

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Summary of Recommendations - House**

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Method of Financing	2018-19 Base	2020-21 Recommended	Biennial Change (\$)	Biennial Change (%)
General Revenue Funds	\$63,571,181	\$65,497,278	\$1,926,097	3.0%
GR Dedicated Funds	\$51,508,097	\$49,508,097	(\$2,000,000)	(3.9%)
<i>Total GR-Related Funds</i>	<i>\$115,079,278</i>	<i>\$115,005,375</i>	<i>(\$73,903)</i>	<i>(0.1%)</i>
Federal Funds	\$7,005,618	\$7,035,964	\$30,346	0.4%
Other	\$1,801,871	\$1,893,456	\$91,585	5.1%
All Funds	\$123,886,767	\$123,934,795	\$48,028	0.0%

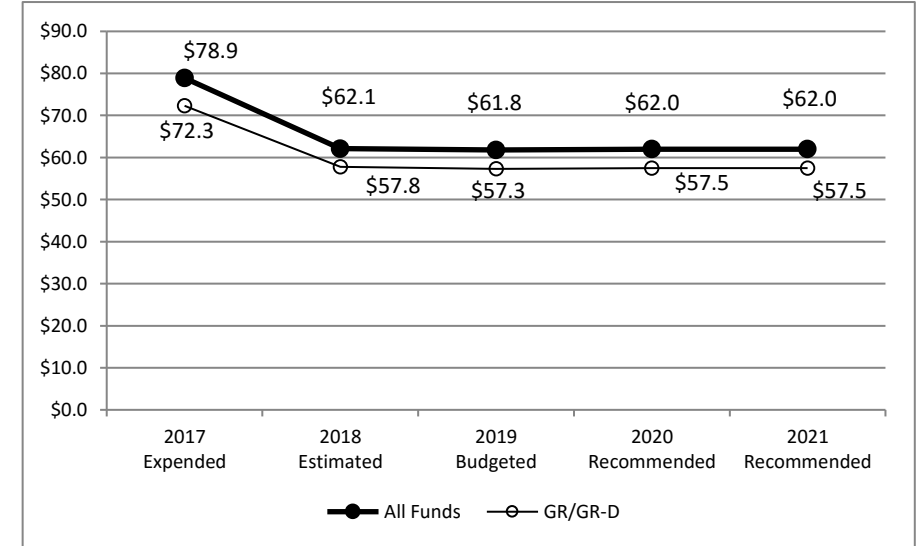
	FY 2019 Budgeted	FY 2021 Recommended	Biennial Change	Percent Change
FTEs	501.1	501.1	0.0	0.0%

Agency Budget and Policy Issues and/or Highlights

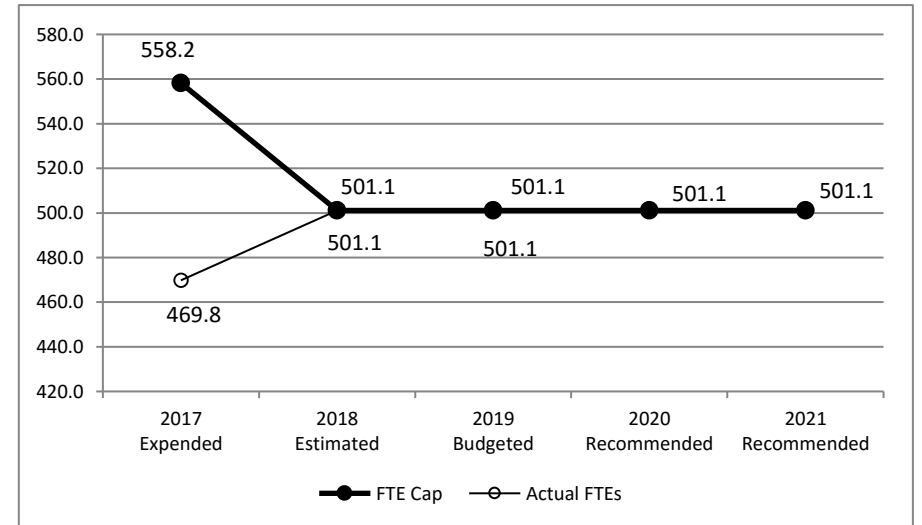
Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) provides wildfire prevention, detection, and suppression service and administers the statewide Texas Wildfire Protection Plan. TFS also assists during all-hazard emergencies such as flooding, ice storms, tornados, and hurricanes. TFS is involved in reforestation efforts and urban forestry programs, and conducts applied research on forest insects and diseases.

The bill pattern for this agency (2020-21 Recommended) represents an estimated 91.9% of the agency's estimated total available funds for the 2020-21 biennium.

Historical Funding Levels (Millions)



Historical Full-Time-Equivalent Employees (FTEs)



Texas A&M Forest Service
Summary of Funding Changes and Recommendations - House

Funding Changes and Recommendations for the 2020-21 Biennium compared to the 2018-19 Base Spending Level (in millions)		General Revenue	GR-Dedicated	Federal Funds	Other Funds	All Funds	Strategy in Appendix A
<i>SIGNIFICANT Funding Changes and Recommendations (each issue is explained in Section 3 and additional details are provided in Appendix A):</i>							
A)	Method of Finance swap between Insurance Companies Maintenance Tax and Insurance Department Fees Account No. 8042 (General Revenue) and Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Account No. 5064 (General Revenue-Dedicated) pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 614.105	\$2.0	(\$2.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	B.1.3.
<i>OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations (these issues are not addressed in Section 3 but details are provided in Appendix A):</i>							
A)	\$30,346 increase in Federal Funds due to growth in grant income	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	A.1.1, A.1.2, A.1.3, B.1.1, B.1.2.
B)	\$91,585 increase in Other Funds due to projected increases in Appropriated Receipts	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$0.1	A.1.1, A.1.2
C)	\$73,903 decrease in General Revenue Funds for Infrastructure Support Formula Funding to align with GAI Infrastructure Formula rate and updated space data	(\$0.1)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.1)	D.1.2, D.1.3.
TOTAL SIGNIFICANT & OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations (in millions)		\$1.9	(\$2.0)	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$0.1	As Listed
<i>SIGNIFICANT & OTHER Funding Increases</i>		\$2.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$2.1	As Listed
<i>SIGNIFICANT & OTHER Funding Decreases</i>		(\$0.1)	(\$2.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2.1)	As Listed

NOTE: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Selected Fiscal and Policy Issues - House**

1. **Infrastructure Support.** Funding to Texas A&M System agencies for infrastructure support within Brazos County is calculated using the General Academic Institutions' infrastructure formula rate, but is adjusted for 2020-21 for each respective agency based on updated space data. Texas A&M System agricultural agencies (includes TFS) also receive funding for infrastructure support outside Brazos County which is proportionally allocated to those agencies by their percentage of total actual square footage, and the 2020-21 funding recommendations are maintained at 2018-19 total appropriations.
2. **Supplemental Appropriations Bill Request.** Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) reports that fiscal years 2017 and 2018 have been active years for the agency to be called upon to respond to various all-hazard incidents (e.g., wildfires, floods, tornados, winter storms, and Hurricane Harvey). While final billing for emergency responses from the U.S. Forest Service and reimbursements from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have not yet been received, TFS estimates \$57.3 million will be needed in a Supplemental Appropriations Bill to cover anticipated costs.

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Rider Highlights - House**

Modification of Existing Riders

1. **Delete Urban Forestry License Plate Fund Rider.** Recommendations include deletion of Urban Forestry License Plate Fund Rider due to redundancy. Article IX, Section 8.13 already grants the authority stated in the Rider in the TFS bill pattern.

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Items Not Included in Recommendations - House**

	2020-21 Biennial Total			Information Technology Involved?	Contracting Involved?	Estimated Continued Cost 2022-23
	GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs			

Agency Exceptional Items Not Included (in agency priority order)

1)	<p>Texas Wildfire Protection Plan – TIFMAS Grants TFS is requesting a \$2.0 million increase from Account No. 8042 for TIFMAS grants, a program that provides grants for fire trucks, protective gear, and training to municipal fire departments from areas unaffected by disasters to be mobilized in support of statewide and regional emergency response. Fund 8042 is a self-leveling General Revenue account and an increase in funding for this program would result in an increase to the Fire and Allied maintenance tax rate. According to the Texas Department of Insurance, to generate \$1.0 million more in revenue for a single year, the Fire and Allied rate would increase from the current rate of 0.345% to 0.352%, which translates to a 7-cent increase in tax collections for every \$1,000 of premiums written under this insurance line.</p>	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	0.0	No	No	\$2,000,000
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Agency Rider Revision Requests Not Included

A)	<p>Revision to Rider 3: Overtime Payments, Contingency The requested revision would strike "mandatory" and "non-exempt" from Rider 3 to allow TFS to use the listed appropriation for overtime for exempt employees similar to Rider 5.</p>	\$0	\$0	0.0	No	No	\$0
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TOTAL Items Not Included in Recommendations	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	0.0			\$2,000,000
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**Texas A&M Forest Service
Appendices - House**

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* Appendix is not included - no significant information to report

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Funding Changes and Recommendations - House, by Strategy -- ALL FUNDS**

Strategy/Goal	2018-19 Base	2020-21 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
FORESTRY LEADERSHIP A.1.1	\$13,255,212	\$13,537,884	\$282,672	2.1%	Recommendations include: 1) \$91,397 increase in General Revenue Funds due to a reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs; 2) \$7,479 decrease in Federal Funds related to a reduction in Forest Inventory and Analysis grant income; and 3) \$198,754 increase in Other Funds (appropriated receipts) due to a projected increase in surplus property and timber sale income.
FOREST / TREE RESOURCES ENHANCEMENT A.1.2	\$3,201,201	\$3,298,840	\$97,639	3.1%	Recommendations include: 1) \$7,964 increase in General Revenue Funds due to a reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs; 2) \$101,693 increase in Federal Funds due to increase in Urban Forestry grant income; and 3) \$12,018 decrease in Other Funds due to a decrease in Urban Forestry Plate funds.
FOREST INSECTS AND DISEASES A.1.3	\$1,501,353	\$1,592,694	\$91,341	6.1%	Recommendations include: 1) \$109,941 increase in General Revenue Funds due to reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs; and 2) \$18,600 decrease in Federal Funds due to a decrease in Forest Health grant income.
Total, Goal A, DEVELOP FOREST RESOURCES	\$17,957,766	\$18,429,418	\$471,652	2.6%	
TWPP - TFS OPERATIONS B.1.1	\$55,562,368	\$56,042,506	\$480,138	0.9%	Recommendations include: 1) \$469,476 increase in General Revenue Funds and \$2,685 decrease in General Revenue-Dedicated Funds due to reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs; and 2) \$13,347 increase in Federal Funds due to an increase in Community Fire Protection grant income.

Texas A&M Forest Service
Funding Changes and Recommendations - House, by Strategy -- ALL FUNDS

Strategy/Goal	2018-19 Base	2020-21 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
TWPP - VFD GRANTS B.1.2	\$38,567,822	\$38,459,293	(\$108,529)	(0.3%)	Recommendations include: 1) \$1,134 decrease in General Revenue-Dedicated Funds due to a reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs; and 2) \$107,395 decrease in Federal Funds due to a decrease in Volunteer Fire Assistance grant income.
TWPP - TIFMAS GRANTS B.1.3	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	0.0%	
WILDFIRE EMERGENCY FUNDS B.1.4	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	
Total, Goal B, PROTECT FOREST RESOURCES	\$96,130,190	\$96,501,799	\$371,609	0.4%	
STAFF GROUP INSURANCE C.1.1	\$2,188,509	\$2,130,324	(\$58,185)	(2.7%)	Recommendations include: 1) \$1,000 decrease in General Revenue Dedicated Funds due to a reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs; 2) \$37,966 increase in Federal Funds due to benefits proportionality requirements; and 3) \$95,151 decrease in Other Funds (appropriated receipts) due to benefits proportionality requirements.
WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE C.1.2	\$325,912	\$327,302	\$1,390	0.4%	Recommendations include \$1,390 increase in Federal Funds due to benefits proportionality requirements.
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE C.1.3	\$7,655	\$8,068	\$413	5.4%	Recommendations include \$413 increase in Federal Funds due to benefits proportionality requirements.
OASI C.1.4	\$779,515	\$788,526	\$9,011	1.2%	Recommendations include \$9,011 increase in Federal Funds due to benefits proportionality requirements.
HAZARDOUS DUTY PAY C.1.5	\$27,500	\$27,800	\$300	1.1%	Recommendations include \$300 increase in General Revenue Funds due to reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs.
Total, Goal C, STAFF BENEFITS	\$3,329,091	\$3,282,020	(\$47,071)	(1.4%)	
INDIRECT ADMINISTRATION D.1.1	\$3,836,140	\$3,976,980	\$140,840	3.7%	Recommendations include \$136,021 increase in General Revenue Funds and \$4,819 increase in General Revenue Dedicated Funds due to reallocation between strategies to meet operational needs.

Texas A&M Forest Service
Funding Changes and Recommendations - House, by Strategy -- ALL FUNDS

Strategy/Goal	2018-19 Base	2020-21 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT IN BRAZOS CO D.1.2	\$771,428	\$279,995	(\$491,433)	(63.7%)	Infrastructure Support formula funding General Revenue amount for FY 2020-21 is based on GAI infrastructure formula rate and incorporates updated data.
INFRASTRUCT SUPP OUTSIDE BRAZOS CO D.1.3	\$1,862,152	\$1,464,583	(\$397,569)	(21.3%)	Infrastructure Support formula funding General Revenue amount for FY 2020-21 maintains FY 2018-19 appropriated levels and incorporates updated data.
Total, Goal D, INDIRECT ADMINISTRATION	\$6,469,720	\$5,721,558	(\$748,162)	(11.6%)	
Grand Total, All Strategies	\$123,886,767	\$123,934,795	\$48,028	0.0%	

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Performance Measure Highlights - House**

	Expended 2017	Estimated 2018	Budgeted 2019	Recommended 2020	Recommended 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Hours Spent for Emergency Response <p><i>Measure Explanation: The actual number of hours that agency employees spend preparing for and participating in emergency response activities.</i></p>	96,767	67,000	67,000	67,000	67,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Contact Hours of Firefighter and Emergency Responder Training <p><i>Measure Explanation: The actual number of hours of training provided to firefighter and emergency responders by the agency.</i></p>	64,733	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Value of Assistance Provided to Fire Departments <p><i>Measure Explanation: Value of direct assistance provided to Fire Departments (FDs). TFS provides cost share assistance grants to FDs for equipment, training and insurance. TFS also provides to FDs firefighting equipment acquired from the federal government and through donations from private industry, municipalities, fire departments and individuals.</i></p>	\$ 43,112,211	\$ 28,500,000	\$ 28,500,000	\$ 28,500,000	\$ 28,500,000
Performance Measure Changes					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property Value Saved by Oak Wilt Treatments Number of Trees Saved from Spread of Oak Wilt Disease <p><i>Measure Explanation: TFS provides technical and financial assistance to install trenches to control the spread of oak wilt and save nearby trees. This outcome measures the property value saved as a result of protecting these trees from oak wilt.</i></p>	\$ 4,917,770	\$ 7,764,900	\$ 5,500,000	\$ 5,500,000	\$ 5,500,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Measure: <u>Commercial Timber Value of Forested Acres Assessed</u> <p><i>Measure Explanation: This outcome measures the commercial value of timberland assessed by TFS for forest health through the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program.</i></p>	\$ 5,390,294,322	\$ 4,500,000,000	\$ 4,500,000,000	\$ 4,500,000,000	\$ 4,500,000,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of <u>Trees Planted</u> Acres of Reforestation on Nonindustrial Private <u>Land</u> Forestland in East Texas <p><i>Measure Explanation: This output is measured using data from tree seedling nursery sales to private landowners in Texas.</i></p>	18,227,978	8,809,311	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000

**Texas A&M Forest Service
Summary of Ten Percent Biennial Base Reduction Options - House**

Priority	Item	Description/Impact	Biennial Reduction Amounts			Potential Revenue Loss	Reduction as % of Program GR/GR-D Total	Program GR/GR-D Total	Included in Introduced Bill?
			GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs				
1)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Operations	The Insurance Companies Maintenance Tax and Insurance Department Fees is a self-leveling fund; a reduction in the appropriation would be offset by a corresponding reduction in revenue. The agency would reduce capital equipment purchases, which would delay the replacement of dozers and transports.	\$1,593,818	\$1,593,818	0.0	\$1,078,459	2.8%	\$56,042,506	No
2)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Volunteer Fire Department Grants	The Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Fund and Rural Volunteer Fire Department Insurance Fund are statutorily restricted. A reduction in appropriations from the Fund would be added to the fund's unappropriated reserves. The agency would reduce grant assistance provided to volunteer fire departments. The impact would be a reduction in the amount of fire trucks, equipment and insurance that fire departments (primarily VFDs) are able to purchase.	\$1,237,702	\$1,237,702	0.0	\$1,152,577	3.2%	\$38,459,293	No
3)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Operations	Same as above.	\$1,593,817	\$1,593,817	0.0	\$1,078,459	2.8%	\$56,042,506	No
4)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Volunteer Fire Department Grants	Same as above.	\$1,237,703	\$1,237,703	0.0	\$1,152,578	3.2%	\$38,459,293	No
5)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Operations	Same as above.	\$1,593,818	\$1,593,818	0.0	\$1,078,459	2.8%	\$56,042,506	No
6)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Volunteer Fire Department Grants	Same as above.	\$1,237,702	\$1,237,702	0.0	\$1,152,577	3.2%	\$38,459,293	No
7)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Operations	Same as above.	\$1,593,817	\$1,593,817	0.0	\$1,078,459	2.8%	\$56,042,506	No
8)	Texas Wildfire Protection Plan - Volunteer Fire Department Grants	Same as above.	\$1,237,703	\$1,237,703	0.0	\$1,152,578	3.2%	\$38,459,293	No
TOTAL, 10% Reduction Options			\$11,326,080	\$11,326,080	0.0	\$8,924,146			