth, and Boston campuses, Cornell University, University of New Hampshire, and the Center for Coastal Studies.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>2511-0100 DAR Administration</b>	\$4,513,132	\$4,300,108	\$4,924,927

Agriculture is an important contributor to the Commonwealth’s economy. **Farming generates \$490 million in revenues to the state’s economy annually and \$2.6 billion statewide in direct and indirect sales.** Despite the importance of this sector, DAR’s primary line-item has been cut by 30% between FY2007 and FY2012. Budget reductions in FY2012 alone have resulted in the loss of all temporary and seasonal workers paid from the operating budget – a reduction of roughly 10% of the agency’s total workforce.

DAR works with the agricultural community to protect farmland, increase farm viability and profits, and reduce the use of toxic pesticides. Farms in turn provide a fresh, local food supply and **local agriculture employs more than 14,000 people throughout the state.**

This year, through DAR’s Agricultural Preservation Restriction program (APR), more than 1,045 acres of farmland were permanently conserved and 1,949 acres were placed under five- or 10-year agricultural covenants through the Farm Viability Enhancement Program. The Farm Viability Enhancement Program has helped farmers to access resources to expand or improve their businesses. Even in the recent economic downturn, 99% of the 344 farms enrolled in the program remain in business today.

With additional funding, DAR would be able to leverage additional federal dollars and assist more farmers by enhanced promotion and marketing of local agriculture, providing additional technical assistance to farms on best management practices, and conducting activities to both reduce the use of pesticides and make pesticide use safer. A relatively small amount of support for DAR supports our farmers and more than pays for itself in sustaining a strong agricultural sector.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013 Recommended
<b>1790-0150 Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS)</b>	\$70,000	\$820,000	\$880,000 <sup>15</sup>

Geographic and Environmental Information is the entity responsible for collecting, mapping and translating a wide array of data that has major applications in economic development, transportation, public safety, health and human services, and environmental protection. **Dozens of state agencies, all the regional planning agencies, environmental and land trust organizations, universities, and most cities and towns rely on MassGIS information.**

MassGIS has mapped everything from where aquifers are located to wind power potential to shellfish sampling stations to location of public water supply to crime statistics by municipality. This information informs hundreds of important decisions about where best to develop, how best to protect the public and how we can better connect people and services. MassGIS information was also heavily used for the 2010 update of the lauded BioMap and BioMap2 that includes online interactive spatial data on land development and land use changes.

Despite this broad array of responsibilities and use of MassGIS data, if the program is not able to secure additional funding, in FY2013 capital funding will be expended. To replace these funds, MassGIS will begin a chargeback program to the agencies, organizations, and cities and towns that use its data. Given cuts to the environmental agencies’ budgets this likely will mean that they will be unable to take advantage of MassGIS services.

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<sup>15</sup> Sustaining MassGIS for the Future: Organization, Funding, and Governance Recommendations, Report of the MassGIS Task Force, April 2010

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