

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 3857

(SENATE AUTHORS: HAWJ and McEwen)

Table with columns: DATE, D-PG, OFFICIAL STATUS. Rows include dates from 02/26/2026 to 05/05/2026 and corresponding bill numbers and descriptions.

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; appropriating money from environment and natural
1.3 resources trust fund; extending certain prior appropriations; modifying conflict of
1.4 interest provisions for members of Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
1.5 Resources; enacting fraud prevention measures; repealing requirement for
1.6 commissioner approval of certain land acquisitions; amending Minnesota Statutes
1.7 2024, sections 116P.09, subdivision 6; 116P.18; 116X.03, by adding a subdivision;
1.8 repealing Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116P.17.

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

1.10 Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS.

1.11 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies
1.12 and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the environment and
1.13 natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years
1.14 indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this act mean that the
1.15 appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or
1.16 June 30, 2027, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year" is fiscal
1.17 year 2027. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

Table with columns: APPROPRIATIONS Available for the Year Ending June 30, 2026, 2027.

1.22 Sec. 2. MINNESOTA RESOURCES.

1.23 Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation \$ -0- \$ 103,288,000

1.24 This appropriation is from the environment
1.25 and natural resources trust fund. The amounts

2.1 that may be spent for each purpose are  
2.2 specified in the following subdivisions.

2.3 **Subd. 2. Definition**

2.4 "Trust fund" means the Minnesota  
2.5 environment and natural resources trust fund  
2.6 established under the Minnesota Constitution,  
2.7 article XI, section 14.

2.8 **Subd. 3. Resiliency**

-0-

10,641,000

2.9 **(a) Community Resiliency through**  
2.10 **AmeriCorps**

2.11 \$3,312,000 the second year is from the trust  
2.12 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
2.13 for an agreement with ServeMinnesota to  
2.14 conduct environmental and natural resource  
2.15 management; outdoor recreation; and  
2.16 improvement, enhancement, or rehabilitation  
2.17 projects and to build community resiliency  
2.18 and capacity by recruiting, training, and  
2.19 deploying AmeriCorps members to local and  
2.20 Tribal agencies and nonprofit organizations.

2.21 **(b) Preparing Resilient Communities with**  
2.22 **Model Land Use Ordinances**

2.23 \$468,000 the second year is from the trust  
2.24 fund to the commissioner of the Pollution  
2.25 Control Agency to:

2.26 (1) develop and improve Minnesota-specific  
2.27 model land-use ordinances for sustainable and  
2.28 resilient development that help protect,  
2.29 conserve, preserve, and enhance the  
2.30 environment and natural resources; and

2.31 (2) work with local communities to adopt and  
2.32 apply the model ordinances to their needs and  
2.33 priorities.

3.1 **(c) Resilient and Biodiverse Community**  
3.2 **Spaces**  
3.3 \$612,000 the second year is from the trust  
3.4 fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources  
3.5 to partner with Great River Greening,  
3.6 Audubon Upper Mississippi River, and Metro  
3.7 Blooms to develop a planning guide,  
3.8 implement case studies, and provide technical  
3.9 assistance that helps local communities plan  
3.10 and create climate-resilient and biodiverse  
3.11 community spaces.

3.12 **(d) Northwoods and Waters Community**  
3.13 **Resilience Collaborative**  
3.14 \$1,220,000 the second year is from the trust  
3.15 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
3.16 for an agreement with the Arrowhead Regional  
3.17 Development Commission, in partnership with  
3.18 the Headwaters Regional Development  
3.19 Commission and the Minnesota Climate  
3.20 Adaptation Partnership at the University of  
3.21 Minnesota, to work with and provide technical  
3.22 assistance to northeast and central Minnesota  
3.23 counties, Tribal Nations, and agencies to  
3.24 develop a regional climate resilience plan.

3.25 **(e) Protect Community Forests for**  
3.26 **Community Resiliency**  
3.27 \$2,603,000 the second year is from the trust  
3.28 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
3.29 to reduce emerald ash borer impacts by  
3.30 providing canopy gap and planting  
3.31 assessments, trainings, technical assistance,  
3.32 and grants for communities to monitor and  
3.33 manage emerald ash borer impacts, plant a

4.1 diversity of trees, and engage citizens in  
 4.2 community forestry activities.

4.3 **(f) Identifying Flooding Hazards on Mille**  
 4.4 **Lacs Tribal Lands**

4.5 \$800,000 the second year is from the trust  
 4.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 4.7 for an agreement with the Mille Lacs Band of  
 4.8 Ojibwe to develop hydrologic and hydraulic  
 4.9 models for the Big Sandy Lake and upper Rice  
 4.10 River watersheds to map flood-prone areas,  
 4.11 identify restrictive infrastructure that may  
 4.12 contribute to flooding, and incorporate results  
 4.13 into emergency preparedness plans. This  
 4.14 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,  
 4.15 by which time the project must be completed  
 4.16 and final products delivered.

4.17 **(g) Advancing Dehydration Technologies**  
 4.18 **for Resilient Minnesota Food Systems**

4.19 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust  
 4.20 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 4.21 of Minnesota to:

4.22 (1) assess opportunities and develop  
 4.23 technology for solar dehydration and curing  
 4.24 of produce that reduces climatic impact of  
 4.25 food loss and waste; and

4.26 (2) develop and distribute findings to farmers,  
 4.27 farming organizations, community partners,  
 4.28 and other supply chain and market players in  
 4.29 Minnesota.

4.30 **(h) Climate-Smart Counties and**  
 4.31 **Communities: Collaborative Resiliency**  
 4.32 **Solutions**

5.1 \$827,000 the second year is from the trust  
 5.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 5.3 of Minnesota for the Institute on the  
 5.4 Environment to provide technical expertise  
 5.5 and support to predominantly rural and small  
 5.6 communities and counties across Minnesota  
 5.7 to develop climate resiliency plans and  
 5.8 implement projects that enhance local  
 5.9 resiliency.

5.10 **(i) Mahnomen Emerald Ash Borer**  
 5.11 **Preparation Project**

5.12 \$62,000 the second year is from the trust fund  
 5.13 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
 5.14 an agreement with the city of Mahnomen to  
 5.15 remove and replace ash trees vulnerable to  
 5.16 emerald ash borer and to create a more diverse  
 5.17 and resilient tree canopy.

5.18 **(j) Sustainable Food Security, Ecosystem**  
 5.19 **Restoration, and Indigenous Empowerment**

5.20 \$437,000 the second year is from the trust  
 5.21 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 5.22 of Minnesota, Duluth, to combat food  
 5.23 insecurity in Indigenous communities through  
 5.24 community-driven agriculture, ecosystem  
 5.25 restoration, improved local supply chains, and  
 5.26 outreach and education. Notwithstanding  
 5.27 subdivision 12, paragraph (e), this  
 5.28 appropriation may be spent on green  
 5.29 infrastructure and pollinator plantings on lands  
 5.30 with a long-term commitment from the  
 5.31 landowner.

5.32 **Subd. 4. Water**

-0-

17,014,000

5.33 **(a) Statewide Ecological Risk Estimates for**  
 5.34 **Contaminants of Emerging Concern**

6.1 \$175,000 the second year is from the trust  
6.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
6.3 for an agreement with the University of St.  
6.4 Thomas to compile and analyze Minnesota's  
6.5 contaminant of emerging concern occurrence  
6.6 data for lakes and rivers to generate ecological  
6.7 risk estimates and publicly accessible and  
6.8 user-friendly dashboards that will support  
6.9 managing and restoring freshwater habitats.

6.10 **(b) Eliminating Phenolic Compounds from**  
6.11 **Water Using Enzyme Filter**

6.12 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust  
6.13 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
6.14 of Minnesota to evaluate enzymes and design  
6.15 an enzyme membrane filter to capture and  
6.16 eliminate harmful phenolic compounds from  
6.17 Minnesota's rivers and lakes.

6.18 **(c) Vadnais Lake: Nature-Based Recreation**  
6.19 **and Drinking Water Protection**

6.20 \$2,842,000 the second year is from the trust  
6.21 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
6.22 for an agreement with the city of Vadnais  
6.23 Heights to install water quality improvement  
6.24 ponds, recreational features, and educational  
6.25 signage near East Vadnais Lake to connect  
6.26 underserved community members with natural  
6.27 resources, protect drinking water, and promote  
6.28 water stewardship. This appropriation is  
6.29 available until June 30, 2030, by which time  
6.30 the project must be completed and final  
6.31 products delivered.

6.32 **(d) Almanac's Statewide Environment and**  
6.33 **Natural Resources Desk**

7.1 \$632,000 the second year is from the trust  
7.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
7.3 for an agreement with Twin Cities Public  
7.4 Television to establish Almanac's environment  
7.5 and natural resources desk that reports on  
7.6 environment and natural resources issues and  
7.7 solutions across the state and hosts community  
7.8 conversations that raise awareness and  
7.9 increase appreciation of Minnesota's air, water,  
7.10 land, and other natural resources.

7.11 **(e) Studying Dam Removal Feasibility for**  
7.12 **the Mississippi Gorge**

7.13 \$923,000 the second year is from the trust  
7.14 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
7.15 for an agreement with the Friends of the  
7.16 Mississippi River to assess the feasibility,  
7.17 environmental benefits, river restoration  
7.18 potential, and costs of dam removal for the  
7.19 Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and  
7.20 Lock and Dam 1 in the Mississippi River  
7.21 gorge.

7.22 **(f) Protecting Minnesota's Waters from**  
7.23 **Plastic- and Rubber-Derived Chemicals**

7.24 \$418,000 the second year is from the trust  
7.25 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
7.26 of Minnesota to develop stormwater treatment  
7.27 strategies and recommendations to protect  
7.28 surface water and groundwater from pollutants  
7.29 leached from polymers, coatings, plastics, and  
7.30 tire rubbers by assessing pollutant sources,  
7.31 presence, and reactivity.

7.32 **(g) Public Toolbox to Forecast Toxic**  
7.33 **Cyanobacteria Blooms**

8.1 \$509,000 the second year is from the trust  
8.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
8.3 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources  
8.4 Research Institute in Duluth to validate the  
8.5 concept of a field-deployable toolbox to  
8.6 proactively and rapidly detect harmful algal  
8.7 blooms and forecast associated toxin  
8.8 production, evaluate the feasibility of the  
8.9 integrated toolbox, and seek feedback from  
8.10 potential users to inform further refinement.

8.11 **(h) PFAS in Precipitation: Assessing a**  
8.12 **Critical Statewide Threat**

8.13 \$910,000 the second year is from the trust  
8.14 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
8.15 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Sea Grant  
8.16 college program in Duluth to create a  
8.17 multiyear, multisite, foundational dataset of  
8.18 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)  
8.19 in rain and snow and to investigate the  
8.20 processes and sources that influence PFAS  
8.21 levels in rain and snow to inform management  
8.22 and remediation efforts. This appropriation is  
8.23 available until June 30, 2030, by which time  
8.24 the project must be completed and final  
8.25 products delivered.

8.26 **(i) Assessment of Microplastic Pollution in**  
8.27 **Minnesota Karst Aquifers**

8.28 \$458,000 the second year is from the trust  
8.29 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
8.30 of Minnesota to determine the nature and  
8.31 extent of microplastic pollution in shallow  
8.32 karst aquifers, identify potential sources, and  
8.33 assess human and ecosystem health  
8.34 implications to inform mitigation and  
8.35 prevention strategies.

9.1 **(j) Ash Recovery and Recycling Center**  
9.2 \$1,177,000 the second year is from the trust  
9.3 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
9.4 for an agreement with Otter Tail County to  
9.5 construct and equip a facility to store and  
9.6 recycle resource-recovery-generated ash as an  
9.7 alternative to landfilling.

9.8 **(k) PFAS and Microplastics: Potential**  
9.9 **Impacts of Environmental Co-Occurrence**  
9.10 \$721,000 the second year is from the trust  
9.11 fund to the commissioner of the Pollution  
9.12 Control Agency to analyze water, sediment,  
9.13 and fish for per- and polyfluoroalkyl  
9.14 substances (PFAS) and microplastics to  
9.15 determine whether co-occurrence has an  
9.16 impact on bioaccumulation in aquatic habitats.

9.17 **(l) Brookdale Park Shingle Creek**  
9.18 **Restoration and Access Improvements**  
9.19 \$409,000 the second year is from the trust  
9.20 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
9.21 for an agreement with the city of Brooklyn  
9.22 Park to stabilize and enhance Shingle Creek  
9.23 through Brookdale Park and a portion of  
9.24 Palmer Lake Environmental Nature Area to  
9.25 improve wildlife passage and habitat,  
9.26 hydrologic function, water quality, and  
9.27 recreational opportunities through streambank  
9.28 and outfall stabilization, native plantings, and  
9.29 stream enhancements.

9.30 **(m) Determining Fracture Characteristics**  
9.31 **for Karst Groundwater Flow Modeling**  
9.32 \$375,000 the second year is from the trust  
9.33 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
9.34 of Minnesota to develop and validate

10.1 machine-learning software to identify complex  
 10.2 fracture characteristics and improve  
 10.3 predictions for groundwater flow and pollutant  
 10.4 transport in Minnesota's karst aquifers.

10.5 **(n) Restoring Wild Rice Waters: Sulfate**  
 10.6 **and Mercury Treatment**

10.7 \$727,000 the second year is from the trust  
 10.8 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 10.9 for an agreement with the White Iron Chain  
 10.10 of Lakes Association to test a biological  
 10.11 sulfate reduction system to treat sulfate and  
 10.12 sequester mercury to improve the health of  
 10.13 wild rice waters and aquatic ecosystems in  
 10.14 northern Minnesota. Before costs for this  
 10.15 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal agent for  
 10.16 White Iron Chain of Lakes Association must  
 10.17 be approved in the work plan.

10.18 **(o) Cheap Portable Sensor to Detect PFAS**  
 10.19 **in Water**

10.20 \$357,000 the second year is from the trust  
 10.21 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 10.22 of Minnesota to develop a cheap, accurate,  
 10.23 and easy-to-use sensor to monitor per- and  
 10.24 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in  
 10.25 waterbodies and detect PFAS in drinking  
 10.26 water.

10.27 **(p) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource**  
 10.28 **Management**

10.29 \$1,275,000 the second year is from the trust  
 10.30 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 10.31 of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey,  
 10.32 to continue producing county geologic atlases  
 10.33 to inform management of surface water and  
 10.34 groundwater resources. This appropriation is

11.1 to complete Part A, which focuses on the  
11.2 properties and distribution of earth materials  
11.3 to define aquifer boundaries and the  
11.4 connection of aquifers to the land surface and  
11.5 surface water resources.

11.6 **(q) Mitigating Short-Chain Forever**  
11.7 **Chemicals Toward a PFAS-Free Minnesota**  
11.8 \$299,000 the second year is from the trust  
11.9 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
11.10 of Minnesota to demonstrate, optimize, and  
11.11 provide an energy cost analysis of an enhanced  
11.12 plasma reactor to remove resistant short-chain  
11.13 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)  
11.14 from wastewater and other point sources.

11.15 **(r) Anoka Rum River Dam Reconstruction**  
11.16 **and Modification Project**  
11.17 \$3,110,000 the second year is from the trust  
11.18 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
11.19 for an agreement with the city of Anoka for  
11.20 predesign, engineering, and final design of  
11.21 improvements to the Anoka Rum River Dam  
11.22 to enhance dam safety, restore aquatic habitats,  
11.23 and expand recreational opportunities in the  
11.24 Rum River just upstream of its confluence  
11.25 with the Mississippi River.

11.26 **(s) Lake Superior River Watch**  
11.27 \$404,000 the second year is from the trust  
11.28 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
11.29 for an agreement with the Fond du Lac Tribal  
11.30 and Community College to revitalize the river  
11.31 watch program in the Lake Superior watershed  
11.32 by engaging students in water quality  
11.33 monitoring and analysis to support  
11.34 Minnesota's Lake Superior stewardship efforts.

12.1 **(t) Red Lake Nation Long-Term Continuous**12.2 **Monitoring Buoys**

12.3 \$993,000 the second year is from the trust  
 12.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 12.5 for an agreement with the Red Lake Band of  
 12.6 Chippewa Indians to procure, install, and  
 12.7 collect real-time water quality data from  
 12.8 long-term buoys on Upper and Lower Red  
 12.9 Lakes and Lake of the Woods and to improve  
 12.10 hazardous algal bloom forecasts. This  
 12.11 appropriation is available until June 30, 2031,  
 12.12 by which time the project must be completed  
 12.13 and final products delivered.

12.14 **Subd. 5. Education and Outdoor Recreation**-0-37,806,00012.15 **(a) Greater Minnesota Children's Museum**12.16 **Coalition Nature Play Curriculum**

12.17 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust  
 12.18 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 12.19 for an agreement with the Children's Museum  
 12.20 of Southern Minnesota to collaborate with  
 12.21 other greater Minnesota children's museums  
 12.22 to standardize and enhance existing curriculum  
 12.23 and implement nature-based programming  
 12.24 that engages children and fosters  
 12.25 environmental stewardship, awareness of  
 12.26 natural resources, and sustainability. Before  
 12.27 costs for this appropriation are incurred, a  
 12.28 fiscal management plan must be approved in  
 12.29 the work plan, unless otherwise determined  
 12.30 by the commissioner.

12.31 **(b) Cultivate, Connect, and Train**12.32 **Minnesota's Young Conservation Scientists**

12.33 \$538,000 the second year is from the trust  
 12.34 fund to the Board of Regents of the University

13.1 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape  
 13.2 Arboretum to expand a conservation science  
 13.3 program that trains teachers and engages  
 13.4 students in immersive research experiments  
 13.5 and collaborative activities that build their  
 13.6 scientific knowledge, skills, and interest and  
 13.7 their appreciation for Minnesota's natural  
 13.8 heritage.

13.9 **(c) Native Fish Exhibits Transforming**

13.10 **Aquatic Education in Minnesota**

13.11 \$299,000 the second year is from the trust  
 13.12 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 13.13 for an agreement with the Headwaters Science  
 13.14 Center to design and construct interactive,  
 13.15 year-round exhibits and conduct educational  
 13.16 programming featuring native fish species that  
 13.17 increase the public's understanding, awareness,  
 13.18 and stewardship of northern Minnesota's vital  
 13.19 lake resources.

13.20 **(d) Inspiring and Connecting the Next**

13.21 **Generations with Nature**

13.22 \$3,085,000 the second year is from the trust  
 13.23 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 13.24 for an agreement with the YMCA of the North  
 13.25 to increase access for Minnesota youth to  
 13.26 outdoor camp and environmental learning  
 13.27 experiences through scholarships,  
 13.28 transportation assistance, and free equipment  
 13.29 rentals.

13.30 **(e) River Bend Nature Center's Inclusive**

13.31 **Interpretive Plan Implementation**

13.32 \$293,000 the second year is from the trust  
 13.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 13.34 for an agreement with the River Bend Nature

14.1 Center to design and install interactive  
 14.2 multilingual interpretive and educational  
 14.3 exhibits that provide culturally relevant and  
 14.4 accessible information on the environment  
 14.5 and natural resources and increase accessibility  
 14.6 to nature for multilingual, blind, and deaf  
 14.7 communities.

14.8 **(f) Fostering Environmental Stewardship**  
 14.9 **Through Art**

14.10 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust  
 14.11 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 14.12 for an agreement with the Watermark Art  
 14.13 Center, in partnership with the Headwaters  
 14.14 Science Center, to engage underserved youth  
 14.15 in northern Minnesota in art-related  
 14.16 experiences, with regional artists and culture  
 14.17 bearers, that integrate art and science to deliver  
 14.18 culturally relevant hands-on environmental  
 14.19 learning experiences. Before costs for this  
 14.20 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal  
 14.21 management plan must be approved in the  
 14.22 work plan, unless otherwise determined by  
 14.23 the commissioner.

14.24 **(g) Increasing Pollinator Conservation**  
 14.25 **Action Through Education and**  
 14.26 **Engagement**

14.27 \$501,000 the second year is from the trust  
 14.28 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 14.29 of Minnesota to:  
 14.30 (1) train volunteers and beekeepers to become  
 14.31 pollinator ambassadors that lead educational  
 14.32 events and increase native pollinator  
 14.33 conservation awareness and the adoption of  
 14.34 pollinator conservation practices; and

- 15.1 (2) train volunteers to collect data on  
 15.2 bumblebee nests and develop  
 15.3 recommendations for conserving bumblebee  
 15.4 nesting habitat.
- 15.5 **(h) Flyway Fellows: Engaging Teachers in**  
 15.6 **Bird Migration Education**
- 15.7 \$362,000 the second year is from the trust  
 15.8 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 15.9 of Minnesota to train teachers in bird  
 15.10 monitoring practices and support them in  
 15.11 engaging students in scientific research that  
 15.12 advances Mississippi Flyway conservation  
 15.13 efforts.
- 15.14 **(i) Minnesota Community Schoolyards**
- 15.15 \$1,343,000 the second year is from the trust  
 15.16 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 15.17 for an agreement with Trust for Public Land  
 15.18 to engage students and communities in the  
 15.19 creation of nature-focused habitat  
 15.20 improvements at schoolyards across the state  
 15.21 to encourage environmental stewardship and  
 15.22 outdoor learning.
- 15.23 **(j) Bringing Environmental Education and**  
 15.24 **Outdoor Recreation to K-12 Schools**
- 15.25 \$192,000 the second year is from the trust  
 15.26 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 15.27 for an agreement with the Osprey Wilds  
 15.28 Environmental Learning Center to deliver  
 15.29 hands-on environmental education and outdoor  
 15.30 recreation learning experiences directly to  
 15.31 K-12 school classrooms and students through  
 15.32 programs at participating schools. Before costs  
 15.33 for this appropriation are incurred, a fiscal  
 15.34 management plan must be approved in the

16.1 work plan, unless otherwise determined by  
16.2 the commissioner.

16.3 **(k) Improving Trail Accessibility for**

16.4 **Minnesotans at Osprey Wilds**

16.5 \$25,000 the second year is from the trust fund  
16.6 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
16.7 an agreement with the Osprey Wilds  
16.8 Environmental Learning Center to improve  
16.9 trails and install directional and interpretive  
16.10 signage on hiking and cross-country ski trails  
16.11 at the center's campus. Before costs for this  
16.12 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal  
16.13 management plan must be approved in the  
16.14 work plan, unless otherwise determined by  
16.15 the commissioner.

16.16 **(l) Duluth Traverse Accessibility and**

16.17 **Sustainability Improvements**

16.18 \$85,000 the second year is from the trust fund  
16.19 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
16.20 an agreement with the Cyclists of Gitchee  
16.21 Gumee Shores to rehabilitate a section of the  
16.22 Duluth Traverse Trail to enhance outdoor  
16.23 recreation opportunities, improve accessibility,  
16.24 reduce erosion, and improve water quality.

16.25 **(m) Hardwood Creek Regional Trail**

16.26 **Extension**

16.27 \$1,244,000 the second year is from the trust  
16.28 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
16.29 for an agreement with Washington County to  
16.30 acquire easements for, design, and construct  
16.31 a new section of the Hardwood Creek  
16.32 Regional Trail to fill a gap in a regional trail  
16.33 network near a planned connection of regional  
16.34 trails across three counties.

- 17.1 **(n) College-School Collaboration to Restore**  
17.2 **Campuses and Activate Stewardship**
- 17.3 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust  
17.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
17.5 for an agreement with Minnesota State  
17.6 University, Mankato, to build partnerships  
17.7 among natural resource professionals,  
17.8 colleges, and secondary schools in southern  
17.9 Minnesota and expose youth to outdoor  
17.10 experiences, environmental issues, and natural  
17.11 resource career paths through internships, field  
17.12 trips, and environmental projects.
- 17.13 **(o) Urban Farming Education to Increase**  
17.14 **Urban Environmental Stewardship**
- 17.15 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust  
17.16 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
17.17 for an agreement with the East Phillips  
17.18 Neighborhood Institute to (1) design and  
17.19 deliver workshops and youth apprenticeship  
17.20 opportunities related to land and water  
17.21 stewardship and urban farming to reconnect  
17.22 residents to the land and water and foster  
17.23 interest in environmental careers; and (2)  
17.24 conduct soil testing at an urban farming  
17.25 demonstration site. Before costs for this  
17.26 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal  
17.27 management plan must be approved in the  
17.28 work plan, unless otherwise determined by  
17.29 the commissioner.
- 17.30 **(p) A State Trail System for 21st-Century**  
17.31 **Minnesota**
- 17.32 \$623,000 the second year is from the trust  
17.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
17.34 for an agreement with the Bicycle Alliance of

18.1 Minnesota to increase participation in outdoor  
18.2 recreation and use of Minnesota's trails by  
18.3 nontraditional users through active adult  
18.4 education programming and community  
18.5 engagement.

18.6 **(q) Mississippi River Water Trail Access in**  
18.7 **Dayton**

18.8 \$464,000 the second year is from the trust  
18.9 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
18.10 for an agreement with the Three Rivers Park  
18.11 District to develop public access to the  
18.12 Mississippi River in Dayton by designing and  
18.13 constructing recreational amenities, including  
18.14 a nonmotorized boat launch and staging area,  
18.15 paved trail connection, and parking.

18.16 **(r) YES! Connects Students to Outdoors for**  
18.17 **Youth-Led Sustainability**

18.18 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust  
18.19 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
18.20 for an agreement with the Prairie Woods  
18.21 Environmental Learning Center to empower  
18.22 Minnesota youth to lead sustainability projects  
18.23 and expose them to environmental and natural  
18.24 resource career opportunities through hands-on  
18.25 environmental education, natural  
18.26 resource-based recreation, and partnerships  
18.27 with local schools and communities.

18.28 **(s) Sharing Minnesota's Greatest**  
18.29 **Environmental Investment - Phase 2**

18.30 \$623,000 the second year is from the trust  
18.31 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota, in  
18.32 coordination with the Legislative-Citizen  
18.33 Commission on Minnesota Resources  
18.34 (LCCMR), to increase public access to the

19.1 results of LCCMR-recommended projects,  
 19.2 including through an enhanced and expanded  
 19.3 online interactive story map, in-depth videos,  
 19.4 and public events.

19.5 **(t) Diversifying Nature Education Access**

19.6 \$438,000 the second year is from the trust  
 19.7 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 19.8 for an agreement with the Ramsey County  
 19.9 Parks and Recreation Department to provide  
 19.10 culturally relevant and inclusive environmental  
 19.11 education programming, including nature  
 19.12 center outreach and events, Indigenous-led  
 19.13 nature programming, and interpretive nature  
 19.14 signage designed by Indigenous artists and  
 19.15 educators. This appropriation is available until  
 19.16 June 30, 2030, by which time the project must  
 19.17 be completed and final products delivered.

19.18 **(u) Cultivating Conservation Leaders**

19.19 **Through Education and Wilderness**

19.20 **Experiences**

19.21 \$1,252,000 the second year is from the trust  
 19.22 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 19.23 for an agreement with the Friends of the  
 19.24 Boundary Waters Wilderness to connect  
 19.25 students throughout Minnesota to the  
 19.26 Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness  
 19.27 through overnight wilderness experiences,  
 19.28 leadership programs, and educational  
 19.29 programming.

19.30 **(v) Lebanon Hills Regional Park Natural**

19.31 **Resources Restoration and Sustainable**

19.32 **Trails Improvements**

19.33 \$2,126,000 the second year is from the trust  
 19.34 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

20.1 for an agreement with Dakota County to  
20.2 reconstruct heavily eroded trails,  
20.3 decommission trails in highly sensitive natural  
20.4 areas, construct new trail connections, and  
20.5 restore land at Lebanon Hills Regional Park  
20.6 to reduce user conflicts, create a more  
20.7 sustainable and functional trail system, and  
20.8 improve habitat for pollinators and wildlife.

20.9 **(w) Minnesota State Trails Development**

20.10 \$4,943,000 the second year is from the trust  
20.11 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
20.12 to expand recreational opportunities on  
20.13 Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and  
20.14 enhancing existing state trails and replacing  
20.15 or repairing existing state trail bridges.  
20.16 High-priority trail bridges to be repaired or  
20.17 replaced under this appropriation include but  
20.18 are not limited to the Minnesota River State  
20.19 Trail Bridge. High-priority trail segments to  
20.20 be rehabilitated and enhanced include but are  
20.21 not limited to the Glacial Lakes State Trail  
20.22 and the Minnesota Valley State Trail. This  
20.23 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,  
20.24 by which time the project must be completed  
20.25 and final products delivered.

20.26 **(x) Tettegouche State Park Entrance Bridge**  
20.27 **Replacement**

20.28 \$3,674,000 the second year is from the trust  
20.29 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
20.30 to replace the Baptism River Bridge in  
20.31 Tettegouche State Park and ensure ongoing  
20.32 accessibility for Minnesotans to recreational  
20.33 opportunities in areas of the park accessed by  
20.34 the bridge. This appropriation is available until

21.1 June 30, 2030, by which time the project must  
21.2 be completed and final products delivered.

21.3 **(y) Expanding Adaptive Outdoor**

21.4 **Recreation Opportunities Around the**

21.5 **Boundary Waters Canoe Area**

21.6 \$996,000 the second year is from the trust  
21.7 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
21.8 for an agreement with Adaptive Wilderness  
21.9 Within Reach to remove barriers and promote  
21.10 access to the Boundary Waters region for  
21.11 individuals with physical disabilities through  
21.12 adaptive wilderness experiences, adaptive  
21.13 equipment purchases, and trail accessibility  
21.14 improvements. Before costs for this  
21.15 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal agent for  
21.16 Adaptive Wilderness Within Reach must be  
21.17 approved in the work plan. This appropriation  
21.18 is available until June 30, 2030, by which time  
21.19 the project must be completed and final  
21.20 products delivered.

21.21 **(z) Engaging Saint Paul Youth in**

21.22 **Meaningful Restoration Work**

21.23 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust  
21.24 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
21.25 for an agreement with Urban Roots MN to  
21.26 engage underserved youth in paid job training  
21.27 internships and educational programming  
21.28 centered around environmental stewardship,  
21.29 natural resource conservation, and outdoor  
21.30 recreation.

21.31 **(aa) Expanding and Enhancing**

21.32 **Environmental Education Through**

21.33 **Partnerships**

22.1 \$550,000 the second year is from the trust  
22.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
22.3 for an agreement with the Belwin Conservancy  
22.4 to expand environmental education and partner  
22.5 with schools and Indigenous organizations to  
22.6 provide students with hands-on,  
22.7 standards-aligned, and culturally relevant  
22.8 science and nature programs.

22.9 **(bb) Greater Fountain Lake Aquatic and**  
22.10 **Trail Accessibility Enhancements**

22.11 \$1,162,000 the second year is from the trust  
22.12 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
22.13 for an agreement with the Shell Rock River  
22.14 Watershed District to design and construct  
22.15 pedestrian paths, crossings, bridges, and  
22.16 recreational features that improve public  
22.17 access to fishing, canoeing, kayaking, and  
22.18 public green space located along the Shell  
22.19 Rock River Channel in the city of Albert Lea.

22.20 **(cc) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas**  
22.21 **Grant Programs**

22.22 \$3,833,000 the second year is from the trust  
22.23 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
22.24 to solicit and rank applications and fund  
22.25 competitive matching grants for local parks,  
22.26 trail connections, and natural and scenic areas  
22.27 under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This  
22.28 appropriation is for local nature-based  
22.29 recreation, connections to regional and state  
22.30 natural areas, and recreation facilities and may  
22.31 not be used for athletic facilities, such as sport  
22.32 fields, courts, or playgrounds.

22.33 **(dd) Lake Marion Greenway: Ritter Farm**  
22.34 **Park to Dodd Boulevard**

23.1 \$1,797,000 the second year is from the trust  
 23.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 23.3 for an agreement with the city of Lakeville to  
 23.4 construct new trails and pedestrian crossings,  
 23.5 improve existing trails and trailhead facilities,  
 23.6 and install interpretive and wayfinding signage  
 23.7 as part of the Lake Marion Greenway.

23.8 **(ee) Restored Bluff and Trail at**

23.9 **Owámniyomni**

23.10 \$2,385,000 the second year is from the trust  
 23.11 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 23.12 for an agreement with Owámniyomni  
 23.13 Okhódayapi to design, engineer, and construct  
 23.14 an ADA accessible pedestrian-only trail and  
 23.15 restore the vegetated limestone bluff  
 23.16 landscape.

23.17 **(ff) Minnesota Water Education for Grades**

23.18 **K-5**

23.19 \$295,000 the second year is from the trust  
 23.20 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota to  
 23.21 provide educational programming on water  
 23.22 science and conservation to underserved  
 23.23 schools in Minnesota.

23.24 **(gg) Outdoor Learning Center and Trails**

23.25 \$250,000 the second year is from the trust  
 23.26 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 23.27 for an agreement with Cook County Public  
 23.28 Schools to improve and expand access to the  
 23.29 outdoor environment and provide spaces for  
 23.30 exploration and education through accessible  
 23.31 trails, outdoor classrooms, shelter, and seating  
 23.32 for students in Cook County public schools.  
 23.33 Before costs for this appropriation are  
 23.34 incurred, a fiscal management plan must be

24.1 approved in the work plan, unless otherwise  
 24.2 determined by the commissioner.

24.3 **(hh) Facility Outdoor Improvements**

24.4 \$180,000 the second year is from the trust  
 24.5 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 24.6 for an agreement with Veterans on the Lake  
 24.7 to upgrade outdoor recreation facilities at  
 24.8 Veterans on the Lake Resort on Fall Lake,  
 24.9 including the construction of an accessible  
 24.10 fishing pier and an accessible fish-cleaning  
 24.11 house, to improve access to the wilderness and  
 24.12 outdoor recreation for disabled American  
 24.13 veterans. Before costs for this appropriation  
 24.14 are incurred, approval of the proposed  
 24.15 improvements and conditions of funding by  
 24.16 the property owner must be demonstrated.  
 24.17 Before costs for this appropriation are  
 24.18 incurred, a fiscal agent for Veterans on the  
 24.19 Lake must be approved in the work plan.

24.20 **(ii) Classrooms to Careers: Expanding**

24.21 **Environmental STEM Pathways**

24.22 \$763,000 the second year is from the trust  
 24.23 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota to  
 24.24 provide hands-on research experiences and  
 24.25 mentorship for high school youth and  
 24.26 professional development for high school  
 24.27 teachers to strengthen environmental STEM  
 24.28 education and expose students to STEM career  
 24.29 opportunities.

24.30 **(jj) Outdoor Learning Professional**

24.31 **Development for Educators and**

24.32 **Administrators**

24.33 \$323,000 the second year is from the trust  
 24.34 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

25.1 for an agreement with the Wolf Ridge  
 25.2 Environmental Learning Center to train,  
 25.3 mentor, and provide professional development  
 25.4 opportunities for teachers and administrators  
 25.5 to enable them to implement innovative,  
 25.6 locally focused outdoor learning at their  
 25.7 schools. Before costs for this appropriation  
 25.8 are incurred, a fiscal management plan must  
 25.9 be approved in the work plan, unless otherwise  
 25.10 determined by the commissioner.

25.11 **(kk) Emerging Conservation Leaders:**

25.12 **Expanding the Network**

25.13 \$786,000 the second year is from the trust  
 25.14 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 25.15 for an agreement with Minnesota Valley  
 25.16 National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc., to  
 25.17 introduce metro area youth to the outdoors  
 25.18 and conservation professions through  
 25.19 apprenticeships, internships, and youth  
 25.20 environmental programming. This  
 25.21 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,  
 25.22 by which time the project must be completed  
 25.23 and final products delivered.

25.24 **(ll) Lakewood Elementary School Trail**

25.25 **Renewal and Community Engagement**

25.26 \$288,000 the second year is from the trust  
 25.27 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 25.28 for an agreement with Duluth Public Schools  
 25.29 to improve the Lakewood School Forest Trail  
 25.30 and carry out erosion stabilization and  
 25.31 restoration activities along the trail at  
 25.32 Lakewood Elementary to ensure continued  
 25.33 opportunities for safe outdoor education and  
 25.34 community usage. Before costs for this  
 25.35 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal

26.1 management plan must be approved in the  
 26.2 work plan, unless otherwise determined by  
 26.3 the commissioner.

26.4 **(mm) Explore Minnesota with COPAL**

26.5 \$392,000 the second year is from the trust  
 26.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 26.7 for an agreement with the Comunidades  
 26.8 Organizando el Poder y la Accion Latina  
 26.9 (COPAL) to expand community partnerships,  
 26.10 provide environmentally focused programming  
 26.11 and outreach focused on Latine and BIPOC  
 26.12 communities, support youth environmental  
 26.13 and outdoor leadership and engagement, and  
 26.14 conduct an evaluation on the accessibility and  
 26.15 inclusivity of Minnesota public lands.

26.16 **(nn) Expanding Community Boat Building**  
 26.17 **and Outdoor Experiences**

26.18 \$100,000 the second year is from the trust  
 26.19 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 26.20 for an agreement with Urban Boatbuilders to  
 26.21 engage youth in hands-on woodworking  
 26.22 experiences designing and constructing  
 26.23 longboards, canoes, kayaks, and paddles that  
 26.24 help develop technical, career-readiness, and  
 26.25 leadership skills. Before costs for this  
 26.26 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal  
 26.27 management plan must be approved in the  
 26.28 work plan, unless otherwise determined by  
 26.29 the commissioner.

26.30 **Subd. 6. Fish and Wildlife**

-0-

18,750,000

26.31 **(a) Which Cisco are Strongest? Identifying**  
 26.32 **Healthy Populations**

- 27.1 \$674,000 the second year is from the trust  
27.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
27.3 of Minnesota to:
- 27.4 (1) determine if certain cisco populations are  
27.5 better suited for Minnesota lakes experiencing  
27.6 higher temperatures and lower oxygen levels  
27.7 due to climate change; and
- 27.8 (2) create a habitat suitability map for different  
27.9 cisco populations under different climate  
27.10 scenarios to guide management decisions.
- 27.11 **(b) Mapping Leech Lake Vegetation: A**  
27.12 **Closer Look**
- 27.13 \$478,000 the second year is from the trust  
27.14 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
27.15 for an agreement with the Leech Lake Band  
27.16 of Ojibwe to:
- 27.17 (1) survey aquatic vegetation and cultural uses  
27.18 of Leech Lake resources to understand  
27.19 changes over time and to guide future  
27.20 management; and
- 27.21 (2) conduct public engagement, update aquatic  
27.22 vegetation inventories, and use genetics to  
27.23 distinguish between native and invasive plant  
27.24 species.
- 27.25 **(c) Salvaged Wildlife to Inform**  
27.26 **Environmental Health, Ecology, and**  
27.27 **Education - Phase 2**
- 27.28 \$673,000 the second year is from the trust  
27.29 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
27.30 of Minnesota, Bell Museum, to expand and  
27.31 support the statewide Salvage Wildlife  
27.32 network, prepare deceased wildlife as  
27.33 museum-quality specimens, and build

28.1 biodiversity resources for research, education,  
 28.2 and conservation of Minnesota's wildlife.

28.3 **(d) Partnership for Resilient Landscapes**

28.4 \$2,638,000 the second year is from the trust  
 28.5 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 28.6 for an agreement with Pheasants Forever, Inc.  
 28.7 to collaborate with the Natural Resources  
 28.8 Conservation Service, United States Fish and  
 28.9 Wildlife Services, Board of Water and Soil  
 28.10 Resources, and Minnesota Department of  
 28.11 Natural Resources to accelerate adoption of  
 28.12 voluntary conservation practices on working  
 28.13 lands in Minnesota by increasing technical  
 28.14 assistance to farmers and landowners while  
 28.15 also attracting federal matching funds.

28.16 **(e) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza's**

28.17 **Impacts on Minnesota Raptors**

28.18 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust  
 28.19 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 28.20 of Minnesota for the Raptor Center, in  
 28.21 partnership with Hawk Ridge Bird  
 28.22 Observatory, to continue to evaluate  
 28.23 Minnesota raptors for current or past infections  
 28.24 with highly pathogenic avian influenza virus  
 28.25 to better understand disease transmission and  
 28.26 outbreak impacts on raptor populations.

28.27 **(f) United in Responding to CWD in**

28.28 **Minnesota**

28.29 \$2,200,000 the second year is from the trust  
 28.30 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 28.31 of Minnesota for the College of Veterinary  
 28.32 Medicine to:  
 28.33 (1) study the environmental persistence and  
 28.34 transportation of chronic wasting disease

- 29.1 (CWD) prions and the risk factors for CWD  
 29.2 outbreaks in deer populations; and
- 29.3 (2) advance antemortem testing for early  
 29.4 detection of CWD in Minnesota, support  
 29.5 Tribal and state surveillance efforts, and  
 29.6 provide education about the public's role in  
 29.7 CWD management.
- 29.8 **(g) Survival and Movement of Deer in**  
 29.9 **Minnesota's Prairie and Transition Zones**
- 29.10 \$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust  
 29.11 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 29.12 to GPS-collar and monitor deer to examine  
 29.13 survival, causes of mortality, predator impacts,  
 29.14 seasonal movements, and habitat selection in  
 29.15 the state's northwest and central permit zones  
 29.16 to determine deer herd health and inform  
 29.17 harvest regulations and future CWD  
 29.18 management. This appropriation is available  
 29.19 until June 30, 2031, by which time the project  
 29.20 must be completed and final products  
 29.21 delivered.
- 29.22 **(h) Uniting Minnesota's Insect Record**
- 29.23 \$932,000 the second year is from the trust  
 29.24 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 29.25 of Minnesota, Bell Museum, to develop the  
 29.26 first comprehensive list of Minnesota insect  
 29.27 species, consolidate Bell Museum and other  
 29.28 state insect collections, and integrate specimen  
 29.29 records of statewide natural history collections  
 29.30 with the Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas.
- 29.31 **(i) Lake Sturgeon Restoration at Great**  
 29.32 **Lakes Aquarium**
- 29.33 \$500,000 the second year is from the trust  
 29.34 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

30.1 for an agreement with the Lake Superior  
30.2 Authority to create a new  
30.3 lake-sturgeon-rearing program and educational  
30.4 grow-out exhibit at the Great Lakes Aquarium  
30.5 to advance restoration of lake sturgeon to the  
30.6 St. Louis River. Net income generated as part  
30.7 of this appropriation may be reinvested in the  
30.8 project if a plan for reinvestment is approved  
30.9 in the work plan as provided under Minnesota  
30.10 Statutes, section 116P.10.

30.11 **(j) Wolf Monitoring on the Leech Lake**  
30.12 **Reservation**

30.13 \$295,000 the second year is from the trust  
30.14 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
30.15 for an agreement with the Leech Lake Band  
30.16 of Ojibwe to monitor and assess wolf  
30.17 population dynamics and update a wolf  
30.18 management plan to guide collaboration with  
30.19 other natural resource agencies for the  
30.20 long-term survival of wolves on the Leech  
30.21 Lake Reservation.

30.22 **(k) Erosion Investigation of Pine and Curry**  
30.23 **Island SNA**

30.24 \$539,000 the second year is from the trust  
30.25 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
30.26 for an agreement with Lake of the Woods  
30.27 County to:  
30.28 (1) collect data, run models, and assess design  
30.29 alternatives to stabilize the shoreline, restore  
30.30 habitat, and improve water quality at Pine and  
30.31 Curry Island Scientific and Natural Area; and  
30.32 (2) summarize the data, evaluations, and final  
30.33 recommendations into a public report.

31.1 **(l) Building a Future for Minnesota's**

31.2 **At-Risk Butterflies**

31.3 \$294,000 the second year is from the trust

31.4 fund to the Minnesota Zoological Board to

31.5 develop husbandry protocols for the Pawnee

31.6 Skipper, identify conservation strategies for

31.7 other at-risk butterfly species, and determine

31.8 thresholds for taking action to inform

31.9 conservation planning.

31.10 **(m) Advancing Bison Recovery and**

31.11 **Stewardship Through Statewide**

31.12 **Partnership**

31.13 \$658,000 the second year is from the trust

31.14 fund to the Minnesota Zoological Board to

31.15 advance conservation of bison in Minnesota

31.16 by coordinating and implementing the

31.17 priorities of the multiagency Minnesota Bison

31.18 Collaborative, including monitoring herd

31.19 genetics and health, assessing potential

31.20 reintroduction sites, and developing an

31.21 educational framework and tools.

31.22 **(n) Identifying Climate-Resilient Fisheries**

31.23 **to Guide Minnesota Lake Management**

31.24 \$643,000 the second year is from the trust

31.25 fund to the Board of Regents of the University

31.26 of Minnesota to assess factors supporting

31.27 multispecies resilience to climate change,

31.28 identify bright spots where fisheries are

31.29 thriving despite environmental change, and

31.30 develop decision options within the

31.31 Resist-Accept-Direct framework for fisheries

31.32 management.

31.33 **(o) Supporting Implementation of**

31.34 **Large-Scale Moose Habitat Management**

32.1 \$1,054,000 the second year is from the trust  
32.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
32.3 to:

32.4 (1) coordinate delivery of the moose habitat  
32.5 implementation plan that was created to  
32.6 overcome challenges to large-scale moose  
32.7 habitat management across diverse land  
32.8 ownerships among multiple partners; and  
32.9 (2) provide education, communication, and  
32.10 outreach to address specific implementation  
32.11 challenges and to establish and execute a  
32.12 monitoring plan to evaluate implementation  
32.13 success.

32.14 **(p) Evaluating Forward-Facing Sonar**  
32.15 **Impacts on Minnesota Fish**

32.16 \$676,000 the second year is from the trust  
32.17 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
32.18 of Minnesota to evaluate the impact of  
32.19 forward-facing sonar on angler catch rates and  
32.20 fish mortality across multiple species and lake  
32.21 types to inform sustainable management of  
32.22 Minnesota freshwater fish populations.

32.23 **(q) Incidence of Avian Influenza in**  
32.24 **Minnesota Forest Birds**

32.25 \$234,000 the second year is from the trust  
32.26 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
32.27 of Minnesota, Duluth, to augment wild bird  
32.28 surveys in northern Minnesota with sampling  
32.29 for present and past infections with avian  
32.30 influenza and coinfection with  
32.31 Haemosporidian parasites to identify at-risk  
32.32 bird species and quantify trends in avian  
32.33 influenza prevalence over time.

33.1 **(r) Regarding Native Fish: Outreach,**  
 33.2 **Engagement, and Citizen Science**  
 33.3 \$270,000 the second year is from the trust  
 33.4 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 33.5 of Minnesota to advance conservation of  
 33.6 native fish in Minnesota by collecting field  
 33.7 data on native rough fish ecology and  
 33.8 population dynamics, engaging a  
 33.9 citizen-scientist angler network, and providing  
 33.10 education and outreach on the importance of  
 33.11 native rough fish as prioritized in the  
 33.12 Department of Natural Resources' 2023 Native  
 33.13 Fish Report.

33.14 **(s) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants**  
 33.15 **and Pests Center - Phase 8**  
 33.16 \$4,694,000 the second year is from the trust  
 33.17 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 33.18 of Minnesota, Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial  
 33.19 Plants and Pests Center, to fund high-priority  
 33.20 research projects to better manage invasive  
 33.21 plants, pathogens, and pests on Minnesota's  
 33.22 natural and agricultural lands. This  
 33.23 appropriation is available until June 30, 2032,  
 33.24 by which time the project must be completed  
 33.25 and final products delivered.

33.26 **Subd. 7. Energy** -0- 773,000

33.27 **(a) Minnesota Chiller Energy Efficiency**  
 33.28 **and Onsite Energy Generation**  
 33.29 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust  
 33.30 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 33.31 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Technical  
 33.32 Assistance Program to decrease carbon  
 33.33 emissions through technical assistance to  
 33.34 reduce energy use in industrial and

34.1 commercial chiller systems and identify onsite  
 34.2 energy solutions that promote decarbonization  
 34.3 and resilience.

34.4 **(b) Novel Piezoelectric Energy Converters**  
 34.5 **for Minnesota Waters**

34.6 \$475,000 the second year is from the trust  
 34.7 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 34.8 of Minnesota for the St. Anthony Falls  
 34.9 Laboratory to model and evaluate the viability  
 34.10 of an innovative renewable energy approach  
 34.11 using an underwater piezoelectric filament  
 34.12 canopy to sustainably harness the untapped  
 34.13 wave energy resources of Lake Superior and  
 34.14 similar regions.

34.15 **Subd. 8. Land** -0- 17,964,000

34.16 **(a) Lake Minnewashta Regional Park**  
 34.17 **Restoration**

34.18 \$392,000 the second year is from the trust  
 34.19 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 34.20 for an agreement with Carver County to:

34.21 (1) restore critical habitat at Lake  
 34.22 Minnewashta Regional Park consistent with  
 34.23 the park natural resources management plan;  
 34.24 and

34.25 (2) collect data to evaluate restoration success  
 34.26 and guide adaptive management.

34.27 **(b) Adopt a Flyway: Enhancing Minnesota's**  
 34.28 **Migratory Bird Pitstops**

34.29 \$840,000 the second year is from the trust  
 34.30 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 34.31 for an agreement with the Audubon Upper  
 34.32 Mississippi River to pilot an adopt-a-flyway  
 34.33 program to incentivize habitat restoration and

35.1 enhancement of Minnesota's Mississippi  
 35.2 Flyway to support the full life cycles of native  
 35.3 birds. Notwithstanding subdivision 12,  
 35.4 paragraph (e), restoration efforts may be  
 35.5 undertaken on private lands if a long-term  
 35.6 agreement is secured to protect and maintain  
 35.7 the restored area as approved in the work plan  
 35.8 and money is committed to monitor that  
 35.9 agreement. This appropriation is available  
 35.10 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project  
 35.11 must be completed and final products  
 35.12 delivered.

35.13 **(c) Utilizing Wood Waste and Biochar for**  
 35.14 **Mine Land Reclamation**

35.15 \$358,000 the second year is from the trust  
 35.16 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 35.17 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources  
 35.18 Research Institute in Duluth to:  
 35.19 (1) evaluate water infiltration, pollutant  
 35.20 removal, and plant growth in mine land soils  
 35.21 amended with wood waste and biochar; and  
 35.22 (2) estimate the ecosystem and climate  
 35.23 benefits of using wood waste and biochar soil  
 35.24 mixes for mine land reclamation in Minnesota  
 35.25 and disseminate project results to stakeholders.

35.26 **(d) Certified Prescribed Burn Manager**  
 35.27 **Curriculum Development and Pilot**

35.28 \$454,000 the second year is from the trust  
 35.29 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
 35.30 of Minnesota to design and pilot a Minnesota  
 35.31 certified prescribed burn manager program to  
 35.32 increase capacity for nonagency stewardship  
 35.33 of privately owned and fire-dependent native  
 35.34 grasslands and forests across Minnesota. Net

36.1 income generated as part of this appropriation  
36.2 may be reinvested in the project if a plan for  
36.3 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as  
36.4 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section  
36.5 116P.10.

36.6 **(e) Updating Land Cover Maps for**  
36.7 **Enhanced Natural Systems**

36.8 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust  
36.9 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
36.10 of Minnesota to produce high-resolution land  
36.11 cover maps using new LiDAR and aerial  
36.12 imagery to support conservation, water  
36.13 management, climate resilience, and planning  
36.14 in Minnesota's largest population centers.

36.15 **(f) Pollinator Central V: Habitat**  
36.16 **Improvement with Public Engagement**

36.17 \$750,000 the second year is from the trust  
36.18 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
36.19 for an agreement with Great River Greening  
36.20 to partner with municipalities to create and  
36.21 enhance pollinator habitat along public  
36.22 corridors from Mankato to Little Falls and  
36.23 engage communities with native pollinator  
36.24 education and natural resources stewardship.  
36.25 This appropriation is available until June 30,  
36.26 2030, by which time the project must be  
36.27 completed and final products delivered.

36.28 **(g) Evaluating Soil Health Benefits of**  
36.29 **Controlled Agricultural Drainage**

36.30 \$249,000 the second year is from the trust  
36.31 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
36.32 for an agreement with Minnesota State  
36.33 University, Mankato, to study the impact of  
36.34 controlled tile drainage on soil health and

37.1 conduct outreach and education on the  
37.2 potential environmental and economic benefits  
37.3 of controlled tile drainage.

37.4 **(h) Oak Savanna Restoration for Living**

37.5 **Landscapes**

37.6 \$1,944,000 the second year is from the trust  
37.7 fund to the Board of Water and Soil  
37.8 Resources, in partnership with the Xerces  
37.9 Society, to pilot a program to provide grants  
37.10 and other agreements, conservation plans, seed  
37.11 mixes, and other technical resources to restore  
37.12 and enhance oak savannas and supporting  
37.13 tallgrass prairies and woodlands on public and  
37.14 protected conservation lands in Minnesota's  
37.15 Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province. This  
37.16 appropriation is available until June 30, 2031,  
37.17 by which time the project must be completed  
37.18 and final products delivered.

37.19 **(i) Metropolitan Regional Parks System**

37.20 **Land Acquisition - Phase 9**

37.21 \$2,414,000 the second year is from the trust  
37.22 fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants to  
37.23 acquire land with high-quality natural  
37.24 resources or natural resources restoration  
37.25 potential for the metropolitan regional parks  
37.26 system. This appropriation must be matched  
37.27 by an equal amount from a combination of  
37.28 Metropolitan Council and local agency money.  
37.29 This appropriation is available until June 30,  
37.30 2030, by which time the project must be  
37.31 completed and final products delivered.

37.32 **(j) SNA Habitat Enhancement, Public**

37.33 **Engagement, and Biodiversity Protection**

38.1 \$3,996,000 the second year is from the trust  
38.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
38.3 to restore and enhance habitat on scientific  
38.4 and natural areas (SNAs), increase public  
38.5 involvement and outreach, and strategically  
38.6 acquire lands that meet criteria for SNAs under  
38.7 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from  
38.8 willing sellers. This appropriation is available  
38.9 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project  
38.10 must be completed and final products  
38.11 delivered.

38.12 **(k) Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring and**  
38.13 **Trail Improvements**

38.14 \$70,000 the second year is from the trust fund  
38.15 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
38.16 an agreement with Douglas County to design  
38.17 and construct enhancements to existing  
38.18 single-track trails at Lake Brophy Park.

38.19 **(l) Sustainable Land Use with Robotic**  
38.20 **Technology on Small Farms**

38.21 \$524,000 the second year is from the trust  
38.22 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
38.23 of Minnesota to collaborate with the Hmong  
38.24 American Farmers Association to design and  
38.25 test new robotic technologies to assist with  
38.26 sustainable agricultural practices on small  
38.27 farms.

38.28 **(m) Managing Minnesota's Forests for**  
38.29 **Carbon: Tradeoffs and Synergies**

38.30 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust  
38.31 fund to the Board of Regents of the University  
38.32 of Minnesota to identify tradeoffs and  
38.33 synergies between managing forests for carbon  
38.34 credits and managing forests for other

- 39.1 purposes, including wildlife and timber
- 39.2 production.
- 39.3 **(n) Native Prairie Bank - Private Native**
- 39.4 **Prairie Conservation and Outreach**
- 39.5 \$1,758,000 the second year is from the trust
- 39.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
- 39.7 to provide technical stewardship assistance to
- 39.8 prairie landowners, restore and enhance native
- 39.9 prairie protected by easements in the native
- 39.10 prairie bank, and acquire easements for the
- 39.11 native prairie bank in accordance with
- 39.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, including
- 39.13 preparing initial baseline property assessments.
- 39.14 Up to \$75,000 of this appropriation may be
- 39.15 deposited in the natural resources conservation
- 39.16 easement stewardship account created under
- 39.17 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.69, proportional
- 39.18 to the number of easements acquired. This
- 39.19 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,
- 39.20 by which time the project must be completed
- 39.21 and final products delivered.
- 39.22 **(o) Alleviating PFAS Impacts of Biosolids**
- 39.23 **on Agricultural Lands**
- 39.24 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
- 39.25 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
- 39.26 of Minnesota to evaluate the impacts of
- 39.27 biosolids containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl
- 39.28 substances (PFAS) on farmland microbial
- 39.29 health and explore an alternative cost-effective
- 39.30 biotreatment to remove PFAS from
- 39.31 agricultural fields.
- 39.32 **(p) Southeast Minnesota Groundwater**
- 39.33 **Protection and Soil Health Initiative**

40.1 \$2,817,000 the second year is from the trust  
 40.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 40.3 for an agreement with Olmsted County to  
 40.4 provide results-based incentives, technical  
 40.5 assistance, and educational tools to increase  
 40.6 implementation of soil health practices on  
 40.7 agricultural fields to prevent nitrate leaching  
 40.8 to groundwater in karst regions of southeast  
 40.9 Minnesota. This appropriation is available  
 40.10 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project  
 40.11 must be completed and final products  
 40.12 delivered.

40.13 **(q) Living with Fire in Minnesota Forests**

40.14 \$500,000 the second year is from the trust  
 40.15 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
 40.16 for an agreement with The Nature  
 40.17 Conservancy, in partnership with Dovetail  
 40.18 Partners, to accelerate prescribed burning by  
 40.19 educating private landowners, coordinating  
 40.20 management, and conducting prescribed burns  
 40.21 on public and Tribal lands to restore  
 40.22 Minnesota's forestlands.

40.23 **Subd. 9. Administration**

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340,000

40.24 \$340,000 the second year is from the trust  
 40.25 fund to the commissioner of natural resources,  
 40.26 at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen  
 40.27 Commission on Minnesota Resources, for  
 40.28 expenses incurred in preparing and  
 40.29 administering contracts, including for the  
 40.30 agreements specified in this section.

40.31 **Subd. 10. Availability of appropriations**

40.32 Money appropriated in this section may not  
 40.33 be spent on activities unless they are directly  
 40.34 related to and necessary for a specific

41.1 appropriation and are specified in the work  
41.2 plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen  
41.3 Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money  
41.4 appropriated in this section must not be spent  
41.5 on indirect costs or other institutional overhead  
41.6 charges that are not directly related to and  
41.7 necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs  
41.8 that are directly related to and necessary for  
41.9 an appropriation, including financial services,  
41.10 human resources, information services, rent,  
41.11 and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can  
41.12 be clearly justified and individually  
41.13 documented specific to the appropriation's  
41.14 purpose and would not be generated by the  
41.15 recipient but for receipt of the appropriation.  
41.16 No broad allocations for costs in either dollars  
41.17 or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise  
41.18 provided, the amounts in this section are  
41.19 available for three years beginning July 1,  
41.20 2026, and ending June 30, 2029, when projects  
41.21 must be completed and final products  
41.22 delivered. For acquisition of real property, the  
41.23 appropriations in this section are available for  
41.24 an additional fiscal year if a binding contract  
41.25 for acquisition of the real property is entered  
41.26 into before the expiration date of the  
41.27 appropriation. If a project receives a federal  
41.28 award, the period of the appropriation is  
41.29 extended to equal the federal award period to  
41.30 a maximum trust fund appropriation length of  
41.31 six years.

41.32 **Subd. 11. Data availability requirements**

41.33 Data collected by the projects funded under  
41.34 this section must conform to guidelines and  
41.35 standards adopted by Minnesota IT Services.

42.1 Spatial data must also conform to additional  
42.2 guidelines and standards designed to support  
42.3 data coordination and distribution that have  
42.4 been published by the Minnesota Geospatial  
42.5 Information Office. Descriptions of spatial  
42.6 data must be prepared as specified in the state's  
42.7 geographic metadata guidelines, and final data  
42.8 must be uploaded to the Minnesota Geospatial  
42.9 Commons upon project completion. All data  
42.10 must be accessible and free to the public  
42.11 unless made private under the Data Practices  
42.12 Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the  
42.13 extent practicable, summary data and results  
42.14 of projects funded under this section should  
42.15 be readily accessible on the Internet and  
42.16 identified as having received funding from the  
42.17 environment and natural resources trust fund.

42.18 **Subd. 12. Project requirements**

42.19 (a) As a condition of accepting an  
42.20 appropriation under this section, an agency or  
42.21 entity receiving an appropriation or a party to  
42.22 an agreement from an appropriation must  
42.23 comply with paragraphs (b) to (m) and  
42.24 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must  
42.25 submit a work plan and annual or semiannual  
42.26 progress reports in the form determined by the  
42.27 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota  
42.28 Resources for any project funded in whole or  
42.29 in part with money from the appropriation.  
42.30 Modifications to the approved work plan and  
42.31 budget expenditures must be made through  
42.32 the amendment process established by the  
42.33 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota  
42.34 Resources.

43.1 (b) A recipient of money appropriated in this  
43.2 section that conducts a restoration using  
43.3 money appropriated in this section must use  
43.4 native plant species according to the Board of  
43.5 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation  
43.6 establishment and enhancement guidelines  
43.7 and include an appropriate diversity of native  
43.8 species selected to provide habitat for  
43.9 pollinators throughout the growing season as  
43.10 required under Minnesota Statutes, section  
43.11 84.973.

43.12 (c) For all restorations conducted with money  
43.13 appropriated under this section, a recipient  
43.14 must prepare an ecological restoration and  
43.15 management plan that, to the degree  
43.16 practicable, is consistent with the  
43.17 highest-quality conservation and ecological  
43.18 goals for the restoration site. Consideration  
43.19 should be given to soil, geology, topography,  
43.20 and other relevant factors that would provide  
43.21 the best chance for long-term success and  
43.22 durability of the restoration project. The plan  
43.23 must include the proposed timetable for  
43.24 implementing the restoration, including site  
43.25 preparation, establishment of diverse plant  
43.26 species, maintenance, and additional  
43.27 enhancement to establish the restoration;  
43.28 identify long-term maintenance and  
43.29 management needs of the restoration and how  
43.30 the maintenance, management, and  
43.31 enhancement will be financed; and take  
43.32 advantage of the best-available science and  
43.33 include innovative techniques to achieve the  
43.34 best restoration.

- 44.1 (d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this  
44.2 section for restoration activities must provide  
44.3 an initial restoration evaluation at the  
44.4 completion of the appropriation and an  
44.5 evaluation three years after the completion of  
44.6 the expenditure. Restorations must be  
44.7 evaluated relative to the stated goals and  
44.8 standards in the restoration plan, current  
44.9 science, and, when applicable, the Board of  
44.10 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation  
44.11 establishment and enhancement guidelines.  
44.12 The evaluation must determine whether the  
44.13 restorations are meeting planned goals,  
44.14 identify any problems with implementing the  
44.15 restorations, and, if necessary, give  
44.16 recommendations on improving restorations.  
44.17 The evaluation must be focused on improving  
44.18 future restorations.
- 44.19 (e) All restoration and enhancement projects  
44.20 funded with money appropriated in this section  
44.21 must be on land permanently protected by a  
44.22 conservation easement or public ownership.
- 44.23 (f) A recipient of money from an appropriation  
44.24 under this section must give consideration to  
44.25 contracting with Conservation Corps  
44.26 Minnesota & Iowa for contract restoration and  
44.27 enhancement services.
- 44.28 (g) All conservation easements acquired with  
44.29 money appropriated under this section must:
- 44.30 (1) be permanent;
- 44.31 (2) specify the parties to the easement in the  
44.32 easement document;
- 44.33 (3) specify all provisions of an agreement that  
44.34 are permanent;

- 45.1 (4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen  
45.2 Commission on Minnesota Resources in an  
45.3 electronic format at least 20 business days  
45.4 before closing;
- 45.5 (5) include a long-term monitoring and  
45.6 enforcement plan and funding for monitoring  
45.7 and enforcing the easement agreement; and
- 45.8 (6) include requirements in the easement  
45.9 document to protect the quantity and quality  
45.10 of groundwater and surface water through  
45.11 specific activities, such as keeping water on  
45.12 the landscape, reducing nutrient and  
45.13 contaminant loading, and not permitting  
45.14 artificial hydrological modifications.
- 45.15 (h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in  
45.16 lands, a recipient of money appropriated under  
45.17 this section must not agree to pay more than  
45.18 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel  
45.19 of land using this money to complete the  
45.20 purchase, in part or in whole, except that up  
45.21 to ten percent above the appraised value may  
45.22 be allowed to complete the purchase, in part  
45.23 or in whole, using this money if permission is  
45.24 received in advance of the purchase from the  
45.25 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota  
45.26 Resources.
- 45.27 (i) For any acquisition of land or interest in  
45.28 land for environmental and natural resources  
45.29 conservation purposes, a recipient of money  
45.30 appropriated under this section must give  
45.31 priority to minimally disturbed lands that  
45.32 provide the greatest capacity for multiple  
45.33 conservation benefits to humans, fish, wildlife,  
45.34 and water resources.

- 46.1 (j) For new lands acquired with money  
46.2 appropriated under this section, a recipient  
46.3 must prepare an ecological restoration and  
46.4 management plan in compliance with  
46.5 paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for  
46.6 implementation unless the work plan addresses  
46.7 why a portion of the money is not necessary  
46.8 to achieve a high-quality restoration.
- 46.9 (k) To ensure public accountability for using  
46.10 public money, a recipient of money  
46.11 appropriated under this section must, within  
46.12 60 days of a land acquisition, provide to the  
46.13 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota  
46.14 Resources documentation of the selection  
46.15 process used to identify parcels acquired and  
46.16 provide documentation of all related  
46.17 transaction costs, including but not limited to  
46.18 appraisals, legal fees, recording fees,  
46.19 commissions, other similar costs, and  
46.20 donations. This information must be provided  
46.21 for all parties involved in the transaction. The  
46.22 recipient must also report to the  
46.23 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota  
46.24 Resources any difference between the  
46.25 acquisition amount paid to the seller and the  
46.26 state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if  
46.27 a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal  
46.28 was conducted.
- 46.29 (l) A recipient of an appropriation from the  
46.30 trust fund under this section must acknowledge  
46.31 financial support from the environment and  
46.32 natural resources trust fund in project  
46.33 publications, signage, and other public  
46.34 communications and outreach related to work  
46.35 completed using the appropriation.

47.1 Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate,  
 47.2 through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion  
 47.3 of language attributing support from the trust  
 47.4 fund. Each direct recipient of money  
 47.5 appropriated in this section, as well as each  
 47.6 recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this  
 47.7 section, must satisfy all reporting and other  
 47.8 requirements incumbent upon constitutionally  
 47.9 dedicated funding recipients as provided in  
 47.10 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision  
 47.11 10, and chapter 116P.

47.12 (m) A recipient of an appropriation from the  
 47.13 trust fund under this section that is receiving  
 47.14 funding to conduct children's services, as  
 47.15 defined in Minnesota Statutes, section  
 47.16 299C.61, subdivision 7, must certify to the  
 47.17 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota  
 47.18 Resources, as part of the required work plan,  
 47.19 that criminal background checks for  
 47.20 background check crimes, as defined in  
 47.21 Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61,  
 47.22 subdivision 2, are performed on all employees,  
 47.23 contractors, and volunteers that have or may  
 47.24 have access to a child to whom the recipient  
 47.25 provides children's services using the  
 47.26 appropriation.

47.27 **Subd. 13. Payment conditions and capital**  
 47.28 **equipment expenditures**

47.29 (a) All agreements, grants, or contracts  
 47.30 referred to in this section must be administered  
 47.31 on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise  
 47.32 provided in this section. Notwithstanding  
 47.33 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41,  
 47.34 expenditures made on or after July 1, 2026,  
 47.35 or the date the work plan is approved,

48.1 whichever is later, are eligible for  
48.2 reimbursement unless otherwise provided in  
48.3 this section. Periodic payments must be made  
48.4 upon receiving documentation that the  
48.5 deliverable items articulated in the approved  
48.6 work plan have been achieved, including  
48.7 partial achievements as evidenced by approved  
48.8 progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be  
48.9 advanced to projects to accommodate  
48.10 cash-flow needs or match federal money. The  
48.11 advances must be approved as part of the work  
48.12 plan. No expenditures for capital equipment  
48.13 are allowed unless expressly authorized in the  
48.14 project work plan.

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

48.17 **Subd. 14. Purchasing recycled and recyclable**  
48.18 **materials**

48.19 A political subdivision, public or private  
48.20 corporation, or other entity that receives an  
48.21 appropriation under this section must use the  
48.22 appropriation in compliance with Minnesota  
48.23 Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding  
48.24 purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable  
48.25 materials, and Minnesota Statutes, section  
48.26 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using  
48.27 paper stock and printing.

48.28 **Subd. 15. Accessibility**

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

49.1 Subd. 16. Carryforward; extensions

49.2 (a) The availability of the appropriations for  
49.3 the following projects is extended to June 30,  
49.4 2027:

49.5 (1) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter  
49.6 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph  
49.7 (e), Emerald Ash Borer and Black Ash:  
49.8 Maintaining Forests and Benefits;

49.9 (2) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter  
49.10 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph  
49.11 (t), Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation,  
49.12 and Education;

49.13 (3) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,  
49.14 subdivision 10, paragraph (e), Conservation  
49.15 Reserve Program State Incentives;

49.16 (4) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section  
49.17 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (f), Statewide  
49.18 Forest Carbon Inventory and Change  
49.19 Mapping;

49.20 (5) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section  
49.21 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (p), Old Growth  
49.22 Forest Monitoring;

49.23 (6) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section  
49.24 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (r), Community  
49.25 Response Monitoring for Adaptive  
49.26 Management in Southeast Minnesota;

49.27 (7) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section  
49.28 2, subdivision 7, paragraph (c), Completing  
49.29 Installment of the Minnesota Ecological  
49.30 Monitoring Network;

49.31 (8) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section  
49.32 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (e), Minnesota

- 50.1 Million: Seedlings for Reforestation and CO<sub>2</sub>  
 50.2 Sequestration;  
 50.3 (9) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section  
 50.4 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (q), Statewide  
 50.5 Diversion of Furniture and Mattress Waste  
 50.6 Pilots; and  
 50.7 (10) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section  
 50.8 2, subdivision 10, paragraph (b), Emerging  
 50.9 Issues.  
 50.10 (b) The availability of the appropriation under  
 50.11 Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 2,  
 50.12 subdivision 9, paragraph (e), Minnesota State  
 50.13 Trails Development, is extended to June 30,  
 50.14 2028.

50.15 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116P.09, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

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

50.23 (b) A commission member may not ~~vote on a motion regarding the purchase of land~~  
 50.24 ~~under section 116P.18 or the final recommendations of the commission required under~~  
 50.25 ~~section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), if the motion relates to an organization in~~  
 50.26 ~~which the member has a direct personal financial interest. If a commission member is~~  
 50.27 ~~prohibited from voting under this paragraph, the number of affirmative votes required under~~  
 50.28 ~~section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), or section 116P.18 is reduced by the number~~  
 50.29 ~~of members ineligible to vote under this paragraph~~ serve as a project manager for or receive  
 50.30 financial or other compensation from a proposal that is being reviewed by the commission  
 50.31 or receiving money from the trust fund.

50.32 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following enactment.

51.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116P.18, is amended to read:

51.2 **116P.18 LANDS IN PUBLIC DOMAIN.**

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

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

51.10 (2) the purchase is approved, prior to the acquisition, by an affirmative vote of at least  
51.11 11 members of the commission, ~~except as provided under section 116P.09, subdivision 6,~~  
51.12 ~~paragraph (b).~~

51.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following enactment.

51.14 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116X.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
51.15 read:

51.16 **Subd. 7. Fraud prevention.** (a) In awarding a grant under this section, the commissioner  
51.17 must:

51.18 (1) ensure that the grant is subject to and complies with the requirements of sections  
51.19 16B.97 to 16B.991;

51.20 (2) complete a preaward risk assessment;

51.21 (3) conduct a financial reconciliation for a sample of expenditures for the grant;

51.22 (4) require each grantee that the preaward risk assessment required under clause (2)  
51.23 demonstrates has an elevated risk to submit biannual progress reports; and

51.24 (5) where the preaward risk assessment required under clause (2) demonstrates that it  
51.25 is necessary, ensure that any grant money distributed in the form of advance payments is  
51.26 protected through some combination of surety bonds, the participation of an eligible fiscal  
51.27 agent, or other suitable mechanisms.

51.28 (b) In administering the grant program established under this section, the commissioner  
51.29 must:

51.30 (1) establish a maximum grant size that can be awarded under the program;

52.1 (2) require in-person monitoring visits where and as often as the amount, complexity,  
52.2 or risk of the grant warrant; and

52.3 (3) ensure that Department of Natural Resources staff that oversee grants receive annual  
52.4 training on financial reconciliation and fraud prevention.

52.5 **Sec. 6. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND**  
52.6 **COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM APPROPRIATION.**

52.7 (a) \$28,180,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the environment and natural  
52.8 resources trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for grants under Minnesota  
52.9 Statutes, section 116X.03, allocated as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 116X.03,  
52.10 subdivision 1.

52.11 (b) This is a onetime appropriation. Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, does not apply  
52.12 to this appropriation or to projects funded with this appropriation. This appropriation is  
52.13 available until June 30, 2030.

52.14 **Sec. 7. REPEALER.**

52.15 Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116P.17, is repealed.

52.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

**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.