

Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec. 14

Sec. 14. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FUND. A permanent environment and natural resources trust fund is established in the state treasury. Loans may be made of up to five percent of the principal of the fund for water system improvements as provided by law. The assets of the fund shall be appropriated by law for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The amount appropriated each year of a biennium, commencing on July 1 in each odd-numbered year and ending on and including June 30 in the next odd-numbered year, may be up to 5-1/2 percent of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium. Not less than 40 percent of the net proceeds from any state-operated lottery must be credited to the fund until the year 2025.

Recommended Vision

Minnesota's lands, waters, fish, and wildlife are plentiful, healthy, resilient, and appreciated for their intrinsic value as well as the benefits they provide us all.

Recommended Mission Statement

The mission of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund is to fund environmental and natural resource projects that best protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources.

Potential ENRTF Funding Activities

- Restore and enhance land and water.
- Develop plans and designs for protecting, conserving, preserving, and enhancing natural resources, the environment, and outdoor recreation.
- Acquire land for preservation, conservation, or outdoor recreation.
- Increase education and public awareness.
- Conduct research to better understand issues, measure progress on achieving outcomes, and develop new tools, practices, or solutions.
- Ensure equitable funding distribution across all communities.
- Construct facilities and other infrastructure like trails, fishing piers, campgrounds, and solar panels.

Considerations/Questions for Strategies

- What do you think are the most important strategies to address the stated goal?
- Are there any strategies that you think are missing?
- Are there any strategies that you think should be removed?
- Do the strategies address all the relevant potential actions for the ENRTF to fund?
- Are the strategies specific enough or too specific?
- Are there strategies you think could be merged with another strategy?
- What do you like or dislike about the current working strategies?