



**CONSERVATION
MINNESOTA**

January 19, 2023

To Chair Hawj and the Committee on Environment, Climate & Legacy,

We write today to ask for your support for the confirmation of Sarah Strommen as Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources.

At Conservation Minnesota, we represent members from every county in our state, bringing their voices to St. Paul to support our state's cherished natural resources. Alongside a robust community of conservation advocates, we've worked to enhance participation in outdoor recreation, fund research and support policies to address invasive species and wildlife diseases, and ensure resources are available to sustain and improve our favorite outdoor places.

While we're proud of our advocacy, we know that the job does not end when bills are passed, and policies are announced. Effective conservation policy requires effective implementation. That's why it's important to confirm qualified leaders like Sarah Strommen to lead the Department of Natural Resources.

Sarah Strommen's years of experience within the DNR and outside the Department allows her to bring a real-world approach to the diverse challenges confronting the agency. Strommen's commitment to ensuring that all Minnesotans have access to our Great Outdoors will ensure that our ever-changing communities can enjoy hiking, camping, hunting, swimming, and fishing and just being outside - at a time when we need outdoor recreation more than ever before.

As the DNR continues to address significant challenges impacting our natural resources, it's important to have a professional like Sarah Strommen leading the Department. Please support her confirmation.

Sincerely,

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