M.L. 2015 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Recommendations (FY 2016)

For the FY 2016 and FY 2017 biennium (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2017), approximately \$46.3 million is available each year (total = \$92,674,000) for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. As of 07/14/14, the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota's Resources (LCCMR) has selected 65 projects totaling \$45.8 million to recommend to the 2015 Minnesota Legislature for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). The recommendations are the result of the LCCMR's 2015 Request for Proposal (RFP) process, in which 152 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$126.3 million were received and considered through a competitive, multi-stage evaluation. The recommendations range from full funding for the full proposal and dollar amount requested to partial funding for specific proposal elements and partial dollar amounts requested.

Topic Area	\$ Recommended (\$45,851,000)	Percentage of Total Recommendation
Subd. 03 Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information	\$12,482,000	27.22%
19 Appropriations	\$12,482,000	27.2270
Subd. 04 Water Resources	\$3,065,000	6.68%
9 Appropriations	\$3,003,000	0.08%
Subd. 05 Environmental Education	\$1,004,000	2.19%
5 Appropriations	\$1,004,000	2.15%
Subd. 06 Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species	\$6,071,000	13.24%
4 Appropriations	\$6,071,000	13.24%
Subd. 07 Air Quality, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy	\$3,268,000	7.13%
4 Appropriations	\$3,208,000	7.15%
Subd. 08 Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat	\$4,646,000	10.13%
11 Appropriations	\$4,040,000	10.13%
Subd. 09 Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation	¢14 100 000	30.95%
10 Appropriations	\$14,190,000	30.95%
Subd. 10. Administration and Contract Agreement Reimbursement	\$1 135 000	2 45%
2 Appropriations	\$1,125,000	2.45%
TOTAL \$ RECOMMENDATION	\$45,851,000	100.00%

			\$ Remaining for Recommendation
Fund Source		\$ Recommended	(11/19/14)
FY 2016 - Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)		\$45,792,000	\$545,000
Total \$ Available = \$46,337,000		\$45,792,000	\$545,000
FY 2016 - Great Lakes Protection Account (GLPA)		¢50.000	ćo
Total \$ Available = \$59,000		\$59,000	\$0
	TOTAL \$ RECOMMENDATION	\$45,851,000	\$545,000

			Total	LCCMR \$	LCCMR \$				
	ENRTF		LCCMR \$	Recommended	Recommended		Program	Region of	
Subd.	ID	Title	Recommended	ENRTF: FY 2016	GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Manager	Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
Subd. 03	3 Foundat	tional Natural Resource Data and Information (19 Reco	ommendations - Su	btotal = \$12,482,00)				
03a	001-A	County Geologic Atlases - Part A	\$2,040,000	\$2,040,000	\$0	U of MN - MN Geological Survey	Dale Setterholm	Statewide	
03b	006-A	County Geologic Atlases - Part B	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0		Jan Falteisek	Statewide	- To be eligible, budget items included in the proposal need further clarity and explanation. Specifically: 1) it is unclear why there are both "direct support services" and "direct employee cost" included in the budget and the difference between the two needs to be explained, and 2) there is a lump sum of \$360,000 in contracts for "state contract and U of MN", which needs better description and clearer allocation of funds.
03c	002-A	Minnesota Biological Survey	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	MN DNR	Carmen Converse	Statewide	 Recommendation includes removal of funding for any of the "direct and necessary expenses" included in the total proposal request of \$3,500,000.
03d	005-A	Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas for Enhanced Natural Resource Management	\$340,000	\$340,000	\$0	U of MN - Bell Museum of Natural History	Keith Barker	Statewide	
03e	003-A	Updating the National Wetland Inventory for Minnesota - Phase V	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$0	MN DNR	Steve Kloiber	Statewide	
03f	014-A	Creating a Statewide Wetland Bird Monitoring Program	\$146,000	\$146,000	\$0	Audubon Minnesota	Mark Martell	Statewide	
03g	011-A	Minnesota Native Bee Atlas	\$790,000	\$790,000	\$0	U of MN	Robert Blair	Statewide	
03h		Reintroduction and Interpretation of Bison in Minnesota State Parks	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$0	MN DNR	Edward Quinn	Statewide	
03i		Endangered Bats, White-Nose Syndrome, and Forest Habitat	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$0	MN DNR	Richard Baker	Statewide	 Project must look at the summer timber harvest level in relation to the overall habitat and make sure to coordinate with other states doing related work.
03j	007-A	Assessing Contaminants in Minnesota Loons and Pelicans - Phase III	\$141,000	\$141,000	\$0	MN DNR	Carrol Henderson	Statewide	
03k	017-A	Movement and Seasonal Habitat Use of Minnesota Elk	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	MN DNR	Gino D'Angelo	NW	 Project must provide a \$50,000 match from some other source, such as Game and Fish Fund or Minnesota Deer Hunters Association.

Subd.	ENRTF ID	Title	Total LCCMR \$ Recommended	LCCMR \$ Recommended ENRTF: FY 2016	LCCMR \$ Recommended GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Program Manager	Region of Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
031	013-A	Genetic and Camera Techniques to Estimate Carnivore Populations	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	U of MN - NRRI	Ron Moen	Central, NE, NW	 Project should concentrate on a variety of predators, not just wolves.
03m	016-A	Turtle Population Dynamics in an Urban Lake	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0	University of St. Thomas	Jennifer McGuire	Metro	
03n	031-A	Digitization of Historic Gullion Ruffed Grouse Research	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	Central Lakes College	Kent Montgomery	Central, NE	
030	009-A	Effects of Grazing Versus Fire for Prairie Management	\$414,000	\$414,000	\$0	U of MN	Karen Oberhauser	Statewide	
03p	010-A	Assessing Ecological Impact of St. Anthony Falls Lock Closure	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$0	Minneapolis Riverfront Partnership	Kathleen Boe	Metro	
03q	020-A	Foundational Dataset Characterizing Historic Forest Disturbance Impacts	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	U of MN	Michael Falkowski	NE, NW	
03r	024-A	Hydrologic Effects of Contemporary Forest Practices in Minnesota	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	U of MN	Diana Karwan	NE	
03s	018-A	Habitat Mitigation for Goblin Fern Conservation	\$61,000	\$61,000	\$0	Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	Bobby Henderson	Central	
		nal Natural Resource Data and Information Subtotal = Resources (9 Recommendations - Subtotal = \$3,065,000	\$12,482,000	\$12,482,000	\$0				
04a		Understanding Water Scarcity, Threats, and Values to Improve Management	\$234,000	\$234,000	\$0	U of MN	Bonnie Keeler	Statewide	
04b	034-B	Biofilm Technology for Water Nutrient Removal	\$281,000	\$281,000	\$0	U of MN	Bo Hu	Statewide	
04c	036-В	Biological Consequences of Septic Pollution in Minnesota Lakes	\$364,000	\$364,000	\$0	St. Cloud State University	Heiko Schoenfuss	Statewide	 Project needs to provide better breakdown and justification for contracting with Colorado School of Mines and why the work couldn't be done by a MN entity.
04d	035-B	Preventing Phosphorous from Entering Water Resources through Drain Tiles	\$505,000	\$505,000	\$0	U of MN	Kenneth Valentas	Statewide	 Project is requested to expand scope of work to incorporate testing and analysis of the efficacy of biochars to absorb pesticides. To conduct this work up to an additional \$150,000 above the original \$355,000 requested may be made available depending on cost estimates and a revised project plan. Project manager should propose back to LCCMR with a plan for what can be accomplished with what amount of additional funds.

Subd.	ENRTF ID	Title	Total LCCMR \$ Recommended	LCCMR \$ Recommended ENRTF: FY 2016	LCCMR \$ Recommended GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Program Manager	Region of Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
04e	047-B	Southeast Minnesota Cover Crop and Soil Health Initiatives	\$253,000	\$253,000	\$0	Board of Water and Soil Resources	Matt Drewitz	SE	
04f	037-В	Southeast Minnesota Subsurface Drainage Impacts on Groundwater Recharge	\$488,000	\$488,000	\$0	U.S. Geological Survey	Erik Smith	SE	
04g	045-B	Using Hydroacoustics to Monitor Sediment in Minnesota Rivers	\$455,000	\$455,000	\$0	U.S. Geological Survey	Christopher Ellison	Central, Metro, SE	- Budget includes \$25,483 of costs for undesignated "Overtime". Need a better explanation of what this is so it can be determined if this is an eligible expense.
04h	048-B	Assessment of Irrigation Efficiencies in Benton County	\$431,000	\$431,000	\$0	Benton Soil and Water Conservation District	Gerry Maciej	Central	 Model developed through project cannot be proprietary and must be available for public use. Project needs to ensure all wells in the watershed are permitted and that there are sufficient DNR monitoring wells in the area to measure and determine impact. Project needs to identify how this effort will help achieve TMDL efforts. Project should coordinate effort with DNR.
04i	060-B	Shoreview Water Consumption and Groundwater Awareness Project	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$0	City of Shoreview	Jessica Schaum	Metro	
		Water Resources Subtotal =	\$3,065,000	\$3,065,000	\$0				
Subd. 05	5 Environ	mental Education (5 Recommendations - Subtotal = \$1	,004,000)						
05a	065-C	Promotion of Alternative Ammunition to Protect Wildlife from Lead Poisoning	\$132,000	\$132,000	\$0	U of MN	Julia Ponder	Statewide	
05b	066-C	Connecting Students with Watersheds through Hands-On Learning	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0	Minnesota Trout Unlimited	John Lenczewski	Statewide	
05c	067-C	Zumbro River Watershed Recreational Learning Stewardship Sites	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	Zumbro Watershed Partnership	Lawrence Svien	SE	 Project restoration efforts must use native plants following Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) native vegetation guidelines.
05d	073-C	Students Engaging Local Watersheds Using Mobile Technologies	\$147,000	\$147,000	\$0	Twin Cities Public Television	Joan Freese	Statewide	
05e	074-C	Mississippi River Water Journey Camps	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	U of MN	Beth Mercer- Taylor	Metro	
		Environmental Education Subtotal =	\$1,004,000	\$1,004,000	\$0				

			Total	LCCMR \$	LCCMR \$				
	ENRTF		LCCMR \$	Recommended	Recommended		Program	Region of	
Subd.	ID	Title	Recommended	ENRTF: FY 2016	GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Manager	Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
Subd. 06	Aquatic	and Terrestrial Invasive Species (4 Recommendations	- Subtotal = \$6,071	,000)			-		
06a	081-D	Minnesota Terrestrial Invasive Plants and Pests Center	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	U of MN	Brian Buhr	Statewide	
06b	082-D	Emerald Ash Borer Ecological and Hydrological Impacts – Phase II	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0	U of MN	Anthony D'Amato	Statewide	
06c	083-D	Biological Control of Canada Thistle	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	U of MN	Roger Becker	Statewide	
06d	084-D	Preventing a New Disease of Pines in Minnesota	\$371,000	\$371,000	\$0	U of MN	Robert Blanchette	Statewide	
		Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species Subtotal =	\$6,071,000	\$6,071,000	\$0				
Subd. 07	Air Qua	lity, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy (4 Recom	mendations - Subt	otal = \$3,268,000)					
07a		Analysis of Minnesota Energy Systems to Develop Future Energy Strategies	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	Legislative Energy Commission	Annie Levenson- Falk	Statewide	
07b		Renewable and Sustainable Fertilizers Produced Locally	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	U of MN	Alon McCormick	Statewide	 Project needs to provide clarification on lump sums of \$30,000 for salary and \$3,000 for misc. efforts allocated to each faculty participant. Proposer should consider and address how the Nitrogen product resulting from the process could be developed to be a time-released product.
07c		Reducing Emissions from Open Burning through Biomass Gasification	\$268,000	\$268,000	\$0	U of MN	William Northrop	Metro, SW	
07d	116-E	Building Deconstruction to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Solid Waste	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	The NetWork for Better Futures d/b/a Better Futures Minnesota	Steve Thomas	Central, Metro, NE, NW	 Project manager needs to consult with LCCMR staff on budget to provide more detail and remove ineligible items, including "crew cab pickup truck and box trailer" and other items. Proposer needs to discuss with LCCMR staff the proposed revenue retention of \$240,000 derived from the project so it can be determined if this is allowable.
	Air Quali	ty, Climate Change, and Renewable Energy Subtotal =	\$3,268,000	\$3,268,000	\$0				
Subd. 08	8 Method	s to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and H	labitat (11 Recomn	nendations - Subtot	al = \$4,646,000)				
08a	117-F	Prioritizing Future Management of North Shore Trout Streams	\$416,000	\$357,000	\$59,000	U of MN - NRRI	Lucinda Johnson	NE	 Project should coordinate with DNR spring inventory work.

Subd.	ENRTF ID	Title	Total LCCMR \$ Recommended	LCCMR \$ Recommended ENRTF: FY 2016	LCCMR \$ Recommended GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Program Manager	Region of Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
08b	118-F	Thirteen Counties Propagating Native Plants and Restoring Diverse Habitats	\$495,000	\$495,000	\$0	Martin County Soil and Water Conservation	Rich Perrine	Central, NE, NW, SW	
08c	119-F	Preserving and Protecting Minnesota Native Orchid Species	\$167,000	\$167,000	\$0	U of MN - Landscape Arboretum	David Remucal	Statewide	
08d	122-F	Acceleration of Minnesota Conservation Assistance - Final Phase	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	Board of Water and Soil Resources	Tabor Hoek	Statewide	
08e	126-F	Metro Conservation Corridors Phase VIII - Prairie, Forest, and Savanna Restoration in Greater Metropolitan Area	\$276,000	\$276,000	\$0	Friends of the Mississippi River	Tom Lewanski	Metro	
08f		Metro Conservation Corridors Phase VIII - Enhancing Restoration Techniques for Improved Climate Resilience and Pollinator Conservation	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0	Great River Greening	Wiley Buck	Metro	 Recommendation is to fund proposal activities 1 and 2 only.
08g	123-F	Minnesota State University Moorhead Science Center Restoration and Monitoring	\$527,000	\$527,000	\$0	Moorhead State University	Brian Wisenden	NW	 Funds are contingent on 60 acre land donation to Moorhead State University from the alumni
08h	127-F	Improving Community Forests Through Citizen Engagement	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$0		Sarah Rudolf	Statewide	 Recommendation is to fund proposal activities 1, 2, and 4 only. Selection of participating cities must be done through a Request for Proposal open to any municipality in the state; some portion of the participating municipalities selected must be from outstate. Project must use native plants only. Any participating municipality must provide a 1:1 match, of which 50% can be in-kind. Project manager is encouraged to contact LCCMR staff to set up a meeting to review project direction and options.
08i	128-F	Flood Recovery on Sargent Creek Duluth Habitat Restoration	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	City of Duluth	Christopher Kleist	NE	 Proposer needs to explain how this relates to funding request submitted to Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.
08j	129-F	Shoreland Protection for the Lower St. Croix River	\$190,000	\$190,000	\$0	St. Croix River Association	Deb Ryun	Metro	
08k		Redwood and Renville Counties Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Master Plan	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	Redwood County and Renville County	Mark Erickson	Central, SW	
Meth	ods to Pro	otect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat Subtotal =	\$4,646,000	\$4,587,000	\$59,000				

			Total	LCCMR \$	LCCMR \$				
	ENRTF		LCCMR \$	Recommended	Recommended		Program	Region of	
Subd.	ID	Title	Recommended	ENRTF: FY 2016	GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Manager	Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
Subd. 09	Land Ac	quisition for Habitat and Recreation (10 Recommenda	tions - Subtotal = \$	14,190,000)					·
09a	139-G	State Parks and State Trails Land Acquisitions	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$0	MN DNR	Jennifer Christie	Statewide	- ENRTF dollars cannot be used for land acquired at a purchased price in excess of 100% of the appraised value in total (all funds), with the exception being that up to 110% of appraised value may be approved following review by the LCCMR.
09b	136-G	Metropolitan Regional Park System Land Acquisition - Phase IV	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	Metropolitan Council	Arne Stefferud	Metro	- ENRTF dollars cannot be used for land acquired at a purchased price in excess of 100% of the appraised value in total (all funds), with the exception being that up to 110% of appraised value may be approved following review by the LCCMR.
09c	137-G	SNA Acquisition, Restoration, Enhancement and Public Engagement	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$0	MN DNR	Peggy Booth	Statewide	- ENRTF dollars cannot be used for land acquired at a purchased price in excess of 100% of the appraised value in total (all funds), with the exception being that up to 110% of appraised value may be approved following review by the LCCMR.
09d	138-G	Native Prairie Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement Acquisition	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$0	MN DNR	Jason Garms	Central, NW, SE, SW	 Project needs to establish and explain criteria for easement selection in the work plan and use the Avon Hills bid-in model as part of its process for final selection of easements to be acquired with the funds. Budget includes \$270,000 for future easement monitoring and enforcement. Any funding for long- term monitoring and enforcement is contingent on determining and approval of a plan for how the process will work.

Subd.	ENRTF	Title	Total LCCMR \$ Recommended	LCCMR \$ Recommended ENRTF: FY 2016	LCCMR \$ Recommended GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Program Manager	Region of Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
09e		Metro Conservation Corridors Phase VIII - Coordination and Mapping and Conservation Easements	\$540,000	\$540,000	\$0		John Brosnan	Metro	 Project needs to work with LCCMR staff on the allocation of funds toward particular efforts. Project needs to establish and explain criteria for easement selection in the work plan and use the Avon Hills bid-in model as part of its process for final selection of easements to be acquired with the funds. Budget includes \$140,000 (\$20,000 per parcel; currently approved at \$15,000 per parcel) for future easement monitoring and enforcement. Any funding for long-term monitoring and enforcement is contingent on review and approval of a plan for how the process will work, including the allowable allocation per parcel.
09f	144-G	Metro Conservation Corridors Phase VIII - Strategic Lands Protection	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	The Trust for Public Land	Danielle Salus	Metro	- ENRTF dollars cannot be used for land acquired at a purchased price in excess of 100% of the appraised value in total (all funds), with the exception being that up to 110% of appraised value may be approved following review by the LCCMR.
09g	141-G	Metro Conservation Corridors Phase VIII - Priority Expansion of Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust Inc	Deborah Loon	Metro	- ENRTF dollars cannot be used for land acquired at a purchased price in excess of 100% of the appraised value in total (all funds), with the exception being that up to 110% of appraised value may be approved following review by the LCCMR.
09h	143-G	Metro Conservation Corridors Phase VIII - Wildlife Management Area Acquisition	\$400,000	\$400,000	\$0	MN DNR	Patrick Rivers	Metro	- ENRTF dollars cannot be used for land acquired at a purchased price in excess of 100% of the appraised value in total (all funds), with the exception being that up to 110% of appraised value may be approved following review by the LCCMR.
09i	142-G	Mesabi Trail Development Soudan to Ely - Phase II	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional	Bob Manzoline	NE	

	ENRTF		Total LCCMR \$	LCCMR \$ Recommended	LCCMR \$ Recommended		Program	Region of	
Subd.	ID	Title	Recommended	ENRTF: FY 2016	GLPA: FY 2016	Affiliation	Manager	Impact*	LCCMR Adopted Notes and Conditions
09j	-	Multi-benefit Watershed Scale Conservation on North Central Lakes	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	Leech Lake Area Watershed Foundation	Lindsey Ketchel	Central	 Project needs to establish and explain criteria for easement selection in the work plan and use the Avon Hills bid-in model as part of its process for final selection of easements to be acquired with the funds. Budget includes \$80,000 for future easement monitoring and enforcement. Any funding for long- term monitoring and enforcement is contingent on determining and approval of a plan for how the process will work. Work plan budget needs to break out proportional allocation to each of Crow Wing SWCD and Cass County SWCD.
	L	and Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation Subtotal =	\$14,190,000	\$14,190,000	\$0		•		·
Subd. 10) Adminis	stration and Contract Agreement Reimbursement (2 Re	ecommendation - S	ubtotal = \$1,125,00	00)				
10a		Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)	\$990,000	\$990,000	\$0	Legislative-Citizen Commission on	Susan Thornton	Statewide	
10b	1	Contract Agreement Reimbursement	\$135,000	\$135,000	\$0	MN DNR	Amanda Graeber	Statewide	
Admi	inistratior	n and Contract Agreement Reimbursement Subtotal =	\$1,125,000	\$1,125,000	\$0				
		Total \$ Recommendation =	\$45,851,000	\$45,792,000	\$59,000				

*Region of Impact designated in the State include Statewide, Central, Metro, NE, NW, SE, SW. Metro region includes the 11 counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright.