PROVISOS  SECTION 37 - P24-DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

37.1. (DNR: Publications Revenue) For the current fiscal year all revenue generated from the sale of the “South Carolina Wildlife” magazine, its by-products and other publications, shall be retained by the department and used to support the production of same in order for the magazine to be self-sustaining. In addition, the department is authorized to sell advertising in the magazine and to increase the magazine’s subscription rate, if necessary, to be self-sustaining. No general funds may be used for the operation and support of the “South Carolina Wildlife” magazine.

37.2. (DNR: Casual Sales Tax Collection) The Department of Natural Resources shall continue to collect the casual sales tax as contained in the contractual agreement between the Department of Revenue and the Department of Natural Resources and the State Treasurer is authorized to reimburse the department on a quarterly basis for the actual cost of collecting the casual sales tax and such reimbursement shall be paid from revenues generated by the casual sales tax.

37.3. (DNR: Proportionate Funding) Each of South Carolina’s 46 soil and water conservation districts shall receive a proportionate share of funding set aside for Aid to Conservation Districts at $13,674 per district for general assistance to the district’s program. Available funding above $13,674 for each district will be apportioned by the Department of Natural Resources based upon local needs agency funds and priorities as determined by the board. During the fiscal year, the districts’ funding may only be reduced in an amount not to exceed the percentage of each agency budget reduction. No district shall receive any funds under this provision unless the county or counties wherein the district is located shall have appropriated no less than three hundred one thousand dollars to the district from county funds for the same purposes.

37.4. (DNR: Carry Forward - Contract for Goods & Services) If any funds accumulated by the Department of Natural Resources Geology Program, under contract for the provision of goods and services not covered by the department’s appropriated funds, are not expended during the preceding fiscal years, such funds may be carried forward and expended for the costs associated with the provision of such goods and services.

37.5. (DNR: Revenue Carry Forward) The department may collect, expend, and carry forward revenues derived from the sale of goods and services in order to support aerial photography, map services, climatology data, and geological services. The department shall annually report to the Senate Finance and Ways and Means Committees the amount of revenue generated from the sale of these goods and services.

37.6. (DNR: Clothing Allowance) The Department of Natural Resources is hereby authorized to provide Natural Resource Enforcement Officers on special assignment with an annual clothing allowance (on a prorata basis) not to exceed $600 per officer for required clothing used in the line of duty.

37.7. (DNR: Commissioned Officers’ Physicals) The department is authorized to pay for the cost of physical examinations for department personnel who are required to receive such physical examinations prior to receiving a law enforcement commission.

37.8. (DNR: Interest - License Fees) Interest earned by the State Treasurer on all hunting and fishing license fees collected by the Department of Natural Resources must be credited to and expended by the department for the protection, promotion, propagation, and management of fish and wildlife, and the enforcement of related laws.

37.9. (DNR: Shrimp Baiting Enforcement) The department shall allocate additional enforcement efforts during the sixty (60) day shrimp baiting period to assist existing law enforcement personnel in monitoring and enforcement of the shrimp baiting laws. Further, expenditures for other than law enforcement should not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the annual collections from the sale of shrimp baiting permits.

37.10. (DNR: Water Recreation Fund and County Game and Fish Fund) Funds collected during the current fiscal year by the Department of Natural Resources for the Water Recreation Fund and for that portion of the county game and fish fund derived from licenses and fees must be retained by the department and used for the stated purposes of the respective funds, and may not be used by the department to offset base-budget reductions for the current fiscal year. In addition to all other uses allowed by statute, the department may use the Water Recreational Resource Funds of a county for the purchase of boats, boat trailers, motors, and boating safety equipment used for law enforcement and rescue, with the recommendation of the county delegation.

37.11. (DNR: Intellectual Property) The Department shall develop a comprehensive written policy providing for the treatment on intellectual property accruing to the Department in the area of shrimp disease and culture. This policy must address the following issues: definitions, coverage and disclosure requirements, ownership, dispute resolution procedures, obtaining of patents and copyrights, incentives, transfer or sales or research results, promotion and licensing, use of proceeds, and release of ownership rights. Upon adoption and implementation, the Department, consistent with the policy, may sell or license intellectual property owned by the Department, upon approval of the Budget and Control Board. The net proceeds or annual net royalties, excluding any expenses including research and development, patent, licensing and litigation from intellectual property owned by the Department shall be apportioned and paid over by the Department according to the following schedule: Inventor 15%; State General Fund 85%. Proceeds apportioned and paid over to the Department shall be used by the Department for scientific research and education for the enhancement, management, and protection of natural resources in the State.