

By the Committee on Appropriations; and Senator Rodriguez

576-03228-25

2025388c1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to trust funds for wildlife  
3           management; amending s. 379.206, F.S.; revising the  
4           uses of the Grants and Donations Trust Fund; amending  
5           s. 379.209, F.S.; deleting the requirement that the  
6           commission designate an identifiable unit to  
7           administer the Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund;  
8           authorizing the commission to use the proceeds from  
9           the trust fund for law enforcement; authorizing the  
10          commission to enter into specified agreements with  
11          private landowners; authorizing the commission to  
12          enter into specified agreements with certain entities;  
13          providing an effective date.

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

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

19           379.206 Grants and Donations Trust Fund.—

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

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

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30 379.209 Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund.—

31 (2) (a) There is established within the Fish and Wildlife  
32 Conservation Commission the Nongame Wildlife Trust Fund. The  
33 fund shall be credited with moneys collected pursuant to ss.  
34 319.32(3) and 320.02(8). Additional funds may be provided from  
35 legislative appropriations and by donations from interested  
36 individuals and organizations. The commission may invest and  
37 reinvest the funds and the interest thereof of the Nongame  
38 Wildlife Trust Fund. ~~The commission shall designate an~~  
39 ~~identifiable unit to administer the trust fund.~~

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

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

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

47 3. Public education programs.

48 4. Law enforcement.

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

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

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