

February 24, 2024

**Re: Support of SF 3507/HF 3377 – Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund Appropriations**

Dear Members of the Committee:

Environmental organizations across the state are dedicated to protecting the people and the places Minnesotans love. The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund has helped to further this mission, providing over \$900 million in innovative funding for natural resource management projects. We are proud to support the ENRTF Appropriations Bill, which continues this special tradition of stewardship that the ENRTF offers to Minnesota

The Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund benefits current citizens and future generations by providing long-term, consistent, and stable funding for projects to protect, conserve, and enhance Minnesota’s “air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources,” and has provided funding to nearly 1,800 projects across the state of Minnesota since 1991.

We appreciate and acknowledge the extensive vetting done by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota’s Natural Resources. The breadth of projects in SF 3507/HF 3377 is critical to protecting and enhancing Minnesota’s environment and natural resources. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Audubon Upper Mississippi River

Friends of the Mississippi River

Austin Audubon Society

Wild Rivers Conservancy

Brainerd Lakes Area Audubon Society

Ducks Unlimited

Central Minnesota Audubon Chapter

The Minnesota Land Trust

Minnesota River Valley Audubon Society

Great River Greening

Prairie Lakes Audubon Society

The Initiative Foundation

Mississippi Headwaters Audubon Society

The Nature Conservancy

St. Paul Audubon Society

Rainbow Research

Wild River Audubon Society

MN Conservation Federation

Zumbro Valley Audubon Society

Public Policy Project – Environmental Justice Coordinating Council

Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy