



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) 2012-2013 Request for Proposal

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) www.lccmr.leg.mn Funding Priorities for 2012-2013

1. The Reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in M.S. 84.95, Subd. 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.

Funding Beginning: July 1, 2013

Deadline to Submit: 4:30 PM on April 6, 2012

- Electronic submission of proposals required.
- Please carefully review the full text and follow the instructions of this document before submitting a proposal.
- LCCMR staff are available to assist and review draft proposals if submitted by April 2, 2012 . Early submission of drafts is recommended to receive the most detailed guidance.

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\$ FUNDING AVAILABILITY:

- The LCCMR makes recommendations to the MN Legislature for project funding appropriations of up to 5.5% per year of the existing value of the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF).
- This Request for Proposal (RFP) is for funds available beginning July 1, 2013. For that period, approximately \$XX million from the ENRTF is expected to be available for project funding.
- Through this RFP the LCCMR intends to make funding recommendations to the 2013 MN Legislature.
- This RFP is part of an annual cycle and the next RFP is expected to be issued in January 2013 for funds available July 1, 2014.

Minnesota's Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund:
Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec.14: "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."

Issued [Insert Date]

2012-2013 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

LCCMR MEMBERS

Al Berner
 Jeff Broberg
 Tom Cook
 Sen. Gary Dahms
 Sen. Al DeKruif
 Rep. David Dill
 Nancy Gibson
 Rep. Tom Hackbarth
 John Herman
 Sen. Linda Higgins
 Rep. Denny McNamara
 Norman Moody
 Sen. Gen Olson
 Rep. Tom Rukavina
 Rep. Ron Shimanski
 Sen. Rod Skoe
 Elizabeth Wilkens

Co-Chairs

Nancy Gibson
 Rep. Tom Hackbarth
 Sen. Gen Olson

Co-Vice Chairs

Jeff Broberg
 Rep. David Dill
 Sen. Linda Higgins

The LCCMR is an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE).

PLEASE CAREFULLY REVIEW THE FULL TEXT AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT BEFORE SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

ELIGIBILITY—OPEN TO ALL:

The spirit and intent of the LCCMR is to provide access to EVERYONE who has innovative ideas for environment and natural resource projects that could provide multiple ecological and other public benefits to Minnesota, are consistent with the LCCMR's Six-Year Strategic Plan for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/StrategicPlan/2009/LCCMR_Strategic_Plan.pdf), and address the adopted funding priorities described in this RFP.

LCCMR staff are available to assist in proposal development. Lobbying or professional grant-writing experience is not necessary for success.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:

4:30 PM, April 6, 2012

THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE.

SUBMIT PROPOSAL:

Web-based Submission of Proposals Required*

Go to: www.lccmr.leg.mn and select "2012-2013 LCCMR Proposal Submit Form".

Save a copy of your submission for your records. **All submitted proposals and budgets will be posted on the web upon receipt for the public to view.**

*If unable to use the web-based proposal submit form, please contact LCCMR staff.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

Funding for selected projects will be available beginning July 1, 2013.

EXPENSE ELIGIBILITY:

For a list of eligible and ineligible expenses see page 11.

PROPOSAL ASSISTANCE:

LCCMR staff are available to assist proposers, answer questions, or review and provide feedback on drafts of proposals.

Proposers are encouraged to submit proposal drafts to help ensure proposals are focused, clear, and contain all necessary information. Drafts must be received by April 2, 2012, to allow adequate time for staff review. Early submission of drafts is recommended to receive the most detailed guidance.

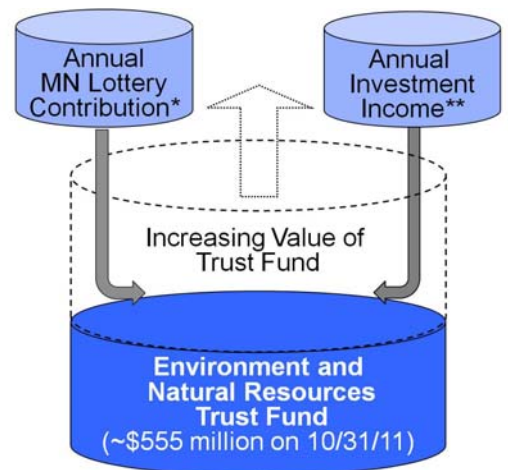
If you have questions or would like proposal assistance, contact LCCMR staff:

Phone: (651) 296-2406

Email: lccmr@lccmr.leg.mn

Address:

**Room 65 State Office Building
 100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
 St. Paul, MN 55155**



* 40% of net Lottery profits, or ~7¢ of every dollar spent on MN Lottery tickets.

**Grows Trust Fund at average rate of ~6% of market value each year.

2012-2013 PROPOSAL AND FUNDING PROCESS TIMELINE

DECEMBER 2011-JANUARY 2012

- LCCMR determines funding priorities and adopts 2012-2013 Request for Proposal (RFP).
- 2012-2013 RFP issued.
- LCCMR staff available to review and provide feedback on any draft proposals submitted from January through April 2, 2012.

April 2012

- April 2, 2012: Last day to submit draft proposals for LCCMR staff review.
- **April 6, 2012: Final Proposal Submission Deadline.**

SUMMER/FALL 2012

- All proposals are reviewed and evaluated using the criteria on page 5 of this RFP.
- Based on the evaluations a subset of proposals is selected for further consideration and those proposers are invited in to give presentations before the LCCMR.
- After presentations final selection is made by LCCMR of proposals to be recommended to Minnesota Legislature for funding.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROJECTS

Recommended scientific research proposals undergo peer review.

PROJECT WORK PLANS

All recommended proposals submit detailed work plans to the LCCMR.

JANUARY-MAY 2013 (Legislative Session)

- The LCCMR funding recommendations are considered and acted upon by the Minnesota Legislature (House and Senate) and signed into law by the Governor.

JUNE-JULY 2013

- June 2013: LCCMR approves work plans for funded proposals authorizing projects to begin July 1, 2013.
- **July 1, 2013: Money from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund becomes available for projects to begin.**

The next RFP is expected to be issued in January 2013.

2012-2013 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), and address one of the adopted funding priorities detailed below. Funding priorities are directly from Minnesota Statute 116P.08, Subd. 1, which pertains to allowable expenditures for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. Projects should be innovative and must accelerate or supplement, not supplant, existing efforts.

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

1. The Reinvest in Minnesota program as provided in M.S. 84.95, Subd. 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.

NOTE: Per M.S. 116P.02, Subd. 5: "Natural resources' includes the outdoor recreation system under section 86A.04 [i.e., state recreation system] and regional recreation open space systems as defined under section 473.351, subdivision 1 [i.e., metropolitan regional park system]."

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Project Requirements

- Expenditures must strictly adhere to Article XI, Section 14 of the Minnesota Constitution and M.S. 116P.08, the laws governing the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (pg. 12).
- Funds requested are generally expected to be expended and activities completed within 36 months or less. 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; ecological significance; estimated number of acres and, if applicable, shoreline miles; proposed title/easement holder; and geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude). A template is available at www.lccmr.leg.mn.
- Restoration projects should refer to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources “Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines” (http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/practices/seeding_guidelines.pdf) for guidance.
- 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 titled “Additional Proposal Requirements.”

Evaluation Criteria

All Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund proposals should strive to maximize efficiency and return on investment for the proposed expenditures. Additionally the following criteria, as applicable, will be considered in evaluating proposals (additional explanation of evaluation criteria is available at 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 funds.
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.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

FIRM DEADLINE: 4:30 PM ON APRIL 6, 2012

**ALL FORMS AND TEMPLATES REQUIRED FOR PROPOSAL
SUBMISSION CAN BE FOUND AT www.lccmr.leg.mn**

LCCMR staff are available to review draft proposals if submitted by April 2, 2012. Early submission of drafts is recommended to receive the most detailed guidance. Submit drafts using the online proposal submit form—indicate DRAFT by entering “Y” in the appropriate field of the submit form.

PROPOSAL SECTIONS CHECKLIST

1	2012-2013 LCCMR Proposal Submit Form: Go to www.lccmr.leg.mn , select the submit form on the Home Page, and provide all requested information, as detailed on p.7 of this RFP.
Proposal sections 2 through 7 (as applicable) are submitted through the online submit form as individual document attachments. See guidelines for attachments below.	
2	Main Proposal (2-page limit): Download the template (MS-Word) and fill out according to instructions on pages 8-9 of this RFP.
3	Detailed Project Budget (1-page limit): Download the template (MS-Excel) and fill out according to instructions on page 10 of this RFP.
4	Map or Graphic (1-page limit): Simple map or graphic (see below).
5	Proposed Acquisition List: If applicable (see below). Download the template (MS-Excel) and fill out according to instructions stated in the template.
6	Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description (1-page limit)
7	Letter or Resolution (1-page): If applicable (see below).

Guidelines for Attachments

FOR ALL ATTACHMENTS

- 8 1/2" x 11" pages; 11 pt. font minimum, except for “Detailed Budget”, which can be 10 pt.
- Proposal title clearly marked on top of each page
- Blank 1-inch margin on bottom of each page
- Any information exceeding the page limits indicated will be not be reviewed as part of your proposal.

GUIDELINES FOR SPECIFIC ATTACHMENTS

#2: Main Proposal (2-page limit)

Main proposal must provide concise information summarizing the proposed project, activities, outcomes, and strategy and timeline. See template instructions.

#3: Detailed Budget (1-page limit)

Project budget must clearly account for how all requested funds would be used and explain what (if any) other funds would be used during the project. See template instructions.

#4: Map or Graphic (1-page limit)

- For all proposals involving land acquisition or restoration, a map of the specific proposed project area is required. Map must be legible as black & white photocopy, include north arrow and scale, and illustrate **specific site location** within city, county, region, and/or state.

- For all other proposals it is encouraged to include a map, graphic, table, or figure that further clarifies or illustrates information in the main proposal.

#5: Proposed Acquisition List

For all proposals involving land acquisition, a list is requested that identifies proposed acquisitions by parcel name; acquisition type (fee-title or conservation easement); county; ecological significance; estimated number of acres and, if applicable, shoreline miles; proposed title/easement holder; and geographical coordinates (lat/long). See instructions in template.

#6: Project Manager Qualifications/Organization Description (1-page limit total)

- Include summary of project manager qualifications and responsibilities pertaining specifically to project proposal. This does not need to be a complete resume.
- Organization description should be a simple, brief explanation of organization and its mission.

#7: Letter or Resolution (1-page limit)

Non-profits and local units of government must submit a letter or resolution authorizing proposal submission from their governing board. State and federal agencies and colleges/universities do not need a resolution but should have an authorized person submit the proposal.

2012-2013 LCCMR PROPOSAL SUBMIT FORM INSTRUCTIONS

1. The "2012-2013 LCCMR Proposal Submit Form" is located at www.lccmr.leg.mn — click on "2012-2013 LCCMR Proposal Submit Form" and follow the instructions. **Web-based submission of proposals is required.** If unable to use the web-based submit form, please contact LCCMR staff.
2. Draft proposals intended for staff review prior to final submission should be submitted using the online proposal submit form. Indicate draft by entering "Y" in the appropriate field. Drafts must be submitted by April 2, 2012 to allow adequate time. Early submission of drafts is recommended to receive the most detailed guidance.
3. Provide all requested information. The tab key on your keyboard will take you from field to field. **An asterisk (*) denotes a required field for submission.**
4. Attach: Main Proposal, Detailed Project Budget, Map or Graphic (required for some projects), Acquisition List (if applicable), Project Manager Qualifications/Organization Description, and Letter or Resolution (if applicable).
5. Before pressing "SUBMIT", review the information you provided for accuracy and ensure that all necessary attachments have been attached. After you press "SUBMIT" you will be able to review a copy of the information you provided; please save or print this page for your records.

2012-2013 LCCMR PROPOSAL SUBMIT FORM

***Is this a DRAFT of a proposal intended for staff review?** [Enter "Y" if draft or "N" if final submission.] ____

***Project Title:** [Limit 8 words within the allowable space.] _____

***LCCMR 2012-2013 Funding Priority:** [Select the funding priority to which your proposal most closely responds.] _____

***Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund \$ Request:** [Dollar request to LCCMR.] \$ _____

***Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** [Enter number of years—1, 2, or 3—and start date/end date in format: [#] years, July 2013 to [End Date: Month Year].] _____

***Other Non-State Funds—specific to these proposed activities:** [Include only secured, non-state cash dollars to be spent on the project during the funding period. Explain in proposal budget under "Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period" (Section V). If none enter "0".] \$ _____

Project Manager: *First Name: _____ ***Last Name:** _____ [List one person only. Project team members can be listed under "Project Team/Partners" (Section III-A) in the Main Proposal.]

***Sponsoring Organization:** _____

Mailing Address: *Street Address: _____

***City:** _____ ***State:** _____ ***Zip:** _____

***Telephone Number:** (Area Code) _____ - _____ [Provide a reliable phone number, including area code, in case of questions.]

***Email:** _____

Web Address: _____ [if available]

Location: [What area will the project impact? Be as specific as possible in terms of region, county, and city/township—see p.13 for a map of MN divided by geographic region. To select multiple, hold "ctrl" while left clicking with the mouse.]

***Region:** _____ ***County:** _____ **City/Township:** _____

*PROJECT SUMMARY

[The summary is LIMITED TO 30 WORDS within the allowable space and must be a free standing summation of the proposed project. Be specific. Provide a clear, concise summary of the proposed project's activities and outcomes. It is important that the summary be able to stand on its own as a description of the proposal because it will be used along with the project title to refer to the proposal during proposal review.]

Attach :

- ***Main Proposal (MS-Word format)**
- ***Detailed Project Budget (MS-Excel format)**
- **Map or Graphic (required for some projects)**
- **Acquisition List (if applicable)**
- ***Project Manager Qualifications/Organization Description**
- **Letter or Resolution (if applicable)**

NOTE: An asterisk (*) denotes a required field for submission.



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2012-2013 Main Proposal**

INSTRUCTIONS AND TEMPLATE (2 PAGE LIMIT)

(2-page limit, single-sided, 11 pt. font minimum. Retain bold text and DELETE all instructions typed in italics)

- MS-Word template of the Main Proposal can be downloaded from the LCCMR web page: www.lccmr.leg.mn. Click on “2012-2013 Main Proposal template”.
- Attach Main Proposal, in MS-Word format, to your “2012-2013 LCCMR Proposal Submit Form”.

PROJECT TITLE:

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

In this section, provide a summarizing overview statement (3/4 page or less) that clearly and succinctly states:

- 1. WHY this project needs to be done (i.e., the context or problem to which it is responding; the opportunity, challenges, issues, or need the project would address).*
- 2. Overall GOALS of the project (e.g., reduce forest fragmentation, improve water quality) and the specific, direct OUTCOMES you aim to achieve (e.g., populations served, geographic areas served, resources impacted, species impacted).*
- 3. HOW the project will achieve those goals (i.e., the project itself and types of activities involved).*

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

In this section, break the project into individual activities (i.e., distinct efforts, phases of effort, types/categories of effort) and their outcomes. Be specific. List as many activities as needed using the format indicated below. For each activity:

- *Provide a short, descriptive title for the activity.*
- *Indicate the budget amount intended to be allocated specifically to that activity.*
- *Give a detailed description of the activity, including specific tasks involved, goals to be achieved, and any explanation of plans for evaluating the activity outcomes. If an activity involves land acquisition, address the parcels proposed and the name of the organization or entity who will hold title—be specific.*
- *State specific, measurable outcomes that will be achieved as a result of the activity.*

FOR EXAMPLE:

Activity 1: *(Title of Activity)* _____

Budget: \$ _____

Include detailed description of the activity you are proposing to do here.

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1. Specific, measureable outcome #1</i>	
<i>2. Specific, measureable outcome #2</i>	
<i>3. Specific, measureable outcome #3</i>	
<i>Etc.</i>	

ADD ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AS NEEDED USING THE SAME FORMAT AS ABOVE. Please mark as Activity 2, 3, 4, etc.

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

Describe the project team and partners that will be carrying out the proposed activities. List names and affiliations of team members or partner organizations, and explain the specific role each will play in carrying out the project. Delineate which partners are proposed to receive dollars from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund and which partners are proposed to be contributing funds or resources from other sources.

B. Timeline Requirements

Explain the timeline requirements specific to the proposed project. Timeline requirements are the project timeline being requested to carry out the project and the rationale, such as any particular conditions or stages required or assumed in order to carry out the project under the timeline (e.g., if project requires a certain number of field seasons under certain conditions). If project would require more than 36 months to complete, explain here. If proposed project is a distinct phase of some larger effort and additional funding beyond this request is anticipated to be needed for a future phase, explain in section III-C below.

C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

Is this proposal a component of a specific, larger or longer-term project or effort that will require additional investment over time than is being requested here? If so, please explain the established project/effort (including previous efforts or project phases leading up to this request), identify what sorts of longer-term investments will be required, and comment on long-term strategies for ongoing financial support and project progress and/or completion.

2012-2013 DETAILED PROJECT BUDGET

INSTRUCTIONS AND TEMPLATE (1 PAGE LIMIT)

MS-Excel template can be downloaded from LCCMR web page: www.lccmr.leg.mn. Click on "2012-2013 Detailed Budget template". Attach budget, in MS-Excel format, to your "2012-2013 LCCMR Proposal Submit Form".

(1-page limit, single-sided, 10 pt. font minimum. Retain bold text and DELETE all instructions typed in italics. ADD OR DELETE ROWS AS NECESSARY. If a category is not applicable put "N/A", leave it blank, or delete the row.)

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET: [Insert # of years for project] years

BUDGET ITEM (See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p.11)	AMOUNT
Personnel: <i>In this column, list who is getting paid to do what and what is the % of full-time employment for each position. List out by position or position type—one row per position/position type. For each, provide details in this column on the inputs: i.e., % dollars toward salary, % dollars toward benefits, time period for position/position type, and number of people in the position/position type.</i>	\$
Contracts: <i>In this column, list out proposed contracts. Be clear about whom the contract is to be made with and what services will be provided. If a specific contractor is not yet determined, specify the type of contractor sought. List out by contract types/categories—one row per type/category.</i>	\$
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: <i>In this column, list out general descriptions of item(s) or item type(s) and their purpose—one row per item/item type.</i>	\$
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements): <i>In this column, indicate the proposed number of acres and name of organization or entity who will hold title.</i>	\$
Travel: <i>Be specific. Only in-state travel essential to completing project activities can be included.</i>	\$
Additional Budget Items: <i>In this column, list any additional budget items that do not fit above categories. List by item(s) or item type(s) and explain how number was reached. One row per type/category.</i>	\$
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	STATUS
Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: <i>Indicate any additional non-state cash dollars to be spent on the project during the funding period. For each individual sum, list out the source of the funds, the amount, and indicate whether the funds are secured or pending approval.</i>	\$	<i>Indicate: Secured or Pending</i>
Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: <i>Indicate any additional state cash dollars (e.g., bonding, other grants) to be spent on the project during the funding period. For each individual sum, list out the source of the funds, the amount, and indicate whether the funds are secured or pending approval.</i>	\$	<i>Indicate: Secured or Pending</i>
In-kind Services During Project Period: <i>Indicate any in-kind services to be provided during the funding period. List type of service(s) and estimated value. In-kind services listed must be specific to the project.</i>	\$	
Remaining \$ From Current ENRTF Appropriation (if applicable): <i>Specify dollar amount and year of appropriation from any current ENRTF appropriation for any directly related project of the project manager or organization that remains unspent or not yet legally obligated at the time of proposal submission. Be as specific as possible. Describe the status of funds in the right-most column.</i>	\$	<i>Indicate: Unspent? Not Legally Obligated? Other?</i>
Funding History: <i>Indicate funding secured prior to July 1, 2013, for activities directly relevant to this specific funding request. State specific source(s) of funds.</i>	\$	

ELIGIBLE AND 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 proposal. **All proposed expenses must be specified in the proposal submitted.** Please note that for non-state entities all funds get awarded on a reimbursement basis, unless otherwise authorized, and all eligible expenses will need to be documented.

Eligible expenses may include the following:

- a. Eligible expenditures incurred only after the effective date as approved by LCCMR.
- b. Wages and expenses of salaried Recipient employees if specified, documented, and approved. 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.
- 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. For expenditures greater than \$3,500, the Recipient must provide 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 and 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 and 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 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 projects, the University of

Minnesota plan found at <http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Finance/Travel/TRAVEL.html>. Allowable meal and 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, unless otherwise authorized, **including but not limited to the following:**

- a. Any expenses incurred before the project is authorized, before July 1, 2013, or before LCCMR 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, or smart phones.
- 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.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND: MN CONSTITUTION AND STATUTORY EXPENDITURES

LCCMR Staff:

Susan Thornton
Director

Michael McDonough
*Manager, Research and
Planning*

Mike Banker
*Communications/Outreach
Manager and Project Analyst*

Diana Griffith
Commission Assistant

Information from this document may be copied and distributed to others. This publication can be made available in alternate formats, such as large print or audio format, upon request.

For more information
contact LCCMR:

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources

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100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King
Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

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Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec.14: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Established

<http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/language.html>

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]

MS 116P.08 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Expenditures and Exceptions

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=116P&view=chapter#stat.116P.08>

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, subd. 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 other-

wise 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.

Subdivision 2. **Exceptions.** Money from the trust fund may not be spent for:

- (1) purposes of environmental compensation and liability under chapter 115B and response action 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.

Minnesota (by geographic region)

