

AN ACT

1.1
1.2 relating to state government; appropriating money for environment and
1.3 natural resources; providing for repayment of certain appropriations from the
1.4 environment and natural resources trust fund; amending Minnesota Statutes
1.5 2006, section 116P.10.

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

1.7 Section 1. MINNESOTA RESOURCES APPROPRIATION.

1.8 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the
1.9 agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the general
1.10 fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each
1.11 purpose. The figures "2008" and "2009" used in this article mean that the appropriations
1.12 listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, or June 30, 2009,
1.13 respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2008. "The second year" is fiscal year 2009.
1.14 "The biennium" is fiscal years 2008 and 2009. Appropriations for the fiscal year ending
1.15 June 30, 2008, are effective the day following final enactment.

1.16	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
1.17	<u>Available for the Year</u>	
1.18	<u>Ending June 30</u>	
1.19	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>

1.20 Sec. 2. MINNESOTA RESOURCES.

1.21	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	\$	<u>86,000</u>	\$	<u>22,866,000</u>
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1.22	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
1.23	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>

2.1	<u>Environment and</u>		
2.2	<u>Natural Resources</u>		
2.3	<u>Trust</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>22,866,000</u>
2.4	<u>Great Lakes</u>		
2.5	<u>Protection Account</u>	<u>86,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>

2.6 Appropriations are available for two
 2.7 years beginning July 1, 2008, unless
 2.8 otherwise stated in the appropriation. Any
 2.9 unencumbered balance remaining in the first
 2.10 year does not cancel and is available for the
 2.11 second year.

2.12 Subd. 2. Definitions

2.13 (a) "Trust fund" means the Minnesota
 2.14 environment and natural resources trust fund
 2.15 referred to in Minnesota Statutes, section
 2.16 116P.02, subdivision 6.

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

2.20 Subd. 3. Land and Habitat -0- 15,817,000

2.21	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
2.22	<u>Trust Fund</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>15,817,000</u>

2.23 (a) Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC) –
 2.24 Phase IV

2.25 \$3,150,000 is from the trust fund to the
 2.26 commissioner of natural resources for
 2.27 the fourth appropriation for acceleration
 2.28 of agency programs and cooperative
 2.29 agreements. Of this appropriation,
 2.30 \$1,915,000 is for Department of Natural
 2.31 Resources agency programs and \$1,235,000
 2.32 is for agreements as follows: \$475,000 with
 2.33 the Trust for Public Land; \$92,000 with
 2.34 Friends of the Mississippi River; \$111,000
 2.35 with Great River Greening; \$225,000 with

3.1 Minnesota Land Trust; \$225,000 with
3.2 Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
3.3 Trust, Inc.; and \$107,000 with Friends of
3.4 the Minnesota Valley for the purposes of
3.5 planning, restoring, and protecting important
3.6 natural areas in the metropolitan area, as
3.7 defined under Minnesota Statutes, section
3.8 473.121, subdivision 2, and portions of
3.9 the surrounding counties, through grants,
3.10 contracted services, conservation easements,
3.11 and fee title acquisition. Land acquired
3.12 with this appropriation must be sufficiently
3.13 improved to meet at least minimum
3.14 management standards as determined by
3.15 the commissioner of natural resources.
3.16 Expenditures are limited to the identified
3.17 project corridor areas as defined in the work
3.18 program. This appropriation may not be used
3.19 for the purchase of residential structures,
3.20 unless expressly approved in the work
3.21 program. All conservation easements must
3.22 be perpetual and have a natural resource
3.23 management plan. Any land acquired in fee
3.24 title by the commissioner of natural resources
3.25 with money from this appropriation must
3.26 be designated as an outdoor recreation unit
3.27 under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.07.
3.28 The commissioner may similarly designate
3.29 any lands acquired in less than fee title. A
3.30 list of proposed restorations and fee title
3.31 and easement acquisitions must be provided
3.32 as part of the required work program. All
3.33 funding for conservation easements must
3.34 include a long-term stewardship plan and
3.35 funding for monitoring and enforcing the
3.36 agreement.

4.1 (b) Vermillion River Corridor Acquisition and
4.2 Restoration in Dakota County

4.3 \$400,000 is from the trust fund to the
4.4 commissioner of natural resources for
4.5 an agreement with Dakota County to
4.6 develop and implement a comprehensive
4.7 and integrated water quality, wildlife
4.8 habitat, and outdoor recreational corridor
4.9 plan in the Vermillion River watershed
4.10 through easement and fee title acquisition
4.11 and restoration. At least 90 percent of
4.12 this appropriation must be spent on the
4.13 implementation of the comprehensive plan.
4.14 A list of proposed restorations and fee title
4.15 and easement acquisitions must be provided
4.16 as part of the required work program. All
4.17 funding for conservation easements must
4.18 include a long-term stewardship plan and
4.19 funding for monitoring and enforcing the
4.20 agreement. This appropriation is available
4.21 until June 30, 2011, at which time the
4.22 project must be completed and final products
4.23 delivered, unless an earlier date is specified
4.24 in the work program. On January 2, 2009, the
4.25 unobligated balance of the appropriation for
4.26 Dakota County wildlife habitat acquisition
4.27 and development in Laws 1999, chapter 231,
4.28 section 16, subdivision 13, paragraph (m), is
4.29 transferred and added to this appropriation.

4.30 (c) Minnesota Habitat Conservation Partnership
4.31 – Phase V

4.32 \$3,150,000 is from the trust fund for the
4.33 fifth appropriation for acceleration of agency
4.34 programs and cooperative agreements. Of
4.35 this appropriation, \$250,000 is to the Board
4.36 of Water and Soil Resources; \$733,500 is

5.1 to the commissioner of natural resources
5.2 for agency programs; and \$2,166,500 is
5.3 for agreements as follows: \$420,000 with
5.4 Pheasants Forever; \$30,000 with Minnesota
5.5 Deer Hunters Association; \$597,500 with
5.6 Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; \$85,000 with
5.7 National Wild Turkey Federation; \$317,000
5.8 with the Nature Conservancy; \$210,000
5.9 with Minnesota Land Trust; \$350,000 with
5.10 the Trust for Public Land; \$50,000 with
5.11 Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
5.12 Trust, Inc.; \$30,000 with U. S. Fish and
5.13 Wildlife Service; \$30,000 with the Leech
5.14 Lake Band of Chippewa; \$27,000 with
5.15 the Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa; and
5.16 \$20,000 with Friends of Detroit Lakes
5.17 Watershed Management District to plan,
5.18 restore, and acquire fragmented landscape
5.19 corridors that connect areas of quality habitat
5.20 to sustain fish, wildlife, and plants. The
5.21 USDA-Natural Resources Conservation
5.22 Service is a cooperating partner in the
5.23 appropriation. Expenditures are limited to
5.24 the project corridor areas as defined in the
5.25 work program. Land acquired with this
5.26 appropriation must be sufficiently improved
5.27 to meet at least minimum habitat and facility
5.28 management standards as determined by
5.29 the commissioner of natural resources.
5.30 This appropriation may not be used for the
5.31 purchase of residential structures, unless
5.32 expressly approved in the work program. All
5.33 conservation easements must be perpetual
5.34 and have a natural resource management
5.35 plan. Any land acquired in fee title by the
5.36 commissioner of natural resources with

6.1 money from this appropriation must be
6.2 designated as an outdoor recreation unit
6.3 under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.07.

6.4 The commissioner may similarly designate
6.5 any lands acquired in less than fee title. A
6.6 list of proposed restorations and fee title
6.7 and easement acquisitions must be provided
6.8 as part of the required work program. All
6.9 funding for conservation easements must
6.10 include a long-term stewardship plan and
6.11 funding for monitoring and enforcing the
6.12 agreement.

6.13 (d) Preserving the Avon Hills Landscape
6.14 \$337,000 is from the trust fund to the
6.15 commissioner of natural resources for
6.16 a grant to Saint John's Arboretum and
6.17 University for community outreach, in
6.18 cooperation with the Minnesota Land Trust;
6.19 conservation easements, in cooperation
6.20 with the Minnesota Land Trust; and local
6.21 ordinance reviews and recommendations for
6.22 the Avon Hills landscape in Stearns County.

6.23 A list of proposed fee title and easement
6.24 acquisitions must be provided as part of
6.25 the required work program. All funding
6.26 for conservation easements must include a
6.27 long-term stewardship plan and appropriate
6.28 funding for monitoring. This appropriation
6.29 is available until June 30, 2011, at which
6.30 time the project must be completed and final
6.31 products delivered, unless an earlier date is
6.32 specified in the work program.

6.33 (e) Minnesota River Valley Green Corridor Land
6.34 Protection

7.1 \$1,000,000 is from the trust fund to the
7.2 commissioner of natural resources for an
7.3 agreement with the Southwest Initiative
7.4 Foundation for planning, acquisition, and
7.5 easements in the Minnesota River Valley.
7.6 The priority for acquisition must be on
7.7 lands with native prairies, unique geological
7.8 features, fens, and wetlands not currently
7.9 under a permanent protection program. A
7.10 list of proposed restorations and fee title
7.11 and easement acquisitions must be provided
7.12 as part of the required work program. All
7.13 funding for conservation easements must
7.14 include a long-term stewardship plan and
7.15 funding for monitoring and enforcing the
7.16 agreement. No more than ten percent may be
7.17 spent on planning and management.

7.18 (f) Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition

7.19 \$1,000,000 is from the trust fund to the
7.20 commissioner of natural resources for
7.21 acquisition of scientific and natural areas in
7.22 the southern two-thirds of Minnesota. A list
7.23 of proposed acquisitions must be provided as
7.24 part of the required work program.

7.25 (g) State Land Acquisition Consolidation

7.26 \$500,000 is from the trust fund to the
7.27 commissioner of natural resources to
7.28 consolidate state land ownership through
7.29 acquisition and sale to reduce forest
7.30 fragmentation and enhance management
7.31 efficiency. A list of proposed fee title and
7.32 easement acquisitions must be provided
7.33 as part of the required work program. All
7.34 funding for conservation easements must
7.35 include a long-term stewardship plan and

8.1 funding for monitoring and enforcing the
8.2 agreement. Minnesota Statutes, sections
8.3 94.16 and 94.165, apply to the proceeds
8.4 from the sale of land. For this appropriation,
8.5 the Department of Natural Resources must
8.6 establish a separate revolving account under
8.7 Minnesota Statutes, section 94.165, for the
8.8 use and accounting of trust fund money. This
8.9 appropriation is available until June 30, 2011,
8.10 at which time the project must be completed
8.11 and final products delivered, unless an earlier
8.12 date is specified in the work program.

8.13 (h) State Park and Trail Land Acquisition

8.14 \$1,500,000 is from the trust fund to the
8.15 commissioner of natural resources to acquire
8.16 land for designated state trail alignments and
8.17 in-holdings for state parks. Land acquired
8.18 with this appropriation must be sufficiently
8.19 improved to meet at least minimum
8.20 management standards as determined by the
8.21 commissioner of natural resources. A list of
8.22 proposed acquisitions must be provided as
8.23 part of the required work program.

8.24 (i) Metropolitan Regional Park System Land
8.25 Acquisition

8.26 \$1,500,000 is from the trust fund to the
8.27 Metropolitan Council for subgrants for the
8.28 acquisition of lands within the approved park
8.29 unit boundaries of the metropolitan regional
8.30 park system. This appropriation may not
8.31 be used for the purchase of residential
8.32 structures. Subdivision 11 applies to grants
8.33 awarded in the approved work program.
8.34 A list of proposed fee title and easement
8.35 acquisitions must be provided as part of

