

HF3898 - 0 - Pesticide Provis. to Protect Wild-Rice Water Est.

Chief Author: **Alex Falconer**
 Committee: **Agriculture Finance And Policy**
 Date Completed: **3/23/2026 12:23:04 PM**
 Lead Agency: **Agriculture Dept**
 Other Agencies:
 Indian Affairs Council Minnesota State
 University Of Minnesota

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings) Dollars in Thousands	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Agriculture Dept					
General Fund	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053
State Total					
General Fund	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053
	Total	-	1,279	1,103	1,053
	Biennial Total		1,279		2,156

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Agriculture Dept					
General Fund	-	-	3.2	5.2	5.2
	Total	-	3.2	5.2	5.2

Lead LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Jordan Peoples **Date:** 3/23/2026 12:23:04 PM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

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Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Agriculture Dept						
General Fund	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053	
Total	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053	
	Biennial Total		1,279		2,156	
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Agriculture Dept						
General Fund	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053	
Total	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053	
	Biennial Total		1,279		2,156	
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Agriculture Dept						
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total		-		-	-

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 Agency: **Agriculture Dept**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings) Dollars in Thousands	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053
Total	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053
Biennial Total			1,279		2,156

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	-	3.2	5.2	5.2
Total	-	-	3.2	5.2	5.2

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053	
Total		-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053
Biennial Total				1,279		2,156
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
General Fund	-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053	
Total		-	-	1,279	1,103	1,053
Biennial Total				1,279		2,156
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

This bill modifies Minn. Stat. 18B to address the protection of the environment from harmful exposure to pesticides and to specifically protect wild rice waters.

This bill adds a definition for wild rice waters to the Minnesota Stat. 18B.

This bill adds language for taking enforcement actions on violations that affect wild rice waters.

This bill requires wild rice waters to be included in the assessments of the impacts of pesticides on the environment. In addition, this bill adds the requirement to assess the immediate and biocumulative impacts of pesticides on the environment and expands monitoring requirements beyond water resources to include sediment and soil. It also adds Minnesota Tribal governments to the list of agencies and governments that should be cooperated with to protect wild rice waters.

This bill adds language that allows the commissioner to assemble a group to consult with on the pollution of wild rice waters and adds Minnesota Tribal governments to the list of groups that may be included in that consultation.

This bill adds wild rice waters to the pesticide management plan and requires coordination with the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council as well as Minnesota Tribal governments. In addition, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council must receive a status report by September of even years.

This bill requires educational and training programs to address pesticide concerns for the protection of wild rice waters and to add the Minnesota Tribal governments to the educational planning committees. In addition, this bill adds the Tribal colleges to the list of educational institutions that must be consulted with when revising and updating pesticide applicator training manuals and examinations.

Assumptions

The MDA assumes the wild rice waters map which identifies wild rice waters is updated regularly by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency or Department of Natural Resources for use in efforts laid out in this bill.

The MDA assumes bioaccumulation, for the purposes of this bill, refers to the accumulation of pesticides in sediment, soil, surface water, groundwater, and wild rice waters through which living organisms may be exposed.

The MDA assumes “biocumulative impacts on sediment, soil, surface water, and groundwater, including wild-rice water,” for purposes of this bill, refers to the impacts of pesticides that may accumulate in these environments on the living organisms that inhabit them.

The MDA lab assumes it will need additional equipment to analyze soil and sediment samples.

The MDA assumes the department does not have jurisdiction over the wild rice waters located within Indian Country. The MDA cannot enforce, inspect, or ensure any compliance with state law within Indian Country, nor would the MDA be able to assist tribal governments with investigations or inspections within Indian Country.

The MDA assumes the current Pesticide Management Plan and the current water monitoring efforts address wild rice waters. The Pesticide Management Plan Committee already includes a Tribal representative seat. The MDA has been monitoring pesticides in waters, including rivers, lakes and wetlands, around the state since 1991. The MDA has analyzed samples for pesticides from 58 river locations, 150 lake locations, and 12 wetland locations from watersheds that contain a lake(s) that is designated as being a wild rice lake. The MDA does not anticipate a fiscal impact related to groundwater or surface water monitoring from this action.

The MDA assumes it will need to evaluate bioaccumulative and cumulative effects of all pesticides monitored. The MDA assumes benchmarks for sediment and soil will need to be developed and will rely on the MPCA and US EPA to develop benchmarks. Reviews and updates of effects will be on-going and dependent on additional analytes added to the monitoring program as well as updated information from the US EPA.

The MDA conducts pesticide misuse investigations, which may include wild rice waters, and assumes this process is sufficient to cover the requirements of this bill. Any penalties resulting from misuse is deposited in the pesticide regulatory account. The MDA does not have the authority to investigate pesticide misuse complaints on wild rice waters located on the Tribal lands.

MDA assumes that the current education and training provided through recertification workshops for pesticide applicators not only covers, but exceeds, the topics listed under Minnesota Statute 18B.305 Subdivision 1. Currently, MDA works in collaboration with one of the Minnesota tribes as they use MDA’s certification plan on their tribal land. MDA shall coordinate with Minnesota Tribal Governments to include subject-matter experts from tribes wherever needed to gather their feedback on applicator training and/or on the revision or development of study materials on relevant pesticide application categories listed in MDA’s certification plan. The language in this bill requires consultation with Tribal colleges on education and training, including the revision/creation of study materials or exams, should be limited to the relevant pesticide application categories and should suggest changing the language to consultation with “Tribal colleges as needed”.

MDA assumes the additional requirement of education and training on the protection of wild rice waters will require revision of manuals and exams in coordination with University of Minnesota Extension, Minnesota State and Universities system and other educational institutions along with other Minnesota Tribal governments. . MDA needs this funding to incorporate additional verbiage on the language on wild rice waters into MDA’s current pesticide application category manuals and exams. On average, revising a pesticide application category manual costs MDA approximately \$50,000. The manual revision process is very rigorous and requires MDA to issue a contract to identify a qualified bidder through the RFP process who can work with subject-matter experts to update the manual. It typically takes approximately 1 to 1.5 years to revise a single manual.

We anticipate that this language will need to be added to at least 8 of the 18 pesticide application categories which will cost \$400, 000 total.

This includes but may not be limited to the categories below::

- A Core,
- B General Aerial,
- C Field Crops Pest Management,
- E Turf and Ornamentals,
- F Aquatics,
- J Natural Areas, Forestry, and Rights-of-Way,
- L Mosquitoes, Black Fly, and Ticks, and
- P Vertebrate Pest Control

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Approximately 300 sediment and/or soil samples, including quality assurance/quality control samples, will be collected from all regions of Minnesota, and wild rice waters will be targeted for sample collection. Samples will be collected by a team of 2 additional MDA staff from late summer through early fall. The MDA will need to purchase \$30,000 of equipment for monitoring in FY27 (boat/trailer and samplers) and would require \$6,000 for supplies for sample collection annually (300 samples x \$20 per sample collection kit) beginning in FY28.

The expansion of pesticide monitoring to include sediment and soil will require the MDA lab to purchase a laboratory instrument, additional digital storage for the data generated from the new instrument, and TraceFinder data processing software. Additionally, the MDA lab needs two additional laboratory FTEs to develop the method, analyze the samples and order supplies, and funds to cover associated monthly MN.IT costs, equipment, and other consumables (FY27). The samples will be analyzed for a suite of pesticides including, but not limited to, herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and breakdown products. These funds would establish a base capacity of approximately 300 samples per year beginning in FY28. If sample numbers exceed this capacity, additional funds would be needed. The expansion of sediment and soil monitoring for pesticides cannot be conducted with current laboratory equipment and staffing.

The MDA will need an additional staff person to conduct bioaccumulation and accumulation assessments for all pesticides monitored. Reviews and updates of effects will be on-going and dependent on additional analytes added to the monitoring program as well as updated information from the US EPA.

The Department will need 3.2 FTEs in FY27 and 5.2 FTEs beginning in FY28.

- 1 FTE Laboratory Scientist 3 and 1 FTE Laboratory Scientist 2 to analyze samples
- 0.1 FTE for laboratory operations staff to handle increased samples
- 1 FTE Research Scientist 2 to evaluate bioaccumulation in the environment
- 0.1 FTE SPA Senior to review training and exam materials.
- 2 FTE Hydrologist 2 to plan, collect samples and report findings (beginning in FY28)

The financial cost of revising manuals and exams content of the relevant categories listed in MDA's certification plan will span from FY27 to FY29 to complete and the details are as follows:

- Cost for revision of manuals/exams: \$400,000,
- Staff time: Licensing recertification project manager, will spend 10% (0.10 FTE) of their time to revise study materials/exams/training content.

Expense Descriptions	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	Total
	Dollars (Thousands)	Dollars (Thousands)	Dollars (Thousands)	Dollars (Thousands)	Dollars (Thousands)
Equipment (E120)	0	550	0	0	550
Salary (2.1 FTE): 1FTE Lab Scientist 3, 1FTE Lab Scientist 2, 0.1 FTE Lab Oper. Staff	0	300	300	300	900
MN.IT/Software License	0	18	0	0	18
Supplies	0	25	25	25	75
Communication (freight)	0	1	1	1	3
MN.IT	0	0	4	4	8

Service Contracts	0	0	50	50	100
Hydrologist 2 Salary (2 FTE) Salary/Fringe	0	0	362	362	724
Equipment / Supplies	0	30	6	6	42
Pesticide Technical Unit					
Research Scientist 2 Salary (1 FTE) Salary/Fringe	0	143	143	143	429
SPA Senior (0.1 FTE) Salary/Fringe	0	12	12	12	36
Professional Technical Contract	0	50	50	50	150
Exam/Manual Revisions	0	150	150	100	400
Project Total	0	1,279	1,103	1,053	3,435

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

N/A

Local Fiscal Impact

N/A

References/Sources

N/A

Agency Contact: Joshua Stamper, 651-201-6639

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Chief Author: **Alex Falconer**
 Committee: **Agriculture Finance And Policy**
 Date Completed: **3/23/2026 12:23:04 PM**
 Agency: **Indian Affairs Council**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

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State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium		
	Dollars in Thousands	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-			-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Adam Bolling **Date:** 3/9/2026 2:59:31 PM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-			-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-			-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-			-

Bill Description

A bill to regulate wild rice waters.

Assumptions

This legislation aligns with the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council’s statutory duties under Minn. Stat. 3.922, Subd. 6(6), which requires MIAC to “assist state agencies in implementing and updating studies of services delivered to the federally recognized tribes in Minnesota and urban Indian communities.” Because MIAC is already required to assist in reviews, coordination, and technical services this legislation would have no financial impact on the agency.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Local Fiscal Impact

References/Sources

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Fiscal Note

2025-2026 Legislative Session

HF3898 - 0 - Pesticide Provis. to Protect Wild-Rice Water Est.

Chief Author: **Alex Falconer**
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 Agency: **Minnesota State**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

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State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium		
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Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-			-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium		
	Dollars in Thousands	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Kate Schiller **Date:** 3/15/2026 12:20:06 PM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-

Bill Description

This bill modifies pesticide provisions to protect wild-rice waters. Protection of wild-rice waters would be an additional consideration for Minnesota State Colleges and Universities when consulting with the Commissioner of Agriculture on pesticide educational and training programs.

Assumptions

Minnesota State already provides consultation on pesticide programs as needed. Adding this consideration would not cause significant increases to current efforts or costs.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Local Fiscal Impact

References/Sources

Agency Contact: Steve Ernest (651-201-1710)

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Chief Author: **Alex Falconer**
 Committee: **Agriculture Finance And Policy**
 Date Completed: **3/23/2026 12:23:04 PM**
 Agency: **University Of Minnesota**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

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	Dollars in Thousands	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-			-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium		
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Adam Bolling **Date:** 3/23/2026 12:18:08 PM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
	Total	-	-	-	-	-
	Biennial Total			-		-

Bill Description

The bill provides modifications to include wild-rice waters in pesticide education and training.

Assumptions

The new requirement of education and training on the protection of wild rice waters will be part of Extension’s existing work to update pesticide applicator training manuals and examinations. The Department of Agriculture will be responsible for new costs including the update of manuals and exams.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Local Fiscal Impact

References/Sources

Whitney Place, Director of Government Relations and Agriculture Outreach. University of Minnesota Extension

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