

## DRAFT - Additional information

### Specific objectives:

#### Gather and analyze information

- Update existing **inventory and assessment** information on the current condition of Minnesota's environment and natural resources;
- **evaluate and incorporate existing environment and natural resources plans**, identify any gaps in existing plans and available information, and make recommendation on how to fill those gaps through this funding or with other future funding if necessary;
- provide an overview of the wide variety of current **natural resource programs and the outcomes** of those programs;
- address natural resource, environmental and land use **policy and regulation** issues;
- **review and overview of current environmental legislation** - include evaluating the general effectiveness of the legislation in protecting the environmental and natural resource attributes it was intended to protect.

#### Look at categories identified in the Trust Funds constitutional language

- address the effects of the current growth and development patterns in the state and their affects on the quality of the state's **air, water, fish and wildlife**;
- address current **land use** practices in Minnesota and their effects on the environment and natural resources;
- address the preservation, restoration, and enhancement of the **biodiversity of Minnesota's flora and fauna** and the relationship of the biodiversity to their ecological and economic functions (include the effects of converting natural lands to other uses and the effect of invasive exotic species);
- address the current and future **outdoor recreational** needs of the citizens and visitors (both passive and consumptive) as well as the role of recreational land in preservation of native fish, wildlife, plant habitat, and open space.

#### Identify current issues (such as but not limited to):

- address **future demographic impacts**, including both the growth in population in some parts of the state and the decline in population in other areas;
- address the **human health** benefits of clean air, water and outdoor exercise **and address the consequences of not having them**;
- address implementation strategies directed at **the prevention of climate change** and the research related to potential impacts of climate change on the environment and natural resources, include the potential climatic changes to current use of the resources and to potential changes to their biological health and diversity throughout the state
- address the affects of **pharmaceuticals, chemicals and other manmade substances on the environment** (e.g. endocrine disruptors)

#### Look to the future

- guide Minnesota's **long-term (50-years plus) future of environment and natural resource management through a shared vision** which is supported by Trust Fund appropriations – The plan will be useful to state, local government, academic institutions,

private sector and nonprofit sector to guide public and private efforts and expenditures for the preservation and conservation of the State's environment and natural resources.

### **Measure affects and outcomes**

- identify **benchmarks and measurements** to evaluate future desired results for Minnesota's natural resources;

### **Recommend strategies**

- make **recommendations on alternative implementing strategies** for conserving, restoring, and enhancing Minnesota's natural resources; and

### **Describe costs and benefits**

- address natural resource and environment **funding issues**
- provide some general **costs and benefits of recommended strategies.**

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