

Subject Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

Authors Hansen

Analyst Janelle Taylor

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Overview

This bill includes fiscal year 2021 appropriations from the environment and natural resources trust fund (a constitutionally dedicated trust fund funded by proceeds from the Minnesota State Lottery). The bill includes most of the preliminary recommendations considered by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) for the 2020 session but which did not receive the super majority required for approval.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Appropriations.
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Technical.

2	Minnesota resources.
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Subd. 1. Total appropriation. Provides a total appropriation of \$61,387,000 in fiscal year 2021 from the environment and natural resources trust fund.

Subd. 2. Definition. Technical.

Subd. 3. Foundational natural resource data and information. Provides a total appropriation for natural resource data and information projects of \$8,593,000 in fiscal year 2021.

Subd. 4. Water resources. Provides a total appropriation for water resources projects of \$3,457,000 in fiscal year 2021.

Subd. 5. Technical assistance, outreach, and environmental education. Provides a total appropriation for technical assistance, outreach, and environmental education projects of \$2,989,000 in fiscal year 2021.

Section	Description
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	Subd. 6. Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species. Provides a total appropriation for invasive species projects of \$10,425,000 in fiscal year 2021.
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	Subd. 7. Air quality and renewable energy. Provides a total appropriation for air quality and renewable energy projects of \$573,000 in fiscal year 2021.
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	Subd. 8. Methods to protect or restore land, water, and habitat. Provides a total appropriation for projects for protection, restoration, and enhancement methods of 4,219,000 in fiscal year 2021.
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	Subd. 9. Land acquisition, habitat, and recreation. Provides a total appropriation for land acquisition projects of \$29,901,000 in fiscal year 2021.
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	Subd. 10. Emerging issues account; wastewater renewable energy demonstration grants. Provides \$1,095,000 to an emerging issues account to be used to provide grants administered by the Public Facilities Authority for renewable energy demonstration projects at wastewater treatment facilities.
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	Subd. 11. Administration and contract agreement reimbursement. Provides a total appropriation of \$135,000 in fiscal year 2021 for contract administration expenses of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
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	Subds. 12 to 20. Provides project requirements that apply to all recipients. The LCCMR recommends similar requirements each year, which include: specifying the availability of appropriations; data requirements; specific project requirements, including requiring ecological restoration and management plans; and requiring easements to be permanent and have a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan. Extends several previous appropriations set to expire. Redirects money, originally appropriated in fiscal year 2020 for the Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement project, to four new projects.
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3	Land acquisition, habitat, and recreation.
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	Amends a prior appropriation for a trail in the city of Tower to retroactively allow a trail connection to the Mesabi Trail and extend the availability of the appropriation until June 30, 2023.
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4	Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species.
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	Amends a prior appropriation for Palmer amaranth monitoring to include other noxious weeds.
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5	Effective date.
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	Provides an immediate effective date for sections 1, 2, and 4.
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