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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3426

- 02/17/2026 Authored by Jordan; Hansen, R., and Repinski
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy
- 04/20/2026 Adoption of Report: Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
- 04/27/2026 Adoption of Report: Placed on the General Register
Read for the Second Time
- 04/30/2026 Calendar for the Day
Read for the Third Time
- 05/12/2026 Passed by the House and transmitted to the Senate
Passed by the Senate as Amended and returned to the House
Refused to concur and a Conference Committee was appointed

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to natural resources; appropriating money from environment and natural

1.3 resources trust fund; extending certain prior appropriations; modifying provisions

1.4 on expenditures from environment and natural resources trust fund; modifying

1.5 requirements for community grants program; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024,

1.6 sections 116P.08, subdivision 4, by adding a subdivision; 116P.09, subdivision 6;

1.7 116X.03, by adding subdivisions.

1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.9 Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS.

1.10 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies

1.11 and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the environment and

1.12 natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years

1.13 indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this act mean that the

1.14 appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or

1.15 June 30, 2027, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year" is fiscal

1.16 year 2027. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

1.17	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	
1.18	<u>Available for the Year</u>	
1.19	<u>Ending June 30</u>	
1.20	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>

1.21 Sec. 2. MINNESOTA RESOURCES.

1.22	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>102,036,000</u>
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1.23 This appropriation is from the environment

1.24 and natural resources trust fund. The amounts

2.1 that may be spent for each purpose are
2.2 specified in the following subdivisions.

2.3 **Subd. 2. Definition**

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

2.8 **Subd. 3. Resiliency**

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10,641,000

2.9 **(a) Community Resiliency through**
2.10 **AmeriCorps**

2.11 \$3,312,000 the second year is from the trust
2.12 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
2.13 for an agreement with ServeMinnesota to
2.14 conduct environmental and natural resource
2.15 management; outdoor recreation; and
2.16 improvement, enhancement, or rehabilitation
2.17 projects and to build community resiliency
2.18 and capacity by recruiting, training, and
2.19 deploying AmeriCorps members to local and
2.20 Tribal agencies and nonprofit organizations.

2.21 **(b) Preparing Resilient Communities with**
2.22 **Model Land Use Ordinances**

2.23 \$468,000 the second year is from the trust
2.24 fund to the commissioner of the Pollution
2.25 Control Agency to:

2.26 (1) develop and improve Minnesota-specific
2.27 model land-use ordinances for sustainable and
2.28 resilient development that help protect,
2.29 conserve, preserve, and enhance the
2.30 environment and natural resources; and

2.31 (2) work with local communities to adopt and
2.32 apply the model ordinances to their needs and
2.33 priorities.

3.1 **(c) Resilient and Biodiverse Community**

3.2 **Spaces**

3.3 \$612,000 the second year is from the trust
3.4 fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources
3.5 to partner with Great River Greening,
3.6 Audubon Upper Mississippi River, and Metro
3.7 Blooms to develop a planning guide,
3.8 implement case studies, and provide technical
3.9 assistance that helps local communities plan
3.10 and create climate-resilient and biodiverse
3.11 community spaces.

3.12 **(d) Northwoods and Waters Community**

3.13 **Resilience Collaborative**

3.14 \$1,220,000 the second year is from the trust
3.15 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
3.16 for an agreement with the Arrowhead Regional
3.17 Development Commission, in partnership with
3.18 the Headwaters Regional Development
3.19 Commission and the Minnesota Climate
3.20 Adaptation Partnership at the University of
3.21 Minnesota, to work with and provide technical
3.22 assistance to northeast and central Minnesota
3.23 counties, Tribal Nations, and agencies to
3.24 develop a regional climate resilience plan.

3.25 **(e) Protect Community Forests for**

3.26 **Community Resiliency**

3.27 \$2,603,000 the second year is from the trust
3.28 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
3.29 to reduce emerald ash borer impacts by
3.30 providing canopy gap and planting
3.31 assessments, trainings, technical assistance,
3.32 and grants for communities to monitor and
3.33 manage emerald ash borer impacts, plant a

4.1 diversity of trees, and engage citizens in
4.2 community forestry activities.

4.3 **(f) Identifying Flooding Hazards on Mille**
4.4 **Lacs Tribal Lands**

4.5 \$800,000 the second year is from the trust
4.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
4.7 for an agreement with the Mille Lacs Band of
4.8 Ojibwe to develop hydrologic and hydraulic
4.9 models for the Big Sandy Lake and upper Rice
4.10 River watersheds to map flood-prone areas,
4.11 identify restrictive infrastructure that may
4.12 contribute to flooding, and incorporate results
4.13 into emergency preparedness plans. This
4.14 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,
4.15 by which time the project must be completed
4.16 and final products delivered.

4.17 **(g) Advancing Dehydration Technologies**
4.18 **for Resilient Minnesota Food Systems**

4.19 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
4.20 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
4.21 of Minnesota to:

4.22 (1) assess opportunities and develop
4.23 technology for solar dehydration and curing
4.24 of produce that reduces climatic impact of
4.25 food loss and waste; and

4.26 (2) develop and distribute findings to farmers,
4.27 farming organizations, community partners,
4.28 and other supply chain and market players in
4.29 Minnesota.

4.30 **(h) Climate-Smart Counties and**
4.31 **Communities: Collaborative Resiliency**
4.32 **Solutions**

5.1 \$827,000 the second year is from the trust
 5.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
 5.3 of Minnesota for the Institute on the
 5.4 Environment to provide technical expertise
 5.5 and support to predominantly rural and small
 5.6 communities and counties across Minnesota
 5.7 to develop climate resiliency plans and
 5.8 implement projects that enhance local
 5.9 resiliency.

5.10 **(i) Mahnomen Emerald Ash Borer**
 5.11 **Preparation Project**

5.12 \$62,000 the second year is from the trust fund
 5.13 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 5.14 an agreement with the city of Mahnomen to
 5.15 remove and replace ash trees vulnerable to
 5.16 emerald ash borer and to create a more diverse
 5.17 and resilient tree canopy.

5.18 **(j) Sustainable Food Security, Ecosystem**
 5.19 **Restoration, and Indigenous Empowerment**

5.20 \$437,000 the second year is from the trust
 5.21 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
 5.22 of Minnesota, Duluth, to combat food
 5.23 insecurity in Indigenous communities through
 5.24 community-driven agriculture, ecosystem
 5.25 restoration, improved local supply chains, and
 5.26 outreach and education. Notwithstanding
 5.27 subdivision 12, paragraph (e), this
 5.28 appropriation may be spent on green
 5.29 infrastructure and pollinator plantings on lands
 5.30 with a long-term commitment from the
 5.31 landowner.

5.32 **Subd. 4. Water**

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17,014,000

5.33 **(a) Statewide Ecological Risk Estimates for**
 5.34 **Contaminants of Emerging Concern**

6.1 \$175,000 the second year is from the trust
6.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
6.3 for an agreement with the University of St.
6.4 Thomas to compile and analyze Minnesota's
6.5 contaminant of emerging concern occurrence
6.6 data for lakes and rivers to generate ecological
6.7 risk estimates and publicly accessible and
6.8 user-friendly dashboards that will support
6.9 managing and restoring freshwater habitats.

6.10 **(b) Eliminating Phenolic Compounds from**
6.11 **Water Using Enzyme Filter**

6.12 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
6.13 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
6.14 of Minnesota to evaluate enzymes and design
6.15 an enzyme membrane filter to capture and
6.16 eliminate harmful phenolic compounds from
6.17 Minnesota's rivers and lakes.

6.18 **(c) Vadnais Lake: Nature-Based Recreation**
6.19 **and Drinking Water Protection**

6.20 \$2,842,000 the second year is from the trust
6.21 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
6.22 for an agreement with the city of Vadnais
6.23 Heights to install water quality improvement
6.24 ponds, recreational features, and educational
6.25 signage near East Vadnais Lake to connect
6.26 underserved community members with natural
6.27 resources, protect drinking water, and promote
6.28 water stewardship. This appropriation is
6.29 available until June 30, 2030, by which time
6.30 the project must be completed and final
6.31 products delivered.

6.32 **(d) Almanac's Statewide Environment and**
6.33 **Natural Resources Desk**

7.1 \$632,000 the second year is from the trust
7.2 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
7.3 for an agreement with Twin Cities Public
7.4 Television to establish Almanac's environment
7.5 and natural resources desk that reports on
7.6 environment and natural resources issues and
7.7 solutions across the state and hosts community
7.8 conversations that raise awareness and
7.9 increase appreciation of Minnesota's air, water,
7.10 land, and other natural resources.

7.11 **(e) Studying Dam Removal Feasibility for**
7.12 **the Mississippi Gorge**

7.13 \$923,000 the second year is from the trust
7.14 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
7.15 for an agreement with the Friends of the
7.16 Mississippi River to assess the feasibility,
7.17 environmental benefits, river restoration
7.18 potential, and costs of dam removal for the
7.19 Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and
7.20 Lock and Dam 1 in the Mississippi River
7.21 gorge.

7.22 **(f) Protecting Minnesota's Waters from**
7.23 **Plastic- and Rubber-Derived Chemicals**

7.24 \$418,000 the second year is from the trust
7.25 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
7.26 of Minnesota to develop stormwater treatment
7.27 strategies and recommendations to protect
7.28 surface water and groundwater from pollutants
7.29 leached from polymers, coatings, plastics, and
7.30 tire rubbers by assessing pollutant sources,
7.31 presence, and reactivity.

7.32 **(g) Public Toolbox to Forecast Toxic**
7.33 **Cyanobacteria Blooms**

8.1 \$509,000 the second year is from the trust
8.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
8.3 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
8.4 Research Institute in Duluth to validate the
8.5 concept of a field-deployable toolbox to
8.6 proactively and rapidly detect harmful algal
8.7 blooms and forecast associated toxin
8.8 production, evaluate the feasibility of the
8.9 integrated toolbox, and seek feedback from
8.10 potential users to inform further refinement.

8.11 **(h) PFAS in Precipitation: Assessing a**
8.12 **Critical Statewide Threat**

8.13 \$910,000 the second year is from the trust
8.14 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
8.15 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Sea Grant
8.16 college program in Duluth to create a
8.17 multiyear, multisite, foundational dataset of
8.18 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
8.19 in rain and snow and to investigate the
8.20 processes and sources that influence PFAS
8.21 levels in rain and snow to inform management
8.22 and remediation efforts. This appropriation is
8.23 available until June 30, 2030, by which time
8.24 the project must be completed and final
8.25 products delivered.

8.26 **(i) Assessment of Microplastic Pollution in**
8.27 **Minnesota Karst Aquifers**

8.28 \$458,000 the second year is from the trust
8.29 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
8.30 of Minnesota to determine the nature and
8.31 extent of microplastic pollution in shallow
8.32 karst aquifers, identify potential sources, and
8.33 assess human and ecosystem health
8.34 implications to inform mitigation and
8.35 prevention strategies.

9.1 **(j) Ash Recovery and Recycling Center**

9.2 \$1,177,000 the second year is from the trust
9.3 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
9.4 for an agreement with Otter Tail County to
9.5 construct and equip a facility to store and
9.6 recycle resource-recovery-generated ash as an
9.7 alternative to landfilling.

9.8 **(k) PFAS and Microplastics: Potential**
9.9 **Impacts of Environmental Co-Occurrence**

9.10 \$721,000 the second year is from the trust
9.11 fund to the commissioner of the Pollution
9.12 Control Agency to analyze water, sediment,
9.13 and fish for per- and polyfluoroalkyl
9.14 substances (PFAS) and microplastics to
9.15 determine whether co-occurrence has an
9.16 impact on bioaccumulation in aquatic habitats.

9.17 **(l) Brookdale Park Shingle Creek**

9.18 **Restoration and Access Improvements**

9.19 \$409,000 the second year is from the trust
9.20 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
9.21 for an agreement with the city of Brooklyn
9.22 Park to stabilize and enhance Shingle Creek
9.23 through Brookdale Park and a portion of
9.24 Palmer Lake Environmental Nature Area to
9.25 improve wildlife passage and habitat,
9.26 hydrologic function, water quality, and
9.27 recreational opportunities through streambank
9.28 and outfall stabilization, native plantings, and
9.29 stream enhancements.

9.30 **(m) Determining Fracture Characteristics**
9.31 **for Karst Groundwater Flow Modeling**

9.32 \$375,000 the second year is from the trust
9.33 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
9.34 of Minnesota to develop and validate

10.1 machine-learning software to identify complex
10.2 fracture characteristics and improve
10.3 predictions for groundwater flow and pollutant
10.4 transport in Minnesota's karst aquifers.

10.5 **(n) Restoring Wild Rice Waters: Sulfate**
10.6 **and Mercury Treatment**

10.7 \$727,000 the second year is from the trust
10.8 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
10.9 for an agreement with the White Iron Chain
10.10 of Lakes Association to test a biological
10.11 sulfate reduction system to treat sulfate and
10.12 sequester mercury to improve the health of
10.13 wild rice waters and aquatic ecosystems in
10.14 northern Minnesota. Before costs for this
10.15 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal agent for
10.16 White Iron Chain of Lakes Association must
10.17 be approved in the work plan.

10.18 **(o) Cheap Portable Sensor to Detect PFAS**
10.19 **in Water**

10.20 \$357,000 the second year is from the trust
10.21 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
10.22 of Minnesota to develop a cheap, accurate,
10.23 and easy-to-use sensor to monitor per- and
10.24 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in
10.25 waterbodies and detect PFAS in drinking
10.26 water.

10.27 **(p) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource**
10.28 **Management**

10.29 \$1,275,000 the second year is from the trust
10.30 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
10.31 of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey,
10.32 to continue producing county geologic atlases
10.33 to inform management of surface water and
10.34 groundwater resources. This appropriation is

11.1 to complete Part A, which focuses on the
11.2 properties and distribution of earth materials
11.3 to define aquifer boundaries and the
11.4 connection of aquifers to the land surface and
11.5 surface water resources.

11.6 **(q) Mitigating Short-Chain Forever**
11.7 **Chemicals Toward a PFAS-Free Minnesota**
11.8 \$299,000 the second year is from the trust
11.9 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
11.10 of Minnesota to demonstrate, optimize, and
11.11 provide an energy cost analysis of an enhanced
11.12 plasma reactor to remove resistant short-chain
11.13 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
11.14 from wastewater and other point sources.

11.15 **(r) Anoka Rum River Dam Reconstruction**
11.16 **and Modification Project**
11.17 \$3,110,000 the second year is from the trust
11.18 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
11.19 for an agreement with the city of Anoka for
11.20 predesign, engineering, and final design of
11.21 improvements to the Anoka Rum River Dam
11.22 to enhance dam safety, restore aquatic habitats,
11.23 and expand recreational opportunities in the
11.24 Rum River just upstream of its confluence
11.25 with the Mississippi River.

11.26 **(s) Lake Superior River Watch**
11.27 \$404,000 the second year is from the trust
11.28 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
11.29 for an agreement with the Fond du Lac Tribal
11.30 and Community College to revitalize the river
11.31 watch program in the Lake Superior watershed
11.32 by engaging students in water quality
11.33 monitoring and analysis to support
11.34 Minnesota's Lake Superior stewardship efforts.

12.1 **(t) Red Lake Nation Long-Term Continuous**
 12.2 **Monitoring Buoys**

12.3 \$993,000 the second year is from the trust
 12.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
 12.5 for an agreement with the Red Lake Band of
 12.6 Chippewa Indians to procure, install, and
 12.7 collect real-time water quality data from
 12.8 long-term buoys on Upper and Lower Red
 12.9 Lakes and Lake of the Woods and to improve
 12.10 hazardous algal bloom forecasts. This
 12.11 appropriation is available until June 30, 2031,
 12.12 by which time the project must be completed
 12.13 and final products delivered.

12.14 **Subd. 5. Education and Outdoor Recreation** -0- 36,554,000

12.15 **(a) Greater Minnesota Children's Museum**
 12.16 **Coalition Nature Play Curriculum**

12.17 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
 12.18 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
 12.19 for an agreement with the Children's Museum
 12.20 of Southern Minnesota to collaborate with
 12.21 other greater Minnesota children's museums
 12.22 to standardize and enhance existing curriculum
 12.23 and implement nature-based programming
 12.24 that engages children and fosters
 12.25 environmental stewardship, awareness of
 12.26 natural resources, and sustainability. Before
 12.27 costs for this appropriation are incurred, a
 12.28 fiscal management plan must be approved in
 12.29 the work plan, unless otherwise determined
 12.30 by the commissioner.

12.31 **(b) Cultivate, Connect, and Train**
 12.32 **Minnesota's Young Conservation Scientists**

12.33 \$538,000 the second year is from the trust
 12.34 fund to the Board of Regents of the University

13.1 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape
13.2 Arboretum to expand a conservation science
13.3 program that trains teachers and engages
13.4 students in immersive research experiments
13.5 and collaborative activities that build their
13.6 scientific knowledge, skills, and interest and
13.7 their appreciation for Minnesota's natural
13.8 heritage.

13.9 **(c) Native Fish Exhibits Transforming**

13.10 **Aquatic Education in Minnesota**

13.11 \$299,000 the second year is from the trust
13.12 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
13.13 for an agreement with the Headwaters Science
13.14 Center to design and construct interactive,
13.15 year-round exhibits and conduct educational
13.16 programming featuring native fish species that
13.17 increase the public's understanding, awareness,
13.18 and stewardship of northern Minnesota's vital
13.19 lake resources.

13.20 **(d) Inspiring and Connecting the Next**

13.21 **Generations with Nature**

13.22 \$3,085,000 the second year is from the trust
13.23 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
13.24 for an agreement with the YMCA of the North
13.25 to increase access for Minnesota youth to
13.26 outdoor camp and environmental learning
13.27 experiences through scholarships,
13.28 transportation assistance, and free equipment
13.29 rentals.

13.30 **(e) River Bend Nature Center's Inclusive**

13.31 **Interpretive Plan Implementation**

13.32 \$293,000 the second year is from the trust
13.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
13.34 for an agreement with the River Bend Nature

14.1 Center to design and install interactive
14.2 multilingual interpretive and educational
14.3 exhibits that provide culturally relevant and
14.4 accessible information on the environment
14.5 and natural resources and increase accessibility
14.6 to nature for multilingual, blind, and deaf
14.7 communities.

14.8 **(f) Fostering Environmental Stewardship**
14.9 **Through Art**

14.10 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust
14.11 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
14.12 for an agreement with the Watermark Art
14.13 Center, in partnership with the Headwaters
14.14 Science Center, to engage underserved youth
14.15 in northern Minnesota in art-related
14.16 experiences, with regional artists and culture
14.17 bearers, that integrate art and science to deliver
14.18 culturally relevant hands-on environmental
14.19 learning experiences. Before costs for this
14.20 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal
14.21 management plan must be approved in the
14.22 work plan, unless otherwise determined by
14.23 the commissioner.

14.24 **(g) Increasing Pollinator Conservation**
14.25 **Action Through Education and**
14.26 **Engagement**

14.27 \$501,000 the second year is from the trust
14.28 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
14.29 of Minnesota to:
14.30 (1) train volunteers and beekeepers to become
14.31 pollinator ambassadors that lead educational
14.32 events and increase native pollinator
14.33 conservation awareness and the adoption of
14.34 pollinator conservation practices; and

- 15.1 (2) train volunteers to collect data on
15.2 bumblebee nests and develop
15.3 recommendations for conserving bumblebee
15.4 nesting habitat.
- 15.5 **(h) Flyway Fellows: Engaging Teachers in**
15.6 **Bird Migration Education**
- 15.7 \$362,000 the second year is from the trust
15.8 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
15.9 of Minnesota to train teachers in bird
15.10 monitoring practices and support them in
15.11 engaging students in scientific research that
15.12 advances Mississippi Flyway conservation
15.13 efforts.
- 15.14 **(i) Minnesota Community Schoolyards**
- 15.15 \$1,343,000 the second year is from the trust
15.16 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
15.17 for an agreement with Trust for Public Land
15.18 to engage students and communities in the
15.19 creation of nature-focused habitat
15.20 improvements at schoolyards across the state
15.21 to encourage environmental stewardship and
15.22 outdoor learning.
- 15.23 **(j) Bringing Environmental Education and**
15.24 **Outdoor Recreation to K-12 Schools**
- 15.25 \$192,000 the second year is from the trust
15.26 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
15.27 for an agreement with the Osprey Wilds
15.28 Environmental Learning Center to deliver
15.29 hands-on environmental education and outdoor
15.30 recreation learning experiences directly to
15.31 K-12 school classrooms and students through
15.32 programs at participating schools. Before costs
15.33 for this appropriation are incurred, a fiscal
15.34 management plan must be approved in the

16.1 work plan, unless otherwise determined by
16.2 the commissioner.

16.3 **(k) Improving Trail Accessibility for**

16.4 **Minnesotans at Osprey Wilds**

16.5 \$25,000 the second year is from the trust fund
16.6 to the commissioner of natural resources for
16.7 an agreement with the Osprey Wilds
16.8 Environmental Learning Center to improve
16.9 trails and install directional and interpretive
16.10 signage on hiking and cross-country ski trails
16.11 at the center's campus. Before costs for this
16.12 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal
16.13 management plan must be approved in the
16.14 work plan, unless otherwise determined by
16.15 the commissioner.

16.16 **(l) Duluth Traverse Accessibility and**

16.17 **Sustainability Improvements**

16.18 \$85,000 the second year is from the trust fund
16.19 to the commissioner of natural resources for
16.20 an agreement with the Cyclists of Gitchee
16.21 Gumee Shores to rehabilitate a section of the
16.22 Duluth Traverse Trail to enhance outdoor
16.23 recreation opportunities, improve accessibility,
16.24 reduce erosion, and improve water quality.

16.25 **(m) Hardwood Creek Regional Trail**

16.26 **Extension**

16.27 \$1,244,000 the second year is from the trust
16.28 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
16.29 for an agreement with Washington County to
16.30 acquire easements for, design, and construct
16.31 a new section of the Hardwood Creek
16.32 Regional Trail to fill a gap in a regional trail
16.33 network near a planned connection of regional
16.34 trails across three counties.

- 17.1 **(n) College-School Collaboration to Restore**
17.2 **Campuses and Activate Stewardship**
- 17.3 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
17.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
17.5 for an agreement with Minnesota State
17.6 University, Mankato, to build partnerships
17.7 among natural resource professionals,
17.8 colleges, and secondary schools in southern
17.9 Minnesota and expose youth to outdoor
17.10 experiences, environmental issues, and natural
17.11 resource career paths through internships, field
17.12 trips, and environmental projects.
- 17.13 **(o) Urban Farming Education to Increase**
17.14 **Urban Environmental Stewardship**
- 17.15 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
17.16 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
17.17 for an agreement with the East Phillips
17.18 Neighborhood Institute to (1) design and
17.19 deliver workshops and youth apprenticeship
17.20 opportunities related to land and water
17.21 stewardship and urban farming to reconnect
17.22 residents to the land and water and foster
17.23 interest in environmental careers; and (2)
17.24 conduct soil testing at an urban farming
17.25 demonstration site. Before costs for this
17.26 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal
17.27 management plan must be approved in the
17.28 work plan, unless otherwise determined by
17.29 the commissioner.
- 17.30 **(p) A State Trail System for 21st-Century**
17.31 **Minnesota**
- 17.32 \$623,000 the second year is from the trust
17.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
17.34 for an agreement with the Bicycle Alliance of

18.1 Minnesota to increase participation in outdoor
18.2 recreation and use of Minnesota's trails by
18.3 nontraditional users through active adult
18.4 education programming and community
18.5 engagement.

18.6 **(q) Mississippi River Water Trail Access in**
18.7 **Dayton**

18.8 \$464,000 the second year is from the trust
18.9 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
18.10 for an agreement with the Three Rivers Park
18.11 District to develop public access to the
18.12 Mississippi River in Dayton by designing and
18.13 constructing recreational amenities, including
18.14 a nonmotorized boat launch and staging area,
18.15 paved trail connection, and parking.

18.16 **(r) YES! Connects Students to Outdoors for**
18.17 **Youth-Led Sustainability**

18.18 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
18.19 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
18.20 for an agreement with the Prairie Woods
18.21 Environmental Learning Center to empower
18.22 Minnesota youth to lead sustainability projects
18.23 and expose them to environmental and natural
18.24 resource career opportunities through hands-on
18.25 environmental education, natural
18.26 resource-based recreation, and partnerships
18.27 with local schools and communities.

18.28 **(s) Sharing Minnesota's Greatest**
18.29 **Environmental Investment - Phase 2**

18.30 \$623,000 the second year is from the trust
18.31 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota, in
18.32 coordination with the Legislative-Citizen
18.33 Commission on Minnesota Resources
18.34 (LCCMR), to increase public access to the

19.1 results of LCCMR-recommended projects,
19.2 including through an enhanced and expanded
19.3 online interactive story map, in-depth videos,
19.4 and public events.

19.5 **(t) Diversifying Nature Education Access**

19.6 \$438,000 the second year is from the trust
19.7 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
19.8 for an agreement with the Ramsey County
19.9 Parks and Recreation Department to provide
19.10 culturally relevant and inclusive environmental
19.11 education programming, including nature
19.12 center outreach and events, Indigenous-led
19.13 nature programming, and interpretive nature
19.14 signage designed by Indigenous artists and
19.15 educators. This appropriation is available until
19.16 June 30, 2030, by which time the project must
19.17 be completed and final products delivered.

19.18 **(u) Lebanon Hills Regional Park Natural**

19.19 **Resources Restoration and Sustainable**

19.20 **Trails Improvements**

19.21 \$2,126,000 the second year is from the trust
19.22 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
19.23 for an agreement with Dakota County to
19.24 reconstruct heavily eroded trails,
19.25 decommission trails in highly sensitive natural
19.26 areas, construct new trail connections, and
19.27 restore land at Lebanon Hills Regional Park
19.28 to reduce user conflicts, create a more
19.29 sustainable and functional trail system, and
19.30 improve habitat for pollinators and wildlife.

19.31 **(v) Minnesota State Trails Development**

19.32 \$4,943,000 the second year is from the trust
19.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
19.34 to expand recreational opportunities on

20.1 Minnesota state trails by rehabilitating and
20.2 enhancing existing state trails and replacing
20.3 or repairing existing state trail bridges.
20.4 High-priority trail bridges to be repaired or
20.5 replaced under this appropriation include but
20.6 are not limited to the Minnesota River State
20.7 Trail Bridge. High-priority trail segments to
20.8 be rehabilitated and enhanced include but are
20.9 not limited to the Glacial Lakes State Trail
20.10 and the Minnesota Valley State Trail. This
20.11 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,
20.12 by which time the project must be completed
20.13 and final products delivered.

20.14 **(w) Tettegouche State Park Entrance**

20.15 **Bridge Replacement**

20.16 \$3,674,000 the second year is from the trust
20.17 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
20.18 to replace the Baptism River Bridge in
20.19 Tettegouche State Park and ensure ongoing
20.20 accessibility for Minnesotans to recreational
20.21 opportunities in areas of the park accessed by
20.22 the bridge. This appropriation is available until
20.23 June 30, 2030, by which time the project must
20.24 be completed and final products delivered.

20.25 **(x) Expanding Adaptive Outdoor**

20.26 **Recreation Opportunities Around the**

20.27 **Boundary Waters Canoe Area**

20.28 \$996,000 the second year is from the trust
20.29 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
20.30 for an agreement with Adaptive Wilderness
20.31 Within Reach to remove barriers and promote
20.32 access to the Boundary Waters region for
20.33 individuals with physical disabilities through
20.34 adaptive wilderness experiences, adaptive
20.35 equipment purchases, and trail accessibility

21.1 improvements. Before costs for this
21.2 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal agent for
21.3 Adaptive Wilderness Within Reach must be
21.4 approved in the work plan. This appropriation
21.5 is available until June 30, 2030, by which time
21.6 the project must be completed and final
21.7 products delivered.

21.8 **(y) Engaging Saint Paul Youth in**
21.9 **Meaningful Restoration Work**

21.10 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
21.11 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
21.12 for an agreement with Urban Roots MN to
21.13 engage underserved youth in paid job training
21.14 internships and educational programming
21.15 centered around environmental stewardship,
21.16 natural resource conservation, and outdoor
21.17 recreation.

21.18 **(z) Expanding and Enhancing**
21.19 **Environmental Education Through**
21.20 **Partnerships**

21.21 \$550,000 the second year is from the trust
21.22 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
21.23 for an agreement with the Belwin Conservancy
21.24 to expand environmental education and partner
21.25 with schools and Indigenous organizations to
21.26 provide students with hands-on,
21.27 standards-aligned, and culturally relevant
21.28 science and nature programs.

21.29 **(aa) Greater Fountain Lake Aquatic and**
21.30 **Trail Accessibility Enhancements**

21.31 \$1,162,000 the second year is from the trust
21.32 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
21.33 for an agreement with the Shell Rock River
21.34 Watershed District to design and construct

22.1 pedestrian paths, crossings, bridges, and
22.2 recreational features that improve public
22.3 access to fishing, canoeing, kayaking, and
22.4 public green space located along the Shell
22.5 Rock River Channel in the city of Albert Lea.

22.6 **(bb) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas**

22.7 **Grant Programs**

22.8 \$3,833,000 the second year is from the trust
22.9 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
22.10 to solicit and rank applications and fund
22.11 competitive matching grants for local parks,
22.12 trail connections, and natural and scenic areas
22.13 under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. This
22.14 appropriation is for local nature-based
22.15 recreation, connections to regional and state
22.16 natural areas, and recreation facilities and may
22.17 not be used for athletic facilities, such as sport
22.18 fields, courts, or playgrounds.

22.19 **(cc) Lake Marion Greenway: Ritter Farm**

22.20 **Park to Dodd Boulevard**

22.21 \$1,797,000 the second year is from the trust
22.22 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
22.23 for an agreement with the city of Lakeville to
22.24 construct new trails and pedestrian crossings,
22.25 improve existing trails and trailhead facilities,
22.26 and install interpretive and wayfinding signage
22.27 as part of the Lake Marion Greenway.

22.28 **(dd) Restored Bluff and Trail at**

22.29 **Owámniyomni**

22.30 \$2,385,000 the second year is from the trust
22.31 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
22.32 for an agreement with Owámniyomni
22.33 Okhódayapi to design, engineer, and construct
22.34 an ADA accessible pedestrian-only trail and

- 23.1 restore the vegetated limestone bluff
23.2 landscape.
- 23.3 **(ee) Minnesota Water Education for Grades**
23.4 **K-5**
- 23.5 \$295,000 the second year is from the trust
23.6 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota to
23.7 provide educational programming on water
23.8 science and conservation to underserved
23.9 schools in Minnesota.
- 23.10 **(ff) Outdoor Learning Center and Trails**
- 23.11 \$250,000 the second year is from the trust
23.12 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
23.13 for an agreement with Cook County Public
23.14 Schools to improve and expand access to the
23.15 outdoor environment and provide spaces for
23.16 exploration and education through accessible
23.17 trails, outdoor classrooms, shelter, and seating
23.18 for students in Cook County public schools.
- 23.19 Before costs for this appropriation are
23.20 incurred, a fiscal management plan must be
23.21 approved in the work plan, unless otherwise
23.22 determined by the commissioner.
- 23.23 **(gg) Facility Outdoor Improvements**
- 23.24 \$180,000 the second year is from the trust
23.25 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
23.26 for an agreement with Veterans on the Lake
23.27 to upgrade outdoor recreation facilities at
23.28 Veterans on the Lake Resort on Fall Lake,
23.29 including the construction of an accessible
23.30 fishing pier and an accessible fish-cleaning
23.31 house, to improve access to the wilderness and
23.32 outdoor recreation for disabled American
23.33 veterans. Before costs for this appropriation
23.34 are incurred, approval of the proposed

- 24.1 improvements and conditions of funding by
24.2 the property owner must be demonstrated.
24.3 Before costs for this appropriation are
24.4 incurred, a fiscal agent for Veterans on the
24.5 Lake must be approved in the work plan.
- 24.6 **(hh) Classrooms to Careers: Expanding**
24.7 **Environmental STEM Pathways**
- 24.8 \$763,000 the second year is from the trust
24.9 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota to
24.10 provide hands-on research experiences and
24.11 mentorship for high school youth and
24.12 professional development for high school
24.13 teachers to strengthen environmental STEM
24.14 education and expose students to STEM career
24.15 opportunities.
- 24.16 **(ii) Outdoor Learning Professional**
24.17 **Development for Educators and**
24.18 **Administrators**
- 24.19 \$323,000 the second year is from the trust
24.20 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
24.21 for an agreement with the Wolf Ridge
24.22 Environmental Learning Center to train,
24.23 mentor, and provide professional development
24.24 opportunities for teachers and administrators
24.25 to enable them to implement innovative,
24.26 locally focused outdoor learning at their
24.27 schools. Before costs for this appropriation
24.28 are incurred, a fiscal management plan must
24.29 be approved in the work plan, unless otherwise
24.30 determined by the commissioner.
- 24.31 **(jj) Emerging Conservation Leaders:**
24.32 **Expanding the Network**
- 24.33 \$786,000 the second year is from the trust
24.34 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

25.1 for an agreement with Minnesota Valley
25.2 National Wildlife Refuge Trust, Inc., to
25.3 introduce metro area youth to the outdoors
25.4 and conservation professions through
25.5 apprenticeships, internships, and youth
25.6 environmental programming. This
25.7 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,
25.8 by which time the project must be completed
25.9 and final products delivered.

25.10 **(kk) Lakewood Elementary School Trail**

25.11 **Renewal and Community Engagement**

25.12 \$288,000 the second year is from the trust
25.13 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
25.14 for an agreement with Duluth Public Schools
25.15 to improve the Lakewood School Forest Trail
25.16 and carry out erosion stabilization and
25.17 restoration activities along the trail at
25.18 Lakewood Elementary to ensure continued
25.19 opportunities for safe outdoor education and
25.20 community usage. Before costs for this
25.21 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal
25.22 management plan must be approved in the
25.23 work plan, unless otherwise determined by
25.24 the commissioner.

25.25 **(ll) Explore Minnesota with COPAL**

25.26 \$392,000 the second year is from the trust
25.27 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
25.28 for an agreement with the Comunidades
25.29 Organizando el Poder y la Accion Latina
25.30 (COPAL) to expand community partnerships,
25.31 provide environmentally focused programming
25.32 and outreach focused on Latine and BIPOC
25.33 communities, support youth environmental
25.34 and outdoor leadership and engagement, and

26.1 conduct an evaluation on the accessibility and
 26.2 inclusivity of Minnesota public lands.

26.3 **(mm) Expanding Community Boat Building**
 26.4 **and Outdoor Experiences**

26.5 \$100,000 the second year is from the trust
 26.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
 26.7 for an agreement with Urban Boatbuilders to
 26.8 engage youth in hands-on woodworking
 26.9 experiences designing and constructing
 26.10 longboards, canoes, kayaks, and paddles that
 26.11 help develop technical, career-readiness, and
 26.12 leadership skills. Before costs for this
 26.13 appropriation are incurred, a fiscal
 26.14 management plan must be approved in the
 26.15 work plan, unless otherwise determined by
 26.16 the commissioner.

26.17 **Subd. 6. Fish and Wildlife** -0- 18,750,000

26.18 **(a) Which Cisco are Strongest? Identifying**
 26.19 **Healthy Populations**

26.20 \$674,000 the second year is from the trust
 26.21 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
 26.22 of Minnesota to:

26.23 (1) determine if certain cisco populations are
 26.24 better suited for Minnesota lakes experiencing
 26.25 higher temperatures and lower oxygen levels
 26.26 due to climate change; and

26.27 (2) create a habitat suitability map for different
 26.28 cisco populations under different climate
 26.29 scenarios to guide management decisions.

26.30 **(b) Mapping Leech Lake Vegetation: A**
 26.31 **Closer Look**

26.32 \$478,000 the second year is from the trust
 26.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

- 27.1 for an agreement with the Leech Lake Band
- 27.2 of Ojibwe to:
- 27.3 (1) survey aquatic vegetation and cultural uses
- 27.4 of Leech Lake resources to understand
- 27.5 changes over time and to guide future
- 27.6 management; and
- 27.7 (2) conduct public engagement, update aquatic
- 27.8 vegetation inventories, and use genetics to
- 27.9 distinguish between native and invasive plant
- 27.10 species.
- 27.11 **(c) Salvaged Wildlife to Inform**
- 27.12 **Environmental Health, Ecology, and**
- 27.13 **Education - Phase 2**
- 27.14 \$673,000 the second year is from the trust
- 27.15 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
- 27.16 of Minnesota, Bell Museum, to expand and
- 27.17 support the statewide Salvage Wildlife
- 27.18 network, prepare deceased wildlife as
- 27.19 museum-quality specimens, and build
- 27.20 biodiversity resources for research, education,
- 27.21 and conservation of Minnesota's wildlife.
- 27.22 **(d) Partnership for Resilient Landscapes**
- 27.23 \$2,638,000 the second year is from the trust
- 27.24 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
- 27.25 for an agreement with Pheasants Forever, Inc.
- 27.26 to collaborate with the Natural Resources
- 27.27 Conservation Service, United States Fish and
- 27.28 Wildlife Services, Board of Water and Soil
- 27.29 Resources, and Minnesota Department of
- 27.30 Natural Resources to accelerate adoption of
- 27.31 voluntary conservation practices on working
- 27.32 lands in Minnesota by increasing technical
- 27.33 assistance to farmers and landowners while
- 27.34 also attracting federal matching funds.

- 28.1 **(e) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza's**
28.2 **Impacts on Minnesota Raptors**
- 28.3 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust
28.4 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
28.5 of Minnesota for the Raptor Center, in
28.6 partnership with Hawk Ridge Bird
28.7 Observatory, to continue to evaluate
28.8 Minnesota raptors for current or past infections
28.9 with highly pathogenic avian influenza virus
28.10 to better understand disease transmission and
28.11 outbreak impacts on raptor populations.
- 28.12 **(f) United in Responding to CWD in**
28.13 **Minnesota**
- 28.14 \$2,200,000 the second year is from the trust
28.15 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
28.16 of Minnesota for the College of Veterinary
28.17 Medicine to:
- 28.18 (1) study the environmental persistence and
28.19 transportation of chronic wasting disease
28.20 (CWD) prions and the risk factors for CWD
28.21 outbreaks in deer populations; and
- 28.22 (2) advance antemortem testing for early
28.23 detection of CWD in Minnesota, support
28.24 Tribal and state surveillance efforts, and
28.25 provide education about the public's role in
28.26 CWD management.
- 28.27 **(g) Survival and Movement of Deer in**
28.28 **Minnesota's Prairie and Transition Zones**
- 28.29 \$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust
28.30 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
28.31 to GPS-collar and monitor deer to examine
28.32 survival, causes of mortality, predator impacts,
28.33 seasonal movements, and habitat selection in
28.34 the state's northwest and central permit zones

29.1 to determine deer herd health and inform
29.2 harvest regulations and future CWD
29.3 management. This appropriation is available
29.4 until June 30, 2031, by which time the project
29.5 must be completed and final products
29.6 delivered.

29.7 **(h) Uniting Minnesota's Insect Record**

29.8 \$932,000 the second year is from the trust
29.9 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
29.10 of Minnesota, Bell Museum, to develop the
29.11 first comprehensive list of Minnesota insect
29.12 species, consolidate Bell Museum and other
29.13 state insect collections, and integrate specimen
29.14 records of statewide natural history collections
29.15 with the Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas.

29.16 **(i) Lake Sturgeon Restoration at Great**
29.17 **Lakes Aquarium**

29.18 \$500,000 the second year is from the trust
29.19 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
29.20 for an agreement with the Lake Superior
29.21 Authority to create a new
29.22 lake-sturgeon-rearing program and educational
29.23 grow-out exhibit at the Great Lakes Aquarium
29.24 to advance restoration of lake sturgeon to the
29.25 St. Louis River. Net income generated as part
29.26 of this appropriation may be reinvested in the
29.27 project if a plan for reinvestment is approved
29.28 in the work plan as provided under Minnesota
29.29 Statutes, section 116P.10.

29.30 **(j) Wolf Monitoring on the Leech Lake**
29.31 **Reservation**

29.32 \$295,000 the second year is from the trust
29.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
29.34 for an agreement with the Leech Lake Band

- 30.1 of Ojibwe to monitor and assess wolf
30.2 population dynamics and update a wolf
30.3 management plan to guide collaboration with
30.4 other natural resource agencies for the
30.5 long-term survival of wolves on the Leech
30.6 Lake Reservation.
- 30.7 **(k) Erosion Investigation of Pine and Curry**
30.8 **Island SNA**
- 30.9 \$539,000 the second year is from the trust
30.10 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
30.11 for an agreement with Lake of the Woods
30.12 County to:
- 30.13 (1) collect data, run models, and assess design
30.14 alternatives to stabilize the shoreline, restore
30.15 habitat, and improve water quality at Pine and
30.16 Curry Island Scientific and Natural Area; and
- 30.17 (2) summarize the data, evaluations, and final
30.18 recommendations into a public report.
- 30.19 **(l) Building a Future for Minnesota's**
30.20 **At-Risk Butterflies**
- 30.21 \$294,000 the second year is from the trust
30.22 fund to the Minnesota Zoological Board to
30.23 develop husbandry protocols for the Pawnee
30.24 Skipper, identify conservation strategies for
30.25 other at-risk butterfly species, and determine
30.26 thresholds for taking action to inform
30.27 conservation planning.
- 30.28 **(m) Advancing Bison Recovery and**
30.29 **Stewardship Through Statewide**
30.30 **Partnership**
- 30.31 \$658,000 the second year is from the trust
30.32 fund to the Minnesota Zoological Board to
30.33 advance conservation of bison in Minnesota

31.1 by coordinating and implementing the
31.2 priorities of the multiagency Minnesota Bison
31.3 Collaborative, including monitoring herd
31.4 genetics and health, assessing potential
31.5 reintroduction sites, and developing an
31.6 educational framework and tools.

31.7 **(n) Identifying Climate-Resilient Fisheries**
31.8 **to Guide Minnesota Lake Management**

31.9 \$643,000 the second year is from the trust
31.10 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
31.11 of Minnesota to assess factors supporting
31.12 multispecies resilience to climate change,
31.13 identify bright spots where fisheries are
31.14 thriving despite environmental change, and
31.15 develop decision options within the
31.16 Resist-Accept-Direct framework for fisheries
31.17 management.

31.18 **(o) Supporting Implementation of**
31.19 **Large-Scale Moose Habitat Management**

31.20 \$1,054,000 the second year is from the trust
31.21 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
31.22 to:

31.23 (1) coordinate delivery of the moose habitat
31.24 implementation plan that was created to
31.25 overcome challenges to large-scale moose
31.26 habitat management across diverse land
31.27 ownerships among multiple partners; and

31.28 (2) provide education, communication, and
31.29 outreach to address specific implementation
31.30 challenges and to establish and execute a
31.31 monitoring plan to evaluate implementation
31.32 success.

31.33 **(p) Evaluating Forward-Facing Sonar**
31.34 **Impacts on Minnesota Fish**

32.1 \$676,000 the second year is from the trust
32.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
32.3 of Minnesota to evaluate the impact of
32.4 forward-facing sonar on angler catch rates and
32.5 fish mortality across multiple species and lake
32.6 types to inform sustainable management of
32.7 Minnesota freshwater fish populations.

32.8 **(q) Incidence of Avian Influenza in**
32.9 **Minnesota Forest Birds**

32.10 \$234,000 the second year is from the trust
32.11 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
32.12 of Minnesota, Duluth, to augment wild bird
32.13 surveys in northern Minnesota with sampling
32.14 for present and past infections with avian
32.15 influenza and coinfection with
32.16 Haemosporidian parasites to identify at-risk
32.17 bird species and quantify trends in avian
32.18 influenza prevalence over time.

32.19 **(r) Regarding Native Fish: Outreach,**
32.20 **Engagement, and Citizen Science**

32.21 \$270,000 the second year is from the trust
32.22 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
32.23 of Minnesota to advance conservation of
32.24 native fish in Minnesota by collecting field
32.25 data on native rough fish ecology and
32.26 population dynamics, engaging a
32.27 citizen-scientist angler network, and providing
32.28 education and outreach on the importance of
32.29 native rough fish as prioritized in the
32.30 Department of Natural Resources' 2023 Native
32.31 Fish Report.

32.32 **(s) Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants**
32.33 **and Pests Center - Phase 8**

33.1 \$4,694,000 the second year is from the trust
 33.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
 33.3 of Minnesota, Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial
 33.4 Plants and Pests Center, to fund high-priority
 33.5 research projects to better manage invasive
 33.6 plants, pathogens, and pests on Minnesota's
 33.7 natural and agricultural lands. This
 33.8 appropriation is available until June 30, 2032,
 33.9 by which time the project must be completed
 33.10 and final products delivered.

33.11 Subd. 7. **Energy** -0- 773,000

33.12 (a) **Minnesota Chiller Energy Efficiency**
 33.13 **and Onsite Energy Generation**

33.14 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust
 33.15 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
 33.16 of Minnesota for the Minnesota Technical
 33.17 Assistance Program to decrease carbon
 33.18 emissions through technical assistance to
 33.19 reduce energy use in industrial and
 33.20 commercial chiller systems and identify onsite
 33.21 energy solutions that promote decarbonization
 33.22 and resilience.

33.23 (b) **Novel Piezoelectric Energy Converters**
 33.24 **for Minnesota Waters**

33.25 \$475,000 the second year is from the trust
 33.26 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
 33.27 of Minnesota for the St. Anthony Falls
 33.28 Laboratory to model and evaluate the viability
 33.29 of an innovative renewable energy approach
 33.30 using an underwater piezoelectric filament
 33.31 canopy to sustainably harness the untapped
 33.32 wave energy resources of Lake Superior and
 33.33 similar regions.

34.1 Subd. 8. Land -0- 17,964,000

34.2 (a) Lake Minnewashta Regional Park

34.3 Restoration

34.4 \$392,000 the second year is from the trust

34.5 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

34.6 for an agreement with Carver County to:

34.7 (1) restore critical habitat at Lake

34.8 Minnewashta Regional Park consistent with

34.9 the park natural resources management plan;

34.10 and

34.11 (2) collect data to evaluate restoration success

34.12 and guide adaptive management.

34.13 (b) Adopt a Flyway: Enhancing Minnesota's

34.14 Migratory Bird Pitstops

34.15 \$840,000 the second year is from the trust

34.16 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

34.17 for an agreement with the Audubon Upper

34.18 Mississippi River to pilot an adopt-a-flyway

34.19 program to incentivize habitat restoration and

34.20 enhancement of Minnesota's Mississippi

34.21 Flyway to support the full life cycles of native

34.22 birds. Notwithstanding subdivision 12,

34.23 paragraph (e), restoration efforts may be

34.24 undertaken on private lands if a long-term

34.25 agreement is secured to protect and maintain

34.26 the restored area as approved in the work plan

34.27 and money is committed to monitor that

34.28 agreement. This appropriation is available

34.29 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project

34.30 must be completed and final products

34.31 delivered.

34.32 (c) Utilizing Wood Waste and Biochar for

34.33 Mine Land Reclamation

35.1 \$358,000 the second year is from the trust
35.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
35.3 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
35.4 Research Institute in Duluth to:
35.5 (1) evaluate water infiltration, pollutant
35.6 removal, and plant growth in mine land soils
35.7 amended with wood waste and biochar; and
35.8 (2) estimate the ecosystem and climate
35.9 benefits of using wood waste and biochar soil
35.10 mixes for mine land reclamation in Minnesota
35.11 and disseminate project results to stakeholders.

35.12 **(d) Certified Prescribed Burn Manager**
35.13 **Curriculum Development and Pilot**
35.14 \$454,000 the second year is from the trust
35.15 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
35.16 of Minnesota to design and pilot a Minnesota
35.17 certified prescribed burn manager program to
35.18 increase capacity for nonagency stewardship
35.19 of privately owned and fire-dependent native
35.20 grasslands and forests across Minnesota. Net
35.21 income generated as part of this appropriation
35.22 may be reinvested in the project if a plan for
35.23 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as
35.24 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section
35.25 116P.10.

35.26 **(e) Updating Land Cover Maps for**
35.27 **Enhanced Natural Systems**
35.28 \$298,000 the second year is from the trust
35.29 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
35.30 of Minnesota to produce high-resolution land
35.31 cover maps using new LiDAR and aerial
35.32 imagery to support conservation, water
35.33 management, climate resilience, and planning
35.34 in Minnesota's largest population centers.

- 36.1 **(f) Pollinator Central V: Habitat**
- 36.2 **Improvement with Public Engagement**
- 36.3 \$750,000 the second year is from the trust
- 36.4 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
- 36.5 for an agreement with Great River Greening
- 36.6 to partner with municipalities to create and
- 36.7 enhance pollinator habitat along public
- 36.8 corridors from Mankato to Little Falls and
- 36.9 engage communities with native pollinator
- 36.10 education and natural resources stewardship.
- 36.11 This appropriation is available until June 30,
- 36.12 2030, by which time the project must be
- 36.13 completed and final products delivered.
- 36.14 **(g) Evaluating Soil Health Benefits of**
- 36.15 **Controlled Agricultural Drainage**
- 36.16 \$249,000 the second year is from the trust
- 36.17 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
- 36.18 for an agreement with Minnesota State
- 36.19 University, Mankato, to study the impact of
- 36.20 controlled tile drainage on soil health and
- 36.21 conduct outreach and education on the
- 36.22 potential environmental and economic benefits
- 36.23 of controlled tile drainage.
- 36.24 **(h) Oak Savanna Restoration for Living**
- 36.25 **Landscapes**
- 36.26 \$1,944,000 the second year is from the trust
- 36.27 fund to the Board of Water and Soil
- 36.28 Resources, in partnership with the Xerces
- 36.29 Society, to pilot a program to provide grants
- 36.30 and other agreements, conservation plans, seed
- 36.31 mixes, and other technical resources to restore
- 36.32 and enhance oak savannas and supporting
- 36.33 tallgrass prairies and woodlands on public and
- 36.34 protected conservation lands in Minnesota's

37.1 Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province. This
37.2 appropriation is available until June 30, 2031,
37.3 by which time the project must be completed
37.4 and final products delivered.

37.5 **(i) Metropolitan Regional Parks System**

37.6 **Land Acquisition - Phase 9**

37.7 \$2,414,000 the second year is from the trust
37.8 fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants to
37.9 acquire land with high-quality natural
37.10 resources or natural resources restoration
37.11 potential for the metropolitan regional parks
37.12 system. This appropriation must be matched
37.13 by an equal amount from a combination of
37.14 Metropolitan Council and local agency money.
37.15 This appropriation is available until June 30,
37.16 2030, by which time the project must be
37.17 completed and final products delivered.

37.18 **(j) SNA Habitat Enhancement, Public**

37.19 **Engagement, and Biodiversity Protection**

37.20 \$3,996,000 the second year is from the trust
37.21 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
37.22 to restore and enhance habitat on scientific
37.23 and natural areas (SNAs), increase public
37.24 involvement and outreach, and strategically
37.25 acquire lands that meet criteria for SNAs under
37.26 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from
37.27 willing sellers. This appropriation is available
37.28 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project
37.29 must be completed and final products
37.30 delivered.

37.31 **(k) Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring and**

37.32 **Trail Improvements**

37.33 \$70,000 the second year is from the trust fund
37.34 to the commissioner of natural resources for

38.1 an agreement with Douglas County to design
38.2 and construct enhancements to existing
38.3 single-track trails at Lake Brophy Park.

38.4 **(l) Sustainable Land Use with Robotic**

38.5 **Technology on Small Farms**

38.6 \$524,000 the second year is from the trust
38.7 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
38.8 of Minnesota to collaborate with the Hmong
38.9 American Farmers Association to design and
38.10 test new robotic technologies to assist with
38.11 sustainable agricultural practices on small
38.12 farms.

38.13 **(m) Managing Minnesota's Forests for**

38.14 **Carbon: Tradeoffs and Synergies**

38.15 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
38.16 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
38.17 of Minnesota to identify tradeoffs and
38.18 synergies between managing forests for carbon
38.19 credits and managing forests for other
38.20 purposes, including wildlife and timber
38.21 production.

38.22 **(n) Native Prairie Bank - Private Native**

38.23 **Prairie Conservation and Outreach**

38.24 \$1,758,000 the second year is from the trust
38.25 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
38.26 to provide technical stewardship assistance to
38.27 prairie landowners, restore and enhance native
38.28 prairie protected by easements in the native
38.29 prairie bank, and acquire easements for the
38.30 native prairie bank in accordance with
38.31 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, including
38.32 preparing initial baseline property assessments.
38.33 Up to \$75,000 of this appropriation may be
38.34 deposited in the natural resources conservation

39.1 easement stewardship account created under
39.2 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.69, proportional
39.3 to the number of easements acquired. This
39.4 appropriation is available until June 30, 2030,
39.5 by which time the project must be completed
39.6 and final products delivered.

39.7 **(o) Alleviating PFAS Impacts of Biosolids**
39.8 **on Agricultural Lands**

39.9 \$300,000 the second year is from the trust
39.10 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
39.11 of Minnesota to evaluate the impacts of
39.12 biosolids containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl
39.13 substances (PFAS) on farmland microbial
39.14 health and explore an alternative cost-effective
39.15 biotreatment to remove PFAS from
39.16 agricultural fields.

39.17 **(p) Southeast Minnesota Groundwater**
39.18 **Protection and Soil Health Initiative**

39.19 \$2,817,000 the second year is from the trust
39.20 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
39.21 for an agreement with Olmsted County to
39.22 provide results-based incentives, technical
39.23 assistance, and educational tools to increase
39.24 implementation of soil health practices on
39.25 agricultural fields to prevent nitrate leaching
39.26 to groundwater in karst regions of southeast
39.27 Minnesota. This appropriation is available
39.28 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project
39.29 must be completed and final products
39.30 delivered.

39.31 **(q) Living with Fire in Minnesota Forests**

39.32 \$500,000 the second year is from the trust
39.33 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
39.34 for an agreement with The Nature

40.1 Conservancy, in partnership with Dovetail
 40.2 Partners, to accelerate prescribed burning by
 40.3 educating private landowners, coordinating
 40.4 management, and conducting prescribed burns
 40.5 on public and Tribal lands to restore
 40.6 Minnesota's forestlands.

40.7 **Subd. 9. Administration** -0- 340,000

40.8 \$340,000 the second year is from the trust
 40.9 fund to the commissioner of natural resources,
 40.10 at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen
 40.11 Commission on Minnesota Resources, for
 40.12 expenses incurred in preparing and
 40.13 administering contracts, including for the
 40.14 agreements specified in this section.

40.15 **Subd. 10. Availability of appropriations**

40.16 Money appropriated in this section may not
 40.17 be spent on activities unless they are directly
 40.18 related to and necessary for a specific
 40.19 appropriation and are specified in the work
 40.20 plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen
 40.21 Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money
 40.22 appropriated in this section must not be spent
 40.23 on indirect costs or other institutional overhead
 40.24 charges that are not directly related to and
 40.25 necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs
 40.26 that are directly related to and necessary for
 40.27 an appropriation, including financial services,
 40.28 human resources, information services, rent,
 40.29 and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can
 40.30 be clearly justified and individually
 40.31 documented specific to the appropriation's
 40.32 purpose and would not be generated by the
 40.33 recipient but for receipt of the appropriation.
 40.34 No broad allocations for costs in either dollars
 40.35 or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise

41.1 provided, the amounts in this section are
41.2 available for three years beginning July 1,
41.3 2026, and ending June 30, 2029, when projects
41.4 must be completed and final products
41.5 delivered. For acquisition of real property, the
41.6 appropriations in this section are available for
41.7 an additional fiscal year if a binding contract
41.8 for acquisition of the real property is entered
41.9 into before the expiration date of the
41.10 appropriation. If a project receives a federal
41.11 award, the period of the appropriation is
41.12 extended to equal the federal award period to
41.13 a maximum trust fund appropriation length of
41.14 six years.

41.15 **Subd. 11. Data availability requirements**

41.16 Data collected by the projects funded under
41.17 this section must conform to guidelines and
41.18 standards adopted by Minnesota IT Services.
41.19 Spatial data must also conform to additional
41.20 guidelines and standards designed to support
41.21 data coordination and distribution that have
41.22 been published by the Minnesota Geospatial
41.23 Information Office. Descriptions of spatial
41.24 data must be prepared as specified in the state's
41.25 geographic metadata guidelines, and final data
41.26 must be uploaded to the Minnesota Geospatial
41.27 Commons upon project completion. All data
41.28 must be accessible and free to the public
41.29 unless made private under the Data Practices
41.30 Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the
41.31 extent practicable, summary data and results
41.32 of projects funded under this section should
41.33 be readily accessible on the Internet and
41.34 identified as having received funding from the
41.35 environment and natural resources trust fund.

- 42.1 Subd. 12. **Project requirements**
- 42.2 (a) As a condition of accepting an
- 42.3 appropriation under this section, an agency or
- 42.4 entity receiving an appropriation or a party to
- 42.5 an agreement from an appropriation must
- 42.6 comply with paragraphs (b) to (m) and
- 42.7 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must
- 42.8 submit a work plan and annual or semiannual
- 42.9 progress reports in the form determined by the
- 42.10 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
- 42.11 Resources for any project funded in whole or
- 42.12 in part with money from the appropriation.
- 42.13 Modifications to the approved work plan and
- 42.14 budget expenditures must be made through
- 42.15 the amendment process established by the
- 42.16 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
- 42.17 Resources.
- 42.18 (b) A recipient of money appropriated in this
- 42.19 section that conducts a restoration using
- 42.20 money appropriated in this section must use
- 42.21 native plant species according to the Board of
- 42.22 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation
- 42.23 establishment and enhancement guidelines
- 42.24 and include an appropriate diversity of native
- 42.25 species selected to provide habitat for
- 42.26 pollinators throughout the growing season as
- 42.27 required under Minnesota Statutes, section
- 42.28 84.973.
- 42.29 (c) For all restorations conducted with money
- 42.30 appropriated under this section, a recipient
- 42.31 must prepare an ecological restoration and
- 42.32 management plan that, to the degree
- 42.33 practicable, is consistent with the
- 42.34 highest-quality conservation and ecological
- 42.35 goals for the restoration site. Consideration

43.1 should be given to soil, geology, topography,
43.2 and other relevant factors that would provide
43.3 the best chance for long-term success and
43.4 durability of the restoration project. The plan
43.5 must include the proposed timetable for
43.6 implementing the restoration, including site
43.7 preparation, establishment of diverse plant
43.8 species, maintenance, and additional
43.9 enhancement to establish the restoration;
43.10 identify long-term maintenance and
43.11 management needs of the restoration and how
43.12 the maintenance, management, and
43.13 enhancement will be financed; and take
43.14 advantage of the best-available science and
43.15 include innovative techniques to achieve the
43.16 best restoration.

43.17 (d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this
43.18 section for restoration activities must provide
43.19 an initial restoration evaluation at the
43.20 completion of the appropriation and an
43.21 evaluation three years after the completion of
43.22 the expenditure. Restorations must be
43.23 evaluated relative to the stated goals and
43.24 standards in the restoration plan, current
43.25 science, and, when applicable, the Board of
43.26 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation
43.27 establishment and enhancement guidelines.
43.28 The evaluation must determine whether the
43.29 restorations are meeting planned goals,
43.30 identify any problems with implementing the
43.31 restorations, and, if necessary, give
43.32 recommendations on improving restorations.
43.33 The evaluation must be focused on improving
43.34 future restorations.

- 44.1 (e) All restoration and enhancement projects
44.2 funded with money appropriated in this section
44.3 must be on land permanently protected by a
44.4 conservation easement or public ownership.
- 44.5 (f) A recipient of money from an appropriation
44.6 under this section must give consideration to
44.7 contracting with Conservation Corps
44.8 Minnesota & Iowa for contract restoration and
44.9 enhancement services.
- 44.10 (g) All conservation easements acquired with
44.11 money appropriated under this section must:
- 44.12 (1) be permanent;
- 44.13 (2) specify the parties to the easement in the
44.14 easement document;
- 44.15 (3) specify all provisions of an agreement that
44.16 are permanent;
- 44.17 (4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen
44.18 Commission on Minnesota Resources in an
44.19 electronic format at least 20 business days
44.20 before closing;
- 44.21 (5) include a long-term monitoring and
44.22 enforcement plan and funding for monitoring
44.23 and enforcing the easement agreement; and
- 44.24 (6) include requirements in the easement
44.25 document to protect the quantity and quality
44.26 of groundwater and surface water through
44.27 specific activities, such as keeping water on
44.28 the landscape, reducing nutrient and
44.29 contaminant loading, and not permitting
44.30 artificial hydrological modifications.
- 44.31 (h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in
44.32 lands, a recipient of money appropriated under
44.33 this section must not agree to pay more than

45.1 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel
45.2 of land using this money to complete the
45.3 purchase, in part or in whole, except that up
45.4 to ten percent above the appraised value may
45.5 be allowed to complete the purchase, in part
45.6 or in whole, using this money if permission is
45.7 received in advance of the purchase from the
45.8 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
45.9 Resources.

45.10 (i) For any acquisition of land or interest in
45.11 land for environmental and natural resources
45.12 conservation purposes, a recipient of money
45.13 appropriated under this section must give
45.14 priority to minimally disturbed lands that
45.15 provide the greatest capacity for multiple
45.16 conservation benefits to humans, fish, wildlife,
45.17 and water resources.

45.18 (j) For new lands acquired with money
45.19 appropriated under this section, a recipient
45.20 must prepare an ecological restoration and
45.21 management plan in compliance with
45.22 paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for
45.23 implementation unless the work plan addresses
45.24 why a portion of the money is not necessary
45.25 to achieve a high-quality restoration.

45.26 (k) To ensure public accountability for using
45.27 public money, a recipient of money
45.28 appropriated under this section must, within
45.29 60 days of a land acquisition, provide to the
45.30 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
45.31 Resources documentation of the selection
45.32 process used to identify parcels acquired and
45.33 provide documentation of all related
45.34 transaction costs, including but not limited to
45.35 appraisals, legal fees, recording fees,

46.1 commissions, other similar costs, and
46.2 donations. This information must be provided
46.3 for all parties involved in the transaction. The
46.4 recipient must also report to the
46.5 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
46.6 Resources any difference between the
46.7 acquisition amount paid to the seller and the
46.8 state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if
46.9 a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal
46.10 was conducted.

46.11 (l) A recipient of an appropriation from the
46.12 trust fund under this section must acknowledge
46.13 financial support from the environment and
46.14 natural resources trust fund in project
46.15 publications, signage, and other public
46.16 communications and outreach related to work
46.17 completed using the appropriation.

46.18 Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate,
46.19 through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion
46.20 of language attributing support from the trust
46.21 fund. Each direct recipient of money
46.22 appropriated in this section, as well as each
46.23 recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this
46.24 section, must satisfy all reporting and other
46.25 requirements incumbent upon constitutionally
46.26 dedicated funding recipients as provided in
46.27 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision
46.28 10, and chapter 116P.

46.29 (m) A recipient of an appropriation from the
46.30 trust fund under this section that is receiving
46.31 funding to conduct children's services, as
46.32 defined in Minnesota Statutes, section
46.33 299C.61, subdivision 7, must certify to the
46.34 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
46.35 Resources, as part of the required work plan,

47.1 that criminal background checks for
47.2 background check crimes, as defined in
47.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61,
47.4 subdivision 2, are performed on all employees,
47.5 contractors, and volunteers that have or may
47.6 have access to a child to whom the recipient
47.7 provides children's services using the
47.8 appropriation.

47.9 **Subd. 13. Payment conditions and capital**
47.10 **equipment expenditures**

47.11 (a) All agreements, grants, or contracts
47.12 referred to in this section must be administered
47.13 on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise
47.14 provided in this section. Notwithstanding
47.15 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41,
47.16 expenditures made on or after July 1, 2026,
47.17 or the date the work plan is approved,
47.18 whichever is later, are eligible for
47.19 reimbursement unless otherwise provided in
47.20 this section. Periodic payments must be made
47.21 upon receiving documentation that the
47.22 deliverable items articulated in the approved
47.23 work plan have been achieved, including
47.24 partial achievements as evidenced by approved
47.25 progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be
47.26 advanced to projects to accommodate
47.27 cash-flow needs or match federal money. The
47.28 advances must be approved as part of the work
47.29 plan. No expenditures for capital equipment
47.30 are allowed unless expressly authorized in the
47.31 project work plan.

47.32 (b) Single-source contracts as specified in the
47.33 approved work plan are allowed.

48.1 **Subd. 14. Purchasing recycled and recyclable**
48.2 **materials**

48.3 A political subdivision, public or private
48.4 corporation, or other entity that receives an
48.5 appropriation under this section must use the
48.6 appropriation in compliance with Minnesota
48.7 Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding
48.8 purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable
48.9 materials, and Minnesota Statutes, section
48.10 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using
48.11 paper stock and printing.

48.12 **Subd. 15. Accessibility**

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

48.17 **Subd. 16. Carryforward; extensions**

48.18 (a) The availability of the appropriations for
48.19 the following projects is extended to June 30,
48.20 2027:

48.21 (1) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
48.22 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph
48.23 (e), Emerald Ash Borer and Black Ash:
48.24 Maintaining Forests and Benefits;

48.25 (2) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
48.26 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph
48.27 (t), Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation,
48.28 and Education;

48.29 (3) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
48.30 subdivision 10, paragraph (e), Conservation
48.31 Reserve Program State Incentives;

48.32 (4) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section
48.33 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (f), Statewide

- 49.1 Forest Carbon Inventory and Change
- 49.2 Mapping;
- 49.3 (5) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section
- 49.4 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (p), Old Growth
- 49.5 Forest Monitoring;
- 49.6 (6) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section
- 49.7 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (r), Community
- 49.8 Response Monitoring for Adaptive
- 49.9 Management in Southeast Minnesota;
- 49.10 (7) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section
- 49.11 2, subdivision 7, paragraph (c), Completing
- 49.12 Installment of the Minnesota Ecological
- 49.13 Monitoring Network;
- 49.14 (8) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section
- 49.15 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (e), Minnesota
- 49.16 Million: Seedlings for Reforestation and CO₂
- 49.17 Sequestration;
- 49.18 (9) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section
- 49.19 2, subdivision 8, paragraph (q), Statewide
- 49.20 Diversion of Furniture and Mattress Waste
- 49.21 Pilots; and
- 49.22 (10) Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section
- 49.23 2, subdivision 10, paragraph (b), Emerging
- 49.24 Issues.
- 49.25 (b) The availability of the appropriation under
- 49.26 Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 2,
- 49.27 subdivision 9, paragraph (e), Minnesota State
- 49.28 Trails Development, is extended to June 30,
- 49.29 2028.

49.30 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116P.08, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

49.31 Subd. 4. **Legislative recommendations.** (a) Funding may be provided only for those

49.32 projects that meet the categories established in subdivision 1.

50.1 (b) The commission must recommend an annual or biennial legislative bill to make
 50.2 appropriations from the trust fund for the purposes provided in subdivision 1. The
 50.3 recommendations must be submitted to the governor for inclusion in the biennial budget
 50.4 and supplemental budget submitted to the legislature.

50.5 (c) The commission may recommend regional block grants for a portion of trust fund
 50.6 expenditures to partner with existing regional organizations that have strong citizen
 50.7 involvement, to address unique local needs and capacity, and to leverage all available funding
 50.8 sources for projects.

50.9 ~~(d) The commission may recommend the establishment of an emerging issues account~~
 50.10 ~~in its legislative bill for funding emerging issues, which come up unexpectedly, but which~~
 50.11 ~~still adhere to the commission's strategic plan, to be approved by the governor after initiation~~
 50.12 ~~and recommendation by the commission.~~

50.13 ~~(e)~~ (d) Money in the trust fund may not be spent except under an appropriation by law.

50.14 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116P.08, is amended by adding a subdivision to
 50.15 read:

50.16 Subd. 4a. **Emerging issues account.** (a) The commission may recommend the
 50.17 establishment of an emerging issues account in its legislative bill for funding emerging
 50.18 issues, which come up unexpectedly but still adhere to the commission's strategic plan.

50.19 (b) Money in the emerging issues account may only be spent on activities that meet all
 50.20 of the following requirements:

50.21 (1) address an immediate threat to public health, the environment, or the state's natural
 50.22 resources; and

50.23 (2) are conducted by a state agency or performed under a contract directed by a state
 50.24 agency.

50.25 (c) Money in the emerging issues account may not be spent on:

50.26 (1) a project that was previously reviewed and rejected by the commission during the
 50.27 most recently completed funding cycle or included in a bill introduced during either of the
 50.28 last two regular legislative sessions; or

50.29 (2) a capital construction project.

50.30 (d) Except as provided under section 116P.09, subdivision 6, paragraph (b),
 50.31 recommendations by the commission for an expenditure from the emerging issues account
 50.32 require an affirmative vote of at least 12 members of the commission. An expenditure from

51.1 the emerging issues account must be approved by the governor after initiation and
51.2 recommendation by the commission. The chairs and ranking minority members of the
51.3 legislative committees with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources must be
51.4 notified of an expenditure sent to the governor for approval.

51.5 (e) A recipient of money from the emerging issues account must submit a final report
51.6 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction
51.7 over environment and natural resources detailing the expenditure of the money and outcomes
51.8 achieved.

51.9 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116P.09, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

51.10 Subd. 6. **Conflict of interest.** (a) A commission member, a technical advisory committee
51.11 member, a peer reviewer, or an employee of the commission may not participate in or vote
51.12 on a decision of the commission, advisory committee, or peer review relating to an
51.13 organization in which the member, peer reviewer, or employee has either a direct or indirect
51.14 personal financial interest. While serving on the commission or technical advisory committee
51.15 or as a peer reviewer or while an employee of the commission, a person must avoid any
51.16 potential conflict of interest.

51.17 (b) A commission member may not vote on a motion regarding the purchase of land
51.18 under section 116P.18 ~~or~~; the final recommendations of the commission required under
51.19 section 116P.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a); or the expenditure of money from the
51.20 emerging issues account if the motion relates to an organization in which the member has
51.21 a direct personal financial interest. If a commission member is prohibited from voting under
51.22 this paragraph, the number of affirmative votes required under section 116P.05, subdivision
51.23 2, paragraph (a), or section 116P.18 is reduced by the number of members ineligible to vote
51.24 under this paragraph.

51.25 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116X.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to
51.26 read:

51.27 Subd. 1a. **Grant awards; maximum amounts.** (a) A grant awarded under this section
51.28 may not exceed:

51.29 (1) \$2,000,000, if the grant is for trail maintenance; or

51.30 (2) \$750,000, if the grant is for a purpose other than trail maintenance.

51.31 (b) The commissioner must award grants under this section in each fiscal year for more
51.32 than one purpose under subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

52.1 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116X.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to
52.2 read:

52.3 Subd. 3a. **Staff training requirements.** All Department of Natural Resources staff who
52.4 are assigned grants management responsibilities for grants awarded under this section must
52.5 complete annual training on financial reconciliation and fraud prevention in addition to the
52.6 training required under section 16B.98, subdivision 6a.

52.7 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116X.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to
52.8 read:

52.9 Subd. 3b. **Grants monitoring.** The commissioner must conduct at least one in-person
52.10 unannounced monitoring visit before final payment is made on all grants awarded under
52.11 this section that are for an amount of \$50,000 or more. For grant amounts under \$50,000,
52.12 the commissioner must randomly select a sample from the grants awarded each year and
52.13 conduct at least one unannounced monitoring visit on the selected grants before final payment
52.14 is made.

52.15 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116X.03, is amended by adding a subdivision to
52.16 read:

52.17 Subd. 3c. **Small grant administration requirements.** (a) The commissioner must
52.18 conduct a preaward risk assessment under section 16B.981 for a grant awarded under this
52.19 section that is for an amount less than \$50,000.

52.20 (b) The commissioner must conduct a financial reconciliation of grantees' expenditures
52.21 on a random sample of grants under \$50,000 before final payments are made.

52.22 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116X.03, is amended by adding a subdivision
52.23 to read:

52.24 Subd. 4a. **Advance payment.** (a) Except as provided under paragraph (b), a grant awarded
52.25 under this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis.

52.26 (b) The commissioner may provide an advance payment to a recipient of a grant
52.27 administered under this section if:

52.28 (1) the recipient has obtained a surety bond in an amount and in a form approved by the
52.29 commissioner; or

52.30 (2) a fiscal agent has been designated and approved by the commissioner under paragraph
52.31 (c).

53.1 (c) The commissioner may designate and approve a fiscal agent for purposes of this
53.2 subdivision if the fiscal agent is subject to the requirements under sections 16B.97 to
53.3 16B.991.

53.4 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116X.03, is amended by adding a subdivision
53.5 to read:

53.6 Subd. 5a. **Grant recipient reporting.** A recipient of a grant awarded under this section
53.7 must submit a quarterly written progress report on the grant to the commissioner in a form
53.8 and manner approved by the commissioner until all grant funds have been expended and
53.9 all of the terms in the grant contract agreement have been met.

53.10 Sec. 12. **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND**
53.11 **COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM APPROPRIATION.**

53.12 (a) \$28,180,000 in fiscal year 2027 is appropriated from the environment and natural
53.13 resources trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for grants under Minnesota
53.14 Statutes, section 116X.03, allocated as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 116X.03,
53.15 subdivision 1.

53.16 (b) This is a onetime appropriation. Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, does not apply
53.17 to this appropriation or to projects funded with this appropriation. This appropriation is
53.18 available until June 30, 2030.