

LCCMR Team 3
DRAFT
Request for Proposals for Consultant Services
Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)

Introduction

The LCCMR is requesting proposals for the development of a comprehensive “Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan” for Minnesota’s environment and natural resources.

This request is being published as a precursor to the plan required in M.L. 2006, Chp. 243, Sec. 20, Subd. 10, Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan.

Goals and Objectives

Develop a statewide comprehensive plan for the conservation and preservation of Minnesota’s environment and natural resources.

The **statewide** comprehensive plan will incorporate, integrate, and build on a variety of existing plans that currently guide the conservation of Minnesota’s environment and natural resources including air, land, water, fish, wildlife and outdoor recreation. A coordinated plan will inventory and assess the current state of Minnesota’s environment and natural resources based on existing plans where appropriate and filling in information gaps where needed. It will identify important current and future issues and trends affecting these resources, prioritize needs, provide implementation strategies, and identify bench marks that will enable ongoing evaluation of progress in achieving the desired results of the plan.

Use of the plan

The plan will provide both short-term and long-term guidance on the conservation and preservation of Minnesota’s environment and natural resources. The plan will enable a wide variety of public and private decision makers to work together to achieve common overall environment and natural resource goals and ensure their sustainability. The plan will enable the LCCMR to be effective in strategically recommending funds to future applicants to help implement the shared vision of the plan to conserve, preserve, restore, and enhance Minnesota’s environment and natural resources.

This plan will be used to help inform funding recommendations for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. The plan will provide guidance to the many partners involved in the overall management of Minnesota’s natural resources.

Scope of Work

Describe your proposal’s scope of work, including the process for **gathering information**, addressing the topics **in the constitutional language, identifying current issues, identifying future issues**, identifying major benchmarks **and other ways to measure results**, **recommend** implementation strategies and end products **and describe the costs and benefits associated with the recommendation**. This should include at a minimum the following sections and address how the issues are interrelated.

1. **Describe how information will be gathered and analyzed** based on the constitutional language on the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund which specifically identifies air, land, water, fish, wildlife and other natural resources. The plan will review and incorporate existing work on the topic areas when addressing each area. It will also identify gaps in information and planning and propose how to fill those gaps. If it is determined that significant additional efforts are needed, the plan will propose further study beyond the scope of this planning effort.
 - a. **Air**– including air quality, specifically greenhouse gases, and toxins.
 - b. **Land** – including landownership, land cover, vegetative land cover (including remaining high quality plant communities), land management, geology (geological atlas), minerals, and soils.
 - c. **Water** – including both surface and ground water, water quality, water supply (water appropriation), quality and biodiversity of wetlands, water recreation use, and the overall sustainability of Minnesota’s water resources.
 - d. **Fish** – including healthy fish and aquatic habitat, commercial fishing, sport fishing, and fish consumption advisories.
 - e. **Wildlife** – including conditions of wildlife, wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors, address the condition of existing corridors and the potential for reconnecting and restoring additional wildlife corridors.
 - f. **Other natural resources** - including parks, trails and other units of the system. (The State Outdoor Recreation System (MS 86A.04) and regional open space system)

2. Describe how current and future issues that affect Minnesota’s environment and natural resources, as outlined in the constitutional language, will be identified. Including but not limited to the impacts of growth and development in the following areas: Energy, transportation, decisions on where to grow and how to grow, changing demographics, and changing land uses/land use patterns of various land uses including agriculture, commercial/industrial, forestry, mining, public, recreation/conservation, and residential.

3. Describe how the plan will identify and evaluate the current benchmarks and other ways to measure the health of the State’s environment and natural resources.

4. Describe how the plan will recommend implementation strategies to address the identified current and future impacts on Minnesota’s environment and natural resources. Including recommended strategies that will help to prevent degradation of resources. The environment and natural resource impacts should be considered in the context of other societal benefits of growth and development, including a sustainable and healthy economy, maintaining property values, and high livability factors.

5. Describe how costs and benefits of the recommended strategies will be determined.

6. Communications:

- a. **Public involvement process** – Describe strategies for identifying target audiences and the approach for engaging those audiences. Describe the objective of the recommended outreach efforts. Include a general outline of proposed meetings/events that describes the number, type, general location and type of invitees. The plan will be statewide in nature. The LCCMR commission members and staff will be included in the public involvement process.
- b. **Partnerships** – Describe a strategies for partnering with the wide variety of environment and natural resource interests. Include how those decision makers will be engaged and

how the plan will be useful to them. Include a description of proposed partnerships to help develop the plan including federal, state, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations and private parties (if available, identify the contact person(s) of the various partners.

- c. **Implementing the recommendations of the plan** - describe efforts to communicate the findings of the plan and ways to engage people and organizations to be part of the vision of the plan and to motivate them to help implement the plan.
- d. **Other ideas** - Describe other proposed creative communication ideas to engage people and organizations to get involved in developing and promote the plan.

7. Information Systems:

- a. **Data Management** – Describe proposed methods for utilizing database(s) and the method for making them available to others
- b. **GIS based mapping**
 - Describe methods for inventorying and assessing the Minnesota’s environment and natural resources by incorporating existing mapping efforts to better identify important natural resource areas and the connections between them. The effort will address the buffer areas surrounding these higher quality areas and include updated statewide mapping of important conservation corridors.
 - Describe how the information will be synthesized for this plan and how the information will be made available for a variety of decision makers and others to continue to use the GIS products of the plan as tools for planning, evaluating, and analyzing.
 - Describe how some of the map products could utilize 3-dimensional and other views.
- c. **Web-based information** – Describe how the development of the plan, the final plan, and implementation of the strategies and recommendations of the plan will creatively engage stakeholders through the web.
- d. **Publication** – Describe the print materials that will be included the final written plan including specific maps. (A minimum of 50 copies of the final plan should be included in the budget.)

Specific RFP and contract language requirements to be added.

8/31/06