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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 2909

03/15/2023

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to environment; requiring development of adaptive phosphorus management  
1.3 feasibility assessment for Red River of the North; requiring report; appropriating  
1.4 money.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. APPROPRIATION; RED RIVER OF THE NORTH; ADAPTIVE  
1.7 PHOSPHORUS MANAGEMENT FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT.

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Appropriation; assessment contents.** \$250,000 in fiscal year 2024 is  
1.9 appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a grant to  
1.10 the Red River Basin Commission to facilitate development of a feasibility assessment of  
1.11 adaptive phosphorus management for the Red River of the North. This is a onetime  
1.12 appropriation and is available until June 30, 2026. The commission may contract with  
1.13 outside experts or academic institutions in developing the assessment. The assessment:

- 1.14 (1) must address applicable water-quality targets for phosphorous loading;
- 1.15 (2) must include an allocation of phosphorus between point and nonpoint sources;
- 1.16 (3) must identify cost-effective nutrient reduction implementation strategies; and
- 1.17 (4) may include other state water-quality goals and objectives.

1.18 Subd. 2. **Advisory group.** In developing the assessment, the Red River Basin Commission  
1.19 must use available data and analysis to the extent feasible and incorporate input from an  
1.20 advisory group that includes representatives of agriculture, soil and water conservation  
1.21 districts, watershed districts, municipalities, and other Minnesota organizations represented  
1.22 on the board of directors of the Red River Basin Commission. The Red River Basin

2.1 Commission may also work with representatives from relevant organizations from North  
2.2 Dakota, South Dakota, and Manitoba.

2.3 Subd. 3. **Reporting.** By June 30, 2026, the Red River Basin Commission must submit  
2.4 the final assessment to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees  
2.5 with jurisdiction over agriculture and environment policy and finance.

2.6 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; RED RIVER BASIN COMMISSION; ANNUAL**  
2.7 **FUNDING.**

2.8 Subdivision 1. **Appropriation; assessment contents.** \$150,000 in fiscal year 2024 and  
2.9 \$150,000 in fiscal year 2025 are appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Water  
2.10 and Soil Resources for a grant to the Red River Basin Commission to facilitate ongoing  
2.11 transboundary efforts to address challenges related to the Red River. This base appropriation  
2.12 must be used by the commission to coordinate the work supported by related contributions  
2.13 from the other states, provincial governments, and local governments within the Red River  
2.14 of the North basin.

2.15 Subd. 2. **Work plan.** The Red River Basin Commission must submit an annual work  
2.16 plan to the Board of Water and Soil Resources.