

Senator Hawj from the Committee on Environment, Climate, and Legacy, to which was referred

S.F. No. 2077: A bill for an act relating to state government; appropriating money for environment and natural resources; modifying fees and surcharges; modifying disposition of certain funds; modifying permitting efficiency provisions; establishing stewardship program for circuit boards, batteries, and electrical products; prohibiting mercury in batteries; modifying funding considerations for water infrastructure; providing for recovery of expenses of responding to pollutant release; modifying reimbursable costs under Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Act; providing for loans for regional parks and trails projects; modifying grant programs; modifying prior appropriations; providing civil penalties; authorizing rulemaking; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 85.055, subdivision 1; 86B.415, subdivision 7; 103G.271, subdivision 6; 103G.301, subdivision 2; 115.01, by adding subdivisions; 115.071, subdivision 1; 115.072; 115A.121; 115A.554; 115B.421; 115C.02, subdivision 14, by adding a subdivision; 115C.09, subdivision 1; 116.03, subdivision 2b; 116.073, subdivisions 1, 2; 116.182, subdivision 5; 116.92, subdivision 6, by adding a subdivision; 168.1295, subdivision 1; 446A.07, subdivision 8; 473.167; 473.355, subdivision 2; 473.5491, subdivision 1; Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 1, section 2, subdivisions 2, 7; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 115A; repealing Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 115A.1310, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12a, 12b, 12c, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20; 115A.1312; 115A.1314; 115A.1316; 115A.1318; 115A.1320; 115A.1322; 115A.1323; 115A.1324; 115A.1326; 115A.1328; 115A.1330; 115A.9155; 115A.9157, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; 115A.961, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 325E.125; 325E.1251.

Reports the same back with the recommendation that the bill be amended as follows:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

"ARTICLE 1

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS

Section 1. **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year" is fiscal year 2027. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

APPROPRIATIONS

Available for the Year

Ending June 30

2026

2027

Sec. 2. POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation	\$	157,580,000	\$	163,566,000
---	----	--------------------	----	--------------------

2.1	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
2.2		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
2.3	<u>General</u>	<u>9,122,000</u>	<u>9,072,000</u>
2.4	<u>State Government</u>		
2.5	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>
2.6	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>119,906,000</u>	<u>125,675,000</u>
2.7	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>21,962,000</u>	<u>22,229,000</u>
2.8	<u>Closed Landfill</u>		
2.9	<u>Investment</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>

2.10 The amounts that may be spent for each
2.11 purpose are specified in the following
2.12 subdivisions.

2.13 The commissioner must present the agency's
2.14 biennial budget for fiscal years 2028 and 2029
2.15 to the legislature in a transparent way by
2.16 agency division, including the proposed
2.17 budget bill and presentations of the budget to
2.18 committees and divisions with jurisdiction
2.19 over the agency's budget.

2.20	<u>Subd. 2. Environmental Analysis and Outcomes</u>	<u>23,077,000</u>	<u>25,027,000</u>
------	---	-------------------	-------------------

2.21	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
2.22		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
2.23	<u>General</u>	<u>283,000</u>	<u>296,000</u>
2.24	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>22,575,000</u>	<u>24,511,000</u>
2.25	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>219,000</u>	<u>220,000</u>

2.26 (a) \$128,000 the first year and \$131,000 the
2.27 second year are from the environmental fund
2.28 for a municipal liaison to assist municipalities
2.29 with water quality standards and NPDES/SDS
2.30 permitting processes, including enhanced
2.31 economic analysis in the water quality
2.32 standards rulemaking processes, identification
2.33 of cost-effective permitting opportunities,
2.34 simplifying the variance process, and
2.35 coordinating with the Public Facilities
2.36 Authority to identify and advocate for needed

3.1 resources for municipalities to achieve permit
3.2 requirements.

3.3 (b) \$1,182,000 the first year and \$1,191,000
3.4 the second year are from the environmental
3.5 fund for an air-monitoring program under
3.6 Minnesota Statutes, section 116.454, including
3.7 ambient air for hazardous pollutants, and for
3.8 operating a mobile emissions regulatory
3.9 monitoring trailer.

3.10 (c) \$144,000 the first year and \$148,000 the
3.11 second year are from the environmental fund
3.12 for monitoring water quality and operating
3.13 assistance programs.

3.14 (d) \$109,000 the first year and \$109,000 the
3.15 second year are from the environmental fund
3.16 for duties related to harmful chemicals in
3.17 children's products under Minnesota Statutes,
3.18 sections 116.9401 to 116.9407. Of this
3.19 amount, \$70,000 the first year and \$70,000
3.20 the second year are transferred to the
3.21 commissioner of health.

3.22 (e) \$137,000 the first year and \$139,000 the
3.23 second year are from the environmental fund
3.24 for registering wastewater laboratories.

3.25 (f) \$1,527,000 the first year and \$1,529,000
3.26 the second year are from the environmental
3.27 fund to continue perfluorochemical
3.28 biomonitoring in eastern metropolitan
3.29 communities, as recommended by the
3.30 Environmental Health Tracking and
3.31 Biomonitoring Advisory Panel, and to address
3.32 other environmental health risks, including air
3.33 quality. The communities must include Hmong
3.34 and other immigrant farming communities.

4.1 Of this amount, up to \$1,248,000 the first year
4.2 and \$1,248,000 the second year are for transfer
4.3 to the commissioner of health.

4.4 (g) \$64,000 the first year and \$65,000 the
4.5 second year are from the environmental fund
4.6 for the listing procedures for impaired waters
4.7 required under this act.

4.8 (h) \$79,000 the first year and \$80,000 the
4.9 second year are from the remediation fund for
4.10 the leaking underground storage tank program
4.11 to investigate, clean up, and prevent future
4.12 releases from underground petroleum storage
4.13 tanks and for the petroleum remediation
4.14 program for vapor assessment and
4.15 remediation. These same annual amounts are
4.16 transferred from the petroleum tank fund to
4.17 the remediation fund.

4.18 (i) \$283,000 the first year and \$296,000 the
4.19 second year are from the general fund to
4.20 support communities in planning to implement
4.21 projects that will allow for adaptation for a
4.22 changing climate.

4.23 (j) \$2,139,000 the first year and \$2,160,000
4.24 the second year are from the environmental
4.25 fund to develop and implement a program
4.26 related to emerging issues, including
4.27 Minnesota's PFAS Blueprint.

4.28 (k) \$1,893,000 the first year and \$1,915,000
4.29 the second year are from the environmental
4.30 fund to support improved management of data
4.31 collected by the agency and its partners and
4.32 regulated parties to facilitate decision-making
4.33 and public access.

5.1 (l) \$1,448,000 the second year is from the
5.2 environmental fund to adopt rules and
5.3 implement air toxics emissions requirements
5.4 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.062.

5.5 (m) \$904,000 the first year and \$911,000 the
5.6 second year are from the environmental fund
5.7 for monitoring ambient air for hazardous air
5.8 pollutants in Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington,
5.9 and Olmsted Counties.

5.10 (n) \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000 the
5.11 second year are from the environmental fund
5.12 to address wastewater effluent limits and
5.13 variances for backlogged permits.

5.14	<u>Subd. 3. Industrial</u>	<u>24,144,000</u>	<u>27,443,000</u>
------	-----------------------------------	-------------------	-------------------

5.15	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
5.16		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
5.17	<u>General</u>	<u>782,000</u>	<u>789,000</u>
5.18	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>21,376,000</u>	<u>24,641,000</u>
5.19	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>1,986,000</u>	<u>2,013,000</u>

5.20 (a) \$1,876,000 the first year and \$1,902,000
5.21 the second year are from the remediation fund
5.22 for the leaking underground storage tank
5.23 program to investigate, clean up, and prevent
5.24 future releases from underground petroleum
5.25 storage tanks and for the petroleum
5.26 remediation program for vapor assessment
5.27 and remediation. These same annual amounts
5.28 are transferred from the petroleum tank fund
5.29 to the remediation fund.

5.30 (b) \$457,000 the first year and \$457,000 the
5.31 second year are from the environmental fund
5.32 to further evaluate the use and reduction of
5.33 trichloroethylene around Minnesota and
5.34 identify its potential health effects on

6.1 communities. Of this amount, \$149,000 the
6.2 first year and \$149,000 the second year are
6.3 for transfer to the commissioner of health.

6.4 (c) \$257,000 the first year and \$264,000 the
6.5 second year are from the general fund for
6.6 implementation of the odor management
6.7 requirements under Minnesota Statutes,
6.8 section 116.064.

6.9 (d) \$148,000 the second year is from the
6.10 environmental fund for the purposes of the
6.11 public informational meeting requirements
6.12 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.07,
6.13 subdivision 4m.

6.14 (e) \$2,698,000 the first year and \$2,718,000
6.15 the second year are from the environmental
6.16 fund for prioritizing air regulatory program
6.17 work in environmental justice areas.

6.18 (f) \$2,539,000 the second year is from the
6.19 environmental fund for implementing the
6.20 environmental justice cumulative impact
6.21 analysis and other requirements under
6.22 Minnesota Statutes, section 116.065.

6.23 (g) \$730,000 the first year and \$740,000 the
6.24 second year are from the environmental fund
6.25 to improve the coordination, effectiveness,
6.26 transparency, and accountability of the
6.27 environmental review and permitting process.

6.28 (h) \$700,00 the first year and \$700,000 the
6.29 second year are to address backlogged permits.
6.30 Of this amount, \$525,000 the first year and
6.31 \$525,000 the second year are from the general
6.32 fund and \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000
6.33 the second year are from the environmental
6.34 fund.

7.1	Subd. 4. <u>Municipal</u>	11,271,000	11,410,000
7.2	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
7.3	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	
7.4	<u>State Government</u>		
7.5	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>
7.6	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>11,181,000</u>	<u>11,320,000</u>
7.7	<u>(a) \$228,000 the first year and \$233,000 the</u>		
7.8	<u>second year are from the environmental fund</u>		
7.9	<u>for a municipal liaison to assist municipalities</u>		
7.10	<u>with water quality standards and NPDES/SDS</u>		
7.11	<u>permitting processes, including enhanced</u>		
7.12	<u>economic analysis in the water quality</u>		
7.13	<u>standards rulemaking processes, identification</u>		
7.14	<u>of cost-effective permitting opportunities,</u>		
7.15	<u>simplifying the variance process, and</u>		
7.16	<u>coordinating with the Public Facilities</u>		
7.17	<u>Authority to identify and advocate for needed</u>		
7.18	<u>resources for municipalities to achieve permit</u>		
7.19	<u>requirements.</u>		
7.20	<u>(b) \$50,000 the first year and \$50,000 the</u>		
7.21	<u>second year are from the environmental fund</u>		
7.22	<u>for transfer to the Office of Administrative</u>		
7.23	<u>Hearings to establish sanitary districts.</u>		
7.24	<u>(c) \$2,511,000 the first year and \$2,535,000</u>		
7.25	<u>the second year are from the environmental</u>		
7.26	<u>fund for subsurface sewage treatment system</u>		
7.27	<u>(SSTS) program administration; for</u>		
7.28	<u>community technical assistance and education,</u>		
7.29	<u>including grants and technical assistance to</u>		
7.30	<u>communities for water-quality protection, new</u>		
7.31	<u>technology review, and enforcement under</u>		
7.32	<u>Minnesota Statutes, sections 115.55 to 115.58;</u>		
7.33	<u>and to complete the requirements of Laws</u>		
7.34	<u>2003, chapter 128, article 1, section 165. Of</u>		
7.35	<u>this amount, \$350,000 each year is for</u>		

8.1 assistance to counties through grants for SSTS
8.2 program administration. A county receiving
8.3 a grant from this appropriation must submit
8.4 the results achieved with the grant to the
8.5 commissioner as part of its annual SSTS
8.6 report. Any unexpended balance in the first
8.7 year does not cancel but is available in the
8.8 second year.

8.9 (d) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
8.10 section 16A.28, the appropriations
8.11 encumbered on or before June 30, 2027, as
8.12 grants or contracts for subsurface sewage
8.13 treatment systems, surface water and
8.14 groundwater assessments, storm water, and
8.15 water-quality protection in this subdivision
8.16 are available until June 30, 2030.

8.17 Subd. 5. Operations15,584,00015,650,000

8.18	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
8.19		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
8.20	<u>General</u>	<u>4,219,000</u>	<u>4,115,000</u>
8.21	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>8,733,000</u>	<u>8,870,000</u>
8.22	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>2,632,000</u>	<u>2,665,000</u>

8.23 (a) \$1,187,000 the first year and \$1,201,000
8.24 the second year are from the remediation fund
8.25 for the leaking underground storage tank
8.26 program to investigate, clean up, and prevent
8.27 future releases from underground petroleum
8.28 storage tanks and for the petroleum
8.29 remediation program for vapor assessment
8.30 and remediation. These same annual amounts
8.31 are transferred from the petroleum tank fund
8.32 to the remediation fund.

8.33 (b) \$3,204,000 the first year and \$3,300,000
8.34 the second year are from the general fund to
8.35 support agency information technology

- 9.1 services provided at the enterprise and agency
9.2 level.
- 9.3 (c) \$955,000 the first year and \$965,000 the
9.4 second year are from the environmental fund
9.5 to develop and maintain systems to support
9.6 permitting and regulatory business processes
9.7 and agency data.
- 9.8 (d) \$278,000 the first year and \$280,000 the
9.9 second year are from the environmental fund
9.10 to support current and future career pathways
9.11 for underrepresented students.
- 9.12 (e) \$375,000 the first year and \$380,000 the
9.13 second year are from the environmental fund
9.14 to support financial planning and analysis to
9.15 assist with risk and compliance management
9.16 across agency programs and financial systems.
- 9.17 (f) \$538,000 the first year and \$542,000 the
9.18 second year are from the environmental fund
9.19 for Operations Division legal services that
9.20 support compliance programs.
- 9.21 (g) \$815,000 the first year and \$815,000 the
9.22 second year are from the general fund for
9.23 developing tools to improve permitting
9.24 issuance processes. This appropriation is
9.25 available until June 30, 2029. This is a onetime
9.26 appropriation.
- 9.27 (h) \$200,000 the first year is from the general
9.28 fund to expand outreach under Minnesota
9.29 Statutes, section 116.07, subdivision 13. This
9.30 is a onetime appropriation.
- 9.31 (i) The total general fund base for the
9.32 Operations Division for fiscal year 2028 and
9.33 later is \$3,300,000.

10.1	<u>Subd. 6. Remediation</u>	<u>23,861,000</u>	<u>24,068,000</u>
10.2	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
10.3	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	
10.4	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>642,000</u>	<u>646,000</u>
10.5	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>16,719,000</u>	<u>16,922,000</u>
10.6	<u>Closed Landfill</u>		
10.7	<u>Investment</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>	<u>6,500,000</u>
10.8	<u>(a) All money for environmental response,</u>		
10.9	<u>compensation, and compliance in the</u>		
10.10	<u>remediation fund not otherwise appropriated</u>		
10.11	<u>is appropriated to the commissioners of the</u>		
10.12	<u>Pollution Control Agency and agriculture for</u>		
10.13	<u>purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
10.14	<u>115B.20, subdivision 2, clauses (1), (2), (3),</u>		
10.15	<u>(6), and (7). At the beginning of each fiscal</u>		
10.16	<u>year, the two commissioners must jointly</u>		
10.17	<u>submit to the commissioner of management</u>		
10.18	<u>and budget an annual spending plan that</u>		
10.19	<u>maximizes resource use and appropriately</u>		
10.20	<u>allocates the money between the two</u>		
10.21	<u>departments.</u>		
10.22	<u>(b) \$4,965,000 the first year and \$5,036,000</u>		
10.23	<u>the second year are from the remediation fund</u>		
10.24	<u>for the leaking underground storage tank</u>		
10.25	<u>program to investigate, clean up, and prevent</u>		
10.26	<u>future releases from underground petroleum</u>		
10.27	<u>storage tanks and for the petroleum</u>		
10.28	<u>remediation program for vapor assessment</u>		
10.29	<u>and remediation. These same annual amounts</u>		
10.30	<u>are transferred from the petroleum tank fund</u>		
10.31	<u>to the remediation fund.</u>		
10.32	<u>(c) \$316,000 the first year and \$316,000 the</u>		
10.33	<u>second year are from the remediation fund for</u>		
10.34	<u>transfer to the commissioner of health for</u>		
10.35	<u>private water-supply monitoring and health</u>		

11.1 assessment costs in areas contaminated by
11.2 unpermitted mixed municipal solid waste
11.3 disposal facilities and drinking water
11.4 advisories and public information activities
11.5 for areas contaminated by hazardous releases.

11.6 (d) \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the
11.7 second year are from the remediation fund to
11.8 review and mitigate the impacts from the
11.9 backlog of high-priority sites in the Superfund
11.10 site assessment program.

11.11 (e) \$6,500,000 the first year and \$6,500,000
11.12 the second year are from the closed landfill
11.13 investment fund for costs not otherwise
11.14 covered with other resources under the landfill
11.15 cleanup program in Minnesota Statutes,
11.16 sections 115B.39 to 115B.444. This is a
11.17 onetime appropriation and is available until
11.18 June 30, 2029. The commissioner must report
11.19 on all work plans and expenditures from this
11.20 appropriation to the chairs and ranking
11.21 minority members of the legislative
11.22 committees having jurisdiction over
11.23 environment policy and finance by February
11.24 15, 2027.

11.25	<u>Subd. 7. Resource Management and Assistance</u>	<u>46,830,000</u>	<u>46,985,000</u>
-------	--	-------------------	-------------------

11.26	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
11.27		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
11.28	<u>General</u>	<u>70,000</u>	<u>70,000</u>
11.29	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>46,760,000</u>	<u>46,915,000</u>

11.30 (a) Up to \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000
11.31 the second year may be transferred from the
11.32 environmental fund to the small business
11.33 environmental improvement loan account
11.34 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.993.

- 12.1 (b) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
12.2 the second year are from the environmental
12.3 fund for competitive recycling grants under
12.4 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.565. This
12.5 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.
- 12.6 (c) \$694,000 the first year and \$694,000 the
12.7 second year are from the environmental fund
12.8 for emission-reduction activities and grants to
12.9 small businesses and other
12.10 nonpoint-emission-reduction efforts. Of this
12.11 amount, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000
12.12 the second year are to continue work with
12.13 Clean Air Minnesota, and the commissioner
12.14 may enter into an agreement with
12.15 Environmental Initiative to support this effort.
- 12.16 (d) \$18,450,000 the first year and \$18,450,000
12.17 the second year are from the environmental
12.18 fund for SCORE block grants to counties.
- 12.19 (e) \$119,000 the first year and \$119,000 the
12.20 second year are from the environmental fund
12.21 for environmental assistance grants or loans
12.22 under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.0716.
- 12.23 (f) \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the
12.24 second year are from the environmental fund
12.25 for grants to develop and expand recycling
12.26 markets for Minnesota businesses. This
12.27 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029.
- 12.28 (g) \$770,000 the first year and \$770,000 the
12.29 second year are from the environmental fund
12.30 for reducing and diverting food waste,
12.31 redirecting edible food for consumption, and
12.32 removing barriers to collecting and recovering
12.33 organic waste. Of this amount, \$500,000 each
12.34 year is for grants to increase food rescue and

- 13.1 waste prevention. This appropriation is
13.2 available until June 30, 2029.
- 13.3 (h) \$2,829,000 the first year and \$2,835,000
13.4 the second year are from the environmental
13.5 fund for the purposes of Minnesota Statutes,
13.6 section 473.844.
- 13.7 (i) \$479,000 the first year and \$481,000 the
13.8 second year are from the environmental fund
13.9 to address chemicals in products, including to
13.10 implement and enforce flame retardant
13.11 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
13.12 325F.071, and perfluoroalkyl and
13.13 polyfluoroalkyl substances in food packaging
13.14 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
13.15 325F.075. Of this amount, \$80,000 the first
13.16 year and \$80,000 the second year are
13.17 transferred to the commissioner of health.
- 13.18 (j) \$650,000 the first year and \$650,000 the
13.19 second year are from the environmental fund
13.20 for Minnesota GreenCorps investment.
- 13.21 (k) \$1,143,000 the first year and \$1,152,000
13.22 the second year are from the environmental
13.23 fund for implementation of the PFAS
13.24 requirements under Minnesota Statutes,
13.25 section 116.943. Of this amount, \$468,000 the
13.26 first year and \$468,000 the second year are
13.27 for transfer to the commissioner of health.
- 13.28 (l) \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000 the
13.29 second year are from the environmental fund
13.30 to address land permitting activities.
- 13.31 (m) \$215,000 the first year and \$215,000 the
13.32 second year are from the environmental fund
13.33 to enhance existing work to reduce or
13.34 eliminate mercury-containing skin-lightening

- 14.1 products. The base is \$195,000 in fiscal year
- 14.2 2028 and thereafter.
- 14.3 (n) Any unencumbered grant and loan
- 14.4 balances in the first year do not cancel but are
- 14.5 available for grants and loans in the second
- 14.6 year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
- 14.7 section 16A.28, the appropriations
- 14.8 encumbered on or before June 30, 2027, as
- 14.9 contracts or grants for environmental
- 14.10 assistance awarded under Minnesota Statutes,
- 14.11 section 115A.0716; technical and research
- 14.12 assistance under Minnesota Statutes, section
- 14.13 115A.152; technical assistance under
- 14.14 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.52; and
- 14.15 pollution prevention assistance under
- 14.16 Minnesota Statutes, section 115D.04, are
- 14.17 available until June 30, 2029.
- 14.18 Subd. 8. Watershed

11,268,00011,401,000
- 14.19 Appropriations by Fund
- 14.20

	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
14.21 <u>General</u>	<u>2,459,000</u>	<u>2,459,000</u>
14.22 <u>Environmental</u>	<u>8,403,000</u>	<u>8,533,000</u>
14.23 <u>Remediation</u>	<u>406,000</u>	<u>409,000</u>
- 14.24 (a) \$2,459,000 the first year and \$2,459,000
- 14.25 the second year are from the general fund for
- 14.26 grants to delegated counties to administer the
- 14.27 county feedlot program under Minnesota
- 14.28 Statutes, section 116.0711, subdivisions 2 and
- 14.29 3. Money remaining after the first year is
- 14.30 available for the second year.
- 14.31 (b) \$137,000 the first year and \$138,000 the
- 14.32 second year are from the remediation fund for
- 14.33 the leaking underground storage tank program
- 14.34 to investigate, clean up, and prevent future
- 14.35 releases from underground petroleum storage

15.1	<u>tanks and for the petroleum remediation</u>		
15.2	<u>program for vapor assessment and</u>		
15.3	<u>remediation. These same annual amounts are</u>		
15.4	<u>transferred from the petroleum tank fund to</u>		
15.5	<u>the remediation fund.</u>		
15.6	<u>(c) Any unencumbered grant and loan balances</u>		
15.7	<u>in the first year do not cancel but are available</u>		
15.8	<u>for grants and loans in the second year.</u>		
15.9	<u>Subd. 9. Environmental Quality Board</u>	<u>1,545,000</u>	<u>1,582,000</u>
15.10	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
15.11		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
15.12	<u>General</u>	<u>1,309,000</u>	<u>1,343,000</u>
15.13	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>236,000</u>	<u>239,000</u>
15.14	<u>Subd. 10. Transfers</u>		
15.15	<u>The commissioner must transfer up to</u>		
15.16	<u>\$24,000,000 the first year and \$24,000,000</u>		
15.17	<u>the second year from the environmental fund</u>		
15.18	<u>to the remediation fund for purposes of the</u>		
15.19	<u>remediation fund under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
15.20	<u>section 116.155, subdivision 2. For fiscal years</u>		
15.21	<u>2028 through 2031, the commissioner of</u>		
15.22	<u>management and budget must include a</u>		
15.23	<u>transfer of \$24,000,000 each year from the</u>		
15.24	<u>environmental fund to the remediation fund</u>		
15.25	<u>when preparing each forecast from the</u>		
15.26	<u>effective date of this section through the</u>		
15.27	<u>February 2027 forecast under Minnesota</u>		
15.28	<u>Statutes, section 16A.103.</u>		
15.29	<u>Sec. 3. NATURAL RESOURCES</u>		
15.30	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	<u>\$ 396,596,000</u>	<u>\$ 397,706,000</u>
15.31	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
15.32		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
15.33	<u>General</u>	<u>130,981,000</u>	<u>131,435,000</u>
15.34	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>133,926,000</u>	<u>134,324,000</u>

16.1	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>130,852,000</u>	<u>131,098,000</u>
16.2	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>117,000</u>	<u>117,000</u>
16.3	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>720,000</u>	<u>732,000</u>

16.4 The amounts that may be spent for each
16.5 purpose are specified in the following
16.6 subdivisions.

16.7	<u>Subd. 2. Land and Mineral Resources</u>		
16.8	<u>Management</u>	<u>10,569,000</u>	<u>10,615,000</u>

16.9	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
16.10		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
16.11	<u>General</u>	<u>5,069,000</u>	<u>5,099,000</u>
16.12	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>4,929,000</u>	<u>4,940,000</u>
16.13	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>344,000</u>	<u>344,000</u>
16.14	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>227,000</u>	<u>232,000</u>

16.15 (a) \$319,000 the first year and \$319,000 the
16.16 second year are for environmental research
16.17 relating to mine permitting, of which \$200,000
16.18 each year is from the minerals management
16.19 account in the natural resources fund and
16.20 \$119,000 each year is from the general fund.

16.21 (b) \$3,639,000 the first year and \$3,650,000
16.22 the second year are from the minerals
16.23 management account in the natural resources
16.24 fund for use as provided under Minnesota
16.25 Statutes, section 93.2236, paragraph (c), for
16.26 mineral resource management, projects to
16.27 enhance future mineral income, and projects
16.28 to promote new mineral-resource
16.29 opportunities.

16.30 (c) \$227,000 the first year and \$232,000 the
16.31 second year are from the permanent school
16.32 fund to secure maximum long-term economic
16.33 return from the school trust lands consistent
16.34 with fiduciary responsibilities and sound

17.1	<u>natural resources conservation and</u>		
17.2	<u>management principles.</u>		
17.3	<u>(d) \$573,000 the first year and \$573,000 the</u>		
17.4	<u>second year are from the water management</u>		
17.5	<u>account in the natural resources fund for only</u>		
17.6	<u>the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
17.7	<u>section 103G.27, subdivision 2.</u>		
17.8	<u>(e) \$160,000 the first year is from the general</u>		
17.9	<u>fund for completing the condemnation of</u>		
17.10	<u>certain land in Mille Lacs County authorized</u>		
17.11	<u>under Laws 2024, chapter 116, article 8,</u>		
17.12	<u>section 13. This is a onetime appropriation</u>		
17.13	<u>and is available until June 30, 2027.</u>		
17.14	<u>Subd. 3. Ecological and Water Resources</u>	<u>46,772,000</u>	<u>48,202,000</u>
17.15	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
17.16	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	
17.17	<u>General</u>	<u>22,470,000</u>	<u>22,732,000</u>
17.18	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>18,478,000</u>	<u>19,646,000</u>
17.19	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>5,824,000</u>	<u>5,824,000</u>
17.20	<u>(a) \$6,947,000 the first year and \$6,952,000</u>		
17.21	<u>the second year are from the invasive species</u>		
17.22	<u>account in the natural resources fund and</u>		
17.23	<u>\$1,631,000 the first year and \$1,631,000 the</u>		
17.24	<u>second year are from the general fund for</u>		
17.25	<u>management, public awareness, assessment</u>		
17.26	<u>and monitoring research, and water access</u>		
17.27	<u>inspection to prevent the spread of invasive</u>		
17.28	<u>species; management of invasive plants in</u>		
17.29	<u>public waters; and management of terrestrial</u>		
17.30	<u>invasive species on state-administered lands.</u>		
17.31	<u>(b) \$7,801,000 the first year and \$8,791,000</u>		
17.32	<u>the second year are from the water</u>		
17.33	<u>management account in the natural resources</u>		
17.34	<u>fund for only the purposes specified in</u>		

18.1 Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.27,
18.2 subdivision 2.

18.3 (c) \$124,000 the first year and \$124,000 the
18.4 second year are for a grant to the Mississippi
18.5 Headwaters Board for up to 50 percent of the
18.6 cost of implementing the comprehensive plan
18.7 for the upper Mississippi within areas under
18.8 the board's jurisdiction.

18.9 (d) \$264,000 the first year and \$264,000 the
18.10 second year are for grants for up to 50 percent
18.11 of the cost of implementing the Red River
18.12 mediation agreement.

18.13 (e) \$2,598,000 the first year and \$2,598,000
18.14 the second year are from the heritage
18.15 enhancement account in the game and fish
18.16 fund for only the purposes specified in
18.17 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
18.18 paragraph (h), clause (1).

18.19 (f) \$1,150,000 the first year and \$1,150,000
18.20 the second year are from the nongame wildlife
18.21 management account in the natural resources
18.22 fund for nongame wildlife management.

18.23 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section
18.24 290.431, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000
18.25 the second year may be used for nongame
18.26 wildlife information, education, and
18.27 promotion.

18.28 (g) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
18.29 section 84.943, \$48,000 the first year and
18.30 \$48,000 the second year from the critical
18.31 habitat private sector matching account may
18.32 be used to publicize the critical habitat license
18.33 plate match program.

19.1 (h) \$4,555,000 the first year and \$4,555,000
19.2 the second year are for the following activities:

19.3 (1) financial reimbursement and technical
19.4 support to soil and water conservation districts
19.5 or other local units of government for
19.6 groundwater-level monitoring;

19.7 (2) surface water monitoring and analysis,
19.8 including installing monitoring gauges;

19.9 (3) groundwater analysis to assist with
19.10 water-appropriation permitting decisions;

19.11 (4) permit application review incorporating
19.12 surface water and groundwater technical
19.13 analysis;

19.14 (5) precipitation data and analysis to improve
19.15 irrigation use;

19.16 (6) information technology, including
19.17 electronic permitting and integrated data
19.18 systems; and

19.19 (7) compliance and monitoring.

19.20 (i) \$410,000 the first year and \$410,000 the
19.21 second year are from the heritage enhancement
19.22 account in the game and fish fund, and
19.23 \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
19.24 second year are from the general fund are for
19.25 the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species
19.26 Research Center at the University of
19.27 Minnesota to prioritize, support, and develop
19.28 research-based solutions that can reduce the
19.29 effects of aquatic invasive species in
19.30 Minnesota by preventing spread, controlling
19.31 populations, and managing ecosystems and to
19.32 advance knowledge to inspire action by others.

20.1 (j) \$129,000 the first year is from the general
20.2 fund for providing research, policy review,
20.3 and assisting the Sustainable Foraging Task
20.4 Force. This is a onetime appropriation.

20.5 Subd. 4. Forest Management 60,623,000 61,293,000

20.6	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
20.7		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
20.8	<u>General</u>	<u>42,800,000</u>	<u>43,383,000</u>
20.9	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>16,206,000</u>	<u>16,293,000</u>
20.10	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>1,617,000</u>	<u>1,617,000</u>

20.11 (a) \$7,521,000 the first year and \$7,521,000
20.12 the second year are for prevention,
20.13 presuppression, and suppression costs of
20.14 emergency firefighting and other costs
20.15 incurred under Minnesota Statutes, section
20.16 88.12. The amount necessary to pay for
20.17 presuppression and suppression costs during
20.18 the biennium is appropriated from the general
20.19 fund. By January 15 each year, the
20.20 commissioner of natural resources must submit
20.21 a report to the chairs and ranking minority
20.22 members of the house and senate committees
20.23 and divisions having jurisdiction over
20.24 environment and natural resources finance that
20.25 identifies all firefighting costs incurred and
20.26 reimbursements received in the prior fiscal
20.27 year. These appropriations may not be
20.28 transferred. Any reimbursement of firefighting
20.29 expenditures made to the commissioner from
20.30 any source other than federal mobilizations
20.31 must be deposited into the general fund.

20.32 (b) \$15,706,000 the first year and \$15,793,000
20.33 the second year are from the forest
20.34 management investment account in the natural
20.35 resources fund for only the purposes specified

21.1	<u>in Minnesota Statutes, section 89.039,</u>		
21.2	<u>subdivision 2.</u>		
21.3	<u>(c) \$1,617,000 the first year and \$1,617,000</u>		
21.4	<u>the second year are from the heritage</u>		
21.5	<u>enhancement account in the game and fish</u>		
21.6	<u>fund to advance ecological classification</u>		
21.7	<u>systems (ECS), forest habitat, and invasive</u>		
21.8	<u>species management.</u>		
21.9	<u>(d) \$940,000 the first year and \$947,000 the</u>		
21.10	<u>second year are for the Forest Resources</u>		
21.11	<u>Council to implement the Sustainable Forest</u>		
21.12	<u>Resources Act.</u>		
21.13	<u>(e) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the</u>		
21.14	<u>second year are from the forest management</u>		
21.15	<u>investment account in the natural resources</u>		
21.16	<u>fund for forest road maintenance on state</u>		
21.17	<u>forest roads.</u>		
21.18	<u>(f) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the</u>		
21.19	<u>second year are for forest road maintenance</u>		
21.20	<u>on county forest roads.</u>		
21.21	<u>(g) \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the</u>		
21.22	<u>second year are for grants to local and Tribal</u>		
21.23	<u>governments and nonprofit organizations to</u>		
21.24	<u>enhance community forest ecosystem health</u>		
21.25	<u>and sustainability under Minnesota Statutes,</u>		
21.26	<u>section 88.82. The commissioner may use a</u>		
21.27	<u>reasonable amount of this appropriation for</u>		
21.28	<u>administering ReLeaf grants.</u>		
21.29	<u>Subd. 5. Parks and Trails Management</u>	<u>115,352,000</u>	<u>113,212,000</u>
21.30	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
21.31		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
21.32	<u>General</u>	<u>37,076,000</u>	<u>36,474,000</u>
21.33	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>75,976,000</u>	<u>74,438,000</u>
21.34	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>2,300,000</u>	<u>2,300,000</u>

- 22.1 (a) \$8,925,000 the first year and \$9,238,000
22.2 the second year are from the natural resources
22.3 fund for state trail, park, and recreation area
22.4 operations. This appropriation is from revenue
22.5 deposited in the natural resources fund under
22.6 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
22.7 paragraph (h), clause (2).
- 22.8 (b) \$23,859,000 the first year and \$23,615,000
22.9 the second year are from the state parks
22.10 account in the natural resources fund to
22.11 operate and maintain state parks and state
22.12 recreation areas.
- 22.13 (c) \$1,300,000 the first year and \$1,300,000
22.14 the second year are from the natural resources
22.15 fund for park and trail grants to local units of
22.16 government on land to be maintained for at
22.17 least 20 years for parks or trails. Priority must
22.18 be given for projects that are in underserved
22.19 communities or that increase access to persons
22.20 with disabilities. This appropriation is from
22.21 revenue deposited in the natural resources fund
22.22 under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
22.23 paragraph (h), clause (4). Any unencumbered
22.24 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
22.25 year and is available for the second year.
- 22.26 (d) \$9,624,000 the first year and \$9,624,000
22.27 the second year are from the snowmobile trails
22.28 and enforcement account in the natural
22.29 resources fund for the snowmobile
22.30 grants-in-aid program. Any unencumbered
22.31 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
22.32 year and is available for the second year.
- 22.33 (e) \$2,610,000 the first year and \$2,510,000
22.34 the second year are from the natural resources
22.35 fund for the off-highway vehicle grants-in-aid

23.1 program. Of this amount, \$2,060,000 the first
23.2 year and \$1,960,000 the second year are from
23.3 the all-terrain vehicle account, \$225,000 each
23.4 year is from the off-highway motorcycle
23.5 account, and \$325,000 each year is from the
23.6 off-road vehicle account. Any unencumbered
23.7 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
23.8 year and is available for the second year.

23.9 (f) \$2,750,000 the first year and \$2,750,000
23.10 the second year are from the state land and
23.11 water conservation account in the natural
23.12 resources fund for priorities established by the
23.13 commissioner for eligible state projects and
23.14 administrative and planning activities
23.15 consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section
23.16 84.0264, and the federal Land and Water
23.17 Conservation Fund Act. Any unencumbered
23.18 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
23.19 year and is available for the second year.

23.20 (g) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
23.21 second year are from the general fund for
23.22 matching grants for local parks and outdoor
23.23 recreation areas under Minnesota Statutes,
23.24 section 85.019, subdivision 2.

23.25 (h) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the
23.26 second year are from the general fund for
23.27 matching grants for local trail connections
23.28 under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019,
23.29 subdivision 4c.

23.30 (i) \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the
23.31 second year are from the natural resources
23.32 fund for projects and activities that connect
23.33 diverse and underserved Minnesotans through
23.34 expanding cultural environmental experiences,
23.35 exploration of their environment, and outdoor

24.1 recreational activities. This appropriation is
24.2 from revenue deposited in the natural
24.3 resources fund under Minnesota Statutes,
24.4 section 297A.94, paragraph (j).

24.5 (j) \$400,000 the first year is from the general
24.6 fund for a grant to the city of Silver Bay for
24.7 construction of the Silver Bay Trailhead. This
24.8 is a onetime appropriation and is available
24.9 until June 30, 2028.

24.10 (k) \$500,000 the first year is from the general
24.11 fund for a grant to the city of Chisholm for
24.12 trail development, maintenance, and related
24.13 amenities at Redhead Mountain Bike Park.
24.14 This is a onetime appropriation and is
24.15 available until June 30, 2028.

24.16 (l) \$752,000 the first year is from the
24.17 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
24.18 resources fund for a grant to St. Louis County
24.19 for all-terrain vehicle trail projects. This is a
24.20 onetime appropriation and is available until
24.21 June 30, 2028. The grant is for the following
24.22 projects:

24.23 (1) \$75,000 for the Alborn Dirt Devils Club
24.24 to engineer, permit, and acquire right-of-way
24.25 for the County Road 166 to Ostman Road
24.26 ATV trail project;

24.27 (2) \$480,000 for the Ranger Snowmobile/ATV
24.28 Club to engineer and construct the Seven
24.29 Beavers ATV trail project;

24.30 (3) \$100,000 for the Twig Area Trail Riders
24.31 ATV Club to permit, design, engineer, and
24.32 acquire right-of-way for the Lumberjack to
24.33 Brookston ATV trail; and

25.1 (4) \$97,000 for the Quad Cities ATV Club to
25.2 engineer, survey, test, design, and construct
25.3 the club trailhead project.

25.4 (m) \$200,000 the first year is from the
25.5 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
25.6 resources fund for a grant to the city of Duluth
25.7 and Head of the Lakes ATV Riders for a
25.8 Duluth area all-terrain vehicle route study to
25.9 establish connectivity to and through the
25.10 western part of the city of Duluth. This is a
25.11 onetime appropriation and is available until
25.12 June 30, 2028.

25.13 (n) \$380,000 the first year is from the
25.14 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
25.15 resources fund for a grant to St. Louis County
25.16 for design, right-of-way acquisition,
25.17 permitting, and construction of trails within
25.18 the Voyageur Country ATV trail system. This
25.19 is a onetime appropriation and is available
25.20 until June 30, 2028.

25.21 (o) \$175,000 the first year is from the
25.22 all-terrain vehicle account in the natural
25.23 resources fund for a grant to St. Louis County
25.24 for design, right-of-way acquisition,
25.25 permitting, and construction of trails and a
25.26 new trail bridge within the Prospectors Loop
25.27 trail system. This is a onetime appropriation
25.28 and is available until June 30, 2028.

25.29 Subd. 6. Fish and Wildlife Management 97,566,000 98,019,000

25.30	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
25.31		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
25.32	<u>General</u>	<u>9,120,000</u>	<u>9,185,000</u>
25.33	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>2,182,000</u>	<u>2,424,000</u>
25.34	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>86,264,000</u>	<u>86,410,000</u>

26.1 (a) \$12,125,000 the first year and \$12,097,000
26.2 the second year are from the heritage
26.3 enhancement account in the game and fish
26.4 fund only for activities specified under
26.5 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,
26.6 paragraph (h), clause (1). Notwithstanding
26.7 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94, five
26.8 percent of this appropriation may be used for
26.9 expanding hunter and angler recruitment and
26.10 retention.

26.11 (b) \$8,546,000 the first year and \$8,546,000
26.12 the second year are from the deer management
26.13 account in the game and fish fund for the
26.14 purposes identified in Minnesota Statutes,
26.15 section 97A.075, subdivision 1.

26.16 (c) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
26.17 second year are from the heritage enhancement
26.18 account in the game and fish fund for grants
26.19 for natural-resource-based education and
26.20 recreation programs serving youth under
26.21 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.976. The
26.22 commissioner may use a reasonable amount
26.23 of this appropriation for administering grants
26.24 authorized under Minnesota Statutes, section
26.25 84.976. Priority must be given to projects
26.26 benefiting underserved communities.

26.27 (d) Up to \$2,225,000 the first year and up to
26.28 \$2,225,000 the second year are available for
26.29 transfer from the critical habitat private sector
26.30 matching account to the reinvest in Minnesota
26.31 fund for wildlife management areas
26.32 acquisition, restoration, and enhancement
26.33 according to Minnesota Statutes, section
26.34 84.943, subdivision 5, paragraph (b).

27.1 (e) \$3,032,000 the first year and \$3,032,000

27.2 the second year are from the general fund and

27.3 \$1,675,000 the first year and \$1,675,000 the

27.4 second year are from the game and fish fund

27.5 for statewide response and management of

27.6 chronic wasting disease. Of this amount, up

27.7 to \$2,750,000 each year from the general fund

27.8 is for inspections, investigations, and

27.9 enforcement activities taken for the

27.10 white-tailed deer farm program.

27.11 (f) \$500,000 the first year and \$348,000 the

27.12 second year are from the general fund for the

27.13 Outdoor School for All program under

27.14 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.9766.

27.15 (g) \$225,000 the first year is from the general

27.16 fund to expand outreach under Minnesota

27.17 Statutes, section 84.027, subdivision 21. This

27.18 is a onetime appropriation.

27.19 (h) \$177,000 the first year is from the game

27.20 and fish fund for a study of muskellunge

27.21 movement and survival in Leech Lake. The

27.22 study must be conducted in collaboration with

27.23 Bemidji State University. By October 1, 2028,

27.24 the commissioner of natural resources must

27.25 submit a report on the results of the study to

27.26 the chairs and ranking minority members of

27.27 the house and senate committees and divisions

27.28 having jurisdiction over environment and

27.29 natural resources. This appropriation is

27.30 available until June 30, 2028.

27.31	<u>Subd. 7. Enforcement</u>	<u>63,890,000</u>	<u>64,534,000</u>
27.32	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
27.33		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
27.34	<u>General</u>	<u>14,225,000</u>	<u>14,341,000</u>
27.35	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>15,045,000</u>	<u>15,473,000</u>

28.1	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>34,503,000</u>	<u>34,603,000</u>
28.2	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>117,000</u>	<u>117,000</u>
28.3	<u>(a) \$1,718,000 the first year and \$1,718,000</u>		
28.4	<u>the second year are from the general fund for</u>		
28.5	<u>enforcement efforts to prevent the spread of</u>		
28.6	<u>aquatic invasive species.</u>		
28.7	<u>(b) \$2,980,000 the first year and \$2,980,000</u>		
28.8	<u>the second year are from the heritage</u>		
28.9	<u>enhancement account in the game and fish</u>		
28.10	<u>fund for only the purposes specified under</u>		
28.11	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,</u>		
28.12	<u>paragraph (h), clause (1).</u>		
28.13	<u>(c) \$1,442,000 the first year and \$1,442,000</u>		
28.14	<u>the second year are from the water recreation</u>		
28.15	<u>account in the natural resources fund for grants</u>		
28.16	<u>to counties for boat and water safety. Any</u>		
28.17	<u>unencumbered balance does not cancel at the</u>		
28.18	<u>end of the first year and is available for the</u>		
28.19	<u>second year.</u>		
28.20	<u>(d) \$315,000 the first year and \$315,000 the</u>		
28.21	<u>second year are from the snowmobile trails</u>		
28.22	<u>and enforcement account in the natural</u>		
28.23	<u>resources fund for grants to local law</u>		
28.24	<u>enforcement agencies for snowmobile</u>		
28.25	<u>enforcement activities. Any unencumbered</u>		
28.26	<u>balance does not cancel at the end of the first</u>		
28.27	<u>year and is available for the second year.</u>		
28.28	<u>(e) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the</u>		
28.29	<u>second year are from the all-terrain vehicle</u>		
28.30	<u>account in the natural resources fund for grants</u>		
28.31	<u>to qualifying organizations to assist in safety</u>		
28.32	<u>and environmental education and monitoring</u>		
28.33	<u>trails on public lands under Minnesota</u>		
28.34	<u>Statutes, section 84.9011. Grants issued under</u>		

29.1 this paragraph must be issued through a formal
29.2 agreement with the organization. By
29.3 December 15 each year, an organization
29.4 receiving a grant under this paragraph must
29.5 report to the commissioner with details on
29.6 expenditures and outcomes from the grant. Of
29.7 this appropriation, \$25,000 each year is for
29.8 administering these grants. Any unencumbered
29.9 balance does not cancel at the end of the first
29.10 year and is available for the second year.

29.11 (f) \$510,000 the first year and \$510,000 the
29.12 second year are from the natural resources
29.13 fund for grants to county law enforcement
29.14 agencies for off-highway vehicle enforcement
29.15 and public education activities based on
29.16 off-highway vehicle use in the county. Of this
29.17 amount, \$498,000 each year is from the
29.18 all-terrain vehicle account, \$11,000 each year
29.19 is from the off-highway motorcycle account,
29.20 and \$1,000 each year is from the off-road
29.21 vehicle account. The county enforcement
29.22 agencies may use money received under this
29.23 appropriation to make grants to other local
29.24 enforcement agencies within the county that
29.25 have a high concentration of off-highway
29.26 vehicle use. Of this appropriation, \$25,000
29.27 each year is for administering the grants. Any
29.28 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the
29.29 end of the first year and is available for the
29.30 second year.

29.31 (g) \$262,000 the first year and \$262,000 the
29.32 second year are from the water recreation
29.33 account in the natural resources fund for
29.34 investigating, notification, and removal of

30.1 abandoned watercraft on or adjacent to public

30.2 waters and public land.

30.3 (h) \$20,000 the first year and the second

30.4 year are from the off-highway motorcycle

30.5 account in the natural resources fund for grants

30.6 to qualifying off-highway motorcycle

30.7 organizations to assist in providing safety and

30.8 environmental education and monitoring trails

30.9 on public lands according to Minnesota

30.10 Statutes, section 84.9011. Grants awarded

30.11 under this paragraph must be issued through

30.12 a formal agreement with the organization. By

30.13 December 15 each year, an organization

30.14 receiving a grant under this paragraph must

30.15 report to the commissioner with details on how

30.16 the money was expended and what outcomes

30.17 were achieved.

30.18 Subd. 8. Pass Through Funds

1,824,000

1,831,000

30.19 Appropriations by Fund

30.20		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
30.21	<u>General</u>	<u>221,000</u>	<u>221,000</u>
30.22	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>1,110,000</u>	<u>1,110,000</u>
30.23	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>493,000</u>	<u>500,000</u>

30.24 (a) \$510,000 the first year and \$510,000 the

30.25 second year are from the natural resources

30.26 fund for grants to be divided equally between

30.27 the city of St. Paul for the Como Park Zoo and

30.28 Conservatory and the city of Duluth for the

30.29 Lake Superior Zoo. This appropriation is from

30.30 revenue deposited to the natural resources fund

30.31 under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,

30.32 paragraph (h), clause (5).

30.33 (b) \$221,000 the first year and \$221,000 the

30.34 second year are from the general fund for the

30.35 Office of School Trust Lands.

31.1 (c) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the
 31.2 second year are from the permanent school
 31.3 fund for transaction and project management
 31.4 costs for divesting of school trust lands within
 31.5 Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

31.6 (d) \$343,000 the first year and \$350,000 the
 31.7 second year are from the permanent school
 31.8 fund for the Office of School Trust Lands.

31.9 (e) \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the
 31.10 second year are from the natural resources
 31.11 fund for parks and trails of regional
 31.12 significance outside the seven-county
 31.13 metropolitan area under Minnesota Statutes,
 31.14 section 85.535, based on the recommendations
 31.15 from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks
 31.16 and Trails Commission. This appropriation is
 31.17 from revenue deposited in the natural
 31.18 resources fund under Minnesota Statutes,
 31.19 section 297A.94, paragraph (i).

31.20 **Subd. 9. Transfers**

31.21 \$720,000 the first year and \$732,000 the
 31.22 second year are transferred from the forest
 31.23 suspense account to the permanent school
 31.24 fund. For fiscal years 2028 through 2031, the
 31.25 commissioner of management and budget must
 31.26 include a transfer of \$732,000 each year from
 31.27 the forest suspense account to the permanent
 31.28 school fund, when preparing each forecast
 31.29 from the effective date of this section through
 31.30 the February 2027 forecast, under Minnesota
 31.31 Statutes, section 16A.103.

31.32 **Subd. 10. Extensions**

31.33 The appropriation in Laws 2023, chapter 60,
 31.34 article 1, section 3, subdivision 5, paragraph

32.1 (p), for a boat launch on the Mississippi River
32.2 is extended to June 30, 2026.

32.3 **Sec. 4. BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL**
32.4 **RESOURCES**

\$ 15,945,000 \$ 16,102,000

32.5 (a) \$3,116,000 the first year and \$3,116,000
32.6 the second year are for grants and payments
32.7 to soil and water conservation districts for
32.8 accomplishing the purposes of Minnesota
32.9 Statutes, chapter 103C, and for other general
32.10 purposes, nonpoint engineering, and
32.11 implementation and stewardship of the
32.12 reinvest in Minnesota reserve program.
32.13 Expenditures may be made from this
32.14 appropriation for supplies and services
32.15 benefiting soil and water conservation
32.16 districts. Any district receiving a payment
32.17 under this paragraph must maintain a website
32.18 that publishes, at a minimum, the district's
32.19 annual report, annual audit, annual budget,
32.20 and meeting notices.

32.21 (b) \$1,560,000 the first year and \$1,560,000
32.22 the second year are for the following:

32.23 (1) \$1,460,000 the first year and \$1,460,000
32.24 the second year are for cost-sharing programs
32.25 of soil and water conservation districts for
32.26 accomplishing projects and practices
32.27 consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section
32.28 103C.501, including perennially vegetated
32.29 riparian buffers, erosion control, water
32.30 retention and treatment, water quality
32.31 cost-sharing for feedlots and nutrient and
32.32 manure management projects in watersheds
32.33 where there are impaired waters, and other
32.34 high-priority conservation practices; and

33.1 (2) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
33.2 second year are for invasive species and weed
33.3 management programs and to restore native
33.4 plants at selected invasive species management
33.5 sites.

33.6 (c) \$166,000 the first year and \$166,000 the
33.7 second year are to provide technical assistance
33.8 to local drainage management officials and
33.9 for the costs of the Drainage Work Group. The
33.10 board must coordinate the activities of the
33.11 Drainage Work Group according to Minnesota
33.12 Statutes, section 103B.101, subdivision 13.

33.13 (d) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the
33.14 second year are for a grant to the Red River
33.15 Basin Commission for water quality and
33.16 floodplain management, including program
33.17 administration. This appropriation must be
33.18 matched by nonstate funds.

33.19 (e) \$140,000 the first year and \$140,000 the
33.20 second year are for grants to Area II
33.21 Minnesota River Basin Projects for floodplain
33.22 management.

33.23 (f) \$240,000 the first year and \$240,000 the
33.24 second year are for a grant to the Lower
33.25 Minnesota River Watershed District to defray
33.26 the annual cost of sustaining the state, national,
33.27 and international commercial and recreational
33.28 navigation on the lower Minnesota River.

33.29 (g) \$203,000 the first year and \$203,000 the
33.30 second year are for soil health programming
33.31 consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section
33.32 103F.06, and for coordination with the
33.33 University of Minnesota Office for Soil
33.34 Health.

34.1 (h) \$3,423,000 the first year and \$3,423,000
34.2 the second year are for natural resources block
34.3 grants to local governments to implement the
34.4 Wetland Conservation Act and shoreland
34.5 management program under Minnesota
34.6 Statutes, chapter 103F, and local water
34.7 management responsibilities under Minnesota
34.8 Statutes, chapter 103B. The board may reduce
34.9 the amount of the natural resources block grant
34.10 to a county by an amount equal to any
34.11 reduction in the county's general services
34.12 allocation to a soil and water conservation
34.13 district from the county's previous year
34.14 allocation when the board determines that the
34.15 reduction was disproportionate.

34.16 (i) \$6,997,000 the first year and \$7,154,000
34.17 the second year are for agency administration
34.18 and operation of the Board of Water and Soil
34.19 Resources.

34.20 (j) The board may shift funds in this section
34.21 and may adjust the technical and
34.22 administrative assistance portion of the funds
34.23 to leverage federal or other nonstate funds or
34.24 to address accountability, oversight, local
34.25 government performance, or high-priority
34.26 needs.

34.27 (k) The appropriations for grants and payments
34.28 in this section are available until June 30,
34.29 2029, except returned grants and payments
34.30 are available for two years after they are
34.31 returned or regranted, whichever is later.
34.32 Funds must be used consistent with the
34.33 purposes of this section. If an appropriation
34.34 for grants in either year is insufficient, the

35.1 appropriation in the other year is available for

35.2 it.

35.3 (l) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
35.4 section 16B.97, grants awarded from
35.5 appropriations in this section are exempt from
35.6 the Department of Administration, Office of
35.7 Grants Management Policy 08-08 Grant
35.8 Payments and 08-10 Grant Monitoring.

35.9	Sec. 5. METROPOLITAN COUNCIL	\$	11,740,000	\$	11,740,000
------	------------------------------	----	------------	----	------------

35.10 Appropriations by Fund

35.11		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
35.12	<u>General</u>	<u>2,540,000</u>	<u>2,540,000</u>
35.13	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>9,200,000</u>	<u>9,200,000</u>

35.14 (a) \$2,540,000 the first year and \$2,540,000
35.15 the second year are for metropolitan-area
35.16 regional parks operation and maintenance
35.17 according to Minnesota Statutes, section
35.18 473.351.

35.19 (b) \$9,200,000 the first year and \$9,200,000
35.20 the second year are from the natural resources
35.21 fund for metropolitan-area regional parks and
35.22 trails maintenance and operations. This
35.23 appropriation is from revenue deposited in the
35.24 natural resources fund under Minnesota
35.25 Statutes, section 297A.94, paragraph (h),
35.26 clause (3).

35.27	Sec. 6. <u>CONSERVATION CORPS</u>			
35.28	MINNESOTA AND IOWA	\$	1,070,000	\$ 1,070,000

35.29 Appropriations by Fund

35.30		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
35.31	<u>General</u>	<u>580,000</u>	<u>580,000</u>
35.32	Natural Resources	490,000	490,000

35.33 Conservation Corps Minnesota and Iowa may
35.34 receive money appropriated from the natural

36.1 resources fund under this section only as
36.2 provided in an agreement with the
36.3 commissioner of natural resources.

36.4	Sec. 7. <u>ZOOLOGICAL BOARD</u>	\$	14,180,000	\$	14,532,000
------	---------------------------------	----	------------	----	------------

36.5 Appropriations by Fund

36.6		<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
36.7	<u>General</u>	<u>13,925,000</u>	<u>14,277,000</u>
36.8	Natural Resources	<u>255,000</u>	255,000

36.9 \$255,000 the first year and \$255,000 the
36.10 second year are from the natural resources
36.11 fund from revenue deposited under Minnesota
36.12 Statutes, section 297A.94, paragraph (h),
36.13 clause (5).

36.14	Sec. 8. SCIENCE MUSEUM	\$	<u>1,260,000</u>	\$	<u>1,260,000</u>
-------	------------------------	----	------------------	----	------------------

36.15	Sec. 9. <u>LEGISLATIVE COORDINATING</u>		
36.16	COMMISSION	\$ 198,000	\$ 0

36.17 \$198,000 the first year is for the administrative
36.18 costs of the Sustainable Foraging Task Force.
36.19 This is a onetime appropriation

36.20 Sec. 10. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 1, section 2, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

36.21 Subd. 10. Transfers

36.22 (a) The commissioner must transfer up to
36.23 \$24,000,000 the first year and \$24,000,000
36.24 the second year from the environmental fund
36.25 to the remediation fund for purposes of the
36.26 remediation fund under Minnesota Statutes,
36.27 section 116.155, subdivision 2. The base for
36.28 this transfer is \$24,000,000 in fiscal year 2026
36.29 and beyond.

36.30 (b) By June 30, 2024, the commissioner of
36.31 management and budget must transfer
36.32 \$27,397,000 from the general fund to the
36.33 metropolitan landfill contingency action trust

37.1 account in the remediation fund to restore the
37.2 money transferred from the account as
37.3 intended under Laws 2003, chapter 128, article
37.4 1, section 10, paragraph (e), and Laws 2005,
37.5 First Special Session chapter 1, article 3,
37.6 section 17, and to compensate the account for
37.7 the estimated lost investment income.

37.8 ~~(e) Beginning in fiscal year 2024, the~~
37.9 ~~commissioner of management and budget must~~
37.10 ~~transfer \$100,000 each year from the general~~
37.11 ~~fund to the metropolitan landfill contingency~~
37.12 ~~action trust account in the remediation fund~~
37.13 ~~to restore the money transferred from the~~
37.14 ~~account as intended under Laws 2003, chapter~~
37.15 ~~128, article 1, section 10, paragraph (e), and~~
37.16 ~~Laws 2005, First Special Session chapter 1,~~
37.17 ~~article 3, section 17.~~

37.18 Sec. 11. CANCELLATION.

37.19 \$3,915,000 of the unencumbered balance of the general fund appropriation from Laws
37.20 2022, chapter 95, article 3, section 6, paragraph (b), cancels no later than June 30, 2025.

37.21 ARTICLE 2

37.22 ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND APPROPRIATIONS

37.23 Section 1. APPROPRIATIONS.

37.24 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies
37.25 and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the environment
37.26 and natural resources trust fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal
37.27 years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2026" and "2027" used in this article mean
37.28 that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30,
37.29 2026, or June 30, 2027, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2026. "The second year"
37.30 is fiscal year 2027. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2026 and 2027. Any unencumbered
37.31 balance remaining in the first year does not cancel and is available for the second year or
37.32 until the end of the appropriation. These are onetime appropriations.

37.33 APPROPRIATIONS
37.34 Available for the Year

38.1					<u>Ending June 30</u>	
38.2					<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
38.3	Sec. 2. <u>MINNESOTA RESOURCES</u>					
38.4	<u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u>	\$	<u>103,326,000</u>	\$		<u>0</u>
38.5	<u>This appropriation is from the environment</u>					
38.6	<u>and natural resources trust fund. The amounts</u>					
38.7	<u>that may be spent for each purpose are</u>					
38.8	<u>specified in the following subdivisions.</u>					
38.9	<u>Subd. 2. Definition</u>					
38.10	<u>"Trust fund" means the Minnesota</u>					
38.11	<u>environment and natural resources trust fund</u>					
38.12	<u>established under the Minnesota Constitution,</u>					
38.13	<u>article XI, section 14.</u>					
38.14	<u>Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data</u>					
38.15	<u>and Information</u>		<u>22,084,000</u>			<u>-0-</u>
38.16	<u>(a) Fond du Lac Deer Study - Phase 1</u>					
38.17	<u>\$1,441,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>					
38.18	<u>to the Minnesota State Colleges and</u>					
38.19	<u>Universities for Bemidji State University to</u>					
38.20	<u>collect baseline deer demographic, movement,</u>					
38.21	<u>and habitat-use data before elk restoration to</u>					
38.22	<u>better inform management of both elk and deer</u>					
38.23	<u>populations on the Fond du Lac Reservation</u>					
38.24	<u>and surrounding areas.</u>					
38.25	<u>(b) Are All Walleye Created Equal? Probably</u>					
38.26	<u>Not.</u>					
38.27	<u>\$298,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>					
38.28	<u>to the Board of Regents of the University of</u>					
38.29	<u>Minnesota to investigate Minnesota walleye</u>					
38.30	<u>strain physiology and disease responses to</u>					
38.31	<u>warming water and to build a tool to guide</u>					
38.32	<u>adaptive management of walleye in a warming</u>					
38.33	<u>climate.</u>					
38.34	<u>(c) Deer Survival Within Minnesota's Densest</u>					
38.35	<u>Wolf Population</u>					

39.1 \$809,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
39.3 Minnesota to evaluate how wolves, winter
39.4 severity, and habitat affect deer mortality and
39.5 survival across space and time within the
39.6 Voyageurs region.

39.7 **(d) Evaluating Anticoagulant Rodenticide**
39.8 **Exposure in Minnesota's Carnivores**

39.9 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.10 to the Board of Regents of the University of
39.11 Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research
39.12 Institute in Duluth to determine anticoagulant
39.13 rodenticide exposure rates and concentrations
39.14 in Minnesota bobcats and fishers, factors
39.15 influencing exposure risk, and negative effects
39.16 of rodenticide exposure on carnivore health.

39.17 **(e) Digitizing the Science Museum of**
39.18 **Minnesota's Mollusk Specimens**

39.19 \$386,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.20 to the Science Museum of Minnesota to make
39.21 the museum's Minnesota mollusk specimen
39.22 collection available for research and education
39.23 by identifying and organizing all relevant
39.24 specimens and digitizing the museum's data.

39.25 **(f) Integrating Wildlife Objectives in Long-Term**
39.26 **Forest Management Planning**

39.27 \$316,000 the first year is from the trust fund
39.28 to the Board of Regents of the University of
39.29 Minnesota to develop a harvest-scheduling
39.30 model that integrates wildlife habitat metrics
39.31 with timber production objectives in the
39.32 forest-planning process for more sustainable
39.33 forest landscape-level outcomes.

39.34 **(g) Surveying Minnesota's Secretive Marsh**
39.35 **Birds**

40.1 \$413,000 the first year is from the trust fund
40.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
40.3 an agreement with the National Audubon
40.4 Society, Upper Mississippi River office, to
40.5 conduct a breeding marsh bird survey and
40.6 provide state and federal agencies with an
40.7 assessment of marsh bird population status
40.8 and wetland habitat. This appropriation is
40.9 available until June 30, 2029, by which time
40.10 the project must be completed and final
40.11 products delivered.

40.12 **(h) Improving Conservation Outcomes for**
40.13 **Imperiled Wood Turtles**

40.14 \$242,000 the first year is from the trust fund
40.15 to the Minnesota Zoological Society to restore
40.16 imperiled wood turtles by increasing remnant
40.17 populations, quantifying effectiveness of
40.18 habitat management strategies, establishing
40.19 baseline information on disease prevalence,
40.20 and creating a new decision-support tool for
40.21 prioritizing future conservation actions.

40.22 **(i) Maximizing the Impact of Wildlife Movement**
40.23 **Data**

40.24 \$216,000 the first year is from the trust fund
40.25 to the Board of Regents of the University of
40.26 Minnesota to create a centralized and
40.27 accessible database of wildlife movement data
40.28 from prior trust fund-supported studies and
40.29 demonstrate tools biologists can use to analyze
40.30 these data to benefit Minnesota wildlife.

40.31 **(j) Expanding the Statewide Motus Wildlife**
40.32 **Tracking Network**

40.33 \$234,000 the first year is from the trust fund
40.34 to the Minnesota Zoological Society to expand
40.35 the statewide Motus Wildlife Tracking System

41.1 network into southwestern Minnesota and the
41.2 North Shore to guide the conservation of
41.3 imperiled grassland and boreal migratory birds
41.4 and other wildlife. This appropriation may
41.5 also be used to develop outreach and
41.6 interpretive materials for Motus sites.

41.7 **(k) Updating and Sharing Information on**
41.8 **Minnesota's Tick Biodiversity**

41.9 \$186,000 the first year is from the trust fund
41.10 to the Board of Regents of the University of
41.11 Minnesota to collaborate with wildlife
41.12 organizations and community scientists to
41.13 survey the biodiversity and distribution of
41.14 ticks in Minnesota and create a publicly
41.15 accessible GIS dashboard to share results and
41.16 potential disease implications with the public
41.17 and wildlife managers.

41.18 **(l) Small Mammals and Hunter Participation:**
41.19 **Expanded Offal Wildlife Watching**

41.20 \$563,000 the first year is from the trust fund
41.21 to the Board of Regents of the University of
41.22 Minnesota to expand and assess hunter
41.23 participation in monitoring scavenger use of
41.24 deer gut piles, assess small mammal
41.25 occurrence and contaminant and disease
41.26 exposure risk at offal sites, and study how
41.27 messaging impacts hunters' use of lead
41.28 ammunition.

41.29 **(m) Green Heron as an Indicator of**
41.30 **Wetland-Dependent Species**

41.31 \$424,000 the first year is from the trust fund
41.32 to the Board of Regents of the University of
41.33 Minnesota to collect data on the year-round
41.34 habitat use and migratory movements of green
41.35 herons, assess potential factors leading to

42.1 population decline, and identify conservation
42.2 strategies to benefit the green heron and other
42.3 wetland-dependent bird species.

42.4 **(n) Visualizing Minnesota's Natural Resources**
42.5 **with CT Scanning**

42.6 \$955,000 the first year is from the trust fund
42.7 to the Board of Regents of the University of
42.8 Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural History,
42.9 to acquire a CT scanner, scan Bell Museum
42.10 organismal specimens, create 3D prints from
42.11 the scans, and share the data and prints through
42.12 environmental education and research
42.13 programs. The CT scanner purchased with this
42.14 appropriation must prioritize use by and be
42.15 made available cost-free to other
42.16 Minnesota-focused researchers for the duration
42.17 of this appropriation. This appropriation may
42.18 also be used for equipment, tools, and supplies
42.19 needed to acquire, install, and use the scanner
42.20 and print 3D models of scanned organisms.
42.21 Net income generated as part of this
42.22 appropriation may be reinvested in the project
42.23 if a plan for reinvestment is approved in the
42.24 work plan as provided under Minnesota
42.25 Statutes, section 116P.10.

42.26 **(o) Mapping Human-Carnivore Conflicts in**
42.27 **Human-Dominated Landscapes**

42.28 \$563,000 the first year is from the trust fund
42.29 to the Board of Regents of the University of
42.30 Minnesota for the Natural Resources Research
42.31 Institute in Duluth to evaluate bear, bobcat,
42.32 and coyote habitat use, activity, and diet in
42.33 Duluth and surrounding areas to map hotspots
42.34 for human-carnivore conflicts and fill
42.35 knowledge gaps to reduce conflicts. This
42.36 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,

43.1 by which time the project must be completed
43.2 and final products delivered.

43.3 **(p) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource**
43.4 **Management**

43.5 \$1,260,000 the first year is from the trust fund
43.6 to the Board of Regents of the University of
43.7 Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey, to
43.8 continue to produce geologic atlas maps and
43.9 databases to inform management of
43.10 groundwater and surface water. This
43.11 appropriation is to complete Part A, which
43.12 focuses on the properties and distribution of
43.13 earth materials to define aquifer boundaries
43.14 and the connection of aquifers to the land
43.15 surface and surface water resources.

43.16 **(q) Leveraging Statewide Datasets for Native**
43.17 **Rough Fish**

43.18 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
43.19 to the Board of Regents of the University of
43.20 Minnesota to construct species distribution
43.21 models that predict presence and abundance
43.22 of native rough fish species and identify
43.23 potential areas for protection, additional
43.24 monitoring, or restoration across the state. This
43.25 appropriation may also be used to build an
43.26 interactive mapping tool and share results.

43.27 **(r) The Impacts of Climate Change on**
43.28 **Northeastern Minnesota**

43.29 \$772,000 the first year is from the trust fund
43.30 to the commissioner of natural resources for
43.31 an agreement with Friends of the Boundary
43.32 Waters Wilderness to work with collaborators
43.33 to aggregate research, data, and other
43.34 information about the impacts of climate
43.35 change on the habitat and wildlife of

44.1 northeastern Minnesota into a publicly
44.2 available, web-based database. This
44.3 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
44.4 by which time the project must be completed
44.5 and final products delivered.

44.6 **(s) Health and Disease Monitoring in Minnesota**
44.7 **Wildlife**

44.8 \$750,000 the first year is from the trust fund
44.9 to the Board of Regents of the University of
44.10 Minnesota, Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic
44.11 Laboratory, to collaborate with wildlife
44.12 rehabilitation organizations and other wildlife
44.13 health professionals throughout Minnesota to
44.14 enhance the state's health and disease
44.15 surveillance, preparedness, and response
44.16 efforts.

44.17 **(t) Affordable Statewide Tracking of Forestry**
44.18 **Fragmentation and Degradation**

44.19 \$331,000 the first year is from the trust fund
44.20 to the Board of Regents of the University of
44.21 Minnesota to merge aircraft and satellite
44.22 LiDAR data to build a model and an
44.23 interactive real-time web dashboard of forest
44.24 boundaries that provides business-ready
44.25 information about statewide forest
44.26 fragmentation and degradation due to human
44.27 activities and natural disasters.

44.28 **(u) Safeguarding Bees While Monitoring**
44.29 **Pollinators and Nesting Habitats**

44.30 \$590,000 the first year is from the trust fund
44.31 to the Board of Regents of the University of
44.32 Minnesota to pioneer low-mortality methods
44.33 for monitoring bee populations and to
44.34 investigate nest habitat materials and
44.35 antimicrobial properties in cooperation with

45.1 community scientists and management
45.2 agencies. This appropriation is available until
45.3 June 30, 2029, by which time the project must
45.4 be completed and final products delivered.

45.5 **(v) Expanding the Application of Minnesota's**
45.6 **Wetland Monitoring Data**

45.7 \$312,000 the first year is from the trust fund
45.8 to the commissioner of natural resources to
45.9 use existing LiDAR and recurring aerial
45.10 photographs to determine state grassland
45.11 acreage and change over the last twenty years,
45.12 evaluate key drivers of wetland change, and
45.13 use technology to improve Minnesota's
45.14 wetland monitoring.

45.15 **(w) Enhancing the Value of Minnesota Public**
45.16 **Grasslands**

45.17 \$390,000 the first year is from the trust fund
45.18 to the Board of Regents of the University of
45.19 Minnesota to evaluate a combination of
45.20 prescribed fire, brush mowing, and targeted
45.21 conservation grazing to develop ready-to-use
45.22 management strategies for public land
45.23 managers to mitigate woody species
45.24 encroachment and increase biodiversity and
45.25 carbon sequestration in public grasslands.

45.26 **(x) Foundational Precision Agriculture Data to**
45.27 **Reduce Environmental Impacts**

45.28 \$1,255,000 the first year is from the trust fund
45.29 to the Board of Regents of the University of
45.30 Minnesota for the West Central Research and
45.31 Outreach Center at Morris to establish data
45.32 collection systems and methods at sentinel
45.33 farm sites, develop and evaluate best
45.34 management practices, and provide outreach
45.35 and training to farmers to encourage adoption

46.1 of precision agriculture technologies that
46.2 reduce fertilizer and chemical use and improve
46.3 water and air quality.

46.4 **(y) Continued Aggregate Resource Mapping**

46.5 \$621,000 the first year is from the trust fund
46.6 to the commissioner of natural resources to
46.7 map the aggregate resource potential in the
46.8 state of Minnesota and to make the
46.9 information available in print and electronic
46.10 format to local units of government to support
46.11 informed land-use decisions and resource
46.12 conservation.

46.13 **(z) Advancing Collaborative Wild Rice**
46.14 **Monitoring Program Technologies**

46.15 \$900,000 the first year is from the trust fund
46.16 to the commissioner of natural resources to
46.17 continue efforts to create a framework for
46.18 long-term wild rice monitoring for
46.19 conservation and collaborate with Tribal and
46.20 nongovernmental organizations to collect
46.21 additional data, improve collection and
46.22 analysis methods, and develop a statewide
46.23 estimate of wild rice abundance and coverage.

46.24 **(aa) Conserving Natural Resources by**
46.25 **Advancing Forever Green Agriculture**

46.26 \$2,146,000 the first year is from the trust fund
46.27 to the Board of Regents of the University of
46.28 Minnesota for the Forever Green Initiative to
46.29 fund research projects to develop new
46.30 perennial and winter-annual crops to protect
46.31 water, wildlife, soil, other natural resources,
46.32 and the climate. This appropriation is available
46.33 until June 30, 2030, by which time the project
46.34 must be completed and final products
46.35 delivered.

47.1 **(bb) Minnesota's Priority Native Rough Fish:**
47.2 **Gars and Bowfin**

47.3 \$568,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.4 to the Board of Regents of the University of
47.5 Minnesota to develop population dynamics,
47.6 habitat use, and food web models for
47.7 Minnesota gars and bowfins and conduct
47.8 outreach to inform conservation and
47.9 management and serve as a template for study
47.10 of Minnesota's other native rough fish species.

47.11 **(cc) Understanding to Improve Minnesota's**
47.12 **Future Lake Water Quality**

47.13 \$595,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.14 to the Board of Regents of the University of
47.15 Minnesota to use decade-long comprehensive
47.16 lake, watershed, and weather data and
47.17 high-resolution climate models to understand
47.18 lake-specific drivers of water quality and
47.19 predict the effects of future warming on
47.20 harmful algal blooms across Minnesota.

47.21 **(dd) Operationalizing State Zooplankton Data**
47.22 **to Support Lake Health**

47.23 \$423,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.24 to the Board of Regents of the University of
47.25 Minnesota to use long-term monitoring data
47.26 to determine the relationship between
47.27 zooplankton communities and ecosystem
47.28 services, like fisheries health and water
47.29 quality, and develop biotic indices for lake
47.30 health.

47.31 **(ee) Trialing Climate-Ready Woodland Trees**
47.32 **in Urban Areas**

47.33 \$255,000 the first year is from the trust fund
47.34 to the Board of Regents of the University of
47.35 Minnesota to demonstrate performance of

48.1 climate-adaptive tree species and study land
48.2 manager and public perceptions of these
48.3 species to identify the best species and risk
48.4 tolerance for future plantings in metropolitan
48.5 areas of Minnesota.

48.6 **(ff) Superior Shores: Protecting Our Great**
48.7 **Lakes Coastal Habitats**

48.8 \$675,000 the first year is from the trust fund
48.9 to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the
48.10 St. Croix Watershed Research Station to map
48.11 the locations and survey the biological
48.12 diversity and water quality of Lake Superior
48.13 coastal rock pools. This appropriation may
48.14 also be used to develop outreach materials and
48.15 host programs on rock pool understanding and
48.16 conservation.

48.17 **(gg) Recruitment and Fecundity of Minnesota**
48.18 **Moose**

48.19 \$2,007,000 the first year is from the trust fund
48.20 to the commissioner of natural resources for
48.21 state and Tribal biologists to work
48.22 collaboratively to estimate survival and
48.23 fecundity of yearling and 2-year-old moose in
48.24 northeast Minnesota to inform future
48.25 management efforts. Of this amount, \$841,000
48.26 is for an agreement with the 1854 Treaty
48.27 Authority. This appropriation is available until
48.28 June 30, 2031, by which time the project must
48.29 be completed and final products delivered.

48.30 **(hh) Fighting Insect Decline: Minnesota**
48.31 **Bumblebees to the Rescue**

48.32 \$249,000 the first year is from the trust fund
48.33 to the Board of Regents of the University of
48.34 Minnesota to map historical and current
48.35 bumblebee distribution and develop an

49.1 identification tool using molecular barcodes
49.2 and an online resource hub to improve
49.3 conservation of Minnesota's native
49.4 bumblebees.

49.5 **(ii) Trace Metals in Municipal Yard Waste and**
49.6 **Compost**

49.7 \$120,000 the first year is from the trust fund
49.8 to the Board of Regents of the University of
49.9 Minnesota to assess trace metal contamination
49.10 from collected residential yard waste, finished
49.11 compost, and compost leachate in municipal
49.12 yard waste recycling programs.

49.13 **(jj) Chronic Wasting Disease Prions in**
49.14 **Minnesota Waters**

49.15 \$322,000 the first year is from the trust fund
49.16 to the Board of Regents of the University of
49.17 Minnesota to evaluate the movement of
49.18 chronic wasting disease in Minnesota waters,
49.19 assess the risk of spread, and share results with
49.20 wildlife and watershed managers.

49.21 **Subd. 4. Water Resources**

11,812,000

-0-

49.22 **(a) Enhancing Our Resources - Rural Health**
49.23 **and Drinking Water**

49.24 \$994,000 the first year is from the trust fund
49.25 to the commissioner of natural resources for
49.26 an agreement with Freshwater Society to
49.27 partner with the Mayo Clinic to educate well
49.28 owners and family health providers about the
49.29 geologic occurrence and risk of arsenic in
49.30 drinking water. This appropriation is also to
49.31 provide free arsenic testing to well owners in
49.32 southeast Minnesota.

49.33 **(b) Restoration and Outreach for Minnesota's**
49.34 **Native Mussels**

50.1 \$1,258,000 the first year is from the trust fund
50.2 to the commissioner of natural resources to
50.3 propagate, rear, and restore native freshwater
50.4 mussel populations and the ecosystem services
50.5 they provide to Minnesota waters; to evaluate
50.6 reintroduction success; and to inform the
50.7 public on mussels and mussel conservation.

50.8 **(c) Pristine to Green: Toxic Blooms Threaten**
50.9 **Northern Lakes**

50.10 \$1,362,000 the first year is from the trust fund
50.11 to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the
50.12 St. Croix Watershed Research Station to
50.13 evaluate drivers that contribute to the
50.14 formation of nuisance and toxic algal blooms
50.15 in relatively pristine and protected lakes across
50.16 Minnesota.

50.17 **(d) Training Lake Communities to Track**
50.18 **Chloride and Algae**

50.19 \$274,000 the first year is from the trust fund
50.20 to the Board of Regents of the University of
50.21 Minnesota for the Minnesota Sea Grant
50.22 college program in Duluth to develop and train
50.23 a network of community-based volunteers to
50.24 track chloride and harmful algal blooms in
50.25 rural Minnesota lakes.

50.26 **(e) Clean Sweep Solution to Nonpoint Source**
50.27 **Pollution**

50.28 \$386,000 the first year is from the trust fund
50.29 to the Board of Regents of the University of
50.30 Minnesota for the Water Resources Center to
50.31 enhance Clean Sweep programs, identify the
50.32 pollutants present in street-sweeping materials,
50.33 explore material reuse options, and quantify
50.34 benefits of enhanced street sweeping. This
50.35 appropriation may also be used to coordinate

51.1 county and regional collaborations, develop
 51.2 resources, and provide training to increase
 51.3 targeted street-sweeping practices to reduce
 51.4 nonpoint source pollution to Minnesota's water
 51.5 resources.

51.6 **(f) Cyanotoxins in Minnesota Lakes: The Role**
 51.7 **of Sunlight**

51.8 \$220,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 51.9 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 51.10 Minnesota to quantify degradation of
 51.11 cyanobacterial toxins by sunlight to understand
 51.12 how increasing frequency of harmful algal
 51.13 blooms and changing environmental
 51.14 conditions influence toxin persistence in
 51.15 natural waters.

51.16 **(g) Enhancing Degradation of Emerging**
 51.17 **Contaminants via Microbial Starvation**

51.18 \$390,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 51.19 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 51.20 Minnesota to study how wastewater treatment
 51.21 systems can be improved to more effectively
 51.22 biodegrade mixtures of pharmaceuticals,
 51.23 pesticides, and other contaminants of emerging
 51.24 concern and protect Minnesota's water
 51.25 resources.

51.26 **(h) Soil Health Management for Water Storage**

51.27 \$454,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 51.28 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 51.29 Minnesota for the Water Resources Center to
 51.30 conduct on-farm and model-based research
 51.31 and develop guidance for watershed planners
 51.32 and land managers to effectively use soil
 51.33 health management to achieve water storage
 51.34 and water quality goals.

52.1 **(i) Predicting Contaminant Movement in**
52.2 **Minnesota's Fractured Aquifers**

52.3 \$650,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.4 to the Board of Regents of the University of
52.5 Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to
52.6 develop a software program that predicts the
52.7 fate and movement of contaminants, such as
52.8 PFAS, chloride, nitrate, and pathogens, in
52.9 Minnesota's fractured aquifers.

52.10 **(j) Documentation and Toxicity of Microplastics**
52.11 **in Urban Ecosystems**

52.12 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.13 to the Board of Regents of the University of
52.14 Minnesota to research how land use and
52.15 toxicity affect the accumulation of
52.16 microplastics and associated contaminants of
52.17 concern in stormwater ponds and the wildlife
52.18 that use stormwater ponds.

52.19 **(k) Terminating PFAS-Type Pesticides via**
52.20 **Enzyme Cocktails**

52.21 \$297,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.22 to the Board of Regents of the University of
52.23 Minnesota to evaluate the ability of selected
52.24 enzymes and combinations of enzymes to
52.25 biodegrade per- and polyfluoroalkyl
52.26 substances (PFAS) found in pesticides and to
52.27 design a pilot-scale biofilter for effective
52.28 elimination of PFAS from water.

52.29 **(l) Addressing 21st Century Challenges for the**
52.30 **St. Croix**

52.31 \$243,000 the first year is from the trust fund
52.32 to the Science Museum of Minnesota for the
52.33 St. Croix Watershed Research Station to
52.34 develop a watershed model to identify
52.35 potential hydrologic and water quality impacts

- 53.1 to the lower St. Croix River over the next 75
53.2 years and inform future planning and
53.3 management in the watershed.
- 53.4 **(m) Impact of Statewide Conservation Practices**
53.5 **on Stream Biodiversity**
- 53.6 \$300,000 the first year is from the trust fund
53.7 to the Board of Regents of the University of
53.8 Minnesota to use existing monitoring data to
53.9 evaluate the effects of wetlands and riparian
53.10 buffers on stream and river biodiversity and
53.11 biological condition and develop tools and
53.12 materials to inform the public and natural
53.13 resource managers.
- 53.14 **(n) Modeling the Future Mississippi River Gorge**
- 53.15 \$427,000 the first year is from the trust fund
53.16 to the Board of Regents of the University of
53.17 Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, to
53.18 construct a reduced-scale physical model of
53.19 Mississippi River Pool 1, Lock & Dam 1, and
53.20 adjacent upstream and downstream reaches;
53.21 analyze water flow and sediment movement
53.22 under various pool management strategies;
53.23 and share results with the public to inform
53.24 decisions on the future management of the
53.25 lock and dam.
- 53.26 **(o) Highly Efficient Nutrient Removal**
53.27 **Technology for Agricultural Drainage**
- 53.28 \$453,000 the first year is from the trust fund
53.29 to the Board of Regents of the University of
53.30 Minnesota to conduct lab- and field-scale tests
53.31 of a novel bioreactor technology for removing
53.32 nutrients from agricultural drainage and
53.33 disseminate results to farmers and the public.
- 53.34 **(p) Citizen Scientists Capture Microplastic**
53.35 **Pollution Around State**

54.1 \$419,000 the first year is from the trust fund
54.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
54.3 Minnesota to develop adaptable microplastic
54.4 sampling and detection methods, develop a
54.5 public-access database, and leverage citizen
54.6 scientists to survey microplastic pollution
54.7 throughout the state to allow for data-driven
54.8 risk management decisions and solutions.

54.9 **(q) Healthy Native Prairie Microbiomes for**
54.10 **Cleaner Water**

54.11 \$468,000 the first year is from the trust fund
54.12 to the Board of Regents of the University of
54.13 Minnesota to identify and characterize prairie
54.14 plant microbiomes and study the potential of
54.15 native prairie microbes to provide nitrogen for
54.16 agricultural crops and reduce industrial
54.17 fertilizer use and nitrate contamination of
54.18 water.

54.19 **(r) Wastewater Chloride Reduction through**
54.20 **Industrial Source Reduction Assistance**

54.21 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
54.22 to the Board of Regents of the University of
54.23 Minnesota for the Minnesota Technical
54.24 Assistance Program to provide technical
54.25 assistance to businesses to cost-effectively
54.26 reduce industrial and commercial chloride use
54.27 in communities with high chloride effluent
54.28 concentrations.

54.29 **(s) Pilot Water Budget Framework for**
54.30 **Managing Water Withdrawals**

54.31 \$198,000 the first year is from the trust fund
54.32 to the Board of Regents of the University of
54.33 Minnesota to develop a pilot water budget
54.34 framework to identify sensitive areas in
54.35 Minnesota where net water withdrawals have

55.1 a significant impact on surface water and
55.2 groundwater.

55.3 **(t) Biofilm Mediated Destruction of PFAS in**
55.4 **Groundwater**

55.5 \$1,336,000 the first year is from the trust fund
55.6 to the commissioner of natural resources for
55.7 an agreement with Freshwater Society to
55.8 develop biofilm treatment technology and
55.9 demonstrate field-scale removal of per- and
55.10 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from
55.11 contaminated groundwater. A fiscal
55.12 management plan must be approved in the
55.13 work plan before any trust fund money is
55.14 spent.

55.15 **(u) Impact of Microplastics on Wastewater**
55.16 **Treatment in Minnesota**

55.17 \$506,000 the first year is from the trust fund
55.18 to the Board of Regents of the University of
55.19 Minnesota to quantify the abundance of
55.20 microplastics in wastewater treatment plants
55.21 in Minnesota, determine how microplastics
55.22 affect wastewater treatment plant performance,
55.23 and evaluate how different wastewater
55.24 treatment processes alter microplastics.

55.25 **(v) Portable Arsenic and Nitrate Detector for**
55.26 **Well Water**

55.27 \$358,000 the first year is from the trust fund
55.28 to the Board of Regents of the University of
55.29 Minnesota to develop a small, cheap, and
55.30 easy-to-use system to detect arsenic and nitrate
55.31 in well water and determine whether well
55.32 water is safe to drink.

55.33 **(w) Recovering Salts from Highly Saline**
55.34 **Wastewater**

56.1	<u>\$272,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
56.2	<u>to the Board of Regents of the University of</u>		
56.3	<u>Minnesota to develop a method to recover</u>		
56.4	<u>useful salts from concentrated saline</u>		
56.5	<u>wastewater to increase the economic</u>		
56.6	<u>sustainability of high water-recovery</u>		
56.7	<u>softening, sulfate removal, and industrial</u>		
56.8	<u>wastewater treatment.</u>		
56.9	<u>Subd. 5. Environmental Education</u>	<u>11,965,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
56.10	<u>(a) Eagle's Nest: Where the World Becomes</u>		
56.11	<u>Your Classroom</u>		
56.12	<u>\$130,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
56.13	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
56.14	<u>an agreement with Glacial Hills Elementary</u>		
56.15	<u>School to create interactive natural playground</u>		
56.16	<u>and landscaping features for children and</u>		
56.17	<u>provide environmental education programming</u>		
56.18	<u>outside of regular school hours.</u>		
56.19	<u>(b) Advancing Equity in Environmental</u>		
56.20	<u>Education</u>		
56.21	<u>\$700,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
56.22	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
56.23	<u>an agreement with Camp Fire Minnesota to</u>		
56.24	<u>provide needs-based scholarships for</u>		
56.25	<u>Minnesota youth to attend</u>		
56.26	<u>state-standards-aligned environmental and</u>		
56.27	<u>outdoor education programs.</u>		
56.28	<u>(c) Teacher Field School - Phase 2: Increasing</u>		
56.29	<u>Impact</u>		
56.30	<u>\$712,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
56.31	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
56.32	<u>an agreement with Hamline University to</u>		
56.33	<u>continue the teacher field school program that</u>		
56.34	<u>trains teachers how to connect academic</u>		
56.35	<u>content with environmental stewardship,</u>		

57.1 natural resource conservation, and outdoor
57.2 recreation. This appropriation is also to pilot
57.3 a train-the-trainer model for nature-based
57.4 education practices.

57.5 **(d) Creating Future Leaders in Outdoor and**
57.6 **Environmental Leadership**

57.7 \$330,000 the first year is from the trust fund
57.8 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota
57.9 State Colleges and Universities for North
57.10 Hennepin Community College to collaborate
57.11 with K-12 education, higher education, and
57.12 outdoor organizations to increase
57.13 environmental education, leadership,
57.14 internship, and career opportunities for
57.15 underrepresented college and high school
57.16 students.

57.17 **(e) Engaging our Diverse Public in**
57.18 **Environmental Stewardship - Phase 2**

57.19 \$249,000 the first year is from the trust fund
57.20 to the commissioner of natural resources for
57.21 an agreement with Great River Greening to
57.22 increase participation in natural resources
57.23 conservation and restoration efforts and
57.24 careers through volunteer, internship, and
57.25 youth engagement activities, with a focus on
57.26 diverse audiences that more accurately reflect
57.27 local demographic and socioeconomic
57.28 conditions in Minnesota.

57.29 **(f) Outdoor School for Minnesota K-12 Students**

57.30 \$3,992,000 the first year is from the trust fund
57.31 to the commissioner of natural resources for
57.32 an agreement with Osprey Wilds
57.33 Environmental Learning Center to partner with
57.34 four other accredited residential environmental
57.35 learning centers in Minnesota to provide

58.1 needs-based scholarships to K-12 students
58.2 statewide for immersive multiday
58.3 environmental learning experiences.

58.4 **(g) Statewide Environmental Education via PBS**
58.5 **Outdoor Series**

58.6 \$415,000 the first year is from the trust fund
58.7 to the commissioner of natural resources for
58.8 an agreement with Pioneer Public
58.9 Broadcasting Service to produce, distribute,
58.10 and promote new episodes of a statewide
58.11 public television series that inspires
58.12 Minnesotans to connect with the outdoors and
58.13 to restore and protect the state's natural
58.14 resources.

58.15 **(h) Maajii-akii-gikenjigewin Conservation Crew**
58.16 **Program**

58.17 \$678,000 the first year is from the trust fund
58.18 to the commissioner of natural resources for
58.19 an agreement with Conservation Corps
58.20 Minnesota & Iowa to expand a conservation
58.21 corps program developed to provide natural
58.22 resources career development opportunities
58.23 for indigenous young adults and cultivate an
58.24 enduring action-based conservation ethic
58.25 through the integration of traditional
58.26 knowledge, nature immersion, and the
58.27 implementation of conservation and
58.28 restoration practices in the field.

58.29 **(i) Reuse for the Future: Youth Education and**
58.30 **Engagement**

58.31 \$225,000 the first year is from the trust fund
58.32 to the commissioner of natural resources for
58.33 an agreement with Reuse Minnesota to provide
58.34 curriculum-based opportunities for students
58.35 to learn about the reuse economy, reuse skills,

59.1 and other opportunities to reduce waste. This
59.2 appropriation may also be used to align
59.3 materials to state standards and translate
59.4 materials to additional languages.

59.5 **(j) River Bend Nature Center Outdoor Diversity**
59.6 **Initiative**

59.7 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
59.8 to the commissioner of natural resources for
59.9 an agreement with River Bend Nature Center
59.10 to lead a coalition of educational partners and
59.11 culturally specific organizations to expand
59.12 recognized environmental education
59.13 curriculum and provide conservation-based
59.14 career exploration and job placement
59.15 opportunities for diverse communities in
59.16 southern Minnesota.

59.17 **(k) Camp Parsons Mississippi Summer**

59.18 \$225,000 the first year is from the trust fund
59.19 to the commissioner of natural resources for
59.20 an agreement with the Phyllis Wheatley
59.21 Community Center to provide environmental
59.22 education to Minneapolis urban youth through
59.23 the Camp Parsons Mississippi Summer
59.24 program that fosters connections to nature and
59.25 encourages responsible stewardship of our
59.26 natural resources.

59.27 **(l) Adult Outdoor Education for Minnesota's**
59.28 **Underrepresented Communities**

59.29 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
59.30 to the commissioner of natural resources for
59.31 an agreement with Baztec Fishing & Outdoors
59.32 to create fishing and hunting education,
59.33 training, and opportunities for underserved
59.34 and underrepresented communities in
59.35 Minnesota. All fishing tackle purchased with

60.1 this appropriation must be lead-free. A fiscal
60.2 management plan must be approved in the
60.3 work plan before any trust fund money is
60.4 spent.

60.5 **(m) Minnesota's Road Map for Sustainability**
60.6 **and Climate Education**

60.7 \$491,000 the first year is from the trust fund
60.8 to the commissioner of natural resources for
60.9 an agreement with Climate Generation to
60.10 convene community gatherings and partner
60.11 with institutions and organizations across the
60.12 education sector to develop a road map on
60.13 how to build capacity for equitable and
60.14 accessible sustainability and climate education
60.15 programs that align with the Minnesota
60.16 Climate Action Framework.

60.17 **(n) ESTEP 2.0: Earth Science Teacher**
60.18 **Education Project**

60.19 \$643,000 the first year is from the trust fund
60.20 to the commissioner of natural resources for
60.21 an agreement with Minnesota Science
60.22 Teachers Association to provide professional
60.23 development for Minnesota science teachers
60.24 statewide in environmental and earth science
60.25 content to strengthen environmental education
60.26 in schools.

60.27 **(o) Engaging Latine Communities in**
60.28 **Conservation and Preservation**

60.29 \$400,000 the first year is from the trust fund
60.30 to the commissioner of natural resources for
60.31 an agreement with Comunidades Organizando
60.32 el Poder y la Accion Latina to use
60.33 community-based partnerships and
60.34 communications platforms to host outdoor
60.35 events and conduct educational outreach

61.1 focused on Latine and BIPOC communities
 61.2 about the need to protect Minnesota's
 61.3 environment and natural resources.

61.4 **(p) Inclusive Wildlife Engagement in Classrooms**
 61.5 **and Communities**

61.6 \$712,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 61.7 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 61.8 the nongame wildlife program to provide three
 61.9 wildlife conservation, action-based outdoor
 61.10 educational opportunities to engage
 61.11 needs-based schools, young adults, and
 61.12 communities underrepresented in natural
 61.13 resources through the Bird by Bird,
 61.14 Empowering Pathways into Conservation, and
 61.15 Community Science programs.

61.16 **(q) Activating Youth and Family Environmental**
 61.17 **Stewardship through Raptors**

61.18 \$228,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 61.19 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 61.20 Minnesota for the Raptor Center to deliver
 61.21 standards-based environmental education
 61.22 featuring live raptors through school programs
 61.23 and community events across Minnesota.

61.24 **(r) Moving Minnesota toward a Lead-Free**
 61.25 **Sporting Future**

61.26 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 61.27 to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota
 61.28 State Colleges and Universities for Bemidji
 61.29 State University to conduct educational
 61.30 outreach directed at hunters and anglers to
 61.31 increase awareness of lead-free options for
 61.32 big-game hunting, small-game hunting, and
 61.33 fishing as a means of reducing wildlife
 61.34 exposure to lead.

62.1 **(s) Science Centers Supporting Northern Boys**
 62.2 **and Girls Clubs**

62.3 \$1,091,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 62.4 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 62.5 an agreement with the Headwaters Science
 62.6 Center to expand access to environmental
 62.7 science education in northern Minnesota and
 62.8 leverage partnerships between rural and urban
 62.9 organizations to deliver culturally relevant,
 62.10 hands-on learning experiences to underserved
 62.11 students.

62.12 **Subd. 6. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive**
 62.13 **Species**

6,713,000

-0-

62.14 **(a) Aquatic Invasive Species: From Problems to**
 62.15 **Real-World Solutions**

62.16 \$5,771,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 62.17 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 62.18 Minnesota for the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive
 62.19 Species Research Center to conduct
 62.20 high-priority projects aimed at solving
 62.21 Minnesota's aquatic invasive species problems
 62.22 using rigorous science and a collaborative
 62.23 process. This appropriation may also be used
 62.24 to deliver research findings to end users
 62.25 through strategic communication and outreach.
 62.26 This appropriation is available until June 30,
 62.27 2029, by which time the project must be
 62.28 completed and final products delivered.

62.29 **(b) Optimizing Nonnative Cattail Treatment**
 62.30 **Effectiveness in Prairie Wetlands**

62.31 \$942,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 62.32 to the commissioner of natural resources to
 62.33 compare the effectiveness of invasive cattail
 62.34 treatment methods and provide
 62.35 recommendations for managers to maximize
 62.36 benefits of conservation money for native

63.1 wetland plants and wildlife. This appropriation
 63.2 is available until June 30, 2031, by which time
 63.3 the project must be completed and final
 63.4 products delivered.

63.5 **Subd. 7. Air Quality, Climate Change, and**
 63.6 **Renewable Energy**

11,744,000

-0-

63.7 **(a) Protecting Coldwater Fish Habitat in**
 63.8 **Minnesota Lakes**

63.9 \$561,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 63.10 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 63.11 Minnesota to identify lake-specific watershed
 63.12 protection targets and management practices
 63.13 needed to maintain coldwater fish habitat
 63.14 threatened by warming temperatures and
 63.15 increasing extreme rain events and to integrate
 63.16 this information into conservation planning
 63.17 tools.

63.18 **(b) Agrivoltaics 2.0 Building a Resilient E-Farm**

63.19 \$535,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 63.20 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 63.21 Minnesota for the West Central Research and
 63.22 Outreach Center at Morris to evaluate
 63.23 emerging solar system designs and solar
 63.24 technology integration with vegetable and
 63.25 livestock production systems to maximize
 63.26 energy production and benefits to farmers.

63.27 **(c) Pine Needles Reveal Past and Present**
 63.28 **Airborne PFAS**

63.29 \$550,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 63.30 to the commissioner of the Pollution Control
 63.31 Agency to use current and historic pine
 63.32 needles as a low-cost method to assess
 63.33 statewide per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
 63.34 (PFAS) levels in ambient air.

64.1 **(d) Facilitated Transport Hybrid Membranes**
64.2 **for CO₂ Separation**

64.3 \$1,050,000 the first year is from the trust fund
64.4 to the Board of Regents of the University of
64.5 Minnesota to develop and test advanced
64.6 polymeric membranes for capture and reuse
64.7 of carbon dioxide at industrial sources.

64.8 **(e) Renewable Energy Conversion for Farm**
64.9 **Diesel and Ammonia**

64.10 \$726,000 the first year is from the trust fund
64.11 to the Board of Regents of the University of
64.12 Minnesota to develop a novel charge-swing
64.13 catalytic condenser that will enable the
64.14 low-cost production of hydrogen from water
64.15 using rural electricity for on-the-farm energy
64.16 storage or renewable diesel and ammonia
64.17 fertilizer.

64.18 **(f) Innovative Solution to Renewable Energy**
64.19 **from Food Waste**

64.20 \$5,167,000 the first year is from the trust fund
64.21 to the commissioner of natural resources for
64.22 an agreement with the Ramsey/Washington
64.23 Recycling and Energy Board to provide
64.24 reimbursements to offset the processing fees
64.25 for the public to divert organic materials from
64.26 landfills and produce renewable natural gas
64.27 through anaerobic digestion and sequestration
64.28 of carbon into biochar. Net income generated
64.29 as part of this appropriation may be reinvested
64.30 in the project if a plan for reinvestment is
64.31 approved in the work plan as provided under
64.32 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This
64.33 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
64.34 by which time the project must be completed
64.35 and final products delivered.

65.1 **(g) Fueling the Future: Decarbonizing Regional**
 65.2 **Transportation Project**

65.3 \$3,155,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 65.4 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 65.5 an agreement with the city of St. Cloud to
 65.6 install a green hydrogen production, storage,
 65.7 and fueling station that provides a renewable,
 65.8 carbon-free, alternate fuel source to
 65.9 decarbonize community transportation and
 65.10 manufacturing sectors. This appropriation may
 65.11 also be used to convert city fleet and public
 65.12 transit vehicles to hydrogen fuel. Net income
 65.13 generated as part of this appropriation may be
 65.14 reinvested in the project if a plan for
 65.15 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as
 65.16 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section
 65.17 116P.10. This appropriation is available until
 65.18 June 30, 2029, by which time the project must
 65.19 be completed and final products delivered.

65.20 **Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land,**
 65.21 **Water, and Habitat**

12,188,000

-0-

65.22 **(a) Minnesota PlantWatch: Community**
 65.23 **Scientists Conserving Rare Plants**

65.24 \$1,086,000 the first year is from the trust fund.
 65.25 Of this amount, \$518,000 is to the Board of
 65.26 Regents of the University of Minnesota for
 65.27 the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and
 65.28 \$568,000 is to the commissioner of natural
 65.29 resources to enhance the Minnesota
 65.30 PlantWatch program to improve the
 65.31 conservation of Minnesota's natural resources
 65.32 and support community scientist-driven rare
 65.33 plant surveys and seed banking and
 65.34 preservation.

65.35 **(b) Grassland Restoration for Pollinator**
 65.36 **Conservation and Demonstration**

66.1 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
66.2 to the Board of Regents of the University of
66.3 Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape
66.4 Arboretum to restore a degraded pasture to
66.5 grassland as a model for climate-resilient
66.6 pollinator habitat; provide interpretive signage,
66.7 education, and community engagement; and
66.8 conduct species monitoring. This appropriation
66.9 is available until June 30, 2031, by which time
66.10 the project must be completed and final
66.11 products delivered.

66.12 **(c) Planning for Long-Term Natural Resources**
66.13 **Protection in Hennepin County**

66.14 \$250,000 the first year is from the trust fund
66.15 to the commissioner of natural resources for
66.16 an agreement with Hennepin County to
66.17 develop a publicly available interactive map
66.18 of natural systems, create a centralized
66.19 clearinghouse of data and best practices
66.20 toolkit, and provide ongoing technical
66.21 assistance for local communities with limited
66.22 resources to manage complex natural resources
66.23 challenges. Net income generated as part of
66.24 this appropriation may be reinvested in the
66.25 project if a plan for reinvestment is approved
66.26 in the work plan as provided under Minnesota
66.27 Statutes, section 116P.10.

66.28 **(d) Native Forages: Growing Drought and**
66.29 **Climate Resiliency**

66.30 \$2,254,000 the first year is from the trust fund
66.31 to the commissioner of natural resources for
66.32 an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to
66.33 collaborate with livestock farmers to establish
66.34 native grassland wildlife habitat and enhance
66.35 native forages on working lands to improve
66.36 ecological, economic, and climate resiliency.

- 67.1 Notwithstanding subdivision 13, paragraph
67.2 (e), restoration efforts may be undertaken on
67.3 private lands but must occur on properties
67.4 enrolled in long-term agreements to protect
67.5 and maintain the restored areas in
67.6 conformance with approved restoration and
67.7 grazing plans as approved in the work plan.
67.8 This appropriation is available until June 30,
67.9 2031, by which time the project must be
67.10 completed and final products delivered.
- 67.11 **(e) Accelerated Genetic Migration of Bur Oak**
67.12 **- Ten-Year Data**
- 67.13 \$223,000 the first year is from the trust fund
67.14 to the commissioner of natural resources for
67.15 an agreement with Great River Greening to
67.16 assess the growth and survival of previously
67.17 restored bur oak ecotypes to inform techniques
67.18 for improved climate resiliency. This
67.19 appropriation may also be used to enhance the
67.20 previous plantings and disseminate results of
67.21 the study to practitioners, students,
67.22 landowners, and others. This appropriation is
67.23 available until June 30, 2029, by which time
67.24 the project must be completed and final
67.25 products delivered.
- 67.26 **(f) Superior Hiking Trail Bridge, Boardwalk,**
67.27 **and Trailhead Renewal**
- 67.28 \$532,000 the first year is from the trust fund
67.29 to the commissioner of natural resources for
67.30 an agreement with the Superior Hiking Trail
67.31 Association to renew Superior Hiking Trail
67.32 bridges, boardwalks, and trailheads to increase
67.33 user safety, improve the user experience, and
67.34 protect adjacent land and water.
- 67.35 **(g) Mississippi Gateway Shoreline Stabilization**
67.36 **and Fishing Improvements**

68.1 \$735,000 the first year is from the trust fund
68.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
68.3 an agreement with Three Rivers Park District
68.4 to improve water quality and shoreline fishing
68.5 access through shoreline stabilization and
68.6 construction of accessible trails and fishing
68.7 platforms within Mississippi Gateway
68.8 Regional Park.

68.9 **(h) Phytoremediation of PFAS from Soil**

68.10 \$1,066,000 the first year is from the trust fund
68.11 to the Board of Regents of the University of
68.12 Minnesota to use interdisciplinary research in
68.13 biology, nanotechnology, chemistry, and
68.14 genetic engineering to develop technology to
68.15 remediate soils contaminated with per- and
68.16 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). This
68.17 appropriation may also be used to convene
68.18 stakeholders to coordinate and advance PFAS
68.19 remediation research in Minnesota. This
68.20 appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes,
68.21 section 116P.10.

68.22 **(i) Removing Mercury from Minnesota Waters**

68.23 \$247,000 the first year is from the trust fund
68.24 to the Board of Regents of the University of
68.25 Minnesota to test and refine a biotechnology
68.26 approach to remove mercury from the food
68.27 chain in Minnesota's lakes and rivers and
68.28 potentially make fish consumption in
68.29 Minnesota safer. This appropriation is subject
68.30 to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

68.31 **(j) Evaluating Native Seed Mixes for Grazing**

68.32 \$208,000 the first year is from the trust fund
68.33 to the commissioner of natural resources for
68.34 an agreement with Restoravore to assess the

69.1 use of native hay and pasture mixes to benefit
69.2 biodiversity, soil health, and Minnesota
69.3 farmers. A fiscal management plan must be
69.4 approved in the work plan before any trust
69.5 fund money is spent.

69.6 **(k) Improving Minnesota Forest Health via**
69.7 **Post-Duff-Burning Soil Analysis**

69.8 \$646,000 the first year is from the trust fund
69.9 to the Board of Regents of the University of
69.10 Minnesota to thoroughly investigate the impact
69.11 of forest floor duff fires on soil dynamics,
69.12 nutrient cycles, invasive shrubs, earthworms,
69.13 and root systems to improve fire management
69.14 for Minnesota's forest preservation. This
69.15 appropriation may also be used to develop an
69.16 outdoor lab-scale duff-burning device.

69.17 **(l) Minnesota Riverbank Protection and Parks**
69.18 **Improvements**

69.19 \$1,400,000 the first year is from the trust fund
69.20 to the commissioner of natural resources for
69.21 an agreement with the city of Shakopee to
69.22 restore Minnesota River shoreline at Huber
69.23 Park by regrading and establishing native
69.24 vegetation to protect fish and wildlife habitat,
69.25 reduce erosion, and provide public access to
69.26 the river. This appropriation is available until
69.27 June 30, 2029, by which time the project must
69.28 be completed and final products delivered.

69.29 **(m) Restoration at Wakan Tipi and Bruce Vento**
69.30 **Nature Sanctuary**

69.31 \$669,000 the first year is from the trust fund
69.32 to the commissioner of natural resources for
69.33 an agreement with the Lower Phalen Creek
69.34 Project to conduct citizen-science natural
69.35 resource data collection events, recruit and

70.1 train volunteer site stewards, and enhance
70.2 habitat at Wakan Tipi and the Bruce Vento
70.3 Nature Sanctuary.

70.4 **(n) Promoting Pollinators on Corporate**
70.5 **Campuses**

70.6 \$547,000 the first year is from the trust fund
70.7 to the commissioner of natural resources for
70.8 an agreement with the University of St.
70.9 Thomas to use experimental bee lawn
70.10 installations on corporate campuses, combined
70.11 with landscape modeling and employee
70.12 surveys, to determine potential ecological,
70.13 economic, and societal benefits of widespread
70.14 commercial lawn habitat transformation. This
70.15 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
70.16 by which time the project must be completed
70.17 and final products delivered.

70.18 **(o) Riparian Area Adaptation Strategy for**
70.19 **Southeast Minnesota**

70.20 \$243,000 the first year is from the trust fund
70.21 to the commissioner of natural resources for
70.22 an agreement with The Nature Conservancy,
70.23 in partnership with the University of
70.24 Minnesota, to assess an alternative adaptation
70.25 strategy to restore riparian areas by excavating
70.26 and planting riparian shrubs to reconnect the
70.27 floodplains. This appropriation may also be
70.28 used for outreach materials and educational
70.29 activities.

70.30 **(p) Minnehaha Park South Plateau Oak Savanna**
70.31 **Restoration**

70.32 \$242,000 the first year is from the trust fund
70.33 to the commissioner of natural resources for
70.34 an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and
70.35 Recreation Board to improve wildlife habitat,

71.1 enhance recreational experiences, and restore
 71.2 an area of urban parkland in Minnehaha Park
 71.3 to an oak savanna ecosystem. This
 71.4 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
 71.5 by which time the project must be completed
 71.6 and final products delivered.

71.7 **(q) Tree Protection for Minnesota's Tamarack**
 71.8 **Against Larch Beetle**

71.9 \$321,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 71.10 to the Board of Regents of the University of
 71.11 Minnesota to evaluate new insect management
 71.12 techniques and key factors for predicting
 71.13 future infestations to protect and preserve trees
 71.14 from native eastern larch beetle infestations.

71.15 **(r) Shoreline Restoration and Enhancement at**
 71.16 **Minneapolis Lakes**

71.17 \$819,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 71.18 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 71.19 an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and
 71.20 Recreation Board to restore and enhance areas
 71.21 of turf-dominated, eroding, and low habitat
 71.22 value lakeshore that impacts the water quality
 71.23 of the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes.

71.24 **(s) Developing Markets for CLC Crops**

71.25 \$450,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 71.26 to the commissioner of agriculture to provide
 71.27 grants to organizations in Minnesota to
 71.28 develop enterprises, supply chains, and
 71.29 markets for continuous living cover crops and
 71.30 cropping systems in the early stage of
 71.31 commercial development. This appropriation
 71.32 is exempt from the income repayment
 71.33 requirements in Minnesota Statutes, section
 71.34 116P.10, paragraph (c).

72.1	<u>Subd. 9. Land Acquisition, Habitat, and</u>		
72.2	<u>Recreation</u>	<u>19,553,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
72.3	<u>(a) Cannon River Preservation and Access</u>		
72.4	<u>\$2,717,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
72.5	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
72.6	<u>an agreement with Dakota County to</u>		
72.7	<u>rehabilitate the historic Waterford Bridge for</u>		
72.8	<u>the Mill Towns State Trail; restore and</u>		
72.9	<u>enhance upland shoreline, forest, and prairie</u>		
72.10	<u>habitats; and develop a trailhead and</u>		
72.11	<u>recreational access to the Cannon River.</u>		
72.12	<u>(b) Mesabi Trail: Aurora to Hoyt Lakes</u>		
72.13	<u>\$1,325,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
72.14	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
72.15	<u>an agreement with St. Louis and Lake</u>		
72.16	<u>Counties Regional Railroad Authority for</u>		
72.17	<u>environmental review and permitting and to</u>		
72.18	<u>engineer, design, and construct a segment of</u>		
72.19	<u>the Mesabi Trail beginning at the intersection</u>		
72.20	<u>of Main Street and Forestry Road in Aurora</u>		
72.21	<u>toward Hoyt Lakes.</u>		
72.22	<u>(c) RTA Maintenance Trail Stabilization Project</u>		
72.23	<u>\$500,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
72.24	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources for</u>		
72.25	<u>an agreement with the city of Eden Prairie to</u>		
72.26	<u>construct a retaining wall and restore adjacent</u>		
72.27	<u>remnant prairie along the maintenance trail at</u>		
72.28	<u>Richard T. Anderson (RTA) Conservation</u>		
72.29	<u>Area to mitigate ongoing erosion and protect</u>		
72.30	<u>native habitat and plant communities.</u>		
72.31	<u>(d) Local Parks, Trails, and Natural Areas Grant</u>		
72.32	<u>Programs</u>		
72.33	<u>\$4,769,000 the first year is from the trust fund</u>		
72.34	<u>to the commissioner of natural resources to</u>		

73.1 solicit, rank, and fund competitive matching
73.2 grants for local parks, trail connections, and
73.3 natural and scenic areas under Minnesota
73.4 Statutes, section 85.019. This appropriation is
73.5 for local nature-based recreation, connections
73.6 to regional and state natural areas, and
73.7 recreation facilities and may not be used for
73.8 athletic facilities such as sport fields, courts,
73.9 and playgrounds. This appropriation is exempt
73.10 from subdivision 13, paragraph (k).

73.11 **(e) Boardwalk Over Boggy Land for**
73.12 **Recreational Purposes**

73.13 \$148,000 the first year is from the trust fund
73.14 to the commissioner of natural resources for
73.15 an agreement with the city of Battle Lake to
73.16 design and construct a boardwalk over city
73.17 land to protect wetlands and to increase
73.18 community access to natural areas and wildlife
73.19 habitat.

73.20 **(f) Lake Zumbro Park Water Access and Site**
73.21 **Improvements**

73.22 \$1,978,000 the first year is from the trust fund
73.23 to the commissioner of natural resources for
73.24 an agreement with Olmsted County to enhance
73.25 the Lake Zumbro Park water access and the
73.26 federal Americans with Disabilities Act
73.27 (ADA) accessibility for boating, fishing, and
73.28 viewing, while creating new user-friendly and
73.29 accessible amenities for individuals and
73.30 families. This may include new fishing docks
73.31 or piers, restored shoreline, improved parking,
73.32 and ADA accessible access to an existing
73.33 kayak and canoe launch.

73.34 **(g) Scientific and Natural Area (SNA)**
73.35 **Biodiversity Protection**

74.1 \$1,104,000 the first year is from the trust fund
74.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
74.3 the scientific and natural area program to
74.4 conserve Minnesota's most unique places and
74.5 rare species and strategically acquire lands
74.6 that meet criteria for SNAs under Minnesota
74.7 Statutes, section 86A.05. This appropriation
74.8 is available until June 30, 2029, by which time
74.9 the project must be completed and final
74.10 products delivered.

74.11 **(h) Scandia Gateway Trail Connection:**
74.12 **Recreation, Wetlands, and Environmental**
74.13 **Education**

74.14 \$907,000 the first year is from the trust fund
74.15 to the commissioner of natural resources for
74.16 an agreement with the city of Scandia to
74.17 engineer, design, and construct a bike and
74.18 pedestrian trail to connect recreational,
74.19 cultural, and environmental resources in
74.20 Scandia to the state Gateway Trail. This
74.21 appropriation is also to create and install
74.22 educational interpretive signage about
74.23 wetlands and rain gardens near the trail.

74.24 **(i) Lake Byllesby Regional Park Restoration and**
74.25 **Recreation**

74.26 \$1,120,000 the first year is from the trust fund
74.27 to the commissioner of natural resources for
74.28 an agreement with Dakota County to restore
74.29 prairie, woodland, and shoreline habitat and
74.30 design and install trails, birding and picnic
74.31 areas, and other recreational amenities to
74.32 enhance the visitor experience and stewardship
74.33 at Lake Byllesby Regional Park. This
74.34 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
74.35 by which time the project must be completed
74.36 and final products delivered.

75.1 **(j) Thompson County Park Restoration and**
75.2 **Accessibility Improvements**

75.3 \$867,000 the first year is from the trust fund
75.4 to the commissioner of natural resources for
75.5 an agreement with Dakota County to develop
75.6 a pollinator promenade with accessible natural
75.7 surface paths, native plantings, and interpretive
75.8 signage at Thompson County Park. This
75.9 appropriation may also be used to conduct
75.10 stream restoration to enhance visitor
75.11 experience and provide stormwater storage,
75.12 sediment and nutrient reduction, and increased
75.13 habitat and species diversity within the park.
75.14 This appropriation is available until June 30,
75.15 2029, by which time the project must be
75.16 completed and final products delivered.

75.17 **(k) Thom Storm Chalet and Outdoor Recreation**
75.18 **Center**

75.19 \$2,312,000 the first year is from the trust fund
75.20 to the commissioner of natural resources for
75.21 an agreement with the city of Duluth to
75.22 construct a new building and accessible
75.23 parking for the Thom Storm Chalet and
75.24 Outdoor Recreation Center at Chester Park to
75.25 expand high-quality outdoor recreation and
75.26 environmental education opportunities that
75.27 enhance youth and family understanding of
75.28 the importance of natural resource protection,
75.29 conservation, and preservation. Net income
75.30 generated as part of this appropriation may be
75.31 reinvested in the project if a plan for
75.32 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as
75.33 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section
75.34 116P.10.

75.35 **(l) Enhancing Preservation and Accessibility at**
75.36 **Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve**

76.1 \$155,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 76.2 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 76.3 an agreement with the city of Duluth to
 76.4 develop accessible trails and remove invasive
 76.5 species to enhance outdoor recreation and
 76.6 education opportunities that promote
 76.7 conservation of raptors and preservation of
 76.8 natural resources at Hawk Ridge Nature
 76.9 Reserve.

76.10 **(m) Echo Bay County Park - Phase 1**
 76.11 **Construction**

76.12 \$1,122,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 76.13 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 76.14 an agreement with Otter Tail County to
 76.15 construct, in accordance with the Echo Bay
 76.16 County Park Master Plan, access roads, trails,
 76.17 parking, and bathroom facilities that create
 76.18 designated public access and use corridors for
 76.19 outdoor recreation and limit natural resource
 76.20 impacts in Echo Bay County Park.

76.21 **(n) Chaska Big Woods Property Acquisition**

76.22 \$529,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 76.23 to the commissioner of natural resources for
 76.24 an agreement with the city of Chaska to
 76.25 acquire property that contains remnant Big
 76.26 Woods to protect Minnesota forests and
 76.27 wetlands and to increase community access
 76.28 to natural areas.

76.29 **Subd. 10. Administration, Emerging Issues, and**
 76.30 **Contract Agreement Reimbursement**

7,267,000

-0-

76.31 **(a) Emerging Issues Account**

76.32 \$2,984,000 the first year is from the trust fund
 76.33 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on
 76.34 Minnesota Resources to an emerging issues

77.1 account authorized in Minnesota Statutes,
77.2 section 116P.08, subdivision 4, paragraph (d).

77.3 **(b) 2025 Contract Agreement Reimbursement**

77.4 \$280,000 the first year is from the trust fund
77.5 to the commissioner of natural resources, at
77.6 the direction of the Legislative-Citizen
77.7 Commission on Minnesota Resources, for
77.8 expenses incurred in preparing and
77.9 administering contracts, including for the
77.10 agreements specified in this section.

77.11 **(c) LCCMR Administrative Budget**

77.12 \$4,000,000 the first year is from the trust fund
77.13 to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on
77.14 Minnesota Resources for administration in
77.15 fiscal years 2026 and 2027 as provided in
77.16 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.09,
77.17 subdivision 5. This appropriation is available
77.18 until June 30, 2027. Notwithstanding
77.19 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.11,
77.20 paragraph (b), Minnesota Statutes, section
77.21 16A.281, applies to this appropriation.

77.22 **(d) Legislative Coordinating Commission Legacy**
77.23 **Website**

77.24 \$3,000 the first year is from the trust fund to
77.25 the Legislative Coordinating Commission for
77.26 the website required in Minnesota Statutes,
77.27 section 3.303, subdivision 10.

77.28 **Subd. 11. Availability of appropriations**

77.29 Money appropriated in this section may not
77.30 be spent on activities unless they are directly
77.31 related to and necessary for a specific
77.32 appropriation and are specified in the work
77.33 plan approved by the Legislative-Citizen
77.34 Commission on Minnesota Resources. Money

78.1 appropriated in this section must not be spent
78.2 on indirect costs or other institutional overhead
78.3 charges that are not directly related to and
78.4 necessary for a specific appropriation. Costs
78.5 that are directly related to and necessary for
78.6 an appropriation, including financial services,
78.7 human resources, information services, rent,
78.8 and utilities, are eligible only if the costs can
78.9 be clearly justified and individually
78.10 documented specific to the appropriation's
78.11 purpose and would not be generated by the
78.12 recipient but for receipt of the appropriation.
78.13 No broad allocations for costs in either dollars
78.14 or percentages are allowed. Unless otherwise
78.15 provided, the amounts in this section are
78.16 available for three years beginning July 1,
78.17 2025, and ending June 30, 2028, when projects
78.18 must be completed and final products
78.19 delivered. For acquisition of real property, the
78.20 appropriations in this section are available for
78.21 an additional fiscal year if a binding contract
78.22 for acquisition of the real property is entered
78.23 into before the expiration date of the
78.24 appropriation. If a project receives a federal
78.25 award, the period of the appropriation is
78.26 extended to equal the federal award period to
78.27 a maximum trust fund appropriation length of
78.28 six years.

78.29 **Subd. 12. Data availability requirements**

78.30 Data collected by the projects funded under
78.31 this section must conform to guidelines and
78.32 standards adopted by Minnesota IT Services.
78.33 Spatial data must also conform to additional
78.34 guidelines and standards designed to support
78.35 data coordination and distribution that have

79.1 been published by the Minnesota Geospatial
79.2 Information Office. Descriptions of spatial
79.3 data must be prepared as specified in the state's
79.4 geographic metadata guidelines and final data
79.5 must be uploaded to the Minnesota Geospatial
79.6 Commons upon project completion. All data
79.7 must be accessible and free to the public
79.8 unless made private under the Data Practices
79.9 Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13. To the
79.10 extent practicable, summary data and results
79.11 of projects funded under this section should
79.12 be readily accessible on the Internet and
79.13 identified as having received funding from the
79.14 environment and natural resources trust fund.

79.15 **Subd. 13. Project requirements**

79.16 (a) As a condition of accepting an
79.17 appropriation under this section, an agency or
79.18 entity receiving an appropriation or a party to
79.19 an agreement from an appropriation must
79.20 comply with paragraphs (b) to (m) and
79.21 Minnesota Statutes, chapter 116P, and must
79.22 submit a work plan and annual or semiannual
79.23 progress reports in the form determined by the
79.24 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
79.25 Resources for any project funded in whole or
79.26 in part with money from the appropriation.
79.27 Modifications to the approved work plan and
79.28 budget expenditures must be made through
79.29 the amendment process established by the
79.30 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
79.31 Resources.

79.32 (b) A recipient of money appropriated in this
79.33 section that conducts a restoration using
79.34 money appropriated in this section must use
79.35 native plant species according to the Board of

80.1 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation
80.2 establishment and enhancement guidelines
80.3 and include an appropriate diversity of native
80.4 species selected to provide habitat for
80.5 pollinators throughout the growing season as
80.6 required under Minnesota Statutes, section
80.7 84.973.

80.8 (c) For all restorations conducted with money
80.9 appropriated under this section, a recipient
80.10 must prepare an ecological restoration and
80.11 management plan that, to the degree
80.12 practicable, is consistent with the
80.13 highest-quality conservation and ecological
80.14 goals for the restoration site. Consideration
80.15 should be given to soil, geology, topography,
80.16 and other relevant factors that would provide
80.17 the best chance for long-term success and
80.18 durability of the restoration project. The plan
80.19 must include the proposed timetable for
80.20 implementing the restoration, including site
80.21 preparation, establishment of diverse plant
80.22 species, maintenance, and additional
80.23 enhancement to establish the restoration;
80.24 identify long-term maintenance and
80.25 management needs of the restoration and how
80.26 the maintenance, management, and
80.27 enhancement will be financed; and take
80.28 advantage of the best-available science and
80.29 include innovative techniques to achieve the
80.30 best restoration.

80.31 (d) An entity receiving an appropriation in this
80.32 section for restoration activities must provide
80.33 an initial restoration evaluation at the
80.34 completion of the appropriation and an
80.35 evaluation three years after the completion of

81.1 the expenditure. Restorations must be
81.2 evaluated relative to the stated goals and
81.3 standards in the restoration plan, current
81.4 science, and, when applicable, the Board of
81.5 Water and Soil Resources' native vegetation
81.6 establishment and enhancement guidelines.
81.7 The evaluation must determine whether the
81.8 restorations are meeting planned goals,
81.9 identify any problems with implementing the
81.10 restorations, and, if necessary, give
81.11 recommendations on improving restorations.
81.12 The evaluation must be focused on improving
81.13 future restorations.

81.14 (e) All restoration and enhancement projects
81.15 funded with money appropriated in this section
81.16 must be on land permanently protected by a
81.17 conservation easement or public ownership.

81.18 (f) A recipient of money from an appropriation
81.19 under this section must give consideration to
81.20 contracting with Conservation Corps
81.21 Minnesota for contract restoration and
81.22 enhancement services.

81.23 (g) All conservation easements acquired with
81.24 money appropriated under this section must:

81.25 (1) be permanent;
81.26 (2) specify the parties to the easement in the
81.27 easement document;
81.28 (3) specify all provisions of an agreement that
81.29 are permanent;
81.30 (4) be sent to the Legislative-Citizen
81.31 Commission on Minnesota Resources in an
81.32 electronic format at least 20 business days
81.33 before closing;

82.1 (5) include a long-term monitoring and
82.2 enforcement plan and funding for monitoring
82.3 and enforcing the easement agreement; and

82.4 (6) include requirements in the easement
82.5 document to protect the quantity and quality
82.6 of groundwater and surface water through
82.7 specific activities, such as keeping water on
82.8 the landscape, reducing nutrient and
82.9 contaminant loading, and not permitting
82.10 artificial hydrological modifications.

82.11 (h) For any acquisition of lands or interest in
82.12 lands, a recipient of money appropriated under
82.13 this section must not agree to pay more than
82.14 100 percent of the appraised value for a parcel
82.15 of land using this money to complete the
82.16 purchase, in part or in whole, except that up
82.17 to ten percent above the appraised value may
82.18 be allowed to complete the purchase, in part
82.19 or in whole, using this money if permission is
82.20 received in advance of the purchase from the
82.21 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
82.22 Resources.

82.23 (i) For any acquisition of land or interest in
82.24 land, a recipient of money appropriated under
82.25 this section must give priority to high-quality
82.26 natural resources or conservation lands that
82.27 provide natural buffers to water resources.

82.28 (j) For new lands acquired with money
82.29 appropriated under this section, a recipient
82.30 must prepare an ecological restoration and
82.31 management plan in compliance with
82.32 paragraph (c), including sufficient funding for
82.33 implementation unless the work plan addresses
82.34 why a portion of the money is not necessary
82.35 to achieve a high-quality restoration.

83.1 (k) To ensure public accountability for using
83.2 public money, a recipient of money
83.3 appropriated under this section must, within
83.4 60 days of a land acquisition, provide to the
83.5 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
83.6 Resources documentation of the selection
83.7 process used to identify parcels acquired and
83.8 provide documentation of all related
83.9 transaction costs, including but not limited to
83.10 appraisals, legal fees, recording fees,
83.11 commissions, other similar costs, and
83.12 donations. This information must be provided
83.13 for all parties involved in the transaction. The
83.14 recipient must also report to the
83.15 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
83.16 Resources any difference between the
83.17 acquisition amount paid to the seller and the
83.18 state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal, if
83.19 a state-certified or state-reviewed appraisal
83.20 was conducted.

83.21 (l) A recipient of an appropriation from the
83.22 trust fund under this section must acknowledge
83.23 financial support from the environment and
83.24 natural resources trust fund in project
83.25 publications, signage, and other public
83.26 communications and outreach related to work
83.27 completed using the appropriation.

83.28 Acknowledgment may occur, as appropriate,
83.29 through use of the trust fund logo or inclusion
83.30 of language attributing support from the trust
83.31 fund. Each direct recipient of money
83.32 appropriated in this section, as well as each
83.33 recipient of a grant awarded pursuant to this
83.34 section, must satisfy all reporting and other
83.35 requirements incumbent upon constitutionally
83.36 dedicated funding recipients as provided in

84.1 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision
84.2 10, and chapter 116P.

84.3 (m) A recipient of an appropriation from the
84.4 trust fund under this section that is receiving
84.5 funding to conduct children's services, as
84.6 defined in Minnesota Statutes, section
84.7 299C.61, subdivision 7, must certify to the
84.8 Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota
84.9 Resources, as part of the required work plan,
84.10 that criminal background checks for
84.11 background check crimes, as defined in
84.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 299C.61,
84.13 subdivision 2, are performed on all employees,
84.14 contractors, and volunteers that have or may
84.15 have access to a child to whom the recipient
84.16 provides children's services using the
84.17 appropriation.

84.18 **Subd. 14. Payment conditions and capital**
84.19 **equipment expenditures**

84.20 (a) All agreements, grants, or contracts
84.21 referred to in this section must be administered
84.22 on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise
84.23 provided in this section. Notwithstanding
84.24 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.41,
84.25 expenditures made on or after July 1, 2025,
84.26 or the date the work plan is approved,
84.27 whichever is later, are eligible for
84.28 reimbursement unless otherwise provided in
84.29 this section. Periodic payments must be made
84.30 upon receiving documentation that the
84.31 deliverable items articulated in the approved
84.32 work plan have been achieved, including
84.33 partial achievements as evidenced by approved
84.34 progress reports. Reasonable amounts may be
84.35 advanced to projects to accommodate

85.1 cash-flow needs or match federal money. The
85.2 advances must be approved as part of the work
85.3 plan. No expenditures for capital equipment
85.4 are allowed unless expressly authorized in the
85.5 project work plan.

85.6 (b) Single-source contracts as specified in the
85.7 approved work plan are allowed.

85.8 **Subd. 15. Purchasing recycled and recyclable**
85.9 **materials**

85.10 A political subdivision, public or private
85.11 corporation, or other entity that receives an
85.12 appropriation under this section must use the
85.13 appropriation in compliance with Minnesota
85.14 Statutes, section 16C.0725, regarding
85.15 purchasing recycled, repairable, and durable
85.16 materials, and Minnesota Statutes, section
85.17 16C.073, regarding purchasing and using
85.18 paper stock and printing.

85.19 **Subd. 16. Accessibility**

85.20 Structural and nonstructural facilities must
85.21 meet the design standards in the Americans
85.22 with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility
85.23 guidelines.

85.24 **Subd. 17. Carryforward; extensions**

85.25 (a) The availability of the appropriations for
85.26 the following projects is extended to June 30,
85.27 2026:

85.28 (1) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
85.29 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph
85.30 (d), Foundational Hydrology Data for Wetland
85.31 Protection and Restoration;

85.32 (2) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
85.33 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 6, paragraph

- 86.1 (b), Protect Community Forests by Managing
86.2 Ash for Emerald Ash Borer;
- 86.3 (3) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
86.4 6, article 5, section 2, subdivision 9, paragraph
86.5 (t), Chippewa County Acquisition, Recreation,
86.6 and Education;
- 86.7 (4) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
86.8 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph
86.9 (g), Geologic Atlases for Water Resource
86.10 Management;
- 86.11 (5) Laws 2021, First Special Session chapter
86.12 6, article 6, section 2, subdivision 3, paragraph
86.13 (n), Bioacoustics for Broad-Scale Species
86.14 Monitoring and Conservation;
- 86.15 (6) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
86.16 subdivision 4, paragraph (f), Water and
86.17 Climate Information to Enhance Community
86.18 Resilience;
- 86.19 (7) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
86.20 subdivision 4, paragraph (i), Is the Tire
86.21 Chemical 6PPDq Killing Minnesota's Fish?;
- 86.22 (8) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
86.23 subdivision 7, paragraph (a), Green Solar Cells
86.24 from a Minnesota Natural Resource;
- 86.25 (9) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
86.26 subdivision 8, paragraph (d), Hastings Lake
86.27 Rebecca Park Area;
- 86.28 (10) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
86.29 subdivision 9, paragraph (a), as amended by
86.30 Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 2, section 15,
86.31 Mesabi Trail: Wahlsten Road (CR 26) to
86.32 Tower; and

- 87.1

(11) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 87.2

subdivision 9, paragraph (j), as amended by
- 87.3

Laws 2024, chapter 83, section 5, Silver Bay
- 87.4

Multimodal Trailhead Project.
- 87.5

(b) The availability of the appropriations for
- 87.6

the following projects is extended to June 30,
- 87.7

2027:
- 87.8

(1) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 87.9

subdivision 4, paragraph (g), Catch and
- 87.10

Reveal: Discovering Unknown Fish
- 87.11

Contamination Threats;
- 87.12

(2) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 87.13

subdivision 9, paragraph (e), Native Prairie
- 87.14

Stewardship and Prairie Bank Easement
- 87.15

Acquisition;
- 87.16

(3) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 87.17

subdivision 9, paragraph (h), SNA Habitat
- 87.18

Restoration and Public Engagement; and
- 87.19

(4) Laws 2022, chapter 94, section 2,
- 87.20

subdivision 9, paragraph (n), Ranier Safe
- 87.21

Harbor/Transient Dock - Phase 2.
- 87.22

EFFECTIVE DATE. Subdivision 17 is effective the day following final enactment.
- 87.23

Sec. 3. Laws 2024, chapter 83, section 2, subdivision 3, is amended to read:
- 87.24

Subd. 3. Foundational Natural Resource Data
- 87.25

and Information

-0-

14,993,000
- 87.26

(a) Native Plant Community Data in the City of
- 87.27

Duluth
- 87.28

\$198,000 the second year is from the trust
- 87.29

fund to the commissioner of natural resources
- 87.30

for an agreement with Minnesota Land Trust
- 87.31

to develop field-verified native plant
- 87.32

community data and maps for the city of

88.1 Duluth and the St. Louis River estuary to
88.2 support conservation and restoration activities.

88.3 **(b) Reconstructing Historical Wild Rice to**
88.4 **Understand Its Future**

88.5 \$200,000 the second year is from the trust
88.6 fund to the Science Museum of Minnesota for
88.7 the St. Croix Watershed Research Station to
88.8 characterize environmental drivers
88.9 contributing to the decline of wild rice using
88.10 lake sediment cores to reconstruct historical
88.11 wild rice abundance in relation to lake and
88.12 watershed stressors.

88.13 **(c) Characterizing Tree Cavities and Use by**
88.14 **Minnesota's Wildlife**

88.15 \$349,000 the second year is from the trust
88.16 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
88.17 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
88.18 Research Institute in Duluth to assess the
88.19 effects of forest management on Minnesota's
88.20 primary cavity engineer, the pileated
88.21 woodpecker, and on the wildlife that rely on
88.22 the cavities that pileated woodpeckers create.
88.23 This appropriation is also to develop
88.24 management guidelines.

88.25 **(d) Fate of Minnesota's Lakes in the Next**
88.26 **Century**

88.27 \$453,000 the second year is from the trust
88.28 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
88.29 of Minnesota to use new modeling techniques
88.30 to quantify how water quality of Minnesota's
88.31 lakes will change in the next century under
88.32 future land use and climate change scenarios
88.33 and to create an online web tool to display the
88.34 results. This appropriation is subject to
88.35 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10. This

89.1 appropriation is available until June 30, 2028,
89.2 by which time the project must be completed
89.3 and final products delivered.

89.4 **(e) Turtle Island Skywatchers - Minnesota**
89.5 **Research and Data Visualization**

89.6 \$200,000 the second year is from the trust
89.7 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
89.8 for an agreement with Native Skywatchers
89.9 Inc. to engage youth in environmental
89.10 stewardship by collecting images and acoustic
89.11 data from turtles and other culturally
89.12 significant animals and their habitats,
89.13 evaluating the differences in these soundscapes
89.14 across landscapes, and sharing the results
89.15 through scientific storytelling and online
89.16 platforms.

89.17 **(f) Monitoring Minnesota's Insects: Connecting**
89.18 **Habitat to Insect Prey**

89.19 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
89.20 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
89.21 of Minnesota to investigate the ecological
89.22 roles of and energy transfer by certain
89.23 Minnesota insects throughout their life cycles
89.24 and to train future insect researchers on field
89.25 techniques.

89.26 **(g) Determining Ambient Background PFAS**
89.27 **Concentrations in Minnesota Soils**

89.28 \$621,000 the second year is from the trust
89.29 fund to the commissioner of the Pollution
89.30 Control Agency to determine ambient
89.31 background per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance
89.32 (PFAS) levels in urban and nonurban soils to
89.33 help Minnesota develop management
89.34 strategies for PFAS-contaminated soils. This
89.35 appropriation is available until June 30, 2028,

90.1 by which time the project must be completed
90.2 and final products delivered.

90.3 **(h) Investigating Life History Characteristics of**
90.4 **Minnesota Elk**

90.5 \$933,000 the second year is from the trust
90.6 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
90.7 to assess Minnesota elk herd health and
90.8 genetic diversity, movements, survival, and
90.9 causes of mortality and to develop a
90.10 noninvasive, safer, and more accurate method
90.11 to estimate population size. This appropriation
90.12 is available until June 30, 2028, by which time
90.13 the project must be completed and final
90.14 products delivered.

90.15 **(i) Foundational Data for Moth and Butterfly**
90.16 **Conservation**

90.17 \$195,000 the second year is from the trust
90.18 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
90.19 to perform field surveys and consolidate
90.20 existing data to create the first comprehensive
90.21 list of Minnesota moths and butterflies. This
90.22 appropriation is also to conduct outreach to
90.23 inform land managers and to facilitate public
90.24 appreciation of these species.

90.25 **(j) DNR County Groundwater Atlas**

90.26 \$3,200,000 the second year is from the trust
90.27 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
90.28 to continue producing county groundwater
90.29 atlases to inform management of surface water
90.30 and groundwater resources for drinking and
90.31 other purposes. This appropriation is for Part
90.32 B, to characterize the potential water yields of
90.33 aquifers and aquifers' sensitivity to
90.34 contamination.

90.35 **(k) Voyageurs Wolf Project - Phase III**

91.1 \$996,000 the second year is from the trust
91.2 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
91.3 of Minnesota to continue to study summertime
91.4 wolf predation on deer, moose, and other
91.5 species in the greater Voyageurs ecosystem
91.6 to inform wildlife management and to share
91.7 natural history of this species with the public.

91.8 This appropriation is available until June 30,
91.9 2028, by which time the project must be
91.10 completed and final products delivered.

91.11 **(l) Distribution and Population Status of Weasels**
91.12 **in Minnesota**

91.13 \$400,000 the second year is from the trust
91.14 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
91.15 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
91.16 Research Institute in Duluth to determine the
91.17 distribution, relative abundance, and spatial
91.18 occupancy patterns of small weasel species in
91.19 Minnesota to fill key knowledge gaps in
91.20 weasel distribution and status in Minnesota.

91.21 **(m) Improving Aquatic Plant Knowledge for**
91.22 **Healthy Waters**

91.23 \$198,000 the second year is from the trust
91.24 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
91.25 to collect foundational data on Minnesota's
91.26 native aquatic plant biodiversity through new
91.27 and enhanced lake surveys and to disseminate
91.28 results to state resource managers, scientists,
91.29 and the public.

91.30 **(n) New Small Mammal Monitoring Methods**
91.31 **for Minnesota**

91.32 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
91.33 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
91.34 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
91.35 Research Institute in Duluth to develop camera

92.1 trapping methods as a new tool to collect
92.2 foundational data and fill key knowledge gaps
92.3 in the status of small mammal species in
92.4 Minnesota.

92.5 **(o) Status of Bats and Roost Trees after**
92.6 **White-Nose Syndrome**

92.7 \$195,000 the second year is from the trust
92.8 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
92.9 of Minnesota for the Natural Resources
92.10 Research Institute in Duluth to study changes
92.11 in maternity roost trees and bat populations in
92.12 the forested areas of Minnesota and to evaluate
92.13 the effects of years of white-nose syndrome
92.14 on Minnesota bats.

92.15 **(p) Sublethal Effects of Pesticides on the**
92.16 **Invertebrate Community**

92.17 \$387,000 the second year is from the trust
92.18 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
92.19 of Minnesota to provide data on pesticide
92.20 contamination in soil and the insect
92.21 community across the state and the effect of
92.22 insecticide exposure on insect reproduction.
92.23 This appropriation is available until June 30,
92.24 2029, by which time the project must be
92.25 completed and final products delivered.

92.26 **(q) Modernizing Minnesota's Plant Community**
92.27 **Classification and Field Guides**

92.28 \$1,800,000 the second year is from the trust
92.29 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
92.30 to collect additional vegetation and
92.31 environmental data and update the state's
92.32 20-year-old native plant community
92.33 classification guides to incorporate new data,
92.34 streamline user application and access to
92.35 products, and include analysis of climate and

93.1 vegetation trends. Net income generated as
93.2 part of this appropriation may be reinvested
93.3 in the project if a plan for reinvestment is
93.4 approved in the work plan. This appropriation
93.5 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section
93.6 116P.10.

93.7 **(r) Assessing Prairie Health to Inform Pollinator**
93.8 **Conservation**

93.9 \$297,000 the second year is from the trust
93.10 fund to the Minnesota Zoological Society to
93.11 assess habitat quality and pesticide occurrence
93.12 in Minnesota prairies to help inform
93.13 management actions, endangered species
93.14 recovery plans, and pollinator reintroduction
93.15 efforts for endangered and threatened
93.16 butterflies and other wildlife.

93.17 **(s) Understanding Native Fishes in the**
93.18 **Bowfishing Era**

93.19 \$588,000 the second year is from the trust
93.20 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
93.21 of Minnesota, Duluth, to collect foundational
93.22 biological information on a selection of native
93.23 Minnesota fish to aid in sustainable
93.24 management, improve recreational
93.25 opportunities, and educate the public about
93.26 these shared aquatic resources. This
93.27 appropriation is available until June 30, 2028,
93.28 by which time the project must be completed
93.29 and final products delivered.

93.30 **(t) Preserving Minnesota Wildflower**
93.31 **Information**

93.32 \$199,000 the second year is from the trust
93.33 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
93.34 of Minnesota, Bell Museum of Natural
93.35 History, to preserve and enhance Minnesota

94.1 Wildflowers Information, an online tool for
94.2 plant identification, by integrating the content
94.3 and functionality of the website with the
94.4 Minnesota Biodiversity Atlas for public use
94.5 as required by Laws 2017, chapter 96, section
94.6 2, subdivision 3, paragraph (e).

94.7 **(u) White-Tailed Deer Movement and Disease**
94.8 **in Suburban Areas**

94.9 \$699,000 the second year is from the trust
94.10 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
94.11 of Minnesota to better understand white-tailed
94.12 deer movement, habitat use, and disease
94.13 dynamics at the suburban-agricultural interface
94.14 to inform more efficient deer management and
94.15 disease control.

94.16 **(v) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and**
94.17 **Minnesota Raptors**

94.18 \$187,000 the second year is from the trust
94.19 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
94.20 of Minnesota for the Raptor Center to evaluate
94.21 Minnesota raptors for current or past infections
94.22 with highly pathogenic avian influenza virus
94.23 to better understand disease transmission and
94.24 outbreak impacts on raptor populations.

94.25 **(w) Geologic Atlases for Water Resource**
94.26 **Management**

94.27 \$1,236,000 the second year is from the trust
94.28 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
94.29 of Minnesota, Minnesota Geological Survey,
94.30 to continue producing county geologic atlases
94.31 to inform management of surface water and
94.32 groundwater resources. This appropriation is
94.33 to complete Part A, which focuses on the
94.34 properties and distribution of earth materials
94.35 to define aquifer boundaries and the

95.1 connection of aquifers to the land surface and
95.2 surface water resources.

95.3 **(x) Remote Sensing for Pollinator Habitat**

95.4 \$180,000 the second year is from the trust
95.5 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
95.6 for an agreement with Monarch Joint Venture
95.7 to use remote sensing technology to evaluate
95.8 pollinator habitat on energy and transportation
95.9 corridors across Minnesota and to host
95.10 field-day training workshops. Net income
95.11 generated as part of this appropriation may be
95.12 reinvested in the project if a plan for
95.13 reinvestment is approved in the work plan as
95.14 provided under Minnesota Statutes, section
95.15 116P.10.

95.16 **(y) Harnessing Cover Crops and Roots for**
95.17 **Sustainable Cropping**

95.18 \$375,000 the second year is from the trust
95.19 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
95.20 of Minnesota to determine carbon
95.21 sequestration, nitrogen credit potential, water
95.22 use, and performance of cover crops in
95.23 corn-soybean and corn-soybean-wheat
95.24 rotations in southern Minnesota.

95.25 **(z) Effects of Conservation Grazing on Solar**
95.26 **Sites Managed for Pollinator Habitat**

95.27 \$88,000 the second year is from the trust fund
95.28 to the commissioner of natural resources for
95.29 an agreement with Minnesota Native
95.30 Landscapes, in partnership with Temple
95.31 University, to analyze the effects of sheep
95.32 grazing and mowing on the vegetation and
95.33 soils of solar sites managed for pollinator
95.34 habitat and to improve understanding of the
95.35 environmental outcomes from the colocation

96.1

of solar panels; grazing; and native,

96.2

pollinator-friendly vegetation. This

96.3

appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,

96.4

by which time the project must be completed

96.5

and final products delivered.

96.6

(aa) **Genetic Detection of Endangered Mussels**

96.7

in the Mississippi

96.8

\$241,000 the second year is from the trust

96.9

fund to the commissioner of natural resources

96.10

for an agreement with the United States

96.11

Geological Survey, Ohio Water Microbiology

96.12

Lab, to create, optimize, and use eDNA assays

96.13

to detect the presence of endangered or

96.14

threatened mussel species around Buffalo

96.15

Slough near the Prairie Island Indian

96.16

Community.

96.17

(bb) **Integrated Population Modeling for**

96.18

Trumpeter Swans

96.19

\$180,000 the second year is from the trust

96.20

fund to the Board of Regents of the University

96.21

of Minnesota to compile and use all available

96.22

data to model historical population abundance

96.23

and estimate future population dynamics of

96.24

Minnesota trumpeter swans.

96.25

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2024.

96.26

Sec. 4. Laws 2024, chapter 83, section 2, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

96.27

Subd. 8. Methods to Protect or Restore Land,

96.28

Water, and Habitat

-0-

10,910,000

96.29

(a) Long-Term Preservation of Minnesota's Ball

96.30

Cactus Population

96.31

\$100,000 the second year is from the trust

96.32

fund to the Board of Regents of the University

96.33

of Minnesota for the Minnesota Landscape

96.34

Arboretum to protect Minnesota's only

97.1 population of ball cactus by supporting
97.2 population expansion and establishment,
97.3 monitoring transferred plants, and training
97.4 long-term volunteer monitors. This
97.5 appropriation is available until June 30, 2029,
97.6 by which time the project must be completed
97.7 and final products delivered.

97.8 **(b) Morrison County Historical Society**
97.9 **Streambank Stabilization and Restoration**

97.10 \$519,000 the second year is from the trust
97.11 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
97.12 for an agreement with the Morrison Soil and
97.13 Water Conservation District to stabilize and
97.14 restore land along the Mississippi River owned
97.15 by the Morrison County Historical Society
97.16 within the statutory boundaries of Charles A.
97.17 Lindbergh State Park to improve water quality
97.18 and improve aquatic and terrestrial habit. For
97.19 purposes of this appropriation, subdivision 13,
97.20 paragraph (e), does not apply. The
97.21 commissioner of natural resources may make
97.22 reasonable amounts of this appropriation
97.23 available on an advance basis to accommodate
97.24 the Morrison Soil and Water Conservation
97.25 District's cash-flow needs if a plan for the
97.26 advances is approved as part of the work plan.

97.27 **(c) Can Increased Tree Diversity Increase**
97.28 **Community Diversity?**

97.29 \$415,000 the second year is from the trust
97.30 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
97.31 of Minnesota to evaluate impacts of increasing
97.32 tree diversity on wildlife, plant and fungal
97.33 communities, and carbon storage within aspen
97.34 forests in northern Minnesota to develop best
97.35 management practices for mixed woodland
97.36 systems.

98.1 **(d) Restoration of Riverside Park**

98.2 \$141,000 the second year is from the trust
98.3 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
98.4 for an agreement with the city of Long Prairie
98.5 to improve water retention, increase native
98.6 habitat, and enhance footpaths for recreation
98.7 at Riverside Park in Todd County, Minnesota.
98.8 The project must create a net increase in
98.9 habitat, and this appropriation may not be used
98.10 to meet the conditions of any permits received
98.11 for the project.

98.12 **(e) Pollinator Central IV: Habitat Improvement**
98.13 **with Public Engagement**

98.14 \$698,000 the second year is from the trust
98.15 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
98.16 for an agreement with Great River Greening
98.17 to partner with municipalities, educational
98.18 organizations, and volunteers to create and
98.19 enhance pollinator habitat along public
98.20 corridors from Lakeville to St. Cloud and to
98.21 engage youth and the public through education
98.22 and monitoring the impact of habitat
98.23 improvements. This appropriation is available
98.24 until June 30, 2028, by which time the project
98.25 must be completed and final products
98.26 delivered.

98.27 **(f) Conservation Grazing for Birds, Beef, and**
98.28 **Better Soil**

98.29 \$342,000 the second year is from the trust
98.30 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
98.31 for an agreement with the National Audubon
98.32 Society, Minnesota office, to assess Audubon
98.33 Conservation Ranching as a strategic approach
98.34 to improve grassland biodiversity, soils, and
98.35 ecosystem resilience. This appropriation is

99.1 available until June 30, 2028, by which time
99.2 the project must be completed and final
99.3 products delivered.

99.4 **(g) Minnesota Microbes for Enhanced**
99.5 **Biodegradation of Microplastics**

99.6 \$524,000 the second year is from the trust
99.7 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
99.8 of Minnesota to investigate the potential of
99.9 natural and indigenous microbes to biodegrade
99.10 conventional plastics in contaminated soils
99.11 and waters across the state. This appropriation
99.12 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section
99.13 116P.10.

99.14 **(h) Completing the Mississippi River Greenway:**
99.15 **Dakota County**

99.16 \$657,000 the second year is from the trust
99.17 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
99.18 for an agreement with Dakota County to
99.19 restore and enhance habitat on public lands,
99.20 establish linear native plantings, and install
99.21 electric-vehicle charging stations within and
99.22 along the 27-mile Mississippi River Greenway
99.23 in Dakota County. Net income generated as
99.24 part of this appropriation may be reinvested
99.25 in the project if a plan for reinvestment is
99.26 approved in the work plan. This appropriation
99.27 is subject to Minnesota Statutes, section
99.28 116P.10, and is available until June 30, 2028,
99.29 by which time the project must be completed
99.30 and final products delivered.

99.31 **(i) Enabling Nature to Destroy Environmental**
99.32 **PFAS Contaminants**

99.33 \$378,000 the second year is from the trust
99.34 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
99.35 of Minnesota to identify enzymes and

100.1 microbes that can break down soil-based per-
100.2 and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) into
100.3 nontoxic elements. This appropriation is
100.4 subject to Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

100.5 **(j) Bioacoustics for Species Monitoring and**
100.6 **Conservation - Phase 2**

100.7 \$568,000 the second year is from the trust
100.8 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
100.9 of Minnesota to assess avian diversity at the
100.10 statewide scale by developing a citizen science
100.11 bioacoustics monitoring program with an
100.12 initial focus on private lands.

100.13 **(k) Preventing PFAS and Microplastics**
100.14 **Contaminants Across Minnesota**

100.15 \$656,000 the second year is from the trust
100.16 fund to the Board of Regents of the University
100.17 of Minnesota to help stop the flow of per- and
100.18 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and
100.19 microplastics contaminants into Minnesota's
100.20 environment by developing strategies and
100.21 technologies to manage solid waste streams
100.22 on site. This appropriation is subject to
100.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.10.

100.24 **(l) Shingle Creek Aquatic and Shoreline Habitat**
100.25 **Enhancement**

100.26 \$1,100,000 the second year is from the trust
100.27 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
100.28 for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park
100.29 and Recreation Board to plan and restore a
100.30 section of Shingle Creek in north Minneapolis
100.31 with native aquatic and shoreline vegetation,
100.32 channel and bank modification, and natural
100.33 stream features. This appropriation is also to
100.34 monitor plant and animal health following
100.35 construction to ensure that the ecological

101.1 functioning of the creek corridor is restored.

101.2 This appropriation is available until June 30,

101.3 2030, by which time the project must be

101.4 completed and final products delivered.

101.5 **(m) LiDAR Technology to Help Prevent Wildlife**

101.6 **Fatalities from Wind Turbines**

101.7 \$525,000 the second year is from the trust

101.8 fund to the Board of Regents of the University

101.9 of Minnesota to create a low-cost and

101.10 advanced LiDAR system to detect bats and

101.11 birds approaching wind turbines that may be

101.12 used in concert with deterrence or impact

101.13 avoidance methods to prevent collisions. This

101.14 appropriation is subject to Minnesota Statutes,

101.15 section 116P.10.

101.16 **(n) Road Salt Pollution of Surface Waters from**

101.17 **Groundwater**

101.18 \$622,000 the second year is from the trust

101.19 fund to the Board of Regents of the University

101.20 of Minnesota to inform source-reduction

101.21 efforts by developing a model to identify hot

101.22 spots where road-salt-contaminated

101.23 groundwater leads to chloride pollution of

101.24 surface waters.

101.25 **(o) Growing the Minnesota Bison Conservation**

101.26 **Herd**

101.27 \$1,775,000 the second year is from the trust

101.28 fund to the commissioner of natural resources

101.29 to reintroduce bison to Camden State Park as

101.30 part of a statewide effort to preserve the

101.31 American Plains bison genome.

101.32 Reintroduction includes the design,

101.33 construction, and installation of fencing, a

101.34 handling facility, signage, exhibits, and other

101.35 site improvements. This appropriation is

102.1 available until June 30, 2030, by which time
102.2 the project must be completed and final
102.3 products delivered.

102.4 **(p) Priority Lakes: Meeting Protection Goals**
102.5 **and Multiplying Benefits**

102.6 \$1,890,000 the second year is from the trust
102.7 fund to the commissioner of natural resources
102.8 for an agreement with the Hubbard County
102.9 Soil and Water Conservation District, in
102.10 cooperation with Minnesota Land Trust, to
102.11 protect habitat, forest health, and water quality
102.12 in the best fishing lakes by creating lake
102.13 implementation action plans, conducting
102.14 community-based habitat restorations and
102.15 improvements, and protecting forest lands with
102.16 conservation easements and Sustainable Forest
102.17 Incentive Act (SFIA) enrollments within
102.18 prioritized areas of the upper Mississippi River
102.19 basin ~~in Hubbard County~~. Of this amount, up
102.20 to \$168,000 is for deposit in a monitoring fund
102.21 to be used by Minnesota Land Trust as
102.22 approved in the work plan and subject to
102.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 116P.20.

102.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2024.

102.25 **ARTICLE 3**

102.26 **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND COMMUNITY**
102.27 **GRANTS APPROPRIATIONS**

102.28 Section 1. **APPROPRIATION; ENRTF COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM.**

102.29 \$28,180,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$28,180,000 in fiscal year 2027 are appropriated
102.30 from the environment and natural resources trust fund to the commissioner of natural
102.31 resources to make grants under the environment and natural resources trust fund community
102.32 grant program established in Minnesota Statutes, section 116X.03. These are onetime
102.33 appropriations and are available until June 30, 2029.

103.1 **ARTICLE 4**

103.2 **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY**

103.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84.027, is amended by adding a subdivision
103.4 to read:

103.5 Subd. 21. **Outreach to culturally diverse communities.** The commissioner must ensure
103.6 that, to the maximum extent practicable, the commissioner's work and the work of the
103.7 department are carried out in a manner that facilitates outreach to and communication with
103.8 Minnesotans of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and languages. To the maximum extent
103.9 practicable, public hearings, solicitations for grant proposals, and other interactions with
103.10 the public must include audiovisual communication components and must not rely exclusively
103.11 on written forms of communication.

103.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84.03, is amended to read:

103.13 **84.03 ADDITIONAL DUTIES AND POWERS.**

103.14 (a) So far as practicable the commissioner shall collect and arrange statistics and other
103.15 information in reference to the lands and general and special resources of the state.

103.16 (b) The commissioner is hereby authorized and empowered to take such measures as
103.17 the commissioner may deem advisable to advertise, both within and without the state, sales
103.18 of all state lands, and to secure, compile, and issue such valuable statistics of the resources
103.19 of the state.

103.20 (c) The commissioner may adopt and promulgate reasonable rules, not inconsistent with
103.21 law, governing the use and enjoyment of state land reserved from sale, state parks, state
103.22 water-access sites, state trails, state monuments, state scientific and natural areas, state
103.23 wilderness areas, and recreational areas owned by other state, local and federal agencies
103.24 and operated under agreement by the Department of Natural Resources, which shall have
103.25 the force and effect of law. A reasonable fee may be fixed, charged, and collected by the
103.26 commissioner for the privilege of the use of any or all of the foregoing privileges and
103.27 facilities.

103.28 ~~(d) The commissioner, on or before November 15 of each even-numbered year, shall~~
103.29 ~~report to the legislature the commissioner's acts and doings, with recommendation for the~~
103.30 ~~improvement or conservation of state parks, state water-access sites, state trails, and state~~
103.31 ~~monuments, state scientific and natural areas, state forests, state wildlife management areas,~~
103.32 ~~public hunting grounds, public shooting grounds, food and cover planting areas, wildlife~~
103.33 ~~lands, recreational or public hunting areas, state wild and scenic rivers, state wilderness~~

104.1 ~~areas, and all other recreational lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural~~
104.2 ~~Resources, and for desirable accessions thereto, such report to include an inventory of the~~
104.3 ~~tracts and parcels of land, and rights, interests, and easements therein, held by the state or~~
104.4 ~~withdrawn from sale for any of these purposes, with the value thereof, and a list of the name,~~
104.5 ~~location, size, and description of each state trail, state scientific and natural area, state wildlife~~
104.6 ~~management area, state water access site, and state wild, scenic, or recreational river~~
104.7 ~~designated by the commissioner, and each public hunting grounds, public shooting grounds,~~
104.8 ~~food and cover planting area, wildlife lands, and recreational or public hunting area acquired~~
104.9 ~~by the commissioner since the last report. The commissioner shall maintain a long range~~
104.10 ~~plan governing the use of the public domain under the commissioner's jurisdiction.~~

104.11 Sec. 3. [84.1515] WILD RICE POLICY.

104.12 It is the policy of the state to recognize the innate significance of uncultivated wild rice's
104.13 ability to exist and thrive in Minnesota. The legislature finds that wild rice:

104.14 (1) is a nutrient-rich, natural food source that has been sustainably harvested in this state
104.15 for centuries;

104.16 (2) is sacred to Indian Tribes and is a core component of their cultural identity;

104.17 (3) thrives in clean, shallow water, without requiring pesticides, fertilizers, or harmful
104.18 chemicals;

104.19 (4) supports rural economies by providing jobs, fostering local businesses, and supporting
104.20 ecotourism;

104.21 (5) plays a crucial role in preventing toxic algae blooms, absorbing carbon dioxide,
104.22 fostering vital habitat for fish, and stabilizing lake beds; and

104.23 (6) is essential for safeguarding Tribal food security and upholding Tribal treaty rights.

104.24 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84.8035, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

104.25 Subdivision 1. **Pass required; fee.** (a) Except as provided under paragraph (c), a person
104.26 may not operate an off-road vehicle on a state or grant-in-aid off-road vehicle trail or use
104.27 area unless the ~~vehicle displays an~~ operator carries a valid off-road vehicle state trail pass
104.28 issued according to this section. The pass must be available to be viewed for inspection by
104.29 a peace officer, a conservation officer, or an employee designated under section 84.0835.

104.30 (b) The commissioner of natural resources shall issue a pass upon application and payment
104.31 of the fee. Fees collected under this section, except for the issuing fee for licensing agents,

105.1 shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the off-road vehicle account in the
105.2 natural resources fund and, except for the electronic licensing system commission established
105.3 by the commissioner under section 84.027, subdivision 15, must be used for grants-in-aid
105.4 to counties and municipalities for off-road vehicle organizations to construct and maintain
105.5 off-road vehicle trails and use areas.

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

105.7 (1) an off-road vehicle that is owned and used by the United States, another state, or a
105.8 political subdivision thereof that is exempt from registration under section 84.798, subdivision
105.9 2;

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

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

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

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

105.18 Sec. 5. **[84.9766] OUTDOOR SCHOOL FOR ALL; GRANT PROGRAM.**

105.19 Subdivision 1. Establishment. The commissioner of natural resources must establish
105.20 and administer a program to provide grants to learning centers eligible under subdivision
105.21 2 for outdoor education programs serving students in grades 4 through 12.

105.22 Subd. 2. Eligibility. (a) The commissioner may award grants under this section to
105.23 overnight outdoor school experience providers accredited by a state-recognized school
105.24 accrediting agency and to other outdoor school experience accredited providers offering
105.25 similar programming.

105.26 (b) To be eligible for a grant under this section, the outdoor education program must:

105.27 (1) provide a multiday, overnight educational experience that is comprised mainly of
105.28 outdoor-based learning activities;

105.29 (2) provide students with opportunities to directly experience and understand nature and
105.30 the natural world, including field study opportunities for student learning;

- 106.1 (3) use a research-based environmental, ecological, agricultural, or other
106.2 natural-resource-based educational curriculum;
- 106.3 (4) be integrated with local school curricula to help students meet academic standards;
- 106.4 (5) provide students with opportunities to develop:
- 106.5 (i) leadership;
- 106.6 (ii) critical thinking;
- 106.7 (iii) self-sufficiency;
- 106.8 (iv) decision-making skills; and
- 106.9 (v) social and emotional skills; and
- 106.10 (6) address accessibility of outdoor educational opportunities for underserved students,
106.11 including students with disabilities.
- 106.12 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84D.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
106.13 read:
- 106.14 Subd. 6a. **Eviscerated.** "Eviscerated" means to have the internal organs removed from
106.15 the body cavity or to have the gills severed to ensure that an organism is dead.
- 106.16 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 84D.05, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- 106.17 Subdivision 1. **Prohibited activities.** A person may not possess, import, purchase, sell,
106.18 propagate, transport, or introduce a prohibited invasive species, except:
- 106.19 (1) under a permit issued by the commissioner under section 84D.11;
- 106.20 (2) in the case of purple loosestrife, as provided by sections 18.75 to 18.88;
- 106.21 (3) under a restricted species permit issued under section 17.457;
- 106.22 (4) a person may possess, import, purchase, sell, and transport bighead carp, grass carp,
106.23 and silver carp if they are dead and eviscerated;
- 106.24 ~~(4)~~ (5) when being transported to the department, or another destination as the
106.25 commissioner may direct, in a sealed container for purposes of identifying the species or
106.26 reporting the presence of the species;
- 106.27 ~~(5)~~ (6) when being transported for disposal as part of a harvest or control activity when
106.28 specifically authorized under a permit issued by the commissioner according to section
106.29 103G.615, when being transported for disposal as specified under a commercial fishing

107.1 license issued by the commissioner according to section 97A.418, 97C.801, 97C.811,
107.2 97C.825, 97C.831, or 97C.835, or when being transported as specified by the commissioner;
107.3 ~~(6)~~ (7) when being removed from watercraft and equipment, or caught while angling,
107.4 and immediately returned to the water from which they came;

107.5 ~~(7)~~ (8) when being transported from riparian property to a legal disposal site that is at
107.6 least 100 feet from any surface water, ditch, or seasonally flooded land, provided the
107.7 prohibited invasive species are in a covered commercial vehicle specifically designed and
107.8 used for hauling trash; or

107.9 ~~(8)~~ (9) as the commissioner may otherwise prescribe by rule.

107.10 Sec. 8. **[86B.109] ABANDONED WATERCRAFT.**

107.11 Subdivision 1. **Tagging authority; notice to owner.** (a) A peace officer or an employee
107.12 designated by the commissioner under section 84.0835 may place a tag on a watercraft
107.13 unlawfully located on public accesses, public lands, and waters of this state or unlawfully
107.14 located on property adjacent to waters of this state. A watercraft is unlawfully located if the
107.15 watercraft appears to be:

107.16 (1) inoperative and neglected, wrecked, stranded, or substantially dismantled;

107.17 (2) in immediate danger of sinking; or

107.18 (3) unmoored and unattended.

107.19 (b) A peace officer or employee who places a tag on a watercraft under this subdivision
107.20 must notify the commissioner of placing the tag within 48 hours. The notification must
107.21 include a statement of the basis for the decision to place a tag on the watercraft.

107.22 (c) Upon receiving notification under paragraph (b), the commissioner must send a notice
107.23 by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the registered owner of the watercraft. The
107.24 notice must state that:

107.25 (1) the watercraft has been tagged and the condition that resulted in the watercraft being
107.26 tagged must be remedied immediately; and

107.27 (2) failure to remedy within 14 days of the notice being sent is a criminal violation that
107.28 may result in civil and criminal penalties and the forfeiture of the watercraft.

107.29 Subd. 2. **Failure to remedy.** The registered owner of a watercraft who knowingly fails
107.30 to remedy the condition that resulted in the watercraft being tagged within 14 days of the
107.31 commissioner sending the notice required by subdivision 1, paragraph (c), is guilty of a

108.1 misdemeanor. In addition, the owner is liable to the Department of Natural Resources for
108.2 all costs incurred by the commissioner in enforcing this section against the owner and is
108.3 subject to a civil penalty of not less than two times nor more than five times the costs incurred
108.4 by the commissioner to remove, process, and dispose of the watercraft. Civil penalties
108.5 imposed under this subdivision may be enforced and distributed as provided in section
108.6 115A.99.

108.7 Subd. 3. **Seizure of abandoned watercraft.** Fourteen days after the commissioner sends
108.8 the notice required by subdivision 1, paragraph (c), to the registered owner, or concludes
108.9 that there is no registered owner, the commissioner must investigate the watercraft. If, upon
108.10 inspection, the watercraft has not been removed and the condition that prompted the peace
108.11 officer or employee to tag it has not been substantially remedied, the watercraft is considered
108.12 abandoned and the commissioner must seize and forfeit the watercraft according to section
108.13 97A.223.

108.14 Subd. 4. **Relation to other law.** An abandoned watercraft that becomes submerged and
108.15 subject to section 86B.107 must be removed and disposed of in accordance with that section.

108.16 Subd. 5. **Exceptions.** This section does not apply to previously sunk watercraft of
108.17 historical significance or that are currently a destination for scuba divers or commercial
108.18 tourism that do not pose an ongoing environmental or public safety risk.

108.19 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 86B.415, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

108.20 Subd. 7. **Watercraft surcharge.** A ~~\$10.60~~ surcharge is placed on each watercraft licensed
108.21 under subdivisions 1 to 5 for control, public awareness, law enforcement, monitoring, and
108.22 research of aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussel, purple loosestrife, and Eurasian
108.23 watermilfoil in public waters and public wetlands. The surcharge is:

108.24 (1) for a watercraft 19 feet or less in length, other than a watercraft listed in clauses (2)
108.25 to (8), \$29;

108.26 (2) for a watercraft, other than personal watercraft, 19 feet in length or less that is offered
108.27 for rent or lease, \$25;

108.28 (3) for a sailboat 19 feet in length or less, \$20;

108.29 (4) for a watercraft used by a nonprofit corporation for teaching boat and water safety,
108.30 \$14;

108.31 (5) for a watercraft owned by a dealer under a dealer's license, \$50;

108.32 (6) for a personal watercraft, including one offered for rent or lease, \$25;

109.1 (7) for a watercraft less than 17 feet in length, other than a watercraft listed in clauses
109.2 (2) to (6), \$25;

109.3 (8) for a canoe, kayak, sailboard, paddleboard, paddleboat, or rowing shell over ten feet
109.4 in length, \$20;

109.5 (9) for a watercraft more than 19 feet but less than 26 feet in length, other than a
109.6 watercraft listed in clauses (4), (5), (8), and (12), \$38;

109.7 (10) for a watercraft 26 feet but less than 40 feet in length, other than a watercraft listed
109.8 in clauses (4), (5), (8), and (12), \$50;

109.9 (11) for a watercraft 40 feet in length or longer, other than a watercraft listed in clauses
109.10 (4), (5), (8), and (12), \$62; and

109.11 (12) for a watercraft used primarily for charter fishing, commercial fishing, commercial
109.12 passenger carrying, or other commercial operation, \$50.

109.13 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

109.14 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97A.223, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

109.15 Subdivision 1. **Property subject to seizure and forfeiture.** (a) An enforcement officer
109.16 must seize:

109.17 (1) firearms possessed in violation of state or federal law or court order; ~~and~~

109.18 (2) property described in section 97A.221, subdivision 1, where no owner can be
109.19 determined; and

109.20 (3) a watercraft that is abandoned according to section 86B.109, subdivision 3.

109.21 (b) Property seized under this section is subject to administrative forfeiture.

109.22 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97A.421, is amended by adding a subdivision
109.23 to read:

109.24 Subd. 3c. **Restrictions after conviction; abandoned watercraft.** (a) After a conviction
109.25 under section 86B.109, subdivision 2, the following license and registration restrictions
109.26 remain in effect until the person reimburses the Department of Natural Resources for all
109.27 the department's costs under section 86B.109, subdivision 2:

109.28 (1) all the person's annual game and fish licenses are void;

109.29 (2) the person may not act under any lifetime game and fish license;

110.1 (3) all the person's watercraft licenses and registrations that are required to operate
110.2 watercraft in the state are void;

110.3 (4) all the person's off-highway vehicle and snowmobile licenses and registrations that
110.4 are required to operate those vehicles in the state are void; and

110.5 (5) the person may not obtain any of the licenses or registrations described in clauses
110.6 (1) to (4).

110.7 (b) If a conviction under section 86B.109, subdivision 2, was for abandoning a watercraft
110.8 in a boundary water of the state, the commissioner must coordinate with neighboring
110.9 jurisdictions to ensure that, to the maximum extent practicable, the person is subject to
110.10 similar consequences in the neighboring jurisdiction as those imposed under paragraph (a).

110.11 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97A.465, is amended by adding a subdivision
110.12 to read:

110.13 Subd. 9. **Resident disabled veterans; reduced fee licenses.** A person authorized to
110.14 issue licenses must issue the following licenses for the reduced fee specified under section
110.15 97A.475 to a resident who is a veteran, as defined in section 197.447, and who has a 50 to
110.16 99 percent service-connected disability as defined by the United States Department of
110.17 Veterans Affairs upon being furnished satisfactory evidence:

110.18 (1) a license to take deer by firearms, archery, or muzzleloader;

110.19 (2) a license to take small game; and

110.20 (3) a license to take fish by angling.

110.21 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97A.475, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

110.22 Subd. 2. **Resident hunting.** Fees for the following licenses, to be issued to residents
110.23 only, are:

110.24 (1) for persons age 18 or over and under age 65 to take small game, \$15.50;

110.25 (2) for persons age 65 or over, \$7 to take small game;

110.26 (3) for persons age 18 or over to take turkey, \$26;

110.27 (4) for persons age 13 or over and under age 18 to take turkey, \$5;

110.28 (5) for persons age 18 or over to take deer with firearms during the regular firearms
110.29 season, \$34;

110.30 (6) for persons age 18 or over to take deer by archery, \$34;

- 111.1 (7) for persons age 18 or over to take deer by muzzleloader during the muzzleloader
111.2 season, \$34;
- 111.3 (8) to take moose, for a party of not more than six persons, \$356;
- 111.4 (9) for persons age 18 or over to take bear, \$44;
- 111.5 (10) to take elk, for a party of not more than two persons, \$287;
- 111.6 (11) to take light geese during the light goose conservation order, \$2.50;
- 111.7 (12) to take sandhill crane during the sandhill crane season, \$3;
- 111.8 (13) to take prairie chickens, \$23;
- 111.9 (14) for persons age 13 or over and under age 18 to take deer with firearms during the
111.10 regular firearms season, \$5;
- 111.11 (15) for persons age 13 or over and under age 18 to take deer by archery, \$5;
- 111.12 (16) for persons age 13 or over and under age 18 to take deer by muzzleloader during
111.13 the muzzleloader season, \$5;
- 111.14 (17) for persons age 10, 11, or 12 to take bear, no fee;
- 111.15 (18) for persons age 13 or over and under age 18 to take bear, \$5;
- 111.16 (19) for persons age 18 or over to take small game for a consecutive 72-hour period
111.17 selected by the licensee, \$19, of which an amount equal to one-half of the fee for the
111.18 migratory-waterfowl stamp under subdivision 5, clause (1), shall be deposited in the
111.19 waterfowl habitat improvement account under section 97A.075, subdivision 2; one-half of
111.20 the fee for the pheasant stamp under subdivision 5, clause (2), shall be deposited in the
111.21 pheasant habitat improvement account under section 97A.075, subdivision 4; and one-half
111.22 of the small-game surcharge under subdivision 4, shall be deposited in the wildlife acquisition
111.23 account;
- 111.24 (20) for persons age 16 or over and under age 18 to take small game, \$5;
- 111.25 (21) to take wolf, \$30;
- 111.26 (22) for persons age 12 and under to take turkey, no fee;
- 111.27 (23) for persons age 10, 11, or 12 to take deer by firearm, no fee;
- 111.28 (24) for persons age 10, 11, or 12 to take deer by archery, no fee; ~~and~~
- 111.29 (25) for persons age 10, 11, or 12 to take deer by muzzleloader during the muzzleloader
111.30 season, no fee; and

112.1 (26) for disabled veterans to take deer or small game under section 97A.465, subdivision
112.2 9, \$5.

112.3 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97A.475, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

112.4 Subd. 6. **Resident fishing.** Fees for the following licenses, to be issued to residents only,
112.5 are:

112.6 (1) for persons age 18 or over to take fish by angling, \$25;

112.7 (2) for persons age 18 or over to take fish by angling, for a combined license for a married
112.8 couple, \$40;

112.9 (3) for persons age 18 or over to take fish by spearing from a dark house, \$6, and the
112.10 person must possess an angling license;

112.11 (4) for persons age 18 or over to take fish by angling for a 24-hour period selected by
112.12 the licensee, \$12;

112.13 (5) for persons age 18 or over to take fish by angling for a consecutive 72-hour period
112.14 selected by the licensee, \$14;

112.15 (6) for persons age 18 or over to take fish by angling for three consecutive years, \$71;
112.16 ~~and~~

112.17 (7) for persons age 16 or over and under age 18 to take fish by angling, \$5~~;~~ and

112.18 (8) for disabled veterans to take fish by angling under section 97A.465, subdivision 9,
112.19 \$5.

112.20 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.001, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

112.21 Subd. 4. **Entering posted land prohibited; signs.** (a) Except as provided in subdivision
112.22 6, a person may not:

112.23 (1) enter, for outdoor recreation purposes, any land that is posted under this subdivision
112.24 without first obtaining permission of the owner, occupant, or lessee; or

112.25 (2) knowingly enter, for outdoor recreation purposes, any land that is posted under this
112.26 subdivision without first obtaining permission of the owner, occupant, or lessee. A person
112.27 who violates this clause is subject to the penalty provided in section 97A.315, subdivision
112.28 1, paragraph (b).

112.29 (b) The owner, occupant, or lessee of private land, or an authorized manager of public
112.30 land may prohibit outdoor recreation on the land by posting signs once each year that:

- 113.1 (1) state "no trespassing" or similar terms;
- 113.2 (2) display letters at least two inches high;
- 113.3 (3) either:
- 113.4 (i) are signed by the owner, occupant, lessee, or authorized manager; or
- 113.5 (ii) include the legible name and telephone number of the owner, occupant, lessee, or
- 113.6 authorized manager; and
- 113.7 (4) either:
- 113.8 (i) are at intervals of 1,000 feet or less along the boundary of the area, or in a wooded
- 113.9 area where boundary lines are not clear, at intervals of 500 feet or less; or
- 113.10 (ii) mark the primary corners of each parcel of land and access roads and trails at the
- 113.11 point of entrance to each parcel of land except that corners only accessible through
- 113.12 agricultural land need not be posted.
- 113.13 (c) A person may not ~~erect a sign that prohibits outdoor recreation or trespassing act~~
- 113.14 under paragraph (b) or (d) where the person does not have a property right, title, or interest
- 113.15 to use the land.
- 113.16 (d) As an alternative to posting signage under paragraph (b), the owner, occupant, or
- 113.17 lessee of private land or an authorized manager of public land may prohibit outdoor recreation
- 113.18 on the land by:
- 113.19 (1) applying purple paint to trees along the perimeter of the area to which the person
- 113.20 wants to prohibit entrance. Paint applied under this paragraph must be applied:
- 113.21 (i) at least three feet off the ground;
- 113.22 (ii) to trees that are at least one inch wide; and
- 113.23 (iii) in a strip that is at least eight inches tall; and
- 113.24 (2) posting signs once each year that mark the primary corners of the area to which the
- 113.25 person wants to prohibit entrance.

113.26 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.037, is amended to read:

113.27 **97B.037 CROSSBOW HUNTING AND FISHING.**

- 113.28 (a) Notwithstanding section 97B.035, subdivisions 1 and 2, a person may take deer,
- 113.29 bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish by crossbow during the respective regular
- 113.30 archery seasons. The transportation requirements of section 97B.051 apply to crossbows

during the regular archery deer, bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish season. Crossbows must meet the requirements of section 97B.106, subdivision 2. A person taking deer, bear, turkey, common carp, or native rough fish by crossbow under this section must have a valid license to take the respective game.

(b) This section expires June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.318, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **Shotgun use area.** (a) During the regular firearms season in the shotgun use area, only legal shotguns loaded with single-slug shotgun shells, legal muzzle-loading long guns, and legal handguns may be used for taking deer. Legal shotguns include those with rifled barrels. The shotgun use area ~~is that portion of the state lying within the following described boundary: Beginning on the west boundary of the state at the northern boundary of Clay County; thence along the northern boundary of Clay County to State Trunk Highway (STH) 32; thence along STH 32 to STH 34; thence along STH 34 to Interstate Highway 94 (I-94); thence along I-94 to County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 40, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 40 to CSAH 82, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 82 to CSAH 22, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 22 to CSAH 6, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 6 to CSAH 14, Douglas County; thence along CSAH 14 to STH 29; thence along STH 29 to CSAH 46, Otter Tail County; thence along CSAH 46, Otter Tail County, to CSAH 22, Todd County; thence along CSAH 22 to U.S. Highway 71; thence along U.S. Highway 71 to STH 27; thence along STH 27 to the Mississippi River; thence along the east bank of the Mississippi River to STH 23; thence along STH 23 to STH 95; thence along STH 95 to U.S. Highway 8; thence along U.S. Highway 8 to the eastern boundary of the state; thence along the east, south, and west boundaries of the state to the point of beginning~~ consists of the counties that have passed a resolution as provided under paragraph (b).

(b) A county board may adopt an ordinance after notice and public hearing to limit the type of firearms that may be used to hunt deer within the county. To be included in the shotgun use area beginning January 1, the county board must submit the resolution to the commissioner of natural resources on or before October 1 of the prior year.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.405, is amended to read:

97B.405 COMMISSIONER MAY LIMIT NUMBER OF BEAR HUNTERS.

(a) The commissioner may limit the number of persons that may hunt bear in an area, if it is necessary to prevent an overharvest or improve the distribution of hunters. The commissioner may establish, by rule, a method, including a drawing, to impartially select

115.1 the hunters for an area. The commissioner shall give preference to hunters that have
115.2 previously applied and have not been selected. Additionally, the commissioner may award
115.3 points toward a preference under this section to a person who is at least six years of age, so
115.4 that by the time the person is old enough to be a bear hunter the person has accumulated a
115.5 number of preference points.

115.6 (b) If the commissioner limits the number of persons that may hunt bear in an area under
115.7 paragraph (a), the commissioner must reserve one permit and give first preference for that
115.8 permit to a resident of a Minnesota veterans home.

115.9 (c) A person selected through a drawing must purchase a license by August 1. Any
115.10 remaining available licenses not purchased shall be issued to any eligible person as prescribed
115.11 by the commissioner on a first-come, first-served basis beginning three business days after
115.12 August 1.

115.13 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.667, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

115.14 Subd. 3. **Permits and notice; requirements.** (a) Before killing or arranging to kill a
115.15 beaver under this section, the road authority or government unit must contact a conservation
115.16 officer for a special beaver permit if the beaver will be killed within two weeks before or
115.17 after the trapping season for beaver, and the conservation officer must issue the permit for
115.18 any beaver subject to this section. A permit is not required:

115.19 (1) for a licensed trapper during the open trapping season for beaver; or

115.20 (2) when the trapping season for beaver is closed and it is not within two weeks before
115.21 or after the trapping season for beaver.

115.22 (b) A road authority or government unit that kills or arranges to have killed a beaver
115.23 under this section must notify a conservation officer or employee of the Fish and Wildlife
115.24 Division within ten days after the animal is killed.

115.25 (c) Unless otherwise directed by a conservation officer, the road authority, local
115.26 government unit, the landowner, or their agent may dispose of or retain beaver killed under
115.27 this section. ~~Human consumption of a retained beaver is prohibited.~~

115.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

115.29 Sec. 20. **[97B.902] OPENING HOUR FOR TRAPPING SEASONS.**

115.30 A season for taking fur-bearing animals by trapping begins at sunrise on the opening
115.31 day prescribed by rule adopted by the commissioner.

116.1 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97B.945, is amended to read:

116.2 **97B.945 SETTING TRAPS NEAR WATER RESTRICTED.**

116.3 (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a person may not set a trap within 50 feet of
116.4 any water other than temporary surface water within 30 days before the open season for
116.5 mink and muskrat without a special permit by the commissioner.

116.6 (b) A person may set a foot-encapsulating trap within 50 feet of any water other than
116.7 temporary surface water within 30 days before the open season for mink and muskrat without
116.8 a special permit by the commissioner. For purposes of this paragraph, "foot-encapsulating
116.9 trap" means a trap for which:

116.10 (1) the triggering and restraining mechanisms are enclosed within a housing and are
116.11 only accessible through a single opening when set; and

116.12 (2) the opening does not exceed two inches in diameter.

116.13 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97C.395, is amended to read:

116.14 **97C.395 OPEN SEASONS FOR ANGLING.**

116.15 Subdivision 1. **Dates for certain species.** (a) The open seasons to take fish by angling
116.16 are as follows:

116.17 (1) for walleye, sauger, northern pike, and muskellunge, ~~largemouth bass, and smallmouth~~
116.18 ~~bass~~, the Saturday two weeks prior to the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through the
116.19 last Sunday in February;

116.20 (2) for brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, rainbow trout, and splake, between January
116.21 1 through October 31 as prescribed by the commissioner by rule except as provided in
116.22 section 97C.415, subdivision 2; and

116.23 (3) for salmon, as prescribed by the commissioner by rule.

116.24 (b) The commissioner shall close the season in areas of the state where fish are spawning
116.25 and closing the season will protect the resource.

116.26 Subd. 2. **Continuous season for certain species.** For largemouth bass, smallmouth bass,
116.27 sunfish, white crappie, black crappie, yellow perch, channel catfish, rock bass, white bass,
116.28 yellow bass, burbot, cisco (tullibee), lake whitefish, common carp, and native rough fish,
116.29 the open season is continuous.

117.1 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 97C.835, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

117.2 Subd. 2. **Types of fish permitted.** Lake trout, ciscoes, chubs, alewives, lake whitefish,
117.3 round whitefish, pygmy whitefish, rainbow smelt, common carp, burbot, and native rough
117.4 fish may be taken by licensed commercial fishing operators from Lake Superior, in
117.5 accordance with this section.

117.6 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 103G.005, subdivision 15, is amended to read:

117.7 Subd. 15. **Public waters.** (a) "Public waters" means:

117.8 (1) water basins assigned a shoreland management classification by the commissioner
117.9 under sections 103F.201 to 103F.221;

117.10 (2) waters of the state that have been finally determined to be public waters or navigable
117.11 waters by a court of competent jurisdiction;

117.12 (3) meandered lakes, excluding lakes that have been legally drained;

117.13 (4) water basins previously designated by the commissioner for management for a
117.14 specific purpose such as trout lakes and game lakes pursuant to applicable laws;

117.15 (5) water basins designated as scientific and natural areas under section 84.033;

117.16 (6) water basins located within and totally surrounded by publicly owned lands;

117.17 (7) water basins where the state of Minnesota or the federal government holds title to
117.18 any of the beds or shores, unless the owner declares that the water is not necessary for the
117.19 purposes of the public ownership;

117.20 (8) water basins where there is a publicly owned and controlled access that is intended
117.21 to provide for public access to the water basin;

117.22 (9) natural and altered watercourses with a total drainage area greater than two square
117.23 miles;

117.24 (10) natural and altered watercourses designated by the commissioner as trout streams;
117.25 and

117.26 (11) public waters wetlands, unless the statute expressly states otherwise.

117.27 (b) Public waters are not determined exclusively by:

117.28 (1) the proprietorship of the underlying, overlying, or surrounding land; or

117.29 (2) whether it is a body or stream of water that was navigable in fact or susceptible of
117.30 being used as a highway for commerce at the time this state was admitted to the union; ~~or.~~

118.1 ~~(3) their inclusion in or exclusion from the public waters inventory required under section~~
118.2 ~~103G.201. This clause is effective July 1, 2027.~~

118.3 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 103G.201, is amended to read:

118.4 **103G.201 PUBLIC WATERS INVENTORY.**

118.5 (a) The commissioner shall maintain a public waters inventory map of each county that
118.6 shows the waters of this state that are designated as public waters under the public waters
118.7 inventory and classification procedures prescribed under Laws 1979, chapter 199, and shall
118.8 provide access to a copy of the maps. As county public waters inventory maps are revised
118.9 according to this section, the commissioner shall send a notification or a copy of the maps
118.10 to the auditor of each affected county.

118.11 (b) The commissioner ~~must~~ may revise the map of public waters established under Laws
118.12 1979, chapter 199, to reclassify those types 3, 4, and 5 wetlands previously identified as
118.13 public waters wetlands under Laws 1979, chapter 199, as public waters or as wetlands under
118.14 section 103G.005, subdivision 19. The commissioner may only reclassify public waters
118.15 wetlands as public waters if:

118.16 (1) they are assigned a shoreland management classification by the commissioner under
118.17 sections 103F.201 to 103F.221;

118.18 (2) they are classified as lacustrine wetlands or deepwater habitats according to
118.19 Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al.,
118.20 1979 edition); or

118.21 (3) the state or federal government has become titleholder to any of the beds or shores
118.22 of the public waters wetlands, subsequent to the preparation of the public waters inventory
118.23 map filed with the auditor of the county, pursuant to paragraph (a), and the responsible state
118.24 or federal agency declares that the water is necessary for the purposes of the public
118.25 ownership.

118.26 (c) The commissioner must provide notice of the reclassification to the local government
118.27 unit, the county board, the watershed district, if one exists for the area, and the soil and
118.28 water conservation district. Within 60 days of receiving notice from the commissioner, a
118.29 party required to receive the notice may provide a resolution stating objections to the
118.30 reclassification. If the commissioner receives an objection from a party required to receive
118.31 the notice, the reclassification is not effective. If the commissioner does not receive an
118.32 objection from a party required to receive the notice, the reclassification of a wetland under
118.33 paragraph (b) is effective 60 days after the notice is received by all of the parties.

(d) The commissioner shall give priority to the reclassification of public waters wetlands that are or have the potential to be affected by public works projects.

(e) The commissioner ~~may~~ must revise the public waters inventory map of each county:

(1) to reflect the changes authorized in paragraph (b); and

(2) as needed, to:

(i) correct errors in the original inventory;

(ii) add or subtract trout stream tributaries within sections that contain a designated trout stream following written notice to the landowner;

(iii) add depleted quarries, and sand and gravel pits, when the body of water exceeds 50 acres and the shoreland has been zoned for residential development; and

(iv) add or subtract public waters that have been created or eliminated as a requirement of a permit authorized by the commissioner under section 103G.245.

(f) \$1,000,000 is appropriated from the general fund each year in fiscal years 2025 through 2032 to the commissioner to update the public water inventory as required in this section. The commissioner must develop and implement a process to update the public water inventory. This paragraph expires June 30, 2032.

Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 103G.271, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Water-use permit; processing fee.** (a) Except as described in paragraphs (b) to (g), a water-use permit processing fee must be prescribed by the commissioner in accordance with the schedule of fees in this subdivision for each water-use permit in force at any time during the year. Fees collected under this paragraph are credited to the water management account in the natural resources fund. The schedule is as follows, with the stated fee in each clause applied to the total amount appropriated:

(1) ~~\$140~~ \$200 for amounts not exceeding 50,000,000 gallons per year;

(2) ~~\$3.50~~ \$6 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 50,000,000 gallons but less than 100,000,000 gallons per year;

(3) ~~\$4~~ \$7 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 100,000,000 gallons but less than 150,000,000 gallons per year;

(4) ~~\$4.50~~ \$8 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 150,000,000 gallons but less than 200,000,000 gallons per year;

120.1 (5) ~~\$5~~ \$9 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 200,000,000 gallons but less
120.2 than 250,000,000 gallons per year;

120.3 (6) ~~\$5.50~~ \$10 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 250,000,000 gallons but
120.4 less than 300,000,000 gallons per year;

120.5 (7) ~~\$6~~ \$11 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 300,000,000 gallons but less
120.6 than 350,000,000 gallons per year;

120.7 (8) ~~\$6.50~~ \$12 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 350,000,000 gallons but
120.8 less than 400,000,000 gallons per year;

120.9 (9) ~~\$7~~ \$13 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 400,000,000 gallons but less
120.10 than 450,000,000 gallons per year;

120.11 (10) ~~\$7.50~~ \$14 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 450,000,000 gallons but
120.12 less than 500,000,000 gallons per year; and

120.13 (11) ~~\$8~~ \$15 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 500,000,000 gallons per
120.14 year.

120.15 (b) For once-through cooling systems, a water-use processing fee must be prescribed
120.16 by the commissioner in accordance with the following schedule of fees for each water-use
120.17 permit in force at any time during the year:

120.18 (1) for nonprofit corporations and school districts, \$200 per 1,000,000 gallons; and

120.19 (2) for all other users, \$420 per 1,000,000 gallons.

120.20 (c) The fee is payable based on the amount of water appropriated during the year and;
120.21 ~~except as provided in paragraph (f),~~ the minimum fee is \$100.

120.22 (d) For water-use processing fees other than once-through cooling systems:

120.23 (1) the fee for a city of the first class may not exceed ~~\$250,000~~ \$325,000 per year;

120.24 (2) the fee for other entities for any permitted use may not exceed:

120.25 (i) ~~\$60,000~~ \$75,000 per year for an entity holding three or fewer permits;

120.26 (ii) ~~\$90,000~~ \$125,000 per year for an entity holding four or five permits; or

120.27 (iii) ~~\$300,000~~ \$400,000 per year for an entity holding more than five permits;

120.28 (3) the fee for agricultural irrigation may not exceed ~~\$750~~ \$1,500 per year;

121.1 (4) the fee for a municipality that furnishes electric service and cogenerates steam for
121.2 home heating may not exceed \$10,000 for its permit for water use related to the cogeneration
121.3 of electricity and steam;

121.4 (5) the fee for a facility that temporarily diverts a water of the state from its natural
121.5 channel to produce hydroelectric or hydromechanical power may not exceed \$5,000 per
121.6 year. A permit for such a facility does not count toward the number of permits held by an
121.7 entity as described in this paragraph; and

121.8 (6) no fee is required for a project involving the appropriation of surface water to prevent
121.9 flood damage or to remove floodwaters during a period of flooding, as determined by the
121.10 commissioner.

121.11 (e) Failure to pay the fee is sufficient cause for revoking a permit. A penalty of ten
121.12 percent per month calculated from the original due date must be imposed on the unpaid
121.13 balance of fees remaining 30 days after the sending of a second notice of fees due. A fee
121.14 may not be imposed on an agency, as defined in section 16B.01, subdivision 2, or federal
121.15 governmental agency holding a water appropriation permit.

121.16 (f) The minimum water-use processing fee for a permit issued for irrigation of agricultural
121.17 land is ~~\$20~~ \$100 for years in which:

121.18 (1) there is no appropriation of water under the permit; or

121.19 (2) the permit is suspended for more than seven consecutive days between May 1 and
121.20 October 1.

121.21 (g) The commissioner shall waive the water-use permit fee for installations and projects
121.22 that use stormwater runoff or where public entities are diverting water to treat a water quality
121.23 issue and returning the water to its source without using the water for any other purpose,
121.24 unless the commissioner determines that the proposed use adversely affects surface water
121.25 or groundwater.

121.26 (h) A surcharge of \$50 per million gallons in addition to the fee prescribed in paragraph
121.27 (a) ~~shall be~~ is applied to the volume of water used in each of the months of May, June, July,
121.28 August, and September that exceeds the volume of water used in January for municipal
121.29 water use, irrigation of golf courses, and landscape irrigation. The surcharge for
121.30 municipalities with more than one permit ~~shall be~~ is determined based on the total
121.31 appropriations from all permits that supply a common distribution system.

121.32 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

122.1 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 103G.301, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

122.2 Subd. 2. **Permit application and notification fees.** (a) A fee to defray the costs of
122.3 receiving, recording, and processing must be paid for a permit application authorized under
122.4 this chapter, except for a general permit application, for each request to amend or transfer
122.5 an existing permit, and for a notification to request authorization to conduct a project under
122.6 a general permit. Fees established under this subdivision, unless specified in paragraph (c),
122.7 must comply with section 16A.1285.

122.8 (b) Proposed projects that require water in excess of 100 million gallons per year must
122.9 be assessed fees to recover the costs incurred to evaluate the project and the costs incurred
122.10 for environmental review. Fees collected under this paragraph must be credited to an account
122.11 in the natural resources fund and are appropriated to the commissioner.

122.12 (c) The fee to apply for a permit to appropriate water, in addition to any fee under
122.13 paragraph (b), is ~~\$150~~ \$600. The application fee for a permit to construct or repair a dam
122.14 that is subject to a dam safety inspection, to work in public waters, or to divert waters for
122.15 mining must be at least \$1,200, but not more than \$12,000. The fee for a notification to
122.16 request authorization to conduct a project under a general permit is \$400, except that the
122.17 fee for a notification to request authorization to appropriate water under a general permit
122.18 is \$100.

122.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2026.

122.20 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.01, is amended by adding a subdivision to
122.21 read:

122.22 Subd. 2a. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Pollution
122.23 Control Agency.

122.24 Sec. 29. **[115.033] OUTDOOR USE OF RAINWATER AND STORMWATER.**

122.25 (a) A state agency, political subdivision of the state, joint powers organization, or special
122.26 purpose unit of government with authority to establish water-quality standards may allow
122.27 using untreated rainwater or stormwater for outdoor purposes when the probability of
122.28 consumption or immersion by humans or animals is low or nonexistent.

122.29 (b) For purposes of this section, "using untreated rainwater or stormwater for outdoor
122.30 purposes" does not include using the water:

122.31 (1) as a source of drinking water;

123.1 (2) for swimming or immersion; or

123.2 (3) for agricultural activities that produce food crops for humans or livestock.

123.3 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115B.421, is amended to read:

123.4 **115B.421 CLOSED LANDFILL INVESTMENT FUND.**

123.5 Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** (a) The closed landfill investment fund is established in
123.6 the state treasury. The fund consists of money credited to the fund and interest and other
123.7 earnings on money in the fund. Funds must be deposited as described in section 115B.445.
123.8 The fund must be managed to maximize long-term gain through the State Board of
123.9 Investment.

123.10 ~~(b) Each fiscal year, up to \$4,500,000 is appropriated from the closed landfill investment~~
123.11 ~~fund to the commissioner for the purposes of sections 115B.39 to 115B.444.~~

123.12 ~~(c) If the commissioner determines that a release or threatened release from a qualified~~
123.13 ~~facility for which the commissioner has assumed obligations for environmental response~~
123.14 ~~actions under section 115B.40 or 115B.406 constitutes an emergency requiring immediate~~
123.15 ~~action to prevent, minimize, or mitigate damage either to the public health or welfare or the~~
123.16 ~~environment or to a system designed to protect the public health or welfare or the~~
123.17 ~~environment, up to \$9,000,000 in addition to the amount appropriated under paragraph (b)~~
123.18 ~~is appropriated to the commissioner in the first year of the biennium and may be spent by~~
123.19 ~~the commissioner to take reasonable and necessary emergency response actions. Money~~
123.20 ~~not spent in the first year of the biennium may be spent in the second year. If money is~~
123.21 ~~appropriated under this paragraph, the commissioner must notify the chairs of the senate~~
123.22 ~~and house of representatives committees having jurisdiction over environment policy and~~
123.23 ~~finance as soon as possible. The commissioner must maintain the fund balance to ensure~~
123.24 ~~long-term viability of the fund and reflect the responsibility of the landfill cleanup program~~
123.25 ~~in perpetuity.~~

123.26 ~~(d) Paragraphs (b) and (c) expire June 30, 2025.~~

123.27 Subd. 2. **Local notification.** If money in the closed landfill investment fund is spent or
123.28 transferred for purposes other than the purposes provided under sections 115B.39 to
123.29 115B.444, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must provide written
123.30 notification to each county with a qualified facility within 30 days of the transfer or
123.31 expenditure that includes the amount, purpose, and authority used to spend or transfer the
123.32 money.

124.1 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.07, is amended by adding a subdivision to
124.2 read:

124.3 Subd. 13. **Outreach to culturally diverse communities.** The commissioner must ensure
124.4 that, to the maximum extent practicable, the commissioner's work and the work of the agency
124.5 are carried out in a manner that facilitates outreach to and communication with Minnesotans
124.6 of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and languages. To the maximum extent practicable, public
124.7 hearings, solicitations for grant proposals, and other interactions with the public must include
124.8 audiovisual communication components and must not rely exclusively on written forms of
124.9 communication.

124.10 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.073, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

124.11 Subdivision 1. **Authority to issue.** (a) Pollution Control Agency staff designated by the
124.12 commissioner and Department of Natural Resources conservation officers may issue citations
124.13 to a person who:

124.14 (1) disposes of solid waste as defined in section 116.06, subdivision 22, at a location
124.15 not authorized by law for the disposal of solid waste without permission of the owner of
124.16 the property;

124.17 (2) fails to report or recover discharges as required under section 115.061;

124.18 (3) fails to take discharge preventive or preparedness measures required under chapter
124.19 115E;

124.20 (4) fails to install or use vapor recovery equipment during the transfer of gasoline from
124.21 a transport delivery vehicle to an underground storage tank as required in section 116.49,
124.22 subdivisions 3 and 4;

124.23 (5) performs labor or services designing, installing, constructing, inspecting, servicing,
124.24 repairing, or operating a subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) as defined in chapter
124.25 115 and has violated rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 in any of the following
124.26 categories:

124.27 (i) failure to acquire or maintain a current state-issued SSTS license;

124.28 (ii) failure to acquire or maintain a current surety bond for SSTS activities;

124.29 (iii) failure to acquire or maintain a required local permit for SSTS activities; or

124.30 (iv) failure to submit SSTS as-built plans or compliance inspection forms to the local
124.31 governmental unit; ~~or~~

125.1 (6) performs labor or services pumping, hauling, treating, spreading, dumping,
125.2 discharging, or land applying septage as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 7080.1100, subpart
125.3 69, and has violated rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
125.4 Regulations, title 40, section 503, in any of the following categories:

125.5 (i) failure to acquire or maintain a current state-issued SSTS license;

125.6 (ii) failure to acquire or maintain a current surety bond for SSTS activities;

125.7 (iii) failure to provide control measures to prevent the pollution of underground waters
125.8 from the discharge of septage into the saturated or unsaturated zone;

125.9 (iv) failure to produce records or maintain records in accordance with Code of Federal
125.10 Regulations, title 40, section 503; or

125.11 (v) failure to treat septage for pathogens and vectors in accordance with Code of Federal
125.12 Regulations, title 40, section 503; or

125.13 (7) fails to self-certify that they have received the skin-lightener notice and will comply
125.14 with the law, as required by section 325F.998.

125.15 (b) Agency staff designated by the commissioner may issue citations to facility owners
125.16 and operators who fail to produce, within 30 days or within a reasonable alternative time
125.17 frame as determined and required by the commissioner, information or reports necessary
125.18 for developing and reissuing permits and permit amendments under chapters 114C and 115
125.19 to 116. If the owner or operator cannot produce the information or reports within 30 days
125.20 or according to an alternative time frame required by the commissioner, the owner or operator
125.21 may request an extension within 30 days of the request for information or reports. The
125.22 commissioner must keep records of citations issued under this paragraph that identify the
125.23 facility, the owner or operator, and any person hired by or representing the owner or operator
125.24 to prepare or assist in preparing the permit application or other information or report requested
125.25 by the commissioner.

125.26 ~~(b)~~ (c) In addition, Pollution Control Agency staff designated by the commissioner may
125.27 issue citations to owners and operators of facilities who violate sections 116.46 to 116.50
125.28 and Minnesota Rules, chapters 7150 and 7151 and parts 7001.4200 to 7001.4300. A citation
125.29 issued under this subdivision must include a requirement that the person cited remove and
125.30 properly dispose of or otherwise manage the waste or discharged oil or hazardous substance,
125.31 reimburse any government agency that has disposed of the waste or discharged oil or
125.32 hazardous substance and contaminated debris for the reasonable costs of disposal, or correct
125.33 any storage tank violations.

126.1 ~~(e)~~ (d) Citations for violations of sections 115E.045 and 116.46 to 116.50 and Minnesota
126.2 Rules, chapters 7150 and 7151, may be issued only after the owners and operators have had
126.3 a 60-day period to correct violations stated in writing by Pollution Control Agency staff,
126.4 unless there is a discharge associated with the violation or the violation is a repeat violation
126.5 from a previous inspection.

126.6 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.073, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

126.7 Subd. 2. **Penalty amount.** The citation must impose the following penalty amounts:

126.8 (1) \$100 per major appliance, as defined in section 115A.03, subdivision 17a, up to a
126.9 maximum of \$2,000;

126.10 (2) \$25 per waste tire, as defined in section 115A.90, subdivision 11, up to a maximum
126.11 of \$2,000;

126.12 (3) \$25 per lead acid battery governed by section 115A.915, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

126.13 (4) \$1 per pound of other solid waste or \$20 per cubic foot up to a maximum of \$2,000;

126.14 (5) up to \$200 for any amount of waste that escapes from a vehicle used for the
126.15 transportation of solid waste if, after receiving actual notice that waste has escaped the
126.16 vehicle, the person or company transporting the waste fails to immediately collect the waste;

126.17 (6) \$50 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to underground
126.18 storage tank system design, construction, installation, and notification requirements, up to
126.19 a maximum of \$2,000;

126.20 (7) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to upgrading of
126.21 existing underground storage tank systems, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per tank system;

126.22 (8) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to underground
126.23 storage tank system general operating requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

126.24 (9) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to underground
126.25 storage tank system release detection requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

126.26 (10) \$50 per violation of rules adopted under section 116.49, relating to out-of-service
126.27 underground storage tank systems and closure, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

126.28 (11) \$50 per violation of sections 116.48 to 116.491 relating to underground storage
126.29 tank system notification, monitoring, environmental protection, and tank installers training
126.30 and certification requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.1 (12) \$25 per gallon of oil or hazardous substance discharged which is not reported or
127.2 recovered under section 115.061, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.3 (13) \$1 per gallon of oil or hazardous substance being stored, transported, or otherwise
127.4 handled without the prevention or preparedness measures required under chapter 115E, up
127.5 to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.6 (14) \$250 per violation of Minnesota Rules, parts 7001.4200 to 7001.4300 or chapter
127.7 7151, related to aboveground storage tank systems, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.8 (15) \$250 per delivery made in violation of section 116.49, subdivision 3 or 4, levied
127.9 against:

127.10 (i) the retail location if vapor recovery equipment is not installed or maintained properly;

127.11 (ii) the carrier if the transport delivery vehicle is not equipped with vapor recovery
127.12 equipment; or

127.13 (iii) the driver for failure to use supplied vapor recovery equipment;

127.14 (16) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
127.15 to comply with state subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) license requirements, up
127.16 to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.17 (17) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
127.18 to comply with SSTS surety bond requirements, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.19 (18) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
127.20 to provide control measures to prevent the pollution of underground waters from the discharge
127.21 of septage into the saturated or unsaturated zone, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.22 (19) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
127.23 Regulations, title 40, section 503, relating to failure to treat septage for pathogens and
127.24 vectors, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.25 (20) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
127.26 Regulations, title 40, section 503, relating to failure to produce records or maintain records,
127.27 up to a maximum of \$2,000;

127.28 (21) \$250 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 or Code of Federal
127.29 Regulations, title 40, section 503, relating to failure to submit as-built plans or compliance
127.30 inspection forms to the local governmental unit, up to a maximum of \$2,000; ~~and~~

127.31 (22) \$500 per violation of rules adopted under chapters 115 and 116 relating to failure
127.32 to obtain required local permits, up to a maximum of \$2,000;

128.1 (23) \$100 per violation of section 325F.998, relating to certification that businesses will
128.2 comply with skin-lightener requirements; and

128.3 (24) \$50 per day under subdivision 1, paragraph (b), for each information item or report
128.4 requested for the first 30 days delinquent and \$500 per day thereafter, up to a maximum of
128.5 \$20,000 for each information item or report requested, until the commissioner determines
128.6 the request for information or report is complete.

128.7 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.182, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

128.8 Subd. 5. **Rules.** (a) The agency shall adopt rules for the administration of the financial
128.9 assistance program. For wastewater treatment projects, the rules must include:

128.10 (1) application requirements;

128.11 (2) criteria for the ranking of projects in order of priority based on factors including the
128.12 type of project and the degree of environmental impact, and scenic and wild river standards;
128.13 and

128.14 (3) criteria for determining essential project components.

128.15 (b) Notwithstanding any provision in Minnesota Rules, chapter 7077, to the contrary,
128.16 for purposes of Minnesota Rules, parts 7077.0117, 7077.0118, and 7077.0119, the
128.17 commissioner must assign 40 points if a municipality is proposing a project to address
128.18 emerging contaminants, as defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
128.19 This paragraph expires June 30, 2030.

128.20 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.943, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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

128.23 (b) "Adult mattress" means a mattress other than a crib mattress or toddler mattress.

128.24 (c) "Air care product" means a chemically formulated consumer product labeled to
128.25 indicate that the purpose of the product is to enhance or condition the indoor environment
128.26 by eliminating odors or freshening the air.

128.27 (d) "Automotive maintenance product" means a chemically formulated consumer product
128.28 labeled to indicate that the purpose of the product is to maintain the appearance of a motor
128.29 vehicle, including products for washing, waxing, polishing, cleaning, or treating the exterior
128.30 or interior surfaces of motor vehicles. Automotive maintenance product does not include
128.31 automotive paint or paint repair products.

129.1 (e) "Carpet or rug" means a fabric marketed or intended for use as a floor covering.

129.2 (f) "Cleaning product" means a finished product used primarily for domestic, commercial,
129.3 or institutional cleaning purposes, including but not limited to an air care product, an
129.4 automotive maintenance product, a general cleaning product, or a polish or floor maintenance
129.5 product.

129.6 (g) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency.

129.7 (h) "Cookware" means durable houseware items used to prepare, dispense, or store food,
129.8 foodstuffs, or beverages. Cookware includes but is not limited to pots, pans, skillets, grills,
129.9 baking sheets, baking molds, trays, bowls, and cooking utensils.

129.10 (i) "Cosmetic" means articles, excluding soap:

129.11 (1) intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled, or sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise
129.12 applied to the human body or any part thereof for the purpose of cleansing, beautifying,
129.13 promoting attractiveness, or altering the appearance; and

129.14 (2) intended for use as a component of any such article.

129.15 (j) "Currently unavoidable use" means a use of PFAS that the commissioner has
129.16 determined by rule under this section to be essential for health, safety, or the functioning
129.17 of society and for which alternatives are not reasonably available.

129.18 (k) "Fabric treatment" means a substance applied to fabric to give the fabric one or more
129.19 characteristics, including but not limited to stain resistance or water resistance.

129.20 (l) "Intentionally added" means PFAS deliberately added during the manufacture of a
129.21 product where the continued presence of PFAS is desired in the final product or one of the
129.22 product's components to perform a specific function.

129.23 (m) "Juvenile product" means a product designed or marketed for use by infants and
129.24 children under 12 years of age:

129.25 (1) including but not limited to a baby or toddler foam pillow; bassinet; bedside sleeper;
129.26 booster seat; changing pad; child restraint system for use in motor vehicles and aircraft;
129.27 co-sleeper; crib mattress; highchair; highchair pad; infant bouncer; infant carrier; infant
129.28 seat; infant sleep positioner; infant swing; infant travel bed; infant walker; nap cot; nursing
129.29 pad; nursing pillow; play mat; playpen; play yard; polyurethane foam mat, pad, or pillow;
129.30 portable foam nap mat; portable infant sleeper; portable hook-on chair; soft-sided portable
129.31 crib; stroller; and toddler mattress; ~~and~~

130.1 (2) not including a children's electronic product such as a personal computer, audio and
130.2 video equipment, calculator, wireless phone, game console, handheld device incorporating
130.3 a video screen, or any associated peripheral such as a mouse, keyboard, power supply unit,
130.4 or power cord; or an adult mattress; and

130.5 (3) not including:

130.6 (i) an off-highway vehicle made for children;

130.7 (ii) an all-terrain vehicle made for children;

130.8 (iii) an off-highway motorcycle made for children;

130.9 (iv) a snowmobile made for children;

130.10 (v) an electric-assisted bicycle made for children; or

130.11 (vi) a replacement part for a vehicle described in items (i) through (v).

130.12 (n) "Manufacturer" means the person that creates or produces a product or whose brand
130.13 name is affixed to the product. In the case of a product imported into the United States,
130.14 manufacturer includes the importer or first domestic distributor of the product if the person
130.15 that manufactured or assembled the product or whose brand name is affixed to the product
130.16 does not have a presence in the United States.

130.17 (o) "Medical device" has the meaning given "device" under United States Code, title
130.18 21, section 321, subsection (h).

130.19 (p) "Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances" or "PFAS" means a class of
130.20 fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom.

130.21 (q) "Product" means an item manufactured, assembled, packaged, or otherwise prepared
130.22 for sale to consumers, including but not limited to its product components, sold or distributed
130.23 for personal, residential, commercial, or industrial use, including for use in making other
130.24 products.

130.25 (r) "Product component" means an identifiable component of a product, regardless of
130.26 whether the manufacturer of the product is the manufacturer of the component.

130.27 (s) "Ski wax" means a lubricant applied to the bottom of snow runners, including but
130.28 not limited to skis and snowboards, to improve their grip or glide properties. Ski wax includes
130.29 related tuning products.

131.1 (t) "Textile" means an item made in whole or part from a natural or synthetic fiber, yarn,
131.2 or fabric. Textile includes but is not limited to leather, cotton, silk, jute, hemp, wool, viscose,
131.3 nylon, and polyester.

131.4 (u) "Textile furnishings" means textile goods of a type customarily used in households
131.5 and businesses, including but not limited to draperies, floor coverings, furnishings, bedding,
131.6 towels, and tablecloths.

131.7 (v) "Upholstered furniture" means an article of furniture that is designed to be used for
131.8 sitting, resting, or reclining and that is wholly or partly stuffed or filled with any filling
131.9 material.

131.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

131.11 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.943, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

131.12 Subd. 5. **Prohibitions.** (a) Beginning January 1, 2025, a person may not sell, offer for
131.13 sale, or distribute for sale in this state the following products if the product contains
131.14 intentionally added PFAS:

131.15 (1) carpets or rugs;

131.16 (2) cleaning products;

131.17 (3) cookware;

131.18 (4) cosmetics;

131.19 (5) dental floss;

131.20 (6) fabric treatments;

131.21 (7) juvenile products;

131.22 (8) menstruation products;

131.23 (9) textile furnishings;

131.24 (10) ski wax; or

131.25 (11) upholstered furniture.

131.26 (b) Paragraph (a) does not prohibit the sale, offering for sale, or distribution of a product
131.27 that contains intentionally added PFAS only in internal components that do not come into
131.28 direct contact with a person's skin or mouth during reasonably foreseeable use or abuse of
131.29 the product.

~~(b)~~ (c) The commissioner may by rule identify additional products by category or use that may not be sold, offered for sale, or distributed for sale in this state if they contain intentionally added PFAS and designate effective dates. A prohibition adopted under this paragraph must be effective no earlier than January 1, 2025, and no later than January 1, 2032. The commissioner must prioritize the prohibition of the sale of product categories that, in the commissioner's judgment, are most likely to contaminate or harm the state's environment and natural resources if they contain intentionally added PFAS.

~~(e)~~ (d) Beginning January 1, 2032, a person may not sell, offer for sale, or distribute for sale in this state any product that contains intentionally added PFAS, unless the commissioner has determined by rule that the use of PFAS in the product is a currently unavoidable use. The commissioner may specify specific products or product categories for which the commissioner has determined the use of PFAS is a currently unavoidable use. The commissioner may not determine that the use of PFAS in a product is a currently unavoidable use if the product is listed in paragraph (a).

~~(d)~~ (e) The commissioner may not take action under paragraph ~~(b)~~ (c) or ~~(e)~~ (d) with respect to a pesticide, as defined under chapter 18B, a fertilizer, an agricultural liming material, a plant amendment, or a soil amendment as defined under chapter 18C, unless the commissioner of agriculture approves the action.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 325E.3892, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

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

(b) "Covered product" means any of the following products or product components:

(1) jewelry;

(2) toys;

(3) cosmetics and personal care products;

(4) puzzles, board games, card games, and similar games;

(5) play sets and play structures;

(6) outdoor games;

(7) school supplies, except ink pens and mechanical pencils;

(8) pots and pans;

- 133.1 (9) cups, bowls, and other food containers;
- 133.2 (10) craft supplies and jewelry-making supplies;
- 133.3 (11) chalk, crayons, children's paints, and other art supplies except professional artist
- 133.4 materials, including but not limited to oil-based paints, water-based paints, paints, pastels,
- 133.5 pigments, ceramic glazes, and markers;
- 133.6 (12) fidget spinners;
- 133.7 (13) costumes, costume accessories, and children's and seasonal party supplies;
- 133.8 (14) ~~keys~~, key chains, and key rings; and
- 133.9 (15) clothing, footwear, headwear, and accessories.
- 133.10 (c) "Pastels" means a crayon composed of powdered pigments bonded with gum or resin.
- 133.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.
- 133.12 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 325E.3892, subdivision 2, is amended to read:
- 133.13 Subd. 2. **Prohibition.** (a) A person must not import, manufacture, sell, hold for sale, or
- 133.14 distribute or offer for use in this state any covered product containing:
- 133.15 (1) lead at more than 0.009 percent by total weight (90 parts per million); or
- 133.16 (2) cadmium at more than 0.0075 percent by total weight (75 parts per million).
- 133.17 (b) This section does not apply to:
- 133.18 (1) covered products containing lead or cadmium, or both, when regulation is preempted
- 133.19 by federal law; or
- 133.20 (2) covered products that contain lead only in solder used in internal components or in
- 133.21 pen tips so long as:
- 133.22 (i) the product is not imported, manufactured, sold, held for sale, distributed, or offered
- 133.23 for use in this state after July 1, 2028; and
- 133.24 (ii) the manufacturer of the product submits biennial reports to the commissioner of the
- 133.25 Pollution Control Agency that explain the barriers to removing lead from the product,
- 133.26 progress towards adoption of lead-free alternatives, and a timeline for full adoption of those
- 133.27 alternatives.
- 133.28 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

134.1 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 325F.072, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

134.2 Subd. 3. **Prohibition.** (a) No person, political subdivision, or state agency shall
134.3 manufacture or knowingly sell, offer for sale, distribute for sale, or distribute for use in this
134.4 state, and no person shall use in this state, class B firefighting foam containing PFAS
134.5 chemicals.

134.6 (b) This subdivision does not apply to the manufacture, sale, distribution, or use of class
134.7 B firefighting foam for which the inclusion of PFAS chemicals is required by federal law,
134.8 including but not limited to Code of Federal Regulations, title 14, section 139.317. If a
134.9 federal requirement to include PFAS chemicals in class B firefighting foam is revoked after
134.10 January 1, 2024, class B firefighting foam subject to the revoked requirements is no longer
134.11 exempt under this paragraph effective one year after the day of revocation.

134.12 (c) This subdivision does not apply to the manufacture, sale, distribution, or use of class
134.13 B firefighting foam for purposes of use at an airport, as defined under section 360.013,
134.14 subdivision 39, until the state fire marshal makes a determination that:

134.15 (1) the Federal Aviation Administration has provided policy guidance on the transition
134.16 to fluorine-free firefighting foam;

134.17 (2) a fluorine-free firefighting foam product is included in the Federal Aviation
134.18 Administration's Qualified Product Database; and

134.19 (3) a firefighting foam product included in the database under clause (2) is commercially
134.20 available in quantities sufficient to reliably meet the requirements under Code of Federal
134.21 Regulations, title 14, part 139.

134.22 (d) Until the state fire marshal makes a determination under paragraph (c), the operator
134.23 of an airport using class B firefighting foam containing PFAS chemicals must, on or before
134.24 December 31 each calendar year, submit a report to the state fire marshal regarding the
134.25 status of the airport's conversion to class B firefighting foam products without intentionally
134.26 added PFAS, the disposal of class B firefighting foam products with intentionally added
134.27 PFAS, and an assessment of the factors listed in paragraph (c) as applied to the airport.

134.28 (e) Until January 1, 2028, this subdivision does not apply to the manufacture, sale,
134.29 distribution, or use of class B firefighting foam for use in hangar fixed firefighting systems
134.30 at an airport, as defined under section 360.013, subdivision 39. The commissioner of the
134.31 Pollution Control Agency, in consultation with the state fire marshal, may provide the
134.32 operator of an airport using class B firefighting foam containing PFAS chemicals one year
134.33 extensions beyond this date upon a showing that the need for additional time is beyond the

135.1 operator's control and that public safety and the environment will be protected during the
135.2 period of the extension.

135.3 Sec. 40. **[325F.998] SKIN-LIGHTENER NOTICE REQUIRED.**

135.4 Subdivision 1. **Notice required.** After August 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the
135.5 commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must send a notice to retailers who sell
135.6 skin-lightening products that states that selling skin-lightening products that contain mercury
135.7 is illegal and subject to penalties. Additionally, the commissioner must engage in outreach
135.8 to retailers who sell skin-lightening products in order to convey the dangers of using
135.9 skin-lightening products that contain mercury.

135.10 Subd. 2. **Certification.** Businesses who receive notice from the commissioner must
135.11 self-certify on a form prescribed by the commissioner that they have received the notice
135.12 and will comply with the law.

135.13 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 446A.07, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

135.14 Subd. 8. **Other uses of revolving fund.** (a) The clean water revolving fund may be used
135.15 as provided in title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, including the following
135.16 uses:

135.17 (1) to buy or refinance the debt obligation of governmental units for treatment works
135.18 where debt was incurred and construction begun after March 7, 1985, at or below market
135.19 rates;

135.20 (2) to guarantee or purchase insurance for local obligations to improve credit market
135.21 access or reduce interest rates;

135.22 (3) to provide a source of revenue or security for the payment of principal and interest
135.23 on revenue or general obligation bonds issued by the authority if the bond proceeds are
135.24 deposited in the fund;

135.25 (4) to provide loan guarantees, loans, or set-aside for similar revolving funds established
135.26 by a governmental unit other than state agencies, or state agencies under sections 17.117,
135.27 103F.725, subdivision 1a, and 116J.617;

135.28 (5) to earn interest on fund accounts; and

135.29 (6) to pay the reasonable costs incurred by the authority and the Pollution Control Agency
135.30 of administering the fund and conducting activities required under the Federal Water Pollution

Control Act, including water quality management planning under section 205(j) of the act and water quality standards continuing planning under section 303(e) of the act;

(b) The clean water revolving fund may be used to provide additional subsidization as permitted under the federal Water Pollution Control Act and other federal law to provide principal forgiveness or grants:

~~(7) to provide principal forgiveness or grants to the extent permitted under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and other federal law,~~ (1) based on the affordability criteria and requirements established for the ~~wastewater~~ water infrastructure funding program under section 446A.072; ~~and~~

~~(8) to provide loans, principal forgiveness, or grants to the extent permitted under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and other federal law~~ (2) for 25 percent of project costs up to a maximum of \$1,000,000 for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities; and

(3) for 50 percent of project costs up to a maximum of \$3,000,000 for projects that address emerging contaminants as defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

~~(b) Amounts spent under paragraph (a), clause (6), may not exceed the amount allowed under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.~~

~~(c) Principal forgiveness or grants provided under paragraph (a), clause (8), may not exceed 25 percent of the eligible project costs as determined by the Pollution Control Agency for project components directly related to green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities, up to a maximum of \$1,000,000.~~

Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 473.355, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Grants.** (a) The Metropolitan Council must establish a grant program to provide grants to cities, counties, townships, Tribal governments, and implementing agencies for the following purposes:

(1) removing and planting shade trees on public land to provide environmental benefits;

(2) replacing trees lost to forest pests, disease, or storms; and

(3) establishing a more diverse community forest better able to withstand disease and forest pests.

137.1 (b) Any tree planted with money granted under this section must be a climate-adapted
137.2 species to Minnesota.

137.3 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 473.859, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

137.4 Subd. 2. **Land use plan.** (a) A land use plan must include the water management plan
137.5 required by section 103B.235, and shall designate the existing and proposed location,
137.6 intensity and extent of use of land and water, including lakes, wetlands, rivers, streams,
137.7 natural drainage courses, and adjoining land areas that affect water natural resources, for
137.8 agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial and other public and private purposes, or
137.9 any combination of such purposes.

137.10 (b) A land use plan must contain a protection element, as appropriate, for historic sites,
137.11 the matters listed in the water management plan required by section 103B.235, and an
137.12 element for protection and development of access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems.

137.13 (c) A land use plan must also include a housing element containing standards, plans and
137.14 programs for providing adequate housing opportunities to meet existing and projected local
137.15 and regional housing needs, including but not limited to the use of official controls and land
137.16 use planning to promote the availability of land for the development of low and moderate
137.17 income housing.

137.18 (d) A land use plan must also include an assessment of the impact of all land use
137.19 designations and easements on access to aggregate resources and the local government's
137.20 goals, intentions, and priorities concerning aggregate and other natural resources,
137.21 transportation infrastructure, land use compatibility, habitat, agricultural preservation, and
137.22 other planning priorities, considering information regarding supply from the Minnesota
137.23 Geological Survey Information Circular No. 46.

137.24 (e) A land use plan must also include an inventory and projections pertaining to
137.25 greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled that are generated from activity that
137.26 occurs within the local government's jurisdiction. The inventory and projections must include
137.27 the emission sources from transportation, land use, energy use, solid waste, and, where
137.28 available and applicable, livestock and agriculture. The inventory and projections must
137.29 include the estimated impact of strategies, including efficient land use and compact growth,
137.30 that reduce or naturally sequester greenhouse gas emissions across sectors.

137.31 Sec. 44. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

137.32 Subd. 2. **Environmental Analysis and Outcomes** 79,311,000 72,785,000

138.1	Appropriations by Fund		
138.2		2024	2025
138.3	General	60,103,000	53,047,000
138.4	Environmental	18,959,000	19,533,000
138.5	Remediation	249,000	205,000

138.6 (a) \$122,000 the first year and \$125,000 the
138.7 second year are from the general fund for:

138.8 (1) a municipal liaison to assist municipalities
138.9 in implementing and participating in the
138.10 rulemaking process for water quality standards
138.11 and navigating the NPDES/SDS permitting
138.12 process;

138.13 (2) enhanced economic analysis in the
138.14 rulemaking process for water quality
138.15 standards, including more-specific analysis
138.16 and identification of cost-effective permitting;

138.17 (3) developing statewide economic analyses
138.18 and templates to reduce the amount of
138.19 information and time required for
138.20 municipalities to apply for variances from
138.21 water quality standards; and

138.22 (4) coordinating with the Public Facilities
138.23 Authority to identify and advocate for the
138.24 resources needed for urban, suburban, and
138.25 Greater Minnesota municipalities to achieve
138.26 permit requirements.

138.27 (b) \$216,000 the first year and \$219,000 the
138.28 second year are from the environmental fund
138.29 for a monitoring program under Minnesota
138.30 Statutes, section 116.454.

138.31 (c) \$132,000 the first year and \$137,000 the
138.32 second year are for monitoring water quality
138.33 and operating assistance programs.

139.1 (d) \$390,000 the first year and \$399,000 the
139.2 second year are from the environmental fund
139.3 for monitoring ambient air for hazardous
139.4 pollutants.

139.5 (e) \$106,000 the first year and \$109,000 the
139.6 second year are from the environmental fund
139.7 for duties related to harmful chemicals in
139.8 children's products under Minnesota Statutes,
139.9 sections 116.9401 to 116.9407. Of this
139.10 amount, \$68,000 the first year and \$70,000
139.11 the second year are transferred to the
139.12 commissioner of health.

139.13 (f) \$128,000 the first year and \$132,000 the
139.14 second year are from the environmental fund
139.15 for registering wastewater laboratories.

139.16 (g) \$1,492,000 the first year and \$1,519,000
139.17 the second year are from the environmental
139.18 fund to continue perfluorochemical
139.19 biomonitoring in eastern metropolitan
139.20 communities, as recommended by the
139.21 Environmental Health Tracking and
139.22 Biomonitoring Advisory Panel, and to address
139.23 other environmental health risks, including air
139.24 quality. The communities must include Hmong
139.25 and other immigrant farming communities.
139.26 Of this amount, up to \$1,226,000 the first year
139.27 and \$1,248,000 the second year are for transfer
139.28 to the commissioner of health.

139.29 (h) \$61,000 the first year and \$62,000 the
139.30 second year are from the environmental fund
139.31 for the listing procedures for impaired waters
139.32 required under this act.

139.33 (i) \$72,000 the first year and \$74,000 the
139.34 second year are from the remediation fund for

140.1 the leaking underground storage tank program
140.2 to investigate, clean up, and prevent future
140.3 releases from underground petroleum storage
140.4 tanks and for the petroleum remediation
140.5 program for vapor assessment and
140.6 remediation. These same annual amounts are
140.7 transferred from the petroleum tank fund to
140.8 the remediation fund.

140.9 (j) \$500,000 the first year is to facilitate the
140.10 collaboration and modeling of greenhouse gas
140.11 impacts, costs, and benefits of strategies to
140.12 reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions.
140.13 This is a onetime appropriation.

140.14 (k) \$50,266,000 the first year and \$50,270,000
140.15 the second year are to establish and implement
140.16 a local government climate resiliency and
140.17 water infrastructure grant program for local
140.18 governmental units and Tribal governments.
140.19 Of this amount, \$49,100,000 each year is for
140.20 grants to support communities in planning and
140.21 implementing projects that will allow for
140.22 adaptation for a changing climate. At least 40
140.23 percent of the money granted under this
140.24 paragraph must be for projects in areas that
140.25 meet environmental justice criteria. By
140.26 December 30, 2027, the commissioner must
140.27 submit a report on the use of grant money to
140.28 the chairs and ranking minority members of
140.29 the legislative committees with jurisdiction
140.30 over environment and natural resources
140.31 finance. This appropriation is available until
140.32 June 30, 2027. The base for this appropriation
140.33 in fiscal year 2026 and beyond is \$270,000.

141.1 (l) \$75,000 the first year is for a grant to the
141.2 city of Fergus Falls to address water-quality
141.3 concerns at Lake Alice.

141.4 (m) \$150,000 the first year is for a grant to
141.5 Rice County to address water-quality concerns
141.6 at French Lake.

141.7 (n) \$75,000 the first year is for a grant to
141.8 Ramsey County to address water-quality
141.9 concerns at Round Lake.

141.10 (o) Recipients of money appropriated in
141.11 paragraphs (l), (m), and (n) may use the grants
141.12 to contract for water-quality improvement
141.13 services, testing, necessary infrastructure,
141.14 training, and maintenance.

141.15 (p) \$2,070,000 the first year and \$2,070,000
141.16 the second year are from the environmental
141.17 fund to develop and implement a program
141.18 related to emerging issues, including
141.19 Minnesota's PFAS Blueprint.

141.20 (q) \$1,820,000 the first year and \$1,820,000
141.21 the second year are from the environmental
141.22 fund to support improved management of data
141.23 collected by the agency and its partners and
141.24 regulated parties to facilitate decision-making
141.25 and public access.

141.26 (r) \$500,000 the first year is from the general
141.27 fund for the report on firefighter turnout gear
141.28 and biomonitoring required under this act. Of
141.29 this amount, up to ~~\$250,000~~ \$425,000 may be
141.30 transferred to the commissioner of health for
141.31 biomonitoring of firefighters. This
141.32 appropriation is available until June 30, 2027.

141.33 (s) \$500,000 the first year is to develop
141.34 protocols to be used by agencies and

142.1 departments for sampling and testing
142.2 groundwater, surface water, public drinking
142.3 water, and private wells for microplastics and
142.4 nanoplastics and to begin implementation. The
142.5 commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency
142.6 may transfer money appropriated under this
142.7 paragraph to the commissioners of agriculture,
142.8 natural resources, and health to implement the
142.9 protocols developed. This is a onetime
142.10 appropriation and is available until June 30,
142.11 2025.

142.12 (t) \$50,000 the first year is from the
142.13 remediation fund for the work group on PFAS
142.14 manufacturer fees and report required under
142.15 this act.

142.16 (u) \$387,000 the first year and \$90,000 the
142.17 second year are to develop and implement the
142.18 requirements for fish kills under Minnesota
142.19 Statutes, sections 103G.216 and 103G.2165.
142.20 Of this amount, up to \$331,000 the first year
142.21 and \$90,000 the second year may be
142.22 transferred to the commissioners of health,
142.23 natural resources, agriculture, and public
142.24 safety and to the Board of Regents of the
142.25 University of Minnesota as necessary to
142.26 implement those sections. The base for this
142.27 appropriation for fiscal year 2026 and beyond
142.28 is \$7,000.

142.29 (v) \$63,000 the first year and \$92,000 the
142.30 second year are for transfer to the
142.31 commissioner of health for amending the
142.32 health risk limit for PFOS. This is a onetime
142.33 appropriation and is available until June 30,
142.34 2026.

143.1 (w) \$5,000,000 the first year is for community
143.2 air-monitoring grants as provided in this act.
143.3 This is a onetime appropriation and is
143.4 available until June 30, 2027.

143.5 (x) \$2,333,000 the first year and \$2,333,000
143.6 the second year are to adopt rules and
143.7 implement air toxics emissions requirements
143.8 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.062.
143.9 The general fund appropriations are onetime
143.10 and are available until June 30, 2027. The base
143.11 for this appropriation is \$0 in fiscal year 2026
143.12 and \$1,400,000 from the environmental fund
143.13 in fiscal year 2027 and beyond.

143.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.

143.15 Sec. 45. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 1, section 2, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

143.16 Subd. 7. **Resource Management and Assistance** 82,000,000 57,974,000

143.17	Appropriations by Fund		
143.18		2024	2025
143.19	General	38,464,000	13,850,000
143.20	Environmental	43,536,000	44,124,000

143.21 (a) Up to \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000
143.22 the second year may be transferred from the
143.23 environmental fund to the small business
143.24 environmental improvement loan account
143.25 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.993.

143.26 (b) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000
143.27 the second year are for competitive recycling
143.28 grants under Minnesota Statutes, section
143.29 115A.565. Of this amount, \$300,000 the first
143.30 year and \$300,000 the second year are from
143.31 the general fund, and \$700,000 the first year
143.32 and \$700,000 the second year are from the

144.1 environmental fund. This appropriation is
144.2 available until June 30, 2027.

144.3 (c) \$694,000 the first year and \$694,000 the
144.4 second year are from the environmental fund
144.5 for emission-reduction activities and grants to
144.6 small businesses and other
144.7 nonpoint-emission-reduction efforts. Of this
144.8 amount, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000
144.9 the second year are to continue work with
144.10 Clean Air Minnesota, and the commissioner
144.11 may enter into an agreement with
144.12 Environmental Initiative to support this effort.

144.13 (d) \$18,450,000 the first year and \$18,450,000
144.14 the second year are from the environmental
144.15 fund for SCORE block grants to counties.

144.16 (e) \$119,000 the first year and \$119,000 the
144.17 second year are from the environmental fund
144.18 for environmental assistance grants or loans
144.19 under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.0716.

144.20 (f) \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000 the
144.21 second year are from the environmental fund
144.22 for grants to develop and expand recycling
144.23 markets for Minnesota businesses. This
144.24 appropriation is available until June 30, 2027.

144.25 (g) \$767,000 the first year and \$770,000 the
144.26 second year are from the environmental fund
144.27 for reducing and diverting food waste,
144.28 redirecting edible food for consumption, and
144.29 removing barriers to collecting and recovering
144.30 organic waste. Of this amount, \$500,000 each
144.31 year is for grants to increase food rescue and
144.32 waste prevention. This appropriation is
144.33 available until June 30, 2027.

145.1 (h) \$2,797,000 the first year and \$2,811,000
145.2 the second year are from the environmental
145.3 fund for the purposes of Minnesota Statutes,
145.4 section 473.844.

145.5 (i) \$318,000 the first year and \$324,000 the
145.6 second year are from the environmental fund
145.7 to address chemicals in products, including to
145.8 implement and enforce flame retardant
145.9 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
145.10 325F.071, and perfluoroalkyl and
145.11 polyfluoroalkyl substances in food packaging
145.12 provisions under Minnesota Statutes, section
145.13 325F.075. Of this amount, \$78,000 the first
145.14 year and \$80,000 the second year are
145.15 transferred to the commissioner of health.

145.16 (j) \$180,000 the first year and \$140,000 the
145.17 second year are for quantifying climate-related
145.18 impacts from projects for environmental
145.19 review. This is a onetime appropriation. This
145.20 appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

145.21 (k) \$1,790,000 the first year and \$70,000 the
145.22 second year are for accelerating pollution
145.23 prevention at small businesses. Of this amount,
145.24 \$1,720,000 the first year is for transfer to the
145.25 environmental fund for zero-interest loans
145.26 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.993, to
145.27 phase out high-polluting equipment, products,
145.28 and processes and replace with new options.
145.29 This appropriation is available until June 30,
145.30 2027. This is a onetime appropriation.

145.31 (l) \$190,000 the first year and \$190,000 the
145.32 second year are to support the Greenstep Cities
145.33 program. This is a onetime appropriation. This
145.34 appropriation is available until June 30, 2026.

146.1 (m) \$420,000 the first year is to complete a
146.2 study on the viability of recycling solar energy
146.3 equipment. This is a onetime appropriation
146.4 and is available until June 30, 2026.

146.5 (n) \$650,000 the first year and \$650,000 the
146.6 second year are from the environmental fund
146.7 for Minnesota GreenCorps investment.

146.8 (o) \$4,210,000 the first year and \$210,000 the
146.9 second year are for PFAS reduction grants.
146.10 Of this amount, \$4,000,000 the first year is
146.11 for grants to industry and public entities to
146.12 identify sources of PFAS entering facilities
146.13 and to develop pollution prevention and
146.14 reduction initiatives to reduce PFAS entering
146.15 facilities, prevent releases, and monitor the
146.16 effectiveness of these projects. Priority must
146.17 be given to projects in underserved
146.18 communities. This is a onetime appropriation
146.19 and is available until June 30, 2027.

146.20 (p) \$12,940,000 the first year and \$12,940,000
146.21 the second year are for a waste prevention and
146.22 reduction grants and loan program. This is a
146.23 onetime appropriation and is available until
146.24 June 30, 2027. Of this amount in the first year,
146.25 \$7,950,000 is for waste prevention and
146.26 reduction grants and loans and \$3,000,000 is
146.27 for a grant to the owner of a biomass energy
146.28 generation plant in Shakopee that uses waste
146.29 heat from the generation of electricity in the
146.30 malting process to purchase a wood dehydrator
146.31 to facilitate disposal of wood that is infested
146.32 by the emerald ash borer. Of this amount in
146.33 the second year, \$10,950,000 is for waste
146.34 prevention and reduction grants and loans,
146.35 including \$1,000,000 for transfer to the

147.1 environmental fund for the purposes of
147.2 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.0716. By
147.3 October 1, 2024, the commissioner of the
147.4 Pollution Control Agency must report to the
147.5 chairs and ranking minority members of the
147.6 legislative committees and divisions with
147.7 jurisdiction over environment and natural
147.8 resources on the use of money appropriated
147.9 for the wood dehydrator under this paragraph.

147.10 (q) \$16,562,000 the first year is for grants to
147.11 a Minnesota nonprofit corporation that owns
147.12 a cogeneration facility that serves a St. Paul
147.13 district heating and cooling system to preserve
147.14 existing biomass energy infrastructure for
147.15 purposes of local and regional emerald ash
147.16 borer response efforts. The commissioner of
147.17 the Pollution Control Agency may require the
147.18 nonprofit corporation to charge a fee per ton
147.19 of wood waste delivered to the facility. This
147.20 is a onetime appropriation and is available
147.21 until June 30, 2030.

147.22 (r) \$1,163,000 the first year and \$1,115,000
147.23 the second year are from the environmental
147.24 fund for rulemaking and implementation of
147.25 the new PFAS requirements under Minnesota
147.26 Statutes, section 116.943. Of this amount,
147.27 \$312,000 the first year and \$468,000 the
147.28 second year are for transfer to the
147.29 commissioner of health.

147.30 (s) \$680,000 the first year is for the resource
147.31 management report required in this act. This
147.32 is a onetime appropriation and is available
147.33 until June 30, 2026.

147.34 (t) \$35,000 the second year is from the
147.35 environmental fund for the compostable

148.1 labeling requirements under Minnesota
148.2 Statutes, section 325E.046. The base for this
148.3 appropriation in fiscal year 2026 and beyond
148.4 is \$68,000 from the environmental fund.

148.5 (u) \$175,000 the first year is for the
148.6 rulemaking required under this act providing
148.7 for the safe and lawful disposal of waste
148.8 treated seed. This appropriation is available
148.9 until June 30, 2025.

148.10 (v) \$1,000,000 the first year is for a lead tackle
148.11 reduction program that provides outreach,
148.12 education, and opportunities to safely dispose
148.13 of and exchange lead tackle throughout the
148.14 state. This is a onetime appropriation and is
148.15 available until June 30, 2027.

148.16 (w) \$17,000 the first year is for rulemaking
148.17 for the capital assistance program. This is a
148.18 onetime appropriation.

148.19 (x) Any unencumbered grant and loan
148.20 balances in the first year do not cancel but are
148.21 available for grants and loans in the second
148.22 year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
148.23 section 16A.28, the appropriations
148.24 encumbered on or before June 30, 2025, as
148.25 contracts or grants for environmental
148.26 assistance awarded under Minnesota Statutes,
148.27 section 115A.0716; technical and research
148.28 assistance under Minnesota Statutes, section
148.29 115A.152; technical assistance under
148.30 Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.52; and
148.31 pollution prevention assistance under
148.32 Minnesota Statutes, section 115D.04, are
148.33 available until June 30, 2027.

148.34 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2023.

149.1 Sec. 46. Laws 2023, chapter 60, article 1, section 3, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

149.2	Subd. 6. Fish and Wildlife Management	111,125,000	96,963,000
-------	--	-------------	------------

149.3	Appropriations by Fund		
-------	------------------------	--	--

149.4		2024	2025
-------	--	------	------

149.5	General	23,643,000	9,888,000
-------	---------	------------	-----------

149.6	Natural Resources	2,082,000	2,082,000
-------	-------------------	-----------	-----------

149.7	Game and Fish	85,400,000	84,993,000
-------	---------------	------------	------------

149.8 (a) \$11,158,000 the first year and \$11,158,000

149.9 the second year are from the heritage

149.10 enhancement account in the game and fish

149.11 fund only for activities specified under

149.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,

149.13 paragraph (h), clause (1). Notwithstanding

149.14 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94, five

149.15 percent of this appropriation may be used for

149.16 expanding hunter and angler recruitment and

149.17 retention.

149.18 (b) \$982,000 the first year and \$982,000 the

149.19 second year are from the general fund and

149.20 \$1,675,000 the first year and \$1,675,000 the

149.21 second year are from the game and fish fund

149.22 for statewide response and management of

149.23 chronic wasting disease. The commissioner

149.24 and the Board of Animal Health must each

149.25 submit annual reports on chronic wasting

149.26 disease activities funded in this biennium to

149.27 the chairs and ranking minority members of

149.28 the legislative committees and divisions with

149.29 jurisdiction over environment and natural

149.30 resources and agriculture. The general fund

149.31 base for this appropriation in fiscal year 2026

149.32 and beyond is \$282,000.

149.33 (c) \$5,150,000 the first year and \$3,250,000

149.34 the second year are for inspections,

149.35 investigations, and enforcement activities

150.1 taken for the white-tailed deer farm program
150.2 and for statewide response and management
150.3 of chronic wasting disease. This appropriation
150.4 is available until June 30, 2029.

150.5 (d) \$8,546,000 the first year and \$8,546,000
150.6 the second year are from the deer management
150.7 account for the purposes identified in
150.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.075,
150.9 subdivision 1.

150.10 (e) \$268,000 the first year and \$268,000 the
150.11 second year are for increased capacity for
150.12 broadband utility licensing for state lands and
150.13 public waters. This is a onetime appropriation
150.14 and is available until June 30, 2028.

150.15 (f) \$10,000,000 the first year is for enhancing
150.16 prairies and grasslands and restoring wetlands
150.17 on state-owned wildlife management areas to
150.18 sequester more carbon and enhance climate
150.19 resiliency. This is a onetime appropriation and
150.20 is available until June 30, 2027.

150.21 (g) \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
150.22 second year are from the general fund and
150.23 \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the
150.24 second year are from the heritage enhancement
150.25 account in the game and fish fund for grants
150.26 for natural-resource-based education and
150.27 recreation programs serving youth under
150.28 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.976, and for
150.29 grant administration. Priority must be given
150.30 to projects benefiting underserved
150.31 communities. The base for this appropriation
150.32 in fiscal year 2026 and beyond is \$500,000
150.33 from the heritage enhancement account in the
150.34 game and fish fund. The general fund
150.35 appropriation is onetime.

151.1 (h) \$2,300,000 the first year is for a grant to
151.2 the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior
151.3 Chippewa to expand Minnesota's wild elk
151.4 population and range. Consideration must be
151.5 given to moving elk from existing herds in
151.6 northwest Minnesota to the area of the Fond
151.7 du Lac State Forest and the Fond du Lac
151.8 Reservation in Carlton and southern St. Louis
151.9 Counties. The Fond du Lac Band of Lake
151.10 Superior Chippewa's elk reintroduction efforts
151.11 must undergo thorough planning with the
151.12 Department of Natural Resources to develop
151.13 necessary capture and handling protocols,
151.14 including protocols related to cervid disease
151.15 management, and to produce postrelease state
151.16 and Tribal elk comanagement plans. Of this
151.17 amount, \$300,000 is for the department for
151.18 the purposes of this paragraph. This is a
151.19 onetime appropriation and is available until
151.20 June 30, 2026.

151.21 (i) \$767,000 the first year is from the heritage
151.22 enhancement account in the game and fish
151.23 fund to examine the effects of neonicotinoid
151.24 exposure on the reproduction and survival of
151.25 Minnesota's game species, including deer and
151.26 prairie chicken. This is a onetime
151.27 appropriation and is available until June 30,
151.28 2027.

151.29 (j) \$134,000 the first year and \$134,000 the
151.30 second year are from the heritage enhancement
151.31 account in the game and fish fund for native
151.32 fish conservation and classification.

151.33 (k) \$82,000 the first year is for the native fish
151.34 reports required under this act. This is a
151.35 onetime appropriation.

152.1 (l) \$65,000 the first year is for preparing the
152.2 report on feral pigs and mink required under
152.3 this act and holding at least one public meeting
152.4 on the topic.

152.5 (m) Up to \$5,750,000 the first year and up to
152.6 \$2,225,000 the second year are available for
152.7 transfer from the critical habitat private sector
152.8 matching account to the reinvest in Minnesota
152.9 fund for wildlife management areas
152.10 acquisition, restoration, and enhancement
152.11 according to Minnesota Statutes, section
152.12 84.943, subdivision 5b.

152.13 (n) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,
152.14 section 297A.94, \$300,000 the first year and
152.15 \$300,000 the second year are from the heritage
152.16 enhancement account in the game and fish
152.17 fund for shooting sports facility grants under
152.18 Minnesota Statutes, section 87A.10, including
152.19 grants for archery facilities. Grants must be
152.20 matched with a nonstate match, which may
152.21 include in-kind contributions. This is a
152.22 onetime appropriation and is available until
152.23 June 30, 2026 2028. ~~This appropriation must~~
152.24 ~~be allocated as follows:~~

152.25 ~~(1) \$200,000 each fiscal year is for grants of~~
152.26 ~~\$25,000 or less; and~~

152.27 ~~(2) \$100,000 each fiscal year is for grants in~~
152.28 ~~excess of \$25,000.~~

152.29 (o) \$75,000 the first year is from the heritage
152.30 enhancement account in the game and fish
152.31 fund for enhanced fish stocking of white bass
152.32 and crappies in lakes in the metropolitan area
152.33 that have pier and shore fishing opportunities
152.34 where communities are currently underserved.

153.1 (p) \$1,633,000 the first year is for a grant to
153.2 the Board of Regents of the University of
153.3 Minnesota for chronic wasting disease
153.4 contingency plans developed by the Center
153.5 for Infectious Disease Research and Policy.
153.6 This is a onetime appropriation.

153.7 (q) \$900,000 the first year is to create new or
153.8 expand existing outreach and education
153.9 programs for non-native English-speaking
153.10 communities. Of this amount, \$250,000 is for
153.11 the commissioner of the Pollution Control
153.12 Agency and \$250,000 is for the Board of
153.13 Water and Soil Resources for this purpose. Up
153.14 to \$400,000 may be used to expand the
153.15 Fishing in the Neighborhood program for
153.16 outreach to new and underserved audiences.
153.17 This appropriation may be used for community
153.18 outreach consultants for reaching new
153.19 audiences. This is a onetime appropriation and
153.20 is available until June 30, 2027.

153.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

153.22 Sec. 47. **MINNESOTA SUSTAINABLE FORAGING TASK FORCE.**

153.23 **Subdivision 1. Membership.** (a) The task force shall consist of the following members:

153.24 (1) two members of the senate, one appointed by the majority leader of the senate and
153.25 one appointed by the minority leader of the senate;

153.26 (2) two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the
153.27 house of representatives and one appointed by the minority leader of the house of
153.28 representatives;

153.29 (3) two members appointed by the Minnesota Mycological Society, of which one member
153.30 must be an owner of a small business;

153.31 (4) two members appointed by the Minnesota Foraging Alliance, of which one member
153.32 must be from an underrepresented cultural group;

154.1 (5) two scientists with expertise in botany, ecology, and environmental science appointed
154.2 by the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota;

154.3 (6) three representatives of the Department of Natural Resources involved with managing
154.4 state parks, forestry, fish and wildlife, and public lands appointed by the commissioner of
154.5 natural resources;

154.6 (7) one member of the Minnesota Ojibwe Tribe appointed by the Minnesota Indian
154.7 Affairs Council;

154.8 (8) one member of the Minnesota Dakota Tribe appointed by the Minnesota Indian
154.9 Affairs Council; and

154.10 (9) two representatives with expertise on local ecosystems, species recovery, and
154.11 sustainable harvesting appointed by the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota
154.12 Extension.

154.13 (b) A member appointed under paragraph (a) may not be a registered lobbyist.

154.14 (c) The appointing authorities must make the appointments by August 1, 2025.

154.15 Subd. 2. **Duties.** The task force must:

154.16 (1) gather and review data and information, including traditional ecological knowledge,
154.17 on the impact of foraging on species resilience, ecosystem health, and other aspects of
154.18 Minnesota's diverse biomes;

154.19 (2) review existing regulations governing foraging activities on state lands;

154.20 (3) develop recommendations for science-based, including traditional ecological
154.21 knowledge, foraging guidelines for state lands that balance public access with conservation
154.22 needs, setting limits on foraging activities only where supported by data. The
154.23 recommendations must be in the form of draft statutory or rule language and must be
154.24 consistent with Indigenous and other cultural practices and traditions;

154.25 (4) develop recommendations for increasing public understanding of sustainable foraging
154.26 practices that include safety and ecological considerations;

154.27 (5) solicit public input, when appropriate; and

154.28 (6) develop recommendations for reduced-priced foraging permits.

154.29 Subd. 3. **Administrative support; meetings.** (a) The Legislative Coordinating
154.30 Commission must provide administrative support and convene the first meeting by September
154.31 1, 2025.

(b) The commissioner of natural resources must provide subject matter resources and expertise, including information on the management of, and flora and fauna on, state lands, as requested by the task force.

(c) The task force must meet at regular intervals as often as necessary to accomplish the goals enumerated under subdivision 2. Meetings of the task force are subject to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 13D.

Subd. 4. **Chair.** The task force must elect a chair at its first meeting from among the legislative members.

Subd. 5. **Legislative recommendations; expiration.** By February 28, 2026, the task force must submit a written report containing its findings and recommendations to the commissioner of natural resources and to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over natural resources policy. The recommendations in the report must be specific and actionable. The report must detail the proposals for changes or additions to statute or rules to effectuate the task force's recommendations. The task force expires March 15, 2026, or upon submission of the report required by this subdivision, whichever occurs later.

Subd. 6. **Compensation; expense reimbursement.** Members of the task force appointed under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), may receive per diem and reimbursement for expenses as provided in the rules of their respective bodies. Other members of the task force may be compensated and have expenses reimbursed as provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059, subdivision 3.

Sec. 48. MORATORIUM ON FORAGING RULES.

The commissioner of natural resources shall not commence or complete any rulemaking on foraging before July 1, 2027.

Sec. 49. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN TIMBER PERMITS.

If the holder of a timber permit that expires in 2025 has been unable to cut and remove some or all of the timber described in the permit, then, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 90, the commissioner of natural resources must grant an extension of the permit for two years without penalty or interest upon written request to the commissioner by the holder of the permit.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

156.1 Sec. 50. **AUDIT OF AGGREGATE TAX AND THE USE OF THE REVENUES**
156.2 **COLLECTED BY COUNTIES.**

156.3 The Office of the Legislative Auditor is directed to conduct a program audit of the
156.4 aggregate production tax established by Minnesota Statutes, section 298.75, to include the
156.5 following by individual participating county and covering all fiscal years since the county
156.6 established the tax:

156.7 (1) a report on total revenues collected by fiscal year;

156.8 (2) a report on how revenues are distributed between maintenance, construction, and
156.9 reconstruction of roads, highways, and bridges;

156.10 (3) a report as to the funding priority given to roads, highways, and bridges that service
156.11 or are impacted by aggregate operations;

156.12 (4) a report as to whether the county distributes aggregate tax revenues on a project or
156.13 formula basis;

156.14 (5) a report as to distribution and expenditure of funds for aggregate mine reclamation
156.15 activities; and

156.16 (6) a report on how tax revenue deposited in the special reserve fund established in
156.17 Minnesota Statutes, section 298.75, subdivision 7, paragraph (c), clause (3), has been
156.18 expended since each county began collecting the tax.

156.19 Sec. 51. **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERMITTING**
156.20 **CHANGES TO PROTECT AGGREGATE RESOURCES.**

156.21 By February 1, 2027, the commissioner of natural resources, in consultation with the
156.22 Minnesota Asphalt Paving Association, the Aggregate and Ready Mix Association of
156.23 Minnesota, the Association of Minnesota Counties, and other interested stakeholders, must
156.24 make recommendations to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative
156.25 committees with primary jurisdiction over environment and local government for statutory
156.26 changes that would facilitate local government permitting processes that adequately protect
156.27 the state's aggregate resources and foster environmentally responsible reclamation of former
156.28 aggregate mining sites.

156.29 Sec. 52. **REPEALER.**

156.30 Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 103E.067; 116C.04, subdivision 11; 116C.991; and
156.31 116D.04, subdivision 5b, are repealed.

ARTICLE 5**STATE LANDS**Section 1. **ADDITION TO STATE PARK.**

[85.012] [Subd. 11] Carley State Park, Wabasha County. The following area is added to Carley State Park: That part of Section 32, Township 108 North, Range 11 West, Wabasha County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the South Quarter corner stake of said Section 32; thence North 15-1/2 degrees East along road 425 feet; thence North 17 degrees East 290 feet; thence North 53 degrees East 280 feet; thence North 17 degrees East 115 feet; thence North 6-1/2 degrees West 643 feet; thence North 72-1/2 degrees West 720 feet; thence North across river 690 feet; thence South 62 degrees East 263 feet along northerly bank of river; thence North 250 feet to center of said Section 32; thence East 1,320 feet; thence North 440 feet to river; thence North 54-1/2 degrees East 224 feet along center of river; thence North 75 degrees East 192 feet; thence South 49 degrees East 115 feet; thence North 79 degrees East 155 feet; thence North 62 degrees East 232 feet; thence North 86 degrees East 293 feet; thence North 64 degrees East 255 feet; thence South 3,368 feet, more or less to the southeast corner of Section 32; thence West 2,643.13 feet to the place of beginning.

EXCEPTING therefrom that portion lying West of the centerline of Wabasha County Road No. 4 owned by the State of Minnesota and A. M. Christenson.

ALSO EXCEPTING that part of the East Half of Section 32, Township 108 North, Range 11 West, Wabasha County, Minnesota, described as follows: Beginning at the South Quarter corner stake of said Section 32; thence North 15-1/2 degrees East along road 425 feet; thence North 17 degrees East 290 feet; thence North 53 degrees East 280 feet; thence South 80 degrees 02 minutes 23 seconds East 304.46 feet; thence North 6 degrees 12 minutes 49 seconds West 483.31 feet; thence South 89 degrees 54 minutes 25 seconds East 386.31 feet; thence North 1 degree 39 minutes 32 seconds East 358.66 feet; thence North 36 degrees 14 minutes 35 seconds East 693.46 feet; thence North 81 degrees 03 minutes 15 seconds East 349.81 feet; thence North 1 degree 49 minutes 43 seconds West 298.16 feet; thence North 79 degrees 04 minutes 47 seconds East 529.39 feet; thence South 35 degrees 46 minutes 01 seconds East to the east line of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32; thence southerly along the east line of said Southeast Quarter to the southeast corner of said Southeast Quarter of Section 32; thence on a bearing of West along the south line of said Southeast Quarter 2,643.13 feet to the point of beginning.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

158.1 Sec. 2. **PRIVATE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; AITKIN COUNTY.**

158.2 (a) Notwithstanding the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, or
158.3 other law to the contrary, Aitkin County may sell by private sale the tax-forfeited land
158.4 described in paragraph (c).

158.5 (b) The conveyance must be in a form approved by the attorney general. The attorney
158.6 general may make changes to the land description to correct errors and ensure accuracy.

158.7 (c) The land to be sold is located in Aitkin County and is described as: the West 20 feet
158.8 of the East 932 feet of the South 208 feet of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter,
158.9 as in DOC 203542, Section 32, Township 46 North, Range 25 West (0.1 acres) (parcel
158.10 number 09-0-054803).

158.11 (d) The county has determined that the county's land management interests would best
158.12 be served if the lands were returned to private ownership.

158.13 Sec. 3. **PRIVATE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; AITKIN COUNTY.**

158.14 (a) Notwithstanding the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, or
158.15 other law to the contrary, Aitkin County may sell by private sale the tax-forfeited lands
158.16 described in paragraph (c).

158.17 (b) The conveyance must be in a form approved by the attorney general. The attorney
158.18 general may make changes to the land description to correct errors and ensure accuracy.

158.19 (c) The land to be sold is located in Aitkin County and is described as: the East 32 feet
158.20 of the West 250 feet of Lot 5 and the East 32 feet of the West 250 feet of the North 10 feet
158.21 of Lot 3, Hill City Realty Cos Fourth Addition, Section 14, Township 52 North, Range 26
158.22 West, Aitkin County, Minnesota (0.1 acres) (parcel number 57-1-073003).

158.23 (d) The county has determined that the county's land management interests would best
158.24 be served if the lands were returned to private ownership.

158.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

158.26 Sec. 4. **PRIVATE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; ITASCA COUNTY.**

158.27 (a) Notwithstanding the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, or
158.28 other law to the contrary, Itasca County may sell by private sale the tax-forfeited lands
158.29 described in paragraph (c).

158.30 (b) The conveyance must be in a form approved by the attorney general. The attorney
158.31 general may make changes to the land description to correct errors and ensure accuracy.

(c) The lands to be sold are located in Itasca County and are described as: That part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, Section 15, Township 59 North, Range 24 west of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Itasca County, Minnesota, further described as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter; thence North 89 degrees 01 minutes 34 seconds East, assigned bearing, along the north line of said Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter a distance of 255.80 feet to the point of beginning; thence South 10 degrees 50 minutes 31 seconds East a distance of 604.37 feet; thence North 55 degrees 26 minutes 17 seconds East a distance of 672.63 feet, more or less to the centerline of County Road 52; thence North 51 degrees 32 minutes 12 seconds West along said centerline a distance of 351.56 feet to said north line of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, thence South 89 degrees 01 minutes 34 seconds West along said north line a distance of 392.39 feet to the point of beginning.

(d) The county has determined that the county's land management interests would best be served if the lands were returned to private ownership.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 5. PRIVATE SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LAND; ST. LOUIS COUNTY.

(a) Notwithstanding the public sale provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 282, or other law to the contrary, St. Louis County may sell by private sale the tax-forfeited land described in paragraph (c).

(b) The conveyance must be in a form approved by the attorney general. The attorney general may make changes to the land description to correct errors and ensure accuracy.

(c) The land to be sold is located in St. Louis County and is described as:

(1) the easterly 15 feet of Lot 5, Block 47, West Duluth 6th Division, Section 7, Township 49, Range 14 (parcel number 010-4520-06505); and

(2) that part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter described as follows: beginning at the northwest corner continue due East parallel with the north boundary line a distance of 330 feet to a point of beginning; thence due South parallel with the west boundary line a distance of 400 feet to a point; thence due East parallel with the north boundary line a distance of 190 feet to a point; thence due North parallel with the west boundary a distance of 60 feet to a point; thence due East parallel with the north boundary line a distance of 140 feet to a point; thence due North parallel with the west boundary line a distance of 340 feet to a point; thence due West parallel with the north boundary line a

160.1 distance of 330 feet to the point of beginning, Section 14, Township 54, Range 20 (parcel
160.2 number 550-0020-02294).

160.3 (d) The county has determined that the county's land management interests would best
160.4 be served if the lands were returned to private ownership.

160.5 **ARTICLE 6**

160.6 **ELECTRONIC WASTE AND BATTERY STEWARDSHIP**

160.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.071, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

160.8 Subdivision 1. **Remedies available.** The provisions of sections 103F.701 to 103F.755,
160.9 this chapter and chapters 114C, 115A, and 116, and sections 325E.10 to ~~325E.1251~~ 325E.12
160.10 and 325E.32 and all rules, standards, orders, stipulation agreements, schedules of compliance,
160.11 and permits adopted or issued by the agency thereunder or under any other law now in force
160.12 or hereafter enacted for the prevention, control, or abatement of pollution may be enforced
160.13 by any one or any combination of the following: criminal prosecution; action to recover
160.14 civil penalties; injunction; action to compel or cease performance; or other appropriate
160.15 action, in accordance with the provisions of said chapters and this section.

160.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

160.17 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115A.121, is amended to read:

160.18 **115A.121 TOXICS AND POLLUTION PREVENTION EVALUATION;**
160.19 **CONSOLIDATED REPORT.**

160.20 The commissioner shall prepare and adopt a report on pollution prevention activities
160.21 required in chapters 115A, 115D, and 325E. ~~The report must include activities required~~
160.22 ~~under section 115A.1320.~~ The commissioner must submit the report to the senate and house
160.23 of representatives committees having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources
160.24 by December 31, 2013, and every four years thereafter.

160.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2027.

160.26 Sec. 3. **[115A.1331] STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR CIRCUIT BOARDS,**
160.27 **BATTERIES, AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS; DEFINITIONS.**

160.28 (a) The terms used in sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 have the meanings given in this
160.29 section.

160.30 (b) "Battery" means one or more galvanic cells, including any structural members,
160.31 insulative casing, and terminals.

161.1 (c) "Board" means the Covered Products Reimbursement Board established under section
161.2 115A.1333.

161.3 (d) "Brand" means a trademark, including both a registered and an unregistered trademark;
161.4 a logo; a name; a symbol; a word; an identifier; or a traceable mark that identifies a covered
161.5 product or other electrical product and identifies the owner or licensee of the brand as the
161.6 producer of the product.

161.7 (e) "Circuit board" means a nonconductive substrate onto which one or more layers of
161.8 conductive paths have been printed or wires attached for mounting and interconnecting
161.9 electronic components, such as resistors, capacitors, diodes, transistors, integrated circuit
161.10 chips, and connecting wires. Circuit boards include printed circuit boards, printed wiring
161.11 boards, and any other style or type of circuit board.

161.12 (f) "Collection site" means a physical location where a collector collects covered products
161.13 and other electrical products from members of the public and businesses. Collection site
161.14 includes a location regardless of whether it is operated permanently, temporarily, or for
161.15 purposes of a collection event.

161.16 (g) "Collector" means a person that collects covered products and other electrical products
161.17 on behalf of the stewardship organization and receives reimbursement from the stewardship
161.18 organization for the collector's costs to collect and manage the products.

161.19 (h) "Covered battery" means a battery of any type, physical size, or energy capacity
161.20 including but not limited to batteries designed and marketed for sale or resale for use in
161.21 lawn care equipment as defined in section 181A.116, off-highway vehicles, snowmobiles,
161.22 watercraft, tools, household items, lights, or devices powered by an internal combustion
161.23 engine. A covered battery does not include:

161.24 (1) a lead acid battery subject to sections 325E.115 and 325E.1151;

161.25 (2) a battery designed, manufactured, and intended solely for use in manufacturing,
161.26 industrial, or other commercial settings; or

161.27 (3) a battery designed, manufactured, and intended solely for use in a medical device,
161.28 as defined in the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, United States Code, title 21, section
161.29 301 et seq.

161.30 (i) "Covered circuit board" means any circuit board except a circuit board from:

161.31 (1) a major appliance;

- 162.1 (2) an appliance or tool powered by electrical power of equal to or greater than 240 volts
162.2 alternating current; or
- 162.3 (3) an appliance or tool designed, manufactured, and intended solely for use in
162.4 manufacturing, industrial, or other commercial settings.
- 162.5 (j) "Covered product" means:
- 162.6 (1) a covered circuit board;
- 162.7 (2) a covered battery;
- 162.8 (3) a cathode-ray tube; or
- 162.9 (4) a product that has a covered circuit board, a covered battery, or a cathode-ray tube
162.10 contained within it or otherwise attached or connected to it, except:
- 162.11 (i) a medical device, as defined in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, United
162.12 States Code, title 21, section 301 et seq.;
- 162.13 (ii) any device powered by an internal combustion engine;
- 162.14 (iii) an off-highway vehicle, watercraft, or snowmobile; and
- 162.15 (iv) a motor vehicle, as defined in section 168.002.
- 162.16 (k) "Covered services" means collection, sorting, storage, transport, processing, repair,
162.17 refurbishment, reuse, recycling, reclamation of useful materials from, or disposal of covered
162.18 products, other electrical products, and residual materials.
- 162.19 (l) "De minimis producer" means a producer that, in the most recent calendar year, had
162.20 fewer than 100 covered products that were sold in or into the state and for which the producer
162.21 was responsible.
- 162.22 (m) "Facilitate a sale" means to assist a person in transferring title or possession of a
162.23 covered product or other electrical product, regardless of whether title or possession is ever
162.24 acquired by the person facilitating a sale, such as by operating an online marketplace,
162.25 publishing an offer for sale on a website, physically storing inventory of products, entering
162.26 into a contract to allow another person to list a product for sale, processing payment on
162.27 behalf of another person, entering into a contract with a buyer or a seller related to a sale,
162.28 or otherwise providing a sales process. Facilitate a sale does not include acting solely as:
- 162.29 (1) an advertiser;
- 162.30 (2) a payment processor; or
- 162.31 (3) a common carrier.

163.1 (n) "Full collection site" means a collection site that meets the requirements of section
163.2 115A.1341, subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

163.3 (o) "Household hazardous waste collection program" means a program established under
163.4 section 115A.96 to collect and manage household hazardous waste as defined in that section.

163.5 (p) "Independent auditor" means an independent and actively licensed certified public
163.6 accountant that is:

163.7 (1) retained by the stewardship organization;

163.8 (2) not otherwise employed by or affiliated with the stewardship organization; and

163.9 (3) qualified to conduct an audit under section 115A.1337, subdivision 5, paragraph (b),
163.10 clause (8).

163.11 (q) "Off-highway vehicle" has the meaning given in section 84.771.

163.12 (r) "Organohalogenated chemical" has the meaning given in section 325F.071.

163.13 (s) "Other electrical product" means an appliance or tool that is powered by electricity
163.14 provided through a flexible cord with an attached standardized plug intended for temporary,
163.15 manual connection to the electrical distribution system in a residential or commercial
163.16 structure. Other electrical product does not include:

163.17 (1) a covered product;

163.18 (2) a major appliance;

163.19 (3) an appliance or tool powered by electrical power of greater than 240 volts alternating
163.20 current; or

163.21 (4) an appliance or tool designed, manufactured, and intended solely for use in
163.22 manufacturing, industrial, or other commercial settings.

163.23 (t) "Partial collection site" means a collection site that meets the requirements of section
163.24 115A.1341, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), and does not meet the requirements of paragraph
163.25 (b) of that subdivision.

163.26 (u) "Participant" means a producer that is named by the stewardship organization as
163.27 meeting the producer's obligations under sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 to contract with
163.28 a stewardship organization and to pay for a stewardship program that meets the producer's
163.29 obligations on the producer's behalf.

164.1 (v) "Producer" means, with respect to a covered product or other electrical product that
164.2 is sold, including online sales; offered for sale or promotional purposes; or distributed in
164.3 or into the state:

164.4 (1) a person that manufactured:

164.5 (i) the covered product;

164.6 (ii) any component of the covered product if the component is also a covered product;

164.7 or

164.8 (iii) the other electrical product;

164.9 (2) a person that imported into the United States:

164.10 (i) the covered product;

164.11 (ii) any component of the covered product if the component is also a covered product;

164.12 or

164.13 (iii) the other electrical product; and

164.14 (3) a person that owns or controls or is licensed to use a brand under which the covered
164.15 product or other electrical product is sold, including online sales; offered for sale or
164.16 promotional purposes; or distributed in or into the state.

164.17 (w) "Responsible market" means a market for covered products and other electrical
164.18 products, for reusable or repairable components of covered products and other electrical
164.19 products, for reclaimed materials from covered products and other electrical products, or
164.20 for any other recyclable residues from covered products and other electrical products that:

164.21 (1) reuses, recycles, or otherwise recovers materials and disposes of contaminants in a
164.22 manner that protects the environment and minimizes risks to public health and worker health
164.23 and safety;

164.24 (2) complies with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, rules, ordinances, and
164.25 other laws governing environmental, health, safety, and financial responsibility;

164.26 (3) possesses all licenses and permits required by a federal or state agency or political
164.27 subdivision;

164.28 (4) if operating in the state, recycles covered products and other electrical products to
164.29 the maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02, paragraph (b); and

164.30 (5) minimizes adverse impacts to environmental justice areas.

164.31 (x) "Snowmobile" has the meaning given in section 84.81, subdivision 3.

(y) "Specialized battery or circuit board recycler" means a person that, if and as applicable, is properly authorized by the commissioner or, if operating in another state, an equivalent state or federal governmental body, to process, repair, refurbish, facilitate reuse of, recycle, or reclaim useful materials from covered products.

(z) "Stewardship organization" means a nonprofit organization as described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that enters into a contract with producers to draft and submit a plan for a stewardship program under sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347, and to be responsible for administering and implementing that plan on the producers' behalf.

(aa) "Stewardship plan" means a plan that is prepared according to section 115A.1335 and submitted to the commissioner by a stewardship organization.

(bb) "Stewardship program" means a system implemented by a stewardship organization that provides and pays for covered services and all other activities described in a stewardship plan approved by the commissioner under section 115A.1335, subdivision 4.

(cc) "Watercraft" has the meaning given in section 86B.005, subdivision 18, notwithstanding the exceptions contained therein.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 4. **[115A.1333] COVERED PRODUCTS REIMBURSEMENT BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. Establishment. The Covered Products Reimbursement Board is established to recommend reimbursement rates to the commissioner. Except as provided in this section, chapter 15 does not apply to the board.

Subd. 2. Membership. (a) By January 1, 2027, the commissioner must appoint the initial membership of the Covered Products Reimbursement Board. Membership must consist of:

(1) two members representing household hazardous waste collection programs;

(2) two members representing collectors, according to paragraph (c); and

(3) four members representing and nominated by the stewardship organization.

(b) In making appointments under paragraph (a), the commissioner may not appoint persons who are:

(1) current or elected Minnesota state representatives or senators;

(2) required to register as lobbyists under section 10A.03; or

(3) employees of the agency.

(c) Initial appointments under paragraph (a), clause (2), must represent potential collectors. After January 1, 2028, whenever the terms of these members expire according to subdivision 3, the new appointments must represent collectors. Members appointed under paragraph (a), clause (2), must not represent household hazardous waste collection programs.

Subd. 3. **Terms; removal.** Members serve for a term of four years, except that one member appointed under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (1); one member appointed under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (2); and two members appointed under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (3), must be appointed to serve an initial term of two years, so that membership terms are staggered. Members may be reappointed to another term following the end of a term. The removal of members is governed by section 15.059, subdivision 4.

Subd. 4. **Quorum; voting.** Meetings of the board must have at least a quorum of members, consisting of six members. Recommendations of the board require the affirmative vote of at least five members.

Subd. 5. **Administrative support; facilitator.** (a) The commissioner must provide administrative support to the board. The commissioner must ensure that all activities of the board that require public notice, such as notice of meetings, agendas and materials related to agenda items, and minutes, are published on the agency's publicly accessible website. The commissioner must provide meeting space and public access for meetings conducted by telephone or interactive technology.

(b) The commissioner must contract for a professional facilitator for the board. The facilitator must schedule and chair the meetings of the board but is not a member for purposes of quorum or voting. The facilitator must ensure that all activities of the board that require public notice are timely provided to the commissioner for publication.

Subd. 6. **Meetings.** (a) The board must meet at least biannually and as necessary to meet the requirements of subdivisions 7 to 9. Meetings may be scheduled at the request of the facilitator or a majority of the members.

(b) The board must comply with the Open Meeting Law under chapter 13D.

Subd. 7. **Recommendations for reimbursement rates.** (a) By July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the board must submit to the commissioner a recommendation for reimbursement rates to collectors for the following calendar year.

(b) Recommended rates must be differentiated by methods recommended by the board under subdivision 4, such as local property lease or purchase costs, prevailing local wages,

167.1 or other factors to ensure convenient collection statewide according to section 115A.1335,
167.2 subdivision 3, and that all costs of collection are covered according to paragraph (c).

167.3 (c) Recommended rates must cover all costs of collecting covered products and other
167.4 electrical products incurred by collectors, including at least:

167.5 (1) labor and overhead;

167.6 (2) covered services performed by a collector in accordance with section 115A.1337,
167.7 subdivision 1, paragraph (b);

167.8 (3) necessary collection and storage structures and containers as provided in section
167.9 115A.1347, subdivision 1, paragraph (d);

167.10 (4) employee training;

167.11 (5) necessary safety equipment, including appropriate fire protection and suppression
167.12 equipment and supplies; and

167.13 (6) any other costs determined necessary by the commissioner.

167.14 (d) In making determinations under paragraph (c), clause (6), the commissioner may
167.15 consider data submitted according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 5; the volume of
167.16 covered products collected; the estimated volume of covered products sold in or into the
167.17 state; the estimated volume of covered products disposed of in the state; and other information
167.18 related to the effectiveness of the stewardship program.

167.19 (e) The board must also consider any additional financial incentives necessary to induce
167.20 collectors to join the stewardship program in locations that would otherwise not be served,
167.21 so that the stewardship organization can meet or exceed the required convenience standards
167.22 under section 115A.1335, subdivision 3.

167.23 Subd. 8. **Review and approval of reimbursement rates.** (a) Within 90 days after
167.24 receiving a recommendation on reimbursement rates submitted under subdivision 7, the
167.25 commissioner must review the recommendation and approve or reject the recommendation.

167.26 (b) In conducting a review of a recommendation, the commissioner may consult with
167.27 interested parties.

167.28 (c) For at least 30 days and before approving a recommendation under this subdivision,
167.29 the commissioner must post the recommendation on the agency's publicly accessible website
167.30 for public review and comment.

167.31 (d) If the commissioner determines that a recommendation does not meet the requirements
167.32 of this section, the commissioner must reject the recommendation. The commissioner must

168.1 provide a written notice of determination describing the reasons for the rejection to the
168.2 board. The board must meet as necessary to submit a revised recommendation to the
168.3 commissioner.

168.4 (e) After consultation under paragraph (b) and review of public comments under
168.5 paragraph (c), if the commissioner determines that a recommendation meets the requirements
168.6 of this section, the commissioner may approve the recommendation. The commissioner
168.7 must provide a written notice of approval to the board and to the stewardship organization.
168.8 In the notice, the commissioner must specify the effective date of the approved reimbursement
168.9 rates.

168.10 (f) The stewardship organization must publish approved reimbursement rates on its
168.11 publicly accessible website within 30 days after receiving the commissioner's written notice
168.12 of approval. The commissioner may also publish the approved reimbursement rates on the
168.13 agency's publicly accessible website.

168.14 Subd. 9. **More-frequent rate changes.** The board may, for good cause, submit a
168.15 recommendation for reimbursement rates to the commissioner at less than an annual interval.
168.16 The commissioner must review the recommendation according to subdivision 8. If the
168.17 commissioner rejects the recommendation, then the previously approved reimbursement
168.18 rates for that calendar year continue to be in effect.

168.19 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

168.20 Sec. 5. **[115A.1335] STEWARDSHIP PLAN AND BUDGET.**

168.21 Subdivision 1. **Due date.** By October 1, 2027, all producers must contract with a single
168.22 stewardship organization to act on the producers' behalf. By that date, the stewardship
168.23 organization must submit a single stewardship plan meeting the requirements of subdivision
168.24 2 to the commissioner to review for approval or rejection.

168.25 Subd. 2. **Plan content; budget requirement.** (a) The stewardship plan must include:

168.26 (1) identification of and contact information for the stewardship organization;

168.27 (2) identification of and contact information for all other persons that the stewardship
168.28 organization has contracted, subcontracted, or partnered with to administer and implement
168.29 the stewardship program that are not participants identified in clause (3) or collectors or
168.30 persons providing covered services identified in clause (4), unless such participants,
168.31 collectors, or persons providing covered services are also in any way administering or
168.32 implementing the stewardship program beyond participation, collection, or provision of

169.1 covered services. The relationship of the other organizations and role in administration and
169.2 implementation of the stewardship program must be described;

169.3 (3) identification of and contact information for all participants in the stewardship
169.4 program;

169.5 (4) identification of and contact information for each collector; each person providing
169.6 covered services for covered products or other electrical products, including any collector
169.7 that will perform covered services other than collection; and each facility at which covered
169.8 products and other electrical products will be managed under the stewardship plan;

169.9 (5) the address; county of location; and, in a form prescribed by the commissioner,
169.10 geolocation data for each collection site to be served by the stewardship organization under
169.11 the stewardship program and identification of the site as a full collection site, as a partial
169.12 collection site, or as operated by a household hazardous waste collection program;

169.13 (6) a list of the brands covered under the stewardship program;

169.14 (7) eligibility criteria for prospective collectors of covered products and other electrical
169.15 products under the stewardship program according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 3,
169.16 paragraph (c);

169.17 (8) a description of how the stewardship program will accept and provide covered services
169.18 and reimbursement under this section to any household hazardous waste collection program
169.19 in a manner that is equal to the services and reimbursement provided to all other collectors,
169.20 if the operator of the household hazardous waste collection program requests covered
169.21 services and reimbursement;

169.22 (9) a description of how the stewardship program will provide convenient, statewide
169.23 collection according to subdivision 3;

169.24 (10) a description of how the stewardship organization will annually monitor and ensure
169.25 continuing compliance with the convenience standards under subdivision 3;

169.26 (11) a description of how the stewardship organization will provide each collector served
169.27 by the stewardship program with the materials specified in section 115A.1337, subdivision
169.28 1, including specifications for appropriate containers, signage templates, and a copy of all
169.29 training and educational materials to be provided;

169.30 (12) a description of how collection sites will be accessible according to section
169.31 115A.1337, subdivision 2;

170.1 (13) the performance standards for persons providing covered services for covered
170.2 products and other electrical products on behalf of the stewardship organization and the
170.3 oversight methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure continuing compliance
170.4 with the performance standards. The performance standards must:

170.5 (i) meet the requirements of section 115A.1337, subdivision 3;

170.6 (ii) ensure that covered products and materials resulting from recycling covered products
170.7 are managed only by specialized battery or electronics recyclers and through responsible
170.8 markets; and

170.9 (iii) ensure that other electrical products and materials resulting from recycling of other
170.10 electrical products are managed through responsible markets;

170.11 (14) a description of methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure that
170.12 covered products and any other electrical products that are waste for which the stewardship
170.13 organization is responsible are managed while in the state in compliance with rules adopted
170.14 under section 116.07 for managing solid waste and hazardous waste and, when outside the
170.15 state, with all federal, state, and local requirements applicable to managing solid waste and
170.16 hazardous waste, as applicable;

170.17 (15) a description of methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure that
170.18 covered products and any other electrical products for which the stewardship organization
170.19 is responsible are managed in compliance with safety and health requirements for employees
170.20 administered by the Department of Labor and Industry and with fire protection requirements
170.21 administered by the Department of Public Safety while in the state and, when outside the
170.22 state, with all federal, state, and local requirements applicable to safety and health
170.23 requirements for employees and fire protection requirements;

170.24 (16) a description of methods by which the stewardship organization will ensure that
170.25 covered products and other electrical products for which the stewardship organization is
170.26 responsible are transported in compliance with applicable regulations incorporated by
170.27 reference under section 221.033 for transporting hazardous materials while in the state and,
170.28 when outside the state, with all federal, state, and local requirements applicable to
170.29 transportation of hazardous materials;

170.30 (17) a statement of indemnification by the stewardship organization to collectors for
170.31 potential liability for improper downstream management of covered products and other
170.32 electrical products or residual materials by providers of covered services contracted for by
170.33 the stewardship organization and identified in the stewardship plan under clause (3);

171.1 (18) a description of how the stewardship organization will determine the mass of covered
171.2 products and other electrical products for which it has provided covered services under the
171.3 stewardship program by county of collection and, for covered batteries and covered products
171.4 that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to
171.5 them, by battery chemistry;

171.6 (19) a description of the outreach and education methods and activities that the
171.7 stewardship organization will provide according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 4;

171.8 (20) a description of how the stewardship organization will employ at least one full-time
171.9 employee who is solely dedicated to implementing the stewardship program in this state
171.10 and serving as the primary contact between the stewardship organization and the agency;

171.11 (21) a description of the system by which the stewardship organization will provide
171.12 advance funding of or reimbursement to collectors in a manner that provides:

171.13 (i) a clear process for submitting and paying invoices;

171.14 (ii) reasonable timelines for reimbursement, at intervals no longer than monthly unless
171.15 otherwise agreed to by the person providing covered services to be reimbursed; and

171.16 (iii) a third-party mediator to resolve disputes that arise between the stewardship
171.17 organization and a person providing covered services regarding determining or paying
171.18 reimbursements;

171.19 (22) identification of groups of producers, such as by industry, covered product and
171.20 other electrical product type, or other method proposed by the stewardship organization,
171.21 and the proposed allocation of stewardship program costs among the groups of producers,
171.22 such that the costs of managing covered products or other electrical products produced by
171.23 a group of producers are not borne by other groups of producers;

171.24 (23) a description of how the stewardship organization will comply with subdivision 6,
171.25 paragraph (b);

171.26 (24) a description of how the stewardship organization will assist producers in complying
171.27 with the labeling requirements of section 115A.1347, subdivision 2, paragraph (a);

171.28 (25) a description of how the stewardship organization will ensure that covered products
171.29 and other electrical products managed under the stewardship program are recycled to the
171.30 maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02, paragraph (b);

171.31 (26) a description of how the stewardship organization will incentivize investment in
171.32 processes, product design and material use, technology, and personnel training that could

172.1 raise the future maximum extent practicable for recycling described in clause (25), including
172.2 consideration of covered product reuse, repair, and product life cycle;

172.3 (27) a description of how the stewardship organization will annually report to the
172.4 commissioner the number, type, and volume of covered products and other electrical products
172.5 collected during each calendar year, specifying the categories of the covered products and
172.6 other electrical products and the chemistries of the covered batteries collected;

172.7 (28) a description of how the stewardship organization will annually report to the
172.8 commissioner the end management, through reuse, repair, reclamation, recycling, or disposal,
172.9 of the covered products and other electrical products shipped from collection sites under
172.10 the stewardship program during each calendar year;

172.11 (29) a description of how the stewardship organization will take action to decrease the
172.12 incidence of covered products in solid waste in the state according to section 115A.1337,
172.13 subdivision 4, paragraph (c), including providing collection opportunities under section
172.14 115A.1337, subdivision 2, paragraph (b);

172.15 (30) a description of how the stewardship organization will assist persons providing
172.16 covered services after collection to identify, segregate, and properly manage
172.17 organohalogenated chemicals contained in or separated from covered products and reduce
172.18 the prevalence of organohalogenated chemicals in products derived from recycled covered
172.19 products; and

172.20 (31) a description of how the stewardship organization will, where feasible, assist
172.21 producers in reducing the occurrence of organohalogenated chemicals in covered products.

172.22 (b) By January 1, 2028, and by April 1 each year thereafter, the stewardship organization
172.23 must submit an anticipated annual budget for the stewardship program, broken down into
172.24 the stewardship program's estimated costs for administration, collection, sorting, storage,
172.25 transportation, processing, refurbishment, repair, reuse, recycling, disposal, and
172.26 communication costs, including the cost of fees under section 115A.1339 but not including
172.27 costs for lobbying, costs associated with litigation against the state, or penalties imposed
172.28 by the state. The budget is not subject to review and approval under subdivisions 4 and 5.

172.29 Subd. 3. **Convenience standards.** (a) The stewardship plan must provide convenient,
172.30 statewide collection for all covered products that are offered to collectors by a person in the
172.31 state, regardless of:

172.32 (1) a covered product's brand;

172.33 (2) a covered battery's energy capacity or chemistry;

- 173.1 (3) whether the producer of a covered product is a participant in the stewardship program;
173.2 or
- 173.3 (4) whether the brand of a covered product is covered under the stewardship program.
- 173.4 (b) The stewardship plan must meet the following convenience standards:
- 173.5 (1) for each county with a population of 10,000 or less, maintain at least two full
173.6 collection sites;
- 173.7 (2) for each county with a population greater than 10,000 but less than or equal to
173.8 100,000, maintain at least two full collection sites and at least one additional full collection
173.9 site for each additional 10,000 in population above a population of 10,000;
- 173.10 (3) for each county with a population greater than 100,000, maintain at least 11 full
173.11 collection sites and at least one additional full collection site for each additional 50,000 in
173.12 population above a population of 100,000;
- 173.13 (4) maintain a full collection site located within ten miles of the household of at least
173.14 95 percent of the residents of the state;
- 173.15 (5) ensure no net loss in estimated collection convenience and capacity for covered
173.16 products of any type; and
- 173.17 (6) any additional convenience standards that the commissioner determines are necessary
173.18 to provide convenient, statewide collection for covered products, including operation of
173.19 partial collection sites and additional full collection sites.
- 173.20 (c) In making a determination under paragraph (b), clause (6), the commissioner may
173.21 consider data submitted according to section 115A.1337, subdivision 5; the volume of
173.22 covered products collected; the estimated volume of covered products sold in or into the
173.23 state; the estimated volume of covered products disposed of in the state; the stewardship
173.24 organization's plans under subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (28); and other information
173.25 related to the effectiveness of the stewardship program.
- 173.26 **Subd. 4. Review of stewardship plan; implementation.** (a) Within 120 days after
173.27 receiving a complete stewardship plan submitted under this section, the commissioner must
173.28 determine whether the stewardship plan complies with the requirements of this section and
173.29 will ensure that elements required by subdivision 2, paragraph (a), will be met to the
173.30 maximum extent practicable. The commissioner must provide a written notice of
173.31 determination according to this subdivision.

174.1 (b) In conducting a review of a stewardship plan, the commissioner may consult with
174.2 interested parties.

174.3 (c) For at least 30 days and before approving a stewardship plan, the commissioner must
174.4 place the stewardship plan on the agency's publicly accessible website for public review
174.5 and comment.

174.6 (d) If the commissioner determines that a stewardship plan fails to meet the requirements
174.7 of this section or will not ensure that elements required by subdivision 2, paragraph (a), will
174.8 be met to the maximum extent practicable, the commissioner must reject the stewardship
174.9 plan. The commissioner must provide a written notice of determination to the stewardship
174.10 organization describing the reasons for the rejection.

174.11 (e) After any consultation under paragraph (b) and review of public comments received
174.12 under paragraph (c), if the commissioner determines that a stewardship plan meets the
174.13 requirements of subdivision 2, the commissioner must approve the stewardship plan. The
174.14 commissioner must provide a written notice of determination to the stewardship organization.

174.15 (f) The stewardship organization must publish its approved stewardship plan on its
174.16 publicly accessible website within 30 days after receiving written notice of approval but is
174.17 not required to publish nonpublic data as defined under chapter 13. The commissioner may
174.18 publish the approved stewardship plan on the agency's publicly accessible website but must
174.19 not publish nonpublic data.

174.20 (g) The stewardship organization must implement the stewardship plan approved by the
174.21 commissioner, including any amendments to the stewardship plan that are approved by the
174.22 commissioner according to subdivision 5, within 60 days after receiving written notice of
174.23 approval.

174.24 (h) For each stewardship plan or amendment submitted to the commissioner for review,
174.25 the commissioner may consider the data submitted according to section 115A.1337,
174.26 subdivision 5, and other relevant information to establish requirements to improve the
174.27 effectiveness, performance, and awareness of the stewardship program.

174.28 Subd. 5. **Amending or terminating stewardship plan.** (a) The stewardship organization
174.29 may amend a stewardship plan approved under subdivision 4 without review or approval
174.30 by the commissioner to make the changes specified in clauses (1) to (3). Within 30 days
174.31 after adopting an amendment under this paragraph, the stewardship organization must report
174.32 the amendment to the commissioner and must publish the amended stewardship plan on the
174.33 stewardship organization's publicly accessible website. The stewardship organization must

175.1 implement amendments made to a stewardship plan under this paragraph within 60 days
175.2 after adopting the amendment. The stewardship organization may:

175.3 (1) add, terminate, or replace a collector, collection site, person providing covered
175.4 services, or facility at which covered services will be performed;

175.5 (2) add or remove participants or brands covered under the stewardship plan; or

175.6 (3) change contact staff or contact staff information for the stewardship organization,
175.7 participants, collectors, persons transporting covered products or other electrical products,
175.8 or facilities to be used for storage, processing, recycling, or disposal.

175.9 (b) Except for an amendment under paragraph (a), a proposed amendment to a
175.10 stewardship plan approved under subdivision 4 must be submitted to and reviewed and
175.11 approved by the commissioner before it may be implemented by the stewardship organization.
175.12 The commissioner must review and approve or reject the proposed amendment according
175.13 to subdivision 4.

175.14 (c) The stewardship organization with an approved stewardship plan must submit an
175.15 amended stewardship plan for review at least every five years according to this subdivision
175.16 and subdivision 4 if the commissioner has not during that time approved amendments
175.17 submitted for review under paragraph (b).

175.18 (d) The stewardship organization may terminate a stewardship plan by providing at least
175.19 90 days' written notice to the commissioner and to all participants in the stewardship program.
175.20 Before the stewardship plan is terminated, each participant must meet the requirements of
175.21 section 115A.1335, subdivision 1, by contracting with a new stewardship organization,
175.22 which must submit and obtain the commissioner's approval for a stewardship plan.

175.23 (e) The commissioner may terminate a stewardship plan for good cause, such as
175.24 significant noncompliance with this section; failure to ensure that covered products and
175.25 other electrical products collected in the state are being managed in responsible markets
175.26 and according to subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (13) to (15); failure to timely submit
175.27 a stewardship plan for review according to paragraph (c); or failure to pay fees assessed
175.28 under section 115A.1339. If the commissioner terminates a stewardship plan, the
175.29 commissioner must provide the stewardship organization with written notice of termination
175.30 describing the good cause for termination. The commissioner must also notify all participants
175.31 in the stewardship program in writing using the contact information for the participants
175.32 provided in the stewardship plan.

176.1 Subd. 6. **Compliance.** (a) The stewardship organization must comply with its stewardship
176.2 plan approved by the commissioner, including any amendments to the stewardship plan
176.3 that are made according to subdivision 5, paragraph (a) or (b).

176.4 (b) The stewardship organization must comply with the reimbursement rates approved
176.5 by the commissioner.

176.6 (c) The stewardship organization must ensure that all costs of the stewardship program
176.7 are fully paid for by producers as a whole, except for de minimis producers. All costs of
176.8 the stewardship program must be allocated fairly between groups of producers without any
176.9 fee, charge, surcharge, or any other cost to:

176.10 (1) any member of the public;

176.11 (2) any business other than a producer;

176.12 (3) any collector;

176.13 (4) any person providing covered services;

176.14 (5) the state or any political subdivision;

176.15 (6) de minimis producers; or

176.16 (7) any other person who is not a producer.

176.17 (d) In implementing paragraph (c), the stewardship organization must ensure that costs
176.18 of managing covered products and other electrical products produced by a group of producers
176.19 are not shifted to nor borne by any other group of producers.

176.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

176.21 Sec. 6. **[115A.1337] STEWARDSHIP ORGANIZATION DUTIES.**

176.22 Subdivision 1. **Duties to collectors.** (a) The stewardship organization must provide the
176.23 following to each collector:

176.24 (1) reimbursement at the rates approved by the commissioner;

176.25 (2) all covered services after the initial collection of covered products and other electrical
176.26 products by the collector;

176.27 (3) containers as described in section 115A.1347, subdivision 1, paragraph (d);

176.28 (4) consistent signage identifying a collection site;

176.29 (5) training for collection site employees on identifying and safely handling and storing
176.30 covered batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them

177.1 or otherwise attached or connected to them, including damaged, defective, or recalled
177.2 batteries, also known as DDR batteries;

177.3 (6) educational materials that address the information described in subdivision 4,
177.4 paragraph (a), clause (3), for distribution to members of the public and businesses in
177.5 Minnesota. The educational materials must be made available in English and at least the
177.6 three most frequent languages spoken at home in the state other than English, according to
177.7 the state demographer; and

177.8 (7) direction to an alternate collector whenever a collector determines and reports to the
177.9 stewardship organization, according to section 115A.1341, subdivision 1, paragraph (e),
177.10 that the collector cannot safely collect a covered product. The stewardship organization
177.11 must ensure that the covered product is collected by another collector.

177.12 (b) The stewardship organization must allow a collector to perform covered services
177.13 other than collection if the collector meets the performance standards in the stewardship
177.14 plan under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (13), and the collector
177.15 is identified in the stewardship plan as providing covered services other than collection
177.16 according to section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (4).

177.17 (c) For covered services provided under paragraph (b), the stewardship organization
177.18 must reimburse the collector for the cost of the performed covered services according to
177.19 section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (21).

177.20 (d) A collector may request the stewardship organization to add a person to provide
177.21 covered services to the stewardship plan as an amendment under section 115A.1335,
177.22 subdivision 5, paragraph (a), and the stewardship organization must consider the request if
177.23 the person meets the performance standards in the stewardship plan.

177.24 Subd. 2. **Accessibility.** (a) The stewardship organization must provide convenient,
177.25 equitable, and accessible service to all Minnesotans, including but not limited to people of
177.26 color; Minnesota Tribal governments as defined in section 10.65, subdivision 2; those that
177.27 are non-English speaking; immigrant and refugee communities; those with limited access
177.28 to transportation; and those in environmental justice areas.

177.29 (b) The stewardship program must include collection opportunities beyond those required
177.30 under section 115A.1335, subdivision 3, to better serve populations under paragraph (a),
177.31 such as additional partial collection sites, individual pickup from households, and temporary
177.32 events to provide enhanced collection availability.

178.1 (c) Where feasible, the stewardship organization must encourage establishing collection
178.2 sites in proximity to local public transit.

178.3 Subd. 3. **Oversight; eligibility of persons providing covered services.** (a) The
178.4 stewardship organization must ensure that:

178.5 (1) covered products and other electrical products managed under the stewardship
178.6 program are recycled to the maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02,
178.7 paragraph (b); and

178.8 (2) residual materials are managed in compliance with applicable hazardous waste or
178.9 solid waste requirements by:

178.10 (i) each person transporting covered products or other electrical products; and

178.11 (ii) each facility listed in the stewardship plan at which storage, processing, recycling,
178.12 or disposal of covered products and other electrical products is performed.

178.13 (b) To ensure that covered products and other electrical products are managed to the
178.14 maximum extent practicable in accordance with section 115A.02, paragraph (b), the
178.15 commissioner may require performance standards and oversight methods in lieu of or in
178.16 addition to the performance standards and oversight methods used by a stewardship
178.17 organization under paragraph (a) and section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a),
178.18 clause (13), for persons providing covered services for covered products and other electrical
178.19 products. The commissioner may consider data submitted under subdivision 5; the availability
178.20 and feasibility of technology, processes, and methods for managing covered products and
178.21 other electrical products; and other information related to the effectiveness of the stewardship
178.22 program.

178.23 (c) The stewardship organization must allow any person that agrees to operate or
178.24 continues to operate a full collection site in compliance with section 115A.1341 and any
178.25 household hazardous waste collection program to serve as a collector. The stewardship
178.26 organization must consider allowing any person that agrees to operate or continues to operate
178.27 a partial collection site in compliance with section 115A.1341 to serve as a collector. Except
178.28 for a household hazardous waste collection program, a stewardship organization may
178.29 terminate a collector and cease payment to the collector for good cause.

178.30 Subd. 4. **Stewardship program effectiveness.** (a) To support the effectiveness of the
178.31 stewardship program, the stewardship organization must provide outreach and education
178.32 to:

(1) persons that might sell, offer for sale or promotional purposes, or distribute covered products or other electrical products in or into the state, to inform the persons of the requirements of section 115A.1347, subdivision 2;

(2) potential collectors and persons who are collecting covered products before the effective date of this section to inform the collectors how to request coverage by the stewardship program; and

(3) members of the public to raise awareness of:

(i) public health and safety and environmental risks caused by improperly charging, storing, and disposing of covered batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to them;

(ii) public health and environmental risks caused by improperly disposing of covered products;

(iii) methods to safely charge and store covered batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to them;

(iv) the benefits of repairing, reusing, and recycling covered products and other electrical products in contrast to disposal; and

(v) the existence of the stewardship program and the ability to recycle covered products and other electrical products at no cost, including the location and convenience of collection sites in the state.

(b) The stewardship organization must maintain a publicly accessible website to locate collection sites through map-based and text-based searches.

(c) The stewardship organization must, in addition to the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b), take action to decrease the incidence of covered products in solid waste generated in the state as soon as practicable and to the maximum extent achievable. The commissioner may determine the effectiveness of the stewardship program using information from waste composition studies conducted under section 115A.412 and other information available to the commissioner and may require the stewardship organization to submit information and implement actions to decrease the incidence of covered products in solid waste in accordance with section 115A.1335, subdivisions 2, paragraph (a), clause (29); and 3, paragraph (b), clause (6).

Subd. 5. **Reporting.** (a) The stewardship organization must report an amendment to the stewardship plan made under section 115A.1335, subdivision 5, paragraph (a), to the commissioner within 30 days after making the amendment.

180.1 (b) By April 1 each year, the stewardship organization must report to the commissioner,
180.2 in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, on the stewardship organization's
180.3 activities during the preceding calendar year. The stewardship organization must also submit
180.4 a copy of the report to the board. The report must include:

180.5 (1) the address, county of location, and geolocation data for each collection site used by
180.6 the stewardship organization under the stewardship program during the preceding calendar
180.7 year;

180.8 (2) the number, type, and volume of covered products and other electrical products
180.9 collected during each calendar year, specifying the categories of the covered products and
180.10 other electrical products and the chemistries of the covered batteries collected, in accordance
180.11 with section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (27);

180.12 (3) the end management, through reuse, repair, reclamation, recycling, or disposal, of
180.13 the covered products and other electrical products shipped from collection sites under the
180.14 stewardship program, in accordance with section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a),
180.15 clause (28);

180.16 (4) the effectiveness of the stewardship organization's actions to decrease the incidence
180.17 of covered products in solid waste in the state, in accordance with section 115A.1335,
180.18 subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (29), including the support of partial collection sites;

180.19 (5) a description of the actions taken by the stewardship organization regarding
180.20 identification, management, and reduction in prevalence of organohalogenated chemicals
180.21 in covered products under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clauses (30)
180.22 and (31);

180.23 (6) the results of the oversight according to section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph
180.24 (a), clause (13), verifying that the performance standards were met by each of the persons
180.25 providing covered services;

180.26 (7) a description of outreach and education activities performed by the stewardship
180.27 organization during the preceding calendar year according to subdivision 4;

180.28 (8) a financial report on the stewardship program, including actual costs and funding
180.29 compared to the budget for the year submitted under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2,
180.30 paragraph (b). The financial report must include an audit report of the stewardship program
180.31 by an independent auditor. The independent auditor must be selected by the stewardship
180.32 organization and approved or rejected by the commissioner. If the commissioner rejects an
180.33 independent auditor, the stewardship organization must select a different independent auditor

181.1 for approval or rejection by the commissioner. The independent audit must meet the
181.2 requirements of Accounting Standards Update 2018-08, Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958),
181.3 Financial Accounting Standards Board, as amended;

181.4 (9) the proposed and actual budget for the year in which the report is submitted; and

181.5 (10) starting on the second April after the stewardship organization's first stewardship
181.6 plan is approved by the commissioner, and then every third year thereafter, a performance
181.7 audit of the stewardship program. The performance audit must conform to audit standards
181.8 established by the United States Government Accountability Office; the National Association
181.9 of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers; or another nationally recognized organization
181.10 approved by the commissioner.

181.11 Subd. 6. **Organization of the stewardship organization.** (a) The stewardship
181.12 organization may function as a coordinating board and contract, subcontract, or partner with
181.13 any other person to administer and implement the stewardship program.

181.14 (b) A contract, subcontract, or partnership established according to paragraph (a) must
181.15 be described under section 115A.1335, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (2).

181.16 (c) Notwithstanding any contract, subcontract, or partnership established according to
181.17 paragraph (a), the stewardship organization must:

181.18 (1) remain responsible for compliance with sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347;

181.19 (2) submit a single stewardship plan meeting the requirements of sections 115A.1331
181.20 to 115A.1347;

181.21 (3) submit a single report according to subdivision 5 meeting the requirements of sections
181.22 115A.1331 to 115A.1347;

181.23 (4) serve as the single point of contact for reporting and reimbursement for:

181.24 (i) each collector;

181.25 (ii) each person providing covered services for covered products or other electrical
181.26 products, including any collector that will perform covered services other than collection;
181.27 and

181.28 (iii) each facility at which covered products and other electrical products will be managed
181.29 under the stewardship plan; and

181.30 (5) serve as the single point of contact for the agency.

181.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

182.1 Sec. 7. **[115A.1339] FEES.**

182.2 Subdivision 1. **Administrative fees.** (a) By January 1, 2028, and by July 1 each year
182.3 thereafter, the commissioner must calculate the sum of all costs that the agency incurs under
182.4 sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347, exclusive of recovery and management of covered
182.5 products under subdivision 2. The sum calculated for the period preceding January 1, 2028,
182.6 must include the agency's costs of implementing sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347. For
182.7 the purposes of this paragraph, costs of the board are considered costs incurred by the
182.8 agency.

182.9 (b) Notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the commissioner must assess administrative
182.10 fees at an amount that is adequate to reimburse the agency's sum costs of administering
182.11 sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347. The stewardship organization must pay the assessed
182.12 administrative fees by the due dates set by the commissioner.

182.13 Subd. 2. **Recovery and proper management fees.** (a) When the commissioner intends
182.14 to spend money for the recovery and proper management of covered products under section
182.15 115A.1343, subdivision 1, notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the commissioner must assess
182.16 the estimated cost of recovery and proper management of covered products to the stewardship
182.17 organization.

182.18 (b) The cost under paragraph (a) must not include any subsequent remediation of the
182.19 real properties where the covered products are located nor the cost of any environmental
182.20 assessment of the properties to determine appropriate subsequent remediation under other
182.21 law. Such costs must not be paid from any funds assessed, collected, or appropriated under
182.22 this section. The stewardship organization must pay the assessed recovery and management
182.23 fee by the due date set by the commissioner.

182.24 (c) If, after the covered products have been recovered and properly managed, the actual
182.25 cost of recovery and proper management of the recovered products is less than the fee paid
182.26 by the stewardship organization, the commissioner must refund the excess payment. If the
182.27 cost of recovery and proper management exceeds the fee paid by the stewardship
182.28 organization, the commissioner must assess the stewardship organization for the deficit.
182.29 The stewardship organization must pay the assessed recovery and management fee deficit
182.30 by the due date set by the commissioner.

182.31 Subd. 3. **Disposition of fees.** The total amount of net fees collected under this section
182.32 must not exceed the amount necessary to reimburse agency costs as calculated under
182.33 subdivisions 1 and 2. All fees received under subdivisions 1 and 2 must be deposited in the
182.34 state treasury and credited to a product stewardship account in the special revenue fund.

183.1 The amount collected under this section is annually appropriated to the commissioner to
183.2 implement and enforce sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347.

183.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2027.

183.4 Sec. 8. **[115A.1341] COLLECTOR DUTIES.**

183.5 Subdivision 1. **Accepting covered products.** (a) All collectors must accept covered
183.6 products without imposing a fee, charge, surcharge, or other cost to any person other than
183.7 the stewardship organization.

183.8 (b) At a full collection site, a collector must accept from any person at least ten covered
183.9 products daily of any brand, any type, any physical size, and, in the case of covered batteries
183.10 and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached
183.11 or connected to them, any energy capacity or chemistry, unless the collector determines a
183.12 specific covered product cannot be safely collected by the collector at a specific collection
183.13 site at a specific time under paragraph (e). A full collection site must be open to receiving
183.14 covered products at least 12 operating hours per week, 50 weeks each calendar year.

183.15 (c) At a partial collection site, a collector must accept from any person covered products
183.16 of any brand, but may limit the number, type, physical size, and, in the case of covered
183.17 batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise
183.18 attached or connected to them, the energy capacity or chemistry of the covered battery of
183.19 the covered products accepted.

183.20 (d) A household hazardous waste collection program may accept covered products at
183.21 any collection site it operates. The household hazardous waste collection program may limit
183.22 the persons from which it will accept covered products and may limit the number, type,
183.23 physical size, and, in the case of covered batteries and covered products that have covered
183.24 batteries contained within them or otherwise attached or connected to them, the energy
183.25 capacity or chemistry of the covered battery of the covered products accepted. The
183.26 stewardship organization may count a collection site operated by the household hazardous
183.27 waste collection program as a full collection site when demonstrating compliance with the
183.28 convenience standards of section 115A.1335, subdivision 3, if the household hazardous
183.29 waste collection program voluntarily agrees in writing with the stewardship organization
183.30 to comply with paragraph (b) at the site.

183.31 (e) A collector that determines that it cannot safely accept a specific covered product
183.32 must document the reason for not accepting the covered product and immediately notify
183.33 the stewardship organization of the nonacceptance in order to allow the stewardship

184.1 organization to arrange for alternate collection of the covered product under section
184.2 115A.1337, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (7).

184.3 Subd. 2. **Accepting other electrical products.** A collector may accept other electrical
184.4 products from a person. If a collector accepts other electrical products, the collector may
184.5 not impose a fee, charge, surcharge, or other cost to any person other than the stewardship
184.6 organization.

184.7 Subd. 3. **Storing accepted products.** A collector must manage and store all accepted
184.8 covered products and other electrical products safely and in compliance with section
184.9 115A.1347, subdivision 1, paragraphs (c) and (d).

184.10 Subd. 4. **Training.** A collector must ensure and document that training is provided for
184.11 collection site employees on identifying and safely handling and storing covered batteries
184.12 and covered products that have covered batteries contained within them or otherwise attached
184.13 or connected to them, including damaged, defective, or recalled batteries, also known as
184.14 DDR batteries. The collector may provide the training or may receive training from the
184.15 stewardship organization or the stewardship organization's representative.

184.16 Subd. 5. **Recordkeeping.** A collector must maintain the following records for at least
184.17 three years and make them available to the commissioner for inspection:

184.18 (1) records of covered products and other electrical products accepted at a collection
184.19 site;

184.20 (2) records of covered products and other electrical products shipped from a collection
184.21 site; and

184.22 (3) documentation of employee training. The three-year record retention period for
184.23 employee documentation begins on the day following the last day the employee worked for
184.24 the collector.

184.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

184.26 Sec. 9. **[115A.1343] COVERED PRODUCTS RECOVERY AND PROPER**
184.27 **MANAGEMENT.**

184.28 Subdivision 1. **Recovery and proper management.** (a) In addition to any authority
184.29 granted by other law and without limiting that authority, whenever the commissioner
184.30 determines that covered products have been abandoned, improperly disposed of, or stored
184.31 on real property within the state in a manner not in compliance with sections 115A.1331 to
184.32 115A.1347 or with applicable rules adopted under section 116.07, subdivision 2, paragraph

185.1 (d), or 4, paragraph (g), the commissioner may issue an order under section 115.071,
185.2 subdivision 5; 116.07, subdivision 9; or 116.072, subdivision 1, requiring a person responsible
185.3 for the abandonment, improper disposal, or noncompliant storage of the covered products
185.4 to recover and properly manage the covered products according to sections 115A.1331 to
185.5 115A.1347 and applicable rules. An order under this paragraph must notify the person of
185.6 the provisions of this subdivision.

185.7 (b) If a person that receives an order under paragraph (a) fails to complete the ordered
185.8 actions to recover and properly manage the covered products within the time specified in
185.9 the order, then after that time or upon expiration of the appeal period for the order, whichever
185.10 is later, the commissioner must notify the stewardship organization in writing of:

185.11 (1) the commissioner's determination that the covered products have been abandoned,
185.12 improperly disposed of, or stored in a noncompliant manner;

185.13 (2) the name of the person that was issued the order under paragraph (a) and the location
185.14 of the covered products;

185.15 (3) the actions required to recover and properly manage the covered products; and

185.16 (4) the amount of time that the stewardship organization may, with the consent of the
185.17 person, attempt to complete the actions to recover and properly manage the covered products
185.18 on behalf of the person.

185.19 (c) If the stewardship organization intends to recover and properly manage the covered
185.20 products, the stewardship organization must notify the commissioner of its intent and submit
185.21 a plan to recover and properly manage the covered products to the commissioner. The
185.22 stewardship organization must comply with its submitted recovery and management plan.

185.23 (d) If, after the period specified in paragraph (b), the ordered actions to recover and
185.24 properly manage the covered products have not been completed, or upon earlier notice from
185.25 the stewardship organization that it does not intend to take the actions, the commissioner
185.26 may recover and properly manage the covered products. The commissioner must estimate
185.27 the cost for a person contracted to the agency to perform the recovery and management.
185.28 The commissioner must assess the estimated cost to the stewardship organization according
185.29 to section 115A.1339, subdivision 2. After the stewardship organization pays the assessed
185.30 fee, the commissioner may recover and properly manage the covered products. Money
185.31 appropriated to the commissioner from the product stewardship account may be spent by
185.32 the commissioner to recover and properly manage the covered products.

(e) In addition to the authority to enter upon any public or private property for the purpose of obtaining information or conducting surveys or investigations under section 115A.06, the commissioner or any designee or agent may enter upon the property to recover covered products when acting under this subdivision.

Subd. 2. Limited private right of action for recovery and proper management. (a) The stewardship organization that recovers and properly manages covered products under subdivision 1, paragraph (c), may maintain a civil action against a person issued an order to recover and properly manage those covered products under subdivision 1, paragraph (a). The stewardship organization is entitled to damages under this paragraph of twice its actual cost of recovery and proper management of the covered products. Additional amounts recoverable under this paragraph include an award of reasonable attorney fees and costs.

(b) When the stewardship organization is assessed and pays the cost to recover and properly manage covered products under subdivision 1, paragraph (d), and section 115A.1339, subdivision 2, the stewardship organization may maintain a civil action against a person issued an order to recover and properly manage those covered products under subdivision 1, paragraph (a). The stewardship organization is entitled to damages under this paragraph equal to the cost of recovery and proper management of covered products assessed by the commissioner to the stewardship organization. Additional amounts recoverable under this paragraph include an award of reasonable attorney fees and costs.

(c) The commissioner may not be a party to or be required to provide assistance or otherwise participate in a civil action authorized under this subdivision unless subject to a subpoena before a court of jurisdiction.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2028.

Sec. 10. [115A.1345] OTHER AUTHORITIES AND DUTIES.

Subdivision 1. Limited private right of action against producers. (a) Except as provided in paragraph (d), the stewardship organization may maintain a civil action against one or more producers, except a de minimis producer, to recover a portion of the stewardship organization's costs and additional amounts according to this subdivision.

(b) Damages recoverable under this subdivision may not exceed a fair share of the actual costs incurred by the plaintiff stewardship organization in managing covered products or other electrical products of a defendant producer subject to section 115A.1347, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), and covered products or other electrical products of other producers that were not participants. Additional amounts recoverable under this subdivision include an

187.1 award of reasonable attorney fees and costs. If a defendant producer did not participate in
187.2 the stewardship program established under sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 during the
187.3 period in which covered products or other electrical products of the defendant producer
187.4 were managed by the plaintiff stewardship organization, a punitive sum of up to three times
187.5 the damages awarded may be assessed.

187.6 (c) A plaintiff stewardship organization may establish a defendant producer's fair share
187.7 of the plaintiff's actual costs by providing the court with information establishing the process
187.8 by which the defendant producer's share of stewardship program costs would have been
187.9 allocated had the defendant producer been a participant in the program or paid its allocated
187.10 share if it was a participant. The plaintiff stewardship organization may use data from
187.11 producers similar in covered product, financial status, or market share to the defendant
187.12 producer to provide the information.

187.13 (d) An action may not be commenced under this subdivision against a potential defendant
187.14 producer until 60 days after the plaintiff stewardship organization provides to all potential
187.15 defendants a written notice of the claim setting forth the amount of the claim and the basis
187.16 for the calculation of the amount.

187.17 (e) No action may be brought under this subdivision against a person other than a
187.18 producer.

187.19 (f) The commissioner may not be a party to or be required to provide assistance or
187.20 otherwise participate in a civil action authorized under this subdivision unless subject to a
187.21 subpoena before a court of jurisdiction.

187.22 Subd. 2. **Conduct authorized.** A producer or stewardship organization that organizes
187.23 covered services for covered products or other electrical products under sections 115A.1331
187.24 to 115A.1347 is immune from liability for the conduct under state laws relating to antitrust,
187.25 restraint of trade, unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or commerce only to
187.26 the extent that the conduct is necessary to plan and implement the producer's or stewardship
187.27 organization's chosen system.

187.28 Subd. 3. **Duty to provide information.** Upon request of the commissioner for purposes
187.29 of implementing sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347, a person must furnish to the
187.30 commissioner any information that the person has or may reasonably obtain.

187.31 Subd. 4. **Contracts.** (a) Any person awarded a contract under chapter 16C for purchase
187.32 or lease of covered products or other electrical products that is found to be in violation of
187.33 sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347 is subject to the following sanctions:

188.1 (1) the contract must be voided if the commissioner of administration determines that
188.2 the potential adverse impact to the state is exceeded by the benefit obtained from voiding
188.3 the contract; and

188.4 (2) the contractor is subject to suspension and disbarment under Minnesota Rules, part
188.5 1230.1150.

188.6 (b) If the attorney general establishes that any money, property, or benefit was obtained
188.7 by a contractor as a result of violating sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347, the court may, in
188.8 addition to any other remedy, order the disgorgement of the unlawfully obtained money,
188.9 property, or benefit.

188.10 Subd. 5. **Multistate implementation.** The commissioner may participate in establishing
188.11 a regional multistate organization or compact to assist in carrying out the requirements of
188.12 sections 115A.1331 to 115A.1347.

188.13 Subd. 6. **Rules.** The commissioner may adopt rules to implement sections 115A.1331
188.14 to 115A.1347. The 18-month time limit under section 14.125 does not apply to rulemaking
188.15 under this subdivision.

188.16 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

188.17 Sec. 11. **[115A.1347] DISPOSAL PROHIBITIONS; BATTERY LABELING;**
188.18 **COVERED PRODUCT SALES RESTRICTION.**

188.19 Subdivision 1. **Disposal prohibition.** (a) A person may not place a covered product
188.20 into:

188.21 (1) solid waste; or

188.22 (2) a recycling container that a collector has not clearly marked for use for collecting
188.23 covered products.

188.24 (b) A person must manage a covered product that is discarded by delivering the covered
188.25 product to a collection site or to a recycling facility for covered products.

188.26 (c) Until recycled, covered products are not exempt from any applicable rules adopted
188.27 under section 116.07 for managing hazardous waste.

188.28 (d) Covered batteries and covered products that have covered batteries contained within
188.29 them or otherwise attached or connected to them must be stored in containers that are:

188.30 (1) designed, constructed, and used in a manner to suppress battery fires in the container
188.31 or to prevent ignition of materials outside the container; and

(2) held in structures compliant with the local fire code.

Subd. 2. **Labeling and sale; requirements.** (a) A person may not sell, including online sales; offer for sale or promotional purposes; distribute in or into the state; or facilitate a sale of a covered battery or covered product that has a covered battery contained within it or otherwise attached or connected to it unless the covered battery and covered product is labeled to identify the chemistry employed to store energy in the battery. Labeling under this paragraph must be permanently marked on or affixed to the covered battery and covered product and must use either language or graphics that identifies the battery chemistry employed or a QR code compliant with International Organization of Standardization 18004:2015, that accesses equivalent data via the Internet that is available without fee or requirement to create an account.

(b) A person may not sell, including online sales; offer for sale or promotional purposes; distribute in or into the state; or facilitate a sale of a covered product or other electrical product unless the producer of the covered product or other electrical product is named as a participant in a stewardship plan published under section 115A.1335, subdivision 4, paragraph (f), or the brand is named as covered in a stewardship plan published under section 115A.1335, subdivision 4, paragraph (f), and the stewardship plan has not been terminated under section 115A.1335, subdivision 5.

(c) This subdivision does not apply to isolated and occasional sales of a covered product or other electrical product that are not made in the normal course of business, as exempted from sales tax under section 297A.67, subdivision 23.

(d) This subdivision does not apply to sales, including online sales; offers for sale or promotional purposes; distribution; or facilitation of a sale of a used covered product or used other electrical product.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2028.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115A.554, is amended to read:

115A.554 AUTHORITY OF SANITARY DISTRICTS.

A sanitary district has the authorities and duties of counties within the district's boundary for purposes of sections 115A.0716; 115A.46, subdivisions 4 and 5; 115A.48; 115A.551; 115A.552; 115A.553; 115A.919; 115A.929; 115A.93; 115A.96, subdivision 6; ~~115A.961~~; 116.072; 375.18, subdivision 14; 400.04; 400.06; 400.07; 400.08; 400.16; and 400.161.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective January 1, 2028.

190.1 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.92, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

190.2 Subd. 6. **Mercury thermometers prohibited.** (a) A manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer
190.3 may not sell or distribute at no cost a thermometer containing mercury that was manufactured
190.4 after June 1, 2001.

190.5 (b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to an electronic thermometer with a battery containing
190.6 mercury if the battery is in compliance with ~~section 325E.125~~ subdivision 8l.

190.7 (c) A manufacturer is in compliance with this subdivision if the manufacturer:

190.8 (1) has received an exclusion or exemption from a state that is a member of the Interstate
190.9 Mercury Education and Reduction Clearinghouse (IMERC) for replacement parts when no
190.10 alternative is available or for an application when no feasible alternative is available;

190.11 (2) submits a copy of the approved exclusion or exemption to the commissioner; and

190.12 (3) meets all of the requirements in the approved exclusion or exemption for the
190.13 manufacturer's activities within the state.

190.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

190.15 Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.92, is amended by adding a subdivision to
190.16 read:

190.17 Subd. 8l. **Ban; mercury in batteries.** A person may not sell, offer for sale, or distribute
190.18 in or into the state:

190.19 (1) an alkaline manganese battery that contains mercury that is not a button cell
190.20 nonrechargeable battery;

190.21 (2) a nonrechargeable button cell battery that contains more than 25 milligrams of
190.22 mercury; or

190.23 (3) a dry cell battery containing a mercuric oxide electrode.

190.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

190.25 Sec. 15. **REPEALER.**

190.26 Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 115A.1310, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
190.27 11, 12, 12a, 12b, 12c, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, and 20; 115A.1312; 115A.1314; 115A.1316;
190.28 115A.1318; 115A.1320; 115A.1322; 115A.1323; 115A.1324; 115A.1326; 115A.1328;
190.29 115A.1330; 115A.9155; 115A.9157, subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9; 115A.961,
190.30 subdivisions 1, 2, and 3; 325E.125; and 325E.1251, are repealed.

191.1 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2028.

191.2 **ARTICLE 7**

191.3 **ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING REFORM**

191.4 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.542, is amended to read:

191.5 **115.542 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLICLY OWNED WASTEWATER**
191.6 **TREATMENT FACILITIES.**

191.7 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purpose of this section, the following terms have
191.8 the meanings given:

191.9 (1) "permit" means a national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit
191.10 or state disposal system (SDS) permit; and

191.11 (2) "permit applicant" means a person or entity submitting an application for a new
191.12 permit or renewal, modification, or revocation of an existing permit for a publicly owned
191.13 wastewater treatment facility.

191.14 Subd. 2. **Applicability.** This section applies to all draft permits and permits for publicly
191.15 owned wastewater treatment facilities for which the commissioner of the Pollution Control
191.16 Agency makes a preliminary determination whether to issue or deny.

191.17 Subd. 3. **Prepublic notice review requirements.** Unless waived by the permit applicant,
191.18 the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must provide a permit applicant with a
191.19 copy of the draft permit and any fact sheets required by agency rules at least 30 days before
191.20 the distribution and public notice of the permit application and preliminary determination.

191.21 Subd. 4. ~~**Permitting efficiency**~~ **Public notice requirements.** The commissioner must
191.22 prepare and issue a public notice of a completed application and the commissioner's
191.23 preliminary determination as to whether the permit should be issued or denied. The public
191.24 comment period must be at least 60 days for permit applications under this section but may
191.25 be reduced to 30 days if:

191.26 (1) a request for the reduction is made by the permit applicant; and

191.27 (2) the commissioner approves the request based on consideration of public or Tribal
191.28 interest in the permit action.

191.29 Subd. 5. **Permitting efficiency.** Notwithstanding section 116.03, it is the goal of the
191.30 state that tier 2 permits for publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities be issued or
191.31 denied within 210 days following submission of a permit application.

192.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.03, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

192.2 Subd. 2b. **Permitting efficiency.** (a) It is the goal of the state that environmental and
192.3 resource management permits be issued or denied within 90 days for tier 1 permits or 150
192.4 days for tier 2 permits following submission of a permit application. The commissioner of
192.5 ~~the Pollution Control Agency shall~~ must establish management systems designed to achieve
192.6 the goal. For the purposes of this section, "tier 1 permits" are permits that do not require
192.7 individualized actions or public comment periods, and "tier 2 permits" are permits that
192.8 require individualized actions or public comment periods. Goals established in this paragraph
192.9 do not apply to permit applications required due to agency enforcement actions.

192.10 (b) The commissioner ~~shall~~ must prepare an annual permitting efficiency report that
192.11 includes statistics on meeting the tier 2 goal in paragraph (a) and the criteria for tier 2 by
192.12 permit categories. The report must also provide information on consultants regarding
192.13 achievement of the performance standards under paragraph (c), clauses (1) to (4). The report
192.14 ~~is due~~ must be submitted to the governor and to the chairs and ranking minority members
192.15 of the house of representatives and senate committees having jurisdiction over environment
192.16 policy and finance by October 1 August 1 each year and must be posted on the agency's
192.17 website. Each report must include:

192.18 (1) for each permit applications application that have has not met the goal, the report
192.19 ~~must state the reasons for not meeting the goal. In stating the reasons for not meeting the~~
192.20 ~~goal, the commissioner shall separately identify delays~~ an explanation of whether the delay
192.21 was caused by the responsiveness of the proposer, lack of staff, scientific or technical
192.22 disagreements, or the level of public engagement. ~~The report must specify;~~

192.23 (2) for each permit that has not met the goal, the number of days from initial submission
192.24 of the application to the day of determination that the application is complete. ~~The report~~
192.25 ~~must aggregate;~~

192.26 (3) a summary of the data for the year reporting period and assess an assessment of
192.27 whether program or system changes are necessary to achieve the tier 2 goal. ~~The report~~
192.28 ~~must be posted on the agency's website and submitted to the governor and the chairs and~~
192.29 ~~ranking minority members of the house of representatives and senate committees having~~
192.30 ~~jurisdiction over environment policy and finance.~~ in paragraph (a);

192.31 (4) a statement of the number of tier 2 permits completed within the reporting period
192.32 and, immediately following in parentheses, a statement of the percentage of total applications
192.33 received for that tier 2 permit category that the number represents, stated separately for
192.34 industrial and municipal permits; and

193.1 (5) for permits that did not meet the goal due to lack of staff, a combined estimate of
193.2 the aggregate staff resources that would have been necessary for all affected permits to meet
193.3 the goal.

193.4 (c) The commissioner ~~shall~~ must allow electronic submission of environmental review
193.5 and permit documents to the agency.

193.6 (d) Within 30 business days of application for a permit subject to paragraph (a), the
193.7 commissioner ~~of the Pollution Control Agency shall~~ must notify the permit applicant, in
193.8 writing, ~~whether the application is complete or incomplete. If the commissioner determines~~
193.9 ~~that an application is incomplete, the notice to the applicant must enumerate~~ of all
193.10 deficiencies, while citing specific provisions of the applicable rules and statutes, and must
193.11 advise the applicant on how the deficiencies can be remedied. The applicant shall have five
193.12 business days to remedy all identified deficiencies before the commissioner determines that
193.13 the application is complete or incomplete. If the commissioner determines that the application
193.14 is complete, the ~~notice~~ commissioner must confirm the application's tier 1 or tier 2 permit
193.15 status. If the commissioner believes that a complete application for a tier 2 construction
193.16 permit cannot be issued within the 150-day goal, the commissioner must provide notice to
193.17 the applicant with the commissioner's notice that the application is complete and, upon
193.18 request of the applicant, provide the permit applicant with a schedule estimating when the
193.19 agency will begin drafting the permit and issue the public notice of the draft permit. This
193.20 paragraph does not apply to an application for a permit that is subject to a grant or loan
193.21 agreement under chapter 446A.

193.22 (e) The commissioner must credential consultants who meet the requirements of this
193.23 paragraph and must provide a logo or similar indicator with the credential that can be used
193.24 by a consultant in marketing their services. For purposes of this section, "consultant" means
193.25 a third-party professional representing a facility owner or operator to prepare or assist in
193.26 preparing a permit application or other similar documentation required by the commissioner
193.27 for authorizations under chapters 115 to 116. A consultant is credentialed on January 1 each
193.28 odd-numbered year if, in the preceding two years, the consultant:

193.29 (1) submitted permit applications deemed complete under paragraph (d) at a rate of at
193.30 least 80 percent;

193.31 (2) when applicable, met agreed-upon deadlines as part of a plan designed to increase
193.32 the coordination and efficiency of regulatory activities, such as a plan described under
193.33 section 116.035;

194.1 (3) did not represent an owner or operator to prepare or assist in preparing a permit
194.2 application or other similar documentation when the owner or operator received a citation
194.3 under section 116.073, subdivision 1, paragraph (b); and

194.4 (4) was not found in violation of Minnesota Rules, part 7000.0300, relating to duty of
194.5 candor.

194.6 (f) If, after notifying the permit applicant that the application is complete, the
194.7 commissioner determines that additional information is needed, the commissioner must
194.8 notify the applicant. Upon notice under this paragraph, counting days toward the 90- or
194.9 150-day goal described in paragraph (a) stops until the applicant has responded with the
194.10 additional information. Once the applicant has responded with all the additional information
194.11 required, counting resumes from where it stopped. The applicant has 30 business days to
194.12 provide the additional information to the commissioner, but the commissioner may extend
194.13 the time upon the applicant's request.

194.14 ~~(e)~~ (g) For purposes of this subdivision, "permit professional" means an individual not
194.15 employed by the Pollution Control Agency who:

194.16 (1) has a professional license issued by the state of Minnesota in the subject area of the
194.17 permit;

194.18 (2) has at least ten years of experience in the subject area of the permit; and

194.19 (3) abides by the duty of candor applicable to employees of the Pollution Control Agency
194.20 under agency rules and complies with all applicable requirements under chapter 326.

194.21 ~~(f)~~ (h) Upon the agency's request, an applicant relying on a permit professional must
194.22 participate in a meeting with the agency before submitting an application:

194.23 (1) at least two weeks prior to the preapplication meeting, the applicant must submit at
194.24 least the following:

194.25 (i) project description, including, but not limited to, scope of work, primary emissions
194.26 points, discharge outfalls, and water intake points;

194.27 (ii) location of the project, including county, municipality, and location on the site;

194.28 (iii) business schedule for project completion; and

194.29 (iv) other information requested by the agency at least four weeks prior to the scheduled
194.30 meeting; and

194.31 (2) during the preapplication meeting, the agency ~~shall~~ must provide for the applicant
194.32 at least the following:

- 195.1 (i) an overview of the permit review program;
- 195.2 (ii) a determination of which specific application or applications will be necessary to
195.3 complete the project;
- 195.4 (iii) a statement notifying the applicant if the specific permit being sought requires a
195.5 mandatory public hearing or comment period;
- 195.6 (iv) a review of the timetable established in the permit review program for the specific
195.7 permit being sought; and
- 195.8 (v) a determination of what information must be included in the application, including
195.9 a description of any required modeling or testing.
- 195.10 ~~(g)~~ (i) The applicant may select a permit professional to undertake the preparation of
195.11 the permit application and draft permit.
- 195.12 ~~(h)~~ (j) If a preapplication meeting was held, the agency ~~shall~~ must, within seven business
195.13 days of receipt of an application, notify the applicant and submitting permit professional
195.14 that the application is complete or is denied, specifying the deficiencies of the application.
- 195.15 ~~(i)~~ (k) Upon receipt of notice that the application is complete, the permit professional
195.16 ~~shall~~ must submit to the agency a timetable for submitting a draft permit. The permit
195.17 professional ~~shall~~ must submit a draft permit on or before the date provided in the timetable.
195.18 Within 60 days after the close of the public comment period, the commissioner ~~shall~~ must
195.19 notify the applicant whether the permit can be issued.
- 195.20 ~~(j)~~ (l) Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify:
- 195.21 (1) any requirement of law that is necessary to retain federal delegation to or assumption
195.22 by the state; or
- 195.23 (2) the authority to implement a federal law or program.
- 195.24 ~~(k)~~ (m) The permit application and draft permit ~~shall~~ must identify or include as an
195.25 appendix all studies and other sources of information used to substantiate the analysis
195.26 contained in the permit application and draft permit. The commissioner ~~shall~~ must request
195.27 additional studies, if needed, and the permit applicant ~~shall~~ must submit all additional studies
195.28 and information necessary for the commissioner to perform the commissioner's responsibility
195.29 to review, modify, and determine the completeness of the application and approve the draft
195.30 permit.

196.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.07, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

196.2 Subd. 4a. **Permits.** (a) The Pollution Control Agency may issue, continue in effect or
196.3 deny permits, under such conditions as it may prescribe for the prevention of pollution, for
196.4 the emission of air contaminants, or for the installation or operation of any emission facility,
196.5 air contaminant treatment facility, treatment facility, potential air contaminant storage
196.6 facility, or storage facility, or any part thereof, or for the sources or emissions of noise
196.7 pollution. The Pollution Control Agency may issue separate permits for constructing a
196.8 facility described in this paragraph and for its operation, except for a facility required to
196.9 complete a mandatory environmental impact statement under Minnesota Rules, part
196.10 4410.4400. The Pollution Control Agency must prioritize these permits in a manner that
196.11 minimizes the time required to construct and begin operation of the permitted facility while
196.12 complying with state and federal requirements.

196.13 (b) The Pollution Control Agency may also issue, continue in effect or deny permits,
196.14 under such conditions as it may prescribe for the prevention of pollution, for the storage,
196.15 collection, transportation, processing, or disposal of waste, or for the installation or operation
196.16 of any system or facility, or any part thereof, related to the storage, collection, transportation,
196.17 processing, or disposal of waste.

196.18 (c) The agency may not issue a permit to a facility without analyzing and considering
196.19 the cumulative levels and effects of past and current environmental pollution from all sources
196.20 on the environment and residents of the geographic area within which the facility's emissions
196.21 are likely to be deposited, provided that the facility is located in a community in a city of
196.22 the first class in Hennepin County that meets all of the following conditions:

196.23 (1) is within a half mile of a site designated by the federal government as an EPA
196.24 superfund site due to residential arsenic contamination;

196.25 (2) a majority of the population are low-income persons of color and American Indians;

196.26 (3) a disproportionate percent of the children have childhood lead poisoning, asthma,
196.27 or other environmentally related health problems;

196.28 (4) is located in a city that has experienced numerous air quality alert days of dangerous
196.29 air quality for sensitive populations between February 2007 and February 2008; and

196.30 (5) is located near the junctions of several heavily trafficked state and county highways
196.31 and two one-way streets which carry both truck and auto traffic.

(d) The Pollution Control Agency may revoke or modify any permit issued under this subdivision and section 116.081 whenever it is necessary, in the opinion of the agency, to prevent or abate pollution.

(e) The Pollution Control Agency has the authority for approval over the siting, expansion, or operation of a solid waste facility with regard to environmental issues. However, the agency's issuance of a permit does not release the permittee from any liability, penalty, or duty imposed by any applicable county ordinances. Nothing in this chapter precludes, or shall be construed to preclude, a county from enforcing land use controls, regulations, and ordinances existing at the time of the permit application and adopted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2020, sections 366.10 to 366.181, or sections 394.21 to 394.37, or 462.351 to 462.365, with regard to the siting, expansion, or operation of a solid waste facility.

(f) Except as prohibited by federal law, a person may commence construction, reconstruction, replacement, or modification of any facility prior to the issuance of a construction permit by the agency.

(g) For the purposes of this subdivision, the Pollution Control Agency may require the owners and operators of any emission facility, air containment treatment facility, treatment facility, potential air containment storage facility, or storage facility, or any part thereof, to conduct air dispersion modeling of air contaminants.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116.07, subdivision 4d, is amended to read:

Subd. 4d. **Permit fees.** (a) The agency may collect permit fees in amounts not greater than those necessary to cover the reasonable costs of developing, reviewing, and acting upon applications for agency permits and implementing and enforcing the conditions of the permits pursuant to agency rules. Permit fees shall not include the costs of litigation. The fee schedule must reflect reasonable and routine direct and indirect costs associated with permitting, implementation, and enforcement. The agency may impose an additional enforcement fee to be collected for a period of up to two years to cover the reasonable costs of implementing and enforcing the conditions of a permit under the rules of the agency. Any money collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the environmental fund.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the agency shall collect an annual fee from the owner or operator of all stationary sources, emission facilities, emissions units, air contaminant treatment facilities, treatment facilities, potential air contaminant storage facilities, or storage facilities subject to a notification, permit, or license requirement under this chapter, subchapters I and V of the federal Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7401 et seq., or rules adopted thereunder. The annual fee shall be used to pay for all direct and

198.1 indirect reasonable costs, including legal costs, required to develop and administer the
198.2 notification, permit, or license program requirements of this chapter, subchapters I and V
198.3 of the federal Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7401 et seq., or rules
198.4 adopted thereunder. Those costs include the reasonable costs of reviewing and acting upon
198.5 an application for a permit; implementing and enforcing statutes, rules, and the terms and
198.6 conditions of a permit; emissions, ambient, and deposition monitoring; preparing generally
198.7 applicable regulations; responding to federal guidance; modeling, analyses, and
198.8 demonstrations; preparing inventories and tracking emissions; and providing information
198.9 to the public about these activities.

198.10 (c) The agency shall set fees that:

198.11 (1) will result in the collection, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph
198.12 (b), of an amount not less than \$25 per ton of each volatile organic compound; pollutant
198.13 regulated under United States Code, title 42, section 7411 or 7412 (section 111 or 112 of
198.14 the federal Clean Air Act); and each pollutant, except carbon monoxide, for which a national
198.15 primary ambient air quality standard has been promulgated;

198.16 (2) may result in the collection, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph
198.17 (b), of an amount not less than \$25 per ton of each pollutant not listed in clause (1) that is
198.18 regulated under this chapter or air quality rules adopted under this chapter; and

198.19 (3) shall collect, in the aggregate, from the sources listed in paragraph (b), the amount
198.20 needed to match grant funds received by the state under United States Code, title 42, section
198.21 7405 (section 105 of the federal Clean Air Act).

198.22 The agency must not include in the calculation of the aggregate amount to be collected
198.23 under clauses (1) and (2) any amount in excess of 4,000 tons per year of each air pollutant
198.24 from a source. The increase in air permit fees to match federal grant funds shall be a surcharge
198.25 on existing fees. The commissioner may not collect the surcharge after the grant funds
198.26 become unavailable. In addition, the commissioner shall use nonfee funds to the extent
198.27 practical to match the grant funds so that the fee surcharge is minimized.

198.28 (d) To cover the reasonable costs described in paragraph (b), the agency shall provide
198.29 in the rules promulgated under paragraph (c) for an increase in the fee collected in each
198.30 year by the percentage, if any, by which the Consumer Price Index for the most recent
198.31 calendar year ending before the beginning of the year the fee is collected exceeds the
198.32 Consumer Price Index for the calendar year 1989. For purposes of this paragraph the
198.33 Consumer Price Index for any calendar year is the average of the Consumer Price Index for
198.34 all-urban consumers published by the United States Department of Labor, as of the close

199.1 of the 12-month period ending on August 31 of each calendar year. The revision of the
199.2 Consumer Price Index that is most consistent with the Consumer Price Index for calendar
199.3 year 1989 shall be used.

199.4 (e) Any money collected under paragraphs (b) to (d) must be deposited in the
199.5 environmental fund and must be used solely for the activities listed in paragraph (b).

199.6 (f) Permit applicants who wish to construct, reconstruct, or modify a project may ~~offer~~
199.7 request expedited permitting under this paragraph. An applicant requesting expedited
199.8 permitting under this paragraph must agree to reimburse the agency for the costs of staff
199.9 time or consultant services needed to expedite the preapplication process and permit
199.10 development process through the final decision on the permit, including the analysis of
199.11 environmental review documents. The reimbursement ~~shall be~~ is in addition to permit
199.12 application fees imposed by law. ~~When the agency determines that it needs additional~~
199.13 ~~resources to develop the permit application in an expedited manner, and that expediting the~~
199.14 ~~development is consistent with permitting program priorities, the agency may accept the~~
199.15 ~~reimbursement.~~ The commissioner must give the applicant an estimate of the timeline and
199.16 costs to be incurred by the commissioner. The estimate must include a brief description of
199.17 the tasks to be performed, a schedule for completing the tasks, and the estimated cost for
199.18 each task. If the applicant agrees to the estimated timeline and costs negotiated with the
199.19 commissioner, the applicant and the commissioner must enter into a written agreement
199.20 ~~detailing the estimated costs for the expedited permit decision-making process to be incurred~~
199.21 ~~by the agency~~ to proceed accordingly. The agreement must also identify staff anticipated
199.22 to be assigned to the project. The agreement may provide that, if permitting is completed
199.23 ahead of the schedule set forth in the written agreement, the commissioner may retain any
199.24 fees that would have been due if the permitting had taken the time contemplated in the
199.25 written agreement. Fees retained by the commissioner under this paragraph are appropriated
199.26 to the commissioner for administering the commissioner's permitting duties. The
199.27 commissioner must not issue a permit until the applicant has paid all fees in full. The
199.28 commissioner must refund any unobligated balance of fees paid. Reimbursements accepted
199.29 by the agency are appropriated to the agency for the purpose of developing the permit or
199.30 analyzing environmental review documents. Reimbursement by a permit applicant shall
199.31 precede and not be contingent upon issuance of a permit; shall not affect the agency's decision
199.32 on whether to issue or deny a permit, what conditions are included in a permit, or the
199.33 application of state and federal statutes and rules governing permit determinations; and shall
199.34 not affect final decisions regarding environmental review.

199.35 (g) The fees under this subdivision are exempt from section 16A.1285.

200.1 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.04, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

200.2 Subd. 2a. **When prepared.** (a) Where there is potential for significant environmental
200.3 effects resulting from any major governmental action, the action must be preceded by a
200.4 detailed environmental impact statement prepared by the responsible governmental unit.
200.5 The environmental impact statement must be an analytical rather than an encyclopedic
200.6 document that describes the proposed action in detail, analyzes its significant environmental
200.7 impacts, discusses appropriate alternatives to the proposed action and their impacts, and
200.8 explores methods by which adverse environmental impacts of an action could be mitigated.
200.9 The environmental impact statement must also analyze those economic, employment, and
200.10 sociological effects that cannot be avoided should the action be implemented. To ensure its
200.11 use in the decision-making process, the environmental impact statement must be prepared
200.12 as early as practical in the formulation of an action.

200.13 (b) The board shall by rule establish categories of actions for which environmental
200.14 impact statements and for which environmental assessment worksheets must be prepared
200.15 as well as categories of actions for which no environmental review is required under this
200.16 section. A mandatory environmental assessment worksheet is not required for the expansion
200.17 of an ethanol plant, as defined in section 41A.09, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b), or the
200.18 conversion of an ethanol plant to a biobutanol facility or the expansion of a biobutanol
200.19 facility as defined in section 41A.15, subdivision 2d, based on the capacity of the expanded
200.20 or converted facility to produce alcohol fuel, but must be required if the ethanol plant or
200.21 biobutanol facility meets or exceeds thresholds of other categories of actions for which
200.22 environmental assessment worksheets must be prepared. The responsible governmental unit
200.23 for an ethanol plant or biobutanol facility project for which an environmental assessment
200.24 worksheet is prepared is the state agency with the greatest responsibility for supervising or
200.25 approving the project as a whole.

200.26 (c) A mandatory environmental impact statement is not required for a facility or plant
200.27 located outside the seven-county metropolitan area that produces less than 125,000,000
200.28 gallons of ethanol, biobutanol, or cellulosic biofuel annually, or produces less than 400,000
200.29 tons of chemicals annually, if the facility or plant is: an ethanol plant, as defined in section
200.30 41A.09, subdivision 2a, paragraph (b); a biobutanol facility, as defined in section 41A.15,
200.31 subdivision 2d; or a cellulosic biofuel facility. A facility or plant that only uses a cellulosic
200.32 feedstock to produce chemical products for use by another facility as a feedstock is not
200.33 considered a fuel conversion facility as used in rules adopted under this chapter.

200.34 (d) The responsible governmental unit shall promptly publish notice of the completion
200.35 of an environmental assessment worksheet by publishing the notice in at least one newspaper

201.1 of general circulation in the geographic area where the project is proposed, by posting the
201.2 notice on a website that has been designated as the official publication site for publication
201.3 of proceedings, public notices, and summaries of a political subdivision in which the project
201.4 is proposed, or in any other manner determined by the board and shall provide copies of
201.5 the environmental assessment worksheet to the board and its member agencies. Comments
201.6 on the need for an environmental impact statement may be submitted to the responsible
201.7 governmental unit during a 30-day period following publication of the notice that an
201.8 environmental assessment worksheet has been completed. The responsible governmental
201.9 unit may extend the 30-day comment period for an additional 30 days one time. Further
201.10 extensions of the comment period may not be made unless approved by the project's proposer.
201.11 The responsible governmental unit's decision on the need for an environmental impact
201.12 statement must be based on the environmental assessment worksheet and the comments
201.13 received during the comment period, and must be made within 15 days after the close of
201.14 the comment period. The board's chair may extend the 15-day period by not more than 15
201.15 additional days upon the request of the responsible governmental unit.

201.16 (e) An environmental assessment worksheet must also be prepared for a proposed action
201.17 whenever material evidence accompanying a petition ~~by not less than 100 individuals who~~
201.18 ~~reside or own property in the state~~, submitted before the proposed project has received final
201.19 approval by the appropriate governmental units, demonstrates that, because of the nature
201.20 or location of a proposed action, there may be potential for significant environmental effects.
201.21 Petitions may be submitted by:

201.22 (1) a Minnesota Tribal government as defined under section 10.65, subdivision 2; or

201.23 (2) not less than 100 individuals who reside or own property in the state.

201.24 (f) Petitions requesting the preparation of an environmental assessment worksheet under
201.25 paragraph (e) must be submitted to the board. The chair of the board or designee shall
201.26 determine the appropriate responsible governmental unit and forward the petition to it. A
201.27 decision on the need for an environmental assessment worksheet must be made by the
201.28 responsible governmental unit within 15 days after the petition is received by the responsible
201.29 governmental unit. The board's chair or designee may extend the 15-day period by not more
201.30 than 15 additional days upon request of the responsible governmental unit.

201.31 ~~(f)~~ (g) Except in an environmentally sensitive location where Minnesota Rules, part
201.32 4410.4300, subpart 29, item B, applies, the proposed action is exempt from environmental
201.33 review under this chapter and rules of the board, if:

201.34 (1) the proposed action is:

- 202.1 (i) an animal feedlot facility with a capacity of less than 1,000 animal units; or
- 202.2 (ii) an expansion of an existing animal feedlot facility with a total cumulative capacity
- 202.3 of less than 1,000 animal units;
- 202.4 (2) the application for the animal feedlot facility includes a written commitment by the
- 202.5 proposer to design, construct, and operate the facility in full compliance with Pollution
- 202.6 Control Agency feedlot rules; and
- 202.7 (3) the county board holds a public meeting for citizen input at least ten business days
- 202.8 before the Pollution Control Agency or county issuing a feedlot permit for the animal feedlot
- 202.9 facility unless another public meeting for citizen input has been held with regard to the
- 202.10 feedlot facility to be permitted. The exemption in this paragraph is in addition to other
- 202.11 exemptions provided under other law and rules of the board.
- 202.12 ~~(g)~~ (h) The board may, before final approval of a proposed project, require preparation
- 202.13 of an environmental assessment worksheet by a responsible governmental unit selected by
- 202.14 the board for any action where environmental review under this section has not been
- 202.15 specifically provided for by rule or otherwise initiated.
- 202.16 ~~(h)~~ (i) An early and open process must be used to limit the scope of the environmental
- 202.17 impact statement to a discussion of those impacts that, because of the nature or location of
- 202.18 the project, have the potential for significant environmental effects. The same process must
- 202.19 be used to determine the form, content, and level of detail of the statement as well as the
- 202.20 alternatives that are appropriate for consideration in the statement. In addition, the permits
- 202.21 that will be required for the proposed action must be identified during the scoping process.
- 202.22 Further, the process must identify those permits for which information will be developed
- 202.23 concurrently with the environmental impact statement. The board shall provide in its rules
- 202.24 for the expeditious completion of the scoping process. The determinations reached in the
- 202.25 process must be incorporated into the order requiring the preparation of an environmental
- 202.26 impact statement.
- 202.27 ~~(i)~~ (j) The responsible governmental unit shall, to the extent practicable, avoid duplication
- 202.28 and ensure coordination between state and federal environmental review and between
- 202.29 environmental review and environmental permitting. Whenever practical, information
- 202.30 needed by a governmental unit for making final decisions on permits or other actions required
- 202.31 for a proposed project must be developed in conjunction with the preparation of an
- 202.32 environmental impact statement. When an environmental impact statement is prepared for
- 202.33 a project requiring multiple permits for which two or more agencies' decision processes
- 202.34 include either mandatory or discretionary hearings before a hearing officer before the

203.1 agencies' decision on the permit, the agencies may, notwithstanding any law or rule to the
203.2 contrary, conduct the hearings in a single consolidated hearing process if requested by the
203.3 proposer. All agencies having jurisdiction over a permit that is included in the consolidated
203.4 hearing shall participate. The responsible governmental unit shall establish appropriate
203.5 procedures for the consolidated hearing process, including procedures to ensure that the
203.6 consolidated hearing process is consistent with the applicable requirements for each permit
203.7 regarding the rights and duties of parties to the hearing, and shall use the earliest applicable
203.8 hearing procedure to initiate the hearing. All agencies having jurisdiction over a permit
203.9 identified in the draft environmental assessment worksheet scoping document must begin
203.10 reviewing any permit application upon publication of the notice of preparation of the
203.11 environmental impact statement.

203.12 ~~(j)~~ (k) An environmental impact statement must be prepared and its adequacy determined
203.13 within 280 days after notice of its preparation unless the time is extended by consent of the
203.14 parties or by the governor for good cause. The responsible governmental unit shall determine
203.15 the adequacy of an environmental impact statement, unless within 60 days after notice is
203.16 published that an environmental impact statement will be prepared, the board chooses to
203.17 determine the adequacy of an environmental impact statement. If an environmental impact
203.18 statement is found to be inadequate, the responsible governmental unit has 60 days to prepare
203.19 an adequate environmental impact statement.

203.20 ~~(k)~~ (l) The proposer of a specific action may include in the information submitted to the
203.21 responsible governmental unit a preliminary draft environmental impact statement under
203.22 this section on that action for review, modification, and determination of completeness and
203.23 adequacy by the responsible governmental unit. A preliminary draft environmental impact
203.24 statement prepared by the project proposer and submitted to the responsible governmental
203.25 unit must identify or include as an appendix all studies and other sources of information
203.26 used to substantiate the analysis contained in the preliminary draft environmental impact
203.27 statement. The responsible governmental unit shall require additional studies, if needed,
203.28 and obtain from the project proposer all additional studies and information necessary for
203.29 the responsible governmental unit to perform its responsibility to review, modify, and
203.30 determine the completeness and adequacy of the environmental impact statement.

203.31 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.04, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

203.32 Subd. 2b. **Project prerequisites.** (a) If an environmental assessment worksheet or an
203.33 environmental impact statement is required for a governmental action under subdivision

204.1 2a, a project may not be started and a final governmental decision may not be made to grant
204.2 a permit, approve a project, or begin a project, until:

204.3 (1) a petition for an environmental assessment worksheet is dismissed;

204.4 (2) a negative declaration has been issued on the need for an environmental impact
204.5 statement;

204.6 (3) the environmental impact statement has been determined adequate; or

204.7 (4) a variance has been granted from making an environmental impact statement by the
204.8 environmental quality board.

204.9 (b) Nothing in this subdivision precludes a local unit of government from beginning to
204.10 review a feedlot permit application for a feedlot subject to environmental review under this
204.11 chapter.

204.12 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.04, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

204.13 Subd. 5a. **Rules.** The board shall, by January 1, 1981, promulgate rules in conformity
204.14 with this chapter and the provisions of chapter 15, establishing:

204.15 (1) the governmental unit which shall be responsible for environmental review of a
204.16 proposed action;

204.17 (2) the form and content of environmental assessment worksheets;

204.18 (3) a scoping process in conformance with subdivision 2a, paragraph ~~(h)~~ (i);

204.19 (4) a procedure for identifying during the scoping process the permits necessary for a
204.20 proposed action and a process for coordinating review of appropriate permits with the
204.21 preparation of the environmental impact statement;

204.22 (5) a standard format for environmental impact statements;

204.23 (6) standards for determining the alternatives to be discussed in an environmental impact
204.24 statement;

204.25 (7) alternative forms of environmental review which are acceptable pursuant to
204.26 subdivision 4a;

204.27 (8) a model ordinance which may be adopted and implemented by local governmental
204.28 units in lieu of the environmental impact statement process required by this section, providing
204.29 for an alternative form of environmental review where an action does not require a state
204.30 agency permit and is consistent with an applicable comprehensive plan. The model ordinance
204.31 shall provide for adequate consideration of appropriate alternatives, and shall ensure that

205.1 decisions are made in accordance with the policies and purposes of Laws 1980, chapter
205.2 447;

205.3 (9) procedures to reduce paperwork and delay through intergovernmental cooperation
205.4 and the elimination of unnecessary duplication of environmental reviews;

205.5 (10) procedures for expediting the selection of consultants by the governmental unit
205.6 responsible for the preparation of an environmental impact statement; and

205.7 (11) any additional rules which are reasonably necessary to carry out the requirements
205.8 of this section.

205.9 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 116D.045, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

205.10 Subdivision 1. **Assessment.** The board must by rule adopt procedures to:

205.11 (1) assess the proposer of a specific action for the responsible governmental unit's
205.12 reasonable costs of preparing, reviewing, and distributing the environmental impact statement.
205.13 The costs must be determined by the responsible governmental unit according to the rules
205.14 adopted by the board; and

205.15 (2) authorize a responsible governmental unit to allow a proposer of a specific action to
205.16 prepare a draft environmental impact statement according to section 116D.04, subdivision
205.17 2a, paragraph ~~(k)~~ (l).

205.18 Sec. 9. **SCOPING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET NOT**
205.19 **REQUIRED FOR PROJECTS THAT REQUIRE A MANDATORY**
205.20 **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.**

205.21 (a) The Environmental Quality Board must amend Minnesota Rules, part 4410.2100, as
205.22 follows:

205.23 (1) to provide that an environmental assessment worksheet does not need to be prepared
205.24 for a project that falls within a mandatory environmental impact statement category under
205.25 Minnesota Rules, part 4410.4400, or other applicable law; and

205.26 (2) to provide that a scoping process undertaken under Minnesota Rules, part 4410.2100,
205.27 must be completed no later than 280 days after the process begins.

205.28 (b) The board may use the good-cause exemption under Minnesota Statutes, section
205.29 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to adopt rules under this section, and Minnesota Statutes,
205.30 section 14.386, does not apply except as provided under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388.

207.1

5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12a, 12b, 12c, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20; 115A.1312;

207.2

115A.1314; 115A.1316; 115A.1318; 115A.1320; 115A.1322; 115A.1323;

207.3

115A.1324; 115A.1326; 115A.1328; 115A.1330; 115A.9155; 115A.9157,

207.4

subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; 115A.961, subdivisions 1, 2, 3; 116C.04,

207.5

subdivision 11; 116C.991; 116D.04, subdivision 5b; 325E.125; 325E.1251."

207.6

And when so amended the bill do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on Finance.

207.7

Amendments adopted. Report adopted.

207.8



207.9

(Committee Chair)

207.10

April 10, 2025.....

207.11

(Date of Committee recommendation)