

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND APPROPRIATIONS

Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the environment and natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2020" and "2021" used in this act mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2020. "The second year" is fiscal year 2021. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2020 and 2021

APPROPRIATIONS	
Available for the Year	
Ending June 30	
2020	2021

Sec. 2. MINNESOTA RESOURCES

Subdivision 1.

Total Appropriation	\$53,547,000	-0-
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The amounts that may be spent for each purpose are specified in the following subdivisions. Appropriations are available for three years beginning July 1, 2019, unless otherwise stated in the appropriation. Any unencumbered balance remaining in the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year or until the end of the appropriation.

Subd. 2. Definition

"Trust fund" means the Minnesota environment and natural resources trust fund established under the Minnesota Constitution, article XI, section 14.

Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data and Information	\$9,918,000	-0-
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(a) Minnesota Biological Survey

\$1,500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the Minnesota biological survey to complete the statewide field surveys begun in 1987 to provide a foundation for conserving biological diversity by systematically collecting, interpreting, and delivering data on native and rare species, pollinators, and native plant communities throughout Minnesota. Any revenues generated through the publication of books or other resources created through this appropriation may be reinvested as described in the work plan approved by LCCMR per Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10

(b) Restoring Native Mussels in Streams and Lakes

\$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to restore native freshwater mussel assemblages, and the ecosystem services they provide, in the Mississippi, Cedar, and Cannon rivers and inform the public on mussels and their conservation. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(c) Quantifying Exposure of Minnesota’s Raptors to Mercury and PFAS

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory to quantify the exposure and health risk of two environmental neurotoxins to Minnesota raptors.

(d) Minnesota Trumpeter Swan Migration Ecology and Conservation

\$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to document the movement and habitat use of Minnesota trumpeter swans in order to provide foundational information necessary for their management and conservation. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) Spruce Grouse as Indicators for Boreal Forest Connectivity

\$350,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Raptor Center to evaluate how to best harvest timber in the boreal forest to enable wildlife with small home ranges, such as spruce grouse, to thrive in a changing landscape. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(f) Understanding Brainworm Transmission to Find Solutions for Minnesota Moose Decline

\$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to identify key habitats and vectors of brainworm transmission between deer and moose that may be targeted by resource management to mitigate moose exposure to this deadly condition.

(g) Mapping Habitat Use and Disease of Urban Carnivores

\$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to map habitat use and diseases of urban foxes and coyotes, evaluate risks these animals may pose to people and pets, and generate information needed to reduce human-wildlife conflicts.

(h) Accelerated Aggregate Resource Mapping

\$700,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to map the aggregate resource potential for four counties and make this information available in print and electronic format to local units of government for use in planning and zoning.

(i) Den Boxes for Fishers and other Nesting Wildlife

\$190,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to build, install, and evaluate den boxes as habitat enhancement for fishers and other cavity- nesting wildlife in managed forests where lack of large trees may be threatening population survival. The final outcome for this project will include guidelines and best practices for use of den boxes for fisher habitat.

(j) Red-headed Woodpeckers as Indicators of Oak Savanna Health

\$171,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to evaluate red-headed woodpecker survival and habitat needs and to use this data to develop and disseminate a long-term oak savanna management plan that supports red-headed woodpecker and other oak savanna habitat-dependent species.

(k) Implementing Conservation Plans for Avian Species of Concern

\$124,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the National Audubon Society, Minnesota office, to establish benchmark survey sites for implementing and tracking outcomes of collaborative restoration and enhancement activities within Important Bird Areas for three bird species of conservation concern.

(l) Mapping Aquatic Habitats for Moose

\$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to determine key water habitats used by moose in northern forested regions of Minnesota, measure the effects of moose foraging on aquatic plant and fish diversity, and provide educational programming materials for the public.

(m) Improving Statewide GIS Data by Restoring the PLS

\$135,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Minnesota Association of County Surveyors to conduct a pilot project with Grant County to remonument and certify the public land survey corners in Lawrence Township. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(n) County Geologic Atlases-- Part A, Mapping Geology

\$2,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey, to continue producing county geologic atlases for the purpose of informed management of surface water and groundwater resources. This appropriation is to complete Part A, which focuses on the properties and distribution of earth materials to define aquifer boundaries and the connection of aquifers to the land surface and surface water resources.

(o) County Geologic Atlases –Part B, Mapping Aquifer Hydrology

\$2,400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to continue producing county geologic atlases to inform management of surface water and groundwater resources for drinking water and other purposes. This appropriation is for Part B, which uses the geologic formations mapped in Part A of the County Geologic Atlas in order to characterize the potential water yields of aquifers and their sensitivity to contamination.

(p) Unlocking the Science of Minnesota's Moose Decline

\$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota Zoological Garden to develop educational displays, interactive exhibits, and engaging online programs that summarize and share scientific findings about moose decline in Minnesota. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Subd. 4. Water Resources

\$5,066,300

-0-

(a) Determining the Influence of Insecticides on Algal Blooms

\$350,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to quantify the occurrence of neonicotinoid insecticides in Minnesota's surface and ground waters and assess if they are contributing to the formation of algal blooms.

(b) Benign Design: Environmental Studies Leading to Sustainable Pharmaceuticals

\$415,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to determine how to best remove harmful fluorinated pharmaceuticals during wastewater treatment and to develop alternate versions of these compounds that are medically useful but environmentally harmless. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10

(c) Wastewater Nutrient Reduction through Industrial Source Reduction Assistance

\$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to provide technical assistance for industrial facilities to optimize their processes, reduce nutrient loads to wastewater treatment facilities, and improve water quality. The economic savings and water quality improvements achieved through this work will be documented.

(d) Quantifying Microplastics in Minnesota's Inland Lakes

\$200,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to quantify the amount, type, and source of microplastics in the water, sediment, and fishes of a range of Minnesota lakes.

(e) Improving Nitrogen Removal in Greater Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Ponds

\$325,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to assess cold weather nitrogen cycling and different aeration methods in order to improve the efficacy of Minnesota's under-performing wastewater treatment ponds.

(f) Improving Drinking Water for Minnesotans through Pollution Prevention

\$345,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to reduce exposure of Minnesotans to a toxic, cancer-causing chemical by identifying key pollutant precursor sources in the Upper Mississippi River watershed and assessing options to reduce the formation of this chemical during drinking water treatment.

(g) Protecting Minnesota Waters by Removing Contaminants from Wastewater

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop methods for treatment plants to remove harmful polyfluoroalkyl substances and microplastics from wastewater before it is released to the environment. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10

(h) Reducing Municipal Wastewater Mercury Pollution to Lake Superior

\$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to evaluate and summarize current technologies in order to help municipal wastewater plants in the Lake Superior basin save money and reduce mercury pollution to Lake Superior and other Minnesota waters.

(i) Extracting Deicing Salt from Roadside Soils with Plants

\$360,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to collaborate with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to evaluate potential native plants that can be grown on roadsides to adsorb and remove toxic salts accumulated from deicing roads and assess uses for the harvested material.

(j) Transformation of Plastic Waste into a Valued Resource

\$225,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop technologies that utilize microbes to convert plastic waste into useful chemical compounds and fuels, lowering the likelihood that these materials end up in our environment. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10

(k) Accelerating Perennial Crop Production to Prevent Nitrate Leaching

\$440,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District to reduce nitrate leaching on sandy soils of central Minnesota by developing water-efficient production methods, supply chains, and end-use markets for three perennial crops: Kernza, prairie species, and alfalfa. Net income from the sale of products or assets developed or acquired through this project may be reinvested as described in the work plan approved by the LCCMR per Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(l) Farm-Ready Cover Crops for Protecting Water Quality

\$741,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System for Central Lakes College to demonstrate conservation benefits of using camelina and kura clover as continuous living cover with corn-soybean rotations and to develop secondary markets in order to increase farmer adoption of this practice for protecting water quality in vulnerable wellhead protection areas. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(m) Setting Realistic Nitrate Reduction Goals in Southeast Minnesota

\$350,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to develop advanced water flow and age-dating tools to improve the ability of state agencies to assess how well nitrate reduction best management practices are working in southeastern Minnesota.

(n) Mapping Unprofitable Cropland for Water and Wildlife

\$100,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to conduct the first statewide analysis that maps the extent of Minnesota's unprofitable cropland and estimates both the water-quality and habitat benefits of converting these lands to perennial crops and vegetation. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(o) Evaluating Locally-Sourced Materials for Road Salt Reduction

\$162,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth to evaluate the effectiveness and benefits of locally sourced woodchips, corncobs, and iron-bearing minerals as alternative abrasive materials to lower salt use for protecting Minnesota's water resources. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

(p) Minnesota Spring Inventory Final Phase

\$71,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to complete the Minnesota Spring Inventory that identifies, catalogs and assists resource managers in the monitoring,

assessment, and protection of important and threatened statewide water springs. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(q) Restoring Impaired Lakes through Citizen-Aided Carp Management

\$106,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Carver County Water Management Organization to quantify water quality improvements and cost-effectiveness of a new citizen- aided carp management method for restoring impaired lakes in Minnesota.

(r) Spring Biological Nitrate Removal to Protect Drinking Water

\$175,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Fairmont to build and demonstrate the effectiveness of an experimental passive biological treatment system to reduce nitrates that enter its springtime source water supply.

(s) Degrading Chlorinated Industrial Contaminants with Bacteria

\$1,300 from the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to determine the best way to stimulate bacteria to more quickly and completely remove industrial chlorinated pollutants from contaminated sites. On the day after enactment, the following amounts from unobligated appropriations to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota are transferred and added to this appropriation: \$75,000 in laws 2016, chapter 186, Section 2, Subdivision 4(l) and \$73,700 in laws 2016, chapter 186, Section 2, Subdivision 6(b).

Subd. 5. Technical Assistance, Outreach, and Environmental Education \$886,000 -0-

(a) Expanding Camp Sunrise Environmental Program

\$237,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with YouthCare Minnesota to expand camp opportunities to more school districts and implement improved hands-on environmental education programs for economically disadvantaged youth.

(b) Connecting Students to the Boundary Waters

\$450,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness to connect approximately 6,500 students to the Boundary Waters through classroom education and wilderness canoe experiences for diverse and underserved populations across Minnesota. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(c) Mississippi National River and Recreation Area Forest Restoration

\$199,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Mississippi Park Connection to work with Conservation Corps of Minnesota, local communities, and volunteers to address the loss of ash trees to Emerald Ash Borer by planting approximately 15,000 native trees and plants in affected areas within the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species \$3,100,000 -0-

(a) Building Knowledge and Capacity to Solve AIS Problems

\$3,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to support the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center in developing solutions to Minnesota's aquatic invasive species problems through research, control, prevention, outreach, and early detection of existing and emerging aquatic invasive species threats. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Oak Wilt Suppression at its Northern Edge

\$100,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District to eradicate the northern-most occurrences of oak wilt in the state through mechanical means on select private properties in order to prevent its spread to healthy state forest habitats.

Subd. 7. Air Quality and Renewable Energy **\$1,485,000** **-0-**

(a) Development of Clean Energy Storage Systems for Farms

\$650,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for the West Central Research and Outreach Center at Morris to develop and test novel clean energy storage systems for farms using wind-generated ammonia in order to displace fossil fuels and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10

(b) White Earth Nation Community Solar for Economic Resilience

\$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Rural Renewable Energy Alliance to install a 200-kW White Earth community-owned solar garden to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase economic development through environmental education and solar workforce training, and improve energy resilience.

(c) Sustainable Solar Energy from Agricultural Plant Byproducts

\$185,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, Morris, to use regional plant-based agricultural byproducts to fabricate solar cells for the creation of renewable and affordable energy.

(d) Morris Energy and Environment Community Resilience Plan

\$150,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Morris to develop and begin implementing community resilience plans for energy and the environment and to create a model guide for other Minnesota communities to create and implement their own plans.

Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land, Water, and Habitat **\$4,453,000** **-0-**

(a) Saving Endangered Pollinators through Data-Driven Prairie Restoration

\$800,000 the first year is from the trust fund. Of this amount, \$630,000 is to the Minnesota Zoological Garden and \$170,000 is to the commissioner of natural resources to reestablish populations of Minnesota's imperiled butterflies through reintroductions, prairie restorations, and by developing

foundational habitat recommendations for preventing future extinctions. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Promoting and Restoring Oak Savanna Using Silvopasture

\$750,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to demonstrate, evaluate, and increase adoption of the combined use of intensive tree, forage, and livestock management as a method to restore threatened oak savannah habitats.

(c) Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement

\$2,768,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Melrose to remove an existing fixed elevation dam, construct a rock arch rapids, and conduct in-stream and shoreline habitat restoration to improve water quality and native fish passage in the Sauk River. This project requires a match of at least \$1.4 million that must be secured before Trust Fund dollars are spent. At least \$700,000 of this match must come from the City of Melrose. City of Melrose expenses for the Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement incurred prior to July 1, 2017 may be counted towards the match.

(d) Conservation and Monitoring of Minnesota's Rare Arctic Plants

\$135,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to provide monitoring and invasive species removal to conserve rare and endangered arctic plants on Minnesota's North Shore. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation **\$25,101,000** **-0-**

(a) Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas

\$3,500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the scientific and natural areas (SNA) program to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on approximately 500 SNA acres, increase public involvement and outreach, and strategically acquire approximately 300 acres of high-quality lands that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, from willing sellers. A list of proposed acquisitions and restorations is required in the work plan.

(b) Grants for Local Parks, Trails and Natural Areas

\$3,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching grants for local parks, trail connections, and natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019. The appropriation is for local nature-based recreation, connections to regional and state natural areas, and recreation facilities and not for athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts, and playgrounds.

(c) Minnesota State Parks and State Trails In-Holdings

\$2,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to acquire approximately 255 acres of high-priority in holdings from willing sellers within the legislatively authorized boundaries of state parks and trails in order to protect Minnesota's natural heritage, enhance outdoor recreational opportunities, and improve the efficiency of public land management.

Priorities include but are not limited to Minneopa, St. Croix, Frontenac, and Crow Wing State Parks. A list of proposed acquisitions is required in the work plan.

(d) Minnesota State Trails Development

\$5,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to expand high-priority recreational opportunities on Minnesota's state trails by developing new trail segments and rehabilitating, improving, and enhancing existing state trails. High priority trail bridges to rehabilitate or replace include, but are not limited to, those on the Arrowhead, Central Lakes, Harmony-Preston Valley, Matthew Lourey, and North Shore State Trails; high-priority trail segments to develop and enhance include, but are not limited to, the Paul Bunyan, Gateway, Heartland, Gitchi Gami, and Minnesota Valley State Trails. A proposed list of trail projects on legislatively authorized state trails is required in the work plan. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(e) National Loon Center

[See Loon Center Memo]

(f) Accessible Fishing Piers

\$320,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide approximately 7 accessible fishing piers in locations that have a high potential to serve new angling communities, underserved populations, and anglers with physical disabilities. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(g) Mesabi Trail Extensions

\$3,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority for environmental assessment, permitting, right-of-way easements or other acquisition as needed, engineering, and construction of four trail segments beginning and ending at the following approximate locations: Darwin Meyers Wildlife Management Area to County Road 21, Embarrass to Kugler, County Road 128 to Eagles Nest Town Hall, and Wolf Creek to Highway 169 Underpass.

(h) Britton Peak to Lutsen Mountain Bike Trail

\$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Cycling Association to create an approximately 4 mile- long sustainably- designed single-track mountain bike trail connecting trail clusters and trail heads between Britton Peak in Tofte and Lutsen Mountains as part of the northeast Minnesota's effort to become a national recreation destination. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(i) Preserving the Avon Hills with Reverse-Bidding Easements

\$1,600,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Saint John's University in cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust to restore and enhance approximately 220 acres of protected lands, provide public outreach, and prepare management plans for and use a reverse-bid ranking system to secure permanent conservation easements on approximately 390 acres of high quality natural habitat in the Avon Hills area of Stearns

County. Of this amount, up to \$168,000 is for use by Minnesota Land Trust in a monitoring and enforcement fund as approved in the work plan and subject to Minnesota Statute 116P.20. An annual financial report is required for any monitoring, management, and enforcement fund, including expenditures from the fund. A proposed list of acquisitions and restorations must be provided in the work plan. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2024, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(j) Birch Lake Recreation Area Campground

\$350,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Babbitt to expand Birch Lake Recreation Area by adding a new approximately 22- acre campground - for recreational vehicles and tent campers. Net income generated from admissions to the campground created as a result of trust fund contributions may be reinvested into the Campground's long-term operations as described in the work plan approved by LCCMR per Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This project requires a match of at least \$2.8 million that must be secured before Trust Fund dollars are spent. At least \$800,000 of this match must come from the City of Babbitt.

(k) Bailey Lake Trail and Fishing Pier

\$550,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Virginia to reconstruct the existing Bailey Lake Trail and construct a new fishing pier on Bailey Lake that will be accessible from the trail.

(l) Vergas Long Lake Trail

\$290,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Vergas to construct a bicycle and pedestrian bridge, trail, and floating boardwalk along Long Lake including shoreline restoration and stabilization with native plants. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(m) Glacial Edge Trail and Downtown Pedestrian Bridge

\$600,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the City of Fergus Falls to acquire easements for and construct an approximate 0.48-mile trail along the Otter Tail River in downtown Fergus Falls as well as a bicycle and pedestrian bridge crossing the river. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(n) Crane Lake to Vermilion Falls Trail

\$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with St. Louis County in cooperation with Voyageur Country ATV Club to designate and improve an approximate 5-mile long wooded trail from Crane Lake to Vermilion Falls to accommodate ATV and Snowmobile users. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(o) Restoring Five Sections of the Superior Hiking Trail

\$191,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail Association to restore and repair the most damaged parts of five sections

of the Superior Hiking Trail and restore approximately four miles of an abandoned route to a natural footpath for hikers.

Subd. 10. Administration and Contract Agreement Reimbursement **\$1,537,700** **-0-**

(a) Contract Agreement Reimbursement

\$135,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources, at the direction of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, for expenses incurred for preparing and administering contracts for the agreements specified in this section. The commissioner must provide documentation to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources on the expenditure of these funds. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2021, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) LCCMR Administration

\$1,400,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for administration in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09, subdivision 5.

(c) LCC Administration

\$3,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for the web site required in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10.

Subd. 11. Wastewater Treatment Recommendations **\$2,000,000** **-0-**

(a) Water Infrastructure Funding Program

\$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Public Facilities Authority for grants for wastewater projects under the water infrastructure funding program under Minnesota Statutes, section 446A.072 to home rule and statutory cities and towns with a population under 5,000. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time projects must be completed and final products delivered.

(b) Point Source Implementation Program

\$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Public Facilities Authority for grants for wastewater projects under the point source implementation grant program under Minnesota Statutes 446A.073 to home rule and statutory cities and towns with a population under 5,000. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, by which time projects must be completed and final products delivered.

Subd. 12. Availability of Appropriations

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the work plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs that are directly related to and necessary for an appropriation, including financial services, human resources, information services, rent, and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can be clearly justified and individually documented specific to the appropriation's purpose and would

not be generated by the recipient but for receipt of the appropriation. No broad allocations for costs in either dollars or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2022, when projects must be completed and final products delivered. For acquisition of real property, the appropriations in this section are available for an additional fiscal year if a binding contract for acquisition of the real property is entered into before the expiration date of the appropriation. If a project receives a federal grant, the period of the appropriation is extended to equal the federal grant period.

Subd. 13. Data Availability Requirements

Data collected by the projects funded under this section must conform to guidelines and standards adopted by the Office of MN.IT Services. Spatial data must also conform to additional guidelines and standards designed to support data coordination and distribution that have been published by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. Descriptions of spatial data must be prepared as specified in the state's geographic metadata guideline and must be submitted to the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office. All data must be accessible and free to the public unless made private under the Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the extent practicable, summary data and results of projects funded under this section should be readily accessible on the Internet and identified as having received funding from the environment and natural resources trust fund.

Subd. 14. Project Requirements

(a) As a condition of accepting an appropriation under this section, an agency or entity receiving an appropriation or a party to an agreement from an appropriation must comply with paragraphs (b) to (l) and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must submit a work plan and annual or semiannual progress reports in the form determined by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation. Modifications to the approved work plan and budget expenditures must be made through the amendment process established by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(b) A recipient of money appropriated in this section that conducts a restoration using funds appropriated in this section must use native plant species according to the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines and include an appropriate diversity of native species selected to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the growing season as required under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.973.

(c) For all restorations conducted with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan that, to the degree practicable, is consistent with the highest-quality conservation and ecological goals for the restoration site. Consideration should be given to soil, geology, topography, and other relevant factors that would provide the best chance for long-term success and durability of the restoration project. The plan must include the proposed timetable for implementing the restoration, including site preparation, establishment of diverse plant species, maintenance, and additional enhancement to establish the restoration; identify long-term maintenance and management needs of the restoration and how the maintenance, management, and enhancement will be financed; and take advantage of the best-available science and include innovative techniques to achieve the best restoration.

(d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this section for restoration activities must provide an initial restoration evaluation at the completion of the appropriation and an evaluation three years after the completion of the expenditure. Restorations must be evaluated relative to the stated goals and standards in the restoration plan, current science, and, when applicable, the Board of Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation establishment and enhancement guidelines. The evaluation must

determine whether the restorations are meeting planned goals, identify any problems with implementing the restorations, and, if necessary, give recommendations on improving restorations. The evaluation must be focused on improving future restorations.

(e) All restoration and enhancement projects funded with money appropriated in this section must be on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.

(f) A recipient of money from an appropriation under this section must give consideration to contracting with Conservation Corps Minnesota for contract restoration and enhancement services.

(g) All conservation easements acquired with money appropriated under this section must:

(1) be permanent;

(2) specify the parties to an easement in the easement;

(3) specify all the provisions of an agreement that are permanent;

(4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources in an electronic format at least ten business days before closing;

(5) include a long-term monitoring and enforcement plan and funding for monitoring and enforcing the easement agreement; and

(6) include requirements in the easement document to protect the quantity and quality of groundwater and surface water through specific activities such as keeping water on the landscape, reducing nutrient and contaminant loading, and not permitting artificial hydrological modifications.

(h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in lands, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must not agree to pay more than 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel of land using this money to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, except that up to ten percent above the appraised value may be allowed to complete the purchase, in part or in whole, using this money if permission is received in advance of the purchase from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

(i) For any acquisition of land or interest in land, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must give priority to high-quality natural resources or conservation lands that provide natural buffers to water resources.

(j) For new lands acquired with money appropriated under this section, a recipient must prepare an ecological restoration and management plan in compliance with paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for implementation unless the work plan addresses why a portion of the money is not necessary to achieve a high-quality restoration.

(k) To ensure public accountability for using public funds, a recipient of money appropriated under this section must, within 60 days of the transaction, provide to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources documentation of the selection process used to identify parcels acquired and provide documentation of all related transaction costs, including but not limited to appraisals, legal fees, recording fees, commissions, other similar costs, and donations. This information must be provided for all parties involved in the transaction. The recipient must also report to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources any difference between the acquisition amount paid to the seller and the state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal was conducted.

(l) A recipient of an appropriation from the trust fund under this section must acknowledge financial support from the environment and natural resources trust fund in project publications, signage, and

other public communications and outreach related to work completed using the appropriation. Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate, through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion of language attributing support from the trust fund. Each direct recipient of money appropriated in this section, as well as each recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this section, must satisfy all reporting and other requirements incumbent upon constitutionally dedicated funding recipients as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision 10, and Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P.

Subd. 15. Payment Conditions and Capital-Equipment Expenditures

(a) All agreements, grants, or contracts referred to in this section must be administered on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise provided in this section. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41, expenditures made on or after July 1, 2019, or the date the work plan is approved, whichever is later, are eligible for reimbursement unless otherwise provided in this section. Periodic payments must be made upon receiving documentation that the deliverable items articulated in the approved work plan have been achieved, including partial achievements as evidenced by approved progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be advanced to projects to accommodate cash-flow needs or match federal money. The advances must be approved as part of the work plan. No expenditures for capital equipment are allowed unless expressly authorized in the project work plan.

(b) Single-source contracts as specified in the approved work plan are allowed.

Subd. 16. Purchasing Recycled and Recyclable Materials

A political subdivision, public or private corporation, or other entity that receives an appropriation under this section must use the appropriation in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable materials and Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using paper stock and printing.

Subd. 17. Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Guidelines

A recipient to whom an appropriation is made under this section for a capital improvement project must ensure that the project complies with the applicable energy conservation and sustainable building guidelines and standards contained in law, including Minnesota Statutes, sections 16B.325, 216C.19, and 216C.20, and rules adopted under those sections. The recipient may use the energy planning, advocacy, and State Energy Office units of the Department of Commerce to obtain information and technical assistance on energy conservation and alternative-energy development relating to planning and constructing the capital improvement project.

Subd. 18. Accessibility

Structural and nonstructural facilities must meet the design standards in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility guidelines.

Subd. 19. Carryforward; Extension

(a) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects are extended to June 30, 2020:

- (1) Laws 2015, Chp. 76, Sec. 2, Subd. 03g, "Minnesota Native Bee Atlas;"
- (2) Laws 2016, Chp. 226, Sec. 2, Subd. 08a, "Bee Pollinator Habitat Enhancement - Phase 2;"
- (3) Laws 2016, Chp. 186, Sec. 2, Subd. 03c2, "Prairie Butterfly Conservation, Research, and Breeding – Phase II"

(4) Laws 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 04a, "Assessment of Household Chemicals and Herbicides in Rivers and Lakes;"

b) The availability of the appropriations for the following projects are extended to June 30, 2021:

(1) Laws 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2, Subd. 07b, "Assessment of Urban Air Quality;"

Subd. 20 Technical Corrections

a) M.L. 2015, Chp. 75, Sec. 2, Subd. 09b; as extended M.L. 2018, Chap. 214, Art. 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 20, is amended to read:

\$1,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants to acquire ~~at least 133~~ approximately 90 acres of lands within the approved park unit boundaries of the metropolitan regional park system. This appropriation may not be used to purchase habitable residential structures. A list of proposed fee title and easement acquisitions must be provided as part of the required work plan. This appropriation must be matched by at least 40 percent of nonstate money that must be committed by December 31, 2015, or the appropriation cancels. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2018, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

b) M.L. 2017, Chp. 96, Sec. 2 Subd. 9(a), is amended to read:

\$1,500,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the Metropolitan Council for grants to acquire approximately ~~197~~ 70 acres of land within the approved park boundaries of the metropolitan regional park system. This appropriation may not be used to purchase habitable residential structures. A list of proposed fee title acquisitions must be provided as part of the required work plan. This appropriation must be matched by at least 40 percent of nonstate money that must be committed by December 31, 2017. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2020, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.