



# 2010 Legislative Session Summary

## Budget Summary

The 2010 Supplemental Budget passed by the Legislature provides a total **Operating Budget** of \$141 million for WSDA and includes \$606,000 in reductions in funding from the state's General Fund. The agency's other appropriations and the expenditure authority for WSDA's many fee-supported programs remain relatively stable. These other funding sources cover almost 80 percent of the agency's budget.

Here are the key policy changes reflected in the department's operating budget:

## **REDUCTIONS IN GENERAL FUND-STATE (GF-S) BUDGET**

- **Spartina Funding** (-\$44,000): Eliminates general fund support for Spartina eradication. The program will reprioritize within existing ALEA funding.
- **GF-S Replacement** (-\$416,000 - ongoing): Replaces General Fund-State funding with State Toxics Control Account for funding the environmental-related testing of pesticides done by the Chemistry Lab. No impact to the overall funding level of the program.
- **Temporary Layoffs** (-\$146,000 - one-time): Reduces GF-S to implement SSB 6503 (closing state agencies on specific dates). WSDA impacts to be determined.
- **Information Technology efficiencies** – amounts to be determined
- **Strategic Printing Strategy** – amounts to be determined

## **OTHER OPERATING BUDGET PROVISIONS**

- **Transfer Food Programs to WSDA** (\$5,420,000 General Fund – State; \$2,782,000 General Fund-Federal and 6 staff positions): The Department of Commerce's Emergency Food Assistance Program and the Department of General Administration's Emergency Food Assistance and Commodity Supplemental Food Programs are transferred to the WSDA effective July 1, 2010.
- **Increase Federal Spending Authority** (\$6,661,000 General Fund – Federal and 5.6 FTEs): Additional federal spending authority is provided to reflect recent federal awards for food safety, organic agriculture, specialty crop grants, Sudden Oak Death, and Spartina removal.
- **Reduce General Fund Transfer to the Fair Fund** (-\$897,000 – one-time): Funding for fairs is reduced in FY 2011 from \$2 million to \$1.103 million. The fund has sufficient balance to absorb the reduction without impacting funding to the fairs.

## **EARLY SAVINGS – HB 2921**

The Early Savings Bill signed by the Governor and effective February 15, 2010 included these general fund reductions and replacements:

- **Pesticide Notification Project** (-\$50,000): Eliminated General Fund – State funding for the Pesticide Notification Project. The project was completed early in FY 2010.



- **GF-S Replacement** (-\$1,024,000): Replaced General Fund – State funding for agency administration with non-appropriated funding in proportion to the agency's overall budget.

More specifics on budget provisions affecting WSDA can be found at: [2009 Governor Signed Budget for WSDA](#).

### Legislation Summary

Below is the list of bills passed by state lawmakers during the 2009 legislative session in which WSDA has a specific role in implementing. WSDA is the lead implementing agency for some bills or specific provisions of a bill. For others, WSDA has a collaborative or consultative role. A link to the Legislature's web site is provided for each bill, where you can access the session law and the final bill report and review the history of the bill and related documents. Most 2009 session laws take effect on July 26, 2009.

### ***Bills for which WSDA is lead implementing agency***

#### **SSB 5350 - Poultry slaughter, preparation, and sale**

Expands the coverage provided under a special permit issued by WSDA to slaughter and sell up to 1,000 pastured chickens a year directly to the consumer at the producer's farm to include all poultry, not just pastured chickens.

#### **SSB 5677 - Dairy nutrient management program**

Authorizes WSDA to enter onto dairy farms at reasonable times for inspecting and investigating conditions relating to water pollution. If denied access, WSDA may apply for a search warrant. Clarifies the requirement for dairies to maintain records to show that application of nutrients to land was made within acceptable agronomic rates. Lengthens the record keeping requirement to five years for all dairy farms beginning on July 1, 2011.

#### **SSB 5797 - Solid waste handling permits (for anaerobic digesters)**

Exempts an anaerobic digester from solid waste permitting if the digester meets certain requirements. Requires the Dept. of Ecology and WSDA, in consultation with the Dept. of Health, to develop guidelines for anaerobic co-digestion of livestock manure and organic waste-derived material by August 1, 2009.

#### **SSB 5765 - Fruit & vegetable district fund**

Transfers \$150,000 from the Fruit & Vegetable Inspection Account to the plant pest account within the Agricultural Local Fund to support apple maggot control activities over the next four years. Both accounts are administered by WSDA.

#### **SB 5974 - Live Nonambulatory Livestock**

Authorizes WSDA to issue a civil infraction to individuals who knowingly transport non-ambulatory livestock to or from a facility that trades in livestock. The penalty is up to \$1,000 per animal.

#### **SHB 1010 - Definition of a biofuel**

Defines "renewable diesel" and specifies that renewable diesel may count towards the renewable fuel content requirements contained in the Motor Fuel Quality Act.

### ***Bills for which WSDA has a specific collaborative or consultative implementation role***

**E2SSB 5649 - Energy efficiency in buildings**

Section 103 of this bill requires WSU, in consultation with WSDA, to form an interdisciplinary team of agricultural and energy extension agencies to develop and offer new methods to help agricultural producers assess their opportunities to increase energy efficiency in all aspects of their operations.

**E2SSB 5560 - State agency climate leadership**

Among other provisions requiring state agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, designates WSDA as one of six agencies in a work group directed to develop an initial climate change response strategy by Dec. 1, 2011 for use by government agencies and others to address the impacts of climate change.

**ESSB 5889 - Providing flexibility in the education system**

Sections 12 and 16 of this bill revise the requirement for schools to provide notice of pesticide use to be only upon the request of a student's parent or guardian or a school employee.

**SHB 1254 - Creating the Washington grain commission.**

Combines the wheat and barley commissions into a new Washington Grain Commission.

More WSDA-related information on the 2009 session can be found on the Web at:

[Legislative Affairs](#)