

Subject Fish Kills
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Date March 8, 2023

Overview

This bill would establish fish kill notification requirements, require the development of a fish kill protocol for state agencies to follow when responding to fish kills, and appropriate money for development of the protocol.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Reporting fish kills in public waters.
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Subd. 1. Definition. Defines “fish kill” as an incident resulting in the death of 25 or more fish within one linear mile of a flowing water or 25 or more fish within a square mile of a nonflowing water for purposes of new fish kill requirements in this and the next section.

Subd. 2. Reporting requirement. Requires a state or county staff person or official who works with natural resources or agriculture who learns of a fish kill to report the location to the Minnesota State Duty Officer within one hour of being notified or four hours of first observing the fish kill. Requires the duty officer to alert the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Department of Health (MDH), and the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) within one hour of being notified.

2	Development of fish kill response protocol.
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Subd. 1. Development of protocol. Requires, by October 1, 2024, the PCA, in consultation with the DNR, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Health, to update the fish kills response guidance by developing a protocol consisting of steps state agencies must take when responding to a fish kill reported under the previous section and specifies what the protocol must address.

Subd. 3. Implementation. Requires the PCA to submit the protocol to the legislature and requires state agencies to follow the protocol once it has been submitted.

Section **Description**

Subd. 4. Updating protocol. Requires the parties to review and update the protocol every five years.

3 **Appropriation.**

Provides an unspecified appropriation from the general fund to the PCA to develop the protocol required in section 2.



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