



Groundwater Research and Funding Gap in Wisconsin

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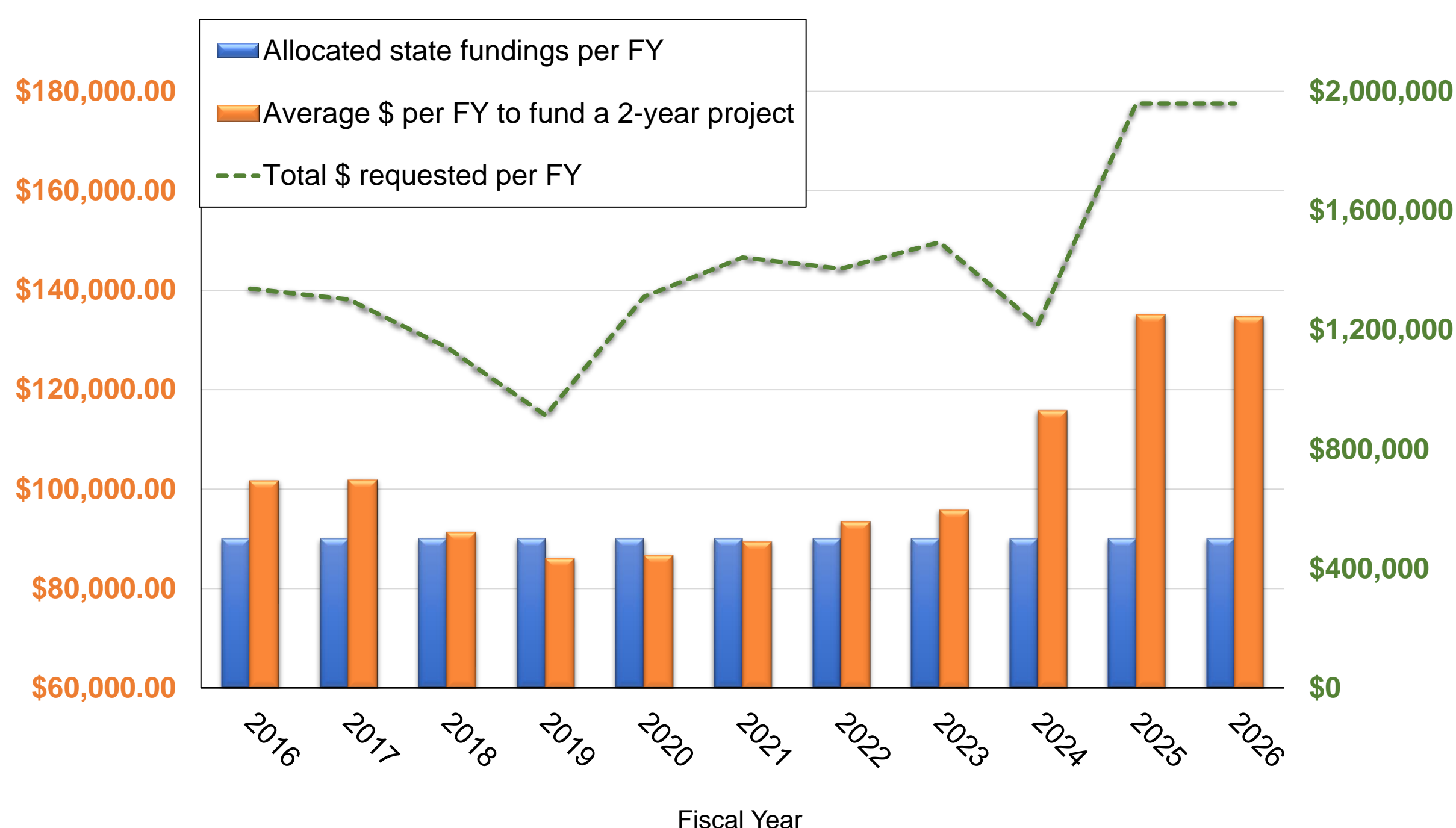
Applied groundwater research through the WI Joint Solicitation

The Groundwater Coordinating Council (GCC) is an interagency group established by law to assist Wisconsin state agencies and the University of Wisconsin System in coordinating and exchanging information related to groundwater.

The GCC funds applied groundwater research in Wisconsin through a joint solicitation process with the University of Wisconsin System and state agencies. This simplifies proposal submissions, allowing researchers to apply for multiple funding sources with one proposal, improving coordination and collaboration.



Funding



Of over 500 projects, the Department of Natural Resources has funded approximately half.

In the early 1990s, the state allocated \$200,000 annually for groundwater research. However, by the early 2000s, this amount decreased to \$90,000 per year.

In recent years, research costs have risen significantly, and the current level of state funding is no longer sufficient to meet these growing needs.

Why research matters in Wisconsin?

Wisconsin stands as a national leader in groundwater research, a resource critical to public health, agriculture, industries, and ecosystems.

Applied research is critical for understanding groundwater quality and availability, empowering policymakers and legislators to make informed decisions that safeguard Wisconsin's water resources and communities.

Some Key Research Highlights:

- Dissolved Strontium (Luczaj J. & Zorn M.): Mapped high strontium levels in eastern Wisconsin groundwater, aiding health advisories.
- Nitrogen Management (Masarik K.): Evaluated strategies to reduce nitrate contamination in agricultural areas.
- Springs Inventory (Bradbury K. & Swanson S.): Cataloged and monitored Wisconsin springs for long-term conservation.

Want to know more?

