



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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October 17, 2016

TO: Representative Katrina Shankland  
Room 119 North, State Capitol

FROM: Daryl Hinz, Program Supervisor

SUBJECT: History of DNR Staffing Changes Since 1978-79

Following is the information you requested related to historical changes in Department of Natural Resources (DNR) authorized staff levels. The following table shows the adjusted base position authority, by fund source, for the second (odd-numbered) fiscal year of each of the last 20 biennia. The figure represents the base-level (the starting number used for the following biennial budget process) of full-time equivalent permanent and project staff authorized in the state budget system for the given year. Limited-term employee (LTE) staff are not included in the system and are not reflected in the table. The Department reached a peak of 3,114 authorized positions in fiscal year 1994-95, with authorized staff levels generally declining since that time.

It should be noted that a transfer of state functions, and related staff, may have affected position totals in some years. For example, although 2014-15 overall DNR staffing levels declined by approximately 17 from two years earlier, this figure includes an increase of 23.3 DNR staff as a result of the transfer of the petroleum environmental cleanup fund award (PECFA) program from the Department of Safety and Professional Services to DNR in the 2013-15 budget act. That is, without this agency-to-agency PECFA transfer, which had no overall effect on state staffing levels, DNR staff would have declined by approximately 40 positions. On the other hand, in 1996-97 about 30 positions were transferred out of DNR and into other state agencies.

**DNR Base-Level Staffing  
(permanent & project)**

<u>FY</u>	<u>Base Staff</u>	<u>Change</u>
2017	2,549	-93
2015	2,642	-17
2013	2,659	-50
2011	2,709	-36
2009	2,746	28
2007	2,717	-107
2005	2,824	-151
2003	2,975	-26
2001	3,001	68
1999	2,932	26
1997	2,906	-208
1995	3,114	146
1993	2,968	202
1991	2,766	154
1989	2,612	11
1987	2,601	62
1985	2,539	-43
1983	2,582	73
1981	2,509	253
1979	2,256	---

The 2015-17 biennial budget reduced DNR authorized 2016-17 positions by approximately 93 permanent staff, or 3.5% from two years earlier (2014-15). Overall DNR authorized staffing levels have declined by approximately 451 positions, or 15%, since 2000-01, and 565 positions, or 18%, since the peak level in 1994-95.

I hope this information is helpful. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

DH/sas