To: Representative Rick Hansen, Chair , House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division Re: HF 4498 - Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Scientific and Natural Areas Program (Page 19, lines 19.16 to 19.27; and pages 37- 38 lines, 37.30 to 38.19

Dear Representative Hansen and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of the funding for the Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA) Program included in HF 4498, page 19, lines 19.16 to 19.37; and pages 37-39, lines 37.30 to 38.19.

This bill provides essential funding needed to acquire and restore natural landscapes – landscapes that harbor important examples of Minnesota's plant and animal life. This funding is in keeping with Minnesota Statute 86A.05, Subd. 5 which tells us the Scientific and Natural Areas were established to "… to protect and perpetuate in an undisturbed natural state those natural features which possess exceptional scientific or educational value."

I appreciate your consideration of this funding. Thank you!

Sincerely, John Pearson Jpearson.mn@gmail.com 1760 Stanford Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55105