

## **Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec.14**

Sec. 14. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FUND. A permanent environment and natural resources trust fund is established in the state treasury. Loans may be made of up to five percent of the principal of the fund for water system improvements as provided by law. The assets of the fund shall be appropriated by law for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources. The amount appropriated each year of a biennium, commencing on July 1 in each odd-numbered year and ending on and including June 30 in the next odd-numbered year, may be up to 5-1/2 percent of the market value of the fund on June 30 one year before the start of the biennium. Not less than 40 percent of the net proceeds from any state-operated lottery must be credited to the fund until the year 2025. [Adopted, November 8, 1988; Amended, November 6, 1990; November 3, 1998]

## **2010 Minnesota Statutes**

### **116P.08 TRUST FUND EXPENDITURES.**

#### **Subdivision 1.Expenditures.**

Money in the trust fund may be spent only for:

- (1) the reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in section [84.95, subdivision 2](#);
- (2) research that contributes to increasing the effectiveness of protecting or managing the state's environment or natural resources;
- (3) collection and analysis of information that assists in developing the state's environmental and natural resources policies;
- (4) enhancement of public education, awareness, and understanding necessary for the protection, conservation, restoration, and enhancement of air, land, water, forests, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources;
- (5) capital projects for the preservation and protection of unique natural resources;
- (6) activities that preserve or enhance fish, wildlife, land, air, water, and other natural resources that otherwise may be substantially impaired or destroyed in any area of the state;
- (7) administrative and investment expenses incurred by the State Board of Investment in investing deposits to the trust fund; and
- (8) administrative expenses subject to the limits in section [116P.09](#).

#### **Subd. 2.Exceptions.**

Money from the trust fund may not be spent for:

- (1) purposes of environmental compensation and liability under chapter 115B and response actions under chapter 115C;
- (2) purposes of municipal water pollution control under the authority of chapters 115 and 116;
- (3) costs associated with the decommissioning of nuclear power plants;
- (4) hazardous waste disposal facilities;
- (5) solid waste disposal facilities; or
- (6) projects or purposes inconsistent with the strategic plan.

## **June 23, 2011 LCCMR Meeting Minutes**

### **Item #9 Review of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, M.S. 116P.08 “Trust Fund Expenditures” and adopted LCCMR Six-Year Strategic Plan**

#### **Summary of member’s discussion and ideas related to the next LCCMR request for proposals (RFP) as recorded on the flip chart during the meeting.**

1. Matrix of ENRTF and Legacy Funds
2. Coordination – funding and schedules
3. Initiate and Transition
4. Fund leading edge
5. Identify research needs to assist all funds
6. Subcommittees to review and recommend
7. Biennial or annual cycle and associated schedule
8. Specific focus of funding for alternating years
9. Are the key strategies of the ENRTF Six year Strategic Plan still the key strategies?
10. What additional reports or plans (i.e., water plan) have been developed in the past two years that we may want to review?
11. How do we want to spend available funds? Consider recommended percentage
12. Supplant vs. supplement issue
13. Applicants – LGUs: How can we assist LGUs in preparing proposals and encourage submission of proposals?
14. Support continuation of jobs in MN (specific criteria)
15. Balance: Geographic? Topic/issue?



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

## 2011-2012 Request for Proposal

### Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) www.lccmr.leg.mn

#### Funding Priority Categories for 2011-2012

- Natural Resource Data and Information
- Water Resources
- Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land and Habitat
- Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation
- Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species
- Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and Air Quality
- Environmental Education
- Creative Ideas

**Funding Beginning: July 1, 2011**

**Deadline to Submit: 4:30 p.m., Friday April 9, 2010**

- Electronic submission of proposals required.
- Please carefully review the full text of this document before submitting a proposal.
- LCCMR staff are available to review draft proposals if submitted by Monday April 5, 2010. Early submission of drafts is recommended to receive the most detailed guidance.

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#### **\$ FUNDING AVAILABILITY:**

- This Request for proposal (RFP) is for the biennium (2 years) beginning July 1, 2011. For that period, approximately \$52 million from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund is expected to be available for project funding.
- Through this RFP the LCCMR intends to make recommendations to the 2011 MN Legislature for appropriation of the majority of the funds available during the next two years. The LCCMR may choose to retain a small portion of funds outside of this RFP to be available for additional appropriation recommendations addressing specific time sensitive needs.
- **It is intended that this RFP is the only standard RFP that will be issued until February 2012 (for funding beginning July 1, 2013).** Any project seeking funding to begin July 1, 2012 should reply to this RFP.

Issued January 2010

## 2011-2012 FUNDING PRIORITIES

Projects are sought that provide multiple ecological and other public benefits, are consistent with the LCCMR Six-Year Strategic Plan for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (available at [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn)), and address the adopted funding priorities detailed below. Projects should be innovative and must accelerate or supplement, not supplant, existing efforts.

**Proposals must address one of the eight funding priorities detailed below; proposals may respond to more than one priority.**

### A. Natural Resource Data and Information

Proposals must address one or more of the following:

1. Collect baseline, foundational wildlife or natural resource data and information, including:
  - a. Ongoing efforts of the Minnesota County Biological Survey, Soil Survey, County Geological Atlas, and the National Wetlands Inventory update.
  - b. Climate data at a scale appropriate to assess natural resource changes attributable to accelerated climate change.
2. Coordination, facilitation, or training pertaining to statewide sharing, distribution, or innovative application of natural resource data and information tools, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), and other remote sensing techniques.

### B. Water Resources

Proposals must address one or more of the following:

1. Protect or restore water quality by reducing soil erosion, reducing peak water flows, or improving water and land use practices. Projects must include monitoring and evaluation.
2. Research or engineering design to protect the health of humans and aquatic and terrestrial species by 1) advancing development or implementation of standards for nitrates or other contaminants; or 2) broadly reducing levels of nitrates, estrogenic, pharmaceutical, or other contaminants in ground and surface waters.
3. Research, monitoring, or evaluation of ground and surface water interaction and sustainability.
4. Research, monitoring, or evaluation of deep water lake ecosystems, including Lake Superior.
5. Investigate and increase the understanding of the distribution and hydraulic properties of aquitards (impermeable geological layers between aquifers) and the water quality and water quantity effects aquitards have on confined, leaky, and un-confined aquifers.

### C. Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land and Habitat

Proposals must address one or more of the following (see p.7 for additional project requirements pertaining to this category):

1. Innovative protection, restoration, or enhancement of lands with high-quality natural resources, habitat, and ecological value.
2. Long term preservation of native forest, wetland, or prairie plant genetics and viability through long term storage in seed banks or other related efforts.
3. Technical assistance for prairie stewardship, forest stewardship, stewardship of Conservation Reserve Program lands and other agricultural lands, or aquatic buffer management to improve water quality.
4. Planning and implementation of community-based efforts to permanently conserve natural resources and reduce habitat fragmentation impacts on natural resources, including the impacts of transportation and other infrastructure.

## 2011-2012 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### D. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation

Proposals must address fee title or permanent conservation easement acquisition of strategic lands with high quality natural resources, habitat, and/or ecological value, and the greatest capability to contribute multiple conservation benefits to wildlife, humans, and water quality (see p.7 for additional project requirements pertaining to this category). All lands to be acquired must provide a restoration/enhancement or management plan for the site and an explanation as to how it will be developed, implemented, and funded.

Priority will given to projects that address one or more of the following:

1. Efforts based on precision conservation\* methods and analysis that quantifiably identify the lands most critical to acquire.
2. Efforts involving Scientific and Natural Areas (SNA) or that aim to protect unique ecosystems or rare, endangered, or threatened species.
3. Efforts in areas of the state with limited protected public lands providing habitat or public access.
4. Efforts that improve habitat connectivity.
5. Efforts that improve public access for natural resource management or outdoor recreation.

### E. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

Proposals must address one or more of the following:

1. Prevent introduction or provide early detection of new invasive species.
2. Reduce the spread of invasive species along streams, rivers, land transportation routes, and other vectors.
3. Alternative control techniques for containing or suppressing invasive species already present in Minnesota. Standard control and maintenance activities of invasive species will not be considered.

### F. Climate Change, Renewable Energy, and Air Quality

Proposals must address one or more of the following:

1. Research to help understand how to mitigate, adapt, or make Minnesota's ecosystems more resilient to climate change.
2. Implementation of innovative efforts aimed at mitigating, adapting, or making Minnesota's ecosystems more resilient to climate change.
3. Evaluation of applicability and/or effective implementation of clean energy technologies (e.g., biofuels, solar, geothermal, wind) or energy conservation in Minnesota. Focus examples include carbon emissions reduction; community-based, locally-produced renewable energy technologies; renewable energy life cycle costs and impacts; or smart energy technologies.
4. Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through new and innovative approaches to increasing recycling and composting. Standard, required, and ongoing efforts will not be considered.
5. Innovative approaches to air quality improvement that reduce impacts on human health, the environment, or natural resources.

\* Precision conservation is an emerging practice that considers lands in terms of the interconnected systems of which they are a part. As a practice, precision conservation compiles and integrates multiple types of available data layers and analysis (e.g., terrain analysis, soil productivity, habitat potential, economic analysis, erosion potential, proximity to surface water) to identify and guide efforts that will maximize conservation benefits.

## 2011-2012 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### G. Environmental Education

Proposals must address education and training efforts that will increase the knowledge and skills of students and all citizens to improve and maintain water quality, reduce and monitor energy consumption, and restore and maintain a healthy and biodiverse natural environment. Funding for capital projects (e.g. buildings) will not be considered.

Priority will given to projects that address one or more of the following:

1. Efforts that are locally-led, involve broad-based partnerships, provide outdoor experiences, and are committed to building a long-lasting and action-based conservation ethic in a community.
2. Environmental education programs using community plantings or gardens to teach biological or ecological concepts; use of native plants and/or organic practices are encouraged.
3. Efforts that deliver and implement existing curriculum, especially integration of environmental education into school curriculum.

### H. Creative Ideas

Proposals will be considered for efforts that are innovative or “out-of-the-box” and could produce transformative changes for the benefit of Minnesota’s environment and natural resources, but do not fit under one of the other categories; or, that focus on new and emerging environment or natural resource issues and are time-sensitive, but do not fit under one of the other categories.

# REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

## Project Requirements

- Expenditures must strictly adhere to the constitutional purpose of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (pg. 14) and conform to M.S. 116P.08, the laws governing the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (pg. 14)
- Funds requested are expected to be expended and activities completed within 36 months. If additional time is needed, please explain in the “Timeline Requirements” section (section III-B) of the main proposal.
- Fee-title and conservation easement acquisition projects have the following additional requirements:
  1. First priority must be given to lands with high quality natural resources that provide multiple benefits and that provide natural buffers to water resources;
  2. Targeted lands must be identified in an adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plan;
  3. Conservation easements must be perpetual and include stewardship provisions to perpetually monitor and enforce the conditions of the conservation easements;
  4. Explanation must be provided for how a restoration/enhancement or management plan for the site will be developed, implemented, and funded (through this funding request or other funds);
  5. A list must be provided that identifies proposed acquisitions by parcel name, acquisition type (fee-title or conservation easement), county, estimated # of acres, and geographical coordinates (latitude and longitude or UTM-X and UTM-Y).
- Restorations must plant vegetation only of ecotypes native to Minnesota and preferably of the local ecotype using a high diversity of species originating as close to the restoration site as possible and, when restoring prairies, protect existing prairies from genetic contamination. Use of seeds and plant material beyond these requirements must be expressly requested and approved. For additional guidance, see “Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines” from the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources: [http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/practices/seeding\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/practices/seeding_guidelines.pdf)
- All projects are subject to additional requirements including accessibility, data availability, land acquisition requirements, energy conservation and sustainability guidelines, and recyclable material requirements. Information located at [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn) titled “Additional Proposal Requirements”.

## Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria will be considered in evaluating Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund proposals (Additional explanation of evaluation criteria is available at [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn)):

1. **FUNDING PRIORITIES:** Responds to RFP funding priorities and LCCMR Six-Year Strategic Plan for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund articulated and adopted by the LCCMR.
2. **MULTIPLE BENEFITS:** Delivers multiple benefits to Minnesota’s environment and natural resources.
3. **OUTCOMES:** Identifies clear objectives likely to result in measurable, demonstrated, and meaningful outcomes.
4. **KNOWLEDGE BASE:** Contributes to the knowledge base or disseminates information that will benefit other related efforts.
5. **EXTENT OF IMPACTS:** Results in broad, long-term impacts of statewide or regional significance.
6. **INNOVATION:** Employs or demonstrates innovative approaches to more effectively and efficiently solve specific environment and natural resources issues.
7. **SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL BASIS:** Reflects current scientific and technical knowledge, standards, and best practices.
8. **URGENCY:** Addresses an issue for which immediate future action is necessary and urgent to avoid undesirable consequences.
9. **CAPACITY AND READINESS:** Demonstrates capacity and readiness for efforts to be managed and completed in a timely, accountable, and effective manner.
10. **LEVERAGE:** Leverages collaborative partnerships and additional efforts, resources, and non-state dollars.
11. **RESULTING ADDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT:** Employs a significant number of additional or new employees or students in natural resources jobs that are direct to the funding request.



# Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)

February 2009

## ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND 2010 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (LOCATED @ WWW.LCCMR.LEG.MN)

### FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR 2010

- A. WATER RESOURCES
- B. RENEWABLE ENERGY RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE
- C. HABITAT RESTORATION, ENHANCEMENT, AND ACQUISITION
- D. INVASIVE SPECIES
- E. NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION
- F. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
- G. CREATIVE IDEAS

**FUNDING BEGINNING: JULY 1, 2010**

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT\*: 4:30 PM, FRIDAY MAY 1, 2009**

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS REQUIRED**

**\*LCCMR STAFF ARE AVAILABLE TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON DRAFTS OF PROPOSALS IF SUBMITTED BY MONDAY APRIL 27, 2009**

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### FUNDING SOURCES:

The LCCMR makes funding recommendations to the MN Legislature on an annual basis for up to 5.5% of the existing value of the MN Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund (Trust Fund). An estimated \$25.6 million is available from the Trust Fund for the funding cycle beginning July 1, 2010.



# 2010 FUNDING PRIORITIES

## Targeted Issue Areas

Projects are sought that provide multiple ecological and other public benefits and are consistent with the LCCMR Six-Year Strategic Plan and the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan.

(Plans available at: <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn>)

Proposals are requested in the following seven areas, described in more detail below:

- A. Water Resources**
- B. Renewable Energy Related to Climate Change**
- C. Habitat Restoration, Enhancement, and Acquisition**
- D. Invasive Species**
- E. Natural Resource Conservation Planning and Implementation**
- F. Environmental Education**
- G. Creative Ideas**

### **A. Water Resources**

Projects are sought that address water issues on a surface watershed or groundwater watershed basis as follows:

1. Groundwater Sustainability
  - a. Develop new or improved methods to identify and protect aquifer and groundwater recharge areas from loss or contamination.
  - b. Undertake scientific assessment of groundwater quality, quantity, and sustainability that can be utilized in regional and statewide ways to lead to improved groundwater recharge protection.
2. Estrogenic and Pharmaceutical Contaminants in Surface and Ground Waters
  - a. Document and evaluate the extent and level of estrogenic and pharmaceutical contaminants of wastewater treatment and industrial facility effluent in water bodies around the state.
  - b. Evaluate and quantify the threat to humans and animals from estrogenic compounds and pharmaceuticals in waters around the state.
  - c. Develop, test, and evaluate protocols and public education efforts for the proper disposal of estrogenic compounds and pharmaceuticals in order to protect water resources.
3. Aquatic Habitat Protection
  - a. Demonstrate and evaluate innovative practices to protect, improve, and prevent degradation of native aquatic habitat, including shoreland and near-shore, in-water habitat.
  - b. Continue to update the National Wetlands Inventory in Minnesota.

## 2010 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### B. Renewable Energy Related to Climate Change

Projects are sought that reduce carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions as follows:

1. Evaluate applicability and effective implementation of different clean energy technologies in Minnesota, such as solar and geothermal technologies.
2. Encourage adoption of community-based, locally-produced, renewable and innovative clean energy technologies (this could include microgrids or smaller community networks).
3. Develop innovative pilot or demonstration projects to reduce carbon emissions from residential and other small energy consumers.

### C. Habitat Restoration, Enhancement, and Acquisition

Projects are sought that protect, restore, and enhance lands with high quality natural resources and habitat for wildlife and human benefit. This includes but is not limited to Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs), state and regional parks and trails, and sensitive shorelands or riparian habitat.

1. Restoration and Enhancement
  - a. Develop and disseminate guidelines for and/or provide training in state-of-the-art, science-based restoration for each of Minnesota's major ecotypes. Training should include field experience.
  - b. Conduct innovative restoration projects, including evaluation of the methods used.
  - c. Evaluate the effectiveness of restoration methods and projects in order to improve the effectiveness of future efforts.
2. Acquisition

Protect and enhance through fee title or permanent easement acquisition strategic lands that make the largest contribution to multiple benefits for conservation. The following parameters apply:

  - Lands to be acquired should be identified in an adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plan.
  - All acquisition proposals must include an explanation as to how a restoration/enhancement and/or management plan for the site will be developed, implemented, and funded (either under this proposal or through other funding sources).
  - Management should enhance the quality and diversity of natural resources.

### D. Invasive Species

Projects are sought that address the threat of aquatic and terrestrial invasive species by developing new, innovative, and more effective control methods and by decreasing invasibility (making habitats less susceptible to invasion). Potential efforts could include:

1. Preventing introductions of new invasive species.
2. Providing early detection of new invasive species.
3. Reducing the spread of invasive species along transportation routes and other vectors.
4. Alternative control techniques for containing or suppressing invasive species already present in Minnesota, including but not limited to Curly-leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Watermilfoil. *\*This does not include funding typical maintenance activities such as harvesting and annual chemical treatments.*
5. Restoring or re-establishing terrestrial or aquatic habitats impacted by invasive species. Priority will be given to habitats located on public land or private lands protected by permanent conservation easements.

## 2010 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### **E. Natural Resource Conservation Planning and Implementation**

Projects are sought that develop and/or implement integrated community-based natural resource, open space, and conservation plans to identify key opportunities to conserve local, regional, and state ecological, cultural, and outdoor recreational resources. Funds are intended to focus on natural resources including water and habitat, parks and open space, and other conservation planning and implementation efforts and not intended to subsidize other required local planning efforts.

### **F. Environmental Education**

Projects are sought that provide innovative delivery of environmental education, including professional development, to both K-12 and adult audiences and result in increased community involvement and leadership on environmental issues. Preference will be given toward efforts that develop understanding of climate change or that involve outdoor classroom settings.

### **G. Creative Ideas**

Projects are sought that could produce transformative changes for the benefit of Minnesota's environment and natural resources, but which do not fit under categories A through F. The intention here is for "out of the box" thinking, ideas, and innovation that could result in significant, measureable benefits for Minnesota's air, land, water, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources.

# REQUIREMENTS AND CRITERIA

- Trust Fund expenditures must strictly adhere to the constitutional requirements (pg. 14).
- Trust Fund expenditures must conform to the Trust Fund law M.S. 116P.08 (pg. 14)
- Projects must be able to start by July 1, 2010 and should be able to spend money from an appropriation within 36 months.
- All projects are subject to additional proposal requirements that may include and pertain to accessibility, data availability, land acquisition, energy conservation and sustainability guidelines, and recyclable material requirements. Information located at [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn) titled "Additional Proposal Requirements".

## Proposal Requirements

Proposals should be consistent with the funding priorities identified in the 2010 RFP and the LCCMR's Six-Year Strategic Plan.

Project managers and partners must be accountable and able to complete project objectives.

All proposals should, as appropriate:

- **Demonstrate innovative approaches** to solving natural resource issues;
- Have approaches that are **measurable and reflect current scientific standards** so that they can be evaluated to determine the most effective approaches;
- Have approaches that are **replicable** on future projects to more effectively and efficiently solve specific natural resource issues;
- Have **broad applicability** on a regional and/or statewide basis;
- **Add to the knowledge base** of addressing natural resource issues;
- State **clear objectives** for what the proposal will accomplish.

For acquisition and conservation easements, priority is to be given to acquiring lands with high quality natural resources and conservation lands that provide natural buffers to water resources. Conservation easements must be perpetual and include stewardship provisions to perpetually monitor and enforce the conditions of the conservation easements.

The use and protection of native species is required for all projects.

Restorations must utilize seeds and plants of the local ecotypes unless not available. The second preference is to have seeds and plants of the same eco-region, and the third preference is to have seeds and plants of an adjacent eco-region.

## Criteria for Scoring Proposals:

The following seven criteria will be considered in evaluating Trust Fund proposals (in alphabetical order):

- Add to the knowledge base and disseminate information
- Broad applicability with long term impacts having statewide or regional significance
- Innovation
- Leverage
- Measurable and demonstrated outcomes
- Partnerships
- Urgency

Some of the criteria may not be relevant to all proposals and may be determined to be non-applicable (N/A). A minimum of five of the seven criteria will be used to evaluate each proposal.

# Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)

JUNE 2008

## ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND 2009 PHASE 1 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

### FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR 2009

**PHASE 1: SELECTED ONGOING PROJECTS** (due 08/25/08)

**PHASE 2: TARGETED ISSUE AREAS\*** (due 10/01/08)

\* A Phase 2 Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued as a separate document on or around July 30, 2008. See pages 3-5 of this document for additional information.

**FUNDING BEGINNING: JULY 1, 2009**

**PHASE 1 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT: MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2008**  
POSTMARKED BY OR RECEIVED AT THE LCCMR OFFICE BY 4:30 PM

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS REQUESTED**

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### FUNDING SOURCES:

The LCCMR makes funding recommendations to the MN legislature on an annual basis for up to 5.5% of the existing value of the MN Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund (Trust Fund). An estimated \$25 million is expected to be available from the Trust Fund for the funding cycle beginning July 1, 2009.

This LCCMR “Request for Proposal” was adopted June 11, 2008 and is located at [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn).

# 2009 PHASE 1 FUNDING PRIORITIES

## Selected Ongoing Projects

For Phase 1 funding priorities, all existing Trust Fund funded projects were reviewed, ongoing projects that might benefit from additional funding were identified, and a selection of those projects identified were chosen as priorities for the LCCMR to consider for additional funding based on the guidelines listed below. Specific individual projects within this selection are being asked to submit a proposal requesting additional funds that outlines how the funds could extend, accelerate and/or enhance their existing efforts. Those projects that respond to this request will be asked to present their proposals before the LCCMR on September 23 or 24.

Proposals from projects and organizations not specifically identified in the Phase 1 Funding Priorities will not be accepted or considered as part of the Phase 1 RFP process. **A Phase 2 Request for Proposal (RFP) will be open to everyone** for all proposals consistent with the funding priorities identified for Phase 2. Phase 2 funding priorities will be determined in July 2008 and a Phase 2 RFP is expected to be issued on July 30, 2008. Projects and organizations not specifically identified and requested to submit a proposal for Phase 1 should review the Phase 2 priorities and, if appropriate, consider submitting a proposal in response to the Phase 2 RFP.

Projects submitting a proposal under Phase 1 are not guaranteed additional funding. Phase 1 proposals will be evaluated and considered for funding at the same time as Phase 2 proposals.

For projects selected to submit a proposal in response to this Phase 1 request, if current project funding is adequate and the project does not wish to submit an additional proposal at this time the project can decline this request by notifying LCCMR staff. Projects declining to submit a proposal in response to a Phase 1 request are not precluded from submitting a related future proposal.

**GUIDELINES: Projects selected as priorities to submit a proposal for Phase 1 were chosen based on the following guidelines. Projects or programs that:**

1. Continue efforts to maintain significant progress to complete a previously defined multi-phase project/program.
2. Continue a multi-phase project that will provide timely and relevant research or baseline data.
3. Are part of a continuum of researching, demonstrating, piloting, or refining natural resources practices that can be scaled up for broader implementation.
4. Are part of a coherent plan that is well developed and generally accepted by natural resource professionals.
5. Update or expand important statewide natural resource data or information.
6. Enhances the outdoor recreation system (M.S. Chapter 86A), the metropolitan regional park system and the Local Grants Program administered by the DNR for non-metro regional and local parks.

**SELECTION CRITERIA: Projects that submit a proposal for Phase 1 will be considered for additional funding based on the following selection criteria. Projects or programs that:**

1. Have statewide or regional significance.
2. Have long term relevance.
3. Are a strategic or catalytic investment.
4. Have an urgent need for funding (i.e. do not have significant existing funds remaining from new or existing appropriations).
5. Have proven success in achieving results.
6. Have a project manager that has successfully managed past Trust Fund projects.

## 2009 PHASE 1 FUNDING PRIORITIES

The existing projects listed below have been specifically selected by the LCCMR as priorities to consider for additional funding for Phase 1 of the 2009 RFP. The goal of this selection is to extend, accelerate, enhance, and/or advance these existing efforts to their next logical stage or scope of work directly in accordance with the intent of the existing project. Each of these individual projects is being asked to submit a proposal requesting additional funds that outlines how additional funds could be used.

### A. Natural Resource Data and Information

Project Title	Organization	Project Overview	Appropriations since 2005
Minnesota County Biological Survey	MN Department of Natural Resources	County-by-county survey, interpretation, and mapping of the state's natural habitats and the species they contain.	ML 2005-06 (08a) ML 2007 (6a) ML 2008 (3m)
County Geological Atlas and Groundwater Monitoring*	MN Department of Natural Resources & MN Geological Survey	County-by-county survey, interpretation, mapping, and monitoring of the state's groundwater resources.	ML 2007 (5j) ML 2008 (4h)
Soil Survey	MN Board of Water and Soil Resources	County-by-county survey, interpretation, and mapping of the state's soil resources.	ML 2005-06 (08b) ML 2007 (6b) ML 2008 (5b)
Innovative Springshed Mapping for Trout Stream Management	University of MN	Identification, assessment, and mapping of springs and recharge areas supplying trout streams in SE Minnesota.	ML 2007 (5g)
Updating the National Wetlands Inventory for Minnesota	MN Department of Natural Resources	Update of information on the characteristics, extent, and status of wetlands and deep-water habitats in MN.	ML 2008 (5a)
Restorable Wetlands Inventory	Ducks Unlimited	Identification and mapping of drained wetlands in MN to help prioritize wetland restoration.	ML 2008 (5e)

\* Actual project titles for individual appropriations to this ongoing effort were "County Geologic Atlas Acceleration" (ML 2007) & "South-Central MN Groundwater Monitoring & County Geological Atlas" (ML 2008).



# 2009 PHASE 1 FUNDING PRIORITIES

## B. State Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Acquisition & Restoration

Project Title	Organization	Project Overview	Appropriations since 2005
State Park Acquisition**	MN Department of Natural Resources	Acquisition of privately held land within existing state park boundaries.	ML 2005-06 (6a) ML 2007 (4e) ML 2008 (3h)
State Trail Acquisition**	MN Department of Natural Resources	Acquisition of parcels of land along state trail corridors.	ML 2005-06 (06f,g,h) ML 2007 (4e) ML 2008 (3h)
Metropolitan Regional Park System Land Acquisition	Metropolitan Council	Subgrants for acquisition of land for metropolitan regional park system.	ML 2005-06 (6e) ML 2007 (4f) ML 2008 (3i)
Non-Metropolitan Regional Parks and Natural and Scenic Area Acquisition	MN Department of Natural Resources	Subgrants for acquisition of parkland outside the metropolitan area and natural and scenic areas statewide.	ML 2005 (6j) ML 2007 (4g)
Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition	MN Department of Natural Resources	Acquisition of MN lands containing rare natural features and resources of exceptional scientific and educational value.	ML 2005 (5c) ML 2008 (3f)
Forest Legacy Conservation Easements	MN Department of Natural Resources	Acquisition of permanent easements on private forest land that allow existing uses but prevent habitat degradation.	ML 2005-06 (9c) ML 2006 (11) ML 2007 (4a)
MN Habitat Conservation Partnership (HCP)	MN Department of Natural Resources, NGOs, Fed. agencies	Acquisition and restoration of lands to connect quality habitat in 11 major landscape corridors in outstate MN.	ML 2005-06 (05a) ML 2007 (4b) ML 2008 (3c)
Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC)	MN Department of Natural Resources, NGOs	Acquisition and restoration of lands to connect quality habitat in 7 county metro area and surrounding counties.	ML 2005-06 (05b) ML 2007 (4c) ML 2008 (3a)

\*\* Past state park and trail acquisitions were sometimes included under the same appropriation and actual project titles differed from those indicated here to reflect this; specifically, this includes "State Parks and Trails Land Acquisition" (ML 2007) and "State Park and Trail Land Acquisition" (ML 2008). For the purposes of this document and Phase 1 request, "State Park Acquisition" and "State Trail Acquisition" are being indicated as separate projects.

## 2009 PHASE 1 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### C. Water-Related Research

Project Title	Organization	Project Overview	Appropriations since 2005
Unwanted Hormone Therapy: Protecting Water and Public Health	University of MN	Research to determine where behavior-altering estrogenic compounds come from and how they are distributed through wastewater treatment plant systems.	ML 2005-06 (07e)
Climate Change Impacts on Minnesota's Aquatic Resources	University of MN	Research measuring long-term trends in the MN's climate, ecology, and water resources; making projections about impacts of change; and identifying indicators to monitor changes.	ML 2006 (07) ML 2007 (5k)
Improved River Quality Monitoring Using Airborne Remote Sensing	Minnesota State University - Mankato	Research improving methods for monitoring and studying river water quality and riparian habitat in MN.	ML 2007 (5e)
Water Resource Sustainability	University of MN	Research improving surface water and groundwater resources planning in MN.	ML 2007 (5i)
Cedar Creek Groundwater Project using Prairie Biofuel Buffers	University of MN	Research on ability of native prairie plants to provide cellulosic biofuel feedstock while creating wildlife habitat, protecting groundwater, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	ML 2007 (5n)
Future of Energy and Minnesota's Water Resources	University of MN	Research assessing water demand in MN under various energy production scenarios.	ML 2008 (4a)

## 2009 PHASE 2 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### PHASE 2 RFP EXPECTED TO BE ISSUED JULY 30, 2008

The Phase 2 Request for Proposal (RFP) will be open to everyone for all proposals consistent with the funding priorities identified for Phase 2. Phase 2 funding priorities will be determined in July 2008 and a Phase 2 RFP is expected to be issued on July 30, 2008. Projects and organizations not specifically identified and requested to submit a proposal for Phase 1 should review the Phase 2 priorities and, if appropriate, consider submitting a proposal under that process. See pages 3-5 for additional information.

## PROJECT CRITERIA

- Trust Fund expenditures must strictly adhere to the constitutional requirements (pg. 19).
- Trust Fund expenditures must conform to the Trust Fund law M.S. 116P.08 (pg. 19)
- Projects must be able to start by July 1, 2009 and should be able to spend money from an appropriation within 36 months.
- All projects are subject to additional proposal requirements that may include and pertain to accessibility, data availability, land acquisition, energy conservation and sustainability guidelines, and recyclable material requirements. Information located at [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn) titled "Additional Proposal Requirements".

**Project managers and partners must be accountable and able to complete project objectives.**

All proposals **should, as appropriate:**

- **demonstrate innovative approaches** to solving natural resource issues
- have approaches that are **measurable and reflect current scientific standards** so that they can be evaluated to determine the most effective approaches
- have approaches that are **replicable** on future projects to more effectively and efficiently solve specific natural resource issues
- have **broad applicability** on a regional and/or statewide basis
- **add to the knowledge base** of addressing natural resource issues
- State **clear objectives** for what the proposal will accomplish

For acquisition and conservation easements, priority is to be given to acquiring lands with high quality natural resources and conservation lands that provide natural buffers to water resources. Conservation easements must be perpetual and include stewardship provisions to perpetually monitor and enforce the conditions of the conservation easements.

The use and protection of native species is required for all projects.

Restorations must utilize seeds and plants of the local ecotypes unless not available. The second preference is to have seeds and plants of the same eco-region, and the third preference is to have seeds and plants of an adjacent eco-region.



# Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)

JULY 2008

## ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND 2009 PHASE 2 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

### FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR 2009

**PHASE 2: TARGETED ISSUE AREAS** (due 10/01/08)

**PHASE 1: SELECTED ONGOING PROJECTS\*** (due 08/25/08)

\* A Phase 1 Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued as a separate document on June 18, 2008. See pages 2,3, & 7 of this document for additional information.

**FUNDING BEGINNING: JULY 1, 2009**

**PHASE 2 DEADLINE TO SUBMIT: WED., OCTOBER 1, 2008**  
POSTMARKED BY OR RECEIVED AT THE LCCMR OFFICE BY 4:30 PM

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS REQUESTED**

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### FUNDING SOURCES:

The LCCMR makes funding recommendations to the MN legislature on an annual basis for up to 5.5% of the existing value of the MN Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund (Trust Fund). An estimated \$25 million is expected to be available from the Trust Fund for the funding cycle beginning July 1, 2009.

This LCCMR “Request for Proposal” was adopted July 18, 2008 and is located at [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn).

# 2009 PHASE 2 FUNDING PRIORITIES

## Targeted Issue Areas

Projects are sought that provide multiple ecological and other public benefits. Proposals are requested in the following four areas:

- Land and Habitat
- Water Quality
- Invasive Species
- Energy

Additionally, further specification has been made in regard to three projects requested to submit proposals under Phase 1.

### A. Land and Habitat

#### 1. Critical Lands Analysis

Use applicable data to identify the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands and other ecologically sensitive lands, at local and regional levels, that have the highest ecological value and provide multiple other benefits. The data must be provided in a prioritized listing and ranked in order of conservation values.

*\*An example of values and benefits include providing high quality and connected habitat with minimal fragmentation, protecting water quality with vegetative buffer strips along surface waters to reduce nutrient, solids, and toxics loading, reducing soil erosion caused by water and wind, reducing flooding, infiltrating water to the ground water system, and protecting native plant species.*

#### 2. Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Lands

Develop and implement a program to permanently protect and retain the conservation status of lands in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) with contracts due to expire in the near future and that have the highest ecological value and provide multiple other benefits, focusing on lands with lower crop productivity potential, as indicated by applicable data.

#### 3. Technical Assistance for Conserving Land

Provide landowners, land managers, planners, and conservationists with information and evaluation tools pertaining to various land conservation options in order to permanently protect lands in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) with contracts due to expire in the near future and/or other ecologically sensitive lands. Efforts should focus on lands that have the highest ecological value and provide multiple other benefits, as indicated by applicable data.

*\*Lands of high ecological value in the CRP program with contracts expiring in the near future are the highest priority for providing outreach in order to help provide permanent protection.*



## 2009 PHASE 2 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### B. Water Quality

#### 1. Reduce Soil Erosion

Reduce nutrient, solids, and toxics loading in surface waters by addressing streambank, shoreland, and other erosion on a watershed basis through analysis of the loading and its causes. Develop and implement a demonstration of effective best management practices (BMPs) to mitigate the nutrient, solids, and toxics loading. Proposals must include an evaluation and monitoring component for the implementation of the BMPs.

#### 2. Reduce Peak Water Flows

On a watershed basis, help control peak flows to improve surface water quality, reduce flooding, and facilitate infiltration of water to groundwater systems by developing and implementing methods to keep water on the land longer for both working lands and habitat.

*\*Priority will be given to proposals that address lakes, rivers, and wetlands with "Multiple Impairments" as defined in the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's "[Minnesota Draft 2008 Inventory of Impaired Waters](#)". Also see [page 113](#) of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan: <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/statewideconservationplan/StatewidePlan.htm>*

#### 3. Minnesota Drainage Law Analysis and Evaluation

Conduct a legal analysis of Minnesota drainage laws (M.S. Chapter 103E and other applicable drainage law) to determine the economic costs and benefits and environmental impacts of the laws and consider alternative strategies that would best serve the collective needs of public waters and property owners alike.

#### 4. Deep Water Lakes

Protect and enhance the lakesheds and aquatic communities of high quality deep water lakes in Minnesota through inventory and evaluation of cold water aquatic communities in the lakes; development and implementation of effective best management practices (BMPs); and/or implementation of other protection efforts for uplands, shoreland, and groundwater. All proposals implementing shoreland protection must include monitoring and evaluation components.

*\*Examples of deep water lakes are given on [page 78](#) of the Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan: <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/statewideconservationplan/StatewidePlan.htm>*

### C. Invasive Species

#### 1. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

Address the threat of aquatic and terrestrial invasive species by developing new, innovative, and more effective control methods. Potential efforts could include:

- a. Preventing introductions of new invasive species.
- b. Providing early detection of new invasive species.
- c. Reducing the spread of invasive species along transportation routes and other vectors.
- d. Containing or suppressing invasive species already present in Minnesota, including Curly-leaf Pondweed and Eurasian Watermilfoil. *\*This does not include funding typical maintenance activities such as harvesting and annual chemical treatments.*
- e. Restoring or reestablishing terrestrial or aquatic habitats impacted by invasive species. Priority will be given to habitats located on public lands or private lands covered by permanent conservation easements.

## 2009 PHASE 2 FUNDING PRIORITIES

### D. Energy

#### 1. Renewable Energy Life Cycle Costs and Impacts

Using new and existing data, research and evaluate over-arching climate change and life cycle costs and impacts of renewable energy options in Minnesota. Relevant factors include effects on the economy, greenhouse gas emissions, water consumption, water quality, carbon sequestration, gene flow risks, wildlife populations, native pollinators, transport and delivery, and utilization by the transportation sector.

*\*Analysis of various biofuels should include life cycle costs and impacts of individual crop harvests as well as potential growth of overall production systems in order to evaluate multiple benefits such as increased yields, best management practices, best suited growing conditions, relative availability, and sustainable production rates.*

#### 2. Residential Energy Conservation

Develop innovative pilot or demonstration programs to increase the implementation and effectiveness of residential energy conservation efforts, including delivery of creative financing options for residential energy customers.

*\*Potential proposers could include cooperatives, utilities, lenders and community groups.*

### E. Additional Information for Phase 1 Proposers (Due August 25, 2008)

The following three projects were requested to submit a proposal under Phase 1 of the RFP for 2009 funding. On July 18, 2008, the LCCMR added some guidance to their Phase 1 requests for these specific projects:

#### 1. Minnesota Habitat Conservation Partnership (HCP) &

#### 2. Metro Conservation Corridors (MeCC)

The LCCMR has requested that HCP and MeCC projects address the following in their Phase 1 proposals:

- a. Prioritization of Acquisition and Restoration – Utilize the *Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan* mapping efforts to help further identify the highest priority lands for protection, conservation, and restoration. Acquisitions must be based on protecting the highest ecological value in addition to willing sellers.
- b. Shoreland – Shoreland areas should be given a very high priority of protection and restoration because of their ecological importance as the interface between land and water.
- c. Shallow lakes – Shallow lake restoration proposed for funding should include innovative restoration pilots, evaluation and monitoring components for the restorations, and address the upland impacts on the shallow lakes.

#### 3. The Minnesota County Geologic Atlas

The LCCMR requests that the proposal submitted address updating geothermal heat flow maps for Minnesota to assist in assessing the potential for shallow and deep geothermal energy options.

# 2009 PHASE 1 FUNDING PRIORITIES

## Selected Ongoing Projects

### PHASE 1 RFP WAS ISSUED JUNE 18, 2008

[http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/RequestforProposals/2009/RFP\\_2009\\_Phase\\_1.pdf](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/RequestforProposals/2009/RFP_2009_Phase_1.pdf)

The Phase 1 Request for Proposals (RFP) was a request for proposals from specific existing, ongoing Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund funded projects. Only projects and organizations identified in the Phase 1 RFP are eligible to apply in Phase 1. In determining priorities for the Phase 1 RFP, all existing Trust Fund funded projects were reviewed, ongoing projects that might benefit from additional funding were identified, and a selection of those projects identified were chosen for the LCCMR to consider for additional funding based on the following guidelines—projects or programs that:

1. Continue efforts to maintain significant progress to complete a previously defined multi-phase project/program.
2. Continue a multi-phase project that will provide timely and relevant research or baseline data.
3. Are part of a continuum of researching, demonstrating, piloting, or refining natural resources practices that can be scaled up for broader implementation.
4. Are part of a coherent plan that is well developed and generally accepted by natural resource professionals.
5. Update or expand important statewide natural resource data or information.
6. Enhances the outdoor recreation system ([M.S. Chapter 86A](#)), the metropolitan regional park system and the Local Grants Program administered by the DNR for non-metro regional and local parks.

**For more information and to view the Phase 1 RFP  
visit: <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/2009Process.html>**

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**Project managers and partners must be accountable and able to complete project objectives.**

**The Phase 2 RFP is open to everyone for all proposals consistent with Phase 2 funding priorities.**

**All proposals should, as appropriate:**

- **demonstrate innovative approaches** to solving natural resource issues
- have approaches that are **measurable and reflect current scientific standards** so that they can be evaluated to determine the most effective approaches
- have approaches that are **replicable** on future projects to more effectively and efficiently solve specific natural resource issues
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### **Criteria for scoring proposals:**

The following seven criteria will be considered in evaluating Trust Fund proposals (in alphabetical order):

- Add to the knowledge base and disseminate information
- Broad applicability with long term impacts having statewide or regional significance
- Innovation
- Leverage
- Measurable and demonstrated outcomes
- Partnerships
- Urgency

Each of the criteria will be eligible for zero to ten points. Some of the criteria may not be relevant to all proposals and may be determined to be non-applicable (N/A). A minimum of five of the seven criteria will be used to evaluate each proposal.

Proposals that do not receive scores for all seven criteria will be equalized with those that do by determining what percentage of the total possible points each proposal receives.

# ELIGIBLE & INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

## ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Eligible expenses are those expenses directly incurred through project activities that are solely related to and necessary for producing the project outcomes described in the approved Work Plan during the appropriation period. **All proposed expenses must be specified in the proposal submitted.** All dollars are awarded on a reimbursement basis, unless specifically authorized. Eligible expenses must be documented as specified in the Reimbursement Manual available from the authorized contract person for the State.

Eligible expenses may include the following and are eligible only if specified in an approved Work Plan:

- a. Eligible expenditures incurred only after the effective date in the approved Work Plan.
- b. Wages and expenses of salaried Recipient employees if specified and documented in the Work Plan. For State Agencies: use of unclassified staff only OR request approval for the use of classified staff accompanied by an explanation of how the agency will backfill that part of the classified staff salary proposed to be paid for with this appropriation. This is subject to specific discussion and approval by LCCMR;
- c. Fringe benefit expenses limited to salary, FICA/Medicare, retirement, and health insurance of Recipient's employees if specified in the Work Plan;
- d. Professional services specified in the approved Work Plan that are rendered by individuals or organizations not a part of the Recipient;
- e. Materials and supplies specific to the project and incoming freight charges for them;
- f. Capital expenditures for facilities, equipment, and other capital assets as expressly approved in the Work Plan. For expenditures greater than \$3,500, the Recipient must include in the Work Plan an explanation as to how all the equipment purchased with the appropriation will continue to be used for the same program through its useful life, or, if the use changes, a commitment to pay back to the Environment & Natural Resources Trust Fund an amount equal to either the cash value received or a residual value approved by the director of the LCCMR if it is not sold;
- g. Publication & printing expenses (including the process of composition, plate-making, press work, binding and the end products produced) necessary for contract administration, work products production, and semi-annual reports relating to Work Plan accomplishments;
- h. In-state transportation and travel expenses such as lodging, meals, and mileage of personnel involved in the Project in the same manner and in no greater amount than provided for in the current "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Employee Relations and as provided by

LCCMR or, for University of Minnesota (U of M) projects, the University of Minnesota plan found at <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Finance/Travel/TRAVEL.html>. Allowable meal & lodging expenses are for employees only. Purchasing meals for others is not an allowable expense.

## INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Ineligible expenses for reimbursement mean all expenses not defined as eligible expenses, **including but not limited to the following:**

- a. Any expenses incurred before the project is authorized, before July 1, 2011, or before Work Plan approval—whichever is latest.
- b. Fund raising;
- c. Taxes, except sales tax on goods and services;
- d. Insurance, except title insurance;
- e. Attorney fees, except for acquisition and clearing title to land;
- f. Lobbyists, political contributions;
- g. Advertising and marketing expenses;
- h. Loans, grants, or subsidies to persons or entities for development;
- i. Bad debts, late payment fees, finance charges or contingency funds;
- j. Interest, investment management fees;
- k. Directors or officers salary, including executive director;
- l. Merit awards and bonuses;
- m. Office rental fees (including storage space rental);
- n. Overhead and indirect expenses, including office maintenance, office utility expenses, refreshments for staff, decorations, office materials and supplies;
- o. Communication expenses incurred for telephone calls, web access, postage, and similar services.
- p. Purchase of communication devices such as pagers, cell phones, personal data assistants (PDAs);
- q. Purchase of computers;
- r. Purchase of audiovisual equipment;
- s. Memberships (including subscriptions and dues);
- t. Publications, periodicals, and subscription fees;
- u. Employee worksite parking;
- v. Entertainment, gifts and prizes, food and refreshments;
- w. Conference attendance and associated costs and fees;
- x. Out of state transportation and travel expenses.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUESTED**

#### **SUBMIT PROPOSAL:**

WEB-BASED SUBMISSION

Go to: [www.lccmr.leg.mn](http://www.lccmr.leg.mn)

If unable to use the web-based form you can:

EMAIL SUBMISSION

Email proposal in MS Word format to: [trustfundrfp@lccmr.leg.mn](mailto:trustfundrfp@lccmr.leg.mn)

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

The spirit and intent of the LCCMR is to provide access to EVERYONE who has innovative ideas for environment and natural resource projects with a distinct public benefit that reflect the Commission's adopted Request for Proposal and Six-Year Strategic Plan.

No grant-making or lobbying assistance is necessary for success. LCCMR staff are available to assist in proposal development.

#### **ELIGIBLE EXPENSES:**

For a complete list of eligible and non-eligible expenses see <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/manager/promanager.htm>.

#### **PROPOSAL ASSISTANCE:**

LCCMR staff are available to assist proposers, answer questions, or review draft proposals. **Applicants are encouraged to use this service.** If you would like assistance with proposal development, staff can assist you by phone, e-mail, fax, or by appointment.

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