

M.L. 2005 Projects Completed in 2015-2016

MN Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 1, Article 2, Section 11 (beginning July 1, 2005)

NOTE: If a project has been completed the Final Report has been posted under the project descriptions here. For projects still underway, contact us to obtain the most up-to-date work programs (project updates are required twice each year).

The following documents are short abstracts for projects funded during the 2006-2007 biennium. The final date of completion for these projects is listed at the end of the abstract. When available, we have provided links to a projects web site. The sites linked to this page are not created, maintained, or endorsed by the LCMR/LCCMR office or the Minnesota Legislature.

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| Subd. 06 | Recreation |
| Subd. 06m | Mesabi Trail |

Mesabi Trail

Subd. 06m \$1,000,000

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Overall Project Outcome and Results:

The Mesabi Trail Master Plan, drafted in year 1992, was a collaborative effort by the St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority and Itasca County, hereafter referred to as "Rail Authority", to develop a multi-use trail from Grand Rapids to Ely. The trail length was planned to be 132 miles long, 10-14 foot wide bituminous surface and located or aligned to emphasize the scenic, environmental, educational, and historic aspects of the region. The Master Plan identified the utilization of abandon railways, logging roads, mining roads, highways, and trails with four major trailheads built in Grand Rapids, Hibbing, Virginia, and Ely.

A trail "Citizens Advisory Group" was formed to support the Mesabi Trail whom secured 2,000 signed pledge cards and held an event on July 23, 1994 that attracted 7,000 people to a day of family activities, events, and music. The year 2005 ENRTF appropriation was used for the development and construction of several 10' wide, bituminous surfaced trail segments totaling 32 miles in length. Federal, State & Local funds were also used to construct these segments as seen within the "Results" section of this report. Funds were used on all facets of trail development including environmental, cultural resource, land acquisition, engineering and construction work.

Trail segments funded with this appropriation include trail within Vermillion State Park, 6 miles in length; and Vermillion State Park to Bearhead Road, 3.5 miles in length; and Scenic Highway 7 to

Marble, 2 miles in length; and McKinley to Biwabik, 5.5 miles in length; and Giants Ridge to Embarrass, 5 miles in length; and Eveleth to Fayal, 2.5 miles in length.

FINAL REPORT

Project completed: 01/15/2015