

**CHAPTER 40--H.F.No. 1999**

*An act relating to state government; appropriating money from outdoor heritage, clean water, parks and trails, and arts and cultural heritage funds; modifying prior appropriations; modifying provisions related to outdoor heritage fund and parks and trails fund; modifying Clean Water Legacy Act; requiring reports; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 85.53, subdivision 2, by adding a subdivision; 85.536, subdivisions 1, 2; 97A.056, subdivisions 2, 11, 22; 114D.20, subdivision 2; 114D.30, subdivisions 4, 6, 7; 114D.50, subdivision 4; 129D.17, by adding a subdivision; Laws 2020, chapter 104, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, as amended.*

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

**ARTICLE 1****OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND**Section 1. **APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the outdoor heritage fund for the fiscal year indicated for each purpose. The "first year" is fiscal year 2024. The "second year" is fiscal year 2025. The "biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The appropriations in this article are onetime appropriations.

<b><u>APPROPRIATIONS</u></b>	
<b><u>Available for the Year</u></b>	
<b><u>Ending June 30</u></b>	
<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2025</u></b>

Sec. 2. **OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND**

Subdivision 1. <b><u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>171,135,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>655,000</u></b>
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This appropriation is from the outdoor heritage fund.  
The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are  
specified in the following subdivisions.

Subd. 2. <b><u>Prairies</u></b>		<b><u>31,917,000</u></b>		<b><u>-0-</u></b>
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**(a) Minnesota Prairie Recovery Program, Phase XIII**

\$3,856,000 the first year is to the commissioner of  
natural resources for an agreement with The Nature  
Conservancy to acquire land in fee and restore and  
enhance native prairie, grasslands, wetlands, and  
savanna. Subject to the evaluation criteria in Minnesota

Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. Annual income statements and balance sheets for income and expenses from land acquired with this appropriation must be submitted to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council no later than 180 days after the close of The Nature Conservancy's fiscal year. A list of proposed land acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan and must be consistent with the priorities identified in the *Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan*.

**(b) Martin County DNR WMA Acquisition, Phase VII**

\$2,137,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and restore and enhance strategic prairie grassland, wetland, and other wildlife habitat in Martin and Watonwan Counties for wildlife management area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8, as follows: \$1,670,000 to Fox Lake Conservation League Inc.; \$421,000 to Ducks Unlimited; and \$46,000 to The Conservation Fund. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(c) RIM Grasslands Reserve, Phase V**

\$2,747,000 the first year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance grassland habitat under Minnesota Statutes, sections 103F.501 to 103F.531. Of this amount, up to \$46,000 is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

**(d) Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the Southern Red River Valley, Phase IX**

\$4,400,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever, in cooperation with the Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society, to acquire land in fee and restore and

enhance lands in the southern Red River Valley for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8, or to be designated and managed as waterfowl production areas in Minnesota, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Subject to the evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(e) Working Lands for Habitat**

\$2,709,000 the first year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements that allow long-term grazing while also protecting wildlife habitat and water quality under Minnesota Statutes, sections 103F.501 to 103F.531. Grazing plans must be developed before grazing is allowed. Of this amount, up to \$46,000 is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

**(f) Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area Program, Phase XV**

\$5,216,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever to acquire in fee and restore and enhance lands for wildlife management area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8. Subject to the evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(g) Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program, Phase IV**

\$5,077,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to restore and enhance wetland and prairie habitat on habitat easements of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as follows: \$3,391,000 to Ducks Unlimited and \$1,686,000 to Pheasants Forever. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(h) DNR Grassland Enhancement, Phase XV**

\$3,003,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to accelerate the restoration and enhancement of prairies, grasslands, and savannas in wildlife management areas, in scientific and natural areas, in aquatic management areas, on lands in the native prairie bank, in bluff prairies on state forest land in southeastern Minnesota, and in waterfowl production areas and refuge lands of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(i) Enhanced Public Land - Grasslands, Phase VI**

\$2,772,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever to enhance and restore grassland and wetland habitat on public lands. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**Subd. 3. Forests**

6,569,000

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**(a) Hardwood Hills Habitat Conservation Program**

\$1,894,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance forest habitats in the hardwood hills ecological section of west-central Minnesota as follows: \$175,000 to St. John's University and \$1,719,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. \$168,000 of the amount to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent conservation easements,

restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(b) Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape Protection Program  
ACUB, Phase XI**

\$2,133,000 the first year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, in cooperation with the Morrison County Soil and Water Conservation District, to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance forest wildlife habitat within the boundaries of the Minnesota National Guard Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape and Army Compatible Use Buffer. Up to \$111,000 to the Board of Water and Soil Resources is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

**(c) Protecting and Enhancing Public Land Forest Habitats by Strategically Acquiring Private Land Inholdings**

\$1,046,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Ruffed Grouse Society to protect and enhance forest habitats by strategically acquiring private forest land inholdings to provide better public forest management, reduce fragmentation, and provide public access. A list of proposed acquisitions and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(d) DNR Forest Habitat Enhancement, Phase III**

\$1,496,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance forest wildlife habitats on public lands throughout Minnesota. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**Subd. 4. Wetlands**

33,469,000

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**(a) RIM Wetlands - Restoring the Most Productive Habitat in Minnesota, Phase XII**

\$4,122,000 the first year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore wetlands and native grassland habitat under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.515. Of this amount, up to \$72,000 is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

**(b) Shallow Lake and Wetland Protection and Restoration Program, Phase XII**

\$7,061,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to acquire land in fee for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8, and to restore and enhance prairie lands, wetlands, and land that buffers shallow lakes. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(c) Wetland Habitat Protection and Restoration Program, Phase VIII**

\$3,012,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance prairie, wetland, and other habitat on permanently protected conservation easements in high-priority wetland habitat complexes in the prairie, forest/prairie transition, and forest regions. Of this amount, up to \$168,000 is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed conservation easement acquisitions and restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(d) Accelerating the Waterfowl Production Area Acquisition Program, Phase XIV**

\$5,231,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pheasants Forever, in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to acquire land in fee and restore

and enhance wetlands and grasslands to be designated and managed as waterfowl production areas in Minnesota. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(e) Wetland Enhancement in the Big Woods**

\$619,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Scott-Le Sueur Waterfowlers to restore and enhance wetlands in Scott and Rice Counties. A list of proposed restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(f) Living Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement and Restoration Initiative, Phase IX**

\$6,634,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to restore and enhance shallow lakes, wetlands, and grasslands on public lands and wetlands and grasslands under permanent conservation easement for wildlife management. A list of proposed shallow-lake enhancements and wetland restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(g) Voyageurs National Park Wetland Restoration Project, Phase III**

\$1,153,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the National Park Service to restore and enhance wetland and lacustrine habitat in Voyageurs National Park. A list of proposed restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(h) Accelerated Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancement, Phase XV**

\$3,695,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to enhance and restore shallow lakes and wetland habitat statewide. A list of proposed shallow lake and wetland restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(i) Bone Lake South Wetland Acquisition**

\$1,942,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District to acquire in fee and restore and enhance lands for wildlife and water quality purposes in the Bone Lake watershed. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**Subd. 5. Habitats**97,349,000-0-**(a) Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program, Phase III**

\$4,649,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat in Hennepin County as follows: \$1,687,000 to Hennepin County and \$2,962,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. \$216,000 of the amount to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent conservation easements, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(b) Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Conservation, Phase VIII**

\$3,269,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on public lands and easements in the Anoka Sand Plain ecoregion and intersecting minor watersheds as follows: \$802,000 to the Anoka Conservation District; \$839,000 to Great River Greening; \$175,000 to the National Wild Turkey Federation; \$280,000 to Sherburne County; and \$1,173,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. \$144,000 of the amount to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent conservation easements, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.



**(c) Accelerating Habitat Conservation in Southwest Minnesota, Phase II**

\$3,071,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance high-quality wildlife habitat in southwest Minnesota. Of this amount, up to \$168,000 is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed conservation easement acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(d) Buffalo-Red River Watershed District Stream Habitat Program, Phase III**

\$3,748,000 the first year is to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance aquatic and upland habitat associated with the Red River and Buffalo River watersheds. Of this amount, \$2,250,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District and \$1,498,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources. \$102,000 of the amount to the Board of Water and Soil Resources is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed acquisitions and restorations must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(e) Southeast Minnesota Protection and Restoration, Phase XI**

\$3,675,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire lands in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on public lands and permanent conservation easements in southeast Minnesota as follows: \$1,311,000 to The Nature Conservancy; \$942,000 to Trust for Public Land; and \$1,422,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. \$168,000 of the amount to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the

accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(f) Protecting Minnesota's Lakes of Outstanding Biological Significance, Phase II**

\$3,648,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance lakes of outstanding biological significance in northeast and north-central Minnesota. Of this amount, \$1,507,000 is to Northern Waters Land Trust and \$2,141,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust. \$192,000 of the amount to Minnesota Land Trust is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(g) Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North-Central Minnesota Lakes, Phase IX**

\$3,719,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and in permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat to sustain healthy fish habitat on coldwater lakes in Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard Counties as follows: \$1,777,000 to Northern Waters Land Trust and \$1,942,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$168,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(h) DNR Wildlife Management Area and Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition, Phase XV**

\$2,340,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire in fee and restore and enhance lands for wildlife management purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8, and

to acquire land in fee for scientific and natural area purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5. Subject to the evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring lands that are eligible for the native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of proposed land acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(i) DNR Trout Stream Conservation Easements, Phase III**

\$1,043,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire land in permanent conservation easements to protect trout-stream aquatic habitat. Of this amount, up to \$120,000 is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(j) Metro Big Rivers, Phase XIII**

\$15,339,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance natural habitat systems associated with the Mississippi, Minnesota, and St. Croix Rivers and their tributaries in the metropolitan area as follows: \$700,000 to Minnesota Valley Trust; \$540,000 to Friends of the Mississippi River; \$928,000 to Great River Greening; \$11,171,000 to Trust for Public Land; and \$2,000,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$192,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(k) St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration, Phase IV**

\$13,306,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee

and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance natural habitat systems in the St. Croix River watershed as follows: \$11,171,000 to Trust for Public Land; \$105,000 to Wild Rivers Conservancy; and \$2,030,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$168,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(l) Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program, Phase XII**

\$2,198,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Shell Rock River Watershed District to acquire land in fee and to restore and enhance habitat in the Shell Rock River watershed. A list of proposed acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(m) Integrating Habitat and Clean Water, Phase II**

\$3,269,000 the first year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire permanent conservation easements and restore and enhance wildlife habitat identified in One Watershed, One Plan for stacked benefit to wildlife and clean water. Up to \$85,000 of the amount is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the final report.

**(n) Cannon River Watershed Habitat Restoration and Protection Program, Phase XII**

\$2,981,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire lands in fee and restore and enhance wildlife habitat in the Cannon River watershed as follows: \$119,000 to Clean River Partners; \$994,000 to Great River Greening; and \$1,868,000 to Trust for Public Land. A list of proposed land acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must

be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(o) Enhance Metro and Southeast Minnesota Trout Stream Habitats, Phase II**

\$1,690,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Trout Unlimited to restore and enhance habitat for trout and other species in and along coldwater rivers, lakes, and streams in the metro and southeast regions of Minnesota. A list of proposed restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(p) Lake Nokomis Shoreline Enhancements for Turtles and Pollinators, Phase II**

\$755,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to enhance shoreline and upland habitat on Lake Nokomis. A list of proposed enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(q) Upper Sioux Community Habitat Restoration**

\$966,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Upper Sioux Community to restore and enhance oak savanna, forest, prairie, and other wildlife habitats on Tribal lands. A list of proposed restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(r) Rum River Corridor Fish and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement, Phase II**

\$1,699,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Anoka County Soil and Water Conservation District to restore and enhance upland and riverine habitat in the Rum River corridor. A list of proposed enhancements and restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(s) Restoring and Enhancing Minnesota's Important Bird Areas in the St. Croix River Valley**

\$1,034,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Audubon Minnesota to restore and enhance wildlife habitat in important bird areas and other priority wildlife areas in the St. Croix River Valley. A list of proposed restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(t) DNR St. Louis River Restoration Initiative, Phase X**

\$2,596,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance priority aquatic, riparian, and forest habitats in the St. Louis River estuary. Of this amount, up to \$140,000 is for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust. A list of proposed restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(u) DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement, Phase XI**

\$4,122,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance aquatic habitat in degraded streams and aquatic management areas and to facilitate fish passage. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(v) DNR Roving Crew, Phase II**

\$8,732,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat on permanently protected lands throughout Minnesota using the roving crew program of the Department of Natural Resources. A list of restoration and enhancement projects must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(w) Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program: Statewide and Metro Habitat, Phase XV**

\$9,500,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a program to provide competitive matching grants of up to \$500,000 to local, regional, state, and national organizations for enhancing, restoring, or protecting forests, wetlands, prairies, or habitat for fish, game, or wildlife in Minnesota. Unless there are not enough eligible grant applications

received, of this amount, at least \$2,500,000 is for grants in the seven-county metropolitan area and cities with a population of 50,000 or greater and at least \$3,000,000 is for grants to applicants that have not previously applied for money from the outdoor heritage fund. Grants must not be made for activities required to fulfill the duties of owners of lands subject to conservation easements. Grants must not be made from the appropriation in this paragraph for projects that have a total project cost exceeding \$1,000,000. Of the total appropriation, \$450,000 may be spent for personnel costs, outreach and support to first-time applicants, and other direct and necessary administrative costs. Grantees may acquire land or interests in land. Easements must be permanent. Grants may not be used to establish easement stewardship accounts. The program must require a match of at least ten percent from nonstate sources for all grants. The match may be cash or in-kind resources. For grant applications of \$25,000 or less, the commissioner must provide a separate, simplified application process. Subject to Minnesota Statutes, the commissioner of natural resources must, when evaluating projects of equal value, give priority to organizations that have a history of receiving, or a charter to receive, private contributions for local conservation or habitat projects. All restoration or enhancement projects must be on land permanently protected by a permanent covenant ensuring perpetual maintenance and protection of restored and enhanced habitat, by a conservation easement, or by public ownership or in public waters as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.005, subdivision 15. Priority must be given to restoration and enhancement projects on public lands. Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 13, applies to grants awarded under this paragraph. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026. No less than five percent of the amount of each grant must be held back from reimbursement until the grant recipient has completed a grant accomplishment report by the deadline and in the form prescribed by and satisfactory to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. The commissioner must provide notice of the grant program in the summary of game and fish law prepared under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.051, subdivision 2.

**Subd. 6. Administration**1,831,000655,000**(a) Contract Management**

\$336,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for contract management duties assigned in this section. The commissioner must provide an accomplishment plan in the form specified by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council on expending this appropriation. The accomplishment plan must include a copy of the grant contract template and reimbursement manual. No money may be expended before the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council approves the accomplishment plan. Money appropriated in this paragraph is available until June 30, 2025.

**(b) Legislative Coordinating Commission**

\$634,000 the first year and \$651,000 the second year are to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for administrative expenses of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and for compensating and reimbursing expenses of council members. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025. Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.281, applies to this appropriation.

**(c) Technical Evaluation Panel**

\$190,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a technical evaluation panel to conduct up to 25 restoration and enhancement evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 10. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025.

**(d) Core Functions in Partner-Led OHF Land Acquisitions**

\$668,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources to administer the initial development, restoration, and enhancement of fee title acquisitions funded through the outdoor heritage fund. Money may be used for land acquisition costs incurred by the department as part of conveying parcels to the Department of Natural Resources and for initial



development activities on fee title acquisitions. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

**(c) Legacy Website**

\$3,000 the first year and \$4,000 the second year are to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the website required under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

**Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation**

(a) Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Money appropriated to acquire land in fee title may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

(b) Money appropriated in this section is available as follows:

(1) money appropriated to acquire real property is available until June 30, 2027;

(2) money appropriated to restore and enhance land acquired with an appropriation in this article is available for four years after the acquisition date with a maximum end date of June 30, 2031;

(3) money appropriated to restore and enhance other land is available until June 30, 2028;

(4) notwithstanding clauses (1) to (3), money appropriated for a project that receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds is available until a date sufficient to match the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if the federal funding was confirmed and included in the original approved draft accomplishment plan; and

(5) money appropriated for other projects is available until the end of the fiscal year in which it is appropriated.

**Subd. 8. Payment Conditions and Capital Equipment Expenditures**

All agreements referred to in this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided in this section. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41, expenditures directly related to each appropriation's purpose made on or after July 1, 2023, or the date of accomplishment plan approval, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. For purposes of administering appropriations and legislatively authorized agreements paid out of the outdoor heritage fund, an expense must be considered reimbursable by the administering agency when the recipient presents the agency with an invoice or binding agreement with the landowner and the recipient attests that the goods have been received or the landowner agreement is binding. Periodic reimbursement must be made upon receiving documentation that the items articulated in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by progress reports approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash-flow needs, support future management of acquired lands, or match a federal share. The advances must be approved as part of the accomplishment plan. Capital equipment expenditures for specific items over \$10,000 must be itemized in and approved as part of the accomplishment plan.

**Subd. 9. Mapping**

Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section, as well as each recipient of a grant awarded under this section, must provide geographic information to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council to map any lands that are acquired in fee with money appropriated in this section and open to public taking of fish and game. The commissioner of natural resources must include the lands acquired in fee with

money appropriated in this section on maps showing public recreation opportunities. Maps must include information on and acknowledgment of the outdoor heritage fund, including a notation of any restrictions.

**Subd. 10. Opportunities for Youth**

(a) Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section and each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section must contact the commissioner of natural resources in writing to determine whether opportunities to coordinate with recipients of grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.976, or other opportunities providing training and education to racially, ethnically, and economically diverse youth in the practical implementation of conservation practices that protect, restore, and enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife are available when implementing the projects funded in this section.

(b) Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section and each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section must contact Conservation Corps Minnesota in writing and consider use of their restoration and enhancement services.

(c) A copy of the written contacts required under this subdivision must be filed with the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council within 15 days of execution.

**Subd. 11. Carryforward**

(a) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2016, chapter 172, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, paragraph (j), Roseau Lake Rehabilitation, is extended to June 30, 2024.

(b) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2017, chapter 91, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, paragraph (g), Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) Buffers for Wildlife and Water - Phase VII, is extended to June 30, 2025.

(c) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2018, chapter 208, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, paragraph (i), Lower Mississippi River Habitat Partnership - Phase IV, is extended to June 30, 2027.

(d) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2018, chapter 208, section 2, subdivision 5, paragraph

(n), Buffalo River Watershed Stream Habitat Program, is extended to June 30, 2025.

(e) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2020, chapter 104, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, paragraph (a), Protecting Coldwater Fisheries on Minnesota's North Shore, is extended to June 30, 2025.

(f) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2020, chapter 104, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, paragraph (h), Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program - Phase II, is extended to June 30, 2025.

(g) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2022, chapter 77, article 1, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph (a), Contract Management, is extended to June 30, 2024.

(h) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2022, chapter 77, article 1, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph (b), Technical Evaluation Panel, is extended to June 30, 2024.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 11 is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.056, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.** (a) The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council of 12 members is created in the legislative branch, consisting of:

(1) two public members appointed by the senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration;

(2) two public members appointed by the speaker of the house;

(3) four public members appointed by the governor;

(4) two members of the senate appointed by the senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration; and

(5) two members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house.

(b) Members appointed under paragraph (a) must not be registered lobbyists. In making appointments, the governor, senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration, and the speaker of the house shall consider geographic balance, gender, age, ethnicity, and varying interests including hunting and fishing. The governor's appointments to the council are subject to the advice and consent of the senate.

(c) Public members appointed under paragraph (a) shall have practical experience or expertise or demonstrated knowledge in the science, policy, or practice of restoring, protecting, and enhancing wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife.

(d) Legislative members appointed under paragraph (a) shall include the chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources finance or their designee, one member from the minority party of the senate, and one member from the minority party of the house of representatives.

(e) Public members serve four-year terms. Appointed legislative members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Public and legislative members continue to serve until their successors are appointed. Public members shall be initially appointed according to the following schedule of terms:

(1) two public members appointed by the governor for a term ending the first Monday in January 2011;

(2) one public member appointed by the senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration for a term ending the first Monday in January 2011;

(3) one public member appointed by the speaker of the house for a term ending the first Monday in January 2011;

(4) two public members appointed by the governor for a term ending the first Monday in January 2013;

(5) one public member appointed by the senate Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration for a term ending the first Monday in January 2013; and

(6) one public member appointed by the speaker of the house for a term ending the first Monday in January 2013.

(f) Terms, compensation, and removal of public members are as provided in section 15.0575, except that a public member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day. A vacancy on the council may be filled by the appointing authority for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(g) Members shall elect a chair, vice-chair, secretary, and other officers as determined by the council. The chair may convene meetings as necessary to conduct the duties prescribed by this section.

(h) The Legislative Coordinating Commission may appoint nonpartisan staff and contract with consultants as necessary to support the functions of the council. The council has final approval authority for the hiring of a candidate for executive director. Up to one percent of the money appropriated from the fund may be used to pay for administrative expenses of the council and for compensation and expense reimbursement of council members.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.056, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

Subd. 11. **Recipient requirements.** (a) A state agency or other recipient of a direct appropriation from the outdoor heritage fund must compile and submit all information for funded projects or programs, including the proposed measurable outcomes and all other items required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, to the Legislative Coordinating Commission as soon as practicable or by January 15 of the applicable fiscal year, whichever comes first. The Legislative Coordinating Commission must post submitted information on the website required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, as soon as it becomes available.

(b) When practicable, a direct recipient of an appropriation from the outdoor heritage fund shall prominently display on the recipient's website home page the legacy logo required under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 5, section 10, as amended by Laws 2010, chapter 361, article 3, section 5, accompanied by the phrase "Click here for more information." When a person clicks on the legacy logo image, the website must direct the person to a web page that includes both the contact information that a person may use to obtain

additional information, as well as a link to the Legislative Coordinating Commission website required under section 3.303, subdivision 10.

(c) Future eligibility for money from the outdoor heritage fund is contingent upon a state agency or other recipient satisfying all applicable requirements in this section, as well as any additional requirements contained in applicable session law. If the Office of the Legislative Auditor, in the course of an audit or investigation, publicly reports that a recipient of money from the outdoor heritage fund has not complied with the laws, rules, or regulations in this section or other laws applicable to the recipient, the recipient must be listed in an annual report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the legacy funds. The list must be publicly available. The legislative auditor shall remove a recipient from the list upon determination that the recipient is in compliance. A recipient on the list is not eligible for future funding from the outdoor heritage fund until the recipient demonstrates compliance to the legislative auditor.

(d) A project or program receiving funding from the outdoor heritage fund must include an assessment of whether the funding celebrates cultural diversity or reaches diverse communities in Minnesota, including reaching low- and moderate-income households.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.056, subdivision 22, is amended to read:

Subd. 22. **Revenues.** (a) A recipient must disclose to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and the commissioner all revenues that are received by the recipient before the availability of the appropriation ends and that are generated from activities on land acquired in fee title or easement, restored, or enhanced with money from the outdoor heritage fund. The revenues must be disclosed to the council and commissioner no later than ~~60~~ 90 days after the availability of the appropriation ends.

(b) For all revenues disclosed under paragraph (a), a recipient must:

(1) use the revenues to protect, restore, or enhance wetlands, prairies, forests, or habitat for fish, game, or wildlife according to the appropriation purposes and the approved accomplishment plan;

(2) use the revenues for other purposes as approved in the accomplishment plan by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council; or

(3) transfer the revenues to the outdoor heritage fund no later than ~~60~~ 90 days after the availability of the appropriation ends, unless otherwise approved by the council.

(c) Paragraph (b), clause (3), does not apply to the state and its departments and agencies.

Sec. 6. Laws 2020, chapter 104, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, as amended by Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, section 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Habitats**

-0-

55,429,000

**(a) Protecting Coldwater Fisheries on Minnesota's North Shore**

\$1,809,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat

in priority coldwater tributaries to Lake Superior. Of this amount, up to ~~\$144,000~~ \$240,000 is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed conservation easement acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(b) Metro Big Rivers - Phase X**

\$6,473,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire lands in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance natural habitat systems associated with the Mississippi, Minnesota, and St. Croix Rivers and their tributaries in the metropolitan area. Of this amount, \$801,000 is to Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust Inc., \$300,000 is to Friends of the Mississippi River, \$366,000 is to Great River Greening, \$3,406,000 is to The Trust for Public Land, and \$1,600,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$144,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(c) Resilient Habitat for Heritage Brook Trout**

\$2,266,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire land in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance habitat in targeted watersheds of southeast Minnesota to improve heritage brook trout and coldwater communities. Of this amount, \$350,000 is to The Nature Conservancy, \$258,000 is to Trout Unlimited, \$857,000 is to The Trust for Public Land, and \$801,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$96,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed land acquisitions and permanent conservation easements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(d) Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic North Central Minnesota Lakes - Phase VI**

\$2,814,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire lands in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat to sustain healthy fish habitat on coldwater lakes in Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard Counties. Of this amount, \$883,000 is to Northern Waters Land Trust and \$1,931,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$192,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(e) Accelerating Habitat Conservation in Southwest Minnesota**

\$3,044,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance high-quality wildlife habitat in southwest Minnesota. Of this amount, up to \$144,000 is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed conservation easement acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(f) Targeted RIM Easement Program to Individual Parcel: Pine and Leech Watersheds - Phase I**

\$2,458,000 the second year is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to acquire and restore permanent conservation easements of high-quality forest, wetland, and shoreline habitat. Of this amount, \$164,000 is for an agreement with the Crow Wing County Soil and Water Conservation District. Up to \$97,000 of the total amount is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed



acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(g) Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project - Phase V**

\$3,695,000 the second year is to acquire lands in fee and conservation easement and restore wildlife habitat in the Mississippi headwaters as follows:

(1) \$2,177,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements as follows: \$69,000 to the Mississippi Headwaters Board and \$2,108,000 to The Trust for Public Land; and

(2) \$1,518,000 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources, of which up to \$175,000 is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17.

A list of proposed acquisitions must be included as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(h) Hennepin County Habitat Conservation Program - Phase II**

\$3,155,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements with Hennepin County, in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to acquire permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance habitats in Hennepin County as follows: \$446,000 to Hennepin County and \$2,709,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$264,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent conservation easements, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(i) Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish Habitat Enhancement and Restoration - Phase XII**

\$1,474,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Trout Unlimited to restore and enhance habitat for trout and other species in and along coldwater rivers, lakes, and

streams in Minnesota. A list of proposed land acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(j) DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement - Phase III**

\$3,790,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore and enhance aquatic habitat in degraded streams and aquatic management areas and to facilitate fish passage. A list of proposed land restorations and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(k) St. Louis River Restoration Initiative - Phase VII**

\$2,280,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore priority aquatic and riparian habitats in the St. Louis River estuary. A list of proposed restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(l) Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation - Phase V**

\$700,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Zeitgeist, a nonprofit corporation, in cooperation with the Lake Superior Steelhead Association, to restore and enhance trout habitat in the Knife River watershed. A list of proposed enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(m) Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat Restoration Program - Phase IX**

\$1,918,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Shell Rock River Watershed District to acquire lands in fee and to restore and enhance aquatic habitat in the Shell Rock River watershed. A list of proposed acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(n) Rum River Wildlife and Fish Habitat Enhancement Using Bioengineered Bank Stabilization**

\$816,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Anoka

County Soil and Water Conservation District to restore and enhance riverine habitat in the Rum River using eco-sensitive, habitat-building, and bioengineering approaches. A list of proposed enhancements must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(o) Roseau River Habitat Restoration**

\$3,036,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Roseau River Watershed District to restore and enhance riverine habitat in the Roseau River and the Roseau River Wildlife Management Area.

**(p) Sauk River Watershed Habitat Protection and Restoration - Phase II**

\$3,926,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for agreements to acquire lands in fee and permanent conservation easements and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat in the Sauk River watershed as follows: \$430,000 to the Sauk River Watershed District, \$2,073,000 to Pheasants Forever, and \$1,423,000 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$168,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(q) Southeast Wetland Restoration**

\$1,351,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Mankato to acquire land in fee in the city of Mankato for wetland and grassland restoration. A list of acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

**(r) Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program: Statewide and Metro Habitat - Phase XII**

\$10,424,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for a program to provide competitive matching grants of up to \$400,000 to local, regional, state, and national organizations for enhancing, restoring, or protecting forests, wetlands,

prairies, or habitat for fish, game, or wildlife in Minnesota. Of this amount, at least \$3,250,000 is for grants in the seven-county metropolitan area and cities with a population of 50,000 or more. Grants must not be made for activities required to fulfill the duties of owners of lands subject to conservation easements. Grants must not be made from the appropriation in this paragraph for projects that have a total project cost exceeding \$575,000. Of the total appropriation, \$475,000 may be spent for personnel costs and other direct and necessary administrative costs. Grantees may acquire land or interests in land. Easements must be permanent. Grants may not be used to establish easement stewardship accounts. Land acquired in fee must be open to hunting and fishing during the open season unless otherwise provided by law. The program must require a match of at least ten percent from nonstate sources for all grants. The match may be cash or in-kind resources. For grant applications of \$25,000 or less, the commissioner must provide a separate, simplified application process. Subject to Minnesota Statutes, the commissioner of natural resources must, when evaluating projects of equal value, give priority to organizations that have a history of receiving, or a charter to receive, private contributions for local conservation or habitat projects. For grant requests to acquire land in fee or a conservation easement, the commissioner must give priority to projects associated with or within one mile of existing wildlife management areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; scientific and natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 84.033 and 86A.05, subdivision 5; or aquatic management areas under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05, subdivision 14, and 97C.02. All restoration or enhancement projects must be on land permanently protected by a permanent covenant ensuring perpetual maintenance and protection of restored and enhanced habitat, by a conservation easement or public ownership or in public waters as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.005, subdivision 15. Priority must be given to restoration and enhancement projects on public lands. Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 13, applies to grants awarded under this paragraph. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024. No less than five percent of the amount of each grant must be held back from reimbursement until the grant recipient has completed a grant accomplishment report by the

deadline and in the form prescribed by and satisfactory to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. The commissioner must provide notice of the grant program in the summary of game and fish law prepared under Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.051, subdivision 2.

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

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **CLEAN WATER FUND**

#### Section 1. **CLEAN WATER FUND APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the clean water fund and are available for the fiscal years indicated for allowable activities under the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 15. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under the figure are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025. These are onetime appropriations.

#### **APPROPRIATIONS**

##### **Available for the Year**

##### **Ending June 30**

**2024**

**2025**

#### Sec. 2. **CLEAN WATER FUND**

<b>Subdivision 1. <u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>158,897,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>159,499,000</u></b>
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This appropriation is from the clean water fund. The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following sections.

#### Subd. 2. **Availability of Appropriation**

Money appropriated in this article may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Money appropriated in this article must be spent in accordance with Minnesota Management and Budget *MMB Guidance to Agencies on Legacy Fund Expenditure*. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, and unless otherwise specified in this article, fiscal year 2024 appropriations are available until June 30,

2025, and fiscal year 2025 appropriations are available until June 30, 2026. If a project receives federal funds, the period of the appropriation is extended to equal the availability of federal funding.

### Subd. 3. **Disability Access**

Where appropriate, grant recipients of clean water funds, in consultation with the Council on Disability and other appropriate governor-appointed disability councils, boards, committees, and commissions, should make progress toward providing people with disabilities greater access to programs, print publications, and digital media related to the programs the recipient funds using appropriations made in this article.

### Subd. 4. **Increasing Diversity in Environmental Careers**

Agencies should work to provide opportunities that encourage a diversity of students to pursue careers in environment and natural resources when implementing appropriations in this article.

Sec. 3. <u><b>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b></u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>20,839,000</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>20,839,000</u>
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(a) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the second year are to increase monitoring for pesticides and pesticide degradates in surface water and groundwater and to use data collected to assess pesticide use practices. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(b) \$3,000,000 the first year and \$3,000,000 the second year are for monitoring and evaluating trends in the concentration of nitrate in groundwater; promoting, developing, and evaluating regional and crop-specific nutrient best management practices, cover crops, and other vegetative cover; assessing adoption of best management practices and other recommended practices; education and technical support from University of Minnesota Extension; grants to support agricultural demonstration and implementation activities, including research activities at the Rosholt Research Farm; and other actions to protect groundwater from degradation from nitrate. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(c) \$4,799,000 the first year and \$4,799,000 the second year are for the agriculture best management practices loan program. Any unencumbered balance at the end of the second year must be added to the corpus of the loan fund.

(d) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year are for technical assistance; research, demonstration, and promotion projects on properly implementing best management practices and vegetative cover; and more-precise information on nonpoint contributions to impaired waters and for grants to support on-farm demonstration of agricultural practices. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(e) \$40,000 the first year and \$40,000 the second year are for maintenance of the Minnesota Water Research Digital Library. Costs for information technology development or support for the digital library may be paid to the Office of MN.IT Services. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(f) \$3,500,000 the first year and \$3,500,000 the second year are to implement the Minnesota agricultural water quality certification program statewide. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(g) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are for a regional irrigation water quality specialist through University of Minnesota Extension. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(h) \$3,000,000 the first year and \$3,000,000 the second year are for grants to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to fund the Forever Green agriculture initiative and to protect the state's natural resources while increasing the efficiency, profitability, and productivity of Minnesota farmers by incorporating perennial and winter-annual crops into existing agricultural practices. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(i) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for testing drinking-water wells for pesticides and establishing a mitigation program for water treatment of contaminated wells. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(j) \$1,750,000 the first year and \$1,750,000 the second year are for conservation equipment assistance grants to purchase equipment or items to retrofit existing equipment that has climate and water quality benefits. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(k) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year are for expanding the existing state weather station and soil temperature network to provide accurate and timely weather data to optimize the timing of irrigation, fertilizer, pesticide, and manure applications and support land management decisions. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

(l) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the second year are for grants for research and demonstration sites and projects to evaluate, develop, demonstrate, and promote regional and animal-specific recommendations for manure crediting and to develop or revise manure best management practices through University of Minnesota Extension. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

Sec. 4. **POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY**

**\$**

**24,187,000** **\$**

**24,188,000**

(a) \$9,050,000 the first year and \$9,050,000 the second year are for completing needed statewide assessments of surface water quality and trends according to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 114D. Of this amount, \$163,000 the first year and \$163,000 the second year are for grants to the Red River Watershed Management Board to enhance and expand the existing water quality and watershed monitoring river watch activities in schools in the Red River of the North watershed. By February 15, 2025, the Red River Watershed Management Board must provide a report to the commissioner and to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources finance and policy and the clean water fund on the expenditure of this appropriation.

(b) \$6,350,000 the first year and \$6,350,000 the second year are to update watershed restoration and protection strategies, which include total maximum daily load (TMDL) studies and TMDL implementation plans according to Minnesota Statutes, chapter 114D, for waters on the impaired waters list approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.



(c) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are for groundwater assessment, including enhancing the ambient monitoring network, modeling, evaluating trends.

(d) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the second year are for implementing the St. Louis River System Area of Concern remedial action plan.

(e) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year are for national pollutant discharge elimination system wastewater and stormwater TMDL implementation efforts.

(f) \$3,550,000 the first year and \$3,550,000 the second year are for enhancing the county-level delivery systems for subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) activities necessary to implement Minnesota Statutes, sections 115.55 and 115.56, for protecting groundwater. This appropriation includes base grants for all counties with SSTS programs. Counties that receive base grants must report the number of properties with noncompliant systems upgraded through an SSTS replacement, connection to a centralized sewer system, or other means, including property abandonment or buyout. Counties also must report the number of existing SSTS compliance inspections conducted in areas under county jurisdiction. The required reports must be part of the established annual reporting for SSTS programs. Of this amount, at least \$900,000 each year is available to counties for grants to low-income landowners to address systems that pose an imminent threat to public health or safety or fail to protect groundwater. A county receiving a grant under this paragraph must submit a report to the agency listing the projects funded, including an account of the expenditures.

(g) \$650,000 the first year and \$650,000 the second year are for activities and grants that reduce chloride pollution.

(h) \$337,000 the first year and \$338,000 the second year are to support activities of the Clean Water Council according to Minnesota Statutes, section 114D.30, subdivision 1.

(i) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are for a grant program for sanitary sewer projects that are included in the draft or any updated *Voyageurs*

National Park Clean Water Project Comprehensive Plan to restore the water quality of waters in Voyageurs National Park. Grants must be awarded to local government units for projects approved by the Voyageurs National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board and must be matched by at least 25 percent from sources other than the clean water fund.

(j) Any unencumbered grant balances in the first year do not cancel but are available for grants in the second year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the appropriations in this section are available until June 30, 2028.

Sec. 5. <b><u>DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>12,780,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>12,780,000</u></b>
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(a) \$2,550,000 the first year and \$2,550,000 the second year are for streamflow monitoring.

(b) \$1,450,000 the first year and \$1,450,000 the second year are for lake Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) assessments.

(c) \$455,000 the first year and \$455,000 the second year are for assessing mercury and other fish contaminants, including PFAS compounds, and monitoring to track the status of impaired waters over time.

(d) \$2,150,000 the first year and \$2,150,000 the second year are for developing targeted, science-based watershed restoration and protection strategies and for technical assistance for local governments.

(e) \$2,000,000 the first year and \$2,000,000 the second year are for water-supply planning, aquifer protection, and monitoring activities and analysis.

(f) \$1,600,000 the first year and \$1,600,000 the second year are for technical assistance to support local implementation of nonpoint source restoration and protection activities and targeted forest stewardship for water quality.

(g) \$650,000 the first year and \$650,000 the second year are for applied research and tools, including maintaining and updating spatial data for watershed boundaries, streams, and water bodies and integrating high-resolution digital elevation data and for assessing the effectiveness of forestry best management practices for water quality.

(h) \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year are for maintaining and updating buffer maps and for technical guidance on interpreting buffer maps for local units of government implementing buffer requirements. Maps must be provided to local units of government and made available to landowners on the Department of Natural Resources website.

(i) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are for accelerating completion of or updates to county geologic atlases and supplementing water chemistry or chemical movement studies.

(j) \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the second year are for increasing native freshwater mussel production capacity and restoring and monitoring freshwater mussel restoration efforts.

(k) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for implementing water storage projects on state-administered land to enhance water quality and ecological benefits.

(l) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are for providing technical and financial assistance for county and local governments to replace failing or ineffective culverts using modern designs that restore floodplain connectivity, biological connectivity, and channel stability. This appropriation is available for up to two additional years.

Sec. 6. <b><u>BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>78,064,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>78,063,000</u></b>
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(a) \$39,500,000 the first year and \$39,500,000 the second year are for grants to implement state-approved watershed-based plans. The grants may be used to implement projects or programs that protect, enhance, and restore surface water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams; protect groundwater from degradation; and protect drinking water sources. Projects must be identified in a comprehensive watershed plan developed under the One Watershed, One Plan program and seven-county metropolitan groundwater or surface water management frameworks as provided for in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 103B, 103C, 103D, and 114D. Grant recipients must identify a nonstate match and may use other legacy funds to supplement projects funded under this paragraph. This appropriation may be used for:

(1) implementing state-approved plans, including within the following watershed planning areas: Bois de Sioux - Mustinka, Buffalo-Red River, Cannon River, Cedar - Wapsipinicon, Chippewa River, Clearwater River, Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota, Crow Wing River, Des Moines River, Greater Zumbro River, Hawk Creek - Middle Minnesota, Kettle and Upper St. Croix, Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank, Lake of the Woods, Lake Superior North, Le Sueur River, Leech Lake River, Long Prairie River, Lower Minnesota River East, Lower Minnesota River West, Lower St. Croix River, Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers, Mississippi River Brainerd, Mississippi River Headwaters, Mississippi River St. Cloud, Mississippi River Winona/La Crescent, Missouri River Basin, Nemadji River, North Fork Crow River, Otter Tail, Pine River, Pomme de Terre River, Rainy-Rapid River, Rainy River Headwaters - Vermilion River, Rainy River-Rainy Lake/Lower Rainy River, Red Lake River, Redeye River, Root River, Roseau River, Rum River, Sand Hill River, Sauk River, Shell Rock and Winnebago River, Snake River, South Fork of the Crow River, St. Louis River, Thief River, Two Rivers Plus, Upper and Lower Red Lake, Upper Minnesota River, Upper Mississippi - Grand Rapids, Watonwan River, Wild Rice - Marsh, and Yellow Medicine River;

(2) seven-county metropolitan groundwater or surface water management frameworks; and

(3) other comprehensive watershed management plan planning areas that have a board-approved and local-government-adopted plan as authorized in Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.801.

The board must establish eligibility criteria and determine whether a planning area is ready to proceed and has the nonstate match committed.

(b) \$8,500,000 the first year and \$8,500,000 the second year are for grants to local government units to protect and restore surface water and drinking water; to keep water on the land; to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams; and to protect groundwater and drinking water, including feedlot water quality and subsurface sewage treatment system projects and stream bank, stream channel, shoreline restoration, and ravine stabilization projects. The projects must use practices demonstrated to be

effective, be of long-lasting public benefit, include a match, and be consistent with total maximum daily load (TMDL) implementation plans, watershed restoration and protection strategies (WRAPS), or local water management plans or their equivalents. Up to 20 percent of this appropriation is available for land-treatment projects and practices that benefit drinking water.

(c) \$5,500,000 the first year and \$5,500,000 the second year are for accelerated implementation, local resource protection, enhancement grants, statewide analytical targeting or technology tools that fill an identified gap, program enhancements for technical assistance, citizen and community outreach, compliance, and training and certification.

(d) \$1,250,000 the first year and \$1,250,000 the second year are:

(1) to provide state oversight and accountability, evaluate and communicate results, provide implementation tools, and measure the value of conservation program implementation by local governments; and

(2) to prepare, in consultation with the commissioners of natural resources, health, agriculture, and the Pollution Control Agency, and submit to the legislature by March 1 each even-numbered year a biennial report detailing the recipients and projects funded and the results accomplished under this section.

(e) \$2,000,000 the first year and \$2,000,000 the second year are to provide assistance, oversight, and grants for supporting local governments in implementing and complying with riparian protection and excessive soil loss requirements.

(f) \$2,500,000 the first year and \$2,500,000 the second year are for a working lands floodplain program and to purchase, restore, or preserve riparian land and floodplains adjacent to lakes, rivers, streams, and tributaries, by conservation easements or contracts to keep water on the land, to decrease sediment, pollutant, and nutrient transport; reduce hydrologic impacts to surface waters; and increase protection and recharge for groundwater. Up to \$200,000 is for deposit in a conservation easement stewardship account established according to Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.103.

(g) \$2,500,000 the first year and \$2,500,000 the second year are for permanent conservation easements on wellhead protection areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.515, subdivision 2, paragraph (d), or for grants to local units of government for fee title acquisition to permanently protect groundwater supply sources on wellhead protection areas or for otherwise ensuring long-term protection of groundwater supply sources as described under alternative management tools in the Department of Agriculture *Minnesota Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan*, including using low-nitrogen cropping systems or implementing nitrogen fertilizer best management practices. Priority must be placed on land that is located where the vulnerability of the drinking water supply is designated as high or very high by the commissioner of health, where drinking water protection plans have identified specific activities that will achieve long-term protection, and on lands with expiring conservation reserve program contracts. Up to \$200,000 is for deposit in a conservation easement stewardship account established according to Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.103.

(h) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are for a technical evaluation panel to conduct restoration evaluations under Minnesota Statutes, section 114D.50, subdivision 6.

(i) \$1,750,000 the first year and \$1,750,000 the second year are for assistance, oversight, and grants to local governments to transition local water management plans to a watershed approach as provided for in Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.801.

(j) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are for technical assistance and grants for the conservation drainage program, in consultation with the Drainage Work Group, coordinated under Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.101, subdivision 13, and including projects to improve multipurpose water management under Minnesota Statutes, section 103E.015.

(k) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year are to purchase permanent conservation easements to protect lands adjacent to public waters that have good water quality but that are threatened with degradation. Up to \$150,000 is for deposit in a

conservation easement stewardship account established according to Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.103.

(l) \$425,000 the first year and \$425,000 the second year are for grants or contracts for a program to systematically collect data and produce county, watershed, and statewide estimates of soil erosion caused by water and wind, along with tracking adoption of conservation measures, including cover crops, to address erosion. This appropriation may be used for grants to or contracts with the University of Minnesota to complete this work.

(m) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for developing and implementing a water legacy grant program to expand partnerships for clean water.

(n) \$5,000,000 the first year and \$5,000,000 the second year are for permanent conservation easements to protect and restore wetlands and associated uplands. Up to \$300,000 is for deposit in a conservation easement stewardship account established according to Minnesota Statutes, section 103B.103.

(o) \$6,039,000 the first year and \$6,038,000 the second year are for financial and technical assistance to enhance adoption of cover crops and other soil health practices to achieve water quality or drinking water benefits. The board may use grants to local governments and agreements with the United States Department of Agriculture, AgCentric at Minnesota State Center for Excellence, and other practitioners and partners to accomplish this work. Up to \$450,000 is for an agreement with the University of Minnesota Office for Soil Health for applied research and education on Minnesota's agroecosystems and soil health management systems. This appropriation may be extended to leverage available federal funds.

(p) The board must contract for delivery of services with Conservation Corps Minnesota for restoration, maintenance, training, and other activities under this section for up to \$850,000 the first year and up to \$850,000 the second year.

(q) The board may shift grant, implementation, or easement funds in this section and may adjust the technical and administrative assistance portion of the funds to leverage federal or other nonstate funds or to

address oversight responsibilities or high-priority activities identified by the board consistent with local water management plans.

(r) The board must require grantees to specify the outcomes that will be achieved by the grants.

(s) The appropriations in this section are available until June 30, 2028, except grant or easement funds are available for five years after the date a grant or other agreement is executed. Returned grant funds must be regranted consistent with the purposes of this section.

**Sec. 7. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**\$**

**11,296,000** **\$**

**11,904,000**

(a) \$4,746,000 the first year and \$5,354,000 the second year are for developing health risk limits for contaminants found or anticipated to be found in Minnesota drinking water, to certify private laboratories to conduct analyses for these contaminants, and to increase the capacity of the department's laboratory to analyze for these contaminants.

(b) \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year are for ensuring safe drinking water for private well users, including studying the occurrence and magnitude of contaminants in private wells; developing guidance and conducting outreach and education about well testing and mitigation; awarding grants to local governments; and designing voluntary interventions to reduce health risks to private well owners.

(c) \$3,750,000 the first year and \$3,750,000 the second year are for protecting sources of drinking water, including planning, implementation, and surveillance activities and grants to local governments and public water systems.

(d) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the second year are to develop and deliver groundwater restoration and protection strategies on a watershed scale for use in local comprehensive water planning efforts, to provide resources to local governments for activities that protect sources of drinking water, and to enhance approaches that improve the capacity of local governmental units to protect and restore groundwater resources.

(e) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are to develop public health policies and an action



plan to address threats to safe drinking water, including development of a statewide plan for protecting drinking water that incorporates select recommendations from the University of Minnesota's *Future of Drinking Water* report.

(f) \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the second year are for developing a statewide recreational water portal that includes an inventory of public beaches and information about local monitoring results and closures and that provides information about preventing illness and recreational water stewardship.

(g) Unless otherwise specified, the appropriations in this section are available until June 30, 2027.

Sec. 8. **METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

\$                      1,875,000 \$                      1,875,000

(a) \$1,125,000 the first year and \$1,125,000 the second year are to implement projects that address emerging threats to the drinking water supply; provide cost-effective regional solutions; leverage interjurisdictional coordination; support local implementation of water supply reliability projects; support the growing needs of community water suppliers facing challenges, including PFAS, radium, manganese, and selenium contamination, groundwater appropriation limitations, system reliability and resilience, and increased regional growth; and prevent degradation of groundwater resources in the metropolitan area. These projects provide communities with:

(1) potential solutions to leverage regional water use by using surface water, stormwater, wastewater, and groundwater;

(2) an analysis of infrastructure requirements for different alternatives;

(3) development of planning-level cost estimates, including capital costs and operating costs;

(4) identification of funding mechanisms and an equitable cost-sharing structure for regionally beneficial water supply development projects; and

(5) development of subregional groundwater models and strategies.

(b) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the second year are for the water demand reduction grants to assist municipalities in the metropolitan area with implementing water demand reduction measures to ensure the reliability and protection of drinking water supplies.

Sec. 9. UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

\$ 1,500,000 \$ 1,500,000

(a) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the second year are for developing Part A of county geologic atlases. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030.

(b) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are for a program to evaluate performance and technology transfer for stormwater best management practices, to evaluate best management performance and effectiveness to support meeting total maximum daily loads, to develop standards and incorporate state-of-the-art guidance using minimal impact design standards as the model, and to implement a system to transfer knowledge and technology across local government, industry, and regulatory sectors. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030.

Sec. 10. LEGISLATURE

\$ 6,000 \$ -0-

\$6,000 the first year is for the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the website required under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

Sec. 11. PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY

\$ 8,350,000 \$ 8,350,000

(a) \$8,250,000 the first year and \$8,250,000 the second year are for the point source implementation grants program under Minnesota Statutes, section 446A.073. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030.

(b) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are for small community wastewater treatment grants and loans under Minnesota Statutes, section 446A.075. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2030.

(c) If there is any uncommitted money at the end of each fiscal year under paragraph (a) or (b), the Public Facilities Authority may transfer the remaining funds to eligible projects under any of the programs listed

in this section according to a project's priority rank on the Pollution Control Agency's project priority list.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 114D.20, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Goals for implementation.** The following goals must guide the implementation of this chapter:

(1) to identify impaired waters in accordance with federal TMDL requirements and to ensure continuing evaluation of surface waters for impairments;

(2) to submit TMDLs to the United States Environmental Protection Agency in a timely manner in accordance with federal TMDL requirements;

(3) to inform and support strategies for implementing restoration and protection activities in a reasonable time period with the goal that all waters will have achieved the designated uses applicable to those waters by 2050;

(4) to systematically evaluate waters, to provide assistance and incentives to prevent waters from becoming impaired, and to improve the quality of waters that are listed as impaired;

(5) to promptly seek the delisting of waters from the impaired waters list when those waters are shown to achieve the designated uses applicable to the waters;

(6) to achieve compliance with federal Clean Water Act requirements in Minnesota;

(7) to support effective measures to prevent the degradation of groundwater according to the groundwater degradation prevention goal under section 103H.001; and

(8) to support effective measures to restore degraded groundwater.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 114D.30, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Terms; compensation; removal.** The terms of members representing the state agencies and the Metropolitan Council are four years and are coterminous with the governor. The terms of other nonlegislative members of the council shall be as provided in section 15.059, subdivision 2. Members may serve until their successors are appointed and qualify. Compensation and removal of nonlegislative council members is as provided in section 15.059, subdivisions 3 and 4, except that a nonlegislative member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day. Compensation of legislative members is as determined by the appointing authority. The Pollution Control Agency may reimburse legislative members for expenses. A vacancy on the council may be filled by the appointing authority provided in subdivision 1 for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 114D.30, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Recommended appropriations.** (a) The Clean Water Council ~~shall recommend~~ must submit recommendations to the governor and the legislature ~~the manner in which~~ on how money from the clean water fund should be appropriated for the purposes stated in article XI, section 15, of the Minnesota Constitution and section 114D.50.

(b) The council's recommendations must:

(1) be to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater from degradation and ensure that at least five percent of the clean water fund is spent only to protect drinking water sources;

(2) be consistent with the purposes, policies, goals, and priorities in this chapter; and

(3) allocate adequate support and resources to identify degraded groundwater and impaired waters, develop TMDLs, implement restoration of groundwater and impaired waters, and provide assistance and incentives to prevent groundwater and surface waters from becoming degraded or impaired and improve the quality of surface waters which are listed as impaired but have no approved TMDL.

(c) The council must recommend methods of ensuring that awards of grants, loans, or other funds from the clean water fund specify the outcomes to be achieved as a result of the funding and specify standards to hold the recipient accountable for achieving the desired outcomes. Expenditures from the fund must be appropriated by law.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 114D.30, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Reports to legislature.** ~~(a)~~ By January 15 each odd-numbered year, the council must submit a report to the legislature ~~on~~ that includes:

(1) a summary of the activities for which money has been or will be spent for in the current biennium;

(2) the activities for which money is recommended to recommendations required under subdivision 6 for how money in the clean water fund should be spent in the next biennium, including recommended legislative bill language; and

(3) the impact on economic development of the implementation of efforts to protect and restore groundwater and the impaired waters program.

~~(b) By January 15 each even-numbered year, the council may submit to the legislature supplemental recommendations on the manner in which money from the clean water fund should be appropriated in the next fiscal year.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2025, and applies to recommendations for fiscal year 2026 and beyond.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 114D.50, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Expenditures; accountability.** (a) A project receiving funding from the clean water fund must meet or exceed the constitutional requirements to protect, enhance, and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater and drinking water from degradation. Priority may be given to projects that meet more than one of these requirements. A project receiving funding from the clean water fund shall include measurable outcomes, as defined in section 3.303, subdivision 10, ~~and~~ a plan for measuring and evaluating the results; and an assessment of whether the funding celebrates cultural diversity or reaches diverse communities in Minnesota, including reaching low- and moderate-income households. A project must be consistent with current science and incorporate state-of-the-art technology.

(b) Money from the clean water fund shall be expended to balance the benefits across all regions and residents of the state.

(c) A state agency or other recipient of a direct appropriation from the clean water fund must compile and submit all information for proposed and funded projects or programs, including the proposed measurable outcomes and all other items required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, to the Legislative Coordinating Commission as soon as practicable or by January 15 of the applicable fiscal year, whichever comes first. The Legislative Coordinating Commission must post submitted information on the website required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, as soon as it becomes available. Information classified as not public under section 13D.05, subdivision 3, paragraph (d), is not required to be placed on the website.

(d) Grants funded by the clean water fund must be implemented according to section 16B.98 and must account for all expenditures. Proposals must specify a process for any regranting envisioned. Priority for grant proposals must be given to proposals involving grants that will be competitively awarded.

(e) Money from the clean water fund may only be spent on projects that benefit Minnesota waters.

(f) When practicable, a direct recipient of an appropriation from the clean water fund shall prominently display on the recipient's website home page the legacy logo required under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 5, section 10, as amended by Laws 2010, chapter 361, article 3, section 5, accompanied by the phrase "Click here for more information." When a person clicks on the legacy logo image, the website must direct the person to a web page that includes both the contact information that a person may use to obtain additional information, as well as a link to the Legislative Coordinating Commission website required under section 3.303, subdivision 10.

(g) Future eligibility for money from the clean water fund is contingent upon a state agency or other recipient satisfying all applicable requirements in this section, as well as any additional requirements contained in applicable session law. If the Office of the Legislative Auditor, in the course of an audit or investigation, publicly reports that a recipient of money from the clean water fund has not complied with the laws, rules, or regulations in this section or other laws applicable to the recipient, the recipient must be listed in an annual report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the legacy funds. The list must be publicly available. The legislative auditor shall remove a recipient from the list upon determination that the recipient is in compliance. A recipient on the list is not eligible for future funding from the clean water fund until the recipient demonstrates compliance to the legislative auditor.

(h) Money from the clean water fund may be used to leverage federal funds through execution of formal project partnership agreements with federal agencies consistent with respective federal agency partnership agreement requirements.

(i) Any state agency or organization requesting a direct appropriation from the clean water fund must inform the Clean Water Council and the house of representatives and senate committees having jurisdiction over the clean water fund, at the time the request for funding is made, whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

## **Sec. 17. CLEAN WATER FUND APPROPRIATION EXTENSIONS.**

**Subdivision 1. Department of Health; contamination in private wells.** The availability of the appropriation from the clean water fund to the commissioner of health under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 2, article 2, section 8, paragraph (d), is extended to June 30, 2024.

**Subd. 2. Department of Health; water reuse implementation.** The availability of the appropriation from the clean water fund to the commissioner of health under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 2, article 2, section 8, paragraph (g), is extended to June 30, 2024.

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

### ARTICLE 3

#### PARKS AND TRAILS FUND

##### Section 1. **PARKS AND TRAILS FUND APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the parks and trails fund and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under the figure are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, or June 30, 2025, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025. These are onetime appropriations.

#### **APPROPRIATIONS**

##### **Available for the Year**

##### **Ending June 30**

**2024**

**2025**

##### Sec. 2. **PARKS AND TRAILS**

Subdivision 1. <b><u>Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>72,155,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>64,455,000</u></b>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following sections.

##### Subd. 2. **Availability of Appropriation**

Money appropriated in this article may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Money appropriated in this article must be spent in accordance with Minnesota Management and Budget *MMB Guidance to Agencies on Legacy Fund Expenditure*. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, and unless otherwise specified in this article, fiscal year 2024 appropriations are available until June 30, 2026, and fiscal year 2025 appropriations are available until June 30, 2027. If a project receives federal funds, the period of the appropriation is extended to equal the availability of federal funding.

##### Subd. 3. **Disability Access**

Where appropriate, grant recipients of parks and trails funds, in consultation with the Council on Disability and other appropriate governor-appointed disability councils, boards, committees, and commissions, should make progress toward providing people with disabilities greater access to programs, print publications, and digital media related to the programs the recipient funds using appropriations made in this article.

#### **Subd. 4. Energy and Water Conservation**

Grant recipients of parks and trails funds should prioritize water and energy conservation technology and the use of renewable energy for construction and building projects funded with an appropriation made in this article.

Sec. 3. <b><u>DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>43,580,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>38,931,000</u></b>
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(a) \$28,572,000 the first year and \$25,524,000 the second year are for state parks, recreation areas, and trails to:

- (1) connect people to the outdoors;
- (2) acquire land and create opportunities;
- (3) maintain existing holdings; and
- (4) improve cooperation by coordinating with partners to implement the 25-year long-range parks and trails legacy plan.

(b) The commissioner may spend money appropriated under paragraph (a) on I Can! programs, including but not limited to programs designed to provide underserved youth and youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer the opportunity to experience the outdoors with similar peers.

(c) \$14,286,000 the first year and \$12,762,000 the second year are for grants for parks and trails of regional significance outside the seven-county metropolitan area under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.535. The grants awarded under this paragraph must be based on the lists of recommended projects submitted to the legislative committees under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.536, subdivision 10, from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails

Commission established under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.536. Grants funded under this paragraph must support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance that meet the applicable definitions and criteria for regional parks and trails contained in the *Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan* adopted by the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission on April 22, 2015. Grant recipients identified under this paragraph must submit a grant application to the commissioner of natural resources. Up to 2.5 percent of the appropriation may be used by the commissioner for the actual cost of issuing and monitoring the grants for the commission. Of the amount appropriated, \$475,000 the first year and \$475,000 the second year are for the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission to carry out its duties under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.536, including the continued development of a statewide system plan for regional parks and trails outside the seven-county metropolitan area.

(d) By January 15, 2024, the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission must submit a list of projects that contains the commission's recommendations for funding from the parks and trails fund for fiscal year 2025 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources and the parks and trails fund.

(e) By January 15, 2024, the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission must submit a report that contains the commission's criteria for funding from the parks and trails fund, including the criteria used to determine if a park or trail is of regional significance, to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources and the parks and trails fund.

(f) \$722,000 the first year and \$645,000 the second year are for coordination and projects between the department, the Metropolitan Council, and the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission; enhanced web-based information for park and trail users; and support of activities of the Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee.



(g) The commissioner must contract for services with Conservation Corps Minnesota for restoration, maintenance, and other activities under this section for at least \$850,000 the first year and \$850,000 the second year.

(h) Grant recipients of an appropriation under this section must give consideration to contracting with Conservation Corps Minnesota for restoration, maintenance, and other activities.

(i) In addition to the requirements under paragraph (g), the commissioner should work to provide other opportunities that encourage a diversity of students to pursue careers in environment and natural resources when implementing appropriations in this section.

Sec. 4. **METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

\$

28,572,000 \$

25,524,000

(a) \$28,572,000 the first year and \$25,524,000 the second year are for distribution according to Minnesota Statutes, section 85.53, subdivision 3.

(b) Money appropriated under this section and distributed to implementing agencies must be used only to fund the list of projects approved by the elected representatives of each of the metropolitan parks implementing agencies. Projects funded by the money appropriated under this section must be substantially consistent with the project descriptions and dollar amounts approved by each elected body. Any money remaining after completing the listed projects may be spent by the implementing agencies on projects to support parks and trails.

(c) Grant agreements entered into by the Metropolitan Council and recipients of money appropriated under this section must ensure that the money is used to supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of funding.

(d) The implementing agencies receiving appropriations under this section must give consideration to contracting with Conservation Corps Minnesota for restoration, maintenance, and other activities.

Sec. 5. **LEGISLATURE**

\$

3,000 \$

-0-

\$3,000 the first year is for the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the website required under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.53, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Expenditures; accountability.** (a) A project or program receiving funding from the parks and trails fund must meet or exceed the constitutional requirement to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance. A project or program receiving funding from the parks and trails fund must include measurable outcomes, as defined in section 3.303, subdivision 10, ~~and~~ a plan for measuring and evaluating the results; and an assessment of whether the funding celebrates cultural diversity or reaches diverse communities in Minnesota, including reaching low- and moderate-income households. A project or program must be consistent with current science and incorporate state-of-the-art technology, except when the project or program is a portrayal or restoration of historical significance.

(b) Money from the parks and trails fund shall be expended to balance the benefits across all regions and residents of the state.

(c) A state agency or other recipient of a direct appropriation from the parks and trails fund must compile and submit all information for funded projects or programs, including the proposed measurable outcomes and all other items required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, to the Legislative Coordinating Commission as soon as practicable or by January 15 of the applicable fiscal year, whichever comes first. The Legislative Coordinating Commission must post submitted information on the website required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, as soon as it becomes available.

(d) Grants funded by the parks and trails fund must be implemented according to section 16B.98 and must account for all expenditures. Proposals must specify a process for any regrantee envisioned. Priority for grant proposals must be given to proposals involving grants that will be competitively awarded.

(e) Money from the parks and trails fund may only be spent on projects located in Minnesota.

(f) When practicable, a direct recipient of an appropriation from the parks and trails fund shall prominently display on the recipient's website home page the legacy logo required under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 5, section 10, as amended by Laws 2010, chapter 361, article 3, section 5, accompanied by the phrase "Click here for more information." When a person clicks on the legacy logo image, the website must direct the person to a web page that includes both the contact information that a person may use to obtain additional information, as well as a link to the Legislative Coordinating Commission website required under section 3.303, subdivision 10.

(g) Future eligibility for money from the parks and trails fund is contingent upon a state agency or other recipient satisfying all applicable requirements in this section, as well as any additional requirements contained in applicable session law. If the Office of the Legislative Auditor, in the course of an audit or investigation, publicly reports that a recipient of money from the parks and trails fund has not complied with the laws, rules, or regulations in this section or other laws applicable to the recipient, the recipient must be listed in an annual report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the legacy funds. The list must be publicly available. The legislative auditor shall remove a recipient from the list upon determination that the recipient is in compliance. A recipient on the list is not eligible for future funding from the parks and trails fund until the recipient demonstrates compliance to the legislative auditor.

(h) Any state agency or organization requesting a direct appropriation from the parks and trails fund must inform the house of representatives and senate committees having jurisdiction over the parks and trails

fund, at the time the request for funding is made, whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.53, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 7. **Free park days.** An implementing agency, county, or city that charges an entrance fee or requires a vehicle permit must provide free access to all its parks at least four days each calendar year in order to be eligible for money appropriated from the parks and trails fund. The implementing agency, county, or city must publicly announce the date when entrance will be free at least 30 days in advance of the date it occurs.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.536, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; purpose.** The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission is created to undertake system planning and provide recommendations to the legislature for grants funded by the parks and trails fund to counties ~~and~~ cities, and Tribal governments outside of the seven-county metropolitan area for parks and trails of regional significance.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.536, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Commission.** The commission shall include 13 members appointed by the governor with two members from each of the regional parks and trails districts determined under subdivision 5 and one member at large. Membership terms, compensation, and removal of members and filling of vacancies are as provided in section 15.0575, except that a commission member may be compensated at the rate of up to \$125 a day.

Sec. 10. **PARKS AND TRAILS FUND APPROPRIATION EXTENSIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Beaver Island Regional Trail; city of St. Cloud.** The availability of the grant to the city of St. Cloud for the Beaver Island Regional Trail construction and restoration project from the parks and trails fund appropriation under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 2, article 3, section 3, paragraph (b), is extended to June 30, 2024.

Subd. 2. **Robinson Park; city of Sandstone.** The portions of the appropriations from the parks and trails fund in Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 2, article 3, section 3, paragraph (b), and Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter 1, article 3, section 3, paragraph (b), that were granted to the city of Sandstone for the Robinson Park project are available until June 30, 2025.

Subd. 3. **Parks and trails of regional significance.** The appropriations from the parks and trails fund in Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 2, article 3, section 3, paragraph (b), are available until June 30, 2025.

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

Sec. 11. **EXPANDING ACCESS TO PARKS AND TRAILS FUND GRANTS IN GREATER MINNESOTA; REPORT.**

By January 15, 2024, the commissioner of natural resources, in cooperation with the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission, must submit a report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the parks and trails fund with recommendations for expanding eligibility of parks and trails fund grants under Minnesota Statutes, section

85.536, to Tribal governments and for expanding cooperation with nonprofit organizations, including any necessary statutory changes.

## ARTICLE 4

### ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND

#### Section 1. ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND APPROPRIATIONS.

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the entities and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the arts and cultural heritage fund and are available for the fiscal years indicated for allowable activities under the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 15, except that any unencumbered balance remaining under this article from the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year. The figures "2024" and "2025" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under the figure are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2024. "The second year" is fiscal year 2025. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2024 and 2025. All appropriations in this article are onetime.

#### APPROPRIATIONS

##### Available for the Year

##### Ending June 30

2024

2025

#### Sec. 2. ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>103,024,000</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>88,928,000</u>
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions.

#### Subd. 2. Availability of Appropriation

Money appropriated in this article must not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Money appropriated in this article must not be spent on institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Money appropriated in this article must be spent in accordance with Minnesota Management and Budget *MMB Guidance to Agencies on Legacy Fund Expenditure*. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, and unless otherwise specified in this article, fiscal year 2024 appropriations are available until June 30, 2025, and fiscal year 2025 appropriations are available until June 30, 2026. Water and energy

conservation technology and the use of renewable energy should be priorities for construction and building projects funded through this appropriation. If a project receives federal funds, the period of the appropriation is extended to equal the availability of federal funding.

**Subd. 3. Minnesota State Arts Board**

47,421,000

44,796,000

(a) The amounts in this subdivision are appropriated to the Minnesota State Arts Board for arts, arts education, arts preservation, and arts access. Grant agreements entered into by the Minnesota State Arts Board and other recipients of appropriations in this subdivision must ensure that these funds are used to supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of funding. Each grant program established in this appropriation must be separately administered from other state appropriations for program planning and outcome measurements, but may take into consideration other state resources awarded in the selection of applicants and grant award size.

**(b) Arts and Arts Access Initiatives**

\$35,737,000 the first year and \$36,437,000 the second year are to support Minnesota artists and arts organizations in creating, producing, and presenting high-quality arts activities; to preserve, maintain, and interpret art forms and works of art so that they are accessible to Minnesota audiences; to overcome barriers to accessing high-quality arts activities; and to instill the arts into the community and public life in this state. Grants provided under this paragraph must prioritize artists and arts organizations that plan to present art from communities that have been historically underrepresented in the arts or that improve access to the programs and projects for groups, including youth and historically underserved communities, that have struggled to access arts programming in the past.

**(c) Arts Education**

\$7,263,000 the first year and \$6,269,000 the second year are for high-quality, age-appropriate arts education for Minnesotans of all ages to develop knowledge, skills, and understanding of the arts. Priority in the

award of grants under this paragraph must be given to providing educational opportunities to underserved communities with grants for organizations or entities providing opportunities to K-12 students throughout the state for arts education, including access to arts instruction, arts programming, museums, and arts presentations.

**(d) Arts and Cultural Heritage**

\$2,421,000 the first year and \$2,090,000 the second year are for events and activities that represent, preserve, and maintain the diverse cultural arts traditions, including folk and traditional artists and art organizations, represented in this state.

**(e) Significant Art Project St. Paul**

\$2,000,000 the first year is for a grant to the Minnesota United Foundation for the design, land development, land transfer fees, and production costs of a public art project in St. Paul at the United Village site celebrating Minnesota arts and cultural heritage and providing a unique public art experience through sculpture and design. The project funded by this paragraph must have a matching grant from nonpublic funds and must include a public-private partnership agreement providing an agreement for the future ownership, maintenance, taxes, and associated costs for the art project and project site. The project funded by this paragraph must have a permanent sign indicating the project was funded through the arts and cultural heritage fund. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2028.

**(f) Administrative Costs**

Up to five percent of the totals in paragraphs (b) to (e) each year is for administering grant programs, delivering technical services, providing fiscal oversight for the statewide system, and ensuring accountability in fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

**(g) Regional Arts Councils**

Thirty percent of the remaining total appropriation to each of the categories listed in paragraphs (b) to (d) is for grants to the regional arts councils. Notwithstanding

any other provision of law, regional arts council grants or other arts council grants for touring programs, projects, or exhibits must ensure the programs, projects, or exhibits are able to tour in their own region as well as all other regions of the state.

(h) Any unencumbered balance remaining under this subdivision the first year does not cancel but is available the second year.

**Subd. 4. Minnesota Historical Society**

18,004,000

18,977,000

(a) The amounts in this subdivision are appropriated to the governing board of the Minnesota Historical Society to preserve and enhance access to Minnesota's history and its cultural and historical resources. Grant agreements entered into by the Minnesota Historical Society and other recipients of appropriations in this subdivision must ensure that these funds are used to supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of funding. Funds directly appropriated to the Minnesota Historical Society must be used to supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of funding. The appropriations in this subdivision are onetime, and any unencumbered balance remaining under this subdivision in the first year does not cancel but is available for the second year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, for historic preservation projects that improve historic structures, the amounts are available until June 30, 2027. The Minnesota Historical Society or grant recipients of the Minnesota Historical Society using arts and cultural heritage funds under this subdivision must give consideration to Conservation Corps Minnesota and Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps, or an organization carrying out similar work, for projects with the potential to need historic preservation services.

**(b) Historical Grants and Programs**

**(1) Statewide Historic and Cultural Grants**

\$6,451,000 the first year and \$7,035,000 the second year are for statewide historic and cultural grants to local, county, regional, or other historical or cultural organizations or for activities to preserve significant historic and cultural resources. Money must be distributed through a competitive grant process. The

Minnesota Historical Society must administer the money using established grant mechanisms with assistance from the advisory committee created under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 4, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), item (ii).

(2) Statewide History Programs

\$7,395,000 the first year and \$8,125,000 the second year are for historic and cultural programs and purposes related to the heritage of the state.

Of this amount, \$50,000 the first year and \$50,000 the second year are for the production and distribution of "Making Minnesota" on Minnesota's natural resources, legacy, culture, and history, to be made available free of cost.

(3) History Partnerships

\$2,183,000 the first year and \$3,067,000 the second year are for history partnerships involving multiple organizations, which may include the Minnesota Historical Society, to preserve and enhance access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage in all regions of the state.

(4) Statewide Survey of Historical and Archaeological Sites

\$375,000 the first year and \$375,000 the second year are for one or more contracts to be competitively awarded to conduct statewide surveys or investigations of Minnesota's sites of historical, archeological, and cultural significance. Results of the surveys or investigations must be published in a searchable form and available to the public cost free. The Minnesota Historical Society, the Office of the State Archeologist, the Indian Affairs Council, and the State Historic Preservation Office must each appoint a representative to an oversight board to select contractors and direct the conduct of the surveys or investigations. The oversight board must consult with the Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources.

(5) Digital Library

\$375,000 the first year and \$375,000 the second year are for a digital library project to preserve, digitize, and share Minnesota images, documents, and historical



materials. The Minnesota Historical Society must cooperate with the Minitex interlibrary loan system and must jointly share this appropriation for these purposes.

**(c) Grants**

(1) \$100,000 the first year is for a grant to the Litchfield Opera House to repair and update the Litchfield Opera House;

(2) \$275,000 the first year is for a grant to the Dakota County Historical Society to upgrade and improve the Lawshe Memorial Museum;

(3) \$500,000 the first year is for a grant to Olmsted County Historical Society to rehabilitate the historic George Stoppel stone house and barn and to construct an accessible pathway to the farmstead;

(4) \$100,000 the first year is for a grant to the Minnesota Transportation Museum for programming at the historical Jackson Street Roundhouse in St. Paul to preserve and share the history and culture of railroads in Minnesota; and

(5) \$250,000 the first year is for a grant to Special Guerrilla Units Veterans and Families of USA, Inc. to collect, document, archive, preserve, and make available to the public Hmong Special Guerrilla Units veterans' histories and for programming and educational efforts to teach the public about their history serving as proxy soldiers for the United States during the Secret War in Laos.

**Subd. 5. Department of Education**

3,000,000

2,750,000

(a) \$2,750,000 each year is appropriated to the commissioner of education for grants to the 12 Minnesota regional library systems to provide educational opportunities in the arts, history, literary arts, and cultural heritage of Minnesota. When possible, funding under this subdivision should be used to promote and share the work of Minnesota authors, including authors from diverse backgrounds. This money must be allocated using the formulas in Minnesota Statutes, section 134.355, subdivisions 3 to 5, with the remaining 25 percent to be distributed to all qualifying systems in an amount proportionate to the number of qualifying system entities in each

system. For purposes of this subdivision, "qualifying system entity" means a public library, a regional library system, a regional library system headquarters, a county, or an outreach service program. This money may be used to sponsor programs provided by regional libraries or to provide grants to local arts and cultural heritage programs for programs in partnership with regional libraries. This money must be distributed in ten equal payments per year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the appropriations encumbered on or before June 30, 2025, as grants or contracts in this subdivision are available until June 30, 2026.

(b) \$250,000 the first year is appropriated to the commissioner of education for a water safety grant program. The commissioner of education must allocate grants to eligible applicants. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and city and county parks and recreation programs providing swimming lessons to youth. Eligible applicants are not required to partner with other entities. Grant funds must primarily be used to provide scholarships to low-income and at-risk children for swimming lessons. Up to 15 percent of the grant funds may also be used to hire water safety instructors or lifeguards or train water safety instructors or lifeguards in nationally recognized water safety practices and instruction.

**Subd. 6. Department of Administration**

17,040,000

14,105,000

(a) The amounts in this subdivision are appropriated to the commissioner of administration for grants to the named organizations for the purposes specified in this subdivision. The commissioner of administration may use a portion of this appropriation for costs that are directly related to and necessary for the administration of grants in this subdivision.

(b) Grant agreements entered into by the commissioner and recipients of appropriations under this subdivision must ensure that money appropriated in this subdivision is used to supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of funding.

**(c) Minnesota Public Radio**

\$2,050,000 each year is for Minnesota Public Radio to create programming and expand news service on Minnesota's cultural heritage and history.

**(d) Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations**

\$2,050,000 the first year and \$2,050,000 the second year are to the Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations for production and acquisition grants in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.19.

**(e) Public Television**

\$5,000,000 the first year and \$4,500,000 the second year are to the Minnesota Public Television Association for production and acquisition grants according to Minnesota Statutes, section 129D.18. Of the amount in the first year, \$1,000,000 is for producing Minnesota military and veterans' history stories and unique immigrant stories from around the state.

**(f) Wilderness Inquiry**

\$500,000 the first year and \$600,000 the second year are to Wilderness Inquiry to preserve Minnesota's outdoor history, culture, and heritage by connecting Minnesota youth and families to natural resources.

**(g) Como Park Zoo**

\$1,725,000 each year is to the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory for program development that features educational programs and habitat enhancement, special exhibits, music appreciation programs, and historical garden access and preservation.

**(h) Science Museum of Minnesota**

\$825,000 each year is to the Science Museum of Minnesota for arts, arts education, and arts access and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage, including student and teacher outreach, statewide educational initiatives, and community-based exhibits that preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage.

**(i) Appetite for Change**

\$200,000 the first year is to the nonprofit Appetite for Change for the Community Cooks programming, which will preserve the cultural heritage of growing and cooking food in Minnesota.

**(j) Lake Superior Zoo**

\$150,000 each year is to the Lake Superior Zoo to develop educational exhibits and programs.

**(k) Great Lakes Aquarium**

\$250,000 each year is to the Lake Superior Center Authority to prepare, fabricate, and install a hands-on exhibit with interactive learning components to educate Minnesotans on the history of the natural landscape of the state.

**(l) State Band**

\$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year are to the Minnesota state band to provide free concerts throughout the state.

**(m) Veterans Memorial Park in Wyoming**

\$100,000 the first year is for a grant to the city of Wyoming to build the Veterans Memorial Plaza and related interpretive walk in Railroad Park.

**(n) Great Northern Festival**

\$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are for a grant to support the Great Northern Festival, which connects attendees to parks, outdoor spaces, and cultural venues through a festival.

**(o) Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities**

\$50,000 the first year is to the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities to continue to preserve and raise awareness of the history of Minnesotans with developmental disabilities.

**(p) Minnesota Council on Disability**

\$125,000 the first year and \$125,000 the second year are to the Minnesota Council on Disability to provide educational opportunities in the arts, history, and cultural heritage of Minnesotans with disabilities in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Minnesota Council on Disability. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027.

**(q) Keller Regional Park**

\$500,000 the first year is for a grant to Ramsey County to preserve Minnesota's cultural heritage by enhancing the tuj lub courts at Keller Regional Park.

**(r) Vietnam War Anniversary**

\$250,000 the first year is for a grant to the commissioner of veterans affairs to prepare and host a commemoration program for the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

**(s) St. Paul Cultural Art Installation**

\$500,000 the first year is for a grant to the city of St. Paul for an art installation celebrating Olympic gold medalist Suni Lee.

**(t) One Heartland Center**

\$50,000 each year is for a grant to One Heartland Center for programming and outdoor activities for families and youth in Minnesota.

**(u) Forest Lake Veterans Memorial**

\$100,000 the first year is for a grant to the Forest Lake Veterans Memorial Committee to construct a memorial to veterans of the United States armed forces at Lakeside Memorial Park in the city of Forest Lake. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027.

**(v) Hmong Plaza**

\$450,000 the first year is for a grant to the city of St. Paul to construct the Hmong Plaza at Phalen Lake.

**(w) Camille Gage Artist Fellowship**

\$55,000 the first year and \$55,000 the second year are for a grant to YWCA Minneapolis to fund an annual fellowship to be known as the Camille J. Gage Artist Fellowship. Of this amount, up to \$5,000 each year may be used for administrative expenses. YWCA Minneapolis must select a person for the Camille J. Gage Artist Fellowship after an application process that allows both applications by interested persons and nominations of persons by third parties. By October 1, 2026, YWCA Minneapolis must report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over legacy on the use of money appropriated under this paragraph and on the activities of the person selected for the Camille J. Gage Artist Fellowship under this paragraph. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

**(x) Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery**

\$235,000 the first year and \$125,000 the second year are for arts and cultural heritage programming celebrating African American and Black communities in Minnesota. Of the amount in the first year, \$110,000 is for C. Caldwell Fine Arts for an outdoor mural project in North Minneapolis to work with young people to develop skills while using art as the impetus.

**(y) Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota**

\$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year are for a grant to the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota to celebrate and teach the art, culture, and heritage of Tibetan Americans in Minnesota.

**(z) Hong De Wu Guan**

\$25,000 the first year is for a grant to Hong De Wu Guan to create cultural arts projects like Lion Dance for after-school programs for youth.

**(aa) Sepak Takraw of USA**

\$50,000 the first year is for a grant to the Sepak Takraw of USA to work with youth and after-school programs in the community to teach the cultural games

of tuj lub and sepak takraw. This appropriation may not be used to hold events.

**(bb) 30,000 Feet**

\$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are for a grant to 30,000 Feet, a nonprofit organization, to help youth and community artists further develop their artistic skills, to create community art and artistic performances, and to promote and share African American history and culture through the arts.

**(cc) Siengkane Lao Minnesota**

\$50,000 the first year and \$50,000 the second year are for a grant to Siengkane Lao MN to create cultural arts projects and to preserve traditional performances.

**(dd) Hmong Cultural Center**

\$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are for a grant to the Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota for museum-related programming and educational outreach activities to teach the public about the historical, cultural, and folk arts heritage of Hmong Minnesotans.

**(ee) Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio**

\$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for a grant to Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) to expand arts programming to celebrate Latino cultural heritage; support local artists; and provide professional development, networking, and presentation opportunities.

**(ff) Hmong RPA Writing System**

\$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the second year are for grants to recipients who have demonstrated knowledge and interest in preserving Hmong culture to preserve Hmong Minnesotans' heritage, history, language, and culture. Grants must be used in conjunction with Minnesota universities to improve and develop a unified and standardized Latin alphabet form of the Hmong RPA writing system. No portion of this appropriation may be used to encourage

religious membership or to conduct personal ceremonies or events.

**(gg) Somali Museum of Minnesota**

\$125,000 the first year and \$125,000 the second year are for a grant to the Somali Museum of Minnesota for heritage arts and cultural vitality programs to provide classes, exhibits, presentations, and outreach about the Somali community and heritage in Minnesota.

**(hh) Minnesota Museum of American Art**

\$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the second year are for a grant to the Minnesota Museum of American Art for exhibit programming and for a Native American Fellowship at the museum.

**(ii) Fanka Programs**

\$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for a grant to Ka Joog statewide Somali-based collaborative programs for arts and cultural heritage. The funding must be used for Fanka programs to provide arts education and workshops, mentor programs, and community presentations and community engagement events throughout Minnesota.

**(jj) The Bakken Museum**

\$150,000 the first year is for a grant to The Bakken Museum for interactive exhibits and outreach programs on arts and cultural heritage.

**(kk) 4-H Shooting Sports**

\$50,000 the first year is to the University of Minnesota Extension Office to provide grants to Minnesota 4-H chapters that have members participating in state and national 4-H-sanctioned shooting sports events. Eligible costs for grant money include shooting sports equipment and supplies and event fees associated with participating in state shooting sports events.

**(ll) Public Art Saint Paul**

\$75,000 each year is for a grant to Public Art Saint Paul for art programming at the Wakpa Triennial Art



Festival to showcase new art across the Twin Cities by Minnesota artists in outdoor and indoor settings and to encourage visitors to experience the arts and culture produced by local arts and culture organizations.

**Subd. 7. Minnesota Zoo**

2,000,000

2,000,000

The amounts in this subdivision are appropriated to the Minnesota Zoological Board for programs at and development of the Minnesota Zoological Garden and to provide access and education related to programs on the cultural heritage of Minnesota.

**Subd. 8. Minnesota Humanities Center**

12,855,000

3,600,000

(a) The amounts in this subdivision are appropriated to the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Humanities Center for the purposes specified in this subdivision. The Minnesota Humanities Center may use up to 5.5 percent of the appropriations for the administration of these funds and to cover the cost of administering, planning, evaluating, and reporting these grants. The Minnesota Humanities Center must develop a written plan to issue the grants under this subdivision and must submit the plan for review and approval by the commissioner of administration. The written plan must require the Minnesota Humanities Center to create and adhere to grant policies that are similar to those established according to Minnesota Statutes, section 16B.97, subdivision 4, paragraph (a), clause (1).

No grants awarded under this subdivision may be used for travel outside the state of Minnesota. The grant agreement must specify the repercussions for failing to comply with the grant agreement.

**(b) Programs and Purposes**

\$2,000,000 each year is for statewide humanities programs and to support and expand outreach, partnerships, and humanities programming with organizations and individuals throughout the state, including but not limited to programming related to veterans and the military experience, professional development opportunities for educators, and programming celebrating, representing, and reflecting upon the heritage of diverse Minnesota communities that have been historically underserved.

**(c) Children's Museum Grants**

\$1,600,000 the first year and \$1,600,000 the second year are for arts and cultural heritage grants to children's museums for arts and cultural exhibits and related educational outreach programs. Of this amount:

(1) \$500,000 each year is for the Minnesota Children's Museum, St. Paul; and

(2) \$1,100,000 each year is for grants to children's museums to be distributed through a competitive grant process for children's museums. Priority must be given to youth education, new exhibits development, outreach to underserved and diverse communities, and programming that celebrates cultural diversity. The Minnesota Humanities Center must administer these funds using established grant mechanisms.

**(d) Community Identity and Heritage Grant Program; Administration and Capacity-Building Grants**

(1) \$75,000 the first year is for outreach and education on the humanities center grant program with a focus on reaching diverse community organizations and providing assistance with grant opportunities, qualifications, and reporting requirements, and specifically providing technical assistance and a nontraditional application process to improve access to grant funding for diverse communities.

(2) \$8,850,000 the first year is for a competitive grant program to provide grants to organizations or individuals working to create, celebrate, and teach the art, culture, and heritage of diverse Minnesota communities, including but not limited to Asian and Pacific Island communities, the Somali diaspora and other African immigrant communities, Indigenous communities with a focus on the 11 Tribes in Minnesota, the African American community, the Latinx community, the LGBTQIA+ community, and other underrepresented cultural groups, including communities of Black, Indigenous, and people of color, to celebrate the cultural diversity of Minnesota. At least \$2,000,000 of the grant funding in this clause must be for grants greater than \$150,000. An individual or organization that receives a grant under this clause must do at least one of the following:

(i) preserve and honor the cultural heritage of Minnesota;

(ii) provide education and student outreach on cultural diversity;

(iii) support the development of culturally diverse humanities programming, including arts programming, by individuals and organizations; or

(iv) empower communities in building identity and culture, including preserving and honoring communities whose Indigenous cultures are endangered or disappearing.

(3) Of the amount in clause (2), \$750,000 the first year is for capacity-building grants to organizations working with and promoting the culture of underserved communities to assist with:

(i) training and assisting staff on grant writing and grant reporting;

(ii) the costs of consultation and training from experts in nonprofit management; and

(iii) capacity-building and fundraising capabilities for smaller organizations.

(4) Of the amount in clause (2), \$100,000 the first year is available for emergency grants to respond to urgent community needs to organizations otherwise qualified to receive grants under clause (2). Grants under this clause should be designed to be awarded on a rolling basis based on emerging needs to assist communities responding to major events and to facilitate the process of grieving, encourage healing, create memorials, or assist in recovery of the community. This amount is available through the second year and any amount not expended by October 15 of the second year may be used for general programming costs or grants under this paragraph.

**(e) Civics Grants Program**

\$300,000 the first year is for grants to support programs and organizations providing civics education for youth on law, democracy, government, and debate and to conduct civics education programs.

**(f) Fiscal Accountability Study**

\$30,000 the first year is for a study on fiscal sponsorship and fiscal oversight to study and report on best practices in grant making to nonprofit organizations. This funding is available in the second year, and the study may be conducted by an entity hired by the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Humanities Center.

**Subd. 9. Indian Affairs Council**

2,300,000

2,300,000

\$850,000 each year is to provide grants to Minnesota Tribal Nations to preserve Dakota and Ojibwe Indian language and to foster education programs and services for Dakota and Ojibwe language.

\$650,000 each year is for grants to Dakota and Ojibwe language-immersion educational institutions.

\$600,000 each year is to provide grants to preserve the Dakota and Ojibwe Indian language through support of projects and services and to support educational programs and immersion efforts in Dakota and Ojibwe language.

\$50,000 each year is for a Dakota and Ojibwe Indian language working group coordinated by the Indian Affairs Council.

\$150,000 each year is for the Indian Affairs Council to carry out responsibilities under Minnesota Statutes, section 307.08, to comply with Public Law 101-601, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

**Subd. 10. Department of Agriculture**

400,000

400,000

The amounts in this subdivision are appropriated to the commissioner of agriculture for grants to county agricultural societies to enhance arts access and education and to preserve and promote Minnesota's history and cultural heritage as embodied in its county fairs. The grants may be distributed in equal amounts to each of the county fairs that submitted an application. The grants are in addition to the aid distribution to county agricultural societies under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02. The commissioner of agriculture must develop grant-making criteria and guidance for expending money under this subdivision to provide funding for projects and events that provide access to the arts or the state's agricultural, historical,

and cultural heritage. The commissioner must seek input from all interested parties. Money not used in the first year may be used in the second year.

**Subd. 11. Legislative Coordinating Commission**

4,000

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The amount in this subdivision is appropriated to the Legislative Coordinating Commission to maintain the website required under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

**Subd. 12. Legacy Arts and Cultural Heritage Access Days**

A portion of all funding from the arts and cultural heritage fund appropriations in this section must be used by grantees to improve access to programs, exhibits, and events that traditionally have a fee for entry. Grantees are encouraged to provide access to all community members using free programming days and to distribute free or reduced-cost tickets to improve access to all households throughout the state to increase participation in arts, history, and cultural programs that may be inaccessible due to cost. Grantees may partner with nonprofits that provide low- or no-cost access to arts and cultural heritage events and provide open access to free or reduced-cost programming to all economically disadvantaged households. All grantees should work to promote and advertise the ability to attend programs, exhibits, and events through free-access days for all Minnesotans and free or reduced-cost ticketing programs and provide instructions on how these programs work.

**Subd. 13. Minnesota Historical Society Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations**

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(a) \$2,226,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for statewide historic and cultural grants to local, county, regional, or other historical or cultural organizations or for activities to preserve significant historic and cultural resources. Money must be distributed through a competitive grant process. The Minnesota Historical Society must administer the money using established grant mechanisms with assistance from the advisory committee created under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 4, section 2, subdivision 4, paragraph (b), item (ii). This is a onetime appropriation and any

unencumbered balance remaining in fiscal year 2023 does not cancel but is available until June 30, 2024.

(b) \$358,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for history partnerships involving multiple organizations, which may include the Minnesota Historical Society, to preserve and enhance access to Minnesota's history and cultural heritage in all regions of the state. This is a onetime appropriation and any unencumbered balance remaining in fiscal year 2023 does not cancel but is available until June 30, 2024.

(c) \$510,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for one or more contracts to be competitively awarded to conduct statewide surveys or investigations of Minnesota's sites of historical, archaeological, and cultural significance. This is a onetime appropriation and any unencumbered balance remaining in fiscal year 2023 does not cancel but is available until June 30, 2024.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 13 is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 129D.17, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. **Report.** Each fiscal agent who receives funding from the arts and cultural heritage fund in a biennial budget must submit a report by February 15 the next odd-numbered year to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over the legacy arts and cultural heritage fund. Each report must cover the two years prior to the report and include:

- (1) an accounting of funding that has been distributed;
- (2) an accounting of funding not yet expended;
- (3) summary information on programs supported by the funding;
- (4) an assessment of whether the funding celebrates cultural diversity or reaches diverse communities in Minnesota;
- (5) summary information on competitive grant programs, when offered; and
- (6) grant information for grants provided to individuals, entities, or organizations, including whether the programs or projects awarded funding have been completed.

Presented to the governor May 18, 2023