# Natural Resources

## HB 29: Natural Resources

- Provides for a net increase of 9.4 million, or 9.5 percent
- Adds spending of \$18.7 million, including:
  - \$15.2 million GF to restore support for agricultural best management practices
  - \$2.0 million GF to restore support for the Virginia Land Conservation Fund
  - \$1.5 million to offset DEQ budget reduction strategy using NGF that did not exist
    - Uses balance in WQIF reserve fund
- Saves \$9.3 million from September 2009 budget reductions, including:
  - □ Reductions in state park staffing, programs, and offerings
  - □ Elimination of funding for Civil War battlefield preservation
  - Reducing water quality monitoring

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- Includes net GF reductions of \$3.7 million in FY 2011 (3.7 percent) and \$4.0 million in FY 2012 (4.1 percent) and net NGF reductions of \$46.1 million in both FY 2011 and FY 2012 (14.6 percent)
- Additional spending includes:
  - \$5.0 million GF and \$9.1 million NGF each year for DCR for agricultural best management practices
    - Nongeneral funds supported by a \$10 increase in the recordation fee
  - \$1.0 million GF each year for DCR to provide funding for the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation

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#### Spending reductions include:

- 7.9 million in FY 2011 and \$7.8 million in FY 2012 from maintaining the Governor's September budget reductions, for example:
  - Reductions in staffing and offerings in state parks
  - Reductions in support for soil and water conservation districts
  - Elimination of funding for fish tissue analysis
  - Elimination of funding for Civil War battlefield preservation
  - Supplanting Marine Police costs with federal funds
- \$55.7 million NGF each year appropriation for WQIF balance payments removed
  - NGF appropriation was used to pay grants from GF appropriations from prior fiscal years
  - WQIF grants will be paid from \$250 million in bonds

# HB 30: Language

- DCR is authorized to develop a directory of "Cultural Historic Sites"
  - Includes commemorative and historic facilities and sites interpreting national, state, or regional cultural history
  - Cannot include sites owned or operated by state agencies
  - DCR to develop criteria and application materials
- DEQ is prohibited from providing WQIF grants to any locality that is required to establish an urban development area but fails to do so
  This requirement only affects counties