

2020 Legislative Session Report

Bill and Session Summary

Regular Session

While separate environment and natural resources funding bills ([HF 4554](#) and [SF 4499](#)) containing ENRTF appropriations were passed by the House and Senate during regular session, no one version was agreed upon by both bodies.

A spreadsheet is attached showing the differences between the two bills and the LCCMR's 2020 tentative recommendations. The primary differences between the two bills is how each treats \$2.768 million made available following a request from the City of Melrose to withdraw its previously funded project (M.L. 2019, First Special Session, Chp. 4, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 08c "Sauk River Dam Removal and Rock Rapids Replacement"). At its January 16, 2020 meeting, the LCCMR voted to allow the legislature determine the outcome of these funds.

First Special Session

Governor Walz called the Legislature into a special session that started on Friday, June 12, 2020. A bill granting COVID-related extensions for ENRTF appropriations expiring June 30, 2020 ([HF 37](#)) was passed by the House and Senate and signed into law by the governor on June 18, 2020. An environment and natural resources funding bill containing ENRTF appropriations was introduced in the House ([HF 28](#)) and amended in committee. It then received its second reading but was not voted upon on the house floor before special session adjourned.

Bills of Interest

Signed into law

First Special Session

[HF 37](#) (Hansen; Becker-Finn; Ecklund; Huot; Lee; Cantrel ; Sundin; Fischer; Lillie; Poppe) / (Senate Author: Ingebrigtsen)

- "Any appropriation from the environment and natural resources trust fund that would otherwise cancel, lapse, or expire on June 30, 2020 is extended to June 30, 2021."
- Solid waste management tax exemptions provided, pilot accessibility projects required on wildlife management areas, and appropriations extended.

ENRTF appropriation bills – Not signed into law

Regular Session

[HF 4498](#) (Hansen, et al.) / [SF 4560](#) (Bigam; Dziedzic; Franzen)

- Environment and natural resources trust fund funding provided, previous appropriations modified, and money appropriated; previous appropriation canceled, providing extension due to COVID for all ENRTF projects otherwise expiring June 30, 2020.
- Components were rolled into HF 4554

[HF 4554](#) (Hansen, Becker-Finn)

- Environment and natural resources funding provided, and various provisions and prior appropriations modified. Provides extension due to COVID for all ENRTF projects otherwise expiring June 30, 2020

[SF 3525](#) (Ingebrigtsen; Westrom; Dahms; Tomassoni; Dziedzic)

- Environment and natural resources trust fund appropriations and previous appropriations modification.
- Components were rolled into SF 4499

[SF 4499](#) (Ingebrigtsen)

- Environment and natural resources appropriations; soil and water conservation fund creation; state park permit provisions modification; state land conveyances interest provisions modification; closed landfill investment fund provisions modification; Water Supply Systems and Wastewater Treatment Facilities advisory council reestablishment; environment and natural resources trust fund appropriations.

First Special Session

[HF 28](#) (Hansen; Becker-Finn; Claflin)

- Environment and natural resources; provisions modified including Cervidae, watercraft operator safety program, invasive species permits, wild rice leases, and various other provisions. Includes ENRTF appropriations.

Additional ENRTF policy, statute changes, and appropriations – Not signed into law

Regular Session

[HF 2946](#) (Acomb; Becker-Finn; Xiong, J.; Gomez; Hansen; Wagenius; Hornstein; Mann; Jordan; Lillie)

/ [SF 3309](#) (Cwodzinski)

- Raptor protection from lead poisoning funding provided, and ENRTF money appropriated.
- Components were incorporated into HF 4554

[HF 3225](#) (Brand; Lippert; Considine; Cantrell; Fischer; Boe; Lillie) / [SF 3753](#) (Frentz)

- River Watch program funding provided, and ENRTF money appropriated.

[HF 3264](#) (Heintzeman; Ecklund) / [SF 3160](#) (Ingebrigtsen; Anderson, B.; Tomassoni; Goggin; Johnson)

- Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources and the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council term limits for citizen appointees establishment.

[HF 3524](#) (Morrison; Becker-Finn; Acomb) / [SF 4212](#) (Abeler; Hawj)

- Lawns to Legumes program funding provided, previous appropriation canceled, and ENRTF money appropriated.
- Components were incorporated into HF 4554

[SF 3262](#) (Johnson; Mathews; Anderson, B.; Westrom; Utke)

- Lawns to Legumes program ENRTF appropriation modification for grants to parks, trails, and natural areas.

[HF 3940](#) (Fischer; Brand; Poston) / [SF 3952](#) (Wiger; Eaton; Eken)

- Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, Clean Water Council, and Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources greater coordination facilitated.

[HF 4175](#) (Sandell, Hansen, Becker-Finn, Persell and Wagenius)

- A bill for an act relating to natural resources; appropriating ENRTF money to develop strategies to manage PFAS.
- Components were incorporated into HF 4554

[HF 4366](#) (Ecklund; Lislegard) / [SF 4301](#) (Bakk)

- Babbitt; Birch Lake Recreation Area campground funding provided, and money appropriated.
- Components were incorporated into HF 4554