

**SENATE**  
**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
**EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 698**

(SENATE AUTHORS: DZIEDZIC, Tomassoni, Hoffman and Dahms)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/09/2015	246	Introduction and first reading Referred to Finance
05/06/2015	3306a 3392	Comm report: To pass as amended Second reading
05/11/2015	3491 3491	Special Order Third reading Passed
05/17/2015	3604 3604 3689	Returned from House with amendment Senate not concur, conference committee of 3 requested Senate conferees Dzedzic; Hoffman; Dahms
05/18/2015	3821 4422c 4455 4744	House conferees Torkelson; Fabian; Lillie Conference committee report, delete everything Senate adopted CC report and repassed bill Third reading House adopted SCC report and repassed bill Presentment date 05/20/15 Governor's action Approval 05/22/15 Secretary of State Chapter 76 05/22/15

A bill for an act

relating to natural resources; appropriating money from environment and natural resources trust fund; modifying provisions for Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources; amending Minnesota Statutes 2014, sections 116P.05, subdivision 2; 116P.08, subdivisions 5, 6, 7; 116P.09, subdivisions 6, 8.

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, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2016" and "2017" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, or June 30, 2017, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2016. "The second year" is fiscal year 2017. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>	
<b>Available for the Year</b>	
<b>Ending June 30</b>	
<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>

Sec. 2. **MINNESOTA RESOURCES.**

<b><u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>46,383,000</u></b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>-0-</u></b>
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**Appropriations by Fund**

	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
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2.1	<u>Environment and</u>		
2.2	<u>natural resources</u>		
2.3	<u>trust fund</u>	<u>46,324,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
2.4	<u>Great Lakes</u>		
2.5	<u>protection account</u>	<u>59,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>

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

2.9 Appropriations are available for two  
 2.10 years beginning July 1, 2015, unless  
 2.11 otherwise stated in the appropriation. Any  
 2.12 unencumbered balance remaining in the  
 2.13 first year does not cancel and is available  
 2.14 for the second year or until the end of the  
 2.15 appropriation.

2.16 **Subd. 2. Definition**

2.17 "Trust fund" means the Minnesota  
 2.18 environment and natural resources trust fund  
 2.19 referred to in Minnesota Statutes, section  
 2.20 116P.02, subdivision 6.

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

12,932,000

-0-

2.23 **(a) County Geologic Atlases - Part A**

2.24 \$2,040,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 2.25 to the Board of Regents of the University  
 2.26 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Geological  
 2.27 Survey to continue acceleration of the  
 2.28 production of county geologic atlases for  
 2.29 the purpose of sustainable management of  
 2.30 surface water and groundwater resources.

2.31 This appropriation is to complete Part A of  
 2.32 county geologic atlases, which focuses on the  
 2.33 properties and distribution of earth materials  
 2.34 in order to define aquifer boundaries and the  
 2.35 connection of aquifers to the land surface and  
 2.36 surface water resources. This appropriation

3.1 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
3.2 time the project must be completed and final  
3.3 products delivered.

3.4 **(b) County Geologic Atlases - Part B**

3.5 \$2,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
3.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
3.7 to continue acceleration of the production of  
3.8 county geologic atlases for the purpose of  
3.9 sustainable management of surface water and  
3.10 groundwater resources. This appropriation  
3.11 is to complete Part B of county geologic  
3.12 atlases, which focuses on the properties  
3.13 and distribution of subsurface water found  
3.14 within geologic formations mapped in Part  
3.15 A in order to characterize the potential  
3.16 yield of aquifers and their sensitivity  
3.17 to contamination. This appropriation is  
3.18 available until June 30, 2018, by which time  
3.19 the project must be completed and final  
3.20 products delivered.

3.21 **(c) Minnesota Biological Survey**

3.22 \$2,450,000 the first year is from the  
3.23 trust fund to the commissioner of natural  
3.24 resources for continuation of the Minnesota  
3.25 biological survey to provide a foundation  
3.26 for conserving biological diversity by  
3.27 systematically collecting, interpreting,  
3.28 monitoring, and delivering data on plant and  
3.29 animal distribution and ecology, native plant  
3.30 communities, and functional landscapes.  
3.31 Expenses are limited to those specified in  
3.32 the required work plan and approved by  
3.33 the Legislative-Citizen Commission on  
3.34 Minnesota Resources.

4.1 **(d) Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas for**  
4.2 **Enhanced Natural Resource Management**  
4.3 \$340,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
4.4 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
4.5 Minnesota for the Bell Museum of Natural  
4.6 History to create a publicly accessible, online  
4.7 tool and repository that will electronically  
4.8 integrate over 600,000 existing biodiversity  
4.9 records, 300,000 existing images, and future  
4.10 data and associated imagery pertaining to  
4.11 Minnesota wildlife, plant, and fungi species  
4.12 in order to enhance research, guide field  
4.13 surveys, and inform conservation planning.  
4.14 This appropriation is available until June  
4.15 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
4.16 completed and final products delivered.

4.17 **(e) Updating the National Wetland**  
4.18 **Inventory for Minnesota - Phase V**  
4.19 \$1,500,000 the first year is from the  
4.20 trust fund to the commissioner of natural  
4.21 resources to continue to update and enhance  
4.22 wetland inventory maps for Minnesota. This  
4.23 appropriation is available until June 30,  
4.24 2018, by which time the project must be  
4.25 completed and final products delivered.

4.26 **(f) Creating a Statewide Wetland Bird**  
4.27 **Monitoring Program**  
4.28 \$146,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
4.29 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
4.30 an agreement with Audubon Minnesota to  
4.31 develop a statewide wetland bird monitoring  
4.32 program to enable long-term monitoring of  
4.33 the status of wetland birds and the health of  
4.34 their wetland habitats. This appropriation  
4.35 is available until June 30, 2018, by which

5.1 time the project must be completed and final  
5.2 products delivered.

5.3 **(g) Minnesota Native Bee Atlas**

5.4 \$790,000 the first year is from the trust  
5.5 fund to the Board of Regents of the  
5.6 University of Minnesota to supplement  
5.7 and enhance existing bee survey efforts by  
5.8 engaging citizens in helping to document the  
5.9 distribution and phenology of wild Minnesota  
5.10 bees and integrating data from all related  
5.11 bee survey efforts into a single publicly  
5.12 accessible, online tool and repository. This  
5.13 appropriation is available until June 30,  
5.14 2019, by which time the project must be  
5.15 completed and final products delivered.

5.16 **(h) Reintroduction and Interpretation of**  
5.17 **Bison in Minnesota State Parks**

5.18 \$600,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
5.19 to the commissioner of natural resources to  
5.20 preserve American bison by reintroducing  
5.21 bison to Minneopa State Park and provide  
5.22 interpretive learning opportunities at Blue  
5.23 Mounds and Minneopa State Parks. This  
5.24 appropriation is available until June 30,  
5.25 2018, by which time the project must be  
5.26 completed and final products delivered.

5.27 **(i) Endangered Bats, White-Nose**  
5.28 **Syndrome, and Forest Habitat**

5.29 \$1,250,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
5.30 to the commissioner of natural resources in  
5.31 cooperation with the University of Minnesota  
5.32 and the United States Forest Service to  
5.33 survey and radio-track endangered bats to  
5.34 define and understand summer forest habitat  
5.35 use in order to minimize forestry impacts

6.1 and mitigate white-nose syndrome disease  
6.2 impacts. This appropriation is available until  
6.3 June 30, 2018, by which time the project must  
6.4 be completed and final products delivered.

6.5 **(j) Assessing Contaminants in Minnesota**  
6.6 **Loons and Pelicans - Phase III**

6.7 \$141,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
6.8 to the commissioner of natural resources  
6.9 to continue to assess the potential impact  
6.10 of petroleum, dispersants, and heavy metal  
6.11 contaminants from the Deepwater Horizon oil  
6.12 spill in the Gulf of Mexico on the wintering  
6.13 habitat of Minnesota's common loons  
6.14 and white pelicans using radiotelemetry,  
6.15 geolocators, and contaminant analysis.

6.16 **(k) Movement and Seasonal Habitat Use**  
6.17 **of Minnesota Elk**

6.18 \$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
6.19 to the commissioner of natural resources  
6.20 to collect biological information about  
6.21 Minnesota elk, including movements and  
6.22 habitat use to enable long-term, sustainable  
6.23 management. This appropriation is  
6.24 contingent on a \$50,000 match from state  
6.25 or nonstate sources. This appropriation is  
6.26 available until June 30, 2018, by which time  
6.27 the project must be completed and final  
6.28 products delivered.

6.29 **(l) Genetic and Camera Techniques to**  
6.30 **Estimate Carnivore Populations**

6.31 \$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
6.32 to the Board of Regents of the University  
6.33 of Minnesota – Duluth for the Natural  
6.34 Resources Research Institute to use genetic  
6.35 sampling and remote cameras to improve

- 7.1 monitoring of distributions and estimate  
7.2 population sizes of carnivore species.
- 7.3 **(m) Turtle Population Dynamics in Urban**  
7.4 **Lakes**
- 7.5 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to  
7.6 the commissioner of natural resources for an  
7.7 agreement with the University of St. Thomas  
7.8 in cooperation with the Three Rivers Park  
7.9 District to analyze the aquatic and terrestrial  
7.10 habitat parameters that affect the use of urban  
7.11 lakes by a three-species turtle community  
7.12 and to make specific recommendations to  
7.13 protect and enhance turtle populations. This  
7.14 appropriation is available until June 30,  
7.15 2019, by which time the project must be  
7.16 completed and final products delivered.
- 7.17 **(n) Digitization of Historic Gullion Ruffed**  
7.18 **Grouse Research**
- 7.19 \$75,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
7.20 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
7.21 an agreement with Central Lakes College  
7.22 to preserve the Gordon Gullion ruffed  
7.23 grouse data sets as permanent digital data  
7.24 files in order to improve accessibility to  
7.25 the information and inform forest wildlife  
7.26 conservation policies and practices.
- 7.27 **(o) Effects of Grazing Versus Fire for**  
7.28 **Prairie Management**
- 7.29 \$414,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
7.30 to the Board of Regents of the University  
7.31 of Minnesota to compare the effects of  
7.32 conservation grazing and prescribed fire  
7.33 on tallgrass prairie plants and pollinators  
7.34 in Minnesota in order to inform and  
7.35 improve land management practices. This

8.1 appropriation is available until June 30,  
8.2 2018, by which time the project must be  
8.3 completed and final products delivered.

8.4 **(p) Assessing Ecological Impact of St.**

8.5 **Anthony Falls Lock Closure**

8.6 \$125,000 the first year is from the trust fund to  
8.7 the commissioner of natural resources for an  
8.8 agreement with the Minneapolis Riverfront  
8.9 Partnership to study the impact of altered  
8.10 river flow due to closure of the Upper Lock  
8.11 on the Mississippi River at St. Anthony Falls  
8.12 on the physical and biological characteristics  
8.13 of the river between the Coon Rapids Dam  
8.14 and Lock and Dam No. 1 in order to inform  
8.15 future river restoration efforts.

8.16 **(q) Foundational Dataset Characterizing**

8.17 **Historic Forest Disturbance Impacts**

8.18 \$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
8.19 to the Board of Regents of the University  
8.20 of Minnesota to quantify forest disturbance  
8.21 impacts over the past forty years on water  
8.22 quality, wildlife demographics, and wood  
8.23 fiber supply in order to identify management  
8.24 strategies that better respond to disturbance  
8.25 impacts and improve and sustain forest  
8.26 resources. This appropriation is available  
8.27 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
8.28 project must be completed and final products  
8.29 delivered.

8.30 **(r) Hydrologic Effects of Contemporary**

8.31 **Forest Practices in Minnesota**

8.32 \$150,000 the first year is from the trust  
8.33 fund to the Board of Regents of the  
8.34 University of Minnesota to install hydrologic  
8.35 monitoring stations to collect water quantity



9.1 and quality data from lands managed for  
 9.2 timber production to better understand the  
 9.3 relationship between harvest practices and  
 9.4 water resources and related responses to  
 9.5 changing climate and other disturbance  
 9.6 factors in order to inform forest management  
 9.7 practices. This appropriation is available  
 9.8 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
 9.9 project must be completed and final products  
 9.10 delivered.

9.11 **(s) Habitat Mitigation for Goblin Fern**  
 9.12 **Conservation**

9.13 \$61,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 9.14 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
 9.15 an agreement with the Leech Lake Band of  
 9.16 Ojibwe to examine goblin fern populations, a  
 9.17 threatened species in Minnesota, in relation  
 9.18 to habitat degradation and to develop  
 9.19 long-term habitat mitigation and species  
 9.20 conservation strategies. This appropriation  
 9.21 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
 9.22 time the project must be completed and final  
 9.23 products delivered.

9.24 Subd. 4. **Water Resources** 3,065,000 -0-

9.25 **(a) Understanding Water Scarcity,**  
 9.26 **Threats, and Values to Improve**  
 9.27 **Management**

9.28 \$234,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 9.29 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
 9.30 Minnesota to model and map statewide water  
 9.31 scarcity and abundance; assess water-related  
 9.32 risks to industry, municipalities, and  
 9.33 ecosystems; and quantify the economic  
 9.34 values of changes in water quality and  
 9.35 quantity in order to inform long-term water

10.1 sustainability strategies. This appropriation  
10.2 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
10.3 time the project must be completed and final  
10.4 products delivered.

10.5 **(b) Biofilm Technology for Water Nutrient**  
10.6 **Removal**

10.7 \$281,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
10.8 to the Board of Regents of the University  
10.9 of Minnesota to develop a simulated lichen  
10.10 biofilm system that can be used to remove  
10.11 pollutants and recycle nutrients from storm  
10.12 water runoff and polluted lakes, ponds, and  
10.13 lagoons. This appropriation is subject to  
10.14 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This  
10.15 appropriation is available until June 30,  
10.16 2018, by which time the project must be  
10.17 completed and final products delivered.

10.18 **(c) Biological Consequences of Septic**  
10.19 **Pollution in Minnesota Lakes**

10.20 \$364,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
10.21 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota  
10.22 State Colleges and Universities system for  
10.23 St. Cloud State University to assess the  
10.24 presence of possible sources of contaminants  
10.25 of emerging concern in Minnesota lakes  
10.26 in order to determine their effects on fish  
10.27 health, understand the potential contribution  
10.28 from septic systems, and inform options  
10.29 for remediation and prevention to protect  
10.30 Minnesota lakes from these contaminants in  
10.31 the future. This appropriation is available  
10.32 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
10.33 project must be completed and final products  
10.34 delivered.

11.1 **(d) Preventing Phosphorous from Entering**  
11.2 **Water Resources through Drain Tiles**  
11.3 \$505,000 the first year is from the trust  
11.4 fund to the Board of Regents of the  
11.5 University of Minnesota to develop a new  
11.6 nanocomposite material made from biomass  
11.7 that is designed to adsorb phosphorus,  
11.8 nitrogen, and pesticides from storm water  
11.9 and drain tile runoff discharge for recycling  
11.10 back to agricultural lands. This appropriation  
11.11 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section  
11.12 116P.10.

11.13 **(e) Southeast Minnesota Cover Crop and**  
11.14 **Soil Health Initiatives**  
11.15 \$253,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
11.16 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to  
11.17 promote cover crops as a means of protecting  
11.18 soil and water quality in southeastern  
11.19 Minnesota through training and education  
11.20 for local practitioners, economic analysis of  
11.21 implementation, and on-farm demonstration  
11.22 sites. This effort must be coordinated with  
11.23 the University of Minnesota Forever Green  
11.24 Initiative. This appropriation is available  
11.25 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
11.26 project must be completed and final products  
11.27 delivered.

11.28 **(f) Southeast Minnesota Subsurface**  
11.29 **Drainage Impacts on Groundwater**  
11.30 **Recharge**  
11.31 \$488,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
11.32 to the commissioner of natural resources  
11.33 for an agreement with the United States  
11.34 Geological Survey to assess the relationship  
11.35 between agricultural drainage and water

12.1 flow within the unique karst geology of  
12.2 southeast Minnesota to characterize the  
12.3 potential impacts of drainage on groundwater  
12.4 recharge and groundwater sustainability in  
12.5 the region. This appropriation is not subject  
12.6 to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This  
12.7 appropriation is available until June 30,  
12.8 2019, by which time the project must be  
12.9 completed and final products delivered.

12.10 **(g) Using Hydroacoustics to Monitor**

12.11 **Sediment in Minnesota Rivers**

12.12 \$455,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
12.13 to the commissioner of natural resources  
12.14 for an agreement with the United States  
12.15 Geological Survey to install hydroacoustic  
12.16 equipment on the lower Minnesota and  
12.17 Mississippi Rivers to improve measurement  
12.18 and monitoring accuracy for suspended  
12.19 sediment and enhance ongoing sediment  
12.20 reduction efforts by state, federal, and local  
12.21 agencies. This appropriation is not subject  
12.22 to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This  
12.23 appropriation is available until June 30,  
12.24 2019, by which time the project must be  
12.25 completed and final products delivered.

12.26 **(h) Assessment of Irrigation Efficiencies in**

12.27 **Benton County**

12.28 \$431,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
12.29 to the commissioner of natural resources  
12.30 for an agreement with Benton Soil and  
12.31 Water Conservation District to develop and  
12.32 implement a decision support system to  
12.33 increase irrigation efficiencies and provide  
12.34 outreach on irrigation best management  
12.35 practices. Software developed with this

13.1 appropriation must be available in the public  
 13.2 domain. Project efforts should be coordinated  
 13.3 with the Department of Natural Resources.

13.4 This appropriation is available until June  
 13.5 30, 2019, by which time the project must be  
 13.6 completed and final products delivered.

13.7 **(i) Shoreview Water Consumption and**  
 13.8 **Groundwater Awareness Project**

13.9 \$54,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 13.10 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
 13.11 an agreement with the city of Shoreview  
 13.12 to provide biweekly water consumption  
 13.13 data to at least 400 residential households  
 13.14 for a two-year period to determine whether  
 13.15 additional groundwater can be conserved  
 13.16 with greater awareness of consumption data.

13.17 This appropriation is available until June  
 13.18 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
 13.19 completed and final products delivered.

13.20 **Subd. 5. Environmental Education**

1,004,000

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13.21 **(a) Promotion of Alternative Ammunition**  
 13.22 **to Protect Wildlife from Lead Poisoning**

13.23 \$132,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 13.24 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
 13.25 Minnesota for the Raptor Center to provide  
 13.26 hunters with outreach and workshops on  
 13.27 alternatives to lead hunting ammunition,  
 13.28 including copper, and promote voluntary  
 13.29 selection of nontoxic ammunition to protect  
 13.30 eagles and other wildlife in Minnesota from  
 13.31 accidental lead poisoning caused by ingestion  
 13.32 of ammunition fragments left in the field.

13.33 **(b) Connecting Students with Watersheds**  
 13.34 **through Hands-On Learning**

14.1 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to  
14.2 the commissioner of natural resources for an  
14.3 agreement with Minnesota Trout Unlimited  
14.4 to provide hands-on learning focused on  
14.5 water quality, groundwater, aquatic life,  
14.6 and watershed health stewardship. This  
14.7 appropriation is available until June 30,  
14.8 2018, by which time the project must be  
14.9 completed and final products delivered.

14.10 **(c) Zumbro River Watershed Recreational**  
14.11 **Learning Stewardship Sites**

14.12 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
14.13 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
14.14 an agreement with the Zumbro Watershed  
14.15 Partnership to develop at least six recreational  
14.16 and educational sites on the Zumbro River  
14.17 with water quality demonstration elements  
14.18 and interpretative signage designed to  
14.19 encourage adoption of water protection  
14.20 practices. No more than 15 percent of this  
14.21 appropriation may be spent on site and  
14.22 construction consultation, planning, and  
14.23 design. Any plantings or restoration activities  
14.24 conducted with this appropriation must use  
14.25 native plant species according to the Board of  
14.26 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation  
14.27 establishment and enhancement guidelines.  
14.28 This appropriation is available until June  
14.29 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
14.30 completed and final products delivered.

14.31 **(d) Students Engaging Local Watersheds**  
14.32 **Using Mobile Technologies**

14.33 \$147,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
14.34 to the commissioner of natural resources  
14.35 for an agreement with Twin Cities Public

15.1 Television to deliver an experiential,  
 15.2 project-based educational program using  
 15.3 mobile technologies to empower at least 200  
 15.4 middle school students in 4-H programs to  
 15.5 engage in understanding and protecting local  
 15.6 water resources.

15.7 **(e) Mississippi River Water Journey**  
 15.8 **Camps**

15.9 \$25,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 15.10 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
 15.11 Minnesota to design and pilot two week-long  
 15.12 summer camps for youth ages 6 to 11 focused  
 15.13 around clean water and the Mississippi  
 15.14 River and designed to get children outdoors  
 15.15 exploring and engaged with the natural  
 15.16 environment and creating educational  
 15.17 materials to help their communities protect  
 15.18 water quality.

15.19 **Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive**  
 15.20 **Species**

6,071,000

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15.21 **(a) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants**  
 15.22 **and Pests Center**

15.23 \$5,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 15.24 to the Board of Regents of the University  
 15.25 of Minnesota for the Invasive Terrestrial  
 15.26 Plants and Pests Center established in Laws  
 15.27 2014, chapter 312, article 13, section 44,  
 15.28 to conduct research to prevent, minimize,  
 15.29 and mitigate the threats and impacts posed  
 15.30 by invasive plants, pathogens, and pests to  
 15.31 the state's prairies, forests, wetlands, and  
 15.32 agricultural resources. This appropriation  
 15.33 is available until June 30, 2023, by which  
 15.34 time the project must be completed and final  
 15.35 products delivered.

16.1 **(b) Emerald Ash Borer Ecological and**  
 16.2 **Hydrological Impacts - Phase II**  
 16.3 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 16.4 to the Board of Regents of the University  
 16.5 of Minnesota to assess the potential impacts  
 16.6 of emerald ash borer on Minnesota black  
 16.7 ash forests and quantify potential impacts  
 16.8 on native forest vegetation, invasive species  
 16.9 spread, and hydrology. This appropriation  
 16.10 is available until June 30, 2020, by which  
 16.11 time the project must be completed and final  
 16.12 products delivered.

16.13 **(c) Biological Control of Canada Thistle**  
 16.14 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 16.15 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
 16.16 Minnesota to develop a biological control for  
 16.17 Canada thistle, an invasive plant species in  
 16.18 Minnesota. This appropriation is available  
 16.19 until June 30, 2018, by which time the  
 16.20 project must be completed and final products  
 16.21 delivered.

16.22 **(d) Preventing New Disease of Pines in**  
 16.23 **Minnesota**  
 16.24 \$371,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 16.25 to the Board of Regents of the University of  
 16.26 Minnesota to establish early detection for  
 16.27 heterobasidion, an invasive root rot fungus,  
 16.28 and develop efforts to prevent its spread  
 16.29 and reduce its impact. This appropriation  
 16.30 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
 16.31 time the project must be completed and final  
 16.32 products delivered.

16.33 **Subd. 7. Air Quality, Climate Change, and**  
 16.34 **Renewable Energy**

3,268,000

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17.1 **(a) Analysis of Minnesota Energy Systems**

17.2 **to Develop Future Energy Strategies**

17.3 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust

17.4 fund to the Legislative Energy Commission

17.5 to conduct comprehensive data collection

17.6 and analysis of energy systems in Minnesota

17.7 in order to develop short- and long-term

17.8 strategies to maximize energy efficiency

17.9 and the use of clean energy in the state. A

17.10 competitive request for proposal process

17.11 must be used for any contracts funded with

17.12 this appropriation.

17.13 **(b) Renewable and Sustainable Fertilizers**

17.14 **Produced Locally**

17.15 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund

17.16 to the Board of Regents of the University

17.17 of Minnesota for the Morris West Central

17.18 Research and Outreach Center and Twin

17.19 Cities Campus to develop and demonstrate

17.20 new technologies aimed at enabling

17.21 renewable and sustainable production of

17.22 ammonia for fertilizer in a localized manner.

17.23 This appropriation is subject to Minnesota

17.24 Statutes, section 116P.10. This appropriation

17.25 is available until June 30, 2018, by which

17.26 time the project must be completed and final

17.27 products delivered.

17.28 **(c) Reducing Emissions from Open**

17.29 **Burning through Biomass Gasification**

17.30 \$268,000 the first year is from the trust

17.31 fund to the Board of Regents of the

17.32 University of Minnesota in cooperation with

17.33 the Department of Natural Resources to

17.34 characterize and promote distributed biomass

17.35 gasification of wood waste as a means for

18.1 producing renewable and sustainable energy  
 18.2 in rural areas through a demonstration at the  
 18.3 Department of Natural Resources regional  
 18.4 office facility in New Ulm.

18.5 **(d) Building Deconstruction to Reduce**  
 18.6 **Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Solid**  
 18.7 **Waste**

18.8 \$845,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 18.9 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
 18.10 an agreement with Better Futures Minnesota  
 18.11 in cooperation with the Northwest Indian  
 18.12 Opportunities Industrialization Center  
 18.13 and \$155,000 the first year is from the  
 18.14 trust fund to the Board of Regents of the  
 18.15 University of Minnesota – Duluth for the  
 18.16 Natural Resources Research Institute to  
 18.17 develop and test a model for implementing  
 18.18 building deconstruction and material reuse  
 18.19 as a competitive alternative to demolition  
 18.20 for the purpose of reducing greenhouse  
 18.21 gas emissions, reducing landfill waste, and  
 18.22 providing job training.

18.23 **Subd. 8. Methods to Protect, Restore, and**  
 18.24 **Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat**

4,646,000

-0-

18.25 Appropriations by Fund

18.26 Environment and  
 18.27 natural resources

18.28 trust fund                      4,587,000                      -0-

18.29 Great Lakes

18.30 protection account                      59,000                      -0-

18.31 **(a) Prioritizing Future Management of**  
 18.32 **North Shore Trout Streams**

18.33 \$357,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 18.34 and \$59,000 the first year is from the Great  
 18.35 Lakes protection account to the Board of  
 18.36 Regents of the University of Minnesota –

19.1 Duluth for the Natural Resources Research  
19.2 Institute to identify key areas in North Shore  
19.3 streams that supply the cold groundwater  
19.4 essential to sustaining trout fisheries, in order  
19.5 to focus habitat restoration, protection, and  
19.6 management efforts on the areas that are  
19.7 most essential for long-term stream health  
19.8 and sustainability. This appropriation is  
19.9 available until June 30, 2018, by which time  
19.10 the project must be completed and final  
19.11 products delivered.

19.12 **(b) Propagating Native Plants and**  
19.13 **Restoring Diverse Habitats**

19.14 \$495,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
19.15 to the commissioner of natural resources  
19.16 for an agreement with the Martin County  
19.17 Soil and Water Conservation District for a  
19.18 cooperative 13-county effort by Blue Earth,  
19.19 Brown, Cottonwood, Crow Wing, Faribault,  
19.20 Freeborn, Jackson, Lake, Le Sueur, Martin,  
19.21 Nicollet, Waseca, and Watonwan Counties to  
19.22 protect and expand native forest and prairie  
19.23 habitat for species in greatest conservation  
19.24 need in four regions of the state through  
19.25 collection and propagation of local ecotype  
19.26 native plants, habitat restoration efforts, and  
19.27 educational outreach. This appropriation  
19.28 is available until June 30, 2020, by which  
19.29 time the project must be completed and final  
19.30 products delivered.

19.31 **(c) Preserving and Protecting Minnesota**  
19.32 **Native Orchid Species**

19.33 \$167,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
19.34 to the Board of Regents of the University  
19.35 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape

20.1 Arboretum for propagation and cultivation  
 20.2 research to enable long-term conservation  
 20.3 of at least 15 selected species of the 48  
 20.4 native orchid species in Minnesota. This  
 20.5 appropriation is available until June 30,  
 20.6 2018, by which time the project must be  
 20.7 completed and final products delivered.

20.8 **(d) Acceleration of Minnesota**

20.9 **Conservation Assistance – Final Phase**

20.10 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
 20.11 fund to the Board of Water and Soil  
 20.12 Resources for the final phase of a pilot  
 20.13 program to provide grants to soil and water  
 20.14 conservation districts and other units of local  
 20.15 and state government for employment of  
 20.16 staff to provide technical assistance to secure  
 20.17 enrollment and retention of private lands  
 20.18 in federal and state conservation programs.  
 20.19 This appropriation is available until June  
 20.20 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
 20.21 completed and final products delivered.

20.22 **(e) Metro Conservation Corridors -**

20.23 **Phase VIII Prairie, Forest, and Savanna**

20.24 **Restoration**

20.25 \$276,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 20.26 to the commissioner of natural resources  
 20.27 for an agreement with the Friends of the  
 20.28 Mississippi River for Phase VIII of the  
 20.29 Metro Conservation Corridors partnership  
 20.30 to conduct restoration activities on at least  
 20.31 260 acres of forest and savanna and at least  
 20.32 160 acres of prairie to preserve and increase  
 20.33 wildlife habitat in the metropolitan area, as  
 20.34 defined under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 20.35 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions of the

21.1 surrounding counties. Expenditures are  
21.2 limited to the identified project corridor  
21.3 areas as defined in the work plan. A list  
21.4 of proposed restorations must be provided  
21.5 as part of the required work plan. This  
21.6 appropriation is available until June 30,  
21.7 2018, by which time the project must be  
21.8 completed and final products delivered.

21.9 **(f) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase**  
21.10 **VIII Enhancing Restoration Techniques**  
21.11 **for Improved Climate Resilience and**  
21.12 **Pollinator Conservation**

21.13 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
21.14 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
21.15 an agreement with Great River Greening  
21.16 for Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
21.17 Corridors partnership to pilot and evaluate  
21.18 innovative restoration techniques aimed  
21.19 at improving the resilience of bur oak  
21.20 communities to changing climate conditions  
21.21 and enhancing prairie management to benefit  
21.22 pollinators with the help and engagement  
21.23 of citizen volunteers. Expenditures on  
21.24 restoration efforts are limited to the identified  
21.25 project corridor areas as defined in the work  
21.26 plan. A list of proposed restorations must be  
21.27 provided as part of the required work plan.  
21.28 This appropriation is available until June 30,  
21.29 2018, by which point the project must be  
21.30 completed and final products delivered.

21.31 **(g) Minnesota State University Moorhead**  
21.32 **Prairie and Riparian Restoration and**  
21.33 **Monitoring**

21.34 \$527,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
21.35 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota

22.1 State Colleges and Universities system  
22.2 for Minnesota State University Moorhead  
22.3 in cooperation with the Department of  
22.4 Natural Resources to restore and monitor  
22.5 160 acres of prairie and riparian habitat  
22.6 and develop and disseminate monitoring  
22.7 protocols. This appropriation is contingent  
22.8 upon the donation of a 60-acre parcel to  
22.9 Minnesota State University Moorhead from  
22.10 the Minnesota State University Moorhead  
22.11 Alumni Foundation and is available until  
22.12 June 30, 2020, by which time the project must  
22.13 be completed and final products delivered.

22.14 **(h) Improving Community Forests**

22.15 **Through Citizen Engagement**

22.16 \$800,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
22.17 to the commissioner of the Pollution Control  
22.18 Agency to design and pilot a program,  
22.19 including grants to communities, to mobilize  
22.20 citizen volunteers to protect, improve,  
22.21 and maintain local forests in communities  
22.22 around the state. Participation is open to any  
22.23 municipality in the state and participating  
22.24 municipalities will be selected through a  
22.25 competitive proposal process that will include  
22.26 representation from both metropolitan and  
22.27 nonmetropolitan areas of the state. Trees  
22.28 planted using this appropriation must be  
22.29 species that are native to Minnesota. A  
22.30 participating municipality must provide a  
22.31 match of not less than 25 percent, up to half of  
22.32 which may be in the form of in-kind support.  
22.33 This appropriation is available until June  
22.34 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
22.35 completed and final products delivered.

23.1 **(i) Flood Recovery on Sargent Creek in**  
 23.2 **Duluth**  
 23.3 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 23.4 to the commissioner of natural resources  
 23.5 for an agreement with the city of Duluth to  
 23.6 re-establish stable and natural streambanks  
 23.7 with riparian and aquatic habitat restoration  
 23.8 on at least 5,400 linear feet of Sargent Creek  
 23.9 in Duluth destroyed during the flood of 2012.

23.10 **(j) Shoreland Protection for Lower St.**  
 23.11 **Croix River**  
 23.12 \$190,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 23.13 to the commissioner of natural resources  
 23.14 for an agreement with the St. Croix River  
 23.15 Association to provide technical assistance  
 23.16 to landowners, local governments, realtors,  
 23.17 and developers on shoreland conservation  
 23.18 and protection of the lower St. Croix River.  
 23.19 This appropriation is available until June  
 23.20 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
 23.21 completed and final products delivered.

23.22 **(k) Redwood and Renville Counties**  
 23.23 **Outdoor Recreation and Conservation**  
 23.24 **Master Plan**  
 23.25 \$75,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 23.26 to the commissioner of natural resources  
 23.27 for an agreement with Renville County  
 23.28 in cooperation with Redwood County to  
 23.29 develop a joint outdoor recreation and  
 23.30 conservation master plan to guide future  
 23.31 development and protect cultural, historical,  
 23.32 and natural resources in the Minnesota River  
 23.33 Valley.

23.34 **Subd. 9. Land Acquisition for Habitat and**  
 23.35 **Recreation**

14,190,000

-0-

24.1 **(a) State Parks and Trails Land**

24.2 **Acquisitions**

24.3 \$1,500,000 the first year is from the trust  
24.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
24.5 to acquire at least 335 acres for authorized  
24.6 state trails and critical parcels within the  
24.7 statutory boundaries of state parks. State  
24.8 park land acquired with this appropriation  
24.9 must be sufficiently improved to meet at  
24.10 least minimum management standards, as  
24.11 determined by the commissioner of natural  
24.12 resources. A list of proposed acquisitions  
24.13 must be provided as part of the required work  
24.14 plan. This appropriation is available until  
24.15 June 30, 2018, by which time the project must  
24.16 be completed and final products delivered.

24.17 **(b) Metropolitan Regional Park System**

24.18 **Land Acquisition – Phase IV**

24.19 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
24.20 fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants  
24.21 to acquire at least 133 acres of lands within  
24.22 the approved park unit boundaries of the  
24.23 metropolitan regional park system. This  
24.24 appropriation may not be used to purchase  
24.25 habitable residential structures. A list of  
24.26 proposed fee title and easement acquisitions  
24.27 must be provided as part of the required work  
24.28 plan. This appropriation must be matched  
24.29 by at least 40 percent of nonstate money that  
24.30 must be committed by December 31, 2015, or  
24.31 the appropriation cancels. This appropriation  
24.32 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
24.33 time the project must be completed and final  
24.34 products delivered.



25.1 **(c) SNA Acquisition, Restoration,**  
25.2 **Enhancement, and Public Engagement**  
25.3 \$4,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
25.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
25.5 to acquire at least 350 acres of lands with  
25.6 high-quality native plant communities and  
25.7 rare features to be established as scientific  
25.8 and natural areas as provided in Minnesota  
25.9 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5,  
25.10 restore and improve at least 550 acres of  
25.11 scientific and natural areas, and provide  
25.12 technical assistance and outreach. A list of  
25.13 proposed acquisitions must be provided as  
25.14 part of the required work plan. Land acquired  
25.15 with this appropriation must be sufficiently  
25.16 improved to meet at least minimum  
25.17 management standards, as determined by  
25.18 the commissioner of natural resources. This  
25.19 appropriation is available until June 30,  
25.20 2018, by which time the project must be  
25.21 completed and final products delivered.

25.22 **(d) Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie**  
25.23 **Bank Easement Acquisition**  
25.24 \$3,325,000 the first year is from the trust  
25.25 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
25.26 to acquire native prairie bank easements on  
25.27 at least 675 acres, prepare baseline property  
25.28 assessments, restore and enhance at least  
25.29 1,000 acres of native prairie sites, and provide  
25.30 technical assistance to landowners. A list  
25.31 of proposed easement acquisitions must be  
25.32 provided as part of the required work plan.  
25.33 This appropriation is available until June  
25.34 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
25.35 completed and final products delivered.

26.1 **(e) Metro Conservation Corridors -**  
26.2 **Phase VIII Coordination, Mapping, and**  
26.3 **Conservation Easements**  
26.4 \$515,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
26.5 to the commissioner of natural resources  
26.6 for an agreement with the Minnesota  
26.7 Land Trust for Phase VIII of the Metro  
26.8 Conservation Corridors partnership to  
26.9 provide coordination and mapping for  
26.10 the partnership and to acquire permanent  
26.11 conservation easements on at least 120 acres  
26.12 of strategic ecological landscapes to protect  
26.13 priority natural areas in the metropolitan  
26.14 area, as defined under Minnesota Statutes,  
26.15 section 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions  
26.16 of the surrounding counties. A list of  
26.17 proposed easement acquisitions must be  
26.18 provided as part of the required work plan.  
26.19 Land acquired with this appropriation  
26.20 must be sufficiently improved to meet at  
26.21 least minimum management standards, as  
26.22 determined by the commissioner of natural  
26.23 resources. Expenditures are limited to the  
26.24 identified project corridor areas as defined in  
26.25 the work plan. Up to \$40,000 may be used  
26.26 for coordination and mapping for the Metro  
26.27 Conservation Corridors. All conservation  
26.28 easements must be perpetual and have a  
26.29 natural resource management plan. A list  
26.30 of proposed easement acquisitions must be  
26.31 provided as part of the required work plan.  
26.32 This appropriation is available June 30, 2018,  
26.33 by which time the project must be completed  
26.34 and final products delivered.  
26.35 **(f) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase**  
26.36 **VIII Strategic Lands Protection**

27.1 \$750,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
27.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for  
27.3 an agreement with The Trust for Public Land  
27.4 for Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
27.5 Corridors partnership to acquire in fee at  
27.6 least 35 acres of high-quality priority state  
27.7 and local natural areas in the metropolitan  
27.8 area, as defined under Minnesota Statutes,  
27.9 section 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions  
27.10 of the surrounding counties. A list of  
27.11 proposed acquisitions must be provided as  
27.12 part of the required work plan. Land acquired  
27.13 with this appropriation must be sufficiently  
27.14 improved to meet at least minimum  
27.15 management standards, as determined by  
27.16 the commissioner of natural resources.  
27.17 Expenditures are limited to the identified  
27.18 project corridor areas as defined in the work  
27.19 plan. This appropriation may not be used  
27.20 to purchase habitable residential structures,  
27.21 unless expressly approved in the work  
27.22 plan. A list of fee title acquisitions must be  
27.23 provided as part of the required work plan.  
27.24 This appropriation is available until June  
27.25 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
27.26 completed and final products delivered.  
27.27 **(g) Metro Conservation Corridors - Phase**  
27.28 **VIII Priority Expansion of Minnesota**  
27.29 **Valley National Wildlife Refuge**  
27.30 \$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
27.31 to the commissioner of natural resources  
27.32 for an agreement with the Minnesota Valley  
27.33 National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. for  
27.34 Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
27.35 Corridors partnership to acquire in fee  
27.36 at least 100 acres of priority habitat for

28.1 the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife  
28.2 Refuge in the metropolitan area, as defined  
28.3 under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121,  
28.4 subdivision 2, and portions of the surrounding  
28.5 counties. A list of proposed acquisitions  
28.6 must be provided as part of the required work  
28.7 plan. Land acquired with this appropriation  
28.8 must be sufficiently improved to meet at  
28.9 least minimum management standards.  
28.10 Expenditures are limited to the identified  
28.11 project corridor areas as defined in the work  
28.12 plan. This appropriation may not be used  
28.13 to purchase habitable residential structures,  
28.14 unless expressly approved in the work plan.  
28.15 This appropriation is available until June  
28.16 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
28.17 completed and final products delivered.

28.18 **(h) Metro Conservation Corridors -**  
28.19 **Phase VIII Wildlife Management Area**  
28.20 **Acquisition**

28.21 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
28.22 to the commissioner of natural resources  
28.23 for Phase VIII of the Metro Conservation  
28.24 Corridors partnership to acquire in fee at  
28.25 least 82 acres along the lower reaches of the  
28.26 Vermillion River in Dakota County within  
28.27 the Gores Pool Wildlife Management Area.  
28.28 Land acquired with this appropriation must  
28.29 be sufficiently improved to meet at least  
28.30 minimum management standards. This  
28.31 appropriation may not be used to purchase  
28.32 habitable residential structures, unless  
28.33 expressly approved in the work plan. This  
28.34 appropriation is available until June 30,  
28.35 2018, by which time the project must be  
28.36 completed and final products delivered.

29.1 **(i) Mesabi Trail Development Soudan to**  
29.2 **Ely – Phase II**  
29.3 \$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust  
29.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources  
29.5 for an agreement with the St. Louis and  
29.6 Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority  
29.7 for the right-of-way acquisition, design,  
29.8 and construction of segments of the Mesabi  
29.9 Trail, totaling approximately seven miles  
29.10 between Soudan and Ely. This appropriation  
29.11 is available until June 30, 2018, by which  
29.12 time the project must be completed and final  
29.13 products delivered.

29.14 **(j) Multi-benefit Watershed Scale**  
29.15 **Conservation on North Central Lakes**  
29.16 \$896,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
29.17 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources and  
29.18 \$54,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
29.19 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources  
29.20 for an agreement with the Leech Lake  
29.21 Area Watershed Foundation in cooperation  
29.22 with Crow Wing County Soil and Water  
29.23 Conservation District and Cass County Soil  
29.24 and Water Conservation District to secure  
29.25 permanent conservation easements on at  
29.26 least 480 acres of high-quality habitat in  
29.27 Crow Wing and Cass Counties. A list of  
29.28 proposed easement acquisitions must be  
29.29 provided as part of the required work plan.  
29.30 This appropriation is available until June  
29.31 30, 2018, by which time the project must be  
29.32 completed and final products delivered.

29.33 **(k) Conservation Easement Assessment**  
29.34 **and Valuation System Development**

30.1 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 30.2 to the Board of Regents of the University  
 30.3 of Minnesota to assess the effectiveness of  
 30.4 existing conservation easements acquired  
 30.5 through state expenditures at achieving  
 30.6 their intended outcomes of public value  
 30.7 and ecological benefits and to develop  
 30.8 a standardized, objective conservation  
 30.9 easement valuation system for guiding future  
 30.10 state investments in conservation easements  
 30.11 to ensure the proposed environmental  
 30.12 benefits are being achieved in a cost-effective  
 30.13 manner. This appropriation is available until  
 30.14 June 30, 2018, by which time the project must  
 30.15 be completed and final products delivered.

30.16 **Subd. 10. Administration and Contract**  
 30.17 **Agreement Reimbursement**

1,207,000

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30.18 **(a) Legislative-Citizen Commission on**  
 30.19 **Minnesota Resources**

30.20 \$1,072,000 the first year is from the trust  
 30.21 fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission  
 30.22 on Minnesota Resources for administration  
 30.23 in fiscal years 2016 and 2017 as provided  
 30.24 in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09,  
 30.25 subdivision 5.

30.26 **(b) Contract Agreement Reimbursement**

30.27 \$135,000 the first year is from the trust fund  
 30.28 to the commissioner of natural resources  
 30.29 at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen  
 30.30 Commission on Minnesota Resources for  
 30.31 expenses incurred for contract agreement  
 30.32 reimbursement for the agreements specified  
 30.33 in this section. The commissioner  
 30.34 shall provide documentation to the  
 30.35 Legislative-Citizen Commission on

31.1 Minnesota Resources on the expenditure of  
31.2 these funds.

31.3 **Subd. 11. Availability of Appropriations**

31.4 Money appropriated in this section may  
31.5 not be spent on activities unless they are  
31.6 directly related to and necessary for a specific  
31.7 appropriation and are specified in the work  
31.8 plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen  
31.9 Commission on Minnesota Resources.

31.10 Money appropriated in this section must  
31.11 not be spent on indirect costs or other  
31.12 institutional overhead charges that are  
31.13 not directly related to and necessary for  
31.14 a specific appropriation. Costs that are  
31.15 directly related to and necessary for an  
31.16 appropriation, including financial services,  
31.17 human resources, information services, rent,  
31.18 and utilities, are eligible only if the costs  
31.19 can be clearly justified and individually  
31.20 documented specific to the appropriation's  
31.21 purpose and would not be generated by  
31.22 the recipient but for the receipt of the  
31.23 appropriation. No broad allocations for costs  
31.24 in either dollars or percentages are allowed.

31.25 Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in  
31.26 this section are available until June 30, 2017,  
31.27 when projects must be completed and final  
31.28 products delivered. For acquisition of real  
31.29 property, the appropriations in this section  
31.30 are available for an additional fiscal year if a  
31.31 binding contract for acquisition of the real  
31.32 property is entered into before the original  
31.33 expiration date of the appropriation. If a  
31.34 project receives a federal grant, the time  
31.35 period of the appropriation is extended to  
31.36 equal the federal grant period.

32.1 **Subd. 12. Data Availability Requirements**

32.2 Data collected by the projects funded under  
32.3 this section must conform to guidelines  
32.4 and standards adopted by MN.IT Services.  
32.5 Spatial data also must conform to additional  
32.6 guidelines and standards designed to support  
32.7 data coordination and distribution that have  
32.8 been published by the Minnesota Geospatial  
32.9 Information Office. Descriptions of spatial  
32.10 data must be prepared as specified in  
32.11 the state's geographic metadata guideline  
32.12 and must be submitted to the Minnesota  
32.13 Geospatial Information Office. All data must  
32.14 be accessible and free to the public unless  
32.15 made private under the Data Practices Act,  
32.16 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the extent  
32.17 practicable, summary data and results of  
32.18 projects funded under this section should  
32.19 be readily accessible on the Internet and  
32.20 identified as having received funding from  
32.21 the environment and natural resources trust  
32.22 fund.

32.23 **Subd. 13. Project Requirements**

32.24 (a) As a condition of accepting an  
32.25 appropriation under this section, an agency  
32.26 or entity receiving an appropriation or a  
32.27 party to an agreement from an appropriation  
32.28 must comply with paragraphs (b) to (l)  
32.29 and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and  
32.30 must submit a work plan and semiannual  
32.31 progress reports in the form determined  
32.32 by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on  
32.33 Minnesota Resources for any project funded  
32.34 in whole or in part with funds from the  
32.35 appropriation. Modifications to the approved



33.1 work plan and budget expenditures must  
33.2 be made through the amendment process  
33.3 established by the Legislative-Citizen  
33.4 Commission on Minnesota Resources.

33.5 (b) A recipient of money appropriated in  
33.6 this section that conducts a restoration using  
33.7 funds appropriated in this section must use  
33.8 native plant species according to the Board of  
33.9 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation  
33.10 establishment and enhancement guidelines  
33.11 and include an appropriate diversity of  
33.12 native species selected to provide habitat for  
33.13 pollinators throughout the growing season as  
33.14 required under Minnesota Statutes, section  
33.15 84.973.

33.16 (c) For all restorations conducted with money  
33.17 appropriated under this section, a recipient  
33.18 must prepare an ecological restoration  
33.19 and management plan that, to the degree  
33.20 practicable, is consistent with the highest  
33.21 quality conservation and ecological goals for  
33.22 the restoration site. Consideration should  
33.23 be given to soil, geology, topography, and  
33.24 other relevant factors that would provide  
33.25 the best chance for long-term success and  
33.26 durability of the restoration projects. The  
33.27 plan must include the proposed timetable  
33.28 for implementing the restoration, including  
33.29 site preparation, establishment of diverse  
33.30 plant species, maintenance, and additional  
33.31 enhancement to establish the restoration;  
33.32 identify long-term maintenance and  
33.33 management needs of the restoration and  
33.34 how the maintenance, management, and  
33.35 enhancement will be financed; and take  
33.36 advantage of the best available science and

34.1 include innovative techniques to achieve the  
34.2 best restoration.

34.3 (d) An entity receiving an appropriation in  
34.4 this section for restoration activities must  
34.5 provide an initial restoration evaluation  
34.6 at the completion of the appropriation  
34.7 and an evaluation three years beyond the  
34.8 completion of the expenditure. Restorations  
34.9 must be evaluated relative to the stated  
34.10 goals and standards in the restoration plan,  
34.11 current science, and, when applicable, the  
34.12 Board of Water and Soil Resources' native  
34.13 vegetation establishment and enhancement  
34.14 guidelines. The evaluation must determine  
34.15 whether the restorations are meeting planned  
34.16 goals, identify any problems with the  
34.17 implementation of the restorations, and,  
34.18 if necessary, give recommendations on  
34.19 improving restorations. The evaluation must  
34.20 be focused on improving future restorations.

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

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

34.31 (g) All conservation easements acquired with  
34.32 money appropriated under this section must:  
34.33 (1) be permanent;  
34.34 (2) specify the parties to an easement in the  
34.35 easement;

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

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

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

35.10 (6) include requirements in the easement  
35.11 document to address specific groundwater  
35.12 and surface water quality protection activities  
35.13 such as keeping water on the landscape,  
35.14 reducing nutrient and contaminant loading,  
35.15 protecting groundwater, and not permitting  
35.16 artificial hydrological modifications.

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

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

35.34 (j) For new lands acquired with money  
35.35 appropriated under this section, a recipient

36.1 must prepare an ecological restoration  
36.2 and management plan in compliance with  
36.3 paragraph (c), including sufficient funding  
36.4 for implementation unless the work plan  
36.5 addresses why a portion of the money is  
36.6 not necessary to achieve a high-quality  
36.7 restoration.

36.8 (k) To ensure public accountability for  
36.9 the use of public funds, within 60 days  
36.10 of the transaction, a recipient of money  
36.11 appropriated under this section must provide  
36.12 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on  
36.13 Minnesota Resources documentation of the  
36.14 selection process used to identify parcels  
36.15 acquired and provide documentation of all  
36.16 related transaction costs, including but not  
36.17 limited to appraisals, legal fees, recording  
36.18 fees, commissions, other similar costs,  
36.19 and donations. This information must be  
36.20 provided for all parties involved in the  
36.21 transaction. The recipient must also report  
36.22 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on  
36.23 Minnesota Resources any difference between  
36.24 the acquisition amount paid to the seller and  
36.25 the state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal,  
36.26 if a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal  
36.27 was conducted.

36.28 (l) A recipient of an appropriation from  
36.29 the trust fund under this section must  
36.30 acknowledge financial support from  
36.31 the Minnesota environment and natural  
36.32 resources trust fund in project publications,  
36.33 signage, and other public communications  
36.34 and outreach related to work completed  
36.35 using the appropriation. Acknowledgement  
36.36 may occur, as appropriate, through use of

37.1 the trust fund logo or inclusion of language  
37.2 attributing support from the trust fund. Each  
37.3 direct recipient of money appropriated in  
37.4 this section, as well as each recipient of a  
37.5 grant awarded pursuant to this section, must  
37.6 satisfy all reporting and other requirements  
37.7 incumbent upon constitutionally dedicated  
37.8 funding recipients as provided in Minnesota  
37.9 Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10, and  
37.10 chapter 116P.

37.11 **Subd. 14. Payment Conditions and Capital**  
37.12 **Equipment Expenditures**

37.13 (a) All agreements, grants, or contracts  
37.14 referred to in this section must be  
37.15 administered on a reimbursement basis  
37.16 unless otherwise provided in this section.  
37.17 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
37.18 16A.41, expenditures made on or after  
37.19 July 1, 2015, or the date the work plan is  
37.20 approved, whichever is later, are eligible for  
37.21 reimbursement unless otherwise provided  
37.22 in this section. Periodic payment must be  
37.23 made upon receiving documentation that  
37.24 the deliverable items articulated in the  
37.25 approved work plan have been achieved,  
37.26 including partial achievements as evidenced  
37.27 by approved progress reports. Reasonable  
37.28 amounts may be advanced to projects to  
37.29 accommodate cash flow needs or match  
37.30 federal money. The advances must be  
37.31 approved as part of the work plan. No  
37.32 expenditures for capital equipment are  
37.33 allowed unless expressly authorized in the  
37.34 project work plan.

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

38.1 Subd. 15. **Purchase of Recycled and Recyclable**  
38.2 **Materials**

38.3 A political subdivision, public or private  
38.4 corporation, or other entity that receives an  
38.5 appropriation under this section must use the  
38.6 appropriation in compliance with Minnesota  
38.7 Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding  
38.8 purchase of recycled, repairable, and durable  
38.9 materials; and Minnesota Statutes, section  
38.10 16C.073, regarding purchase and use of  
38.11 paper stock and printing.

38.12 Subd. 16. **Energy Conservation and**  
38.13 **Sustainable Building Guidelines**

38.14 A recipient to whom an appropriation is made  
38.15 under this section for a capital improvement  
38.16 project must ensure that the project complies  
38.17 with the applicable energy conservation and  
38.18 sustainable building guidelines and standards  
38.19 contained in law, including Minnesota  
38.20 Statutes, sections 16B.325, 216C.19, and  
38.21 216C.20, and rules adopted under those  
38.22 sections. The recipient may use the energy  
38.23 planning, advocacy, and State Energy Office  
38.24 units of the Department of Commerce to  
38.25 obtain information and technical assistance  
38.26 on energy conservation and alternative  
38.27 energy development relating to the planning  
38.28 and construction of the capital improvement  
38.29 project.

38.30 Subd. 17. **Accessibility**

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

38.35 Subd. 18. **Carryforward; Extension**

39.1 (a) The availability of the appropriations for  
39.2 the following projects are extended to June  
39.3 30, 2016:

39.4 (1) Laws 2013, chapter 52, section 2,  
39.5 subdivision 4, paragraph (l), Restorations  
39.6 Evaluations;

39.7 (2) Laws 2013, chapter 52, section 2,  
39.8 subdivision 6, paragraph (b), detecting and  
39.9 monitoring certain carp populations; and

39.10 (3) Laws 2011, First Special Session  
39.11 chapter 2, article 3, section 2, subdivision  
39.12 4, paragraph (g), Minnesota River Valley  
39.13 Green Corridor Scientific and Natural Area  
39.14 Acquisition.

39.15 (b) The availability of the appropriations for  
39.16 the following projects are extended to June  
39.17 30, 2017:

39.18 (1) Laws 2013, chapter 52, section 2,  
39.19 subdivision 5, paragraph (e), Measuring  
39.20 Hydrologic Benefits from Glacial Ridge  
39.21 Habitat Restoration; and

39.22 (2) Laws 2014, chapter 226, section 2,  
39.23 subdivision 3, paragraph (m), Measuring  
39.24 Hydrologic Benefits from Glacial Ridge  
39.25 Habitat Restoration.

39.26 (c) The availability of the appropriation for  
39.27 the following project is extended to June  
39.28 30, 2019: Laws 2014, chapter 226, section  
39.29 2, subdivision 6, paragraph (a), Enhancing  
39.30 Pollinator Landscapes.

39.31 (d) The following project may be extended  
39.32 statewide, Laws 2014, chapter 226, section  
39.33 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (c), Urban

40.1 Environmental Education Engaging Students  
40.2 in Local Resources.

40.3 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.05, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

40.4 Subd. 2. **Duties.** (a) The commission shall recommend an annual or biennial  
40.5 legislative bill for appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund and  
40.6 shall adopt a strategic plan as provided in section 116P.08. Approval of the recommended  
40.7 legislative bill requires an affirmative vote of at least 12 members of the commission.

40.8 (b) It is a condition of acceptance of the appropriations made from the Minnesota  
40.9 environment and natural resources trust fund, and oil overcharge money under section  
40.10 4.071, subdivision 2, that the agency or entity receiving the appropriation must  
40.11 submit a work plan and semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the  
40.12 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, and comply with applicable  
40.13 reporting requirements under section 116P.16. None of the money provided may be  
40.14 spent unless the commission has approved the pertinent work plan. Modifications to  
40.15 the approved work plan and budget expenditures shall be made through the amendment  
40.16 process established by the commission. The commission shall ensure that the expenditures  
40.17 and outcomes described in the work plan for appropriations funded by the environment  
40.18 and natural resources trust fund are met.

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

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

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

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

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

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

40.31 (4) provide for project outcome evaluation;

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

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



41.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.08, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

41.2 Subd. 5. **Public meetings.** (a) Meetings of the commission, committees or  
 41.3 subcommittees of the commission, technical advisory committees, and peer review panels  
 41.4 reviewers must be open to the public. The commission shall attempt to meet throughout  
 41.5 various regions of the state during each biennium. For purposes of this subdivision, a  
 41.6 meeting occurs when a quorum is present and action is taken regarding a matter within  
 41.7 the jurisdiction of the commission, a committee or subcommittee of the commission, a  
 41.8 technical advisory committee, or a peer review panel reviewers.

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

41.12 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.08, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

41.13 Subd. 6. **Peer review.** (a) Research proposals must include a stated purpose directly  
 41.14 connected to the trust fund's constitutional mandate, this chapter, and the adopted strategic  
 41.15 plan under subdivision 3, a timeline, potential outcomes, and an explanation of the need  
 41.16 for the research. All research proposals must be peer reviewed by a peer review panel  
 41.17 before receiving an appropriation.

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

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

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

41.23 ~~(3) report to the commission on clauses (1) and (2)~~ (c) Peer reviewers' comments  
 41.24 under paragraph (b) must be reported to the commission.

41.25 ~~(e)~~ (d) The peer review panel also must reviewers may review completed research  
 41.26 proposals that have received an appropriation and comment and report upon whether the  
 41.27 project reached the intended goals.

41.28 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.08, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

41.29 Subd. 7. **Peer review panel membership reviewers.** (a) The peer review panel  
 41.30 reviewers must consist of at least five members who are be knowledgeable in general  
 41.31 research methods in the areas of environment and natural resources. ~~Not more than two~~  
 41.32 ~~members of the panel may be employees of state agencies in Minnesota.~~

41.33 (b) ~~The commission shall select a chair every two years who shall be responsible for~~  
 41.34 ~~convening meetings of the panel as often as is necessary to fulfill its duties as prescribed~~

42.1 ~~in this section.~~ Compensation of ~~panel members~~ peer reviewers is governed by section  
42.2 15.059, subdivision 3.

42.3 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.09, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

42.4 Subd. 6. **Conflict of interest.** A commission member, a technical advisory  
42.5 committee member, a peer review ~~panelist~~ reviewer, or an employee of the commission  
42.6 may not participate in or vote on a decision of the commission, advisory committee, or  
42.7 peer review ~~panel~~ relating to an organization in which the member, ~~panelist~~ peer reviewer,  
42.8 or employee has either a direct or indirect personal financial interest. While serving on the  
42.9 commission, technical advisory committee, ~~or as a peer review panel reviewer~~, or being  
42.10 an employee of the commission, a person shall avoid any potential conflict of interest.

42.11 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 116P.09, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

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