STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
DF-46 (REV 03/25)

Fiscal Year	Business Unit Number	Department
2026-27	3600	Fish and Wildlife

Hyperion Budget Request Name	Relevant Program or Subprogram
3600-105-BCP-2026-MR	Various

Budget Request Title
Automated License Data System Contract Increase

Budget Request Summary
The California Department of Fish and Wildlife requests $1.6 million Fish and Game Preservation Fund-Non-Dedicated in fiscal year 2026-27, $1.8 million in 2027-28, $1.9 million in 2028-29, $2.1 million in 2029-30, and $2.3 million in 2030-31 and ongoing for the increased cost of the agreement between the Department's Data and Technology Division and Aspira. Aspira provides the necessary maintenance, development, and support to keep the Automated License Data System (ALDS) operational.

Requires Legislation (submit required legislation with the BCP)	Code Section(s) to be Added/Amended/Repealed
☐ Trailer Bill Language ☐ Budget Bill Language ☒ N/A	Click or tap here to enter text.

Does this BCP contain information technology (IT) components? ☒ Yes ☐ No *If yes, departmental Chief Information Officer must sign.*	Department CIO	Date
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap to enter a date.

For IT requests, specify the project number, the most recent project approval document (FSR, SPR, S1BA, S2AA, S3SD, S4PRA), the approval date, and the total project cost.

Project No. Click or tap here to enter text.
Approval Date: Click or tap to enter a date.
Project Approval Document: Click or tap here to enter text.
Total Project Cost: Click or tap here to enter text.

If proposal affects another department, does other department concur with proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Attach comments of affected department, signed and dated by the department director or designee.

Prepared By	Date	Reviewed By	Date
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap to enter a date.	Nicole Nelson	Click or tap to enter a date.
Department Director	**Date**	**Agency Secretary**	**Date**
Dan Reagan	Click or tap to enter a date.	Bryan Cash	Click or tap to enter a date.

Department of Finance Use Only

Additional Review: ☐ Capital Outlay ☐ ITCU ☐ FSCU ☐ OSAE ☐ Dept. of Technology

Principal Program Budget Analyst	Date submitted to the Legislature
Andrew Hull	5/14/2026

A. Problem Statement

The Automated License Data System (ALDS) is the Department's primary mechanism for collecting revenue from the sale and issuance of over 390 different licenses, permits, and other entitlement types by five Department license sales offices and more than 11,000 license agent locations statewide. ALDS is an essential, mission critical system to the Department and has allowed the Department to meet mandates that were not previously achievable.

Since the first launch of the ALDS, the Department has contracted with Aspira for maintenance, operation, development, and support to create and keep the system running. Due to the rising cost of IT wages and data center resources, the cost of the agreement has increased, and additional ongoing resources are required to maintain this agreement. The state does not have the necessary knowledge and skill to provide the development, operation, and maintenance of this integrated enterprise information system.

Resource History
(Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	**PY - 4**	**PY - 3**	**PY - 2**	**PY-1**	**PY**	**CY***
Authorized Expenditures	$4,987	$4,987	$5,820	$5,820	$5,821	$5,961
Actual Expenditures	$4,504	$4,987	$5,820	$5,820	$5,821	$5,961
Revenues	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Authorized Positions	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Filled Positions	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Vacancies	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

*CY expenditures are projections as the year is not closed.

B. Justification

The ALDS is an automated system that replaced the Department's paper license inventory system. ALDS, which houses over 5,000,000 customer and agent records, allows license items to be printed instantly using point of sale terminals and is available at Department license agents and Department license sales offices located throughout the state. ALDS also allows applicants to apply for licensing via the Internet.

Per Government Code Section 19130(b)(3), the contract with Aspira provides an information technology enterprise solution to the Department. This solution provides critical functionality to the Department. The state does not provide civil servants who have the necessary knowledge and skill to develop, operate, and maintain this integrated enterprise information system that supports the Department's critical business and management of Fish and Wildlife licensing and permitting. In addition, the State data centers do not support security compliance restrictions required for web-based credit card sales that are compliant with the PCI-DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard).

Without approval of this proposal, the Department would not have the resources to fund the cost increase of the Aspira agreement and continue funding ALDS as an operational system. Hunters and anglers would not be able to access the sale and issuance of licenses, permits, and other entitlement types via the internet. The Department may potentially see a loss in customers due to the inconvenience of accessibility of licenses, permits, and other entitlement

types, the sale of which generates about $100 million in annual revenue. There is no fallback electronic system if the ALDS contract is delayed or terminated.

Although the contract with Aspira for ALDS does not help the Department close the current Service Based Budgeting (SBB) gap, if ALDS were to be terminated it would cause a significant workload increase for Department staff across a number of SBB Service Areas. Maintaining the ALDS will assist in preventing further increases to the current SBB gaps.

C. Departmentwide and Statewide Considerations

By the Department continuing the agreement with Aspira, the ALDS system would have the necessary maintenance, operation, development, and support to remain functional. Department customers will continue to access sale and issuance of licenses, permits, and other entitlement types via the internet. The Department will continue operation of its primary mechanism for collecting revenue.

Additionally, funding this proposal will enable the Department to continue to work with Aspira on the operational needs for the ALDS system, including improvements to accessibility and ease of sale. This proposal will also allow the Department to maintain its current fishing license structure and continue to commit to the Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation (R3) Initiative. The R3 movement is a stakeholder process driven by government agencies (including Department staff and volunteers), non-governmental organizations, clubs, media, industry, educators, and members of the public that is focused on reversing the decline in hunting, fishing, and shooting sports participation.

D. Outcomes and Accountability

With the continued execution of the agreement between the Department and Aspira, the ALDS would have the necessary support to keep the system up to date and operational through December 31, 2031. The Department would continue to collect revenue from the system from its customers purchasing licenses, permits, and other entitlement types.

E. Implementation Plan

Implementation of this proposal would begin on July 1, 2026, or upon approval of the 2026-27 Budget.

F. Supplemental Information (If Applicable)

None.

BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

(Dollars in Thousands)

BCP Title: Automated License Data System Contract Increase

BR Name: 3600-105-BCP-2026-MR

Budget Request Summary

Operating Expenses and Equipment

Operating Expenses and Equipment	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
5340 - Consulting and Professional Services - External	0	1,579	1,762	1,949	2,140	2,336
Total Operating Expenses and Equipment	**$0**	**$1,579**	**$1,762**	**$1,949**	**$2,140**	**$2,336**

Total Budget Request

Total Budget Request	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
Total Budget Request	**$0**	**$1,579**	**$1,762**	**$1,949**	**$2,140**	**$2,336**

Fund Summary

Fund Source

Fund Source	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
State Operations - 0200 - Fish and Game Preservation Fund	0	1,579	1,762	1,949	2,140	2,336
Total State Operations Expenditures	**$0**	**$1,579**	**$1,762**	**$1,949**	**$2,140**	**$2,336**
Total All Funds	**$0**	**$1,579**	**$1,762**	**$1,949**	**$2,140**	**$2,336**

Program Summary

Program Funding

Program Funding	FY26 Current Year	FY26 Budget Year	FY26 BY+1	FY26 BY+2	FY26 BY+3	FY26 BY+4
2605 - Enforcement	0	715	797	882	968	1,057
2610 - Communications, Education and Outreach	0	1	2	2	2	2
2595028 - Sport Fishing	0	592	661	731	803	876
2600010 - Lands	0	264	294	325	357	390
2600019 - Hatcheries and Fish Planting Facilities	0	7	8	9	10	11
Total All Programs	**$0**	**$1,579**	**$1,762**	**$1,949**	**$2,140**	**$2,336**