



LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

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Becca Nash, Director

Date: January 16, 2025

To: Governor Tim Walz
Senator John Marty
Senator Eric Pratt
Senator Foug Hawj
Senator Justin D. Eichorn

Representative Paul Torkelson
Representative Zack Stephenson
Representatives Josh Heintzeman
Representative Peter Fischer

CC: LCCMR members as of January 13, 2025
Legislative Reference Library

From: Becca Nash, on behalf of the LCCMR

Subject: Biennial Report required by M.S. 116P.09, Subd. 7

The biennial report as required in M.S. 116P.09, Subd. 7 from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) due January 15, 2025, is hereby transmitted. It is available in print format upon request or on the LCCMR web site at: https://www.lccmr.leg.mn/documents/biennial_rpt/2025/2025_biennial_report.html.

The report covers LCCMR actions during fiscal years (FY) 2024 and 2025, summaries of past funding accomplishments, and new recommendations for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

As of November 2024, the Minnesota Constitution states that, “the amount appropriated each year of a biennium . . . may be up to 7% of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium.” The LCCMR recommends and administers funding for 5.5% of the value of the fund. The value of the ENRTF on June 30, 2024, was \$1,878,656,000. Therefore, \$103,326,000 is available for expenditure in each year of the FY26-27 biennium from the ENRTF for a biennial total of \$206,652,000.

The LCCMR is making a funding recommendation to the 2025 Legislature totaling \$103,326,000 (FY26) from the ENRTF. \$103,326,000 (FY27) would be available for recommendation by the LCCMR to the 2026 Legislature. As stated in M.S. 116P, the LCCMR may make an annual or a biennial funding recommendation.

The list of FY26 recommended appropriations totaling \$103,326,000 from the ENRTF is provided in “Section V. Recommendations.” The recommendations were adopted in bill form by the LCCMR on December 11, 2024.

Please let me know if you have questions or would like additional discussion. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Legislature in this capacity.

Legislative-Citizen
Commission
on
Minnesota Resources

Biennial Report
January 15, 2025



Pursuant to: M.S. 116P.09, Subd. 7

Commission Members

LCCMR Membership January 1, 2023 – January 1, 2025

REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. Patty Acomb

Rep. Jeff Backer*

Rep. Rick Hansen*

Rep. Josh Heintzeman

Rep. Athena Hollins

SENATORS

Sen. Kari Dziedzic
(1/1/2023 - 5/15/24)

Sen. Steve Green*

Sen. Foug Hawj*

Sen. Jennifer McEwen
(appointed - 7/25/2024)

Sen. Kelly Morrison
(1/1/2023 - 6/6/2024)

Sen. Aric Putnam
(appointed - 5/16/2024)

Sen. Torrey Westrom

APPOINTED NON-LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS

Rita Albrecht

(appointed: 4/5/2021 - term ends: 12/31/2024)

William Faber*

(appointed: 3/7/2022 - term ends: 12/31/2025)

Nancy Gibson*

(appointed: 4/5/2021 - term ends: 12/31/2023)

Seth Moore

(appointed: 3/7/2022 - term ends: 12/31/2025)

Jeremy Peichel

(appointed: 4/19/2021 - term ends: 12/31/2024)

SENATE APPOINTMENTS

Michael Reese

(appointed: 12/14/2022 - term ends: 12/31/2025)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTMENT

Shona Langseth

(appointed: 12/22/2021 - term ends: 12/31/2025)

*Denotes Executive Committee Members

LCCMR Staff

Becca Nash, Director

Mike Campana, *Assistant Director*

Lisa Bigaouette, *Project Analyst and Grant Monitoring Specialist*

Tom Dietrich, *Project Analyst and Grant Monitoring Specialist*

Michael Varien, *Assistant Director*

Noah Fribley, *Project Analyst and Communications Specialist*

Diana Griffith, *Commission Assistant*

Tiffany Schaufler, *Project Analyst and Grant Monitoring Specialist*

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

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Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources
Biennial Report to the Legislature, M.S. 116P.09, Subd. 7
January 15, 2025

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III. Completed Research Projects

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I. Strategic Plan / RFP

“a copy of the current strategic plan...”

The following documents include:

- A. Six Year Strategic Plan – Adopted December 11, 2024
- B. Request for Proposal (RFP)
 - 1. RFP adopted January 17, 2023 for FY2024 (funding beginning July 1, 2023)
 - 2. RFP adopted November 16, 2023 for FY2025 (funding beginning July 1, 2024)

Six-Year Strategic Plan for Expenditures Recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources from Minnesota's Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

As Required by M.S. 116P.08, Subd. 3.

Adopted December 11, 2024



Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources
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Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources Members

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rep. Patty Acomb | Rep. Athena Hollins |
| Rita Albrecht | Shona Langseth |
| Rep. Jeff Backer (Co-Vice Chair) | Sen. Jennifer A. McEwen |
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| Nancy Gibson (Co-Chair) | Jeremy Peichel |
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| Rep. Josh Heintzeman | |

Subcommittee on Strategic Planning Members

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rita Albrecht (Chair) | Alternate Members: |
| Sen. Steve Green | Sen. Jennifer A. McEwen |
| Rep. Rick Hansen | Jeremy Peichel |
| Sen. Founj Hawj | |
| Rep. Josh Heintzeman | |
| Shona Langseth | |
| Michael Reese (Vice Chair) | |

Staff

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Tiffany Schaufler, Project Analyst and Grant Monitoring Specialist
Diana Griffith, Commission Assistant

Additional Thanks

Taylor Koehler
Evelyn Weiner

Availability of the Publication

- Information from this document may be copied and distributed to others.
- This publication can be made available in alternate formats, such as large print or audio formats, upon request. Contact (651) 296-2406 or lccmr@lccmr.mn.gov.

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Introduction

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) is required by law to adopt a strategic plan for making expenditures from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) every 6 years and review the plan every 2 years (M.S. 116P.08, subd. 3). The strategic plan identifies priority areas for funding and is used by the LCCMR as the basis for soliciting proposals through its annual request for proposals (RFP) and its rolling opportunity to fund emerging issues projects with unexpected and urgent needs. The plan only applies to expenditures from the ENRTF overseen by the LCCMR.

This plan builds from efforts started in 2019. At that time, using outside consultants, the LCCMR compiled and reviewed strategic plans from environmental and natural resources agencies and organization across the state and engaged past and current project managers, stakeholders, and members of the public using surveys, listening sessions, and panel discussions. The result of the 2019 efforts was draft strategic goals and strategies for making expenditures from the ENRTF. These draft strategic goals and strategies were the starting point for strategic planning discussions in late 2023 and 2024.

The LCCMR appointed a subcommittee in November 2023 to develop the strategic plan. The subcommittee met 11 times in the next year to discuss and develop recommendations for the full commission. As part of that process, the subcommittee conducted surveys of the public and subject matter experts and held four in-person listening session in different areas of the state and one virtual listening session. Based on recommendations from the subcommittee, the strategic plan and an updated RFP was drafted for consideration by the full commission.

The strategic plan establishes a new vision and mission statement for the ENRTF overseen by the LCCMR. To help achieve this vision and meet the mission, it contains goals and strategies for funding from the ENRTF and for LCCMR funding processes and communications. Evaluation and selection criteria for proposed projects have been revised to better articulate the commission's priorities. Finally, initial metrics have been developed to assess overall progress towards meeting goals and strategies and to provide measurable outcomes for expenditures.

The strategic plan guides future proposal solicitation, funding recommendations, and outreach from the LCCMR. The goals and strategies for funding from the ENRTF are the starting point for funding priorities and areas of emphasis contained in the commission's annual RFP. The goals and strategies for LCCMR processes and communications identify and prioritize internal initiatives to improve communication and outreach efforts and the process for recommending proposals. This plan serves as the foundation for the LCCMR's efforts to solicit and recommend environmental and natural resource projects that best protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources.

Background

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources is the government entity that has traditionally overseen all funding from the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund, a permanent, constitutionally established fund.

About the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) is a permanent fund in the Minnesota state treasury dedicated to funding activities that protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The ENRTF was created in 1988 when 77% of Minnesota voters approved an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution (Art. XI, Sec. 14). The ENRTF provides a long-term, consistent, and stable source of funding for Minnesota's environment and natural resources for the benefit of current and future generations.



Money in the ENRTF originates from a combination of contributions and investment income. Forty percent of the net proceeds from the Minnesota State Lottery, or approximately seven cents of every dollar spent on playing the lottery, goes into the ENRTF, which is then managed and invested for continued growth by the State Board of Investment. Traditionally, up to 5.5% of the market value of the ENRTF was available for appropriation each year. Beginning in 2025, up to 7% of the market value of the ENRTF will be available for appropriation. As of June 30, 2024, the market value of the ENRTF was \$1,878,656,316.55, generating more than \$130 million a year for projects.

The Minnesota Legislature appropriates money from the ENRTF to fund efforts that protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's environment and natural resources and users' experience with those resources. Up to 5.5% of the market value, or approximately 80% of the available funds each year, may be appropriated by the legislature for specific projects based on recommendations from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. Beginning in 2025, up to 1.5%, or approximately 20% of the available funds each year, may be appropriated to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a community grant program.

Over the past 36 years, the ENRTF has funded key efforts across the state of Minnesota. Since 1991, the ENRTF has provided approximately \$1.1 billion to over 1,700 projects. Every county of the state has been impacted by funding from the ENRTF.

About the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) is a commission of legislators and citizens whose primary function is to make funding recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature for special environmental and natural resources protection and enhancement projects, primarily from the ENRTF. Additionally, the LCCMR oversees funded projects to ensure funds are spent as approved and outcomes met. Since 1963, approximately \$1.5 billion from multiple funding sources has been awarded to more than 2,600 projects recommended to the legislature by the commission. More than 70% of this funding has come from the ENRTF and nearly 100% for projects funded over the last 20 years.

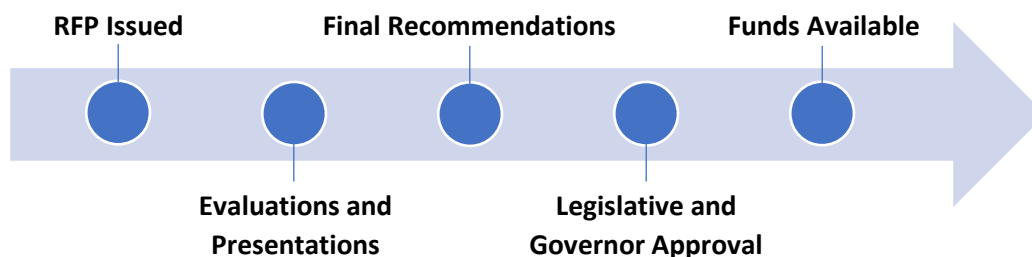
The LCCMR is composed of 17 members: five senators, five representatives, five citizens appointed by the governor, one citizen appointed by the Senate, and one citizen appointed by the House. Legislative members are appointed by legislative leadership and must include representation from both majority and minority parties. The citizen members appointed to the LCCMR must have experience or expertise in the science, policy, or practice of the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's environment and natural resources. At least one of the citizen members appointed by the governor must be a member recommended by the Tribal government representatives of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council.

The LCCMR developed from a program initiated in 1963 to preserve, develop, and maintain the natural resources of Minnesota. The name and funding sources have changed over the years, with the most recent change in 2006, when the commission was restructured into its current form, with the addition of non-legislative citizen members in order to include citizen input more directly in the decision-making process.

Standard LCCMR Proposal and Funding Process

The LCCMR makes annual project funding recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature based on a competitive, multi-step proposal and selection process. Each year, a request for proposals (RFP) is issued to address LCCMR funding priorities. All proposals received in response to the RFP are reviewed and evaluated by LCCMR members. The commission selects a subset of proposals for further consideration and invites the applicants to present before the commission. After presentations, the commission selects which proposals to recommend to the legislature for funding and a recommended funding amount. Funding recommendations go before the legislature for consideration in the form of an appropriations bill and upon passage must be signed into law by the governor.

Funded projects are required to submit a work plan that must be approved by the LCCMR before a project can begin. Work plans provide a detailed description and budget for work that will be completed and outcomes that will be achieved with the funding. Once the project begins, project managers are required to provide two status update reports per year to the LCCMR until the project is completed.



Anyone may respond to the RFP and apply for funds from the ENRTF providing the proposal is consistent with the constitutional purpose of the fund. Funding recipients have included state agencies, local governments, universities and colleges, non-profit organizations, and private corporations. The LCCMR's process is a competitive one, and more proposals are generally received than can be funded based on the dollars available.

Strategic Planning Process

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) developed the strategic plan over the course of one year from December 2023 to December 2024. The commission decided to start with draft goals and strategies for expenditures from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) developed during 2019 strategic planning efforts and collect additional public and expert input in 2024. In addition, the commission decided to develop goals and strategies related to LCCMR communications and outreach and the proposal solicitation, review, and recommendation process. The LCCMR appointed a subcommittee to conduct these efforts and develop a recommended strategic plan for presentation to the full commission.

The 2024 process built on efforts started in 2019. At that time, the LCCMR contracted with Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) Management Analysis and Development (MAD) to support strategic planning efforts. Over six months, MAD:

- Conducted a document scan of strategic plans from environmental and natural resources agencies and organization across the state.
- Gathered input from LCCMR members.
- Engaged past and current project managers, stakeholders, and members of the public using surveys, listening sessions, and panel discussions.

From this input, MAD developed goals and strategies for making expenditures from the ENRTF. These draft strategic goals and strategies were written into a strategic planning process report and served as the starting point for strategic planning discussions in late 2023 and 2024. The [2019 strategic planning process report](#) may be accessed from the following link: .

https://www.lccmr.mn.gov/documents/strategic_plan/enrtf_strategic_planning_process_report.pdf

The subcommittee met 11 times from December 2023 to November 2024 to discuss and develop recommendations for the full commission. Initial meetings focused on the vision and mission statement and plans for public engagement. From February to May 2024, the subcommittee gathered input through a public survey, a subject matter expert survey, and five listening sessions (See Appendix C, D, and E).

From June to November 2024, the subcommittee reviewed input from the surveys and listening sessions, revised the 2019 draft goals and strategies, and developed new goals and strategies for expenditures from the ENRTF as well as for LCCMR communications and outreach and the proposal solicitation, review, and recommendation process. The subcommittee reviewed and recommended new language for future requests for proposals (RFP) based on their recommended goals and strategies and developed new evaluation and selection criteria for proposal review. Finally, the subcommittee discussed and made recommendations on measurable outcomes. All recommendations required the support of at least four subcommittee members to be moved forward to the full commission. LCCMR staff drafted a strategic plan based on the subcommittee recommendations.

The full commission reviewed and discussed the draft strategic plan on November 13, 2024. Between meetings in November and December 2024, the commission provided an opportunity for the public to review and comment on the draft plan. The comments were reviewed, and the strategic plan was approved by a supermajority (11) of members and adopted by the commission on December 11, 2024.

Subcommittee and commission meeting agendas, materials, audio and video, and minutes can be found on the [LCCMR Meetings](#) page: <https://www.lccmr.mn.gov/calendar/calendar-index.html>.

Strategic Plan

The following vision, mission statement, goals and strategies, evaluation and selection criteria, and measurable outcomes constitute the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources' (LCCMR) strategic plan for its role in recommending and overseeing expenditures from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). The strategic plan does not apply to expenditures from the ENRTF not under the purview of the LCCMR.

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.

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.

Goals and Strategies for Expenditures from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

The following goals and strategies represent priorities for funding from the ENRTF, as overseen by the LCCMR, over the next six years. The seven goals – related to land, water, fish and wildlife, education and outdoor recreation, resiliency, energy, and emerging issues – cover a broad range of natural resources, how Minnesotans interact with those resources, and environmental issues related to them. The strategies prioritize the use of the ENRTF for a wide-range of activities to meet the goals, including research, demonstration, monitoring, environmental education, planning, restoration, land acquisition, evaluation, on-the-ground implementation of management practices, and development of outdoor recreational opportunities. The goals and strategies are not presented in any order of priority.

LAND



Goal 1: Minnesota's public and private lands – including forests, grasslands, wetlands, and agricultural lands – provide long-term benefits to fish, wildlife, and people.

This goal will be achieved by focusing expenditures on projects that:

- 1.1 Develop, demonstrate, and/or evaluate new and innovative practices and processes on public and private lands, including agricultural and forest land, that provide multiple, long-term environmental benefits and economic considerations, including benefits related to habitat, water quality and quantity, soil health, and carbon sequestration.
- 1.2 Enhance education, technical assistance, or public outreach to promote the application of practices beneficial to the environment, natural resources, and all Minnesotans.
- 1.3 Acquire and conserve minimally disturbed lands that provide the greatest capacity for multiple conservation benefits to humans, fish, wildlife, and water resources.

- 1.4 Restore and enhance lands to provide high-quality natural resource, ecological, or recreational value.
- 1.5 Foster collaboration among diverse groups, demonstrate the support of multiple stakeholders, and/or incorporate outreach to local and tribal communities to better protect lands.

WATER



Goal 2: Minnesota's water resources are better managed for both water quantity and quality to support aquatic life, drinking water, recreation, and other uses.

This goal will be achieved by focusing expenditures on projects that:

- 2.1 Research impacts of runoff, stormwater, or contaminants on surface water or groundwater quality and develop practical solutions to prevent or address these impacts.
- 2.2 Research current and future water supply and use to support planning efforts and implementation of best management practices and ensure the state's water resiliency and sustainability.
- 2.3 Increase understanding and awareness of weather and climate patterns and their potential impact on water resources.
- 2.4 Demonstrate innovative practices, strategies, and/or partnerships that prevent or reduce water issues in urban, suburban, or rural regions.
- 2.5 Implement measures to improve water quality and/or restore or enhance habitats, shoreline, or natural hydrology in lakes, rivers, wetlands, and other surface waters, with an emphasis on efforts that incorporate coordination and collaboration among tribal, state, and local agencies and community partners.
- 2.6 Provide educational opportunities or technical assistance programs for teachers, students, state and local decision-makers, landowners, or the public on how to improve and protect water resources, including groundwater, surface water, and stormwater systems.
- 2.7 Monitor and assess the condition of groundwater or surface water, including lakes, rivers, and wetlands, on a regular cycle and provide a long-term data set to support decision-making and evaluate efforts.

FISH AND WILDLIFE



Goal 3: Minnesota has healthy and diverse aquatic and terrestrial wildlife and plant populations that sustain and enhance the state's environment, economy, and quality of life.

This goal will be achieved by focusing expenditures on projects that:

- 3.1 Research species or ecosystems and develop strategies to effectively manage, maintain, protect, and restore healthy habitats and populations.
- 3.2 Monitor the health of natural systems to support and improve species management and conservation strategies.

- 3.3 Support and provide technical assistance and/or planning support to private landowners on cost-effective, proven strategies and technologies to develop and restore diverse, native habitat.
- 3.4 Promote public awareness on the importance of diverse wildlife and plant populations through comprehensive education programs.
- 3.5 Prevent the introduction, reduce the spread, or develop and demonstrate alternative control techniques for invasive species.
- 3.6 Develop plans and/or implement conservation actions to protect, conserve, or restore species, with a priority on efforts that maintain or create connected, continuous habitat or address the needs of vulnerable, declining, poorly understood, or sensitive species.
- 3.7 Evaluate the effectiveness of current management practices and past investments to sustain and enhance wildlife and native plant populations.

RESILIENCY



Goal 4: Minnesota’s environment, natural resources, and communities are resilient in the face of climate change, land use changes, and extreme weather events.

This goal will be achieved by focusing expenditures on projects that:

- 4.1 Research, demonstrate, and/or promote comprehensive and viable solutions for reducing the impacts of climate change, land use changes, or extreme weather events on the environment and natural resources, through both engineered and natural solutions targeted at critical areas.
- 4.2 Broaden understanding and implementation of effective climate adaptation management practices for natural resources among landowners through education, outreach, technical assistance, and/or the development of collaborations and networks to share and learn about new and innovative practices.
- 4.3 Support the development of local climate resiliency and adaptation plans for natural resources.
- 4.4 Implement land and water management practices and/or protect and restore wetlands, forests, prairies, and other critical systems to enhance biodiversity and provide multiple community resilience benefits.

EDUCATION AND OUTDOOR RECREATION



Goal 5: All Minnesotans, especially young people, have access to and take advantage of opportunities to connect to the lands and waters of Minnesota, including through culturally relevant and innovative approaches.

This goal will be achieved by focusing expenditures on projects that:

- 5.1 Address social, economic, or physical barriers to natural resource-based outdoor recreation through programs that encourage inclusivity and address inequities so that public lands and waters are accessible to all.

- 5.2 Assess programs, activities, or physical spaces for their accessibility and effectiveness and/or implement changes to adapt and retrofit them to welcome more people.
- 5.3 Provide evidence-based, hands-on, and engaging curriculum, programs, or natural resource-based outdoor events to bring a diversity of students and/or adults to outdoor experiences.
- 5.4 Create mentorship programs, leadership opportunities, and/or learning experiences for a diversity of young people to explore and pursue careers in the environment and natural resources.
- 5.5 Enhance environmental education initiatives by integrating diverse cultural perspectives, experiences, and partnerships that foster environmental stewardship in all communities.
- 5.6 Develop local or regional plans to enhance natural resources-based outdoor recreational opportunities in communities across the state.
- 5.7 Collaborate or partner with indigenous, local, BIPOC, or underserved communities to develop culturally relevant, inclusive, and accessible environmental, natural resource, or natural resource-based outdoor recreation programs, practices, curriculum, or facilities.
- 5.8 Design and/or develop culturally relevant, accessible, resilient, and environmentally friendly outdoor recreation facilities and infrastructure – including recreation areas, parks, trails, fishing piers, or shelters – that create new natural resources-based experiences.
- 5.9 Expand networks of trails, parks, or natural areas to protect and connect green spaces seamlessly, improve accessibility and safety, and/or encourage all Minnesotans to recreate in and engage with nature.

ENERGY



Goal 6: Minnesota achieves reliance on renewable energy in all sectors, including transportation, building, industry, agriculture, and others.

This goal will be achieved by focusing expenditures on projects that:

- 6.1 Research and develop new and innovative renewable energy or fuel technologies with environmental considerations, including biofuels, e-fuels, sustainable aviation fuels, and energy storage.
- 6.2 Evaluate, demonstrate, and/or assess renewable energy systems or fuels for economic viability, compatibility with other land uses, and environmental and natural resource impacts over the full lifecycle of the technology.
- 6.3 Develop and/or implement plans that identify, prioritize, and coordinate efforts to reduce energy consumption and to transition to renewable energy through land use planning, infrastructure, education and awareness, and other methods.
- 6.4 Encourage and support the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency in agriculture, mining, industry, utilities, transportation, homes, or businesses.
- 6.5 Ensure equitable access to renewable energy and/or energy efficiency programs in all communities.

- 6.6 Provide inclusive education and experiential learning programs to build a skilled and diverse workforce for the renewable energy sector.

EMERGING ISSUES



Goal 7: Minnesota responds quickly and proactively to emerging environmental and natural resources issues.

This goal will be achieved by focusing expenditures on projects that:

- 7.1 Identify, assess, and/or prioritize potential threats to the environment and natural resources.
- 7.2 Research and/or develop technologies and measures to detect or address emerging or emergency threats to the environment and natural resources.
- 7.3 Create collaborations and build partnerships among all parties – including academic institutions, government agencies, non-government organizations, communities, and the private sector – to foster innovation and leverage resources and expertise to better address emerging threats to the environment and natural resources.
- 7.4 Enhance coordination and interagency collaboration among federal, state, tribal, and local governments to ensure a unified response.
- 7.5 Implement proactive measures to prevent or minimize the impacts from emerging environmental or natural resource issues.
- 7.6 Implement natural resource corrective actions where delay will be detrimental to the environment and natural resources.
- 7.7 Restore impacted ecosystems to minimize the loss of benefits provided by these systems to people, fish, plants, and wildlife.

In addition, the LCCMR will work to:

- 7.8 Explore revised processes for requesting, evaluating, and awarding funds for emerging issues to ensure funds are available on a timely basis throughout the year.

Goals and Strategies for the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

The following goals and strategies represent priorities for LCCMR communications and outreach and the proposal solicitation, review, and recommendation process over the next six years. The commission chose these two priority areas of LCCMR's operations on which to focus during this period. The goals and strategies represent the LCCMR's commitment to public awareness and a fair and open process that leads to benefits across Minnesota.

It is not known at this time how much time and effort will be required to implement all strategies, but the goals and strategies are presented in order of priority to help focus efforts on the most important goals and strategies for the commission. The ability to implement all strategies over the next six years may be limited by commission and staff capacity.

Goal 1: The LCCMR recommends projects that will provide the most benefit to the environment and natural resources.

The LCCMR will work to:

- 1.1 Develop a process for project managers to provide clear and measurable outputs and outcomes to assess project success.
- 1.2 Apply evaluation criteria consistently and review which priorities from the strategic plan are contained in the request for proposals (RFP) every funding cycle.
- 1.3 Require applicants provide data, citations, and/or letters of recommendation to support problem statements and proposed solutions in their proposal.
- 1.4 Explore options for periodic, rigorous, independent evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of past ENRTF investments.

Goal 2: The public is aware of and understands the purpose of the LCCMR and the ENRTF and their shared mission.

The LCCMR will work to:

- 2.1 Explore ways to maximize and expand the impact of social media and other online content, such as:
 - a) Assessing website and social media analytics and using other appropriate methods to determine what forms of communication are the most effective and reach the most people.
 - b) Ensuring a regular flow of engaging written, audio, video, or other content is produced and communicated throughout the year on a variety of social media and other online platforms.
- 2.2 Engage with the Community Grant Program and other ENRTF-funded grant programs to explore opportunities to collaborate, coordinate, and, if needed, differentiate among programs.
- 2.3 Cultivate and amplify traditional media opportunities.
- 2.4 Establish a presence at events, including:
 - a) Events hosted by ENRTF-funding recipients to highlight and amplify others' communications about the ENRTF and LCCMR.
 - b) Public events like the ag expo or the state fair to directly communicate with the public who may not regularly follow the LCCMR and the ENRTF.

Goal 3: The public is aware of ENRTF funding opportunities and understands the funding application and recommendation process.

The LCCMR will work to:

- 3.1 Provide direct and regular communication on multiple platforms to the public about the LCCMR process, meetings, and decisions.

- 3.2 Provide direct and regular communication to applicants that keeps them informed about every step of the RFP and recommendation process and the status of their proposal.
- 3.3 Explore ways to maximize and expand the impact of social media and other online content, such as assessing website and social media analytics and using other appropriate methods to determine what forms of communication are the most effective and reach the most people.
- 3.4 Bolster RFP outreach to reach more potential applicants, such as:
 - a) Hosting and attending meetings and events – regional, topical, organizational – to directly communicate funding opportunities and answer questions about priorities and how to apply.
 - b) Cultivating and amplifying traditional media opportunities, including paid advertising.
- 3.5 Create new materials and opportunities to clearly and simply explain current LCCMR priorities and processes to the public and assist applicants.

Goal 4: The LCCMR process for selecting and recommending proposals is transparent, understandable, fair, and accessible for all Minnesotans.

The LCCMR will work to:

- 4.1 Continue to provide special consideration for small projects or organizations.
- 4.2 Review and update guidance on allowable expenses to make sure they are clear and align with commission expectations.
- 4.3 Evaluate on a regular basis the proposal application process and the LCCMR Proposal and Grants Management System to make it as accessible and simple as possible for users to submit proposals.
- 4.4 Explore alternative processes for selecting and recommending proposals to handle the increasing number of applications and to ensure the process is easy to communicate and for the public and applicants to understand.
- 4.5 Explore options to reduce the amount of time between proposal submittal and the availability of funding.
- 4.6 Develop a process for providing constructive feedback to applicants not recommended for funding.
- 4.7 Develop a process to receive regular feedback from applicants on the application, selection, and recommendation process.

Goal 5: LCCMR staff are timely and effective in responding and communicating to applicants, project managers, and LCCMR members.

The LCCMR will work to:

- 5.1 Ensure appropriate staffing levels to manage the LCCMR proposal request, evaluation, and recommendation process and oversight of approved projects as funding levels and number of projects increase.

- 5.2 Hire nonpartisan staff dedicated solely to outreach, engagement, and communications efforts.
- 5.3 Implement standardized protocols for staff communication and coordination with LCCMR members and applicants on processes, meetings, and expectations.

Goal 6: Groups and organizations that have not traditionally participated in the LCCMR process understand the purpose of the ENRTF and LCCMR and how to apply for funding.

The LCCMR will work to:

- 6.1 Contact leaders, leverage existing connections and networks, and build relationships with communities and organizations that have not traditionally participated in the LCCMR process – including communities of color, tribal communities, and small nonprofits – to determine the best ways to communicate and conduct outreach with them.
- 6.2 Carry out targeted outreach to groups and organizations that have not traditionally been aware of the ENRTF and LCCMR to help them understand the purpose of the ENRTF and LCCMR and how to apply for funding.
- 6.3 Produce ENRTF and LCCMR-related outreach materials, including written, audio, and video content, that may be more accessible to groups and organizations that have not traditionally participated in the LCCMR process.

Goal 7: The public knows how ENRTF money is being spent and what benefits the public is gaining from those expenditures.

The LCCMR will work to:

- 7.1 Generate new, creative, varied, accessible, interesting, and comprehensive content that communicates the accomplishments of the ENRTF and the LCCMR, such as:
 - a) Focusing on technical information and storytelling.
 - b) Gathering content, including photos and videos, related to active and completed projects for use in regular communications.
- 7.2 Ensure full participation by all project managers in acknowledging the source of funding for their work in their communication efforts and signage.
- 7.3 Create clear and consistent brand for the LCCMR and ENRTF that connects all communications and outreach materials.
- 7.4 Explore new opportunities and assess existing communications channels to identify the most effective platforms to communicate the accomplishments and benefits of ENRTF-funded projects to our varied audiences, such as:
 - a) Assessing website and social media analytics and using other appropriate methods to determine what forms of communication are the most effective and reach the most people.
 - b) Hosting and attending events that communicate ENRTF accomplishments, such as lunchtime lectures, events hosted by ENRTF-funding recipients, or public events like the state fair or ag expo.

- 7.5 Cultivate and amplify traditional media opportunities.
- 7.6 Communicate accomplishments and benefits of ENRTF-funded projects through existing LCCMR communications channels.

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

All proposals must be eligible for funding, as defined by law and as indicated in the request for proposals (RFP), and clearly articulate how the project will meet the constitutional purpose of protecting, conserving, preserving, or enhancing the state’s air, water, land, fish, wildlife, or other natural resources. The following criteria will be considered in evaluating and selecting individual proposals to recommend for funding:

Funding Priorities: The proposal responds to RFP funding priorities.

Environmental or Natural Resource Benefits: The extent to which the project will benefit Minnesota’s environment, natural resources, or how Minnesotans experience them relative to the amount requested.

Outcomes/Results: The proposal clearly identifies the work that will be done, and the specific outputs, results, and likely outcomes that will benefit the environment and natural resources, or how Minnesotans experience them.

Capacity: The proposal and past performance demonstrate the applicant’s administrative, financial, professional, scientific, and/or technical capacity to manage the project and deliver on proposed outputs and results in a timely, accountable, and effective manner.

Completeness and Clarity: The proposal is clear, sufficiently detailed, and includes all required information and attachments needed to fully evaluate the proposal.

Additional factors may also be considered, as applicable, in evaluating and selecting proposals, including but not limited to:

Information and Dissemination: The project will contribute to the knowledge base *and* disseminate that information so that it can be used to benefit efforts to protect, conserve, restore, enhance, or manage the environment and natural resources.

Innovation: The project will employ or demonstrate innovative approaches to more effectively and efficiently solve specific environmental and natural resource issues.

Timeliness and Readiness: The proposal includes work that is urgent or would significantly benefit from funding in the current cycle *and* demonstrates readiness for that work to begin as soon as funds are available.

Leverage: The project will leverage additional efforts, resources, or non-state funds.

Collaboration/Coordination: The project will use a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach with project partners from a diversity of agencies, organizations, or communities *and/or* will include meaningful engagement with those entities in completing the proposed work.

Finally, the commission may consider how the selected proposals as a whole provide benefits to and address needs in all areas and communities of the state.

Outcomes

The LCCMR will track progress in meeting the goals of the strategic plan and the success of the ENRTF in meeting its constitutional purpose of protecting, conserving, preserving, and enhancing the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The following metrics will be tracked to determine progress:

1. Number of acres or miles acquired, restored, or enhanced broken down by region, land type (e.g., forest or shoreline), and purpose (e.g., preservation/conservation, restoration, or recreation).
2. Number of youth and adults participating and directly interacting with ENRTF-funded projects broken down by activity type (e.g., technical assistance, education program, or recreation facility use).
3. Reduction in greenhouse gas and other emissions.
4. Number and percentage of projects funded under each goal and strategy.
5. Total number of proposals received and projects funded per region.
6. Number of projects funded protecting, conserving, preserving, or enhancing air, water, land, fish, and wildlife by resource.

The LCCMR will work to develop additional metrics and indicators that can be collected from project managers to assess progress towards meeting the strategic plan goals and evaluate success in implementing the strategic plan (See LCCMR strategy 1.1). Metrics and indicators will be selected that optimize accountability to the public, inform ongoing and future efforts to achieve the goals, and demonstrate what the ENRTF and LCCMR have accomplished. Options will also be explored for periodic, rigorous, independent evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of ENRTF expenditures (See LCCMR strategy 1.4).

Appendix A. Minnesota Constitution, Article XI, Section 14

A permanent environment and natural resources trust fund is established in the state treasury. 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 assets of the fund shall not be used to pay the principal or interest of any bonds. The assets of the fund shall not be used to pay for any costs related to the construction, repair, improvement, or operation of any facility or system that processes wastewater, but may be used to pay for research related to wastewater. 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 seven 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 through December 31, 2050. [Adopted, November 8, 1988; Amended, November 6, 1990; November 3, 1998; November 5, 2024]

CHAPTER 116P

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

116P.01 FINDINGS.

The legislature finds that all Minnesotans share the responsibility to ensure wise stewardship of the state's environment and natural resources for the benefit of current citizens and future generations. Proper management of the state's environment and natural resources includes and requires foresight, planning, and long-term activities that allow the state to preserve its high quality environment and provides for wise use of its natural resources. The legislature also finds that to undertake such activities properly, a long-term, consistent, and stable source of funding must be provided.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 5

116P.011 CHAPTER DOES NOT APPLY TO CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS.

This chapter does not apply to appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund under section 116X.03 or to projects funded with those appropriations.

History: 2023 c 67 art 2 s 1

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 1, is effective January 1, 2025, if the constitutional amendment in Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 1, section 1, is approved by the voters at the 2024 general election. Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 1, the effective date.

116P.02 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** The definitions in this section apply to this chapter.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 2006 c 243 s 22]

Subd. 3. **Board.** "Board" means the State Board of Investment.

Subd. 4. **Commission.** "Commission" means the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Subd. 5. **Natural resources.** "Natural resources" includes the outdoor recreation system under section 86A.04 and regional recreation open space systems as defined under section 473.351, subdivision 1.

Subd. 6. **Trust fund.** "Trust fund" means the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund established under Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 6; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 269; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 146; 2006 c 243 s 2

116P.03 TRUST FUND NOT TO SUPPLANT EXISTING FUNDING; APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) The trust fund may not be used as a substitute for traditional sources of funding environmental and natural resources activities, but the trust fund shall supplement the traditional sources, including

those sources used to support the criteria in section 116P.08, subdivision 1. The trust fund must be used primarily to support activities whose benefits become available only over an extended period of time.

(b) The commission must determine the amount of the state budget spent from traditional sources to fund environmental and natural resources activities before and after the trust fund is established and include a comparison of the amount in the report under section 116P.09, subdivision 7.

(c) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and each year thereafter, the amount of the environment and natural resources trust fund that is available for appropriation under the terms of the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14, shall be appropriated by law.

(d) The amount appropriated from the environment and natural resources trust fund may be spent only for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. Recommendations made by the commission under this chapter must be consistent with the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14; this chapter; and the strategic plan adopted under section 116P.08, subdivision 3, and must demonstrate a direct benefit to the state's environment and natural resources.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 7; 2006 c 243 s 3; 2023 c 67 art 2 s 2

NOTE: This section was amended by Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 2, effective January 1, 2025, if the constitutional amendment in Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 1, section 1, is approved by the voters at the 2024 general election. Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 2, the effective date. This section, as amended, will read as follows:

"(a) The trust fund may not be used as a substitute for traditional sources of funding environmental and natural resources activities, but the trust fund shall supplement the traditional sources, including those sources used to support the criteria in section 116P.08, subdivision 1. The trust fund must be used primarily to support activities whose benefits become available only over an extended period of time.

(b) The commission must determine the amount of the state budget spent from traditional sources to fund environmental and natural resources activities before and after the trust fund is established and include a comparison of the amount in the report under section 116P.09, subdivision 7.

(c) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and each year thereafter, the amount of the environment and natural resources trust fund that is available for appropriation under this chapter and under the terms of the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14, shall be appropriated by law.

(d) The amount appropriated from the environment and natural resources trust fund may be spent only for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. Recommendations made by the commission under this chapter must be consistent with the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14; this chapter; and the strategic plan adopted under section 116P.08, subdivision 3, and must demonstrate a direct benefit to the state's environment and natural resources.

(e) The amount available for appropriation from the environment and natural resources trust fund under this chapter 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, is 5.5 percent of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium."

116P.04 TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; investment.** A Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund, under article XI, section 14, of the Minnesota Constitution, is established as an account in the state treasury. The commissioner of management and budget shall credit to the trust fund the amounts authorized under this section and section 116P.10. The State Board of Investment shall ensure that trust fund money is invested under section 11A.24. All money earned by the trust fund must be credited to the trust fund. The principal of the trust fund and any unexpended earnings must be invested and reinvested by the State Board of Investment.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1990 c 610 art 1 s 59]

Subd. 3. **Revenue.** Nothing in sections 116P.01 to 116P.12 limits the source of contributions to the trust fund.

Subd. 4. **Gifts and donations.** Gifts and donations, including land or interests in land, may be made to the trust fund. Noncash gifts and donations must be disposed of for cash as soon as the board prudently can maximize the value of the gift or donation. Gifts and donations of marketable securities may be held or be disposed of for cash at the option of the board. The cash receipts of gifts and donations of cash or capital assets and marketable securities disposed of for cash must be credited immediately to the principal of the trust fund. The value of marketable securities at the time the gift or donation is made must be credited to the principal of the trust fund and any earnings from the marketable securities are earnings of the trust fund.

Subd. 5. **Audits required.** The legislative auditor shall audit trust fund expenditures to ensure that the money is spent for the purposes for which the money was appropriated.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 8; 1990 c 610 art 1 s 44; 1991 c 343 s 1; 2006 c 243 s 4; 2009 c 101 art 2 s 109

116P.05 LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES.

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) A Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources of 17 members is created in the legislative branch, consisting of the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees on environment and natural resources finance or designees appointed for the terms of the chairs, four members of the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and four members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker.

(b) At least two members from the senate and two members from the house of representatives must be from the minority caucus.

(c) Seven citizens are members of the commission, five appointed by the governor, one appointed by the Senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and one appointed by the speaker of the house. The citizen members are selected and recommended to the appointing authorities according to subdivision 1a and must:

(1) have experience or expertise in the science, policy, or practice of the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;

- (2) have strong knowledge in the state's environment and natural resource issues around the state;
- (3) have demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative environment; and
- (4) not be a registered lobbyist.

(d) Members shall develop procedures to elect a chair that rotates between legislative and citizen members each meeting. A citizen member, a senate member, and a house of representatives member shall serve as chairs. The citizen members, senate members, and house of representatives members must select their respective chairs. The chair shall preside and convene meetings as often as necessary to conduct duties prescribed by this chapter.

(e) Appointed legislative members shall serve on the commission for two-year terms, beginning in January of each odd-numbered year and continuing through the end of December of the next even-numbered year. Appointed citizen members shall serve four-year terms, beginning in January of the first year and continuing through the end of December of the final year. Citizen and legislative members continue to serve until their successors are appointed.

(f) A citizen member may be removed by an appointing authority for cause. Vacancies occurring on the commission shall not affect the authority of the remaining members of the commission to carry out their duties, and vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the term in the same manner under paragraphs (a) to (c).

(g) Legislative members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem expenses plus travel expenses incurred in the services of the commission. Citizen members are entitled to per diem and reimbursement for expenses incurred in the services of the commission, as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 3, except that a citizen member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day.

(h) The governor's appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the senate. One of the governor's appointments must be a member recommended by the Tribal government representatives of the Indian Affairs Council.

(i) A citizen member may serve no more than eight years, except as necessary to fill a vacancy. A citizen member may not serve more than ten years if serving additional time to fill a vacancy.

Subd. 1a. **Citizen selection committee.** (a) The governor must appoint a Trust Fund Citizen Selection Committee of five members who come from different regions of the state and who have knowledge and experience of state environment and natural resource issues to provide recommendations for appointments under subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

(b) The duties of the Trust Fund Citizen Selection Committee are to:

(1) identify citizen candidates to be members of the commission as part of the open appointments process under section 15.0597;

(2) request and review citizen candidate applications to be members of the commission; and

(3) interview the citizen candidates and recommend an adequate pool of candidates to be selected for commission membership by the governor.

(c) Members serve three-year terms and are entitled to per diem and reimbursement for expenses incurred in the services of the committee, as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 3, except that a citizen selection committee member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day.

(d) A member appointed under this subdivision may not be a registered lobbyist.

Subd. 2. Duties. (a) The commission must recommend an annual or biennial legislative bill for appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund and must adopt a strategic plan as provided in section 116P.08. Except as provided under section 116P.09, subdivision 6, paragraph (b), approval of the recommended legislative bill requires an affirmative vote of at least 11 members of the commission.

(b) It is a condition of acceptance of the appropriations made from the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund, and oil overcharge money under section 4.071, subdivision 2, that the agency or entity receiving the appropriation must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, and comply with applicable reporting requirements under section 116P.16. None of the money provided may be spent unless the commission has approved the pertinent work plan. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the amendment process established by the commission. The commission must ensure that the expenditures and outcomes described in the work plan for appropriations funded by the environment and natural resources trust fund are met.

(c) The peer review procedures created under section 116P.08 must also be used to review, comment, and report to the commission on research proposals applying for an appropriation from the oil overcharge money under section 4.071, subdivision 2.

(d) The commission may adopt operating procedures to fulfill its duties under this chapter.

(e) As part of the operating procedures, the commission must:

(1) ensure that members' expectations are to participate in all meetings related to funding decision recommendations;

(2) recommend adequate funding for increased citizen outreach and communications for trust fund expenditure planning;

(3) allow administrative expenses as part of individual project expenditures based on need;

(4) provide for project outcome evaluation;

(5) keep the grant application, administration, and review process as simple as possible; and

(6) define and emphasize the leveraging of additional sources of money that project proposers should consider when making trust fund proposals.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 2014 c 226 s 4]

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 9; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 269; 1990 c 594 art 1 s 56; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 39; 1991 c 343 s 2; 1993 c 4 s 15; 1994 c 580 s 1; 1997 c 202 art 2 s 36; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 147; 1Sp2005 c 1

art 2 s 135; 2006 c 243 s 5; 2009 c 143 s 3; 1Sp2011 c 2 art 4 s 23; 2013 c 52 s 3,4; 2015 c 76 s 3; 2016 c 186 s 3; 2017 c 96 s 3; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 3-5

116P.06 [Repealed, 2006 c 243 s 22]

116P.07 INFORMATION GATHERING.

The commission may convene public forums or employ other methods to gather information for establishing priorities for funding.

History: *1988 c 690 art 1 s 11; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 41; 1991 c 343 s 4; 2002 c 225 s 2; 2006 c 243 s 6*

116P.08 TRUST FUND EXPENDITURES.

Subdivision 1. **Expenditures.** (a) Money in the trust fund may be spent only for:

(1) the reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in section 84.95, subdivision 2;

(2) research that contributes to increasing the effectiveness of protecting or managing the state's environment or natural resources;

(3) collection and analysis of information that assists in developing the state's environmental and natural resources policies;

(4) enhancement of public education, awareness, and understanding necessary for the protection, conservation, restoration, and enhancement of air, land, water, forests, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;

(5) capital projects for the preservation and protection of unique natural resources;

(6) activities that preserve or enhance fish, wildlife, land, air, water, and other natural resources that otherwise may be substantially impaired or destroyed in any area of the state;

(7) administrative and investment expenses incurred by the State Board of Investment in investing deposits to the trust fund; and

(8) administrative expenses subject to the limits in section 116P.09.

(b) In making recommendations for expenditures from the trust fund, the commission shall give priority to funding programs and projects under paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (6). Any requests for proposals issued by the commission shall clearly indicate these priorities.

Subd. 2. **Exceptions.** Money from the trust fund may not be spent for:

(1) purposes of environmental compensation and liability under chapter 115B and response actions under chapter 115C;

(2) purposes of municipal water pollution control in municipalities with a population of 5,000 or more under the authority of chapters 115 and 116;

(3) costs associated with the decommissioning of nuclear power plants;

(4) hazardous waste disposal facilities;

(5) solid waste disposal facilities;

(6) projects or purposes inconsistent with the strategic plan; or

(7) acquiring property by eminent domain, unless the owner requests that the owner's property be acquired by eminent domain.

Subd. 3. **Strategic plan required.** (a) The commission shall adopt a strategic plan for making expenditures from the trust fund, including identifying the priority areas for funding for the next six years. The strategic plan must be reviewed every two years. The strategic plan must have clearly stated short- and long-term goals and strategies for trust fund expenditures, must provide measurable outcomes for expenditures, and must determine areas of emphasis for funding.

(b) The commission shall consider the long-term strategic plans of agencies with environment and natural resource programs and responsibilities and plans of conservation and environmental organizations during the development and review of the strategic plan.

Subd. 4. **Legislative recommendations.** (a) Funding may be provided only for those projects that meet the categories established in subdivision 1.

(b) The commission must recommend an annual or biennial legislative bill to make appropriations from the trust fund for the purposes provided in subdivision 1. The recommendations must be submitted to the governor for inclusion in the biennial budget and supplemental budget submitted to the legislature.

(c) The commission may recommend regional block grants for a portion of trust fund expenditures to partner with existing regional organizations that have strong citizen involvement, to address unique local needs and capacity, and to leverage all available funding sources for projects.

(d) The commission may recommend the establishment of an emerging issues account in its legislative bill for funding emerging issues, which come up unexpectedly, but which still adhere to the commission's strategic plan, to be approved by the governor after initiation and recommendation by the commission.

(e) Money in the trust fund may not be spent except under an appropriation by law.

Subd. 5. **Public meetings.** (a) Meetings of the commission, committees or subcommittees of the commission, technical advisory committees, and peer reviewers must be open to the public and are subject to chapter 13D. The commission shall attempt to meet throughout various regions of the state during each biennium. For purposes of this subdivision, a meeting occurs when a quorum is present and action is taken regarding a matter within the jurisdiction of the commission, a committee or subcommittee of the commission, a technical advisory committee, or peer reviewers.

(b) For legislative members of the commission, enforcement of this subdivision is governed by section 3.055, subdivision 2. For nonlegislative members of the commission, enforcement of this subdivision is governed by section 13D.06, subdivisions 1 and 2.

Subd. 6. **Peer review.** (a) Research proposals must include a stated purpose directly connected to the trust fund's constitutional mandate, this chapter, and the adopted strategic plan under subdivision

3, a timeline, potential outcomes, and an explanation of the need for the research. All research proposals must be peer reviewed before receiving an appropriation.

(b) In conducting research proposal reviews, the peer reviewers shall:

(1) comment on the methodology proposed and whether it can be expected to yield appropriate and useful information and data; and

(2) comment on the need for the research and about similar existing information available, if any.

(c) Peer reviewers' comments under paragraph (b) must be reported to the commission.

(d) The peer reviewers may review completed research proposals that have received an appropriation and comment and report upon whether the project reached the intended goals.

Subd. 7. Peer reviewers. (a) The peer reviewers must be knowledgeable in general research methods in the areas of environment and natural resources.

(b) Compensation of peer reviewers is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 3.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 12; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 178; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 42,43; 1991 c 343 s 5,6; 1994 c 580 s 2,3; 2001 c 7 s 31; 2004 c 284 art 2 s 14; 2006 c 243 s 7-10; 2007 c 30 s 3; 2009 c 143 s 4; 2015 c 76 s 4-6; 2016 c 186 s 4; 2017 c 96 s 4; 2018 c 214 art 4 s 3; art 6 s 2; 2019 c 2 art 1 s 10; 2022 c 94 s 3

116P.09 ADMINISTRATION.

Subdivision 1. **Administrative authority.** The commission may appoint legal and other personnel and consultants necessary to carry out functions and duties of the commission. Permanent employees shall be in the unclassified service. In addition, the commission may request staff assistance and data from any other agency of state government as needed for the execution of the responsibilities of the commission and an agency must promptly furnish it.

Subd. 2. **Liaison officers.** The commission may request each department or agency head of all state agencies with a direct interest and responsibility in any phase of environment and natural resources to appoint, and the latter shall appoint for the agency, a liaison officer who shall work closely with the commission and its staff.

Subd. 3. **Appraisal and evaluation.** The commission shall obtain and appraise information available through private organizations and groups, utilizing to the fullest extent possible studies, data, and reports previously prepared or currently in progress by public agencies, private organizations, groups, and others, concerning future trends in the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, forests, fish, wildlife, native vegetation, and other natural resources. Any data compiled by the commission shall be made available to any standing or interim committee of the legislature upon the request of the chair of the respective committee.

Subd. 4. **Personnel.** Persons who are employed by a state agency to work on a project and are paid by an appropriation from the trust fund are in the unclassified civil service, and their continued employment is contingent upon the availability of money from the appropriation. When the appropriation has been spent, their positions must be canceled and the approved complement of the

agency reduced accordingly. Part-time employment of persons for a project is authorized. The use of classified employees is authorized when approved as part of the work program required by section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (b).

Subd. 5. **Administrative expense.** The prorated expenses related to commission administration of the trust fund may not exceed an amount equal to four percent of the amount available for appropriation of the trust fund for the biennium.

Subd. 6. **Conflict of interest.** (a) A commission member, a technical advisory committee member, a peer reviewer, or an employee of the commission may not participate in or vote on a decision of the commission, advisory committee, or peer review relating to an organization in which the member, peer reviewer, or employee has either a direct or indirect personal financial interest. While serving on the commission or technical advisory committee or as a peer reviewer or while an employee of the commission, a person must avoid any potential conflict of interest.

(b) A commission member may not vote on a motion regarding the purchase of land under section 116P.18 or the final recommendations of the commission required under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), if the motion relates to an organization in which the member has a direct personal financial interest. If a commission member is prohibited from voting under this paragraph, the number of affirmative votes required under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), or section 116P.18 is reduced by the number of members ineligible to vote under this paragraph.

Subd. 7. **Report required.** The commission shall, by January 15 of each odd-numbered year, submit a report to the governor, the chairs of the house of representatives appropriations and senate finance committees, and the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees on environment and natural resources. Copies of the report must be available to the public. The report must include:

- (1) a copy of the current strategic plan;
- (2) a description of each project receiving money from the trust fund during the preceding biennium;
- (3) a summary of any research project completed in the preceding biennium;
- (4) recommendations to implement successful projects and programs into a state agency's standard operations;
- (5) to the extent known by the commission, descriptions of the projects anticipated to be supported by the trust fund during the next biennium;
- (6) the source and amount of all revenues collected and distributed by the commission, including all administrative and other expenses;
- (7) a description of the assets and liabilities of the trust fund;
- (8) any findings or recommendations that are deemed proper to assist the legislature in formulating legislation;
- (9) a list of all gifts and donations with a value over \$1,000;

(10) a comparison of the amounts spent by the state for environment and natural resources activities through the most recent fiscal year; and

(11) a copy of the most recent compliance audit.

Subd. 8. **Technical advisory committees.** The commission shall make use of available public and private expertise on environment and natural resource issues and may appoint necessary technical advisory committees to review funding proposals and evaluate project outcomes. Compensation for technical advisory committee members is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 6.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 13; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 44-46; 1991 c 343 s 7-10; 1994 c 580 s 4; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 148-150; 2006 c 243 s 11-13; 2013 c 52 s 5; 2015 c 76 s 7,8; 2018 c 182 art 1 s 12; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 6; 2024 c 116 art 9 s 1

116P.10 ROYALTIES, COPYRIGHTS, PATENTS, AND SALE OF PRODUCTS AND ASSETS.

(a) This section applies to projects supported by the trust fund and the oil overcharge money referred to in section 4.071, subdivision 2, each of which is referred to in this section as a "fund."

(b) The fund owns and shall take title to the percentage of a royalty, copyright, or patent resulting from a project supported by the fund equal to the percentage of the project's total funding provided by the fund. Cash receipts resulting from a royalty, copyright, or patent, or the sale of the fund's rights to a royalty, copyright, or patent, must be credited immediately to the principal of the fund. Receipts from Minnesota future resources fund projects must be credited to the trust fund. The commission may include in its legislative bill a recommendation to relinquish the ownership or rights to a royalty, copyright, or patent resulting from a project supported by the fund to the project's proposer when the amount of the original grant or loan, plus interest, has been repaid to the fund.

(c) If a project supported by the fund results in net income from the sale of products or assets developed or acquired by an appropriation from the fund, the appropriation must be repaid to the fund in an amount equal to the percentage of the project's total funding provided by the fund. The commission may include in its legislative bill a recommendation to relinquish the income if a plan is approved for reinvestment of the income in the project or when the amount of the original grant or loan, plus interest, has been repaid to the fund.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 14; 1993 c 172 s 79; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 151; 2008 c 367 s 3; 2009 c 143 s 5

116P.11 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DISBURSEMENT.

(a) The amount annually available from the trust fund for the legislative bill developed by the commission is as defined in the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

(b) Any appropriated funds not encumbered by the date the appropriation expires cancel and must be credited to the principal of the trust fund.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 15; 1990 c 594 art 1 s 57; 1990 c 612 s 14; 1992 c 513 art 2 s 27; 1992 c 539 s 10; 1993 c 300 s 10; 1994 c 580 s 5; 1995 c 220 s 111; 2002 c 225 s 3; 2006 c 243 s 14; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 7

116P.12 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT; LOAN PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Loans authorized.** (a) If the principal of the trust fund equals or exceeds \$200,000,000, the commission may vote to set aside up to five percent of the principal of the trust fund for water system improvement loans. The purpose of water system improvement loans is to offer below market rate interest loans to local units of government for the purposes of water system improvements.

(b) The interest on a loan shall be calculated on the declining balance at a rate that is the greater of one percent or 50 percent of the secondary market yield of one-year United States Treasury bills calculated according to section 549.09, subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

(c) An eligible project must prove that existing federal or state loans or grants have not been adequate.

(d) Payments on the principal and interest of loans under this section must be credited to the trust fund.

(e) Repayment of loans made under this section must be completed within 20 years.

(f) The Minnesota Public Facilities Authority must report to the commission each year on any loans made to the authority under this section.

Subd. 2. **Application and administration.** (a) The commission must adopt a procedure for the issuance of the water system improvement loans by the Public Facilities Authority.

(b) The commission also must ensure that the loans are administered according to its fiduciary standards and requirements.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 16; 2018 c 214 art 4 s 4

116P.13 [Repealed, 2016 c 189 art 3 s 53]

116P.14 [Repealed, 1Sp2011 c 2 art 4 s 36]

116P.15 CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND LAND ACQUISITION; RESTRICTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund or the Minnesota future resources fund who acquires an interest in real property with the appropriation must comply with subdivision 2. A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses any portion of the appropriation for a capital construction project with a total cost of \$10,000 or more must comply with subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Land acquisition restrictions; modification procedure.** (a) An easement, fee title, or other interest in real property acquired with an appropriation from the trust fund or the Minnesota future resources fund must be used in perpetuity or for the specific term of an easement interest for the purpose for which the appropriation was made. The ownership of the interest in real property transfers to the state if: (1) the holder of the interest in real property fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement or work plan; or (2) restrictions are placed on the land that preclude its use for the intended purpose as specified in the appropriation.

(b) A recipient of funding who acquires an interest in real property subject to this section may not alter the intended use of the interest in real property or convey any interest in the real property acquired with the appropriation without the prior review and approval of the commission or its successor. The commission shall notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the trust fund or Minnesota future resources fund at least 15 business days before approval under this paragraph. The commission shall establish procedures to review requests from recipients to alter the use of or convey an interest in real property. These procedures shall allow for the replacement of the interest in real property with another interest in real property meeting the following criteria:

(1) the interest must be at least equal in fair market value, as certified by the commissioner of natural resources, to the interest being replaced; and

(2) the interest must be in a reasonably equivalent location, and have a reasonably equivalent useful conservation purpose compared to the interest being replaced, taking into consideration all effects from fragmentation of the whole habitat.

(c) A recipient of funding who acquires an interest in real property under paragraph (a) must separately record a notice of funding restrictions in the appropriate local government office where the conveyance of the interest in real property is filed. The notice of funding agreement must contain:

(1) a legal description of the interest in real property covered by the funding agreement;

(2) a reference to the underlying funding agreement;

(3) a reference to this section; and

(4) the following statement:

"This interest in real property shall be administered in accordance with the terms, conditions, and purposes of the grant agreement controlling the acquisition of the property. The interest in real property, or any portion of the interest in real property, shall not be sold, transferred, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or further encumbered without obtaining the prior written approval of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor. The ownership of the interest in real property transfers to the state if: (1) the holder of the interest in real property fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement or work plan; or (2) restrictions are placed on the land that preclude its use for the intended purpose as specified in the appropriation."

Subd. 3. Capital construction restrictions; modification procedure. (a) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses the appropriation to wholly or partially construct a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset may not alter the intended use of the capital asset or convey any interest in the capital asset for 25 years from the date the project is completed without the prior review and approval of the commission or its successor. The commission must notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the trust fund at least 15 business days before approval under this paragraph. The commission must establish procedures to review requests from recipients to alter the use of or convey an interest in a capital asset under this paragraph. These procedures must require that:

(1) the sale price must be at least fair market value; and

(2) the trust fund must be repaid a portion of the sale price equal to the percentage of the total funding provided by the fund for constructing the capital asset.

(b) The commission or its successor may waive the requirements under paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), by recommendation to the legislature if the transfer allows for a continued use of the asset in a manner consistent with the original appropriation purpose or with the purposes of the trust fund.

(c) If both a capital asset and the real property on which the asset is located were wholly or partially purchased with an appropriation from the trust fund and the commission approves a request to alter the use of or convey an interest in the real property under subdivision 2, a separate approval under this subdivision to alter the use of the capital asset is not required.

(d) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses the appropriation to wholly or partially construct a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset must separately record a notice of funding restrictions in the appropriate local government office. The notice of funding restrictions must contain:

- (1) a legal description of the interest in real property covered by the funding agreement;
- (2) a reference to the underlying funding agreement;
- (3) a reference to this subdivision; and
- (4) the following statement:

"This interest in real property must be administered in accordance with the terms, conditions, and purposes of the grant agreement controlling the improvement of the property. The interest in real property, or any portion of the interest in real property, must not be altered from its intended use or be sold, transferred, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or further encumbered without obtaining the prior written approval of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor."

History: *1Sp2001 c 2 s 141; 2002 c 225 s 4; 2006 c 243 s 21; 2013 c 52 s 6; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 8*

NOTE: The amendment to this section by Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 8, is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 8, the effective date.

116P.16 REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS AND CAPITAL ASSETS; REPORT.

(a) By December 1 each year, a recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund, that is used for the acquisition of an interest in real property, including, but not limited to, an easement or fee title, or for the construction of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset with a total cost of \$10,000 or more must submit annual reports on the status of the real property to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor in a form determined by the commission. The responsibility for reporting under this section may be transferred by the recipient of the appropriation to another person who holds the interest in the real property. To complete the transfer of reporting responsibility, the recipient of the appropriation must:

- (1) inform the person to whom the responsibility is transferred of that person's reporting responsibility;

(2) inform the person to whom the responsibility is transferred of the property restrictions under section 116P.15; and

(3) provide written notice to the commission of the transfer of reporting responsibility, including contact information for the person to whom the responsibility is transferred.

(b) After the transfer, the person who holds the interest in the real property is responsible for reporting requirements under this section.

(c) The annual reporting requirements on the status of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset with a total cost of \$10,000 or more and that was constructed with an appropriation from the trust fund expire 25 years after the date the final progress report under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), is approved.

History: *15p2005 c 1 art 2 s 136; 2006 c 243 s 21; 2013 c 52 s 7; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 9*

NOTE: The amendment to this section by Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 9, is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 9, the effective date.

116P.17 ACQUIRING LANDS OR INTEREST IN LANDS; COMMISSIONER APPROVAL.

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner approval.** (a) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who acquires an interest in real property must receive written approval from the commissioner of natural resources prior to the acquisition, if the interest is acquired in whole or in part with the appropriation. A recipient must request the commissioner's approval at least ten business days before the proposed acquisition. When a recipient requests approval under this subdivision, the recipient must simultaneously submit the same information to the commission. Conservation easements to be held by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, acquisitions of land in the metropolitan regional recreation open space systems as defined under section 473.351, subdivision 1, with appropriations to the Metropolitan Council, and acquisitions specifically identified in appropriation laws are not subject to commissioner approval under this section.

(b) The commissioner shall approve acquisitions under this section only when the interest in real property:

(1) is identified as a high priority by the commissioner and meets the objectives and criteria identified in the applicable acquisition plan for the intended management status of the property; or

(2) is otherwise identified by the commissioner as a priority for state financing.

Subd. 2. **Value assessment.** At least ten business days prior to acquiring an interest in real property with an appropriation from the trust fund, a recipient of an appropriation must submit the most recent tax assessed value and most recent tax statement of the real property and the amount the recipient plans to offer for the interest in real property to the commission and the commissioner of natural resources. Conservation easements to be held by the Board of Water and Soil Resources are not subject to the requirements of this section. The board shall keep a record of the tax assessed value of the real property at the time of acquisition and the most recent tax statement.

History: *2010 c 362 s 3; 2013 c 52 s 8; 2014 c 226 s 3; 2017 c 96 s 5*

116P.18 LANDS IN PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Money appropriated from the trust fund must not be used to purchase any land in fee title or a permanent conservation easement if the land in question is fully or partially owned by the state or a political subdivision of the state or was acquired fully or partially with state money, unless:

- (1) the purchase creates additional direct benefit to the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources; and
- (2) the purchase is approved, prior to the acquisition, by an affirmative vote of at least 11 members of the commission, except as provided under section 116P.09, subdivision 6, paragraph (b).

History: *2013 c 52 s 9; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 10; 2024 c 116 art 9 s 2*

116P.19 DONATIONS.

A recipient of money from the trust fund must not accept a monetary donation or payment from an owner of land that is acquired in fee in whole or in part with an appropriation from the trust fund that exceeds the documented expenses that are directly related to and necessary for activities specified in the work plan approved by the commission, unless expressly approved by the commission in the work plan. This section does not apply to:

- (1) donations that are not connected with the acquisition transaction; or
- (2) bargain sales, as defined by Code of Federal Regulations, title 26, section 1.1011-2, provided that the purchase price reimbursed by the state does not exceed the purchase price paid by the recipient.

History: *2016 c 186 s 5*

116P.20 EASEMENTS; MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT REQUIREMENTS.

A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for easement monitoring and enforcement may spend the money only on activities included in an easement monitoring and enforcement plan contained within the work plan. Money received for monitoring and enforcement, including earnings on the money received, must be kept in a monitoring and enforcement fund held by the recipient and dedicated to monitoring and enforcing conservation easements in Minnesota. A recipient of an appropriation for easement monitoring and enforcement must, within 120 days after the close of the recipient's fiscal year, provide an annual financial report to the commission or the commission's successor on the easement monitoring and enforcement fund as specified in the work plan. Money appropriated from the trust fund for monitoring and enforcement of easements and earnings on the money appropriated revert to the state if:

- (1) the easement transfers to the state;
- (2) the recipient fails to file an annual financial report and then fails to cure the default within 30 days of notification of the default by the state; or
- (3) the recipient fails to comply with the terms of the monitoring and enforcement plan contained within the work plan and fails to cure the default within 90 days of notification of the default by the state.

History: 2016 c 186 s 6

116P.21 ADDITIONAL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.

Subdivision 1. **Full funding.** If an appropriation from the trust fund for a capital construction project or project phase is not alone sufficient to complete the project or project phase and a commitment from sources other than the trust fund is required:

(1) the commitment must be in an amount that, when added to the appropriation from the trust fund, is sufficient to complete the project or project phase; and

(2) the agency administering the appropriation from the trust fund must not distribute the money until the commitment is determined to be sufficient. In determining the sufficiency of a commitment under this clause, the agency must apply the standards and principles applied by the commissioner of management and budget under section 16A.502.

Subd. 2. **Match.** A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for a capital construction project must provide a cash or in-kind match from nontrust fund sources of at least 25 percent of the total costs to complete the project or project phase.

Subd. 3. **Sustainable building guidelines.** The sustainable building guidelines established under sections 16B.325 and 216B.241, subdivision 9, apply to new buildings and major renovations funded from the trust fund. A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for a new building or major renovation must ensure that the project complies with the guidelines.

Subd. 4. **Applicability.** (a) Subdivisions 1, 2, and 3 do not apply to:

(1) a capital construction project with a total cost of less than \$10,000; or

(2) a land acquisition project.

(b) If land is acquired with trust fund money for the purpose of capital construction, the land acquisition is not exempted under paragraph (a), clause (2).

Subd. 5. **Other capital construction statutes.** The following statutes also apply to recipients of appropriations from the trust fund: sections 16B.32; 16B.335, subdivisions 3 and 4; 16C.054; 16C.16; 16C.28; 16C.285; 138.40; 138.665; 138.666; 177.41 to 177.44; and 471.345.

History: 2023 c 60 art 2 s 11; 2024 c 85 s 16

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 11, is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 11, the effective date.

Appendix C. Public Survey Summary

The LCCMR Subcommittee on Strategic Planning conducted an online public survey to gather broad input on priorities for environmental and natural resources funding and preferred methods to address those priorities. In addition, the survey asked basic demographic questions. The survey was open from March 13, 2024, to May 6, 2024, and available in English and four other languages: Spanish, Somali, Hmong, and Karen. Links to the survey were:

- Emailed directly to nearly 400 organizations across Minnesota, including environmental, natural resource, recreation, agriculture, energy, economic development, government, university and colleges, non-profits, for-profits, community, and tribal groups.
- Emailed to all state legislators and their staff.
- Posted to the LCCMR webpage and social media accounts.
- Sent to everyone on the LCCMR GovDelivery list.
- Announced through a press release.
- Made available through a QR code at concurrently held public listening sessions.

All recipients were encouraged to share the survey with their networks.

The subcommittee received 1,641 responses to the survey. Survey results were compiled and presented to the full commission. Highlights are presented below. Additional tables and details can be found in the [public survey results presentation](#):

https://www.lccmr.mn.gov/calendar/2024/2024-06-10-mtg/attachments/item09-2024-06-05_preliminary_public_survey_results.pdf

Biggest Focus Area for Funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Survey respondents were asked to identify their top three biggest focus areas for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) from a list of 13 options.

Land, Wildlife, and Wildlife Habitat was the most important area for future funding with nearly 50% of respondents identifying it as a top priority (See Table C-1). It was the top priority for respondents from every region of the state and whether they were affiliated with an agency, organization, or program that works on issues related to the environment or natural resources or not. Air quality was a relatively low concern with only 7% of respondents considering it a top priority for funding from the ENRTF.

The relative priority of focus areas did differ slightly from region to region. Climate change was a bigger issue for respondents from the Metro region versus the rest of the state, while outdoor recreation is generally a more important issue in northern Minnesota. Agricultural practices are a bigger issue in the Southwest region of the state.

Whether a respondent was affiliated with an agency, organization, or program that works on issues related to the environment or natural resources did not generally change the top focus areas with a few notable exceptions. Respondents affiliated with environmental or natural resources agencies, organizations, or programs prioritized environmental justice and climate change more than unaffiliated respondents did. Unaffiliated respondents prioritized recycling, reuse, and other waste management, energy use and production, and air quality slightly more than respondents affiliated with environmental or natural resources agencies, organizations, or programs did.

Table C-1. Which of the following do you think should be the biggest focus for funding from Minnesota’s Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)?

| Answer Choices | Responses | |
|---|-----------|-----|
| Land, Wildlife, and Wildlife Habitat (includes birds, pollinators / insects, reptiles, mammals, and plants) | 803 | 49% |
| Lakes, Rivers, and Other Aquatic Habitat (includes fish and other aquatic species) | 591 | 36% |
| Climate Change | 581 | 35% |
| Water Quality | 504 | 31% |
| Outdoor Recreation (includes hiking or biking trails, boat ramps, and other facilities) | 351 | 21% |
| Agricultural Practices | 312 | 19% |
| Invasive Species | 289 | 18% |
| Environmental Justice | 215 | 13% |
| Energy Use and Production (includes energy efficiency and renewable energy) | 212 | 13% |
| Water Availability (includes flooding, drought, and drinking water) | 190 | 12% |
| Recycling, Reuse, and Other Waste Management | 177 | 11% |
| Other (please specify) | 141 | 9% |
| Air Quality | 114 | 7% |

Best Way Funding Could Be Used

Survey respondents were presented with seven different methods to address their top focus areas and asked to prioritize them from highest to lowest priority.

Restoring and enhancing land and water was the highest priority for respondents while constructing facilities and other infrastructure like trails, fishing piers, campgrounds, and solar panels was a lower priority (See Table C-2). Priorities were fairly consistent across Minnesota, although acquiring land was a lower priority in the Northeast and Southwest regions and ensuring equitable funding was a higher priority in the Southwest region. Priorities were the same whether someone was affiliated with an agency, organization, or program that works on issues related to the environment or natural resources or not.

Table C-2. What is the best way funding could be used to address the focus areas you selected previously? Rank from your highest (1) to your lowest (7) priority.

| Answer Choices | Score | Ranking |
|---|-------|---------|
| Restore and enhance land and water. | 5.15 | 1 |
| Develop plans and designs for protecting, conserving, preserving, and enhancing natural resources, the environment, and outdoor recreation. | 4.70 | 2 |
| Acquire land for preservation, conservation, or outdoor recreation. | 4.02 | 3 |
| Increase education and public awareness. | 3.93 | 4 |
| Conduct research to better understand issues, measure progress on achieving outcomes, and develop new tools, practices, or solutions. | 3.89 | 5 |
| Ensure equitable funding distribution across all communities. | 3.38 | 6 |
| Construct facilities and other infrastructure like trails, fishing piers, campgrounds, and solar panels. | 2.93 | 7 |

Appendix D: Subject Matter Expert Survey Summary

The LCCMR Subcommittee on Strategic Planning conducted an online subject matter expert survey to gather input on what members of the public with specific expertise or experience working on environmental and natural resources issues thought were the most important goals and strategies for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). In addition, subject matter experts were asked for feedback on their experience with the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) funding process and how it could be improved.

The survey was open from April 3, 2024, to May 7, 2024. An email invitation to participate in the survey was sent to over 1,000 people with expertise or experience in that environment, natural resources, agriculture, or outdoor recreation, including:

- Current and past project managers
- Current and past applicants for ENRTF funding
- University and college faculty
- Federal, state, and tribal government professionals
- Professional associations
- Non-profit personnel

The subcommittee received 360 responses to the survey. Survey results were compiled and presented to the subcommittee members at relevant times during their discussions. Highlights are presented below. Additional tables and details can be found in the following presentations and documents:

[ENRTF Goals Presentation \(Subject Matter Expert Demographics and Goal Prioritization\)](#)

[Subject Matter Experts Ideas for Additional Goals](#)

[Subject Matter Expert Responses to How ENRTF Can Help Minnesota be a National Leader](#)

[ENRTF Strategies Presentation \(Subject Matter Expert Strategy Prioritization\)](#)

[Subject Matter Expert Ideas for Additional Strategies](#)

[LCCMR Goals and Strategies Presentation \(Subject Matter Expert Feedback on LCCMR Funding Process\)](#)

[Subject Matter Expert Comments on LCCMR Funding Process](#)

Goals Results

Subject matter experts were asked to rank seven goal statements from highest (1) to lowest priority (7). The goal statements were primarily developed by an expert panel during the 2019 strategic planning process with modifications made by the subcommittee.

Ensuring Minnesota's environment, natural resources, and communities are resilient in the face of climate change, land use changes, and extreme weather events was the overall highest priority for the subject matter experts (See Table D-1). This goal statement was in the top 2 for all experts, except respondents with expertise in aquatic habitat and management. Ensuring all Minnesotans have access to and take

advantage of opportunities for culturally relevant and innovative connections to the lands and waters of Minnesota was the overall lowest priority. This goal statement was in the bottom 3 for all experts.

The area of expertise and affiliation of the respondents did appear to affect how they prioritized the goal statements. In general, experts prioritized goal statements related to their area of expertise higher than other goal statements, and there were slight differences in how experts prioritized the goals based on their affiliation. For example, experts from universities and colleges and non-profit organizations prioritized the goal related to resiliency higher than other experts. However, the top 4 goal statements and bottom 3 goal statements were the same for all experts regardless of affiliation.

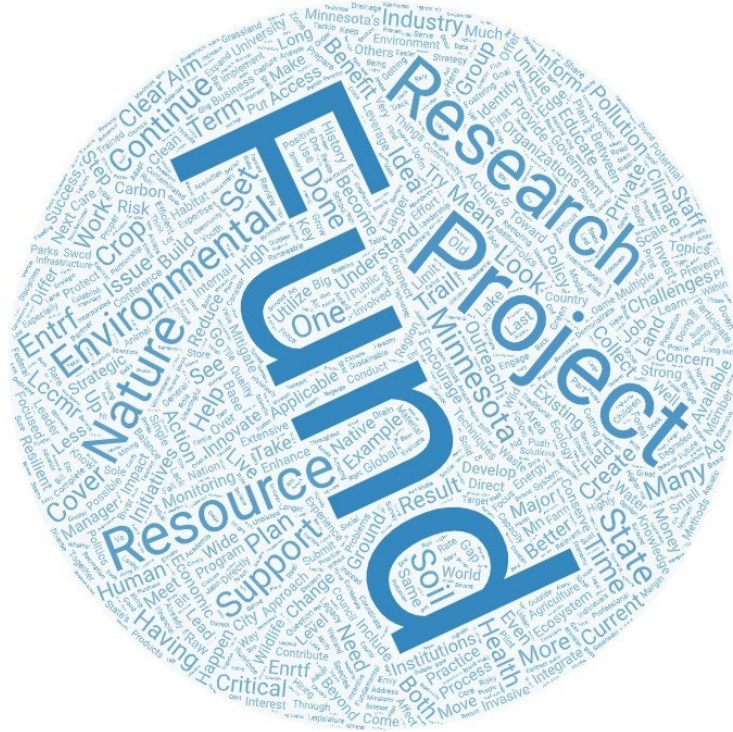
Table D-1. The following goal statements were developed by a past group of Minnesota's environment and natural resources experts. Please rank these goals from more important for Minnesota to achieve (1) to less important (7).

| Goal Statement | Score | Ranking |
|---|-------|---------|
| Minnesota's environment, natural resources, and communities are resilient in the face of climate change, land use changes, and extreme weather events. | 5.06 | 1 |
| Minnesota's water resources are better managed for both water quantity and quality, as a result of better understanding of the connections between surface water and groundwater. | 4.86 | 2 |
| Minnesota has healthy and diverse wildlife and plant populations that sustain and enhance the state's environment, economy, and quality of life. | 4.55 | 3 |
| Minnesota's public and private lands, including forests, grasslands, and agricultural lands, provide long-term benefits to fish, wildlife, and people. | 4.17 | 4 |
| Minnesota responds quickly and proactively to emerging environmental and natural resources issues. | 3.20 | 5 |
| Minnesota achieves reliance on nonpolluting, renewable energy in all sectors (including transportation, building, industry, agriculture, and others). | 3.16 | 6 |
| All Minnesotans, especially young people, have access to and take advantage of opportunities for culturally relevant and innovative connections to the lands and waters of Minnesota. | 3.00 | 7 |

Subject matter experts were asked two additional questions related to goals. The first question was how the ENRTF could help Minnesota be a leader nationally and internationally on environmental and natural resources issues. The second question asked if there were any additional goals that should be considered.

The subcommittee received 271 responses to the first question and 189 responses to the second question. All responses can be found in the [national leader document](#) and the [additional goals document](#) compiled for the subcommittee. The most common terms found in those responses were fund, project, nature, environmental, resource, wildlife, habitat, water, land, quality, education, research, engagement, collaboration, support, youth, and equity. The following word cloud visualizations show these keywords.

How can the ENRTF help Minnesota be a leader nationally and internationally on environmental and natural resources issues?



Is there another goal that you think the ENRTF could help Minnesota achieve?



Strategies Results

Subject matter experts were asked to select the top two or three most important or effective strategies to address six of the seven goal statements. The strategies were primarily developed by an expert panel during the 2019 strategic planning process with modifications made by the subcommittee. The final rankings based on the survey results are presented in the tables below. In addition, subject matter experts were asked if there were any additional strategies that should be considered. All responses can be found in the [additional strategies document](#) compiled for the subcommittee.

The seventh goal statement related to emerging issues was developed in 2024 by the subcommittee, and there were no strategies from 2019 to present. Instead, subject matter experts were asked to provide strategies that would be most important or effective in achieving that goal. Response to that question are also included in the [additional strategies document](#).

Table D-2. Top strategies to achieve the goal: “Minnesota’s water resources are better managed for both water quantity and quality, as a result of better understanding of the connections between surface water and groundwater.”

| Strategy | Selected | Rank |
|---|----------|------|
| Research impacts of nutrients, agricultural runoff, and urban stormwater on surface water and groundwater quality and quantity, as well as opportunities to mitigate those impacts. | 43.1% | 1 |
| Research and demonstrate innovative, market-based policies and partnerships that solve local water issues in both forest-based regions and agriculture-based regions. | 28.1% | 2 |
| Evaluate the effectiveness of current management practices and past investments to improve water resources. | 23.1% | 3 |
| Educate local officials on how to improve and protect water resources, including model projects and policies that can be emulated at all scales. | 20.3% | 4 |
| Increase understanding of current and future weather and climate patterns, and how these align with anticipated water needs across Minnesota. | 19.9% | 5 |
| Research, implement demonstrations, and develop incentives and policies related to holding back water and increasing evapotranspiration opportunities to prevent water pollution. | 15.3% | 6 |

Table D-3. Top strategies to achieve the goal: “Minnesota’s environment, natural resources, and communities are resilient in the face of climate change, land use changes, and extreme weather events.”

| Strategy | Selected | Rank |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| Support cities, counties, and watershed districts with developing climate resiliency and adaptation plans, and processes for funding and implementing those plans. | 33.2% | 1 |
| Identify and promote workable, holistic, multi-benefit, diverse, and viable (e.g., economically and socially) solutions for storing more water on the land, through both engineered and natural solutions targeted at critical areas. | 31.4% | 2 |
| Research effective water use scenarios – including modeling water scenarios, managing water on land, optimizing use to prevent overuse of groundwater, and improving water reuse and wastewater management – to identify improvements needed to ensure the state’s water resiliency and sustainability. | 27.7% | 3 |
| Research and demonstrate market-based policies that are economically viable and help pay for the land use, conservation, and other practices needed to achieve climate resiliency and water resources protection, especially in agricultural areas. | 26.6% | 4 |
| Compile existing research, identify gaps, and develop research to quantify land use and land cover changes, in order to identify restoration and protection needs to achieve sustainable natural systems. | 24.8% | 5 |
| Use public open space to demonstrate climate change adaptation, mitigation, and prevention. | 10.6% | 6 |

Table D-4. Top strategies to achieve the goal: “Minnesota has healthy and diverse wildlife and plant populations that sustain and enhance the state’s environment, economy, and quality of life.”

| Strategy | Selected | Rank |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| Research and manage species and ecosystems to effectively maintain, protect, and restore habitats and populations. | 34.3% | 1 |
| Support and provide technical assistance to private landowners on cost-effective ways to develop and restore diverse, native habitat. | 28.8% | 2 |
| Conserve additional lands and support management of currently protected lands. | 27.3% | 3 |
| Monitor the biologic and environmental health of systems through high-quality research to support management of lands and waters. | 22.1% | 4 |
| Evaluate the effectiveness of current management practices and past investments to sustain and enhance wildlife and native plant populations. | 18.8% | 5 |
| Research plant, fish, and wildlife communities to inform management in relation to climate change. | 10.0% | 6 |
| Research key issues and develop strategies to combat them (e.g., bird/insect crash). | 7.8% | 7 |

Table D-5. Top strategies to achieve the goal: “Minnesota’s public and private lands, including forests, grasslands, and agricultural lands, provide long-term benefits to fish, wildlife, and people.”

| Strategy | Selected | Rank |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| Promote, research, and evaluate best management practices (BMPs) on public and private lands, in order to provide long-term benefits to fish and wildlife. | 26.2% | 1 |
| Research, develop, and demonstrate agricultural production processes and systems that are significantly less carbon-intensive and decrease the loss of nutrients into ground water and surface water. | 20.3% | 2 |
| Enhance education and public outreach to change landscape and ecosystem norms. | 17.3% | 3 |
| Develop innovative, market-based policies to make substantive conservation efforts financially feasible. | 17.0% | 4 |
| Improve and demonstrate how working lands can be economically productive and good habitat. | 15.1% | 5 |
| Preserve and protect the watersheds that are already in good shape. | 14.4% | 6 |
| Research and demonstrate the practical value of regenerative agriculture. | 13.3% | 7 |
| Develop and implement agricultural cropping systems with diverse crops that provide multiple benefits, including exploring markets and supply chain. | 13.3% | 7 |
| Educate people through demonstration on the opportunity for public and private lands to slow and store water for multiple benefits (e.g., water quality, habitat, flood mitigation) as well as for carbon sequestration. | 12.6% | 9 |
| Encourage landscape-level and eco-type planning, instead of parcel-level. | 12.2% | 10 |
| Implement conservation actions that prioritize the needs of vulnerable, declining, poorly understood, and sensitive species. | 11.8% | 11 |
| Prioritize projects that enlist the support of multiple agencies and organizations. | 9.2% | 12 |
| Increase understanding and assessment of tradeoffs among different environmental and societal goals to improve decisions on public and private lands. | 8.9% | 13 |
| Identify high-quality habitat, recreation open spaces, and other high-priority areas for action. | 7.8% | 14 |
| Evaluate, prioritize, and demonstrate how working lands and renewable energy can be mutually beneficial. | 7.0% | 15 |

Table D-6. Top strategies to achieve the goal: “All Minnesotans, especially young people, have access to and take advantage of opportunities for culturally relevant and innovative connections to the lands and waters of Minnesota.”

| Strategies | Selected | Rank |
|---|-----------------|-------------|
| Through partnerships between schools, environmental learning centers, and other community resources, provide evidence-based, engaging programs to bring students to outdoor experiences. | 43.5% | 1 |
| Through collaborative efforts, provide curriculum, programs, and outdoor environmental events that teach K–12 students what public lands are, introduces them to public lands nearby, and encourages them to explore local public lands. | 33.5% | 2 |
| Address the social, economic, and physical barriers to outdoor recreation through programs that encourage inclusivity and address inequities. | 30.1% | 3 |
| Implement capital projects that develop culturally relevant, accessible, and resilient outdoor recreation facilities, infrastructure, and equipment rental programs that create innovative experiences (e.g., parks, trails, fishing piers, shoreline fishing areas, birding trails, shelters). | 24.2% | 4 |
| Research people’s interests in outdoor recreation and understand barriers to participation. | 13.4% | 5 |
| Assess programs, activities, and physical spaces for their accessibility and effectiveness; support changes to adapt and retrofit to welcome more people. | 6.3% | 6 |

Table D-7. Top strategies to achieve the goal: “Minnesota achieves reliance on nonpolluting, renewable energy in all sectors (including transportation, building, industry, agriculture, and others).”

| Strategy | Selected | Rank |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| Incentivize the use of nonpolluting renewable energy in agriculture, industries, and commercial transportation. | 37.7% | 1 |
| Demonstrate the ability and statewide potential to generate solar energy on perennially vegetated lands, reducing CO ² and water runoff, while making the enterprise economically viable. | 28.4% | 2 |
| Fund energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy for rental properties, small businesses, and schools. | 22.4% | 3 |
| Demonstrate community-scale, net-zero renewable energy systems. | 21.3% | 4 |
| Encourage bundling renewable energy production and battery storage. | 13.4% | 5 |

LCCMR Funding Process Results

Subject matter experts were asked how much they agreed with eight statements related to the LCCMR funding process and provided an opportunity to comment on the process. Results from the first question

are summarized below, and [comments on the LCCMR funding process](#) have been compiled in a separate document.

Subject matter experts generally had a favorable impression of LCCMR staff, LCCMR outreach efforts related to the request for proposals (RFP), how clear it was what projects are eligible for funding, the process for completing and submitting a proposal, and LCCMR reporting requirements (See Table D-8). Experts looked less favorably on the length of the process and the clarity, fairness, and transparency of the LCCMR evaluation, selection, and recommendation process.

Results varied slightly depending on if the subject matter expert had received or applied for ENRTF funding in the past and the type of organization with which they are affiliated. In general, experts from non-profit organizations reported less favorable impressions than experts affiliated with other groups. In addition, experts who had never received or applied for ENRTF funding generally had a less favorable impression of how well the LCCMR conducts RFP outreach efforts, how easy it is to complete a proposal, and how clear it is what projects are eligible for funding. Finally, experts affiliated with non-profit organization, universities, or colleges expressed less favorable impressions than other groups about the proposal evaluation, selection, and recommendation process.

Table D-8. How much do you agree with the following statements?

| Statement | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | | Strongly Disagree | Weighted Average |
|---|----------------|-------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|------------------|
| | | | Disagree | Disagree | | |
| LCCMR staff are helpful and easy to work with. | 49% | 36% | 13% | 2% | 0% | 1.68 |
| The LCCMR does a good job in notifying potential applicants that funding is available. | 41% | 35% | 15% | 8% | 1% | 1.92 |
| It is clear what projects are eligible for funding from the ENRTF. | 26% | 53% | 13% | 6% | 1% | 2.03 |
| Completing and submitting a proposal to the LCCMR is reasonably simple and straightforward. | 28% | 46% | 16% | 8% | 2% | 2.09 |
| Once funded, project reporting requirements are clear and straightforward. | 26% | 42% | 26% | 5% | 1% | 2.14 |
| The LCCMR's process from proposal submission to fund availability is timely and efficient. | 17% | 42% | 22% | 15% | 5% | 2.5 |
| The LCCMR process for recommending funding from the ENRTF is fair and transparent. | 10% | 30% | 37% | 15% | 7% | 2.78 |
| It is clear how the LCCMR evaluates and selects projects to recommend for funding. | 10% | 33% | 30% | 21% | 6% | 2.8 |

Survey Notes

The majority of subject matter experts responding to the survey had previously applied for ENRTF funding (81%) and received ENRTF funding (66%). Most experts were affiliated with an academic institution (32%), a non-profit organization (28%), a state government agency (18%), or a local government agency (13%). Experts with private (4%), tribal (4%), and federal affiliation (1%) represented a much smaller number of respondents. Respondents were able to indicate expertise in up to three areas, and a wide range of expertise was reported (See Table D-9).

Table D-9. In which of the following areas do you have expertise or experience related to environmental, natural resources, or outdoor recreation issues?

| Expertise | |
|--|-----|
| Water Quality | 35% |
| Land and Wildlife Habitat and Management | 28% |
| Climate Change | 24% |
| Agricultural Practices | 23% |
| Environmental Education | 21% |
| Outdoor Recreation | 20% |
| Invasive Species | 17% |
| Aquatic Habitat and Management | 13% |
| Forestry | 11% |
| Other | 11% |
| Energy | 10% |
| Environmental or Civil Engineering | 10% |
| Geology, Soils, and/or Mineral Resources | 9% |
| Water Quantity | 8% |
| Air Quality | 5% |
| Recycling, Reuse, and Other Waste Management | 4% |

Appendix E: Public Listening Session Summary

The LCCMR Subcommittee on Strategic Planning hosted five listening sessions to gather public input on the priorities for environmental and natural resources funding and preferred methods to address those priorities, particularly from members of the public who may not participate in online surveys. Listening sessions were held in the following locations and dates:

- March 26, 2024 (Virtual)
- April 26, 2024 (Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, St. Paul)
- May 3, 2024 (Central Lakes College, Brainerd)
- May 3, 2024 (Becker County Historical Society and Museum, Detroit Lakes)
- May 4, 2024 (Oblivion CoffeeBar & Mercantile, St. Cloud)

Invitations to all listening sessions were announced through a press release, posted to the LCCMR webpage and social media accounts, and sent to everyone on the LCCMR GovDelivery list. An invitation to the virtual listening session was included with the announcement of the public survey emailed to nearly 400 organizations across Minnesota, including environmental, natural resource, recreation, agriculture, energy, economic development, government, university and colleges, non-profits, for-profits, community, and tribal groups. For in-person sessions, emails were also sent to local leaders, state legislators, subject matter experts, and environmental and natural resources organizations in the listening session area.

Each listening session provided an opportunity for members of the public to learn more about the ENRTF and the LCCMR, interact with LCCMR members, and provide input. At the virtual and Brainerd listening sessions, participants heard a formal presentation about the ENRTF and LCCMR and then participated in small group discussions with LCCMR members. The St. Paul, Detroit Lakes, and St. Cloud sessions were held as open houses where members of the public could interact informally with LCCMR members and staff, view a presentation about the LCCMR and ENRTF, and provide written input. At all sessions, participants were prompted to answer three questions that paralleled questions on the public survey:

1. What are the biggest threats or needs related to Minnesota's environment or natural resources?
2. What do we need to do to address the threats facing Minnesota's environment and natural resources?
3. What is your future vision for Minnesota's environment and natural resources? What would success look like?

There were 101 participants in the five listening sessions. Participants included concerned citizens, local officials, state and local government agency personnel, researchers, and representatives from non-profit organizations. The [compiled written comments and discussion notes from all the listening sessions](https://www.lccmr.mn.gov/documents/strategic_plan/2024-10-22_listening_session-comments.pdf) can be found in the following document:

https://www.lccmr.mn.gov/documents/strategic_plan/2024-10-22_listening_session-comments.pdf

B. Request for Proposal (RFP)

1. RFP adopted January 17, 2023 for FY2024
(funding beginning July 1, 2023)

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

2023 ENRTF Request for Proposal



Minnesota's Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec.14: "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."

Summary

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) welcomes proposals for projects of all sizes that address the priorities and requirements described within this RFP and that aim to protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The LCCMR reviews applications and makes funding recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). Approximately \$70 million is anticipated to be available from the Trust Fund through this RFP for projects beginning July 1, 2023. Most projects funded are two to three years in duration. Proposals must be submitted online at lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn by May 26, 2022 at 4:30PM.

Funding Available

Approximately \$70 million is anticipated to be available through this RFP for projects beginning July 1, 2023. The LCCMR makes recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. This cycle will also include a recommendation from the Great Lakes Protection Account. Recommended projects must be approved by the 2023 Legislature through an appropriation, signed into law by the Governor, and have a work plan approved by LCCMR before funds can be spent. For non-state entities, payment is made by reimbursement for expenses incurred and fiscal oversight is provided through a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Most projects are two to three years long, however more or less time can be requested.

Amount of Request

There is no minimum or maximum request amount. All proposals should strive to maximize efficiency and return on investment for the proposed expenditures.

Applicant Eligibility

The RFP is open to all who want to apply and who have demonstrated fiscal capacity. Applicants must be available to make a formal presentation to LCCMR if selected and to be available for staff or commission member questions.

Online Proposal System

All proposals must be submitted through the LCCMR's [online proposal submission system](#). Early account registrations and proposal submissions are strongly encouraged.

Deadline for Submission

Final proposals must be submitted online by Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 4:30PM.

Information from this document may be copied and distributed to others. This publication can be made available in alternate formats, such as large print or audio format, upon request.

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources
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Proposal and Appropriation Timeline

LCCMR Members

as of 3/22/22

Co-Chairs

Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen
Rep. Rick Hansen
Nancy Gibson

Co-Vice Chairs

Sen. David Tomassoni
Rep. Tama Theis
William Faber

Rep. Patty Acomb
Rita Albrecht

Sen. Kari Dziedzic
Sen. Foungh Hawj
Rep. Dale Lueck

Seth Moore
Rep. Kelly Morrison
Jeremy Peichel
Michael Reese
Shona Snater
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Corrie Layfield, *Senior Project Analyst*

Mike Campana, *Senior Project Analyst*

Rory Anderson, *Project Analyst and Communications Specialist*

Diana Griffith, *Commission Assistant*



Up-to-date information on deadlines and meetings can be found on the [calendar page](#) of our website.

| | |
|---|---|
| March 22, 2022 | Funding priorities determined and 2023 RFP adopted |
| March 25, 2022 | 2023 RFP issued |
| May 26, 2022 | Final submission deadline for proposals responding to 2023 RFP |
| July 2022 | All submitted proposals distributed to LCCMR members for review, evaluation, and ranking |
| July 25, 2022 | A subset of high-ranking proposals selected for further consideration and invited to give presentations before the LCCMR |
| August 8-10, 2022 August 16-17, 2022 | Selected proposals present before the LCCMR |
| August 30, 2022 | Subset of proposals selected for recommendation to the Legislature for funding |
| September - November 2022 | Projects recommended for funding begin submitting work plans for LCCMR staff review and research projects recommended for funding undergo peer review |
| December 2022 | Funding recommendations are adopted by the LCCMR in legislative bill format, as they will be presented to the Legislature |
| January - May 2023 | LCCMR recommendations presented to the Legislature for consideration via introduction as an appropriations bill Bill is considered and acted upon by the Minnesota House and Senate Upon passage, the bill goes before the governor to be signed into law |
| June 2023 | LCCMR approves work plans for projects funded |
| July 2023 | Minnesota DNR sends grant agreements to non-state agencies receiving ENRTF funds |
| July 1, 2023 | Money from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund becomes available for expenditure and approved projects can begin |

About LCCMR

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) is made up of 17 members: five Senators, five Representatives, five citizens appointed by the governor, one citizen appointed by the Senate, and one citizen appointed by the House. The function of the LCCMR is to make funding recommendations to the Legislature for special environment and natural resource projects, primarily from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

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2023 Funding Priorities

All proposals must meet the constitutional aim to protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources, especially those that may be substantially impaired or destroyed in any area of the state.

Proposals are strongly encouraged that address prevention strategies for protecting natural resources, that include citizen and community involvement in scientific efforts, and that implement or identify clear strategies for implementing research results.

Proposals should also address one or more of the priorities described in the categories below; however, proposals pertaining to new or emerging environmental or natural resource issues not directly addressed below may also be eligible for consideration. Priorities are listed by category and not in order of importance.

A. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information

1. Data acquisition, information management, research, or analysis to develop foundational natural resource, wildlife, pollinator, or plant data and information.
2. Coordination, facilitation, or training pertaining to statewide sharing, distribution, or innovative application of natural resource data (e.g., maps, inventories, and surveys) and information tools (e.g., Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), and other remote sensing techniques).
3. Quantification and analysis pertaining to the economic value of services provided by natural resources and conservation, including analysis that quantifies public savings and costs of water or air pollution prevention.

B. Water Resources

1. Research, monitoring, or evaluation to increase protection, conservation, and sustainability of the quality, quantity, or function of water resources. This includes, but is not limited to, efforts pertaining to:
 - I. Ground and surface water interaction, including stream flow and groundwater flow;
 - II. Aquifer recharge;
 - III. Wetland, river, and lake ecosystems, including Lake Superior;
 - IV. Mitigation of impacts resulting from artificial hydrological modifications in both urban and agricultural areas;
 - V. Effects of climate change on water resources;
 - VI. Drinking Water.
2. Research, evaluation, technology development, or engineering design pertaining to regulated, unregulated, or emerging water contaminants, including sources, fates, movements, or effects of these contaminants within ground or surface waters or across ecological communities. Contaminants of interest include, but are not limited to, nitrates, phosphates, estrogenic compounds, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, chlorides, PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), and pesticides. Efforts pertaining to the following are of particular interest:
 - I. Understanding the impacts of contaminants on the health of humans or terrestrial or aquatic species;
 - II. Preventing or reducing levels of contaminants in ground and surface waters;
 - III. Advancing development or implementation of standards for contaminants.

2023 Funding Priorities (Continued)

C. Environmental Education

Proposals must address education, information dissemination, and training efforts that will increase the knowledge and skills of students or the public to cultivate a sustainable lifestyle, improve and maintain water quality, reduce and monitor energy and water consumption, or restore and maintain a healthy and biodiverse natural environment. Funding for capital projects (e.g., buildings or building infrastructure) will not be considered in this category. Of particular interest are projects that address one or more of the following:

1. Efforts that involve broad-based partnerships, engage diverse and changing demographics, provide outdoor experiences, or are committed to building a long-lasting and action-based conservation ethic in a community.
2. Efforts that deliver and implement existing curriculum, especially integration of environmental education into school curriculum. Proposals to develop new curriculum will not be considered.

D. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

"Invasive species" includes any plants, animals, worms, insects, microbes, and diseases that are non-native, introduced species in the state and that are currently having, or pose a threat to have, significant adverse impacts on Minnesota's native ecosystems and biodiversity. All research proposals related to invasive species research must consider the research priorities established by the University of Minnesota's (UMN) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center or Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Center. All UMN proposals and others should apply to the Centers when applicable. The Centers will keep the LCCMR updated on the status of proposals received. Projects must propose to do one or more of the following:

1. Prevent introduction or provide early detection of new invasive species.
2. Reduce the spread of invasive species with best management practices along streams, rivers, land transportation routes, and other vectors.
3. Develop or demonstrate alternative control techniques—particularly involving biocontrol, integrated pest management, or minimization of non-target effects including pollinators—for containing or suppressing invasive species already present in Minnesota. Standard control, removal, and maintenance activities of invasive species will not be considered.
4. Restore lands with native vegetation as practicable following implementation of invasive species control techniques on disturbed lands where a native seed bank no longer exists.
5. Inform and educate landowners about all invasive species threats to their land and offer actions they can take in response.

E. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy

Funding for capital projects (e.g., buildings or building infrastructure) will not be considered in this category.

1. Innovative approaches to air quality improvement that reduce impacts on human health, the environment, or natural resources, such as by preventing, reducing, or mitigating airborne contaminants including PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons).
2. Acquisition of data at a scale appropriate to assess natural resource changes attributable to climate change.
3. Research to help understand how to mitigate, adapt, or make Minnesota's ecosystems more resilient to climate change impacts, including drought and extreme weather events.
4. Implementation of innovative efforts aimed at mitigating, adapting, or making Minnesota's ecosystems more resilient to climate change impacts, including drought and extreme weather events.
5. Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through new and innovative approaches to waste reduction or energy efficiency. Standard, required, and ongoing efforts will not be considered.

2023 Funding Priorities (Continued)

F. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat

Please review “Additional Requirements for Land Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Projects.” (see page 6)

1. Innovative protection or restoration of lands with high-quality natural resources, ecological value, water protection value, or habitat, particularly for pollinators.
2. Long term preservation of native forest, wetland, or prairie plant genetics and viability.
3. Technical assistance for stewardship of prairies, forests, wetlands, or other habitat, or technical assistance for agricultural land management in order to protect water quality and aquatic habitat or to improve pollinator habitat.
4. Planning and implementation of community-based efforts to permanently conserve natural resources and reduce habitat fragmentation impacts on natural resources, including the impacts of transportation and other infrastructure.

G. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation

Please review “Additional Requirements for Land Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Projects.” (see page 6)

1. The Reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in M.S. section 84.95, subdivision 2.
2. Acquisition or development of strategic lands with high quality natural resources, ecological value, recreational value, water protection value, or habitat, particularly for pollinators.
3. Acquisition or development of lands that have the greatest capacity to contribute multiple conservation benefits to wildlife, humans, and ground and surface water quality.
4. Efforts based on precision conservation methods and analysis that quantifiably identify the lands most critical to acquire. Precision conservation is a practice that considers lands in terms of the interconnected systems of which they are a part. As a practice, precision conservation compiles and integrates multiple types of available data layers and analysis (e.g., terrain analysis, soil productivity, habitat potential, economic analysis, erosion potential, proximity to surface water) to identify and guide efforts that will maximize conservation benefits.
5. Efforts involving Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA) or other areas that aim to protect unique ecosystems, such as native prairie as defined in M.S. 84.02, Subd. 5, or rare, endangered, or threatened species. Areas of these types that may not presently qualify as a priority for other State of Minnesota funds directed toward land acquisition for habitat or recreation are of particular interest.
6. Efforts that enhance habitat connectivity, benefit ground or surface water quality, improve access for natural resource management, or increase public access for recreation, particularly in areas of the state with limited protected public lands.
7. Efforts expanding outdoor recreational opportunities through additions and connections to state, regional, or local parks and trails.

H. Small Projects

The LCCMR encourages proposals under \$200,000, especially from local government units and non-profits, to quickly and efficiently provide environment and natural resource benefits in Minnesota. Proposals should address one or more of the priorities listed in the above categories A through G.

Great Lakes Protection Account

Funding is available from the Great Lakes Protection Account (GLPA) ([M.S. 116 0.02](#)) for projects in any category above that protect water quality in the Great Lakes, including projects that advance the goals of the regional Great Lakes toxic substances control agreement and the binational Great Lakes water quality agreement.

Requirements

Project Requirements

All projects must comply with [Article XI, Section 14 of the Minnesota Constitution](#), [Minnesota Statute 116P](#), and other requirements provided in the following summary document:

- Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) [Project Requirements](#)

Professional, Technical, and Services Contracts

- State contracting and competitive bidding requirements apply.

Financial Capacity

To help us evaluate financial capacity, non-profit organizations and for-profit businesses with an annual income:

- over \$750,000 should submit their most recent certified financial audit
- between \$50,000 and \$750,000 must provide their most recent IRS Form 990.
- under \$50,000 or that have not been in existence long enough to have completed IRS Form 990 or an audit must submit their most recent board-reviewed financial statements

Work Plan and Progress Reports

Project managers of recommended projects must submit a work plan. Successfully funded projects must have an approved work plan and the project manager must submit annual or semiannual progress reports. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the LCCMR amendment process.

Additional Requirements for Land Acquisitions, Easements, and Restorations

All fee title and conservation easement acquisition proposals must include funding for development and implementation of a management and restoration plan. If no funding is requested, your proposal must address why funding for this work is not needed to achieve a high quality restoration.

All acquisition and restoration applicants must read and understand the following summary documents:

- ENRTF [Fee Title Acquisition Project Requirements](#)
- ENRTF [Conservation Easement Acquisition Project Requirements](#)
- ENRTF [Restoration Project Requirements](#)

A map must be submitted with your proposal that shows the site specific location of your proposed fee title or conservation easement acquisition or restorations within the city, county, region, and/or state. The map must be legible as black and white and include a north arrow and scale.

A parcel list must be provided with your proposal that identifies proposed fee title and conservation easement acquisitions and restorations by parcel name, estimated cost, county, ecological significance, activity description, proposed number of acres, proposed shoreline or trail miles, type of landowner, and proposed title/easement holder (if applicable).

Funding May Be Available Through Other Programs

Projects eligible for established, topic-specific state agency grant programs - such as for renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, clean water implementation, regional and local parks and trails, and habitat acquisition and restoration - are encouraged to apply directly to the particular state agency grant program as funds may be available in a timelier manner.

Guidance on Allowable Expenses

Eligible Expenses

Eligible expenses are those expenses solely incurred through project activities that are directly related to and necessary for producing the project outcomes described in the proposal. All proposed expenses must be specified in the proposal submitted. Please note that for non-state entities all funds are awarded on a reimbursement basis, unless otherwise authorized, and all eligible expenses will need to be documented. Eligible expenses may include:

- a. Eligible expenditures incurred only after the effective date as approved by LCCMR.
- b. Wages and expenses of salaried Recipient employees if specified, documented, and approved. For State Agencies: use of unclassified staff only OR request approval for the use of classified staff accompanied by an explanation of how the agency will backfill that part of the classified staff salary proposed to be paid for with these funds. This is subject to specific discussion and approval by LCCMR.
- c. Fringe benefit expenses, such as FICA/Medicare, retirement, and health insurance of Recipient's employees, if specified.
- d. Professional and technical services specified in the approved Work Plan that are rendered by individuals or organizations not a part of the Recipient;
- e. Equipment, tools, materials, and supplies specific to the project and incoming freight charges for them.
- f. Capital expenditures for facilities, equipment, and other capital assets as expressly approved. For expenditures greater than \$5,000, the Recipient must provide an explanation as to how all the equipment purchased with the appropriation will continue to be used for the same program through its useful life, or, if the use changes, a commitment to pay back to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund an amount equal to either the cash value received or a residual value approved by the director of the LCCMR if it is not sold.
- g. Publication and printing/copying expenses necessary for contract administration, work products production, and semi-annual reports relating to accomplishments.
- h. In-state transportation and travel expenses such as lodging, meals, and mileage of personnel directly involved in the Project in the same manner and in no greater amount than provided for in the current "[Commissioner's Plan](#)" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget and as provided by LCCMR or, for University of Minnesota projects, the [University of Minnesota plan](#). Allowable meal and lodging expenses are for employees only. Purchasing meals or providing lodging for others is not an allowable expense.

Generally Ineligible Expenses—Unless Explicitly Approved

Generally ineligible expenses for reimbursement mean all expenses not defined as eligible expenses, but for which an explicit exception can be sought from LCCMR if the expenses can be clearly justified and individually documented as directly related to and necessary for a project. No broad allocations for costs in either dollars or percentages are allowed. In deciding whether to seek exception for these costs consider that cash and in-kind leverage are criteria considered in proposal evaluation. Generally ineligible expenses include but are not limited to:

- a. General operations, overhead, and other indirect expenses, including office maintenance, office utility expenses, and office materials and supplies.
- b. Office rental fees (including storage space rental).
- c. Communication expenses incurred for telephone calls, web access, postage, and similar services.
- d. Insurance, except title insurance.
- e. Attorney fees, except to acquire and clear title to land.
- f. Purchase of communication devices such as pagers, cell phones, or smart phones.
- g. Purchase of computers, tablets, or audiovisual equipment.
- h. Generally available food and refreshments, except if explicitly approved for certain types of events.
- i. Conference attendance and associated costs and fees, except if to participate in formal presentation of project findings.
- j. Out of state transportation and travel expenses.

Prohibited Expenses

Prohibited expenses for reimbursement mean all expenses indicated below, including but not limited to:

- a. Any expenses incurred before the project is authorized, before July 1, 2022, or before LCCMR work plan approval—whichever is latest.
- b. Fundraising.
- c. Taxes, except sales tax on goods and services.
- d. Lobbyists or political contributions.
- e. Advertising and marketing expenses.
- f. Loans, grants, or subsidies to persons or entities for development.
- g. Bad debts, late payment fees, finance charges, or contingency funds.
- h. Interest or investment management fees.
- i. Directors or officers salary.
- j. Merit awards and bonuses.
- k. Memberships (including subscriptions and dues).
- l. Publications, periodicals, and subscriptions.
- m. Employee workplace parking.
- n. Entertainment, decorations, gifts, and prizes.

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund: MN Constitution and Statutory Expenditures

[Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec.14](#) Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Established

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. [Adopted, November 8, 1988; Amended, November 6, 1990; November 3, 1998]

[M.S. 116P.08](#) Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Expenditures and Exceptions

Subdivision 1. **Expenditures.** (a) Money in the trust fund may be spent ONLY for:

- (1) the reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in section 84.95, subd. 2;
- (2) research that contributes to increasing the effectiveness of protecting or managing the state's environment or natural resources;
- (3) collection and analysis of information that assists in developing the state's environmental and natural resources policies;
- (4) enhancement of public education, awareness, and understanding necessary for the protection, conservation, restoration, and enhancement of air, land, water, forests, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;
- (5) capital projects for the preservation and protection of unique natural resources;
- (6) activities that preserve or enhance fish, wildlife, land, air, water, and other natural resources that otherwise may be substantially impaired or destroyed in any area of the state;
- (7) administrative and investment expenses incurred by the state board of investment in investing deposits to the trust fund; and
- (8) administrative expenses subject to the limits in section 116P.09.

(b) In making recommendations for expenditures from the trust fund, the commission shall give priority to funding programs and projects under paragraph (a), clause (1) and (6). Any request for proposals issued by the commission shall clearly indicate these priorities.

Subdivision 2. **Exceptions.** Money from the trust fund may not be spent for:

- (1) purposes of environmental compensation and liability under chapter 115B and response action under chapter 115C;
- (2) purposes of municipal water pollution control in municipalities with a population of 5,000 or more under the authority of chapters 115 and 116;
- (3) costs associated with the decommissioning of nuclear power plants;
- (4) hazardous waste disposal facilities;
- (5) solid waste disposal facilities; or
- (6) projects or purposes inconsistent with the strategic plan.

Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria, as applicable, will be considered in evaluating proposals:

- **Funding Priorities:** Responds to RFP funding priorities.
- **Multiple Benefits:** Delivers multiple benefits to Minnesota’s environment and natural resources.
- **Outcomes:** Identifies clear objectives likely to result in measurable, demonstrated, and meaningful outcomes.
- **Knowledge Base:** Contributes to the knowledge base or disseminates information that will benefit other efforts.
- **Extent of Impact:** Results in broad, long-term impacts of statewide, regional, or local significance.
- **Innovation:** Employs or demonstrates innovative approaches to more effectively and efficiently solve specific environment and natural resources issues.
- **Scientific/Technical Basis:** Reflects current scientific and technical knowledge, standards, and best practices.
- **Urgency:** Addresses an issue for which immediate future action is urgent and critical to avoid undesirable consequences.
- **Capacity and Readiness:** Demonstrates capacity and readiness for efforts to be managed and completed in timely, accountable, and effective manner.
- **Leverage:** Leverages collaborative partnerships and additional efforts, resources, and non-state funds.

How To Apply

Proposals due by Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 4:30PM

1. Register for an account on the [LCCMR Proposal and Grant Management System](#).
2. Login and click “Create a New Proposal.”
3. Follow the instructions for completing your proposal.
If you would like to view blank sample proposals, you can find them on our [2023 Funding Process page](#).
4. Upload your completed attachments as required:
 - A. Visual component or map (1 page limit)
 - B. Letter or resolution from your governing board authorizing submission of the proposal (non-profits, tribes, and local units of government only)
 - C. 990 tax information, certified audit, or board-reviewed financial statements as required
5. Review all information and attachments.
6. Click “Submit.” (Note: state and federal agencies, colleges, and universities must have an authorized representative submit the proposal).
7. Save or print the confirmation email. Please check your junk mail folder if the confirmation email does not appear in your inbox. Contact LCCMR if you did not receive a confirmation email or if your proposal status does not appear as “Final Submitted” on your dashboard.
8. To follow along with the 2023 funding process, visit our [2023 Funding Process page](#).

B. Request for Proposal (RFP)

2. RFP adopted November 16, 2023 for FY2025
(funding beginning July 1, 2024)

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

2024 ENRTF Request for Proposal



Minnesota's Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec.14: "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."

Summary

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) welcomes proposals for projects of all sizes that address the priorities and requirements described within this Request for Proposal (RFP) and that aim to protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The LCCMR reviews applications and makes funding recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). Approximately \$79 million is available from the Trust Fund through this RFP for projects beginning July 1, 2024. Most projects funded are two to three years in duration. Proposals must be submitted online at lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn by March 31, 2023 at 4:30 PM.

Funding Available

Approximately \$79 million is available through this RFP for projects beginning July 1, 2024. The LCCMR makes recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. Recommended projects must be approved by the 2024 Legislature through an appropriation, signed into law by the Governor, and have a work plan approved by the LCCMR before funds can be spent. For non-state entities, payment is made by reimbursement for expenses incurred, and fiscal oversight is provided through a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Most projects are two to three years long, however more or less time can be requested.

Amount of Request

There is no minimum or maximum request amount. All proposals should strive to maximize efficiency and return on investment for the proposed expenditures.

Applicant Eligibility

The RFP is open to all who want to apply and who have demonstrated fiscal capacity. Applicants must be available to make a formal presentation to LCCMR if selected and to be available for staff or commission member questions.

Online Proposal System

All proposals must be submitted through the LCCMR's [online proposal submission system](#). Early account registrations and proposal submissions are strongly encouraged.

Deadline for Submission

Final proposals must be submitted online by March 31, 2023 at 4:30 PM.

Information from this document may be copied and distributed to others. This publication can be made available in alternate formats, such as large print or audio format, upon request.

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources
Room 65, State Office Building
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St. Paul, MN 55155
Phone: 651-296-2406
Email: lccmr@lccmr.mn.gov
Website: www.lccmr.mn.gov

Issued January 18, 2023

Proposal and Appropriation Timeline

LCCMR Members

as of 12/31/22

Co-Chairs

Sen. Bill Ingebrigtsen
Rep. Rick Hansen
Nancy Gibson

Co-Vice Chairs

Sen. Kari Dziedzic
Rep. Tama Theis
William Faber

Rep. Patty Acomb
Rita Albrecht
Sen. Gary Dahms
Sen. Founq Hawj
Shona Langseth
Rep. Dale Lueck
Seth Moore

Rep. Kelly Morrison
Jeremy Peichel
Michael Reese
Sen. Torrey Westrom

LCCMR Staff

Becca Nash, *Director*

Michael Varien, *Senior Project Analyst*

Corrie Layfield, *Senior Project Analyst*

Mike Campana, *Senior Project Analyst*

Noah Fribley, *Project Analyst and Communications Specialist*

Diana Griffith, *Commission Assistant*



Up-to-date information on deadlines and meetings can be found on the [calendar page](#) of our website.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| January 17, 2023 | Funding priorities determined and 2024 RFP adopted. |
| January 18, 2023 | 2024 RFP issued. |
| March 31, 2023 | Final submission deadline for proposals responding to 2024 RFP. |
| Early May 2023 | All submitted proposals distributed to LCCMR members for review, evaluation, and ranking. |
| June 8, 2023 | A subset of high-ranking proposals selected for further consideration and invited to give presentations before the LCCMR. |
| June 22-23, 2023 June 27-30, 2023 | Selected proposals present before the LCCMR. |
| July 20, 2023 | Subset of proposals selected for recommendation to the Legislature for funding. |
| August-November | Projects recommended for funding begin submitting work plans for LCCMR staff review, and research projects recommended for funding undergo peer review. |
| December 7, 2023 | Funding recommendations are adopted by the LCCMR in legislative bill format, as they will be presented to the Legislature. |
| January - May 2024 | LCCMR recommendations presented to the Legislature for consideration via introduction as an appropriations bill. Bill is considered and acted upon by the Minnesota House and Senate. Upon passage, the bill goes before the governor to be signed into law. |
| June 2024 | LCCMR approves work plans for projects funded. |
| July 2024 | Minnesota DNR sends grant agreements to non-state agencies receiving ENRTF funds. |
| July 1, 2024 | Money from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund becomes available for expenditure, and projects with an approved work plan may begin. |

About LCCMR

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) is made up of 17 members: five Senators, five Representatives, five citizens appointed by the governor, one citizen appointed by the Senate, and one citizen appointed by the House. The function of the LCCMR is to make funding recommendations to the Legislature for special environment and natural resource projects, primarily from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

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2024 Funding Priorities

All proposals must meet the constitutional aim to protect, conserve, preserve, and enhance Minnesota's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources, especially those that may be substantially impaired or destroyed in any area of the state.

Proposals that address prevention strategies for protecting natural resources, that include citizen and community involvement in scientific efforts, or that implement or identify clear strategies for implementing research results are strongly encouraged.

Proposals should also address one or more of the priorities described in the categories below; however, proposals pertaining to new or emerging environmental or natural resource issues not directly addressed below may also be eligible for consideration. Priorities are listed by category and not in order of importance.

A. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information

1. Data acquisition, information management, research, or analysis to develop foundational natural resource, wildlife, pollinator, or plant data and information.
2. Coordination, facilitation, or training pertaining to statewide sharing, distribution, or innovative application of natural resource data (e.g., maps, inventories, and surveys) and information tools (e.g., Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), and other remote sensing techniques).
3. Quantification and analysis pertaining to the economic value of services provided by natural resources and conservation, including analysis that quantifies public savings and costs of water or air pollution prevention.

B. Water Resources

1. Research, monitoring, or evaluation to increase protection, conservation, and sustainability of the quality, quantity, or function of water resources. This includes, but is not limited to, efforts pertaining to:
 - I. Ground and surface water interaction, including stream flow and groundwater flow;
 - II. Aquifer recharge;
 - III. Wetland, river, and lake ecosystems, including Lake Superior;
 - IV. Mitigation of impacts resulting from artificial hydrological modifications in both urban and agricultural areas;
 - V. Effects of climate change on water resources;
 - VI. Drinking water.
2. Research, evaluation, technology development, or engineering design pertaining to regulated, unregulated, or emerging water contaminants, including sources, fates, movements, or effects of these contaminants within ground or surface waters or across ecological communities. Contaminants of interest include, but are not limited to, nitrates, phosphates, estrogenic compounds, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, chlorides, PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), and pesticides. Efforts pertaining to the following are of particular interest:
 - I. Understanding the impacts of contaminants on the health of humans or terrestrial or aquatic species;
 - II. Preventing or reducing levels of contaminants in ground and surface waters;
 - III. Advancing development or implementation of standards for contaminants.

2024 Funding Priorities (Continued)

C. Environmental Education

Proposals must address education, information dissemination, and training efforts that will increase the knowledge and skills of students or the public to cultivate a sustainable lifestyle, improve and maintain water quality, reduce and monitor energy and water consumption, or restore and maintain a healthy and biodiverse natural environment. Funding for capital projects (e.g., buildings or building infrastructure) will not be considered in this category. Of particular interest are projects that address one or more of the following:

1. Efforts that involve broad-based partnerships, engage diverse and changing demographics, provide outdoor experiences, or are committed to building a long-lasting and action-based conservation ethic in a community.
2. Efforts that deliver and implement existing curriculum, especially integration of environmental education into school curriculum. Proposals to develop new curriculum will not be considered.

D. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

"Invasive species" includes any plants, animals, worms, insects, microbes, and diseases that are non-native, introduced species in the state and that are currently having, or pose a threat to have, significant adverse impacts on Minnesota's native ecosystems and biodiversity. All research proposals related to invasive species research must consider the research priorities established by the University of Minnesota's (UMN) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center or Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Center. All UMN proposals and others should apply to the Centers when applicable. The Centers will keep the LCCMR updated on the status of proposals received. Projects must propose to do one or more of the following:

1. Prevent introduction or provide early detection of new invasive species.
2. Reduce the spread of invasive species with best management practices along streams, rivers, land transportation routes, and other vectors.
3. Develop or demonstrate alternative control techniques—particularly involving biocontrol, integrated pest management, or minimization of non-target effects including pollinators—for containing or suppressing invasive species already present in Minnesota. Standard control, removal, and maintenance activities of invasive species will not be considered.
4. Restore lands with native vegetation as practicable following implementation of invasive species control techniques on disturbed lands where a native seed bank no longer exists.
5. Inform and educate landowners about all invasive species threats to their land and offer actions they can take in response.

E. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy

Funding for capital projects (e.g., buildings or building infrastructure) will not be considered in this category.

1. Innovative approaches to air quality improvement that reduce impacts on human health, the environment, or natural resources, such as by preventing, reducing, or mitigating airborne contaminants including PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons).
2. Acquisition of data at a scale appropriate to assess natural resource changes attributable to climate change.
3. Research to help understand how to mitigate, adapt, or make Minnesota's ecosystems more resilient to climate change impacts, including drought and extreme weather events.
4. Implementation of innovative efforts aimed at mitigating, adapting, or making Minnesota's ecosystems more resilient to climate change impacts, including drought and extreme weather events.
5. Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through new and innovative approaches to waste reduction or energy efficiency. Standard, required, and ongoing efforts will not be considered.

2024 Funding Priorities (Continued)

F. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat

Please review “Additional Requirements for Land Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Projects.” (see page 6)

1. Innovative protection or restoration of lands with high-quality natural resources, ecological value, water protection value, or habitat, particularly for pollinators.
2. Long term preservation of native forest, wetland, or prairie plant genetics and viability.
3. Technical assistance for stewardship of prairies, forests, wetlands, or other habitat, or technical assistance for agricultural land management in order to protect water quality and aquatic habitat or to improve pollinator habitat.
4. Planning and implementation of community-based efforts to permanently conserve natural resources and reduce habitat fragmentation impacts on natural resources, including the impacts of transportation and other infrastructure.

G. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation

Please review “Additional Requirements for Land Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Projects.” (see page 6)

1. The Reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in M.S. section 84.95, subdivision 2.
2. Acquisition or development of strategic lands with high quality natural resources, ecological value, recreational value, water protection value, or habitat, particularly for pollinators.
3. Acquisition or development of lands that have the greatest capacity to contribute multiple conservation benefits to wildlife, humans, and ground and surface water quality.
4. Efforts based on precision conservation methods and analysis that quantifiably identify the lands most critical to acquire. Precision conservation is a practice that considers lands in terms of the interconnected systems of which they are a part. As a practice, precision conservation compiles and integrates multiple types of available data layers and analysis (e.g., terrain analysis, soil productivity, habitat potential, economic analysis, erosion potential, proximity to surface water) to identify and guide efforts that will maximize conservation benefits.
5. Efforts involving Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA) or other areas that aim to protect unique ecosystems, such as native prairie as defined in M.S. 84.02, Subd. 5, or rare, endangered, or threatened species. Areas of these types that may not presently qualify as a priority for other State of Minnesota funds directed toward land acquisition for habitat or recreation are of particular interest.
6. Efforts that enhance habitat connectivity, benefit ground or surface water quality, improve access for natural resource management, or increase public access for recreation, particularly in areas of the state with limited protected public lands.
7. Efforts expanding outdoor recreational opportunities through additions and connections to state, regional, or local parks and trails.

H. Small Projects

The LCCMR encourages proposals under \$200,000, especially from local government units and non-profits, to quickly and efficiently provide environment and natural resource benefits in Minnesota. Proposals should address one or more of the priorities listed in the above categories A through G.

Requirements

Project Requirements

All projects must comply with [Article XI, Section 14 of the Minnesota Constitution](#), [Minnesota Statute 116P](#), and other requirements provided in the following summary document:

- Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) [Project Requirements](#)

Work Plan and Progress Reports

Project managers of recommended projects must submit a work plan. Successfully funded projects must have an approved work plan, and no funds may be spent until the work plan has been approved. The project manager must submit annual or semiannual progress reports, and modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the LCCMR amendment process.

Professional, Technical, and Services Contracts

- State contracting and competitive bidding requirements apply, including but not limited to, prevailing wage and targeted group purchasing requirements.

Financial Capacity

To help us evaluate financial capacity, non-profit organizations and for-profit businesses with an annual income:

- over \$750,000 should submit their most recent certified financial audit.
- between \$50,000 and \$750,000 must provide their most recent IRS Form 990.
- under \$50,000 or that have not been in existence long enough to have completed IRS Form 990 or an audit must submit their most recent board-reviewed financial statements.

Additional Requirements for Land Acquisitions, Easements, and Restorations

All fee title and conservation easement acquisition proposals must include funding for development and implementation of a management and restoration plan. If no funding is requested, your proposal must address why funding for this work is not needed to achieve a high quality restoration.

All acquisition and restoration applicants must read and understand the following summary documents:

- ENRTF [Fee Title Acquisition Project Requirements](#)
- ENRTF [Conservation Easement Acquisition Project Requirements](#)
- ENRTF [Restoration Project Requirements](#)

NEW - For land acquisitions associated with a future capital construction project, please also review the section on “Additional Requirements for Capital Construction Projects”.

A map must be submitted with your proposal that shows the site specific location of your proposed fee title or conservation easement acquisition or restorations within the city, county, region, and/or state. The map must be legible as black and white and include a north arrow and scale.

A parcel list must be provided with your proposal that identifies proposed fee title and conservation easement acquisitions and restorations by parcel name, estimated cost, county, ecological significance, activity description, proposed number of acres, proposed shoreline or trail miles, type of landowner, and proposed title/easement holder (if applicable).

NEW - Additional Requirements for Capital Construction Projects

All applicants requesting funds to design or construct long lived (10 years or more) fixed assets (building or other constructed improvement to land) costing \$10,000 or more, or to acquire land for such a project, must read and understand the following summary document:

- ENRTF [Capital Construction Project Requirements](#)

Applicants should also familiarize themselves with state requirements for the recycling of nonhazardous construction and demolition waste under [Minnesota Statute 16B.327](#) and the [sustainable building guidelines](#).

Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria, as applicable, will be considered in evaluating proposals:

- **Funding Priorities:** Responds to RFP funding priorities.
- **Multiple Benefits:** Delivers multiple benefits to Minnesota's environment and natural resources.
- **Outcomes:** Identifies clear objectives likely to result in measurable, demonstrated, and meaningful outcomes.
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- **Urgency:** Addresses an issue for which immediate future action is urgent and critical to avoid undesirable consequences.
- **Capacity and Readiness:** Demonstrates capacity and readiness for efforts to be managed and completed in timely, accountable, and effective manner.
- **Leverage:** Leverages collaborative partnerships and additional efforts, resources, and non-state funds.

Funding May Be Available Through Other Programs

Projects eligible for established, topic-specific state agency grant programs—such as for renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, clean water implementation, regional and local parks and trails, and habitat acquisition and restoration—are encouraged to apply directly to the particular state agency grant program as funds may be available in a timelier manner.

Guidance on Allowable Expenses

Eligible Expenses

Eligible expenses are those expenses solely incurred through project activities that are directly related to and necessary for producing the project outcomes described in the proposal. All proposed expenses must be specified in the proposal submitted. Please note that for non-state entities all funds are awarded on a reimbursement basis, unless otherwise authorized, and all eligible expenses will need to be documented. Eligible expenses may include:

- a. Eligible expenditures incurred only after the effective date as approved by LCCMR.
- b. Wages and expenses of salaried Recipient employees if specified, documented, and approved. For State Agencies: use of unclassified staff only OR request approval for the use of classified staff accompanied by an explanation of how the agency will backfill that part of the classified staff salary proposed to be paid for with these funds. This is subject to specific discussion and approval by LCCMR.
- c. Fringe benefit expenses, such as FICA/Medicare, retirement, and health insurance of Recipient's employees, if specified.
- d. Professional and technical services specified in the approved Work Plan that are rendered by individuals or organizations not a part of the Recipient;
- e. Equipment, tools, materials, and supplies specific to the project and incoming freight charges for them.
- f. Capital expenditures for facilities, equipment, and other capital assets as expressly approved. For expenditures greater than \$5,000, the Recipient must provide an explanation as to how all the equipment purchased with the appropriation will continue to be used for the same program through its useful life, or, if the use changes, a commitment to pay back to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund an amount equal to either the cash value received or a residual value approved by the director of the LCCMR if it is not sold.
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- (4) enhancement of public education, awareness, and understanding necessary for the protection, conservation, restoration, and enhancement of air, land, water, forests, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;
- (5) capital projects for the preservation and protection of unique natural resources;
- (6) activities that preserve or enhance fish, wildlife, land, air, water, and other natural resources that otherwise may be substantially impaired or destroyed in any area of the state;
- (7) administrative and investment expenses incurred by the state board of investment in investing deposits to the trust fund; and
- (8) administrative expenses subject to the limits in section 116P.09.

(b) In making recommendations for expenditures from the trust fund, the commission shall give priority to funding programs and projects under paragraph (a), clause (1) and (6). Any request for proposals issued by the commission shall clearly indicate these priorities.

Subdivision 2. **Exceptions.** Money from the trust fund may not be spent for:

- (1) purposes of environmental compensation and liability under chapter 115B and response action under chapter 115C;
- (2) purposes of municipal water pollution control in municipalities with a population of 5,000 or more under the authority of chapters 115 and 116;
- (3) costs associated with the decommissioning of nuclear power plants;
- (4) hazardous waste disposal facilities;
- (5) solid waste disposal facilities;
- (6) projects or purposes inconsistent with the strategic plan; or
- (7) acquiring property by eminent domain, unless the owner requests that the owner's property be acquired by eminent domain.

How To Apply

Proposals due by March 31, 2023 at 4:30PM

1. Register for an account on the [LCCMR Proposal and Grant Management System](#).
2. Login and click “Create a New Proposal”.
3. Follow the instructions for completing your proposal.
If you would like to view blank sample proposals, you can find them on our [2024 Proposal & Funding Process page](#).
4. Upload your completed attachments as required:
 - A. Visual component or map (1 page limit)
 - B. Resolution from your governing board or letter authorizing submission of the proposal (all non-state entities, including non-profits, tribes, local units of government, and **NEW**-federal agencies, and **NEW**-all University of Minnesota entities). Please use the following [templates](#). The templates may also be found on the [2024 Proposal & Funding Process page](#).
 - C. 990 tax information, certified audit, or board-reviewed financial statements as required
 - D. **NEW** - If you will have a fiscal agent, a letter or resolution from your fiscal agent acknowledging acceptance of the fiscal agent role for your project. Please use the following [templates](#). The templates may also be found on the [2024 Proposal & Funding Process page](#).
5. Review all information and attachments.
6. Click “Submit”.
7. Save or print the confirmation email. Please check your junk mail folder if the confirmation email does not appear in your inbox. Contact LCCMR if you do not receive a confirmation email or if your proposal status does not appear as “Final Submitted” on your dashboard.
8. To follow along with the 2024 funding process, visit our [2024 Proposal & Funding Process page](#).

II. Projects Funded Preceding Biennium

“a description of each project receiving money from the trust fund during the preceding biennium;”

The following documents include:

- Summaries and descriptions of projects funded in FY2024 (beginning July 1, 2023).
 - Full work plans are available at the LCCMR, Centennial Office Building 1st Floor, 658 Cedar Street and on the LCCMR website <http://www.lccmr.mn.gov/> (click on the tab titled “Projects Funded”).
- Summaries and descriptions of projects funded in FY2025 (beginning July 1, 2024).
 - Full work plans are available at the LCCMR, Centennial Office Building 1st Floor, 658 Cedar Street and on the LCCMR website <http://www.lccmr.mn.gov/> (click on the tab titled “Projects Funded”).
- Legal Citations
 - FY2024 - M.L. 2023, Chapter 60, Article 2, Sec. 2 (86 projects for a total of \$79,833,000 - \$79,644,000 FY24 ENRTF, \$189,000 GLPA, and transfer from FY22 \$176,000)
 - FY2025 - M.L. 2024, Chapter 83, Sec. 2 (101 projects for a total of \$79,644,000 - FY25 ENRTF)

FY2024 - MN Laws 2023, Chapter 60, Article 2, Section 2

M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) Appropriations by Subdivision

Process for M.L. 2023

For FY 2024 (July 1, 2023 -June 30, 2024), approximately \$79 million was available for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) and approximately \$189,000 was available from the Great Lakes Protection Account (GLPA).

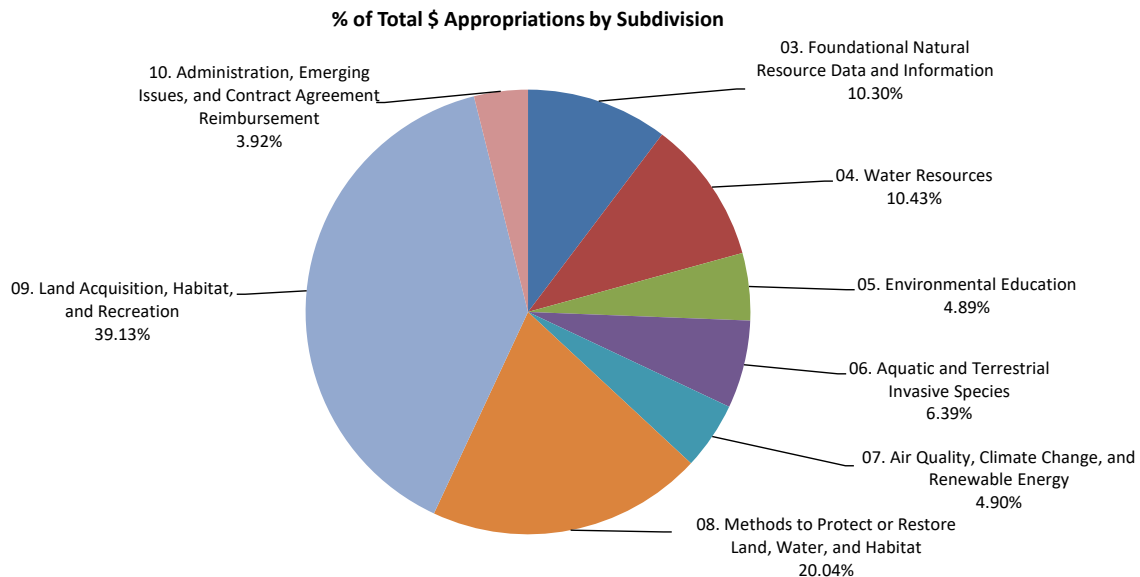
The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) selected 85 projects totaling \$79,833,000 to recommend to the 2023 Minnesota Legislature for funding from the ENRTF and the GLPA. The recommendations were a result of the LCCMR's 2023 Request for Proposal (RFP) process in which 174 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$164 million were received and considered through a competitive, multi-stage evaluation. The recommendations ranged from funding the full proposal and dollar amount requested to partial funding for specific proposal elements.

On May 18, 2023, the Legislature approved the 85 projects for funding from the ENRTF and the GLPA, as recommended by the LCCMR. The Legislature also added one additional appropriation using unspent funds from a previous project. On May 24, 2023, the 86 appropriations were signed into law by the Governor as M.L. 2023, Chapter 60, Article 2, with \$79,644,000 from the ENRTF, \$176,000 recaptured from a prior fiscal year, and \$189,000 from the GLPA, for \$80,009,000 in total appropriations.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| March 25, 2022 | RFP Issued |
| May 26, 2022 | RFP Proposal Deadline (174 proposals received totaling ~\$164 million) |
| July 25, 2022 | Selection of Proposals for Further Consideration and Presentations |
| August 8-10 & 16-17, 2022 | Proposal Presentations |
| August 30, 2022 | Allocation and Recommendations |
| September - November, 2022 | Recommended Projects Undergo Work Plan Development; Research Projects Undergo Peer Review |
| December 8 & 20, 2022 | Appropriation Language Review and Adoption |

Summary of Appropriations by Subdivision

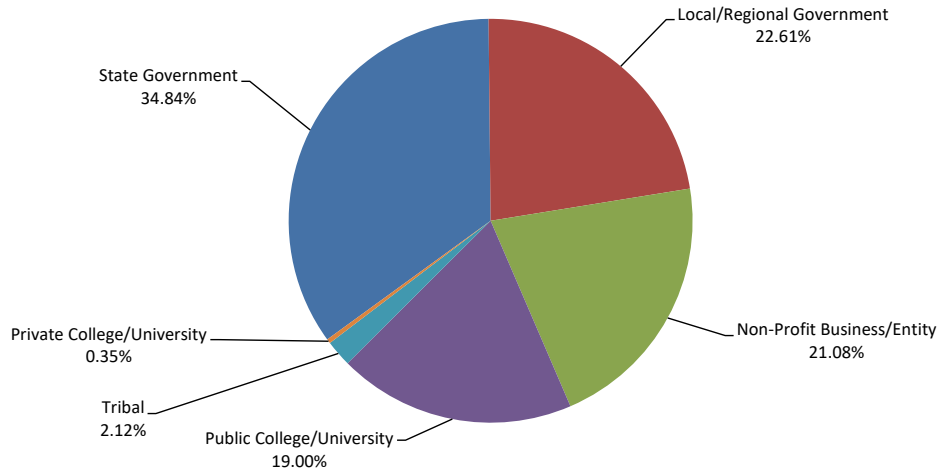
| Subdivision | \$ Appropriations | \$ Percent | # Appropriations | # Percent |
|---|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 03. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information | \$8,219,000 | 10.30% | 19 | 22.35% |
| 04. Water Resources | \$8,328,000 | 10.43% | 13 | 15.29% |
| 05. Environmental Education | \$3,905,000 | 4.89% | 8 | 9.41% |
| 06. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species | \$5,104,000 | 6.39% | 2 | 2.35% |
| 07. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy | \$3,913,000 | 4.90% | 6 | 7.06% |
| 08. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat | \$15,997,000 | 20.04% | 18 | 21.18% |
| 09. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation | \$31,241,000 | 39.13% | 15 | 17.65% |
| 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement | \$3,126,000 | 3.92% | 4 | 4.71% |
| Total | \$79,833,000 | 100.00% | 85 | 100.00% |



Summary of Appropriations by Proposer Affiliation

| Affiliation Type | \$ Appropriations | \$ Percent | # Appropriations | # Percent |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| State Government | \$27,813,000 | 34.84% | 21 | 24.71% |
| Local/Regional Government | \$18,050,000 | 22.61% | 17 | 20.00% |
| Non-Profit Business/Entity | \$16,832,000 | 21.08% | 21 | 24.71% |
| Public College/University | \$15,166,000 | 19.00% | 24 | 28.24% |
| Tribal | \$1,693,000 | 2.12% | 1 | 1.18% |
| Private College/University | \$279,000 | 0.35% | 1 | 1.18% |
| Total | \$79,833,000 | 100.00% | 85 | 100.00% |

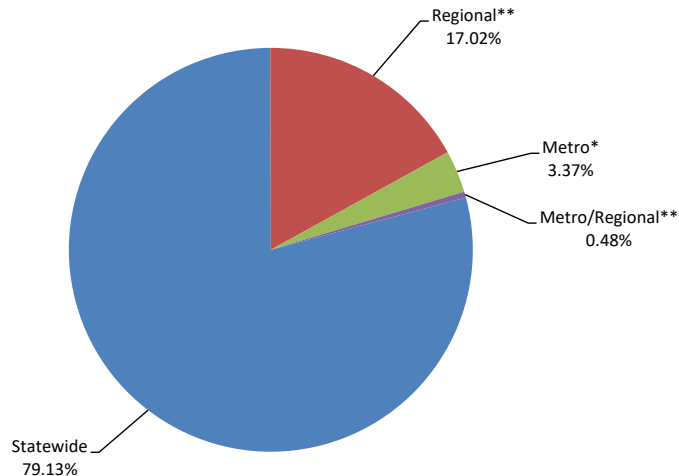
% of Total \$ Appropriations by Proposer Affiliation



Summary of Appropriations by Area of Impact

| Areas of Impact | \$ Appropriations | \$ Percent | # Appropriations | # Percent |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Statewide | \$63,170,000 | 79.13% | 62 | 72.94% |
| Regional** | \$13,587,000 | 17.02% | 16 | 18.82% |
| Metro* | \$2,692,000 | 3.37% | 5 | 5.88% |
| Metro/Regional** | \$384,000 | 0.48% | 2 | 2.35% |
| Total | \$79,833,000 | 100.00% | 85 | 100.00% |

% of Total \$ Appropriations by Area of Impact



* "Metro" region includes the 11 counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

** "Regional" means area of impact is less than "Statewide" but includes one or more regions of the state ("Northwest", "Northeast", "Central", "Southwest", or "Southeast") other than the 11-county "Metro" region.

**M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2024**

On May 18, 2023, the Legislature approved 85 projects for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) and the Great Lakes Protection Account (GLPA), as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). The Legislature also added one additional appropriation using unspent funds from a previous project. On May 24, 2023, the 86 appropriations were signed into law by the Governor as M.L. 2023, Chapter 60, Article 2, with \$79,644,000 from the ENRTF, \$176,000 recaptured from a prior fiscal year, and \$189,000 from the GLPA, for \$80,009,000 in total appropriations.

| Topic Area | FY2024 ENRTF \$ | Great Lakes Protection Account | Total ENRTF \$ Appropriated | Percentage of Total Appropriation |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Subd. 03 Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information 19 Appropriations | \$8,219,000 | \$0 | \$8,219,000 | 10.30% |
| Subd. 04 Water Resources 13 Appropriations | \$8,139,000 | \$189,000 | \$8,328,000 | 10.43% |
| Subd. 05 Environmental Education 8 Appropriations | \$3,905,000 | \$0 | \$3,905,000 | 4.89% |
| Subd. 06 Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species 2 Appropriations | \$5,104,000 | \$0 | \$5,104,000 | 6.39% |
| Subd. 07 Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy 6 Appropriations | \$3,913,000 | \$0 | \$3,913,000 | 4.90% |
| Subd. 08 Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat 18 Appropriations | \$15,997,000 | \$0 | \$15,997,000 | 20.04% |
| Subd. 09 Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation 15 Appropriations | \$31,241,000 | \$0 | \$31,241,000 | 39.13% |
| Subd. 10 Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement 4 Appropriations | \$3,126,000 | \$0 | \$3,126,000 | 3.92% |
| Subd. 19 Repurpose 1 Appropriation | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | 0.00% |
| Total Appropriations | \$79,644,000 | \$189,000 | \$79,833,000 | 100.00% |

| Fund Source | \$ Amount |
|---|---------------------|
| FY 2024 - Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) | \$79,644,000 |
| Great Lakes Protection Account (GLPA) | \$189,000 |
| REPURPOSE FROM - Restoring Upland Forests for Birds M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp.6, Art.6, Sec. 2, Subd. 08f | -\$176,000 |
| REPURPOSE TO - Neonicotinoid Impacts on Minnesota Deer and Prairie Chickens | \$176,000 |
| Total \$ | \$79,833,000 |

**M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations without Summary for FY 2024**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | Organization | Project Manager | FY2024 ENRTF \$ | Great Lakes Protection Account | Total ENRTF \$ Appropriated | Region* |
|--|-------------|--|--|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Subd. 03 Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information (19 Appropriations = \$8,219,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 03a | 2023-044 | Assessing Restorations for Rusty-Patched and Other Bumblebee Habitat | Friends of the Mississippi River | Alex Roth | \$75,000 | \$0 | \$75,000 | Metro |
| 03b | 2023-066 | Removing Barriers to Carbon Market Entry | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | John Zobel | \$482,000 | \$0 | \$482,000 | Statewide |
| 03c | 2023-072 | Mapping Migratory Bird Pit Stops in Minnesota | Audubon Minnesota | Dale Gentry | \$340,000 | \$0 | \$340,000 | Statewide |
| 03d | 2023-086 | Enhancing Knowledge of Minnesota River Fish Ecology | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Anthony Sindt | \$199,000 | \$0 | \$199,000 | Metro, SE, SW |
| 03e | 2023-090 | Changing Distribution of Flying Squirrel Species in Minnesota | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Michael Joyce | \$186,000 | \$0 | \$186,000 | Statewide |
| 03f | 2023-092 | Statewide Forest Carbon Inventory and Change Mapping | MN DNR, Forestry Division | David Wilson | \$987,000 | \$0 | \$987,000 | Statewide |
| 03g | 2023-120 | Predicting the Future of Aquatic Species by Understanding the Past | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Lynn Waterhouse | \$170,000 | \$0 | \$170,000 | Statewide |
| 03h | 2023-139 | Assessing Status of Common Tern Populations in Minnesota | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Annie Bracey | \$199,000 | \$0 | \$199,000 | Statewide |
| 03i | 2023-146 | Salvaged Wildlife to Inform Environmental Health, Ecology, and Education | U of MN, Bell Museum of Natural History | Sushma Reddy | \$486,000 | \$0 | \$486,000 | Statewide |
| 03j | 2023-154 | Developing Conservation Priorities for Rare and Specialist Bees | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Daniel Cariveau | \$619,000 | \$0 | \$619,000 | Statewide |
| 03k | 2023-169 | Efficacy of Urban Archery Hunting to Manage Deer | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Bemidji State University | Jacob Haus | \$393,000 | \$0 | \$393,000 | NW |
| 03l | 2023-183 | Mapping the Ecology of Urban and Rural Canids | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | James Forester | \$601,000 | \$0 | \$601,000 | Central, Metro |
| 03m | 2023-186 | Maximizing Lowland Conifer Ecosystem Services - Phase II | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Marcella Windmuller-Campione | \$482,000 | \$0 | \$482,000 | Central, NE, NW |
| 03n | 2023-209 | Modernizing Minnesota's Wildlife (and Plant) Action Plan | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Kristin Hall | \$889,000 | \$0 | \$889,000 | Statewide |
| 03o | 2023-217 | Linking Breeding and Migratory Bird Populations in Minnesota | Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory | Janelle Long | \$199,000 | \$0 | \$199,000 | Statewide |
| 03p | 2023-218 | Old Growth Forest Monitoring | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Emily Peters | \$441,000 | \$0 | \$441,000 | Statewide |

**M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations without Summary for FY 2024**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | Organization | Project Manager | FY2024 ENRTF \$ | Great Lakes Protection Account | Total ENRTF \$ Appropriated | Region* |
|---|-------------|--|---|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 03q | 2023-222 | Integrating Remotely Sensed Data with Traditional Forest Inventory | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | John Du Plissis | \$191,000 | \$0 | \$191,000 | NE |
| 03r | 2023-232 | Community Response Monitoring for Adaptive Management in Southeast Minnesota | The Nature Conservancy | David Ruff | \$483,000 | \$0 | \$483,000 | SE |
| 03s | 2023-248 | Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas - Phase III | U of MN, Bell Museum of Natural History | George Weiblen | \$797,000 | \$0 | \$797,000 | Statewide |
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$8,219,000 | \$0 | \$8,219,000 | |
| Subd. 04 Water Resources (13 Appropriations = \$8,328,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 04a | 2023-004 | Ditching Delinquent Ditches: Optimizing Wetland Restoration | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Andrew Wickert | \$199,000 | \$0 | \$199,000 | Statewide |
| 04b | 2023-022 | Assessment of Red River Basin Project Outcomes | Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group | Andrew Graham | \$920,000 | \$0 | \$920,000 | NW |
| 04c | 2023-026 | Wind Wave and Boating Impacts on Inland Lakes | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Jeffrey Marr | \$415,000 | \$0 | \$415,000 | Statewide |
| 04d | 2023-063 | Finding, Capturing, and Destroying PFAS in Minnesota Waters | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | William Arnold | \$478,000 | \$0 | \$478,000 | Statewide |
| 04e | 2023-074 | Sinking and Suspended Microplastic Particles in Lake Superior | U of MN, Duluth - Large Lakes Observatory | Elizabeth Minor | \$223,000 | \$189,000 | \$412,000 | NE |
| 04f | 2023-107 | Ecotoxicological Impacts of Quinone Outside Inhibitor (QoI) Fungicides | University of St. Thomas | Kristine Wammer | \$279,000 | \$0 | \$279,000 | Statewide |
| 04g | 2023-129 | Brightsdale Dam Channel Restoration | Fillmore County Soil and Water Conservation District | Riley Buley | \$1,004,000 | \$0 | \$1,004,000 | SE |
| 04h | 2023-134 | Mapping Aquifer Recharge Potential | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Peter Kang | \$391,000 | \$0 | \$391,000 | Statewide |
| 04i | 2023-137 | ALASD's Chloride Source Reduction Pilot Program | Alexandria Lake Area Sanitary District (ALASD) | Scott Gilbertson | \$764,000 | \$0 | \$764,000 | Central |
| 04j | 2023-215 | Removing CECs from Stormwater with Biofiltration | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Andy Erickson | \$641,000 | \$0 | \$641,000 | Metro |
| 04k | 2023-237 | Didymo II The North Shore Threat Continues | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Mark Edlund | \$394,000 | \$0 | \$394,000 | NE |
| 04l | 2023-238 | Leveraging Data Analytics Innovations for Watershed District Planning | Minnehaha Creek Watershed District | Brian Beck | \$738,000 | \$0 | \$738,000 | Statewide |
| 04m | 2023-247 | Protecting Water in the Central Sands Region of the Mississippi River Headwaters | White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Indians | Jamie Konopacky | \$1,693,000 | \$0 | \$1,693,000 | Central |
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$8,139,000 | \$189,000 | \$8,328,000 | |

**M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations without Summary for FY 2024**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | Organization | Project Manager | FY2024 ENRTF \$ | Great Lakes Protection Account | Total ENRTF \$ Appropriated | Region* |
|--|-------------|---|--|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Subd. 05 Environmental Education (8 Appropriations = \$3,905,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 05a | 2023-008 | Fostering Conservation by Connecting Students to the BWCA | Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness | Alison Nyenhuis | \$1,080,000 | \$0 | \$1,080,000 | Statewide |
| 05b | 2023-051 | Statewide Environmental Education via PBS Outdoor Series | Pioneer PBS | Cindy Dorn | \$391,000 | \$0 | \$391,000 | Statewide |
| 05c | 2023-062 | Increasing Diversity in Environmental Careers | MN DNR, Operational Services Division (OSD) | Mimi Daniel | \$763,000 | \$0 | \$763,000 | Statewide |
| 05d | 2023-167 | Reducing Biophobia & Fostering Environmental Stewardship in Underserved Schools | U of MN, Raptor Center | Victoria Hall | \$180,000 | \$0 | \$180,000 | Statewide |
| 05e | 2023-185 | Sharing Minnesota's Biggest Environmental Investment | Science Museum of Minnesota | Joy Hobbs | \$628,000 | \$0 | \$628,000 | Statewide |
| 05f | 2023-201 | North Shore Private Forestry Outreach and Implementation | Sugarloaf: The North Shore Stewardship Association | Molly Thompson | \$375,000 | \$0 | \$375,000 | NE |
| 05g | 2023-223 | Teaching Students about Watersheds through Outdoor Science | Minnesota Trout Unlimited | John Lenczewski | \$290,000 | \$0 | \$290,000 | Statewide |
| 05h | 2023-229 | Bioblitz Urban Parks: Engaging Communities in Scientific Efforts | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | MaryLynn Pulscher | \$198,000 | \$0 | \$198,000 | Metro |
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$3,905,000 | \$0 | \$3,905,000 | |
| Subd. 06 Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species (2 Appropriations = \$5,104,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 06a | 2023-153 | Northward Expansion of Ecologically Damaging Amphibians and Reptiles | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Kenneth Kozak | \$163,000 | \$0 | \$163,000 | Statewide |
| 06b | 2023-176 | Developing Research-Based Solutions to Minnesota's AIS Problems | U of MN, MAISRC | Cori Mattke | \$4,941,000 | \$0 | \$4,941,000 | Statewide |
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$5,104,000 | \$0 | \$5,104,000 | |
| Subd. 07 Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy (6 Appropriations = \$3,913,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 07a | 2023-013 | Community Forestry AmeriCorps | ServeMinnesota | Sharon Delcambre | \$1,500,000 | \$0 | \$1,500,000 | Statewide |
| 07b | 2023-043 | Biochar Implementation in Habitat Restoration: A Pilot | Great River Greening | Todd Rexine | \$185,000 | \$0 | \$185,000 | Central, Metro, SE |
| 07c | 2023-101 | Completing Installment of the Minnesota Ecological Monitoring Network | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Holly Bernardo | \$1,094,000 | \$0 | \$1,094,000 | Statewide |
| 07d | 2023-152 | Lichens as Low-Cost Air Quality Monitors in Minnesota | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Natalia Mossmann Koch | \$341,000 | \$0 | \$341,000 | Statewide |
| 07e | 2023-171 | Environment-Friendly Decarbonizing of Steel Production with Hydrogen Plasma | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Uwe Kortshagen | \$739,000 | \$0 | \$739,000 | Statewide |
| 07f | 2023-240 | Economic Analysis Guide for Minnesota Climate Investments | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | David Bael | \$54,000 | \$0 | \$54,000 | Statewide |

**M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations without Summary for FY 2024**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | Organization | Project Manager | FY2024 ENRTF \$ | Great Lakes Protection Account | Total ENRTF \$ Appropriated | Region* |
|---|-------------|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$3,913,000 | \$0 | \$3,913,000 | |
| Subd. 08 Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat (18 Appropriations = \$15,997,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 08a | 2023-006 | Minnesota Bee and Beneficial Species Habitat Enhancement II | Pheasants Forever Inc. | Sabin Adams | \$876,000 | \$0 | \$876,000 | Statewide |
| 08b | 2023-010 | Karner Blue Butterfly Insurance Population Establishment in Minnesota | Three Rivers Park District | John Moriarty | \$405,000 | \$0 | \$405,000 | Metro |
| 08c | 2023-025 | Root River Habitat Restoration at Eagle Bluff | Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center | Colleen Foehrenbacher | \$866,000 | \$0 | \$866,000 | SE |
| 08d | 2023-060 | Restoring Mussels in Streams and Lakes - Continuation | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Madeline Pletta | \$825,000 | \$0 | \$825,000 | Statewide |
| 08e | 2023-061 | Minnesota Million: Seedlings for Reforestation and CO2 Sequestration | U of MN, Duluth | Julie Etterson | \$906,000 | \$0 | \$906,000 | Statewide |
| 08f | 2023-080 | Panoway on Wayzata Bay Shoreline Restoration Project | City of Wayzata | Nick Kieser | \$200,000 | \$0 | \$200,000 | Metro |
| 08g | 2023-105 | Pollinator Central III: Habitat Improvement with Community Monitoring | Great River Greening | Rebecca Tucker | \$190,000 | \$0 | \$190,000 | Metro |
| 08h | 2023-117 | Restoring Forests and Savannas Using Silvopasture - Phase II | Great River Greening | Brad Gordon | \$674,000 | \$0 | \$674,000 | Statewide |
| 08i | 2023-135 | Minnesota Community Schoolyards | The Trust for Public Land | Eric Weiss | \$1,433,000 | \$0 | \$1,433,000 | Statewide |
| 08j | 2023-136 | Pollinator Enhancement and Mississippi River Shoreline Restoration | Department of Military Affairs | Josh Pennington | \$187,000 | \$0 | \$187,000 | Central |
| 08k | 2023-142 | Conservation Cooperative for Working Lands | Pheasants Forever Inc. | Tanner Bruse | \$2,611,000 | \$0 | \$2,611,000 | Statewide |
| 08l | 2023-177 | Quantifying Environmental Benefits of Peatland Restoration in Minnesota | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Christian Lenhart | \$754,000 | \$0 | \$754,000 | NE, NW |
| 08m | 2023-181 | Renewing Access to an Iconic North Shore Vista | Superior Hiking Trail Association | Lisa Luukkala | \$197,000 | \$0 | \$197,000 | NE |
| 08n | 2023-189 | Addressing Erosion Along High Use River Loops | Superior Hiking Trail Association | Lisa Luukkala | \$368,000 | \$0 | \$368,000 | NE |
| 08o | 2023-211 | Pollinator Habitat Creation at Minnesota Closed Landfills | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Eric Pederson | \$1,508,000 | \$0 | \$1,508,000 | Statewide |
| 08p | 2023-212 | Enhancing Habitat Connectivity within the Urban Mississippi Flyway | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | Adam Arvidson | \$190,000 | \$0 | \$190,000 | Metro |
| 08q | 2023-219 | Statewide Diversion of Furniture and Mattress Waste Pilots | EMERGE Community Development | Shawn Dolan | \$2,833,000 | \$0 | \$2,833,000 | Statewide |
| 08r | 2023-250 | Phelps Mill Wetland and Prairie Restoration | Otter Tail County | Nicholas Leonard | \$974,000 | \$0 | \$974,000 | Central |

**M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations without Summary for FY 2024**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | Organization | Project Manager | FY2024 ENRTF \$ | Great Lakes Protection Account | Total ENRTF \$ Appropriated | Region* |
|--|-------------|---|---|------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$15,997,000 | \$0 | \$15,997,000 | |
| Subd. 09 Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation (15 Appropriations = \$31,241,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 09a | 2023-028 | SNA Stewardship, Outreach, and Biodiversity Protection | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Judy Schulte | \$1,919,000 | \$0 | \$1,919,000 | Statewide |
| 09b | 2023-032 | Wannigan Regional Park Land Acquisition | City of Frazee | Stephanie Poegel | \$727,000 | \$0 | \$727,000 | NW |
| 09c | 2023-039 | Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Audrey Mularie | \$3,802,000 | \$0 | \$3,802,000 | Statewide |
| 09d | 2023-064 | Outreach and Stewardship Through the Native Prairie Bank Program | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Judy Schulte | \$620,000 | \$0 | \$620,000 | Central, NW, SW |
| 09e | 2023-081 | Minnesota State Trails Development | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Kent Skaar | \$4,952,000 | \$0 | \$4,952,000 | Statewide |
| 09f | 2023-091 | Construction of East Park | City of St. Joseph | Nate Keller | \$700,000 | \$0 | \$700,000 | Central |
| 09g | 2023-110 | Scandia Gateway Trail to William O'Brien State Park | City of Scandia | Kyle Morell | \$2,689,000 | \$0 | \$2,689,000 | Metro |
| 09h | 2023-147 | Grand Marais Mountain Bike Trail Rehabilitation - Phase II | Superior Cycling Association | Paul Nordlund | \$200,000 | \$0 | \$200,000 | NE |
| 09i | 2023-148 | Acquisition of State Parks and Trails Inholdings | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Shelby Kok | \$5,425,000 | \$0 | \$5,425,000 | Statewide |
| 09j | 2023-172 | St. Louis River Re-Connect - Phase II | City of Duluth | Cliff Knettel | \$1,375,000 | \$0 | \$1,375,000 | NE |
| 09k | 2023-207 | City of Biwabik Recreation | City of Biwabik | Jeff Jacobson | \$1,306,000 | \$0 | \$1,306,000 | NE |
| 09l | 2023-210 | Silver Bay Multimodal Trailhead Project | City of Silver Bay | Lana Fralich | \$1,970,000 | \$0 | \$1,970,000 | NE |
| 09m | 2023-213 | Above the Falls Regional Park Restoration Planning and Acquisition | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | Adam Arvidson | \$1,376,000 | \$0 | \$1,376,000 | Metro |
| 09n | 2023-231 | Redhead Mountain Bike Park | Minnesota Discovery Center | Donna Johnson | \$1,666,000 | \$0 | \$1,666,000 | NE |
| 09o | 2023-249 | Maplewood State Park Trail Segment of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail | Otter Tail County | Nicholas Leonard | \$2,514,000 | \$0 | \$2,514,000 | Central |
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$31,241,000 | \$0 | \$31,241,000 | |
| Subd. 10 Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement (4 Appropriations = \$3,126,000) | | | | | | | | |
| 10a | 2023-001 | LCCMR Administrative Budget | Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources | Becca Nash | \$2,133,000 | \$0 | \$2,133,000 | Statewide |

**M.L. 2023 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations without Summary for FY 2024**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | Organization | Project Manager | FY2024 ENRTF \$ | Great Lakes Protection Account | Total ENRTF \$ Appropriated | Region* |
|---|--------------------|---|---|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 10b | 2023-002 | Emerging Issues | Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources | Becca Nash | \$767,000 | \$0 | \$767,000 | Statewide |
| 10c | 2023-073 | Contract Agreement Reimbursement | MN DNR, Grants Unit | Katherine Sherman-Hoehn | \$224,000 | \$0 | \$224,000 | Statewide |
| 10d | 2023-255 | Legislative Coordinating Commission Legacy Website | Legislative Coordinating Commission | Sally Olson | \$2,000 | \$0 | \$2,000 | Statewide |
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$3,126,000 | \$0 | \$3,126,000 | |
| Subd. 19 Repurpose (1 Appropriation = \$176,000) | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | FROM - Restoring Upland Forests for Birds M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp.6, Art.6, Sec. 2, Subd. 08f | | | (\$176,000) | \$0 | (\$176,000) | Statewide |
| 19 | --- | TO - Neonicotinoid Impacts on Minnesota Deer and Prairie Chickens | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Michelle Carstensen | \$176,000 | \$0 | \$176,000 | Statewide |
| | | | | Subtotal = | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | |
| | | | | Total = | \$79,644,000 | \$189,000 | \$79,833,000 | |

* Metro region includes the 11 counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

CHAPTER 60--H.F.No. 2310

An act relating to state government; appropriating money for environment, natural resources, climate, and energy; appropriating money from environment and natural resources trust fund; modifying prior appropriations; providing for and modifying disposition of certain receipts; modifying and establishing duties, authorities, and prohibitions regarding environment and natural resources; modifying and creating environment and natural resources programs; modifying and creating grant programs; modifying permit and environmental review requirements; modifying requirements for recreational vehicles; modifying state trail, state forest, and state park provisions; authorizing sales, conveyances, and leases of certain state lands; modifying forestry provisions; modifying game and fish provisions; modifying regulation of farmed Cervidae; regulating certain seeds and pesticides; modifying Water Law; modifying and providing for fees; establishing a biennial budget for Department of Commerce, Public Utilities Commission, and energy, climate, and clean energy activities; establishing and modifying provisions governing energy, clean and renewable energy, energy storage, energy use and conservation, and utility regulation; adding and modifying provisions governing Public Utilities Commission proceedings; making technical changes; requiring reports; requiring rulemaking; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 16A.151, subdivision 2, as amended; 16B.325, subdivision 2; 16C.135, subdivision 3; 16C.137, subdivision 1; 18B.01, subdivision 31; 18B.09, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 21.86, subdivision 2; 35.155, subdivisions 1, 4, 10, 11, 12, by adding subdivisions; 35.156, subdivision 2, by adding subdivisions; 84.02, by adding a subdivision; 84.415, subdivisions 3, 6, 7, by adding a subdivision; 84.66, subdivision 7; 84.788, subdivision 5; 84.82, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 84.821, subdivision 2; 84.84; 84.86, subdivision 1; 84.87, subdivision 1; 84.90, subdivision 7; 84.922, subdivision 4; 84.992, subdivisions 2, 5; 84D.02, subdivision 3; 84D.10, subdivision 3; 85.015, subdivision 10; 85.052, subdivision 6; 85A.01, subdivision 1; 86B.005, by adding a subdivision; 86B.313, subdivision 4; 86B.415, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2, 3, 4, 5; 89A.03, subdivision 5; 89A.11; 90.181, subdivision 2; 97A.015, subdivision 51, by adding a subdivision; 97A.031; 97A.045, subdivision 5; 97A.126; 97A.137, subdivisions 3, 5; 97A.315, subdivision 1; 97A.401, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 97A.405, subdivisions 2, 5; 97A.420, subdivision 1; 97A.421, subdivision 3; 97A.465, subdivisions 3, 8; 97A.475, subdivision 41; 97B.031, subdivision 1; 97B.037; 97B.071; 97B.301, subdivisions 2, 6; 97B.668; 97C.041; 97C.315, subdivision 1; 97C.345, subdivision 1; 97C.355, by adding a subdivision; 97C.371, subdivisions 1, 2, 4; 97C.395, subdivision 1; 97C.601, subdivision 1; 97C.605, subdivisions 1, 2c, 3; 97C.611; 97C.836; 103B.101, subdivisions 2, 9, 16, by adding a subdivision; 103B.103; 103C.501, subdivisions 1, 4, 5, 6, by adding a subdivision; 103D.605, subdivision 5; 103F.505; 103F.511, by adding subdivisions; 103G.005, by adding subdivisions; 103G.2242, subdivision 1; 103G.271, subdivision 6; 103G.287, subdivisions 2, 3; 103G.299, subdivisions 1, 2, 5, 10; 103G.301, subdivisions 2, 6, 7; 115.01, by adding subdivisions; 115.03, subdivision 1; 115.061; 115A.03, by adding subdivisions; 115A.1415; 115A.49; 115A.51; 115A.54, subdivisions 1, 2, 2a, as amended; 115A.565, subdivisions 1, 3; 115B.17, subdivision 14; 115B.171, subdivision 3; 115B.52, subdivision 4; 116.07, by adding a subdivision; 116C.03, subdivision 2a; 116C.779, subdivision 1; 116C.7792; 116P.05, subdivisions 1, 1a, 2; 116P.09, subdivision 6; 116P.11; 116P.15; 116P.16; 116P.18; 168.27, by adding a subdivision; 171.07, by adding a subdivision; 216B.096, subdivision 11; 216B.16, subdivision 10; 216B.164, by adding a subdivision; 216B.1641; 216B.1645, subdivision 4; 216B.1691, by adding a subdivision; 216B.17, subdivision 1; 216B.2402, subdivision 16; 216B.2424, subdivision 5c; 216B.2425, subdivision 3, by adding a subdivision; 216B.243, subdivision 8, as amended; 216B.50, subdivision 1; 216B.62, subdivision 3b; 216C.08; 216C.09; 216C.264, subdivision 5, by adding

subdivisions; 216C.375; 216C.435, subdivision 8; 216C.436, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 216E.01, subdivision 6, by adding a subdivision; 216E.03, subdivisions 1, 3, 5, as amended, 6, 7, as amended; 216E.04, subdivision 2, as amended; 216E.05, subdivision 2; 216E.06; 216E.07; 216E.10; 216G.02, subdivision 1; 216H.02, subdivision 1; 237.55; 297A.94; 325E.046; 325F.072, subdivisions 1, 3, by adding a subdivision; 373.475; 515B.2-103; 515B.3-102; Laws 2005, chapter 97, article 10, section 3, as amended; Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9; Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivisions 5, 8, 9; Laws 2023, chapter 9, section 19; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 16B; 18B; 21; 84; 86B; 97B; 97C; 103B; 103F; 103G; 115A; 116; 116P; 123B; 216B; 216C; 325E; 473; 500; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 35.155, subdivision 14; 86B.101; 86B.305; 86B.313, subdivisions 2, 3; 97C.605, subdivisions 2, 2a, 2b, 5; 103C.501, subdivisions 2, 3; 115.44, subdivision 9; 116.011; 216C.376; 325E.389; 325E.3891; Minnesota Rules, parts 6100.5000, subparts 3, 4, 5; 6100.5700, subpart 4; 6115.1220, subpart 8; 6256.0500, subparts 2, 2a, 2b, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8; 8400.0500; 8400.0550; 8400.0600, subparts 4, 5; 8400.0900, subparts 1, 2, 4, 5; 8400.1650; 8400.1700; 8400.1750; 8400.1800; 8400.1900.

ARTICLE 2**ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND**Section 1. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the environment and natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year or until the end of the appropriation. These are onetime appropriations.

APPROPRIATIONS
Available for the Year

Ending June 30
2024 2025

Sec. 2. **MINNESOTA RESOURCES**

Subdivision 1. **Total Appropriation** \$ 79,833,000 \$ -0-

Appropriations by Fund

| | <u>2024</u> | <u>2025</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| <u>Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund</u> | 79,644,000 | -0- |
| <u>Great Lakes Protection Account</u> | 189,000 | -0- |

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. **Definitions**

(a) "Trust fund" means the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund established under the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

(b) "Great Lakes protection account" means the account referred to in Minnesota Statutes, section 116Q.02.

Subd. 3. **Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information**

8,219,000 -0-

(a) **Assessing Restorations for Rusty-Patched and Other Bumblebee Habitat**

\$75,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Friends of the Mississippi River to assess how prairie restoration and different restoration seeding methods affect bumblebee abundance, diversity, and habitat and make recommendations to improve restoration outcomes.

(b) **Removing Barriers to Carbon Market Entry**

\$482,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop ground-tested carbon stock models of forest

resources throughout Minnesota to enable better resource management of public and private forests as well as generate reliable tools for landowners seeking to enter carbon markets.

(c) Mapping Migratory Bird Pit Stops in Minnesota

\$340,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the National Audubon Society, Minnesota office, to identify avian migratory stopover sites, develop a shared decision-support tool, and publish guidance for conserving migratory birds in Minnesota. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(d) Enhancing Knowledge of Minnesota River Fish Ecology

\$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to collect baseline information about the diets, distribution, status, and movement patterns of fish in the Minnesota River to inform management and conservation decisions.

(e) Changing Distribution of Flying Squirrel Species in Minnesota

\$186,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to determine current distribution and habitat associations of northern and southern flying squirrels to fill key knowledge gaps in flying squirrel status in Minnesota.

(f) Statewide Forest Carbon Inventory and Change Mapping

\$987,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to work with Minnesota Forest Resources Council, Minnesota Forestry Association, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and the University of Minnesota to develop a programmatic approach and begin collecting plot-based inventories on private forestland for use with remote sensing data to better assess changing

forest conditions and climate mitigation opportunities across all ownerships in the state.

(g) Predicting the Future of Aquatic Species by Understanding the Past

\$170,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use past and present information to model future ranges of native aquatic species in Minnesota to generate publicly available tools for species and habitat management.

(h) Assessing Status of Common Tern Populations in Minnesota

\$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to assess the population status of Common Tern breeding colonies in Minnesota, implement management activities, and develop a standardized monitoring protocol and online database for accessing current and historic monitoring data to help prioritize conservation and restoration actions for this state-threatened species.

(i) Salvaged Wildlife to Inform Environmental Health, Ecology, and Education

\$486,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural History, to establish a statewide network to collect, analyze, and archive salvaged dead wildlife and build a foundation of biodiversity resources to track ecosystem-wide changes, monitor environmental health, and educate Minnesotans about the value of scientific specimens.

(j) Developing Conservation Priorities for Rare and Specialist Bees

\$619,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to collect data on rare and specialist bees and their habitat preferences, determine their conservation status, and develop strategies to improve their chances of survival.

(k) Efficacy of Urban Archery Hunting to Manage Deer

\$393,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for Bemidji State University to conduct an analysis of deer survival, habitat use, and hunter data in the city of Bemidji to improve special archery hunt management practices in urban areas of the state.

(l) Mapping the Ecology of Urban and Rural Canids

\$601,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to determine how disease prevalence, diet, habitat use, and interspecies interactions of coyotes and foxes change from urban to rural areas along the Mississippi River corridor.

(m) Maximizing Lowland Conifer Ecosystem Services - Phase II

\$482,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to continue monitoring forested peatland hydrology and wildlife, conduct new wildlife and habitat surveys, and quantify carbon storage to provide support for management decisions.

(n) Modernizing Minnesota's Wildlife (and Plant) Action Plan

\$889,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to modernize the Minnesota Wildlife Action Plan by filling critical data gaps, including adding rare plants to the plan, and standardizing conservation status assessment methods to ensure Minnesota's natural heritage is protected into the future.

(o) Linking Breeding and Migratory Bird Populations in Minnesota

\$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory to map year-round habitat use of understudied bird species of special conservation concern and evaluate areas with the greatest risk of contaminant exposure.

(p) Old Growth Forest Monitoring

\$441,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to establish baseline conditions and develop a cost-effective method to monitor approximately 93,000 acres of old growth forest in Minnesota to ensure that these rare and important forest resources are properly protected.

(q) Integrating Remotely Sensed Data with Traditional Forest Inventory

\$191,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to calibrate and optimize the use of LiDAR for forest inventory purposes and estimate stand-level forest resource metrics in northeastern Minnesota so ecosystem services can be better considered in management decisions.

(r) Community Response Monitoring for Adaptive Management in Southeast Minnesota

\$483,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Nature Conservancy to assess community-level plant and animal responses to past restoration efforts in select southeast Minnesota conservation focus areas to determine if management outcomes are being achieved.

(s) Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas - Phase III

\$797,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural History, to expand the Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas to include more than 2,000,000 records and images of Minnesota wildlife, plants, and fungi by adding insect specimens, collections from new partners, historical data, and repatriating records of Minnesota's biodiversity that exist in various federal institutions.

Subd. 4. **Water Resources** 8,328,000 -0-

Appropriations by Fund

| | | |
|---|------------------|------------|
| <u>Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund</u> | <u>8,139,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |
| <u>Great Lakes Protection Account</u> | <u>189,000</u> | <u>-0-</u> |

(a) Ditching Delinquent Ditches: Optimizing Wetland Restoration

\$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use new techniques to identify and rank areas statewide where targeted removal of poorly functioning drainage ditches and restoration to wetlands can provide maximum human and ecological benefits, including aquifer recharge and flood prevention.

(b) Assessment of Red River Basin Project Outcomes

\$920,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Red River Watershed Management Board acting as fiscal agent for the Red River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Work Group to plan and implement multiresource monitoring at flood damage reduction and natural resource enhancement projects across the Red River Basin to evaluate outcomes and improve design of future projects at a regional scale. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(c) Wind Wave and Boating Impacts on Inland Lakes

\$415,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory to conduct a field study to measure the impacts of boat propeller wash and boat wakes on lake bottoms, shorelines, and water quality compared to the impacts of wind-generated waves.

(d) Finding, Capturing, and Destroying PFAS in Minnesota Waters

\$478,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop novel methods for the detection, sequestration, and degradation of poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in Minnesota's lakes and rivers.

(e) Sinking and Suspended Microplastic Particles in Lake Superior

\$412,000 the first year is to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Large Lakes Observatory in Duluth to investigate the abundance, characteristics, and fate of microplastic particles in Lake Superior to inform remediation strategies and analyses of environmental impacts. Of this amount, \$189,000 is from the Great Lakes protection account and \$223,000 is from the trust fund. These appropriations may also be used to educate the public about the research conducted with this appropriation.

(f) Ecotoxicological Impacts of Quinone Outside Inhibitor (QoI) Fungicides

\$279,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the University of St. Thomas to assess the ecological hazards associated with QoI fungicides and their major environmental transformation products.

(g) Brightsdale Dam Channel Restoration

\$1,004,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Fillmore County Soil and Water Conservation District to reduce sedimentation and improve aquatic habitat by restoring a channel of the north branch of the Root River at the site of a failed hydroelectric power dam that was removed in 2003.

(h) Mapping Aquifer Recharge Potential

\$391,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory to partner with the Freshwater Society to develop a practical tool for mapping aquifer recharge potential, demonstrate the tool with laboratory and field tests, use the tool to

evaluate recharge potential of several aquifers in Minnesota, and analyze aquifer recharge policy.

(i) ALASD's Chloride Source Reduction Pilot Program

\$764,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Alexandria Lake Area Sanitary District (ALASD) to coordinate with Douglas County and the Pollution Control Agency to pilot an incentive program for residences and businesses to install high-efficiency water softeners, salt-free systems, or softener discharge disposal systems to reduce the annual salt load to Lake Winona and downstream waters. The pilot program includes rebates, inspections, community education, and water quality monitoring to measure chloride reduction success. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(j) Removing CECs from Stormwater with Biofiltration

\$641,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory to develop a treatment practice design using biofiltration media to remove contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) from stormwater runoff and to provide statewide stormwater management guidance.

(k) Didymo II The North Shore Threat Continues

\$394,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to identify North Shore streams with didymo, determine the risk of invasion to other streams, document didymo impacts to stream functioning, and develop strategies to prevent further spread of didymo.

(l) Leveraging Data Analytics Innovations for Watershed District Planning

\$738,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to integrate local and statewide data sets into a high-resolution planning tool that forecasts the impacts of changing

precipitation patterns and quantitatively compares cost effectiveness and outcomes for water quality, ecological integrity, and flood prevention projects in the district. Minnehaha Creek Watershed District may license third parties to use products developed with this appropriation without further approval from the legislature or the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, provided the licensing does not generate income. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(m) Protecting Water in the Central Sands Region of the Mississippi River Headwaters

\$1,693,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Indians to conduct a policy analysis and assess aggregate irrigation impacts on water quality and quantity in the Pineland Sands region of the state.

Subd. 5. Environmental Education

3,905,000

-0-

(a) Fostering Conservation by Connecting Students to the BWCA

\$1,080,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness to connect Minnesota youth to the Boundary Waters through environmental education, experiential learning, and wilderness canoe trips.

(b) Statewide Environmental Education via PBS Outdoor Series

\$391,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pioneer Public Broadcasting Service to produce new episodes of a statewide public television series and an educational web page designed to inspire Minnesotans to connect with the outdoors and to restore and protect the state's natural resources.

(c) Increasing Diversity in Environmental Careers

\$763,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources in cooperation with

Conservation Corps Minnesota and Iowa to ensure a stable and prepared natural resources work force in Minnesota by encouraging a diversity of students to pursue careers in environment and natural resources through internships, mentorships, and fellowships with the Department of Natural Resources, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and the Pollution Control Agency. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(d) Reducing Biophobia & Fostering Environmental Stewardship in Underserved Schools

\$180,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Raptor Center to foster long-lasting environmental stewardship and literacy in Minnesota youth in underserved schools by providing engaging, multiunit, standards-based environmental programming featuring positive interactions with raptors and evaluating program effectiveness and areas for improvement.

(e) Sharing Minnesota's Biggest Environmental Investment

\$628,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota, in coordination with the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR), to increase public access to the results of LCCMR-recommended research, including through a free online interactive map, in-depth videos, and public events.

(f) North Shore Private Forestry Outreach and Implementation

\$375,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Sugarloaf: The North Shore Stewardship Association to conduct outreach to private forest landowners, develop site restoration plans, and connect landowners with restoration assistance to encourage private forest restoration and improve the ecological health of Minnesota's North Shore forest landscape.

(g) Teaching Students about Watersheds through Outdoor Science

\$290,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Trout Unlimited to engage students in classroom and outdoor hands-on learning focused on water quality, groundwater, aquatic life, and watershed stewardship and provide youth and their families with fishing experiences to further foster a conservation ethic.

(h) Bioblitz Urban Parks: Engaging Communities in Scientific Efforts

\$198,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to work with volunteers to collect baseline biodiversity data for neighborhood and regional parks to inspire stewardship and inform habitat restoration work.

Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

5,104,000

-0-

(a) Northward Expansion of Ecologically Damaging Amphibians and Reptiles

\$163,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to assess the distribution and potential for expansion of key detrimental and nonnative amphibians and reptiles in Minnesota.

(b) Developing Research-Based Solutions to Minnesota's AIS Problems

\$4,941,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center to conduct high-priority projects aimed at solving Minnesota's aquatic invasive species problems using rigorous science and a collaborative process. Additionally, funds may be spent to deliver research findings to end users through strategic communication and outreach. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Subd. 7. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy

3,913,000

-0-

(a) Community Forestry AmeriCorps

\$1,500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with ServeMinnesota to preserve and increase tree canopy throughout the state by training, supporting, and deploying AmeriCorps members to local agencies and nonprofit organizations to plant and inventory trees, develop and implement pest management plans, create and maintain nursery beds for replacement trees, and organize opportunities for community engagement in tree stewardship activities.

(b) Biochar Implementation in Habitat Restoration: A Pilot

\$185,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to pilot the use of portable biochar kilns as an alternative to open-pile burning of trees and shrubs to reduce smoke and carbon emissions and produce beneficial by-products from invasive species removal and land restoration efforts.

(c) Completing Installment of the Minnesota Ecological Monitoring Network

\$1,094,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to improve conservation and management of Minnesota's native forests, wetlands, and grasslands by completing the Ecological Monitoring Network to measure ecosystems' change through time.

(d) Lichens as Low-Cost Air Quality Monitors in Minnesota

\$341,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop community science protocols for using lichens as indicators of air quality and conduct an analysis of air pollution changes across Minnesota in the present and in the past century.

(e) Environment-Friendly Decarbonizing of Steel Production with Hydrogen Plasma

\$739,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to investigate the use of microwave hydrogen plasma to reduce fossil fuel use, carbon dioxide emissions, and waste and enable the use of alternative iron resources, including lower quality iron ores, tailings, and iron ore waste piles, in the iron-making industry. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(f) Economic Analysis Guide for Minnesota Climate Investments

\$54,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to create a guide that will incorporate nation-wide best practices for considering costs, benefits, economics, and equity in Minnesota climate policy decisions.

Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat

15,997,000

-0-

(a) Minnesota Bee and Beneficial Species Habitat Enhancement II

\$876,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever Inc. to enhance grassland habitats to benefit pollinators and other wildlife species on permanently protected lands and to collaborate with the University of Minnesota to determine best practices for seeding timing and techniques.

(b) Karner Blue Butterfly Insurance Population Establishment in Minnesota

\$405,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Three Rivers Park District to establish a breeding population of the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly on protected lands within the butterfly's northern expanding range, increase the habitat area, and evaluate the butterfly establishment effort to assist with adaptive management. This appropriation is

available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(c) Root River Habitat Restoration at Eagle Bluff

\$866,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center to restore habitat in and alongside the Root River north of Lanesboro, Minnesota, and to conduct monitoring to ensure water quality and fish population improvements are achieved. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(d) Restoring Mussels in Streams and Lakes - Continuation

\$825,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to propagate, rear, and restore native freshwater mussel assemblages and the ecosystem services they provide in the Mississippi, Cedar, and Cannon Rivers; to evaluate reintroduction success; and to inform the public on mussels and mussel conservation.

(e) Minnesota Million: Seedlings for Reforestation and CO₂ Sequestration

\$906,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Duluth, to collaborate with The Nature Conservancy and Minnesota Extension to expand networks of seed collectors and tree growers and to research tree planting strategies to accelerate reforestation for carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, and watershed resilience.

(f) Panoway on Wayzata Bay Shoreline Restoration Project

\$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Wayzata to restore native lake bottom and shoreline vegetation to improve shoreline stability, wildlife habitat, and the natural beauty of Lake Minnetonka's Wayzata Bay. The recipient must report to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota

Resources on the effectiveness of any new methods tested while conducting the project and may use a portion of the appropriation to prepare that report.

(g) Pollinator Central III: Habitat Improvement with Community Monitoring

\$190,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to restore and enhance pollinator habitat in parks, schools, and other public spaces to benefit pollinators and people and to build knowledge about impacts of the pollinator plantings through community-based monitoring.

(h) Restoring Forests and Savannas Using Silvopasture - Phase II

\$674,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to continue to partner with the University of Minnesota and the Sustainable Farming Association to demonstrate, evaluate, and increase adoption of the combined use of intensive tree, forage, and grazing as a method to restore and manage forest and savanna habitats.

(i) Minnesota Community Schoolyards

\$1,433,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Trust for Public Land to engage students and communities to create nature-focused habitat improvements at schoolyards across the state to increase environmental outcomes and encourage outdoor learning.

(j) Pollinator Enhancement and Mississippi River Shoreline Restoration

\$187,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the adjutant general of the Department of Military Affairs to restore native prairie, support pollinator plantings, and stabilize a large section of stream bank along the Mississippi River within Camp Ripley.

(k) Conservation Cooperative for Working Lands

\$2,611,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever Inc. to collaborate with Natural Resources Conservation Service, Board of Water and Soil Resources, and Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts to accelerate adoption of voluntary conservation practices on working lands in Minnesota by increasing technical assistance to farmers and landowners while also attracting federal matching funds.

(l) Quantifying Environmental Benefits of Peatland Restoration in Minnesota

\$754,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to quantify the capacity of restored peatlands to store and accumulate atmospheric carbon and prevent release of accumulated mercury into the surrounding environment. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(m) Renewing Access to an Iconic North Shore Vista

\$197,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to use national trail design best practices to renew trails and a campground along the Bean and Bear Lakes section of the Superior Hiking Trail that provides access to one of Minnesota's most iconic vistas.

(n) Addressing Erosion Along High Use River Loops

\$368,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to rehabilitate and renew popular river loops of the Superior Hiking Trail to withstand high visitor use and serve Minnesotans for years to come.

(o) Pollinator Habitat Creation at Minnesota Closed Landfills

\$1,508,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct a pilot project to create pollinator

habitat at closed landfill sites in the closed landfill program. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(p) Enhancing Habitat Connectivity within the Urban Mississippi Flyway

\$190,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to enhance and restore habitat in and between urban neighborhood parks and the Mississippi River to benefit animals, plants, and neighborhoods traditionally disconnected from nature and to raise awareness of the Mississippi River Flyway.

(q) Statewide Diversion of Furniture and Mattress Waste Pilots

\$2,833,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with EMERGE Community Development to work collaboratively with the University of Minnesota, Second Chance Recycling, and local governments to test and implement methods to expand mattress and furniture recycling statewide, including by researching value-add commodity markets for recycled materials, piloting mattress collection in greater Minnesota counties, piloting curbside furniture collection in the metropolitan area, and increasing facility capacity to recycle collected mattresses. Any revenue generated from selling products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(r) Phelps Mill Wetland and Prairie Restoration

\$974,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to plan, engineer, and restore wetlands and prairie within the newly expanded Phelps Mill County Park to improve habitat connectivity for wildlife and enhance recreational experiences for users. Up to \$322,000 of this appropriation may be used to plan, engineer, and construct a boardwalk, viewing

platforms, and soft trails within the park. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation

31,241,000

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(a) SNA Stewardship, Outreach, and Biodiversity Protection

\$1,919,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance exceptional habitat on scientific and natural areas (SNAs), increase public involvement and outreach, and strategically acquire lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from willing sellers. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Wannigan Regional Park Land Acquisition

\$727,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Frazee to acquire land for protecting and enhancing natural resources and for future development as Wannigan Regional Park, where the Heartland State, North Country National, and Otter Tail River Water Trails will meet. Initial site development or restoration work may be conducted with this appropriation.

(c) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs

\$3,802,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit and rank applications and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(d) Outreach and Stewardship Through the Native Prairie Bank Program

\$620,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to enhance and monitor lands enrolled in the native prairie bank and to provide outreach and technical assistance to landowners, practitioners, and the public to increase awareness and stewardship of the state's remaining native prairie. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$4,952,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and enhancing existing state trails and replacing or repairing existing state trail bridges.

(f) Construction of East Park

\$700,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of St. Joseph to increase recreational opportunities and access at East Park along the Sauk River in St. Joseph through enhancements such as a canoe and kayak access, a floating dock, paved and mowed trails, and parking entrance improvements.

(g) Scandia Gateway Trail to William O'Brien State Park

\$2,689,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Scandia to engineer and construct a segment of the Gateway State Trail between the city of Scandia and William O'Brien State Park that will be maintained by the Department of Natural Resources. The segment to be constructed includes a pedestrian tunnel and trailhead parking area. This project must be designed and constructed in accordance with Department of Natural Resources state trail standards. Engineering and construction plans must be approved by the commissioner of natural resources before construction may commence. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(h) Grand Marais Mountain Bike Trail Rehabilitation - Phase II

\$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Superior Cycling Association to rehabilitate and modify existing mountain bike trails at Pincushion Mountain to increase the trail's environmental sustainability and provide better access to beginner and adaptive cyclers.

(i) Acquisition of State Parks and Trails Inholdings

\$5,425,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire high-priority inholdings from willing sellers within the legislatively authorized boundaries of state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and improve the efficiency of public land management. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(j) St. Louis River Re-Connect - Phase II

\$1,375,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Duluth to increase recreational opportunities and access to the Waabizheshikana hiking and water trails in West Duluth with trail and trailhead enhancements such as accessible canoe and kayak launches, picnic areas, and restrooms; restored habitat; stormwater improvements; directional signage, and trailside interpretation. This appropriation may also be used to partner with the St. Louis River Alliance to create an ambassadors program to engage the surrounding community and facilitate use of the trails.

(k) City of Biwabik Recreation

\$1,306,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Biwabik to reconstruct and renovate Biwabik Recreation Area's access road, parking area, and bathroom facilities.

(l) Silver Bay Multimodal Trailhead Project

\$1,970,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Silver Bay to develop a multimodal trailhead center to provide safe access to the Superior Hiking, Gitchi-Gami Bike, and C.J. Ramstad/North Shore trails; Black Beach Park; and other recreational destinations. Before any construction costs are incurred, the city must demonstrate that all funding to complete the project are secured.

(m) Above the Falls Regional Park Restoration Planning and Acquisition

\$1,376,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to acquire land along the Mississippi River from willing sellers for habitat restoration, trail development, and low-intensity recreational facilities in Above the Falls Regional Park. This appropriation may also be used to prepare restoration plans for lands acquired. This appropriation may not be used to purchase habitable residential structures. Before the acquisition, a phase 1 environmental assessment must be completed and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board must not accept any liability for previous contamination of lands acquired with this appropriation.

(n) Redhead Mountain Bike Park

\$1,666,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Chisholm as the fiscal agent for the Minnesota Discovery Center to enhance outdoor recreational opportunities by adding trails and amenities to the Redhead Mountain Bike Park in Chisholm. Amenities may include such things as pump tracks, skills courses, changing stations, shade shakes, and signage.

(o) Maplewood State Park Trail Segment of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail

\$2,514,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to partner with the Department of Natural Resources to construct the Maplewood State Park segment of the Perham to Pelican Rapids

Regional Trail. This project must be designed and constructed in accordance with Department of Natural Resources state trail standards. Engineering and construction plans must be approved by the commissioner of natural resources before construction may commence.

Subd. 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement

3,126,000

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(a) LCCMR Administrative Budget

\$2,133,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for administration in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09, subdivision 5. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.11, paragraph (b), Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.281, applies to this appropriation.

(b) Emerging Issues

\$767,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources to an emerging issues account authorized in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.08, subdivision 4, paragraph (d).

(c) Contract Agreement Reimbursement

\$224,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources, at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, for expenses incurred in preparing and administering contracts, including for the agreements specified in this section.

(d) Legislative Coordinating Commission Legacy Website

\$2,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the website required in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

Subd. 11. Availability of Appropriations

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs that are directly related to and necessary for an appropriation, including financial services, human resources, information services, rent, and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can be clearly justified and individually documented specific to the appropriation's purpose and would not be generated by the recipient but for receipt of the appropriation. No broad allocations for costs in either dollars or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available for three years beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2026, when projects must be completed and final products delivered. For acquisition of real property, the appropriations in this section are available for an additional fiscal year if a binding contract for acquisition of the real property is entered into before the expiration date of the appropriation. If a project receives a federal award, the period of the appropriation is extended to equal the federal award period to a maximum trust fund appropriation length of six years.

Subd. 12. Data Availability Requirements Data

Data collected by the projects funded under this section must conform to guidelines and standards adopted by Minnesota IT Services. Spatial data must also conform to additional guidelines and standards designed to support data coordination and distribution that have been published by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. Descriptions of spatial data must be prepared as specified in the state's geographic metadata guideline and must be submitted to the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. All data must be accessible and free to the public unless made private under the Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the extent practicable, summary data and results of projects funded under this

section should be readily accessible on the Internet and identified as having received funding from the environment and natural resources trust fund.

Subd. 13. Project Requirements

(a) As a condition of accepting an appropriation under this section, an agency or entity receiving an appropriation or a party to an agreement from an appropriation must comply with paragraphs (b) to (l) and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the amendment process established by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(b) A recipient of money appropriated in this section that conducts a restoration using funds appropriated in this section must use native plant species according to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines and include an appropriate diversity of native species selected to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the growing season as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.973.

(c) For all restorations conducted with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan that, to the degree practicable, is consistent with the highest-quality conservation and ecological goals for the restoration site. Consideration should be given to soil, geology, topography, and other relevant factors that would provide the best chance for long-term success and durability of the restoration project. The plan must include the proposed timetable for implementing the restoration, including site preparation, establishment of diverse plant species, maintenance, and additional enhancement to establish the restoration; identify long-term maintenance and management needs of the restoration and how the maintenance, management, and enhancement will be financed; and take advantage of the best-available

science and include innovative techniques to achieve the best restoration.

(d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this section for restoration activities must provide an initial restoration evaluation at the completion of the appropriation and an evaluation three years after the completion of the expenditure. Restorations must be evaluated relative to the stated goals and standards in the restoration plan, current science, and, when applicable, the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines. The evaluation must determine whether the restorations are meeting planned goals, identify any problems with implementing the restorations, and, if necessary, give recommendations on improving restorations. The evaluation must be focused on improving future restorations.

(e) All restoration and enhancement projects funded with money appropriated in this section must be on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.

(f) A recipient of money from an appropriation under this section must give consideration to contracting with Conservation Corps Minnesota for contract restoration and enhancement services.

(g) All conservation easements acquired with money appropriated under this section must:

(1) be permanent;

(2) specify the parties to an easement in the easement;

(3) specify all provisions of an agreement that are permanent;

(4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources in an electronic format at least ten business days before closing;

(5) include a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan and funding for monitoring and enforcing the easement agreement; and

(6) include requirements in the easement document to protect the quantity and quality of groundwater and surface water through specific activities such as keeping water on the landscape, reducing nutrient and

contaminant loading, and not permitting artificial hydrological modifications.

(h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in lands, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must not agree to pay more than 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel of land using this money to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, except that up to ten percent above the appraised value may be allowed to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, using this money if permission is received in advance of the purchase from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(i) For any acquisition of land or interest in land, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must give priority to high-quality natural resources or conservation lands that provide natural buffers to water resources.

(j) For new lands acquired with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan in compliance with paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for implementation unless the work plan addresses why a portion of the money is not necessary to achieve a high-quality restoration.

(k) To ensure public accountability for using public funds, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must, within 60 days of the transaction, provide to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources documentation of the selection process used to identify parcels acquired and provide documentation of all related transaction costs, including but not limited to appraisals, legal fees, recording fees, commissions, other similar costs, and donations. This information must be provided for all parties involved in the transaction. The recipient must also report to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources any difference between the acquisition amount paid to the seller and the state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal was conducted.

(l) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section must acknowledge financial support from the environment and natural resources trust fund in project publications, signage, and other public communications and outreach related to work

completed using the appropriation. Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate, through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion of language attributing support from the trust fund. Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section, as well as each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section, must satisfy all reporting and other requirements incumbent upon constitutionally dedicated funding recipients as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10, and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P.

(m) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section that is receiving funding to conduct children's services, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, subdivision 7, must certify to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, as part of the required work plan, that criminal background checks for background check crimes, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, subdivision 2, are performed on all employees, contractors, and volunteers that have or may have access to a child to whom the recipient provides children's services using the appropriation.

Subd. 14. Payment Conditions and Capital Equipment Expenditures

(a) All agreements, grants, or contracts referred to in this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided in this section. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41, expenditures made on or after July 1, 2023, or the date the work plan is approved, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. Periodic payments must be made upon receiving documentation that the deliverable items articulated in the approved work plan have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by approved progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash-flow needs or match federal money. The advances must be approved as part of the work plan. No expenditures for capital equipment are allowed unless expressly authorized in the project work plan.

(b) Single-source contracts as specified in the approved work plan are allowed.

Subd. 15. Purchasing Recycled and Recyclable Materials

A political subdivision, public or private corporation, or other entity that receives an appropriation under this section must use the appropriation in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable materials, and Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using paper stock and printing.

Subd. 16. Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Guidelines

A recipient to whom an appropriation is made under this section for a capital improvement project must ensure that the project complies with the applicable energy conservation and sustainable building guidelines and standards contained in law, including Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.325, 216C.19, and 216C.20, and rules adopted under those sections. The recipient may use the energy planning, advocacy, and State Energy Office units of the Department of Commerce to obtain information and technical assistance on energy conservation and alternative-energy development relating to planning and constructing the capital improvement project.

Subd. 17. Accessibility

Structural and nonstructural facilities must meet the design standards in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility guidelines.

Subd. 18. Carryforward; Extensions

The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2024:

- (1) Laws 2018, chapter 214, article 4, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph (a), Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center - Phase 4;
- (2) Laws 2018, chapter 214, article 4, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (e), Restoring Forests in Minnesota State Parks;
- (3) Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (d), Minnesota Trumpeter Swan Migration Ecology and Conservation;

(4) Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (g), Agricultural Weed Control Using Autonomous Mowers;

(5) Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 10, paragraph (d), Grants Management System; and

(6) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 10, Emerging Issues Account; Wastewater Renewable Energy Demonstration Grants.

Subd. 19. Repurpose

The unencumbered amount, estimated to be \$176,000, in Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (f), Restoring Upland Forests for Birds, is for examining the impacts of neonicotinoid exposure on the reproduction and survival of Minnesota's game species, including deer and prairie chicken. This amount is in addition to the appropriation under article 1, section 3, subdivision 6, for these purposes and is available until June 30, 2027.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) A Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources of 17 members is created in the legislative branch, consisting of the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees on environment and natural resources finance or designees appointed for the terms of the chairs, four members of the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and four members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker.

(b) At least two members from the senate and two members from the house of representatives must be from the minority caucus. ~~Members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem expenses plus travel expenses incurred in the services of the commission.~~

(c) Seven citizens are members of the commission, five appointed by the governor, one appointed by the Senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and one appointed by the speaker of the house. The citizen members are selected and recommended to the appointing authorities according to subdivision 1a and must:

(1) have experience or expertise in the science, policy, or practice of the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;

(2) have strong knowledge in the state's environment and natural resource issues around the state; ~~and~~

(3) have demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative environment; and

(4) not be a registered lobbyist.

(d) Members shall develop procedures to elect a chair that rotates between legislative and citizen members each meeting. A citizen member, a senate member, and a house of representatives member shall serve as

chairs. The citizen members, senate members, and house of representatives members must select their respective chairs. The chair shall preside and convene meetings as often as necessary to conduct duties prescribed by this chapter.

(e) Appointed legislative members shall serve on the commission for two-year terms, beginning in January of each odd-numbered year and continuing through the end of December of the next even-numbered year. Appointed citizen members shall serve four-year terms, beginning in January of the first year and continuing through the end of December of the final year. Citizen and legislative members continue to serve until their successors are appointed.

(f) A citizen member may be removed by an appointing authority for cause. Vacancies occurring on the commission shall not affect the authority of the remaining members of the commission to carry out their duties, and vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the term in the same manner under paragraphs (a) to (c).

(g) Legislative members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem expenses plus travel expenses incurred in the services of the commission. Citizen members are entitled to per diem and reimbursement for expenses incurred in the services of the commission, as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 3, except that a citizen member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day.

(h) The governor's appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the senate. One of the governor's appointments must be a member recommended by the Tribal government representatives of the Indian Affairs Council.

(i) A citizen member may serve no more than eight years, except as necessary to fill a vacancy. A citizen member may not serve more than ten years if serving additional time to fill a vacancy.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2023, and applies to appointments made on or after that date.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.05, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

Subd. 1a. **Citizen selection committee.** (a) The governor ~~shall~~ must appoint a Trust Fund Citizen Selection Committee of five members who come from different regions of the state and who have knowledge and experience of state environment and natural resource issues to provide recommendations for appointments under subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

(b) The duties of the Trust Fund Citizen Selection Committee ~~shall be~~ are to:

(1) identify citizen candidates to be members of the commission as part of the open appointments process under section 15.0597;

(2) request and review citizen candidate applications to be members of the commission; and

(3) interview the citizen candidates and recommend an adequate pool of candidates to be selected for commission membership by the governor, ~~the senate, and the house of representatives.~~

(c) ~~Members serve three-year terms and are entitled to travel expenses incurred to fulfill their duties under this subdivision as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 6~~ per diem and reimbursement for expenses incurred in the services of the committee, as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 3, except that a citizen selection committee member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day.

(d) A member appointed under this subdivision may not be a registered lobbyist.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2025.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.05, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Duties.** (a) The commission ~~shall~~ must recommend an annual or biennial legislative bill for appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund and ~~shall~~ must adopt a strategic plan as provided in section 116P.08. Except as provided under section 116P.09, subdivision 6, paragraph (b), approval of the recommended legislative bill requires an affirmative vote of at least ~~12~~ 11 members of the commission.

(b) It is a condition of acceptance of the appropriations made from the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund, and oil overcharge money under section 4.071, subdivision 2, that the agency or entity receiving the appropriation must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, and comply with applicable reporting requirements under section 116P.16. None of the money provided may be spent unless the commission has approved the pertinent work plan. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures ~~shall~~ must be made through the amendment process established by the commission. The commission ~~shall~~ must ensure that the expenditures and outcomes described in the work plan for appropriations funded by the environment and natural resources trust fund are met.

(c) The peer review procedures created under section 116P.08 must also be used to review, comment, and report to the commission on research proposals applying for an appropriation from the oil overcharge money under section 4.071, subdivision 2.

(d) The commission may adopt operating procedures to fulfill its duties under this chapter.

(e) As part of the operating procedures, the commission ~~shall~~ must:

(1) ensure that members' expectations are to participate in all meetings related to funding decision recommendations;

(2) recommend adequate funding for increased citizen outreach and communications for trust fund expenditure planning;

(3) allow administrative expenses as part of individual project expenditures based on need;

(4) provide for project outcome evaluation;

(5) keep the grant application, administration, and review process as simple as possible; and

(6) define and emphasize the leveraging of additional sources of money that project proposers should consider when making trust fund proposals.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2023.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.09, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Conflict of interest.** (a) A commission member, a technical advisory committee member, a peer reviewer, or an employee of the commission may not participate in or vote on a decision of the commission, advisory committee, or peer review relating to an organization in which the member, peer reviewer, or employee has either a direct or indirect personal financial interest. While serving on the

commission or technical advisory committee or as a peer reviewer or while an employee of the commission, a person ~~shall~~ must avoid any potential conflict of interest.

(b) A commission member may not vote on a motion regarding the final recommendations of the commission required under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), if the motion relates to an organization in which the member has a direct personal financial interest. If a commission member is prohibited from voting under this paragraph, the number of affirmative votes required under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), is reduced by the number of members ineligible to vote under this paragraph.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2023.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.11, is amended to read:

116P.11 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DISBURSEMENT.

(a) The amount annually available from the trust fund for the legislative bill developed by the commission is as defined in the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

(b) Any appropriated funds not encumbered in the biennium in which they are appropriated by the date the appropriation expires cancel and must be credited to the principal of the trust fund.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.15, is amended to read:

116P.15 CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND LAND ACQUISITION; RESTRICTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund or the Minnesota future resources fund who acquires an interest in real property with the appropriation must comply with ~~this section subdivision 2. For the purposes of this section, "interest in real property" includes, but is not limited to, an easement or fee title to property.~~ A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses any portion of the appropriation for a capital construction project with a total cost of \$10,000 or more must comply with subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Land acquisition restrictions; modification procedure.** (a) An easement, fee title, or other interest in real property acquired with an appropriation from the trust fund or the Minnesota future resources fund must be used in perpetuity or for the specific term of an easement interest for the purpose for which the appropriation was made. The ownership of the interest in real property transfers to the state if: (1) the holder of the interest in real property fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement or work plan; or (2) restrictions are placed on the land that preclude its use for the intended purpose as specified in the appropriation.

(b) A recipient of funding who acquires an interest in real property subject to this section may not alter the intended use of the interest in real property or convey any interest in the real property acquired with the appropriation without the prior review and approval of the commission or its successor. The commission shall notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the trust fund or Minnesota future resources fund at least 15 business days before approval under this paragraph. The commission shall establish procedures to review requests from recipients to alter the use of or convey an interest in real property. These procedures shall allow for the replacement of the interest in real property with another interest in real property meeting the following criteria:

(1) the interest must be at least equal in fair market value, as certified by the commissioner of natural resources, to the interest being replaced; and

(2) the interest must be in a reasonably equivalent location, and have a reasonably equivalent useful conservation purpose compared to the interest being replaced, taking into consideration all effects from fragmentation of the whole habitat.

(c) A recipient of funding who acquires an interest in real property under paragraph (a) must separately record a notice of funding restrictions in the appropriate local government office where the conveyance of the interest in real property is filed. The notice of funding agreement must contain:

- (1) a legal description of the interest in real property covered by the funding agreement;
- (2) a reference to the underlying funding agreement;
- (3) a reference to this section; and
- (4) the following statement:

"This interest in real property shall be administered in accordance with the terms, conditions, and purposes of the grant agreement controlling the acquisition of the property. The interest in real property, or any portion of the interest in real property, shall not be sold, transferred, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or further encumbered without obtaining the prior written approval of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor. The ownership of the interest in real property transfers to the state if: (1) the holder of the interest in real property fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement or work plan; or (2) restrictions are placed on the land that preclude its use for the intended purpose as specified in the appropriation."

Subd. 3. Capital construction restrictions; modification procedure. (a) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses the appropriation to wholly or partially construct a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset may not alter the intended use of the capital asset or convey any interest in the capital asset for 25 years from the date the project is completed without the prior review and approval of the commission or its successor. The commission must notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the trust fund at least 15 business days before approval under this paragraph. The commission must establish procedures to review requests from recipients to alter the use of or convey an interest in a capital asset under this paragraph. These procedures must require that:

- (1) the sale price must be at least fair market value; and
- (2) the trust fund must be repaid a portion of the sale price equal to the percentage of the total funding provided by the fund for constructing the capital asset.

(b) The commission or its successor may waive the requirements under paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), by recommendation to the legislature if the transfer allows for a continued use of the asset in a manner consistent with the original appropriation purpose or with the purposes of the trust fund.

(c) If both a capital asset and the real property on which the asset is located were wholly or partially purchased with an appropriation from the trust fund and the commission approves a request to alter the use of or convey an interest in the real property under subdivision 2, a separate approval under this subdivision to alter the use of the capital asset is not required.

(d) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses the appropriation to wholly or partially construct a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset must separately record a notice of funding restrictions in the appropriate local government office. The notice of funding restrictions must contain:

(1) a legal description of the interest in real property covered by the funding agreement;

(2) a reference to the underlying funding agreement;

(3) a reference to this subdivision; and

(4) the following statement:

"This interest in real property must be administered in accordance with the terms, conditions, and purposes of the grant agreement controlling the improvement of the property. The interest in real property, or any portion of the interest in real property, must not be altered from its intended use or be sold, transferred, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or further encumbered without obtaining the prior written approval of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor."

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.16, is amended to read:

116P.16 REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS; REPORT.

(a) By December 1 each year, a recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund, that is used for the acquisition of an interest in real property, including, but not limited to, an easement or fee title, or for the construction of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset with a total cost of \$10,000 or more must submit annual reports on the status of the real property to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor in a form determined by the commission. The responsibility for reporting under this section may be transferred by the recipient of the appropriation to another person who holds the interest in the real property. To complete the transfer of reporting responsibility, the recipient of the appropriation must:

(1) inform the person to whom the responsibility is transferred of that person's reporting responsibility;

(2) inform the person to whom the responsibility is transferred of the property restrictions under section 116P.15; and

(3) provide written notice to the commission of the transfer of reporting responsibility, including contact information for the person to whom the responsibility is transferred.

(b) After the transfer, the person who holds the interest in the real property is responsible for reporting requirements under this section.

(c) The annual reporting requirements on the status of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset with a total cost of \$10,000 or more and that was constructed with an appropriation from the trust fund expire 25 years after the date the final progress report under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), is approved.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116P.18, is amended to read:

116P.18 LANDS IN PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Money appropriated from the trust fund must not be used to purchase any land in fee title or a permanent conservation easement if the land in question is fully or partially owned by the state or a political subdivision of the state or was acquired fully or partially with state money, unless:

(1) the purchase creates additional direct benefit to the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources; and

(2) the purchase is approved, prior to the acquisition, by an affirmative vote of at least ~~12~~ 11 members of the commission.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2023.

Sec. 11. **[116P.21] ADDITIONAL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Full funding.** If an appropriation from the trust fund for a capital construction project or project phase is not alone sufficient to complete the project or project phase and a commitment from sources other than the trust fund is required:

(1) the commitment must be in an amount that, when added to the appropriation from the trust fund, is sufficient to complete the project or project phase; and

(2) the agency administering the appropriation from the trust fund must not distribute the money until the commitment is determined to be sufficient. In determining the sufficiency of a commitment under this clause, the agency must apply the standards and principles applied by the commissioner of management and budget under section 16A.502.

Subd. 2. **Match.** A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for a capital construction project must provide a cash or in-kind match from nontrust fund sources of at least 25 percent of the total costs to complete the project or project phase.

Subd. 3. **Sustainable building guidelines.** The sustainable building guidelines established under sections 16B.325 and 216B.241, subdivision 9, apply to new buildings and major renovations funded from the trust fund. A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for a new building or major renovation must ensure that the project complies with the guidelines.

Subd. 4. **Applicability.** (a) Subdivisions 1, 2, and 3 do not apply to:

(1) a capital construction project with a total cost of less than \$10,000; or

(2) a land acquisition project.

(b) If land is acquired with trust fund money for the purpose of capital construction, the land acquisition is not exempted under paragraph (a), clause (2).

Subd. 5. **Other capital construction statutes.** The following statutes also apply to recipients of appropriations from the trust fund: sections 16B.32; 16B.326; 16B.335, subdivisions 3 and 4; 16C.054; 16C.16; 16C.28; 16C.285; 138.40; 138.665; 138.666; 177.41 to 177.44; and 471.345.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date.

Sec. 12. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

**Subd. 9. Land Acquisition,
Habitat, and Recreation**

-0- 29,901,000

(a) DNR Scientific and Natural Areas

\$3,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the scientific and natural area (SNA) program to restore, improve, and enhance wildlife habitat on SNAs; increase public involvement and outreach; and strategically acquire high-quality lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from willing sellers.

(b) Private Native Prairie Conservation through Native Prairie Bank

\$2,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide technical stewardship assistance to private landowners, restore and enhance native prairie protected by easements in the native prairie bank, and acquire easements for the native prairie bank in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, including preparing initial baseline property assessments. Up to \$60,000 of this appropriation may be deposited in the natural resources conservation easement stewardship account, created in Minnesota Statutes, section 84.69, proportional to the number of easement acres acquired.

(c) Minnesota State Parks and State Trails Inholdings

\$3,500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire high-priority inholdings from willing sellers within the legislatively authorized boundaries of state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and promote tourism.

(d) Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas

\$2,400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under

Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(e) Mississippi River Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Mussel Reintroduction

\$1,800,000 the second year is from the trust fund. Of this amount, \$1,549,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and \$251,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore lost habitat and reintroduce mussels in the Mississippi River above St. Anthony Falls. This work includes creating habitat and species restoration plans, implementing the restoration plans, and monitoring effectiveness of the restoration for multiple years after implementation. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(f) Minnesota Hunter Walking Trails: Public Land Recreational Access

\$300,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Ruffed Grouse Society to improve Minnesota's hunter walking trail system by restoring or upgrading trailheads and trails, developing new walking trails, and compiling enhanced maps for use by managers and the public.

(g) Turning Back to Rivers: Environmental and Recreational Protection

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Trust for Public Land to help local communities acquire priority land along the Mississippi, St. Croix, and Minnesota Rivers and their tributaries to protect natural resources, provide buffers for flooding, and improve access for recreation.

(h) Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition - Phase VI

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants to acquire land within the approved park boundaries of the metropolitan regional park system. This appropriation must be matched by at least 40 percent of nonstate money.

(i) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$994,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand high-priority recreational opportunities on Minnesota's state trails by rehabilitating, improving, and enhancing existing state trails. The high-priority trail bridges to be rehabilitated or replaced under this appropriation include, but are not limited to, those on the Taconite, Great River Ridge, and C. J. Ramstad/Northshore State Trails.

(j) Elm Creek Restoration - Phase IV

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Champlin to conduct habitat and stream restoration of approximately 0.7 miles of Elm Creek shoreline above Mill Pond Lake and through the Elm Creek Protection Area.

(k) Superior Hiking Trail as Environmental Showcase

\$450,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to rebuild damaged and dangerous segments and create a new trail segment of the Superior Hiking Trail to minimize environmental impacts, make the trail safer for users, and make the trail more resilient for future use and conditions.

(l) Upper St. Anthony Falls Enhancements

\$2,800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Friends of the Lock and Dam in partnership with the city of Minneapolis to design and install green infrastructure, public access, and habitat restorations on riverfront land at Upper St. Anthony Falls for water protection, recreation, and environmental education

purposes. Of this amount, up to \$600,000 is for planning, design, and engagement. No funds from this appropriation may be spent until Congress directs the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to convey an interest in the Upper St. Anthony Falls property to the city of Minneapolis for use as a visitor center. After this congressional act is signed into law, up to \$100,000 of the planning, design, and engagement funds may be spent. The remaining planning, design, and engagement funds may be spent after a binding agreement has been secured to acquire the land or access and use rights to the land for at least 25 years. Any remaining balance of the appropriation may be spent on installing enhancements after the Upper St. Anthony Falls land has been acquired by the city of Minneapolis.

(m) Whiskey Creek and Mississippi River Water Quality, Habitat, and Recreation

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Mississippi Headwaters Board for the city of Baxter to acquire ~~and transfer approximately 13 acres of land to the city of Baxter~~ for future construction of water quality, habitat, and recreational improvements to protect the Mississippi River.

(n) Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (West Segment)

\$2,600,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to construct the west segment of the 32-mile Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail that will connect the city of Pelican Rapids to Maplewood State Park.

(o) Crow Wing County Community Natural Area Acquisition

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Crow Wing County to acquire approximately 65 acres of land adjacent to the historic fire tower property to allow for diverse recreational opportunities while protecting wildlife habitat and preventing forest fragmentation. Any revenue generated from selling

products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(p) Rocori Trail - Phase III

\$1,200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Rocori Trail Construction Board to design and construct Phase III of the Rocori Trail along the old Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail corridor between the cities of Cold Spring and Rockville.

(q) Mesabi Trail: New Trail and Additional Funding

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority for constructing the Mesabi Trail beginning at the intersection of County Road 20 and Minnesota State Highway 135 and terminating at 1st Avenue North and 1st Street North in the city of Biwabik in St. Louis County. This appropriation may not be spent until all Mesabi Trail projects funded with trust fund appropriations before fiscal year 2020, with the exception of the project funded under Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (g), are completed.

(r) Ranier Safe Harbor and Transient Dock on Rainy Lake

\$762,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Ranier to construct a dock that accommodates boats 26 feet or longer with the goal of increasing public access for boat recreation on Rainy Lake. Any revenue generated from selling products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(s) Crane Lake Voyageurs National Park Campground and Visitor Center

\$3,100,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the town of Crane Lake to design and construct a new campground and to plan and preliminarily prepare a site for constructing a new Voyageurs National Park visitor center on land acquired for these purposes in Crane Lake. Any revenue generated from selling products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(t) Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation, and Education

\$160,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Chippewa County to acquire wetland and floodplain forest and abandoned gravel pits along the Minnesota River to provide water filtration, education, and recreational opportunities.

(u) Sportsmen's Training and Developmental Learning Center

\$85,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association to complete a site evaluation and master plan for the Sportsmen's Training and Developmental Learning Center near Hibbing. Any revenue generated from selling products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(v) Birch Lake Recreation Area

\$350,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for a grant to the city of Babbitt to expand the Birch Lake Recreation Area by adding a new campground to include new campsites, restrooms, and other facilities. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025.

Sec. 13. Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Environmental Education** -0- 4,269,000

(a) Teacher Field School: Stewardship through Nature-Based Education

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Hamline University to create an immersive, research-backed field school for teachers to use nature-based education to benefit student well-being and academic outcomes while increasing stewardship habits.

(b) Increasing K-12 Student Learning to Develop Environmental Awareness, Appreciation, and Interest

\$1,602,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center to partner with Minnesota's five other accredited residential environmental learning centers to provide needs-based scholarships to ~~at least 25,000~~ K-12 students statewide for immersive multiday environmental learning experiences.

(c) Expanding Access to Wildlife Learning Bird by Bird

\$276,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to engage young people from diverse communities in wildlife conservation through bird-watching in schools, outdoor leadership training, and participating in neighborhood bird walks.

(d) Engaging a Diverse Public in Environmental Stewardship

\$300,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to increase participation in natural resources restoration efforts through volunteer, internship, and youth engagement activities that target diverse audiences more accurately reflecting local demographic and socioeconomic conditions in Minnesota.

(e) Bugs Below Zero: Engaging Citizens in Winter Research

\$198,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to raise awareness about the winter life of bugs, inspire learning about stream food webs, and engage citizen scientists in research and environmental stewardship.

(f) ESTEP: Earth Science Teacher Education Project

\$495,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minnesota Science Teachers Association to provide professional development for Minnesota science teachers in environmental and earth science to strengthen environmental education in schools.

(g) YES! Students Take Action to Complete Eco Projects

\$199,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, in partnership with Ney Nature Center and Laurentian Environmental Center, to empower Minnesota youth to connect with natural resource experts, identify ecological challenges, and take action to complete innovative projects in their communities.

(h) Increasing Diversity in Environmental Careers

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources, in cooperation with Conservation Corps Minnesota and Iowa, to encourage a diversity of students to pursue careers in the environment and natural resources through internships, mentorships, and fellowships with the Department of Natural Resources, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and the Pollution Control Agency.

(i) Diversity and Access to Wildlife-Related Opportunities

\$199,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to broaden the state's conservation constituency by researching diverse communities' values about nature and wildlife experiences and identifying barriers to engagement.

Sec. 14. Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat

-0-

11,294,000

(a) Minnesota's Volunteer Rare Plant Conservation Corps

\$859,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum to partner with the Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Native Plant Society to establish and train a volunteer corps to survey, monitor, and bank seed from Minnesota's rare plant populations and enhance the effectiveness and efficiencies of conservation efforts.

(b) Conservation Corps Veterans Service Corps Program

\$1,339,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Conservation Corps Minnesota to create a Veterans Service Corps program to accelerate natural resource restorations in Minnesota while providing workforce development opportunities for the state's veterans.

(c) Creating Seed Sources of Early-Blooming Plants for Pollinators

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to establish new populations of early-season flowers by hand-harvesting and propagating species that are currently lacking in prairie restorations and that are essential to pollinator health. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(d) Hastings Lake Rebecca Park Area

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Hastings to develop an ecological-based master plan for Lake Rebecca Park and to enhance habitat quality and construct passive recreational facilities consistent with the master plan.

No funds for implementation may be spent until the master plan is complete.

(e) Pollinator Plantings and the Redistribution of Soil Toxins

\$610,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to map urban and suburban soil toxins of concern, such as heavy metals and microplastics, and to test whether pollinator plantings can redistribute these toxins in the soil of yards, parks, and community gardens and reduce exposure to humans and wildlife.

(f) PFAS Fungal-Wood Chip Filtering System

\$189,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify, develop, and field-test various types of waste wood chips and fungi to sequester and degrade PFAS leachate from contaminated waste sites. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(g) Phytoremediation for Extracting Deicing Salt

\$451,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to protect lands and waters from contamination by collaborating with the Department of Transportation to develop methods for using native plants to remediate roadside deicing salt.

(h) Mustinka River Fish and Wildlife Habitat Corridor Rehabilitation

\$2,692,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Bois de Sioux Watershed District to permanently rehabilitate a straightened reach of the Mustinka River to a naturally functioning stream channel and floodplain corridor for water, fish, and wildlife benefits.

(i) Bohemian Flats Savanna Restoration

\$286,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement

with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to restore an area of compacted urban turf within Bohemian Flats Park and adjacent to the Mississippi River to an oak savanna ecosystem.

(j) Watershed and Forest Restoration: What a Match!

\$3,318,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, in cooperation with soil and water conservation districts, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, and the Department of Natural Resources, to acquire interests in land and to accelerate tree planting on ~~privately owned~~, protected lands for water-quality protection and carbon sequestration. Notwithstanding subdivision 14, paragraph (e), this appropriation may be spent to reforest lands protected through long-term contracts as provided in the approved work plan.

(k) River Habitat Restoration and Recreation in Melrose

\$350,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Melrose to conduct habitat restoration and create fishing, canoeing, and camping opportunities along a segment of the Sauk River within the city of Melrose and to provide public education about stream restoration, fish habitat, and the importance of natural areas.

Sec. 15. Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Habitat and Recreation**

-0-

26,179,000

(a) Mesabi Trail: Wahlsten Road (CR 26) ~~to~~ toward Tower

\$1,307,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority to acquire easements, engineer, and construct a segment of the Mesabi Trail beginning at the intersection of Wahlsten Road (CR 26) and Benson Road in Embarrass and extending ~~to~~ toward Tower.

(b) Environmental Learning Classroom with Trails

\$82,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Mountain Iron-Buhl Public Schools to build an outdoor classroom pavilion, accessible trails, and a footbridge within the Mountain Iron-Buhl School Forest to conduct environmental education that cultivates a lasting conservation ethic.

(c) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs

\$3,560,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(d) St. Louis River Re-Connect

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Duluth to expand recreational access along the St. Louis River and estuary by implementing the St. Louis River National Water Trail outreach plan, designing and constructing upgrades and extensions to the Waabizheshikana Trail, and installing interpretive features that describe the cultural and ecological significance of the area.

(e) Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition

\$1,353,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide technical stewardship assistance to private landowners, restore and enhance native prairie protected by easements in the native prairie bank, and acquire easements for the native prairie bank in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, including preparing initial baseline property assessments. Up to \$60,000 of this appropriation may be deposited in the natural resources conservation easement stewardship account created under Minnesota Statutes, section

84.69, proportional to the number of easements acquired.

(f) Minnesota State Parks and State Trails Maintenance and Development

\$1,600,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for maintenance and development at state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and improve the efficiency of public land management.

(g) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$7,387,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and enhancing existing state trails and replacing or repairing existing state trail bridges.

(h) SNA Habitat Restoration and Public Engagement

\$5,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the scientific and natural areas (SNA) program to restore and enhance exceptional habitat on SNAs and increase public involvement and outreach.

(i) The Missing Link: Gull Lake Trail, Fairview Township

\$1,394,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Fairview Township to complete the Gull Lake Trail by engineering and constructing the trail's final segment through Fairview Township in the Brainerd Lakes area.

(j) Silver Bay Multimodal Trailhead Project

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Silver Bay to develop a multimodal trailhead center to provide safe access to the Superior, Gitchi-Gami, and C.J. Ramstad/North Shore trails; Black Beach Park; and other recreational destinations.

(k) Brookston Campground, Boat Launch, and Outdoor Recreational Facility

\$453,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Brookston to build a campground, boat launch, and outdoor recreation area on the banks of the St. Louis River in northeastern Minnesota. Before any trust fund dollars are spent, the city must demonstrate that all funds to complete the project are secured and a fiscal agent must be approved in the work plan.

(l) Silver Lake Trail Connection

\$727,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Virginia to design, engineer, and construct a multiuse trail that will connect Silver Lake Trail to a new Miners Entertainment and Convention Center and provide lighting on Bailey Lake Trail.

(m) Floodwood Campground Improvement Project

\$816,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Floodwood to upgrade the Floodwood Campground and connecting trails to provide high-quality nature and recreation experience for people of all ages.

(n) Ranier Safe Harbor/Transient Dock - Phase 2

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Ranier to construct a safe harbor and transient dock to accommodate watercraft of many sizes to improve public access for boat recreation on Rainy Lake. Before trust fund dollars are spent, a fiscal agent must be approved in the work plan. Before any trust fund dollars are spent, the city must demonstrate that all funds to complete the project are secured. Any revenue generated from selling products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

Sec. 16. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Unless otherwise provided, this article is effective the day following final enactment.

FY2025 - MN Laws 2024, Chapter 83, Section 2

M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) Appropriations by Subdivision

Process for M.L. 2024

For FY 2025 (July 1, 2024 -June 30, 2025), \$79,644,000 was available for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) selected 101 projects totaling \$79,644,000 to recommend to the 2024 Minnesota Legislature for funding from the ENRTF. The recommendations were the result of the LCCMR's 2024 Request for Proposal (RFP) in which 218 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$174 million were received and considered through a competitive, multi-stage evaluation. The recommendations ranged from funding the full proposal and dollar amount requested to partial funding for specific proposal elements.

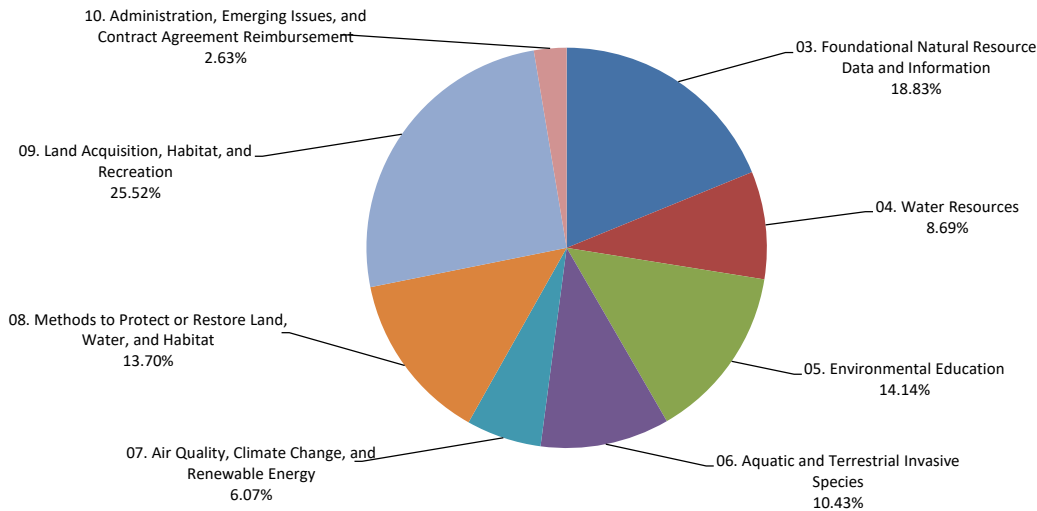
On April 4, 2024, the Legislature approved the 101 projects for funding from the ENRTF, as recommended by the LCCMR. On April 15, 2024, the 101 appropriations were signed into law by the Governor as M.L. 2024, Chapter 83, with \$79,644,000 in total appropriations.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| January 18, 2023 | RFP Issued |
| March 31, 2023 | RFP Proposal Deadline (218 proposals received totaling ~\$174 million) |
| June 8, 2023 | Selection of Proposals for Further Consideration and Presentations |
| June 22-23 & 27-28, 2023 | Proposal Presentations |
| July 20, 2023 | Allocation and Recommendations |
| August - November 2023 | Recommended Projects Undergo Work Plan Development; Research Projects Undergo Peer Review |
| December 7, 2023 | Appropriation Language Review and Adoption |

Summary of Appropriations by Subdivision

| Subdivision | \$ Appropriations | \$ Percent | # Appropriations | # Percent |
|--|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 03. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information | \$14,993,000 | 18.83% | 28 | 27.72% |
| 04. Water Resources | \$6,924,000 | 8.69% | 13 | 12.87% |
| 05. Environmental Education | \$11,262,000 | 14.14% | 22 | 21.78% |
| 06. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species | \$8,304,000 | 10.43% | 4 | 3.96% |
| 07. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy | \$4,833,000 | 6.07% | 5 | 4.95% |
| 08. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat | \$10,910,000 | 13.70% | 16 | 15.84% |
| 09. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation | \$20,322,000 | 25.52% | 10 | 9.90% |
| 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement | \$2,096,000 | 2.63% | 3 | 2.97% |
| Total | \$79,644,000 | 100.00% | 101 | 100.00% |

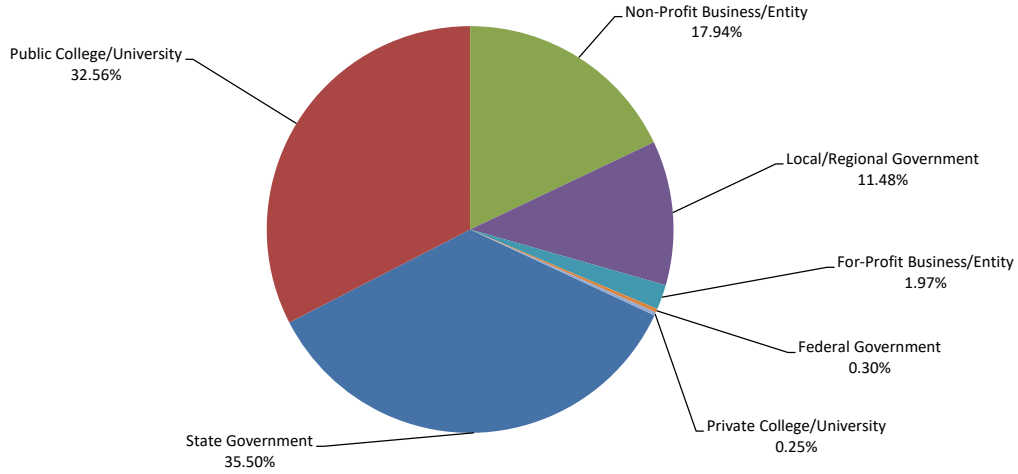
% of Total \$ Appropriations by Subdivision



Summary of Appropriations by Proposer Affiliation

| Affiliation Type | \$ Appropriations | \$ Percent | # Appropriations | # Percent |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| State Government | \$28,270,000 | 35.50% | 20 | 19.80% |
| Public College/University | \$25,935,000 | 32.56% | 45 | 44.55% |
| Non-Profit Business/Entity | \$14,286,000 | 17.94% | 21 | 20.79% |
| Local/Regional Government | \$9,143,000 | 11.48% | 11 | 10.89% |
| For-Profit Business/Entity | \$1,569,000 | 1.97% | 2 | 1.98% |
| Federal Government | \$241,000 | 0.30% | 1 | 0.99% |
| Private College/University | \$200,000 | 0.25% | 1 | 0.99% |
| Total | \$79,644,000 | 100.00% | 101 | 100.00% |

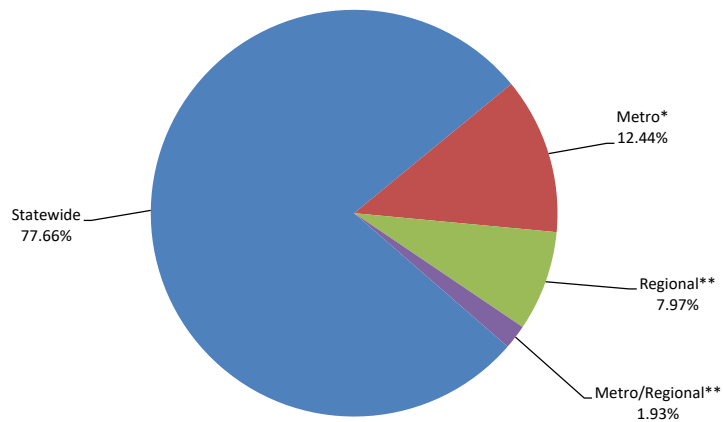
% of Total \$ Appropriations by Proposer Affiliation



Summary of Appropriations by Area of Impact

| Areas of Impact | \$ Appropriations | \$ Percent | # Appropriations | # Percent |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Statewide | \$61,853,000 | 77.66% | 76 | 75.25% |
| Metro* | \$9,906,000 | 12.44% | 8 | 7.92% |
| Regional** | \$6,347,000 | 7.97% | 14 | 13.86% |
| Metro/Regional** | \$1,538,000 | 1.93% | 3 | 2.97% |
| Total | \$79,644,000 | 100.00% | 101 | 100.00% |

% of Total \$ Appropriations by Area of Impact



* "Metro" region includes the 11 counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

** "Regional" means area of impact is less than "Statewide" but includes one or more regions of the state ("Northwest", "Northeast", "Central", "Southwest", or "Southeast") other than the 11-county "Metro" region.

**M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

For FY 2025 (July 1, 2024 -June 30, 2025), \$79,644,000 was available for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) selected 101 projects totaling \$79,644,000 to recommend to the 2024 Minnesota Legislature for funding from the ENRTF. The recommendations were the result of the LCCMR's 2024 Request for Proposal (RFP) in which 218 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$174 million were received and considered through a competitive, multi-stage evaluation. The recommendations ranged from funding the full proposal and dollar amount requested to partial funding for specific proposal elements.

On April 4, 2024, the Legislature approved the 101 projects for funding from the ENRTF, as recommended by the LCCMR. On April 15, 2024, the 101 appropriations were signed into law by the Governor as M.L. 2024, Chapter 83, with \$79,644,000 in total appropriations.

Check the LCCMR meeting schedule for the most up-to-date information and important process dates.

| Topic Area | \$ Appropriated | Percentage of Total Appropriation |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Subd. 03 Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information 28 Appropriations | \$14,993,000 | 18.83% |
| Subd. 04 Water Resources 13 Appropriations | \$6,924,000 | 8.69% |
| Subd. 05 Environmental Education 22 Appropriations | \$11,262,000 | 14.14% |
| Subd. 06 Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species 4 Appropriations | \$8,304,000 | 10.43% |
| Subd. 07 Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy 5 Appropriations | \$4,833,000 | 6.07% |
| Subd. 08 Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat 16 Appropriations | \$10,910,000 | 13.70% |
| Subd. 09 Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation 10 Appropriations | \$20,322,000 | 25.52% |
| Subd. 10 Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement 3 Appropriations | \$2,096,000 | 2.63% |
| Total Appropriations | \$79,644,000 | 100.00% |

| Fund Source | \$ Amount |
|--|---------------------|
| FY 2025 - Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) | \$79,644,000 |
| Total \$ | \$79,644,000 |

**M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Appropriated Amount (FY25) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|---|-------------|---|--|--|----------------------|-------------|
| Subd. 03 Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information (28 Appropriations = \$14,993,000) | | | | | | |
| 03a | 2024-014 | Native Plant Community Data in the City of Duluth | \$198,000 | Minnesota Land Trust | Virginia Breidenbach | NE |
| 03b | 2024-036 | Reconstructing Historical Wild Rice to Understand Its Future | \$200,000 | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Lienne Sethna | Statewide |
| 03c | 2024-044 | Characterizing Tree Cavities and Use by Minnesota's Wildlife | \$349,000 | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Alexis Grinde | Statewide |
| 03d | 2024-046 | Fate of Minnesota's Lakes in the Next Century | \$453,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Ardeshir Ebtehaj | Statewide |
| 03e | 2024-048 | Turtle Island Skywatchers – Minnesota Research and Data Visualization | \$200,000 | Native Skywatchers Inc | Annette S. Lee | Statewide |
| 03f | 2024-063 | Monitoring Minnesota's Insects: Connecting Habitat to Insect Prey | \$199,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Matthew Petersen | Central, NW |
| 03g | 2024-068 | Determining Ambient Background PFAS Concentrations in Minnesota Soils | \$621,000 | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | William (Bill) Cole | Statewide |
| 03h | 2024-071 | Investigating Life History Characteristics of Minnesota Elk | \$933,000 | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Eric Michel | Statewide |
| 03i | 2024-072 | Foundational Data for Moth and Butterfly Conservation | \$195,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Gerda Nordquist | Statewide |
| 03j | 2024-078 | DNR County Groundwater Atlas | \$3,200,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Vanessa Baratta | Statewide |
| 03k | 2024-083 | Voyageurs Wolf Project - Phase III | \$996,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Joseph Bump | Statewide |
| 03l | 2024-088 | Distribution and Population Status of Weasels in Minnesota | \$400,000 | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Michael Joyce | Statewide |
| 03m | 2024-150 | Improving Aquatic Plant Knowledge for Healthy Waters | \$198,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Holly Bernardo | Statewide |
| 03n | 2024-158 | New Small Mammal Monitoring Methods for Minnesota | \$199,000 | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Ron Moen | Statewide |
| 03o | 2024-163 | Status of Bats and Roost Trees after White-Nose Syndrome | \$195,000 | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Ron Moen | Statewide |
| 03p | 2024-172 | Sublethal Effects of Pesticides on the Invertebrate Community | \$387,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Mingzi Xu | Statewide |
| 03q | 2024-186 | Modernizing Minnesota's Plant Community Classification and Field Guides | \$1,800,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Bruce Carlson | Statewide |
| 03r | 2024-192 | Assessing Prairie Health to Inform Pollinator Conservation | \$297,000 | Minnesota Zoological Society | Erik Runquist | NE |

**M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Appropriated Amount (FY25) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|---|-------------|---|--|--|----------------------|----------------|
| 03s | 2024-193 | Understanding Native Fishes in the Bowfishing Era | \$588,000 | U of MN, Duluth | Alec Lackmann | Statewide |
| 03t | 2024-206 | Preserving Minnesota Wildflower Information | \$199,000 | U of MN, Bell Museum of Natural History | Ya Yang | Statewide |
| 03u | 2024-215 | White-Tailed Deer Movement and Disease in Suburban Areas | \$699,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Meggan Craft | Statewide |
| 03v | 2024-222 | Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Minnesota Raptors | \$187,000 | U of MN, Raptor Center | Victoria Hall | Statewide |
| 03w | 2024-223 | Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management | \$1,236,000 | U of MN, MN Geological Survey | Barbara Lusardi | Statewide |
| 03x | 2024-224 | Remote Sensing for Pollinator Habitat | \$180,000 | Monarch Joint Venture | Wendy Caldwell | Statewide |
| 03y | 2024-247 | Harnessing Cover Crops and Roots for Sustainable Cropping | \$375,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Axel Garcia y Garcia | SW |
| 03z | 2024-251 | Effects of Conservation Grazing on Solar Sites Managed for Pollinator Habitat | \$88,000 | Minnesota Native Landscapes | Daniel Tix | Central, Metro |
| 03aa | 2024-278 | Genetic Detection of Endangered Mussels in the Mississippi | \$241,000 | US Geological Survey, Ohio Water Microbiology Lab | Lauren Lynch | Statewide |
| 03bb | 2024-296 | Integrated Population Modeling for Trumpeter Swans | \$180,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Todd Arnold | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$14,993,000 | | | |
| Subd. 04 Water Resources (13 Appropriations = \$6,924,000) | | | | | | |
| 04a | 2024-037 | Hyperspectral Characterization of Toxic Harmful Algal Blooms | \$399,000 | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Ardeshir Ebtehaj | Statewide |
| 04b | 2024-057 | Characterization of Chemicals in Structural Fire Wastewater | \$369,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Grace Wilson | Statewide |
| 04c | 2024-061 | Climate Change and Management Effects on Methane Cycling in Lakes | \$540,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | James Cotner | Statewide |
| 04d | 2024-073 | Enhancing Wastewater Treatment through Genetic Sequencing | \$553,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Timothy LaPara | Statewide |
| 04e | 2024-077 | Improving Water Efficiency Programming with Measurable Outcomes | \$200,000 | City of Woodbury | Heidi Quinn | Metro |
| 04f | 2024-086 | Fluorine Beyond PFAS: Pesticide and Pharmaceutical Degradation | \$400,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | William Arnold | Statewide |
| 04g | 2024-161 | Novel Nutrient Recovery Process from Wastewater Treatment Plants | \$486,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Bo Hu | Statewide |

**M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Appropriated Amount (FY25) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|--|-------------|--|--|--|-------------------------|-----------|
| 04h | 2024-164 | Visitor Perceptions of Water Quality to Aid Lake Management | \$379,000 | U of MN, Humphrey School of Public Affairs | Bonnie Keeler | Statewide |
| 04i | 2024-173 | Wildfire Impacts on Mercury Cycling in Wilderness Lakes | \$297,000 | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Christopher Filstrup | Statewide |
| 04j | 2024-213 | Flood and Drought Modeling for Minnesota | \$499,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | John Nieber | Statewide |
| 04k | 2024-257 | Breaking the PFAS Cycle with a Full-Scale Demonstration | \$1,481,000 | Barr Engineering Co. | Andrew McCabe | Statewide |
| 04l | 2024-269 | Are Stream Restoration Efforts Effective? An Evidence-Based Assessment | \$200,000 | Saint Mary's University | Andrew Robertson | Statewide |
| 04m | 2024-279 | Uncovering the Past to Protect Minnesota's Walleye Fisheries | \$1,121,000 | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Adam Heathcote | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$6,924,000 | | | |
| Subd. 05 Environmental Education (22 Appropriations = \$11,262,000) | | | | | | |
| 05a | 2024-015 | Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Supplemental Teaching Staff | \$410,000 | City of Austin | Luke Reese | SE |
| 05b | 2024-017 | Connecting Communities to Voyageurs Classroom and Minnesota's National Park | \$994,000 | Voyageurs Conservancy | Christina Hausman Rhode | Statewide |
| 05c | 2024-023 | Supporting Minnesota Teachers to Implement Culturally Sustaining Environmental Education | \$295,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Seth Thompson | Statewide |
| 05d | 2024-027 | Phenology Investigations in Minnesota Schools | \$392,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Robert Blair | Statewide |
| 05e | 2024-028 | Get the Lead Out: Lead-Free Fishing Tackle Education | \$254,000 | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Kelly Amoth | Statewide |
| 05f | 2024-058 | Water Science and Policy Fellowships for Minnesota | \$407,000 | U of MN, Duluth - Sea Grant | Alexander Frie | Statewide |
| 05g | 2024-059 | Mentoring Next Generation of Conservation Professionals - Phase 2 | \$793,000 | Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust Inc | Deborah Loon | Statewide |
| 05h | 2024-091 | Restoring Land, Reviving Heritage: Indigenous Conservation - Phase 2 | \$688,000 | Belwin Conservancy | Hannah Brithón | Metro |
| 05i | 2024-099 | Unlocking Minnesota Wilderness for Youth | \$705,000 | YMCA of the North | Beth Becker | Statewide |
| 05j | 2024-100 | Outdoor Pathways to Environmental Education, Recreation, and Careers | \$1,500,000 | Wilderness Inquiry | Meg Krueger | Statewide |
| 05k | 2024-111 | Increasing Access to Environmental Education Youth Camps | \$163,000 | Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center | Bryan Wood | Statewide |

**M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Appropriated Amount (FY25) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|--|-------------|---|--|---|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 05l | 2024-115 | Launching Environmental Education at Shepard Farm | \$639,000 | Dodge Nature Center | Pete Cleary | Metro |
| 05m | 2024-129 | YES! Students Step Up To Reduce Carbon Footprint | \$199,000 | Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center | Kalley Pratt | Statewide |
| 05n | 2024-139 | The Boundary Waters is Our Backyard | \$500,000 | Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness | Bree Sikorski | NE |
| 05o | 2024-168 | Season Watch: Cultivating Young Naturalists with Phenology Education | \$180,000 | Northern Community Radio, Inc. | Sarah Bignall | Statewide |
| 05p | 2024-177 | Rural Minnesota Mobile Lab: Environmental-Focused Earth Science Education | \$459,000 | U of MN, Crookston | Timothy Dudley | Statewide |
| 05q | 2024-188 | Increasing Accessibility of Environmental Education at Deep Portage | \$228,000 | Deep Portage Learning Center | Lindsay Bjorklund | Statewide |
| 05r | 2024-200 | College-School Collaboration to Promote Environmental Career Paths | \$174,000 | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State University Mankato | Kimberly Musser | Statewide |
| 05s | 2024-250 | Water Quality and Robots: Experientially Educating Minnesotan Youth | \$353,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Nikolaos Papanikolopoulos | Statewide |
| 05t | 2024-272 | Expanding Youth and Family Fishing Opportunities | \$1,162,000 | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Brian Nerbonne | Statewide |
| 05u | 2024-273 | Youth Conservation Empowerment Project | \$70,000 | U of MN, Extension Center for Youth Development | Nicole Pokorney | SE |
| 05v | 2024-292 | North Minneapolis Nature Connection: Storytelling and Leadership Pathways | \$697,000 | The Loppet Foundation | DeAnna Smith Perkins | Metro |
| | | SubTotal | \$11,262,000 | | | |
| Subd. 06 Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species (4 Appropriations = \$8,304,000) | | | | | | |
| 06a | 2024-089 | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center - Phase 7 | \$7,000,000 | U of MN, MITPPC | Heather Koop | Statewide |
| 06b | 2024-097 | Mitigating the Spread of Invasive Jumping Worms | \$470,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Vera Krischik | Statewide |
| 06c | 2024-114 | Implementing Innovative Techniques to Manage Low-Density Invasive Carp | \$634,000 | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Brian Nerbonne | Statewide |
| 06d | 2024-198 | Early Detection of Invasive Viruses in Native Pollinators | \$200,000 | U of MN, College of Veterinary Medicine | Declan Schroeder | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$8,304,000 | | | |
| Subd. 07 Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy (5 Appropriations = \$4,833,000) | | | | | | |
| 07a | 2024-039 | Minimizing Minnesota's Landfill Problem by Expanding Waste Diversion | \$2,318,000 | Better Futures Minnesota | Jason Allen | Statewide |
| 07b | 2024-049 | Building Resilient Urban Forests for Climate Change | \$752,000 | Great River Greening | Todd Rexine | Central, Metro, SW |

**M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Appropriated Amount (FY25) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|---|-------------|---|--|--|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 07c | 2024-076 | Improving Agricultural Ecosystems through Autonomous Weed Control | \$978,000 | U of MN, WCROC | Eric Buchanan | Statewide |
| 07d | 2024-098 | Advanced Biofilter for N ₂ O Removal | \$325,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Satoshi Ishii | Statewide |
| 07e | 2024-153 | Managing Future Floods and Droughts in Minnesota | \$460,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Amanda Farris | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$4,833,000 | | | |
| Subd. 08 Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat (16 Appropriations = \$10,910,000) | | | | | | |
| 08a | 2024-005 | Long-Term Preservation of Minnesota's Ball Cactus Population | \$100,000 | U of MN, Landscape Arboretum | David Remucal | SW |
| 08b | 2024-022 | Morrison County Historical Society Streambank Stabilization and Restoration | \$519,000 | Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District | Shannon Wettstein | Central |
| 08c | 2024-045 | Can Increased Tree Diversity Increase Community Diversity? | \$415,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Marcella Windmuller-Campione | Central, NE, NW |
| 08d | 2024-090 | Restoration of Riverside Park | \$141,000 | City of Long Prairie | Ted Gray | Central |
| 08e | 2024-096 | Pollinator Central IV: Habitat Improvement with Public Engagement | \$698,000 | Great River Greening | Rebecca Tucker | Central, Metro |
| 08f | 2024-103 | Conservation Grazing for Birds, Beef, and Better Soil | \$342,000 | Audubon Minnesota | Dale Gentry | Statewide |
| 08g | 2024-108 | Minnesota Microbes for Enhanced Biodegradation of Microplastics | \$524,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Brett Barney | Statewide |
| 08h | 2024-170 | Completing the Mississippi River Greenway: Dakota County | \$657,000 | Dakota County | Tom Lewanski | Metro |
| 08i | 2024-175 | Enabling Nature to Destroy Environmental PFAS Contaminants | \$378,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Romas Kazlauskas | Statewide |
| 08j | 2024-185 | Bioacoustics for Species Monitoring and Conservation - Phase 2 | \$568,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Elena West | Statewide |
| 08k | 2024-189 | Preventing PFAS and Microplastics Contaminants across Minnesota | \$656,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Roger Ruan | Statewide |
| 08l | 2024-227 | Shingle Creek Aquatic and Shoreline Habitat Enhancement | \$1,100,000 | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | Adam Arvidson | Metro |
| 08m | 2024-237 | LiDAR Technology to Help Prevent Wildlife Fatalities from Wind Turbines | \$525,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Sayan Biswas | Metro |
| 08n | 2024-255 | Road Salt Pollution of Surface Waters from Groundwater | \$622,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | John Gulliver | Statewide |

**M.L. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Appropriated Amount (FY25) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|--|-------------|---|--|---|-------------------------|-----------|
| 08o | 2024-277 | Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation Herd | \$1,775,000 | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Molly Tranel Nelson | Statewide |
| 08p | 2024-298 | Priority Lakes: Meeting Protection Goals and Multiplying Benefits | \$1,890,000 | Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District | Crystal Mathisrud | Central |
| | | SubTotal | \$10,910,000 | | | |
| Subd. 09 Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation (10 Appropriations = \$20,322,000) | | | | | | |
| 09a | 2024-009 | Minnesota Driftless Hiking Trail | \$426,000 | Minnesota Driftless Hiking Trail | Marty Walsh | SE |
| 09b | 2024-064 | Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs | \$4,791,000 | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Jenni Bubke | Statewide |
| 09c | 2024-081 | Acquisition of State Park Inholdings | \$1,886,000 | Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota | Brett Feldman | Statewide |
| 09d | 2024-092 | Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Biodiversity Protection | \$957,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Judy Elbert | Statewide |
| 09e | 2024-093 | Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition - Phase 8 | \$3,000,000 | Metropolitan Council | Jessica Lee | Metro |
| 09f | 2024-094 | Zumbro River Regional Water Trail | \$170,000 | City of Oronoco | Jason Baker | SE |
| 09g | 2024-113 | Spring Lake Park Reserve Restoration and River Access | \$2,925,000 | Dakota County | Niki Geisler | Metro |
| 09h | 2024-136 | Minnesota State Trails Development | \$5,036,000 | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Kent Skaar | Statewide |
| 09i | 2024-174 | Birch Lake Marina Design | \$197,000 | City of Babbitt | Robecca Jaeger | Statewide |
| 09j | 2024-264 | Dent and Vergas Spur Trails | \$934,000 | Otter Tail County | Nicholas Leonard | Central |
| | | SubTotal | \$20,322,000 | | | |
| Subd. 10 Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement (3 Appropriations = \$2,096,000) | | | | | | |
| 10a | 2024-001 | LCCMR Budget Supplement | \$750,000 | Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources | Becca Nash | Statewide |
| 10b | 2024-002 | Emerging Issues 2024 | \$1,071,000 | Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources | Becca Nash | Statewide |
| 10c | 2024-117 | 2024 Contract Agreement Reimbursement | \$275,000 | MN DNR, Grants Unit | Katherine Sherman-Hoehn | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$2,096,000 | | | |
| | | Total | \$79,644,000 | | | |

**M.I. 2024 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Appropriations for FY 2025**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Appropriated Amount (FY25) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|-------|-------------|-------|--|--------------|-----------------|---------|
|-------|-------------|-------|--|--------------|-----------------|---------|

* Metro region includes the 11 counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

CHAPTER 83--H.F.No. 3377

An act relating to natural resources; appropriating money from environment and natural resources trust fund; modifying previous appropriations; amending Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 9; Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9; Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivisions 9, as amended, 10; Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 2, subdivision 9.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the environment and natural resources trust fund and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year or until the end of the appropriation. These are onetime appropriations.

| <u>APPROPRIATIONS</u> | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Available for the Year</u> | |
| <u>Ending June 30</u> | |
| <u>2024</u> | <u>2025</u> |

Sec. 2. **MINNESOTA RESOURCES**

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| <u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u> | \$ | 0 | \$ | <u>79,644,000</u> |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|--------------------------|

This appropriation is from the environment and natural resources trust fund. The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. **Definition**

"Trust fund" means the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund established under the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information

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14,993,000

(a) Native Plant Community Data in the City of Duluth

\$198,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to develop field-verified native plant community data and maps for the city of Duluth and the St. Louis River estuary to support conservation and restoration activities.

(b) Reconstructing Historical Wild Rice to Understand Its Future

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to characterize environmental drivers contributing to the decline of wild rice using lake sediment cores to reconstruct historical wild rice abundance in relation to lake and watershed stressors.

(c) Characterizing Tree Cavities and Use by Minnesota's Wildlife

\$349,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to assess the effects of forest management on Minnesota's primary cavity engineer, the pileated woodpecker, and on the wildlife that rely on the cavities that pileated woodpeckers create. This appropriation is also to develop management guidelines.

(d) Fate of Minnesota's Lakes in the Next Century

\$453,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use new modeling techniques to quantify how water quality of Minnesota's lakes will change in the next century under future land use and climate change scenarios and to create an online web tool to display the results. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) Turtle Island Skywatchers - Minnesota Research and Data Visualization

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Native Skywatchers Inc. to engage youth in environmental stewardship by collecting images and acoustic data from turtles and other culturally significant animals and their habitats, evaluating the differences in these soundscapes across landscapes, and sharing the results through scientific storytelling and online platforms.

(f) Monitoring Minnesota's Insects: Connecting Habitat to Insect Prey

\$199,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to investigate the ecological roles of and energy transfer by certain Minnesota insects throughout their life cycles and to train future insect researchers on field techniques.

(g) Determining Ambient Background PFAS Concentrations in Minnesota Soils

\$621,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to determine ambient background per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) levels in urban and nonurban soils to help Minnesota develop management strategies for PFAS-contaminated soils. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(h) Investigating Life History Characteristics of Minnesota Elk

\$933,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to assess Minnesota elk herd health and genetic diversity, movements, survival, and causes of mortality and to develop a noninvasive, safer, and more accurate method to estimate population size. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(i) Foundational Data for Moth and Butterfly Conservation

\$195,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to perform field surveys and consolidate existing data to create the first comprehensive list of Minnesota moths and butterflies. This appropriation is also to conduct outreach to inform land managers and to facilitate public appreciation of these species.

(j) DNR County Groundwater Atlas

\$3,200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to continue producing county groundwater atlases to inform management of surface water and groundwater resources for drinking and other purposes. This appropriation is for Part B, to characterize the potential water yields of aquifers and aquifers' sensitivity to contamination.

(k) Voyageurs Wolf Project - Phase III

\$996,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to continue to study summertime wolf predation on deer, moose, and other species in the greater Voyageurs ecosystem to inform wildlife management and to share natural history of this species with the public. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(l) Distribution and Population Status of Weasels in Minnesota

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to determine the distribution, relative abundance, and spatial occupancy patterns of small weasel species in Minnesota to fill key knowledge gaps in weasel distribution and status in Minnesota.

(m) Improving Aquatic Plant Knowledge for Healthy Waters

\$198,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to collect foundational data on Minnesota's native aquatic plant biodiversity through new and enhanced lake surveys and to disseminate results to state resource managers, scientists, and the public.

(n) New Small Mammal Monitoring Methods for Minnesota

\$199,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to develop camera trapping methods as a new tool to collect foundational data and fill key knowledge gaps in the status of small mammal species in Minnesota.

(o) Status of Bats and Roost Trees after White-Nose Syndrome

\$195,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to study changes in maternity roost trees and bat populations in the forested areas of Minnesota and to evaluate the effects of years of white-nose syndrome on Minnesota bats.

(p) Sublethal Effects of Pesticides on the Invertebrate Community

\$387,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to provide data on pesticide contamination in soil and the insect community across the state and the effect of insecticide exposure on insect reproduction. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(q) Modernizing Minnesota's Plant Community Classification and Field Guides

\$1,800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to collect additional vegetation and environmental data and update the state's 20-year-old native plant community classification guides to incorporate new data,

streamline user application and access to products, and include analysis of climate and vegetation trends. Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(r) Assessing Prairie Health to Inform Pollinator Conservation

\$297,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota Zoological Society to assess habitat quality and pesticide occurrence in Minnesota prairies to help inform management actions, endangered species recovery plans, and pollinator reintroduction efforts for endangered and threatened butterflies and other wildlife.

(s) Understanding Native Fishes in the Bowfishing Era

\$588,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Duluth, to collect foundational biological information on a selection of native Minnesota fish to aid in sustainable management, improve recreational opportunities, and educate the public about these shared aquatic resources. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(t) Preserving Minnesota Wildflower Information

\$199,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural History, to preserve and enhance Minnesota Wildflowers Information, an online tool for plant identification, by integrating the content and functionality of the website with the Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas for public use as required by Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (e).

(u) White-Tailed Deer Movement and Disease in Suburban Areas

\$699,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to better understand white-tailed deer movement, habitat

use, and disease dynamics at the suburban-agricultural interface to inform more efficient deer management and disease control.

(v) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Minnesota Raptors

\$187,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Raptor Center to evaluate Minnesota raptors for current or past infections with highly pathogenic avian influenza virus to better understand disease transmission and outbreak impacts on raptor populations.

(w) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management

\$1,236,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey, to continue producing county geologic atlases to inform management of surface water and groundwater resources. This appropriation is to complete Part A, which focuses on the properties and distribution of earth materials to define aquifer boundaries and the connection of aquifers to the land surface and surface water resources.

(x) Remote Sensing for Pollinator Habitat

\$180,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Monarch Joint Venture to use remote sensing technology to evaluate pollinator habitat on energy and transportation corridors across Minnesota and to host field-day training workshops.

(y) Harnessing Cover Crops and Roots for Sustainable Cropping

\$375,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to determine carbon sequestration, nitrogen credit potential, water use, and performance of cover crops in corn-soybean and corn-soybean-wheat rotations in southern Minnesota.

(z) Effects of Conservation Grazing on Solar Sites Managed for Pollinator Habitat

\$88,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Native Landscapes, in partnership with Temple University, to analyze the effects of sheep grazing and mowing on the vegetation and soils of solar sites managed for pollinator habitat and to improve understanding of the environmental outcomes from the colocation of solar panels; grazing; and native, pollinator-friendly vegetation. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(aa) Genetic Detection of Endangered Mussels in the Mississippi

\$241,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the United States Geological Survey, Ohio Water Microbiology Lab, to create, optimize, and use eDNA assays to detect the presence of endangered or threatened mussel species around Buffalo Slough near the Prairie Island Indian Community.

(bb) Integrated Population Modeling for Trumpeter Swans

\$180,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to compile and use all available data to model historical population abundance and estimate future population dynamics of Minnesota trumpeter swans.

Subd. 4. Water Resources

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6,924,000

(a) Hyperspectral Characterization of Toxic Harmful Algal Blooms

\$399,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to investigate the use of hyperspectral microscopic imaging to detect harmful algal bloom (HAB) species and toxicity levels in Minnesota lakes that will support the development of HAB early-warning remote sensing tools. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section

116P.10, and is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Characterization of Chemicals in Structural Fire Wastewater

\$369,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify, analyze, and model the fate of chemicals present in wastewater from extinguished structural fires to better understand potential toxicity to humans and aquatic life.

(c) Climate Change and Management Effects on Methane Cycling in Lakes

\$540,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to collect monitoring data and create a model to measure the effects of increased temperature and precipitation on lake and wetland water quality, habitat, and greenhouse gas emissions and evaluate lake management options under changing climate conditions.

(d) Enhancing Wastewater Treatment through Genetic Sequencing

\$553,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to generate genome sequences for and assess the ability of bacteria growing in wastewater treatment bioreactors to improve phosphorus and nitrogen removal from wastewater in Minnesota and to produce novel pharmaceutical compounds. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(e) Improving Water Efficiency Programming with Measurable Outcomes

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Woodbury to accelerate the implementation of new and innovative water efficiency programs to conserve water and serve as a model for other communities.

(f) Fluorine Beyond PFAS: Pesticide and Pharmaceutical Degradation

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify fluorinated pesticides and pharmaceuticals that degrade into potentially persistent or toxic byproducts and to analyze the microbes, processes, and conditions involved to inform bioremediation and development of more sustainable chemistries.

(g) Novel Nutrient Recovery Process from Wastewater Treatment Plants

\$486,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to continue to develop an integrated process to promote nutrient removal and recovery and renewable energy production at rural municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(h) Visitor Perceptions of Water Quality to Aid Lake Management

\$379,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, to conduct an analysis of lake visitor perceptions, management actions, and water quality to inform lake management.

(i) Wildfire Impacts on Mercury Cycling in Wilderness Lakes

\$297,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to evaluate the long-term effects of wildfires on lake water quality, mercury mobilization, and mercury bioaccumulation in fish and to develop predictive tools that inform management and help protect the health of fisheries and manoomin in wilderness lakes.

(j) Flood and Drought Modeling for Minnesota

\$499,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to compile new and existing data and develop a tool to

provide cities and watershed districts with quantitative estimates of the effects of land use and climate change on floods and droughts.

(k) Breaking the PFAS Cycle with a Full-Scale Demonstration

\$1,481,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Barr Engineering Company, in partnership with the city of St. Cloud and the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) at the University of Minnesota, to conduct a full-scale pilot to evaluate supercritical water oxidation of biosolids and drinking water treatment residuals to destroy per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and recover energy in the water treatment process. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(l) Are Stream Restoration Efforts Effective? An Evidence-Based Assessment

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Saint Mary's University of Minnesota to assess stream habitat improvement projects to improve trout populations and stream health in Minnesota's Driftless Area.

(m) Uncovering the Past to Protect Minnesota's Walleye Fisheries

\$1,121,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to reconstruct historical lake conditions to identify factors linked to successful walleye fisheries and guide management in the face of warming temperatures, invasive species, and nutrient loading.

Subd. 5. Environmental Education

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11,262,000

(a) Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Supplemental Teaching Staff

\$410,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Austin to continue providing

environmental education opportunities at the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center for learners from outside the city of Austin.

(b) Connecting Communities to Voyageurs Classroom and Minnesota's National Park

\$994,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Voyageurs Conservancy to connect Minnesotans to the state's only national park through standards-aligned K-12 education, career-building fellowships, and enhanced programming that engages diverse audiences in the park's conservation.

(c) Supporting Minnesota Teachers to Implement Culturally Sustaining Environmental Education

\$295,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to provide workshops across Minnesota to train middle school and high school teachers in how to meet new state science standards by integrating western science and Indigenous perspectives in sustainability and water conservation education.

(d) Phenology Investigations in Minnesota Schools

\$392,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to provide professional development workshops in greater Minnesota for teachers to use phenology curriculum and community science resources in environmental education.

(e) Get the Lead Out: Lead-Free Fishing Tackle Education

\$254,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to protect common loons and wildlife through education and outreach about the dangers of lead fishing tackle and promoting lead-free tackle alternatives.

(f) Water Science and Policy Fellowships for Minnesota

\$407,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for

the Minnesota Sea Grant College Program in Duluth to create a fellowship program to train Minnesota's workforce in water resource science and policy.

(g) Mentoring Next Generation of Conservation Professionals - Phase 2

\$793,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. to provide paid internships and apprenticeships for diverse young people to learn about careers in the conservation field from United States Fish and Wildlife Service professionals while working at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District.

(h) Restoring Land, Reviving Heritage: Indigenous Conservation - Phase 2

\$688,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Belwin Conservancy, in partnership with Anishinabe Academy and other urban Indigenous-based schools and youth programs, to continue to conduct native-led environmental education programming that incorporates ecology and Indigenous land traditions. This appropriation is also to restore and enhance habitat on permanently protected Belwin Conservancy lands using modern scientific standards and traditional ecological knowledge.

(i) Unlocking Minnesota Wilderness for Youth

\$705,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with YMCA of the North to engage underserved youth in hands-on environmental education by expanding Unlock It!, a self-guided, interactive, and nature-based scavenger hunt, to open spaces and campuses across the state.

(j) Outdoor Pathways to Environmental Education, Recreation, and Careers

\$1,500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Wilderness Inquiry to promote equity in access

to outdoor activities, places, and careers by providing Minnesotans with a continuum of outdoor experiences from the backyard to the backcountry, implementing environmental education curriculum for youth, and delivering professional development workshops for educators.

(k) Increasing Access to Environmental Education Youth Camps

\$163,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center to provide hands-on environmental education learning opportunities to underserved children through scholarships and transportation to Osprey Wilds' day-use and residential summer camps.

(l) Launching Environmental Education at Shepard Farm

\$639,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Dodge Nature Center to build partnerships with South Washington County Schools and provide standards-aligned, outdoor experiences and hands-on learning at Shepard Farm for Minnesota K-6 youth to increase their environmental skills and knowledge.

(m) YES! Students Step Up to Reduce Carbon Footprint

\$199,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center to empower Minnesota youth to reduce their carbon footprints through education from local experts and completion of student-driven and community-based team projects.

(n) The Boundary Waters Is Our Backyard

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness to connect students from northeastern Minnesota to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness through grade-wide day trips and overnight wilderness experiences.

(o) Season Watch: Cultivating Young Naturalists with Phenology Education

\$180,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Northern Community Radio, Inc. to continue to build the next generation of Minnesota conservationists by delivering engaging environmental programming to northern Minnesota through radio and podcasts, hosting phenology training and interactive nature events for K-12 students, and expanding KAXE coverage of environmental topics to a digital audience.

(p) Rural Minnesota Mobile Lab: Environment-Focused Earth Science Education

\$459,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Crookston, to create a mobile lab and deliver innovative standards-based environmental education to students and educators at underserved, underrepresented schools and at community events in northwest Minnesota.

(q) Increasing Accessibility of Environmental Education at Deep Portage

\$228,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Deep Portage Learning Center to enhance the accessibility of environmental education and outdoor recreation at Deep Portage Learning Center through projects that provide opportunities and support independence for physically disabled students visiting the campus.

(r) College-School Collaboration to Promote Environmental Career Paths

\$174,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for Minnesota State University, Mankato, to build partnerships among natural resource professionals, colleges, and schools in southern Minnesota to expose youth to outdoor experiences, environmental issues, and natural resource career paths through internships, field trips, and environmental projects.

(s) Water Quality and Robots: Experientially Educating Minnesotan Youth

\$353,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to provide opportunities for middle school youth to develop skills for measuring water quality using robotic water-quality sensing kits and communicating results through group study and hands-on projects.

(t) Expanding Youth and Family Fishing Opportunities

\$1,162,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand fishing opportunities in urban areas, teach more youth and families how to fish, and inventory and inform the public about safe and legal shore-fishing sites throughout Minnesota.

(u) Youth Conservation Empowerment Project

\$70,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Extension Center for Youth Development, to partner with Winona and Rochester alternative learning centers to connect, engage, and empower youth from underserved, culturally diverse, and low-income communities in year-long activities focused on nature, outdoors skills, and environmental service-learning.

(v) North Minneapolis Nature Connection: Storytelling and Leadership Pathways

\$697,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Loppet Foundation to promote urban nature connections for North Minneapolis residents through storytelling, nature and environmental justice programs, and environmental leadership pathways for high schoolers and young adults.

Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species-0-8,304,000**(a) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center - Phase 7**

\$7,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota,

Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center, for high-priority research projects to better manage invasive plants, pathogens, and pests on Minnesota's natural and agricultural lands. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10, and is available until June 30, 2030, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Mitigating the Spread of Invasive Jumping Worms

\$470,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop integrated pest management strategies to mitigate the threat that invasive jumping worms pose to soil organic matter and seedlings in Minnesota forests.

(c) Implementing Innovative Techniques to Manage Low-Density Invasive Carp

\$634,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to implement new and innovative methods and to enhance ongoing efforts to detect, monitor, and remove invasive carp and to evaluate watershed boundaries for potential breaches to avoid invasive carp establishment in Minnesota.

(d) Early Detection of Invasive Viruses in Native Pollinators

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to create a baseline inventory of the quantity and diversity of viruses in, and determine the threat of these viruses to, Minnesota native bees.

Subd. 7. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy

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4,833,000

(a) Minimizing Minnesota's Landfill Problem by Expanding Waste Diversion

\$2,318,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Better Futures Minnesota to establish a statewide network for sourcing reclaimed building materials; create a tool for cities, counties, and businesses to report environmental impacts of waste diversion; and

divert waste from landfills through collections, deconstructing buildings, and converting waste into finished goods. Net income generated by Better Futures Minnesota as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan.

(b) Building Resilient Urban Forests for Climate Change

\$752,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to partner with municipalities and school districts to create gravel-bed nurseries, conduct tree assessments and mapping, and plant climate-resilient tree species on public lands in St. Cloud, Mankato, and the Twin Cities region. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(c) Improving Agricultural Ecosystems through Autonomous Weed Control

\$978,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the West Central Research and Outreach Center at Morris to develop green hydrogen- and solar-powered autonomous mowers to remove weeds in row crop fields and improve agricultural ecosystems through reduction of herbicide and fossil fuel use. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(d) Advanced Biofilter for N₂O Removal

\$325,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop innovative and low-cost biofilters to decrease the concentration of nitrous oxide (N₂O) from various point sources. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(e) Managing Future Floods and Droughts in Minnesota

\$460,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to leverage new statewide climate data to assess future change in the duration, frequency, and magnitude of

heavy precipitation and drought events and engage communities to prepare for these extremes.

Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat

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10,910,000

(a) Long-Term Preservation of Minnesota's Ball Cactus Population

\$100,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum to protect Minnesota's only population of ball cactus by supporting population expansion and establishment, monitoring transferred plants, and training long-term volunteer monitors. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Morrison County Historical Society Streambank Stabilization and Restoration

\$519,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District to stabilize and restore land along the Mississippi River owned by the Morrison County Historical Society within the statutory boundaries of Charles A. Lindbergh State Park to improve water quality and improve aquatic and terrestrial habit. For purposes of this appropriation, subdivision 13, paragraph (e), does not apply. The commissioner of natural resources may make reasonable amounts of this appropriation available on an advance basis to accommodate the Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District's cash-flow needs if a plan for the advances is approved as part of the work plan.

(c) Can Increased Tree Diversity Increase Community Diversity?

\$415,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to evaluate impacts of increasing tree diversity on wildlife, plant and fungal communities, and carbon storage within aspen forests in northern Minnesota to develop best management practices for mixed woodland systems.

(d) Restoration of Riverside Park

\$141,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Long Prairie to improve water retention, increase native habitat, and enhance footpaths for recreation at Riverside Park in Todd County, Minnesota. The project must create a net increase in habitat, and this appropriation may not be used to meet the conditions of any permits received for the project.

(e) Pollinator Central IV: Habitat Improvement with Public Engagement

\$698,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to partner with municipalities, educational organizations, and volunteers to create and enhance pollinator habitat along public corridors from Lakeville to St. Cloud and to engage youth and the public through education and monitoring the impact of habitat improvements. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(f) Conservation Grazing for Birds, Beef, and Better Soil

\$342,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the National Audubon Society, Minnesota office, to assess Audubon Conservation Ranching as a strategic approach to improve grassland biodiversity, soils, and ecosystem resilience. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(g) Minnesota Microbes for Enhanced Biodegradation of Microplastics

\$524,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to investigate the potential of natural and indigenous microbes to biodegrade conventional plastics in contaminated soils and waters across the state. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(h) Completing the Mississippi River Greenway: Dakota County

\$657,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Dakota County to restore and enhance habitat on public lands, establish linear native plantings, and install electric-vehicle charging stations within and along the 27-mile Mississippi River Greenway in Dakota County. Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10, and is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(i) Enabling Nature to Destroy Environmental PFAS Contaminants

\$378,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify enzymes and microbes that can break down soil-based per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) into nontoxic elements. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(j) Bioacoustics for Species Monitoring and Conservation - Phase 2

\$568,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to assess avian diversity at the statewide scale by developing a citizen science bioacoustics monitoring program with an initial focus on private lands.

(k) Preventing PFAS and Microplastics Contaminants Across Minnesota

\$656,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to help stop the flow of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and microplastics contaminants into Minnesota's environment by developing strategies and technologies to manage solid waste streams on site. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(l) Shingle Creek Aquatic and Shoreline Habitat Enhancement

\$1,100,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to plan and restore a section of Shingle Creek in north Minneapolis with native aquatic and shoreline vegetation, channel and bank modification, and natural stream features. This appropriation is also to monitor plant and animal health following construction to ensure that the ecological functioning of the creek corridor is restored. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(m) LiDAR Technology to Help Prevent Wildlife Fatalities from Wind Turbines

\$525,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to create a low-cost and advanced LiDAR system to detect bats and birds approaching wind turbines that may be used in concert with deterrence or impact avoidance methods to prevent collisions. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(n) Road Salt Pollution of Surface Waters from Groundwater

\$622,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to inform source-reduction efforts by developing a model to identify hot spots where road-salt-contaminated groundwater leads to chloride pollution of surface waters.

(o) Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation Herd

\$1,775,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to reintroduce bison to Camden State Park as part of a statewide effort to preserve the American Plains bison genome. Reintroduction includes the design, construction, and installation of fencing, a handling facility, signage, exhibits, and other site improvements. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030, by which

time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(p) Priority Lakes: Meeting Protection Goals and Multiplying Benefits

\$1,890,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District, in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to protect habitat, forest health, and water quality in the best fishing lakes by creating lake implementation action plans, conducting community-based habitat restorations and improvements, and protecting forest lands with conservation easements and Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (SFIA) enrollments within prioritized areas of the upper Mississippi River basin in Hubbard County. Of this amount, up to \$168,000 is for deposit in a monitoring fund to be used by Minnesota Land Trust as approved in the work plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.20.

Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation

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20,322,000

(a) Minnesota Driftless Hiking Trail

\$426,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Driftless Hiking Trail to plan, design a route for, secure access for, develop community support for, and begin construction of a backpacking-focused trail across southeast Minnesota's Driftless Area. Construction of trails with this appropriation must occur on public or permanently protected lands or lands secured through long-term agreements as defined in the approved work plan. A trail plan must be complete before money is used for trail construction. Before this appropriation is spent, a fiscal agent for Minnesota Driftless Hiking Trail must be approved in the work plan.

(b) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs

\$4,791,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit and rank applications and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic

areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities, such as sport fields, courts, or playgrounds.

(c) Acquisition of State Park Inholdings

\$1,886,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota to complete efficient, time-sensitive acquisitions of high-priority state park inholdings from willing sellers, deconstruct buildings and reuse building materials, and convey properties to the state to protect and enhance Minnesota's environment and public recreation opportunities. This appropriation may not be used to purchase habitable residential structures.

(d) Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Biodiversity Protection

\$957,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to strategically acquire from willing sellers high-quality lands that meet criteria for scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition - Phase 8

\$3,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Metropolitan Council to acquire land within the approved boundaries of the metropolitan regional park system. This appropriation must be matched by an equal amount from a combination of Metropolitan Council and local agency money. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(f) Zumbro River Regional Water Trail

\$170,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Oronoco to complete a master plan for the Zumbro River Regional Water Trail that considers

existing amenities, connections from towns to natural features, and improved user experience. This appropriation may also be used to create a joint powers board among the four counties and multiple jurisdictions connected to the Zumbro River to guide the master plan development.

(g) Spring Lake Park Reserve Restoration and River Access

\$2,925,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Dakota County to create a nonmotorized boat launch; complete a cultural resource management plan; construct hiking trails; and restore prairie, woodland, and savanna along the Mississippi River in Spring Lake Park Reserve. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(h) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$5,036,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and enhancing existing state trails and replacing or repairing existing state trail bridges. The high-priority trail bridges to be rehabilitated or replaced under this appropriation include but are not limited to those on the Arrowhead, Great River Ridge, C.J. Ramstad-Northshore, Harmony-Preston Valley, Shooting Star, and Minnesota Valley State Trails and the Pengilly-Alborn Railroad Trail. High-priority trail segments to develop and enhance include but are not limited to the Brown's Creek, Gitchi Gami, Minnesota Valley, Root River, and Cuyuna Lakes State Trails. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(i) Birch Lake Marina Design

\$197,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Babbitt to design a new marina at the Birch Lake Recreation Area in Babbitt, Minnesota.

(j) Dent and Vergas Spur Trails

\$934,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to construct a trail along County State-Aid Highway 35 to connect the cities of Dent and Vergas to the Heart of the Lakes Regional Trail and Maplewood State Park to provide recreation and nonmotorized transportation opportunities.

Subd. 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement

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2,096,000

(a) LCCMR Budget Supplement

\$750,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for administration in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09, subdivision 5. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.11, paragraph (b), Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.281, applies to this appropriation.

(b) Emerging Issues 2024

\$1,071,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for an emerging issues account authorized in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.08, subdivision 4, paragraph (d).

(c) 2024 Contract Agreement Reimbursement

\$275,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources, at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, for expenses incurred in preparing and administering contracts, including for the agreements specified in this section.

Subd. 11. Availability of appropriations

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges

that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs that are directly related to and necessary for an appropriation, including financial services, human resources, information services, rent, and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can be clearly justified and individually documented specific to the appropriation's purpose and would not be generated by the recipient but for receipt of the appropriation. No broad allocations for costs in either dollars or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available for three years beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2027, when projects must be completed and final products delivered. For acquisition of real property, the appropriations in this section are available for an additional fiscal year if a binding contract for acquisition of the real property is entered into before the expiration date of the appropriation. If a project receives a federal award, the period of the appropriation is extended to equal the federal award period to a maximum trust fund appropriation length of six years.

Subd. 12. Data availability requirements

Data collected by the projects funded under this section must conform to guidelines and standards adopted by Minnesota IT Services. Spatial data must also conform to additional guidelines and standards designed to support data coordination and distribution that have been published by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. Descriptions of spatial data must be prepared as specified in the state's geographic metadata guidelines and must be submitted to the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. All data must be accessible and free to the public unless made private under the Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the extent practicable, summary data and results of projects funded under this section should be readily accessible on the Internet and identified as having received funding from the environment and natural resources trust fund.

Subd. 13. Project requirements

(a) As a condition of accepting an appropriation under this section, an agency or entity receiving an appropriation or a party to an agreement from an

appropriation must comply with paragraphs (b) to (m) and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the amendment process established by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(b) A recipient of money appropriated in this section that conducts a restoration using funds appropriated in this section must use native plant species according to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines and include an appropriate diversity of native species selected to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the growing season as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.973.

(c) For all restorations conducted with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan that, to the degree practicable, is consistent with the highest-quality conservation and ecological goals for the restoration site. Consideration should be given to soil, geology, topography, and other relevant factors that would provide the best chance for long-term success and durability of the restoration project. The plan must include the proposed timetable for implementing the restoration, including site preparation, establishment of diverse plant species, maintenance, and additional enhancement to establish the restoration; identify long-term maintenance and management needs of the restoration and how the maintenance, management, and enhancement will be financed; and take advantage of the best-available science and include innovative techniques to achieve the best restoration.

(d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this section for restoration activities must provide an initial restoration evaluation at the completion of the appropriation and an evaluation three years after the completion of the expenditure. Restorations must be evaluated relative to the stated goals and standards in the restoration plan, current science, and, when

applicable, the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines. The evaluation must determine whether the restorations are meeting planned goals, identify any problems with implementing the restorations, and, if necessary, give recommendations on improving restorations. The evaluation must be focused on improving future restorations.

(e) All restoration and enhancement projects funded with money appropriated in this section must be on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.

(f) A recipient of money from an appropriation under this section must give consideration to contracting with Conservation Corps Minnesota for contract restoration and enhancement services.

(g) All conservation easements acquired with money appropriated under this section must:

(1) be permanent;

(2) specify the parties to the easement in the easement document;

(3) specify all provisions of an agreement that are permanent;

(4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources in an electronic format at least 20 business days before closing;

(5) include a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan and funding for monitoring and enforcing the easement agreement; and

(6) include requirements in the easement document to protect the quantity and quality of groundwater and surface water through specific activities, such as keeping water on the landscape, reducing nutrient and contaminant loading, and not permitting artificial hydrological modifications.

(h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in lands, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must not agree to pay more than 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel of land using this money to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, except that up to ten percent above the appraised value may be allowed to complete the purchase, in part or in

whole, using this money if permission is received in advance of the purchase from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(i) For any acquisition of land or interest in land, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must give priority to high-quality natural resources or conservation lands that provide natural buffers to water resources.

(j) For new lands acquired with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan in compliance with paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for implementation unless the work plan addresses why a portion of the money is not necessary to achieve a high-quality restoration.

(k) To ensure public accountability for using public funds, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must, within 60 days of a land acquisition, provide to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources documentation of the selection process used to identify parcels acquired and provide documentation of all related transaction costs, including but not limited to appraisals, legal fees, recording fees, commissions, other similar costs, and donations. This information must be provided for all parties involved in the transaction. The recipient must also report to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources any difference between the acquisition amount paid to the seller and the state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal was conducted.

(l) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section must acknowledge financial support from the environment and natural resources trust fund in project publications, signage, and other public communications and outreach related to work completed using the appropriation. Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate, through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion of language attributing support from the trust fund. Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section, as well as each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section, must satisfy all reporting and other requirements incumbent upon constitutionally dedicated funding recipients as

provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10, and chapter 116P.

(m) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section that is receiving funding to conduct children's services, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, subdivision 7, must certify to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, as part of the required work plan, that criminal background checks for background check crimes, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, subdivision 2, are performed on all employees, contractors, and volunteers that have or may have access to a child to whom the recipient provides children's services using the appropriation.

Subd. 14. Payment conditions and capital equipment expenditures

(a) All agreements, grants, or contracts referred to in this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided in this section. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41, expenditures made on or after July 1, 2024, or the date the work plan is approved, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. Periodic payments must be made upon receiving documentation that the deliverable items articulated in the approved work plan have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by approved progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash-flow needs or match federal money. The advances must be approved as part of the work plan. No expenditures for capital equipment are allowed unless expressly authorized in the project work plan.

(b) Single-source contracts as specified in the approved work plan are allowed.

Subd. 15. Purchasing recycled and recyclable materials

A political subdivision, public or private corporation, or other entity that receives an appropriation under this section must use the appropriation in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable materials, and Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using paper stock and printing.

Subd. 16. Energy conservation and sustainable building guidelines

A recipient to whom an appropriation is made under this section for a capital improvement project must ensure that the project complies with the applicable energy conservation and sustainable building guidelines and standards contained in law, including Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.325, 216C.19, and 216C.20, and rules adopted under those sections. The recipient may use the energy planning, advocacy, and State Energy Office units of the Department of Commerce to obtain information and technical assistance on energy conservation and alternative-energy development relating to planning and constructing the capital improvement project.

Subd. 17. Accessibility

Structural and nonstructural facilities must meet the design standards in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility guidelines.

Subd. 18. Carryforward; extensions

(a) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2025:

(1) Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (e), National Loon Center. The legislature does not plan to grant additional extensions for this appropriation;

(2) Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 10, paragraph (d), Grants Management System. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.11, paragraph (b), Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.281, applies to this appropriation;

(3) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (i), Bobcat and Fisher Habitat Use and Interactions;

(4) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (j), Healthy Prairies III: Restoring Minnesota's Prairie Plant Diversity;

(5) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (n), Tools for Supporting Healthy Ecosystems and Pollinators;

(6) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), Technology for Energy-Generating On-site Industrial Wastewater Treatment, as amended by Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 20, paragraph (c);

(7) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (r), Ranier Safe Harbor and Transient Dock on Rainy Lake;

(8) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (s), Crane Lake Voyageurs National Park Campground and Visitor Center;

(9) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (t), Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation, and Education;

(10) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 10, Emerging Issues Account; Wastewater Renewable Energy Demonstration Grants;

(11) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (b), Protecting Minnesota's Beneficial Macroalgae: All Stoneworts Aren't Starry;

(12) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (c), County Groundwater Atlas;

(13) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (e), Minnesota Biological Survey;

(14) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (g), Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management;

(15) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (d), Microgeographic Impact of Antibiotics Released from Identified Hotspots;

(16) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (a), Camp Ripley

Sentinel Landscape Forest Restoration and Enhancements;

(17) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (e), Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition - Phase VII;

(18) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (h), Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition;

(19) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (j), SNA Acquisition, Restoration, Citizen-Science, and Outreach;

(20) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (n), Crane Lake Voyageurs National Park Visitor Center - Continuation;

(21) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (t), Highbanks Ravine Bat Hibernaculum Project; and

(22) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (u), State Parks and State Trails Inholdings.

(b) The availability of the appropriation for Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 10, paragraph (k), Developing Markets for Continuous Living Cover Crops, is extended to June 30, 2026.

(c) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2027:

(1) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (l), Upper St. Anthony Falls Enhancements. The legislature does not plan to grant additional extensions for this appropriation; and

(2) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 7, paragraph (b), Storing Renewable Energy in Flow Battery for Grid Use. The legislature does not plan to grant additional extensions for this appropriation.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Subdivision 18 is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

**Subd. 9. Land Acquisition,
Habitat, and Recreation**

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26,351,000

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(a) Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas

\$3,500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the scientific and natural areas (SNA) program to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on SNAs, increase public involvement and outreach, and strategically acquire high-quality lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from willing sellers. A list of proposed acquisitions and restorations is required in the work plan.

(b) Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas

\$3,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. The appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and not for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(c) Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings

\$2,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire high-priority in-holdings from willing sellers within the legislatively authorized boundaries of state parks and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreational opportunities, and improve the efficiency of public land management. Priorities include but are not limited to Minneopa, St. Croix, Frontenac, and Crow Wing State Parks. A list of proposed acquisitions is required in the work plan.

(d) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$5,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand high-priority recreational opportunities on Minnesota's state trails by developing new trail segments and

rehabilitating, improving, and enhancing existing state trails. High-priority trail bridges to rehabilitate or replace include, but are not limited to, those on the Arrowhead, Central Lakes, Harmony-Preston Valley, Matthew Lourey, and North Shore State Trails. High-priority trail segments to develop and enhance include, but are not limited to, the Paul Bunyan, Gateway, Heartland, Gitchi Gami, and Minnesota Valley State Trails. A proposed list of trail projects on legislatively authorized state trails is required in the work plan. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) National Loon Center

\$4,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the National Loon Center Foundation, in partnership with a fiscal agent to be approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, to construct an approximately 15,000-square-foot National Loon Center in Cross Lake dedicated to loon survival, loon habitat protection and research, and recreation. Of this amount, up to \$1,449,000 is for planning, design, and construction of approximately six outdoor demonstration learning kiosks, interpretive trails, boardwalks and boat docks, a fishing dock, and native landscaping along approximately 3,100 feet of shoreline. Any remaining funds are for planning, engineering, and constructing the building and indoor exhibits. The building may only be constructed on land restricted for use as a National Loon Center for at least 25 years following construction completion. Additionally, the trust fund procedures for title, environmental, archeological, and survey due diligence must be used for the acquisition of land on which the building will be constructed. A land lease commitment of at least 25 years and fiscal sponsorship must be secured before any trust fund money is spent. This project requires a match of at least \$6,000,000. At least \$2,000,000 of this match must come from nonstate sources. If naming rights will be conveyed, the National Loon Center Foundation must include a plan for this in the work plan. All matching funds must be legally committed before any trust fund money may be spent on planning activities for or construction of the building and indoor exhibits.

Net income generated from admissions, naming rights, and memberships to the National Loon Center as a result of trust fund contributions may be reinvested in the center's long-term loon conservation efforts as described in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources according to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. Notwithstanding any other effective date stated in law, Minnesota Statutes, sections 116P.15, subdivision 3; 116P.16; and 116P.21, subdivision 1, apply to this appropriation.

(f) Accessible Fishing Piers

\$320,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide accessible fishing piers in locations that have a high potential to serve new angling communities, underserved populations, and anglers with physical disabilities. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(g) Mesabi Trail Extensions

\$3,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority for environmental assessment, permitting, right-of-way easements or other acquisition as needed, and engineering for and construction of four trail segments beginning and ending at the following approximate locations: Darwin Meyers Wildlife Management Area to County Road 21, Embarrass to Kugler, County Road 128 to the Eagles Nest Town Hall, and Wolf Creek to the Highway 169 underpass.

(h) Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground

\$350,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Babbitt to expand Birch Lake Recreation Area by adding a new campground for recreational vehicles and tent campers. This project requires a match of at least \$2,800,000 that must be secured before trust fund money is spent. At least \$800,000 of this match must come from the city of

Babbitt. Net income generated from admissions to the campground created as a result of trust fund contributions may be reinvested into the campground's long-term operations as described in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources according to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(i) Britton Peak to Lutsen Mountain Bike Trail

\$350,000 the first year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Cycling Association to create a sustainably designed single-track mountain bike trail connecting trail clusters and trailheads between Britton Peak in Tofte and Lutsen Mountains as part of northeast Minnesota's effort to become a national recreation destination. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(j) Preserving Avon Hills with Reverse-Bidding Easements

\$1,600,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Saint John's University in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust to restore and enhance protected lands, provide public outreach, and prepare management plans for and use a reverse-bid ranking system to secure permanent conservation easements on high-quality natural habitat in the Avon Hills area of Stearns County. Of this amount, up to \$168,000 is for use by Minnesota Land Trust in a monitoring fund as approved in the work plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.20. An annual financial report is required for any monitoring, management, and enforcement fund, including expenditures from the fund. A proposed list of acquisitions and restorations must be provided in the work plan. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(k) Bailey Lake Trail and Fishing Pier

\$550,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Virginia to reconstruct the existing

Bailey Lake Trail and construct a new fishing pier on Bailey Lake that is accessible from the trail.

(l) Vergas Long Lake Trail

\$290,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Vergas to construct a bicycle and pedestrian bridge, trail, and floating boardwalk along Long Lake including shoreline restoration and stabilization with native plants. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(m) Glacial Edge Trail and Downtown Pedestrian Bridge

\$600,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Fergus Falls to acquire easements for and construct a trail along the Otter Tail River in downtown Fergus Falls and a bicycle and pedestrian bridge crossing the river. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(n) Crane Lake to Vermilion Falls Trail

\$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with St. Louis County in cooperation with Voyageur Country ATV Club to designate and improve a wooded trail from Crane Lake to Vermilion Falls to accommodate all-terrain vehicle and snowmobile users. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(o) Restoring Five Sections of Superior Hiking Trail

\$191,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to restore and repair the most damaged parts of five sections of the Superior Hiking Trail and restore an abandoned route to a natural footpath for hikers.

(p) Rainy Lake Recreational Access and Boat Wash Station

\$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Ranier to enhance and increase public access to Rainy Lake by constructing an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant recreational parking lot, an ADA-compliant public restroom, and an aquatic invasive species boat wash station.

(q) Historic Bruce Mine Park and Mesabi Trailhead

\$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for a grant to the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority to engineer, design, renovate, and construct the Historic Bruce Mine Park and Mesabi Trailhead and access in the city of Chisholm. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2019.

Sec. 4. Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

| | | |
|---|------------|-----|
| Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation | 32,062,000 | -0- |
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(a) Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (McDonald Segment)

\$2,245,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to construct the McDonald Segment of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail to connect the cities of Perham and Pelican Rapids to Maplewood State Park.

(b) Mesabi Trail CSAH 88 to Ely

\$1,650,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority to acquire, engineer, and construct a segment of the Mesabi Trail beginning at the intersection of County State-Aid Highway 88 toward Ely.

(c) Southwest Minnesota Single-Track Trail

\$190,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Jackson County to create a single-track mountain bike trail and expand an associated parking lot in Belmont County Park to address a lack of opportunity for this kind of outdoor recreation in southwest Minnesota.

(d) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs

\$2,250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit and rank applications for and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. Priority must be given to funding projects in the metropolitan area or in other areas of southern Minnesota. For purposes of this paragraph, southern Minnesota is defined as the area of the state south of and including St. Cloud. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(e) Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition - Phase VII

\$2,250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants to acquire land within the approved park boundaries of the metropolitan regional park system. This appropriation must be matched by an equal amount from a combination of Metropolitan Council and local agency funds.

(f) Sauk Rapids Lions Park Riverfront Improvements

\$463,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Sauk Rapids to design and construct a second phase of upgrades to Lions and Southside Parks including trails, lighting, riverbank restoration, and a canoe and kayak launch to enhance access to the Mississippi River.

(g) City of Brainerd - Mississippi Landing Trailhead

\$2,850,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Brainerd to design and construct Mississippi Landing Trailhead Park to help connect residents and visitors to the Mississippi River through recreation, education, and restoration.

(h) Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition

\$1,341,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide technical stewardship assistance to private landowners, restore and enhance native prairie protected by easements in the native prairie bank, and acquire easements for the native prairie bank in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, including preparing initial baseline property assessments. Up to \$60,000 of this appropriation may be deposited in the natural resources conservation easement stewardship account created in Minnesota Statutes, section 84.69, proportional to the number of easement acres acquired.

(i) Moose Lake - Trunk Highway 73 Trail

\$330,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Moose Lake to design and construct a nonmotorized recreational trail in an off-street pedestrian corridor along Highway 73 to connect to several existing regional trails in the Moose Lake area.

(j) SNA Acquisition, Restoration, Citizen-Science, and Outreach

\$3,336,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the scientific and natural areas (SNA) program to restore, improve, and enhance wildlife habitat on SNAs; increase public involvement and outreach; and strategically acquire lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from willing sellers.

(k) Precision Acquisition for Restoration, Groundwater Recharge, and Habitat

\$467,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement

with the Shell Rock River Watershed District to acquire and restore to wetland a key parcel of land to reduce downstream flooding while providing water storage, groundwater recharge, nutrient reduction, and pollinator and wildlife habitat.

(l) Lake Brophy Single-Track Trail Expansion

\$100,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Douglas County in partnership with the Big Ole Bike Club to design and build new expert single-track segments and an asphalt pump track for the existing trail system at Lake Brophy Park to improve outdoor recreation experiences in west-central Minnesota.

(m) Veterans on the Lake

\$553,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Lake County for Veterans on the Lake to conduct accessibility upgrades to Veterans on the Lake's existing trails, roadway, and buildings to improve access to the wilderness and outdoor recreation for disabled American veterans.

(n) Crane Lake Voyageurs National Park Visitor Center - Continuation

\$2,700,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Crane Lake to design and construct an approximate 4,500 to 7,000 square-foot visitor center building to serve as an access point to Voyageurs National Park. A fiscal agent or fiscal management plan must be approved in the work plan before any trust fund money is spent. A copy of a resolution or other documentation of the city's commitment to fund operations of the visitor center must be included in the work plan submitted to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan.

(o) Brookston Campground, Boat Launch, and Outdoor Recreational Facility Planning

\$425,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Brookston to design a campground, boat launch, and outdoor recreation area on the banks of the St. Louis River in northeastern Minnesota. A fiscal agent must be approved in the work plan before any trust fund dollars are spent.

(p) Moose and Seven Beaver Multiuse Trails Upgrade

\$900,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Hoyt Lakes, in partnership with the Ranger Snowmobile and ATV Club, to design and construct upgrades and extensions to the Moose and Seven Beaver multiuse trails to enhance access for recreation use and connect to regional trails.

(q) Above the Falls Regional Park Acquisition

\$950,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board to develop a restoration plan and acquire approximately 3.25 acres of industrial land for public access and habitat connectivity along the Mississippi River as part of Above the Falls Regional Park.

(r) Silver Lake Trail Improvement Project

\$1,071,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Virginia to reconstruct and renovate the walking trail around Silver Lake to allow safe multimodal transportation between schools, parks, community recreation facilities, and other community activity centers in downtown Virginia.

(s) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$4,266,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and enhancing existing state trails and replacing or repairing existing state trail bridges. Priority must be given to funding projects in the metropolitan area or in other areas of southern Minnesota. For purposes of this paragraph, southern

Minnesota is defined as the area of the state south of and including St. Cloud.

(t) Highbanks Ravine Bat Hibernaculum Project

\$825,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of St. Cloud to reroute and upgrade an existing stormwater system in the Highbanks Ravine area to improve an existing bat hibernaculum, reduce erosion, and create additional green space for wildlife habitat.

(u) State Parks and State Trails Inholdings

\$2,560,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire high-priority inholdings from willing sellers within the legislatively authorized boundaries of state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and improve the efficiency of public land management.

(v) Accessible Fishing Piers and Shore Fishing Areas

\$340,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide accessible fishing piers and develop shore fishing sites to serve new angling communities, underserved populations, and anglers with disabilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2021.

Sec. 5. Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 9, as amended by Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 15, is amended to read:

| | | |
|--|-----|------------|
| Subd. 9. Habitat and Recreation | -0- | 26,179,000 |
|--|-----|------------|

(a) Mesabi Trail: Wahlsten Road (CR 26) toward Tower

\$1,307,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority to acquire easements, engineer, and construct a segment of the Mesabi Trail beginning at the intersection of Wahlsten Road (CR 26) and Benson Road in Embarrass and extending toward Tower.

(b) Environmental Learning Classroom with Trails

\$82,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Mountain Iron-Buhl Public Schools to build an outdoor classroom pavilion, accessible trails, and a footbridge within the Mountain Iron-Buhl School Forest to conduct environmental education that cultivates a lasting conservation ethic.

(c) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs

\$3,560,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(d) St. Louis River Re-Connect

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Duluth to expand recreational access along the St. Louis River and estuary by implementing the St. Louis River National Water Trail outreach plan, designing and constructing upgrades and extensions to the Waabizheshikana Trail, and installing interpretive features that describe the cultural and ecological significance of the area.

(e) Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition

\$1,353,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide technical stewardship assistance to private landowners, restore and enhance native prairie protected by easements in the native prairie bank, and acquire easements for the native prairie bank in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, including preparing initial baseline property assessments. Up to \$60,000 of this appropriation may be deposited in the natural resources conservation easement stewardship

account created under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.69, proportional to the number of easements acquired.

(f) Minnesota State Parks and State Trails Maintenance and Development

\$1,600,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for maintenance and development at state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and improve the efficiency of public land management.

(g) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$7,387,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and enhancing existing state trails and replacing or repairing existing state trail bridges.

(h) SNA Habitat Restoration and Public Engagement

\$5,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the scientific and natural areas (SNA) program to restore and enhance exceptional habitat on SNAs and increase public involvement and outreach.

(i) The Missing Link: Gull Lake Trail, Fairview Township

\$1,394,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Fairview Township to complete the Gull Lake Trail by engineering and constructing the trail's final segment through Fairview Township in the Brainerd Lakes area.

(j) Silver Bay Multimodal Trailhead Project

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Silver Bay to develop a multimodal trailhead center to provide safe access to the Superior, Gitchi-Gami, and C.J. Ramstad/North Shore trails; Black Beach Park; and other recreational destinations.

Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan.

(k) Brookston Campground, Boat Launch, and Outdoor Recreational Facility

\$453,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Brookston to build a campground, boat launch, and outdoor recreation area on the banks of the St. Louis River in northeastern Minnesota. Before any trust fund dollars are spent, the city must demonstrate that all funds to complete the project are secured and a fiscal agent must be approved in the work plan.

(l) Silver Lake Trail Connection

\$727,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Virginia to design, engineer, and construct a multiuse trail that will connect Silver Lake Trail to a new Miners Entertainment and Convention Center and provide lighting on Bailey Lake Trail.

(m) Floodwood Campground Improvement Project

\$816,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Floodwood to upgrade the Floodwood Campground and connecting trails to provide high-quality nature and recreation experience for people of all ages. Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan.

(n) Ranier Safe Harbor/Transient Dock - Phase 2

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Ranier to construct a safe harbor and transient dock to accommodate watercraft of many sizes to improve public access for boat recreation on Rainy Lake. Before trust fund dollars are spent, a fiscal agent must be approved in the work plan. Before any trust fund dollars are spent, the city must demonstrate that all funds to complete the project are secured. Any

revenue generated from selling products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2022.

Sec. 6. Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----------|
| Subd. 10. Other Projects | -0- | 6,973,000 |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----------|

(a) Aggregate Resource Mapping

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for continued mapping of the aggregate resource potential in the state of Minnesota and to make the information available in print and electronic format to local units of government for use in planning and zoning.

(b) Leaded Gasoline Contamination Analysis

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of administration for a grant to the city of Paynesville to procure an analysis of the extent of leaded gasoline contamination in or near the cities of Paynesville, Foley, Alexandria, and Blaine, and of the threat posed by the contamination to each city's drinking water supply. The vendor selected to perform the analysis must use the same methodology to conduct the analysis for each city and must produce findings that are comparable between cities. The cities must work cooperatively to select a vendor. By January 15, 2024, the city administrator of the city of Paynesville must report the results of the analysis to the chairs and ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources.

(c) Living Snow Fence Program

\$200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of transportation for contracts to build and improve living snow fences consisting of trees, shrubs, native grasses, and wildflowers. Money appropriated in this paragraph may only be used to

acquire and plant trees native to Minnesota. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

(d) Forest Data Inventory

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an enhanced forest inventory on county and private lands.

(e) Conservation Reserve Program State Incentives

\$750,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to provide onetime state incentive payments to enrollees in the federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) during the continuous enrollment period and to enroll land in conservation easements consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.515. The board may establish payment rates based on land valuation and on environmental benefit criteria, including but not limited to surface water or groundwater pollution reduction, drinking water protection, soil health, pollinator and wildlife habitat, and other conservation enhancements. The board may use state funds to implement the program and to provide technical assistance to landowners or their agents to fulfill enrollment and contract provisions. The board must consult with the commissioners of agriculture, health, natural resources, and the Pollution Control Agency and the United States Department of Agriculture in establishing program criteria. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

(f) Groundwater Storage and Recovery Database

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to complete a centralized aquifer property database to provide needed data for site characterization.

(g) Rural and Farmstead Ring Levees

\$360,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for grants to assist in constructing rural and farmstead ring levees for flood protection in the Red River watershed. A grant may not exceed 50 percent of the cost of the project.

(h) Replacing Failing Septic Systems to Protect Groundwater

\$2,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to counties for grants to low-income landowners to address septic systems that pose an imminent threat to public health or safety or fail to protect groundwater. The issuance of a loan under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.117, for the purpose of replacing a failed septic system, shall not preclude a rural landowner from obtaining a grant under this paragraph or vice versa. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025.

(i) Forever Green

\$763,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of agriculture for grants to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to fund the Forever Green Agriculture Initiative and protect the state's natural resources while increasing the efficiency, profitability, and productivity of Minnesota farmers by incorporating perennial and winter-annual crops into existing agricultural practices.

(j) Pig's Eye Landfill Task Force

\$800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to establish a Pig's Eye Landfill Task Force to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore the Pig's Eye Landfill Superfund site and address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater. The task force must be made up of at least the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, the commissioner of natural resources, the commissioner of health, a representative from the Metropolitan Council, a representative from the city of St. Paul, a representative from the city of South St. Paul, a representative from the city of Newport, a representative from Ramsey County, a representative from Dakota County, a representative from Washington County, and representatives from relevant federal agencies. The task force is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 6. The task force must submit an annual report to the chairs and ranking

minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources on the status of the task force's work. The final report is due February 15, 2026. The task force expires June 30, 2026. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

(k) Developing Markets for Continuous Living Cover Crops

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of agriculture for grants to organizations in Minnesota to develop enterprises, supply chains, and markets for continuous living cover crops and cropping systems in the early stage of commercial development, including but not limited to regenerative poultry silvopasture systems, Kernza perennial grain, winter camelina, and elderberry. This appropriation is exempt from the income repayment requirements in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10, paragraph (c).

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2022.

Sec. 7. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 2, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

| | | |
|---|------------|-----|
| Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation | 31,241,000 | -0- |
|---|------------|-----|

(a) SNA Stewardship, Outreach, and Biodiversity Protection

\$1,919,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance exceptional habitat on scientific and natural areas (SNAs), increase public involvement and outreach, and strategically acquire lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from willing sellers. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Wannigan Regional Park Land Acquisition

\$727,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Frazee to acquire land for protecting and enhancing natural resources and for future development as Wannigan Regional Park, where the Heartland State, North Country National, and Otter

Tail River Water Trails will meet. Initial site development or restoration work may be conducted with this appropriation.

(c) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs

\$3,802,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit and rank applications and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(d) Outreach and Stewardship Through the Native Prairie Bank Program

\$620,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to enhance and monitor lands enrolled in the native prairie bank and to provide outreach and technical assistance to landowners, practitioners, and the public to increase awareness and stewardship of the state's remaining native prairie. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$4,952,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand recreational opportunities on Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and enhancing existing state trails and replacing or repairing existing state trail bridges.

(f) Construction of East Park

\$700,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of St. Joseph to increase recreational opportunities and access at East Park along the Sauk River in St. Joseph through enhancements such as a canoe and kayak access, a floating dock, paved and mowed trails, and parking entrance improvements.

(g) Scandia Gateway Trail to William O'Brien State Park

\$2,689,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Scandia to engineer and construct a segment of the Gateway State Trail between the city of Scandia and William O'Brien State Park that will be maintained by the Department of Natural Resources. The segment to be constructed includes a pedestrian tunnel and trailhead parking area. This project must be designed and constructed in accordance with Department of Natural Resources state trail standards. Engineering and construction plans must be approved by the commissioner of natural resources before construction may commence. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(h) Grand Marais Mountain Bike Trail Rehabilitation - Phase II

\$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Superior Cycling Association to rehabilitate and modify existing mountain bike trails at Pincushion Mountain to increase the trail's environmental sustainability and provide better access to beginner and adaptive cyclers.

(i) Acquisition of State Parks and Trails Inholdings

\$5,425,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire high-priority inholdings from willing sellers within the legislatively authorized boundaries of state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and improve the efficiency of public land management. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(j) St. Louis River Re-Connect - Phase II

\$1,375,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Duluth to increase recreational opportunities and access to the Waabizheshikana

hiking and water trails in West Duluth with trail and trailhead enhancements such as accessible canoe and kayak launches, picnic areas, and restrooms; restored habitat; stormwater improvements; directional signage, and trailside interpretation. This appropriation may also be used to partner with the St. Louis River Alliance to create an ambassadors program to engage the surrounding community and facilitate use of the trails.

(k) City of Biwabik Recreation

\$1,306,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Biwabik to reconstruct and renovate Biwabik Recreation Area's access road, parking area, and bathroom facilities.

(l) Silver Bay Multimodal Trailhead Project

\$1,970,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Silver Bay to develop a multimodal trailhead center to provide safe access to the Superior Hiking, Gitchi-Gami Bike, and C.J. Ramstad/North Shore trails; Black Beach Park; and other recreational destinations. Before any construction costs are incurred, the city must demonstrate that all funding to complete the project are secured. Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan.

(m) Above the Falls Regional Park Restoration Planning and Acquisition

\$1,376,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to acquire land along the Mississippi River from willing sellers for habitat restoration, trail development, and low-intensity recreational facilities in Above the Falls Regional Park. This appropriation may also be used to prepare restoration plans for lands acquired. This appropriation may not be used to purchase habitable residential structures. Before the acquisition, a phase 1 environmental assessment must be completed and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board must not

accept any liability for previous contamination of lands acquired with this appropriation.

(n) Redhead Mountain Bike Park

\$1,666,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Chisholm as the fiscal agent for the Minnesota Discovery Center to enhance outdoor recreational opportunities by adding trails and amenities to the Redhead Mountain Bike Park in Chisholm. Amenities may include such things as pump tracks, skills courses, changing stations, shade shakes, and signage.

(o) Maplewood State Park Trail Segment of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail

\$2,514,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to partner with the Department of Natural Resources to construct the Maplewood State Park segment of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail. This project must be designed and constructed in accordance with Department of Natural Resources state trail standards. Engineering and construction plans must be approved by the commissioner of natural resources before construction may commence.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.

Presented to the governor April 12, 2024

Signed by the governor April 15, 2024, 9:52 a.m.

III. Completed Research Projects

“a summary of any research project completed in the preceding biennium;”

The following documents include:

- Summaries of accomplishments of all projects completed in FY 2023 and FY 2024, by appropriation year.
- Spreadsheet of all research projects completed in FY 2023 and FY 2024, by appropriation year.

Additional information:

- Abstracts describing the general accomplishments of each completed project and links to final reports are located online at <http://www.lccmr.mn.gov>.
- 188 projects were completed with a total of \$156,127,645.
- Legal citations for completed projects:
 1. M.L. 2022, Chapter 94, Section 2
 2. M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 6, Section 2
 3. M.L. 2020, First Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 5, Section 2
 4. M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chapter 4, Article, 2, Section 2
 5. M.L. 2018, Chapter 214, Article 4, Section 2
 6. M.L. 2017, Chapter 96, Section 2
 7. M.L. 2016, Chapter 186, Section 2
 8. M.L. 2015, Chapter 76, Section 2

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

Projects completing in FY2023

Data as of 1/16/25

| | Appropriation End Date | RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title w/link to Final Report | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated | Soundbite of Outcomes |
|---|------------------------|----------|--------|---------------|--|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a | ---- | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Venette | \$ 5,000,000 | The Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center (MITPPC) funded 20 research sub-projects through this appropriation to better protect Minnesota lands from the harmful effects of 14 priority invasive species, such as garlic mustard, soybean aphid, and oak wilt. MITPPC discoveries improved TIS management across Minnesota. |
| 2 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-01 | ---- | Subproject 06a-01: Garlic Mustard Biocontrol: Ecological Host Range of Biocontrol Agents | U of MN - MITPPC | Roger Becker | \$ 600,000 | We were integral in the release of Ceutorhynchus scrobicollis in Canada, the first biological control agent for garlic mustard in North America. We moved closer to federal regulatory approval to release C. scrobicollis and C. constrictus in the United States. When achieved, these will offer the first viable control of garlic mustard in Minnesota woodlands. |
| 3 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-02 | ---- | Subproject 06a-02: Mountain Pine Beetle, Phase II: Protecting Minnesota | U of MN - MITPPC | Brian Aukema | \$ 444,982 | Repeated surveys did not find mountain pine beetle in Minnesota. Scant few individuals were captured dispersing far from active infestations in western states. We found that local bark beetles and predators do not optimally recognize the insect's chemical signals, however, suggesting that such components of invasion resistance might be low. |
| 4 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-03 | ---- | Subproject 06a-03: Biological Control of the Soybean Aphid by Aphelinus Certus | U of MN - MITPPC | George Heimpel | \$ 479,859 | Results of this study indicate that the parasitoid Aphelinus certus provides sufficient mortality of soybean aphids to substantially decrease the need to apply insecticides against this pest. |
| 5 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-04 | ---- | Subproject 06a-04: Decreasing Environmental Impacts of Soybean Aphid Management | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Koch | \$ 570,000 | Management of soybean aphid relies on applications of broad-spectrum insecticides. This work aimed to decrease insecticide use and ameliorate associated environmental impacts through development of aphid-resistant soybean and advancement of remote scouting. |
| 6 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-05 | ---- | Subproject 06a-05: Optimizing Tree Injections against Emerald Ash Borer | U of MN - MITPPC | Brian Aukema | \$ 318,927 | Emerald ash borer continues to spread and devastate Minnesota's urban forests, but deploying the right types of insecticides to ash trees in the right ways can offer tree conservation and protection with minimal risk to non-target organisms such as bees that visit flowers and worms that decompose leaves. |
| 7 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-06 | ---- | Subproject 06a-06: Distribution and Traits of the Fungal Pathogen Fusarium Virguliforme that Influence Current and Future Risk to Soybean and Other Legumes in Minnesota | U of MN - MITPPC | Dean Malvick and Kathryn Bushley | \$ 383,651 | This project has discovered factors that influence the ability of the fungus Fusarium virguliforme to become established as a destructive pathogen on crops in new areas of Minnesota. The results are foundational to understanding this pathogen and contribute to managing the diseases it causes on soybean and other crops. |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

Projects completing in FY2023

Data as of 1/16/25

| | Appropriation End Date | RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title w/link to Final Report | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated | Soundbite of Outcomes |
|----|------------------------|----------|--------|---------------|---|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 8 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-07 | ---- | Subproject 06a-07: Tools to Distinguish Native from Exotic Reed Canary Grass | U of MN - MITPPC | Neil O. Anderson | \$ 263,273 | This project used genetic techniques to find that most reed canarygrass in Minnesota is native to the state and not from Europe. Plant DNA was extracted from samples of reed canarygrass across the state. Due to this outcome, Tribal and State managers may choose to manage or preserve this species differently. |
| 9 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-08 | ---- | Subproject 06a-08: Accurate Detection and Integrated Treatment of Oak Wilt (Ceratocystis fagacearum) in Minnesota | U of MN - MITPPC | Jeannine Cavender-Bares | \$ 356,382 | This project developed methods and approaches for better detection of oak wilt using spectroscopic technology and documented best practices to prevent spread of the disease. |
| 10 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-09 | ---- | Subproject 06a-09: Characterizing Dispersal of Larval Gypsy Moth to Improve Quarantine Regulations | U of MN - MITPPC | Brian Aukema | \$ 35,000 | We conducted laboratory experiments to determine how host type and food deprivation affected movement of gypsy moth caterpillars. Results indicated risks of larvae crossing a regulatory buffer zone may increase where an outbreak results in complete defoliation of preferred hosts like oaks. |
| 11 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-10 | ---- | Subproject 06a-10: Management Strategies for the Invasive Spotted Wing Drosophila | U of MN - MITPPC | Mary Rogers | \$ 477,541 | Our project developed new cost-effective methods to help growers manage damage and reduce yield loss caused by the invasive Spotted-wing drosophila in small fruit while reducing pesticide use. Additionally, we have gained basic knowledge on the behavior and flight capabilities of this pest that will contribute to future management strategies. |
| 12 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-11 | ---- | Subproject 06a-11: Will Future Weather Favor Minnesota's Woody Invaders? | U of MN - MITPPC | Peter Reich | \$ 526,000 | Our findings tell the story of how exotic honeysuckle and buckthorn have invaded Minnesota forests, how and why new areas are likely to be invaded in the future, and how we may be able to mitigate invasion using native tree species. |
| 13 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-12 | ---- | Subproject 06a-12: Developing Robust Identification Assays for Amaranthus Palmeri in Seed Mixture | U of MN - MITPPC | Don Wyse | \$ 208,230 | This project created a highly reliable test for detecting Palmer Amaranth, in individual plants and pools of seed. The test is expected to be commercially available and will be an important tool for Minnesota farmers, crop consultants, and agronomic specialists. Palmer amaranth can reduce corn and soybean yields by 80-90%. |
| 14 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-13 | ---- | Subproject 06a-13: Terrestrial Invasive Species Prioritization | U of MN - MITPPC | Amy Morey | \$ 71,461 | This project produced written risk evaluations of 77 terrestrial invasive species requested for review by MITPPC stakeholders, and assisted with the 2020 update of the MITPPC prioritization analysis. Thorough review of species allows MITPPC to be dynamic and transparent in how it responds to emerging TIS threats and stakeholder concerns. |

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|----|------------------------|----------|--------|---------------|--|------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| 15 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-14 | ---- | Subproject 06a-14: Improved Detection and Future Management of Leafy Spurge and Common Tansy using Remote Sensing, Mechanistic Species Distribution Models, and Landscape Genomics | U of MN - MITPPC | David Moller and Ryan Briscoe Runquist | \$ 70,812 | Cutting-edge deep learning computer models, large scale field experiment, and genomic analyses were used to improve predictions of invasive range expansion for leafy spurge and common tansy. In both species, we found substantial genetic and phenotypic evolution that may impact their invasive risk and change future strategic decision making. |
| 16 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-16 | ---- | Subproject 06a-16: Effects of Puccinia species complex on common buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica) | U of MN - MITPPC | Pablo Olivera Firpo | \$ 26,908 | Project being completed under ML 2021, First Special Session, Ch 6, Art 5, Sec 2, Subd 6a |
| 17 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-17 | ---- | Subproject 06a-17: Studies of entomopathogenic fungi for effective biocontrol of the emerald ash borer, Phase 2 | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Blanchette | \$ 33,000 | Project being completed under ML 2021, First Special Session, Ch 6, Art 5, Sec 2, Subd 6a |
| 18 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-18 | ---- | Subproject 06a-18: Incorporating adaptation into forecasts of range shifts with climate change | U of MN - MITPPC | Ryan Briscoe Runquist | \$ 33,000 | Project being completed under ML 2021, First Special Session, Ch 6, Art 5, Sec 2, Subd 6a |
| 19 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-19 | ---- | Subproject 06a-19: Genetic control of invasive insect species: Phase 3 | U of MN - MITPPC | Michael Smanski | \$ 50,000 | Project being completed under ML 2021, First Special Session, Ch 6, Art 5, Sec 2, Subd 6a |
| 20 | 6/30/2023 | 2015 | 06a-20 | ---- | Subproject 06a-20: Making revegetation as part of buckthorn management feasible in Minnesota | U of MN - MITPPC | Michael Schuster | \$ 40,000 | Project being completed under ML 2021, First Special Session, Ch 6, Art 5, Sec 2, Subd 6a |
| 21 | 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a | ---- | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center - Phase III | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Venette | \$ 3,750,000 | The Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center (MITPPC) funded 10 research sub-projects through this appropriation to protect Minnesota lands from the harmful effects of 11 priority invasive species such as common buckthorn, emerald ash borer (EAB), and several knotweeds. Results from these projects were featured prominently by local media. |
| 22 | 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-01 | ---- | Subproject 06a-01: Fungi in Ash Trees: Towards Protecting Trees from Emerald Ash | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Blanchette | \$ 500,000 | Important new findings have been obtained about the fungi associated with the emerald ash borer (EAB). This knowledge helps better understand the biology and ecology of EAB invasion and provides new biological control agents that can be used to help manage this invasive pest. |
| 23 | 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-02 | ---- | Subproject 06a-02: Understanding the Benefits and Limitations of using Goats for Invasive Plant Control | U of MN - MITPPC | Tiffany Wolf | \$ 410,267 | Targeted grazing by goats demonstrates some benefits for the control of invasive Rhamnus cathartica and the enhancement of native plant communities. While P. tenuis transmission to goats remains a concern during invasive plant management, co-grazing goats with waterfowl may mitigate this seasonal disease risk. |

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| 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-03 | ---- | Subproject 06a-03: Genetic Control of Invasive Insect Species: Phase I | U of MN - MITPPC | Michael Smanski | \$ 295,717 | We have demonstrated (in lab cages) a powerful new approach to combat invasive insect pests. Genetically engineered male insects would be released to mate with wild females, who would not have offspring. This can crash a wild population, and it is applicable to any sexually reproducing insect. |
| 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-04 | ---- | Subproject 06a-04: Dwarf Mistletoe Detection and Management in Minnesota | U of MN - MITPPC | Marcella Windmuller-Campione | \$ 455,606 | We were able to identify key considerations for the early detection of the invasive American dwarf mistletoe on jack pine, including different detection methods and the need for field-level biology and identification education for foresters and loggers. |
| 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-05 | ---- | Subproject 06a-05: Developing Spatially Explicit Bio-economic Dispersal Model to Aid with the Management of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug | U of MN - MITPPC | Senait Senay | \$ 329,304 | We developed a high resolution, spatially explicit, agent-based dispersal model for H. halys and results were published as "Effects of Starvation, Age, and Mating Status on Flight Capacity of Laboratory-Reared Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)" in Environmental Entomology Volume 50, Issue 3, June 2021. |
| 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-06 | ---- | Subproject 06a-06: Management of Invasive Knotweeds | U of MN - MITPPC | Alan Smith | \$ 476,723 | Three distinct species of knotweeds and their hybrids were confirmed present from the sampling. Cold tolerance measures indicate all knotweeds have the potential to grow throughout Minnesota and into colder climates. Seed production is inconsistent among populations and dispersal appears to be predominantly asexual and human facilitated. These data predict seed dispersal will become more prevalent, increasing diversity and the probability of resistance to herbicides and other management practices. |
| 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-07 | ---- | Subproject 06a-07: Building Mechanistic and Process based Species Distribution Models for Common Tansy and Leafy Spurge: from Landscapes to Genomes | U of MN - MITPPC | David Moller and Ryan Briscoe Runquist | \$ 351,188 | Cutting-edge deep learning computer models, large scale field experiment, and genomic analyses were used to improve predictions of invasive range expansion for leafy spurge and common tansy. In both species, we found substantial genetic and phenotypic evolution that may impact their invasive risk and change future strategic decision making. |
| 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-08 | ---- | Subproject 06a-08: Using Plants to Control Buckthorn: an Expanded Approach | U of MN - MITPPC | Peter Reich | \$ 560,000 | Many of Minnesota's forests are degraded by buckthorn invasion. Management is challenging because buckthorn typically returns quickly after removal. We found seeding wild rye grasses (in areas with >10% canopy openness) or densely planting shrubs and trees following initial herbicide application reduced buckthorn re-establishment concurrent with increased native cover. |

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| 30 | 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-09 | ---- | Subproject 06a-09: Genetic control of invasive insects, Phase 2 | U of MN - MITPPC | Michael Smanski | \$ 55,100 | Genetic biocontrol provides a non-toxic approach to control invasive pests. The Smanski lab pioneered a version of this technology for relatives of spotted wing drosophila. They demonstrated the feasibility and robustness of the technology in laboratory environments and explored strategies to ensure environmental safety. |
| 31 | 6/30/2023 | 2016 | 06a-10 | ---- | Subproject 06a-10: Novel Diagnostic Tools for Rapid and Early Detection of Oak Wilt | U of MN - MITPPC | Abdenour Abbas | \$ 170,637 | Oak wilt is a tree disease that causes major losses to Minnesota's forests, natural resources and economy every year. One of the key solutions to fighting this disease is early detection to enable timely decision making and prevention. The research effort conducted in this project over the last two years led to a successful development of a new technology for oak wilt detection in the field. The technology will soon be used in the field to enable early detection and prevention. |
| 32 | 6/30/2023 | 2017 | 03n | ---- | Pollinator Research and Outreach | U of MN | Daniel Cariveau | \$ 500,000 | We installed 20 pollinator plantings in the Minnesota tallgrass prairie regions to study the effectiveness of restorations for conserving native bees. We collected nearly 25,000 native bee specimens from approximately 156 species. We found at least three new state records. We also organized a grower-led field day. |
| 33 | 6/30/2023 | 2017 | 07d | ---- | District Heating with Renewable Biomass at Camp Ripley Training Center | Department of Military Affairs | Jay Brezinka | \$ 1,000,000 | The scope of this project was to install a biomass heating plant that would service seven buildings, including mechanical and distribution systems. We received an architect estimate and the base cost for the project in total was \$7,122,035. The project was therefore canceled and funds returned to ENRTF. |
| 34 | 6/30/2023 | 2017 | 08k | ---- | Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Outreach and Implementation | Board of Water and Soil Resources | Dusty VanThuyne | \$ 6,000,000 | This project assisted farmers and landowners in enrolling in conservation practices on environmentally sensitive lands by enrolling in the MN CREP program. Through this project, locally trusted staff in 49 counties were able to promote the MN CREP program and assist landowners in permanently protecting 29,350 acres. |
| 35 | 6/30/2023 | 2017 | 08l | ---- | Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) | Board of Water and Soil Resources | Sharon Doucette | \$ 13,500,000 | MN CREP is a federal/state partnership to improve water quality and provide habitat in 54 counties in southern and western Minnesota by establishing buffers, restoring wetlands, and protecting groundwater resources. This \$13.5 million ENRTF project leveraged \$16.5 million from USDA to restore and protect over 3,900 acres on 74 easements. |

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| 36 | 6/30/2023 | 2017 | 09h | ---- | Tower Trailhead Boat Landing and Habitat Improvement – Phase II | City of Tower | Nancy Larson | \$ 600,000 | Construction of a trailhead and kiosk, a connecting trail to the Mesabi Trail, and an accessible kayak launch, plus natural habitat development will connect existing recreational and natural resource assets on the East Two River waterway to Lake Vermilion and enhance the outdoor recreation experience for multiple users in northeast Minnesota. |
| 37 | 6/30/2023 | 2018 | 03i | ---- | Improve Trout-Stream Management by Understanding Variable Winter Thermal Conditions | U of MN | Rebecca Swenson | \$ 400,000 | Conservation plans are based largely on summer dynamics between fish, food sources, and water temperatures. Yet, winter-emerging aquatic insects, primarily Chironomidae, are a locally abundant and critical resource for trout. This project provides insights about winter air and water temperatures, lifecycles of aquatic insects, and impacts on stream food webs. |
| 38 | 6/30/2023 | 2018 | 05I | ---- | Increase Diversity in Environmental Careers to Serve Minnesota’s Changing Demographics | MN DNR | Mimi Daniel | \$ 550,000 | The Increasing Diversity in Environmental Careers (IDEC) program fosters the next generation of environmental and natural resources professionals and enthusiasts. From 2019 to 2023, 45 students enrolled in the IDEC program learned about and gained hands-on experience in the environmental/natural resources field. As a result, as these students become professionals, they will bring diversity and innovation to natural resources management and conservation. |
| 39 | 6/30/2023 | 2018 | 09h | ---- | Protecting North-Central Minnesota Lakes | Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District | Andrew Seagren | \$ 750,000 | A correlation between forestland protection and water quality has been identified. We provided funding to restoration practices on public lands and protected 1,982 acres of private lands via conservation programs. Land protection efforts were guided by atlases that provided a method to prioritize and target high quality parcels. |
| 40 | 6/30/2023 | 2018 | 09i | ---- | Easement Program for Native Prairie Bank | MN DNR | Judy Schulte | \$ 2,000,000 | Permanently protected 249 acres of high-quality historically undisturbed native prairie, which house state threatened and special concerns species, Species in Greatest Conservation Need and a wide variety of pollinators. Prairie enhancement (903 acres), outreach, monitoring and research activities were implemented across the state to improve prairie habitat. |
| 41 | 6/30/2023 | 2018 | 09j | ---- | Minnesota State Trail Development | MN DNR | Kent Skaar | \$ 2,500,000 | Pending |

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| 42 | 06/30/2023 | 2018 | 09k | ---- | Minnesota State Parks and State Trails | MN DNR | Shelby Kok | \$ 2,500,000 | Acquisition of Minnesota State Park and State Trail land provides permanent, effective and consolidated protection and management of pristine natural areas representative of diverse landscapes throughout the entire state of Minnesota for perpetual enjoyment by State Park and Trail users. |
| 43 | 6/30/2023 | 2018 | 09l | ---- | Scientific and Natural Areas Program | MN DNR | Judy Schulte | \$ 3,250,000 | Volunteers and contractors with Minnesota DNR completed enhancement activities on over 1,300 acres on 73 Minnesota SNAs. The new 215-acre Little Mantrap Lake SNA with over a mile of undeveloped shoreline, 14 native plant communities and a known population of an extremely rare orchid was protected for all to benefit. |
| 44 | 6/30/2023 | 2018 | 10b | ---- | Chronic Wasting Disease Targeted Outreach Engaging Culturally-Diverse Hunting Communities | U of MN | Tiffany Wolf | \$ 270,468 | Our project advances inclusive chronic wasting disease (CWD) management through collaboration with Tribal, southeast Asian, and Amish communities. Insights from surveys and interviews inform culturally-attuned CWD outreach, endorsing thriving deer populations while honoring cultural heritage. Our efforts promote community-engaged CWD response strategies to protect Minnesota deer health and community well-being. |
| 45 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03a | ---- | Minnesota Biological Survey | MN DNR | Bruce Carlson | \$ 1,500,000 | The Minnesota Biological Survey (MBS) collects, interprets, and delivers foundational data on native and rare plants, animals, plant communities, and functional landscapes. These data help prioritize actions to conserve, manage, and restore Minnesota's biological diversity and ecological systems. |
| 46 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03e | ---- | Spruce Grouse as Indicators for Boreal Forest Connectivity | U of MN - Raptor Center | Julia Ponder | \$ 350,000 | We suggest that forest management to promote dense understory structure in boreal forest may provide climate refugia for various species of early successional forest wildlife. The landscape context should also be considered in forest planning in a changing climate to ensure that landscape connectivity is managed to meet wildlife needs. |
| 47 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03f | ---- | Understanding Brainworm Transmission to Find Solutions for Minnesota Moose Decline | U of MN | Tiffany Wolf | \$ 400,000 | We created new knowledge regarding the ecological context of Parelaphostrongylus tenuis transmission that will aid wildlife and forest managers considering management actions as they try to conserve Minnesota's at-risk moose population. |

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| 48 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03h | ---- | Accelerated Aggregate Resource Mapping | MN DNR | Heather Arends | \$ 700,000 | Minnesota Department of Natural Resources completed and distributed aggregate maps for the following four counties: Sibley, Swift, Redwood, and Kandiyohi. Maps assist governments in planning and conserving of competing resources. Knowing where aggregates are located, supports resilient communities and informed land use decision-making. |
| 49 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03k | ---- | Implementing Conservation Plans for Avian Species of Concern | Audubon Minnesota | Alexandra Wardwell | \$ 124,000 | Audubon established benchmark survey sites, to guide future conservation activities within Important Bird Areas, for three species of conservation concern: Black Tern, Common Tern and Yellow Rail. Audubon established these important benchmark survey locations for these species, while also working closely to build increase collaboration and communication with many partners. |
| 50 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03l | ---- | Mapping Aquatic Habitats for Moose | U of MN | Joseph Bump | \$ 199,000 | This project mapped key water habitats used by moose in northern Minnesota, assessed relationship of moose to aquatic plant and fish diversity, and developed research & educational materials about moose ecology and conservation. The primary outcome is a better understanding of important moose habitat in Minnesota. |
| 51 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03s | ---- | Native Bee Survey | MN DNR | Jessica Petersen | \$ 600,000 | This project greatly expanded the conservation status of bees in the Laurentian Mixed Forest. We identified 255 species from 9,000 specimens. We made five new state records including one new record for the United States, many new county records, and new plant associations. From these data we will build a list of species in need of conservation. |
| 52 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 03t | ---- | Diagnostic Test for Chronic Wasting Disease | U of MN | Peter Larsen | \$ 1,804,000 | We invented the world's first portable 24-hour CWD test (Minnesota-QuIC) and a 4-hour microfluidic CWD test. These tests will undergo USDA validation and will be made available to agencies tasked with controlling the spread of CWD. Our innovative CWD outreach activities and products reached over 28,000 Minnesotans. |
| 53 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04a | ---- | Determining Influence of Insecticides on Algal Blooms | U of MN | William Arnold | \$ 350,000 | Neonicotinoid and fipronil insecticides are present in lakes, rivers, springs, and shallow groundwater across Minnesota often at concentrations exceeding chronic toxicity thresholds for aquatic invertebrates. The compounds were detected in wastewater, stormwater, and rain/snow, indicating multiple sources to Minnesota waters. No clear association with algal blooms was found. |

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| 54 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04b | ---- | Benign Design: Environmental Studies Leading to Sustainable Pharmaceuticals | U of MN | William Arnold | \$ 415,000 | Insight into how fluorinated pesticides and pharmaceuticals present in Minnesota's waters degrade when exposed to sunlight was gained. Some compounds degrade to non-toxic fluoride, while others lead to fluorinated byproducts that may continue to impact the environment. The knowledge was used to help design new medically relevant fluorinated molecules. |
| 55 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04e | ---- | Improving Nitrogen Removal in Greater Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Ponds | U of MN | Paige Novak | \$ 325,000 | Inadequately treated wastewater in rural communities contributes to environmental/human health issues. We studied how to improve rural wastewater treatment pond performance. Our results suggested that manually increasing oxygen supply when temperatures are greater than 10°C should improve ammonia biodegradation; if temporary, total nitrogen removal should be possible, improving rural water quality. |
| 56 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04f | ---- | Improving Drinking Water for Minnesotans through Pollution Prevention | U of MN | Raymond Hozalski | \$ 345,000 | This project comprehensively studied the spatio-temporal occurrence of N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA, a potent carcinogen) precursors in the Crow River watershed as well as treatment approaches for NDMA precursor removal. The project results will aid in evaluation and mitigation of potential risks from NDMA formation during disinfection of drinking water with chloramines. |
| 57 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04g | ---- | Protecting Minnesota Waters by Removing Contaminants from Wastewater | U of MN | Matt Simcik | \$ 250,000 | It is possible to drive microplastics and some PFAS into the biosolids of a wastewater treatment plant using stabilized powdered activated carbon. However, the amount required may make the technology cost prohibitive, and may affect the operation of the plant. Further improvements may bring costs down and enable unencumbered operation. |
| 58 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04h | ---- | Reducing Municipal Wastewater Mercury Pollution to Lake Superior | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Scott Kyser | \$ 250,000 | This study identifies wastewater treatment technologies and mechanisms that municipalities can use to treat mercury to low-levels. Cost-effective wastewater technologies that treat solids can be leveraged to also treat mercury to low-levels and this information can be used to reduce discharged mercury which protects the environment and human health. |
| 59 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04j | ---- | Transformation of Plastic Waste into Valued Resource | U of MN | Brett Barney | \$ 225,000 | Our project identified prominent strains within microbial communities obtained from Minnesota waters that are able to degrade problem plastics such as polyethylene. In many cases, individual microbial strains were isolated and sequenced to provide a blueprint of strain features that enable this ability to degrade plastics. |

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| 60 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04l | ---- | Farm-Ready Cover Crops for Protecting Water Quality | Central Lakes College - Ag and Energy Ctr | Keith Olander | \$ 741,000 | By integrating Kura Clover and Camelina into row crop production we were able to supply producers with data about crop production and water quality impacts to influence adoption. Camelina demonstrates promise when double cropped with soybeans and Kura Clover can be an aggressive nitrogen scavenger and offer opportunities in forage production. |
| 61 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04q | ---- | Restoring Impaired Lakes through Citizen Aided Carp Management | Carver County Water Management Organization | Andrew Dickhart | \$ 106,000 | This project demonstrated new innovative methods of carp management that includes local volunteer residents. The use of baited box nets and an electric guidance system produced an integrated and multi-faceted approach to long term carp management, which we know is important given the longevity of the species. |
| 62 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04r | ---- | Spring Biological Nitrate Removal to Protect Drinking Water | City of Fairmont | Tyler Cowing | \$ 175,000 | The city constructed a passive nitrate removal system optimized for spring low temperature treatment and partnered with the University of Minnesota to evaluate this field scale model. The results show that the concept of warming the water for early spring treatment works; however, treatment was hindered by algae growth in the greenhouse. |
| 63 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 04s | ---- | Degradation of Chlorinated Industrial Contaminants with Bacteria | U of MN | Paige Novak | \$ 150,000 | A group of bacteria exist that can “breathe” chlorinated pollutants. Naturally occurring chlorinated compounds are formed when leaves and pine needles break down. We discovered that these naturally occurring compounds can speed the rate at which chlorinated pollutants are degraded when added as an amendment. |
| 64 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 05b | ---- | Connecting Students to the Boundary Waters | Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness | Chris Knopf | \$ 450,000 | This project connected over 6,000 Minnesota students to the wildlife, ecology, and history of the Boundary Waters through online resources, classroom visits, and provided opportunities for students to develop deep connections to the wilderness, leadership, and positive peer relationships through overnight wilderness trips. |
| 65 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a | ---- | Building Knowledge and Capacity to Solve AIS Problems | U of MN - MAISRC | Nicholas Phelps | \$ 4,000,000 | This project continued MAISRC’s work to develop research-based solutions that can reduce the impacts of aquatic invasive species in Minnesota. Through this appropriation, MAISRC has supported 12 subprojects on many of Minnesota’s most important AIS, significantly advanced our scientific understanding and ability to manage AIS, and engaged thousands of stakeholders and partners. |

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| 66 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-21.2 | ---- | Subproject 06a-21.2: Field Validation of Multibeam Sonar Zebra Mussel Detection (Year 2) | U of MN - MAISRC | Jessica Kozarek | \$ 228,764 | Invasive mussels are a major threat to Minnesota's aquatic ecosystems, water infrastructure, and recreation. This project tests the feasibility of using multibeam sonar to map mussel habitat and distribution over large areas. This information will greatly enhance monitoring efforts and direct management and treatment efforts. |
| 67 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-22.2 | ---- | Subproject 06a-22.2: Assessing and Refining Copper-Based Treatment to Suppress Zebra Mussel populations | U of MN - MAISRC | Diane Waller | \$ 249,056 | Low-dose copper treatment can greatly reduce zebra mussel settlement at less cost and with less risk to native species compared to eradication treatments using maximum allowable copper concentration. We determined how long a mussel population is suppressed after low-dose copper treatment and the short- and long-term impacts to native species. |
| 68 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-23.2 | ---- | Subproject 06a-23.2: AIS and Tourism - A Socio-Economic Assessment | U of MN - MAISRC | Amit Pradhananga | \$ 249,088 | Minnesota's businesses and visitors to key tourist destinations are concerned about the ecological impacts of aquatic invasive species, and value efforts to manage AIS. While businesses are willing to share information about AIS with customers. Programs to engage businesses in AIS management are needed. |
| 69 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-25.2 | ---- | Subproject 06a-25.2: Examining Motivations for Illegal Baitfish Release | U of MN - MAISRC | Nicholas Phelps | \$ 74,636 | Minnesota anglers care about our fish and aquatic ecosystems, but don't always know the laws and practices they can do to help keep them safe from invasive species. Focused communications emphasizing shared responsibility and social norms around proper bait disposal could reduce illegal release and consequently, AIS introduction risk. |
| 70 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-28.2 | ---- | Subproject 06a-28.2: Enzyme-Based Coatings to Suppress Priority AIS | U of MN - MAISRC | Mikael Elias | \$ 187,480 | Biofouling clumps all submerged structures and is a vector for aquatic invasive species. Current countermeasures are toxic. We work on some eco-friendly, protein products that could advantageously replace these chemicals and preserve our environment. |
| 71 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-33 | ---- | Subproject 06a-33: Optimizing eDNA Monitoring for Multiple Aquatic Invasive Species | U of MN - MAISRC | Josh Dumke | \$ 436,331 | Environmental DNA (eDNA) is a useful tool we can use to survey waterbodies for Aquatic Invasive Species. Understanding how we can use eDNA to detect different AIS will allow us to most efficiently look for existing and new invasive species throughout Minnesota, protecting vulnerable lakes from harmful aquatic invaders. |

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| 72 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-35 | ---- | Subproject 06a-35: Genetic Biocontrol of Invasive Species - Understanding Attitudes and Risk Perceptions | U of MN - MAISRC | David Fulton | \$ 209,313 | A majority of respondents perceived benefits to genetic biocontrol of AIS and expressed positive attitudes and support for the use of genetic biocontrol of Aquatic Invasive Species in general and specifically for common carp and zebra mussels. However, a majority of respondents also expressed concerns about perceived risks associated with genetic biocontrol. |
| 73 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-36 | ---- | Subproject 06a-37: RNA-Interference Screens for Zebra Mussel Biocontrol Target Genes | U of MN - MAISRC | Daryl Gohl | \$ 255,979 | In this project we began to test RNA interference (RNAi) as a novel form of genetic biocontrol for zebra mussels. While we have not identified robust RNAi phenotypes, this project laid the groundwork for further research into zebra mussel genetic biocontrol by developing new tools and methods. |
| 74 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-37 | ---- | Subproject 06a-37: Improving the Efficiency of Watercraft Inspections through Coordination and Cooperation | U of MN - MAISRC | Amy Kinsley | \$ 198,241 | We developed a series of models that considered state and county-level planning and how county-level collaborations could impact programming efficiency. Our results suggest that watercraft inspection plans involving collaborations between counties that share information about inspection location plans can lead to gains in efficiency when compared to non-collaborative planning. |
| 75 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-38 | ---- | Subproject 06a-38: Evaluating Native Phragmites as a Wastewater Treatment Alternative | U of MN - MAISRC | Daniel Larkin | \$ 355,122 | An obstacle to invasive Phragmites (European common reed) control is its use for dewatering biosolids in wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs). We assessed the transpiration rates of native and invasive Phragmites to find an optimal WWTF substitute. Our findings confirm invasive Phragmites remove more water than native Phragmites. For some WWTFs, native Phragmites is likely sufficient, while others will need to consider alternative technologies to transition away from invasive Phragmites. |
| 76 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-39 | ---- | Subproject 06a-39: Increasing Effectiveness of Bigheaded Carp Deterrents by Carbon Dioxide Integration | U of MN - MAISRC | Allen Mensinger | \$ 340,327 | Carbon dioxide shows potential to enhance either bubble curtain or acoustic deterrents to prevent the upstream passage of invasive bigheaded carp in the Minnesota's waters. |
| 77 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06a-40 | ---- | Subproject 06a-40: Enhancing Habitat and Diversity in Cattail-Dominated Shorelines | U of MN - MAISRC | Amy Schrank | \$ 338,066 | Our results suggest that mechanical removal of invasive, hybrid cattails has the potential to restore nearshore lake ecosystems with few negative impacts to other species. Invasive cattail removal increases dissolved oxygen and provides space for native plants to regrow, thereby restoring high quality fish habitat and benefitting lake fish communities. |

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| 78 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06c | ---- | Noxious Weed Detection and Eradication | Minnesota Department of Agriculture | Mark Abrahamson | \$ 1,000,000 | This project supported noxious weed management on priority species at both the State and local levels and helped to establish and build support systems that will assist noxious weed management efforts beyond the conclusion of the project. |
| 79 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 06d | ---- | Emerald Ash Borer Response Grants | MN DNR | Emma Schultz | \$ 300,000 | Minnesota's community forests will lose 2.65 million ash trees due to the impacts of the invasive pest emerald ash borer. These funds were used to administer \$300,000 in grants to local units of government for planting ecologically appropriate trees to address ash loss on public land. |
| 80 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 07c | ---- | Sustainable Solar Energy from Agricultural Plant By-Products | U of MN - Morris | Ted Pappenfus | \$ 185,000 | New materials were developed from agricultural byproducts for use in the fabrication of printed organic solar cells that will lead to a more sustainable, low-cost, renewable energy source in Minnesota. |
| 81 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 07d | ---- | Morris Energy and Environment Community Resilience Plan | City of Morris | Blaine Hill | \$ 150,000 | This project added capacity in west central MN and Morris to think about sustainability initiatives including clean energy, community resilience, gathering and analyzing building performance data, and community outreach and education focused on MN's changing climate and how it affects west central Minnesotans. |
| 82 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 08b | ---- | Promoting and Restoring Oak Savanna Using Silvopasture | U of MN | Rebecca Montgomery | \$ 750,000 | We evaluated cattle grazing as an oak savanna restoration tool, compared to prescribed burning and tree thinning. Adaptive targeted grazing reduced overgrown shrubs with minimal impacts on wildlife, water quality, or soil health. We promoted this grazing strategy by developing training workshops, webinars, online resources, and a farmer-to-farmer learning network. |
| 83 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 08d | ---- | Conserving and Monitoring of Minnesota's Rare Arctic Plants | U of MN - Duluth | Briana Gross | \$ 135,000 | Through three years of genetic and field study, we found that the rare arctic relict plants of Minnesota have retreated northward since the 1900s. They will likely decline into the future, and one species is threatened by an aggressive invasive species. Protection and education are critical to preserve these unique species. |

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| 84 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 08e | ---- | Nongame Wildlife Program Acceleration | MN DNR | Kristin Hall | \$ 513,000 | Project outcomes for the Nongame Wildlife Program Acceleration project include: 1) improved management and delivery of foundational information on nongame species. 2) new research on declining species and increased status assessment surveys of priority nongame species. 3) increased recreational opportunities through community science, and 4) the creation of a repeatable survey to measure public support for the of the Nongame Wildlife Program. |
| 85 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 08f | ---- | Lawns to Legumes | Board of Water and Soil Resources | Dan Shaw | \$ 900,000 | The Lawns to Legumes Program is focused on building a movement to support at-risk pollinator species. The project resulted in over 2,300 high diversity residential plantings covering, 4.3 million square feet, and a large numbers of DIY projects across Minnesota inspired and guided by the program. |
| 86 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 09b | ---- | Grants for Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas | MN DNR | Audrey Mularie | \$ 3,000,000 | Provide 20 matching grants to local units of government for local parks, acquisition of locally significant natural areas and trails to connect people safely to desirable community locations and regional or state facilities. Park development includes nature-based recreation facilities and does not include playgrounds, sports courts or sport fields. |
| 87 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 09h | ---- | Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground | City of Babbitt | Cathy Bissonette | \$ 350,000 | The City of Babbitt has completed a new 22-acre campground in the Birch Lake Recreation Area that will include 49 new campsites to accommodate recreational vehicles and tents. The completion of this projects allows area residents and tourists from around the country and Canada to enjoy the unique outdoor experience of Northern Minnesota. |
| 88 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 09k | ---- | Bailey Lake Trail and Fishing Pier | City of Virginia | Britt See-Benes | \$ 550,000 | The completion of the Baileys Lake Trail and fishing pier provides the community a safe way to enjoy outdoor recreation activities, such as biking, walking, and bird watching, within a city setting. The new pier allows for safe fishing on Baileys Lake without the need for water craft. |
| 89 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 09p | ---- | Rainy Lake Recreational Access and Boat Wash Station | City of Ranier | Sherill Gautreaux | \$ 200,000 | A new accessible boat launch and accompanying dock was installed. A city owned property was converted into a parking lot for vehicle and trailer parking. A permanent waterless AIS boat wash station and an animal proof receptacle for disposal of bait and boater garbage were also installed. |

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| 90 | 6/30/2023 | 2019 | 09q | ---- | Historic Bruce Mine Park and Mesabi Trailhead | St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority | Bob Manzoline | \$ 1,000,000 | The project entailed redeveloping a former mine site into a trailhead for the Mesabi Trail and provide an interpretative center and park for the Bruce Mine Headframe Historic Site located in Chisholm, MN. A self-guided tour includes an interpretive center and plaques explaining how the relics operated in the past by using the remaining structures including the headframe, railroad track and various structural foundations. The Park serves as a trailhead for the Mesabi Trail providing parking, restrooms and information to travelers and trail users. |
| 91 | 06/30/2023 | 2020 | 11 | 2020-008 | Contract Agreement Reimbursement | MN DNR, Grants Unit | Katherine Sherman-Hoehn | \$135,000 | This appropriation was used to support the ENRTF contract management program, which ensured that ENRTF grantees expended grant funds in compliance with state law, session law, approved work plans, and Office of Grants Management grants policies. |
| 92 | 06/30/2023 | 2020 | 05b | 2020-041 | Minnesota Freshwater Quest: Environmental Education On State Waterways | Wilderness Inquiry | Julie Edmiston | \$500,000 | Wilderness Inquiry's Freshwater Quest engaged 8,833 youth across all regions of Minnesota. Using place-based outdoor environmental education, this project inspired the next generation of stewards of Minnesota's natural resources helping to preserve our state's outdoor economy and the vibrancy and health of our environment and residents. |
| 93 | 6/30/2023 | 2020 | 09v | 2020-097 | Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground | City of Babbitt | Robecca Jaeger | \$350,000 | The City of Babbitt has completed a new 22-acre campground in the Birch Lake Recreation Area that will include 49 new campsites to accommodate recreational vehicles and tents. The completion of this project allows area residents and tourists from around the country. |
| 94 | 06/30/2023 | 2021 | 08b | 2021-039 | Restoring Mussels in Streams and Lakes - Continuation | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Madeline Pletta | \$619,000 | MDNR Center for Aquatic Mussel Programs reintroduced over 4,400 native mussels into three watersheds in southeast Minnesota, bringing our total number to over 17,000 since 2016. We completed monitoring of mussels and habitat at reintroduction sites. We disseminated information through outreach events, including facility tours, presentations, and newsletters. |
| 95 | 06/30/2023 | 2021 | 08f | 2021-084 | Restoring Upland Forests for Birds | American Bird Conservancy, Great Lakes Program | John Haben | \$193,000 | American Bird Conservancy (ABC) restored 12 acres of deciduous forest in partnership with Aitkin, Beltrami and Cass Counties, utilizing science-based BMP's to rejuvenate non-commercial stands for focal wildlife species. The outcomes of this project will be shared on the ABC website. |

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| 96 | 06/30/2023 | 2021 | 10a | 2021-027 | Contract Agreement Reimbursement | MN DNR, Grants Unit | Katherine Sherman- Hoehn | \$135,000 | This appropriation was used to support the ENRTF contract management program, which ensured that ENRTF grantees expended grant funds in compliance with state law, session law, approved work plans, and Office of Grants Management grants policies. |

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| 1 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 04I | --- | Lake Agnes Treatment | Alexandria Lake Area Sanitary District (ALASD) | Anne Wilkinson | \$ 600,000 | Lakes Winona, Agnes and Henry have historically contained phosphorus levels that exceeded the State's standards. The outcomes of the alum treatment to Lake Agnes resulted in a 96% reduction in internal phosphorus loading compared to pre-treatment conditions. Common carp density in Lake Winona remains high despite two removal events. |
| 2 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a | --- | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center - Phase 4 | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Venette | \$ 3,500,000 | The Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center (MITPPC) funded 12 research sub-projects through this appropriation to help protect Minnesota lands from 16 priority invasive species, such as buckthorn, corn tar spot, Dutch elm disease, and non-native Phragmites. Discoveries improved detection methods and generated new management options. |
| 3 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-01 | --- | Subproject 06a-01: Early Detection of Invasive Tree Pathogens Using Molecular Tools for Prevention and to Mitigate Damage | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Blanchette | \$ 383,865 | This project effectively utilized molecular tools for early detection of invasive tree pathogens in Minnesota. Fourteen previously unreported species of Phytophthora were identified. Extensive spore trapping for Heterobasidion irregulare indicated its presence in Minnesota. This research enhanced statewide efforts to monitor, prevent, and mitigate damage to Minnesota's natural resources. |
| 4 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-02 | --- | Subproject 06a-02: Accurate Detection of Oak Wilt Disease at Landscape Scales for Enhanced Forest Management | U of MN - MITPPC | Jeannine Cavendar-Bares | \$ 301,941 | We developed novel methods for accurate detection of trees infected with the deadly oak wilt fungal pathogen (Bretziella fagacearum) at the leaf and canopy level, landscape level and regional level using spectral biology. Using hand-held, drone-based, airborne and spaceborne sensors to capture reflected photons from trees, we detected spectral signatures of oak wilt disease by applying a series of modeling approaches. We also established a series of oak wilt sites for long-term monitoring of the efficacy of different management approaches and disseminated our findings broadly at local, regional and national level. |
| 5 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-03 | --- | Subproject 06a-03: Early Detection of Invasive Tree Pathogens Using Molecular Tools for Prevention and to Mitigate Damage | U of MN - MITPPC | Benjamin Held | \$ 233,924 | This subproject identified and propagated new survivor elms from Minnesota that may have resistance to Dutch elm disease (DED). We screened elms from prior years and found most trees to have very good to partial resistance thus far. Resistant trees were planted in Minnesota landscapes where elm was once common. |
| 6 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-04 | --- | Subproject 06a-04: Detection and Monitoring of Invasive Phragmites | U of MN - MITPPC | Joe Knight | \$ 203,781 | Through this project, we determined that Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS; "drones") can be used to map invasive Phragmites stands with high accuracy and that the potential exists to identify previously unknown Phragmites patches, and to monitor known patches, using widely available remotely sensed data such as aerial imagery and lidar. |
| 7 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-05 | --- | Subproject 06a-05: Improve Invasive Plant Treatment Efficacy Using Climate Based Phenology Models | U of MN - MITPPC | Rebecca Montgomery | \$ 346,211 | We developed climate-based models of key phenological events (e.g. flowering, fruiting) for scheduling treatments to control invasive Japanese knotweed and wild parsnip. We created the Pesky Plant Trackers program to house the models and to train volunteers to collect phenology data, which increased their appreciation of plant life cycles. |
| 8 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-06 | --- | Subproject 06a-06: Biology and Biocontrol Potential of a Rust Fungus Infecting Phalaris Arundinacea and Frangula Alnus | U of MN - MITPPC | Pablo Olivera Firpo | \$ 247,507 | The presence and distribution of Puccinia coronata var. coronata (Pcc) was confirmed, generating a detailed disease description and morphological and phylogenetic data. The host specificity was also studied. Under controlled conditions, Pcc significantly reduced reed canarygrass biomass production and glossy buckthorn seedlings. |
| 9 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-07 | --- | Subproject 06a-07: Managing Buckthorn with Trees: Diversity, Density, and Practicality | U of MN - MITPPC | Peter Reich | \$ 499,734 | The abundance of native tree and shrub stems (regardless of identity) is a significant predictor of buckthorn re-establishment following management. This project illustrates the value of adaptive management that leverages natural tree regeneration and augments native stem densities through strategic planting. |

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| 10 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-08 | --- | Subproject 06a-08: Integrated Emerald Ash Borer Management: Testing a Novel Approach to Assess Stakeholder Perceptions | U of MN - MITPPC | Ingrid Schneider | \$ 436,072 | Virtual reality can help recreationists visualize impacts from emerald ash borer and its management. This research on social perceptions and silvicultural strategies will help natural resource managers to be more effective in selecting and communicating forest management responses to invasive species. |
| 11 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-09 | --- | Subproject 06a-09: Distribution, Risks, and Management of Phyllachora Maydis, the Causal Agent of Corn Tar Spot | U of MN - MITPPC | Dean Malvick | \$ 176,618 | Corn tar spot develops rapidly causing significant yield loss. Researchers confirmed the spread of this invasive disease; developed a DNA-based assay to detect corn tar spot; identified the environmental conditions favorable for tar spot development; and developed a new method to study the pathogen under greenhouse conditions. |
| 12 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-10 | --- | Subproject 06a-10: Detecting Hybrid Barberry and Investigating its Role in Rust Epidemiology | U of MN - MITPPC | Pablo Olivera Firpo | \$ 206,783 | A protocol for quality DNA extraction of barberry tissue and a set of 33 cost effective PACE markers were developed that can be adopted for laboratory hybrid barberry identification. |
| 13 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-11 | --- | Subproject 06a-11: Confronting Soybean Aphid with Advanced Plant Breeding and Remote Sensing | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Koch | \$ 292,492 | This research advanced the availability of aphid-resistant soybean lines for more effective and durable control of soybean aphids without insecticides. Additionally, a tool was built to use satellite data to accurately determine if aphid infestations in soybean fields are great enough to require insecticide application to protect yield. |
| 14 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 06a-12 | --- | Subproject 06a-12: Expanding and Strengthening the Prioritization of Terrestrial Invasive Species in Minnesota | U of MN - MITPPC | Amy Morey | \$ 151,601 | Online tools were developed to facilitate stakeholder engagement with MITPPC's species prioritization process; the biennial update of the species prioritization was completed ; 7 additional species were evaluated; it was determined that simple estimates of climate suitability, such as plant hardiness zones, are reasonable to use for MITPPC's invasive insects evaluation. |
| 15 | 6/30/2024 | 2018 | 08e | --- | Restoring Forests in Minnesota State Parks | MN DNR | Edward Quinn | \$ 250,000 | This project restored 255 acres of open fields and a previously logged area back to forested native plant communities in four state parks, where it will permanently managed and protected. |
| 16 | 6/30/2024 | 2019 | 03d | --- | Minnesota Trumpeter Swan Migration Ecology and Conservation | U of MN | David Andersen | \$ 300,000 | We tracked the movements of trumpeter swans throughout Minnesota and the greater Midwest, demonstrating that trumpeter swans have high individual variability in their seasonal migration patterns. Our project provides important ecological information on this charismatic waterfowl species that was successfully reintroduced to Minnesota. |
| 17 | 6/30/2024 | 2019 | 05d | --- | Increasing Diversity in Environmental Careers | MN DNR | May Yang | \$ 250,000 | \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources in cooperation with Conservation Corps Minnesota and Iowa to encourage a diversity of students to pursue careers in environment and natural resources through internships and mentorships with the Department of Natural Resources, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and the Pollution Control Agency. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered. |
| 18 | 6/30/2024 | 2019 | 08a | --- | Saving Endangered Pollinators through Data-Driven Prairie Restoration | Minnesota Zoo | Erik Runquist | \$ 800,000 | We have advanced conservation of the Dakota skipper with an intensive propagation and reintroduction program, enhanced hundreds of acres of habitat that they and other prairie wildlife depend upon, and provided key insights into the stressors on their populations and environmental factors that are needed to support their recovery. |
| 19 | 6/30/2024 | 2019 | 09a | --- | Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas | MN DNR | Judy Schulte | \$ 3,500,000 | Protected a mix of native plant communities which house state endangered and special concerns species, Species in Greatest Conservation Need and a wide variety of other species through additions to Quarry Park SNA and Grey Cloud Dunes SNA. Over 1,980 acres across 62 SNAs had restoration and enhancement activities executed. |

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| 20 | 6/30/2024 | 2019 | 09c | --- | Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings | MN DNR | Shelby Kok | \$ 2,000,000 | Acquisition of Minnesota State Park and State Trail land provides permanent, effective and consolidated protection and management of pristine natural areas representative of diverse landscapes throughout the entire state of Minnesota for perpetual enjoyment by State Park and Trail users. |
| 21 | 6/30/2024 | 2019 | 09d | --- | Minnesota State Trails Development | MN DNR | Kent Skaar | \$ 5,000,000 | Pending |
| 22 | 6/30/2024 | 2019 | 09j | --- | Preserving the Avon Hills with Reverse-Bidding Easements | Saint John's University | John Geissler | \$ 1,600,000 | This project permanently protected 383.03 acres of high-quality forest, wetland, and grassland habitat in the ecologically rich Avon Hills while leveraging \$155,341 through landowner donation of easement value. Additionally, we restored/enhanced 321.15 acres of forest, prairie/grassland, and wetland habitat on permanently protected properties in the Avon Hills. |
| 92 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03a | 2020-074 | Geologic Atlases For Water Resource Management | U of MN, MN Geological Survey | Barbara Lusardi | \$2,000,000 | During this phase of the ongoing Geologic Atlas program, we have printed 7 counties, and continued work in 6 others. This is equivalent to "completing" about 5 atlases. Atlas maps and data provide foundational information that supports water management activities to the benefit of drinking water and aquatic habitat. |
| 93 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03b | 2020-023 | Expanding Minnesota Ecological Monitoring Network | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Holly Bernardo | \$800,000 | In total, 226 monitoring plots were installed in The Ecological Monitoring Network (EMN). Substantial improvements were made to the EMN database, including enhanced security and connections to DNR's Natural Heritage Information System. Preliminary findings using all 412 plots are available online for land managers, conservation practitioners and decision makers. |
| 94 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03c | 2020-009 | County Groundwater Atlas | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Vanessa Baratta-Person | \$1,125,000 | The Groundwater Atlas provides foundational, science-based, information for use and management of Minnesota groundwaters. The atlas is valuable to government, industry, and for research. The grant supported work on thirteen atlases and publication of county groundwater atlases (County Atlas Part B) for Cass and Becker counties. |
| 95 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03g | 2020-032 | Improving Pollinator Conservation By Revealing Habitat Needs | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Colleen Satyshur | \$500,000 | Our wild bees need nests to grow and overwinter, yet plants used in nest construction remain poorly understood. Alongside volunteers from all ecological sections of Minnesota, we gathered plant matter from bee nests for novel analysis by spectrometry (resins) or genetic sequencing (leaves) to identify the plants these pollinators use. |
| 96 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03h | 2020-003 | Bee Minnesota – Protect Our Native Bumblebees | U of MN, College of Veterinary Medicine | Declan Schroeder | \$650,000 | Our goal was to assess if Minnesota native bee pollinators were at risk of disease transmission (pathogen Spillover) from honeybees. We found that honeybees and bumblebees have distinct virus communities and while they do share the same habitat, this has not resulted in widespread transmission and infection in bumblebees. |
| 97 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03k | 2020-027 | Freshwater Sponges And AIS: Engaging Citizen Scientists | U of MN, Crookston | Venugopal Mukku | \$400,000 | The project elicited enthusiastic participation from citizen scientists. A species unreported from Minnesota was identified. Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry analysis of sponge extracts led to an intriguing discovery. 1,3,5-triphenylcyclohexane, sometimes detected in packaged foods, was detected in the extracts of about 40 sponge specimens collected from different places. |
| 98 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03l | 2020-016 | Do Beavers Buffer Against Droughts And Floods? | National Park Service, Voyageurs National Park | Steve Windels | \$168,000 | Project not initiated and funds returned to the ENRTF |
| 99 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 03o | 2020-007 | Conserving Black Terns And Forster's Terns In Minnesota | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Annie Bracey | \$198,000 | We surveyed 67 wetlands and lakes across Minnesota to document Black and Forster's Terns nesting locations. We suggest future monitoring efforts focus on a few dozen locations where these species reliably occur in high abundance to obtain a meaningful index for detecting changes in breeding numbers across the state. |

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| 100 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 04a | 2020-037 | Managing Highly Saline Waste From Municipal Water Treatment | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Natasha Wright | \$250,000 | \$250,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop a cost- and energy-efficient method of managing the concentrated saline waste from a municipal water treatment plant to increase the feasibility of using reverse osmosis for centralized water softening and sulfate removal. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. |
| 101 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 04e | 2020-055 | Quantifying New Urban Precipitation and Water Reality | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Joe Magner | \$500,000 | \$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to better guide storm water management by evaluating the groundwater and surface water interactions contributing to high water tables and damage to home basements and underground infrastructure in urban areas. |
| 102 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 04f | 2020-034 | Innovative Solution for Protecting Minnesota from PFAS Contamination | Dem-Con | Bill Keegan | \$250,000 | Given that it is unclear when the regulatory environment will be stabilized, Dem-Con is withdrawing our current project from LCCMR and returning the funds for reallocation to other projects benefiting Minnesota. |
| 103 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05a | 2020-059 | Statewide Environmental Education Via Public Television Outdoor Series | Pioneer PBS | Cindy Dorn | \$300,000 | Pioneer PBS produced 26 new episodes of Prairie Sportsman, a statewide television series designed to inspire Minnesotans to connect with the outdoors and protect our valuable natural resources. Broadcast in 2022 and 2023, the two 13-episode seasons feature a wide range of topics filmed throughout the state. |
| 93 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05c | 2020-061 | Teach Science: Schools as STEM Living Laboratories | Climate Generation | Lindsey Kirkland | \$250,000 | In schools, the environment and infrastructure surrounding students can bring science practices to life. TeachScience teachers increased their confidence in environmental education topics and practiced effective teaching strategies proven to build stronger conservation and sustainability ethic in students. Students experienced hands-on learning opportunities; connecting environmental learning opportunities to their curriculum. |
| 94 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05d | 2020-038 | Mentoring the Next Generation of Conservation Professionals | Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust Inc | Deborah Loon | \$500,000 | "Mentoring the Next Generation of Conservation Professionals" employed 16 emerging professionals in full-time developmental positions over two years on the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Participants worked alongside USFWS professionals in conservation biology, visitor services, community outreach and environmental education as they learned, built skills, and explored conservation careers. |
| 95 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05e | 2020-036 | Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Supplemental Teaching Staff | City of Austin | Luke Reese | \$225,000 | Over three years, funding from the ENRTF through the LCCMR enabled the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center to engage over 4,500 students outside Austin and provide 50% more summer programming. Curricula designed to foster environmental ethics reached many additional families, contributing to the protection of Minnesota's natural resources. |
| 96 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05g | 2020-069 | Yes! Students Take On Water Quality Challenge II | Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center | Kalley Pratt | \$199,000 | Since the start of this grant, 650 students across 35 YES Teams have completed 130 eco-action projects, impacting over 65,000 community members. Students volunteered 2,800 hours, partnering with 145 experts. Projects addressed water conservation, invasive species, and more, with over 36 workshops held statewide. |
| 97 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05h | 2020-021 | Engaging Minnesotans With Phenology: Radio, Podcasts, Citizen Science | Northern Community Radio, Inc. | Sarah Bignall | \$198,000 | The Engaging Minnesotans with Phenology project empowered over 89 educators and 2,500 students to connect deeply with nature. By airing 749 student reports and producing weekly podcasts, we inspired communities to engage with the outdoors, fostering a new generation of conservationists and strengthening Minnesotans' connection to their natural environment. |

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|-----|------------------------|----------|-------|---------------|---|--|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| 98 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05i | 2020-017 | Driving Conservation Behavior For Mussels And Water Quality | Minnesota Zoological Garden | Carol Strecker | \$191,000 | \$191,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota Zoological Garden to develop research-supported strategies to engage the public in specific conservation behaviors to improve water quality and native mussel health across the state. |
| 99 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 05j | 2020-079 | Workshops and Outreach to Protect Raptors from Lead Poisoning | U of MN, Raptor Center | Julia Ponder | \$133,000 | \$133,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Raptor Center, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources and other conservation partners, to provide hunters with outreach and workshops on alternatives to lead hunting ammunition, including copper ammunition as an alternative, and to promote voluntary selection of nontoxic ammunition to protect raptors and other wildlife in Minnesota from accidental lead poisoning caused by ingestion of ammunition fragments. |
| 100 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 06d | 2020-002 | Applying New Tools And Techniques Against Invasive Carp | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Brian Nerbonne | \$478,000 | \$478,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to apply new monitoring, outreach, and removal techniques and to continue work with commercial anglers to protect Minnesota waters from invasive carp. |
| 101 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 06f | 2020-063 | Testing Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species Removal Methods | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | Valerie Brady | \$110,000 | Dirty boat interiors can spread invasive species. The single most-effective tool to clean boat interiors was a vacuum while hand-picking debris. Clean livewells with a water-rinse or towel-wipeout followed by blowing compressed air down the drain tubing. Decoys and waders can be effectively cleaned with a water-rinse or vacuum. |
| 102 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 06g | 2020-035 | Invasive Didymosphenia Threatens North Shore Streams | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Mark Edlund | \$197,000 | Didymo or rocksnot has invaded our North Shore. Two years of sampling showed eight streams whose future recreational opportunities, stream ecologies, and local economies may be threatened. We've informed resource managers, the public, stakeholders, colleagues, even kids about the threat of this aquatic invasive species and how we will respond. |
| 103 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 07a | 2020-073 | Storing Renewable Energy in Flow-Battery For Grid Use | U of MN, Morris | Bryan Herrmann | \$250,000 | The project storing renewable energy in a rural area is demonstrating the use of advanced battery chemistries to focus use cases around load leveling, peak shaving, and market services. Expansion of the solar PV system and efforts to enhance grid stability and a foundation for renewable energy implementation in Minnesota. |
| 104 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 07b | 2020-018 | Eco-Friendly Plastics From Cloquet Pulp-Mill Lignin | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | William Tai Yin Tze | \$193,000 | Plastic pollution has a dire impact on Minnesota's water, land and many natural resources. This project contributes to better environmental stewardship by converting surplus lignin from Sappi mill in Cloquet to eco-friendly plastics. Several promising plastics formulations were developed. They can potentially replace non-biodegradable plastics such as polystyrene. |
| 105 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 07c | 2020-014 | Diverting Unsold Food From Landfills, Reducing Greenhouse Gases | Second Harvest Heartland | Lindsey Ochmanek | \$130,000 | During the grant period, we collected over 400,000 pounds of prepared and perishable foods that helped to serve our partners and diverted food waste from landfills. We enrolled 150 new donors to the program and 29 agencies that can receive donations. |
| 106 | 6/30/2025 | 2020 | 08a | 2020-050 | Pollinator Central: Habitat Improvement with Citizen Monitoring | Great River Greening | Rebecca Tucker | \$750,000 | Pollinator Central: Habitat Improvement with Citizen Monitoring established native habitat on 408 acres at 15 project sites and directly engaged 575 volunteers and 224 citizen scientists, enhancing the natural environment of both urban and rural areas as well as connecting people with plants, pollinators, and their local communities. |

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|-----|------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------|--|--|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| 107 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 08c | 2020-077 | Lignin-Coated Fertilizers for Phosphate Control | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Eric Singaas | \$250,000 | \$250,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to test a new, natural, slow-release fertilizer coating made from processed wood to decrease phosphorus runoff from farmland while also storing carbon in soils. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. |
| 108 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 08h | 2020-048 | Peatland Restoration in the Lost River State Forest | Roseau River Watershed District | Tracy Halstengard | \$135,000 | Pending |
| 109 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 08i | 2020-052 | Prescribed Burning For Brushland-dependent Species-Phase II | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Rebecca Montgomery | \$147,000 | \$147,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to compare the effects of spring, summer, and fall burns on birds and vegetation and to provide guidelines for maintaining healthy brushland habitat for a diversity of wildlife and plant species. |
| 110 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 08l | 2020-078 | Restoring Turf to Native Pollinator Gardens Across Metro | Wilderness in the City | Maryann Passe | \$197,000 | The Turf to Pollinator Gardens Project transformed six areas of turf grass into diverse pollinator plantings in parks across the metro. The gardens serve as demonstration sites to inspire park visitors to restore some of their home yards to pollinator beneficial native plantings. |
| 111 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 08m & 20b | 2020-076 | Lawns To Legumes Program Phase 2 | Board of Water and Soil Resources | Dan Shaw | \$1,040,000 | The Lawns to Legumes Program is focused on building a movement to support at-risk pollinator species. The project resulted in nearly 3000 high diversity residential plantings covering, 4.6 million square feet, and a large numbers of DIY projects across Minnesota inspired and guided by the program. |
| 112 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09a | 2020-015 | DNR Scientific and Natural Areas | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Judy Schulte | \$3,000,000 | Protected Dry Mesic Oak (Red Maple) Forest with exposed granite outcrops home to several state Species in Greatest Conservation Need and a wide variety of other species. Restored and enhanced over 1,111 acres across 58 SNAs. Co-hosted the 2022 Natural Areas Conference with over 300 attendees from 32 states. |
| 113 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09d | 2020-028 | Grants for Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Jenni Bubke | \$2,400,000 | \$2,400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds. |
| 114 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09f | 2020-042 | Minnesota Hunter Walking Trails, Public Land Recreational Access | Ruffed Grouse Society | scott johnson | \$300,000 | The Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society (RGS) successfully worked with fifteen public forest land administrators to assess needs of the existing approximately 1000 miles of hunter walking trails; secured contract and supply needs; and finalized and implemented trailhead (171 sites) and trail (75.3 miles) enhancements on 146 trails. |
| 115 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09h | 2020-072 | Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition- Phase 6 | Metropolitan Council | Jessica Lee | \$1,000,000 | The Metropolitan Council worked with Dakota County, Washington County, Ramsey County, and Three Rivers Park District to acquire land for the Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System. Over 100 acres of undeveloped land was acquired to protect high-quality natural resources in the metro area and to provide nature-based recreational opportunities. |
| 116 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09i | 2020-045 | Minnesota State Trails Development | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Kent Skaar | \$994,000 | \$994,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand high-priority recreational opportunities on Minnesota's state trails by rehabilitating, improving, and enhancing existing state trails. The high-priority trail bridges to be rehabilitated or replaced under this appropriation include, but are not limited to, those on the Taconite, Great River Ridge, and C. J. Ramstad/Northshore State Trails. |

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| 117 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09j | 2020-019 | Elm Creek Restoration - Phase IV | City of Champlin | Heather Nelson | \$500,000 | Elm Creek Restoration Phase IV was an in-stream habitat restoration project that included 5,300 linear feet of stream bank restoration upstream of Mill Pond in the City of Champlin. The project spanned from the Josephine Nunn pedestrian bridge to just passed the Elm Creek Crossings Bridge. |
| 118 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09k | 2020-060 | Superior Hiking Trail As Environmental Showcase | Superior Hiking Trail Association | Lisa Luokkala | \$450,000 | \$450,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to rebuild damaged and dangerous segments and create a new trail segment of the Superior Hiking Trail to minimize environmental impacts, make the trail safer for users, and make the trail more resilient for future use and conditions. |
| 119 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09m | 2020-068 | Whiskey Creek & Mississippi River Water Quality/Habitat/Recreation | Mississippi Headwaters Board | Tim Terrill | \$500,000 | Thirteen acres were acquired by the city of Baxter to develop a stormwater pond that will capture 400 acres of drainage from Hwy. 371 and surrounding impervious surfaces. ENRTF funds were used for acquisition and Clean Water Funds were used to build the pond. |
| 120 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09n | 2020-049 | Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (West Segment) | Otter Tail County | Kevin Fellbaum | \$2,600,000 | Otter Tail County with the help of funding provided by LCCMR were able to build a 7.02-mile multi-modal trail system that connects the city of Pelican Rapids and residents of Otter Tail County to Maplewood State Park. This infrastructure allows people to get outside and enjoy the natural environment. |
| 121 | 6/30/2024 | 2020 | 09o | 2020-011 | Crow Wing County Community Natural Area Acquisition | Crow Wing County | Tom Strack | \$400,000 | We acquired nearly 70 acres of private land adjacent to our historic fire tower county park, protecting and buffering the park from nearby development as well as providing additional area for the park to be expanded and protecting the natural resources in the area. |
| 122 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09p | 2020-057 | Rocori Trail - Phase III | Rocori Trail Construction Board | Pete Weber | \$1,200,000 | The Rocori Trail Phase III project successfully constructed a 2.3-mile-long bituminous surfaced trail segment that is safe, efficient, ADA-compliant, and scenic. This new segment completes the final connection between the cities of Richmond, Cold Spring, and Rockville, providing access to numerous natural features, attractions, and parks in the area. |
| 123 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 09u | 2020-058 | Sportsmen's Training And Developmental Learning Center | Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association | Ray Sogard | \$85,000 | The Minnesota Trappers Association used these funds to complete a site evaluation, master plan, and cost estimate for constructing and outfitting a Sportsmen's Training and Developmental Learning Center located on a 38 acre parcel owned by the Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association in Hibbing, MN. |
| 94 | 6/30/2024 | 2020 | 20a1 | 2020-070 | Unprecedented Change Threatens Minnesota's Pristine Lakes | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Mark Edlund | \$482,000 | We completed a summer of monthly water quality monitoring, a year of continuous buoy and dustfall measurements, and sediment core analysis to study recent unprecedented changes in eight wilderness lakes. We show climate-driven changes in lake behavior are leading to increased incidence of extensive harmful cyanobacterial blooms in mid-depth lakes. |
| 95 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 20a2 | 2020-084 | Wastewater Pond Optimization Implementation | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Joel Peck | \$700,000 | It is clear that sites using the Steady State Primary Method are achieving better treatment for phosphorus as compared to the baseline sites which were not interested or unable to implement this method. On average, sites using the Steady State Primary Method have 2.25 mg/L less effluent phosphorus. |
| 96 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 20a3 | 2020-083 | Minerals and Water: Demonstration of Three Sulfate Reduction Technology Applications | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Meijun Cai | \$300,000 | This project developed three sulfate reduction technologies—biological reduction, chemical precipitation, and ion exchange—through lab and field pilot testing. These methods reduce sulfate levels in industrial and municipal wastewater from 150 to over 3,000 mg/L to below 10 mg/L, protecting Minnesota's wild rice and ensuring environmental. |

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| 97 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 20a4 | 2020-086 | Chloride Pollution Reduction | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Brooke Asleson | \$500,000 | The appropriation in Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 4, article 2, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (c), Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement, in the amount of \$2,768,000, no longer needed for its original purpose is transferred as follows: (4) \$500,000 is transferred to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency for activities, training, and grants that reduce chloride pollution. Of this amount, \$250,000 is for grants for upgrading, optimizing, or replacing water softener units. Priority for grants must be given to facilities needing improvements to comply with chloride water quality standards; (d) Transfers and Availability The transfers under this subdivision are effective June 30, 2021, and the transferred amounts are available until June 30, 2023. |
| 98 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 20a5 | 2020-087 | CWD Prion Research in Soils | U of MN, College of Veterinary Medicine | Tiffany Wolf | \$336,000 | This project successfully initiated a groundbreaking line of environmental prion research at MNPRO, University of Minnesota, validating RT-QuIC for detecting chronic wasting disease prions in soils. Notably, it marked the first testing of prion contamination in Minnesota soils from Beltrami County, stemming from infected carcass materials. |
| 99 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 20c-1 | 2020-099 | Emerging Issues Reducing Turtle Mortality | Minnesota Department of Transportation | Christopher Smith | \$249,000 | This project is building small animal exclusionary fencing on a MndOT Right of Way to reduce turtle mortality caused by animal-vehicle collisions where Highway 61 crosses the Cannon River near Red Wing, MN. |
| 100 | 06/30/2024 | 2020 | 20c-2 | 2020-098 | Emerging Issues Haskell Street CE acquisition | Dakota County | Lisa West | \$104,000 | A 0.5-acre permanent natural area conservation easement was acquired by Dakota County from Haskell Street Conservation LLC on June 27, 2024, in West St. Paul that includes large oak trees and grassland areas that will be restored to permanent native vegetation and provide a desired neighborhood open space. |
| 101 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03a | 2021-032 | What's Bugging Minnesota's Insect-Eating Birds? | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | Alexis Grinde | \$199,000 | \$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute to examine the relationship between insect abundance, timing of insect availability, and breeding success for multiple bird species across land-use intensities to develop comprehensive guidelines to conserve bird and insect diversity. |
| 102 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03f | 2021-118 | Groundwater Contamination Mapping Project - Phase II | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Brittney Schuller | \$800,000 | The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) created an online portal that compiles groundwater and environmental data from various MPCA programs. The public can access the data through the Groundwater Atlas and other access points. The MPCA believes the system will be extensible to other state agencies in the future. |
| 103 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03h | 2021-140 | Redwood County Reinvest in Minnesota Easement Evaluation and Public Outreach | Redwood Soil & Water Conservation District | Nick Brozek | \$197,000 | We surveyed vegetation and pollinators across 21 RIM/CREP easements and 3 Prairie Bank Easements and analyzed change in canopy cover across 125 easements in Redwood County. Results afford state agencies, SWCDs, and landowners new insight to improve existing and new easements to provide high-quality habitat for wildlife and pollinators. |
| 104 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03i | 2021-159 | Collaborative State and Tribal Wild Rice Monitoring Program | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Josh Knopik | \$644,000 | \$644,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to work with Tribal partners to create a collaborative and comprehensive monitoring program to conserve wild-rice waters, develop remote sensing tools for statewide estimates of wild rice coverage, and collect consistent field data on wild rice health and abundance. |

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| 105 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03j | 2021-238 | Morrison County Performance Drainage and Hydrology Management II | Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District | Shannon Wettstein | \$197,000 | Morrison SWCD documented the location, elevations, and condition of culverts throughout the 28 townships in the county. This culvert data provides an understanding of drainage features for watershed analysis and protection, will prevent wetlands from being drained due to improperly placed culverts and presents opportunities for habitat and wildlife restoration. |
| 106 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03k | 2021-278 | Exploring Minnesota's Wetlands: Our Resource for Future Medicine | U of MN, Crookston | Brian Dingmann | \$210,000 | Project outcomes include cataloging bog microbial diversity across Minnesota's ecoregions, creating DNA libraries, and advancing antimicrobial research. Over 150 students were trained in molecular techniques, and their findings were presented at major conferences. This work fosters student retention in STEM fields and contributes to public health, sustainability, and best management. |
| 107 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03l | 2021-289 | A Biodiversity Checkup for Minnesota's Big Woods | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Lee Frelich | \$109,000 | In the Big Woods Region of Minnesota, species richness of vascular plants and carbon accumulation are similar in second growth and old-growth sugar maple forests, indicating that second growth forests are currently healthy. However, jumping worm invasion is an emerging threat to diversity and productivity of Big Woods forests. |
| 108 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 03m | 2021-321 | Microbiome in Raptors: A New Tool for Conservation | U of MN, Raptor Center | Julia Ponder | \$129,000 | This project (1) provided knowledge on the impacts to Minnesota's wildlife treated in rehabilitation facilities relative to antimicrobial resistance and gut microbiome changes, (2) found no increased risk of antibiotic resistance during wildlife rehabilitation treatment and (3) documented a need for standardized guidelines for antimicrobial use in wildlife rehabilitation. |
| 109 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 04b | 2021-115 | Novel Nutrient Recovery Process from Wastewater Treatment Plants | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Bo Hu | \$200,000 | A novel three-stage process improves phosphorus recovery and biogas production in wastewater treatment plants by integrating thermophilic acid digestion, phosphorus precipitation and recovery, and high-rate anaerobic digestion. This method enhances P recovery, improves bioenergy generation, and reduces operational costs, offering a more efficient alternative to conventional sludge treatment. |
| 110 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 04c | 2021-121 | Monitoring Emerging Viruses in Minnesota's Urban Water Cycles | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Sebastian Behrens | \$416,000 | We studied the longevity of viruses in wastewater and found that enveloped viruses were more rapidly degraded in wastewater than non-enveloped viruses. Degradation rates depended on virus sorption to biosolids. Sorption behavior varies as water chemistry changes during treatment. Some viruses might be released with water effluent to the environment. |
| 111 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 04f | 2021-358 | Assessing Membrane Bioreactor Wastewater Treatment Efficacy | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, St. Cloud State University | Heiko Schoenfuss | \$419,000 | By comparing traditional secondary treatment of municipal wastewater with membrane bioreactor treatment, we have determined that both are excellent options for reducing the overall contaminant load of wastewater. Membrane bioreactor treatment has the added benefit of requiring a smaller physical footprint while reducing microbial loads in the final discharged effluent. |
| 112 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 04g | 2021-364 | Evaluating Coronavirus and Other Microbiological Contamination of Drinking Water Sources from Wastewater | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Timothy LaPara | \$594,000 | \$594,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to survey public and private wells to identify sources of and evaluate solutions to microbiological contamination of drinking water sources by wastewater, including from the virus that causes COVID-19. |
| 113 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 04h | 2021-376 | St. James Pit Water-Level Control Study | City of Aurora | Lucas Heikkila | \$259,000 | Through groundwater study and modeling, our project provided vital information necessary to help understand and mitigate the effects of anticipated water level rise of the St. James Pit on water quality and quantity, as well as aquatic ecosystems and human infrastructure in the vicinity of the pit. |

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| 114 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 04i | 2021-384 | Long-Term Nitrate Mitigation by Maintaining Profitable Kernza Production | Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District | Dennis Fuchs | \$485,000 | Kernza can improve agricultural sustainability by reducing nitrate leaching into groundwater - similar to levels achieved by a native prairie - while generating nutritious grain. Monitoring Kernza fields over multiple years, provided valuable insights into the crop's long-term impact on water quality and its potential to contribute to sustainable agriculture. |
| 115 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 04j | 2021-390 | Antibiotic Resistance and Wastewater Treatment: Problems and Solutions | University of St. Thomas | Justin Donato | \$432,000 | We tracked and quantified antibiotic resistance genes (ARGs) through the municipal wastewater treatment process at full-scale treatment facilities. This analysis was conducted at multiple time points, generating a comprehensive picture of the dynamic changes in abundance and diversity of ARGs for assessment of the potential for their environmental spread. |
| 116 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 05b | 2021-131 | Pollinator Education in the Science Classroom | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Elaine Evans | \$366,000 | Pollinators in the Science Classroom trained 59 Minnesota grade 6-12 science/agriculture teachers to increase their knowledge of pollinator biology, diversity, habitat, and conservation by sharing expert-guided information and action steps. Collectively, teachers self-reported using pollinator curriculum resources and Pollinator Toolkits with over 6,300 students in 18 counties. |
| 117 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 05c | 2021-132 | Minnesota Freshwater Quest: Environmental Education for Youth | Wilderness Inquiry | Meg Krueger | \$699,000 | The Minnesota Freshwater Quest engaged more than 15,000 Minnesota youth through in-person and virtual environmental education, meeting a critical need for interactive online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the state students explored public lands and waterways, and learned to preserve ecosystems close to where they call home. |
| 118 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 05d | 2021-175 | Minnesota Master Naturalist: Nature for New Minnesotans | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Robert Blair | \$293,000 | Nature for New Minnesotans collaborated with seven English Learning Centers in the Twin Cities to help them teach their students both English and the natural history of Minnesota. To date, over 360 residents have learned more about where they live and how to talk about it. |
| 119 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 05e | 2021-186 | The Voyageurs Classroom Initiative | Voyageurs Conservancy | Christina Hausman Rhode | \$348,000 | The future of Minnesota's water, land, and wildlife depends on today's efforts to engage our communities and youth in conservation. Voyageurs Conservancy programs inspired 6,600 students with hands-on environmental education, connected 4,800 community members to nature through immersive programming, and launched 22 young professionals into conservation careers. |
| 120 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 05f | 2021-320 | Restoring Land and Reviving Heritage: Conservation Through Indigenous Culture | Belwin Conservancy | Hannah Smith | \$420,000 | We have successfully restored over 18 acres of wetlands, prairie and woodlands in Afton, MN while reconnecting over 1000 Indigenous students and families to traditional lifeways. Collaboratively, our multi-generational restoration approach has set the foundation for the next generation of Indigenous leaders in land stewardship with specific cultural focus. |
| 121 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 05g | 2021-323 | Expanding Access to Environmental Education for Underserved Communities | U of MN, Raptor Center | Victoria Hall | \$178,000 | The Raptor Center's "Expanding Access to Environmental Education for Underserved Communities" project expanded environmental literacy by delivering 303 programs to underserved schools, engaging 16,317 students with raptor-focused curricula. Through these efforts, we raised public awareness, fostering a greater understanding and appreciation for Minnesota's natural resources and wildlife conservation. |
| 122 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 06a | 2021-017 | Starch Allocation Patterns of Invasive Starry Stonewort Harvested from Lake Koronis | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State University Mankato | Ryan Wersal | \$101,000 | Starry stoneworts allocate the majority of its energy to bulbils. Bulbils are easy to transport and can be long-lived in the sediment allowing for the spread and proliferation of this species in MN lakes. Management efforts need interrupt carbohydrate movement and to limit starch accumulation in bulbils. |

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| 123 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 06c | 2021-162 | Oak Wilt Suppression at the Northern Edge - Phase II | Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District | Shannon Wettstein | \$423,000 | Morrison SWCD partnered with DNR Forest Health Specialists and local DNR Foresters to suppress oak wilt at 37 sites and 50 pockets within Morrison County through mechanical means. These sites are the northern-most occurrences of oak wilt in the state through on the edge of healthy state forest habitats. |
| 124 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 06d | 2021-164 | Biocontrol of Invasive Species in Bee Lawns and Parklands | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Vera Krischik | \$425,000 | The outcome of this project is to reduce insecticides used to manage Japanese beetle (JB) that also kill pollinators. In Northeastern states Japanese beetles are managed by the native soil-inhabiting pathogen called <i>Ovavesicula</i> . Surveys were performed to determine pathogen distribution and ways to distribute the pathogen to new sites. |
| 125 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 06f | 2021-217 | Evaluating Minnesotas Last Best Chance to Stop Carp | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Peter Sorensen | \$424,000 | This study used fish tracking to show that invasive carp typically pass Lock and Dam 5 via its lock and an engineering evaluation to demonstrate that a lock deterrent could be installed. Learning of this work, the legislature funded a carp lock deterrent to protect the river and its fisheries. |
| 126 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 07a | 2021-010 | Enhanced Thermo-Active Foundations for Space Heating in Minnesota | U of MN, Duluth | Alison Hoxie | \$312,000 | \$312,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Duluth, to design and optimize cost-competitive thermally enhanced heat exchanger systems for use in building foundations to improve energy efficiency and conservation of natural resources in Minnesota's cold climate. |
| 127 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 07c | 2021-191 | Agrivoltaics to Improve the Environment and Farm Resiliency | U of MN, WCROC | Bradley Heins | \$646,000 | \$646,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, West Central Research and Outreach Center, Morris, to model and evaluate alternative solar energy system designs to maximize energy production while providing other benefits to cattle and farmers. |
| 128 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 07d | 2021-294 | Behavioral Response of Bald Eagles to Acoustic Stimuli | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Christopher Feist | \$261,000 | \$261,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to protect wildlife by designing and implementing an acoustic deterrence protocol to discourage bald eagles from entering hazardous air space near wind energy installations. |
| 129 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 07e | 2021-344 | Create Jobs Statewide by Diverting Materials from Landfills | Better Futures Minnesota | Jason Allen | \$2,244,000 | The aim of the project was to minimize the effects of human activity that might alter Minnesota's ecological balance by diverting reusable materials from the waste stream. The partners documented the reclaimed materials and measured Green House Gas emissions sequestered along with the environmental impact and benefits of the project. |
| 130 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 07f | 2021-402 | Strengthening Minnesota's Reuse Economy to Conserve Natural Resources | Reuse Minnesota | Emily Barker | \$334,000 | A large portfolio of work was completed including hiring two staff, producing two conferences, an impact report of reuse, a business needs assessment, the creation of a resale business training, a survey of secondhand shoppers, a rebate for repair program, and ongoing support for reuse and related benefits in Minnesota. |
| 95 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08c | 2021-058 | Pollinator Central II: Habitat Improvement With Community Monitoring | Great River Greening | Rebecca Tucker | \$631,000 | Pollinator Central II: Habitat Improvement with Community Monitoring established native habitat on 116 acres at 10 project sites and directly engaged 883 volunteers and 122 citizen scientists, enhancing the natural environment of both urban and rural areas as well as connecting people with plants, pollinators, and their local communities. |
| 96 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08d | 2021-062 | Preserving Minnesota's Only Ball Cactus Population | U of MN, Landscape Arboretum | David Remucal | \$103,000 | This first phase of work protecting the only population of ball cactus in Minnesota has been a resounding success, with almost 500 plants in three new locations planted over 2022 and 2023 and nearly 80% first-year survival for individuals planted in 2022. This success will continue to be reinforced. |
| 97 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08e | 2021-065 | Phase 2 - Prescribed-Fire Management For Roadside Prairies | Minnesota Department of Transportation | Nathan Johnson | \$217,000 | This project allowed MnDOT to better protect biodiversity and enhance pollinator habitat by increasing the capacity to carry out roadside prescribed burns. |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
Projects completing in FY2024
Data as of 1/16/25

| | Appropriation End Date | RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title w/link to Final Report | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated | Soundbite of Outcomes |
|-----|------------------------|----------|-------|---------------|---|--|------------------|---------------------|---|
| 96 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08g | 2021-097 | Minnesota Green Schoolyards | The Trust for Public Land | Anna Callahan | \$250,000 | Trust for Public Land piloted the Minnesota Community Schoolyards program, including a demonstration project at Jefferson Elementary in Faribault, MN. This showed a replicable model for transforming underutilized schoolyards into restored native habitat, expanded tree canopy, and enhanced outdoor educational spaces; and engaging the next generation of environmental champions. |
| 97 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08h | 2021-137 | Plumbing the Muddy Depths of Superior Hiking Trail | Superior Hiking Trail Association | Lisa Luukkala | \$187,000 | \$187,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to install and implement water management practices to prevent erosion and improve access to the Superior Hiking Trail. |
| 98 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08i | 2021-212 | Reducing Plastic Pollution with Biodegradable Erosion Control Products | Agricultural Utilization Research Institute | Matthew Leiphon | \$200,000 | Erosion control products are important in protecting Minnesota's soil and water during construction, but they often contain plastic that can pollute the environment. Hemp fiber offers a locally grown, renewable, biodegradable alternative. Effective hemp-based prototypes successfully developed and tested in Minnesota offer a path toward more sustainable erosion control options. |
| 99 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08k | 2021-229 | Woodcrest Trail Expansion | Foundation for Healthcare Continuums, Woodcrest of Country Manor | Kevin Harguth | \$16,000 | Existing trails on the property were extended into undeveloped areas to allow community members to safely walk the trails and gain an appreciation for native plants and wildlife of this local area. |
| 100 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08l | 2021-231 | Urban Pollinator and Native American Cultural Site Restoration | Friends of the Mississippi River | Alex Roth | \$213,000 | This project exceeded our original acreage goal of 62 and ultimately enhanced 64 acres of grassland and forest habitat for pollinators and wildlife, as well as created management plans to guide longterm maintenance at Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary in St. Paul and Applewood and Carver Additional Preserves in Maplewood. |
| 101 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08n | 2021-308 | Creating Cost-Effective Forage and Management Actions for Pollinators | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Daniel Cariveau | \$198,000 | We examined how seed mix design and land management influenced floral resources for native bees. Our findings will help reduce the cost of pollinator seed mixes. We also developed a seed mix tool enabling land managers in Minnesota to input seed mixes to maximize forage for native bees. |
| 102 | 06/30/2023 | 2021 | 08o | 2021-322 | Shoreline Stabilization, Fishing, and ADA Improvements at Silverwood Park | Three Rivers Park District | Jonathan Vlaming | \$200,000 | This project serves as a model on how to improve water quality through shoreline stabilization in combination with shoreline fishing and ADA fishing access improvements on the island in Silver Lake within Silverwood Park, St. Anthony MN. |
| 103 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08p | 2021-337 | Lawns to Legumes Program - Phase II | Board of Water and Soil Resources | Dan Shaw | \$993,000 | The Lawns to Legumes Program is focused on building a movement to support at-risk pollinator species. The project resulted in nearly 3000 high diversity residential plantings covering, 4.6 million square feet, and a large numbers of DIY projects across Minnesota inspired and guided by the program. |
| 104 | 06/30/2023 | 2021 | 08q | 2021-375 | Reintroducing Bison to Spring Lake Park Reserve | Dakota County | Tom Lewanski | \$560,000 | This project will increase biodiversity, landscape heterogeneity, and ecosystem resiliency through the reintroduction of the primary historic prairie grazer in Minnesota, the American plains bison (Bison bison). By introducing bison, the 150 acres of prairie will become more diverse and will likely enhance ecosystem function and overall stability. |
| 105 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 08r | 2021-377 | Elm Creek Habitat Restoration Final Phase | City of Champlin | Heather Nelson | \$521,000 | Elm Creek Restoration Final Phase was an in-stream habitat restoration project that included 2,500 linear feet of stream bank restoration downstream of Hayden Lake and upstream of Mill Pond in the City of Champlin. The project spanned from just upstream of the Elm Creek Crossing bridge to Hayden Lake. |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
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Data as of 1/16/25

| | Appropriation End Date | RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title w/link to Final Report | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated | Soundbite of Outcomes |
|-----|------------------------|----------|-------|---------------|--|---|-------------------|---------------------|--|
| 106 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09a | 2021-012 | Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (McDonald Segment) | Otter Tail County | Kevin Fellbaum | \$2,245,000 | Otter Tail County with the help of the funding provided by LCCMR was able to build a 5.760-mile multi-modal trail system that serves as the missing connection between two trail segments connecting the City of Perham and Maplewood State Park. |
| 107 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09b | 2021-028 | Mesabi Trail CsaH 88 to Ely | St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority | Robert Manzoline | \$1,650,000 | The County State Aid Highway 88 to Ely Mesabi Trail Segment has been completed. This new paved segment is approximately 2.8 miles-long and connects to the existing Mesabi Trail from the West and traverses Easterly to the city of Ely, MN. |
| 108 | 06/30/2023 | 2021 | 09c | 2021-029 | Southwest Minnesota Single-Track Trail | Jackson County | Jeremy Bartosh | \$190,000 | A single track mountain bike trails have been created at Belmont Park just North of Jackson, MN! The grant allowed us to build 4-1/2 miles of natural surface biking trails in the unique terrain setting near the Des Moines River. Bikers riding the trails are pumped and thankful!! |
| 109 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09d | 2021-043 | Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Jenni Bubke | \$2,250,000 | \$2,250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit and rank applications for and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. Priority must be given to funding projects in the metropolitan area or in other areas of southern Minnesota. For purposes of this paragraph, southern Minnesota is defined as the area of the state south of and including St. Cloud. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds. |
| 110 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09f | 2021-069 | Sauk Rapids Lions Park Riverfront Improvements | City of Sauk Rapids | Todd Schultz | \$463,000 | This project has occurred on the banks of the Mississippi River in Sauk Rapids. This project enhanced access and expanded users experience in the park while protecting natural features. All of the elements added or improved with the LCCMR grant have both improved the quality/usage of this park. |
| 111 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09g | 2021-092 | City of Brainerd - Mississippi Landing Trailhead | City of Brainerd | Jessie Dehn | \$2,850,000 | The completed park project includes implementation of trailhead, canoe/kayak launch, river overlook, natural playscape, and other facilities, serve as a connection point for the public to trails and the Mississippi River while preserving and enhancing natural habitats through stormwater treatment, pollinator-friendly plantings and landscapes, and riverbank restoration. |
| 112 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09i | 2021-109 | Moose Lake - Trunk Highway 73 Trail | City of Moose Lake | Ellissa Owens | \$330,000 | The completion of this project has provided tourists and residents access to additional non-motorized trails in northern Minnesota. It connects Willard Munger Trailhead Facilities, Moose Lake State Park, Moosehorn River water access and Moose Lake Campground while allowing access to trails from Duluth to Hinckley. |
| 113 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09k | 2021-154 | Precision Acquisition For Restoration, Groundwater Recharge, and Habitat | Shell Rock River Watershed District | Courtney Phillips | \$467,000 | The Shell Rock River Watershed District purchased a perpetual conservation easement on 42 acres of previous agricultural ground. Restoration efforts then included wetland establishment of roughly 20 acres for groundwater recharge and approximately 22 acres of natives were planted for pollinator habitat. |
| 114 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09l | 2021-222 | Lake Brophy Single-Track Trail Expansion | Douglas County Parks | Brad Bonk | \$100,000 | Outcomes of the project were a return trail for the jump line area, a yet to be named black downhill trail on the east side of the park, and the blue trail named the Brand Bomber. The trails are typically open April - November during daylight hours. |

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| | Appropriation End Date | RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title w/link to Final Report | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated | Soundbite of Outcomes |
|-----|------------------------|----------|-------|---------------|---|--|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| 115 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09m | 2021-325 | Veterans On The Lake | Veterans on the Lake | Eric Mayranen | \$553,000 | Activity 1. Construction Engineering - The Cabin engineering and blueprints were completed in the summer of 2021. Activity 2. Paving project complete summer of 2022, Trails project completed the Spring of 2022. Activity 3 Cabin renovation was completed the fall and winter of 2022 and spring on 2023. |
| 116 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09o | 2021-330 | Brookston Campground, Boat Launch, and Outdoor Recreational Facility Planning | City of Brookston | Kaycee Melin | \$425,000 | \$425,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Brookston to design a campground, boat launch, and outdoor recreation area on the banks of the St. Louis River in northeastern Minnesota. A fiscal agent must be approved in the work plan before any trust fund dollars are spent. |
| 117 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09p | 2021-332 | Moose and Seven Beaver Multiuse Trails Upgrade | City of Hoyt Lakes, | Becky Lammi | \$900,000 | \$900,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Hoyt Lakes, in partnership with the Ranger Snowmobile and ATV Club, to design and construct upgrades and extensions to the Moose and Seven Beaver multiuse trails to enhance access for recreation use and connect to regional trails. |
| 118 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09q | 2021-338 | Above the Falls Regional Park Acquisition | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, | Adam Arvidson | \$950,000 | The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board was unable to successfully negotiate with owners of either of the two candidate parcels and is therefore unable to expend LCCMR funds for land acquisition. Both parcels changed hands during the life of the grant, which complicated negotiations. |
| 119 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09r | 2021-339 | Silver Lake Trail Improvement Project | City of Virginia, | Britt See-Benes | \$1,071,000 | The completion of the Silver Lake Trail provides greater accessibility to outdoor activities, within a city setting, that can be enjoyed by all residents and visitors. The completed trail provides a non-motorized alternative for access to a wide variety of locations within the city to promote active, healthy living. |
| 120 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 09v | 2021-380 | Accessible Fishing Piers and Shore Fishing Areas | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Nancy Stewart | \$340,000 | Seven new fishing piers and a two new shore fishing stations will be available to anglers thanks to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. All projects are accessible and improve fishing opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. |
| 97 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 10c-1 | 2021-468 | Emerging Issues Benjamin CE Acquisition | Dakota County, | Lisa West | \$185,000 | A 31.7-acre permanent natural area conservation easement was acquired by Dakota County from the Benjamins on June 27, 2024, in Nininger Township, that includes a five-acre restored native prairie, 23 additional acres that will be restored to native prairie, and about nine wooded acres that will also be restored. |
| 98 | 06/30/2024 | 2021 | 19 | 2021-463 | Forest Health: Development and Demonstration of Biochar Opportunities | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | Eric Singsaas | \$340,000 | This project will provide a foundation for new types of products made from Minnesota's natural resources, which have a high fixed carbon content to store atmospheric carbon dioxide in soils or are used in environmentally relevant industries, such as in soil and water remediation and energy systems. This equipment will be used by NRRRI and University of Minnesota researchers to support the R&D needed to deploy these materials with the help of industry, agency, and NGO partnerships. |
| 99 | 06/30/2024 | 2022 | 08f | 2022-188 | PFAS Fungal-Wood Chip Filtering System | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Jiwei Zhang | \$189,000 | \$189,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify, develop, and field-test various types of waste wood chips and fungi to sequester and degrade PFAS leachate from contaminated waste sites. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. |

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| | Appropriation End Date | RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title w/link to Final Report | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated | Soundbite of Outcomes |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 100 | 06/30/2024 | 2022 | 09i | 2022-008 | The Missing Link: Gull Lake Trail, Fairview Township | Fairview Township | Marla Yoho | \$1,394,000 | This project created 3.1 miles of safe access to the natural and scenic environment and an easy way to introduce activity to every age and ability. Using the road right-of-way reduced environmental impact. Additionally, environmentally friendly alternative transportation, such as e-bikes, use it to access local attractions and businesses. |
| 101 | 06/30/2025 | 2022 | 10b | 2022-296 | Leaded Gasoline Contamination Analysis | City of Paynesville | Tariq Al-Rifai | \$200,000 | The basis of this report was to determine if the actions and remedies applied by the MPCA to four contaminated sites in Alexandria, Blaine, Foley and Paynesville were adequate to address the issues and give further recommendations if needed. |
| 102 | 06/30/2024 | 2022 | 11 | 2022-121 | ML 2022 Contract Agreement Reimbursement | MN DNR, Grants Unit | Katherine Sherman-Hoehn | \$210,000 | Activities included management of 155 active grants, pre-award financial review and monitoring activities on selected projects in coordination with LCCMR staff, and execution of COVID-related amendments to prior-year projects. |

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Research projects completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024

Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 2015 | 06a | n/a | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Venette | \$ 5,000,000 |
| 2015 | 06a-01 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-01: Garlic Mustard Biocontrol: Ecological Host Range of Biocontrol Agents</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Roger Becker</i> | <i>\$ 600,000</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-02 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-02: Mountain Pine Beetle, Phase II: Protecting Minnesota</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Brian Aukema</i> | <i>\$ 444,982</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-03 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-03: Biological Control of the Soybean Aphid by Aphelinus Certus</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>George Heimpel</i> | <i>\$ 479,859</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-04 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-04: Decreasing Environmental Impacts of Soybean Aphid Management</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Robert Koch</i> | <i>\$ 570,000</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-05 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-05: Optimizing Tree Injections against Emerald Ash Borer</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Brian Aukema</i> | <i>\$ 318,927</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-06 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-06: Distribution and Traits of the Fungal Pathogen Fusarium Virguliforme that Influence Current and Future Risk to Soybean and Other Legumes in Minnesota</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Dean Malvick and Kathryn Bushley</i> | <i>\$ 383,651</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-07 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-07: Tools to Distinguish Native from Exotic Reed Canary Grass</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Neil O. Anderson</i> | <i>\$ 263,273</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-08 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-08: Accurate Detection and Integrated Treatment of Oak Wilt (Ceratocystis fagacearum) in Minnesota</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Jeannine Cavender-Bares</i> | <i>\$ 356,382</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-09 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-09: Characterizing Dispersal of Larval Gypsy Moth to Improve Quarantine Regulations</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Brian Aukema</i> | <i>\$ 35,000</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-10 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-10: Management Strategies for the Invasive Spotted Wing Drosophila</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Mary Rogers</i> | <i>\$ 477,541</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-11 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-11: Will Future Weather Favor Minnesota's Woody Invaders?</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Peter Reich</i> | <i>\$ 526,000</i> |
| 2015 | 06a-12 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-12: Developing Robust Identification Assays for Amaranthus Palmeri in Seed Mixture</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Don Wyse</i> | <i>\$ 208,230</i> |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

Research projects completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024

Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|---|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 2015 | 06a-13 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-13: Terrestrial Invasive Species Prioritization</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Amy Morey</i> | \$ 71,461 |
| 2015 | 06a-14 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-14: Improved Detection and Future Management of Leafy Spurge and Common Tansy using Remote Sensing, Mechanistic Species Distribution Models, and Landscape Genomics</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>David Moller and Ryan Briscoe Runquist</i> | \$ 70,812 |
| 2015 | 06a-16 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-16: Effects of Puccinia species complex on common buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica)</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Pablo Olivera Firpo</i> | \$ 26,908 |
| 2015 | 06a-17 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-17: Studies of entomopathogenic fungi for effective biocontrol of the emerald ash borer, Phase 2</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Robert Blanchette</i> | \$ 33,000 |
| 2015 | 06a-18 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-18: Incorporating adaptation into forecasts of range shifts with climate change</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Ryan Briscoe Runquist</i> | \$ 33,000 |
| 2015 | 06a-19 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-19: Genetic control of invasive insect species: Phase 3</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Michael Smanski</i> | \$ 50,000 |
| 2015 | 06a-20 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-20: Making revegetation as part of buckthorn management feasible in Minnesota</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Michael Schuster</i> | \$ 40,000 |
| 2016 | 06a | n/a | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center - Phase III | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Venette | \$ 3,750,000 |
| 2016 | 06a-01 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-01: Fungi in Ash Trees: Towards Protecting Trees from Emerald Ash</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Robert Blanchette</i> | \$ 500,000 |
| 2016 | 06a-02 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-02: Understanding the Benefits and Limitations of using Goats for Invasive Plant Control</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Tiffany Wolf</i> | \$ 410,267 |
| 2016 | 06a-03 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-03: Genetic Control of Invasive Insect Species: Phase I</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Michael Smanski</i> | \$ 295,717 |
| 2016 | 06a-04 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-04: Dwarf Mistletoe Detection and Management in Minnesota</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Marcella Windmuller-Campione</i> | \$ 455,606 |

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Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|--|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 2016 | 06a-05 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-05: Developing Spatially Explicit Bio-economic Dispersal Model to Aid with the Management of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Senait Senay</i> | \$ 329,304 |
| 2016 | 06a-06 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-06: Management of Invasive Knotweeds</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Alan Smith</i> | \$ 476,723 |
| 2016 | 06a-07 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-07: Building Mechanistic and Process based Species Distribution Models for Common Tansy and Leafy Spurge: from Landscapes to Genomes</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>David Moller and Ryan Briscoe Runquist</i> | \$ 351,188 |
| 2016 | 06a-08 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-08: Using Plants to Control Buckthorn: an Expanded Approach</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Peter Reich</i> | \$ 560,000 |
| 2016 | 06a-09 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-09: Genetic control of invasive insects, Phase 2</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Michael Smanski</i> | \$ 55,100 |
| 2016 | 06a-10 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-10: Novel Diagnostic Tools for Rapid and Early Detection of Oak Wilt</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Abdennour Abbas</i> | \$ 170,637 |
| 2018 | 06a | n/a | Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center - Phase 4 | U of MN - MITPPC | Robert Venette | \$ 3,500,000 |
| 2019 | 06a-21.2 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-21.2: Field Validation of Multibeam Sonar Zebra Mussel Detection (Year 2)</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Jessica Kozarek</i> | \$ 228,764 |
| 2019 | 06a-22.2 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-22.2: Assessing and Refining Copper-Based Treatment to Suppress Zebra Mussel populations</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Diane Waller</i> | \$ 249,056 |
| 2019 | 06a-23.2 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-23.2: AIS and Tourism - A Socio-Economic Assessment</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Amit Pradhananga</i> | \$ 249,088 |
| 2019 | 06a-25.2 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-25.2: Examining Motivations for Illegal Baitfish Release</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Nicholas Phelps</i> | \$ 74,636 |
| 2019 | 06a-28.2 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-28.2: Enzyme-Based Coatings to Suppress Priority AIS</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Mikael Elias</i> | \$ 187,480 |
| 2019 | 06a-33 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-33: Optimizing eDNA Monitoring for Multiple Aquatic Invasive Species</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Josh Dumke</i> | \$ 436,331 |

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Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|----------|--------|---------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 2019 | 06a-35 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-35: Genetic Biocontrol of Invasive Species - Understanding Attitudes and Risk Perceptions</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>David Fulton</i> | \$ 209,313 |
| 2019 | 06a-36 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-37: RNA-Interference Screens for Zebra Mussel Biocontrol Target Genes</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Daryl Gohl</i> | \$ 255,979 |
| 2019 | 06a-37 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-37: Improving the Efficiency of Watercraft Inspections through Coordination and Cooperation</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Amy Kinsley</i> | \$ 198,241 |
| 2019 | 06a-38 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-38: Evaluating Native Phragmites as a Wastewater Treatment Alternative</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Daniel Larkin</i> | \$ 355,122 |
| 2019 | 06a-39 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-39: Increasing Effectiveness of Bigheaded Carp Deterrents by Carbon Dioxide Integration</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Allen Mensinger</i> | \$ 340,327 |
| 2019 | 06a-40 | ---- | <i>Subproject 06a-40: Enhancing Habitat and Diversity in Cattail-Dominated Shorelines</i> | <i>U of MN - MAISRC</i> | <i>Amy Schrank</i> | \$ 338,066 |
| 2019 | 03d | n/a | Minnesota Trumpeter Swan Migration Ecology and Conservation | U of MN | David Andersen | \$ 300,000 |
| 2019 | 03e | n/a | Spruce Grouse as Indicators for Boreal Forest Connectivity | U of MN - Raptor Center | Julia Ponder | \$ 350,000 |
| 2019 | 03f | n/a | Understanding Brainworm Transmission to Find Solutions for Minnesota Moose Decline | U of MN | Tiffany Wolf | \$ 400,000 |
| 2019 | 03l | n/a | Mapping Aquatic Habitats for Moose | U of MN | Joseph Bump | \$ 199,000 |
| 2019 | 04a | n/a | Determining Influence of Insecticides on Algal Blooms | U of MN | William Arnold | \$ 350,000 |
| 2019 | 04e | n/a | Improving Nitrogen Removal in Greater Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Ponds | U of MN | Paige Novak | \$ 325,000 |
| 2019 | 04f | n/a | Improving Drinking Water for Minnesotans through Pollution Prevention | U of MN | Raymond Hozalski | \$ 345,000 |

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Research projects completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024

Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|----------|--------|---------------|--|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 2019 | 04g | n/a | Protecting Minnesota Waters by Removing Contaminants from Wastewater | U of MN | Matt Simcik | \$ 250,000 |
| 2019 | 04h | n/a | Reducing Municipal Wastewater Mercury Pollution to Lake Superior | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Scott Kyser | \$ 250,000 |
| 2019 | 04j | n/a | Transformation of Plastic Waste into Valued Resource | U of MN | Brett Barney | \$ 225,000 |
| 2019 | 04l | n/a | Farm-Ready Cover Crops for Protecting Water Quality | Central Lakes College - Ag and Energy Ctr | Keith Olander | \$ 741,000 |
| 2019 | 06a | n/a | Building Knowledge and Capacity to Solve AIS Problems | U of MN - MAISRC | Nicholas Phelps | \$ 4,000,000 |
| 2018 | 06a-01 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-01: Early Detection of Invasive Tree Pathogens Using Molecular Tools for Prevention and to Mitigate Damage</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Robert Blanchette</i> | <i>\$ 383,865</i> |
| 2018 | 06a-02 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-02: Accurate Detection of Oak Wilt Disease at Landscape Scales for Enhanced Forest Management</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Jeannine Cavendar-Bares</i> | <i>\$ 301,941</i> |
| 2018 | 06a-03 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-03: Early Detection of Invasive Tree Pathogens Using Molecular Tools for Prevention and to Mitigate Damage</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Benjamin Held</i> | <i>\$ 233,924</i> |
| 2018 | 06a-04 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-04: Detection and Monitoring of Invasive Phragmites</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Joe Knight</i> | <i>\$ 203,781</i> |
| 2018 | 06a-05 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-05: Improve Invasive Plant Treatment Efficacy Using Climate Based Phenology Models</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Rebecca Montgomery</i> | <i>\$ 346,211</i> |
| 2018 | 06a-06 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-06: Biology and Biocontrol Potential of a Rust Fungus Infecting Phalaris Arundinacea and Frangula Alnus</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Pablo Olivera Firpo</i> | <i>\$ 247,507</i> |
| 2018 | 06a-07 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-07: Managing Buckthorn with Trees: Diversity, Density, and Practicality</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Peter Reich</i> | <i>\$ 499,734</i> |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

Research projects completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024

Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|---|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2018 | 06a-08 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-08: Integrated Emerald Ash Borer Management: Testing a Novel Approach to Assess Stakeholder Perceptions</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Ingrid Schneider</i> | \$ 436,072 |
| 2018 | 06a-09 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-09: Distribution, Risks, and Management of Phyllachora Maydis, the Causal Agent of Corn Tar Spot</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Dean Malvick</i> | \$ 176,618 |
| 2018 | 06a-10 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-10: Detecting Hybrid Barberry and Investigating its Role in Rust Epidemiology</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Pablo Olivera Firpo</i> | \$ 206,783 |
| 2018 | 06a-11 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-11: Confronting Soybean Aphid with Advanced Plant Breeding and Remote Sensing</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Robert Koch</i> | \$ 292,492 |
| 2018 | 06a-12 | --- | <i>Subproject 06a-12: Expanding and Strengthening the Prioritization of Terrestrial Invasive Species in Minnesota</i> | <i>U of MN - MITPPC</i> | <i>Amy Morey</i> | \$ 151,601 |
| 2019 | 07c | n/a | Sustainable Solar Energy from Agricultural Plant By-Products | U of MN - Morris | Ted Pappenfus | \$ 185,000 |
| 2019 | 08a | n/a | Saving Endangered Pollinators through Data-Driven Prairie Restoration | Minnesota Zoo | Erik Runquist | \$ 800,000 |
| 2019 | 08d | n/a | Conserving and Monitoring of Minnesota's Rare Arctic Plants | U of MN - Duluth | Briana Gross | \$ 135,000 |
| 2020 | 03h | 2020-003 | Bee Minnesota – Protect Our Native Bumblebees | U of MN, College of Veterinary Medicine | Declan Schroeder | \$ 650,000 |
| 2020 | 03k | 2020-027 | Freshwater Sponges And AIS: Engaging Citizen Scientists | U of MN, Crookston | Venugopal Mukku | \$ 400,000 |
| 2020 | 03l | 2020-016 | Do Beavers Buffer Against Droughts And Floods? | National Park Service, Voyageurs National Park | Steve Windels | \$ 168,000 |
| 2020 | 03o | 2020-007 | Conserving Black Terns And Forster's Terns In Minnesota | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Annie Bracey | \$ 198,000 |
| 2020 | 04a | 2020-037 | Managing Highly Saline Waste From Municipal Water Treatment | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Natasha Wright | \$ 250,000 |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

Research projects completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024

Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|----------|-------|---------------|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2020 | 04d | 2020-013 | Developing Strategies To Manage PFAS In Land-Applied Biosolids | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Summer Streets | \$ 1,404,000 |
| 2020 | 04e | 2020-055 | Quantifying New Urban Precipitation and Water Reality | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Joe Magner | \$ 500,000 |
| 2020 | 04f | 2020-034 | Innovative Solution for Protecting Minnesota from PFAS Contamination | Dem-Con | Bill Keegan | \$ 250,000 |
| 2020 | 06f | 2020-063 | Testing Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species Removal Methods | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Valerie Brady | \$ 110,000 |
| 2020 | 06g | 2020-035 | Invasive Didymosphenia Threatens North Shore Streams | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Mark Edlund | \$ 197,000 |
| 2020 | 07a | 2020-073 | Storing Renewable Energy In Flow-Battery For Grid Use | U of MN, Morris | Bryan Herrmann | \$ 250,000 |
| 2020 | 07b | 2020-018 | Eco-Friendly Plastics From Cloquet Pulp-Mill Lignin | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | William Tai Yin Tze | \$ 193,000 |
| 2020 | 08c | 2020-077 | Lignin-Coated Fertilizers for Phosphate Control | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Eric Singaas | \$ 250,000 |
| 2020 | 08i | 2020-052 | Prescribed Burning For Brushland-dependent Species-Phase II | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Rebecca Montgomery | \$ 147,000 |
| 2020 | 20a1 | 2020-070 | Unprecedented Change Threatens Minnesota's Pristine Lakes | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Mark Edlund | \$ 482,000 |
| 2021 | 03a | 2021-032 | What's Bugging Minnesota's Insect-Eating Birds? | U of MN, Duluth - NRRI | Alexis Grinde | \$ 199,000 |
| 2021 | 03k | 2021-278 | Exploring Minnesota's Wetlands: Our Resource for Future Medicine | U of MN, Crookston | Brian Dingmann | \$ 210,000 |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

Research projects completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024

Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|----------|-------|---------------|--|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2021 | 03l | 2021-289 | A Biodiversity Checkup for Minnesota's Big Woods | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Lee Frelich | \$ 109,000 |
| 2021 | 03m | 2021-321 | Microbiome in Raptors: A New Tool for Conservation | U of MN, Raptor Center | Julia Ponder | \$ 129,000 |
| 2021 | 04b | 2021-115 | Novel Nutrient Recovery Process from Wastewater Treatment Plants | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Bo Hu | \$ 200,000 |
| 2021 | 04c | 2021-121 | Monitoring Emerging Viruses in Minnesota's Urban Water Cycles | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Sebastian Behrens | \$ 416,000 |
| 2021 | 04f | 2021-358 | Assessing Membrane Bioreactor Wastewater Treatment Efficacy | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, St. Cloud State University | Heiko Schoenfuss | \$ 419,000 |
| 2021 | 04g | 2021-364 | Evaluating Coronavirus and Other Microbiological Contamination of Drinking Water Sources from Wastewater | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Timothy LaPara | \$ 594,000 |
| 2021 | 04j | 2021-390 | Antibiotic Resistance and Wastewater Treatment: Problems and Solutions | University of St. Thomas, | Justin Donato | \$ 432,000 |
| 2021 | 06a | 2021-017 | Starch Allocation Patterns of Invasive Starry Stonewort Harvested from Lake Koronis | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State University Mankato | Ryan Wersal | \$ 101,000 |
| 2021 | 06d | 2021-164 | Biocontrol of Invasive Species in Bee Lawns and Parklands | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Vera Krischik | \$ 425,000 |
| 2021 | 06f | 2021-217 | Evaluating Minnesotas Last Best Chance to Stop Carp | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Peter Sorensen | \$ 424,000 |
| 2021 | 07a | 2021-010 | Enhanced Thermo-Active Foundations for Space Heating in Minnesota | U of MN, Duluth | Alison Hoxie | \$ 312,000 |

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)

Research projects completed between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2024

Outcome summaries are included in Section III. Completed Research Projects

| RFP Year | Subd. | Proposal ID # | Project Title | Organization | Project Manager | Amount Appropriated |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|--|--|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2021 | 07c | 2021-191 | Agrivoltaics to Improve the Environment and Farm Resiliency | U of MN, WCROC | Bradley Heins | \$ 646,000 |
| 2021 | 07d | 2021-294 | Behavioral Response of Bald Eagles to Acoustic Stimuli | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Christopher Feist | \$ 261,000 |
| 2021 | 08i | 2021-212 | Reducing Plastic Pollution with Biodegradable Erosion Control Products | Agricultural Utilization Research Institute | Matthew Leiphon | \$ 200,000 |
| 2021 | 08n | 2021-308 | Creating Cost-Effective Forage and Management Actions for Pollinators | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Daniel Cariveau | \$ 198,000 |
| 2022 | 08f | 2022-188 | PFAS Fungal-Wood Chip Filtering System | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Jiwei Zhang | \$ 189,000 |

IV. Agency Implementation

“recommendations to implement successful projects and programs into a state agency’s standard operations;”

No recommendations are being advanced at this time.

V. Recommendations

“to the extent known by the commission, descriptions of the projects anticipated to be supported by the trust fund during the next biennium;”

As of November 2024, the Minnesota Constitution states that, “the amount appropriated each year of a biennium....may be up to 7% of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium.” The LCCMR recommends and administers funding for 5.5% of the value of the fund. The value of the ENRTF on June 30, 2024, was \$1,878,656,000. Therefore, \$103,326,000 is available for expenditure in each year of the FY26-27 biennium from the ENRTF for a biennial total of \$206,652,000.

The LCCMR is making a funding recommendation to the 2025 Legislature totaling \$103,326,000 (FY26) from the ENRTF. \$103,326,000 (FY27) would be available for recommendation by the LCCMR to the 2026 Legislature. As stated in M.S. 116P, the LCCMR may make an annual or a biennial funding recommendation.

The list of FY26 recommended appropriations totaling \$103,326,000 from the ENRTF is provided in “Section V. Recommendations.” The recommendations were adopted in bill form by the LCCMR on December 11, 2024.

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
Summary of LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026**

Process for M.L. 2025

For FY 2026 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026), approximately \$103 million is available for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).

As of July 31, 2024, the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) has selected 124 projects totaling \$103,326,000 to recommend to the 2025 Minnesota Legislature for funding from the ENRTF. In response to LCCMR's 2025 Request for Proposal (RFP), 214 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$183 million were received and considered through a competitive, multi-stage evaluation. The following recommendations are a result of the LCCMR's 2025 RFP process, and range from funding the full proposal and dollar amount requested to partial funding for specific proposal elements.

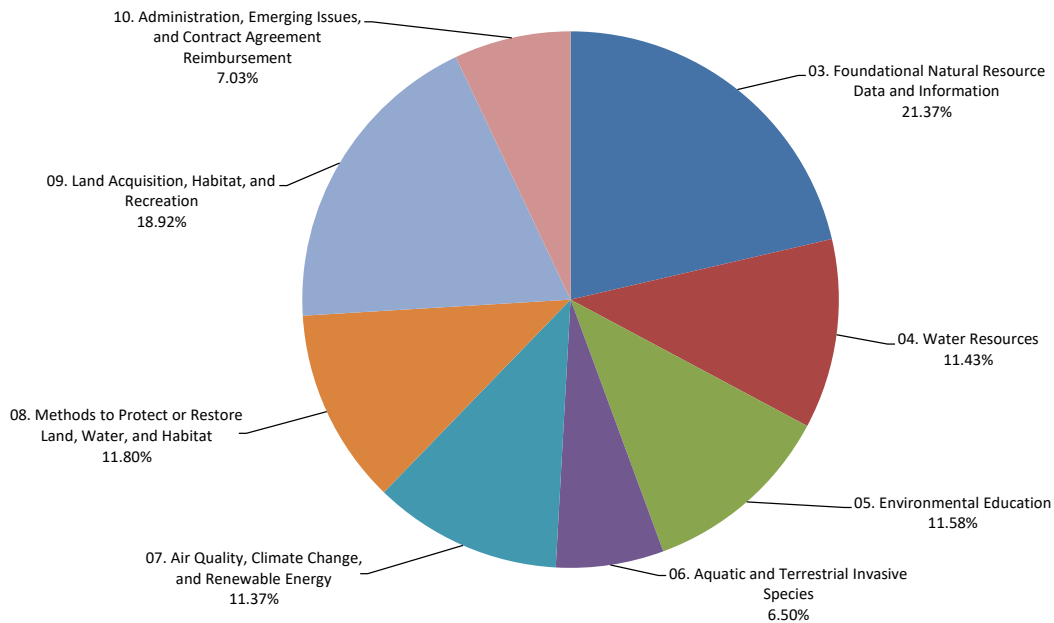
Check the LCCMR meeting schedule for the most up-to-date information and important process dates.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| January 3, 2024 | RFP Issued |
| March 27, 2024 | RFP Proposal Deadline (214 proposals received totaling ~\$183 million) |
| June 10, 2024 | Selection of Proposals for Further Consideration and Presentations |
| June 20-21 & 26-28, 2024 | Proposal Presentations |
| July 31, 2024 | Allocation and Recommendations |
| August - November 2024 | Recommended Projects Undergo Work Plan Development; Research Projects Undergo Peer Review |
| December 11, 2024 | Appropriation Language Review and Adoption |

Summary of Recommendations by Subdivision

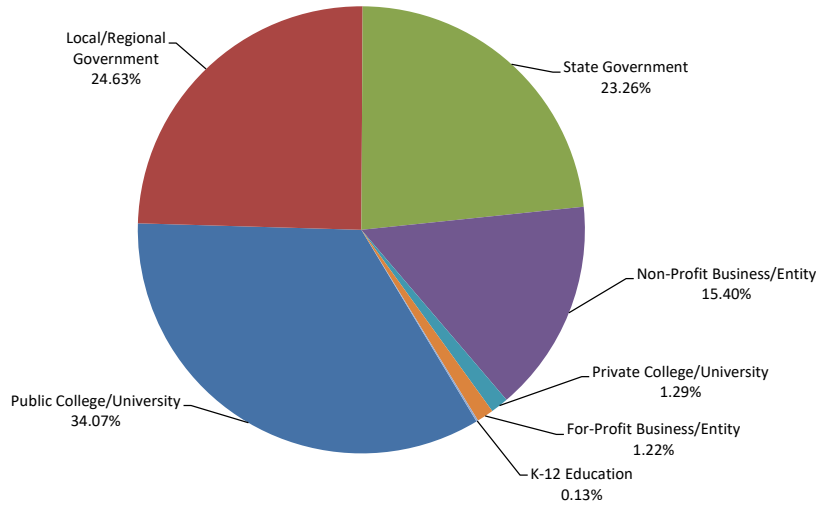
| Subdivision | \$ Recommended | \$ Percent | # Recommended | # Percent |
|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 03. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information | \$22,084,000 | 21.37% | 36 | 29.03% |
| 04. Water Resources | \$11,812,000 | 11.43% | 23 | 18.55% |
| 05. Environmental Education | \$11,965,000 | 11.58% | 19 | 15.32% |
| 06. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species | \$6,713,000 | 6.50% | 2 | 1.61% |
| 07. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy | \$11,744,000 | 11.37% | 7 | 5.65% |
| 08. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat | \$12,188,000 | 11.80% | 19 | 15.32% |
| 09. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation | \$19,553,000 | 18.92% | 14 | 11.29% |
| 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement | \$7,267,000 | 7.03% | 4 | 3.23% |
| Total | \$103,326,000 | 100.00% | 124 | 100.00% |

% of Total \$ Recommended by Subdivision



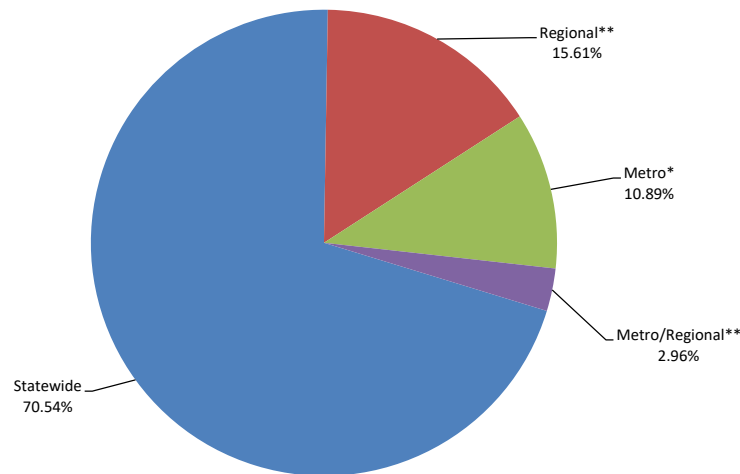
| Summary of Recommendations by Proposer Affiliation | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Affiliation Type | \$ Recommended | \$ Percent | # Recommended | # Percent |
| Public College/University | \$35,208,000 | 34.07% | 58 | 46.77% |
| Local/Regional Government | \$25,448,000 | 24.63% | 19 | 15.32% |
| State Government | \$24,034,000 | 23.26% | 21 | 16.94% |
| Non-Profit Business/Entity | \$15,911,000 | 15.40% | 22 | 17.74% |
| Private College/University | \$1,336,000 | 1.29% | 2 | 1.61% |
| For-Profit Business/Entity | \$1,259,000 | 1.22% | 1 | 0.81% |
| K-12 Education | \$130,000 | 0.13% | 1 | 0.81% |
| Total | \$103,326,000 | 100.00% | 124 | 100.00% |

% of Total \$ Recommended by Proposer Affiliation



| Summary of Recommendations by Area of Impact | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Areas of Impact | \$ Recommended | \$ Percent | # Recommended | # Percent |
| Statewide | \$72,887,000 | 70.54% | 88 | 70.97% |
| Regional** | \$16,133,000 | 15.61% | 16 | 12.10% |
| Metro* | \$11,250,000 | 10.89% | 15 | 12.90% |
| Metro/Regional** | \$3,056,000 | 2.96% | 5 | 4.03% |
| Total | \$103,326,000 | 100.00% | 124 | 100.00% |

% of Total \$ Recommended by Area of Impact



* "Metro" region includes the 11 counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

** "Regional" means area of impact is less than "Statewide" but includes one or more regions of the state ("Northwest", "Northeast", "Central", "Southwest", or "Southeast")

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026**

As of July 31, 2024, the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) has selected 124 projects totaling \$103,326,000 to recommend to the 2025 Minnesota Legislature for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). In response to LCCMR's 2025 Request for Proposal (RFP), 214 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$183 million were received and considered through a competitive, multi-stage evaluation. The following recommendations range from funding the full proposal and dollar amount requested to partial funding for specific proposal elements.

| Topic Area | \$ Recommended | Percentage of Total Recommendation |
|--|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Subd. 03 Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information 36 Recommendations | \$22,084,000 | 21.37% |
| Subd. 04 Water Resources 23 Recommendations | \$11,812,000 | 11.43% |
| Subd. 05 Environmental Education 19 Recommendations | \$11,965,000 | 11.58% |
| Subd. 06 Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species 2 Recommendations | \$6,713,000 | 6.50% |
| Subd. 07 Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy 7 Recommendations | \$11,744,000 | 11.37% |
| Subd. 08 Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat 19 Recommendations | \$12,188,000 | 11.80% |
| Subd. 09 Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation 14 Recommendations | \$19,553,000 | 18.92% |
| Subd. 10 Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement 4 Recommendations | \$7,267,000 | 7.03% |
| Total Recommendations | \$103,326,000 | 100.00% |

| Fund Source | \$ Amount |
|--|----------------------|
| FY 2026 - Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) | \$103,326,000 |
| Total \$ | \$103,326,000 |

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026 without Summary**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Recommended Amount (FY26) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|--|-------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Subd. 03 Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information (36 Recommendations = \$22,084,000) | | | | | | |
| 03a | 2025-009 | Fond du Lac Deer Study - Phase 1 | \$1,441,000 | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Bemidji State University | Jacob Haus | NE |
| 03b | 2025-046 | Are All Walleye Created Equal? Probably Not. | \$298,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Nicholas Phelps | Statewide |
| 03c | 2025-053 | Deer Survival Within Minnesota's Densest Wolf Population | \$809,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Joseph Bump | Central, NE, NW |
| 03d | 2025-063 | Evaluating Anticoagulant Rodenticide Exposure in Minnesota's Carnivores | \$247,000 | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | Michael Joyce | Statewide |
| 03e | 2025-070 | Digitizing the Science Museum of Minnesota's Mollusk Specimens | \$386,000 | Science Museum of Minnesota | Catherine Early | Statewide |
| 03f | 2025-075 | Integrating Wildlife Objectives in Long-Term Forest Management Planning | \$316,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Irene De Pellegrin Llorente | Statewide |
| 03g | 2025-092 | Surveying Minnesota's Secretive Marsh Birds | \$413,000 | Audubon Minnesota | Dale Gentry | Statewide |
| 03h | 2025-093 | Improving Conservation Outcomes for Imperiled Wood Turtles | \$242,000 | Minnesota Zoological Garden | Tricia Markle | Statewide |
| 03i | 2025-111 | Maximizing the Impact of Wildlife Movement Data | \$216,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | John Fieberg | Statewide |
| 03j | 2025-113 | Expanding the Statewide Motus Wildlife Tracking Network | \$234,000 | Minnesota Zoological Garden | Mary Mallinger | Statewide |
| 03k | 2025-115 | Updating and Sharing Information on Minnesota's Tick Biodiversity | \$186,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Benjamin Cull | Statewide |
| 03l | 2025-123 | Small-Mammals and Hunter Participation: Expanded Offal Wildlife Watching | \$563,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Joseph Bump | Statewide |
| 03m | 2025-127 | Green Heron as an Indicator of Wetland-Dependent Species | \$424,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Elena West | Statewide |
| 03n | 2025-130 | Visualizing Minnesota's Natural Resources with CT-Scanning | \$955,000 | U of MN, Bell Museum of Natural History | Kassandra Ford | Central, Metro, NE, NW, SE, SW |
| 03o | 2025-151 | Mapping Human-Carnivore Conflicts in Human-Dominated Landscapes | \$563,000 | U of MN, Duluth - NRRRI | Michael Joyce | NE, NW |
| 03p | 2025-160 | Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management | \$1,260,000 | U of MN, MN Geological Survey | Barbara Lusardi | Statewide |
| 03q | 2025-178 | Leveraging Statewide Datasets for Native Rough Fish | \$250,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Grant Vagle | Statewide |
| 03r | 2025-180 | The Impacts of Climate Change on Northeastern Minnesota | \$772,000 | Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness | Chris Knopf | NE |
| 03s | 2025-188 | Health and Disease Monitoring in Minnesota Wildlife | \$750,000 | U of MN, Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory | Arno Wuenschmann | Statewide |
| 03t | 2025-215 | Affordable Statewide Tracking of Forestry Fragmentation and Degradation | \$331,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Rui Cheng | Statewide |
| 03u | 2025-217 | Safeguarding Bees While Monitoring Pollinators and Nesting Habitats | \$590,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Colleen Satyshur | Statewide |

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026 without Summary**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Recommended Amount (FY26) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|---|--------------------|---|--|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| 03v | 2025-222 | Expanding the Application of Minnesota's Wetland Monitoring Data | \$312,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Amy Kendig | Statewide |
| 03w | 2025-239 | Enhancing the Value of Minnesota Public Grasslands | \$390,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Eric Mousel | Statewide |
| 03x | 2025-241 | Foundational Precision Agriculture Data to Reduce Environmental Impacts | \$1,255,000 | U of MN, WCROC | Joel Tallaksen | Statewide |
| 03y | 2025-244 | Continued Aggregate Resource Mapping | \$621,000 | MN DNR, Lands and Minerals Division | Heather Arends | Statewide |
| 03z | 2025-247 | Advancing Collaborative Wild Rice Monitoring Program Technologies | \$900,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Josh Knopik | Statewide |
| 03aa | 2025-250 | Conserving Natural Resources by Advancing Forever Green Agriculture | \$2,146,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Mitchell Hunter | Statewide |
| 03bb | 2025-260 | Minnesota's Priority Native Rough Fish: Gars and Bowfin | \$568,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Solomon David | Statewide |
| 03cc | 2025-280 | Understanding to Improve Minnesota's Future Lake Water Quality | \$595,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Leif Olmanson | Statewide |
| 03dd | 2025-294 | Operationalizing State Zooplankton Data to Support Lake Health | \$423,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Jake Walsh | Statewide |
| 03ee | 2025-295 | Trialing Climate-Ready Woodland Trees in Urban Areas | \$255,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Alicia Coleman | Statewide |
| 03ff | 2025-304 | Superior Shores: Protecting Our Great Lakes Coastal Habitats | \$675,000 | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Hailey Sauer | Statewide |
| 03gg | 2025-309 | Recruitment and Fecundity of Minnesota Moose | \$2,007,000 | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Michelle Carstensen | Statewide |
| 03hh | 2025-311 | Fighting Insect Decline: Minnesota Bumblebees to the Rescue | \$249,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Cristian Beza Beza | Statewide |
| 03ii | 2025-312 | Trace Metals in Municipal Yard Waste and Compost | \$120,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Lucy Rose | Metro |
| 03jj | 2025-323 | Chronic Wasting Disease Prions in Minnesota Waters | \$322,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Diana Karwan | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$22,084,000 | | | |
| Subd. 04 Water Resources (23 Recommendations = \$11,812,000) | | | | | | |
| 04a | 2025-010 | Enhancing Our Resources-Rural Health and Drinking Water | \$994,000 | Freshwater Society | Jeffrey Broberg | Statewide |
| 04b | 2025-025 | Restoration and Outreach for Minnesota's Native Mussels | \$1,258,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Kathryn Holcomb | Statewide |
| 04c | 2025-059 | Pristine to Green: Toxic Blooms Threaten Northern Lakes | \$1,362,000 | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Lienne Sethna | Central, Metro, NE, NW |
| 04d | 2025-064 | Training Lake Communities to Track Chloride and Algae | \$274,000 | U of MN, Duluth - Sea Grant | Hilarie Sorensen | Statewide |
| 04e | 2025-077 | Clean Sweep Solution to Nonpoint Source Pollution | \$386,000 | U of MN, Water Resources Center | Maggie Karschnia | Statewide |

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026 without Summary**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Recommended Amount (FY26) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|---|--------------------|--|--|--|------------------------|----------------|
| 04f | 2025-084 | Cyanotoxins in Minnesota Lakes: The Role of Sunlight | \$220,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | William Arnold | Statewide |
| 04g | 2025-087 | Enhancing Degradation of Emerging Contaminants via Microbial Starvation | \$390,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Paige Novak | Statewide |
| 04h | 2025-107 | Soil Health Management for Water Storage | \$454,000 | U of MN, Water Resources Center | Marcelle Lewandowski | Statewide |
| 04i | 2025-110 | Predicting Contaminant Movement in Minnesota's Fractured Aquifers | \$650,000 | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Peter Kang | Statewide |
| 04j | 2025-112 | Documentation and Toxicity of Microplastics in Urban Ecosystems | \$300,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Lea Pollack | Statewide |
| 04k | 2025-136 | Terminating PFAS-Type Pesticides via Enzyme Cocktails | \$297,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Hua Zhao | Statewide |
| 04l | 2025-144 | Addressing 21st Century Challenges for the St. Croix | \$243,000 | Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Croix Watershed Research Station | Jason Ulrich | Central, Metro |
| 04m | 2025-150 | Impact of Statewide Conservation Practices on Stream Biodiversity | \$300,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Christine Dolph | Statewide |
| 04n | 2025-169 | Modeling the Future Mississippi River Gorge | \$427,000 | U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory | Jeffrey Marr | Metro |
| 04o | 2025-181 | Highly Efficient Nutrient Removal Technology for Agricultural Drainage | \$453,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Satoshi Ishii | Statewide |
| 04p | 2025-191 | Citizen Scientists Capture Microplastic Pollution Around State | \$419,000 | U of MN, Duluth | Melissa Maurer-Jones | Statewide |
| 04q | 2025-193 | Healthy Native Prairie Microbiomes for Cleaner Water | \$468,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Brett Barney | Statewide |
| 04r | 2025-211 | Wastewater Chloride Reduction through Industrial Source Reduction Assistance | \$247,000 | U of MN, School of Public Health | Kelsey Klucas | Statewide |
| 04s | 2025-233 | Pilot Water Budget Framework for Managing Water Withdrawals | \$198,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | John Nieber | Statewide |
| 04t | 2025-258 | Biofilm Mediated Destruction of PFAS in Groundwater | \$1,336,000 | Bay West LLC | Keith Rapp | Statewide |
| 04u | 2025-265 | Impact of Microplastics on Wastewater Treatment in Minnesota | \$506,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Sebastian Behrens | Statewide |
| 04v | 2025-275 | Portable Arsenic and Nitrate Detector for Well Water | \$358,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Tianhong Cui | Statewide |
| 04w | 2025-278 | Recovering Salts from Highly Saline Wastewater | \$272,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Natasha Wright | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$11,812,000 | | | |
| Subd. 05 Environmental Education (19 Recommendations = \$11,965,000) | | | | | | |
| 05a | 2025-012 | Eagle's Nest: Where the World Becomes Your Classroom | \$130,000 | Glacial Hills Elementary School | Jodee Lund | Central |
| 05b | 2025-016 | Advancing Equity in Environmental Education | \$700,000 | Camp Fire Minnesota | Sara Lemke | Statewide |

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026 without Summary**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Recommended Amount (FY26) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|--|--------------------|---|--|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| 05c | 2025-019 | Teacher Field School - Phase 2: Increasing Impact | \$712,000 | Hamline University | Patty Born | Statewide |
| 05d | 2025-034 | Creating Future Leaders in Outdoor and Environmental Leadership | \$330,000 | North Hennepin Community College | Ana Munro | Statewide |
| 05e | 2025-054 | Engaging our Diverse Public in Environmental Stewardship - Phase 2 | \$249,000 | Great River Greening | Brennan Blue | Central, Metro, SE, SW |
| 05f | 2025-065 | Outdoor School for Minnesota K-12 Students | \$3,992,000 | Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center | Bryan Wood | Statewide |
| 05g | 2025-073 | Statewide Environmental Education via PBS Outdoor Series | \$415,000 | Pioneer PBS | Cindy Dorn | Statewide |
| 05h | 2025-103 | Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin Conservation Crew Program | \$678,000 | Conservation Corps Minnesota | Brian Miller | NE |
| 05i | 2025-120 | Reuse for the Future: Youth Education and Engagement | \$225,000 | Reuse Minnesota | Emily Barker | Statewide |
| 05j | 2025-125 | River Bend Nature Center Outdoor Diversity Initiative | \$247,000 | River Bend Nature Center | Brad Bourn | SE |
| 05k | 2025-134 | Camp Parsons Mississippi Summer | \$225,000 | Phyllis Wheatley Community Center | Katy Nelson | Metro |
| 05l | 2025-135 | Adult Outdoor Education for Minnesota's Underrepresented Communities | \$247,000 | Baztec Fishing & Outdoors | Ray Ruiz | Central, Metro |
| 05m | 2025-143 | Minnesota's Roadmap for Sustainability and Climate Education | \$491,000 | Climate Generation | Lindsey Kirkland | Statewide |
| 05n | 2025-149 | ESTEP 2.0: Earth Science Teacher Education Project | \$643,000 | Minnesota Science Teachers Association | Lee Schmitt | Statewide |
| 05o | 2025-198 | Engaging Latine Communities in Conservation and Preservation | \$400,000 | Comunidades Organizando el Poder y la Accion Latina (COPAL) | Carolina Ortiz | Statewide |
| 05p | 2025-212 | Inclusive Wildlife Engagement in Classrooms and Communities | \$712,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Jessica Ruthenberg | Statewide |
| 05q | 2025-254 | Activating Youth and Family Environmental Stewardship through Raptors | \$228,000 | U of MN, Raptor Center | Lori Arent | Statewide |
| 05r | 2025-296 | Moving Minnesota towards a Lead-Free Sporting Future | \$250,000 | Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Bemidji State University | Brian Hiller | Statewide |
| 05s | 2025-301 | Science Centers Supporting Northern Boys and Girls Clubs | \$1,091,000 | Headwaters Science Center | Lee Furuseth | NW |
| | | SubTotal | \$11,965,000 | | | |
| Subd. 06 Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species (2 Recommendations = \$6,713,000) | | | | | | |
| 06a | 2025-126 | Aquatic Invasive Species: From Problems to Real-World Solutions | \$5,771,000 | U of MN, MAISRC | Cori Mattke | Statewide |
| 06b | 2025-196 | Optimizing Non-Native Cattail Treatment Effectiveness in Prairie Wetlands | \$942,000 | MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division | Megan Fitzpatrick | Central, NW, SW |
| | | SubTotal | \$6,713,000 | | | |
| Subd. 07 Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy (7 Recommendations = \$11,744,000) | | | | | | |

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026 without Summary**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Recommended Amount (FY26) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|--|--------------------|---|--|--|------------------------|----------------|
| 07a | 2025-049 | Protecting Coldwater Fish Habitat in Minnesota Lakes | \$561,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Gretchen Hansen | Statewide |
| 07b | 2025-078 | Agrivoltaics 2.0 Building a Resilient E-Farm | \$535,000 | U of MN, WCROC | Bradley Heins | Statewide |
| 07c | 2025-080 | Pine Needles Reveal Past and Present Airborne PFAS | \$550,000 | Minnesota Pollution Control Agency | Summer Streets | Statewide |
| 07d | 2025-257 | Facilitated Transport Hybrid Membranes for CO2 Separation | \$1,050,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Jun Li | Statewide |
| 07e | 2025-290 | Renewable Energy Conversion for Farm Diesel and Ammonia | \$726,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Paul Dauenhauer | Statewide |
| 07f | 2025-306 | Innovative Solution to Renewable Energy from Food Waste | \$5,167,000 | Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board | Matt Phillips | Statewide |
| 07g | 2025-313 | Fueling the Future: Decarbonizing Regional Transportation Project | \$3,155,000 | City of St. Cloud | Tracy Hodel | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$11,744,000 | | | |
| Subd. 08 Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat (19 Recommendations = \$12,188,000) | | | | | | |
| 08a | 2025-007 | Minnesota PlantWatch: Community Scientists Conserving Rare Plants | \$1,086,000 | U of MN, Landscape Arboretum | David Remucal | Statewide |
| 08b | 2025-030 | Grassland Restoration for Pollinator Conservation and Demonstration | \$250,000 | U of MN, Landscape Arboretum | Brandon Miller | Statewide |
| 08c | 2025-066 | Planning for Long-Term Natural Resources Protection, Hennepin County | \$250,000 | Hennepin County | Kristine Maurer | Metro |
| 08d | 2025-069 | Native Forages: Growing Drought and Climate Resiliency | \$2,254,000 | Ducks Unlimited Inc | Sabrina Claeys | Central, NW |
| 08e | 2025-097 | Accelerated Genetic Migration of Bur Oak- 10yr Data | \$223,000 | Great River Greening | Wiley Buck | Metro |
| 08f | 2025-116 | SHT Bridge, Boardwalk and Trailhead Renewal | \$532,000 | Superior Hiking Trail Association | Lisa Luukkala | Statewide |
| 08g | 2025-118 | Mississippi Gateway Shoreline Stabilization and Fishing Improvements | \$735,000 | Three Rivers Park District | Brian Vlach | Metro |
| 08h | 2025-152 | Phytoremediation of PFAS from Soil | \$1,066,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Michael Smanski | Statewide |
| 08i | 2025-154 | Removing Mercury from Minnesota Waters | \$247,000 | U of MN, College of Biological Sciences | Michael Smanski | Statewide |
| 08j | 2025-176 | Evaluating Native Seed Mixes for Grazing | \$208,000 | Restoravore | Joshua Lallaman | Statewide |
| 08k | 2025-219 | Improving Minnesota Forest Health via Post-Duff-Burning Soil Analysis | \$646,000 | U of MN, College of Science and Engineering | Sayan Biswas | Statewide |
| 08l | 2025-228 | Minnesota Riverbank Protection and Parks Improvements | \$1,400,000 | City of Shakopee | Alex Jordan | Metro |
| 08m | 2025-232 | Restoration at Wakan Tipi and Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary | \$669,000 | Lower Phalen Creek Project | Gabriele Menomin | Metro |

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026 without Summary**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Recommended Amount (FY26) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|---|--------------------|---|--|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| 08n | 2025-266 | Promoting Pollinators on Corporate Campuses | \$547,000 | University of St. Thomas | Adam Kay | Statewide |
| 08o | 2025-270 | A Riparian Area Adaptation Strategy for Southeast Minnesota | \$243,000 | The Nature Conservancy | Christian Lenhart | Statewide |
| 08p | 2025-282 | Minnehaha Park South Plateau Oak Savanna Restoration | \$242,000 | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | Adam Arvidson | Metro |
| 08q | 2025-283 | Tree Protection for Minnesota's Tamarack Against Larch Beetle | \$321,000 | U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences | Brian Aukema | Central, NE, NW |
| 08r | 2025-288 | Shoreline Restoration and Enhancement at Minneapolis Lakes | \$819,000 | Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board | Adam Arvidson | Metro |
| 08s | 2025-317 | Developing Markets for CLC Crops | \$450,000 | Minnesota Department of Agriculture | Margaret Wagner | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$12,188,000 | | | |
| Subd. 09 Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation (14 Recommendations = \$19,553,000) | | | | | | |
| 09a | 2025-055 | Cannon River Preservation and Access | \$2,717,000 | Dakota County | Lisa West | Metro |
| 09b | 2025-081 | Mesabi Trail Aurora to Hoyt Lakes | \$1,325,000 | St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority | Sarah Ciochetto | NE |
| 09c | 2025-114 | RTA Maintenance Trail Stabilization Project | \$500,000 | City of Eden Prairie | Karli Wittner | Statewide |
| 09d | 2025-122 | Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs | \$4,769,000 | MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division | Jenni Bubke | Statewide |
| 09e | 2025-173 | Boardwalk Over Boggy Land for Recreational Purposes | \$148,000 | City of Battle Lake | Val Martin | NW |
| 09f | 2025-182 | Lake Zumbro Park Water Access and Site Improvements | \$1,978,000 | Olmsted County | Karlin Ziegler | SE |
| 09g | 2025-197 | Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Biodiversity Protection | \$1,104,000 | MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division | Judy Elbert | Statewide |
| 09h | 2025-201 | Scandia Gateway Trail Connection: Recreation, Wetlands, Environmental Education | \$907,000 | City of Scandia | Kyle Morell | Metro |
| 09i | 2025-213 | Lake Byllesby Regional Park Restoration and Recreation | \$1,120,000 | Dakota County | Niki Geisler | Metro |
| 09j | 2025-216 | Thompson County Park Restoration and Accessibility Improvements | \$867,000 | Dakota County | Niki Geisler | Metro |
| 09k | 2025-236 | Thom Storm Chalet and Outdoor Recreation Center | \$2,312,000 | City of Duluth | Katie Bennett | NE |
| 09l | 2025-268 | Enhancing Preservation and Accessibility at Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve | \$155,000 | City of Duluth | Katie Bennett | Statewide |
| 09m | 2025-293 | Echo Bay County Park - Phase 1 Construction | \$1,122,000 | Otter Tail County | Kevin Fellbaum | Central |
| 09n | 2025-319 | Chaska Big Woods Property Acquisition | \$529,000 | City of Chaska | Ashley Cauley | Metro |

**M.L. 2025 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2026 without Summary**

| Subd. | Proposal ID | Title | LCCMR Total Recommended Amount (FY26) | Organization | Project Manager | Region* |
|---|--------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------|----------------|
| | | SubTotal | \$19,553,000 | | | |
| Subd. 10 Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement (4 Recommendations = \$7,267,000) | | | | | | |
| 10a | 2025-001 | Emerging Issues Account 2025 | \$2,984,000 | Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources | Becca Nash | Statewide |
| 10b | 2025-166 | 2025 Contract Agreement Reimbursement | \$280,000 | MN DNR, Grants Unit | Katherine Sherman-Hoehn | Statewide |
| 10c | 2025-321 | LCCMR Administrative Budget | \$4,000,000 | Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources | Becca Nash | Statewide |
| 10d | 2025-322 | Legislative Coordinating Commission Legacy Website | \$3,000 | Legislative Coordinating Commission | Becca Nash | Statewide |
| | | SubTotal | \$7,267,000 | | | |
| | | Total | \$103,326,000 | | | |

* Metro region includes the 11 counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.

DRAFT 2025 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE FOR REVISOR

12/18/2024

Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the environment and natural resources trust fund and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year" is fiscal year 2027. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2026 and 2027. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year or until the end of the appropriation. These are onetime appropriations.

| APPROPRIATIONS | |
|------------------------|------|
| Available for the Year | |
| Ending June 30 | |
| 2026 | 2027 |

Section 2. MINNESOTA RESOURCES

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-----|
| Subd. 1. Total Appropriation | \$103,326,000 | \$0 |
|------------------------------|---------------|-----|

This appropriation is from the environment and natural resources trust fund. The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. Definition

"Trust fund" means the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund established under the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

| | | |
|---|--------------|-----|
| Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information | \$22,084,000 | \$0 |
|---|--------------|-----|

(a) Fond du Lac Deer Study - Phase 1

\$1,441,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for Bemidji State University to collect baseline deer demographic, movement, and habitat use data prior to elk restoration to better inform management of both elk and deer populations on the Fond du Lac Reservation and surrounding areas.

(b) Are All Walleye Created Equal? Probably Not.

\$298,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to investigate Minnesota walleye strain physiology and disease responses to warming water and to build a tool to guide adaptive management of walleye in a warming climate.

(c) Deer Survival Within Minnesota's Densest Wolf Population

\$809,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to evaluate how wolves, winter severity, and habitat affect deer mortality and survival across space and time within the Voyageurs region.

(d) Evaluating Anticoagulant Rodenticide Exposure in Minnesota's Carnivores

\$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to determine anticoagulant rodenticide exposure rates and concentrations in Minnesota bobcats and fishers, factors influencing exposure risk, and negative effects of rodenticide exposure on carnivore health.

(e) Digitizing the Science Museum of Minnesota's Mollusk Specimens

\$386,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota to make the museum's Minnesota mollusk specimen collection available for research and education by identifying and organizing all relevant specimens and digitizing their data.

(f) Integrating Wildlife Objectives in Long-Term Forest Management Planning

\$316,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop a harvest-scheduling model that integrates wildlife habitat metrics with timber production objectives in the forest planning process for more sustainable forest landscape level outcomes.

(g) Surveying Minnesota's Secretive Marsh Birds

\$413,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the National Audubon Society, Upper Mississippi River office, to conduct a breeding marsh bird survey and provide state and federal agencies with an assessment of marsh bird population status and wetland habitat.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(h) Improving Conservation Outcomes for Imperiled Wood Turtles

\$242,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota Zoological Society to restore imperiled wood turtles by increasing remnant populations, quantifying effectiveness of habitat management strategies, establishing baseline information on disease prevalence, and creating a new decision support tool for prioritizing future conservation actions.

(i) Maximizing the Impact of Wildlife Movement Data

\$216,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to create a centralized and accessible database of wildlife movement data from prior trust fund-supported studies and demonstrate tools biologists can use to analyze these data to benefit Minnesota wildlife.

(j) Expanding the Statewide Motus Wildlife Tracking Network

\$234,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota Zoological Society to expand the statewide Motus wildlife tracking system network into southwestern Minnesota and the north shore to guide the conservation of imperiled grassland and boreal migratory birds and other wildlife. This appropriation may also be used to develop outreach and interpretive materials for Motus sites.

(k) Updating and Sharing Information on Minnesota's Tick Biodiversity

\$186,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to collaborate with wildlife organizations and community scientists to survey the biodiversity and distribution of ticks in Minnesota and create a publicly accessible GIS dashboard to share results and potential disease implications with the public and wildlife managers.

(l) Small-Mammals and Hunter Participation: Expanded Offal Wildlife Watching

\$563,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to expand and assess hunter participation in monitoring scavenger use of deer gut piles, assess small mammal occurrence and contaminant and disease exposure risk at offal sites, and study how messaging impacts hunters' use of lead ammunition.

(m) Green Heron as an Indicator of Wetland-Dependent Species

\$424,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to collect data on the year-round habitat use and migratory movements of green herons, assess potential factors leading to population decline, and identify conservation strategies to benefit the green heron and other wetland-dependent bird species.

(n) Visualizing Minnesota's Natural Resources with CT-Scanning

\$955,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural History, to acquire a CT-scanner, scan Bell Museum organismal specimens, create 3D prints from the scans, and share the data and prints through environmental education and research programs. The CT-scanner purchased with this appropriation must prioritize use by and be made available cost free to other Minnesota-focused researchers for the duration of this appropriation. This appropriation may also be used for equipment, tools, and supplies needed to acquire, install, and use the scanner and print 3D models of scanned organisms

Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(o) Mapping Human-Carnivore Conflicts in Human-Dominated Landscapes

\$563,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to evaluate bear, bobcat, and coyote habitat use, activity, and diet in Duluth and surrounding areas to map hotspots for human-carnivore conflicts and fill knowledge gaps to reduce conflicts.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(p) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management

\$1,260,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey, to continue to produce geologic atlas maps and databases to inform management of ground and surface water. This appropriation is to complete Part A, which focuses on the properties and distribution of earth materials to define aquifer boundaries and the connection of aquifers to the land surface and surface water resources.

(q) Leveraging Statewide Datasets for Native Rough Fish

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to construct species distribution models that predict presence and abundance of native rough fish species and identify potential areas for protection, additional monitoring, or restoration across the state. This appropriation may also be used to build an interactive mapping tool and share results.

(r) The Impacts of Climate Change on Northeastern Minnesota

\$772,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness to work with collaborators to aggregate research, data, and other information about the impacts of climate change on the habitat and wildlife of northeastern Minnesota into a publicly available, web-based database.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(s) Health and Disease Monitoring in Minnesota Wildlife

\$750,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, to collaborate with wildlife rehabilitation organizations and other wildlife health professionals throughout Minnesota to enhance the state's health and disease surveillance, preparedness, and response efforts.

(t) Affordable Statewide Tracking of Forestry Fragmentation and Degradation

\$331,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to merge aircraft and satellite LiDAR data to build a model and an interactive real-time web dashboard of forest boundaries that provides business-ready information about statewide forest fragmentation and degradation due to human activities and natural disasters.

(u) Safeguarding Bees While Monitoring Pollinators and Nesting Habitats

\$590,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to pioneer low-mortality methods for monitoring bee populations and to investigate nest habitat materials and antimicrobial properties in cooperation with community scientists and management agencies.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(v) Expanding the Application of Minnesota's Wetland Monitoring Data

\$312,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to use existing LiDAR and recurring aerial photographs to determine state grassland acreage and change over the last twenty years, evaluate key drivers of wetland change, and use technology to improve Minnesota's wetland monitoring.

(w) Enhancing the Value of Minnesota Public Grasslands

\$390,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to evaluate a combination of prescribed fire, brush mowing, and targeted conservation grazing to develop ready-to-use management strategies for public land managers to mitigate woody species encroachment and increase biodiversity and carbon sequestration in public grasslands.

(x) Foundational Precision Agriculture Data to Reduce Environmental Impacts

\$1,255,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the West Central Research and Outreach Center at Morris to establish data collection systems and methods at sentinel farm sites, develop and evaluate best management practices, and provide outreach and training to farmers to encourage adoption of precision agriculture technologies that reduce fertilizer and chemical use and improve water and air quality.

(y) Continued Aggregate Resource Mapping

\$621,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to map the aggregate resource potential in the state of Minnesota and to make the information available in print and electronic format to local units of government to support informed land-use decisions and resource conservation.

(z) Advancing Collaborative Wild Rice Monitoring Program Technologies

\$900,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to continue efforts to create a framework for long-term wild rice monitoring for conservation and collaborate with tribal and non-governmental organizations to collect additional data, improve collection and analysis methods, and develop a statewide estimate of wild rice abundance and coverage.

(aa) Conserving Natural Resources by Advancing Forever Green Agriculture

\$2,146,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Forever Green Initiative to fund research projects to develop new perennial and winter-annual crops to protect water, wildlife, soil, other natural resources, and the climate.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(bb) Minnesota's Priority Native Rough Fish: Gars and Bowfin

\$568,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop population dynamics, habitat use, and food web models for Minnesota gars and bowfins and conduct outreach to inform conservation and management and serve as a template for study of Minnesota's other native rough fish species.

(cc) Understanding to Improve Minnesota's Future Lake Water Quality

\$595,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use decade-long comprehensive lake, watershed, and weather data and high-resolution climate models to understand lake-specific drivers of water quality and predict the effects of future warming on harmful algal blooms across Minnesota.

(dd) Operationalizing State Zooplankton Data to Support Lake Health

\$423,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use long term monitoring data to determine the relationship between zooplankton communities and ecosystem services like fisheries health and water quality and develop biotic indices for lake health.

(ee) Trialing Climate-Ready Woodland Trees in Urban Areas

\$255,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to demonstrate performance of climate-adaptive tree species and study land manager and public perceptions of these species to identify the best species and risk tolerance for future plantings in metropolitan areas of Minnesota.

(ff) Superior Shores: Protecting Our Great Lakes Coastal Habitats

\$675,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to map the locations and survey the biological diversity and water quality of Lake Superior coastal rock pools. This appropriation may also be used to develop outreach materials and host programs on rock pool understanding and conservation.

(gg) Recruitment and Fecundity of Minnesota Moose

\$2,007,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for state and tribal biologists to work collaboratively to estimate survival and fecundity of yearling and 2-year-old moose in northeast Minnesota to inform future management efforts. Of this amount, \$841,000 is for an agreement with the 1854 Treaty Authority.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2031, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(hh) Fighting Insect Decline: Minnesota Bumblebees to the Rescue

\$249,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to map historical and current bumblebee distribution and develop an identification tool using molecular barcodes and an online resource hub to improve conservation of Minnesota's native bumblebees.

(ii) Trace Metals in Municipal Yard Waste and Compost

\$120,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to assess trace metal contamination from collected residential yard waste, finished compost, and compost leachate in municipal yard waste recycling programs.

(jj) Chronic Wasting Disease Prions in Minnesota Waters

\$322,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to evaluate the movement of chronic wasting disease in Minnesota waters, assess the risk of spread, and share results with wildlife and watershed managers.

Subd. 4. Water Resources

\$11,812,000

\$0

(a) Enhancing Our Resources-Rural Health and Drinking Water

\$994,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Freshwater Society to partner with the Mayo Clinic to educate well owners and family health providers about the geologic occurrence and risk of arsenic in drinking water. This appropriation is also to provide free arsenic testing to well owners in Southeast Minnesota.

(b) Restoration and Outreach for Minnesota's Native Mussels

\$1,258,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to propagate, rear, and restore native freshwater mussel populations and the ecosystem services they provide to Minnesota waters; to evaluate reintroduction success; and to inform the public on mussels and mussel conservation.

(c) Pristine to Green: Toxic Blooms Threaten Northern Lakes

\$1,362,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to evaluate drivers that contribute to the formation of nuisance and toxic algal blooms in relatively pristine and protected lakes across Minnesota.

(d) Training Lake Communities to Track Chloride and Algae

\$274,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Sea Grant College Program in Duluth to develop and train a network of community-based volunteers to track chloride and harmful algal blooms in rural Minnesota lakes.

(e) Clean Sweep Solution to Nonpoint Source Pollution

\$386,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Water Resources Center to enhance Clean Sweep Programs, identify the pollutants present in street sweeping materials, explore material reuse options, and quantify benefits of enhanced street sweeping. This appropriation may also be used to coordinate county and regional collaborations, develop resources, and provide training to increase targeted street sweeping practices to reduce non-point source pollution to Minnesota's water resources.

(f) Cyanotoxins in Minnesota Lakes: The Role of Sunlight

\$220,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to quantify degradation of cyanobacterial toxins by sunlight to understand how increasing frequency of harmful algal blooms and changing environmental conditions influence toxin persistence in natural waters.

(g) Enhancing Degradation of Emerging Contaminants via Microbial Starvation

\$390,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to study how wastewater treatment systems can be improved to more effectively biodegrade mixtures of pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and other contaminants of emerging concern and protect Minnesota's water resources.

(h) Soil Health Management for Water Storage

\$454,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Water Resources Center to conduct on-farm and model-based research and develop guidance for watershed planners and land managers to effectively use soil health management to achieve water storage and water quality goals.

(i) Predicting Contaminant Movement in Minnesota's Fractured Aquifers

\$650,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to develop a software program that predicts the fate and movement of contaminants, such as PFAS, chloride, nitrate, and pathogens, in Minnesota's fractured aquifers.

(j) Documentation and Toxicity of Microplastics in Urban Ecosystems

\$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to research how land use and toxicity affect the accumulation of microplastics and associated contaminants of concern in stormwater ponds and the wildlife that use stormwater ponds.

(k) Terminating PFAS-Type Pesticides via Enzyme Cocktails

\$297,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to evaluate the ability of selected enzymes and combinations of enzymes to biodegrade per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) found in pesticides and design a pilot-scale biofilter for effective elimination of PFAS from water.

(l) Addressing 21st Century Challenges for the St. Croix

\$243,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to develop a watershed model to identify potential hydrologic and water quality impacts to the Lower St. Croix River over the next 75 years and inform future planning and management in the watershed.

(m) Impact of Statewide Conservation Practices on Stream Biodiversity

\$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use existing monitoring data to evaluate the effects of wetlands and riparian buffers on stream and river biodiversity and biological condition and develop tools and materials to inform the public and natural resource managers.

(n) Modeling the Future Mississippi River Gorge

\$427,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to construct a reduced-scale physical model of Mississippi River Pool 1 and Lock & Dam 1 and adjacent upstream and downstream reaches, analyze water flow and sediment movement under various pool management strategies, and share results with the public to inform decisions on the future management of the lock and dam.

(o) Highly Efficient Nutrient Removal Technology for Agricultural Drainage

\$453,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to conduct lab- and field-scale tests of a novel bioreactor technology for removing nutrients from agricultural drainage and disseminate results to farmers and the public.

(p) Citizen Scientists Capture Microplastic Pollution Around State

\$419,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop adaptable microplastic sampling and detection methods, develop a public-access database, and leverage citizen scientists to survey microplastic pollution throughout the state to allow for data-driven risk management decisions and solutions.

(q) Healthy Native Prairie Microbiomes for Cleaner Water

\$468,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify and characterize prairie plant microbiomes and study the potential of native prairie microbes to provide nitrogen for agricultural crops and reduce industrial fertilizer use and nitrate contamination of water.

(r) Wastewater Chloride Reduction through Industrial Source Reduction Assistance

\$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program to provide technical assistance to businesses to cost-effectively reduce industrial and commercial chloride use in communities with high chloride effluent concentrations.

(s) Pilot Water Budget Framework for Managing Water Withdrawals

\$198,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop a pilot water budget framework to identify sensitive areas in Minnesota where net water withdrawals have a significant impact on surface and ground water.

(t) Biofilm Mediated Destruction of PFAS in Groundwater

\$1,336,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Bay West LLC to develop biofilm treatment technology and demonstrate field-scale removal of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from contaminated groundwater.

A fiscal management plan must be approved in the work plan before any trust fund dollars are spent.

(u) Impact of Microplastics on Wastewater Treatment in Minnesota

\$506,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to quantify the abundance of microplastics in wastewater treatment plants in Minnesota, determine how microplastics affect wastewater treatment plant performance, and evaluate how different wastewater treatment processes alter microplastics.

(v) Portable Arsenic and Nitrate Detector for Well Water

\$358,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop a small, cheap, and easy-to-use system to detect arsenic and nitrate and determine if well water is safe to drink.

(w) Recovering Salts from Highly Saline Wastewater

\$272,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop a method to recover useful salts from concentrated saline waste to increase the economic sustainability of high water-recovery softening, sulfate removal, and industrial wastewater treatment.

Subd. 5. Environmental Education

\$11,965,000

\$0

(a) Eagle's Nest: Where the World Becomes Your Classroom

\$130,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Glacial Hills Elementary School to create interactive natural playground and landscaping features for children and provide environmental education programming outside of regular school hours.

(b) Advancing Equity in Environmental Education

\$700,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Camp Fire Minnesota to provide needs-based scholarships for Minnesota youth to attend state-standards-aligned environmental and outdoor education programs.

(c) Teacher Field School - Phase 2: Increasing Impact

\$712,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Hamline University to continue the teacher field school program that trains teachers how to connect academic content with environmental stewardship, natural resource conservation, and outdoor recreation. This appropriation is also to pilot a train-the-trainer model for nature-based-education practices.

(d) Creating Future Leaders in Outdoor and Environmental Leadership

\$330,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for North Hennepin Community College to collaborate with k-12, higher education, and outdoor organizations to increase environmental education, leadership, internship, and career opportunities for underrepresented college and high school students.

(e) Engaging our Diverse Public in Environmental Stewardship - Phase 2

\$249,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to increase participation in natural resources conservation and restoration efforts and careers through volunteer, internship, and youth engagement activities, with a focus on diverse audiences that more accurately reflect local demographic and socioeconomic conditions in Minnesota.

(f) Outdoor School for Minnesota K-12 Students

\$3,992,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center to partner with four other accredited residential environmental learning centers in Minnesota to provide needs-based scholarships to K-12 students statewide for immersive multiday environmental learning experiences.

(g) Statewide Environmental Education via PBS Outdoor Series

\$415,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pioneer Public Broadcasting Service to produce, distribute, and promote new episodes of a statewide public television series that inspires Minnesotans to connect with the outdoors and to restore and protect the state's natural resources.

(h) Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin Conservation Crew Program

\$678,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Conservation Corps to expand a conservation corps program developed to provide natural resources career development opportunities for indigenous young adults and cultivate an enduring action-based conservation ethic through the integration of traditional knowledge, nature immersion, and the implementation of conservation and restoration practices in the field.

(i) Reuse for the Future: Youth Education and Engagement

\$225,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Reuse Minnesota to provide curriculum-based opportunities for students to learn about the reuse economy, reuse skills, and other opportunities to reduce waste. This appropriation may also be used to align materials to state standards and translate materials to additional languages.

(j) River Bend Nature Center Outdoor Diversity Initiative

\$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with River Bend Nature Center to lead a coalition of educational partners and culturally specific organizations to expand recognized environmental education curriculum, provide conservation base career exploration, and job placement for diverse communities in southern Minnesota.

(k) Camp Parsons Mississippi Summer

\$225,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center to provide environmental education to Minneapolis urban youth through the Camp Parsons Mississippi Summer program that fosters connections to nature and encourages responsible stewardship of our natural resources.

(l) Adult Outdoor Education for Minnesota's Underrepresented Communities

\$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Baztec Fishing & Outdoors to create fishing and hunting education, training, and opportunities for underserved and underrepresented communities in Minnesota.

All fishing tackle purchased with this appropriation must be lead-free.

A fiscal management plan must be approved in the work plan before any trust fund dollars are spent.

(m) Minnesota's Roadmap for Sustainability and Climate Education

\$491,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Climate Generation to convene community gatherings and partner with institutions and organizations across the education sector to develop a roadmap on how to build capacity for equitable and accessible sustainability and climate education programs that align with the Minnesota Climate Action Framework.

(n) ESTEP 2.0: Earth Science Teacher Education Project

\$643,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Science Teachers Association to provide professional development for Minnesota science teachers statewide in environmental and earth science content to strengthen environmental education in schools.

(o) Engaging Latine Communities in Conservation and Preservation

\$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Comunidades Organizando el Poder y la Accion Latina to use community-based partnerships and communications platforms to host outdoor events and conduct educational outreach focused on Latine and BIPOC communities about the need to protect Minnesota's environment and natural resources.

(p) Inclusive Wildlife Engagement in Classrooms and Communities

\$712,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the Nongame Wildlife Program to provide three wildlife conservation, action-based outdoor educational opportunities to engage needs-based schools, young adults, and communities underrepresented in natural resources through the Bird by Bird, Empowering Pathways into Conservation, and Community Science programs.

(q) Activating Youth and Family Environmental Stewardship through Raptors

\$228,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for The Raptor Center to deliver standards-based environmental education featuring live raptors through school programs and community events across Minnesota.

(r) Moving Minnesota towards a Lead-Free Sporting Future

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for Bemidji State University to conduct educational outreach directed at hunters and anglers to increase awareness of lead-free options for big game hunting, small game hunting, and fishing as a means of reducing wildlife exposure to lead.

(s) Science Centers Supporting Northern Boys and Girls Clubs

\$1,091,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Headwaters Science Center to expand access to environmental science education in northern Minnesota and leverage partnerships between rural and urban organizations to deliver culturally relevant, hands-on learning experiences to underserved students.

Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

\$6,713,000

\$0

(a) Aquatic Invasive Species: From Problems to Real-World Solutions

\$5,771,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center to conduct high-priority projects aimed at solving Minnesota's aquatic invasive species problems using rigorous science and a collaborative process. This appropriation may also be used to deliver research findings to end users through strategic communication and outreach.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Optimizing Non-Native Cattail Treatment Effectiveness in Prairie Wetlands

\$942,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to compare the effectiveness of invasive cattail treatment methods and provide recommendations for managers to maximize benefits of conservation dollars for native wetland plants and wildlife.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2031, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Subd. 7. Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy

\$11,744,000

\$0

(a) Protecting Coldwater Fish Habitat in Minnesota Lakes

\$561,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify lake-specific watershed protection targets and management practices needed to maintain coldwater fish habitat threatened by warming temperatures and increasing extreme rain events and integrate this information into conservation planning tools.

(b) Agrivoltaics 2.0 Building a Resilient E-Farm

\$535,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the West Central Research and Outreach Center at Morris to evaluate emerging solar system designs and its integration with vegetable and livestock production systems to maximize energy production and benefits to farmers.

(c) Pine Needles Reveal Past and Present Airborne PFAS

\$550,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to use current and historic pine needles as a low-cost method to assess statewide per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) levels in ambient air.

(d) Facilitated Transport Hybrid Membranes for CO2 Separation

\$1,050,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop and test advanced polymeric membranes for capture and reuse of carbon dioxide at industrial sources.

(e) Renewable Energy Conversion for Farm Diesel and Ammonia

\$726,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop a novel charge-swing catalytic condenser that will enable the low-cost production of hydrogen from water using rural electricity for on-the-farm energy storage or renewable diesel and ammonia fertilizer.

(f) Innovative Solution to Renewable Energy from Food Waste

\$5,167,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy Board to provide reimbursements to offset the processing fees for the public to divert organic materials from landfills and produce renewable natural gas through anaerobic digestion and sequestration of carbon into biochar.

Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(g) Fueling the Future: Decarbonizing Regional Transportation Project

\$3,155,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of St. Cloud to install a green hydrogen production, storage, and fueling station that provides a renewable, carbon-free, alternate fuel source to decarbonize community transportation and manufacturing sectors. This appropriation may also be used to convert city fleet and public transit vehicles to hydrogen fuel.

Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat

\$12,188,000

\$0

(a) Minnesota PlantWatch: Community Scientists Conserving Rare Plants

\$1,086,000 the first year is from the trust fund. Of this amount, \$518,000 is to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and \$568,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources to enhance the Minnesota PlantWatch program to improve the conservation of Minnesota's natural resources and support community scientist-driven rare plant surveys and seed banking and preservation.

(b) Grassland Restoration for Pollinator Conservation and Demonstration

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum to restore a degraded pasture to grassland as a model for climate-resilient pollinator habitat, provide interpretive signage, education, and community engagement, and conduct species monitoring.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2031, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(c) Planning for Long-Term Natural Resources Protection, Hennepin County

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Hennepin County to develop a publicly available interactive map of natural systems, create a centralized clearinghouse of data and best practices toolkit, and provide documentation and ongoing technical assistance for local communities with limited resources to manage complex natural resources challenges.

Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(d) Native Forages: Growing Drought and Climate Resiliency

\$2,254,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited Inc. to collaborate with livestock farmers to establish native grassland wildlife habitat and enhance native forages on working lands to improve ecological, economic, and climate resiliency.

Notwithstanding subdivision 13, paragraph (e), restoration efforts may be undertaken on private lands but must occur on properties enrolled in long-term agreements to protect and maintain the restored areas in conformance with approved restoration and grazing plans as approved in the workplan.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2031, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) Accelerated Genetic Migration of Bur Oak- 10yr Data

\$223,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to assess the growth and survival of previously restored bur oak ecotypes to inform techniques for improved climate resilience. This appropriation may also be used to enhance the previous plantings and disseminate results of the study to practitioners, students, landowners, and others.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(f) SHT Bridge, Boardwalk and Trailhead Renewal

\$532,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to renew Superior Hiking Trail bridges, boardwalks, and trailheads to increase user safety, improve the user experience, and protect adjacent land and water.

(g) Mississippi Gateway Shoreline Stabilization and Fishing Improvements

\$735,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Three Rivers Park District to improve water quality and shoreline fishing access through shoreline stabilization and construction of accessible trails and fishing platforms within Mississippi Gateway Regional Park.

(h) Phytoremediation of PFAS from Soil

\$1,066,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use interdisciplinary research in biology, nanotechnology, chemistry, and genetic engineering to develop technology to remediate soils contaminated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). This appropriation may also be used to convene stakeholders to coordinate and advance PFAS remediation research in Minnesota.

This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10

(i) Removing Mercury from Minnesota Waters

\$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to test and refine a biotechnology approach to remove mercury from the food chain in Minnesota's lakes and rivers and potentially make fish consumption in Minnesota safer.

This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10

(j) Evaluating Native Seed Mixes for Grazing

\$208,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Restoravore to assess the use of native hay and pasture mixes to benefit biodiversity, soil health, and Minnesota farmers.

A fiscal management plan must be approved in the work plan before any trust fund dollars are spent.

(k) Improving Minnesota Forest Health via Post-Duff-Burning Soil Analysis

\$646,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to thoroughly investigate the impact of forest floor duff fires on soil dynamics, nutrient cycles, invasive shrubs, earthworms, and root systems to improve fire management for Minnesota's forest preservation. This appropriation may also be used to develop an outdoor lab-scale duff burning device.

(l) Minnesota Riverbank Protection and Parks Improvements

\$1,400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Shakopee to restore Minnesota River shoreline at Huber Park by regrading and establishing native vegetation to protect fish and wildlife habitat, reduce erosion, and provide public access to the river.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(m) Restoration at Wakan Tipi and Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary

\$669,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Lower Phalen Creek Project to conduct citizen-science natural resource data collection events, recruit and train volunteer site stewards, and enhance habitat at Wakan Tipi and Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary.

(n) Promoting Pollinators on Corporate Campuses

\$547,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the University of St. Thomas to use experimental bee lawn installations on corporate campuses, combined with landscape modeling and employee surveys, to determine potential ecological, economic, and societal benefits of widespread commercial lawn habitat transformation.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(o) A Riparian Area Adaptation Strategy for Southeast Minnesota

\$243,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with the University of Minnesota, to assess an alternative riparian adaptation restoration strategy involving excavation and planting of riparian shrubs to traditional approaches. This appropriation may also be used for outreach materials and educational activities.

(p) Minnehaha Park South Plateau Oak Savanna Restoration

\$242,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to improve wildlife habitat, enhance recreational experiences, and restore an area of urban parkland in Minnehaha Park to an oak savanna ecosystem.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(q) Tree Protection for Minnesota’s Tamarack Against Larch Beetle

\$321,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to evaluate new insect management techniques and key factors for predicting future infestations to protect and preserve trees from native eastern larch beetle infestations.

(r) Shoreline Restoration and Enhancement at Minneapolis Lakes

\$819,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to restore and enhance areas of turf-dominated, eroding, and low habitat value lakeshore that impacts the water quality of Minneapolis’s Chain of Lakes.

(s) Developing Markets for CLC Crops

\$450,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of agriculture to provide grants to organizations in Minnesota to develop enterprises, supply chains, and markets for continuous living cover crops and cropping systems in the early stage of commercial development.

This appropriation is exempt from the income repayment requirements in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10, paragraph (c).

Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation

\$19,553,000

\$0

(a) Cannon River Preservation and Access

\$2,717,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Dakota County to rehabilitate the historic Waterford Bridge for the Mill Towns State Trail, restore and enhance upland shoreline, forest, and prairie habitats, and develop a trailhead and recreational access to the Cannon River.

(b) Mesabi Trail Aurora to Hoyt Lakes

\$1,325,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority for environmental review and permitting, and to engineer, design and construct a segment of the Mesabi Trail beginning at the intersection of Main Street and Forestry Road in Aurora toward Hoyt Lakes.

(c) RTA Maintenance Trail Stabilization Project

\$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Eden Prairie to construct a retaining wall and restore adjacent remnant prairie along the maintenance trail at Richard T. Anderson Conservation Area to mitigate ongoing erosion and protect native habitat and plant communities.

(d) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs

\$4,769,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

This appropriation is exempt from Subdivision 13, paragraph (k).

(e) Boardwalk Over Boggy Land for Recreational Purposes

\$148,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Battle Lake to design and construct a boardwalk over city land for the protection of wetlands and to increase community access to natural areas and wildlife habitat.

(f) Lake Zumbro Park Water Access and Site Improvements

\$1,978,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Olmsted County to enhance the park's water access and ADA accessibility for boating, fishing, and viewing while creating new user-friendly and accessible amenities for individuals and families. This may include new fishing docks or piers, restored shoreline, improved parking, and ADA accessible access to an existing kayak and canoe launch.

(g) Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Biodiversity Protection

\$1,104,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the scientific and natural areas (SNA) program to conserve Minnesota's most unique places and rare species and strategically acquire lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(h) Scandia Gateway Trail Connection: Recreation, Wetlands, Environmental Education

\$907,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Scandia to engineer, design, and construct a bike and pedestrian trail to connect recreational, cultural and environmental resources in Scandia to the state Gateway Trail. Funding is also to create and install educational interpretive signage about wetlands and rain gardens near the trail.

(i) Lake Byllesby Regional Park Restoration and Recreation

\$1,120,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Dakota County to restore prairie, woodland, and shoreline habitat and design and install trails, birding and picnic areas, and other recreational amenities to enhance the visitor experience and stewardship at Lake Byllesby Regional Park.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(j) Thompson County Park Restoration and Accessibility Improvements

\$867,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Dakota County to develop a pollinator promenade with accessible natural surface paths, native plantings, and interpretive signage at Thompson County Park. This appropriation may also be used to conduct stream restoration to enhance visitor experience and provide stormwater storage, sediment and nutrient reduction, and increased habitat and species diversity within the park.

This appropriation is available until June 30, 2029, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(k) Thom Storm Chalet and Outdoor Recreation Center

\$2,312,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Duluth to construct a new building and accessible parking for the Thom Storm Chalet and Outdoor Recreation Center

at Chester Park to expand high-quality outdoor recreation and environmental education opportunities that enhance youth and family understanding of the importance of natural resource protection, conservation, and preservation.

Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(l) Enhancing Preservation and Accessibility at Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve

\$155,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Duluth to develop accessible trails and remove invasive species to enhance outdoor recreation and education opportunities that promote conservation of raptors and preservation of natural resources at Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve.

(m) Echo Bay County Park - Phase 1 Construction

\$1,122,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to construct, in accordance with the Echo Bay County Park Master Plan, access roads, trails, parking, and bathroom facilities that create designated public access and use corridors for outdoor recreation and limit natural resource impacts in Echo Bay County Park.

(n) Chaska Big Woods Property Acquisition

\$529,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Chaska to acquire property that contains remnant Big Woods for the protection of Minnesota forests and wetlands and to increase community access to natural areas.

Subd. 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and Contract Agreement Reimbursement \$7,267,000 \$0

(a) Emerging Issues Account FY2025

\$2,984,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources to an emerging issues account authorized in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.08, subdivision 4, paragraph (d).

(b) 2025 Contract Agreement Reimbursement

\$280,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources, at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, for expenses incurred in preparing and administering contracts, including for the agreements specified in this section.

(c) LCCMR Administrative Budget

\$4,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for administration in fiscal years 2026 and 2027 as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09, subdivision 5. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.11, paragraph (b), Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.281, applies to this appropriation

(d) Legislative Coordinating Commission Legacy Website

\$3,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the website required in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

Subd. 11. Availability of appropriations

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs that are directly related to and necessary for an appropriation, including financial services, human resources, information services, rent, and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can be clearly justified and individually documented specific to the appropriation's purpose

and would not be generated by the recipient but for receipt of the appropriation. No broad allocations for costs in either dollars or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available for three years beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2028, when projects must be completed and final products delivered. For acquisition of real property, the appropriations in this section are available for an additional fiscal year if a binding contract for acquisition of the real property is entered into before the expiration date of the appropriation. If a project receives a federal award, the period of the appropriation is extended to equal the federal award period to a maximum trust fund appropriation length of six years.

Subd. 12. Data availability requirements

Data collected by the projects funded under this section must conform to guidelines and standards adopted by Minnesota IT Services. Spatial data must also conform to additional guidelines and standards designed to support data coordination and distribution that have been published by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. Descriptions of spatial data must be prepared as specified in the state's geographic metadata guidelines and final data must be uploaded submitted to the Minnesota Geospatial Commons Information Office upon project completion. All data must be accessible and free to the public unless made private under the Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the extent practicable, summary data and results of projects funded under this section should be readily accessible on the Internet and identified as having received funding from the environment and natural resources trust fund.

Subd. 13. Project requirements

(a) As a condition of accepting an appropriation under this section, an agency or entity receiving an appropriation or a party to an agreement from an appropriation must comply with paragraphs (b) to (m) and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the amendment process established by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(b) A recipient of money appropriated in this section that conducts a restoration using funds appropriated in this section must use native plant species according to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines and include an appropriate diversity of native species selected to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the growing season as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.973.

(c) For all restorations conducted with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan that, to the degree practicable, is consistent with the highest-quality conservation and ecological goals for the restoration site. Consideration should be given to soil, geology, topography, and other relevant factors that would provide the best chance for long-term success and durability of the restoration project. The plan must include the proposed timetable for implementing the restoration, including site preparation, establishment of diverse plant species, maintenance, and additional enhancement to establish the restoration; identify long-term maintenance and management needs of the restoration and how the maintenance, management, and enhancement will be financed; and take advantage of the best-available science and include innovative techniques to achieve the best restoration.

(d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this section for restoration activities must provide an initial restoration evaluation at the completion of the appropriation and an evaluation three years after the completion of the expenditure. Restorations must be evaluated relative to the stated goals and standards in the restoration plan, current

science, and, when applicable, the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines. The evaluation must determine whether the restorations are meeting planned goals, identify any problems with implementing the restorations, and, if necessary, give recommendations on improving restorations. The evaluation must be focused on improving future restorations.

(e) All restoration and enhancement projects funded with money appropriated in this section must be on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.

(f) A recipient of money from an appropriation under this section must give consideration to contracting with Conservation Corps Minnesota for contract restoration and enhancement services.

(g) All conservation easements acquired with money appropriated under this section must:

- (1) be permanent;
- (2) specify the parties to the easement in the easement document;
- (3) specify all provisions of an agreement that are permanent;
- (4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources in an electronic format at least 20 business days before closing;
- (5) include a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan and funding for monitoring and enforcing the easement agreement; and
- (6) include requirements in the easement document to protect the quantity and quality of groundwater and surface water through specific activities, such as keeping water on the landscape, reducing nutrient and contaminant loading, and not permitting artificial hydrological modifications.

(h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in lands, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must not agree to pay more than 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel of land using this money to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, except that up to ten percent above the appraised value may be allowed to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, using this money if permission is received in advance of the purchase from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(i) For any acquisition of land or interest in land, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must give priority to high-quality natural resources or conservation lands that provide natural buffers to water resources.

(j) For new lands acquired with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan in compliance with paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for implementation unless the work plan addresses why a portion of the money is not necessary to achieve a high-quality restoration.

(k) To ensure public accountability for using public funds, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must, within 60 days of a land acquisition, provide to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources documentation of the selection process used to identify parcels acquired and provide documentation of all related transaction costs, including but not limited to appraisals, legal fees, recording fees, commissions, other similar costs, and donations. This information must be provided for all parties involved in the transaction. The recipient must also report to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources any difference between the acquisition amount paid to the seller and the state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal was conducted.

(l) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section must acknowledge financial support from the environment and natural resources trust fund in project publications, signage, and other public communications and

outreach related to work completed using the appropriation. Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate, through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion of language attributing support from the trust fund. Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section, as well as each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section, must satisfy all reporting and other requirements incumbent upon constitutionally dedicated funding recipients as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10, and chapter 116P.

(m) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section that is receiving funding to conduct children's services, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, subdivision 7, must certify to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, as part of the required work plan, that criminal background checks for background check crimes, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61, subdivision 2, are performed on all employees, contractors, and volunteers that have or may have access to a child to whom the recipient provides children's services using the appropriation.

Subd. 14. Payment conditions and capital equipment expenditures

All agreements, grants, or contracts referred to in this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided in this section. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41, expenditures made on or after July 1, 2025, or the date the work plan is approved, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. Periodic payments must be made upon receiving documentation that the deliverable items articulated in the approved work plan have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by approved progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash-flow needs or match federal money. The advances must be approved as part of the work plan. No expenditures for capital equipment are allowed unless expressly authorized in the project work plan.

(b) Single-source contracts as specified in the approved work plan are allowed.

Subd. 15. Purchasing recycled and recyclable materials

A political subdivision, public or private corporation, or other entity that receives an appropriation under this section must use the appropriation in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable materials, and Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using paper stock and printing.

Subd. 16. ~~Energy conservation and sustainable building guidelines~~

~~A recipient to whom an appropriation is made under this section for a capital improvement project must ensure that the project complies with the applicable energy conservation and sustainable building guidelines and standards contained in law, including Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.325, 216C.19, and 216C.20, and rules adopted under those sections. The recipient may use the energy planning, advocacy, and State Energy Office units of the Department of Commerce to obtain information and technical assistance on energy conservation and alternative energy development relating to planning and constructing the capital improvement project.~~

Subd. 17. Accessibility

Structural and nonstructural facilities must meet the design standards in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility guidelines.

Subd. 17. Carryforward; extensions

(a) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2026:

- (1) Laws 2021, First Special Session, chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (d), Foundational Hydrology Data for Wetland Protection and Restoration;
- (2) Laws 2021, First Special Session, chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph (b), Protect Community Forests by Managing Ash for EAB;
- (3) Laws 2021, First Special Session, chapter 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (t), Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation and Education;
- (4) Laws 2021, First Special Session, chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (g), Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management;
- (5) Laws 2021, First Special Session, chapter 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (n), Bioacoustics for Broad-Scale Species Monitoring and Conservation;
- (6) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (f), Water and Climate Information to Enhance Community Resilience;
- (7) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (i), Is the Tire Chemical 6PPDq Killing Minnesota's Fish?;
- (8) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 7, paragraph (a), Green Solar Cells from a Minnesota Natural Resource;
- (9) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (d), Hastings Lake Rebecca Park Area; and
- (10) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (a), Mesabi Trail: Wahlsten Road (CR 26) to Tower.
- (11) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (j), Silver Bay Multimodal Trailhead Project

(b) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2027:

- (1) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (g), Catch and Reveal: Discovering Unknown Fish Contamination Threats;
- (2) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (e), Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition;
- (3) Laws 2022, Chp. 94, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (h), SNA Habitat Restoration and Public Engagement; and
- (4) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (n), Ranier Safe Harbor/Transient Dock - Phase 2.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Subdivision 17 is effective the day following final enactment.

Subd. 18. Transfers

If not already otherwise encumbered, \$382,000 is transferred from the amount appropriated under Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 2, subdivision 10, paragraph (2), and \$885,000 is transferred from the amount appropriated under Laws 2024, chapter 83, section 2, subdivision 10, paragraph (b) to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for an emerging issues project to establish a wildlife health network and monitor for and report on the incidence of highly pathogenic avian influenza in free-ranging birds and mammals throughout Minnesota.

EFFECTIVE DATE. Subdivision 18 is effective the day following final enactment.

Section 3. Laws 2024, Chapter 83, section 2, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

(x) Remote Sensing for Pollinator Habitat

\$180,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Monarch Joint Venture to use remote sensing technology to evaluate pollinator habitat on energy and transportation corridors across Minnesota and to host field-day training workshops. Net income generated as part of this appropriation may be reinvested in the project if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the work plan as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2024.

Section 4. Laws 2024, chapter 83, section 2, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

(p) Priority Lakes: Meeting Protection Goals and Multiplying Benefits

\$1,890,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District, in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to protect habitat, forest health, and water quality in the best fishing lakes by creating lake implementation action plans, conducting community-based habitat restorations and improvements, and protecting forest lands with conservation easements and Sustainable Forest Incentive Act (SFIA) enrollments within prioritized areas of the upper Mississippi River basin in ~~Hubbard County~~. Of this amount, up to \$168,000 is for deposit in a monitoring fund to be used by Minnesota Land Trust as approved in the work plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.20.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2024.

VI. Revenues and Distributions

“the source and amount of all revenues collected and distributed by the commission, including all administrative and other expenses;”

Documents include, for appropriation years 1991-2025:

- Dollars appropriated and available from ENRTF
- Revenue sources of appropriations
- Appropriations for LCMR and LCCMR administration expenses

DOLLARS AVAILABLE FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND (ENRTF) FOR DISTRIBUTION BY THE LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES

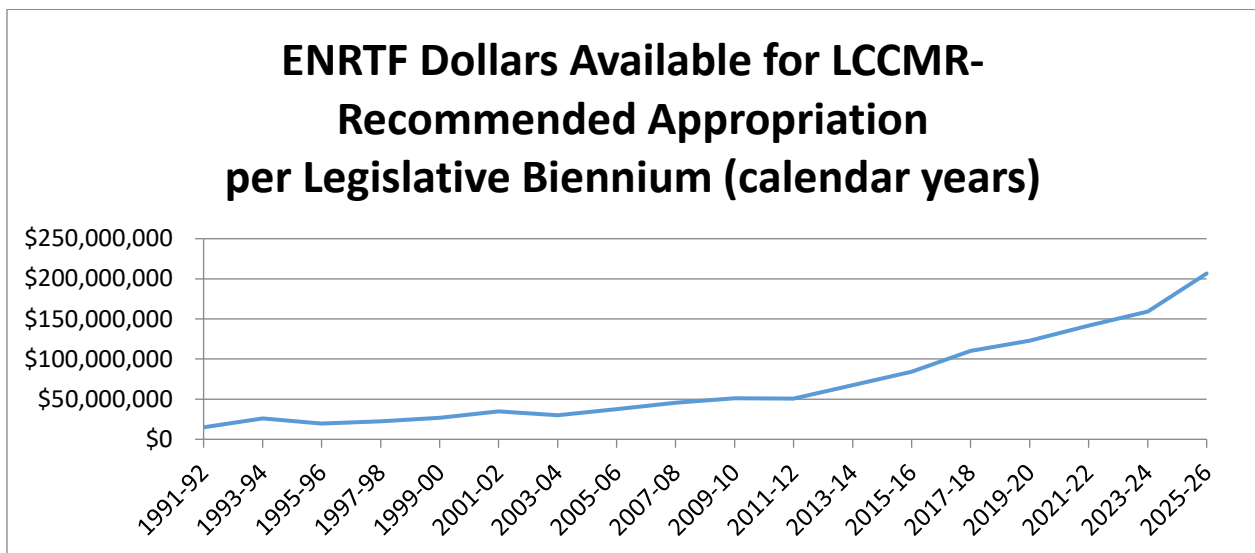
Total ENRTF Dollars Available for FY 26-27 LCCMR Recommendations: up to \$206,652,000

Basis

As of November 2024, the Minnesota Constitution provides that up to 7% of the market value of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund can be used for projects each year. LCCMR makes recommendations for how 5.5% of the market value of the fund is appropriated. This 5.5% value is determined for both years of each fiscal biennium based on the market value of the ENRTF on June 30 one year prior to the start of the next fiscal biennium. Thus, the dollars available for appropriation during fiscal years 2026 (beginning July 1, 2025) and 2027 (beginning July 1, 2026) was determined on June 30, 2024.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Value of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund on June 30, 2024 = | \$1,878,656,316.55 |
| 5.5% of value on June 30, 2024 = | \$103,326,097.41 |
| Dollar amount to be used for FY 2026-2027 LCCMR recommendations (rounded down to nearest thousandth) = | \$103,326,000/year |
| Total dollars available for LCCMR recommendation during fiscal 2026-2027 biennium = | \$206,652,000 |

Total ENRTF Dollars Available Historically for Recommendation by the LCCMR



| Biennial Appropriation Calendar Years | Dollars Available for Appropriation |
|--|--|
| 1991-92 | \$14,960,000 |
| 1993-94 | \$25,946,000 |
| 1995-96 | \$19,649,000 |
| 1997-98 | \$22,270,000 |
| 1999-00 | \$27,001,000 |
| 2001-02 | \$34,620,000 |
| 2003-04 | \$30,100,000 |
| 2005-06 | \$37,657,000 |
| 2007-08 | \$45,732,000 |
| 2009-10 | \$51,244,000 |
| 2011-12 | \$50,656,000 |
| 2013-14 | \$67,620,000 |
| 2015-16 | \$84,292,000 |
| 2017-18 | \$110,078,000 |
| 2019-20 | \$122,774,000 |
| 2021-22 | \$141,763,000 |
| 2023-24 | \$159,288,000 |
| 2025-26 | \$206,652,000 |
| TOTAL | \$1,252,302,000 |

Revenue Sources For Appropriations

| Appropriation Year | | Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund | Future Resources Fund | Oil Overcharge Money | Land & Water Conservation (LAWCON) | Great Lakes Protection Account | Totals |
|---|------|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES (LCMR) - Biennial funding cycle | | | | | | | |
| 1991 | | | | | | | |
| Ch 254 Art. 1 Sec.14 | | 14,960,000 | 16,534,000 | 3,500,000 | 0 | 0 | 34,994,000 |
| 1993 | | | | | | | |
| Ch 172 Sec. 14 | | 24,600,000 | 14,662,000 | 2,012,000 | 0 | 0 | 41,274,000 |
| 1994 | | | | | | | |
| Ch 632 Art. 2 Sec. 6 | | 1,346,000 | 1,404,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,750,000 |
| 1995 | | | | | | | |
| Ch 220 Sec. 19, 20, 21 | | 17,844,000 | 15,083,000 | 2,055,000 | 0 | 130,000 | 35,112,000 |
| 1st. Sp.Ses., Ch. 2, Sec. 5 | | 175,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 175,000 |
| 1996 | | | | | | | |
| Ch 407 Sec. 8 | | 1,630,000 | 3,258,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,888,000 |
| 1997 | | | | | | | |
| Ch 216 Sec. 15 | | 22,270,000 | 14,668,000 | 150,000 | 0 | 120,000 | 37,208,000 |
| Ch 246, Sec. 32 | | 0 | 150,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150,000 |
| 1999 | | | | | | | |
| Ch 231, Sec. 16 | (1) | 25,460,000 (1) | 14,840,000 | 0 | 0 | 200,000 | 40,500,000 |
| Ch 231, Sec. 17 | | 991,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 991,000 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | |
| 1st. Sp.Ses., Ch. 2, Sec. 14 | (2) | 34,165,000 (2) | 15,110,000 | 180,000 | 0 | 87,000 | 49,542,000 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | |
| Ch. 220, Art. 8, Sec. 1 & 8 | | 316,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 316,000 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | |
| Ch. 128, Art. 1, Sec. 9 | | 30,100,000 (3) | 0 | 519,000 (4) | 2,000,000 | 56,000 | 32,675,000 |
| 2005 | | | | | | | |
| 1st. Sp.Ses., Ch. 1, Art. 2, Sec. 11 | (5) | 33,560,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,600,000 (5) | 0 | 35,160,000 |
| 2006 | | | | | | | |
| Ch. 243, Sec. 19 & 20 | | 4,097,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28,000 | 4,125,000 |
| LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES (LCCMR) - Annual funding cycle | | | | | | | |
| 2007 | | | | | | | |
| Ch. 30, Sec. 2 | | 22,866,000 | 0 | 0 | 500,000 | 0 | 23,366,000 |
| 2008 | | | | | | | |
| Ch.367, Sec. 2 | | 22,866,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 86,000 | 22,952,000 |
| 2009 | | | | | | | |
| Ch.143, Sec. 2 | (6) | 25,204,000 | 0 | 0 | 400,000 | 66,000 | 25,670,000 |
| 2010 | | | | | | | |
| Ch.362, Sec. 2 | (7) | 25,897,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25,897,000 |
| 2011 (Biennial) | | | | | | | |
| 1st. Sp.Ses., Ch. 2, Art. 3, Sec. 2 | | 50,656,000 | 0 | 0 | 750,000 | 0 | 51,406,000 |
| 2013 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 52, Sec. 2 | (8) | 38,160,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 38,160,000 |
| 2014 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 226, Sec. 2 | | 28,970,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28,970,000 |
| Chp. 312, Art. 12, Sec. 8 | (9) | 490,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 490,000 |
| 2015 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 76, Sec. 2 | | 46,324,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 59,000 | 46,383,000 |
| 2016 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 186, Sec. 2 | (10) | 37,909,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37,909,000 |
| 2017 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 96, Sec. 2 | | 64,250,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64,250,000 |
| 2018 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 2 | | 42,888,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 42,888,000 |
| | (11) | | | | | | |
| Chp. 214, Art. 6, Sec. 4 | (12) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2019 | | | | | | | |
| 1st Sp. Ses., Chp. 4, Art. 2 | | 64,327,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64,327,000 |
| 2020 | | | | | | | |
| | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2021 | | | | | | | |
| 1st Sp. Ses., Chp. 6, Art. 5 | (13) | 61,387,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 61,387,000 |
| 1st Sp. Ses., Chp. 6, Art 6 | (14) | 70,881,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 70,881,000 |
| 2022 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 94 | (15) | 70,881,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 70,881,000 |
| 2023 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 60, Art. 2 | (16) | 79,644,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 189,000 | 79,833,000 |
| 2024 | | | | | | | |
| Chp. 83, Sec. 2 | | 79,644,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 79,644,000 |
| | | 1,044,758,000 | 95,709,000 | 8,416,000 | 5,250,000 | 1,021,000 | 1,155,154,000 |

NOTES:

(1) In 1999, the following amounts were vetoed and have been subtracted from totals above:

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| 350,000 | TF |
| 200,000 | TF |
| <u>1,200,000</u> | FRF |
| 1,750,000 | |

(2) In 2001, the following amounts were vetoed and have been subtracted from the totals above:

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| 275,000 | FRF |
| <u>455,000</u> | TF |
| 730,000 | |

(3) In 2003, Future Resource Fund was redirected to the General Fund, not to be recommended by the LCMR per ML 2003, Ch. 128, Art. 1, Sec. 146 & Sec. 155. The unencumbered balance was transferred to the account in the natural resources fund. It is believed this was \$17,870,000.

(4) Previous to 2003, the LAWCON money was included in the Future Resource Fund appropriation for purposes of this chart.

(5) In 2005, the following amounts were vetoed and have been subtracted from the totals above:

| | |
|---------------|------|
| 4,098,000 | TF |
| <u>28,000</u> | GLPA |
| 4,126,000 | |

(6) In 2009, the following amounts were vetoed and have been subtracted from the totals above:

| | |
|----------------|----|
| 275,000 | TF |
| <u>143,000</u> | TF |
| 418,000 | |

(7) In 2010, the following amounts were vetoed and have been subtracted from the totals above:

143,000 TF

(8) In 2013, in addition to the appropriations noted above, \$200,000 ENRTF was transferred from FY10 (ML09) to a new project

(9) In 2014, in addition to the appropriations noted above, \$970,000 ENRTF was transferred from FY11 to a new project

(10) In 2016, the following amounts were vetoed and have been subtracted from the totals above:

8,428,000 TF (7 Appropriations)

(11) This appropriation was for debt service of FY18 \$2,940,000 and FY20-FY39 \$7,860,000/year for \$98,000,000 in special appropriation bonds

(12) In 2019, this law was repealed and the debt service in the following amount has been subtracted from the totals above:

2,940,000 TF

(13) In 2021, in addition to the appropriations noted above, \$100,000 ENRTF from FY16, \$430,000 ENRTF from FY17, \$94,000 ENRTF from FY18, \$540,000 ENRTF from FY 19, and \$2,768,000 ENRTF from FY20 was transferred to new projects.

(14) In 2021, in addition to the appropriations noted above, \$270,000 ENRTF from FY18, \$350,000 ENRTF from FY19, \$220,000 ENRTF from FY20 was transferred to new projects.

(15) In 2022, in addition to the appropriations noted above, \$2,463,000 ENRTF from the following fiscal years was transferred to new projects: \$78k from FY20; \$550k from FY19, \$1,835k from FY19

(16) In 2023, in addition to the appropriations noted above, \$176,000 ENRTF from FY22 was transferred to new projects.

Appropriations for LCMR and LCCMR Administrative Expenses

Statutory Reference MS 116P

The amounts shown here are part of the total appropriation

| Appropriation Year | Admin Budget From ENRTF (\$) | Total ENRTF Appropriations (\$) | Admin % of Total ENRTF Appropriations | Admin Budget from Future Resources Fund (\$) | Admin Biennium Total (\$) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| LCMR 1991 | 0 | 14,960,000 | 0.00% | 850,000 | 850,000 |
| LCMR 1993 | 270,000 | 25,946,000 | 1.04% | 425,000 | 695,000 |
| LCMR 1995 | 394,000 | 19,649,000 | 2.01% | 308,000 | 702,000 |
| LCMR 1997 | 472,000 | 22,270,000 | 2.12% | 304,000 | 776,000 |
| LCMR 1999 | 567,000 | 27,001,000 | 2.10% | 333,000 | 900,000 |
| LCMR 2001 | 738,000 | 34,620,000 | 2.13% | 389,000 | 1,127,000 |
| LCMR 2003 | 672,000 | 30,100,000 | 2.23% * | 0 ** | 672,000 |
| LCMR 2005 (annual) | 449,000 | 18,828,000 | 2.38% | 0 | 449,000 *** |
| LCMR 2006 (annual) | 550,000 | 18,828,000 | 2.92% **** | 0 | 550,000 |
| LCCMR 2007 | 1,278,000 | 45,732,000 | 2.79% | 0 | 1,278,000 |
| LCCMR 2009 | 1,254,000 | 50,636,000 | 2.48% | 0 | 1,254,000 |
| LCCMR 2011 | 946,000 | 50,656,000 | 1.87% | 0 | 946,000 |
| LCCMR 2013 | 990,000 | 67,620,000 | 1.46% | 0 | 990,000 |
| LCCMR 2015 | 1,072,000 | 92,674,000 | 1.16% | 0 | 1,072,000 |
| LCCMR 2017 | 1,200,000 | 110,078,000 | 1.09% | 0 | 1,200,000 |
| LCCMR 2019 | 1,400,000 | 122,774,000 | 1.14% | 0 | 1,400,000 |
| LCCMR 2021 | 1,750,000 | 141,763,000 | 1.23% | 0 | 1,750,000 |
| LCCMR 2023 | 2,133,000 | 79,644,000 | 2.68% | 0 | 2,133,000 |
| LCCMR 2024 (annual) | 750,000 ***** | 79,644,000 | 0.94% | 0 | 750,000 |
| LCCMR 2025 (proposed) | 4,000,000 | 206,652,000 | 1.94% | 0 | 4,000,000 |
| Total | 20,885,000 | 1,260,075,000 | (Ave) 1.79% | 2,609,000 | 23,494,000 |

NOTES: All appropriations are biennial unless noted.

The administrative budget from the Trust Fund is capped at 4% of the Trust Fund available each year, M.S. 116P, Subd. 5

* Carryforward from administrative budget appropriation 02-03 (Trust Fund).

** Future Resources Fund was redirected to the General Budget, not to be recommended by the LCMR per ML 2003, Ch. 128, Art. 1, Sec. 146 & Sec. 1

*** This amount reflects only first year funding. The governor vetoed the second half of the biennium funding of the administrative budget (\$450,000).

**** Carryforward from 2005 administrative appropriation for LCMR and the "Citizen Advisory Committee for the Trust Fund".

***** Budget Supplement

VII. Assets & Liabilities

“a description of the assets and liabilities of the trust fund;”

The following documents include:

- Historical market value of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (1992 – June 30, 2024)
- State Board of Investment 2022 Annual Report
- State Board of Investment 2023 Annual Report
- State Board of Investment 2024 Annual Report

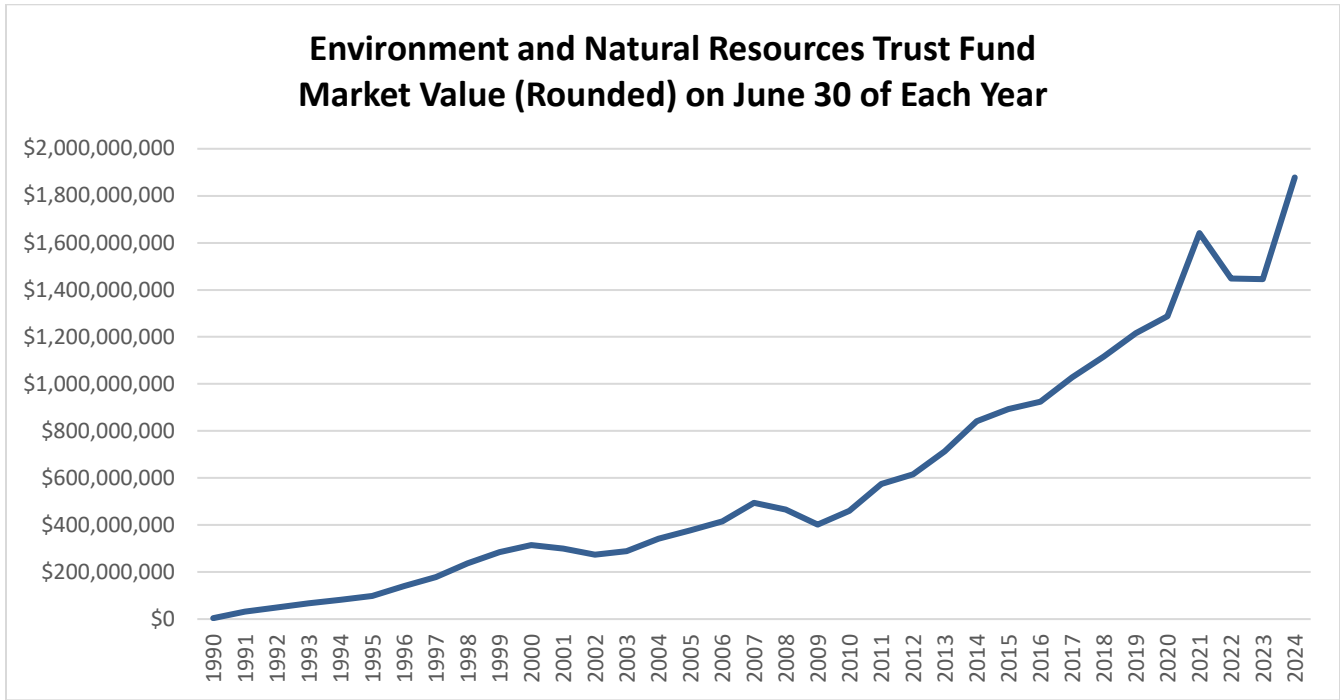
HISTORICAL MARKET VALUE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

Background

The assets in the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) originate from a combination of contributions and investment income. Forty percent of the net proceeds from the Minnesota State Lottery, or more than six cents of every dollar spent on playing the lottery, are contributed to the ENRTF each year; this source of contribution is guaranteed by the Minnesota Constitution through December 31, 2050. The ENRTF may also receive contributions from other sources, such as private donations. Once deposited into the ENRTF, contributions become part of the principal balance and are invested in a combination of stocks and bonds by the Minnesota State Board of Investment. The income generated from those investments is reinvested back into the ENRTF.

For FY 1992-1999, investment earnings of the ENRTF and up to 25% of the Minnesota Lottery’s annual contributions to the ENRTF were available for appropriation each year. A constitutional amendment in 1998 altered this rule so that from FY 2000-2025, up to 5.5% of the ENRTF’s market value (determined by the market value of the ENRTF on June 30 one year before the start of a biennium) was available for appropriation each year. A constitutional amendment in 2024 increased the amount available starting in FY 2025 to 7% of the ENRTF’s market value, however the amount recommended and administered by the LCCMR remains at 5.5%.

History



| Year | June 30 Value |
|------|---------------|
| 1990 | \$4,000,000 |
| 1991 | \$32,000,000 |
| 1992 | \$49,000,000 |
| 1993 | \$67,000,000 |
| 1994 | \$82,000,000 |
| 1995 | \$98,000,000 |
| 1996 | \$140,000,000 |
| 1997 | \$179,000,000 |
| 1998 | \$237,000,000 |
| 1999 | \$285,000,000 |

| Year | June 30 Value |
|------|---------------|
| 2000 | \$315,000,000 |
| 2001 | \$300,000,000 |
| 2002 | \$274,000,000 |
| 2003 | \$289,000,000 |
| 2004 | \$342,000,000 |
| 2005 | \$377,000,000 |
| 2006 | \$416,000,000 |
| 2007 | \$494,000,000 |
| 2008 | \$466,000,000 |
| 2009 | \$402,000,000 |

| Year | June 30 Value |
|------|-----------------|
| 2010 | \$461,000,000 |
| 2011 | \$575,000,000 |
| 2012 | \$615,000,000 |
| 2013 | \$714,000,000 |
| 2014 | \$842,000,000 |
| 2015 | \$893,000,000 |
| 2016 | \$924,000,000 |
| 2017 | \$1,028,000,000 |
| 2018 | \$1,116,000,000 |
| 2019 | \$1,215,000,000 |

| Year | June 30 Value |
|------|-----------------|
| 2020 | \$1,288,000,000 |
| 2021 | \$1,641,000,000 |
| 2022 | \$1,448,000,000 |
| 2023 | \$1,445,000,000 |
| 2024 | \$1,878,000,000 |

2022



Image by Erol Sanderegger

ANNUAL REPORT

Non-Retirement Account Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Overview

The Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund (known as Environmental Trust Fund) was established in 1988 by the Minnesota Legislature to provide a long-term, consistent and stable source of funding for activities that protect and enhance the environment. By statute, the SBI invests the assets of the Environmental Trust Fund. The Minnesota Legislature funds environmental projects from a portion of the market value of the Fund.

As of June 30, 2022 the market value of the Fund was \$1.45 billion.

Investment Objective

The Environmental Trust Fund's investment objective is long-term growth in order to produce a growing level of funding within the constraints of maintaining adequate portfolio liquidity.

A constitutional amendment passed in November 1998 continues the mandate that 40% of the net proceeds from the state lottery be credited to the Fund through 2025.

The amendment provides for spending 5.5% of the Fund's market value annually. The amendment eliminated certain accounting restrictions on capital gains and losses as well as the provision that the principal must remain inviolate.

Asset Allocation

After the constitutional amendment was adopted in November 1998, SBI staff worked with the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources to establish an asset allocation policy that is consistent with the Commission's goals for spending and growth of the Fund. The Fund allocation is positioned for an appropriate long-term growth potential to meet the Fund's objective to produce a growing level of funding.

The current long-term asset allocation targets for the Fund are:

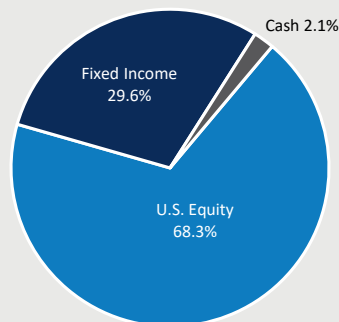
| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Domestic Equity | 70% |
| Domestic Bonds | 28% |
| Cash | 2% |

Figure 79 presents the actual asset mix of the Fund at the end of fiscal year 2022.

Investment Management

The Environmental Trust Fund is invested in the Non-Retirement Equity, Bond and Money Market Funds. Fund Summaries are provided on pages 139-141.

Figure 79. Environmental Trust Fund Asset Mix as of June 30, 2022



Non-Retirement Account Environmental Trust Fund

Investment Performance

During the fiscal year, the *equity* segment matched its benchmark, the S&P 500, for the fiscal year.

The *bond* segment underperformed its benchmark, the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index, by 0.8 percentage points during the fiscal year.

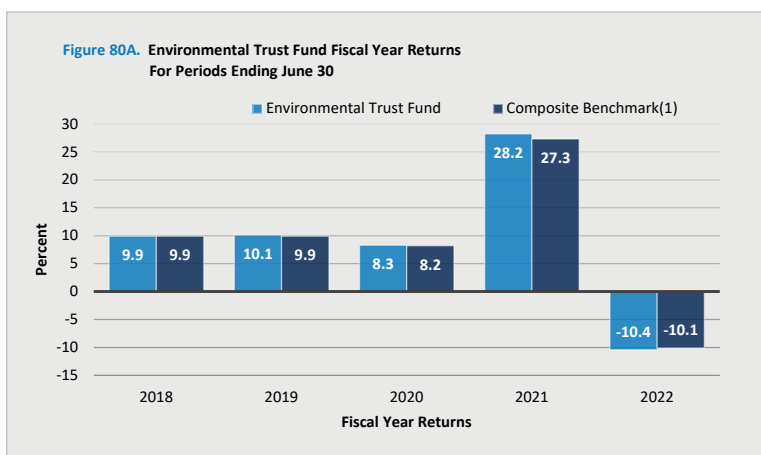
The *cash* segment outperformed its benchmark, the iMoneyNet All Taxable Money Fund Average by 0.1 percentage point during the fiscal year.

Overall, the Environmental Trust Fund provided a return of -10.4% for fiscal year 2022, which underperformed its composite index by 0.3 percentage point during the fiscal year. Results for a longer time-periods, show the Fund outperforming its composite index over the ten- and twenty-year time periods ending June 30, 2022.

Historical performance results for the total Fund and each of the asset class segments are presented in Figures 80A and 80B.

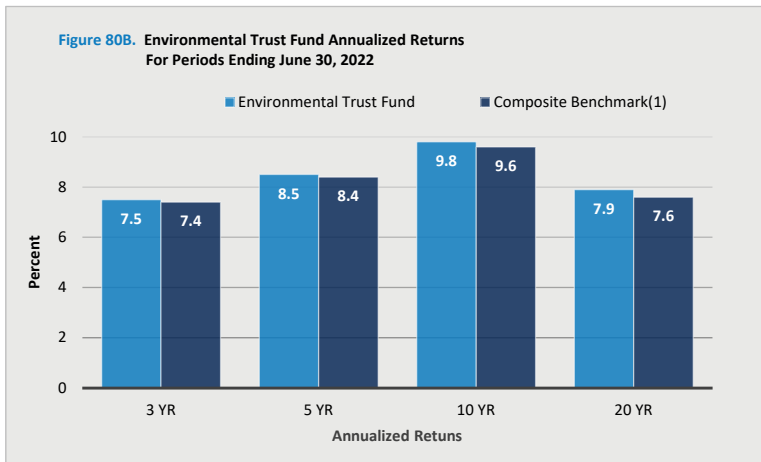
Spendable income generated by the Fund over the last five fiscal years is shown below:

| Fiscal Year | Millions |
|-------------|----------|
| 2018 | \$51 |
| 2019 | \$51 |
| 2020 | \$61 |
| 2021 | \$61 |
| 2022 | \$71 |



| | Fiscal Year End Return (%) | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| Environmental Trust Fund Total | 9.9 | 10.1 | 8.3 | 28.2 | -10.4 |
| Composite Benchmark ¹ | 9.9 | 9.9 | 8.2 | 27.3 | -10.1 |
| Equity Segment | 14.3 | 10.4 | 7.5 | 40.8 | -10.6 |
| S&P 500 | 14.4 | 10.4 | 7.5 | 40.8 | -10.6 |
| Bond Segment | -0.3 | 8.4 | 8.2 | 1.2 | -11.1 |
| Bloomberg Agg | -0.4 | 7.9 | 8.7 | -0.3 | -10.3 |
| Cash Segment | 1.4 | 2.4 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| iMoney Net All Taxable Fund | 1.0 | 1.9 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 |

¹ Represents the aggregate returns of the target allocation: S&P 500 70%, Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate 28%, and iMoney Net All Taxable Money Fund Avg 2%.



| | Annualized Returns (%) as of June 30, 2022 | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|
| | 3 Yr. | 5 Yr. | 10 Yr. | 20 Yr. |
| Environmental Trust Fund Total | 7.5 | 8.5 | 9.8 | 7.9 |
| Composite Benchmark ¹ | 7.4 | 8.4 | 9.6 | 7.6 |
| Equity Segment | 10.6 | 11.3 | 12.9 | 9.1 |
| S&P 500 | 10.6 | 11.3 | 13.0 | 9.1 |
| Bond Segment | -0.9 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 4.1 |
| Bloomberg Agg | -0.9 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 3.6 |
| Cash Segment | 0.6 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 1.4 |
| Custom Benchmark ² | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1.1 |

¹ Represents the aggregate returns of the target allocation: S&P 500 70%, Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate 28%, and iMoney Net All Taxable Money Fund Avg 2%.

² Custom Benchmark is the iMoneyNet All Taxable Money Fund Average since 1/1/2004; prior to that was the ICE BofA 3 Month Treasury Index.



2023
Fiscal Year



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Non-Retirement Investment Program

Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund (Environmental Trust Fund) was established in 1988 by the Minnesota Legislature to provide a long-term, consistent, and stable funding source for activities that protect and enhance the environment. By statute, the SBI is responsible for investing the assets of the Environmental Trust Fund. The Minnesota Legislature funds environmental projects from a portion of the market value of the Fund.

As of June 30, 2023, the market value of the Fund was \$1.6 billion.

Investment Objective

The Environmental Trust Fund's investment objective is to generate long-term capital growth to support a growing level of funding while maintaining adequate portfolio liquidity.

A constitutional amendment passed in November 1998 mandated that 40% of the net proceeds from the state lottery be credited to the Fund through 2025.

The amendment provided for an annual spending rate of 5.5% of the Fund's market value. The amendment eliminated certain accounting restrictions on capital gains and losses and removed the provision that the principal must remain inviolate.

Asset Allocation

After the constitutional amendment was adopted in November 1998, SBI staff worked with the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources to establish an asset allocation policy consistent with the Commission's goals for spending and growth of the Fund. The Fund's asset allocation is designed to provide appropriate long-term growth potential to meet the Fund's objective to produce a growing level of funding, while also providing adequate liquidity and diversification.

The current long-term asset allocation targets for the Fund are:

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Domestic Equity | 70% |
| Domestic Bonds | 28% |
| Cash | 2% |

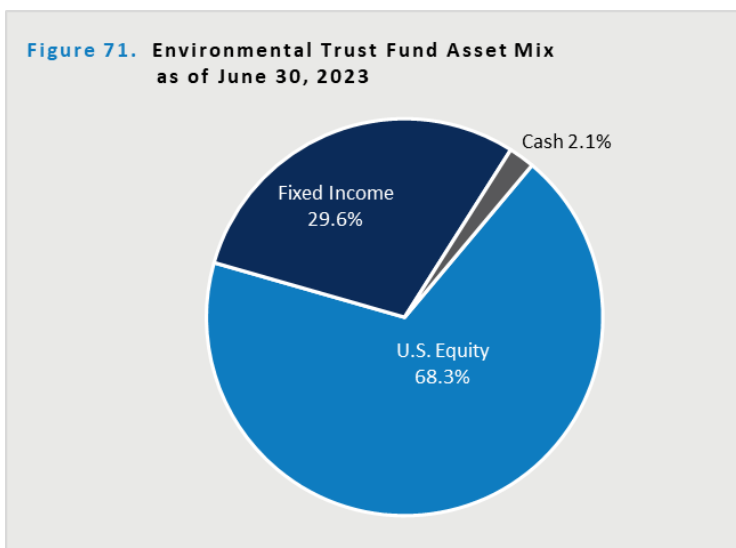
The SBI follows a disciplined approach to rebalancing to maintain the target asset allocation and risk exposure over time.

Figure 71 presents the actual asset mix of the Fund at the end of fiscal year 2023.

Investment Management

The Environmental Trust Fund is invested in the Non-Retirement Equity, Bond, and Money Market Funds. Fund Summaries are provided on pages 141-143.

Figure 71. Environmental Trust Fund Asset Mix as of June 30, 2023



Non-Retirement Investment Program

Environmental Trust Fund

Investment Performance

For the 2023 fiscal year, the **equity** segment slightly outperformed its benchmark, the S&P 500 Index.

The **bond** segment outperformed its benchmark, the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Index, by 0.3 percentage point for the 2023 fiscal year.

The **cash** segment outperformed its benchmark, the iMoneyNet All Taxable Money Fund Average by 0.5 percentage point for the 2023 fiscal year.

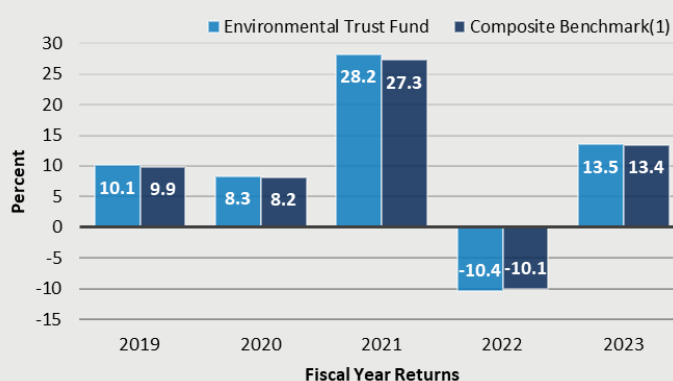
Overall, the Environmental Trust Fund provided a return of 13.5% for fiscal year 2023, outperforming its composite index by 0.1 percentage point over the period. The Fund also outperformed its composite index over the trailing three-, five-, ten-, and twenty-year periods ending June 30, 2023.

Historical performance results for the total Fund and each of the asset class segments are presented in Figure 72A and 72B.

Spendable income generated by the Fund over the last five fiscal years is shown below:

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Millions</u> |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2019 | \$51 |
| 2020 | \$61 |
| 2021 | \$61 |
| 2022 | \$71 |
| 2023 | \$71 |

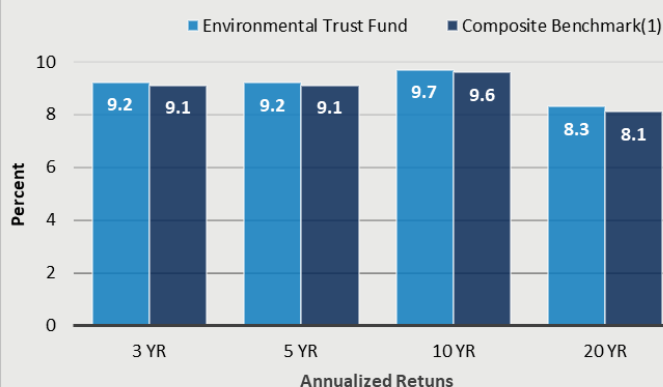
Figure 72A. Environmental Trust Fund Fiscal Year Returns For Periods Ending June 30



| | Fiscal Year End Return (%) | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Environmental Trust Fund Total | 10.1 | 8.3 | 28.2 | -10.4 | 13.5 |
| Composite Benchmark ¹ | 9.9 | 8.2 | 27.3 | -10.1 | 13.4 |
| Equity Segment | 10.4 | 7.5 | 40.8 | -10.6 | 19.7 |
| S&P 500 | 10.4 | 7.5 | 40.8 | -10.6 | 19.6 |
| Bond Segment | 8.4 | 8.2 | 1.2 | -11.1 | -0.6 |
| Bloomberg Agg | 7.9 | 8.7 | -0.3 | -10.3 | -0.9 |
| Cash Segment | 2.4 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 4.0 |
| iMoney Net All Taxable Fund | 1.9 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 3.5 |

¹ Represents the aggregate returns of the target allocation: S&P 500 70%, Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate 28%, and iMoney Net All Taxable Money Fund Avg 2%.

Figure 72B. Environmental Trust Fund Annualized Returns For Periods Ending June 30, 2023



| | Annualized Returns (%) as of June 30, 2023 | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------|------------|------------|
| | 3 Yr. | 5 Yr. | 10 Yr. | 20 Yr. |
| Environmental Trust Fund Total | 9.2 | 9.2 | 9.7 | 8.3 |
| Composite Benchmark ¹ | 9.1 | 9.1 | 9.6 | 8.1 |
| Equity Segment | 14.6 | 12.3 | 12.9 | 10.1 |
| S&P 500 | 14.6 | 12.3 | 12.9 | 10.0 |
| Bond Segment | -3.6 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 3.5 |
| Bloomberg Agg | -4.0 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 3.0 |
| Cash Segment | 1.4 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| Custom Benchmark ² | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 1.4 |

¹ Represents the aggregate returns of the target allocation: S&P 500 70%, Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate 28%, and iMoney Net All Taxable Money Fund Avg 2%.

² Custom Benchmark is the iMoneyNet All Taxable Money Fund Average since 1/1/2004; prior to that was the ICE BofA 3 Month Treasury Index.

**State Board of Investment
2024 Annual Report
Pending**

VIII. Findings

“any findings or recommendations that are deemed proper to assist the legislature in formulating legislation;”

No findings at this time.

IX. Gifts and Donations

“a list of all gifts and donations with a value over \$1,000;”

No gifts or donations were received.

X. Environmental Spending Comparisons

“a comparison of the amounts spent by the state for environment and natural resources activities through the most recent fiscal year;”

The following document “All Funds Biennial Spending by Agency and Fund”, was prepared by the Minnesota State Senate Office of Senate Counsel, Research, and Fiscal Analysis.

Environmental Spending
All Funds Biennial Spending by Agency & Fund*

(dollars in thousands)

| <u>Agency/Fund</u> | FY 2022-23 Spending | Current FY 2024- 25 Budget | Change |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| ENVIRONMENT & AGRICULTURE AGENCIES | | | |
| Pollution Control Agency | | | |
| General Fund | 16,824 | 289,693 | 272,869 |
| State Govt Special Revenue Fund | 148 | 180 | 32 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 75,042 | 95,081 | 20,039 |
| Environmental Fund | 178,242 | 223,550 | 45,307 |
| Remediation Fund | 137,404 | 295,277 | 157,873 |
| Closed Landfill Investment Fund | 4,481 | 8,222 | 3,741 |
| Gift Fund | 6,930 | 37,396 | 30,466 |
| Federal Funds | 43,685 | 95,431 | 51,746 |
| <u>Expenses in Multiple Funds</u> | (62,051) | (90,784) | (28,732) |
| Subtotal Pollution Control Agency: | 400,704 | 954,046 | 553,342 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund | 2,524 | 5,696 | 3,172 |
| <u>Clean Water Fund</u> | 44,926 | 61,320 | 16,393 |
| Subtotal Dedicated/Constitutional Funds: | 47,450 | 67,016 | 19,565 |
| Total Pollution Control Agency: | 448,154 | 1,021,061 | 572,907 |
| Department of Natural Resources | | | |
| General Fund | 279,748 | 521,605 | 241,857 |
| Natural Resources Fund | 228,653 | 286,000 | 57,346 |
| Game & Fish Fund | 248,355 | 285,206 | 36,851 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 314,615 | 371,176 | 56,561 |
| Remediation Fund | 1,427 | 1,378 | (49) |
| Gift Fund | 4,544 | 4,859 | 315 |
| Permanent School Fund | 819 | 1,914 | 1,095 |
| Federal Funds | 46,922 | 99,309 | 52,386 |
| ARP-State Fiscal Recovery (Federal) | 1,607 | - | (1,607) |
| <u>Expenses in Multiple Funds</u> | (235,571) | (252,304) | (16,733) |
| Subtotal Department of Natural Resources: | 891,121 | 1,319,142 | 428,021 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund | 100,822 | 153,527 | 52,705 |
| Outdoor Heritage Fund | 240,796 | 393,407 | 152,611 |
| Parks & Trails Fund | 65,287 | 122,781 | 57,494 |
| <u>Clean Water Fund</u> | 17,935 | 28,653 | 10,718 |
| Subtotal Dedicated/Constitutional Funds: | 424,839 | 698,367 | 273,528 |
| Total Department of Natural Resources: | 1,315,960 | 2,017,509 | 701,549 |

Environmental Spending
All Funds Biennial Spending by Agency & Fund*

(dollars in thousands)

| <u>Agency/Fund</u> | FY 2022-23 Spending | Current FY 2024- 25 Budget | Change |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Board of Water and Soil Resources | | | |
| General Fund | 33,285 | 123,611 | 90,326 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 20,058 | 30,077 | 10,019 |
| Gift Fund | - | 6 | 6 |
| Federal Funds | 5,688 | 7,308 | 1,620 |
| <u>Expenses in Multiple Funds</u> | - | (252) | (252) |
| Subtotal Board of Water and Soil Resources: | 59,031 | 160,750 | 101,719 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund | 7,607 | 2,660 | (4,947) |
| Outdoor Heritage Fund | 19,278 | 79,243 | 59,965 |
| <u>Clean Water Fund</u> | 128,476 | 227,262 | 98,786 |
| Subtotal Dedicated/Constitutional Funds: | 155,361 | 309,165 | 153,804 |
| Total Board of Water and Soil Resources: | 214,392 | 469,915 | 255,523 |
| Minnesota Conservation Corps | | | |
| General Fund | 910 | 1,160 | 250 |
| <u>Natural Resources Fund</u> | 980 | 979 | (1) |
| Total Minnesota Conservation Corps: | 1,890 | 2,139 | 249 |
| Metropolitan Council Parks | | | |
| General Fund | 5,080 | 29,455 | 24,375 |
| Natural Resources Fund | 14,900 | 19,800 | 4,900 |
| <u>ARP-State Fiscal Recovery (Federal)</u> | 467 | - | (467) |
| Subtotal Metropolitan Council Parks: | 20,447 | 49,255 | 28,808 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund | 529 | 5,721 | 5,192 |
| Parks & Trails Fund | 43,861 | 57,739 | 13,878 |
| <u>Clean Water Fund</u> | 3,088 | 3,750 | 662 |
| Subtotal Dedicated/Constitutional Funds: | 47,478 | 67,210 | 19,732 |
| Total Metropolitan Council Parks: | 67,925 | 116,465 | 48,540 |
| Minnesota Zoological Board | | | |
| General Fund | 19,618 | 27,546 | 7,928 |
| Natural Resources Fund | 520 | 660 | 140 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 33,196 | 56,064 | 22,867 |
| Gift Fund | 17,471 | 13,222 | (4,249) |
| ARP-State Fiscal Recovery (Federal) | 7,405 | 381 | (7,024) |
| Federal Funds | 11,495 | - | (11,495) |
| <u>Expenses in Multiple Funds</u> | (92) | (260) | (168) |
| Subtotal Minnesota Zoological Board: | 89,613 | 97,613 | 8,000 |

Environmental Spending
All Funds Biennial Spending by Agency & Fund*

(dollars in thousands)

| <u>Agency/Fund</u> | FY 2022-23 Spending | Current FY 2024- 25 Budget | Change |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund | 779 | 993 | 214 |
| <u>Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund</u> | 4,030 | 4,002 | (28) |
| Subtotal Dedicated/Constitutional Funds: | 4,810 | 4,995 | 186 |
| Total Minnesota Zoological Board: | 94,422 | 102,608 | 8,186 |
| Science Museum | | | |
| General Fund | 2,158 | 10,210 | 8,052 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| <u>Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund</u> | 745 | 3,848 | 3,103 |
| Total Science Museum: | 2,903 | 14,058 | 11,155 |
| Transfer to Metropolitan Landfill Contingency Action Trust Account | | | |
| General Fund | 200 | 27,597 | 27,397 |
| Department of Agriculture | | | |
| General Fund | 138,573 | 178,948 | 40,375 |
| Agricultural Fund | 81,333 | 107,798 | 26,465 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 15,150 | 19,026 | 3,876 |
| Remediation Fund | 4,502 | 4,605 | 102 |
| Gift Fund | 1,071 | 393 | (678) |
| Federal Funds | 25,760 | 39,408 | 13,648 |
| ARP-State Fiscal Recovery (Federal) | 5,993 | - | (5,993) |
| <u>Expenses in Multiple Funds</u> | (12,188) | (13,756) | (1,568) |
| Subtotal Dept. of Agriculture: | 260,194 | 336,422 | 76,227 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund | 575 | 1,243 | 668 |
| Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund | 871 | 850 | (21) |
| <u>Clean Water Fund</u> | 31,575 | 44,282 | 12,707 |
| Subtotal Dedicated/Constitutional Funds: | 33,020 | 46,374 | 13,354 |
| Total Department of Agriculture: | 293,214 | 382,796 | 89,582 |
| Animal Health Board | | | |
| General Fund | 11,453 | 12,678 | 1,225 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 381 | 213 | (169) |
| <u>Federal Funds</u> | 2,298 | 4,207 | 1,909 |
| Total Animal Health Board: | 14,132 | 17,097 | 2,965 |

Environmental Spending
All Funds Biennial Spending by Agency & Fund*

(dollars in thousands)

| <u>Agency/Fund</u> | FY 2022-23 Spending | Current FY 2024- 25 Budget | Change |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Agriculture Utilization Research Institute | | | |
| General Fund | 8,586 | 10,711 | 2,125 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| <u>Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund</u> | 200 | - | (200) |
| Total AURI: | 8,786 | 10,711 | 1,925 |
| Totals by Fund | | | |
| General Fund | 516,435 | 1,233,214 | 716,779 |
| State Govt Special Revenue Fund | 148 | 180 | 32 |
| Special Revenue Fund | 458,443 | 571,635 | 113,193 |
| Environmental Fund | 178,242 | 223,550 | 45,307 |
| Remediation Fund | 143,334 | 301,260 | 157,926 |
| Natural Resources Fund | 245,053 | 307,438 | 62,385 |
| Game & Fish Fund | 248,355 | 285,206 | 36,851 |
| Closed Landfill Investment Fund | 4,481 | 8,222 | 3,741 |
| Permanent School Fund | 819 | 1,914 | 1,095 |
| Agricultural Fund | 81,333 | 107,798 | 26,465 |
| Gift Fund | 30,015 | 55,875 | 25,860 |
| Federal Funds | 135,848 | 245,662 | 109,815 |
| ARP-State Fiscal Recovery (Federal) | 15,473 | 381 | (15,091) |
| <u>Expenses in Multiple Funds</u> | (309,902) | (357,355) | (47,453) |
| Subtotal Non-dedicated Funds: | 1,748,075 | 2,984,980 | 1,236,905 |
| <i>Dedicated/Constitutional Funds</i> | | | |
| Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund | 113,782 | 173,687 | 59,906 |
| Outdoor Heritage Fund | 260,074 | 472,650 | 212,576 |
| Clean Water Fund | 226,000 | 365,267 | 139,267 |
| Parks & Trails Fund | 109,148 | 180,520 | 71,372 |
| <u>Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund</u> | 4,901 | 4,852 | (49) |
| Subtotal Dedicated/Constitutional Funds: | 713,904 | 1,196,976 | 483,072 |
| Total for Environment & Agriculture Agencies | 2,461,980 | 4,181,956 | 1,719,977 |
| STATE TOTAL ALL BUDGET AREAS, ALL FUNDS | 106,171,010 | 123,153,393 | 16,982,383 |
| Environment and Agriculture Agencies as percentage of Grand Total | 2.3% | 3.4% | |

* Data from November 2024 Forecast

XI. Compliance Audit

“a copy of the most recent compliance audit.”

No audits were conducted in the 2023-2024 Biennium.

The most recent compliance audit was released by the Office of the Legislative Auditor on February 11, 2016.

Appendix A

Funding Source Reference:

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

- MN Constitution – Amendment Article 11, Sec. 14
- M.S. 116P

Great Lakes Protection Account

- M.S. 116Q.02

Oil Overcharge Money

- M.S. 4.071

Minnesota Constitution – Article XI, Section 14

Sec. 14. **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FUND.** A permanent environment and natural resources trust fund is established in the state treasury. 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 assets of the fund shall not be used to pay the principal or interest of any bonds. The assets of the fund shall not be used to pay for any costs related to the construction, repair, improvement, or operation of any facility or system that processes wastewater, but may be used to pay for research related to wastewater. 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 seven 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 through December 31, 2050. [Adopted, November 8, 1988; Amended, November 6, 1990; November 3, 1998; November 5, 2024]

CHAPTER 116P

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND

| | | | |
|----------|--|---------|--|
| 116P.01 | FINDINGS. | 116P.11 | AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DISBURSEMENT. |
| 116P.011 | CHAPTER DOES NOT APPLY TO CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS. | 116P.12 | WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT; LOAN PROGRAM. |
| 116P.02 | DEFINITIONS. | 116P.15 | CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND LAND ACQUISITION; RESTRICTIONS. |
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116P.01 FINDINGS.

The legislature finds that all Minnesotans share the responsibility to ensure wise stewardship of the state's environment and natural resources for the benefit of current citizens and future generations. Proper management of the state's environment and natural resources includes and requires foresight, planning, and long-term activities that allow the state to preserve its high quality environment and provides for wise use of its natural resources. The legislature also finds that to undertake such activities properly, a long-term, consistent, and stable source of funding must be provided.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 5

116P.011 CHAPTER DOES NOT APPLY TO CERTAIN APPROPRIATIONS.

This chapter does not apply to appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund under section 116X.03 or to projects funded with those appropriations.

History: 2023 c 67 art 2 s 1

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 1, is effective January 1, 2025, if the constitutional amendment in Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 1, section 1, is approved by the voters at the 2024 general election. Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 1, the effective date.

116P.02 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** The definitions in this section apply to this chapter.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 2006 c 243 s 22]

Subd. 3. **Board.** "Board" means the State Board of Investment.

Subd. 4. **Commission.** "Commission" means the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Subd. 5. **Natural resources.** "Natural resources" includes the outdoor recreation system under section 86A.04 and regional recreation open space systems as defined under section 473.351, subdivision 1.

Subd. 6. **Trust fund.** "Trust fund" means the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund established under Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 6; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 269; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 146; 2006 c 243 s 2

116P.03 TRUST FUND NOT TO SUPPLANT EXISTING FUNDING; APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) The trust fund may not be used as a substitute for traditional sources of funding environmental and natural resources activities, but the trust fund shall supplement the traditional sources, including those sources used to support the criteria in section 116P.08, subdivision 1. The trust fund must be used primarily to support activities whose benefits become available only over an extended period of time.

(b) The commission must determine the amount of the state budget spent from traditional sources to fund environmental and natural resources activities before and after the trust fund is established and include a comparison of the amount in the report under section 116P.09, subdivision 7.

(c) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and each year thereafter, the amount of the environment and natural resources trust fund that is available for appropriation under the terms of the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14, shall be appropriated by law.

(d) The amount appropriated from the environment and natural resources trust fund may be spent only for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. Recommendations made by the commission under this chapter must be consistent with the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14; this chapter; and the strategic plan adopted under section 116P.08, subdivision 3, and must demonstrate a direct benefit to the state's environment and natural resources.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 7; 2006 c 243 s 3; 2023 c 67 art 2 s 2

NOTE: This section was amended by Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 2, effective January 1, 2025, if the constitutional amendment in Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 1, section 1, is approved by the voters at the 2024 general election. Laws 2023, chapter 67, article 2, section 2, the effective date. This section, as amended, will read as follows:

"(a) The trust fund may not be used as a substitute for traditional sources of funding environmental and natural resources activities, but the trust fund shall supplement the traditional sources, including those sources used to support the criteria in section 116P.08, subdivision 1. The trust fund must be used primarily to support activities whose benefits become available only over an extended period of time.

(b) The commission must determine the amount of the state budget spent from traditional sources to fund environmental and natural resources activities before and after the trust fund is established and include a comparison of the amount in the report under section 116P.09, subdivision 7.

(c) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and each year thereafter, the amount of the environment and natural resources trust fund that is available for appropriation under this chapter and under the terms of the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14, shall be appropriated by law.

(d) The amount appropriated from the environment and natural resources trust fund may be spent only for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. Recommendations made by the commission under this chapter must be consistent with the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14; this chapter; and the

strategic plan adopted under section 116P.08, subdivision 3, and must demonstrate a direct benefit to the state's environment and natural resources.

(e) The amount available for appropriation from the environment and natural resources trust fund under this chapter 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, is 5.5 percent of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium."

116P.04 TRUST FUND ACCOUNT.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; investment.** A Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund, under article XI, section 14, of the Minnesota Constitution, is established as an account in the state treasury. The commissioner of management and budget shall credit to the trust fund the amounts authorized under this section and section 116P.10. The State Board of Investment shall ensure that trust fund money is invested under section 11A.24. All money earned by the trust fund must be credited to the trust fund. The principal of the trust fund and any unexpended earnings must be invested and reinvested by the State Board of Investment.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1990 c 610 art 1 s 59]

Subd. 3. **Revenue.** Nothing in sections 116P.01 to 116P.12 limits the source of contributions to the trust fund.

Subd. 4. **Gifts and donations.** Gifts and donations, including land or interests in land, may be made to the trust fund. Noncash gifts and donations must be disposed of for cash as soon as the board prudently can maximize the value of the gift or donation. Gifts and donations of marketable securities may be held or be disposed of for cash at the option of the board. The cash receipts of gifts and donations of cash or capital assets and marketable securities disposed of for cash must be credited immediately to the principal of the trust fund. The value of marketable securities at the time the gift or donation is made must be credited to the principal of the trust fund and any earnings from the marketable securities are earnings of the trust fund.

Subd. 5. **Audits required.** The legislative auditor shall audit trust fund expenditures to ensure that the money is spent for the purposes for which the money was appropriated.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 8; 1990 c 610 art 1 s 44; 1991 c 343 s 1; 2006 c 243 s 4; 2009 c 101 art 2 s 109

116P.05 LEGISLATIVE-CITIZEN COMMISSION ON MINNESOTA RESOURCES.

Subdivision 1. **Membership.** (a) A Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources of 17 members is created in the legislative branch, consisting of the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees on environment and natural resources finance or designees appointed for the terms of the chairs, four members of the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and four members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker.

(b) At least two members from the senate and two members from the house of representatives must be from the minority caucus.

(c) Seven citizens are members of the commission, five appointed by the governor, one appointed by the Senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and one appointed by the speaker of the house. The citizen members are selected and recommended to the appointing authorities according to subdivision 1a and must:

(1) have experience or expertise in the science, policy, or practice of the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;

(2) have strong knowledge in the state's environment and natural resource issues around the state;

(3) have demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative environment; and

(4) not be a registered lobbyist.

(d) Members shall develop procedures to elect a chair that rotates between legislative and citizen members each meeting. A citizen member, a senate member, and a house of representatives member shall serve as chairs. The citizen members, senate members, and house of representatives members must select their respective chairs. The chair shall preside and convene meetings as often as necessary to conduct duties prescribed by this chapter.

(e) Appointed legislative members shall serve on the commission for two-year terms, beginning in January of each odd-numbered year and continuing through the end of December of the next even-numbered year. Appointed citizen members shall serve four-year terms, beginning in January of the first year and continuing through the end of December of the final year. Citizen and legislative members continue to serve until their successors are appointed.

(f) A citizen member may be removed by an appointing authority for cause. Vacancies occurring on the commission shall not affect the authority of the remaining members of the commission to carry out their duties, and vacancies shall be filled for the remainder of the term in the same manner under paragraphs (a) to (c).

(g) Legislative members are entitled to reimbursement for per diem expenses plus travel expenses incurred in the services of the commission. Citizen members are entitled to per diem and reimbursement for expenses incurred in the services of the commission, as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 3, except that a citizen member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day.

(h) The governor's appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the senate. One of the governor's appointments must be a member recommended by the Tribal government representatives of the Indian Affairs Council.

(i) A citizen member may serve no more than eight years, except as necessary to fill a vacancy. A citizen member may not serve more than ten years if serving additional time to fill a vacancy.

Subd. 1a. **Citizen selection committee.** (a) The governor must appoint a Trust Fund Citizen Selection Committee of five members who come from different regions of the state and who have knowledge and experience of state environment and natural resource issues to provide recommendations for appointments under subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

(b) The duties of the Trust Fund Citizen Selection Committee are to:

(1) identify citizen candidates to be members of the commission as part of the open appointments process under section 15.0597;

(2) request and review citizen candidate applications to be members of the commission; and

(3) interview the citizen candidates and recommend an adequate pool of candidates to be selected for commission membership by the governor.

(c) Members serve three-year terms and are entitled to per diem and reimbursement for expenses incurred in the services of the committee, as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 3, except that a citizen selection committee member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day.

(d) A member appointed under this subdivision may not be a registered lobbyist.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** (a) The commission must recommend an annual or biennial legislative bill for appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund and must adopt a strategic plan as provided in section 116P.08. Except as provided under section 116P.09, subdivision 6, paragraph (b), approval of the recommended legislative bill requires an affirmative vote of at least 11 members of the commission.

(b) It is a condition of acceptance of the appropriations made from the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund, and oil overcharge money under section 4.071, subdivision 2, that the agency or entity receiving the appropriation must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, and comply with applicable reporting requirements under section 116P.16. None of the money provided may be spent unless the commission has approved the pertinent work plan. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the amendment process established by the commission. The commission must ensure that the expenditures and outcomes described in the work plan for appropriations funded by the environment and natural resources trust fund are met.

(c) The peer review procedures created under section 116P.08 must also be used to review, comment, and report to the commission on research proposals applying for an appropriation from the oil overcharge money under section 4.071, subdivision 2.

(d) The commission may adopt operating procedures to fulfill its duties under this chapter.

(e) As part of the operating procedures, the commission must:

(1) ensure that members' expectations are to participate in all meetings related to funding decision recommendations;

(2) recommend adequate funding for increased citizen outreach and communications for trust fund expenditure planning;

(3) allow administrative expenses as part of individual project expenditures based on need;

(4) provide for project outcome evaluation;

(5) keep the grant application, administration, and review process as simple as possible; and

(6) define and emphasize the leveraging of additional sources of money that project proposers should consider when making trust fund proposals.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 2014 c 226 s 4]

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 9; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 269; 1990 c 594 art 1 s 56; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 39; 1991 c 343 s 2; 1993 c 4 s 15; 1994 c 580 s 1; 1997 c 202 art 2 s 36; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 147; 1Sp2005 c 1 art 2 s 135; 2006 c 243 s 5; 2009 c 143 s 3; 1Sp2011 c 2 art 4 s 23; 2013 c 52 s 3,4; 2015 c 76 s 3; 2016 c 186 s 3; 2017 c 96 s 3; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 3-5

116P.06 [Repealed, 2006 c 243 s 22]

116P.07 INFORMATION GATHERING.

The commission may convene public forums or employ other methods to gather information for establishing priorities for funding.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 11; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 41; 1991 c 343 s 4; 2002 c 225 s 2; 2006 c 243 s 6

116P.08 TRUST FUND EXPENDITURES.

Subdivision 1. **Expenditures.** (a) Money in the trust fund may be spent only for:

- (1) the reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in section 84.95, subdivision 2;
- (2) research that contributes to increasing the effectiveness of protecting or managing the state's environment or natural resources;
- (3) collection and analysis of information that assists in developing the state's environmental and natural resources policies;
- (4) enhancement of public education, awareness, and understanding necessary for the protection, conservation, restoration, and enhancement of air, land, water, forests, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;
- (5) capital projects for the preservation and protection of unique natural resources;
- (6) activities that preserve or enhance fish, wildlife, land, air, water, and other natural resources that otherwise may be substantially impaired or destroyed in any area of the state;
- (7) administrative and investment expenses incurred by the State Board of Investment in investing deposits to the trust fund; and
- (8) administrative expenses subject to the limits in section 116P.09.

(b) In making recommendations for expenditures from the trust fund, the commission shall give priority to funding programs and projects under paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (6). Any requests for proposals issued by the commission shall clearly indicate these priorities.

Subd. 2. **Exceptions.** Money from the trust fund may not be spent for:

- (1) purposes of environmental compensation and liability under chapter 115B and response actions under chapter 115C;
- (2) purposes of municipal water pollution control in municipalities with a population of 5,000 or more under the authority of chapters 115 and 116;
- (3) costs associated with the decommissioning of nuclear power plants;
- (4) hazardous waste disposal facilities;
- (5) solid waste disposal facilities;
- (6) projects or purposes inconsistent with the strategic plan; or
- (7) acquiring property by eminent domain, unless the owner requests that the owner's property be acquired by eminent domain.

Subd. 3. **Strategic plan required.** (a) The commission shall adopt a strategic plan for making expenditures from the trust fund, including identifying the priority areas for funding for the next six years. The strategic plan must be reviewed every two years. The strategic plan must have clearly stated short- and long-term goals and strategies for trust fund expenditures, must provide measurable outcomes for expenditures, and must determine areas of emphasis for funding.

(b) The commission shall consider the long-term strategic plans of agencies with environment and natural resource programs and responsibilities and plans of conservation and environmental organizations during the development and review of the strategic plan.

Subd. 4. **Legislative recommendations.** (a) Funding may be provided only for those projects that meet the categories established in subdivision 1.

(b) The commission must recommend an annual or biennial legislative bill to make appropriations from the trust fund for the purposes provided in subdivision 1. The recommendations must be submitted to the governor for inclusion in the biennial budget and supplemental budget submitted to the legislature.

(c) The commission may recommend regional block grants for a portion of trust fund expenditures to partner with existing regional organizations that have strong citizen involvement, to address unique local needs and capacity, and to leverage all available funding sources for projects.

(d) The commission may recommend the establishment of an emerging issues account in its legislative bill for funding emerging issues, which come up unexpectedly, but which still adhere to the commission's strategic plan, to be approved by the governor after initiation and recommendation by the commission.

(e) Money in the trust fund may not be spent except under an appropriation by law.

Subd. 5. **Public meetings.** (a) Meetings of the commission, committees or subcommittees of the commission, technical advisory committees, and peer reviewers must be open to the public and are subject to chapter 13D. The commission shall attempt to meet throughout various regions of the state during each biennium. For purposes of this subdivision, a meeting occurs when a quorum is present and action is taken regarding a matter within the jurisdiction of the commission, a committee or subcommittee of the commission, a technical advisory committee, or peer reviewers.

(b) For legislative members of the commission, enforcement of this subdivision is governed by section 3.055, subdivision 2. For nonlegislative members of the commission, enforcement of this subdivision is governed by section 13D.06, subdivisions 1 and 2.

Subd. 6. **Peer review.** (a) Research proposals must include a stated purpose directly connected to the trust fund's constitutional mandate, this chapter, and the adopted strategic plan under subdivision 3, a timeline, potential outcomes, and an explanation of the need for the research. All research proposals must be peer reviewed before receiving an appropriation.

(b) In conducting research proposal reviews, the peer reviewers shall:

(1) comment on the methodology proposed and whether it can be expected to yield appropriate and useful information and data; and

(2) comment on the need for the research and about similar existing information available, if any.

(c) Peer reviewers' comments under paragraph (b) must be reported to the commission.

(d) The peer reviewers may review completed research proposals that have received an appropriation and comment and report upon whether the project reached the intended goals.

Subd. 7. **Peer reviewers.** (a) The peer reviewers must be knowledgeable in general research methods in the areas of environment and natural resources.

(b) Compensation of peer reviewers is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 3.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 12; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 178; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 42,43; 1991 c 343 s 5,6; 1994 c 580 s 2,3; 2001 c 7 s 31; 2004 c 284 art 2 s 14; 2006 c 243 s 7-10; 2007 c 30 s 3; 2009 c 143 s 4; 2015 c 76 s 4-6; 2016 c 186 s 4; 2017 c 96 s 4; 2018 c 214 art 4 s 3; art 6 s 2; 2019 c 2 art 1 s 10; 2022 c 94 s 3

116P.09 ADMINISTRATION.

Subdivision 1. **Administrative authority.** The commission may appoint legal and other personnel and consultants necessary to carry out functions and duties of the commission. Permanent employees shall be in the unclassified service. In addition, the commission may request staff assistance and data from any other agency of state government as needed for the execution of the responsibilities of the commission and an agency must promptly furnish it.

Subd. 2. **Liaison officers.** The commission may request each department or agency head of all state agencies with a direct interest and responsibility in any phase of environment and natural resources to appoint, and the latter shall appoint for the agency, a liaison officer who shall work closely with the commission and its staff.

Subd. 3. **Appraisal and evaluation.** The commission shall obtain and appraise information available through private organizations and groups, utilizing to the fullest extent possible studies, data, and reports previously prepared or currently in progress by public agencies, private organizations, groups, and others, concerning future trends in the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, forests, fish, wildlife, native vegetation, and other natural resources. Any data compiled by the commission shall be made available to any standing or interim committee of the legislature upon the request of the chair of the respective committee.

Subd. 4. **Personnel.** Persons who are employed by a state agency to work on a project and are paid by an appropriation from the trust fund are in the unclassified civil service, and their continued employment is contingent upon the availability of money from the appropriation. When the appropriation has been spent, their positions must be canceled and the approved complement of the agency reduced accordingly. Part-time employment of persons for a project is authorized. The use of classified employees is authorized when approved as part of the work program required by section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (b).

Subd. 5. **Administrative expense.** The prorated expenses related to commission administration of the trust fund may not exceed an amount equal to four percent of the amount available for appropriation of the trust fund for the biennium.

Subd. 6. **Conflict of interest.** (a) A commission member, a technical advisory committee member, a peer reviewer, or an employee of the commission may not participate in or vote on a decision of the commission, advisory committee, or peer review relating to an organization in which the member, peer reviewer, or employee has either a direct or indirect personal financial interest. While serving on the commission or technical advisory committee or as a peer reviewer or while an employee of the commission, a person must avoid any potential conflict of interest.

(b) A commission member may not vote on a motion regarding the purchase of land under section 116P.18 or the final recommendations of the commission required under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), if the motion relates to an organization in which the member has a direct personal financial interest. If a commission member is prohibited from voting under this paragraph, the number of affirmative votes required under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), or section 116P.18 is reduced by the number of members ineligible to vote under this paragraph.

Subd. 7. **Report required.** The commission shall, by January 15 of each odd-numbered year, submit a report to the governor, the chairs of the house of representatives appropriations and senate finance committees, and the chairs of the house of representatives and senate committees on environment and natural resources. Copies of the report must be available to the public. The report must include:

- (1) a copy of the current strategic plan;
- (2) a description of each project receiving money from the trust fund during the preceding biennium;
- (3) a summary of any research project completed in the preceding biennium;
- (4) recommendations to implement successful projects and programs into a state agency's standard operations;
- (5) to the extent known by the commission, descriptions of the projects anticipated to be supported by the trust fund during the next biennium;
- (6) the source and amount of all revenues collected and distributed by the commission, including all administrative and other expenses;
- (7) a description of the assets and liabilities of the trust fund;
- (8) any findings or recommendations that are deemed proper to assist the legislature in formulating legislation;
- (9) a list of all gifts and donations with a value over \$1,000;
- (10) a comparison of the amounts spent by the state for environment and natural resources activities through the most recent fiscal year; and
- (11) a copy of the most recent compliance audit.

Subd. 8. **Technical advisory committees.** The commission shall make use of available public and private expertise on environment and natural resource issues and may appoint necessary technical advisory committees to review funding proposals and evaluate project outcomes. Compensation for technical advisory committee members is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 6.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 13; 1991 c 254 art 2 s 44-46; 1991 c 343 s 7-10; 1994 c 580 s 4; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 148-150; 2006 c 243 s 11-13; 2013 c 52 s 5; 2015 c 76 s 7,8; 2018 c 182 art 1 s 12; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 6; 2024 c 116 art 9 s 1

116P.10 ROYALTIES, COPYRIGHTS, PATENTS, AND SALE OF PRODUCTS AND ASSETS.

(a) This section applies to projects supported by the trust fund and the oil overcharge money referred to in section 4.071, subdivision 2, each of which is referred to in this section as a "fund."

(b) The fund owns and shall take title to the percentage of a royalty, copyright, or patent resulting from a project supported by the fund equal to the percentage of the project's total funding provided by the fund. Cash receipts resulting from a royalty, copyright, or patent, or the sale of the fund's rights to a royalty, copyright, or patent, must be credited immediately to the principal of the fund. Receipts from Minnesota future resources fund projects must be credited to the trust fund. The commission may include in its legislative bill a recommendation to relinquish the ownership or rights to a royalty, copyright, or patent resulting from a project supported by the fund to the project's proposer when the amount of the original grant or loan, plus interest, has been repaid to the fund.

(c) If a project supported by the fund results in net income from the sale of products or assets developed or acquired by an appropriation from the fund, the appropriation must be repaid to the fund in an amount equal to the percentage of the project's total funding provided by the fund. The commission may include in its legislative bill a recommendation to relinquish the income if a plan is approved for reinvestment of the income in the project or when the amount of the original grant or loan, plus interest, has been repaid to the fund.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 14; 1993 c 172 s 79; 2003 c 128 art 1 s 151; 2008 c 367 s 3; 2009 c 143 s 5

116P.11 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DISBURSEMENT.

(a) The amount annually available from the trust fund for the legislative bill developed by the commission is as defined in the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

(b) Any appropriated funds not encumbered by the date the appropriation expires cancel and must be credited to the principal of the trust fund.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 15; 1990 c 594 art 1 s 57; 1990 c 612 s 14; 1992 c 513 art 2 s 27; 1992 c 539 s 10; 1993 c 300 s 10; 1994 c 580 s 5; 1995 c 220 s 111; 2002 c 225 s 3; 2006 c 243 s 14; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 7

116P.12 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT; LOAN PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **Loans authorized.** (a) If the principal of the trust fund equals or exceeds \$200,000,000, the commission may vote to set aside up to five percent of the principal of the trust fund for water system improvement loans. The purpose of water system improvement loans is to offer below market rate interest loans to local units of government for the purposes of water system improvements.

(b) The interest on a loan shall be calculated on the declining balance at a rate that is the greater of one percent or 50 percent of the secondary market yield of one-year United States Treasury bills calculated according to section 549.09, subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

(c) An eligible project must prove that existing federal or state loans or grants have not been adequate.

(d) Payments on the principal and interest of loans under this section must be credited to the trust fund.

(e) Repayment of loans made under this section must be completed within 20 years.

(f) The Minnesota Public Facilities Authority must report to the commission each year on any loans made to the authority under this section.

Subd. 2. **Application and administration.** (a) The commission must adopt a procedure for the issuance of the water system improvement loans by the Public Facilities Authority.

(b) The commission also must ensure that the loans are administered according to its fiduciary standards and requirements.

History: 1988 c 690 art 1 s 16; 2018 c 214 art 4 s 4

116P.13 [Repealed, 2016 c 189 art 3 s 53]

116P.14 [Repealed, 1Sp2011 c 2 art 4 s 36]

116P.15 CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND LAND ACQUISITION; RESTRICTIONS.

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund or the Minnesota future resources fund who acquires an interest in real property with the appropriation must comply with subdivision 2. A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses any portion of the appropriation for a capital construction project with a total cost of \$10,000 or more must comply with subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. **Land acquisition restrictions; modification procedure.** (a) An easement, fee title, or other interest in real property acquired with an appropriation from the trust fund or the Minnesota future resources fund must be used in perpetuity or for the specific term of an easement interest for the purpose for which the appropriation was made. The ownership of the interest in real property transfers to the state if: (1) the holder of the interest in real property fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement or work plan; or (2) restrictions are placed on the land that preclude its use for the intended purpose as specified in the appropriation.

(b) A recipient of funding who acquires an interest in real property subject to this section may not alter the intended use of the interest in real property or convey any interest in the real property acquired with the appropriation without the prior review and approval of the commission or its successor. The commission shall notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the trust fund or Minnesota future resources fund at least 15 business days before approval under this paragraph. The commission shall establish procedures to review requests from recipients to alter the use of or convey an interest in real property. These procedures shall allow for the replacement of the interest in real property with another interest in real property meeting the following criteria:

(1) the interest must be at least equal in fair market value, as certified by the commissioner of natural resources, to the interest being replaced; and

(2) the interest must be in a reasonably equivalent location, and have a reasonably equivalent useful conservation purpose compared to the interest being replaced, taking into consideration all effects from fragmentation of the whole habitat.

(c) A recipient of funding who acquires an interest in real property under paragraph (a) must separately record a notice of funding restrictions in the appropriate local government office where the conveyance of the interest in real property is filed. The notice of funding agreement must contain:

(1) a legal description of the interest in real property covered by the funding agreement;

(2) a reference to the underlying funding agreement;

(3) a reference to this section; and

(4) the following statement:

"This interest in real property shall be administered in accordance with the terms, conditions, and purposes of the grant agreement controlling the acquisition of the property. The interest in real property, or any portion of the interest in real property, shall not be sold, transferred, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or further encumbered without obtaining the prior written approval of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor. The ownership of the interest in real property transfers to the state if: (1) the holder of the interest in real property fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement or work plan; or (2) restrictions are placed on the land that preclude its use for the intended purpose as specified in the appropriation."

Subd. 3. Capital construction restrictions; modification procedure. (a) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses the appropriation to wholly or partially construct a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset may not alter the intended use of the capital asset or convey any interest in the capital asset for 25 years from the date the project is completed without the prior review and approval of the commission or its successor. The commission must notify the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the trust fund at least 15 business days before approval under this paragraph. The commission must establish procedures to review requests from recipients to alter the use of or convey an interest in a capital asset under this paragraph. These procedures must require that:

(1) the sale price must be at least fair market value; and

(2) the trust fund must be repaid a portion of the sale price equal to the percentage of the total funding provided by the fund for constructing the capital asset.

(b) The commission or its successor may waive the requirements under paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), by recommendation to the legislature if the transfer allows for a continued use of the asset in a manner consistent with the original appropriation purpose or with the purposes of the trust fund.

(c) If both a capital asset and the real property on which the asset is located were wholly or partially purchased with an appropriation from the trust fund and the commission approves a request to alter the use of or convey an interest in the real property under subdivision 2, a separate approval under this subdivision to alter the use of the capital asset is not required.

(d) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who uses the appropriation to wholly or partially construct a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset must separately record a notice of funding restrictions in the appropriate local government office. The notice of funding restrictions must contain:

(1) a legal description of the interest in real property covered by the funding agreement;

(2) a reference to the underlying funding agreement;

(3) a reference to this subdivision; and

(4) the following statement:

"This interest in real property must be administered in accordance with the terms, conditions, and purposes of the grant agreement controlling the improvement of the property. The interest in real property, or any portion of the interest in real property, must not be altered from its intended use or be sold, transferred, pledged, or otherwise disposed of or further encumbered without obtaining the prior written approval of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor."

History: *1Sp2001 c 2 s 141; 2002 c 225 s 4; 2006 c 243 s 21; 2013 c 52 s 6; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 8*

NOTE: The amendment to this section by Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 8, is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 8, the effective date.

116P.16 REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS AND CAPITAL ASSETS; REPORT.

(a) By December 1 each year, a recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund, that is used for the acquisition of an interest in real property, including, but not limited to, an easement or fee title, or for the construction of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset with a total cost of \$10,000 or more must submit annual reports on the status of the real property to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources or its successor in a form determined by the commission. The responsibility for reporting under this section may be transferred by the recipient of the appropriation to another person who holds the interest in the real property. To complete the transfer of reporting responsibility, the recipient of the appropriation must:

- (1) inform the person to whom the responsibility is transferred of that person's reporting responsibility;
- (2) inform the person to whom the responsibility is transferred of the property restrictions under section 116P.15; and
- (3) provide written notice to the commission of the transfer of reporting responsibility, including contact information for the person to whom the responsibility is transferred.

(b) After the transfer, the person who holds the interest in the real property is responsible for reporting requirements under this section.

(c) The annual reporting requirements on the status of a building, trail, campground, or other capital asset with a total cost of \$10,000 or more and that was constructed with an appropriation from the trust fund expire 25 years after the date the final progress report under section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), is approved.

History: *1Sp2005 c 1 art 2 s 136; 2006 c 243 s 21; 2013 c 52 s 7; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 9*

NOTE: The amendment to this section by Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 9, is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 9, the effective date.

116P.17 ACQUIRING LANDS OR INTEREST IN LANDS; COMMISSIONER APPROVAL.

Subdivision 1. **Commissioner approval.** (a) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund who acquires an interest in real property must receive written approval from the commissioner of natural resources prior to the acquisition, if the interest is acquired in whole or in part with the appropriation. A recipient must request the commissioner's approval at least ten business days before the proposed acquisition. When a recipient requests approval under this subdivision, the recipient must simultaneously submit the same information to the commission. Conservation easements to be held by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, acquisitions of land in the metropolitan regional recreation open space systems as defined under section 473.351, subdivision 1, with appropriations to the Metropolitan Council, and acquisitions specifically identified in appropriation laws are not subject to commissioner approval under this section.

(b) The commissioner shall approve acquisitions under this section only when the interest in real property:

- (1) is identified as a high priority by the commissioner and meets the objectives and criteria identified in the applicable acquisition plan for the intended management status of the property; or

(2) is otherwise identified by the commissioner as a priority for state financing.

Subd. 2. **Value assessment.** At least ten business days prior to acquiring an interest in real property with an appropriation from the trust fund, a recipient of an appropriation must submit the most recent tax assessed value and most recent tax statement of the real property and the amount the recipient plans to offer for the interest in real property to the commission and the commissioner of natural resources. Conservation easements to be held by the Board of Water and Soil Resources are not subject to the requirements of this section. The board shall keep a record of the tax assessed value of the real property at the time of acquisition and the most recent tax statement.

History: 2010 c 362 s 3; 2013 c 52 s 8; 2014 c 226 s 3; 2017 c 96 s 5

116P.18 LANDS IN PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Money appropriated from the trust fund must not be used to purchase any land in fee title or a permanent conservation easement if the land in question is fully or partially owned by the state or a political subdivision of the state or was acquired fully or partially with state money, unless:

(1) the purchase creates additional direct benefit to the protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources; and

(2) the purchase is approved, prior to the acquisition, by an affirmative vote of at least 11 members of the commission, except as provided under section 116P.09, subdivision 6, paragraph (b).

History: 2013 c 52 s 9; 2023 c 60 art 2 s 10; 2024 c 116 art 9 s 2

116P.19 DONATIONS.

A recipient of money from the trust fund must not accept a monetary donation or payment from an owner of land that is acquired in fee in whole or in part with an appropriation from the trust fund that exceeds the documented expenses that are directly related to and necessary for activities specified in the work plan approved by the commission, unless expressly approved by the commission in the work plan. This section does not apply to:

(1) donations that are not connected with the acquisition transaction; or

(2) bargain sales, as defined by Code of Federal Regulations, title 26, section 1.1011-2, provided that the purchase price reimbursed by the state does not exceed the purchase price paid by the recipient.

History: 2016 c 186 s 5

116P.20 EASEMENTS; MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT REQUIREMENTS.

A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for easement monitoring and enforcement may spend the money only on activities included in an easement monitoring and enforcement plan contained within the work plan. Money received for monitoring and enforcement, including earnings on the money received, must be kept in a monitoring and enforcement fund held by the recipient and dedicated to monitoring and enforcing conservation easements in Minnesota. A recipient of an appropriation for easement monitoring and enforcement must, within 120 days after the close of the recipient's fiscal year, provide an annual financial report to the commission or the commission's successor on the easement monitoring and enforcement fund as specified in the work plan. Money appropriated from the trust fund for monitoring and enforcement of easements and earnings on the money appropriated revert to the state if:

(1) the easement transfers to the state;

(2) the recipient fails to file an annual financial report and then fails to cure the default within 30 days of notification of the default by the state; or

(3) the recipient fails to comply with the terms of the monitoring and enforcement plan contained within the work plan and fails to cure the default within 90 days of notification of the default by the state.

History: *2016 c 186 s 6*

116P.21 ADDITIONAL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.

Subdivision 1. **Full funding.** If an appropriation from the trust fund for a capital construction project or project phase is not alone sufficient to complete the project or project phase and a commitment from sources other than the trust fund is required:

(1) the commitment must be in an amount that, when added to the appropriation from the trust fund, is sufficient to complete the project or project phase; and

(2) the agency administering the appropriation from the trust fund must not distribute the money until the commitment is determined to be sufficient. In determining the sufficiency of a commitment under this clause, the agency must apply the standards and principles applied by the commissioner of management and budget under section 16A.502.

Subd. 2. **Match.** A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for a capital construction project must provide a cash or in-kind match from nontrust fund sources of at least 25 percent of the total costs to complete the project or project phase.

Subd. 3. **Sustainable building guidelines.** The sustainable building guidelines established under sections 16B.325 and 216B.241, subdivision 9, apply to new buildings and major renovations funded from the trust fund. A recipient of money appropriated from the trust fund for a new building or major renovation must ensure that the project complies with the guidelines.

Subd. 4. **Applicability.** (a) Subdivisions 1, 2, and 3 do not apply to:

(1) a capital construction project with a total cost of less than \$10,000; or

(2) a land acquisition project.

(b) If land is acquired with trust fund money for the purpose of capital construction, the land acquisition is not exempted under paragraph (a), clause (2).

Subd. 5. **Other capital construction statutes.** The following statutes also apply to recipients of appropriations from the trust fund: sections 16B.32; 16B.335, subdivisions 3 and 4; 16C.054; 16C.16; 16C.28; 16C.285; 138.40; 138.665; 138.666; 177.41 to 177.44; and 471.345.

History: *2023 c 60 art 2 s 11; 2024 c 85 s 16*

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 11, is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to money appropriated on or after that date. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 11, the effective date.

116Q.02 STATE RECEIPTS FROM FUND.

Subdivision 1. **Great Lakes protection account.** Any money received by the state from the Great Lakes protection fund, whether in the form of annual earnings or otherwise, must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to a special Great Lakes protection account. Money in the account must be spent only as specifically appropriated by law for protecting water quality in the Great Lakes. Approved purposes include, but are not limited to, supplementing in a stable and predictable manner state and federal commitments to Great Lakes water quality programs by providing grants to finance projects that advance the goals of the regional Great Lakes toxic substances control agreement and the binational Great Lakes water quality agreement.

Subd. 2. **LCCMR review.** The legislature intends not to appropriate money from the Great Lakes protection account until projects have been reviewed and recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. A work plan must be prepared for each project for review by the commission. The commission must recommend specific projects to the legislature.

History: 1990 c 594 art 1 s 59; 2006 c 243 s 21

4.071 OIL OVERCHARGE MONEY.

Subdivision 1. **Appropriation required.** "Oil overcharge money" means money received by the state as a result of litigation or settlements of alleged violations of federal petroleum pricing regulations. Oil overcharge money may not be spent until it is specifically appropriated by law.

Subd. 2. **Minnesota resources projects.** The legislature intends to appropriate one-half of the oil overcharge money for projects that have been reviewed and recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. A work plan must be prepared for each proposed project for review by the commission. The commission must recommend specific projects to the legislature.

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1998 c 273 s 15]

History: 1988 c 686 art 1 s 36; 1988 c 690 s 1; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 269; 1990 c 568 art 2 s 1; 1994 c 483 s 1; 2006 c 243 s 21