#### **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND APPROPRIATIONS**

#### 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 environment and natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2020" and "2021" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2020. "The second year" is fiscal year 2021. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

APPROPRIATIONS
Available for the Year
Ending June 30
2020 2021

\$8,593,000

#### Sec. 2. MINNESOTA RESOURCES

Subdivision 1.

Total Appropriation -0- \$61,387,000

The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions. Appropriations in the second year are available for three years beginning July 1, 2020, unless otherwise stated in the appropriation. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year or until the end of the appropriation.

#### Subd. 2. Definition

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

# Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information -0-

#### (a) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management

\$2,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey, to continue producing county geologic atlases to inform management of surface water and groundwater resources. This appropriation is to complete Part A, which focuses on the properties and distribution of earth materials to define aquifer boundaries and the connection of aquifers to the land surface and surface water resources.

# (b) Expanding the Minnesota Ecological Monitoring Network

\$800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to improve conservation and management of Minnesota's native forests, wetlands, and grasslands by expanding the partially established long-term Ecological Monitoring Network that will provide critical knowledge of how ecosystem dynamics and conditions change through time.

#### (c) County Groundwater Atlas

Page 1 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

\$1,125,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to continue producing county geologic atlases to inform management of surface water and groundwater resources for drinking water and other purposes. This appropriation is for Part B to characterize the potential water yields of aquifers and the aquifers' sensitivity to contamination.

#### (d) Foundational Hydrology Data for Wetland Protection and Restoration

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to improve wetland protection, management and restoration in Minnesota by completing a partially established long-term wetland hydrology monitoring network that will provide critical knowledge of wetland hydrology dynamics. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

#### (e) Voyageurs Wolf Project - Phase II

\$575,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to study summertime wolf predation on deer, moose, and other species in the Voyageurs Region to inform management of wildlife. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (f) Expanding Restoration and Promoting Awareness of Native Mussels

\$489,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota Zoological Garden to promote mussel conservation by rearing juvenile mussels for reintroduction, researching methods to improve growth and survival in captivity, and encouraging public action to benefit water quality. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

# (g) Improving Pollinator Conservation by Revealing Habitat Needs

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use citizen scientists and novel analyses to -determine the nesting and overwintering needs of wild bees to allow more specific protection and enhancement of pollinator habitat across the state.

## (h) Bee Minnesota - Protect our Native Bumblebees

\$650,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to protect native bee health by investigating the potential to mitigate against pathogens that may be transmissible between honey and wild bees and by promoting best practices to beekeepers and the public. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

#### (i) Bobcat and Fisher Habitat Use and Interactions

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to identify potential solutions to reverse the fisher population decline through better understanding of habitat, diet, and activity patterns of bobcats and fishers.

## (j) Healthy Prairies III: Restoring Minnesota Prairie Plant Diversity

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to improve Minnesota prairie resiliency by increasing locally-sourced seed availability and diversity, evaluating the use of beneficial microbes in prairie restorations, and assessing adaptation and adaptive capacity of prairie plant populations.

#### (k) Freshwater Sponges and AIS: Engaging Citizen Scientists

Page 2 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Crookston to use citizen scientists to study the geographical distribution, taxonomic diversity, and antifouling potential of freshwater sponges against aquatic invasive species.

## (I) Do Beavers Buffer Against Droughts and Floods?

\$168,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Voyageurs National Park to analyze existing data sets to determine the role of beaver populations and beaver ponds in buffering the region against droughts and floods.

# (m) Enhancing Bat Recovery by Optimizing Artificial Roost Structures

\$190,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to improve the survival of bats by identifying characteristics of successful artificial bat roost structures and optimizing the structures for bat use and reproduction. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (n) Tools for Supporting Healthy Ecosystems and Pollinators

\$198,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to create a pollination companion guide to the Department of Natural Resources' *Field Guides to Native Plant Communities* for conservation practitioners to better integrate plant-pollinator interactions into natural resource planning and decision-making.

## (o) Conserving Black Terns and Forster's Terns in Minnesota

\$198,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to assess the distribution and breeding status of Black Tern and Forster's tern and make conservation and restoration recommendations to improve the suitability of habitat for these two bird species in Minnesota.

## Subd. 4. Water Resources -0- \$3,653,000

#### (a) Unprecedented Change Threatens Minnesota's Pristine Lakes

\$600,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota to determine how, when, and why lakes in pristine areas of the state without obvious nutrient loading are experiencing algal blooms.

#### (b) Managing Highly Saline Waste from Municipal Water Treatment

\$250,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop a cost-and energy-efficient method of managing the concentrated saline waste from a municipal water treatment plant to increase the feasibility of using reverse osmosis for centralized water softening and sulfate removal. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

#### (c) Technology for Energy-Generating Onsite Industrial Wastewater Treatment

\$450,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to improve water quality and generate cost savings by developing "off the shelf" technology that treats industrial wastewater onsite and turns pollutants into hydrogen and methane for energy. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

#### (d) Microplastics: Transporters of Contaminants in Minnesota Waters

Page 3 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

\$425,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to study how several types of common microplastics transport contaminants of concern within Minnesota waters.

## (e) Developing Strategies to Manage PFAS in Land-Applied Biosolids

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency to help municipal wastewater plants, landfills, and compost facilities protect human health and the environment by developing strategies to manage per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in landapplied biosolids.

## (f) Quantifying A New Urban Precipitation and Water Reality

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to better guide storm water management by evaluating the groundwater and surface water interactions contributing to high water tables and damage to home basements and underground infrastructure in urban areas.

#### (g) Innovative Solution for Protecting Minnesota from PFAS Contamination

\$250,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Dem-Con Companies to demonstrate a new technology for protecting the state's drinking water and natural resources by eliminating per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from point source discharges. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10 related to royalties, copyrights, patents, and sale of products and assets.

### (h) Expanding Protection of Minnesota Water through Industrial Conservation

\$178,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program in partnership with Minnesota Rural Water Association to provide technical assistance to businesses to decrease industrial and commercial water use in communities at risk for inadequate ground water supply or quality.

#### Subd. 5. Technical Assistance, Outreach, and Environmental Education -0- \$2,738,000

## (a) Statewide Environmental Education via Public Television Outdoor Series

\$300,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Pioneer Public Television to produce approximately 25 new episodes of a statewide outdoor public television series designed to inspire Minnesotans to connect with the outdoors and restore and protect the environment.

#### (b) Minnesota Freshwater Quest: Environmental Education on State Waterways

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Wilderness Inquiry for approximately 10,000 underserved Minnesota youth to explore and improve local waterways using the place-based and hands-on "Minnesota Freshwater Quest" environmental education program.

#### (c) Teach Science: Schools as STEM Living Laboratories

\$250,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy to prepare students for the challenges and careers of the future by connecting new science standards, renewable energy, and STEM opportunities in teacher trainings, classroom demonstrations, and program support across the state.

Page 4 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

## (d) Mentoring the Next Generation of Conservation Professionals

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc. to provide paid internships and apprenticeships for diverse young people to learn about careers in the conservation field from United States Fish and Wildlife Service professionals while working at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District.

#### (e) Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Supplemental Teaching Staff

\$225,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Austin to expand the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center environmental education program beyond the city of Austin to students in southeastern Minnesota for three years.

## (f) 450 Underserved Youth Learn Minnesota Ecosystems by Canoe

\$375,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities to connect approximately 450 underserved and diverse teens from urban and first-ring suburbs to environmental sciences in the natural world through canoeing and learning expeditions with experienced outdoor education counselors. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (g) YES! Students Take on Water Quality Challenge Phase-II

\$199,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center to mobilize local watershed stewardship efforts in approximately 20 communities through student-driven action projects.

## (h) Engaging Minnesotans with Phenology: Radio, Podcasts, Citizen Science

\$198,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Northern Community Radio, Inc. in partnership with the Regents of the University of Minnesota to build the next generation of conservationists using phenology, radio broadcasts, podcasts, and an online, interactive map interface to inspire teachers, students and the public to get outside and experience nature.

## (i) Driving Conservation Behavior for Native Mussels and Water Quality

\$191,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota Zoological Garden to develop research-supported strategies to engage the public in specific conservation behaviors to improve water quality and native mussel health across the state.

## **Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species**

-0- \$10,425,000

#### (a) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center (MITPPC) Phase 5

\$5,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to support the Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center to fund approximately 15 new, high-priority research projects that will lead to better management of invasive plants, pathogens, and pests on Minnesota's natural and agricultural lands. This appropriation is subject to

Page 5 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (b) Protect Community Forests by Managing Ash for Emerald Ash Borer

\$3,500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to reduce emerald ash borer by providing surveys, assessments, trainings, assistance, and grants for communities to manage emerald ash borer, plant a diversity of trees, and engage citizens in community forestry activities. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (c) White Nose Bat Syndrome Biological Control: Phase 3

\$440,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to continue assessment and development of a biocontrol agent for white nose syndrome in bats.

## (d) Applying New Tools and Techniques Against Invasive Carp

\$478,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to apply new monitoring, outreach, and removal techniques and to continue work with commercial anglers to protect Minnesota waters from invasive carps.

#### (e) Emerald Ash Borer and Black Ash: Maintaining Forests and Benefits

\$700,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to use ongoing experiments to determine statewide long-term emerald ash borer impacts on water, vegetation, and wildlife; optimal replacement species and practices for forest diversification; and develop criteria for prioritizing mitigation activities. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

#### (f) Testing Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species Removal Methods

\$110,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to test how well boat cleaning methods work, provide the Department of Natural Resources with a risk assessment, and provide recommendations for improving boat launch cleaning stations to prevent aquatic invasive species spread.

## (g) Invasive Didymosphenia Threatens North Shore Streams

\$197,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota to evaluate the recent spread, origin, cause, and economic and ecological threat of didymo formation in North Shore streams and Lake Superior to inform management and outreach.

# Subd. 7. Air Quality and Renewable Energy

-0- \$573,000

# (a) Storing Renewable Energy in Flow-Battery for Grid Use

\$250,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota on behalf of the Morris campus, to analyze the potential of adding a flow battery and solar energy generation to the University of Minnesota Morris's existing renewable-energy-intensive microgrid.

## (b) Eco-Friendly Plastics from Cloquet Pulp-Mill Lignin

\$193,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to reduce environmental pollution from plastics by creating eco-friendly replacements using lignin from

Page 6 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

the pulp mill in Cloquet, Minnesota. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

## (c) Diverting Unsold Food from Landfills and Reducing Greenhouse Gases

\$130,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Second Harvest Heartland to prevent food from going to landfills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping businesses donate unsold prepared food to food shelves.

## Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat -0- \$4,219,000

### (a) Pollinator Central: Habitat Improvement with Citizen Monitoring

\$750,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Great River Greening to restore and enhance approximately 400 acres of pollinator habitat on traditional and nontraditional sites such as roadsides and turf grass from Hastings to St. Cloud to benefit pollinators and build knowledge through engaging approximately 100 citizens in monitoring the impact of habitat improvements. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

#### (b) Pollinator & Beneficial Insect Strategic Habitat Program

\$750,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for building a new initiative to strategically restore and enhance approximately 1,000 acres of diverse native habitat to benefit multiple insects through grants, cost- share, and outreach. Notwithstanding subdivision 14, paragraph (e), restorations and enhancements may take place on land enrolled in Conservation Reserve Program and Reinvest in Minnesota easement programs. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (c) Lignin-coated Fertilizers for Phosphate Control

\$250,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to test a new natural slow-release fertilizer coating made from processed wood to decrease phosphorus runoff from farmland while also storing carbon in soils. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

#### (d) Implementing Hemp Crop Rotation to Improve Water Quality

\$700,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System for Central Lakes College to evaluate how hemp crops reduce nitrogen contamination of surface and groundwater in conventional crop rotations and demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of hemp production. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

#### (e) Developing Cover Crop Systems for Sugar Beet Production

\$300,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop agronomic guidelines to support growers adopting cover crop practices in sugar beet production in West-Central and Northwest Minnesota.

# (f) Native Eastern Larch Beetle is Decimating Minnesota's Tamarack Forests

\$398,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to understand conditions triggering eastern larch beetle outbreaks and develop management

Page 7 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

techniques to protect tamarack forests from this native insect. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (g) Habitat Associations of Mississippi Bottomland Forest Marsh Birds

\$275,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the National Audubon Society, Minnesota office, to evaluate habitat associations of bottomland forest birds in response to restoration actions to better target restoration efforts for wildlife. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (h) Peatland Restoration in the Lost River State Forest

\$135,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Roseau River Watershed District to collect physical attribute data from drained peatlands, incorporate the data into a decision matrix, and generate a report detailing peatland restoration potential throughout the Lost River State Forest.

#### (i) Prescribed Burning for Brushland-Dependent Species-Phase II

\$147,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to compare the effects of spring, summer and fall burns on birds and vegetation and provide guidelines for maintaining healthy brushland habitat for a diversity of wildlife and plant species.

# (j) Pollinator Habitat Creation Along the Urban Mississippi River

\$129,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Friends of the Mississippi River to remove invasive plants and replace them with high-value native species at three urban sites along the Mississippi River to improve habitat for pollinators and other wildlife. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2025, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (k) Increase Golden Shiner Production to Protect Aquatic Communities

\$188,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Minnesota Sea Grant in Duluth to identify and demonstrate best methods for in-state production of golden shiners to address angler demand while reducing the risk of introduction and spread of invasive species and to communicate findings through reports, manuals and workshops. Production of shiners in this project must not take place in wetlands.

## (I) Restoring Turf to Native Pollinator Gardens Across Metro

\$197,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Wilderness in the City to transition turf to native gardens for pollinator habitat, establish long-term volunteer stewardship networks, and help connect diverse populations with nature throughout the metropolitan regional park system. A letter of commitment from the respective regional park implementing agency must be provided before money from this appropriation is spent at a regional park within its jurisdiction.

#### Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation

-0- \$29,551,000

# (a) DNR Scientific and Natural Areas

\$3,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to the scientific and natural areas (SNA) program to restore, improve, and enhance habitat on SNAs, increase

Page 8 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

public involvement and outreach, and strategically acquire high-quality lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from willing sellers.

## (b) Private Native Prairie Conservation through Native Prairie Bank

\$2,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide technical stewardship assistance to private landowners, restore and enhance native prairie protected by easements in the native prairie bank, and acquire easements for the native prairie bank in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, including preparing initial baseline property assessments. Up to \$60,000 of this appropriation may be deposited in the natural resources conservation easement stewardship account, created in Minnesota Statutes, section 84.69, proportional to the number of easement acres acquired.

## (c) Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings

\$3,500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire high-priority in-holdings from willing sellers within the legislatively authorized boundaries of state parks, recreation areas, and trails to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreation, and promote tourism.

#### (d) Grants for Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas

\$2,400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is for local nature-based recreation and connections to regional and state natural areas and recreation facilities and may not be used for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

#### (e) Mississippi River Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Mussel Reintroduction

\$1,800,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources. Of this amount, \$1,567,000 is for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and \$233,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources to restore lost habitat and reintroduce mussels in the Mississippi River above St. Anthony Falls. This work includes creating habitat and species restoration plans, implementing the restoration plans, and monitoring effectiveness of the restoration for multiple years after implementation. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2026, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

## (f) Minnesota Hunter Walking Trails: Public Land Recreational Access

\$300,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Ruffed Grouse Society to improve Minnesota's hunter walking trail system by restoring or upgrading trailheads and trails, developing new walking trails, and compiling enhanced maps for use by managers and the public.

# (g) Turning Back to Rivers: Environmental and Recreational Protection

\$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with The Trust for Public Land to help local communities acquire priority land along the Mississippi, St. Croix, and Minnesota Rivers and their tributaries to protect natural resources, provide buffers for flooding, and improve access for recreation.

#### (h) Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition Phase 6

Page 9 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

\$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants to acquire land within the approved park boundaries of the metropolitan regional park system. This appropriation must be matched by at least 40 percent of non-state money.

## (i) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$994,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand high-priority recreational opportunities on Minnesota's state trails by rehabilitating, improving, and enhancing existing state trails. The high-priority trail bridges to be rehabilitated or replaced under this appropriation include, but are not limited to, those on the Taconite, Great River Ridge, and CJ. Ramstad/North Shore State Trails.

## (j) Elm Creek Restoration Phase IV

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Champlin to conduct habitat and stream restoration of approximately 0.7 miles of Elm Creek shoreline above Mill Pond Lakes and through the Elm Creek Protection Area.

#### (k) Superior Hiking Trail as Environmental Showcase

\$450,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to rebuild damaged and dangerous segments and create a new trail segment of the Superior Hiking Trail to minimize environmental impacts, make the trail safer for users, and make the trail more resilient for future use and conditions.

## (I) Acquire Riverfront Land at Upper St. Anthony Falls

[LANGUAGE IS PENDING]

## (m) Whiskey Creek and Mississippi River Water Quality, Habitat, and Recreation

\$500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Mississippi Headwaters Board for acquisition and transfer of approximately 13 acres of land to the City of Baxter for future construction of water quality, habitat, and recreational improvements to protect the Mississippi River.

#### (n) Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (West Segment)

\$2,600,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Otter Tail County to construct the West Segment of the 32-mile Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail that will connect the city of Pelican Rapids to Maplewood State Park.

## (o) Crow Wing County Community Natural Area Acquisition

\$400,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Crow Wing County to acquire approximately 65 acres of land adjacent to the historic fire tower property to allow for diverse recreational opportunities while protecting wildlife habitat and preventing forest fragmentation. Any revenue generated from sale of products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

#### (p) Rocori Trail Phase 3

\$1,200,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Rocori Trail Construction Board to design and construct Phase 3 of the Rocori Trail along the old Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail corridor between the cities of Cold Spring and Rockville.

Page 10 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

#### (q) Mesabi Trail: New Trail and Additional Funding

[LANGUAGE IS PENDING]

## (r) Ranier Safe Harbor and Transient Dock on Rainy Lake

\$762,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Ranier to construct a dock to accommodate boats 26 feet or longer with the goal of increasing public access for boat recreation on Rainy Lake. Any revenue generated from sale of products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

# (s) Crane Lake Voyageurs National Park Campground and Visitors Center

\$3,100,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Town of Crane Lake to design and construct a new campground and to plan and preliminarily prepare a site for construction of a new Voyageurs National Park visitor center on land acquired for these purposes in Crane Lake. Any revenue generated from sale of products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

#### (t) Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation and Education

\$160,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Chippewa County to acquire wetland and floodplain forest and abandoned gravel pits along the Minnesota River to provide water filtration, education and recreational opportunities.

## (u) Sportsmen's Training and Developmental Learning Center

\$85,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minnesota Forest Zone Trappers Association to complete a site evaluation and master plan for the Sportsman's Training and Developmental Learning Center near Hibbing. Any revenue generated from sale of products or assets developed or acquired with this appropriation must be repaid to the trust fund unless a plan is approved for reinvestment of income in the project as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

## Subd. 10. Administration and Contract Agreement Reimbursement -0- \$135,000

## (a) Contract Agreement Reimbursement

\$135,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources, at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, for expenses incurred for preparing and administering contracts for the agreements specified in this section. The commissioner must provide documentation to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources on the expenditure of these funds.

#### Subd. 11. Wastewater Treatment Recommendations -0- \$1,500,000

#### (a) Water Infrastructure Grants

\$1,500,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the Public Facilities Authority for grants to home rule and statutory cities and towns with a population under 5,000 for projects in the water

Page 11 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

infrastructure funding program under Minnesota Statutes, section 446A.072 and the point source implementation program under Minnesota Statutes, section 446A.073.

## Subd. 12. Availability of Appropriations

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 work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. 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. Costs that are directly related to and necessary for an appropriation, including financial services, human resources, information services, rent, and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can be clearly justified and individually documented specific to the appropriation's purpose and would not be generated by the recipient but for receipt of the appropriation. No broad allocations for costs in either dollars or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2023, when projects must be completed and final products delivered. For acquisition of real property, the appropriations in this section are available for an additional fiscal year if a binding contract for acquisition of the real property is entered into before the expiration date of the appropriation. If a project receives a federal grant, the time period of the appropriation is extended to equal the federal grant period.

#### **Subd. 13. Data Availability Requirements**

Data collected by the projects funded under this section must conform to guidelines and standards adopted by MN.IT Services. Spatial data must also conform to additional guidelines and standards designed to support data coordination and distribution that have been published by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. Descriptions of spatial data must be prepared as specified in the state's geographic metadata guideline and must be submitted to the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. All data must be accessible and free to the public unless made private under the Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the extent practicable, summary data and results of projects funded under this section should be readily accessible on the Internet and identified as having received funding from the environment and natural resources trust fund.

#### **Subd. 14. Project Requirements**

- (a) As a condition of accepting an appropriation under this section, an agency or entity receiving an appropriation or a party to an agreement from an appropriation must comply with paragraphs (b) to (I) and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the amendment process established by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.
- (b) A recipient of money appropriated in this section that conducts a restoration using funds appropriated in this section must use native plant species according to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines and include an appropriate

Page 12 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

diversity of native species selected to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the growing season as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.973.

- (c) For all restorations conducted with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan that, to the degree practicable, is consistent with the highest-quality conservation and ecological goals for the restoration site. Consideration should be given to soil, geology, topography, and other relevant factors that would provide the best chance for long-term success and durability of the restoration project. The plan must include the proposed timetable for implementing the restoration, including site preparation, establishment of diverse plant species, maintenance, and additional enhancement to establish the restoration; identify long-term maintenance and management needs of the restoration and how the maintenance, management, and enhancement will be financed; and take advantage of the best-available science and include innovative techniques to achieve the best restoration.
- (d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this section for restoration activities must provide an initial restoration evaluation at the completion of the appropriation and an evaluation three years after the completion of the expenditure. Restorations must be evaluated relative to the stated goals and standards in the restoration plan, current science, and, when applicable, the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines. The evaluation must determine whether the restorations are meeting planned goals, identify any problems with implementing the restorations, and, if necessary, give recommendations on improving restorations. The evaluation must be focused on improving future restorations.
- (e) All restoration and enhancement projects funded with money appropriated in this section must be on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.
- (f) A recipient of money from an appropriation under this section must give consideration to contracting with Conservation Corps Minnesota for contract restoration and enhancement services.
- (g) All conservation easements acquired with money appropriated under this section must:
- (1) be permanent;
- (2) specify the parties to an easement in the easement;
- (3) specify all of the provisions of an agreement that are permanent;
- (4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources in an electronic format at least ten business days before closing;
- (5) include a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan and funding for monitoring and enforcing the easement agreement; and
- (6) include requirements in the easement document to protect the quantity and quality of groundwater and surface water through specific activities such as keeping water on the landscape, reducing nutrient and contaminant loading, and not permitting artificial hydrological modifications.

Page 13 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

- (h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in lands, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must not agree to pay more than 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel of land using this money to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, except that up to ten percent above the appraised value may be allowed to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, using this money if permission is received in advance of the purchase from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.
- (i) For any acquisition of land or interest in land, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must give priority to high-quality natural resources or conservation lands that provide natural buffers to water resources.
- (j) For new lands acquired with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan in compliance with paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for implementation unless the work plan addresses why a portion of the money is not necessary to achieve a high-quality restoration.
- (k) To ensure public accountability for using public funds, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must, within 60 days of the transaction, provide to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources documentation of the selection process used to identify parcels acquired and provide documentation of all related transaction costs, including but not limited to appraisals, legal fees, recording fees, commissions, other similar costs, and donations. This information must be provided for all parties involved in the transaction. The recipient must also report to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources any difference between the acquisition amount paid to the seller and the state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal was conducted.
- (I) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section must acknowledge financial support from the environment and natural resources trust fund in project publications, signage, and other public communications and outreach related to work completed using the appropriation. Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate, through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion of language attributing support from the trust fund. Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section, as well as each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section, must satisfy all reporting and other requirements incumbent upon constitutionally dedicated funding recipients as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10, and chapter 116P.

## **Subd. 15. Payment Conditions and Capital-Equipment Expenditures**

- (a) All agreements, grants, or contracts 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 made on or after July 1, 2020, or the date the work plan is approved, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. Periodic payments must be made upon receiving documentation that the deliverable items articulated in the approved work plan have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by approved progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash-flow needs or match federal money. The advances must be approved as part of the work plan. No expenditures for capital equipment are allowed unless expressly authorized in the project work plan.
- (b) Single-source contracts as specified in the approved work plan are allowed.

Page 14 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

## Subd. 16. Purchasing Recycled and Recyclable Materials

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

## Subd. 17. Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Guidelines

A recipient to whom an appropriation is made under this section for a capital improvement project must ensure that the project complies with the applicable energy conservation and sustainable building guidelines and standards contained in law, including Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.325, 216C.19, and 216C.20, and rules adopted under those sections. The recipient may use the energy planning, advocacy, and State Energy Office units of the Department of Commerce to obtain information and technical assistance on energy conservation and alternative-energy development relating to planning and constructing the capital improvement project.

## Subd. 18. Accessibility

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

## Subd. 19. Carryforward; Extension

- (a) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2021:
- (1) Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 7, paragraph (e), Geotargeted Distributed Clean Energy Initiative;
- (2) Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (a), Optimizing the Nutrition of Roadside Plants for Pollinators;
- (3) Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (f), Prescribed-Fire Management for Roadside Prairies;
- (4) Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (h), Mississippi and Vermillion Rivers Restoration of Prairie, Savanna, and Forest Habitat Phase X;
- (5) Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (e), Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition, as amended by Laws 2019, first special Session, chapter 4, Article 2, Section 4, Subddivision 9, paragraph (e); and
- (6) Laws 2018, Chapter 214, Article 4, Section 2, Subdivision 5, paragraph (j), Expanding the State's Reuse Economy to Conserve Natural Resources.
- (b) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2022:

Page 15 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT

- (1) Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, Subdivision 8, paragraph (k), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Outreach and Implementation; and
- (2) Laws 2017, chapter 96, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph (h), Tower Trailhead Boat Landing and Habitat Improvement Phase II.
- (c) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects is extended to June 30, 2023:
- (1) Laws 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 08f, Lawns to Legumes; and
- (2) Laws 2018, Chp. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 10, Emerging Issues Account.
- (d) The availability of the appropriation under Laws 2018, Chapter 214, Article 4, Section 2, Subdivision 4, paragraph (I), Lake Agnes Treatment, is extended to June 30, 2024.

Page 16 of 16 Agenda Item: 11 - DRAFT