



Fiscal Year 2018-19 Agency Budget Plan

FORM A - BUDGET PLAN SUMMARY

OPERATING REQUESTS (FORM B1)	For FY 2018-19, my agency is (mark "X"): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requesting General Fund Appropriations. <input type="checkbox"/> Requesting Federal/Other Authorization. <input type="checkbox"/> Not requesting any changes.
NON-RECURRING REQUESTS (FORM B2)	For FY 2018-19, 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 2018-19, 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 2018-19, my agency is (mark "X"): <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not requesting any proviso changes.

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

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Stephanie Meetze	803-896-8876	SMeetze@scfc.gov
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Gene Kodama	803-896-8801	Kodama@scfc.gov

I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2018-19 Agency Budget Plan, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

	<u>Agency Director</u>	<u>Board or Commission Chair</u>
SIGN/DATE:	<i>Henry E. Kodama</i> 9/14/17	<i>Walt McPhail</i>
TYPE/PRINT NAME:	Henry E. (Gene) Kodama	Dr. Walt McPhail

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

Fiscal Year 2018-19 Budget Request Executive Summary

Agency Code: P120
 Agency Name: South Carolina Forestry Commission
 Section:

BUDGET REQUESTS			FUNDING				FTES					
Priority	Request Type	Request Title	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total	State	Federal	Earmarked	Restricted	Total
1	B1 - Recurring	Declining Federal Funds	945,000				945,000	8.00	(8.00)			0.00
2	B1 - Recurring	Employee Benefits and Retention	2,010,000				2,010,000					0.00
3	B1 - Recurring	Information Technology and Security	440,000				440,000	1.00				1.00
4	B1 - Recurring	Firefighting Capacity	640,000				640,000	5.00				5.00
5	B2 - Non-Recurring	Firefighting Equipment	3,500,000				3,500,000					0.00
6	B1 - Recurring	Landowner Services and Industry Wood Supply	1,330,000				1,330,000	12.00	(1.00)			11.00
7	B1 - Recurring	State Forests	425,000				425,000	5.00				5.00
8	B2 - Non-Recurring	Facility Improvement and Demolition	515,000				515,000					0.00
9	B1 - Recurring	Federal FTE Increase					0		0.25			0.25
10							0					0.00
11							0					0.00
12							0					0.00
13							0					0.00
14							0					0.00
15							0					0.00
16							0					0.00
17							0					0.00
18							0					0.00
19							0					0.00
20							0					0.00
21							0					0.00
22							0					0.00
23							0					0.00
24							0					0.00
25							0					0.00
26							0					0.00
27							0					0.00
28							0					0.00
29							0					0.00
30							0					0.00
TOTAL BUDGET REQUESTS			9,805,000	0	0	0	9,805,000	31.00	(8.75)	0.00	0.00	22.25

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	1 – Form #13411
------------------------	------------------------

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Declining Federal Funds
--------------	--------------------------------

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$945,000 Federal: Other: Total: \$945,000
---------------	--

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	0 (Changing Source of Fund)
----------------------	------------------------------------

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Loss of federal or other external financial support for existing program
	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maintaining Safety, Integrity, and Security
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Objectives 1.1.1 – 1.1.3, 2.1.1 – 2.1.5, 2.3.1 – 2.3.3, 3.1.1 – 3.2.3</p> <p>This request will allow the Forestry Commission to maintain current programs that support South Carolina private landowners, wildfire suppression and promote and grow the forest industry in South Carolina.</p>
--------------------------------	---

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	<p>These funds will go towards salary and fringe benefits of current Forestry Commission personnel.</p>
----------------------------	---

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	<p>The Forestry Commission receives grant funds to support forestry practices and accomplish the agency’s mission. Over the past several years the funds to support several agency programs have declined significantly and/or will expire at the end of Fiscal Year 2018. The Commission relies on these grant funds for the salary and fringes of Foresters who support the agency in fulfilling its mission and state mandates, including filling critical roles in wildfire suppression. Foresters are state-certified wildland firefighters, and serve as incident commanders on wildfires, work on hand crews, and provide leadership, support, and oversight to front line firefighters when wildfires occur. When they are not needed to protect public safety, they provide assistance to landowners and forest industry.</p> <p>Several of the grants have been directly affected, Forest Inventory and Analysis, Best Management Practices, Stewardship and Urban. Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA), Best Management Practices (BMP), Stewardship and Urban are federally funded programs that require a state match of 25%, 40% and 50%, respectively.</p> <p>Under 48-23-90 SC Code of Law, the Forestry Commission is mandated to preserve the forests of South Carolina and ensure the welfare of the State in all areas pertaining to forestry and tree growth, to include reforestation. These programs are critical to help ensure that the agency’s state mandates are fulfilled while also providing crucial information that supports the states private landowners, forestry industry and its partners. The Commission is requesting to have 8 federal funded positions shifted to state funds to coincide with this request. Amounts for this request were calculated by using current figures from these programs.</p> <p>This request will provide a dedicated matching funding source for these programs. By providing these funds it will allow the Forestry Commission to maintain the positions that support the wildland fire suppression and these critical programs that directly affect the agency in fulfilling our state mandated obligations while also increasing the economic impact that forestry has on South Carolina.</p>
---------------------------------	--

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:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	2 – Form #13412
------------------------	------------------------

Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.

TITLE	Employer Benefits and Employee Retention
--------------	---

Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.

AMOUNT	General: \$2,010,000 Federal: Other: Total: \$2,010,000
---------------	--

What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.

NEW POSITIONS	N/A
----------------------	-----

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
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority # _____	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:	
	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Objectives 5.1.1 and 5.2.1</p> <p>The agency is required under Statute 1-11-710 to provide these benefits for employees.</p>
--------------------------------	---

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	<p>Funds will be received by current Forestry Commission personnel.</p>
----------------------------	---

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	<p>The Forestry Commission is requesting a \$450,000 increase in state-funded employer contributions and \$1,560,000 in salary and fringe for employee retention. The increase in employer contributions is due to the increase the agency has incurred over the years from changes in benefits that are required/requested by the employee as well as non-funded state increases. The agency is required under Statute 1-11-710 to provide these benefits for employees. The costs for employer contributions were calculated by the amount of actual Employee Benefit costs versus the appropriated amount.</p> <p>The Forestry Commission has seen a rise in our attrition/retention and difficulty in recruiting of qualified firefighters and foresters. The majority of employees who have left the agency have taken similar jobs with different agencies and states due to a higher pay. In an effort to recruit and retain qualified applicants, the Commission is requesting an increase of \$1,560,000 in salary and fringe. This increase would allow the agency to have a more comparable salary range with other states in our southern region. The costs for the salary increase were calculated based on a State OHR salary study.</p>
---------------------------------	--

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:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	3 – Form #13413 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
------------------------	--

TITLE	Information Technology and Security <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
--------------	---

AMOUNT	General: \$440,000 Federal: Other: Total: \$440,000 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
---------------	--

NEW POSITIONS	1 <i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>
----------------------	--

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IT Technology/Security related
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consulted DTO during development
	Related to a Non-Recurring request – If so, Priority # _____	

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

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Objectives 1.1.1 – 5.3.3</p> <p>This request will allow the agency to be in compliance with state information security mandates</p>
--------------------------------	--

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	<p>Funds will go towards the salary, fringe and operating for 1 new FTE as well as operating funds to implement software and hardware to become compliant with state mandates.</p>
----------------------------	--

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	<p>Budget Provisos 93.21, 117.113 and 117.121 for fiscal year 2017-2018 mandates that state agencies adopt and implement cyber security policies and reporting of information technology and security plans to the Division of Technology. In order to meet the mandated requirements set forth in these provisos, the Forestry Commission is requesting funds for one (1) additional FTE and operating funds.</p> <p>The requested FTE will serve as the day-to-day support staff for the agency's mission-critical functions such as wildfire dispatch operation, computer and communications networks, computer systems, and supporting end users. In addition to serving as the day-to-day support staff, this FTE will also fill the role of the agency's full time privacy liaison.</p> <p>The operating funds that are being requested will be used to help acquire and replace antiquated equipment that is needed to comply with the mandated security requirements. Of the equipment that is currently in place 65% is 5 years or older with 30% being over 10 years old and will not be serviceable after the year 2020.</p>
---------------------------------	---

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:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	4 – Form #13414 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
------------------------	--

TITLE	Firefighting Capacity <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
--------------	---

AMOUNT	General: \$640,000 Federal: Other: Total: \$640,000 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
---------------	--

NEW POSITIONS	5 <i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>
----------------------	--

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 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 # _____	

STATEWIDE ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Mark “X” for primary applicable Statewide Enterprise Strategic Objective:
	<input checked="" 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	

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	<p>Objectives 2.1.1 – 2.1.5 and 5.3.1 – 5.3.3</p> <p>This request will increase agency effectiveness for wildfire suppression by addressing shortfalls in personnel for law enforcement, fire prevention, incident management, fire weather monitoring, and fuels reduction. Funding these activities will result in better situational awareness, better prepared communities, and more capacity for wildfire response.</p>
--------------------------------	--

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	<p>Funds will go towards the salary and fringe benefits for 5 new Forestry Commission FTE's and operating expenses associated with these positions and firefighting capacity.</p>
----------------------------	---

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	<p>The South Carolina Forestry Commission's mission is to protect, promote, enhance and nurture the forest lands of South Carolina. Our Fire Protection operations play a vital role in accomplishing the agency's mission. This unit provides the ability to protect the forest resource, homes and structures, and lives from wildfires. It also provides the means to investigate and prosecute arson, timber theft and other timber transaction crimes. The Commission is requesting funds to restore positions in this area to more efficiently provide those services to the state.</p> <p>South Carolina's population continues to expand into forested areas, further increasing the wildfire risk to homes and lives in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). On average, wildfires destroy 40 homes each year in South Carolina and thousands of acres of forests. By funding this request, the Commission will be able to more effectively and efficiently perform these services, including funding to increase capacity for the Forestry Commission Type II Incident Management Team, a state-level capability that is unique to the agency. Operating costs include funds to support the use of SC National Guard or other firefighting aircraft to enable better protection of life, homes, and property.</p> <p>Included in this request is funding for 5 new FTE's. The Commission does not have the vacant positions to fulfill this request as they are obligated to other areas within the agency.</p> <p>The amounts in 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 and firefighting efforts.</p>
---------------------------------	---

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:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	6 – Form #13416 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
------------------------	--

TITLE	Landowner Services and Industry Wood Supply <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
--------------	---

AMOUNT	General: \$1,330,000 Federal: Other: Total: \$1,330,000 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
---------------	--

NEW POSITIONS	11 <i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>
----------------------	---

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 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 # _____	

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Infrastructure and Economic Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government and Citizens	

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Objectives 1.3.1 – 1.3.3 and 3.1.1 – 3.2.3
--------------------------------	--

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	Funds will go for the salary, fringe benefits and operating for 11 new FTE's and to shift the salary and fringe benefits of 1 other funded position to state FTE.
----------------------------	---

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	<p>Under 48-23-90 and 48-23-100 SC Code of Law, the Forestry Commission is mandated to preserve the forests of South Carolina and ensure the welfare of the State in all areas pertaining to forestry and tree growth, to include reforestation.</p> <p>Over the past several years the services to private landowners has been reduced due to budget reductions. The services to landowners include providing technical assistance to private landowners through management plans, water quality services, tree planting, insect and disease prevention and control, prescribed burning, etc. This request will restore 2/3 of the Commission's capacity in landowner services and will help fulfill our state mandates and grow the industry that has a \$21 billion impact to the state's economy. A 2016 Clemson University study determined that each additional Commission Forester assists an average of 147 landowners annually and increased planted pine acreages by 5,500 acres/year. This in turn produces significantly more timber volumes that support an additional 12 jobs a year and produce an additional \$2.7 million in economic impact annually in the long run. The benefit/cost ratio was found to be 20 to 1 at a 4% interest rate.</p> <p>Included in this request are 11 new FTE's and 1 FTE to be moved from other to state funds. The Commission does not have the vacant positions to fulfill this request as they are obligated to other areas within the agency.</p> <p>The amounts in this request were calculated by using the average salary and fringe benefits of current and like positions within the agency and operating costs associated with those positions and support services for landowners.</p>
---------------------------------	---

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:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	7 – Form #13417 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
------------------------	---

TITLE	State Forests <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
--------------	--

AMOUNT	General: \$425,000 Federal: Other: Total: \$425,000 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
---------------	--

NEW POSITIONS	5 <i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>
----------------------	---

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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	

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

ACCOUNTABILITY OF FUNDS	Objectives 3.1.1 – 3.2.3 and 4.1.1 – 4.2.2
--------------------------------	--

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	Funds will go towards the salary and fringe benefits for 5 new Forestry Commission FTE's and operating expenses associated with these positions.
----------------------------	--

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	<p>The Forestry Commission manages South Carolina's 5 state Forests: Sand Hills, Manchester, Harbison, Poe Creek and Wee Tee without state funds. These forests provide a variety of benefits to both the citizens and visitors of South Carolina. In addition to the benefits these forest provide, the State Forests also support the counties they are in by sharing 25% of their revenue with those local school districts. Recently the Commission gave \$700,000 back to the counties in which the state forests reside.</p> <p>These funds will be used to add personnel to the State Forests to help increase the benefits and revenue that is derived from them.</p> <p>Amounts for this request were calculated using the salary and fringe benefits of current employees in similar positions and operating costs associated with those positions. The 5 positions that the agency is requesting will restore positions that were lost through budget reductions. The Commission does not have the vacant positions to fulfill this request as they are obligated to other areas within the agency.</p>
---------------------------------	--

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:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	5 – Form #13415 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
------------------------	--

TITLE	Firefighting Equipment <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
--------------	--

AMOUNT	\$3,500,000 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
---------------	--

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 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"/> Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Related to a 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 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	Objectives 2.1.1 – 2.1.5 This funding will enable the Forestry Commission to accelerate the replacement of firefighting bulldozers that are beyond the industry standard service life and open cab units. These improvements would allow the agency to respond to wildfires more effectively and efficiently, while increasing the safety of agency firefighters and enabling better protection of citizens, property, and the valuable forest industry.
--------------------------------	---

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	Current state contract vendors will be the recipient of these 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	<p>Outfitting these firefighters with effective and safe equipment – namely newer and enclosed-cab bulldozers – as quickly as possible has been a top priority, which is reflected in this decision package.</p> <p>While every one of our frontline firefighters does have an assigned bulldozer, the agency’s inventory of these vehicles is far from uniform in class or age. In addition, the approximately half of Forestry Commission bulldozers are open-cab models, increasing safety risks to firefighters and the public.</p> <p>The industry-standard service life of a bulldozer used for wildland firefighting is 15 years, yet 31% of the agency’s dozers are almost 15 years old and 20% have met or exceed this threshold. In addition to the \$1.5 million received through Act 273, the requested \$3.5 million in non-recurring funds will allow the Forestry Commission to purchase 16 additional units (units consist of a transport, enclosed-cab bulldozer and plow), putting more frontline firefighters in safer and more reliable equipment. These enclosed-cab units not only provide employees with greater protection from smoke, fire and debris, but also provide a greater chance of survival if they are caught in a burn-over situation. Actual data shows that dozer operators in burn-over situations are almost always injured or die in open cabs but are not injured or die in enclosed cabs.</p>
---------------------------------	--

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. Does this non-recurring appropriation request create an annualization or need for recurring funds?

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B2 – NON-RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	8 – Form #13418 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
------------------------	--

TITLE	Facility Improvement and Demolition <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
--------------	---

AMOUNT	\$515,000 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
---------------	--

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 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"/> Request for Non-Recurring Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Federal/Other Authorization to spend existing funding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Related to a 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 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	Objectives 5.3.1 – 5.3.3
--------------------------------	--------------------------

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency’s accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	Funds will be allocated based on agency needs following the South Carolina Procurement rules and regulations.
----------------------------	---

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	<p>This request will be used to catch up on current facility maintenance needs that have been postponed, and demolish facilities that are no longer in use and pose safety and liability hazards.</p> <p>The Commission has several offices that are utilized by employees and the public that are in need of repairs and improvements to ensure the safety of all users as well as the compliance of building codes and standards.</p> <p>The Commission, over the years has made tremendous advancements in the technology needed to dispatch firefighting units and staff. Fire tower sites no longer needed have houses/structures that post a safety issue. These structures need to be demolished and these sites disposed. Because of the age of many of these locations, the houses contain asbestos and cost approximately \$12,000 - \$15,000 each to demolish.</p>
---------------------------------	---

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. Does this non-recurring appropriation request create an annualization or need for recurring funds?

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM B1 – RECURRING OPERATING REQUEST

AGENCY PRIORITY	9 <i>Provide the Agency Priority Ranking from the Executive Summary.</i>
------------------------	--

TITLE	Federal FTE Increase <i>Provide a brief, descriptive title for this request.</i>
--------------	--

AMOUNT	General: Federal: Other: Total: \$0 <i>What is the net change in requested appropriations for FY 2018-19? This amount should correspond to the total for all funding sources on the Executive Summary.</i>
---------------	--

NEW POSITIONS	.25 <i>Please provide the total number of new positions needed for this request.</i>
----------------------	--

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 checked="" 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	N/A
--------------------------------	-----

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

What specific agency objective, as outlined in the agency's accountability report, does this funding request support? How would this request advance that objective? How would the use of these funds be evaluated?

RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS	Current Forestry Commission FTE
----------------------------	---------------------------------

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	<p>The Forestry Commission is requesting to increase our Federal FTE's by .25. The workload has increased requiring us to move a part time FTE to a full time FTE. The agency does not have any federal vacancies that it can pull from to make up the .25.</p>
---------------------------------	---

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:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM D – PROVISIO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	43.1
---------------	------

Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2018-19 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	Grant Funds Carry Forward
--------------	----------------------------------

Provide the title from the FY 2017-18 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	
-----------------------	--

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 2018-19? 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	<p>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.</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.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

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 PROVISIO 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 FY 2017-18 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	43.2
---------------	------

Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2018-19 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	Retention of Emergency Expenditure Refunds
--------------	---

Provide the title from the FY 2017-18 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	
-----------------------	--

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 2018-19? 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	<p>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.</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.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

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 PROVISIO TEXT	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 FY 2017-18 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	43.3
---------------	------

Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2018-19 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	Commissioned Officers' Physicals
--------------	----------------------------------

Provide the title from the FY 2017-18 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	
-----------------------	--

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 2018-19? 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	<p>Codify Proviso 43.3 – Commissioned 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.</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.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

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 PROVISIO 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 FY 2017-18 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

FORM D – PROVISO REVISION REQUEST

NUMBER	43.4
---------------	------

Cite the proviso according to the renumbered list for FY 2018-19 (or mark "NEW").

TITLE	Compensatory Payment
--------------	-----------------------------

Provide the title from the FY 2017-18 Appropriations Act or suggest a short title for any new request.

BUDGET PROGRAM	
-----------------------	--

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 2018-19? 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	<p>Codify Proviso 43.4 – Compensatory Payment 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.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

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 PROVISIO 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 FY 2017-18 text above, then bold and underline insertions and strikethrough deletions. For new proviso requests, enter requested text above.

AGENCY NAME:	South Carolina Forestry Commission		
AGENCY CODE:	P120	SECTION:	43

SUMMARY	<p>The SC Forestry Commissions 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 the 3% budget reduction, the Forestry Commission will have to eliminate 17 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 and other structures and lives.</p> <p>The agency will use vacant position 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; TERI and 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	<p>The agency evaluates operations throughout the year to ensure we are operating efficiently and effectively. Over the past year the agency has worked with numerous vendors to upgrade antiquated equipment, reduce redundancy or unused equipment, and implement new processes to help reduce operational down time. Two areas that the agency has focused on are Information Technology and Equipment Repair Services. I.T. has implemented new VOIP systems for all Forestry Commission offices. They are also evaluating expanding bandwidth in several remote offices with newer more cost-efficient providers. These measures will save the agency by reducing landlines that are no longer needed/in use and cut costs for calls between other agency offices and VOIP users.</p> <p>The Commission has established contracts for firefighting equipment repairs and services. This has resulted in savings by providing more efficiency to operations. The measures that have been and will be implemented will help the agency reduce operating costs by more than \$50,000. These savings will be repurposed to help the agency fulfill its state mandates.</p>
----------------------------------	---

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?