

CHAPTER 2025-32

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 388

An act relating to trust funds for wildlife management; amending s. 379.206, F.S.; revising the uses of the Grants and Donations Trust Fund; amending s. 379.209, F.S.; deleting the requirement that the commission designate an identifiable unit to administer the Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund; authorizing the commission to use the proceeds from the trust fund for law enforcement; authorizing the commission to enter into specified agreements with private landowners; authorizing the commission to enter into specified agreements with certain entities; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 379.206, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

379.206 Grants and Donations Trust Fund.—

(2) The fund is established for use as a depository for funds to be used for allowable grant and donor agreement activities ~~funded by restricted contractual revenue~~. Moneys to be credited to the trust fund shall consist of grants and donations from private and public nonfederal sources, development-of-regional-impact wildlife mitigation contributions, interest earnings, and cash advances from other trust funds.

Section 2. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 379.209, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

379.209 Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund.—

(2)(a) There is established within the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission the Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund. The fund shall be credited with moneys collected pursuant to ss. 319.32(3) and 320.02(8). Additional funds may be provided from legislative appropriations and by donations from interested individuals and organizations. The commission may invest and reinvest the funds and the interest thereof of the Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund. ~~The commission shall designate an identifiable unit to administer the trust fund.~~

(b) Proceeds from the trust fund must ~~shall~~ be used for the following purposes:

1. Documentation of population trends of nongame wildlife and assessment of wildlife habitat, in coordination with the database of Florida natural areas inventory.

2. Establishment of effective conservation, management, and regulatory programs for nongame wildlife of this ~~the~~ state.

3. Public education programs.

4. Law enforcement.

(3) The commission may enter into cooperative agreements, voluntary agreements, or memoranda of understanding with related agencies and private landowners to coordinate nongame programs.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor May 19, 2025.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 19, 2025.