

2021-2023 Proposed Operating Budgets

Proposed Operating Budgets by Fiscal Year

	<u>2019-21 Biennium</u>	<u>Governor Proposal</u>	<u>House Proposed</u>	<u>Senate Proposed</u>	<u>Compromise</u>
FY 2020 Operating – excluding provisos	7,275,000				
FY 2021 Operating – excluding provisos	7,384,000	7,187,000*	7,187,000**	7,242,000**	7,187,000**
FY 2022 Operating – excluding provisos		7,669,000	8,016,000	8,013,000	8,081,000
FY 2023 Operating – excluding provisos		7,647,000	7,995,000	8,033,000	8,083,000
Toxics Account		1,110,000	1,110,000	1,000,000	1,110,000

* = FY2021 Governor proposed 15% reduction.

** = FY2021 House, Senate, and compromise proposed supplemental reduction.

Proposed Operating Details

	<u>WSCC Request</u>	<u>Governor Proposal</u>	<u>House Proposed</u>	<u>Senate Proposed</u>	<u>Compromise</u>
Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)	5,000,000	n/f	n/f	5,000,000	2,000,000
Food Policy Forum	600,000	458,000	458,000	340,000	340,000
Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)	8,462,000	8,410,000	8,448,000	8,450,000	8,450,000
Wildfire Recovery	n/r	n/r	3,000,000	n/f	3,000,000
Okanogan Water Bank	n/r	n/r	125,000	n/f	125,000
Meat & Poultry Inspection (if 5045 passes)	n/r	n/r	n/r	4,262,000	n/f
Pollinator Health (if 5253 passes)	n/r	n/r	n/r	27,000	27,000
Agency Savings	n/r	(204,000)	n/f	(204,000)	n/f
Temporary Layoffs and Other Savings	n/r	(229,000)	n/f	n/f	n/f
General Wage Increase Reduction	n/r	(156,000)	n/f	n/f	n/f

NOTE: n/r = not requested n/f = not funded

Budget Provisos and Agency Detail

Compromise Operating Budget Agency Detail:

1. Pollinator Health - Funding is provided for implementing the provisions of 2SSB 5253 (pollinator health). (General Fund-State)
2. Agricultural Water Bank - One-time funding is provided for an agreement with the Department of Ecology for a water bank to retain agricultural water rights in Okanogan County, and a report on the effectiveness of the water bank. (General Fund-State)
3. Food Policy Forum Implementation - The 2020 Legislature established the Food Policy Forum with the passage of Chapter 246, Laws of 2020 (SSB 6091). The legislation directed the State Conservation Commission and Department of Agriculture to staff the forum which is created to improve the state's food system. Additional ongoing funding is provided to hire a facilitator and staff the forum. (General Fund-State)
4. Conservation District Support - Ongoing funding is provided to increase the capacity of conservation districts to assist landowners achieve environmental stewardship and agricultural sustainability. (General Fund-State)
5. Sustainable Farms & Fields Program - One-time private/local spending authority is provided for the Sustainable Farms and Fields program created in RCW 89.08.615. (General Fund-Local)
6. Shift Soil Health Initiative - Funding to administer the Soil Health Initiative is shifted from the state general fund to the Model Toxics Control Operating Account on an ongoing basis to preserve state general fund dollars. (General Fund-State; Model Toxics Control Operating Account-State)
7. Wildfire Recovery Grants - One-time funding is provided for conservation district technical assistance, project cultural resources review, engineering, and cost-share grants to landowners for recovery from wildfire damage. (General Fund-State)

Compromise Operating Budget Agency Provisos:

- (1) \$100,000 of the general fund—private/local appropriation is provided solely for the sustainable farms and fields program created in RCW 89.08.615.
- (2) \$1,500,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$1,500,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for conservation district technical assistance, project cultural resources review, project engineering, agency administration, and cost-share grants to landowners for recovery from wildfire damage, including, but not limited to, rebuilding fences, seeding unstable slopes, controlling weeds, and planting shrubs and trees for wildlife habitat.
- (3) \$85,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$40,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are

provided solely for the commission to:

- (a) Enter into an agreement with the department of ecology for a water bank in Okanogan county, which must focus solely on retaining agricultural water rights for use by other agricultural producers in the watershed of origin; and
- (b) Report to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 31, 2022, on the effectiveness of the Okanogan water bank at retaining agricultural water rights, and the potential for developing additional water banks in Washington using this model.

(4) \$8,450,000 of the public works assistance account—state appropriation is provided solely for implementation of the voluntary stewardship program. This amount may not be used to fund agency indirect and administrative expenses.

(5) \$170,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$170,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for the commission to continue to convene and facilitate a food policy forum.

(6) \$1,000,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$1,000,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for the commission to share evenly with conservation districts to increase assistance to landowners to achieve environmental stewardship and agricultural sustainability.

(7) \$23,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 and \$4,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2023 are provided solely for the implementation of Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5253 (pollinator health). If the bill is not enacted by June 30, 2021, the amounts provided in this subsection shall lapse.