

Modernize Outdoor Recreation Experiences

Sarah Strommen | Commissioner



Get Out MORE

The transformational Get Out MORE investments will help ensure Minnesotans of all abilities and interests enjoy a world-class recreation system, no matter which outdoor experience they choose.



Get Out MORE

Get Out MORE - \$150M

- Enhancing access and welcoming new users to public lands (\$35M)
- Modernizing camping and related infrastructure (\$10M)
- Modernizing boating access (\$35M)
- Enhancing fisheries and fishing infrastructure (\$60M)
- Restoring streams and modernizing water related infrastructure (\$10M)



Get Out MORE Final Appropriations

Category	General Fund	Capital Budget	Total Amount (\$ in 000s)
Enhancing Access and Welcoming New Users to Public Lands and Outdoor Recreation Facilities	\$25,000	\$10,400	\$35,400
Modernizing Camping and Related Infrastructure	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$9,500
Modernizing Boating Access	\$35,000		\$35,000
Enhancing Fisheries and Fishing Infrastructure	\$35,000	\$25,000	\$60,000
Restoring Streams and Modernize Water-related Infrastructure	\$10,000		\$10,000
Total	\$110,000	\$39,900	\$149,900

Get Out MORE Programmatic Approach

- Decisions for use of Get Out MORE Funding are made programmatically. This collaborative work takes place across all DNR divisions.
- A programmatic approach allows DNR to be more effective, transformative and impactful with the investments.
- Our approach includes robust public engagement with new and existing partners and adheres to our primary guiding principles and considerations that include continuous improvement and an equity lens.



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Funding allocation principles

- Modernize existing facilities, land resources or public services
- Engage with Minnesotans
- Better meet the needs of underserved communities
- Build off existing program priorities

DNR Investment Optimization Team (IOT)

Modernize state parks and campgrounds



Improve trails and water recreation experiences



Improve hatcheries and fishing opportunities



• Leverage existing systems

• Execute higher volume

 Projects take off & land on time & on budget Restore streams and habitat



Enhance access and welcome new users



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Protect and restore carbon storage

Communications

Public Engagement ''''

Enhancing Access and Welcoming New Users - \$35M

- Accessibility enhancements at state parks, recreation areas and wildlife management areas
- Accessible outdoor recreation equipment for use on state lands
- User access improvements to parking lots, roads, and signage
- Enhancements to state trails and hiking trails



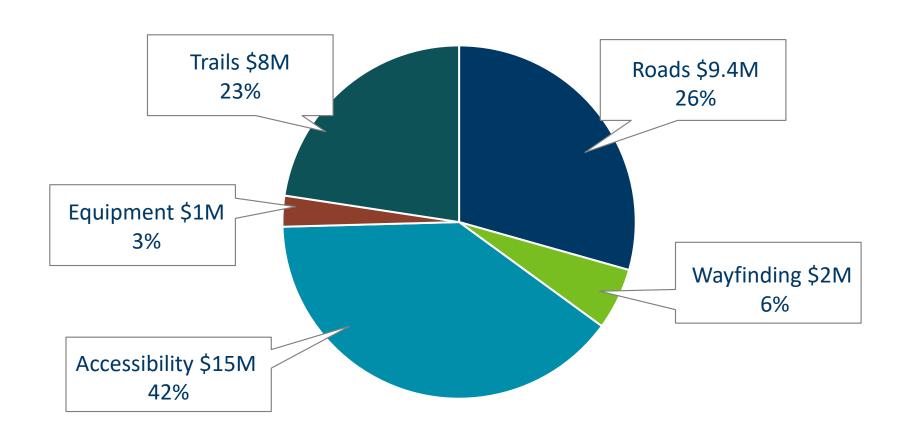






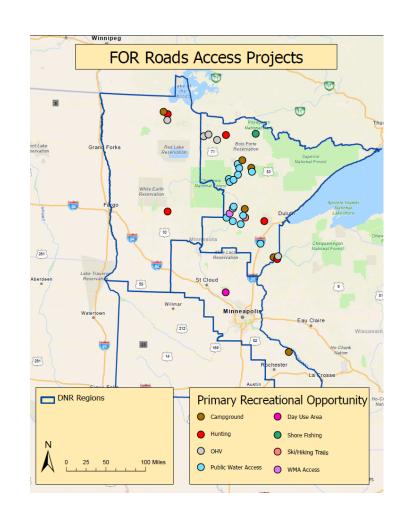
Enhancing Access and Welcoming New Users

Enhancing access & welcoming new users - \$35M



Enhancing Access and Welcoming New Users

- High-priority forest road access projects have been identified
- The following state parks have been identified as priorities for accessibility improvement projects:
 - Glacial Lakes, Lake Bemidji, Jay Cooke, Banning, Grand Portage, Great River Bluffs, Wild River, Monson Lake, Sibley, Ft. Ridgely, Rice Lake, Flandreau, Ft. Snelling
 - An evaluation is underway to identify three parks for more comprehensive accessibility work
- 75 accessible facilities at Wildlife Management Areas will receive necessary improvements



Revitalizing Camping and Related Infrastructure - \$9.5M

Minneopa campground modernization pilot – \$5M

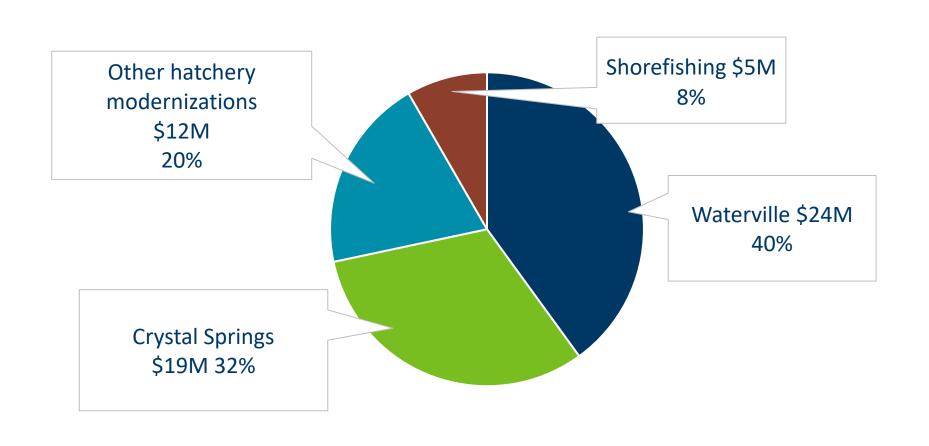
- Larger sites/Modern facilities
- Accessible buildings and paths
- Amenities for campers

Wastewater improvement projects - \$4.5M

- Designed to support climate resilience
- Modernize wastewater system at Myre-Big Island State
 Park



Enhancing Fishing and Fishing Infrastructure - \$60M



Enhancing Fishing and Fishing Infrastructure

Hatchery modernization

- Safe and biosecure water supplies
- Increased production efficiency
- Improved staff safety
- A more nimble, secure and efficient system



Enhancing Fishing and Fishing Infrastructure

Shore fishing investments

- Good fishing spots
- Repair or replace existing fishing piers
- Enhance existing shore fishing sites
- Explore new opportunities



Enhancing Fishing and Fishing Infrastructure

- Waterville Hatchery: Draft RFP for the design contract is in review and approval.
- Crystal Springs Hatchery: Project
 Management Plan is being written
 followed by the RFP
- Hinckley Hatchery: muskie pond water supply—replace water supply line to the muskie rearing ponds
- Lanesboro Hatchery: spring pool impoundment repair design contract has been awarded; plan due end of 2024 and construction in 2025

- **Detroit Lakes Hatchery:** feasibility study for water source improvement and backup generator replacement
- Glenwood Hatchery: replacement of water heating system
- Peterson Hatchery: hatchery modifications to support MN driftless brook trout rearing
- Shore fishing: actively hiring project manager to review potential sites, collaborating with regional teams





Modernizing Boating Access – \$35M

- \$30M for large-scale projects (40-60 projects)
 - Examples include: a combination of accessible features (parking, ramps, stalls), stormwater improvements, AIS areas, healthy shorelines, and accessible non-motorized ramps.
- \$5M for small-scale projects (75-125 projects)
 - Examples include: longer launch ramps, wider drive lanes, wider/longer parking stalls, and improved stormwater treatment
- At least 115 projects total

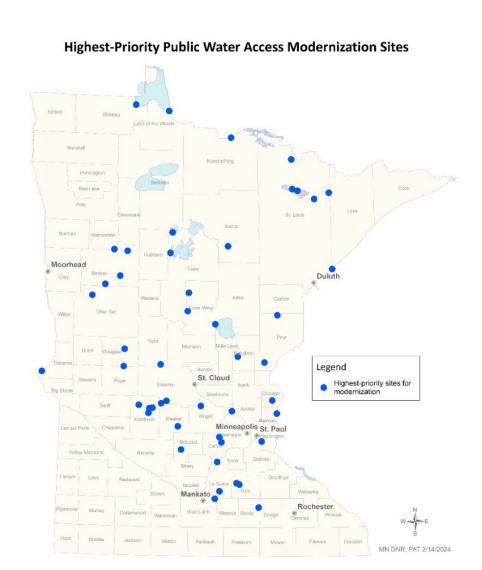




Modernizing Boating Access

- The highest priority public water access sites in need of modernization have been identified
- Evaluation and prioritization of large-scale projects is underway





Restoring Streams and Modernizing Water-Related Infrastructure – 10M





Initial project estimated at – \$5.6M

- Channel restoration
- Dam removal/modification
- Culvert replacements

Outcomes from initial projects include 63 miles of reconnected streams and 43,000 linear feet of restored habitat that enhances and improves stream biology, hydrology, geomorphology, and water quality.

Restoring Streams and Modernizing Water-Related Infrastructure

- Grant agreements for the Perkins Lake and Pomme de Terre Lake dams have been completed
- Design review was completed on the Ramstad/Moosewalk Trail Bridge; the project is ready for construction as soon as snow melts.
- Engineering services have been requested for West Branch Baptism
 River culvert and Manitou culvert
- Lower Knowlton bridge design is at 30%
- Team meetings have been set to start on Eden Lake Dam and Lower Sakatah Lake Dam projects





Media and Public Interest

Minnesota DNR Commissioner highlights new funding

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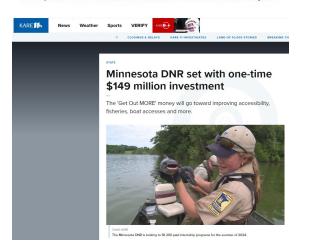
Minneopa State Park in Mankato could preview camping's future in Minnesota

The popular Mankato-area park where bison roam is part of a pilot project by DNR parks planners.

By Bob Timmons Star Tribune | FEBRUARY 8, 2024 - 5:22AM



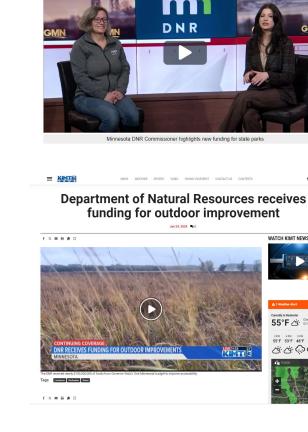
Minneopa State Park, outside of Mankato, is one of the oldest in the state system.





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Boeing 737 MAX deliverie



By WDIO February 6, 2024 - 8:38 PM

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Follow our progress!





Thank You!

Sarah Strommen, Commissioner

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