

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill contains the fiscal year 2016 appropriations from the outdoor heritage fund based on the recommendations of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC).

Section

1 Outdoor heritage appropriation. Technical.

2 Outdoor heritage.

Subd. 1. Total appropriation. Provides a total appropriation of \$99,401,000 from the outdoor heritage fund in fiscal year 2016 and \$607,000 in fiscal year 2017.

Subd. 2. Prairies. Provides a total appropriation of \$40,948,000 for various prairie projects.

Subd. 3. Forests. Provides a total appropriation of \$12,634,000 for various forest projects.

Subd. 4. Wetlands. Provides a total appropriation of \$22,578,000 for various wetland projects.

Subd. 5. Habitat. Provides a total appropriation of \$22,368,000 for various habitat projects.

Subd. 6. Administration. Provides a total appropriation of \$873,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$607,000 in fiscal year 2017 for administration, including administration

Section

expenses of the council, contract management services from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and other expenses.

Subd. 7. Availability of appropriation. States that money appropriated may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan and may not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to a specific appropriation. Provides for the availability of funding depending on the use of the funds and whether or not federal funds are also used.

Subd. 8. Payment conditions and capital equipment expenditures. Requires all agreements to be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided. Allows reasonable amounts to be advanced in some circumstances if approved as part of an accomplishment plan. Requires capital expenditures that exceed \$10,000 to be itemized and approved as part of an accomplishment plan.

Subd. 9. Mapping. Requires recipients of an appropriation to submit geographic information on lands acquired in fee that are open to the public for hunting and fishing to the DNR for mapping.

Subd. 10. Pollinator Lethal Insecticides. Prohibits lands acquired with funds appropriated in this bill from being planted or treated with pollinator lethal insecticides (which includes the neonicotinoid class of insecticides).

- 3 **Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.** Amends § 97A.056, subd. 2. Gives the authority to appoint council staff and contract with consultants to the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC). Under current law, the council may do so “upon coordination with” the LCC.
- 4 **Open meetings.** Amends § 97A.056, subd. 5. Exempts quorums of the council, when attending a conference or gathering sponsored by another entity and the attendance of members is incidental to the primary purpose of the conference or gathering, from open meeting requirements.
- 5 **Revenues.** Amends § 97A.056, subd. 8. Requires an owner of land purchased with funds from the outdoor heritage fund that is transferred to the state to submit the total net revenues (profit) made from the land prior to the transfer to the state within 60 days of the transfer. Under current law the owner is required to disclose any revenues and profits made but does not have to submit the funds to the state.
- 6 **Donations.** Adds § 97A.056, subd. 20. Prohibits a recipient of funds from the outdoor heritage fund that were used to purchase land from accepting a monetary donation or a payment from the landowner that exceeds the recipient’s documented expenses unless approved by the LSOHC. The prohibition would become effective July 1, 2016, and does not apply to the appropriations in this bill.
- 7 **Haying and grazing.** Adds § 97A.056, subd. 21. Prohibits lands acquired with funds from the outdoor heritage fund from being hayed or grazed in response to a federal or state disaster declaration. Similar language has been used for past appropriations.

Section

- 8** **Habitats.** Amends Laws 2012, ch. 264, art. 1, § 2, subd. 5. Amends a previous appropriation to the DNR for structural deterrents for invasive carp to allow acquisition.
- 9** **Habitats.** Amends Laws 2014, ch. 256, art. 1, § 2, subd. 5. Amends a previous appropriation to the DNR to allow the acquisition of easements for aquatic habitat and specifies that a portion of the funds may be used for establishing a monitoring and enforcement fund.