

Subject Roadside vegetation management

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Overview

This bill establishes a highways for habitat program and makes appropriations for the program as well as living snow fences.

Summary

Section Description

- 1 **[Adds § 160.2325] Highways for habitat program.**

Provides for creation of a highways for habitat program. Identifies program requirements and requires standards for roadside vegetation management.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines terms.

Subd. 2. Program established. Directs the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to establish a highways for habitat program.

Subd. 3. General requirements. Identifies activities to be included under the program, including identification of highway right-of-way to implement integrated roadside vegetation management and provide training on vegetation management practices.

Subd. 4. Management standards. Directs MnDOT to develop integrated roadside vegetation management standards and practices. Specifies elements for the standards.
- 2 **Appropriation; highway for habitat.**

Appropriates \$1 million from the general fund in FY 2024 to MnDOT for the highways for habitat program.
- 3 **Appropriations; living snow fences.**

Makes the following appropriations for MnDOT to expand implementation of living snow fences along trunk highway right-of-way:

Section	Description
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- \$2 million onetime from the general fund in FY 2024; and
- \$330,000 per year for FY 2024-25 from the trunk highway fund for ongoing costs, with an annual base increase of \$330,000 for FY 2026-27 and after.



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