

M.L. 2026 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
LCCMR Recommendations for FY 2027

Overall Topic Area	\$ Recommended	Percentage of Total Recommended	Number Recommended	Percentage of Number Recommended
Resiliency	\$10,641,000	10.30%	10	9.17%
Water	\$17,014,000	16.47%	20	18.35%
Education and Outdoor Recreation	\$37,806,000	36.59%	40	36.70%
Fish and Wildlife	\$18,750,000	18.15%	19	17.43%
Energy	\$773,000	0.75%	2	1.83%
Land	\$17,964,000	17.39%	17	15.60%
Administration*	\$378,000	0.37%	1	0.92%
Total	\$103,326,000	100.00%	109	100.00%

Fund Source	\$ Amount
FY2027 - Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund	\$ 103,326,000
Total \$	\$ 103,326,000

*Includes commission buffer. The buffer is for mistakes made during the allocation process. If the buffer is not needed, the commission may either allocate it to another proposal or it will be allocated to the Emerging Issues Account later this year.

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As of July 18, 2025, the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) has selected 109 proposals totaling approximately \$103 million to recommend to the 2026 Minnesota Legislature for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF). The amount available for appropriation from the ENRTF for FY 2027 is \$103,326,000. In response to LCCMR's 2026 Request for Proposal (RFP), 400 proposals requesting a total of approximately \$359 million were received and considered through a competitive, multi stage evaluation. The following recommendations range from funding the full proposal and dollar amount requested to partial funding for specific proposal elements.

Proposal ID	Project Title	Amount Recommended	Organization	Project Manager	Region*
Resiliency (10 Recommendations = \$10,641,000)					
2026-085	Community Resiliency through AmeriCorps	\$3,312,000	ServeMinnesota	Sharon Delcambre	Statewide
2026-155	Preparing Resilient Communities with Model Land Use Ordinances	\$468,000	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	Kristin Mroz Risse	Statewide
2026-207	Resilient and Biodiverse Community Spaces	\$612,000	Board of Water and Soil Resources	Dan Shaw	Statewide
2026-218	Northwoods and Waters Community Resilience Collaborative	\$1,220,000	Arrowhead Regional Development Commission	Joshua Bergstad	NE
2026-282	Protect Community Forests for Community Resiliency	\$2,603,000	MN DNR, Forestry Division	Valerie McClannahan	Statewide
2026-298	Identifying Flooding Hazards on Mille Lacs Tribal Lands	\$800,000	Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	Charles Lippert	NE
2026-464	Advancing Dehydration Technologies for Resilient Minnesota Food Systems	\$300,000	U of MN, College of Science and Engineering	Natasha Wright	Statewide
2026-508	Climate-Smart Counties and Communities: Collaborative Resiliency Solutions	\$827,000	U of MN, Institute on the Environment	Sabine Engel	Central, NE, NW, SE, SW
2026-528	Mahnomen EAB Preparation Project	\$62,000	City of Mahnomen	Taylor Guenther	NW
2026-544	Sustainable Food Security, Ecosystem Restoration, and Indigenous Empowerment	\$437,000	U of MN, Duluth	Wenqing Zhang	Statewide
	Subtotal	\$10,641,000			
Water (20 Recommendations = \$17,014,000)					
2026-034	Statewide Risk Estimates for Contaminants of Emerging Concern	\$175,000	University of St. Thomas	Dalma Martinovic-Weigelt	Statewide
2026-055	Eliminating Phenolic Compounds from Water Using Enzyme Filter	\$300,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Hua Zhao	Statewide

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2026-070	Vadnais Lake: Nature-Based Recreation and Drinking Water Protection	\$2,842,000	City of Vadnais Heights	Jim Hauth	Metro
2026-088	Twin Cities PBS Almanac Environment and Natural Resources Desk	\$632,000	Twin Cities Public Television	Kari Kennedy	Statewide
2026-116	Studying Dam Removal Feasibility for the Mississippi Gorge	\$923,000	Friends of the Mississippi River	Colleen O'Connor Toberman	Metro
2026-124	Protecting Minnesota's Waters from Plastic- and Rubber-Derived Chemicals	\$418,000	U of MN, College of Science and Engineering	William Arnold	Statewide
2026-164	Public Toolbox to Forecast Toxic Cyanobacteria Blooms	\$509,000	U of MN, Duluth - NRRI	Chan Lan Chun	Statewide
2026-169	PFAS in Precipitation: Assessing a Critical Statewide Threat	\$910,000	U of MN, Duluth - Sea Grant	Alexander Frie	Statewide
2026-203	Assessment of Microplastic Pollution in Karst Aquifers	\$458,000	Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Metropolitan State	Benjamin Maas	Statewide
2026-210	Ash Recovery and Recycling Center	\$1,177,000	Otter Tail County	Nicholas Leonard	Central, NW
2026-248	PFAS and Microplastics: Potential Impacts of Environmental Co-Occurrence	\$721,000	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	David Duffey	Statewide
2026-331	Brookdale Park Shingle Creek Restoration and Access Improvements	\$409,000	City of Brooklyn Park	Mitch Robinson	Metro
2026-382	Determining Fracture Characteristics for Karst Groundwater Flow Modeling	\$375,000	U of MN, College of Science and Engineering	Qizhi He	Statewide
2026-424	Restoring Wild Rice Waters: Sulfate and Mercury Treatment	\$727,000	White Iron Chain of Lakes Association	Dave Holt	NE
2026-447	Cheap Portable Sensor to Detect PFAS in Water	\$357,000	U of MN, College of Science and Engineering	Tianhong Cui	Statewide
2026-473	Geologic Atlases for Water Resource Management	\$1,275,000	U of MN, MN Geological Survey	Barbara Lusardi	Statewide
2026-486	Mitigating Short-Chain Forever Chemicals for a PFAS-Free Minnesota	\$299,000	U of MN, College of Science and Engineering	Peter Bruggeman	Statewide
2026-542	Anoka Rum River Dam Reconstruction and Modification Project	\$3,110,000	City of Anoka	Ben Nelson	Metro

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2026-552	Lake Superior River Watch	\$404,000	Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College	Courtney Kowalczak	NE
2026-563	Red Lake Nation Long-Term Continuous Monitoring Buoys	\$993,000	Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians	Mindy Phillips	NW
	Subtotal	\$17,014,000			
Education and Outdoor Recreation (40 Recommendations = \$37,806,000)					
2026-002	CMSM 2026 Proposal	\$300,000	Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota	Crystal Olson	Statewide
2026-010	Cultivate, Connect, and Train Minnesota's Young Conservation Scientists	\$538,000	U of MN, Landscape Arboretum	David Remucal	Statewide
2026-013	Native Fish Exhibits Transforming Aquatic Education in Minnesota	\$299,000	Headwaters Science Center	Lee Furuseth	NW
2026-027	Inspiring and Connecting the Next Generations with Nature	\$3,085,000	YMCA of the North	Beth Becker	Statewide
2026-039	River Bend Nature Center's Inclusive Interpretive Plan Implementation	\$293,000	River Bend Nature Center	Brad Bourn	SE
2026-065	Fostering Environmental Stewardship through Art	\$298,000	Watermark Art Center	Lori Forshee-Donnay	Central, NE, NW
2026-080	Increasing Pollinator Conservation Action Through Education and Engagement	\$501,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Elaine Evans	Statewide
2026-086	Flyway Fellows: Engaging Teachers in Bird Migration Education	\$362,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Robert Blair	Statewide
2026-093	Minnesota Community Schoolyards	\$1,343,000	The Trust for Public Land	Anna Callahan	Statewide
2026-099	Bringing Environmental Education and Outdoor Recreation to K-12 Schools	\$192,000	Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center	Bryan Wood	Statewide
2026-102	Improving Trail Accessibility for Minnesotans at Osprey Wilds	\$25,000	Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center	Bryan Wood	Statewide
2026-115	Duluth Traverse Accessibility and Sustainability Improvements	\$85,000	Cyclists of Gitchee Gumee Shores	Ansel Schimpff	Statewide
2026-141	Hardwood Creek Regional Trail Extension	\$1,244,000	Washington County	Andrea Rehm	Metro

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2026-165	College-School Collaboration to Restore Campuses and Activate Stewardship	\$199,000	Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State University	Kimberly Musser	SE, SW
2026-177	Urban Farming Education to Increase Urban Environmental Stewardship	\$300,000	East Phillips Neighborhood Institute	Daniel Schmidt	Metro
2026-182	A State Trail System for 21st-Century Minnesota	\$623,000	Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota	Dan Nemes	Statewide
2026-221	Mississippi River Water Trail Access in Dayton	\$464,000	Three Rivers Park District	Maggie Heurung	Metro
2026-231	YES Connects Students to Outdoors for Youth-Led Sustainability	\$199,000	Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center	Kalley Pratt	Statewide
2026-254	Sharing Minnesota's Greatest Environmental Investment Phase II	\$623,000	Science Museum of Minnesota	Joy Hobbs	Statewide
2026-258	Diversifying Nature Education Access	\$438,000	Ramsey County Parks and Recreation	Kristopher Lencowski	Statewide
2026-260	Cultivating Conservation Leaders through Education and Wilderness Experiences	\$1,252,000	Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness	Alison Nyenhuis	Statewide
2026-267	LHRP Natural Resources Restoration and Sustainable Trails Improvements	\$2,126,000	Dakota County	Tony Wotzka	Metro
2026-287	Minnesota State Trails Development	\$4,943,000	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Kent Skaar	Statewide
2026-288	Tettegouche State Park Entrance Bridge Replacement	\$3,674,000	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Kent Skaar	Statewide
2026-293	Expanding Adaptive Outdoor Recreation Opportunities Around the BWCA	\$996,000	Adaptive Wilderness Within Reach	Jill Leary	Statewide
2026-302	Engaging Saint Paul Youth in Meaningful Restoration Work	\$300,000	Urban Roots MN	David Woods	Metro
2026-304	Expanding and Enhancing Environmental Education through Partnerships	\$550,000	Belwin Conservancy	Katie Bloome	Metro
2026-306	Greater Fountain Lake Aquatic and Trail Accessibility Enhancements	\$1,162,000	Shell Rock River Watershed District	Courtney Phillips	SE
2026-313	Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant Programs	\$3,833,000	MN DNR, State Parks and Trails Division	Jenni Bubke	Statewide

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2026-348	Lake Marion Greenway – Ritter Farm to Dodd Blvd	\$1,797,000	City of Lakeville	Joe Masiarchin	Metro
2026-355	Restored Bluff and Trail at Owámníyómni	\$2,385,000	Owámníyómni Okhódayapi	Kjersti Monson	Statewide
2026-367	Minnesota Water Education for K-5	\$295,000	Science Museum of Minnesota	Omena Giles	Statewide
2026-436	Outdoor Learning Center and Trails	\$250,000	Cook County Schools ISD 166	Chris Lindholm	NE
2026-450	Facility Outdoor Improvements	\$180,000	Veterans on the Lake	Eric Mayranen	Statewide
2026-519	Classrooms to Careers: Expanding Environmental STEM Pathways	\$763,000	Science Museum of Minnesota	Kelsey Boeff	Statewide
2026-520	Outdoor Learning Professional Development for Educators and Administrators	\$323,000	Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center	Peter Smerud	Statewide
2026-559	Emerging Conservation Leaders - Expanding the Network	\$786,000	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Trust Inc	Neal Feeken	Metro
2026-571	Lakewood Elementary School Trail Renewal and Community Engagement 2	\$288,000	Duluth School District #709 - Lakewood Elementary	Darren Sheldon	NE
2026-578	Explore Minnesota With COPAL	\$392,000	Comunidades Organizando el Poder y la Accion Latina	Carolina Ortiz	Statewide
2026-584	Expanding Community Boat Building and Outdoor Experiences	\$100,000	Urban Boatbuilders	Gretchen Wilbrandt	Metro
	Subtotal	\$37,806,000			
Fish and Wildlife (19 Recommendations = \$18,750,000)					
2026-049	Which Cisco are Strongest? Identifying Healthy Populations	\$674,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Kenneth Zillig	Statewide
2026-074	Mapping Leech Lake Vegetation: A Closer Look	\$478,000	Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	Raining White	Statewide
2026-089	Salvage Wildlife Phase 2: Roadkill to Scientific Records	\$673,000	U of MN, Bell Museum of Natural History	Keith Barker	Statewide
2026-113	Partnership for Resilient Landscapes	\$2,638,000	Pheasants Forever Inc	Josh Pommier	Statewide

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2026-271	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza's Impacts on Minnesota Raptors	\$298,000	U of MN, Raptor Center	Dana Franzen-Klein	Statewide
2026-318	United in Responding to CWD in Minnesota	\$2,200,000	U of MN, College of Veterinary Medicine	Tiffany Wolf	Statewide
2026-332	Survival and Movement of Deer in Minnesota's Prairies	\$1,000,000	MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division	Tyler Obermoller	Statewide
2026-357	Uniting Minnesota's Insect Record	\$932,000	U of MN, Bell Museum of Natural History	George Weiblen	Statewide
2026-373	Lake Sturgeon Restoration at Great Lakes Aquarium	\$500,000	Lake Superior Authority	Jay Walker	NE
2026-399	Wolf Monitoring on the Leech Lake Reservation	\$295,000	Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	Tanya Roerick	Central
2026-405	Phase II Investigation of Pine and Curry Island SNA	\$539,000	Lake of the Woods County	Anthony PirkI	Statewide
2026-457	Building a Future for Minnesota's At-Risk Butterflies	\$294,000	Minnesota Zoological Garden	Erik Runquist	Statewide
2026-498	Advancing Bison Recovery and Stewardship through Statewide Partnership	\$658,000	Minnesota Zoological Garden	Seth Stapleton	Statewide
2026-499	Identifying Climate-Resilient Fisheries to Guide Minnesota Lake Management	\$643,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Gretchen Hansen	Statewide
2026-500	Supporting Implementation of Large-Scale Moose Habitat Management	\$1,054,000	MN DNR, Fish and Wildlife Division	Lindsey Shartell	Statewide
2026-501	Evaluating Forward-Facing Sonar Impacts on Minnesota Fish	\$676,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Gretchen Hansen	Statewide
2026-506	Incidence of Avian Influenza in Minnesota Forest Birds	\$234,000	U of MN, Duluth	Mark Clark	Statewide
2026-532	Regarding Native Fish: Outreach, Engagement, and Citizen Science	\$270,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Solomon David	Statewide
2026-590	Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center	\$4,694,000	U of MN, MITPPC	Robert Venette	Statewide
	Subtotal	\$18,750,000			
Energy (2 Recommendations = \$773,000)					

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2026-529	Minnesota Chiller Energy Efficiency and Onsite Energy Generation	\$298,000	U of MN, School of Public Health	Kelsey Klucas	Statewide
2026-540	Novel Piezoelectric Energy Converters for Minnesota Waters	\$475,000	U of MN, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory	Lian Shen	Statewide
	Subtotal	\$773,000			
Land (17 Recommendations = \$17,964,000)					
2026-035	Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Restoration	\$392,000	Carver County	Martin Walsh	Metro
2026-043	Adopt a Flyway: Enhancing Minnesota's Migratory Bird Pitstops	\$840,000	Audubon Upper Mississippi River	Sarah Hewitt	Statewide
2026-078	Utilizing Wood Waste and Biochar for Mineland Reclamation	\$358,000	U of MN, Duluth - NRRI	Matthew Aro	Statewide
2026-143	Certified Prescribed Burn Manager Curriculum Development and Pilot	\$454,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Eli Sagor	Statewide
2026-166	Updating Land Cover Maps for Enhanced Natural Systems	\$298,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Bryan Runck	Statewide
2026-190	Pollinator Central V: Habitat Improvement with Public Engagement	\$750,000	Great River Greening	Rebecca Tucker	Central, Metro, SE
2026-200	Evaluating Soil Health Benefits of Controlled Agricultural Drainage	\$249,000	Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State University	Mark Bowen	Statewide
2026-223	Oak Savanna Restoration for Living Landscapes	\$1,944,000	Board of Water and Soil Resources	Dan Shaw	Central, Metro, NW, SE
2026-235	Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition Phase 9	\$2,414,000	Metropolitan Council	Jessica Lee	Metro
2026-276	SNA Habitat Enhancement, Public Engagement and Biodiversity Protection	\$3,996,000	MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division	Judy Elbert	Statewide
2026-292	Lake Brophy Park Trail Armoring and Trail Improvements	\$70,000	Big Ole Bike Club	Jefferson Brand	Statewide
2026-300	Sustainable Land Use on Small-Farms through Collaborative Robots	\$524,000	U of MN, College of Design	Ji Youn Shin	Statewide
2026-307	Managing Minnesota's Forests for Carbon: Tradeoffs and Synergies	\$300,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Irene De Pellegrin Llorente	Statewide

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2026-339	Native Prairie Bank-Private Native Prairie Conservation and Outreach	\$1,758,000	MN DNR, Ecological and Water Resources Division	Heidi Wolf	Statewide
2026-384	Alleviating PFAS Impacts of Biosolids on Agricultural Lands	\$300,000	U of MN, College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences	Jiwei Zhang	Central, Metro
2026-396	Southeast Minnesota Groundwater Protection and Soil Health Initiative	\$2,817,000	Olmsted County	Skip Langer	SE
2026-581	Living with Fire in Minnesota Forests	\$500,000	The Nature Conservancy	Robert Bale	Central, NE
	Subtotal	\$17,964,000			
Administration (1 Recommendation + Commission Buffer = \$378,000)					
2026-497	2026 Contract Agreement Reimbursement	\$340,000	MN DNR, Grants Unit	Katherine Sherman-Hoehn	Statewide
	Commission Buffer	\$38,000	Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources	Becca Nash	Statewide
	Subtotal	\$378,000			
	Total	\$103,326,000			

*Region 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.