

1.1 Senator moves to amend S.F. No. 3631 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 **"ARTICLE 1**
1.4 **ELECTRONIC LICENSE SYSTEM**

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 14.386, is amended to read:

1.6 **14.386 PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTING EXEMPT RULES; DURATION.**

1.7 (a) A rule adopted, amended, or repealed by an agency, under a statute enacted after
1.8 January 1, 1997, authorizing or requiring rules to be adopted but excluded from the
1.9 rulemaking provisions of chapter 14 or from the definition of a rule, has the force and effect
1.10 of law only if:

1.11 (1) the revisor of statutes approves the form of the rule by certificate;

1.12 (2) the person authorized to adopt the rule on behalf of the agency signs an order adopting
1.13 the rule;

1.14 (3) the Office of Administrative Hearings approves the rule as to its legality within 14
1.15 days after the agency submits it for approval and files four paper copies or an electronic
1.16 copy of the adopted rule with the revisor's certificate in the Office of the Secretary of State;
1.17 and

1.18 (4) a copy is published by the agency in the State Register.

1.19 The secretary of state shall forward one copy of the rule to the governor.

1.20 A statute enacted after January 1, 1997, authorizing or requiring rules to be adopted but
1.21 excluded from the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14 or from the definition of a rule does
1.22 not excuse compliance with this section unless it makes specific reference to this section.

1.23 (b) A rule adopted under this section is effective for a period of two years from the date
1.24 of publication of the rule in the State Register. The authority for the rule expires at the end
1.25 of this two-year period.

1.26 (c) The chief administrative law judge shall adopt rules relating to the rule approval
1.27 duties imposed by this section and section 14.388, including rules establishing standards
1.28 for review.

1.29 (d) This section does not apply to:

1.30 (1) any group or rule listed in section 14.03, subdivisions 1 and 3, except as otherwise
1.31 provided by law;

2.1 (2) game and fish rules of the commissioner of natural resources adopted under section
2.2 84.027, subdivision 13, or sections 97A.0451 to 97A.0459;

2.3 (3) experimental and special management waters designated by the commissioner of
2.4 natural resources under sections 97C.001 and 97C.005;

2.5 (4) game refuges designated by the commissioner of natural resources under section
2.6 97A.085; or

2.7 (5) transaction fees established by the commissioner of natural resources for electronic
2.8 or telephone sales of licenses, stamps, permits, registrations, or transfers under section
2.9 84.027, subdivision 15, paragraph (a), clause ~~(3)~~ (2).

2.10 (e) If a statute provides that a rule is exempt from chapter 14, and section 14.386 does
2.11 not apply to the rule, the rule has the force of law unless the context of the statute delegating
2.12 the rulemaking authority makes clear that the rule does not have force of law.

2.13 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.027, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

2.14 Subd. 15. **Electronic transactions.** (a) The commissioner may receive an application
2.15 for, sell, and issue any license, stamp, permit, pass, sticker, gift card, safety training
2.16 certification, registration, or transfer under the jurisdiction of the commissioner by electronic
2.17 means, including by telephone. Notwithstanding section 97A.472, electronic and telephone
2.18 transactions may be made outside of the state. The commissioner may:

2.19 (1) provide for the electronic transfer of funds generated by electronic transactions,
2.20 including by telephone;

2.21 ~~(2) assign an identification number to an applicant who purchases a hunting or fishing~~
2.22 ~~license or recreational vehicle registration by electronic means, to serve as temporary~~
2.23 ~~authorization to engage in the activity requiring a license or registration until the license or~~
2.24 ~~registration is received or expires;~~

2.25 ~~(3)~~ (2) charge and permit agents to charge a fee of individuals who make electronic
2.26 transactions and transactions by telephone or Internet, including issuing fees and an additional
2.27 transaction fee not to exceed \$3.50;

2.28 ~~(4)~~ (3) charge and permit agents to charge a convenience fee not to exceed three percent
2.29 of the cost of the license to individuals who use electronic bank cards for payment. An
2.30 electronic licensing system agent charging a fee of individuals making an electronic bank
2.31 card transaction in person must post a sign informing individuals of the fee. The sign must
2.32 be near the point of payment, clearly visible, include the amount of the fee, and state:

3.1 "License agents are allowed by state law to charge a fee not to exceed three percent of the
3.2 cost of state licenses to persons who use electronic bank cards for payment. The fee is not
3.3 required by state law.";

3.4 ~~(5)~~ (4) establish, by written order, an electronic licensing system commission to be paid
3.5 by revenues generated from all sales made through the electronic licensing system. The
3.6 commissioner shall establish the commission in a manner that neither significantly
3.7 overrecovers nor underrecovers costs involved in providing the electronic licensing system;
3.8 and

3.9 ~~(6)~~ (5) adopt rules to administer the provisions of this subdivision.

3.10 (b) The fees established under paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (3) ~~and (4)~~, and the
3.11 commission established under paragraph (a), clause ~~(5)~~ (4), are not subject to the rulemaking
3.12 procedures of chapter 14 and section 14.386 does not apply.

3.13 (c) Money received from fees and commissions collected under this subdivision, including
3.14 interest earned, is annually appropriated from the game and fish fund and the natural
3.15 resources fund to the commissioner for the cost of electronic licensing.

3.16 (d) Game and fish licenses under chapters 97A, 97B, and 97C shall be available by
3.17 electronic transaction, regardless of whether all or any part of the biennial appropriation
3.18 law for the department has been enacted. If, by July 1 of an odd-numbered year, legislation
3.19 has not been enacted to appropriate money to the commissioner of management and budget
3.20 for central accounting, procurement, payroll, and human resources functions, amounts
3.21 necessary to operate those functions for the purpose of this paragraph are appropriated from
3.22 the general fund to the commissioner of management and budget. As necessary, the
3.23 commissioner may transfer a portion of this appropriation to other state agencies to support
3.24 carrying out these functions. Any subsequent appropriation to the commissioner of
3.25 management and budget for a biennium in which this section is applicable supersedes and
3.26 replaces the funding authorized in this paragraph.

3.27 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.0874, is amended to read:

3.28 **84.0874 ELECTRONIC LICENSING SYSTEM DATA.**

3.29 (a) The following data created, collected, stored, or maintained by the department for
3.30 purposes of obtaining a noncommercial game and fish license, cross-country-ski pass, horse
3.31 pass, or snowmobile trail ~~sticker~~ pass; registering a recreational motor vehicle; or any other
3.32 electronic licensing transaction are private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02,
3.33 subdivision 12: name, addresses, driver's license number, and date of birth. The data may

4.1 be disclosed for law enforcement purposes. The data, other than the driver's license number,
4.2 may be disclosed to a government entity and for natural resources management purposes,
4.3 including recruitment, retention, and training certification and verification.

4.4 (b) Private data on individuals under paragraph (a) may be disclosed as follows:

4.5 (1) for use by any government agency, including a court or law enforcement agency, in
4.6 carrying out its functions, or any private person or entity acting on behalf of a federal, state,
4.7 or local agency in carrying out its functions;

4.8 (2) for use in connection with matters of vehicle or operator safety and theft, emissions,
4.9 product alterations, recalls or advisories, and performance monitoring;

4.10 (3) for use in the normal course of business by a legitimate business or its agents,
4.11 employees, or contractors, in order to verify the accuracy of personal information submitted
4.12 by an individual. If the information as submitted is not correct or is no longer correct, correct
4.13 information may be obtained only for the purpose of preventing fraud by, pursuing legal
4.14 remedies against, or recovering on a debt or security interest against the individual. If the
4.15 person requesting access is acting as the agent of a lienholder, the requester must submit
4.16 proof of a contract with the lienholder;

4.17 (4) for use in connection with any civil, criminal, administrative, or arbitration
4.18 proceedings in any federal, state, or local court or agency or before any self-regulatory body,
4.19 including service of process, investigation in anticipation of litigation, and the execution or
4.20 enforcement of judgments and orders, or pursuant to an order of a federal, state, or local
4.21 court, provided that the requester provides a copy of the court order;

4.22 (5) for use by any insurer or insurance support organization, or by a self-insured entity,
4.23 or its agents, employees, or contractors, in connection with claims investigation activities
4.24 or antifraud activities. If the person requesting access is an agent of an insurance company,
4.25 the requester must provide the insurance company's name;

4.26 (6) for use in providing notice to the owners of towed or impounded recreational vehicles
4.27 or watercraft. The person requesting access must provide the name, address, and telephone
4.28 number of the entity that requested that the recreational vehicle or watercraft be towed;

4.29 (7) for use by any licensed private investigative agency or licensed security service for
4.30 any purpose permitted under this section, provided that the person provides a copy of a
4.31 valid license; or

4.32 (8) where the use is related to the physical safety or security of operators, vehicles,
4.33 pedestrians, or property.

5.1 The commissioner must not disclose data under this paragraph if the commissioner concludes
5.2 that the requester is likely to use the data for an improper purpose or other purpose not
5.3 authorized by this paragraph.

5.4 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.152, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

5.5 Subd. 3. **Application.** (a) ~~An application for a wild rice dealer's license must be made~~
5.6 ~~under a written oath.~~ The ~~form of~~ application for a wild rice dealer's license application
5.7 must include:

5.8 (1) the amount of wild rice, whether raw or processed, bought or sold by the applicant
5.9 during the preceding calendar year;

5.10 (2) the amount of wild rice the applicant estimates will be bought or sold under the
5.11 license; and

5.12 (3) other pertinent information required by the commissioner.

5.13 (b) The license fee must be paid in advance, based on the applicant's estimate. A license
5.14 may not be issued for a fee based on a lesser amount of wild rice than was bought or sold
5.15 by the applicant during the preceding calendar year.

5.16 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.788, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

5.17 Subd. 11. **Refunds.** The commissioner may issue a refund on a registration, not including
5.18 any issuing fees paid under subdivision 3, paragraph (e), or section 84.027, subdivision 15,
5.19 paragraph (a), clause ~~(3)~~ (2), if the refund request is received within 12 months of the original
5.20 registration and:

5.21 (1) the off-highway motorcycle was registered incorrectly by the commissioner or the
5.22 deputy registrar; or

5.23 (2) the off-highway motorcycle was registered twice, once by the dealer and once by
5.24 the customer.

5.25 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.798, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

5.26 Subd. 10. **Refunds.** The commissioner may issue a refund on a registration, not including
5.27 any issuing fees paid under subdivision 3, paragraph (b), or section 84.027, subdivision 15,
5.28 paragraph (a), clause ~~(3)~~ (2), if the refund request is received within 60 days of the original
5.29 registration, the registration is not used or transferred, and:

5.30 (1) the off-road vehicle was registered incorrectly; or

6.1 (2) the off-road vehicle was registered twice, once by the dealer and once by the customer.

6.2 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.8035, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

6.3 Subdivision 1. **Pass required; fee.** (a) Except as provided under paragraph (c), a person
6.4 may not operate an off-road vehicle on a state or grant-in-aid off-road vehicle trail or use
6.5 area unless the vehicle displays an off-road vehicle state trail pass ~~sticker~~ issued according
6.6 to this section. The pass must be ~~viewable~~ available to be viewed by a peace officer, a
6.7 conservation officer, or an employee designated under section 84.0835.

6.8 (b) The commissioner of natural resources shall issue a pass upon application and payment
6.9 of the fee. Fees collected under this section, except for the issuing fee for licensing agents,
6.10 shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the off-road vehicle account in the
6.11 natural resources fund and, except for the electronic licensing system commission established
6.12 by the commissioner under section 84.027, subdivision 15, must be used for grants-in-aid
6.13 to counties and municipalities for off-road vehicle organizations to construct and maintain
6.14 off-road vehicle trails and use areas.

6.15 (c) An off-road vehicle state trail pass is not required for:

6.16 (1) an off-road vehicle that is owned and used by the United States, another state, or a
6.17 political subdivision thereof that is exempt from registration under section 84.798, subdivision
6.18 2;

6.19 (2) a person operating an off-road vehicle only on the portion of a trail that is owned by
6.20 the person or the person's spouse, child, or parent; or

6.21 (3) a person operating an off-road vehicle that is registered according to section 84.798.

6.22 (d) The fee for an annual nonresident off-road vehicle state trail pass is \$20. The
6.23 nonresident pass is valid from January 1 through December 31. The fee for a nonresident
6.24 three-year pass is \$30.

6.25 (e) The fee for a resident off-road vehicle state trail pass is \$20. The resident pass is
6.26 valid for 30 consecutive days after the date of issuance.

6.27 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.82, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

6.28 Subd. 2a. **Nontrail use registration.** A snowmobile may be registered for nontrail use.
6.29 A snowmobile registered under this subdivision may not be operated on a state or grant-in-aid
6.30 snowmobile trail. The fee for a nontrail use registration of a snowmobile with an engine
6.31 displacement that is greater than 125 cubic centimeters is \$45 for three years. A nontrail

7.1 use registration is not transferable. In addition to other penalties prescribed by law, the
7.2 penalty for violation of this subdivision is immediate revocation of the nontrail use
7.3 registration. The commissioner shall ensure that the registration ~~sticker~~ provided for limited
7.4 nontrail use is of a different color and is distinguishable from other snowmobile registration
7.5 ~~and state trail stickers~~ provided.

7.6 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.82, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

7.7 Subd. 11. **Refunds.** The commissioner may issue a refund on a registration, not including
7.8 any issuing fees paid under subdivision 2, paragraph (e), or section 84.027, subdivision 15,
7.9 paragraph (a), clause ~~(3)~~ (2), if the refund request is received within 60 days of the original
7.10 registration, the registration is not used or transferred, and:

7.11 (1) the snowmobile was registered incorrectly; or

7.12 (2) the snowmobile was registered twice, once by the dealer and once by the customer.

7.13 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.8205, is amended to read:

7.14 **84.8205 SNOWMOBILE STATE TRAIL ~~STICKER~~ PASS.**

7.15 Subdivision 1. **~~Sticker~~ Pass required; fee.** (a) A snowmobile that is not registered in
7.16 the state under section 84.82, subdivision 3, paragraph (a), or that is registered by a
7.17 manufacturer or dealer under section 84.82, subdivision 3, paragraph (b) or (c), may not be
7.18 operated on a state or grant-in-aid snowmobile trail unless a snowmobile state trail ~~sticker~~
7.19 is affixed to the snowmobile pass is available for inspection by a peace officer, a conservation
7.20 officer, or an employee designated under section 84.0835.

7.21 (b) The commissioner of natural resources shall issue a ~~sticker~~ pass upon application
7.22 and payment of a fee. The fee is:

7.23 (1) \$50 for a one-year snowmobile state trail ~~sticker~~ pass purchased by an individual;
7.24 and

7.25 (2) \$15 for a one-year snowmobile state trail ~~sticker~~ pass purchased by a dealer or
7.26 manufacturer.

7.27 (c) In addition to other penalties prescribed by law, an individual in violation of this
7.28 subdivision must purchase an annual state trail ~~sticker~~ pass for a fee of \$70. The ~~sticker~~
7.29 pass is valid from November 1 through June 30. Fees collected under this section, except
7.30 for the issuing fee for licensing agents, shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited
7.31 to the snowmobile trails and enforcement account in the natural resources fund and, except

8.1 for the electronic licensing system commission established by the commissioner under
8.2 section 84.027, subdivision 15, must be used for grants-in-aid, trail maintenance, grooming,
8.3 and easement acquisition.

8.4 (d) A state trail ~~sticker~~ pass is not required under this section for:

8.5 (1) a snowmobile that is owned and used by the United States, an Indian tribal
8.6 government, another state, or a political subdivision thereof that is exempt from registration
8.7 under section 84.82, subdivision 6;

8.8 (2) a collector snowmobile that is operated as provided in a special permit issued for the
8.9 collector snowmobile under section 84.82, subdivision 7a;

8.10 (3) a person operating a snowmobile only on the portion of a trail that is owned by the
8.11 person or the person's spouse, child, or parent; or

8.12 (4) a snowmobile while being used to groom a state or grant-in-aid trail.

8.13 **Subd. 2. Placement of sticker.** ~~The state trail sticker shall be permanently affixed to~~
8.14 ~~either:~~

8.15 ~~(1) the forward half of the snowmobile directly above or below the headlight of the~~
8.16 ~~snowmobile;~~

8.17 ~~(2) above the expiration year on the top portion of the snowmobile registration validation~~
8.18 ~~decals; or~~

8.19 ~~(3) the lower right corner of a registration plate issued to a dealer or manufacturer under~~
8.20 ~~section 84.82, subdivision 3.~~

8.21 **Subd. 3. License agents.** The commissioner may appoint agents to issue and sell state
8.22 trail ~~stickers~~ passes. The commissioner may revoke the appointment of an agent at any time.
8.23 The commissioner may adopt additional rules as provided in section 97A.485, subdivision
8.24 11. An agent shall observe all rules adopted by the commissioner for accounting and handling
8.25 of ~~stickers~~ passes pursuant to section 97A.485, subdivision 11. An agent shall promptly
8.26 deposit and remit all money received from the sale of the ~~stickers~~ passes, exclusive of the
8.27 issuing fee, to the commissioner.

8.28 **Subd. 4. Issuing ~~stickers~~ passes.** The commissioner and agents shall issue and sell
8.29 snowmobile state trail ~~stickers~~ passes.

8.30 **Subd. 5. Agent's fee.** In addition to the fee for a ~~sticker~~ pass, an issuing fee of \$1 per
8.31 ~~sticker~~ pass shall be charged. The issuing fee may be retained by the seller of the ~~sticker~~
8.32 pass. Issuing fees for ~~stickers~~ passes issued by the commissioner shall be deposited in the

9.1 snowmobile trails and enforcement account in the natural resources fund and retained for
9.2 the operation of the electronic licensing system.

9.3 Subd. 6. **Duplicate state trail ~~stickers~~ passes.** The commissioner and agents shall issue
9.4 a duplicate ~~sticker~~ pass to persons whose ~~sticker~~ pass is lost or destroyed using the process
9.5 established under section 97A.405, subdivision 3, and rules promulgated thereunder. The
9.6 fee for a duplicate state trail ~~sticker~~ pass is \$2, with an issuing fee of 50 cents.

9.7 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.83, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

9.8 Subd. 2. **Money deposited in account.** Fees from the registration of snowmobiles and
9.9 from the issuance of snowmobile state trail ~~stickers~~ passes and the unrefunded gasoline tax
9.10 attributable to snowmobile use pursuant to section 296A.18 shall be deposited in the state
9.11 treasury and credited to the snowmobile trails and enforcement account.

9.12 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 84.83, subdivision 3, is amended
9.13 to read:

9.14 Subd. 3. **Purposes; allocation.** (a) The money deposited in the account and interest
9.15 earned on that money may be expended only as appropriated by law for the following
9.16 purposes:

9.17 (1) for a grant-in-aid program to counties and municipalities for construction and
9.18 maintenance of snowmobile trails that are determined by the commissioner to be part of
9.19 the state's grant-in-aid system, including maintenance of trails on lands and waters of
9.20 Voyageurs National Park; on Lake of the Woods; on Rainy Lake; on the following lakes in
9.21 St. Louis County: Burntside, Crane, Little Long, Mud, Pelican, Shagawa, and Vermilion;
9.22 and on the following lakes in Cook County: Devil Track and Hungry Jack. The commissioner
9.23 may establish a performance-based funding formula for annual grants-in-aid. The procedures
9.24 and criteria for grants-in-aid are not subject to the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14, and
9.25 section 14.386 does not apply. In administering the performance-based grants-in-aid, the
9.26 commissioner must:

9.27 (i) determine annual grant amounts based on a funding formula that includes consideration
9.28 of historical costs, snowfall, use, and tourism;

9.29 (ii) make grant payments based on:

9.30 (A) successful completion of performance benchmarks;

9.31 (B) reimbursement of eligible expenditures; or

10.1 (C) a combination of subitems (A) and (B); and

10.2 (iii) assess penalties to nonperforming grant-in-aid recipients, which may include
10.3 withholding grant payments or making the grantee or trail system ineligible for future
10.4 grant-in-aid funding;

10.5 (2) to acquire, develop, and maintain state recreational snowmobile trails;

10.6 (3) for snowmobile safety programs; and

10.7 (4) to administer and enforce sections 84.81 to 84.9011 and appropriated grants to local
10.8 law enforcement agencies.

10.9 (b) No less than 60 percent of revenue collected from snowmobile registration and
10.10 snowmobile state trail ~~sticker~~ pass fees must be expended for grants-in-aid to develop,
10.11 maintain, and groom trails and acquire easements.

10.12 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.922, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

10.13 Subd. 12. **Refunds.** The commissioner may issue a refund on a registration, not including
10.14 any issuing fees paid under subdivision 2, paragraph (e), or section 84.027, subdivision 15,
10.15 paragraph (a), clause ~~(3)~~ (2), if the refund request is received within 60 days of the original
10.16 registration, the registration is not used or transferred, and:

10.17 (1) the vehicle was registered incorrectly; or

10.18 (2) the vehicle was registered twice, once by the dealer and once by the customer.

10.19 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.41, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

10.20 Subdivision 1. **Pass in possession.** While skiing on cross-country-ski trails, a person
10.21 age 16 or over shall carry in immediate possession a valid, ~~signed~~ cross-country-ski pass.
10.22 A landowner who grants an easement for a grant-in-aid ski trail is not required to have a
10.23 pass when skiing on the landowner's property.

10.24 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.41, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

10.25 Subd. 4. **Issuance.** The commissioner and agents shall issue and sell cross-country-ski
10.26 passes. The pass shall be with the skier and available for inspection by any peace or
10.27 conservation officer. The pass shall include the applicant's ~~signature and other~~ information
10.28 deemed necessary by the commissioner.

11.1 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.45, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

11.2 Subdivision 1. **Skiing without pass.** No person may ski on a cross-country-ski trail
11.3 without a valid, ~~signed~~ cross-country-ski pass. Any person who violates this subdivision is
11.4 guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

11.5 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 85.46, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

11.6 Subd. 3. **Issuance.** The commissioner of natural resources and agents shall issue and
11.7 sell horse passes. The pass shall include the applicant's ~~signature and other~~ information
11.8 deemed necessary by the commissioner. To be valid, a daily or annual pass must be ~~signed~~
11.9 ~~by~~ issued to the person riding, leading, or driving the horse, and a commercial annual pass
11.10 must be ~~signed by~~ issued to the owner of the commercial riding facility.

11.11 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 86B.415, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

11.12 Subd. 11. **Refunds.** The commissioner may issue a refund on a license or title, not
11.13 including any issuing fees paid under subdivision 8 or section 84.027, subdivision 15,
11.14 paragraph (a), clause ~~(3)~~ (2), or 86B.870, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), if the refund request
11.15 is received within 60 days of the original license or title, the license or title is not used or
11.16 transferred, and:

11.17 (1) the watercraft was licensed or titled incorrectly;

11.18 (2) the customer was incorrectly charged a title fee; or

11.19 (3) the watercraft was licensed or titled twice, once by the dealer and once by the
11.20 customer.

11.21 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

11.22 Subd. 3a. **Bonus permit.** "Bonus permit" means a license to take ~~and tag~~ deer by archery
11.23 or firearms, in addition to deer authorized to be taken under regular firearms or archery
11.24 licenses, or a license issued under section 97A.441, subdivision 7.

11.25 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, is amended by adding a subdivision
11.26 to read:

11.27 Subd. 53a. **Validation.** "Validation" means the documentation process for taking a
11.28 specific species under a license for that species, which can be completed electronically or
11.29 on the corresponding paper license, permit, or endorsement to include information specified
11.30 by the commissioner.

12.1 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.215, is amended by adding a subdivision
12.2 to read:

12.3 Subd. 4. **Electronic devices.** During an inspection under subdivision 3, if a person uses
12.4 an electronic device to display a document to a conservation officer or peace officer:

12.5 (1) the officer is immune from liability for any damage to the device, unless the officer
12.6 does not exercise due care in handling the device; and

12.7 (2) it does not constitute consent for the officer to access other contents on the device.

12.8 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.255, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

12.9 Subd. 5. **Joint and several liability.** When two or more people intentionally aid, advise,
12.10 counsel, conspire with, or act in concert with each other to unlawfully take, transport, or
12.11 possess wild animals when the restitution value of the wild animals exceeds \$500, each
12.12 person is jointly and severally liable for the wild animals for purposes of:

12.13 (1) license seizure, invalidation, and revocation under sections 97A.420 and 97A.421;

12.14 (2) equipment and property seizure under section 97A.221;

12.15 (3) boat, motor, and trailer seizure under section 97A.225; and

12.16 (4) restitution under section 97A.341.

12.17 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 97A.405, subdivision 2, is amended
12.18 to read:

12.19 Subd. 2. **Personal possession.** (a) A person acting under a license or traveling from an
12.20 area where a licensed activity was performed must have in personal possession:

12.21 (1) the proper paper license, ~~if the license has been issued to and received by the person;~~

12.22 (2) a driver's license or Minnesota identification card that bears a valid designation of
12.23 the proper lifetime license, as provided under section 171.07, subdivision 19;

12.24 (3) the proper paper license identification number or stamp validation, if the license has
12.25 been sold to the person by electronic means ~~but the actual license has not been issued and~~
12.26 ~~received~~; or

12.27 (4) electronic or other evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has the
12.28 proper paperless license.

12.29 (b) If possession of a license or a license identification number is required, a person
12.30 must exhibit, as requested by a conservation officer or peace officer: (1) the proper paper

13.1 ~~license if the license has been issued to and received by the person;~~ (2) a driver's license or
13.2 Minnesota identification card that bears a valid designation of the proper lifetime license,
13.3 as provided under section 171.07, subdivision 19; (3) the proper paper license identification
13.4 number or stamp validation and a valid state driver's license, state identification card, or
13.5 other form of identification provided by the commissioner, ~~if the license has been sold to~~
13.6 ~~the person by electronic means but the actual license has not been issued and received;~~ or
13.7 (4) electronic or other evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has the
13.8 proper paperless license. A person charged with violating the license possession requirement
13.9 shall not be convicted if the person produces in court or the office of the arresting officer,
13.10 the actual license previously issued to that person, which was valid at the time of arrest, or
13.11 satisfactory proof that at the time of the arrest the person was validly licensed. Upon request
13.12 of a conservation officer or peace officer, a licensee shall write the licensee's name in the
13.13 presence of the officer to determine the identity of the licensee.

13.14 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (4), if the actual license has been
13.15 issued and received, a receipt for license fees, a copy of a license, or evidence showing the
13.16 issuance of a license, including the license identification number or stamp validation, does
13.17 not entitle a licensee to exercise the rights or privileges conferred by a license.

13.18 ~~(d) A paper license issued electronically and not immediately provided to the licensee~~
13.19 ~~shall be mailed to the licensee within 30 days of purchase of the license.~~ A pictorial migratory
13.20 waterfowl, pheasant, trout and salmon, or walleye stamp shall be provided to the licensee
13.21 after purchase of a stamp validation only if the licensee pays an additional fee that covers
13.22 the costs of producing and mailing a pictorial stamp. A pictorial turkey stamp may be
13.23 purchased for a fee that covers the costs of producing and mailing the pictorial stamp.
13.24 Notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the commissioner may, by written order published in
13.25 the State Register, establish fees for providing the pictorial stamps. The fees must be set in
13.26 an amount that does not recover significantly more or less than the cost of producing and
13.27 mailing the stamps. The fees are not subject to the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14, and
13.28 section 14.386 does not apply.

13.29 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.405, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

13.30 Subd. 3. **Duplicate licenses.** The commissioner shall prescribe rules for issuing duplicate
13.31 licenses to persons whose licenses are lost or destroyed. ~~A duplicate license may not be~~
13.32 ~~issued unless the applicant takes an oath covering the facts of loss or destruction of the~~
13.33 ~~license.~~

14.1 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.405, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

14.2 Subd. 4. **Replacement deer licenses.** (a) The commissioner may permit licensed deer
14.3 hunters to change zone, license, or season options. The commissioner may issue a
14.4 replacement deer license if the applicant ~~submits the original deer license and unused tags~~
14.5 ~~that are being replaced and the applicant~~ pays any increase in cost between the original and
14.6 the replacement deer license. A refund of the difference in fees may be issued when a person
14.7 changes from a regular deer license to a youth deer license.

14.8 (b) A replacement deer license may be issued only if the applicant has not ~~used any tag~~
14.9 ~~from~~ harvested a deer under the original deer license or licenses and meets the conditions
14.10 of paragraph (c). ~~The original deer license or licenses and all unused tags for the deer licenses~~
14.11 ~~being replaced must be submitted to the issuing agent at the time the replacement deer~~
14.12 ~~license is issued.~~

14.13 (c) A replacement deer license may be issued under the following conditions, or as
14.14 otherwise prescribed by rule of the commissioner:

14.15 (1) when the season for the deer license being surrendered has not yet opened; or

14.16 (2) when the person is changing from a regular deer license to a youth deer license.

14.17 (d) Notwithstanding section 97A.411, subdivision 3, a replacement deer license is valid
14.18 immediately upon issuance if the deer license being surrendered is valid at that time.

14.19 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.405, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

14.20 Subd. 4a. **Replacement turkey licenses.** (a) The commissioner may permit licensed
14.21 turkey hunters to change permit areas, licenses, or time periods within the fall turkey season,
14.22 or within the spring turkey season. The commissioner may issue a replacement turkey license
14.23 if the applicant ~~submits the original turkey license and unused tags that are being replaced,~~
14.24 ~~and the applicant~~ pays the fee for a replacement license under section 97A.475, subdivision
14.25 44.

14.26 (b) A replacement turkey license may be issued only if the applicant has not ~~used the~~
14.27 ~~tag from~~ harvested a turkey under the original turkey license and meets the requirements
14.28 of paragraph (c). ~~The original turkey licenses and all unused tags for the turkey licenses~~
14.29 ~~being replaced must be submitted to the issuing agent at the time the replacement turkey~~
14.30 ~~license is issued.~~

14.31 (c) A turkey replacement license may be issued under the following conditions, or as
14.32 otherwise prescribed by rule of the commissioner:

15.1 (1) when the permit area or time period for the turkey license being surrendered has not
15.2 yet opened; and

15.3 (2) licenses are available for the replacement turkey license permit area or time period
15.4 for (i) areas that are not lottery areas, (ii) lottery areas that have remaining licenses, or (iii)
15.5 the applicant is a youth hunter age 17 or younger.

15.6 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.420, as amended by Laws 2023, chapter
15.7 60, article 4, section 50, is amended to read:

15.8 **97A.420 SEIZURE OR INVALIDATION OF LICENSES.**

15.9 Subdivision 1. **Seizure or invalidation.** (a) An enforcement officer shall immediately
15.10 seize or invalidate the license of a person who unlawfully takes, transports, or possesses
15.11 wild animals when the restitution value of the wild animals exceeds \$500. Except as provided
15.12 in subdivisions 2, 4, and 5, the person may not use or obtain any license to take the same
15.13 type of wild animals involved, including a duplicate license, until an action is taken under
15.14 subdivision 6. If the license seized or invalidated under this paragraph was for a big game
15.15 animal, the license seizure or invalidation applies to all licenses to take big game issued to
15.16 the individual. If the license seized or invalidated under this paragraph was for small game
15.17 animals, the license seizure or invalidation applies to all licenses to take small game issued
15.18 to the individual.

15.19 (b) In addition to the license seizure or invalidation under paragraph (a), if the restitution
15.20 value of the wild animals unlawfully taken, possessed, or transported is \$1,000 or more, all
15.21 other game and fish licenses held by the person shall be immediately seized or invalidated.
15.22 Except as provided in subdivision 2, 4, or 5, the person may not obtain any game or fish
15.23 license or permit, including a duplicate license, until an action is taken under subdivision
15.24 6.

15.25 (c) A person may not take wild animals covered by a license seized or invalidated under
15.26 this subdivision until an action is taken under subdivision 6.

15.27 (d) The commissioner must make a means of seizing or invalidating and releasing a
15.28 paperless license under this section available to enforcement officers.

15.29 Subd. 2. **Administrative review.** (a) At any time after the seizure or invalidation of a
15.30 license under subdivision 1 and before revocation under section 97A.421, a person may
15.31 request in writing a review of the seizure or invalidation under this section. Upon receiving
15.32 the request for review, the commissioner shall review the seizure or invalidation, the evidence
15.33 upon which it was based, and other material information brought to the attention of the

16.1 commissioner, and determine whether sufficient cause exists to sustain the seizure or
16.2 invalidation.

16.3 (b) Within 15 days after receiving the request for administrative review, the commissioner
16.4 shall issue a written report of the review and shall order that the seizure or invalidation be
16.5 either sustained or rescinded.

16.6 (c) The review provided in this subdivision is not subject to the contested case provisions
16.7 of the Administrative Procedure Act under chapter 14. The availability of administrative
16.8 review does not preclude judicial review under this section.

16.9 Subd. 3. **Judicial review.** (a) Within 30 days following the seizure or invalidation of a
16.10 license under subdivision 1, a person may petition the court for review. The petition must
16.11 be filed with the district court administrator in the county where the incident occurred,
16.12 together with proof of service of a copy on the commissioner and the county attorney. A
16.13 responsive pleading is not required of the commissioner of natural resources and court fees
16.14 may not be charged for the appearance of the representative of the commissioner in the
16.15 matter.

16.16 (b) The petition must be captioned in the name of the person making the petition as
16.17 petitioner and the commissioner as respondent. The petition must state specifically the
16.18 grounds upon which the petitioner seeks rescission of the license seizure or invalidation.

16.19 (c) The filing of the petition does not stay the license seizure or invalidation. The judicial
16.20 review shall be conducted according to the Rules of Civil Procedure.

16.21 Subd. 4. **Hearing.** (a) A hearing under subdivision 3 must be before a district court judge
16.22 in the county where the incident occurred giving rise to the license seizure or invalidation.
16.23 The hearing must be to the court and may be conducted at the same time as hearings upon
16.24 pretrial motions in a related criminal prosecution. The commissioner must be represented
16.25 by the county attorney.

16.26 (b) The hearing must be held at the earliest practicable date and in any event no later
16.27 than 60 days following the filing of the petition for review.

16.28 (c) The scope of the hearing must be limited to the issue of whether there is probable
16.29 cause to believe that the person had unlawfully taken, possessed, or transported wild animals
16.30 with a restitution value over \$500.

16.31 (d) The court shall order that the license seizure or invalidation be either sustained or
16.32 rescinded. Within 14 days following the hearing, the court shall forward a copy of the order
16.33 to the commissioner.

17.1 (e) Any party aggrieved by the decision of the reviewing court may appeal the decision
17.2 as provided in the Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure.

17.3 **Subd. 5. Temporary release of commercial licenses.** At any time during the period
17.4 that a game or fish license is seized or invalidated under subdivision 1, a person possessing
17.5 a commercial license issued under the game and fish laws may make a written request to
17.6 the commissioner to temporarily release the commercial license. If the commissioner
17.7 determines that the public welfare will not be injured, the commissioner may temporarily
17.8 reinstate the commercial license upon payment of a temporary reinstatement fee of \$1,000
17.9 cash or bond in favor of the state for each commercial license to be released. An additional
17.10 fee is not required for vehicles licensed under section 97A.475, subdivision 26, clause (2)
17.11 or (4). If the license is returned under subdivision 6, paragraph (a), the temporary
17.12 reinstatement fee shall be returned to the licensee. If the license is revoked under subdivision
17.13 6, paragraph (b), the temporary reinstatement fee shall be deposited in the game and fish
17.14 fund and is not refundable.

17.15 **Subd. 6. Return or revocation of licenses upon dismissal or conviction.** (a) Upon
17.16 acquittal, dismissal, or determination not to charge a person for a violation, the license
17.17 seizure or invalidation under subdivision 1 is immediately rescinded and any license seized
17.18 or invalidated in connection with the incident must be returned to the licensee or reinstated.

17.19 (b) Upon conviction of a violation when the restitution value of the wild animals exceeds
17.20 \$500, revocation of licenses and license privileges must be imposed as provided under
17.21 section 97A.421, subdivision 2a.

17.22 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.445, is amended by adding a subdivision
17.23 to read:

17.24 **Subd. 6. License system.** In the event of a disruption in the availability of hunting and
17.25 angling licenses, the commissioner may publish in the State Register a notice that exempts
17.26 residents and nonresidents from requirements to possess a license to take game or fish.

17.27 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.473, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

17.28 **Subdivision 1. Resident lifetime licenses authorized.** (a) The commissioner may issue
17.29 a lifetime angling license, a lifetime spearing license, a lifetime angling and spearing license,
17.30 a lifetime small-game-hunting license, a lifetime firearm or archery deer-hunting license,
17.31 a lifetime sporting license, or a lifetime sporting with spearing option license to a person
17.32 who is a resident of the state for at least one year or who is under age 21 and the child of a

18.1 person who is a resident of the state for at least one year. The license fees paid for a lifetime
18.2 license are nonrefundable.

18.3 (b) The commissioner may require the holder of a lifetime license issued under this
18.4 section to notify the department each year that the license is used, by:

18.5 (1) telephone or Internet notification, as specified by the commissioner;

18.6 (2) the purchase of stamps for the license; or

18.7 (3) registration ~~and tag issuance~~, in the case of the resident lifetime deer license.

18.8 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.473, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

18.9 Subd. 3. **Lifetime small-game-hunting license; fee.** (a) A resident lifetime
18.10 small-game-hunting license authorizes a person to hunt and trap small game, other than
18.11 wolves, in the state. The license authorizes those hunting and trapping activities authorized
18.12 by the annual resident small-game-hunting license and the trapping license for fur-bearing
18.13 animals other than wolves. The license does not include ~~a turkey stamp validation or any~~
18.14 ~~other~~ hunting stamps required by law.

18.15 (b) The fees for a resident lifetime small-game-hunting license are:

18.16 (1) age 3 and under, \$223;

18.17 (2) age 4 to age 15, \$301;

18.18 (3) age 16 to age 50, \$430; and

18.19 (4) age 51 and over, \$274.

18.20 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.473, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

18.21 Subd. 4. **Lifetime deer-hunting license; fee.** (a) A resident lifetime deer-hunting license
18.22 authorizes a person to take deer with firearms or by archery in the state. The license
18.23 authorizes those activities authorized by the annual resident firearm deer-hunting license
18.24 or the annual resident archery deer-hunting license. The licensee must ~~register and receive~~
18.25 ~~tags~~ review and confirm information each year that the license is used. ~~The tags shall be~~
18.26 ~~issued at no charge to the licensee.~~

18.27 (b) The fees for a resident lifetime firearm or archery deer-hunting license are:

18.28 (1) age 3 and under, \$458;

18.29 (2) age 4 to age 15, \$607;

19.1 (3) age 16 to age 50, \$741; and

19.2 (4) age 51 and over, \$528.

19.3 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.473, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

19.4 Subd. 5. **Lifetime sporting license; fee.** (a) A resident lifetime sporting license authorizes
19.5 a person to take fish by angling and hunt and trap small game, other than wolves, in the
19.6 state. The license authorizes those activities authorized by the annual resident angling and
19.7 resident small-game-hunting licenses and the resident trapping license for fur-bearing
19.8 animals other than wolves. The license does not include a trout-and-salmon stamp validation,
19.9 ~~a turkey stamp validation~~, a walleye stamp validation, or any other ~~hunting~~ stamps required
19.10 by law.

19.11 (b) The fees for a resident lifetime sporting license are:

19.12 (1) age 3 and under, \$522;

19.13 (2) age 4 to age 15, \$710;

19.14 (3) age 16 to age 50, \$927; and

19.15 (4) age 51 and over, \$603.

19.16 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.473, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

19.17 Subd. 5a. **Lifetime sporting with spearing option license; fee.** (a) A resident lifetime
19.18 sporting with spearing option license authorizes a person to take fish by angling or spearing
19.19 and hunt and trap small game, other than wolves, in the state. The license authorizes those
19.20 activities authorized by the annual resident angling, spearing, and resident
19.21 small-game-hunting licenses and the resident trapping license for fur-bearing animals other
19.22 than wolves. The license does not include a trout-and-salmon stamp validation, ~~a turkey~~
19.23 ~~stamp validation~~, a walleye stamp validation, or any other ~~hunting~~ stamps required by law.

19.24 (b) The fees for a resident lifetime sporting with spearing option license are:

19.25 (1) age 3 and under, \$612;

19.26 (2) age 4 to age 15, \$833;

19.27 (3) age 16 to age 50, \$1,046; and

19.28 (4) age 51 and over, \$666.

20.1 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.474, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

20.2 Subd. 3. **Nonresident lifetime small-game-hunting license; fee.** (a) A nonresident
20.3 lifetime small-game-hunting license authorizes a person to hunt small game in the state.
20.4 The license authorizes those hunting activities authorized by the annual nonresident
20.5 small-game-hunting license. The license does not include a ~~turkey stamp validation or any~~
20.6 ~~other~~ hunting stamps required by law.

20.7 (b) The fees for a nonresident lifetime small-game-hunting license are:

20.8 (1) age 3 and under, \$947;

20.9 (2) age 4 to age 15, \$1,280;

20.10 (3) age 16 to age 50, \$1,633; and

20.11 (4) age 51 and over, \$1,083.

20.12 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.481, is amended to read:

20.13 **97A.481 LICENSE APPLICATIONS; PENALTY.**

20.14 All information required on a license application form must be furnished. The ~~application~~
20.15 ~~must be made in writing and~~ applicant is subject to the penalty prescribed in section 97A.301,
20.16 subdivision 1, clause (5).

20.17 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.485, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

20.18 Subd. 6. **Licenses to be sold and issuing fees.** (a) Persons authorized to sell licenses
20.19 under this section must issue the following licenses for the license fee and the following
20.20 issuing fees:

20.21 (1) to take deer or bear with firearms and by archery, the issuing fee is \$1;

20.22 (2) Minnesota sporting, the issuing fee is \$1;

20.23 (3) to take small game, to take fish by angling or by spearing, and to trap fur-bearing
20.24 animals, the issuing fee is \$1;

20.25 (4) to apply for a limited hunt drawing, the issuing fee is \$1 unless the application requires
20.26 a license purchase at the time of application and the license purchase requires an application
20.27 fee;

20.28 (5) for a prairie-chicken license, the issuing fee is \$1;

20.29 (6) for a turkey license, the issuing fee is \$1;

- 21.1 (7) for an elk license, the issuing fee is \$1;
- 21.2 (8) for a moose license, the issuing fee is \$1;
- 21.3 (9) for a wolf license, the issuing fee is \$1;
- 21.4 (10) for a stamp validation that is not issued simultaneously with a license, an issuing
21.5 fee of 50 cents may be charged at the discretion of the authorized seller;
- 21.6 (11) for stamp validations issued simultaneously with a license, there is no fee;
- 21.7 (12) for licenses, seals, tags, or coupons issued without a fee under section 97A.441,
21.8 subdivisions 1 to 6a, or 97A.465, there is no fee;
- 21.9 (13) for lifetime licenses, there is no fee; and
- 21.10 (14) for all other licenses, permits, renewals, or applications or any other transaction
21.11 through the electronic licensing system under this chapter or any other chapter when an
21.12 issuing fee is not specified, an issuing fee of \$1 may be charged at the discretion of the
21.13 authorized seller.
- 21.14 (b) Only one issuing fee may be collected when selling more than one stamp in the same
21.15 transaction after the end of the season for which the stamp was issued.
- 21.16 (c) The agent shall keep the issuing fee as a commission for selling the licenses.
- 21.17 (d) The commissioner shall collect the issuing fee on licenses sold by the commissioner.
- 21.18 (e) A license, except stamps, must state the amount of the issuing fee and that the issuing
21.19 fee is kept by the seller as a commission for selling the licenses.
- 21.20 (f) For duplicate licenses, including licenses issued without a fee, the issuing fees are:
- 21.21 (1) for licenses to take big game, 75 cents; and
- 21.22 (2) for other licenses, 50 cents.
- 21.23 ~~(g) The commissioner may issue one-day angling licenses in books of ten licenses each~~
21.24 ~~to fishing guides operating charter boats upon receipt of payment of all license fees, excluding~~
21.25 ~~the issuing fee required under this section. Copies of sold and unsold licenses shall be~~
21.26 ~~returned to the commissioner. The commissioner shall refund the charter boat captain for~~
21.27 ~~the license fees of all unsold licenses. Copies of sold licenses shall be maintained by the~~
21.28 ~~commissioner for one year.~~

22.1 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.535, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

22.2 Subdivision 1. **Tags Validation required.** (a) A person may not possess or transport
22.3 deer, bear, elk, or moose taken in the state unless ~~a tag is attached to the carcass in a manner~~
22.4 the person has the required license and validation for that animal as prescribed by the
22.5 commissioner. ~~The commissioner must prescribe the type of tag that has the license number~~
22.6 ~~of the owner, the year of its issue, and other information prescribed by the commissioner.~~

22.7 (b) The tag license must be validated at the site of the kill as prescribed by the
22.8 commissioner.

22.9 (c) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this section, the tag must be attached to the deer,~~
22.10 ~~bear, elk, or moose at the site of the kill before the animal is removed from the site of the~~
22.11 ~~kill.~~

22.12 (d) ~~The tag must remain attached to the animal until the animal is processed for storage.~~

22.13 (e) ~~A person may move a lawfully taken deer, bear, elk, or moose from the site of the~~
22.14 ~~kill without attaching the validated tag to the animal only while in the act of manually or~~
22.15 ~~mechanically dragging, carrying, or carting the animal across the ground and while possessing~~
22.16 ~~the validated tag on their person. A motor vehicle may be used to drag the animal across~~
22.17 ~~the ground. At all other times, the validated tag must be attached to the deer, bear, elk, or~~
22.18 ~~moose.~~

22.19 (1) ~~as otherwise provided in this section; and~~

22.20 (2) ~~prior to the animal being placed onto and transported on a motor vehicle, being hung~~
22.21 ~~from a tree or other structure or device, or being brought into a camp or yard or other place~~
22.22 ~~of habitation.~~

22.23 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.535, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

22.24 Subd. 2. **Registration required.** Deer, bear, elk, and moose must be registered as
22.25 prescribed by the commissioner, ~~in addition to the tag required in subdivision 1.~~

22.26 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.535, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

22.27 Subd. 2a. **Quartering deer allowed.** A deer that has been ~~tagged~~ validated as required
22.28 in subdivision 1 may be quartered at the site of the kill. The animal's head must remain
22.29 attached to one of the quarters. The quarters must be presented together for registration
22.30 under subdivision 2 and must remain together until the deer is processed for storage.

23.1 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.535, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

23.2 Subd. 4. **Transporting by person other than licensee.** A person other than the licensee
23.3 may transport deer, bear, elk, or moose that the licensee has registered as prescribed by the
23.4 commissioner. ~~A tag must be attached to the animal and marked in ink~~ The person
23.5 transporting the animal must possess documentation with the address, license number,
23.6 signature and full legal name of the licensee, and the locations from which and to which
23.7 the animal is being transported.

23.8 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.551, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

23.9 Subd. 6. ~~Tagging and Registration.~~ The commissioner may, by rule, require persons
23.10 taking, possessing, and transporting certain species of fish to ~~tag the fish with a special fish~~
23.11 ~~management tag and may require registration of tagged~~ possess an endorsement for and
23.12 register the fish. A person may not possess or transport a fish species taken in the state for
23.13 which a special fish-management ~~tag~~ registration is required unless ~~a tag is attached to the~~
23.14 ~~fish is registered or validated~~ in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. The commissioner
23.15 shall prescribe the manner of issuance and the type of ~~tag~~ endorsement as authorized under
23.16 section 97C.087. ~~The tag must be attached to the fish as prescribed by the commissioner~~
23.17 Immediately upon reducing the fish to possession, the licensee must validate the license
23.18 and the license must remain attached to ~~with~~ the fish until the fish is ~~processed or consumed~~
23.19 registered. Species for which a special fish management ~~tag~~ registration is required must
23.20 be transported undressed, except as otherwise prescribed by the commissioner.

23.21 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.303, is amended to read:

23.22 **97B.303 VENISON DONATIONS.**

23.23 An individual who legally takes a deer may donate the deer, for distribution to charitable
23.24 food assistance programs, to a meat processor that is licensed under chapter 28A. An
23.25 individual donating a deer must supply the processor with the ~~tag~~ licensee's DNR number
23.26 under which the deer was taken.

23.27 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.401, is amended to read:

23.28 **97B.401 BEAR LICENSE REQUIRED; APPLICATION.**

23.29 (a) A person may not take bear without a bear license except as provided in section
23.30 97B.415 to protect property.

24.1 (b) A person may not place bait for bears on or after the Friday nearest August 14 unless
24.2 the person has a bear license or is operating under the direction of a person with a valid bear
24.3 license.

24.4 (c) An application for a bear license must be ~~on a form provided~~ made in the manner
24.5 prescribed by the commissioner and accompanied by a \$4 application fee. A person may
24.6 not make more than one application for each season. If a person makes more than one
24.7 application, the person is ineligible for a license for that season after determination by the
24.8 commissioner, without a hearing.

24.9 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.603, is amended to read:

24.10 **97B.603 TAKING SMALL GAME BY PARTY.**

24.11 (a) While two or more persons are taking small game as a party and maintaining unaided
24.12 visual and vocal contact, a member of the party may take and possess more than one limit
24.13 of small game, but the total number of small game taken and possessed by the party may
24.14 not exceed the limit of the number of persons in the party that may take and possess small
24.15 game.

24.16 (b) This section does not apply to hunting wolves, migratory game birds, or turkeys,
24.17 except that a licensed turkey hunter may assist another licensed turkey hunter and a licensed
24.18 wolf hunter may assist another licensed wolf hunter for the same zone and time period as
24.19 long as the hunter does not shoot or ~~tag~~ register a turkey or wolf for the other hunter.

24.20 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.716, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

24.21 Subd. 2. ~~Tagging and Registration.~~ The commissioner may by rule prescribe
24.22 requirements for the ~~tagging and~~ registration of prairie chickens.

24.23 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.721, is amended to read:

24.24 **97B.721 LICENSE REQUIRED TO TAKE TURKEY; ~~TAGGING AND~~**
24.25 **REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.**

24.26 (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) or section 97A.405, subdivision 2, a person may
24.27 not take a turkey without possessing a turkey license.

24.28 (b) An unlicensed adult age 18 or older may assist a licensed wild-turkey hunter. The
24.29 unlicensed adult may not shoot or possess a firearm or bow while assisting a hunter under
24.30 this paragraph and may not charge a fee for the assistance.

25.1 (c) The commissioner may by rule prescribe requirements for the ~~tagging~~ validation and
25.2 registration of turkeys.

25.3 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.087, is amended to read:

25.4 **97C.087 SPECIAL FISH MANAGEMENT TAGS REGISTRATION.**

25.5 Subdivision 1. ~~Tags to be issued~~ **Registration**. If the commissioner determines it is
25.6 necessary to require that a species of fish be ~~tagged with a special fish management tag~~
25.7 registered, the commissioner shall prescribe, by rule, the species to be ~~tagged~~ registered,
25.8 ~~tagging~~ registration procedures, and endorsement eligibility requirements.

25.9 Subd. 2. **Application for tag endorsement**. Application for a special fish management
25.10 ~~tags~~ endorsement must be accompanied by a \$5, nonrefundable application fee for each ~~tag~~
25.11 endorsement. A person may not make more than one ~~tag~~ endorsement application each
25.12 calendar year. If a person makes more than one application, the person is ineligible for a
25.13 special fish management ~~tag~~ endorsement for that calendar year after determination by the
25.14 commissioner, without a hearing.

25.15 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.301, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

25.16 Subd. 2a. **Aquatic invasive species affirmation.** (a) A nonresident license to take fish
25.17 issued under section 97A.475, subdivision 7, includes aquatic invasive species affirmation
25.18 as provided in section 84D.106.

25.19 (b) The aquatic invasive species affirmation portion of the license must be displayed
25.20 with the ~~signed~~ nonresident license to take fish issued under section 97A.475, subdivision
25.21 7. The aquatic invasive species affirmation will be provided at the time of purchase of a
25.22 new or duplicate nonresident license.

25.23 (c) If a license is purchased online, the aquatic invasive species affirmation may be
25.24 completed electronically as part of the online sales process, and the electronic record of the
25.25 license sale is sufficient for documenting the affirmation.

25.26 (d) Failure to complete the aquatic invasive species affirmation in this subdivision is
25.27 subject to the penalty prescribed in section 84D.13, subdivision 5.

25.28 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.355, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

25.29 Subd. 2. **License required.** (a) A person may not place a dark house, fish house, or
25.30 shelter, except a portable shelter, on the ice unless ~~the house or shelter~~:

25.31 (1) the house or shelter is licensed by the shelter owner; and

26.1 (2) ~~has the license tag attached to the exterior in a readily visible location, except as~~
26.2 ~~provided in this subdivision~~ the owners' information is displayed according to subdivision
26.3 1.

26.4 (b) ~~The commissioner must issue a tag with a dark house, fish house, or shelter license,~~
26.5 ~~marked with a number to correspond with the license and the year of issue.~~ A dark house,
26.6 fish house, or shelter license is not required of a resident on boundary waters where the
26.7 adjacent state does not charge a fee for the same activity.

26.8 Sec. 50. **REQUIRED RULEMAKING.**

26.9 The commissioner of natural resources may use the good cause exemption under
26.10 Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to adopt rules conforming to
26.11 this article. Minnesota Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply to rules adopted under this
26.12 section, except as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388.

26.13 Sec. 51. **REPEALER.**

26.14 Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 97A.015, subdivision 27a; and 97A.485, subdivision
26.15 13, are repealed.

26.16 Sec. 52. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

26.17 Sections 1 to 51 are effective upon full implementation of the replacement electronic
26.18 license system. The commissioner of natural resources must notify the revisor of statutes
26.19 when the replacement electronic license system is fully implemented.

26.20 **ARTICLE 2**

26.21 **BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES**

26.22 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103B.101, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

26.23 Subd. 13. **Drainage stakeholder coordination.** (a) The Board of Water and Soil
26.24 Resources shall work with drainage stakeholders to foster mutual understanding and provide
26.25 recommendations for drainage system management and related water management, including
26.26 recommendations for updating the drainage law in chapter 103E, the Minnesota Public
26.27 Drainage Manual, and other related provisions. The board may convene informal working
26.28 groups or work teams to develop information, education, and recommendations.

26.29 (b) For the purposes of this subdivision, the Minnesota Public Drainage Manual is a
26.30 publication that is prepared by and adopted by the board and that includes explanations,

27.1 procedures, and guidance consistent with and supplementing the provisions of chapter 103E.
27.2 The manual must include best management practices and be prepared in consultation with
27.3 drainage stakeholders according to paragraph (a) for use by drainage authorities in carrying
27.4 out statutory duties.

27.5 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.005, is amended to read:

27.6 **103C.005 SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION POLICY.**

27.7 Maintaining and enhancing the quality of soil and water for the environmental and
27.8 economic benefits they produce, preventing degradation, and restoring degraded soil and
27.9 water resources of this state contribute greatly to the health, safety, economic well-being,
27.10 and general welfare of this state and its citizens. Land occupiers have the responsibility to
27.11 implement practices that conserve the soil and water resources of the state. Soil and water
27.12 conservation measures implemented on private lands in this state provide benefits to the
27.13 general public by reducing erosion, sedimentation, siltation, water pollution, and damages
27.14 caused by floods. The soil and water conservation policy of the state is to encourage land
27.15 occupiers to conserve soil, water, and the natural resources they support through the
27.16 implementation of practices that:

27.17 (1) control or prevent erosion, sedimentation, siltation, and related pollution in order to
27.18 preserve natural resources;

27.19 (2) ensure continued soil health, as defined under section 103C.101, subdivision 10a,
27.20 and soil productivity;

27.21 (3) protect water quality;

27.22 (4) prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs;

27.23 (5) reduce damages caused by floods;

27.24 (6) preserve wildlife;

27.25 (7) protect the tax base; and

27.26 (8) protect public lands and waters.

27.27 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.221, is amended to read:

27.28 **103C.221 CHANGING LOCATION OF PRINCIPAL OFFICE.**

27.29 The location of the principal office of the district board may be changed with the approval
27.30 of the state board after the adoption of a resolution by a majority of the district board stating

28.1 the new location within the district and by filing a certified copy of the resolution with the
28.2 secretary of state.

28.3 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

28.4 Subd. 3. **Surveys, investigations, and research.** A district may conduct surveys,
28.5 investigations, and research to identify the problems and preventive practices specified in
28.6 section ~~103A.206~~ 103C.005. ~~To avoid duplication of research activities, no district shall~~
28.7 ~~initiate any research program except in cooperation with a state agency or an agency of the~~
28.8 ~~United States.~~

28.9 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

28.10 Subd. 5. **Demonstration projects.** A district may conduct demonstration projects within
28.11 the district on lands owned or administered by a state agency, with the cooperation of the
28.12 administering agency, and on other lands with the consent of the land occupier, to
28.13 demonstrate practices which implement the state policy specified in section ~~103A.206~~
28.14 103C.005.

28.15 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

28.16 Subd. 6. **Implementing practices.** A district may implement any necessary practices
28.17 within the district, including structural measures and works of improvement ~~for any purpose~~
28.18 ~~specified in section 103A.206, methods of cultivation, the use of vegetation, and changes~~
28.19 ~~in use of land~~ to achieve the purposes of this chapter and fulfill other statutory responsibilities,
28.20 on:

28.21 (1) lands acquired by the district;

28.22 (2) lands owned or administered by a state public agency, with the cooperation of the
28.23 administering agency; and

28.24 (3) other lands, with the consent of the land occupier.

28.25 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

28.26 Subd. 7. **Implementing soil and water conservation policy.** A district may cooperate
28.27 or enter into agreements with and furnish financial or other aid to a land occupier or
28.28 appropriate agency, to implement ~~the policy specified in section 103A.206, within the district~~
28.29 this chapter and fulfill other statutory responsibilities, subject to conditions the district board
28.30 ~~determines~~ is are necessary.

29.1 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

29.2 Subd. 8. **Acquiring and maintaining property.** A district may acquire any rights or
 29.3 interests in real or personal property by option, purchase, exchange, lease, gift, grant, bequest,
 29.4 devise, or otherwise. It may maintain, operate, administer, and improve any properties
 29.5 acquired. It may receive income from the properties and expend the income to implement
 29.6 this chapter and ~~sections 103F.401 to 103F.455~~ fulfill other statutory responsibilities. It
 29.7 may sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of any of its property or interests.

29.8 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

29.9 Subd. 9. **Using machinery and supplies.** A district may make available, on terms it
 29.10 ~~shall prescribe~~ prescribes, to land occupiers within the district, agricultural and engineering
 29.11 machinery and equipment, fertilizer, seeds, ~~and~~ seedlings, and other material or equipment
 29.12 ~~which will assist~~ that helps land occupiers to implement practices on their land ~~specified in~~
 29.13 ~~section 103C.005~~ to implement this chapter and fulfill other statutory responsibilities.

29.14 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

29.15 Subd. 10. **Constructing improvements.** A district may construct, install, improve,
 29.16 maintain, and operate structures and works necessary or convenient to perform an operation
 29.17 authorized under this chapter and ~~sections 103F.401 to 103F.455~~ other statutory authority.

29.18 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

29.19 Subd. 11. **Comprehensive plan.** (a) A district may develop and revise a comprehensive
 29.20 plan, ~~specifying practices to implement the state policy specified in section 103A.206,~~
 29.21 ~~including~~ fulfill statutory responsibilities. The plan may include:

29.22 (1) the construction, maintenance, and operation of structural measures;

29.23 (2) methods of cultivation;

29.24 (3) the use of vegetation;

29.25 (4) cropping programs;

29.26 (5) mechanical practices;

29.27 (6) changes in use of land;

29.28 (7) water quality improvement practices;

29.29 (8) other land use, soil erosion reduction, and agricultural practices; ~~and~~

30.1 (9) related technical standards and specifications; and

30.2 (10) other practices, projects, programs, and systems to fulfill statutory responsibilities.

30.3 ~~(b) The plan shall include a classification of the soil types within the district as determined~~
30.4 ~~by the Minnesota Cooperative Soil Survey.~~

30.5 ~~(c) The plan must identify the areas within the district where erosion, sedimentation,~~
30.6 ~~and related water quality problems appear most in need of control methods.~~

30.7 ~~(d) (b) The plan shall~~ must be consistent with the statewide ~~framework water resources~~
30.8 ~~plan, the statewide water quality management plan, and the state board's soil and water~~
30.9 ~~program plan~~ frameworks as provided in chapter 103B.

30.10 ~~(e) Each district that applies for cost-sharing funds under section 103C.501 shall submit~~
30.11 ~~to the state board an annual work plan for the high priority erosion, sedimentation, and water~~
30.12 ~~quality problems in the district. The work plan shall be prepared as required by the rules of~~
30.13 ~~the state board. In preparing the annual work plan, the district shall actively identify and~~
30.14 ~~seek out land occupiers with high priority erosion problems who have not participated in~~
30.15 ~~cost-sharing contracts and encourage their participation in programs to control their erosion~~
30.16 ~~problems.~~

30.17 (c) At least 60 days before submitting the plan to the state board, the district must hold
30.18 a public hearing on the plan and provide notice of the hearing via the district's website. The
30.19 district must give notice of the hearing to the county and all affected cities and towns. To
30.20 allow for public input, the district must also administer a review and comment period of at
30.21 least 30 days before submitting the plan.

30.22 (d) The district must submit the plan to the state board for review and approval before
30.23 adopting the plan at a district meeting.

30.24 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

30.25 **Subd. 12. Assuming other conservation projects.** (a) A district may take over by
30.26 purchase, lease, or otherwise, and may improve, maintain, operate, and administer a soil or
30.27 water conservation, erosion-control, erosion-prevention, water quality improvement,
30.28 watershed protection, flood prevention, or flood control project in its boundaries undertaken
30.29 by the United States or by a state public agency.

30.30 (b) A district may accept donations, gifts, grants, or contributions in money, services,
30.31 materials, or otherwise from the United States, a state public agency, or other source to
30.32 ~~accomplish the authorization in this section~~ statutory responsibilities. A ~~board~~ district may

31.1 enter into a contract or agreement necessary or appropriate to accomplish the transfer. A
31.2 ~~board~~ district may use or expend money, services, materials, or other things to accomplish
31.3 an authorized purpose.

31.4 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

31.5 Subd. 13. **Authority to sue and contract.** A district may sue and be sued in its name,
31.6 have perpetual succession unless terminated as provided in section 103C.225, make and
31.7 execute contracts and other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers,
31.8 and make, amend, or repeal rules and regulations consistent with this chapter and ~~sections~~
31.9 ~~103F.401 to 103F.455~~ other statutory authority.

31.10 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 14, is amended to read:

31.11 Subd. 14. **Compensation for work or projects.** As a condition for extending benefits
31.12 for the performance of work, including operations and maintenance, upon lands not owned
31.13 or administered by a ~~state~~ public agency or the district, the ~~supervisors~~ district may require
31.14 compensation or contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, commensurate
31.15 with the cost or reasonable value of the operations or work conferring the benefits.

31.16 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

31.17 Subd. 15. **Agreements for state or federal assistance.** (a) A district may ~~submit an~~
31.18 ~~application~~ apply for and enter into an agreement or contract ~~with the secretary of agriculture~~
31.19 ~~or other designated authority~~ to obtain or use state or federal funding or assistance under
31.20 any law providing for state or federal funding or assistance for an authorized purpose of the
31.21 district.

31.22 (b) A district may:

31.23 (1) acquire ~~without cost to the federal government~~ any land, easements, or rights-of-way
31.24 needed in connection with works of improvement installed with federal or state assistance
31.25 or funding;

31.26 (2) assume the proportionate share of the cost of installing works of improvement
31.27 involving state or federal funding or assistance ~~determined by the secretary or other~~
31.28 ~~designated authority to be~~ that is equitable in consideration of anticipated benefits from the
31.29 improvements;

32.1 (3) ~~make arrangements satisfactory to the secretary or other authority~~ arrange to defray
 32.2 costs of operating and maintaining works of improvement in accordance with prescribed
 32.3 regulations;

32.4 (4) acquire or provide assurance that land occupiers have acquired the water rights and
 32.5 other rights, pursuant to state law, needed to install, maintain, and operate the works of
 32.6 improvement; and

32.7 (5) obtain agreements to carry out recommended soil and water conservation measures
 32.8 and prepare farm plans for owners of not less than 50 percent or other required percentage
 32.9 of the lands situated in a drainage area above a retention reservoir installed with federal
 32.10 assistance, as prescribed by applicable federal law, and may do any other acts necessary to
 32.11 secure and use federal aid.

32.12 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, subdivision 16, is amended to read:

32.13 Subd. 16. **Budget.** The district ~~board~~ shall annually present a budget consisting of an
 32.14 itemized statement of district expenses for the ensuing calendar year to the boards of county
 32.15 commissioners of the counties in which the district is located. The county boards may levy
 32.16 an annual tax on all taxable real property in the district for the amount that the boards
 32.17 determine is necessary to meet the requirements of the district. The amount levied shall be
 32.18 collected and distributed to the district as prescribed by chapter 276. The amount may be
 32.19 spent by the district ~~board~~ for a district purpose authorized by law.

32.20 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, is amended by adding a subdivision
 32.21 to read:

32.22 Subd. 21. **Water and soil resource management.** A district may initiate, construct,
 32.23 operate, and maintain water and soil resource management practices, projects, programs,
 32.24 and systems within the boundaries of the district and use, supplement, or otherwise coordinate
 32.25 contributions from state, federal, Tribal, or local governments and private entities for similar
 32.26 purposes.

32.27 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103C.331, is amended by adding a subdivision
 32.28 to read:

32.29 Subd. 22. **Loans.** The district may obtain loans when the district determines it is prudent
 32.30 to accomplish its statutory duties.

33.1 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.011, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

33.2 Subd. 10. **Engineer.** "Engineer" means ~~the~~ an engineer or other professional designated
 33.3 by the managers ~~to act as engineer~~ and qualified through licensure, certification, or other
 33.4 relevant credentials to address the engineering or other scientific or technical considerations
 33.5 involved in planning and designing a watershed district project.

33.6 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.201, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

33.7 Subd. 2. **Specific purposes.** A watershed district may be established for and use its
 33.8 powers to advance any of the following purposes:

33.9 (1) to control or alleviate damage from floodwaters to promote climate resilience;

33.10 (2) to protect, improve stream channels, or restore watercourses and water basins for
 33.11 drainage, navigation, water quality, flood mitigation, and any other public purpose;

33.12 (3) to ~~reclaim~~ manage impacts to, restore, or fill replace wet and overflowed land;

33.13 (4) to provide a water supply for irrigation;

33.14 (5) to regulate and conserve the flow of ~~streams and conserve the streams' water~~
 33.15 watercourses;

33.16 ~~(6) to divert or change all or part of watercourses;~~

33.17 ~~(7)~~ (6) to provide or conserve water supply for domestic, industrial, recreational,
 33.18 agricultural, or other public use;

33.19 ~~(8)~~ (7) to provide for sanitation and public health, and regulate the use of streams, ditches,
 33.20 or watercourses to dispose of waste;

33.21 ~~(9)~~ (8) to repair, improve, relocate, modify, consolidate, and abandon all or part of
 33.22 drainage systems within a watershed district;

33.23 ~~(10)~~ (9) to control or alleviate soil erosion and siltation of watercourses or water basins;

33.24 ~~(11)~~ (10) to regulate improvements by riparian property owners of the beds, banks, and
 33.25 shores of lakes, streams, and wetlands for preservation and beneficial public use;

33.26 ~~(12)~~ (11) to provide for hydroelectric power generation;

33.27 ~~(13)~~ (12) to protect or enhance the water quality in watercourses or water basins; ~~and~~

33.28 ~~(14)~~ (13) to provide for the protection of groundwater and regulate its use to preserve it
 33.29 for beneficial purposes; and

34.1 (14) to otherwise manage and protect surface waters and groundwaters for any beneficial
34.2 purpose.

34.3 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.205, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

34.4 Subd. 4. **Filing establishment petitions.** The petitioners must file a copy of the
34.5 establishment petition with the auditors of the counties affected by the proposed watershed
34.6 district, and the commissioner, and the director. The original establishment petition, with
34.7 a signed statement of delivery or receipt for each of the establishment petitions submitted
34.8 to the auditors of affected counties, ~~the commissioners,~~ and the ~~directors,~~ director must be
34.9 filed with the board.

34.10 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.251, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

34.11 Subd. 5. **Petition signatures.** (a) A petition for a watershed boundary change must be
34.12 signed by:

34.13 (1) at least one-half of the counties within the proposed watershed district if the boundary
34.14 change were adopted;

34.15 (2) counties having at least 50 percent of the area within the proposed watershed district
34.16 if the boundary change were adopted;

34.17 (3) a majority of the cities within the proposed watershed district if the boundary change
34.18 were adopted;

34.19 (4) at least 50 resident owners or 50 percent of resident owners, whichever is less, in
34.20 the proposed watershed district if the area to be added or removed by the proposed boundary
34.21 change if it were adopted, excluding resident owners within the corporate limits of a city,
34.22 if the city has signed the petition; or

34.23 (5) the managers of a watershed district affected by the proposed boundary change.

34.24 (b) The managers must pass a resolution authorizing the boundary change before the
34.25 managers sign a petition for a boundary change.

34.26 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.251, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

34.27 Subd. 6. **Hearing.** The board must set a time and location for a hearing and give notice
34.28 of the hearing in the same manner as an establishment hearing. The board must also give
34.29 notice of the hearing by mail at least ten days before the hearing to the watershed district
34.30 affected by the proposed boundary change. If a petition for a boundary change involves a

35.1 common boundary of two or more watershed districts, the board must determine the
35.2 watershed district where the hearing will be held.

35.3 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.255, is amended to read:

35.4 **103D.255 WITHDRAWING TERRITORY.**

35.5 Subdivision 1. **Petition.** (a) Proceedings to withdraw territory from an existing watershed
35.6 district must be initiated by a petition filed with the board.

35.7 (b) A majority of the managers may file a petition for withdrawal. Otherwise, the required
35.8 signatures on a petition for withdrawal are the same as prescribed for an establishment
35.9 petition, but the percentages must be calculated only with reference to the territory that is
35.10 proposed to be withdrawn from the watershed district.

35.11 (c) The petition must state that:

35.12 (1) the territory described has not received or will not receive any benefits from the
35.13 operation of the watershed districts;

35.14 (2) the watershed district can perform the functions for which it was established without
35.15 the inclusion of the territory; and

35.16 (3) the territory is not, in fact, a part of the watershed.

35.17 (d) The petition must request the release of the described territory from the watershed
35.18 district.

35.19 (e) The petition must be served on the board and any affected watershed district, and
35.20 the board shall proceed as prescribed for an establishment petition. The requirements for
35.21 notices and public hearings are as prescribed for the establishment petition. The board must
35.22 also give notice of the hearing by mail at least ten days before the hearing to each watershed
35.23 district affected by the proposed withdrawal of territory.

35.24 Subd. 2. **Board's order of withdrawal.** (a) After the hearing, the board may issue an
35.25 order releasing the territory, or a part of the territory, as described in the petition, if the
35.26 board determines that:

35.27 (1) the territory described in the petition has not received and will not receive any benefit
35.28 from the operation of the watershed district;

35.29 (2) the watershed district can perform the functions for which it was established without
35.30 the inclusion of the territory; and

35.31 (3) the territory is not, in fact, a part of the watershed.

36.1 (b) Property may not be released that has been determined subject to benefits or damages
36.2 for a project previously constructed.

36.3 (c) Property released remains liable for the proportionate share of any indebtedness
36.4 existing at the time of the order. Levies on the property released continue in force until fully
36.5 paid.

36.6 (d) If the board determines that the order prescribing the distribution of managers should
36.7 be amended following the withdrawal of any territory, the board may direct redistribution
36.8 of managers in the order authorizing the withdrawal.

36.9 (e) The board must file a certified copy of the findings and order of withdrawal with the
36.10 secretary of state, the auditor of each county affected by the watershed district, the
36.11 commissioner, and the watershed district.

36.12 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.261, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

36.13 Subdivision 1. **Petition.** (a) Proceedings to enlarge an existing watershed district must
36.14 be initiated by a petition filed with the board. A majority of the managers may file a petition.
36.15 Otherwise, the required signatures on a petition to enlarge are the same as for an
36.16 establishment petition, but the percentages must be calculated only with reference to the
36.17 territory that is proposed to be added to the watershed district. The petition must:

36.18 (1) state that the area to be added is contiguous to the existing watershed district;

36.19 (2) state that the area can be feasibly administered by the managers of the existing
36.20 watershed district;

36.21 (3) state reasons why adding the area to the existing watershed district would be
36.22 conducive to the public health and welfare;

36.23 (4) include a map of the affected area;

36.24 (5) state the name of the proposed enlarged watershed district, if other than that of the
36.25 existing watershed district; and

36.26 (6) state a request for the addition of the proposed territory.

36.27 (b) The petition must be served on the board and affected watershed districts, and the
36.28 board must proceed as prescribed for an establishment petition.

36.29 (c) The requirement of notice and public hearings is as prescribed for the establishment
36.30 petition. The board must also give notice of the hearing by mail at least ten days before the
36.31 hearing to each watershed district affected by the proposed enlargement.

37.1 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.261, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

37.2 Subd. 2. **Board order.** (a) After the hearing, if the board determines that the enlargement
37.3 of the watershed district as asked for in the petition would be for the public welfare and
37.4 public interest and the purpose of this chapter would be served, the board shall, by making
37.5 findings and an order, enlarge the watershed district and file a certified copy of the findings
37.6 and order with the secretary of state, the auditor of each county affected by the watershed
37.7 district, the director, and the watershed district.

37.8 (b) The name of the watershed district may be changed by order of the board if requested
37.9 in the petition to enlarge the watershed district.

37.10 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.271, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

37.11 Subd. 7. **Termination hearing order.** When the board determines a termination petition
37.12 has been filed that meets the requirements of subdivisions 4 and 5, the board must, by order,
37.13 ~~set a time by~~ within 35 days after of its determination, set a time and a location within the
37.14 watershed district for a termination hearing or, if publicly accessible facilities are not
37.15 available within the watershed district, at the nearest suitable publicly accessible facility.
37.16 The board must have each manager of the watershed district personally served with a copy
37.17 of the order.

37.18 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.301, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

37.19 Subdivision 1. **More than one affected county.** If more than one county is affected by
37.20 a watershed district, the board must provide that managers are distributed by residence
37.21 among the counties affected by the watershed district and in consideration of the counties'
37.22 portion of the land area and net tax capacity of the watershed.

37.23 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.301, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

37.24 Subd. 3. **Redistribution.** (a) After ten years from the establishment of the watershed
37.25 district, the county board of commissioners of a county affected by the watershed district
37.26 may petition the board to redistribute the managers. After holding a public hearing on
37.27 redistributing the managers, the board may redistribute the managers among the counties
37.28 affected by the watershed district if the redistribution is in accordance with the policy and
37.29 purposes of this chapter.

37.30 (b) A petition for the redistribution of managers may not be filed with the board more
37.31 often than once in ten years.

38.1 (c) If more than one county is affected by a watershed district, the board must distribute
38.2 the one-, two-, and three-year terms among counties affected by the watershed district. The
38.3 board may redistribute the three-year terms upon redistributing the managers among the
38.4 affected counties or upon increasing the number of managers.

38.5 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.305, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

38.6 Subd. 2. **Petition signatures.** The petition to increase the number of managers must
38.7 request the increase and be signed by one or more of the following groups:

38.8 (1) one-half or more of the counties within the watershed district;

38.9 (2) counties with 50 percent or more of the area within the watershed district;

38.10 (3) a majority or greater number of the cities within the watershed district;

38.11 (4) 50 or more resident owners residing in the watershed district, excluding resident
38.12 owners within the corporate limits of a city if the city has signed the petition; or

38.13 (5) the managers of the watershed district, by resolution adopted by a majority of the
38.14 managers of the watershed district.

38.15 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.305, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

38.16 Subd. 5. **Hearing.** (a) If the board determines at the hearing that an increase in the
38.17 number of managers would benefit the public welfare, public interest, and the purpose of
38.18 this chapter, the board must increase the number of managers. The board must make findings
38.19 and an order accordingly and file a certified copy of the findings and order with the secretary
38.20 of state, the auditor of each county affected by the watershed district, the director, and the
38.21 watershed district. The board's order must prescribe the terms for the new managers to be
38.22 appointed by the designated county board or boards.

38.23 (b) If the watershed district affects more than one county, the board, by order, must
38.24 direct the distribution of the managers among the affected counties.

38.25 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.311, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

38.26 Subd. 4. **Record of appointed managers.** A record of all appointments made under this
38.27 section must be filed with the county auditor of each county affected by the watershed
38.28 district, the secretary or administrator of the board of managers, and the Board of Water
38.29 and Soil Resources.

39.1 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.315, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

39.2 Subd. 9. **First meeting of managers.** (a) Within ~~ten~~ 30 days after the first board of
39.3 managers has received notice by personal service of their selection, the managers must meet
39.4 at the watershed district's principal place of business.

39.5 (b) At the first meeting, the managers must take the oath under subdivision 1, provide
39.6 a bond under subdivision 2, elect officers under subdivision 3, and appoint an advisory
39.7 committee under section 103D.331.

39.8 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.315, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

39.9 Subd. 10. **Meetings.** The managers shall meet annually and at other necessary times to
39.10 transact the business of the watershed district. A meeting may be called at any time at the
39.11 request of any manager according to chapter 13D. ~~When a manager requests a meeting, the~~
39.12 ~~secretary of the watershed district must mail a notice of the meeting to each member at least~~
39.13 ~~eight days before the meeting.~~

39.14 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.321, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

39.15 Subdivision 1. **Unavailable public facilities.** If ~~public~~ publicly accessible facilities are
39.16 not available for a watershed district's principal place of business within the watershed
39.17 district, the board shall determine and designate the nearest suitable ~~public~~ publicly accessible
39.18 facility as the watershed district's principal place of business. The principal place of business
39.19 is the location of the watershed district's office or, if the district has no office, the location
39.20 of regular meetings of the board of managers.

39.21 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.331, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

39.22 Subd. 2. **Members.** (a) The advisory committee consists of at least five members. If
39.23 practicable, the advisory committee members selected should include a representative from
39.24 each soil and water conservation district, a representative of each county, a member of a
39.25 sporting organization, ~~and~~ a member of a farm organization, and a representative of each
39.26 federally recognized Tribal government within the watershed district. Other advisory
39.27 committee members may be appointed at the discretion of the managers. The members must
39.28 be residents of the watershed district, except representatives from Tribal nations, soil and
39.29 water conservation districts, and counties, and serve at the pleasure of the managers.

39.30 (b) In addition, the managers may appoint other interested and technical persons who
39.31 may or may not reside within the watershed district to serve at the pleasure of the managers.

40.1 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.335, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

40.2 Subd. 11. **Acquiring or disposing of property.** The managers may acquire by gift,
40.3 purchase, taking under the procedures of this chapter, or by the power of eminent domain,
40.4 necessary real and personal property. The managers may dispose of real or personal property
40.5 when the property no longer serves a purpose of the watershed district. The watershed
40.6 district may acquire property outside the watershed district where necessary for a water
40.7 supply system.

40.8 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.341, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

40.9 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** The managers must adopt rules ~~to accomplish the purposes~~
40.10 ~~of this chapter and~~ to implement the regulatory powers of the managers.

40.11 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.345, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

40.12 Subd. 4. **Bond; financial assurance.** The managers may require an applicant for a permit
40.13 to file a bond or other form of financial assurance with the managers in an amount set by
40.14 the managers and conditioned on performance by the applicant of authorized activities in
40.15 conformance with the terms of the permit.

40.16 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.355, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

40.17 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** The managers must have an annual audit completed of
40.18 the books and accounts of the watershed district. The annual audit may be made by a private
40.19 certified public accountant or by the state auditor. The managers must submit the annual
40.20 audit report to the board and the state auditor's office within 180 days of the end of the
40.21 watershed district's fiscal year.

40.22 Sec. 41. [103D.357] REMOVAL OF MANAGERS.

40.23 After being provided an opportunity for a hearing before the appointing authority, a
40.24 manager of a watershed district may be removed from the position by a majority vote of
40.25 the appointing authority before term expiration for violation of a code of ethics of the
40.26 watershed district or appointing authority or for malfeasance, nonfeasance, or misfeasance.

40.27 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.401, is amended to read:

40.28 **103D.401 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

40.29 Subdivision 1. **Contents.** (a) The managers must adopt and maintain a watershed
40.30 management plan for any or all of to exercise the powers of a watershed district and fulfill

41.1 the purposes for which a watershed district may be established. The watershed management
41.2 plan must give a narrative description of existing water and water-related problems within
41.3 the watershed district, possible solutions to the problems, and the general objectives of the
41.4 watershed district. The watershed management plan must also conform closely with
41.5 watershed management plan guidelines as adopted and amended from time to time by the
41.6 Board of Water and Soil Resources. The authority to adopt and maintain a watershed
41.7 management plan under this section is retained notwithstanding a watershed district's
41.8 participation in a comprehensive watershed management planning program under section
41.9 103B.801.

41.10 (b) The watershed management plan may include a separate section on proposed projects.
41.11 ~~If the watershed district is within the metropolitan area, the separate section of proposed~~
41.12 ~~projects or petitions for projects to be undertaken according to the watershed management~~
41.13 ~~plan is a comprehensive plan of the watershed district for purposes of review by the~~
41.14 ~~Metropolitan Council under section 473.165.~~

41.15 Subd. 2. **Review Reviewing draft plan.** The managers must send a copy of the proposed
41.16 watershed management plan for a 60-day review and comment period to the county auditor
41.17 of each county affected by the watershed district, the board, ~~the commissioner~~, the director,
41.18 the governing body of each municipality affected by the watershed district, and soil and
41.19 water conservation districts affected by the watershed district. ~~For a watershed district within~~
41.20 ~~the metropolitan area, a copy of the proposed watershed management plan must also be~~
41.21 ~~submitted to the Metropolitan Council.~~ At least ten days before the public hearing, the
41.22 watershed district must respond in writing to all comments by the reviewing parties.

41.23 Subd. 3. ~~**Director's and Metropolitan Council's recommendations.**~~ After receiving
41.24 ~~the watershed management plan, the director and the Metropolitan Council must review~~
41.25 ~~and make recommendations on the watershed management plan. By 60 days after receiving~~
41.26 ~~the plan, the director and the Metropolitan Council must send their recommendations on~~
41.27 ~~the watershed management plan to the board and a copy to the managers of the watershed~~
41.28 ~~district, the county auditor of each county affected by the watershed district, the governing~~
41.29 ~~bodies of all municipalities affected by the watershed district, and soil and water conservation~~
41.30 ~~districts affected by the watershed district. The board may extend the period for review and~~
41.31 ~~transmittal of the recommendations.~~

41.32 Subd. 4. **Hearing notice.** (a) The ~~board~~ managers must give notice and hold a ~~watershed~~
41.33 ~~management plan~~ hearing on the proposed watershed management plan by ~~45~~ no later than
41.34 60 days after receiving the director's and Metropolitan Council's recommendations the close
41.35 of the 60-day review and comment period.

42.1 (b) The ~~board~~ managers must give notice of the ~~watershed management plan~~ hearing by
 42.2 publication in a legal newspaper that is published in counties affected by the watershed
 42.3 district. The last publication must occur at least ten days before the ~~watershed management~~
 42.4 ~~plan~~ hearing.

42.5 (c) The ~~board~~ managers must give notice of the ~~watershed management plan~~ hearing by
 42.6 mail to the auditors of counties and to the chief executive officials of municipalities affected
 42.7 by the watershed district.

42.8 (d) The notice must include:

42.9 (1) a statement that a copy of the proposed watershed management plan has been filed
 42.10 with the board, ~~the Metropolitan Council, where applicable,~~ the auditors of counties affected
 42.11 by the proposed watershed district, the commissioner, the director, the governing body of
 42.12 each municipality affected by the watershed district, and the soil and water conservation
 42.13 districts affected by the watershed district;

42.14 (2) a general description of the purpose of the watershed district;

42.15 (3) a general description of the property included in the watershed district;

42.16 (4) a general description of the proposed watershed management plan;

42.17 (5) the date, time, and location of the hearing; and

42.18 (6) a statement that all persons affected or interested in the watershed district may attend
 42.19 and give statements at the ~~watershed management plan~~ hearing.

42.20 Subd. 5. **Board approval.** (a) After the watershed management plan hearing, the ~~board~~
 42.21 managers must submit the draft plan, any amendments to the draft plan, all written comments
 42.22 received on the draft plan, a record of the public hearing, and a summary of changes
 42.23 incorporated as a result of the review process to the board for final review. The board must
 42.24 review the plan for conformance with this chapter.

42.25 (b) The board must not prescribe a plan but may disapprove all or parts of a plan that
 42.26 the board finds does not conform with this chapter. The board must complete its review
 42.27 within 90 days and, by order, ~~prescribe and~~ approve, disapprove, or approve with conditions
 42.28 a watershed management plan for the watershed district. ~~The board must send a copy of the~~
 42.29 ~~order and approved watershed management plan to the managers, the county board of each~~
 42.30 ~~county affected by the watershed district, the commissioner, the director, the Metropolitan~~
 42.31 ~~Council, where applicable, the governing body of each municipality affected by the watershed~~
 42.32 ~~district, and soil and water conservation districts affected by the watershed district. The~~

43.1 ~~watershed management plan approved by the board is the watershed management plan for~~
43.2 ~~the watershed district.~~

43.3 (c) A watershed district may seek reconsideration of a decision of the board concerning
43.4 its plan or capital improvement program within 60 days of receiving the decision by filing
43.5 an appeal to the board's dispute resolution committee established under section 103B.101,
43.6 subdivision 10. The dispute resolution committee must complete its reconsideration and
43.7 make a recommendation to the board, which must issue a final decision within 90 days of
43.8 the appeal.

43.9 Subd. 6. **Adoption.** Within 120 days of the board's order, the managers must adopt a
43.10 plan in compliance with the board's order. The managers must send a copy of the order and
43.11 approved watershed management plan to the board, the county board of each county affected
43.12 by the watershed district, the commissioner, the director, the governing body of each
43.13 municipality affected by the watershed district, and soil and water conservation districts
43.14 affected by the watershed district. The watershed management plan approved by the board
43.15 and adopted by the managers is the watershed management plan for the watershed district.

43.16 Subd. 7. **Amendments.** (a) To the extent and in the manner required by the adopted
43.17 plan, all amendments to the adopted plan must be submitted to the towns, cities, counties,
43.18 and state review agencies and to the board for review according to subdivisions 2 to 5,
43.19 except when the proposed amendments are determined to be minor amendments according
43.20 to the following requirements:

43.21 (1) the board has either agreed that the amendments are minor or failed to act within
43.22 five working days of the end of the comment period specified in clause (2), unless an
43.23 extension is mutually agreed upon with the watershed district;

43.24 (2) the watershed district has sent copies of the amendments to the plan review authorities
43.25 for review and comment, allowing at least 30 days for receipt of comments; has indicated
43.26 that the minor amendment procedure is being followed; and has directed that comments be
43.27 sent to the watershed district and the board;

43.28 (3) no county board has filed an objection to the amendments with the watershed district
43.29 and the board within the comment period specified in clause (2), unless an extension is
43.30 mutually agreed upon by the county and the watershed district; and

43.31 (4) the watershed district has held a public meeting to explain the amendments and
43.32 published a legal notice of the meeting twice, at least seven days and 14 days before the
43.33 date of the meeting.

44.1 (b) The following changes to a plan do not require an amendment, but must be distributed
44.2 to agencies and local units of government receiving an adopted plan under subdivision 6:

44.3 (1) formatting or reorganizing the plan;

44.4 (2) revising a procedure meant to streamline administration of the plan;

44.5 (3) clarifying existing plan goals or policies;

44.6 (4) including additional data not requiring interpretation;

44.7 (5) expanding a public process; or

44.8 (6) adjusting how a watershed district carries out program activities within the district's
44.9 discretion.

44.10 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.405, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

44.11 Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** (a) The managers ~~and the board~~ must revise the watershed
44.12 management plan for the watershed district at least once every ten years after the original
44.13 watershed management plan is approved. The revised watershed management plan of the
44.14 district must conform closely with adopted watershed management plan guidelines of the
44.15 board of Water and Soil Resources.

44.16 (b) The managers must include the following items in the revised watershed management
44.17 plan:

44.18 (1) updates and supplements of the existing hydrological and other statistical data of the
44.19 watershed district;

44.20 (2) specific projects and programs to be considered for implementation;

44.21 (3) a statement of the extent that the purposes for which the watershed district had been
44.22 established have been accomplished;

44.23 (4) a description of problems requiring future action by the watershed district;

44.24 (5) a summary of completed studies on active or planned projects, including financial
44.25 data; and

44.26 (6) an analysis of the effectiveness of the watershed district's rules and permits in
44.27 achieving its water management objectives in the watershed district.

44.28 (c) A revised watershed management plan must be transmitted, reviewed, recommended,
44.29 and approved as provided in subdivisions 2 to 4 and 6.

45.1 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.535, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

45.2 Subd. 3. **Appeals from managers' orders.** (a) If an appeal is taken from an order
45.3 authorizing a project, a trial of an appeal of benefits or damages from the proceedings must
45.4 be stayed until the appeal is decided. If the order authorizing the project is affirmed, a trial
45.5 of an appeal of benefits or damages may commence.

45.6 (b) If the appeal is from an order refusing to authorize a project and the court or the
45.7 board later orders the project, the secretary or administrator of the watershed district shall
45.8 give notice by publication of the filing of the order. The notice is sufficient if it refers to
45.9 the proposed project by general description and recites the substance of the order and the
45.10 date of filing in the court.

45.11 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.701, is amended to read:

45.12 **103D.701 PROJECT INITIATION.**

45.13 Projects may not be initiated until the board approves a watershed management plan for
45.14 the watershed district. ~~The projects~~ A project of the watershed district ~~that are to be paid~~
45.15 ~~for by assessment of the benefited properties~~ must be initiated:

45.16 (1) by a project petition filed with the managers;

45.17 (2) by ~~unanimous~~ resolution of a majority of the members of the board of managers; or

45.18 (3) as otherwise prescribed by this chapter.

45.19 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.705, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

45.20 Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** (a) A project within the watershed district that generally
45.21 conforms with the watershed management plan may be initiated by a project petition. A
45.22 project petition must contain:

45.23 (1) a description of the proposed project and the purpose to be accomplished;

45.24 (2) a description of the property where the proposed project passes over or is located;

45.25 (3) a general description of the part of the watershed district that will be affected, if less
45.26 than the entire watershed district;

45.27 (4) the necessity for the proposed project;

45.28 (5) a statement that the proposed project will be conducive to public health, convenience,
45.29 and welfare; and

46.1 (6) a statement that the petitioners will pay all costs and expenses that may be incurred
46.2 if the proceedings are dismissed or a construction or implementation contract is not awarded
46.3 for the proposed project.

46.4 (b) A petition may request that the managers adopt a resolution according to section
46.5 103D.707, subdivision 1, to allow sources of funding other than assessment to be used in
46.6 whole or in part for the project. Upon adopting a requested resolution, the managers must
46.7 release the deposit or bond required under subdivision 3.

46.8 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.705, is amended by adding a subdivision
46.9 to read:

46.10 Subd. 5. **Determination.** If the managers determine that a proper project petition has
46.11 been filed and that the proposed project promotes the public interest and welfare, is
46.12 practicable, and conforms with the watershed management plan of the watershed district,
46.13 the managers must:

46.14 (1) identify the project by name and number; and

46.15 (2) designate an engineer to make surveys, maps, and a report on the proposed project.

46.16 Sec. 48. **[103D.707] PROJECTS INITIATED BY MANAGERS.**

46.17 Subdivision 1. **Resolution.** A majority of the members of the board of managers may
46.18 initiate a project by a resolution finding that the project generally conforms with the
46.19 watershed management plan of the watershed district. The resolution must:

46.20 (1) identify the project by name and number;

46.21 (2) identify intended sources of project funding; and

46.22 (3) designate an engineer to make surveys, maps, and a report on the proposed project.

46.23 Subd. 2. **Funding.** (a) A project initiated under this section may be funded from one or
46.24 more sources of funds available to the watershed district, including but not limited to levy,
46.25 assessment, a water management district charge, and external sources. The availability and
46.26 use of a source of funding must be as specified in applicable law.

46.27 (b) The finding under subdivision 1 as to intended sources of funding is not binding on
46.28 the managers. However, the procedures of this chapter must be afforded to property owners
46.29 affected by any subsequent decision of the managers to expand the use of assessment.

47.1 Subd. 3. **Determining benefits.** Procedures in section 103D.715 for appointing resident
47.2 appraisers and determining benefits apply to a project initiated by resolution of the managers
47.3 only if and to the extent that a project is to be funded in whole or part by assessment.

47.4 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.711, is amended to read:

47.5 **103D.711 ENGINEER'S REPORT.**

47.6 ~~Subdivision 1. **Determination.** If the managers determine that a proper project petition~~
47.7 ~~has been filed, the proposed project promotes the public interest and welfare, is practicable~~
47.8 ~~and conforms with the watershed management plan of the watershed district, the managers~~
47.9 ~~must:~~

47.10 ~~(1) identify the project proceeding by name and number; and~~

47.11 ~~(2) designate an engineer to make surveys, maps, and a report on the proposed project.~~

47.12 Subd. 2. **Requirements.** (a) The engineer's report must include findings and
47.13 recommendations about the proposed project. If the engineer finds the project feasible, the
47.14 engineer must provide a plan of the proposed project as part of the report. The plan must
47.15 include:

47.16 (1) a map of the project area, drawn to scale, showing the location of the proposed
47.17 improvements, if any;

47.18 (2) the estimated total cost of completing the project including construction, operation,
47.19 implementation, supervision, and administrative costs;

47.20 (3) the acreage required as right-of-way listed by each lot and 40-acre tract or fraction
47.21 of the lot or tract under separate ownership, if required to implement the project; and

47.22 (4) other details and information to inform the managers of the practicability and necessity
47.23 of the proposed project with the engineer's recommendations on these matters.

47.24 (b) The map of the area must include:

47.25 (1) the location and adequacy of the outlet, if the project is related to drainage;

47.26 (2) the watershed of the project area;

47.27 (3) the location of existing highways, bridges, and culverts;

47.28 (4) the property, highways, and utilities affected by the project with the names of the
47.29 known property owners;

47.30 (5) the location of public land and water affected by the project; and

48.1 (6) other physical characteristics of the watershed necessary to understand the area.

48.2 Subd. 3. **State and federal projects.** The engineer may adopt, approve, and include as
48.3 a part of the engineer's report a project of the state or federal government that is pertinent
48.4 to the project and may accept data, plats, plans, details, or information pertaining to the
48.5 state or federal project given to the ~~engineer~~ watershed district by the state or federal agency.
48.6 The engineer ~~shall~~ may omit the items required in subdivision 2 from the engineer's report
48.7 if the data given by the state or federal government is sufficient to meet the requirements
48.8 of subdivision 2.

48.9 Subd. 4. **Hearing after unfavorable engineer's report.** (a) If the project has been
48.10 initiated by petition and the engineer's report is unfavorable, the managers shall, by order,
48.11 within 35 days set a time and place within the watershed district for a hearing for the
48.12 petitioners to demonstrate why the managers should not refer the petition back to the
48.13 petitioners for further proceedings or dismiss the petition.

48.14 (b) The hearing notice must state:

48.15 (1) that the engineer's report is unfavorable;

48.16 (2) that the engineer's report is on file with the managers and may be reviewed; and

48.17 (3) the time and place for the hearing.

48.18 (c) The managers shall mail a copy of the notice to each of the petitioners at least 14
48.19 days before the hearing.

48.20 Subd. 5. **Advisory reports.** (a) When the engineer's report is filed with the managers,
48.21 the managers shall send a complete copy to the director and to the board.

48.22 (b) The director and the board shall examine the engineer's report and by 30 days after
48.23 receiving the report, the director shall make a director's advisory report and the board shall
48.24 make a board's advisory report which must include:

48.25 (1) a statement on whether the engineer's report is incomplete and not in accordance
48.26 with this chapter;

48.27 (2) a statement of whether the engineer's report is approved as being a practical plan;

48.28 (3) if the project as planned does not meet approval, recommendations for changes
48.29 considered advisable must be stated or an opinion that the proposed project or improvement
48.30 is not practical; and

48.31 (4) a recommendation as to whether a soil survey appears advisable.

49.1 (c) The director's advisory report and the board's advisory report shall be directed to and
49.2 filed with the managers.

49.3 (d) The director's advisory report and the board's advisory report shall be considered
49.4 advisory only.

49.5 Subd. 6. **Notice for final hearing; timing.** A notice may not be issued for the final
49.6 hearing until the board's advisory report and the director's advisory report are filed or the
49.7 time for filing the reports with the managers has expired. For projects initiated by the
49.8 managers according to section 103D.707, the managers may decide at any time not to
49.9 proceed to final hearing.

49.10 Subd. 7. **Form.** The findings, recommendations, and content of the engineering report
49.11 shall conform as nearly as practicable to the requirements of this section.

49.12 Subd. 8. **Soil survey.** If a soil survey is recommended to be made in the director's advisory
49.13 report or the board's advisory report, the engineer shall make the soil survey and a soil
49.14 survey report. The soil survey report must be submitted to the managers before the final
49.15 hearing.

49.16 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.715, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

49.17 Subdivision 1. **Appointment.** After the engineer's report is filed, if the project is proposed
49.18 to be funded in whole or in part by assessments of benefitted land owners, the managers
49.19 shall, with the least possible delay, appoint three disinterested resident owners of the state
49.20 as appraisers.

49.21 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.729, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

49.22 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** A watershed district may establish a water management
49.23 district or districts in the territory within the watershed, for the purpose of collecting revenues
49.24 and paying the costs of projects initiated under section 103B.231, ~~103D.601, 103D.605,~~
49.25 ~~103D.611,~~ 103D.701, or 103D.730.

49.26 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.729, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

49.27 Subd. 2. **Procedure.** A watershed district may establish a water management district
49.28 only by amendment to its plan in accordance with section ~~103D.411, or~~ 103D.401, or
49.29 103B.231 for watershed districts in the metropolitan area, and compliance with subdivisions
49.30 3 and 4. The amendment ~~shall~~ must describe with particularity the territory or the area to
49.31 be included in the water management district, the amount of the necessary charges, the

50.1 methods used to determine charges, and the length of time the water management district
50.2 will remain in force. After adoption, the amendment ~~shall~~ must be filed with the county
50.3 auditor and county recorder of each county affected by the water management district.
50.4 Charges must be collected according to section 444.075, subdivision 2a. The water
50.5 management district may be dissolved by the procedure prescribed for the establishment of
50.6 the water management district.

50.7 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.731, is amended to read:

50.8 **103D.731 APPRAISERS' REPORT; EXAMINATION.**

50.9 (a) The appraisers shall prepare an appraisers' report of the benefits and damages
50.10 determined and file the report with the managers.

50.11 (b) After the appraisers' report is filed, the managers shall examine the report and
50.12 determine whether:

50.13 (1) the report was made in conformity with the requirements of this chapter; and

50.14 (2) for each property to be assessed, the total benefits are greater than the total estimated
50.15 costs and damages to be assessed.

50.16 (c) If the managers determine the appraisers' report is inadequate in any manner, the
50.17 managers may return the report to the appraisers for further study and report.

50.18 Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.745, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

50.19 Subd. 3. **Establishing project.** (a) The managers shall make findings, order and direct
50.20 construction or implementation of the project, and confirm the ~~engineer's~~ technical report
50.21 and the findings of the appraisers and the appraisers' report if, at the end of the final hearing,
50.22 the managers find that the project will:

50.23 (1) be conducive to public health;

50.24 (2) promote the general welfare;

50.25 (3) be in compliance with this chapter; and

50.26 (4) for each property to be assessed, result in benefits that will be greater than the cost
50.27 of the construction or implementation and damages to be assessed.

50.28 (b) The order may authorize the construction or implementation of the project as a whole
50.29 or authorize different parts of the project to be constructed separately.

51.1 (c) The managers shall order the engineer to proceed with making the necessary surveys
51.2 and preparing plans and specifications that are needed to construct the project and report
51.3 the results of the surveys and plans to the managers.

51.4 Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.805, is amended to read:

51.5 **103D.805 FILING MANAGERS' ORDER ESTABLISHING PROJECT.**

51.6 An order of the managers establishing the project and authorizing construction must
51.7 immediately be filed with the secretary or administrator of the watershed district, and a
51.8 certified copy of the order must be filed with the auditor of each county affected, the board,
51.9 the commissioner, the director, the Pollution Control Agency, and the commissioner of
51.10 health.

51.11 Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.811, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

51.12 Subd. 3. **Awarding contract.** (a) At a time and place specified in the bid notice, the
51.13 managers may accept or reject any or all bids and may award the contract to the lowest
51.14 responsible bidder. The bidder to whom the contract is to be awarded must give a bond,
51.15 ~~with ample security~~ as required by section 574.26, conditioned by satisfactory completion
51.16 of the contract.

51.17 (b) Bids must not be considered which in the aggregate exceed by more than 30 percent
51.18 the total estimated cost of construction or implementation.

51.19 (c) As an alternative to the procurement method described in paragraph (a), the managers
51.20 may issue a request for proposals and award the contract to the vendor or contractor offering
51.21 the best value as described in section 16C.28, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), and
51.22 paragraph (c).

51.23 (d) The contract must be in writing and be accompanied by or refer to the plans and
51.24 specifications for the work to be done as prepared by the engineer for the watershed district.
51.25 The plans and specifications shall become a part of the contract.

51.26 (e) The contract ~~shall~~ must be approved by the managers ~~and signed by the president,~~
51.27 ~~secretary, and contractor.~~

51.28 Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103D.901, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

51.29 Subd. 2. **County funding.** After the assessment statement is filed with the auditor, the
51.30 county board of each affected county shall provide funds to meet its proportionate share of
51.31 the total cost of the project, as shown by the engineer's report and order of the managers.

52.1 The county may issue bonds of the county in the manner provided by section 103E.635. ~~If~~
52.2 ~~an improvement is to be constructed under section 103D.611, the provisions of section~~
52.3 ~~103E.635 requiring the county board to award a contract for construction or implementation~~
52.4 ~~before issuing bonds is not applicable to bonds issued to provide the funds required to be~~
52.5 ~~furnished by this section.~~

52.6 Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103E.729, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

52.7 Subd. 9. **Sunset.** This section expires on July 31, ~~2024~~ 2029.

52.8 Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.48, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

52.9 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have
52.10 the meanings given them.

52.11 (b) "Board" means the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

52.12 (c) "Buffer" means an area consisting of perennial vegetation, excluding invasive plants
52.13 and noxious weeds, adjacent to all bodies of water within the state and that protects the
52.14 water resources of the state from runoff pollution; stabilizes soils, shores, and banks; and
52.15 protects or provides riparian corridors.

52.16 (d) "Buffer-protection map" means buffer maps established and maintained by the
52.17 commissioner of natural resources.

52.18 (e) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of natural resources.

52.19 (f) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Board of Water and Soil
52.20 Resources.

52.21 (g) "Local water management authority" means a watershed district, metropolitan water
52.22 management organization, or county operating separately or jointly in its role as local water
52.23 management authority under chapter 103B or 103D.

52.24 (h) "Normal water level" means the level evidenced by the long-term presence of surface
52.25 water as indicated directly by hydrophytic plants or hydric soils or indirectly determined
52.26 via hydrological models or analysis.

52.27 (i) "Public waters" means public waters that are on the public waters inventory as provided
52.28 in section 103G.201.

52.29 (j) "With jurisdiction" means a board determination that the county or watershed district
52.30 has adopted and is implementing a rule, ordinance, or official controls providing procedures

53.1 for the issuance of administrative penalty orders, enforcement, and appeals for purposes of
53.2 this section and section 103B.101, subdivision 12a. This determination is revocable.

53.3 Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
53.4 to read:

53.5 Subd. 1a. **Agricultural crop production.** "Agricultural crop production" means an
53.6 agricultural activity that is devoted to producing horticultural, row, close-grown, introduced
53.7 pasture, or introduced hayland crops and includes but is not limited to tillage, planting, or
53.8 harvesting operations.

53.9 Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
53.10 to read:

53.11 Subd. 1b. **Agricultural land.** "Agricultural land" means land devoted to the following
53.12 uses and includes any contiguous land associated with the uses:

53.13 (1) pasture or hayland for domestic livestock or dairy animals;

53.14 (2) producing agricultural crops;

53.15 (3) growing nursery stocks; or

53.16 (4) animal feedlots.

53.17 Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
53.18 to read:

53.19 Subd. 1c. **Approved practice.** "Approved practice" means a conservation practice that
53.20 may be established on an easement area and that meets the requirements of section 103F.527.

53.21 Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
53.22 to read:

53.23 Subd. 3a. **Conservation easement program.** "Conservation easement program" means:

53.24 (1) the reinvest in Minnesota reserve program under section 103F.515;

53.25 (2) the permanent wetlands preserve program under section 103F.516;

53.26 (3) the reinvest in Minnesota clean energy program under section 103F.518; or

53.27 (4) the reinvest in Minnesota working lands program under section 103F.519.

54.1 Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
54.2 to read:

54.3 Subd. 3b. **Conservation plan.** "Conservation plan" means a written description and map
54.4 of approved practices that must be applied to or that already exist on an easement area.

54.5 Sec. 65. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
54.6 to read:

54.7 Subd. 5b. **Food plot.** "Food plot" means an area established to provide food for wildlife.

54.8 Sec. 66. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
54.9 to read:

54.10 Subd. 5d. **Land with crop history.** "Land with crop history" means land that has
54.11 produced horticultural, row, or close-grown crops or that has been enrolled at a cropland
54.12 rate in a federal or state conservation program for at least two of the five years preceding
54.13 an application to enroll the land in a conservation easement program. Land with crop history
54.14 includes acres devoted to set-aside or conserving use for programs of the United States
54.15 Department of Agriculture.

54.16 Sec. 67. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
54.17 to read:

54.18 Subd. 7a. **Pasture.** "Pasture" means land that is used for grazing by domestic livestock
54.19 and that is not considered land with crop history.

54.20 Sec. 68. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.511, is amended by adding a subdivision
54.21 to read:

54.22 Subd. 7b. **Perennial cover.** "Perennial cover" means:

54.23 (1) existing or established perennial vegetation within the easement boundary; or

54.24 (2) a restored or existing wetland or water-covered area within the easement boundary.

54.25 Sec. 69. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.515, is amended to read:

54.26 **103F.515 REINVEST IN MINNESOTA RESERVE PROGRAM.**

54.27 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** The board, in consultation with the commissioner of
54.28 agriculture and the commissioner of natural resources, shall establish and administer the
54.29 reinvest in Minnesota reserve program. The board shall implement sections 103F.505 to

55.1 103F.531. Selection of land for the reinvest in Minnesota reserve program must be based
 55.2 on its ~~enhancement potential for fish, wildlife, and native plant habitats, reducing erosion,~~
 55.3 ~~and protecting water quality~~ benefit to accomplishing the purposes in section 103F.505.

55.4 Subd. 2. **Eligible land.** (a) Land may be placed in the reinvest in Minnesota reserve
 55.5 program if the land meets the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) or paragraph (d).

55.6 (b) Land is eligible if the land:

55.7 (1) is marginal agricultural land;

55.8 (2) is adjacent to marginal agricultural land and is either beneficial to resource protection
 55.9 or necessary for efficient recording of the land description;

55.10 (3) consists of a drained wetland;

55.11 (4) is land that with a windbreak or water quality improvement practice would be
 55.12 beneficial to resource protection;

55.13 (5) is land in a sensitive groundwater area;

55.14 (6) is riparian or floodplain land;

55.15 (7) is cropland or noncropland adjacent to restored wetlands to the extent of up to eight
 55.16 acres of cropland or ~~one acre~~ of noncropland for each acre of wetland restored;

55.17 (8) is a woodlot on agricultural land;

55.18 (9) is abandoned building site on agricultural land, provided that funds are not used for
 55.19 compensation of the value of the buildings; ~~or~~

55.20 (10) is land used for pasture; or

55.21 (11) is land in an environmentally sensitive area, including grasslands, peatlands,
 55.22 shorelands, karst geology, trout stream watersheds, and forest lands in priority areas.

55.23 (c) Eligible land under paragraph (a) must:

55.24 (1) be owned by the landowner, or a parent or other blood relative of the landowner, for
 55.25 at least one year before the date of application;

55.26 ~~(2) be at least five acres in size, except for a drained wetland area, riparian area,~~
 55.27 ~~windbreak, woodlot, wellhead protection area, or abandoned building site, or be a whole~~
 55.28 ~~field;~~

55.29 ~~(3)~~ (2) not be set aside, enrolled or diverted under another federal or state government
 55.30 program unless enrollment in the reinvest in Minnesota reserve program would provide

56.1 additional conservation benefits or a longer term of enrollment than under the current federal
56.2 or state program; and

56.3 ~~(4) have been in agricultural crop production for at least two of the last five years before~~
56.4 ~~the date of application except drained wetlands, riparian lands, woodlots, abandoned building~~
56.5 ~~sites, environmentally sensitive areas, wellhead protection areas, or land used for pasture.~~

56.6 (3) benefit the purposes in section 103F.505.

56.7 (d) Land is eligible if the land is within a wellhead protection area as defined under
56.8 section 103I.005, subdivision 24, and has a wellhead protection plan approved by the
56.9 commissioner of health.

56.10 (e) In selecting land for enrollment in the program, highest priority must be given to
56.11 permanent easements that are consistent with the purposes stated in section 103F.505.

56.12 **Subd. 3. Conservation easements.** (a) The board may acquire, or accept by gift or
56.13 donation, conservation easements on eligible land. An easement may be permanent or of
56.14 limited duration. An easement acquired on land for wetland restoration or windbreak
56.15 purposes, under subdivision 2, may be only of permanent duration. An easement of limited
56.16 duration may not be acquired if it is for a period less than 20 years. The negotiation and
56.17 acquisition of easements authorized by this section are exempt from the contractual provisions
56.18 of chapters 16B and 16C.

56.19 (b) The board may acquire, or accept by gift or donation, flowage easements when
56.20 necessary for completion of wetland restoration projects.

56.21 **Subd. 4. Nature of property rights acquired.** (a) A conservation easement must prohibit:

56.22 (1) alteration of wildlife habitat and other natural features, unless specifically approved
56.23 by the board;

56.24 (2) agricultural crop production and livestock grazing, unless specifically approved by
56.25 the board for conservation management purposes or extreme drought; ~~and~~

56.26 (3) spraying with chemicals or mowing, except:

56.27 (i) as necessary to comply with noxious weed control laws;

56.28 (ii) for emergency control of pests necessary to protect public health; or

56.29 (iii) as approved by the board for conservation management purposes; and

56.30 (4) extracting or mining any gravel, rock, topsoil, or minerals from the site by surface
56.31 or subsurface mining.

57.1 (b) A conservation easement is subject to the terms of the agreement provided in
57.2 subdivision 5.

57.3 (c) A conservation easement must allow repairs, improvements, and inspections necessary
57.4 to maintain public drainage systems provided the easement area is restored to the condition
57.5 required by the terms of the conservation easement.

57.6 (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the board must permit the harvest of native grasses
57.7 for use in seed production or bioenergy on wellhead protection lands eligible under
57.8 subdivision 2, paragraph (d).

57.9 (e) A conservation easement must allow the board and its employees and agents to enter
57.10 the easement area for inspection and for enforcing the terms and conditions of the
57.11 conservation easement.

57.12 Subd. 5. **Agreements by landowner.** The board may enroll eligible land in the reinvest
57.13 in Minnesota reserve program by signing an agreement ~~in recordable form~~ with a landowner
57.14 in which the landowner agrees:

57.15 (1) to convey to the state a conservation easement that is not subject to any prior ~~title,~~
57.16 ~~lien, or encumbrance~~ liens or encumbrances that are determined to be objectionable by the
57.17 attorney general;

57.18 (2) to seed the land subject to the conservation easement, as specified in the agreement,
57.19 to establish and maintain perennial cover of either a grass-legume mixture or native grasses
57.20 for the term of the easement, at seeding rates determined by the board; or to plant trees or
57.21 carry out other long-term capital improvements approved by the board for soil and water
57.22 conservation or wildlife management;

57.23 (3) to convey to the state a permanent easement for the wetland restoration;

57.24 ~~(4) that other land supporting natural vegetation owned or leased as part of the same~~
57.25 ~~farm operation at the time of application, if it supports natural vegetation and has not been~~
57.26 ~~used in agricultural crop production, will not be converted to agricultural crop production~~
57.27 ~~or pasture; and~~

57.28 ~~(5)~~ (4) that the easement duration may be lengthened through mutual agreement with
57.29 the board in consultation with the commissioners of agriculture and natural resources if
57.30 they determine that the changes effectuate the purpose of the program or facilitate its
57.31 administration;

57.32 (5) to be responsible for operating and maintaining approved practices designated in the
57.33 conservation plan;

58.1 (6) to pay, when due, all taxes and assessments that may be levied against the easement
58.2 area;

58.3 (7) to remove any existing structures as required before the conservation easement is
58.4 conveyed and not place, erect, or construct structures on the easement area;

58.5 (8) to remove any existing hazardous and toxic substances or any pollutants and
58.6 contaminants before the conservation easement is conveyed and not place such substances,
58.7 pollutants, or contaminants on the easement area; and

58.8 (9) to properly seal all abandoned wells on the easement area before the conservation
58.9 easement is conveyed and pay all associated costs.

58.10 **Subd. 6. Payments for easements.** (a) The board shall establish rates for payments to
58.11 the landowner for the conservation easement and related practices. The board shall consider
58.12 market factors, including the township average equalized estimated market value of property
58.13 as established by the commissioner of revenue at the time of easement application.

58.14 (b) The board may establish a payment system for flowage easements acquired under
58.15 this section.

58.16 (c) For wetland restoration projects involving more than one conservation easement,
58.17 state payments for restoration costs may exceed the limits set by the board for an individual
58.18 easement provided the total payment for the restoration project does not exceed the amount
58.19 payable for the total number of acres involved.

58.20 ~~(d) The board may use available nonstate funds to exceed the payment limits in this~~
58.21 ~~section.~~

58.22 **Subd. 7. Easement renewal.** When a conservation easement of limited duration expires,
58.23 a new conservation easement and agreement for an additional period of not less than 20
58.24 years may be acquired by agreement of the board and the landowner, under the terms of
58.25 this section. The board may adjust payment rates as a result of renewing an agreement and
58.26 conservation easement only after examining the condition of the established cover,
58.27 conservation practices, and land values.

58.28 **Subd. 8. Correcting boundary lines.** To correct errors in legal descriptions for easements
58.29 that affect the ownership interests in the state and adjacent landowners, the board may, in
58.30 the name of the state, with the approval of the attorney general, convey, without
58.31 consideration, interests of the state necessary to correct legal descriptions of boundaries.
58.32 The conveyance must be by quitclaim deed or release in a form approved by the attorney
58.33 general.

59.1 Subd. 9. **Enforcement and damages.** (a) A landowner who violates the term of a
59.2 conservation easement or agreement under this section, or induces, assists, or allows another
59.3 to do so, is liable to the state for treble damages if the trespass is willful, but liable for double
59.4 damages only if the trespass is not willful. The amount of damages is the amount needed
59.5 to make the state whole or the amount the landowner has gained due to the violation,
59.6 whichever is greater.

59.7 (b) Upon the request of the board, The board may request that the attorney general
59.8 commence a legal action for a violation, and the attorney general may commence an action
59.9 for specific performances, injunctive relief, damages, including attorney's fees, and any
59.10 other appropriate relief to enforce sections 103F.505 to 103F.531 in district court in the
59.11 county where all or part of the violation is alleged to have been committed, or where the
59.12 landowner resides or has a principal place of business. In addition to or in lieu of making
59.13 a request under this paragraph, the board may use its authority under section 103B.101,
59.14 subdivision 12, to issue a penalty order for a violation. The penalties may be forgiven, in
59.15 whole or in part, upon compliance with the conservation easement conditions.

59.16 (c) A landowner is not in violation of the conservation easement if a failure of approved
59.17 practices was caused by reasons beyond the landowner's control.

59.18 Subd. 10. **Use for mitigation prohibited.** Money made available under the reinvest in
59.19 Minnesota reserve program may not be used for environmental regulatory or wetland
59.20 mitigation purposes required under federal or state law.

59.21 Sec. 70. **[103F.527] CONSERVATION PRACTICES.**

59.22 Subdivision 1. **Approved practices.** An approved practice must be consistent with
59.23 section 103F.505. The landowner is responsible for establishing all approved practices on
59.24 the easement area as specified by the board.

59.25 Subd. 2. **Approved practices eligible for reimbursement.** The board must determine
59.26 which approved practices are eligible for payments or reimbursement under a conservation
59.27 easement program. Food plots are not eligible for payments or reimbursement under a
59.28 conservation easement program.

59.29 Subd. 3. **Money from other sources.** The board may augment money available to pay
59.30 for or reimburse approved practices with money from other agencies, organizations, or
59.31 individuals.

60.1 Sec. 71. [103F.528] SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
60.2 RESPONSIBILITIES.

60.3 Subdivision 1. Program delegation. With the consent of the Board of Water and Soil
60.4 Resources, a district may enter into an agreement with others, as authorized under section
60.5 103C.231, to delegate, in whole or in part, the responsibility for administering a conservation
60.6 easement program.

60.7 Subd. 2. Land in more than one district. If an application involves land in more than
60.8 one district, the districts or delegated parties may jointly agree for one of the districts or
60.9 delegated parties to be the responsible party to review and prioritize the application and
60.10 complete all tasks necessary to convey the conservation easement to the Board of Water
60.11 and Soil Resources.

60.12 Subd. 3. Violations and enforcement. The district may take measures that are necessary
60.13 to ensure landowner compliance with the conservation agreement, conservation easement,
60.14 and conservation plan. If the district is unsuccessful in obtaining landowner compliance,
60.15 the district must notify the Board of Water and Soil Resources of the violation and may
60.16 recommend appropriate measures to be taken to correct the violation.

60.17 Sec. 72. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.535, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

60.18 Subd. 5. Altering conservation easements. (a) Conservation easements may be altered,
60.19 released, or terminated by the board after consultation with the commissioners of agriculture
60.20 and natural resources. The board may alter, release, or terminate a conservation easement
60.21 only if the board determines that the public interest and general welfare are better served
60.22 by the alteration, release, or termination.

60.23 (b) The board may adopt policies and procedures to implement this subdivision, including
60.24 provisions to ensure at least equal resource value as a condition of approving a request to
60.25 alter, release, or terminate a conservation easement.

60.26 (c) The landowner must compensate the board for damages and loss of benefits to the
60.27 conservation easement that result from the alteration, release, or termination. The board
60.28 may require the landowner to reimburse the board's administrative expenses and costs
60.29 incurred in altering, releasing, or terminating a conservation easement.

60.30 Sec. 73. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.005, subdivision 14d, is amended to read:

60.31 Subd. 14d. Project. "Project" means a specific plan, contiguous activity, proposal, or
60.32 design necessary to accomplish a goal as defined by the local government unit. As used in

61.1 this chapter, a project may not be split into components or phases for the sole purpose of
61.2 gaining additional exemptions.

61.3 Sec. 74. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.005, subdivision 17b, is amended to read:

61.4 Subd. 17b. **Wetland type.** "Wetland type" means a wetland type classified according
61.5 to *Wetlands of the United States*, United States Fish and Wildlife Service Circular 39 (1971
61.6 edition), ~~as summarized in this subdivision~~ or *A Hydrogeomorphic Classification for*
61.7 *Wetlands*, United States Army Corps of Engineers (August 1993), including updates,
61.8 supplementary guidance, and replacements, if any, as determined by the board.

61.9 ~~(1) "Type 1 wetlands" are seasonally flooded basins or flats in which soil is covered~~
61.10 ~~with water or is waterlogged during variable seasonal periods but usually is well drained~~
61.11 ~~during much of the growing season. Type 1 wetlands are located in depressions and in~~
61.12 ~~overflow bottomlands along watercourses, and in which vegetation varies greatly according~~
61.13 ~~to season and duration of flooding and includes bottomland hardwoods as well as herbaceous~~
61.14 ~~growths.~~

61.15 ~~(2) "Type 2 wetlands" are inland fresh meadows in which soil is usually without standing~~
61.16 ~~water during most of the growing season but is waterlogged within at least a few inches of~~
61.17 ~~surface. Vegetation includes grasses, sedges, rushes, and various broad-leafed plants.~~
61.18 ~~Meadows may fill shallow basins, sloughs, or farmland sags, or these meadows may border~~
61.19 ~~shallow marshes on the landward side.~~

61.20 ~~(3) "Type 3 wetlands" are inland shallow fresh marshes in which soil is usually~~
61.21 ~~waterlogged early during a growing season and often covered with as much as six inches~~
61.22 ~~or more of water. Vegetation includes grasses, bulrushes, spikerushes, and various other~~
61.23 ~~marsh plants such as cattails, arrowheads, pickerelweed, and smartweeds. These marshes~~
61.24 ~~may nearly fill shallow lake basins or sloughs, or may border deep marshes on the landward~~
61.25 ~~side and are also common as seep areas on irrigated lands.~~

61.26 ~~(4) "Type 4 wetlands" are inland deep fresh marshes in which soil is usually covered~~
61.27 ~~with six inches to three feet or more of water during the growing season. Vegetation includes~~
61.28 ~~cattails, reeds, bulrushes, spikerushes, and wild rice. In open areas, pondweeds, naiads,~~
61.29 ~~coontail, water milfoils, waterweeds, duckweeds, waterlilies, or spatterdoeks may occur.~~
61.30 ~~These deep marshes may completely fill shallow lake basins, potholes, limestone sinks, and~~
61.31 ~~sloughs, or they may border open water in such depressions.~~

62.1 ~~(5) "Type 5 wetlands" are inland open fresh water, shallow ponds, and reservoirs in~~
62.2 ~~which water is usually less than ten feet deep and is fringed by a border of emergent~~
62.3 ~~vegetation similar to open areas of type 4 wetland.~~

62.4 ~~(6) "Type 6 wetlands" are shrub swamps in which soil is usually waterlogged during~~
62.5 ~~growing season and is often covered with as much as six inches of water. Vegetation includes~~
62.6 ~~alders, willows, buttonbush, dogwoods, and swamp privet. This type occurs mostly along~~
62.7 ~~sluggish streams and occasionally on floodplains.~~

62.8 ~~(7) "Type 7 wetlands" are wooded swamps in which soil is waterlogged at least to within~~
62.9 ~~a few inches of the surface during growing season and is often covered with as much as one~~
62.10 ~~foot of water. This type occurs mostly along sluggish streams, on floodplains, on flat uplands,~~
62.11 ~~and in shallow basins. Trees include tamarack, arborvitae, black spruce, balsam, red maple,~~
62.12 ~~and black ash. Northern evergreen swamps usually have a thick ground cover of mosses.~~
62.13 ~~Deciduous swamps frequently support beds of duckweeds and smartweeds.~~

62.14 ~~(8) "Type 8 wetlands" are bogs in which soil is usually waterlogged and supports a~~
62.15 ~~spongy covering of mosses. This type occurs mostly in shallow basins, on flat uplands, and~~
62.16 ~~along sluggish streams. Vegetation is woody or herbaceous or both. Typical plants are heath~~
62.17 ~~shrubs, sphagnum moss, and sedges. In the north, leatherleaf, Labrador tea, cranberries,~~
62.18 ~~carex, and cottongrass are often present. Scattered, often stunted, black spruce and tamarack~~
62.19 ~~may occur.~~

62.20 Sec. 75. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 103G.005, subdivision 19, is
62.21 amended to read:

62.22 Subd. 19. **Wetlands.** (a) "Wetlands" means lands transitional between terrestrial and
62.23 aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered
62.24 by shallow water. For purposes of this definition, wetlands must have the following three
62.25 attributes:

62.26 (1) have a predominance of hydric soils;

62.27 (2) are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration
62.28 sufficient to support a prevalence of hydrophytic vegetation typically adapted for life in
62.29 saturated soil conditions; and

62.30 (3) under normal circumstances support a prevalence of such vegetation.

62.31 (b) For the purposes of regulation under this chapter, the term wetlands does not include
62.32 public waters wetlands as defined in subdivision 15a.

63.1 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), wetlands includes deepwater aquatic habitats that
63.2 are not public waters or public waters wetlands. For purposes of this paragraph, "deepwater
63.3 aquatic habitats" has the meaning given in *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual*,
63.4 United States Army Corps of Engineers (January 1987).

63.5 Sec. 76. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.222, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

63.6 Subdivision 1. **Requirements.** (a) Wetlands must not be drained or filled, wholly or
63.7 partially, unless replaced by actions that provide at least equal public value under a
63.8 replacement plan approved as provided in section 103G.2242, a replacement plan under a
63.9 local governmental unit's comprehensive wetland protection and management plan approved
63.10 by the board under section 103G.2243, or, if a permit to mine is required under section
63.11 93.481, under a mining reclamation plan approved by the commissioner under the permit
63.12 to mine. Project-specific wetland-replacement plans submitted as part of a project for which
63.13 a permit to mine is required and approved by the commissioner on or after July 1, 1991,
63.14 may include surplus wetland credits to be allocated by the commissioner to offset future
63.15 mining-related wetland impacts under any permits to mine held by the permittee, the operator,
63.16 the permittee's or operator's parent, an affiliated subsidiary, or an assignee pursuant to an
63.17 assignment under section 93.481, subdivision 5. For project-specific wetland replacement
63.18 completed prior to wetland impacts authorized or conducted under a permit to mine within
63.19 the Great Lakes and Rainy River watershed basins, those basins ~~shall be~~ are considered a
63.20 single watershed for purposes of determining wetland-replacement ratios. Mining reclamation
63.21 plans ~~shall~~ must apply the same principles and standards for replacing wetlands that are
63.22 applicable to mitigation plans approved as provided in section 103G.2242. The commissioner
63.23 must provide notice of an application for wetland replacement under a permit to mine to
63.24 the county in which the impact is proposed and the county in which a mitigation site is
63.25 proposed. Public value must be determined in accordance with section 103B.3355 or a
63.26 comprehensive wetland protection and management plan established under section
63.27 103G.2243. Sections 103G.221 to 103G.2372 also apply to excavation in permanently and
63.28 semipermanently flooded areas of ~~types 3, 4, and 5~~ wetlands.

63.29 (b) Replacement must be guided by the following principles in descending order of
63.30 priority:

63.31 (1) avoiding the direct or indirect impact of the activity that may destroy or diminish
63.32 the wetland;

63.33 (2) minimizing the impact by limiting the degree or magnitude of the wetland activity
63.34 and its implementation;

64.1 (3) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected wetland
64.2 environment;

64.3 (4) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance
64.4 operations during the life of the activity;

64.5 (5) compensating for the impact by restoring a wetland; and

64.6 (6) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute wetland resources
64.7 or environments.

64.8 For a project involving the draining or filling of wetlands in an amount not exceeding 10,000
64.9 square feet more than the applicable amount in section 103G.2241, subdivision 9, paragraph
64.10 (a), the local government unit may make an on-site sequencing determination without a
64.11 written alternatives analysis from the applicant.

64.12 (c) If a wetland is located in a cultivated field, then replacement must be accomplished
64.13 through restoration only without regard to the priority order in paragraph (b), provided that
64.14 the altered wetland is not converted to a nonagricultural use for at least ten years.

64.15 (d) If a wetland is replaced under paragraph (c), or drained under section 103G.2241,
64.16 ~~subdivision 2, paragraph (b) or (c)~~, subdivision 1, clause (1), the local government unit may
64.17 require a deed restriction that prohibits nonagricultural use for at least ten years. The local
64.18 government unit may require the deed restriction if it determines the wetland area drained
64.19 is at risk of conversion to a nonagricultural use within ten years based on the zoning
64.20 classification, proximity to a municipality or full service road, or other criteria as determined
64.21 by the local government unit.

64.22 (e) Restoration and replacement of wetlands must be accomplished in accordance with
64.23 the ecology of the landscape area affected and ponds that are created primarily to fulfill
64.24 stormwater management, and water quality treatment requirements may not be used to
64.25 satisfy replacement requirements under this chapter unless the design includes pretreatment
64.26 of runoff and the pond is functioning as a wetland.

64.27 (f) Except as provided in paragraph (g), for a wetland or public waters wetland located
64.28 on nonagricultural land, replacement must be in the ratio of two acres of replaced wetland
64.29 for each acre of drained or filled wetland.

64.30 (g) For a wetland or public waters wetland located on agricultural land or in a greater
64.31 than 80 percent area, replacement must be in the ratio of one acre of replaced wetland for
64.32 each acre of drained or filled wetland.

65.1 (h) Wetlands that are restored or created as a result of an approved replacement plan are
65.2 subject to the provisions of this section for any subsequent drainage or filling.

65.3 (i) Except in a greater than 80 percent area, only wetlands that have been restored from
65.4 previously drained or filled wetlands, wetlands created by excavation in nonwetlands,
65.5 wetlands created by dikes or dams along public or private drainage ditches, or wetlands
65.6 created by dikes or dams associated with the restoration of previously drained or filled
65.7 wetlands may be used for wetland replacement according to rules adopted under section
65.8 103G.2242, subdivision 1. Modification or conversion of nondegraded naturally occurring
65.9 wetlands from one type to another are not eligible for wetland replacement.

65.10 (j) The Technical Evaluation Panel established under section 103G.2242, subdivision
65.11 2, shall ensure that sufficient time has occurred for the wetland to develop wetland
65.12 characteristics of soils, vegetation, and hydrology before recommending that the wetland
65.13 be deposited in the statewide wetland bank. If the Technical Evaluation Panel has reason
65.14 to believe that the wetland characteristics may change substantially, the panel shall postpone
65.15 its recommendation until the wetland has stabilized.

65.16 (k) This section and sections 103G.223 to 103G.2242, 103G.2364, and 103G.2365 apply
65.17 to the state and its departments and agencies.

65.18 (l) For projects involving draining or filling of wetlands associated with a new public
65.19 transportation project, and for projects expanded solely for additional traffic capacity, public
65.20 transportation authorities may purchase credits from the board at the cost to the board to
65.21 establish credits. Proceeds from the sale of credits provided under this paragraph are
65.22 appropriated to the board for the purposes of this paragraph. For the purposes of this
65.23 paragraph, "transportation project" does not include an airport project.

65.24 (m) A replacement plan for wetlands is not required for individual projects that result
65.25 in the filling or draining of wetlands for the repair, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or
65.26 replacement of a currently serviceable existing state, city, county, or town public road
65.27 necessary, as determined by the public transportation authority, to meet state or federal
65.28 design or safety standards or requirements, excluding new roads or roads expanded solely
65.29 for additional traffic capacity lanes. This paragraph only applies to authorities for public
65.30 transportation projects that:

65.31 (1) minimize the amount of wetland filling or draining associated with the project and
65.32 consider mitigating important site-specific wetland functions on site;

65.33 (2) except as provided in clause (3), submit project-specific reports to the board, the
65.34 Technical Evaluation Panel, the commissioner of natural resources, and members of the

66.1 public requesting a copy at least 30 days prior to construction that indicate the location,
66.2 amount, and type of wetlands to be filled or drained by the project or, alternatively, convene
66.3 an annual meeting of the parties required to receive notice to review projects to be
66.4 commenced during the upcoming year; and

66.5 (3) for minor and emergency maintenance work impacting less than 10,000 square feet,
66.6 submit project-specific reports, within 30 days of commencing the activity, to the board
66.7 that indicate the location, amount, and type of wetlands that have been filled or drained.

66.8 Those required to receive notice of public transportation projects may appeal
66.9 minimization, delineation, and on-site mitigation decisions made by the public transportation
66.10 authority to the board according to the provisions of section 103G.2242, subdivision 9. The
66.11 Technical Evaluation Panel ~~shall~~ must review minimization and delineation decisions made
66.12 by the public transportation authority and provide recommendations regarding on-site
66.13 mitigation if requested to do so by the local government unit, a contiguous landowner, or
66.14 a member of the Technical Evaluation Panel.

66.15 Except for ~~state~~ public transportation projects that occur on state roads, for which the
66.16 state Department of Transportation is responsible for the wetland replacement, the board
66.17 must replace the wetlands, and wetland areas of public waters if authorized by the
66.18 commissioner or a delegated authority, drained or filled by public transportation projects
66.19 on existing roads.

66.20 Public transportation authorities at their discretion may deviate from federal and state
66.21 design standards on existing road projects when practical and reasonable to avoid wetland
66.22 filling or draining, provided that public safety is not unreasonably compromised. The local
66.23 road authority and its officers and employees are exempt from liability for any tort claim
66.24 for injury to persons or property arising from travel on the highway and related to the
66.25 deviation from the design standards for construction or reconstruction under this paragraph.
66.26 This paragraph does not preclude an action for damages arising from negligence in
66.27 construction or maintenance on a highway.

66.28 (n) If a landowner seeks approval of a replacement plan after the proposed project has
66.29 already affected the wetland, the local government unit may require the landowner to replace
66.30 the affected wetland at a ratio not to exceed twice the replacement ratio otherwise required.

66.31 (o) A local government unit may request the board to reclassify a county or watershed
66.32 on the basis of its percentage of presettlement wetlands remaining. After receipt of
66.33 satisfactory documentation from the local government, the board shall change the
66.34 classification of a county or watershed. If requested by the local government unit, the board

67.1 must assist in developing the documentation. Within 30 days of its action to approve a
67.2 change of wetland classifications, the board shall publish a notice of the change in the
67.3 Environmental Quality Board Monitor.

67.4 (p) One hundred citizens who reside within the jurisdiction of the local government unit
67.5 may request the local government unit to reclassify a county or watershed on the basis of
67.6 its percentage of presettlement wetlands remaining. In support of their petition, the citizens
67.7 shall provide satisfactory documentation to the local government unit. The local government
67.8 unit shall consider the petition and forward the request to the board under paragraph (o) or
67.9 provide a reason why the petition is denied.

67.10 Sec. 77. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.2241, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

67.11 Subdivision 1. **Agricultural activities.** A replacement plan for wetlands is not required
67.12 for:

67.13 ~~(1) activities in a wetland that was planted with annually seeded crops, was in a crop~~
67.14 ~~rotation seeding of pasture grass or legumes, or was required to be set aside to receive price~~
67.15 ~~support or other payments under United States Code, title 7, sections 1421 to 1469, in six~~
67.16 ~~of the last ten years prior to January 1, 1991;~~

67.17 ~~(2) activities in a type 1 wetland on agricultural pasture land that remains in the same~~
67.18 ~~use, except for bottomland hardwood type 1 wetlands, and activities in a type 2 or type 6~~
67.19 ~~wetland that is less than two acres in size and located on agricultural pasture land that~~
67.20 ~~remains in the same use;~~

67.21 (1) impacts to wetlands on agricultural land labeled prior-converted cropland and impacts
67.22 to wetlands resulting from drainage maintenance activities authorized by the United States
67.23 Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, on areas labeled farmed
67.24 wetland, farmed-wetland pasture, and wetland. The prior-converted cropland, farmed
67.25 wetland, farmed-wetland pasture, or wetland must be labeled on a valid final certified
67.26 wetland determination issued by the Natural Resources Conservation Service in accordance
67.27 with Code of Federal Regulations, part 7, section 12, as amended. It is the responsibility of
67.28 the owner or operator of the land to provide a copy of the final certified wetland determination
67.29 to, and allow the Natural Resources Conservation Service to share related information with,
67.30 the local government unit and the board for purposes of verification.

67.31 ~~(3)~~(2) activities in a wetland conducted as part of normal farming practices. For purposes
67.32 of this clause, "normal farming practices" means farming, silvicultural, grazing, and ranching

68.1 activities such as plowing, seeding, cultivating, and harvesting for the production of feed,
68.2 food, and fiber products, but does not include activities that result in the draining of wetlands;

68.3 ~~(4)~~ (3) soil and water conservation practices approved by the soil and water conservation
68.4 district, after review by the Technical Evaluation Panel;

68.5 ~~(5)~~ (4) wetland impacts resulting from aquaculture activities, including pond excavation
68.6 and construction and maintenance of associated access roads and dikes, authorized under,
68.7 and conducted in accordance with, a permit issued by the United States Army Corps of
68.8 Engineers under section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act, United States Code, title 33,
68.9 section 1344, but not including construction or expansion of buildings;

68.10 ~~(6)~~ (5) wetland impacts resulting from wild rice production activities, including necessary
68.11 diking and other activities, authorized under and conducted in accordance with a permit
68.12 issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers under section 404 of the federal Clean
68.13 Water Act, United States Code, title 33, section 1344; or

68.14 ~~(7)~~ (6) agricultural activities on agricultural land that is subject to the swampbuster
68.15 provisions of the federal farm program restrictions consistent with a memorandum of
68.16 understanding and related agreements between the board and the United States Department
68.17 of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

68.18 Sec. 78. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.2241, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

68.19 Subd. 2. **Drainage.** ~~(a) For the purposes of this subdivision, "public drainage system"~~
68.20 ~~means a drainage system as defined in section 103E.005, subdivision 12, and any ditch or~~
68.21 ~~tile lawfully connected to the drainage system.~~

68.22 ~~(b) A replacement plan is not required for draining of type 1 wetlands, or up to five acres~~
68.23 ~~of type 2 or 6 wetlands, in an unincorporated area on land that has been assessed drainage~~
68.24 ~~benefits for a public drainage system, provided that:~~

68.25 ~~(1) during the 20-year period that ended January 1, 1992:~~

68.26 ~~(i) there was an expenditure made from the drainage system account for the public~~
68.27 ~~drainage system;~~

68.28 ~~(ii) the public drainage system was repaired or maintained as approved by the drainage~~
68.29 ~~authority; or~~

68.30 ~~(iii) no repair or maintenance of the public drainage system was required under section~~
68.31 ~~103E.705, subdivision 1, as determined by the public drainage authority; and~~

68.32 ~~(2) the wetlands are not drained for conversion to:~~

69.1 ~~(i) platted lots;~~

69.2 ~~(ii) planned unit, commercial, or industrial developments; or~~

69.3 ~~(iii) any development with more than one residential unit per 40 acres, except for parcels~~
69.4 ~~subject to local zoning standards that allow for family members to establish an additional~~
69.5 ~~residence on the same 40 acres.~~

69.6 ~~If wetlands drained under this paragraph are converted to uses prohibited under clause (2)~~
69.7 ~~during the ten-year period following drainage, the wetlands must be replaced under section~~
69.8 ~~103G.222.~~

69.9 ~~(e) A replacement plan is not required for draining or filling of wetlands, except for~~
69.10 ~~draining types 3, 4, and 5 wetlands that have been in existence for more than 25 years,~~
69.11 ~~resulting from maintenance and repair of existing public drainage systems.~~

69.12 ~~(d) (a) A replacement plan is not required for draining or filling of wetlands, except for~~
69.13 ~~draining wetlands that have been in existence for more than 25 years, resulting from~~
69.14 ~~maintenance and repair of existing drainage systems other than, including public drainage~~
69.15 ~~systems.~~

69.16 ~~(e) A replacement plan is not required for draining agricultural land that:~~

69.17 ~~(1) was planted with annually seeded crops before July 5, except for crops that are~~
69.18 ~~normally planted after that date, in eight out of the ten most recent years prior to the impact;~~

69.19 ~~(2) was in a crop rotation seeding of pasture grass, cover crop, or legumes, or was fallow~~
69.20 ~~for a crop production purpose, in eight out of the ten most recent years prior to the impact;~~

69.21 ~~or~~

69.22 ~~(3) was enrolled in a state or federal land conservation program and met the requirements~~
69.23 ~~of clause (1) or (2) before enrollment.~~

69.24 ~~(f) The (b) A public drainage authority may, as part of the repair of a public drainage~~
69.25 ~~system, as defined in section 103E.005, subdivision 12, install control structures, realign~~
69.26 ~~the ditch, construct dikes along the ditch, or make other modifications as necessary to prevent~~
69.27 ~~the drainage of the wetland wetlands.~~

69.28 ~~(g) Wetlands of all types that would be drained as a part of a public drainage repair~~
69.29 ~~project are eligible for the permanent wetlands preserve under section 103F.516. The board~~
69.30 ~~shall give priority to acquisition of easements on types 3, 4, and 5 wetlands that have been~~
69.31 ~~in existence for more than 25 years on public drainage systems and other wetlands that have~~
69.32 ~~the greatest risk of drainage from a public drainage repair project.~~

70.1 Sec. 79. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.2241, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

70.2 Subd. 6. **Utilities; public works.** (a) A replacement plan for wetlands is not required
70.3 for wetland impacts resulting from:

70.4 (1) new placement or maintenance, repair, enhancement, realignment, or replacement
70.5 of existing utility or utility-type service, including pipelines, ~~if~~ when wetland impacts are
70.6 authorized under and conducted in accordance with a permit issued by the United States
70.7 Army Corps of Engineers under section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act, United States
70.8 Code, title 33, section 1344;

70.9 ~~(i) the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed project have been avoided and~~
70.10 ~~minimized to the extent possible; and~~

70.11 ~~(ii) the proposed project significantly modifies or alters less than one-half acre of~~
70.12 ~~wetlands;~~

70.13 (2) activities associated with operation, routine maintenance, or emergency repair of
70.14 existing utilities and public work structures, including pipelines, provided the activities do
70.15 not result in additional wetland intrusion or additional draining or filling of a wetland either
70.16 wholly or partially; or

70.17 (3) repair and updating of existing subsurface sewage treatment systems necessary to
70.18 comply with local, state, and federal regulations.

70.19 ~~(b) For maintenance, repair, and replacement, the local government unit may issue a~~
70.20 ~~seasonal or annual exemption certification or the utility may proceed without local~~
70.21 ~~government unit certification if the utility is carrying out the work according to approved~~
70.22 ~~best management practices. Work of an emergency nature may proceed as necessary, and~~
70.23 ~~any drain or fill activities shall~~ must be addressed with the local government unit after the
70.24 emergency work has been completed.

70.25 Sec. 80. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.2241, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

70.26 Subd. 9. **De minimis.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i),
70.27 a replacement plan for wetlands is not required for ~~draining or filling~~ impacts to the following
70.28 amounts of wetlands, excluding the permanently and semipermanently flooded areas of
70.29 wetlands, as part of a project outside of the shoreland wetland protection zone:

70.30 (1) ~~10,000 square feet of type 1, 2, 6, or 7 wetland, excluding white cedar and tamarack~~
70.31 ~~wetlands,~~ one-quarter acre of wetland in a greater than 80 percent area;

71.1 ~~(2) 5,000 square feet of type 1, 2, 6, or 7 wetland, excluding white cedar and tamarack~~
 71.2 ~~wetlands, one-tenth acre of wetland in a 50 to 80 percent area, except within the 11-county~~
 71.3 ~~metropolitan area; or~~

71.4 ~~(3) 2,000 square feet of type 1, 2, 6, or 7 wetland, excluding white cedar and tamarack~~
 71.5 ~~wetlands, one-twentieth acre of wetland in a less than 50 percent area, except within the~~
 71.6 ~~11-county metropolitan area; or.~~

71.7 ~~(4) 100 square feet of type 3, 4, 5, or 8 wetland or white cedar and tamarack wetland.~~

71.8 (b) Except as provided in paragraphs (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i), a replacement plan for
 71.9 wetlands is not required for ~~draining or filling the following amounts of~~ up to 400 square
 71.10 feet of impacts to wetlands as part of a project within the shoreland wetland protection zone
 71.11 beyond the shoreland building setback zone.;

71.12 ~~(1) 400 square feet of type 1, 2, 6, or 7 wetland; or~~

71.13 ~~(2) 100 square feet of type 3, 4, 5, or 8 wetland or white cedar and tamarack wetland.~~

71.14 ~~In a greater than 80 percent area, the de minimis amount allowed under clause (1) may be~~
 71.15 ~~increased up to 1,000 square feet if the wetland is isolated and is determined to have no~~
 71.16 ~~direct surficial connection to the public water or if permanent water runoff retention or~~
 71.17 ~~infiltration measures are established in proximity as approved by the shoreland management~~
 71.18 ~~authority.~~

71.19 (c) Except as provided in paragraphs (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i), a replacement plan for
 71.20 wetlands is not required for ~~draining or filling~~ up to 20 square feet of wetland impacts to
 71.21 wetlands as part of a project within the shoreland building setback zone, as defined in the
 71.22 local shoreland management ordinance. The amount in this paragraph may be increased to
 71.23 100 square feet if permanent water runoff retention or infiltration measures are established
 71.24 in proximity as approved by the shoreland management authority.

71.25 (d) Except as provided in paragraphs ~~(b)~~, (c), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i), a replacement plan
 71.26 is not required for ~~draining or filling amounts~~ up to 400 square feet of impacts to the
 71.27 permanently and semipermanently flooded areas of wetlands as part of a project.;

71.28 ~~(1) 2,500 square feet of type 1, 2, 6, or 7 wetland, excluding white cedar and tamarack~~
 71.29 ~~wetlands, outside of the shoreland wetland protection zone in a 50 to 80 percent area within~~
 71.30 ~~the 11-county metropolitan area; or~~

71.31 ~~(2) 1,000 square feet of type 1, 2, or 6 wetland, outside of the shoreland wetland~~
 71.32 ~~protection zone in a less than 50 percent area within the 11-county metropolitan area.~~

72.1 ~~For purposes of this subdivision, the 11-county metropolitan area consists of the counties~~
 72.2 ~~of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington,~~
 72.3 ~~and Wright.~~

72.4 (e) The amounts listed in paragraphs (a), (b), ~~and (c)~~, and (d) may not be combined on
 72.5 a project.

72.6 ~~(f) This exemption no longer applies to a landowner's portion of a wetland when the~~
 72.7 ~~cumulative area drained or filled of the landowner's portion since January 1, 1992, is the~~
 72.8 ~~greatest of:~~

72.9 ~~(1) the applicable area listed in paragraph (a), (b), or (c), if the landowner owns the entire~~
 72.10 ~~wetland;~~

72.11 ~~(2) five percent of the landowner's portion of the wetland; or~~

72.12 ~~(3) 400 square feet.~~

72.13 (f) When the total area of impacts to wetlands as part of a project exceeds the applicable
 72.14 amount in this subdivision, a replacement plan is required for the entire amount.

72.15 (g) This exemption may not be combined with another exemption in this section on a
 72.16 project.

72.17 (h) Property may not be divided to increase the amounts listed in paragraph (a), (b), (c),
 72.18 or (d).

72.19 (i) If a local ordinance or similar local control is more restrictive than this subdivision,
 72.20 the local standard applies.

72.21 Sec. 81. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.2242, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

72.22 Subd. 2. **Evaluation.** (a) Questions concerning the public value, location, size, or type
 72.23 of a wetland ~~shall~~ must be submitted to and determined by a Technical Evaluation Panel
 72.24 after an on-site inspection. The Technical Evaluation Panel ~~shall~~ must be composed of a
 72.25 technical professional employee of the board, a technical professional employee of the local
 72.26 soil and water conservation district or districts, a technical professional with expertise in
 72.27 water resources management appointed by the local government unit, and a technical
 72.28 professional employee of the Department of Natural Resources for projects affecting public
 72.29 waters or wetlands adjacent to public waters.

72.30 (b) For wetland boundary determinations, the panel shall must use the "United States
 72.31 Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual", United States Army Corps of
 72.32 Engineers (January 1987), including updates, supplementary guidance, and replacements,

73.1 if any," For wetland type determinations, the panel must also use *Wetlands of the United*
 73.2 *States*" (United States Fish and Wildlife Service Circular 39, (1971 edition), and "
 73.3 *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States*, United States Fish
 73.4 and Wildlife Service (August 2013 edition); or *A Hydrogeomorphic Classification for*
 73.5 *Wetlands*, United States Army Corps of Engineers (August 1993), according to rules
 73.6 authorized under this part *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United*
 73.7 *States*" (1979 edition) and including updates, supplementary guidance, and replacements,
 73.8 if any, for any of these publications.

73.9 (c) The panel ~~shall~~ must provide the wetland determination and recommendations on
 73.10 other technical matters to the local government unit that must approve a replacement plan,
 73.11 sequencing, exemption determination, no-loss determination, or wetland boundary or type
 73.12 determination and may recommend approval or denial of the plan. The authority must
 73.13 consider and include the decision of the Technical Evaluation Panel in their approval or
 73.14 denial of a plan or determination.

73.15 ~~(b)~~ (d) A member of the Technical Evaluation Panel that has a financial interest in a
 73.16 wetland bank or management responsibility to sell or make recommendations in their official
 73.17 capacity to sell credits from a publicly owned wetland bank must disclose that interest, in
 73.18 writing, to the Technical Evaluation Panel and the local government unit.

73.19 ~~(e)~~ (e) Persons conducting wetland or public waters boundary delineations or type
 73.20 determinations are exempt from the requirements of chapter 326. The board may develop
 73.21 a professional wetland delineator certification program.

73.22 ~~(d)~~ (f) The board must establish an interagency team to assist in identifying and evaluating
 73.23 potential wetland replacement sites. The team must consist of members of the Technical
 73.24 Evaluation Panel and representatives from the Department of Natural Resources; the Pollution
 73.25 Control Agency; the United States Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul district; and other
 73.26 organizations as determined by the board.

73.27 Sec. 82. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.2242, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

73.28 Subd. 2a. **Wetland boundary or type determination.** (a) A landowner may apply for
 73.29 a wetland boundary or type determination from the local government unit. The landowner
 73.30 applying for the determination is responsible for submitting proof necessary to make the
 73.31 determination, including, but not limited to, wetland delineation field data, observation well
 73.32 data, topographic mapping, survey mapping, and information regarding soils, vegetation,
 73.33 hydrology, and groundwater both within and outside of the proposed wetland boundary.

74.1 (b) A local government unit that receives an application under paragraph (a) may seek
74.2 the advice of the Technical Evaluation Panel as described in subdivision 2; and, if necessary,
74.3 expand the Technical Evaluation Panel. The local government unit may delegate the decision
74.4 authority for wetland boundary or type determinations to designated staff; or establish other
74.5 procedures it considers appropriate.

74.6 (c) The local government unit decision must be made in compliance with section 15.99.
74.7 Within ten calendar days of the decision, the local government unit decision must be mailed
74.8 or sent by electronic transmission to the landowner, members of the Technical Evaluation
74.9 Panel, the watershed district or watershed management organization, if one exists, and
74.10 individual members of the public who request a copy. Notwithstanding section 15.99,
74.11 subdivision 2, the board must establish by rule timelines for project review and comment
74.12 for wetland banking projects.

74.13 (d) The local government unit decision is valid for five years unless the Technical
74.14 Evaluation Panel determines that natural or artificial changes to the hydrology, vegetation,
74.15 or soils of the area have been sufficient to alter the wetland boundary or type.

74.16 Sec. 83. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.2242, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

74.17 Subd. 3. **Replacement completion.** (a) Replacement of wetland values must be completed
74.18 prior to or concurrent with the actual draining or filling of a wetland, unless:

74.19 (1) an irrevocable bank letter of credit or other financial assurance acceptable to the
74.20 local government unit or the board is given to the local government unit or the board to
74.21 guarantee the successful completion of the replacement; or

74.22 (2) the replacement is approved under an in-lieu fee program according to rules adopted
74.23 under subdivision 1. In the case of an in-lieu fee program established by a board-approved
74.24 sponsor, the board may require that a financial assurance in an amount and method acceptable
74.25 to the board be given to the board to ensure the approved sponsor fulfills the sponsor's
74.26 obligation to complete the required wetland replacement.

74.27 (b) The board may establish, sponsor, or administer a wetland banking program, which
74.28 may include provisions allowing monetary payment to the wetland banking program for
74.29 impacts to wetlands. The board may acquire land in fee title, purchase or accept easements,
74.30 enter into agreements, and purchase existing wetland replacement credits to facilitate the
74.31 wetland banking program. The board may establish wetland credit and in-lieu fee payment
74.32 amounts and hold money in an account in the special revenue fund, which is appropriated

75.1 to the board to be used solely for establishing replacement wetlands and administering the
75.2 wetland banking program.

75.3 (c) The board shall coordinate the establishment and operation of a wetland bank with
75.4 the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Natural Resources Conservation Service
75.5 of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the commissioners of natural resources,
75.6 agriculture, and the Pollution Control Agency.

75.7 Sec. 84. **REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

75.8 (a) The revisor of statutes must renumber Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.511,
75.9 subdivision 5a, as Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.511, subdivision 5c.

75.10 (b) The revisor of statutes shall replace references to "section 103A.206" with references
75.11 to "section 103C.005" wherever they appear in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103C.

75.12 Sec. 85. **REPEALER.**

75.13 (a) Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 103A.206; 103D.315, subdivision 4; 103D.405,
75.14 subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; 103D.411; 103D.601; 103D.605, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, and 4;
75.15 103D.611; 103F.511, subdivision 8b; and 103F.950, are repealed.

75.16 (b) Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 103D.605, subdivision 5, is repealed.

75.17 (c) Minnesota Rules, parts 8400.3000; 8400.3030; 8400.3110; 8400.3210; 8400.3260;
75.18 8400.3300; 8400.3400; 8400.3460; 8400.3600; 8400.3610; 8400.3630; 8400.3700;
75.19 8400.3730; 8400.3800; 8400.3830; and 8400.3930, are repealed.

75.20 **ARTICLE 3**

75.21 **OTHER PROVISIONS**

75.22 Section 1. **[11A.236] ACCOUNT TO INVEST FINANCIAL ASSURANCE MONEY**
75.23 **FROM PERMITS TO MINE.**

75.24 Subdivision 1. **Establishment; appropriation.** (a) The State Board of Investment, when
75.25 requested by the commissioner of natural resources, may invest money collected by the
75.26 commissioner as part of financial assurance provided under a permit to mine issued under
75.27 chapter 93. The State Board of Investment may establish one or more accounts into which
75.28 money may be deposited for the purposes of this section, subject to the policies and
75.29 procedures of the State Board of Investment. Use of any money in the account is restricted
75.30 to the financial assurance purposes identified in sections 93.46 to 93.51 and rules adopted

76.1 thereunder and as authorized under any trust fund agreements or other conditions established
76.2 under a permit to mine.

76.3 (b) Money in an account established under paragraph (a) is appropriated to the
76.4 commissioner of natural resources for the purposes for which the account is established
76.5 under this section.

76.6 Subd. 2. **Account maintenance and investment.** (a) The commissioner of natural
76.7 resources may deposit money in the appropriate account and may withdraw money from
76.8 the appropriate account for the financial assurance purposes identified in sections 93.46 to
76.9 93.51 and rules adopted thereunder and as authorized under any trust fund agreements or
76.10 other conditions established under the permit to mine for which the financial assurance is
76.11 provided, subject to the policies and procedures of the State Board of Investment.

76.12 (b) Investment strategies related to an account established under this section must be
76.13 determined jointly by the commissioner of natural resources and the executive director of
76.14 the State Board of Investment. The authorized investments for an account are the investments
76.15 authorized under section 11A.24 that are made available for investment by the State Board
76.16 of Investment.

76.17 (c) Investment transactions must be at a time and in a manner determined by the executive
76.18 director of the State Board of Investment. Decisions to withdraw money from the account
76.19 must be determined by the commissioner of natural resources, subject to the policies and
76.20 procedures of the State Board of Investment. Investment earnings must be credited to the
76.21 appropriate account for financial assurance under the identified permit to mine.

76.22 (d) The commissioner of natural resources may terminate an account at any time, so
76.23 long as the termination is in accordance with applicable statutes, rules, trust fund agreements,
76.24 or other conditions established under the permit to mine, subject to the policies and
76.25 procedures of the State Board of Investment.

76.26 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 13.7931, is amended by adding a subdivision to
76.27 read:

76.28 Subd. 7. **Forest industry data.** Information that the Department of Natural Resources
76.29 collects, receives, or maintains through voluntary responses to questionnaires or surveys
76.30 by forest industry businesses are classified under section 84.0871.

77.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 16A.125, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

77.2 Subd. 5. **Forest trust lands.** (a) The term "state forest trust fund lands" as used in this
77.3 subdivision, means public land in trust under the constitution set apart as "forest lands under
77.4 the authority of the commissioner" of natural resources as defined by section 89.001,
77.5 subdivision 13.

77.6 (b) The commissioner of management and budget shall credit the revenue from the forest
77.7 trust fund lands to the forest suspense account. The account must specify the trust funds
77.8 interested in the lands and the respective receipts of the lands.

77.9 (c) After a fiscal year, the commissioner of management and budget shall certify the
77.10 costs incurred for forestry during that year under appropriations for the improvement,
77.11 administration, and management of state forest trust fund lands and construction and
77.12 improvement of forest roads to enhance the forest value of the lands. The certificate must
77.13 specify the trust funds interested in the lands. After presentation to the Legislative Permanent
77.14 School Fund Commission or by June 30 each year, whichever is sooner, the commissioner
77.15 of natural resources shall supply the commissioner of management and budget with the
77.16 information needed for the certificate. The certificate shall include an analysis that compares
77.17 costs certified under this section with costs incurred on other public and private lands with
77.18 similar land assets.

77.19 (d) After a fiscal year, the commissioner shall distribute the receipts credited to the
77.20 suspense account during that fiscal year as follows:

77.21 (1) the amount of the certified costs incurred by the state for forest management, forest
77.22 improvement, and road improvement during the fiscal year shall be transferred to the forest
77.23 management investment account established under section 89.039;

77.24 (2) the amount of costs incurred by the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission
77.25 under section 127A.30, and by the school trust lands director under section 127A.353, shall
77.26 be transferred to the general fund;

77.27 (3) the balance of the certified costs incurred by the state during the fiscal year shall be
77.28 transferred to the general fund; and

77.29 (4) the balance of the receipts shall then be returned prorated to the trust funds in
77.30 proportion to their respective interests in the lands which produced the receipts.

78.1 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.4983, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

78.2 Subd. 2. **Acquisition from state.** (a) The commissioner may sell aquatic life to licensed
78.3 facilities at fair wholesale market value. Fair wholesale market value must be determined
78.4 by the average market price charged in this state and contiguous states and provinces for
78.5 similar quantities.

78.6 (b) The commissioner shall establish procedures to make aquatic life available to licensed
78.7 facilities if state aquatic life would otherwise die or go to waste, such as in cases of winterkill
78.8 lakes, waters where piscicides will be applied, and waters subject to extreme draw-down.
78.9 The public must be given angling opportunities if public access is available.

78.10 (c) The commissioner shall attempt to provide opportunities to make brood stock available
78.11 to licensed facilities to reduce reliance on out-of-state sources without causing adverse
78.12 impacts to game fish and native rough fish populations.

78.13 (d) If the commissioner denies approval to obtain aquatic life outside the state, a written
78.14 notice must be submitted to the applicant stating the reasons for denial, and the commissioner
78.15 shall:

78.16 (1) designate approved sources if available to obtain the desired aquatic life; or

78.17 (2) sell the aquatic life from state hatcheries at fair wholesale market value if there is a
78.18 surplus from state operations.

78.19 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.4984, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

78.20 Subd. 2. **Listed waters.** (a) An aquatic farm license must list:

78.21 (1) the specific waters of the state that may be used in connection with the licensed
78.22 aquatic farm and the species approved for each licensed water; and

78.23 (2) whether aeration requiring a permit is approved.

78.24 Additional waters may not be used until they are approved by the commissioner.

78.25 (b) The right to use waters licensed for private fish hatchery or aquatic farm purposes
78.26 may be transferred between licensees with prior approval by the commissioner if requirements
78.27 for species to be raised are met. Waters that are continually connected by a permanent
78.28 watercourse to other waters must not be approved for aquatic farm use, except that connected
78.29 waters that are isolated from other waters may be licensed as a single water body. Waters
78.30 that are intermittently connected or may become connected with other waters may be denied,
78.31 or screening or other measures may be required to prevent passage of aquatic life. Listed
78.32 waters may be changed on approval by the area fisheries supervisor or the commissioner.

79.1 (c) The commissioner shall conduct an inspection of waters to be licensed prior to
79.2 approving or denying initial licensing of the waters. When artificial tanks, jars, or other
79.3 containers are added to existing licensed facilities, an additional inspection is not required.

79.4 (d) Waters containing ~~game~~ fish of significant public value, including game fish and
79.5 native rough fish, may be denied licensing unless the applicant can demonstrate exclusive
79.6 riparian control.

79.7 (e) Waters containing ~~game~~ fish of significant public value, including game fish and
79.8 native rough fish, may be denied licensing unless the game fish and native rough fish of
79.9 significant public value are, at the commissioner's option, and taking into consideration the
79.10 recommendation of the licensed applicant, sold to the licensee, or removed by the Department
79.11 of Natural Resources or disposed of as provided in writing by the commissioner.

79.12 (f) Waters licensed under an aquatic farm license may be aerated during open water
79.13 periods without a separate aeration permit.

79.14 (g) Common carp and bullheads may be removed from licensed waters, and transported
79.15 and disposed of by the licensee.

79.16 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.4988, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

79.17 Subd. 4. **Aquarium facility.** (a) A person operating a commercial aquarium facility
79.18 must have a commercial aquarium facility license issued by the commissioner if the facility
79.19 contains species of aquatic life that are for sale and that are present in waters of the state.
79.20 The commissioner may require an aquarium facility license for aquarium facilities importing
79.21 or holding species of aquatic life that are for sale and that are not present in Minnesota if
79.22 those species can survive in waters of the state. The fee for an aquarium facility license is
79.23 \$90.

79.24 (b) Game fish and native rough fish transferred by an aquarium facility must be
79.25 accompanied by a receipt containing the information required on a shipping document by
79.26 section 17.4985, subdivision 3, paragraph (b).

79.27 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.4992, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

79.28 Subdivision 1. **Acquisition and purchase.** Game fish and native rough fish sperm,
79.29 viable game fish and native rough fish eggs, or live game fish and native rough fish may
79.30 not be taken from public waters for aquaculture purposes, but may be purchased from the
79.31 state or acquired from aquatic farms.

80.1 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.4992, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

80.2 Subd. 3. **Acquisition of fish for brood stock.** (a) Game fish brood stock and native
80.3 rough fish brood stock may be sold to private fish hatcheries or aquatic farms by the state
80.4 at fair wholesale market value. For brood stock development, up to 20 pair of adults of each
80.5 species requested may be provided to a licensee once every three years, if available, by the
80.6 state through normal operations.

80.7 (b) If brood stock is not available by the June 1 following the request under paragraph
80.8 (a) and a permit to take brood stock by angling is requested by the licensee, within 30 days
80.9 of the request, the commissioner may issue a permit to the licensee to take, by angling, up
80.10 to 20 pairs of each species requested. Game and fish laws and rules relating to daily limits,
80.11 seasons, and methods apply to the taking of fish by angling pursuant to a permit issued
80.12 under this paragraph.

80.13 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 17.4996, is amended to read:

80.14 **17.4996 WHITE EARTH INDIAN RESERVATION.**

80.15 Until the commissioner reaches an agreement with the White Earth Indian Reservation
80.16 regarding the acquisition and sale of aquatic life from public waters, an aquatic farm licensee
80.17 may acquire and transport native rough fish, as defined in section 97A.015, subdivision 43,
80.18 and yellow perch lawfully acquired and possessed by a tribal member for sale under tribal
80.19 laws and regulations on the White Earth Reservation. Transportation of yellow perch off
80.20 the reservation must be accompanied by documentation showing the source and number of
80.21 the yellow perch.

80.22 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 41A.02, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

80.23 Subd. 6. **Agricultural resource project; project.** "Agricultural resource project" or
80.24 "project" means (1) any facility, or portion of a facility, located in the state which is operated
80.25 or to be operated primarily for the production from agricultural resources of marketable
80.26 products, (2) buildings, equipment, and land used for the commercial production of turkeys
80.27 or turkey products, (3) a facility or portion of a facility used for the commercial production
80.28 of fish or of products made from commercially produced fish or native rough fish, as defined
80.29 in section 97A.015, subdivision 43, or common carp that are not commercially produced,
80.30 or (4) real or personal property used or useful in connection with a revenue-producing
80.31 enterprise, or a combination of two or more revenue-producing enterprises engaged in a
80.32 business, that is not used for the production of livestock, other than poultry, or for the
80.33 production of crops, plants, or milk. The land in clause (2) is limited to land on which

81.1 buildings and equipment are situated and immediately surrounding land used for storage,
81.2 waste disposal, or other functions directly related to the commercial production of turkeys
81.3 or turkey products at that project site. The land in clause (2) does not include land used for
81.4 the growing or raising of crops or the grazing of livestock other than poultry. A project
81.5 includes a facility or portion of a facility for mixing or producing substances to be mixed
81.6 with other substances for use as a fuel or as a substitute for petroleum or petrochemical
81.7 feedstocks.

81.8 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.027, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

81.9 Subd. 12. **Property disposal; gift acknowledgment; advertising sales.** (a) The
81.10 commissioner may recognize the contribution of money or in-kind services on plaques,
81.11 signs, publications, audiovisual materials, and media advertisements by allowing the
81.12 organization's contribution to be acknowledged in print of readable size.

81.13 (b) The commissioner may accept paid advertising for departmental publications.
81.14 Advertising revenues received are appropriated to the commissioner to be used to defray
81.15 costs of publications, media productions, or other informational materials. The commissioner
81.16 may not accept paid advertising from any elected official or candidate for elective office.

81.17 (c) Notwithstanding section 16B.2975, subdivision 6, clause (2), if the commissioner
81.18 determines that a transfer benefits the state's natural resources management or bison
81.19 management, the commissioner may request that the commissioner of administration donate
81.20 and convey bison to a governmental unit or nonprofit organization, in or outside Minnesota,
81.21 or sell bison. The recipient of the bison is solely responsible for all future expenses related
81.22 to the bison.

81.23 Sec. 12. **[84.0871] DATA ON FOREST INDUSTRY.**

81.24 (a) The following data that the Department of Natural Resources collects, receives, or
81.25 maintains through voluntary responses to questionnaires or surveys by forest industry
81.26 businesses are classified as private data on individuals, as defined in section 13.02,
81.27 subdivision 12, if the data are data on individuals or as nonpublic data, as defined in section
81.28 13.02, subdivision 9, if the data are data not on individuals:

81.29 (1) timber resource consumption;

81.30 (2) origin of timber resources;

81.31 (3) cost of delivered timber;

81.32 (4) forest industry product output; and

82.1 (5) production costs.

82.2 (b) Data that the department collects, receives, or maintains through voluntary responses
82.3 to questionnaires or surveys by forest industry businesses and that are not specified under
82.4 paragraph (a), clauses (1) to (5), are public data.

82.5 (c) Summary data, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 19, that the department
82.6 compiles from data under paragraph (a) or (b) are public data.

82.7 (d) Data collected, received, or maintained by the department from bidders on state
82.8 timber under section 90.145 are not subject to this section.

82.9 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.0895, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

82.10 Subdivision 1. **Prohibition.** Notwithstanding any other law, a person may not take,
82.11 import, transport, release, or sell any portion of an endangered or threatened species of wild
82.12 animal or plant, or sell or possess with intent to sell an article made with any part of the
82.13 skin, hide, or parts of an endangered or threatened species of wild animal or plant, except
82.14 as provided in subdivisions 2 and 7.

82.15 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.0895, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

82.16 Subd. 8. **Application.** This section does not apply retroactively ~~or prohibit importation~~
82.17 ~~into this state and subsequent possession, transport, and sale of wild animals, wild plants,~~
82.18 ~~or parts of wild animals or plants that are legally imported into the United States or legally~~
82.19 ~~acquired and exported from another territory, state, possession, or political subdivision of~~
82.20 ~~the United States.~~

82.21 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.96, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

82.22 Subd. 2. **Definition.** For the purposes of this section, "native prairie" means ~~land that~~
82.23 ~~has never been plowed, with less than ten percent tree cover and with predominantly native~~
82.24 ~~prairie vegetation~~ a grassland dominated by original native prairie vegetation, usually
82.25 occurring where the sod has never been broken.

82.26 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.96, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

82.27 Subd. 3. **Easement acquisition.** (a) The commissioner may acquire native prairie for
82.28 conservation purposes by entering into easements with landowners or with the land
82.29 administrator of state school trust lands. Before acquiring easements under this subdivision
82.30 on school trust lands, the commissioner must receive advice from the school trust lands

83.1 director according to section 127A.353, subdivision 4. The easements must be conservation
83.2 easements as defined in section 84C.01, clause (1), except the easements may be made
83.3 possessory as well as nonpossessory if agreed upon by the landowner or land administrator
83.4 and the commissioner.

83.5 (b) The easements may be permanent or of limited duration. Highest priority must be
83.6 given to permanent easements consistent with the purposes of this section. Easements of
83.7 limited duration must be for at least 20 years, with provision for renewal for at least another
83.8 20-year period. For easements of limited duration, the commissioner may reexamine and
83.9 adjust the payment rates at the beginning of any renewal period after considering current
83.10 land and crop values.

83.11 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84.96, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

83.12 Subd. 5. **Payments.** (a) For interests in lands acquired under this section, the
83.13 commissioner must make payments to the landowner ~~under~~ or land administrator according
83.14 to this subdivision for the easement.

83.15 ~~(b) For a permanent easement, the commissioner must pay 65 percent of the permanent~~
83.16 ~~marginal agricultural land payment rate as established by the Board of Water and Soil~~
83.17 ~~Resources for the time period when the application is made.~~

83.18 (b) For a permanent easement, the commissioner may pay up to ten percent more than
83.19 the Board of Water and Soil Resources pays for noncrop easements. If the Board of Water
83.20 and Soil Resources does not establish a noncrop easement payment rate, the commissioner
83.21 must establish land value rates for payments considering market factors, such as
83.22 county-assessed land value and sales ratio studies, along with ecological, biological, and
83.23 cultural factors that take into consideration the global rarity of native prairie. The rates must
83.24 be based on the need to protect the extremely small amount of the globally vulnerable and
83.25 imperiled remaining native prairie in Minnesota.

83.26 (c) For an easement of limited duration, the commissioner ~~must pay~~ may pay up to 65
83.27 percent of the permanent prairie bank easement rate for the time period when the application
83.28 is made.

83.29 (d) To maintain and protect native prairies, the commissioner may enter into easements
83.30 that allow selected agricultural practices. Payment must be based on paragraph (b) or (c)
83.31 but may be reduced due to the agricultural practices allowed after negotiation with the
83.32 landowner or land administrator.

84.1 (e) If a native prairie qualifies for the native prairie bank but the landowner requests that
 84.2 the commissioner acquire the native prairie in fee rather than acquire an easement, the
 84.3 commissioner may acquire it as any outdoor recreation system classification under section
 84.4 86A.05 with protections equivalent to a native prairie bank easement. For acquisition under
 84.5 this paragraph, the commissioner may pay up to 25 percent more than what the Board of
 84.6 Water and Soil Resources pays for noncrop easements. If the Board of Water and Soil
 84.7 Resources does not establish a noncrop easement payment rate, the commissioner must
 84.8 establish land value rates for payments considering market factors, such as county-assessed
 84.9 land value and sales ratio studies, along with ecological, biological, and cultural factors that
 84.10 take into consideration the global rarity of native prairie.

84.11 (f) For a permanent easement acquired on school trust lands under this section, the
 84.12 commissioner must pay no less than 100 percent of the easement's appraised value at the
 84.13 time of closing.

84.14 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 84B.061, is amended to read:

84.15 **84B.061 STATE JURISDICTION OVER RAINY LAKE AND OTHER**
 84.16 **NAVIGABLE WATERS; DUTIES OF GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND**
 84.17 **OTHER PUBLIC OFFICERS.**

84.18 As required by this chapter and the act of Congress authorizing Voyageurs National
 84.19 Park, the state of Minnesota donated in excess of 35,000 acres of state and other publicly
 84.20 owned land for the park, roughly one-fourth of the land area of the park, at a cost of over
 84.21 \$5,000,000 to the state. More than 24,000 acres of this land was state trust fund land which
 84.22 the state condemned before making its donation. Pursuant to section 84B.06, lands donated
 84.23 by the state, along with other lands acquired by the National Park Service for the park, were
 84.24 made subject to concurrent jurisdiction by the state and the United States under section
 84.25 1.041. In making these donations, none of the navigable waters within the park and the
 84.26 lands under them have been donated to the United States. These navigable waters include
 84.27 the following: Rainy, Kabetogama, Namakan, Sand Point, and Crane Lakes. Pursuant to
 84.28 applicable federal and state law, navigable waters and their beds are owned by the state.
 84.29 Ownership of and jurisdiction over these waters and their beds has not been ceded by the
 84.30 state, either expressly or implicitly, to the United States. Unlike section 1.044 relating to
 84.31 the Upper Mississippi Wildlife and Fish Refuge, where the state expressly granted its consent
 84.32 and jurisdiction to the United States to acquire interests in water, as well as land, the consent
 84.33 granted by the state in section 84B.06 to acquisitions by the United States for Voyageurs
 84.34 National Park is limited to land, only. In the discharge of their official duties, the governor,

85.1 attorney general, other constitutional officers, and other public officials, such as the
85.2 commissioner of natural resources, shall vigorously assert and defend, in all forums, the
85.3 state's ownership of and jurisdiction over these waters and their beds and related natural
85.4 resources, together with associated rights of the state and its citizens arising from the state's
85.5 ownership and jurisdiction. In discharging their duties, the governor, attorney general, other
85.6 constitutional officers, and other public officials shall, additionally, be especially cognizant
85.7 of the free rights of travel afforded to citizens of Minnesota and others under the
85.8 Webster-Ashburton Treaty (proclaimed November 10, 1842) and the Root-Bryce Treaty
85.9 (proclaimed May 13, 1910) on international and associated boundary waters. Also, in
85.10 furtherance of duties under this section, the commissioner of natural resources shall continue
85.11 in effect the commercial removal of native rough fish, as defined in section 97A.015,
85.12 subdivision 43, from these waters, together with any rights to do so possessed by any person
85.13 on January 1, 1995, so long as the commissioner determines that such taking is desirable
85.14 to the management of the native fishery.

85.15 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 88.82, is amended to read:

85.16 **88.82 MINNESOTA RELEAF PROGRAM.**

85.17 The Minnesota releaf program is established in the Department of Natural Resources to
85.18 encourage, promote, and fund the inventory, planting, assessment, maintenance,
85.19 improvement, protection, utilization, and restoration of trees and forest resources in this
85.20 state to enhance community forest ecosystem health and sustainability as well as to reduce
85.21 atmospheric carbon dioxide levels and promote energy conservation.

85.22 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 89.36, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

85.23 Subdivision 1. **Production at state nurseries.** The commissioner of natural resources
85.24 may produce tree planting stock for the purposes of sections 89.35 to 89.39 upon any lands
85.25 under control of the commissioner which may be deemed suitable and available therefor so
85.26 far as not inconsistent with other uses to which such lands may be dedicated by law. ~~The~~
85.27 ~~commissioner may not produce more than 10,000,000 units of planting stock annually, after~~
85.28 ~~January 1, 2003.~~

85.29 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 89.37, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

85.30 Subd. 3. **Private lands.** The commissioner may supply ~~only bare-root~~ seedlings, woody
85.31 cuttings, and transplant material for use on private land, provided that such material must
85.32 be sold in lots of not less than 250 for a sum determined by the commissioner to be equivalent

86.1 to the cost of the materials and the expenses of their distribution. The commissioner may
86.2 not directly or indirectly supply any other planting stock for use on private lands.

86.3 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 93.0015, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

86.4 Subd. 3. **Expiration.** The committee expires June 30, ~~2026~~ 2036.

86.5 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, subdivision 3b, is amended to read:

86.6 Subd. 3b. **Bow fishing.** "Bow fishing" means taking native rough fish and common carp
86.7 by archery where the arrows are tethered or controlled by an attached line.

86.8 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, subdivision 39, is amended to read:

86.9 Subd. 39. **Protected wild animals.** "Protected wild animals" means big game, small
86.10 game, game fish, native rough fish, minnows, leeches, ~~alewives, ciscoes,~~ chubs, ~~lake whitefish~~
86.11 ~~and the subfamily Coregoninae, rainbow smelt,~~ frogs, turtles, clams, mussels, wolf, mourning
86.12 doves, bats, snakes, salamanders, lizards, any animal species listed as endangered, threatened,
86.13 or of special concern in Minnesota Rules, chapter 6134, and wild animals that are protected
86.14 by a restriction in the time or manner of taking, other than a restriction in the use of artificial
86.15 lights, poison, or motor vehicles.

86.16 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, subdivision 43, is amended to read:

86.17 Subd. 43. **Native rough fish.** "Native rough fish" means ~~carp, buffalo, sucker, sheepshead,~~
86.18 ~~bowfin, gar, goldeye, and bullhead,~~ Amiidae (bowfin), Catostomidae (bigmouth, smallmouth,
86.19 and black buffalo; white, blue, spotted, and longnose sucker; northern hogsucker; quillback;
86.20 river and highfin carpsucker; and black, river, shorthead, golden, silver, and greater redhorse),
86.21 Hiodontidae (goldeye and mooneye), Ictaluridae (black, brown, and yellow bullhead),
86.22 Lepisosteidae (longnose and shortnose gar), and Sciaenidae (freshwater drum), except for
86.23 any fish species listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern in Minnesota Rules,
86.24 chapter 6134.

86.25 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.015, is amended by adding a subdivision
86.26 to read:

86.27 Subd. 47a. **Taxidermist.** "Taxidermist" means a person who engages in the business or
86.28 operation of preserving or mounting wild animals or parts thereof that do not belong to the
86.29 person.

- 87.1 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.055, subdivision 4b, is amended to read:
- 87.2 Subd. 4b. ~~Citizen oversight committees~~ Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee. (a)
- 87.3 The commissioner shall appoint ~~committees~~ a committee of at least 15 affected persons to:
- 87.4 (1) review the reports prepared under subdivision 4;
- 87.5 (2) review ~~the proposed work plans and budgets for the coming year; propose changes~~
87.6 ~~in policies, activities, and revenue enhancements or reductions; review other relevant~~
87.7 ~~information~~ annual outcomes achieved from game and fish fund expenditures; and
- 87.8 (3) make recommendations to the legislature and the commissioner for desired outcomes
87.9 related to:
- 87.10 (i) protecting habitat;
- 87.11 (ii) fish and wildlife population management;
- 87.12 (iii) monitoring and research;
- 87.13 (iv) communications and engagement; and
- 87.14 (v) improvements in the management and use of money in the game and fish fund.
- 87.15 (b) ~~The commissioner shall appoint the following committees, each comprised of at~~
87.16 ~~least ten affected persons:~~
- 87.17 (1) ~~a Fisheries Oversight Committee to review fisheries funding and expenditures,~~
87.18 ~~including activities related to trout and salmon stamps and walleye stamps; and~~
- 87.19 (2) ~~a Wildlife Oversight Committee to review wildlife funding and expenditures,~~
87.20 ~~including activities related to migratory waterfowl, pheasant, and wild turkey management~~
87.21 ~~and deer and big game management.~~
- 87.22 (c) ~~The chairs of the Fisheries Oversight Committee and the Wildlife Oversight~~
87.23 ~~Committee, and four additional members from each committee, shall form a Budgetary~~
87.24 ~~Oversight Committee to coordinate the integration of the fisheries and wildlife oversight~~
87.25 ~~committee reports into an annual report to the legislature; recommend changes on a broad~~
87.26 ~~level in policies, activities, and revenue enhancements or reductions; and provide a forum~~
87.27 ~~to address issues that transcend the fisheries and wildlife oversight committees.~~
- 87.28 (d) ~~The Budgetary Oversight Committee shall develop recommendations for a biennial~~
87.29 ~~budget plan and report for expenditures on game and fish activities. By August 15 of each~~
87.30 ~~even-numbered year, the committee shall submit the budget plan recommendations to the~~

88.1 ~~commissioner and to the senate and house of representatives committees with jurisdiction~~
 88.2 ~~over natural resources finance.~~

88.3 ~~(e) The chairs of the Fisheries Oversight Committee and the Wildlife Oversight~~
 88.4 ~~Committee shall be chosen by their respective committees. The chair of the Budgetary~~
 88.5 ~~Oversight Committee shall be appointed by the commissioner and may not be the chair of~~
 88.6 ~~either of the other oversight committees.~~

88.7 ~~(f) The Budgetary Oversight Committee may make recommendations to the commissioner~~
 88.8 ~~and to the senate and house of representatives committees with jurisdiction over natural~~
 88.9 ~~resources finance for outcome goals from expenditures.~~

88.10 (b) The chair and the vice-chair of the Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee are
 88.11 appointed by the commissioner.

88.12 (c) By September 15 each year, the committee must submit a report to the commissioner
 88.13 and to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction
 88.14 over natural resources finance and policy. Each even-numbered year, the report must focus
 88.15 on biennial budget outcomes achieved from game and fish fund expenditures. Each
 88.16 odd-numbered year, the report must focus on outcomes related to protecting habitat, fish
 88.17 and wildlife population management, monitoring and research, and communications and
 88.18 engagement.

88.19 (d) Annually, the Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee must hold a meeting for the
 88.20 public to review proposed priorities for the next reporting period. The meeting must be
 88.21 organized to allow virtual participation.

88.22 ~~(g)~~ (e) The ~~committees~~ committee authorized under this subdivision ~~are~~ is not an advisory
 88.23 ~~councils~~ council or ~~committees~~ committee governed by section 15.059 and ~~are~~ is not subject
 88.24 to section 15.059. Committee members appointed by the commissioner may request
 88.25 reimbursement for mileage expenses in the same manner and amount as authorized by the
 88.26 commissioner's plan adopted under section 43A.18, subdivision 2. Committee members
 88.27 must not receive daily compensation for ~~oversight~~ committee activities. ~~The Fisheries~~
 88.28 ~~Oversight Committee, the Wildlife Oversight Committee, and the Budgetary Oversight~~
 88.29 ~~Committee expire June 30, 2025. The Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee expires June~~
 88.30 30, 2033.

89.1 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.075, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

89.2 Subd. 2. **Minnesota migratory-waterfowl stamp.** (a) Ninety percent of the revenue
89.3 from the Minnesota migratory-waterfowl stamps must be credited to the waterfowl habitat
89.4 improvement account and is appropriated to the commissioner only for:

89.5 (1) development of wetlands and lakes in the state and designated waterfowl management
89.6 lakes for maximum migratory waterfowl production including habitat evaluation, the
89.7 construction of dikes, water control structures and impoundments, nest cover, ~~rough fish~~
89.8 common carp barriers, acquisition of sites and facilities necessary for development and
89.9 management of existing migratory waterfowl habitat and the designation of waters under
89.10 section 97A.101;

89.11 (2) management of migratory waterfowl;

89.12 (3) development, restoration, maintenance, or preservation of migratory waterfowl
89.13 habitat;

89.14 (4) acquisition of and access to structure sites; and

89.15 (5) the promotion of waterfowl habitat development and maintenance, including
89.16 promotion and evaluation of government farm program benefits for waterfowl habitat.

89.17 (b) Money in the account may not be used for costs unless they are directly related to a
89.18 specific parcel of land or body of water under paragraph (a), clause (1), (3), (4), or (5), or
89.19 to specific management activities under paragraph (a), clause (2).

89.20 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.341, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

89.21 Subdivision 1. **Liability for restitution.** A person who kills, injures, or possesses a wild
89.22 animal in violation of the game and fish laws or section 343.21 is liable to the state for the
89.23 value of the wild animal as provided in this section. Species afforded protection include
89.24 members of the following groups as defined by statute or rule: game fish, native rough fish,
89.25 game birds, big game, small game, fur-bearing animals, minnows, and threatened and
89.26 endangered animal species. Other animal species may be added by rule of the commissioner
89.27 as determined after public meetings and notification of the chairs of the environment and
89.28 natural resources committees in the senate and house of representatives.

89.29 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.341, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

89.30 Subd. 2. **Arrest and charging procedure.** (a) An enforcement officer who arrests a
89.31 person for killing, injuring, or possessing a wild animal in violation of the game and fish

90.1 laws or section 343.21 must describe the number, species, and restitution value of wild
90.2 animals illegally killed, injured, or possessed on the warrant or the notice to appear in court.

90.3 (b) As part of the charge against a person arrested for killing, injuring, or possessing a
90.4 wild animal in violation of the game and fish laws or section 343.21, the prosecuting attorney
90.5 must include a demand that restitution be made to the state for the value of the wild animal
90.6 killed, injured, or possessed. The demand for restitution is in addition to the criminal penalties
90.7 otherwise provided for the violation.

90.8 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.341, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

90.9 Subd. 3. **Sentencing procedure.** If a person is convicted of or pleads guilty to killing,
90.10 injuring, or possessing a wild animal in violation of the game and fish laws or section 343.21,
90.11 the court must require the person to pay restitution to the state for replacement of the wild
90.12 animal as part of the sentence or state in writing why restitution was not imposed. The court
90.13 may consider the economic circumstances of the person and, in lieu of monetary restitution,
90.14 order the person to perform conservation work representing the amount of restitution that
90.15 will aid the propagation of wild animals. If the court does not order a person to pay restitution,
90.16 the court administrator must send a copy of the court order to the commissioner.

90.17 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.345, is amended to read:

90.18 **97A.345 RESTITUTION VALUE OF WILD ANIMALS.**

90.19 (a) The commissioner may, by rules adopted under chapter 14, prescribe the dollar value
90.20 to the state of species of wild animals. The value may reflect the value to other persons to
90.21 legally take the wild animal, the replacement cost, or the intrinsic value to the state of the
90.22 wild animals. Species of wild animals with similar values may be grouped together.

90.23 (b) The value of a wild animal under the rules adopted by the commissioner is prima
90.24 facie evidence of a wild animal's value under section 97A.341.

90.25 (c) The commissioner shall report annually to the legislature the amount of restitution
90.26 collected under section 97A.341 and the manner in which the funds were expended.

90.27 (d) When a person kills, injures, or possesses a wild animal in violation of section 343.21,
90.28 the restitution value prescribed by the commissioner under paragraph (a) is doubled.

91.1 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 97A.405, subdivision 2, is amended
91.2 to read:

91.3 Subd. 2. **Personal possession.** (a) A person acting under a license or traveling from an
91.4 area where a licensed activity was performed must have in personal possession:

91.5 (1) the proper paper license, if the license has been issued to and received by the person;

91.6 (2) a driver's license or Minnesota identification card that bears a valid designation of
91.7 the proper lifetime license, as provided under section 171.07, subdivision 19;

91.8 (3) the proper paper license identification number or stamp validation, if the license has
91.9 been sold to the person by electronic means but the actual license has not been issued and
91.10 received; or

91.11 (4) electronic or other evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has the
91.12 proper paperless license.

91.13 (b) If possession of a license or a license identification number is required, a person
91.14 must exhibit, as requested by a conservation officer or peace officer: (1) the proper paper
91.15 license if the license has been issued to and received by the person; (2) a driver's license or
91.16 Minnesota identification card that bears a valid designation of the proper lifetime license,
91.17 as provided under section 171.07, subdivision 19; (3) the proper paper license identification
91.18 number or stamp validation and a valid state driver's license, state identification card, or
91.19 other form of identification provided by the commissioner, if the license has been sold to
91.20 the person by electronic means but the actual license has not been issued and received; or
91.21 (4) electronic or other evidence satisfactory to the commissioner that the person has the
91.22 proper paperless license. A person charged with violating the license possession requirement
91.23 shall not be convicted if the person produces in court or the office of the arresting officer,
91.24 the actual license previously issued to that person, which was valid at the time of arrest, or
91.25 satisfactory proof that at the time of the arrest the person was validly licensed. Upon request
91.26 of a conservation officer or peace officer, a licensee shall write the licensee's name in the
91.27 presence of the officer to determine the identity of the licensee.

91.28 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (a), clauses (2) and (4), if the actual license has been
91.29 issued and received, a receipt for license fees, a copy of a license, or evidence showing the
91.30 issuance of a license, including the license identification number or stamp validation, does
91.31 not entitle a licensee to exercise the rights or privileges conferred by a license.

91.32 (d) A paper license issued electronically and not immediately provided to the licensee
91.33 shall be mailed to the licensee within 30 days of purchase of the license. A pictorial migratory

92.1 waterfowl, pheasant, trout and salmon, or walleye stamp shall be provided to the licensee
92.2 after purchase of a stamp validation only if the licensee pays an additional fee that covers
92.3 the costs of producing and mailing a pictorial stamp. A pictorial turkey stamp may be
92.4 purchased for a fee that covers the costs of producing and mailing the pictorial stamp.
92.5 Notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the commissioner may, by written order published in
92.6 the State Register, establish fees for providing the pictorial stamps. The fees must be set in
92.7 an amount that does not recover significantly more or less than the cost of producing and
92.8 mailing the stamps. The fees are not subject to the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14, and
92.9 section 14.386 does not apply.

92.10 (e) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), a person may use a digital image of a
92.11 paper license issued to and received by the person to meet the requirement to possess the
92.12 proper paper license under paragraph (a), clause (1), and may exhibit to a conservation
92.13 officer or peace officer a digital image of a paper license issued to and received by the
92.14 person to meet the requirements of paragraph (b). This paragraph expires March 1, 2026.

92.15 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

92.16 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.421, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

92.17 Subd. 2. **Issuance after conviction; buying and selling wild animals.** A person may
92.18 not obtain a license to take any wild animal or take wild animals under a lifetime license,
92.19 issued under section 97A.473 or 97A.474, for a period of three years after being convicted
92.20 of buying or selling game fish, native rough fish, big game, or small game, and the total
92.21 amount of the sale is \$300 or more.

92.22 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.425, is amended by adding a subdivision
92.23 to read:

92.24 Subd. 3a. **Waste disposal.** (a) Licensed taxidermists must dispose of all cervid carcasses
92.25 or cervid parts not returned to the patron, all biosolids resulting from cleaning cervid skulls,
92.26 and all carrion beetles and beetle waste used to clean cervid skulls. All disposals must be
92.27 to a disposal facility or transfer station that is permitted to accept it, and proof of the disposal
92.28 must be retained for inspection.

92.29 (b) The following cervid parts are exempt from the disposal requirement:

92.30 (1) cervid hides from which all excess tissue has been removed;

92.31 (2) if free of brain and muscle tissues, whole or portions of skulls, antlers, or teeth; and

92.32 (3) finished taxidermy mounts.

93.1 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.425, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

93.2 Subd. 4. **Rules.** The commissioner may adopt rules, not inconsistent with subdivisions
93.3 1 to ~~3~~ 3a, governing record keeping, reporting, and marking of specimens by taxidermists.

93.4 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.475, subdivision 39, is amended to read:

93.5 Subd. 39. **Fish packer.** The fee for a license to prepare dressed game fish or native rough
93.6 fish for transportation or shipment is \$40.

93.7 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.505, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

93.8 Subd. 8. **Importing Cervidae carcasses.** (a) Importing Cervidae carcasses procured by
93.9 any means into Minnesota is prohibited except for:

93.10 (1) cut and wrapped meat;

93.11 (2) quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached;

93.12 (3) antlers, hides, or teeth, ~~finished taxidermy mounts, and;~~

93.13 (4) if cleaned of all brain tissue, antlers attached to skull caps ~~that are cleaned of all brain~~
93.14 tissue; or whole skulls; and

93.15 (5) finished taxidermy mounts.

93.16 (b) Cervidae carcasses originating from outside Minnesota may be transported on a
93.17 direct route through the state by nonresidents.

93.18 (c) Heads from cervids with or without the cape and neck attached that originate from
93.19 outside Minnesota may be transported into Minnesota only if they are delivered to a licensed
93.20 taxidermist within 48 hours of entering Minnesota.

93.21 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97A.551, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

93.22 Subd. 2. **Fish transported through state.** A person may not transport game fish or
93.23 native rough fish taken in another state or country through the state during the closed season
93.24 or in excess of the possession limit unless the fish are:

93.25 (1) transported by common carrier; or

93.26 (2) tagged, sealed, or marked as prescribed by the commissioner.

94.1 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.022, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

94.2 Subd. 2. **Requirements.** (a) A resident or nonresident born after December 31, 1979,
94.3 who is age 12 or over and who does not possess a hunter education firearms safety certificate
94.4 or a resident or nonresident born after December 31, 1989, who does not possess a trapper
94.5 education certificate may be issued an apprentice-hunter/trapper validation. An
94.6 apprentice-hunter/trapper validation may be purchased two license years in a lifetime and
94.7 used to obtain hunting or trapping licenses during the same license year that the validation
94.8 is purchased.

94.9 (b) An individual in possession of an apprentice-hunter/trapper validation may ~~hunt~~ take
94.10 small game, deer, and bear only when accompanied by an adult who has a valid license to
94.11 ~~hunt~~ take the same species of game in Minnesota and whose license was not obtained using
94.12 an apprentice-~~hunter~~ validation.

94.13 (c) When an individual in possession of an apprentice-hunter/trapper validation is hunting
94.14 turkey or prairie chicken under paragraph (b), the accompanying adult may be licensed for
94.15 another permit area or time period but must be licensed for the same season as the apprentice
94.16 hunter. If the accompanying adult is not licensed for the same permit area or time period
94.17 as the apprentice hunter, the accompanying adult may not shoot or possess a firearm or bow
94.18 while accompanying the apprentice hunter under this paragraph.

94.19 (d) An apprentice-hunter/trapper-validation holder must obtain all required licenses and
94.20 stamps.

94.21 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.022, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

94.22 Subd. 3. **Apprentice-hunter/trapper validation; fee.** The fee for an
94.23 apprentice-hunter/trapper validation is \$3.50. Fees collected must be deposited in the firearms
94.24 safety and trapper education training account, except for the electronic licensing system
94.25 commission established by the commissioner under section 84.027, subdivision 15, and
94.26 issuing fees collected under section 97A.485, subdivision 6, and are appropriated annually
94.27 to the Enforcement Division of the Department of Natural Resources for administering the
94.28 firearm safety course ~~program~~ and trapper education programs.

94.29 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 97B.037, is amended to read:

94.30 **97B.037 CROSSBOW HUNTING.**

94.31 (a) Notwithstanding section 97B.035, subdivisions 1 and 2, a person may take deer,
94.32 bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish by crossbow during the respective regular

95.1 archery seasons. The transportation requirements of section 97B.051 apply to crossbows
95.2 during the regular archery deer, bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish season.
95.3 Crossbows must meet the requirements of section 97B.106, subdivision 2. A person taking
95.4 deer, bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish by crossbow under this section must
95.5 have a valid license to take the respective game.

95.6 (b) This section expires June 30, 2025.

95.7 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.055, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

95.8 Subd. 2. **Restrictions related to motor vehicles.** (a) A person may not take a wild
95.9 animal with a firearm or by archery from a motor vehicle except as permitted in this section.

95.10 (b) A person may not shoot at a decoy of a wild animal that is placed by a licensed peace
95.11 officer by:

95.12 (1) discharging a firearm from a motor vehicle; or

95.13 (2) discharging an arrow from a bow from a motor vehicle.

95.14 (c) Notwithstanding section 97B.091, a person may transport a bow uncased while in a
95.15 motorized watercraft and may take native rough fish and common carp while in the boat as
95.16 provided in section 97C.376, subdivision 3.

95.17 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 97B.071, is amended to read:

95.18 **97B.071 CLOTHING AND GROUND BLIND REQUIREMENTS; BLAZE**
95.19 **ORANGE OR BLAZE PINK.**

95.20 (a) Except as provided in rules adopted under paragraph (d), a person may not hunt or
95.21 trap during the open season where deer may be taken by firearms under applicable laws and
95.22 ordinances, unless the visible portion of the person's cap and outer clothing above the waist,
95.23 excluding sleeves and gloves, is blaze orange or blaze pink. Blaze orange or blaze pink
95.24 includes a camouflage pattern of at least 50 percent blaze orange or blaze pink within each
95.25 foot square. This section does not apply to migratory-waterfowl hunters on waters of this
95.26 state or in a stationary shooting location or to trappers on waters of this state.

95.27 (b) Except as provided in rules adopted under paragraph (d), and in addition to the
95.28 requirement in paragraph (a), a person may not take small game other than turkey, migratory
95.29 birds, raccoons, and predators, except while trapping, unless a visible portion of at least one
95.30 article of the person's clothing above the waist is blaze orange or blaze pink. This paragraph

96.1 does not apply to a person when in a stationary location while hunting deer by archery or
96.2 when hunting small game by falconry.

96.3 (c) A person hunting deer in a fabric or synthetic ground blind on public land must have:

96.4 (1) a blaze orange safety covering on the top of the blind that is visible for 360 degrees
96.5 around the blind; or

96.6 (2) at least 144 square inches of blaze orange material on each side of the blind.

96.7 (d) The commissioner may, by rule, prescribe an alternative color in cases where
96.8 paragraph (a) or (b) would violate the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, Public
96.9 Law 103-141.

96.10 (e) A violation of paragraph (b) does not result in a penalty, but is punishable only by
96.11 a safety warning.

96.12 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.106, is amended to read:

96.13 **97B.106 CROSSBOW PERMITS FOR HUNTING AND FISHING.**

96.14 Subdivision 1. **Eligibility.** (a) The commissioner may issue a special permit, without a
96.15 fee, to take big game, small game, ~~or~~ native rough fish, or common carp with a crossbow
96.16 to a person that is unable to hunt or take native rough fish or common carp by archery
96.17 because of a permanent or temporary physical disability. A crossbow permit issued under
96.18 this section also allows the permittee to use a bow with a mechanical device that draws,
96.19 releases, or holds the bow at full draw as provided in section 97B.035, subdivision 1,
96.20 paragraph (a).

96.21 (b) To qualify for a crossbow permit under this section, a temporary disability must
96.22 render the person unable to hunt or fish by archery for a minimum of two years after
96.23 application for the permit is made. The permanent or temporary disability must be established
96.24 by medical evidence, and the inability to hunt or fish by archery for the required period of
96.25 time must be verified in writing by (1) a licensed physician, licensed advanced practice
96.26 registered nurse, or licensed physician assistant; or (2) a licensed chiropractor. A person
96.27 who has received a special permit under this section because of a permanent disability is
96.28 eligible for subsequent special permits without providing medical evidence and verification
96.29 of the disability.

96.30 (c) The person must obtain the appropriate license.

96.31 Subd. 2. **Equipment requirements.** (a) A crossbow used for hunting under the provisions
96.32 of this section must:

97.1 (1) be fired from the shoulder;

97.2 (2) deliver at least 42 foot-pounds of energy at a distance of ten feet;

97.3 (3) have a working safety; and

97.4 (4) be used with arrows or bolts at least ten inches long.

97.5 (b) An arrow or bolt used to take big game or turkey under the provisions of this section
97.6 must meet the legal arrowhead requirements in section 97B.211, subdivision 2.

97.7 (c) An arrow or bolt used to take native rough fish or common carp with a crossbow
97.8 under the provisions of this section must be tethered or controlled by an attached line.

97.9 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.318, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

97.10 Subdivision 1. **Shotgun use area.** During the regular firearms season in the shotgun use
97.11 area, only legal shotguns loaded with single-slug shotgun shells, legal muzzle-loading long
97.12 guns, and legal handguns may be used for taking deer. Legal shotguns include those with
97.13 rifled barrels. The shotgun use area is that portion of the state ~~lying within the following~~
97.14 ~~described boundary: Beginning on the west boundary of the state at the northern boundary~~
97.15 ~~of Clay County; thence along the northern boundary of Clay County to State Trunk Highway~~
97.16 ~~(STH) 32; thence along STH 32 to STH 34; thence along STH 34 to Interstate Highway 94~~
97.17 ~~(I-94); thence along I-94 to County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 40, Douglas County; thence~~
97.18 ~~along CSAH 40 to CSAH 82, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 82 to CSAH 22, Douglas~~
97.19 ~~County; thence along CSAH 22 to CSAH 6, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 6 to~~
97.20 ~~CSAH 14, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 14 to STH 29; thence along STH 29 to~~
97.21 ~~CSAH 46, Otter Tail County; thence along CSAH 46, Otter Tail County, to CSAH 22, Todd~~
97.22 ~~County; thence along CSAH 22 to U.S. Highway 71; thence along U.S. Highway 71 to STH~~
97.23 ~~27; thence along STH 27 to the Mississippi River; thence along the east bank of the~~
97.24 ~~Mississippi River to STH 23; thence along STH 23 to STH 95; thence along STH 95 to~~
97.25 ~~U.S. Highway 8; thence along U.S. Highway 8 to the eastern boundary of the state; thence~~
97.26 ~~along the east, south, and west boundaries of the state to the point of beginning consisting~~
97.27 ~~of Olmsted County.~~

97.28 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97B.516, is amended to read:

97.29 **97B.516 PLAN FOR ELK MANAGEMENT.**

97.30 (a) The commissioner of natural resources must adopt an elk management plan that:

97.31 (1) recognizes the value and uniqueness of elk;

98.1 (2) provides for integrated management of an elk population in harmony with the
98.2 environment; and

98.3 (3) affords optimum recreational opportunities.

98.4 ~~(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the commissioner must not manage an elk herd in~~
98.5 ~~Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, or Beltrami Counties in a manner that would increase the size~~
98.6 ~~of the herd, including adoption or implementation of an elk management plan designed to~~
98.7 ~~increase an elk herd, unless the commissioner of agriculture verifies that crop and fence~~
98.8 ~~damages paid under section 3.7371 and attributed to the herd have not increased for at least~~
98.9 ~~two years.~~

98.10 ~~(e) (b) At least 60 days prior to~~ before implementing a plan to increase an elk herd, the
98.11 commissioners of natural resources and agriculture must hold a joint public meeting in the
98.12 county where the elk herd to be increased is located. ~~At the meeting, the commissioners~~
98.13 ~~must present evidence that crop and fence damages have not increased in the prior two years~~
98.14 ~~and must detail the practices that will be used to reduce elk conflicts with area landowners.~~

98.15 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.001, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

98.16 Subd. 2. **Public notice and meeting comment.** (a) Before the commissioner designates,
98.17 or vacates or extends the designation of, experimental waters, ~~a public meeting must be~~
98.18 ~~held in the county where the largest portion of the waters is located~~ notice of the proposed
98.19 change must be provided in the county where the largest portion of the waters is located, a
98.20 virtual or in-person meeting must be held, and opportunity to submit public comment must
98.21 be offered.

98.22 ~~(b) At least 90 days before the public meeting and during the open angling season for~~
98.23 ~~fish the taking of which is, or is proposed to be, regulated under subdivision 3 on the waters~~
98.24 ~~under consideration, Before the year that the designation is to become effective, the~~
98.25 commissioner must give notice of the proposed designation, vacation, or extension must
98.26 be. The notice must summarize the proposed action and invite public comment. Public
98.27 comments must be accepted at least through September 30, and the commissioner must
98.28 consider any public comments received in making a final decision. Notice must include:

98.29 (1) signs of the proposed changes and instructions for submitting comments posted at
98.30 publicly maintained access points on the water; by June 1;

98.31 (2) a list of proposed changes posted on the department's website by June 1, summarizing
98.32 the proposed actions and inviting public comment; and

99.1 (3) a news release issued by the commissioner by July 1, a notice published in a
 99.2 newspaper of general circulation in the area where the waters are located by August 20, and
 99.3 at least one more digital media communication published by August 31.

99.4 ~~(c) Before the public meeting, notice of the meeting must be published in a news release~~
 99.5 ~~issued by the commissioner and in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the~~
 99.6 ~~proposed experimental waters are located. The notice must be published at least once between~~
 99.7 ~~30 and 60 days before the meeting, and at least once between seven and 30 days before the~~
 99.8 ~~meeting. A virtual or in-person meeting must be held before September 20 where public~~
 99.9 ~~comment must be accepted. An in-person meeting, where public comment must be accepted,~~
 99.10 ~~must be held in the county where the largest portion of the waters is located if:~~

99.11 (1) a water or connected waters to be designated is over 5,000 acres or a stream or river
 99.12 reach is over 10 miles; or

99.13 (2) a request for an in-person meeting is submitted to the commissioner by August 20
 99.14 before the year that the designation is to become effective.

99.15 (d) The notices required in this subdivision must summarize the proposed action, invite
 99.16 public comment, and specify a deadline for the receipt of public comments. The
 99.17 commissioner shall mail a copy of each required notice to persons who have registered their
 99.18 names with the commissioner for this purpose. The commissioner shall consider any public
 99.19 comments received in making a final decision.

99.20 ~~(e) If a water to be designated is a lake with a water area of more than 1,500 acres, or~~
 99.21 ~~is a stream or river with a reach of more than six miles, a public meeting must also be held~~
 99.22 ~~in the seven-county metropolitan area.~~

99.23 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.005, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

99.24 Subd. 2. **Public notice and meeting comment.** (a) Before the commissioner designates
 99.25 special management waters, ~~public comment must be received and, for waters other than~~
 99.26 ~~those proposed to be designated as trout streams or trout lakes, a public meeting must be~~
 99.27 ~~held in the county where the largest portion of the waters is located~~ notice of the proposed
 99.28 designation must be given, a virtual or in-person meeting must be held, and opportunity to
 99.29 submit public comment must be offered.

99.30 ~~(b) For waters previously designated as experimental waters, a proposed change in status~~
 99.31 ~~to special management waters must be announced before the public meeting by notice~~
 99.32 ~~published in a news release issued by the commissioner and in a newspaper of general~~
 99.33 ~~circulation in the area where the waters are located. The notice must be published at least~~

100.1 ~~once between 30 and 60 days before the public meeting, and at least once between seven~~
100.2 ~~and 30 days before the meeting. If a water proposed to be designated is a lake with a water~~
100.3 ~~area of more than 1,500 acres, or is a stream or river with a reach of more than six miles, a~~
100.4 ~~public meeting must also be held in the seven-county metropolitan area.~~

100.5 ~~(e) For proposed special management waters, other than designated trout lakes and~~
100.6 ~~designated trout streams, that were not previously designated as experimental waters, notice~~
100.7 ~~of the proposed designation must be given as provided in this paragraph. The notice must~~
100.8 ~~be posted at publicly maintained access points at least 90 days before the public meeting~~
100.9 ~~and during the open angling season for fish the taking of which on the waters is proposed~~
100.10 ~~to be regulated under subdivision 3. Before the public meeting, notice of the meeting must~~
100.11 ~~be published in a news release issued by the commissioner and in a newspaper of general~~
100.12 ~~circulation in the area where the proposed special management waters are located. The~~
100.13 ~~notice must be published at least once between 30 and 60 days before the meeting, and at~~
100.14 ~~least once between seven and 30 days before the meeting. If a water to be designated is a~~
100.15 ~~lake with a water area of more than 1,500 acres, or is a stream or river with a reach of more~~
100.16 ~~than six miles, a public meeting must also be held in the seven-county metropolitan area.~~

100.17 (b) For proposed special management waters other than designated trout lakes and
100.18 designated trout streams, before the year that the designation is to become effective, the
100.19 commissioner must give notice of the proposed designation. The notice must summarize
100.20 the proposed action and invite public comment. Public comments must be accepted at least
100.21 through September 30, and the commissioner must consider any public comments received
100.22 in making a final decision. Notice must include:

100.23 (1) signs of the proposed designation and instructions for submitting comments posted
100.24 at publicly maintained access points on the water by June 1;

100.25 (2) a list of proposed designations posted on the department's website by June 1,
100.26 summarizing the proposed action and inviting public comment; and

100.27 (3) a news release issued by the commissioner by July 1, a notice published in a
100.28 newspaper of general circulation in the area where the waters are located by August 15, and
100.29 at least one more digital media communication published by August 31.

100.30 (c) A virtual or in-person meeting must be held before September 20 where public
100.31 comment must be accepted. An in-person meeting, where public comment must be accepted,
100.32 must be held in the county where the largest portion of the waters is located if:

100.33 (1) a water to be designated is a lake over 5,000 acres or is a stream or river reach over
100.34 10 miles; or

101.1 (2) a request for an in-person meeting is submitted to the commissioner by August 20
101.2 before the year that the designation is to become effective.

101.3 (d) For waters proposed to be designated as trout streams or trout lakes, notice of the
101.4 proposed designation must be published at least 90 days before the effective date of the
101.5 designation in a news release issued by the commissioner and in a newspaper of general
101.6 circulation in the area where the waters are located. In addition, all riparian owners along
101.7 the waters must be notified at least 90 days before the effective date of the designation.

101.8 (e) The notices required in this subdivision must summarize the proposed action, invite
101.9 public comment, and specify a deadline for the receipt of public comments. The
101.10 commissioner shall mail a copy of each required notice to persons who have registered their
101.11 names with the commissioner for this purpose. The commissioner shall consider any public
101.12 comments received in making a final decision.

101.13 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.025, is amended to read:

101.14 **97C.025 FISHING AND MOTORBOATS RESTRICTED IN CERTAIN AREAS.**

101.15 (a) The commissioner may prohibit or restrict the taking of fish or the operation of
101.16 motorboats by posting waters that:

101.17 (1) are designated as spawning beds or fish preserves;

101.18 (2) are being used by the commissioner for fisheries research or management activities;

101.19 or

101.20 (3) are licensed by the commissioner as a private fish hatchery or aquatic farm under
101.21 section 17.4984, subdivision 1, or 97C.211, subdivision 1.

101.22 An area may be posted under this paragraph if necessary to prevent excessive depletion of
101.23 fish or interference with fisheries research or management activities or private fish hatchery
101.24 or aquatic farm operations.

101.25 (b) The commissioner will consider the following criteria in determining if waters
101.26 licensed under a private fish hatchery or aquatic farm should be posted under paragraph (a):

101.27 (1) the waters contain game fish brood stock or native rough fish brood stock and the
101.28 brood stock that are is vital to the private fish hatchery or aquatic farm operation;

101.29 (2) game fish or native rough fish are present in the licensed waters only as a result of
101.30 aquaculture activities by the licensee; and

101.31 (3) no public access to the waters existed when the waters were first licensed.

102.1 (c) A private fish hatchery or aquatic farm licensee may not take fish or authorize others
102.2 to take fish in licensed waters that are posted under paragraph (a), except as provided in
102.3 section 17.4983, subdivision 3, and except that if waters are posted to allow the taking of
102.4 fish under special restrictions, licensees and others who can legally access the waters may
102.5 take fish under those special restrictions.

102.6 (d) Before March 1, 2003, riparian landowners adjacent to licensed waters on April 30,
102.7 2002, and riparian landowners who own land adjacent to waters licensed after April 30,
102.8 2002, on the date the waters become licensed waters, plus their children and grandchildren,
102.9 may take two daily limits of fish per month under an angling license subject to the other
102.10 limits and conditions in the game and fish laws.

102.11 (e) Except as provided in paragraphs (c), (d), and (f), a person may not take fish or
102.12 operate a motorboat if prohibited by posting under paragraph (a).

102.13 (f) An owner of riparian land adjacent to an area posted under paragraph (a) may operate
102.14 a motorboat through the area by the shortest direct route at a speed of not more than five
102.15 miles per hour.

102.16 (g) Postings for water bodies designated under paragraph (a), clause (1), or being used
102.17 for fisheries research or management under paragraph (a), clause (2), are not subject to the
102.18 rulemaking provisions of chapter 14, and section 14.386 does not apply.

102.19 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.035, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

102.20 Subd. 3. **Taking fish.** (a) The commissioner may authorize residents to take fish:

102.21 (1) in any quantity;

102.22 (2) in any manner, except by use of seines, hoop nets, fyke nets, and explosives; and

102.23 (3) for personal use only, except ~~rough fish~~ common carp may be sold.

102.24 (b) The commissioner may authorize the taking of fish by posting notice conspicuously
102.25 along the shore of the waters and publishing a news release in a newspaper of general
102.26 circulation in the area where the waters are located.

102.27 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 97C.041, is amended to read:

102.28 **97C.041 COMMISSIONER MAY REMOVE NATIVE ROUGH FISH.**

102.29 The commissioner may take native rough fish, common carp, and rainbow smelt with
102.30 seines, nets, and other devices. The commissioner may hire or contract persons, or issue
102.31 permits, to take the fish. The commissioner shall prescribe the manner of taking and disposal.

103.1 The commissioner may award a contract under this section without competitive bidding.
103.2 Before establishing the contractor's compensation, the commissioner must consider the
103.3 qualifications of the contractor, including the contractor's equipment, knowledge of the
103.4 waters, and ability to perform the work.

103.5 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.045, is amended to read:

103.6 **97C.045 REMOVING COMMON CARP AND NATIVE ROUGH FISH FROM**
103.7 **BOUNDARY WATERS.**

103.8 The commissioner may enter into agreements with North Dakota, South Dakota,
103.9 Wisconsin, and Iowa, relating to the removal of common carp and native rough fish in
103.10 boundary waters. The agreements may include:

- 103.11 (1) contracting to remove common carp and native rough fish;
- 103.12 (2) inspection of the work;
- 103.13 (3) the division of proceeds; and
- 103.14 (4) regulating the taking of common carp and native rough fish.

103.15 Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.081, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

103.16 Subd. 3a. **No permit required.** A person may conduct a fishing contest without a permit
103.17 from the commissioner if:

- 103.18 (1) the contest is not limited to specifically named waters;
- 103.19 (2) the contest is limited to ~~rough fish~~ common carp and participants are required to fish
103.20 with a hook and line; or
- 103.21 (3) the total prize value is \$500 or less.

103.22 Sec. 55. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.211, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

103.23 Subd. 5. **Price of game fish fry and eggs.** The commissioner may sell or barter game
103.24 fish or native rough fish fry or eggs for not less than the cost associated with the production
103.25 of eggs or fry.

103.26 Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 97C.371, subdivision 1, is amended
103.27 to read:

103.28 Subdivision 1. **Species allowed.** Only common carp, native rough fish, catfish, lake
103.29 whitefish, cisco (tulibee), and northern pike may be taken by spearing.

104.1 Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.375, is amended to read:

104.2 **97C.375 TAKING NATIVE ROUGH FISH AND COMMON CARP BY**
104.3 **SPEARING.**

104.4 (a) A resident or nonresident may take native rough fish and common carp by spearing
104.5 according to paragraph (b) and during the times, in waters, and in the manner prescribed
104.6 by the commissioner.

104.7 (b) Suckers may be taken by spearing from ~~the last Saturday in April~~ May 1 through the
104.8 last ~~Sunday~~ day in February.

104.9 Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.376, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

104.10 Subdivision 1. **Season.** (a) The regular bow-fishing season for residents and nonresidents
104.11 is from ~~the last Saturday in April to~~ May 1 through the last ~~Sunday~~ day in February at any
104.12 time of the day.

104.13 (b) The early bow-fishing season for residents and nonresidents is open only south of
104.14 State Highway 210 from ~~the Monday after the last Sunday in February to the Friday before~~
104.15 March 1 through the last ~~Saturday~~ day in April at any time of the day. During the early
104.16 season, a person may bow fish:

104.17 (1) only from a boat; and

104.18 (2) only while on a lake or on the Mississippi, Minnesota, or St. Croix River.

104.19 Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.376, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

104.20 Subd. 5. **Returning native rough fish and common carp to waters.** Native rough fish
104.21 and common carp taken by bow fishing ~~shall~~ must not be returned to the water, and native
104.22 rough fish and common carp may not be left on the banks of any water of the state.

104.23 Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.381, is amended to read:

104.24 **97C.381 HARPOONING NATIVE ROUGH FISH.**

104.25 A resident or nonresident may use a rubber powered gun, spring gun, or compressed air
104.26 gun to take native rough fish and common carp by harpooning. The harpoon must be fastened
104.27 to a line not more than 20 feet long. The commissioner may prescribe the times, the waters,
104.28 and the manner for harpooning native rough fish and common carp.

105.1 Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.385, is amended to read:

105.2 **97C.385 COMMISSIONER'S AUTHORITY TO REGULATE WINTER FISHING.**

105.3 Subdivision 1. **Effect on summer angling season.** If the commissioner closes the
105.4 statutory open season for ~~the spearing of~~ a game fish or native rough fish species in any
105.5 waters, the commissioner must, in the same rule, close the following statutory open season
105.6 for angling for the same species in the waters in the same proportion.

105.7 Subd. 2. **Effect on summer angling limits.** If the commissioner reduces the limit of a
105.8 species of game fish or native rough fish taken by spearing in any waters under section
105.9 97A.045, subdivision 2, the commissioner must reduce the limit for taking of the species
105.10 by angling in the waters during the following open season for angling.

105.11 Subd. 3. **Limiting closures by county.** The commissioner may not close the open season
105.12 for taking game fish or native rough fish through the ice on more than 50 percent of the
105.13 named lakes or streams of a county under section 97A.045, subdivision 2.

105.14 Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.391, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

105.15 Subdivision 1. **General restrictions.** A person may not buy or sell fish taken from the
105.16 waters of this state, except:

105.17 (1) minnows;

105.18 (2) ~~rough fish~~ common carp;

105.19 (3) smelt taken from Lake Superior and rivers and streams that flow into Lake Superior;

105.20 (4) fish taken under licensed commercial fishing operations;

105.21 (5) fish that are private aquatic life; and

105.22 (6) fish lawfully taken and subject to sale from other states and countries.

105.23 Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.395, as amended by Laws 2023, chapter
105.24 60, article 4, section 70, is amended to read:

105.25 **97C.395 OPEN SEASONS FOR ANGLING.**

105.26 Subdivision 1. **Dates for certain species.** (a) The open seasons to take fish by angling
105.27 are as follows:

105.28 (1) for walleye, sauger, northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, and smallmouth
105.29 bass, the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through the
105.30 last Sunday in February;

106.1 ~~(2) for lake trout, from January 1 through October 31;~~

106.2 ~~(3) for the winter season for lake trout, brown trout, brook trout, rainbow trout, and~~
106.3 ~~splake on all lakes located outside or partially within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area,~~
106.4 ~~from January 15 through March 31;~~

106.5 ~~(4) for the winter season for lake trout, brown trout, brook trout, rainbow trout, and~~
106.6 ~~splake on all lakes located entirely within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, from January~~
106.7 ~~1 through March 31;~~

106.8 ~~(5)~~ (2) for brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, rainbow trout, and splake, between January
106.9 1 through October 31 as prescribed by the commissioner by rule except as provided in
106.10 section 97C.415, subdivision 2; and

106.11 ~~(6)~~ (3) for salmon, as prescribed by the commissioner by rule.

106.12 (b) The commissioner shall close the season in areas of the state where fish are spawning
106.13 and closing the season will protect the resource.

106.14 Subd. 2. **Continuous season for certain species.** For sunfish, white crappie, black
106.15 crappie, yellow perch, channel catfish, rock bass, white bass, yellow bass, burbot, cisco
106.16 (tullibee), common carp, lake whitefish, and native rough fish, the open season is continuous.

106.17 Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.411, is amended to read:

106.18 **97C.411 STURGEON AND PADDLEFISH.**

106.19 Lake sturgeon, shovelnose sturgeon, and paddlefish may not be taken, bought, sold,
106.20 transported or possessed except as provided by rule of the commissioner. ~~The commissioner~~
106.21 ~~may only allow the taking of these fish in waters that the state boundary passes through and~~
106.22 ~~in tributaries to the St. Croix River.~~

106.23 Sec. 65. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.505, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

106.24 Subd. 8. **Possession for minnow dealers.** When nets and traps are lawfully set and
106.25 tended, minnows ~~and~~, incidentally taken game fish under four inches in length, and
106.26 incidentally taken native rough fish that are not classified as minnows are not considered
106.27 to be in possession until the minnows, native rough fish, or game fish are placed on a motor
106.28 vehicle or trailer for transport on land.

107.1 Sec. 66. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.801, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

107.2 Subd. 2. **Commercial fish netting on Mississippi River.** (a) A license is required to
107.3 commercially take native rough fish with seines in the Mississippi River from the St. Croix
107.4 River junction to St. Anthony Falls.

107.5 (b) A person may take native rough fish in the Mississippi River, from the St. Croix
107.6 River junction to St. Anthony Falls, only with the following equipment and methods:

107.7 (1) operations shall be conducted only in the flowing waters of the river and in tributary
107.8 backwaters prescribed by the commissioner;

107.9 (2) seines may be used only as prescribed by this section and rules adopted by the
107.10 commissioner;

107.11 (3) seines must be hauled to a landing immediately after being placed;

107.12 (4) two seines may not be joined together in the water; and

107.13 (5) a seine may not be landed between sunset and sunrise.

107.14 Sec. 67. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.805, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

107.15 Subdivision 1. **Open season.** (a) The commissioner shall, by rule, prescribe the open
107.16 season and open state waters for netting lake whitefish and ciscoes. The commissioner may
107.17 open specific lakes and waters that are otherwise closed if the commissioner posts notice
107.18 of the date and time in appropriate public places at least 48 hours before the open season
107.19 begins.

107.20 (b) The commissioner may close specific lakes and waters that are otherwise open under
107.21 this subdivision if the commissioner posts notice of the closing at a minimum of three sites
107.22 on the shore of the waters, including all public water-access sites. Before closing waters
107.23 under this paragraph, the commissioner shall determine that the closure is necessary to
107.24 protect game fish or native rough fish populations.

107.25 Sec. 68. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.805, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

107.26 Subd. 4. **No limit on native rough fish netted.** Lake whitefish and ciscoes taken under
107.27 this section may be taken and possessed without limit. Native rough fish caught while netting
107.28 may be retained. All other fish taken while netting must be returned to the water immediately.

108.1 Sec. 69. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.811, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

108.2 Subd. 2. **Commercial fish defined.** For purposes of this section and section 97A.475,
108.3 subdivision 30, "commercial fish" are common carp; ~~bowfin; burbot; cisco; goldeye; rainbow~~
108.4 ~~smelt; black bullhead, brown bullhead, and yellow bullhead; lake whitefish; members of~~
108.5 ~~the sucker family, Catostomidae, including white sucker, redhorse, bigmouth buffalo, and~~
108.6 ~~smallmouth buffalo; members of the drum family, Sciaenidae, including sheepshead; and~~
108.7 ~~members of the gar family, Lepisosteidae~~ and native rough fish, except for bowfin.

108.8 Sec. 70. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.831, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

108.9 Subdivision 1. **Lake whitefish, common carp, and native rough fish.** Lake whitefish
108.10 and native rough fish may be taken by licensed commercial fishing operators unless otherwise
108.11 changed by rule of the commissioner, under section 97C.805, subdivision 1, from Namakan
108.12 Lake and Sand Point Lake.

108.13 Sec. 71. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.835, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

108.14 Subd. 2. **Types of fish permitted.** Lake trout, ciscoes, chubs, alewives, lake whitefish,
108.15 round whitefish, pygmy whitefish, rainbow smelt, common carp, and native rough fish may
108.16 be taken by licensed commercial fishing operators from Lake Superior, in accordance with
108.17 this section.

108.18 Sec. 72. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.835, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

108.19 Subd. 3. **Pound nets and trap nets.** Pound or trap nets may be used to take lake whitefish,
108.20 round whitefish, pygmy whitefish, ciscoes, chubs, alewives, rainbow smelt, common carp,
108.21 and native rough fish in Lake Superior, including St. Louis Bay east of the U.S. Highway
108.22 53 bridge, under the rules prescribed by the commissioner.

108.23 Sec. 73. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 97C.865, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

108.24 Subdivision 1. **License required; records.** (a) A person engaged in a business providing
108.25 services to a person taking fish may not prepare dressed game fish or dressed native rough
108.26 fish for shipment without a fish packer's license. The fish packer must maintain a permanent
108.27 record of:

108.28 (1) the name, address, and license number of the shipper;

108.29 (2) the name and address of the consignee; and

108.30 (3) the number of each species and net weight of fish in the shipment.

109.1 (b) The records of the fish packer must be made available to an enforcement officer
109.2 upon request.

109.3 Sec. 74. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103F.211, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

109.4 Subdivision 1. **Adoption.** The commissioner shall adopt model standards and criteria
109.5 for the subdivision, use, and development of shoreland in municipalities and areas outside
109.6 of a municipality. The authority to adopt model standards and criteria is exempt from section
109.7 14.125 and does not expire. The standards and criteria must include:

109.8 (1) the area of a lot and length of water frontage suitable for a building site;

109.9 (2) the placement of structures in relation to shorelines and roads;

109.10 (3) the placement and construction of sanitary and waste disposal facilities;

109.11 (4) designation of types of land uses;

109.12 (5) changes in bottom contours of adjacent public waters;

109.13 (6) preservation of natural shorelands through the restriction of land uses;

109.14 (7) variances from the minimum standards and criteria; and

109.15 (8) for areas outside of a municipality only, a model ordinance.

109.16 Sec. 75. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 103G.301, subdivision 2, is amended
109.17 to read:

109.18 Subd. 2. **Permit application and notification fees.** (a) A fee to defray the costs of
109.19 receiving, recording, and processing must be paid for a permit application authorized under
109.20 this chapter, except for a general permit application, for each request to amend or transfer
109.21 an existing permit, and for a notification to request authorization to conduct a project under
109.22 a general permit. Fees established under this subdivision, unless specified in paragraph (c),
109.23 must comply with section 16A.1285.

109.24 (b) Proposed projects that require water in excess of 100 million gallons per year must
109.25 be assessed fees to recover the costs incurred to evaluate the project and the costs incurred
109.26 for environmental review. Fees collected under this paragraph must be credited to an account
109.27 in the natural resources fund and are appropriated to the commissioner.

109.28 (c) The fee to apply for a permit to appropriate water, in addition to any fee under
109.29 paragraph (b), is \$150. The application fee for a permit to construct or repair a dam that is
109.30 subject to a dam safety inspection, to work in public waters, or to divert waters for mining

110.1 must be at least \$1,200, but not more than \$12,000. The fee for a notification to request
110.2 authorization to conduct a project under a general permit is \$400, except that the fee for a
110.3 notification to request authorization to appropriate water under a general permit is \$100.

110.4 Sec. 76. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 103G.315, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

110.5 Subd. 15. **Rules.** The commissioner shall adopt rules prescribing standards and criteria
110.6 for issuing and denying water-use permits and public-waters-work permits. The authority
110.7 to adopt the rules is exempt from section 14.125 and does not expire.

110.8 Sec. 77. Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 115.03, subdivision 1, is amended
110.9 to read:

110.10 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** (a) The commissioner is given and charged with the following
110.11 powers and duties:

110.12 (1) to administer and enforce all laws relating to the pollution of any of the waters of
110.13 the state;

110.14 (2) to investigate the extent, character, and effect of the pollution of the waters of this
110.15 state and to gather data and information necessary or desirable in the administration or
110.16 enforcement of pollution laws, and to make such classification of the waters of the state as
110.17 it may deem advisable;

110.18 (3) to establish and alter such reasonable pollution standards for any waters of the state
110.19 in relation to the public use to which they are or may be put as it shall deem necessary for
110.20 the purposes of this chapter and, with respect to the pollution of waters of the state, chapter
110.21 116;

110.22 (4) to encourage waste treatment, including advanced waste treatment, instead of stream
110.23 low-flow augmentation for dilution purposes to control and prevent pollution;

110.24 (5) to adopt, issue, reissue, modify, deny, or revoke, enter into or enforce reasonable
110.25 orders, permits, variances, standards, rules, schedules of compliance, and stipulation
110.26 agreements, under such conditions as it may prescribe, in order to prevent, control or abate
110.27 water pollution, or for the installation or operation of disposal systems or parts thereof, or
110.28 for other equipment and facilities:

110.29 (i) requiring the discontinuance of the discharge of sewage, industrial waste or other
110.30 wastes into any waters of the state resulting in pollution in excess of the applicable pollution
110.31 standard established under this chapter;

111.1 (ii) prohibiting or directing the abatement of any discharge of sewage, industrial waste,
111.2 or other wastes, into any waters of the state or the deposit thereof or the discharge into any
111.3 municipal disposal system where the same is likely to get into any waters of the state in
111.4 violation of this chapter and, with respect to the pollution of waters of the state, chapter
111.5 116, or standards or rules promulgated or permits issued pursuant thereto, and specifying
111.6 the schedule of compliance within which such prohibition or abatement must be
111.7 accomplished;

111.8 (iii) prohibiting the storage of any liquid or solid substance or other pollutant in a manner
111.9 which does not reasonably assure proper retention against entry into any waters of the state
111.10 that would be likely to pollute any waters of the state;

111.11 (iv) requiring the construction, installation, maintenance, and operation by any person
111.12 of any disposal system or any part thereof, or other equipment and facilities, or the
111.13 reconstruction, alteration, or enlargement of its existing disposal system or any part thereof,
111.14 or the adoption of other remedial measures to prevent, control or abate any discharge or
111.15 deposit of sewage, industrial waste or other wastes by any person;

111.16 (v) establishing, and from time to time revising, standards of performance for new sources
111.17 taking into consideration, among other things, classes, types, sizes, and categories of sources,
111.18 processes, pollution control technology, cost of achieving such effluent reduction, and any
111.19 nonwater quality environmental impact and energy requirements. Said standards of
111.20 performance for new sources shall encompass those standards for the control of the discharge
111.21 of pollutants which reflect the greatest degree of effluent reduction which the agency
111.22 determines to be achievable through application of the best available demonstrated control
111.23 technology, processes, operating methods, or other alternatives, including, where practicable,
111.24 a standard permitting no discharge of pollutants. New sources shall encompass buildings,
111.25 structures, facilities, or installations from which there is or may be the discharge of pollutants,
111.26 the construction of which is commenced after the publication by the agency of proposed
111.27 rules prescribing a standard of performance which will be applicable to such source.
111.28 Notwithstanding any other provision of the law of this state, any point source the construction
111.29 of which is commenced after May 20, 1973, and which is so constructed as to meet all
111.30 applicable standards of performance for new sources shall, consistent with and subject to
111.31 the provisions of section 306(d) of the Amendments of 1972 to the Federal Water Pollution
111.32 Control Act, not be subject to any more stringent standard of performance for new sources
111.33 during a ten-year period beginning on the date of completion of such construction or during
111.34 the period of depreciation or amortization of such facility for the purposes of section 167
111.35 or 169, or both, of the Federal Internal Revenue Code of 1954, whichever period ends first.

112.1 Construction shall encompass any placement, assembly, or installation of facilities or
112.2 equipment, including contractual obligations to purchase such facilities or equipment, at
112.3 the premises where such equipment will be used, including preparation work at such
112.4 premises;

112.5 (vi) establishing and revising pretreatment standards to prevent or abate the discharge
112.6 of any pollutant into any publicly owned disposal system, which pollutant interferes with,
112.7 passes through, or otherwise is incompatible with such disposal system;

112.8 (vii) requiring the owner or operator of any disposal system or any point source to
112.9 establish and maintain such records, make such reports, install, use, and maintain such
112.10 monitoring equipment or methods, including where appropriate biological monitoring
112.11 methods, sample such effluents in accordance with such methods, at such locations, at such
112.12 intervals, and in such a manner as the agency shall prescribe, and providing such other
112.13 information as the agency may reasonably require;

112.14 (viii) notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, and with respect to the pollution
112.15 of waters of the state, chapter 116, requiring the achievement of more stringent limitations
112.16 than otherwise imposed by effluent limitations in order to meet any applicable water quality
112.17 standard by establishing new effluent limitations, based upon section 115.01, subdivision
112.18 13, clause (b), including alternative effluent control strategies for any point source or group
112.19 of point sources to insure the integrity of water quality classifications, whenever the agency
112.20 determines that discharges of pollutants from such point source or sources, with the
112.21 application of effluent limitations required to comply with any standard of best available
112.22 technology, would interfere with the attainment or maintenance of the water quality
112.23 classification in a specific portion of the waters of the state. Prior to establishment of any
112.24 such effluent limitation, the agency shall hold a public hearing to determine the relationship
112.25 of the economic and social costs of achieving such limitation or limitations, including any
112.26 economic or social dislocation in the affected community or communities, to the social and
112.27 economic benefits to be obtained and to determine whether or not such effluent limitation
112.28 can be implemented with available technology or other alternative control strategies. If a
112.29 person affected by such limitation demonstrates at such hearing that, whether or not such
112.30 technology or other alternative control strategies are available, there is no reasonable
112.31 relationship between the economic and social costs and the benefits to be obtained, such
112.32 limitation shall not become effective and shall be adjusted as it applies to such person;

112.33 (ix) modifying, in its discretion, any requirement or limitation based upon best available
112.34 technology with respect to any point source for which a permit application is filed after July
112.35 1, 1977, upon a showing by the owner or operator of such point source satisfactory to the

113.1 agency that such modified requirements will represent the maximum use of technology
113.2 within the economic capability of the owner or operator and will result in reasonable further
113.3 progress toward the elimination of the discharge of pollutants; and

113.4 (x) requiring that applicants for wastewater discharge permits evaluate in their
113.5 applications the potential reuses of the discharged wastewater;

113.6 (6) to require to be submitted and to approve plans and specifications for disposal systems
113.7 or point sources, or any part thereof and to inspect the construction thereof for compliance
113.8 with the approved plans and specifications thereof;

113.9 (7) to prescribe and alter rules, not inconsistent with law, for the conduct of the agency
113.10 and other matters within the scope of the powers granted to and imposed upon it by this
113.11 chapter and, with respect to pollution of waters of the state, in chapter 116, provided that
113.12 every rule affecting any other department or agency of the state or any person other than a
113.13 member or employee of the agency shall be filed with the secretary of state;

113.14 (8) to conduct such investigations, issue such notices, public and otherwise, and hold
113.15 such hearings as are necessary or which it may deem advisable for the discharge of its duties
113.16 under this chapter and, with respect to the pollution of waters of the state, under chapter
113.17 116, including, but not limited to, the issuance of permits, and to authorize any member,
113.18 employee, or agent appointed by it to conduct such investigations or, issue such notices and
113.19 hold such hearings;

113.20 (9) for the purpose of water pollution control planning by the state and pursuant to the
113.21 Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, to establish and revise planning areas,
113.22 adopt plans and programs and continuing planning processes, including, but not limited to,
113.23 basin plans and areawide waste treatment management plans, and to provide for the
113.24 implementation of any such plans by means of, including, but not limited to, standards, plan
113.25 elements, procedures for revision, intergovernmental cooperation, residual treatment process
113.26 waste controls, and needs inventory and ranking for construction of disposal systems;

113.27 (10) to train water pollution control personnel and charge training fees as are necessary
113.28 to cover the agency's costs. All such fees received must be paid into the state treasury and
113.29 credited to the Pollution Control Agency training account;

113.30 (11) to provide chloride reduction training and charge training fees as necessary to cover
113.31 the agency's costs not to exceed \$350. All training fees received must be paid into the state
113.32 treasury and credited to the Pollution Control Agency training account;

114.1 (12) to impose as additional conditions in permits to publicly owned disposal systems
114.2 appropriate measures to insure compliance by industrial and other users with any pretreatment
114.3 standard, including, but not limited to, those related to toxic pollutants, and any system of
114.4 user charges ratably as is hereby required under state law or said Federal Water Pollution
114.5 Control Act, as amended, or any regulations or guidelines promulgated thereunder;

114.6 (13) to set a period not to exceed five years for the duration of any national pollutant
114.7 discharge elimination system permit or not to exceed ten years for any permit issued as a
114.8 state disposal system permit only;

114.9 (14) to require each governmental subdivision identified as a permittee for a wastewater
114.10 treatment works to evaluate in every odd-numbered year the condition of its existing system
114.11 and identify future capital improvements that will be needed to attain or maintain compliance
114.12 with a national pollutant discharge elimination system or state disposal system permit; ~~and~~

114.13 (15) to train subsurface sewage treatment system personnel, including persons who
114.14 design, construct, install, inspect, service, and operate subsurface sewage treatment systems,
114.15 and charge fees as necessary to pay the agency's costs. All fees received must be paid into
114.16 the state treasury and credited to the agency's training account. Money in the account is
114.17 appropriated to the agency to pay expenses related to training; and

114.18 (16) to encourage practices that enable the recovery and use of waste heat from
114.19 wastewater treatment operations, in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act, United
114.20 States Code, title 33, section 1281(e).

114.21 (b) The information required in paragraph (a), clause (14), must be submitted in every
114.22 odd-numbered year to the commissioner on a form provided by the commissioner. The
114.23 commissioner shall provide technical assistance if requested by the governmental subdivision.

114.24 (c) The powers and duties given the agency in this subdivision also apply to permits
114.25 issued under chapter 114C.

114.26 Sec. 78. **[115A.412] WASTE COMPOSITION; INFORMATION REQUIRED.**

114.27 Subdivision 1. Study required. (a) Every two years, beginning in ..., the commissioner
114.28 must direct the owners and operators at 20 percent of each of the following facility types
114.29 to perform a waste composition study:

114.30 (1) mixed municipal solid waste land disposal facilities;

114.31 (2) industrial solid waste land disposal facilities;

114.32 (3) demolition debris land disposal facilities;

115.1 (4) resource recovery facilities;

115.2 (5) transfer stations; and

115.3 (6) other facilities identified by the commissioner.

115.4 (b) The waste composition study must be performed at the sole expense of each owner
115.5 or operator as directed by the commissioner.

115.6 (c) When selecting facilities for waste composition studies, the commissioner must rotate
115.7 the participants so that, over time, the studies cover the entirety of the facilities identified
115.8 under paragraph (a). The commissioner must determine the time frame for each study in
115.9 the two-year cycle. The owner or operator of each selected facility must complete the study
115.10 within one year of being notified by the commissioner of selection to perform a waste
115.11 composition study.

115.12 Subd. 2. **Study requirements.** (a) The commissioner must:

115.13 (1) determine the sampling methods to be used and the categories of materials to be
115.14 sampled for waste composition studies; and

115.15 (2) provide the sampling methods and any additional requirements identified by the
115.16 commissioner to each owner or operator directed to perform a study.

115.17 (b) The sampling methods must include the number of samples to be taken, the size or
115.18 weight of each sample, the duration of a sampling event, the sampling interval, and any
115.19 additional methods identified by the commissioner. The categories of materials to be sampled
115.20 must include categories and subcategories identified by the commissioner to represent the
115.21 materials present at each facility.

115.22 Subd. 3. **Report.** Within six months after completing a waste composition study required
115.23 under this section, the owner or operator of a facility must submit the raw data and results
115.24 of the study to the commissioner in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner.

115.25 Subd. 4. **Compilation.** After each two-year cycle, the commissioner must compile and
115.26 summarize the waste composition data received under subdivision 3. The commissioner
115.27 must make the summary information available to the public.

115.28 Subd. 5. **Additional studies; information.** (a) The commissioner may conduct additional
115.29 waste composition studies at facilities described in subdivision 1.

115.30 (b) Upon request of the commissioner for purposes of determining compliance with this
115.31 section, a person must furnish to the commissioner any information that the person has or
115.32 may reasonably obtain.

116.1 (c) The owner or operator of a facility shall allow access upon reasonable notice to
116.2 authorized agency staff for the purpose of conducting waste composition studies.

116.3 Sec. 79. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 115A.5502, is amended to read:

116.4 **115A.5502 PACKAGING PRACTICES; PREFERENCES; GOALS.**

116.5 Packaging forms a substantial portion of solid waste and contributes to environmental
116.6 degradation and the costs of managing solid waste. It is imperative to reduce the amount
116.7 and toxicity of packaging that must be managed as solid waste. In order to achieve significant
116.8 reduction of packaging in solid waste ~~and to assist packagers and others to meet the packaging~~
116.9 ~~reduction goal in section 115A.5501~~, the goal of the state is that items be distributed without
116.10 any packaging where feasible and, only when necessary to protect health and safety or
116.11 product integrity, with the minimal amount of packaging possible. The following categories
116.12 of packaging are listed in order of preference for use by all persons who find it necessary
116.13 to package items for distribution or use in the state:

116.14 (1) minimal packaging that contains no intentionally introduced toxic materials and that
116.15 is designed to be and actually is reused for its original purpose at least five times;

116.16 (2) minimal packaging that contains no intentionally introduced toxic materials and
116.17 consists of a significant percentage of postconsumer material;

116.18 (3) minimal packaging that contains no intentionally introduced toxic materials, that is
116.19 recyclable, and is regularly collected through recycling collection programs available to at
116.20 least 75 percent of the residents of the state;

116.21 (4) minimal packaging that does not comply with clause (1), (2), or (3) because it is
116.22 required under federal or state law and for which there does not exist a commercially feasible
116.23 alternative that does comply with clause (1), (2), or (3);

116.24 (5) packaging that contains no intentionally introduced toxic materials but does not
116.25 comply with clauses (1) to (4); and

116.26 (6) all other packaging.

116.27 Sec. 80. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116.0711, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

116.28 Subdivision 1. **Conditions.** (a) The agency shall not require feedlot permittees to maintain
116.29 records as to rainfall or snowfall as a condition of a general feedlot permit if the owner
116.30 directs the commissioner or agent of the commissioner to appropriate data on precipitation
116.31 maintained by a government agency or educational institution.

117.1 (b) A feedlot permittee shall give notice to the agency when the permittee proposes to
117.2 transfer ownership or control of the feedlot to a new party. The commissioner shall not
117.3 unreasonably withhold or unreasonably delay approval of any transfer request. This request
117.4 shall be handled in accordance with sections 116.07 and 15.992.

117.5 (c) An animal feedlot in shoreland that has been unused may resume operation after
117.6 obtaining a permit from the agency or county, regardless of the number of years that the
117.7 feedlot was unused.

117.8 (d) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, chapter 7020, a person who applies manure in a
117.9 Level 2 or higher drinking water supply management area as designated under Minnesota
117.10 Rules, part 1573.0040, must follow a manure management plan approved by the
117.11 commissioner. A manure management plan for a Level 2 or higher drinking water supply
117.12 management area must include the Department of Agriculture's recommended best
117.13 management practices that are published on the department website for that drinking water
117.14 supply management area.

117.15 Sec. 81. **[116.391] RESILIENT COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

117.16 Subdivision 1. Citation. This section may be cited as the "Minnesota Resilient
117.17 Community Act."

117.18 Subd. 2. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the terms defined in this subdivision
117.19 have the meanings given.

117.20 (b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency.

117.21 (c) "Local government unit" means any unit of government other than a state or federal
117.22 unit of government and includes watershed districts established according to chapter 103D,
117.23 soil and water conservation districts, watershed management organizations, counties, towns,
117.24 cities, port authorities, housing authorities, regional development commissions, school
117.25 districts, and the Metropolitan Council.

117.26 (d) "Tribal government" means any of the Minnesota Tribal governments defined under
117.27 section 10.65, subdivision 2, clause (4), and includes Tribal organizations designated by
117.28 any of the Minnesota Tribal governments.

117.29 Subd. 3. Establishment. (a) The commissioner must establish a resilient community
117.30 assistance program to:

118.1 (1) assist local government units, Tribal governments, and other relevant organizations
118.2 as determined by the commissioner in adapting to and developing community resilience to
118.3 impacts of climate change;

118.4 (2) help coordinate climate adaptation planning, implementation, and evaluation efforts
118.5 among state agencies, local government units, Tribal governments, and other relevant
118.6 organizations; and

118.7 (3) address inequities due to social, economic, historical, and political factors that result
118.8 in some communities having less ability to prepare for, cope with, and recover from impacts
118.9 of climate change.

118.10 (b) To address inequities under paragraph (a), clause (3), the commissioner must seek
118.11 input and collaboration from disproportionately impacted communities.

118.12 Subd. 4. **Program elements.** The resilient community assistance program may include
118.13 but is not limited to:

118.14 (1) developing, assembling, and disseminating information on climate adaptation and
118.15 resilience;

118.16 (2) technical assistance for climate adaptation and resilience;

118.17 (3) financial assistance programs that provide grants or loans for resilience planning and
118.18 for implementing climate adaptation and resilience actions, coordinated with the Public
118.19 Facilities Authority, as necessary, for state bond-funded projects;

118.20 (4) outreach, including seminars, workshops, training programs, and other similar
118.21 activities, designed to provide education and information on climate adaptation and resilience
118.22 to local government units, Tribal governments, and other relevant organizations as determined
118.23 by the commissioner;

118.24 (5) coordinating, implementing, and measuring progress on climate adaptation and
118.25 resilience and measuring local government and Tribal government climate adaptation in
118.26 Minnesota; and

118.27 (6) other efforts needed to support climate adaptation and community resilience in
118.28 Minnesota as determined by the commissioner.

118.29 Subd. 5. **Administration.** (a) In administering the program, the commissioner may
118.30 coordinate with administrators of other public and private programs that provide technical
118.31 and financial assistance to local government units, Tribal governments, and other relevant
118.32 organizations that receive assistance under this section.

119.1 (b) The commissioner may make grants to or enter into contracts with public or private
119.2 entities to operate elements of the program. Grantees under this paragraph must provide the
119.3 commissioner with periodic reports on their efforts to assist in administering the program.

119.4 (c) When operating or participating in elements of the program according to a grant or
119.5 contract under paragraph (b), a person is an employee of the state who is certified to be
119.6 acting within the scope of employment for purposes of indemnification under section 3.736,
119.7 subdivision 9, for claims that arise out of the information, assistance, and recommendations
119.8 covered by the grant or contract. The state is not obligated to defend or indemnify a grantee
119.9 or contractor under this subdivision to the extent of the grantee's or contractor's liability
119.10 insurance. The grantee's or contractor's right to indemnity is not a waiver of limitations,
119.11 defenses, and immunities available to either the grantee or contractor or the state by law.

119.12 Subd. 6. **Award for excellence in community resilience.** The governor or commissioner
119.13 may issue annual awards in the form of a commendation for excellence in climate adaptation
119.14 and resilience. The commissioner must administer applications for the awards.

119.15 Sec. 82. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 116D.02, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

119.16 Subd. 2. **State responsibilities.** In order to carry out the policy set forth in Laws 1973,
119.17 chapter 412, it is the continuing responsibility of the state government to use all practicable
119.18 means, consistent with other essential considerations of state policy, to improve and
119.19 coordinate state plans, functions, programs and resources to the end that the state may:

119.20 (1) fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for
119.21 succeeding generations;

119.22 (2) assure for all people of the state safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and
119.23 culturally pleasing surroundings;

119.24 (3) discourage ecologically unsound aspects of population, economic and technological
119.25 growth, and develop and implement a policy such that growth occurs only in an
119.26 environmentally acceptable manner;

119.27 (4) preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage,
119.28 and maintain, wherever practicable, an environment that supports diversity, and variety of
119.29 individual choice;

119.30 (5) encourage, through education, a better understanding of natural resources management
119.31 principles that will develop attitudes and styles of living that minimize environmental
119.32 degradation;

- 120.1 (6) develop and implement land use and environmental policies, plans, and standards
120.2 for the state as a whole and for major regions thereof through a coordinated program of
120.3 planning and land use control;
- 120.4 (7) define, designate, and protect environmentally sensitive areas;
- 120.5 (8) establish and maintain statewide environmental information systems sufficient to
120.6 gauge environmental conditions;
- 120.7 (9) practice thrift in the use of energy and maximize the use of energy efficient systems
120.8 ~~for the utilization of~~ producing, distributing, and using energy, including recovering and
120.9 reusing waste heat, and minimize the environmental impact from energy production and
120.10 use;
- 120.11 (10) preserve important existing natural habitats of rare and endangered species of plants,
120.12 wildlife, and fish, and provide for the wise use of our remaining areas of natural habitation,
120.13 including necessary protective measures where appropriate;
- 120.14 (11) reduce wasteful practices which generate solid wastes;
- 120.15 (12) minimize wasteful and unnecessary depletion of nonrenewable resources;
- 120.16 (13) conserve natural resources and minimize environmental impact by encouraging
120.17 ~~extension of extended product lifetime, by~~ lifetimes; reducing ~~the number of~~ unnecessary
120.18 and wasteful materials practices; and ~~by~~ recycling materials, water, and energy to conserve
120.19 ~~both materials and energy~~ virgin resources;
- 120.20 (14) improve management of renewable resources in a manner compatible with
120.21 environmental protection;
- 120.22 (15) provide for reclamation of mined lands and assure that any mining is accomplished
120.23 in a manner compatible with environmental protection;
- 120.24 (16) reduce the deleterious impact on air and water quality from all sources, including
120.25 the deleterious environmental impact due to operation of vehicles with internal combustion
120.26 engines in urbanized areas;
- 120.27 (17) minimize noise, particularly in urban areas;
- 120.28 (18) prohibit, where appropriate, floodplain development in urban and rural areas; and
- 120.29 (19) encourage advanced waste treatment in abating water pollution, including practices
120.30 that enable the recovery and use of waste heat from wastewater treatment operations, in
120.31 accordance with the federal Clean Water Act, United States Code, title 33, section 1281(e).

121.1 **Sec. 83. REPORT.**

121.2 By December 1, 2027, the commissioner of natural resources must report to the chairs
 121.3 and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over
 121.4 environment and natural resources on the effect of modifying the shotgun zone on deer
 121.5 hunting and deer populations. The report may include any recommendations for additional
 121.6 statutory or policy changes that the commissioner deems advisable.

121.7 **Sec. 84. REQUIRED RULEMAKING.**

121.8 The commissioner of natural resources may use the good cause exemption under
 121.9 Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to adopt rules to conform with
 121.10 sections 4 to 10, 18, 23 to 26, 28 and 29, 34 to 45, and 47 to 75 of this article. Minnesota
 121.11 Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply to rules adopted under this section except as provided
 121.12 under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388.

121.13 **Sec. 85. REVISOR INSTRUCTION.**

121.14 The revisor of statutes must renumber Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.015, subdivision
 121.15 32b, as Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.015, subdivision 32d, and must renumber Minnesota
 121.16 Statutes, section 97A.015, subdivision 43, as Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.015,
 121.17 subdivision 32c.

121.18 **Sec. 86. REPEALER.**

121.19 Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 115A.5501, is repealed."

121.20 Delete the title and insert:

121.21 "A bill for an act
 121.22 relating to state government; modifying environment and natural resources laws;
 121.23 modifying forestry laws; modifying game and fish laws; modifying water law;
 121.24 requiring reports; making technical corrections; amending Minnesota Statutes
 121.25 2022, sections 13.7931, by adding a subdivision; 14.386; 16A.125, subdivision 5;
 121.26 17.4983, subdivision 2; 17.4984, subdivision 2; 17.4988, subdivision 4; 17.4992,
 121.27 subdivisions 1, 3; 17.4996; 41A.02, subdivision 6; 84.027, subdivisions 12, 15;
 121.28 84.0874; 84.0895, subdivisions 1, 8; 84.152, subdivision 3; 84.788, subdivision
 121.29 11; 84.798, subdivision 10; 84.8035, subdivision 1; 84.82, subdivisions 2a, 11;
 121.30 84.8205; 84.83, subdivision 2; 84.922, subdivision 12; 84.96, subdivisions 2, 3,
 121.31 5; 84B.061; 85.41, subdivisions 1, 4; 85.45, subdivision 1; 85.46, subdivision 3;
 121.32 86B.415, subdivision 11; 88.82; 89.36, subdivision 1; 89.37, subdivision 3; 93.0015,
 121.33 subdivision 3; 97A.015, subdivisions 3a, 3b, 39, 43, by adding subdivisions;
 121.34 97A.055, subdivision 4b; 97A.075, subdivision 2; 97A.215, by adding a
 121.35 subdivision; 97A.255, subdivision 5; 97A.341, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 97A.345;
 121.36 97A.405, subdivisions 3, 4, 4a; 97A.420, as amended; 97A.421, subdivision 2;
 121.37 97A.425, subdivision 4, by adding a subdivision; 97A.445, by adding a subdivision;
 121.38 97A.473, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 5, 5a; 97A.474, subdivision 3; 97A.475, subdivision

122.1 39; 97A.481; 97A.485, subdivision 6; 97A.505, subdivision 8; 97A.535,
122.2 subdivisions 1, 2, 2a, 4; 97A.551, subdivisions 2, 6; 97B.022, subdivisions 2, 3;
122.3 97B.055, subdivision 2; 97B.106; 97B.303; 97B.318, subdivision 1; 97B.401;
122.4 97B.516; 97B.603; 97B.716, subdivision 2; 97B.721; 97C.001, subdivision 2;
122.5 97C.005, subdivision 2; 97C.025; 97C.035, subdivision 3; 97C.045; 97C.081,
122.6 subdivision 3a; 97C.087; 97C.211, subdivision 5; 97C.301, subdivision 2a;
122.7 97C.355, subdivision 2; 97C.375; 97C.376, subdivisions 1, 5; 97C.381; 97C.385;
122.8 97C.391, subdivision 1; 97C.395, as amended; 97C.411; 97C.505, subdivision 8;
122.9 97C.801, subdivision 2; 97C.805, subdivisions 1, 4; 97C.811, subdivision 2;
122.10 97C.831, subdivision 1; 97C.835, subdivisions 2, 3; 97C.865, subdivision 1;
122.11 103B.101, subdivision 13; 103C.005; 103C.221; 103C.331, subdivisions 3, 5, 6,
122.12 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, by adding subdivisions; 103D.011, subdivision
122.13 10; 103D.201, subdivision 2; 103D.205, subdivision 4; 103D.251, subdivisions
122.14 5, 6; 103D.255; 103D.261, subdivisions 1, 2; 103D.271, subdivision 7; 103D.301,
122.15 subdivisions 1, 3; 103D.305, subdivisions 2, 5; 103D.311, subdivision 4; 103D.315,
122.16 subdivisions 9, 10; 103D.321, subdivision 1; 103D.331, subdivision 2; 103D.335,
122.17 subdivision 11; 103D.341, subdivision 1; 103D.345, subdivision 4; 103D.355,
122.18 subdivision 1; 103D.401; 103D.405, subdivision 1; 103D.535, subdivision 3;
122.19 103D.701; 103D.705, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; 103D.711; 103D.715,
122.20 subdivision 1; 103D.729, subdivisions 1, 2; 103D.731; 103D.745, subdivision 3;
122.21 103D.805; 103D.811, subdivision 3; 103D.901, subdivision 2; 103E.729,
122.22 subdivision 9; 103F.211, subdivision 1; 103F.48, subdivision 1; 103F.511, by
122.23 adding subdivisions; 103F.515; 103F.535, subdivision 5; 103G.005, subdivisions
122.24 14d, 17b; 103G.222, subdivision 1; 103G.2241, subdivisions 1, 2, 6, 9; 103G.2242,
122.25 subdivisions 2, 2a, 3; 103G.315, subdivision 15; 115A.5502; 116.0711, subdivision
122.26 1; 116D.02, subdivision 2; Minnesota Statutes 2023 Supplement, sections 84.83,
122.27 subdivision 3; 97A.405, subdivision 2; 97B.037; 97B.071; 97C.041; 97C.371,
122.28 subdivision 1; 103G.005, subdivision 19; 103G.301, subdivision 2; 115.03,
122.29 subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 11A;
122.30 84; 103D; 103F; 115A; 116; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2022, sections 97A.015,
122.31 subdivision 27a; 97A.485, subdivision 13; 103A.206; 103D.315, subdivision 4;
122.32 103D.405, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 103D.411; 103D.601; 103D.605, subdivisions
122.33 1, 2, 3, 4; 103D.611; 103F.511, subdivision 8b; 103F.950; 115A.5501; Minnesota
122.34 Statutes 2023 Supplement, section 103D.605, subdivision 5; Minnesota Rules,
122.35 parts 8400.3000; 8400.3030; 8400.3110; 8400.3210; 8400.3260; 8400.3300;
122.36 8400.3400; 8400.3460; 8400.3600; 8400.3610; 8400.3630; 8400.3700; 8400.3730;
122.37 8400.3800; 8400.3830; 8400.3930."