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Project Completion Date: June 30, 2002

*list of proj
post approval*

LCMR Work Program 1999

I. PROJECT TITLE: Local Initiative Grants Program (consolidated work program)
(See Budget Status and Appropriation Language sections for citations)

Project Manager: Wayne Sames

Affiliation: Department of Natural Resources

Mailing Address: DNR, Office of Planning, Box 10, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

Telephone Number: (651) 296-1567 **E-Mail:** wayne.sames@dnr.state.mn.us **Fax:** (651) 296-6047

Budget Status: (thousands)	Total <u>Approp.</u>	Local <u>Parks</u>	Natural/ <u>Scenic</u>	Cons. <u>Partners</u>	Local <u>Trails</u>	Reg. <u>Trails</u>	Env. <u>Part.</u>
M.L. 1994, Ch. 643, Sec. 23,							
Subd. 20 (1994 Bonding)	1,400.0	600.0	800.0				
Balance:	0.0	0.0	0.0				
M.L. 1995, Ch. 220, Sec. 19,							
Subd. 4(e) (1995 MFRF)	1,800.0	500.0	500.0	400.0	400.0		
Balance:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
M.L. 1996, Ch. 407, Sec. 8,							
Subd. 3(c) (1996 MFRF Supp.)	895.0	665.0		100.0	130.0		
Balance:	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0		
M.L. 1997, Ch. 216, Sec. 15,							
Subd. 4(c) (1997 MFRF)	2,900.0	600.0	600.0	600.0	200.0	700.0	200.0
Balance:	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
M.L. 1997, Ch. 216, Sec. 5,							
Subd. 6 (1997 Gen. Rev.)	500.0					500.0	
Balance:	0.0					0.0	
M.L. 1998, Ch. 404, Sec. 7,							
Subd. 26 (1998 Gen. Rev.)	8,000.0	2,162.4	1,337.6		1,000.0	3,500.0	
Balance:	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	
M.L. 1998, Ch. 401, Sec. 4							
(1998 Gen. Rev., Supp)	200.0			200.0			
Balance:	0.0			0.0			
M.L. 1999, Ch. 231, Sec. 16							
Subd. 4 (1999 MFRF, ETF)	5,117.0*	1,953.0**	870.0	610.0	554.0	930.0	200.0
Balance:	216.5***	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	210.0***	0.0
Totals: Appropriated:	20,812.0	6,480.4	4,107.6	1,910.0	2,284.0	5,630.0	400.0
Balance:	216.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	210.0	0.0

* Undesignated balance of \$54,000 in the 1999 trail grant appropriation language is included in this figure. **\$50,000 specified for Nashwauk and \$28,000 for Hitterdal. ***Includes \$50,000 for preliminary design and engineering for a trail from Appleton to Milan Beach on Lake Lac Qui Parle and \$160,000 to resurface a trail from Milan to Lake Lac Qui Parle in Chippewa County.

A. Appropriation Language:

1994 Bonding: M.L. 1994, Chap. 643, Sec. 23, Subd. 20. Local Recreation Grants

For matching grants to be provided to local units of government for acquisition, development, or renovation of a capital nature of local park and recreation areas. Recipients must provide a match of at least one-half of total eligible project costs. The commissioner shall make payment to local units of government upon receiving documentation of reimbursable expenses. The commissioner shall determine project priorities as appropriate based upon need. Of this appropriation, \$300,000 is to provide a grant to Winona County for the purchase of the scenic vista on Hiawatha-Apple blossom Scenic Drive in Winona County. These funds must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis. \$500,000 of this appropriation is for grants to units of government to acquire and better natural and scenic areas under the new Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019, subdivision 4a. #1,400,000.

1995 MFRF: M.L. 1995, Chap. 220, Sec. 19, Subd. 4(e). Local Grants.

This appropriation is from the future resource fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants, as follows: (1) \$500,000 to local units of government for local park and recreation areas; (2) \$500,000 to local units of government for natural and scenic areas pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019; (3) \$400,000 to local units of government for trail linkages between communities, trails and parks; and (4) \$400,000 for a conservation partners program, a statewide pilot to encourage private organizations and local governments to cost share enhancements of fish, wildlife, and native plant habitats; and research and surveys of fish and wildlife, and related education activities. Conservation partners grants may be up to \$10,000 each and must be equally matched. In addition to the required work program, grants may not be approved until grant proposals to be funded have been submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources and the commission has either made a recommendation or allowed 60 days to pass without making a recommendation. The above appropriations are available half for the metropolitan area as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2, and half for outside the metropolitan area. This project must be completed and final products delivered by December 31, 1997, and the appropriation is available until that date.

Note: The project period was extended to June 30, 1998.

1996 MFRF Supplemental: M.L. 1996, Chap. 407, Sec. 8, Subd. 3(c). Local Grants.

This appropriation is from the future resources fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants to local units of government for local park and recreation areas; trail linkages between communities, trails, and parks; and at least \$100,000 for the conservation partners program as provided in Laws 1995, chapter 220, section 19, subdivision 4, paragraph (e). In addition to the required work program, grants may not be approved until grant proposals to be funded have been submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources, and the commission has either made a recommendation or allowed 60 days to pass without making a recommendation. The above appropriations are available half for the seven-county metropolitan area and half for outside of the metropolitan area. For the purpose of this paragraph, match includes nonstate contributions in either cash or in-kind.

Note: The project period was extended to June 30, 1998.

1997 MFRF: M.L. 1997, Chap. 216, Sec. 15, Subd. 4(c). Local Initiative Grant Program.

LOCAL INITIATIVES GRANTS PROGRAM \$2,900,000

This appropriation is from the future resources fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants, as follows:

- (1) \$600,000 to local units of government for local park and recreation areas pursuant to Minnesota statutes, section 85.019; \$50,000 of this appropriation is to complete the Larue public water access.
- (2) \$600,000 to local units of government for natural and scenic areas pursuant to Minnesota statutes section 85.019.
- (3) \$900,000 for trail grants to local units of government on land to be maintained for at least 20 years for the purpose of the grant; \$200,000 is for grants of up to \$50,000 per project for trail linkages between communities, trails, and parks and \$700,000 is for grants of up to \$250,000 for locally funded trails of regional significance. \$250,000 is to provide matching funds for an ISTE grant to provide easement acquisition and engineering costs for a proposed trail between the city of Pelican Rapids and Maplewood State Park.
- (4) \$600,000 for a statewide conservation partners program, to encourage private organizations and local governments to cost share improvements of fish, wildlife, and native plant habitat and research and surveys of fish and wildlife. Conservation partners grants may be up to \$10,000 each.
- (5) \$200,000 for environmental partnerships program grants of up to \$10,000 each for environmental service projects and related education activities through public and private partnerships.

In addition to the required work program, grants may not be approved until grant proposals to be funded have been submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources and the commission has approved the grants or allowed 60 days to pass. The above appropriations, in combination, are available half for the metropolitan area as defined in Minnesota statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2, and half for outside of the metropolitan area. For the purpose of this paragraph, the match must be non-state contributions, but may be either cash or in-kind. This project must be completed and final products delivered by June 30, 2000, and the appropriation is available until that date.

1998 General Revenue: M.L. 1998, Chap. 404, Sec. 7, Subd. 26. Local Initiative Grants. 8,000,000.

For matching grants to be provided to local units of government for acquisition, development, or renovation of a capital nature of local parks, trails, and natural and scenic areas. Recipients must provide a match of at least one-half of total eligible project costs. The commissioner shall make payment to local units of government upon receiving documentation of reimbursable expenditures.

The commissioner shall determine project priorities as appropriate based upon need.

\$3,500,000 of this appropriation is for grants to local units of government to acquire and develop outdoor recreation areas, and for grants to units of government to acquire and better natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019, subdivision 4a.

\$1,000,000 of this appropriation is for cooperative trail grants of up to \$50,000 per project to acquire or construct trail linkages between communities, trails, and parks.

\$3,500,000 of this appropriation is for trail grants for the following locally funded publicly owned trails serving multiple communities: \$1,400,000 for Beaver Island Trail in Stearns County, \$1,400,000 for Skunk Hollow Trail in Yellow Medicine and Chippewa Counties, and \$700,000 for Unity Trail in Faribault County. The grant for Beaver Island Trail in Stearns County is available in the manner and the order that follows: \$500,000 is available upon commitment of an equal amount from nonstate sources, \$152,000 is available upon contribution of an equal amount from local governments, \$374,000 is available upon commitment of an equal amount from nonstate sources, and the balance of \$374,000 is available upon commitment of an equal amount from nonstate sources.

1998 General Revenue: M.L. 1998 Chap. 401, Sec. 4

\$200,000 in fiscal year 1998 is added to the appropriation in Laws 1997, chapter 216, section 15, subdivision 4, paragraph (c), clause (4), for the statewide conservation partners program.

1999 MFRF: M.L. 1999 Chap. 231, Section 16, Subd. 4(a) . Local Initiatives Grants Program. \$5,117,000.

This appropriation is to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants, as follows:

(1) \$1,953,000 is from the future resources fund to local units of government for local park and recreation areas of up to \$250,000 not withstanding Minnesota Statutes 85.019. \$50,000 is to complete the Larue Pit Recreation Development. \$28,000 is to the city of Hitterdal for park construction at Lake Flora. \$460,000 is available on the day following final enactment.

(2) \$435,000 the first year and \$435,000 the second year are from the trust fund to local units of government for natural and scenic areas pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019.

(3) \$1,484,000 is from the future resources fund for trail grants to local units of government on land to be maintained for at least 20 years for the purposes of the grant. \$500,000 is for grants of up to \$50,000 per project for trail linkages between communities, trails, and parks, and \$720,000 is for grants of up to \$250,000 for locally funded trails of regional significance outside the metropolitan area. \$50,000 is to the upper Minnesota River Valley regional development commission for the preliminary design and engineering of a single segment of the Minnesota River trail from Appleton to the Milan Beach on Lake Lac Qui Parle. \$160,000 is to the Department of Natural Resources to resurface four miles of recreational trail from the town of Milan to Lake Lac Qui Parle in Chippewa County.

(4) \$305,000 the first year and \$305,000 the second year are from the trust fund for a statewide conservation partners program, to encourage private organizations and local governments to cost share improvement of fish, wildlife, and native plant habitats and research and surveys of fish and wildlife. Conservation partners grants may be up to \$20,000 each. \$10,000 of this appropriation is for an agreement with the Canby Sportsman's Club for shelterbelts for habitat and erosion control.

(5) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are from the trust fund for environmental partnerships program grants of up to \$20,000 each for environmental service projects and related education activities through public and private partnerships.

In addition to the required work program, grants may not be approved until grant proposals to be funded have been submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources and the commission has approved the grants or allowed 60 days to pass. The commission shall monitor the grants for approximate balance over extended periods of time between the metropolitan area as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2 and the non-metropolitan area through work program oversight and periodic allocation decisions. For the purpose of this paragraph, the match must be nonstate contributions, but may be either cash or in-kind. Recipients may receive funding for more than one project in any given grant period. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2002 at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program. If a project financed under this program receives a federal grant, the availability of the financing from this subdivision for that project is extended to equal the period of the federal grant.

B. Status of Match Requirement:

All grant programs require a dollar for dollar match on the part of the local government or private organization recipient as a prerequisite to receiving a grant. In addition, all grants are reimbursement grants that require a documented expenditure of funds and/or in-kind contributions prior to reimbursement.

II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS:

The local initiatives grants program includes six separate grant programs. Every year the department solicits grant proposals from local governments for local parks, natural and scenic areas, local trail connections projects, regional trail projects, environmental partnership projects and conservation partners projects. Project applications are usually due in the spring, with project ranking completed by the end of May.

Project proposals for all of these programs are evaluated and ranked on a competitive basis, with grants being awarded to the highest ranking projects. After ranking, the recommendations are brought back to the LCMR as revisions to the work program for final review and approval. The LCMR approves a priority ranked list presented by the DNR. If one or more approved projects subsequently is dropped from the list, the DNR is authorized by the LCMR to reallocate those funds to the next highest ranked project. If no other ranked project is available, the funds will be added to the balance for the appropriate grant program and may be reallocated subject to LCMR review and approval.

The Legislature has traditionally required a roughly fifty/fifty split in grant program funding, with half of the appropriations available for the seven-county metropolitan area and half for outside the metropolitan area. The LCMR has given the department the flexibility to achieve this split within the entire appropriation, rather than within each specific subprogram. In addition, this approximate balance can be achieved over extended periods of time, subject to LCMR work program oversight and periodic allocation decisions. Because the 1999 appropriation language for the Regional Trail Grant Program specifies that the entire \$720,000 be spent for projects outside the metropolitan area, the overall Local Initiative Grants section is automatically out of balance by \$720,000 prior to approval of recommendations for the other five grant programs.

The department has consolidated much of the application process for these six programs and is working to further improve coordination of application schedules, procedures, etc.

Six distinct grant programs provide matching grants to local governments and/or private organizations for acquisition, development, renovation, enhancement, research and education associated with parks and trails, natural and scenic areas, natural habitat, and other environmental projects:

- * **Local Park Grant Program** (for cities, counties and townships) provides more and improved locally administered and maintained outdoor recreation facilities. The maximum grant amount of \$50,000 established in statute (Minnesota Statutes 1995 Supplement, Section 85.019) was eliminated through a 1999 amendment to that statute. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language also includes a provision which increases the limit to \$250,000, notwithstanding the statutory limit. This limit, therefore, applies to the 1999 LCMR appropriation.

- * **Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program** (for cities, counties, townships and school districts) helps local governments protect scenic amenities and high quality open space and natural areas. The maximum grant amount is established in statute (Minnesota Statutes 1998, Section 85.019) and was increased during the 1998 legislative session from \$200,000 to \$500,000.

- * **The Local Trail Connections Grant Program** (for cities, counties, townships and recognized tribal governments) helps link communities to trails and parks through development of connecting trail segments. The 1999 Legislature formally established a grant program for local trail connections (M.S. Chapter 85.019, Subd. 4(c)). The maximum grant amount of \$50,000 has been established administratively and is not defined in statute.

* **Conservation Partners Grant Program** (for private organizations and local governments, including cooperative projects involving local governments) provides assistance to private organizations for projects that enhance fish, wildlife and native plant habitat or for research or survey projects related to habitat enhancement. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language includes an increase in the maximum grant amount from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

* **Environmental Partnerships Grant Program** helps private organizations carry out a variety of projects to help protect and enhance our natural environment. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language includes an increase in the maximum grant amount from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

* **Regional Trail Grant Program** provides grants of up to \$250,000 to cities, counties, and townships for development of regionally significant trails funded with local or federal funding. Primary determinants of significance include length, expected use and resource quality and/or attractiveness. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language specifies that the funds be used for projects outside the metropolitan area. The 1999 Legislature formally established a grant program for Regional Trails (M. S. Chapter 85.019, Subd. 4(b)).

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$8 million for the Local Initiatives Grant program. A total of \$3.5 million of this was made available for the Local Park Grant and Natural and Scenic Area Grant programs. A total of \$2,162,360 was allocated to 57 Local Park Grant projects and \$1,337,640 to 11 Natural and Scenic Area Grant projects by the Commission at its June 10, 1998 meeting. This leaves a 1998 appropriation balance of \$0 for both the Local Park Grant Program and the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program.

A total of \$1,000,000 was allocated to the Local Trail Connections Grant program. Recommendations for funding were presented at the July 15, 1998 Commission meeting. A total of \$968,969 for 24 eligible projects was presented for consideration by the Commission. The projects were approved, leaving a balance of \$24,138. With reallocations recommended at this time, there will be a balance of \$0.

An additional \$3.5 million was appropriated in 1998 to three specific regional trail projects outside the metropolitan area as part of the overall Local Initiatives Grant appropriation in 1998. The City of Blue Earth received \$700,000 for the Unity Trail in Faribault County, the City of St. Cloud was allocated \$1,400,000 for the Beaver Island Trail in Stearns County, and Chippewa County and Yellow Medicine County received an appropriation of \$1,400,000 for the Skunk Hollow Trail. The Faribault County and Chippewa County projects were approved at the July 15, 1998 LCMR meeting, leaving a balance of \$1.4 million for the St. Cloud project. The St. Cloud project was approved at the December 3, 1998 commission meeting. New language passed by the 1999 Legislature specifies match requirements for this appropriation (See shaded portion of 1998 appropriation language).

The 1998 Legislature also provided \$200,000 in supplemental funding for the Conservation Partners Grant program. This appropriation was subject to the same 50/50 split between the Metro Area and the rest of the state as the 1997 appropriation. At the May 13, 1998 Commission meeting approval was given for 4 projects in Region 4 (Southwest) totaling \$27,172. Recommendations for an additional 51 projects totaling \$370,743 (including funds left over from the 1997 appropriation) were approved at the July 15, 1998 Commission meeting. The remaining balance of 1998 funds was \$22,277. This is recommended for allocation to projects in the 1999 funding round.

III. WORK PROGRAM UPDATE SUMMARY:

The following is an update for all Local Initiative Grants appropriations, including bonding and general revenue appropriations, since 1994.

For the 1999 LCMR appropriation the summaries include the number of projects recommended for funding under each program. During a normal project cycle, however, a few projects usually end up being withdrawn by the applicants. Some are also completed for less than the original estimated cost. In some cases it is possible to reallocate these funds to the next eligible projects on the ranking list. As requested in previous years, the DNR requests prior approval from the LCMR to reallocate funds to the next highest ranked projects, or projects that were originally under funded, on the ranking lists if additional funds are made available.

In addition, Environmental Trust Fund dollars appropriated for the Natural and Scenic Areas, Conservation Partners, and Environmental Partnerships grants are divided equally between FY 2000 and FY 2001. DNR requests approval to allocate the appropriation for both years based on the readiness of the projects to proceed, with the understanding that no costs shall be incurred and no grant agreements shall be completed for FY 2001 funds prior to July 1, 2000., .

A. Local Park Grants:

1) 1994 Bonding (July 1, 1994 - June 6, 2000):

A total of 19 projects totaling \$600,000 were funded during the 1994 application cycle. All projects have been completed.

2) 1995 MFRF (July 1, 1995 - June 6, 2000):

The total allocation of \$500,000 was used to fund 19 projects. All of these projects have been completed. Some projects were completed under budget, leaving a balance to be returned.

3) 1996 MFRF Supplemental: (April 24, 1996 - June 6, 2000):

An allocation of \$665,000 was approved for 20 new projects, plus additional funds for three of the previously approved 1995 projects. All of the projects have been completed. Some of these projects were completed under budget, leaving a balance to be returned.

4) 1997 MFRF (June 23, 1997 - June 6, 2000):

A total of \$600,000 was allocated to 20 projects, including a specified grant of \$50,000 to the City of Nashwauk. Thirteen of these projects are still active and seven have been completed.

5) 1998 Gen. Rev. (June 10, 1998 - June 6, 2000):

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$3.5 million for the Local Park Grant Program and the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program combined, with no language specifying how the \$3.5 million should be split between the two programs. The Commission allocated \$2,162,360 to the Local Park Grant Program for 52 projects. Two of those projects withdrew leaving a balance of \$99,540, which is recommended to be used to fund one additional project in 1999. The remaining \$1,337,640 was allocated to the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program. The LCMR approved these recommendations on June 10, 1998 leaving a balance of \$0.

6) 1999 MFRF: (June 16, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 LCMR appropriation language includes an allocation of \$1,875,000 for the competitive Local Park Grant program. Including the two specified projects described in the next paragraph, the total 1999 appropriation is \$1,953,000. The appropriation language also increased the maximum grant amount from \$50,000 to \$250,000. The DNR recommended

allocating the entire \$1,875,000 in competitive funds, plus \$181,828 in reallocated funds from previous years, to 28 projects. In addition, two projects are specified for funding in the appropriation language (see next paragraph). The Commission approved these grants on June 16, 1999. Work on most of these projects is currently underway.

7) 1999 MFRF: (June 16, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The Commission's draft appropriation language also includes specified appropriations of \$50,000 to the City of Nashwauk for the Larue Pit Recreation Development and \$28,000 to the city of Hitterdal for park construction at Lake Flora. The Nashwauk project includes campground expansion and development, development of overlooks, and interpretive signing. The DNR will administer this appropriation consistent with the policies of the Local Park Grant program. These grants were approved on June 16, 1999.

B. Natural and Scenic Area Grants:

1) 1994 Bonding (July 1, 1994 - June 6, 2000):

A total of \$800,000 was appropriated for the Natural and Scenic Area Grants program, with \$300,000 specifically allocated to the Winona County scenic bluff land project and \$550,000 available for the competitive grant program. A total of six projects have been funded to date. Grant agreements have been completed for all of these projects and the acquisition has also been completed for most of these projects. Three other projects that were originally awarded grants were later withdrawn by project sponsors. Those funds were then reallocated to projects approved in 1997.

Of the \$300,000 allocated for the scenic vista in Winona County, \$180,910 has been provided to the county to reimburse part of the cost of acquiring the scenic bluff land area. The remaining \$119,090 has been encumbered. There is a possibility of additional bluff land acquisition or betterment activities on the recently acquired site. The 1996 Legislature amended the 1994 appropriation language to allow use of the remaining funds for both acquisition and development.

2) 1995 MFRF (July 1, 1995 - June 6, 2000):

A total of \$500,000 was appropriated. A second application round for this program was initiated in early December, 1995 with applications due May 1, 1996. Applications were evaluated and ranked during the summer of 1997. It was recommended that the total appropriation of \$500,000 be allocated to fully fund four projects and partially fund an additional three projects. The balance was reallocated to help fund the FY 1997 projects.

3) 1997 MMFRF (June 23, 1997 - June 6, 2000):

The LCMR recommended, and the 1997 Legislature appropriated, \$600,000 for grants to local units of government for natural and scenic areas. Grants were awarded for 7 projects. These projects were approved by the LCMR on June 10, 1998. One grant has since been reduced due to a successful application for federal funding, leaving a balance of \$77,650. This balance is recommended to partially fund one additional project in 1999.

4) 1998 Gen. Rev. (June 10, 1998 - June 6, 2000):

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$3.5 million for the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and the Local Park Grant Program combined, with no language specifying how the \$3.5 million should be split between the two programs. The Commission allocated \$1,337,640 to the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and \$2,162,360 to the Local Park Grant Program at the June 10, 1998 meeting. Twelve projects were funded. One later withdrew leaving a balance of \$166,600, which is recommended to partially fund two projects in 1999.

5) 1999 Trust Fund (June 16, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 LCMR appropriation provides \$435,000 the first year and \$435,000 the second year (a total of \$870,000) in Trust Fund dollars for the Natural and Scenic Area Grant program. The DNR recommends allocating the entire \$435,000 for the first year (plus \$289,770 in 1998

capitol improvement, 1997 LCMR and 1994 bonding appropriations available from previously funded projects that were completed under budget or were withdrawn by the applicants), to projects that are ready to proceed in FY 2000. In addition, the DNR recommends allocating the entire \$435,000 for FY 2001 for projects that will begin incurring costs after July 1, 2000. This would result in a total of 8 new projects and a balance of \$0. These projects were approved on June 16, 1999.

C. Local Trail Connections Grants:

1) 1995 MFRF (July 1, 1995 - June 6, 2000):

A total of \$400,000 was appropriated. Ten projects were approved for funding by the Commission at its September 13, 1995 meeting. Work on most of these projects started during the spring or summer of 1996. One outstate project sponsor notified the Department that they were unable to complete their project. Therefore, the Department recommended that funds reserved for this project be reallocated to two other outstate projects. The Commission approved these recommendations on March 14, 1997.

2) 1996 MFRF Supplemental (April 24, 1996 - June 6, 2000):

The Department proposed to allocate \$130,000 of the total \$895,000 in supplemental funds to the Local Trail Connections Program. This would provide funding for an additional four projects, plus additional funding for one of the previously approved 1995 FRF projects. The commission approved the funding recommendations at its April 24, 1996 meeting. One project sponsor within the metropolitan area notified the Department that they were unable to complete their project. Therefore, the Department recommended that the funds reserved for this project be reallocated to one project located within the metropolitan area. The Commission approved this recommendation on March 14, 1997.

3) 1997 MFRF (June 6, 1997 - June 6, 2000):

The LCMR recommended, and the 1997 Legislature appropriated, \$200,000 for grants to local units of government for trail linkages between communities, trails and parks. The Commission approved allocation of the funds and the remaining balance of the 1997 appropriation for this program is \$0. \$24,493 remaining from a withdrawn project is recommended for replacing and supplementing a previously approved grant with the City of Carver with an additional \$17,500, and the balance of \$6,993 for a previously approved, but underfunded, 1997 project in Vadnais Heights.

4) 1998 Gen. Rev. (July 15, 1998 - June 6, 2000):

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$1,000,000 in General Revenue funds for the Local Trail Connections Grant program. On July 15, 1998 the LCMR approved 24 eligible projects for a total of \$968,969 for consideration by the Commission, leaving a balance of \$24,138. The DNR recommends amending the Renville County original authorization of \$34,462 by adding \$15,538 for a total of \$50,000 to assist the local match of a TEA-21 grant. The balance of \$8,600 is also recommended for reallocation to a previously approved, but underfunded, 1997 project in Vadnais Heights.

5) 1999 MFRF: (June 23, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 LCMR appropriation includes \$500,000 for the Local Trail Connections Grant program. The DNR recommends funding 14 projects and a final \$3,043 for the 1997 Vadnais Heights project. In effect, this uses \$547,473 in 1999 funds leaving a balance of \$6,527 in 1999 funds. The Commission approved these projects on June 23, 1999.

D. Conservation Partners Grant Program:

1) 1995 MFRF (July 1, 1995 - June 6, 2000):

The appropriation for this program was \$400,000. The first application round for the new Conservation Partners Grant Program was initiated in the fall of 1995 with grant applications due on December 15, 1995. Applications were reviewed by DNR personnel and recommendations were brought to the Commission in April for final review and approval. Most projects commenced in the spring or summer of 1996. It was recommended that 60 projects be awarded statewide from the 1995 FRF allocation. The Commission approved the funding recommendations at the April 24, 1996 meeting.

2) 1996 MFRF Supplemental (April 24, 1996 - June 6, 2000):

The Department proposed allocating \$100,000 of the \$895,000 in supplemental funds to the Conservation Partners Grant Program. This provided funding for an additional 16 projects, plus additional funding for one of the projects recommended for 1995 FRF funding. Most of these projects were initiated in the spring or summer of 1996. The Commission approved the funding recommendations at the April 24, 1996 meeting.

3) 1997 MFRF (July 22, 1997 - June 6, 2000):

The LCMR recommended, and the 1997 Legislature appropriated, \$600,000 for grants to private organizations and local governments to cost share improvement of fish, wildlife, and native plant habitats and research and surveys of fish and wildlife. On July 22, 1997 the Commission reviewed and approved DNR staff recommendations to fund 45 projects totaling \$299,808. This left a balance of \$300,192. The Commission approved an additional 12 projects totaling \$60,000 at its April 29, 1998 meeting. These were recommended by staff in DNR regions 1, 2, and 5. An additional 2 projects were recommended by DNR Region 4 for a total of \$20,000. These were approved by the Commission at its May 13, 1998 meeting, along with an additional 4 projects totaling \$27,172, which would be funded from the 1998 appropriation. Grant applications for Region 3 and the Metro Region were submitted for review and approval at the July 15, 1998 meeting. Approval of those projects left a balance for the 1997 appropriation of \$0.

4) 1998 Gen. Rev., Supplemental (July, 15, 1998 - June 6, 2000):

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$200,000 in supplemental General Revenue funds for the Conservation Partners Grant program. \$27,172 was allocated to 4 projects in DNR Region 4 (Southwest) at the May 13, 1998 Commission meeting. Recommendations for the remaining allocation were presented and approved at the July 15, 1998 Commission meeting. Approval of these projects left a balance of \$22,277 from the 1998 appropriation. It is recommended that this balance be allocated to 1999 projects.

5) 1999 Trust Fund (June 16, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 LCMR appropriation includes \$305,000 the first year and \$305,000 the second year for the Conservation Partners Grant program. Of this amount, a total of \$600,000 is available for the competitive grant program. The appropriation language also includes an increase in the maximum grant amount from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The DNR recommends funding 67 projects using the balance of \$22,277 from 1998 funds and \$427,018 in 1999 funds for a total of \$449,295. The Commission approved these grants on June 16, 1999. This left a balance in 1999 funds of \$182,982. The DNR is requesting approval of an additional 25 projects totaling \$182,982, leaving a balance of \$0. (See the yellow colored Conservation Partners attachment)

The next paragraph describes a specified grant of \$10,000 to the Canby Sportsman's Club.

6) 1999 Trust Fund (June 16, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 LCMR appropriation language also includes a proposed appropriation of \$10,000 to the Canby Sportsman's Club to develop shelterbelts for habitat and erosion control. The club will work with private landowners in a nine township, two county area to develop shelterbelts, upland cover, nesting areas and food plots. Results will include acquisition of trees, site inspection and prioritization, site preparation, placement of weed control mats, and tree planting. The DNR will administer this project consistent with the policies of the Conservation Partners Grant program. The DNR recommended allocating \$5,000 in FY 2000 and \$5,000 in FY 2001 for this project. The Commission approved this project on June 16, 1999.

E. Regional Trail Grant Program:

1) 1997 MFRF (June 23, 1997 - June 6, 2000):

The 1997 Legislature appropriated \$700,000 for this new program. It provides grants of up to \$250,000 to local units of government for local trails of regional significance. DNR will collaborate with MnDOT for those projects involving ISTE A funding. ISTE A Enhancement projects will be reviewed and prioritized based on their deliverables. The balance of this appropriation is \$0.

2) 1997 Gen. Rev. (June 23, 1997 - June 6, 2000):

An additional appropriation of \$500,000 in General Revenue funds was also made by the 1997 Legislature. All of these funds have been allocated by the Commission.

3) 1998 Gen. Rev. (July 15, 1998 - June 6, 2000):

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$3.5 million for three specific trail projects outside the Metro Area: a) Unity Trail, City of Blue Earth (\$700,000); b) Beaver Island Trail, City of St. Cloud (\$1,400,000); and c) Skunk Hollow Trail, Chippewa County (\$1,400,000). These are all matching grants. Grant agreements are pending and subject to submission of additional information and documentation, as well as confirmation of the required match. The LCMR reviewed and approved work programs for the Faribault County and Chippewa County projects on July 15, 1998. The work program for the Stearns County project was approved on December 3, 1998. The 1999 Legislature amended the 1998 General Revenue language as follows: The grant for Beaver Island Trail in Stearns County is available in the manner and the order that follows: \$500,000 is available upon commitment of an equal amount from nonstate sources, \$152,000 is available upon contribution of an equal amount from local governments, \$374,000 is available upon commitment of an equal amount from nonstate sources, and the balance of \$374,000 is available upon commitment of an equal amount from nonstate sources.

4) 1999 MFRF (June 23, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 LCMR appropriation includes \$720,000 for the competitive Regional Trail Grant program. The appropriation language specifies that these dollars must be allocated for projects outside the metropolitan area. The DNR recommends 8 projects for a total of \$720,000, leaving a balance of \$0. The Commission approved these grants on June 23, 1999. The next paragraph describes two specified grants for regional trail projects.

5) 1999 MFRF (June 23, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 appropriation language also includes appropriations of \$50,000 to the Upper Minnesota River Valley Regional Development Commission for the preliminary design and engineering of a single segment of the Minnesota River trail from Appleton to the Milan Beach on Lake Lac Qui Parle and \$160,000 to the Department of Natural Resources to resurface four miles of recreational trail from the town of Milan to Lake Lac Qui Parle in Chippewa County. Work program approval for these projects will be requested later pending receipt of additional project information.

F. Environmental Partnerships Grant Program:

1) 1997 MFRF (July 22, 1997 - June 6, 2000):

The 1997 Legislature appropriated \$200,000 for this new pilot program. On July 22, 1997 the Commission approved 33 projects totaling \$200,000. No additional funding was provided for this program during the 1998 legislative session.

2) 1999 Trust Fund (June 23, 1999 - June 6, 2000):

The 1999 LCMR appropriation includes \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year for the Environmental Partnerships Grant program. The appropriation language also includes an increase in the maximum grant amount from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The DNR recommended

funding 31 projects for a total of \$139,764, leaving a balance of \$60,236. The Commission approved these grants on June 16, 1999. The DNR requests approval of an additional 12 projects totaling \$60,236, leaving a balance of \$0. (See the salmon colored Environmental Partnership attachment).

IV. OUTLINE OF PROGRAM RESULTS: Project results are detailed in Part III.

V. DISSEMINATION: Each year the Local Grants Unit of DNR distributes information on the various grant programs and application materials to local governments and private organizations throughout the state. A general mailing is made at the beginning of each application period, usually in the fall, and individual requests are handled on a case by case basis. (See detail on the evaluation and ranking process in Part II). Grant information is also distributed to and is available from the DNR Regional offices. DNR grants staff held a series of nine informational meetings throughout the state in January, 1999 to discuss the grant application process and provide assistance to potential grant applicants. Approximately 330 people attended these informational meetings. The DNR Local Grants Section also publishes a "Financial Assistance Directory" booklet, available for free, which provides information on the Local Initiative Grant programs, as well as many other sources of financial assistance within the DNR for natural resource projects. A revised and updated version of this directory has been completed and was available as of June, 1999. Finally, a new brochure outlining several grant programs administered by the DNR's Trails and Waterways Division and Local Grants Section was made available in January, 1999.

VI. CONTEXT:

A. Program Context:

Six grant programs have received prior funding:

- * The Local Park Grant program has the longest history of funding, having received state appropriations for over thirty years. This program has also received over \$45 million in federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON) allocations since 1965. Congress has not allocated LAWCON dollars to the states in since 1995, however, and it is uncertain whether an allocation will be made in 1999. The 1998 Legislature provided \$3.5 million for the Local Park Grant Program and the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program. At its June 10, 1998 meeting the Commission allocated \$2,162,360 to the Local Park Grant Program. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language included \$1,953,000 for this program. For federal FY2000 Congress provided LAWCON funding for the first time since 1995. A total of \$334,053 in LAWCON grants was allocated in the spring of 2000 to ten projects on the list of unfunded projects from 1999. No new state funding was provided in 2000.

- * The Natural and Scenic Areas Grant program was first funded in 1994. It received state Bonding funds in 1994 and LCMR MFRF funding in 1995 and 1997. The 1998 Legislature provided \$3.5 million for the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and the Local Parks Grant Program. At its June 10, 1998 meeting the Commission allocated \$1,337,640 to the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language included \$870,000 for this program. No new state funding was provided in 2000.

- * The Conservation Partners Grant program was first funded in 1995 as recommended by LCMR. Additional 1996 MFRF Supplemental funds and 1997 MFRF funds have also been appropriated. The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$200,000 in additional funding for the program. At its July 15, 1998 meeting the Commission approved use of \$177,723 of these funds for recommended projects. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language included \$610,000 for this program. No new state funding was provided in 2000.

* The Local Trail Connections Grant program received MFRF funds in 1993, 1995, and 1997 as well as FRF Supplemental funds in 1996. The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$1 million in additional funding for the program. At its July 15, 1998 meeting, the Commission approved 24 projects. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language included \$500,000 for this program. The 2000 Legislature provided a total of \$730,000 for Local Trail Connections and Regional Trail grants through the dedication of the state lottery sales tax to natural resource projects.

* The Environmental Partnerships Grant program was first funded with MFRF funds in 1997. No additional funding was provided by the 1998 Legislature. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language included \$200,000 for this program. No new state funding was provide in 2000.

* The Regional Trail Grant Program was first funded with MFRF funds in 1997. No additional funding was provided by the 1998 Legislature for competitive selection, although a \$3.5 million appropriation was made for three specific trail projects. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language includes \$930,000 for this program. Of this total, \$720,000 is available for competitive grants and the additional \$210,000 is allocated to two specified projects. The 2000 Legislature provide an additional \$500,000 in bonding funds, as well as a total of \$730,000 for the Regional Trails and Local Trail Connections grants through the dedication of the state lottery sales tax to natural resource projects.

The following illustrates the need for such grant programs based on recent application requests:

1) Local Park Grants:

In 1995 a total of 112 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation Grant program representing almost \$7.4 million in grant requests. Preliminary application requests in 1996 represented over \$16.3 million in total project costs. 1997 application requests included almost \$10.7 million in total project costs and almost \$3.8 million in grant requests. In 1998, actual applications received totaled almost \$2.9 million for 77 projects. 1999 final application requests included almost \$8.6 million in grant requests for 122 eligible projects. In the 2000 grant round 132 applications were received with grant requests totaling almost \$10.7 million.

2) Natural and Scenic Area Grants:

Efforts to protect open space and natural areas, especially in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, have accelerated in recent years. The Natural and Scenic Areas Grant Program helps local governments acquire and protect these critical lands and habitats. Over \$1.7 million in final application requests were received in 1995, about \$1 million in 1996, over \$1.2 million for 1997, and almost \$1.6 million in 1998. Final grant requests in 1999 totaled over \$1.5 million for 10 projects. A few applicants dropped out of the 2000 grant round when it became apparent that no new funding for the program would be appropriated by the 2000 Legislature. Still, 7 grant applications were received totaling \$599,000.

3) Conservation Partners Grants:

Almost 250 applications for the Conservation Partners Grant Program were received during the first application round. These project proposals represent almost \$5 million in total proposed project costs and over \$1.6 million in grant requests. The grants will aid the many private organizations interested in projects to protect an enhance fish, wildlife and native plant habitat. The 1996 Supplemental funding helped by assisting 17 projects in addition to the 60 projects recommended to receive grants from the 1995 appropriation. The 1997 MFRF appropriation helped fund 45 projects after the first round in 1997. The Commission approved an additional 12 projects from the spring, 1998 grant solicitation on April 29, 1998. Approval of the Region 4

recommendations on May 13, 1998 added an additional two projects totaling \$20,000 from the 1997 appropriation and four projects totaling \$27,172 from the 1998 appropriation. An additional 51 projects were approved for funding at the July 15, Commission meeting. Preliminary figures for the final application requests in 1999 total almost \$1.4 million for 141 proposed projects. Applications were solicited in only two of the six DNR regions in 2000. There were 33 applications received totaling \$304,283.

4) Local Trail Connections Grants:

In 1995 a total of 24 applications were received for Local Trail Connections Grants representing almost \$900,000 in grant requests. The 1996 MFRF Supplemental funding helped fund four additional trail linkage projects, plus provide additional dollars for one of the approved 1995 MFRF projects. In addition, local governments are increasingly involved with trail projects that have regional significance. The 1997 appropriation of \$700,000 for local trails of regional significance provided state assistance to several projects. In 1998 the Legislature appropriated \$1,000,000 for the program. The 1998 application round resulted in 58 proposed projects which totaled \$1,718,425 in requested funds. Recommendations for funding 24 additional projects were presented and approved at the July 15, 1998 Commission meeting. The total estimated project cost for applications received in 1999 was over \$4.1 million. In the 2000 grant round 32 grant applications were received totaling \$1,265,274. The total project amount was \$5,584,585.

5) Regional Trail Grant Program:

This program was initiated in 1997 with Legislative appropriations of \$700,000 from the MFRF and \$500,000 General Revenue funds. All but \$37,500 was allocated in the first application round. At the July 15, 1998 Commission meeting an additional project was approved to obligate all of these funds. No additional funds were appropriated by the 1998 Legislature for competitive grants, although funding was provided for three specified trail projects. The total estimated project cost for applications received in 1999 was over \$8.5 million. In the 2000 grant round 10 grant requests were received totaling \$1,278,411. The total project amount was \$5,410,666.

6) Environmental Partnerships Grant Program:

The initial funding for this program was provided in 1997 as a pilot effort. The Legislature appropriated \$200,000. A total of 103 applications were received representing almost \$1.8 million in grant requests. The Commission approved 33 projects totaling \$200,000. Final application requests in 1999 total \$586,000 for 62 proposed projects. Applications were solicited in only two of the six DNR regions in 2000. There were 22 applications received totaling \$178,372.

B. TIME:

It should be possible to complete all of the grant projects to be funded with the 1999 appropriation by June 30, 2002. It should be possible to complete all of the 1997 FRF and 1998 Gen. Rev. funded projects by the June 30, 2000 deadline.

C. BUDGET:

Only a small portion of the grant program funds are used for department personnel or support costs. Up to \$20,000 of the 1997 Regional Trail Grant appropriation was authorized to be used for program administration costs. A small portion of the Conservation Partners Grant and Community Environmental Partnerships Grant funds may be used by grant recipients to purchase some equipment related to their project.

See detailed program descriptions and appendices describing each of the individual grant n projects for more information on how the funds will be spent.

D. COOPERATION:

The Conservation Partners Grant Program and the Community Environmental Partnerships Grant Program involve grants to private organizations and groups that, in many cases, will work closely with local governments. Since these are competitive grant programs, the specific organizations or local governments are not known until applications are received. The Outdoor Recreation Grant, Natural and Scenic Area Grant and Local Trail Connections Grant Program also involve partnerships among local governments and private organizations, athletic associations, conservation groups, etc. Other DNR regional and division staff will be involved in project solicitation, evaluation and ranking. The Trails and Waterways Unit will administer the appropriations for the Local Trail Connections Grant Program and the Regional Trail Grant program. Dan Collins is the program supervisor for those two programs.

VII. LOCATION: Statewide grants; projects will be located within several of the ecological classification locations.

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

Workprogram reports will be submitted whenever a new grant approval is required. These workprogram report updates will also note when an appropriation for a specific grant program has been liquidated and all associated work has been completed. We anticipate reporting at various times when Commission review and approval is required, as well as a final report in June 2002.

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LCMR Approval Requested on June 6, 2000
Conservation Partners and Environmental Partnership Grants

DNR's recommended list of grant awards using the balance of all previous appropriations.

Grant Awards by Year

	Conservation Partners	Environmental Partnerships
Grants Approved by LCMR on June 16, 1999	\$427,018	\$139,764
Grants Approved by LCMR on June 6, 2000	\$182,982	\$60,236
Total Appropriation (M. L. 1999, Ch 231)	\$610,000	\$200,000

Grant Awards by Geographic Area

	Conservation Partners		
	1999 Previously Approved by LCMR	2000 Seeking LCMR Approval - List of awards is attached.	Total
Metropolitan Area	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$300,000
Outside the Metropolitan Area	\$277,018	\$32,982	\$310,000
	\$427,018	\$182,982	\$610,000

	Environmental Partnerships		
	1999 Previously Approved by LCMR	2000 Seeking LCMR Approval - List of awards is attached.	Total
Metropolitan Area	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
Outside the Metropolitan Area	\$89,764	\$10,236	\$100,000
	\$139,764	\$60,236	\$200,000

40
Date of Report: June 10, 1998

Date of Next Status Report: July, 1998

Date of Work Program Approval:

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2000

LCMR Work Program 1998

I. PROJECT TITLE: Local Initiative Grants Program (consolidated work program)
ML 97, Ch. 216, Sec. 15, Subd. 4(c)

Project Manager: Wayne Sames

Affiliation: Department of Natural Resources

Mailing Address: DNR, Office of Planning, Box 10
500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4010

Telephone Number: (612) 296-1567 **E-Mail:** wayne.sames@dnr.state.mn.us **Fax:** (612) 296-6047

Budget Status: (In thousands)

	<u>Total Approp.</u>	<u>Local Parks</u>	<u>Natural/ Scenic</u>	<u>Cons. Partners</u>	<u>Coop. Trails</u>	<u>Reg. Trails</u>	<u>Env. Part.</u>
M.L. 1994, Chap. 643, Sec. 23, Subd. 20 (1994 Bonding)	1,400.0	600.0	800.0				
Balance:	119.1	0.0	119.1*				
M.L. 1997, Chap. 216, Sec. 15, Subd. 4(c), (1997 FRF)	2,900.0	600.0	600.0	600.0	200.0	700.0	200.0
Balance:	257.7	0.0	0.0	240.2	0.0	17.5	0.0
M.L. 1997, Chap. 216, Sec. 5, Subd. 6, (1997 Gen Rev.)	500.0					500.0	
Balance:	20.0					20.0	
M.L. 1998, Chap. , Sec. 7, Subd. 26 (1998 Gen. Rev., Cap.)	8,000.0	1,930.3**	1,569.7**		1,000.0	3,500.0***	
Balance:	4,732.1	0.0	232.1**		1,000.0	3,500.0	
M.L. 1998, Chap. , Sec. 4 (1998 Gen. Rev., Supp)	200.0			200.0			
Balance:	200.0			200.0			
Totals: Appropriated:	13,000.0	3,130.3	2,969.7	800.0	1,200.0	4,700.0	200.0
Balance:	5,328.9	0.0	351.2	440.2	1,000.0	3,537.5	0.0

* Balance remaining for Winona Co. scenic vista ** \$3.5 million total for Local Parks and Natural/Scenic;
this represents the likely split between the two programs *** Three specified trails; not grants

A. Appropriation Language:

1994 Bonding: M.L. 1994, Chap. 643, Sec. 23, Subd. 20. Local Recreation Grants

For matching grants to be provided to local units of government for acquisition, development, or renovation of a capital nature of local park and recreation areas. Recipients must provide a match of at least one-half of total eligible project costs. The commissioner shall make payment to local units of government upon receiving documentation of reimbursable expenses. The commissioner shall determine project priorities as appropriate based upon need. Of this appropriation, \$300,000 is to provide a grant to Winona County for the purchase of the scenic vista on Hiawatha-Appleblossom Scenic Drive in Winona County. These funds must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis. \$500,000 of this appropriation is for grants to units of government to acquire and better natural and scenic areas under the new Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019, subdivision 4a. #1,400,000.

1995 FRF: M.L. 1995, Chap. 220, Sec. 19, Subd. 4(e). Local Grants.

This appropriation is from the future resource fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants, as follows:

(1) \$500,000 to local units of government for local park and recreation areas; (2) \$500,000 to local units of government for natural and scenic areas pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019; (3) \$400,000 to local units of government for trail linkages between communities, trails and parks; and (4) \$400,000 for a conservation partners program, a statewide pilot to encourage private organizations and local governments to cost share enhancements of fish, wildlife, and native plant habitats; and research and wildlife, and related education activities. Conservation partners grants may be up to \$10,000 each and must be equally matched. In addition to the required work program, grants may not be approved until grant proposals to be funded have been submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources and the commission has either made a recommendation or allowed 60 days to pass without making a recommendation. The above appropriations are available half for the metropolitan area as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2, and half for outside the metropolitan area. This project must be completed and final products delivered by December 31, 1997, and the appropriation is available until that date.

Note: The project period was extended to June 30, 1998.

1996 FRF Supplemental: M.L. 1996, Chap 407, Sec. 8, Subd. 3(c). Local Grants.

This appropriation is from the future resource fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants to local units of government for local park and recreation areas; trail linkages between communities, trails, and parks; and at least \$100,000 for the conservation partners program as provided in Laws 1995, chapter 220, section 19, subdivision 4, paragraph (e). In addition to the required work program, grants may not be approved until grant proposals to be funded have been submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources, and the commission has either made a recommendation or allowed 60 days to pass without making a recommendation. The above appropriations are available half for the seven-county metropolitan area and half for outside of the metropolitan area. For the purpose of this paragraph, match includes nonstate contributions in either cash or in-kind.

Note: The project period was extended to June 30, 1998.

1997 FRF: M.L. 1997, Chap. 216, Section 15, Subd. 4(c). Local Initiatives Grants Program.

Subd. Parks and Trails etc.

LOCAL INITIATIVES GRANTS PROGRAM \$2,900,000

This appropriation is from the future resources fund to the commissioner of natural resources to provide matching grants, as follows:

- (1) \$600,000 to local units of government for local park and recreation areas pursuant to Minnesota statutes, section 85.019; \$50,000 of this appropriation is to complete the Larue public water access.
- (2) \$600,000 to local units of government for natural and scenic areas pursuant to Minnesota statutes section 85.019.
- (3) \$900,000 for trail grants to local units of government on land to be maintained for at least 20 years for the purpose of the grant; \$200,000 is for grants of up to \$50,000 per project for trail linkages between communities, trails, and parks and \$700,000 is for grants of up to \$250,000 for locally funded trails of regional significance. \$250,000 is to provide matching funds for an ISTE grant to provide easement acquisition and engineering costs for a proposed trail between the city of Pelican Rapids and Maplewood State Park.
- (4) \$600,000 for a statewide conservation partners program, to encourage private organizations and local governments to cost share improvement of fish, wildlife, and native plant habitats and research and surveys of fish and wildlife. Conservation partners grants may be up to \$10,000 each.
- (5) \$200,000 for environmental partnerships program grants of up to \$10,000 each for environmental service projects and related education activities through public and private partnerships.

In addition to the required work program, grants may not be approved until grant proposals to be funded have been submitted to the legislative commission on Minnesota resources and the commission has approved the grants or allowed 60 days to pass. The above appropriations, in combination, are available half for the metropolitan area as defined in Minnesota statutes, section 473.121, subdivision 2, and half for outside of the metropolitan area. For the purpose of this paragraph, the match must be non-state contributions, but may be either cash or in-kind. This project must be completed and final products delivered by June 30, 2000, and the appropriation is available until that date.

1997 General Revenue: M.L. 1997, Chap. 216, Sec. 5, Subd. 6. Trails and Waterways Management.

\$500,000 is for grants of up to \$250,000 for locally funded trails of regional significance.

1998 General Revenue: M.L. 1998. Chap. , Sec. 7, Subd. 26. Local Initiative Grants. 8,000,000.

For matching grants to be provided to local units of government for acquisition, development, or renovation of a capital nature of local parks, trails, and natural and scenic areas. Recipients must provide a match of at least one-half of total eligible project costs. The commissioner shall make payment to local units of government upon receiving documentation of reimbursable expenditures. The commissioner shall determine project priorities as appropriate based upon need.

\$3,500,000 of this appropriation is for grants to local units of government to acquire and develop outdoor recreation areas, and for grants to units of government to acquire and better natural and scenic areas under Minnesota Statutes, section 85.019, subdivision 4a.

\$1,000,000 of this appropriation is for cooperative trail grants of up to \$50,000 per project to acquire or construct trail linkages between communities, trails, and parks.

\$3,500,000 of this appropriation is for trail grants for the following locally funded publicly owned trails serving multiple communities: \$1,400,000 for Beaver Island Trail in Stearns County, \$1,400,000 for Skunk Hollow Trail in Yellow Medicine and Chippewa Counties, and \$700,000 for Unity Trail in Faribault County.

1998 General Revenue: M.L. 1998 Chap. , Sec. 4

\$200,000 in fiscal year 1998 is added to the appropriation in Laws 1997, chapter 216, section 15, subdivision 4, paragraph (c), clause (4), for the statewide conservation partners program.

B. Status of Match Requirement:

All grant programs require a dollar for dollar match commitment on the part of the local government or private organization recipient as a prerequisite to receiving a grant. In addition, all grants are reimbursement grants that require a documented expenditure of funds and/or in-kind contributions prior to reimbursement.

II. PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS:

The local initiatives grants program includes six separate grant programs. Every year the department solicits grant proposals from local governments for local parks, natural and scenic areas, cooperative trail projects, regional trail projects, community environmental partnership projects and conservation partners projects.

In 1995, the department initiated the Conservation Partners Grant program, which provides small grants to private organizations for fish and wildlife or native plant habitat related projects. Project proposals for all of these programs are evaluated and ranked on a competitive basis, with grants being awarded to the highest ranking projects. After ranking, the recommendations are brought back to the LCMR as revisions to the workprogram for final review and approval. The LCMR approves a priority ranked list presented by the DNR. If one or more approved projects subsequently is dropped from the list, the DNR is authorized by the LCMR to reallocate those funds to the next highest ranked project. If no other ranked project is available, the funds will be added to the balance for the appropriate grant program and may be reallocated subject to LCMR review and approval.

The Legislature has traditionally required a fifty/fifty split in grant program funding, with half of the appropriations available for the seven-county metropolitan area and half for outside the metropolitan area. Unless specified in statute, the department would like the flexibility to achieve this split within the entire appropriation, rather than within each specific subprogram. The 1997 FRF appropriation language provided this requested flexibility.

The department has consolidated much of the application process for these six programs and is working to further improve coordination of application schedules, procedures, etc.

Six distinct grant programs provide matching grants to local governments and/or private organizations for acquisition, development, renovation, enhancement, research and education associated with parks and

trails, natural and scenic areas, natural habitat, and other environmental projects:

- * The **local park grant program** (for cities, counties and townships) provides more and improved locally administered and maintained outdoor recreation facilities. The maximum grant amount of \$50,000 is established in statute (Minnesota Statutes 1995 Supplement, Section 85.019).

- * The **natural and scenic area grant program** (for cities, counties, townships and school districts) helps local governments protect scenic amenities and high quality open space and natural areas. The maximum grant amount is established in statute (Minnesota Statutes 1995 Supplement, Section 85.019) and was increased during the 1998 legislative session from \$200,000 to \$500,000.

- * The **cooperative trail grant program** (for cities, counties, townships and recognized tribal governments) helps link communities to trails and parks through development of connecting trail segments. The maximum grant amount of \$50,000 has been established administratively and is not defined in statute.

- * The **conservation partners grant program** (for private organizations and local governments, including cooperative projects involving local governments) provides assistance to private organizations for projects that enhance fish, wildlife and native plant habitat or for research or survey projects related to habitat enhancement. The maximum grant amount of \$10,000 is specified in the appropriation language (Laws 1995, Chapter 220, Section 19, Subd. 4). This extends program eligibility to local governments.

A new program funded in 1997, the **community environmental partnerships grant program**, will help private organizations carry out a variety of projects to help protect and enhance our natural environment.

Another new program funded in 1997 is the **regional trail initiative grant program**. It will provide grants of up to \$250,000 to local governments for trail projects of regional significance.

The 1996 LCMR Future Resources Fund Supplemental Appropriation provided \$635,000 for approximately 20 additional local park projects (plus additional funds for two previously approved 1995 FRF projects), \$130,000 for four more cooperative trail projects (plus additional funding for one of the previously approved 1995 FRF projects) and \$100,000 for 16 additional conservation partner projects (Plus additional funding for one of the projects recommended for 1995 FRF funding). These would be selected according to rank from lists of previously evaluated and ranked projects.

The 1997 Legislature appropriated \$2.9 million for the six grant programs. A Total of \$600,000 was appropriated for the Conservation Partners Grant Program. Of that total, \$299,808 was allocated during the first round of applications in 1997. The remaining \$300,192 was allocated to the DNR regions for individual grant solicitations in each region (\$197,267 to the Metro Region; \$102,925, or approximately \$20,000 each, to the five outstate regions). Evaluations and rankings have been completed to date for the second round of applications in DNR Regions 1 (Northwest), 2 (Northeast) and 5 (Southeast). Final review and approval of those project recommendations, totaling \$60,000 for 12 projects, was completed at the April 29, 1998 Commission meeting.

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$8 million for the Local Initiatives Grant program. A total of \$3.5 million of this was made available for the Local Park Grant Program and the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program. We are recommending that \$1,930,290 be allocated to Local Park Grant projects and \$1,337,640 be allocated to Natural and Scenic Area Grant projects. This will leave a balance of \$0 for the Local Park Grant Program and \$232,070 for the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program.

III. WORK PROGRAM UPDATE SUMMARY:

A. Local Park Grants:

1) 1994 Bonding (July 1, 1994 - June 10, 1998):

A total of 19 projects totaling \$600,000 were funded during the 1994 application cycle. All projects have been completed.

2) 1997 FRF (June 23, 1997 - June 10, 1998):

The LCMR recommended, and the 1997 Legislature appropriated, \$600,000 for grants to local units of government for local park and recreation areas. Of the \$600,000, \$50,000 is for a grant to the City of Nashwauk to complete the Larue Pit public access. Grants were approved for 20 projects, plus the City of Nashwauk project.

3) 1998 Gen. Rev. (June 10, 1998 -):

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$3.5 million for the Local Park Grant Program and the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program combined, with no language specifying how the \$3.5 million should be split between the two programs. The DNR's recommendation is to allocate \$1,930,290 to the Local Park Grant Program and \$1,337,640 to the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program, leaving a balance of \$232,070. This would be available for future Natural and Scenic Area Grants if the intent is to maintain a fifty/fifty split between the Metro Area and the rest of the state. We are requesting final review and approval at this time.

B. Natural and Scenic Area Grants:

1) 1994 Bonding (July 1, 1994 - June 10, 1998):

A total of \$800,000 was appropriated for the Natural and Scenic Area Grants program, with \$300,000 specifically allocated to the Winona County scenic bluff land project and \$550,000 available for the competitive grant program. A total of seven projects have been funded to date. Grant agreements have been completed for all of these projects and the acquisition has also been completed for most of these projects. Two projects were withdrawn by the applicants. The balance of funds was reallocated to FY 1997 projects.

Of the \$300,000 allocated for the scenic vista in Winona County, \$180,910 has been provided to the county to reimburse part of the cost of acquiring the scenic bluff land area. This leaves a current balance of \$119,090. There is a possibility of additional bluff land acquisition or betterment activities on the recently acquired site. The 1996 Legislature amended the 1994 appropriation language to allow use of the remaining funds for both acquisition and development.

2) 1997 FRF (July 22, 1997 - June 10, 1998):

The LCMR recommended, and the 1997 Legislature appropriated, \$600,000 for grants to local units of government for natural and scenic areas. Grants were awarded for 9 projects in 1997, with a balance remaining of approximately \$60,000. We are recommending that this balance be used to partially fund one of the projects recommended for funding in 1998 (see attached list of Natural and Scenic Area Grants, Outside of the Metropolitan Area).

3) 1998 Gen. Rev. (June 10, 1998 -):

The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$3.5 million for the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and the Local Park Grant Program combined, with no language specifying how the \$3.5 million should be split between the two programs. The DNR's recommendations is to allocate \$1,337,640 to the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and \$1,930,290 to the Local Park Grant Program, leaving a balance of \$232,070. This would be available for future Natural and Scenic Area Grants if the intent is to maintain a fifty/fifty split between the Metro Area and the rest of the state. We are requesting final approval at this time.

C. Cooperative Trail Grants:

1) 1995 FRF (July 1 1995 - June 10, 1998):

A total of \$400,000 was appropriated. Ten projects were approved for funding by the Commission at its September 13, 1995 meeting. Work on most of these projects will start during the spring or summer of 1996. One outstate project sponsor has notified the Department that they will be unable to complete their proposal. Therefore, the Department recommends that funds reserved for this project be reallocated to two other outstate projects. The Commission approved these recommendations on March 14, 1997.

2) 1996 FRF Supplemental (April 24, 1996 - June 10, 1998):

The Department proposes to allocate \$130,000 of the total \$895,000 in supplemental funds to the Cooperative Trail Grant Program. This would provide funding for an additional four projects, plus additional funding for one of the previously approved 1995 FRF projects. Most of these projects will be initiated this summer. The Commission approved the funding recommendations at its April 24, 1996 meeting. One project sponsor within the metropolitan area has notified the Department that they will be unable to complete their proposals. Therefore, the Department recommends that funds reserved for this project be reallocated to one project located within the metropolitan area as indicated within the attachment. The Commission approved these recommendations on March 14, 1997.

3) 1997 FRF June 23, 1997 - June 10, 1998):

The LCMR has recommended, that and the 1997 Legislature appropriated, \$200,000 for grants to local units of government for trail linkages between communities, trails and parks. In addition, the LCMR has recommended that an additional \$700,000 be appropriated for grants of up to \$250,000 to local units of government for local trails of regional significance. DNR will collaborate with MnDOT for those projects involving ISTEA funding. ISTEA Enhancement projects will be reviewed and prioritized based on their deliverables.

D. Conservation Partners Grant Program:

1) 1995 FRF (July 1, 1995 - June 10, 1998):

The appropriation for this program was \$400,000. The first application round for the new Conservation Partners Grant Program was initiated in the fall of 1995 with grant applications due on December 15, 1995. Applications were reviewed by DNR personnel and recommendations were brought to the Commission in April for final review and approval. It is anticipated that most projects will commence in the spring or summer. It was recommended that 60 grants be awarded statewide from the 1995 FRF allocation. The Commission approved

the funding recommendations at the April 24, 1996 meeting.

2) 1996 FRF Supplemental: (April 24, 1996 -June 10, 1998):

The Department proposes to allocate \$100,000 of the \$895,000 in supplemental funds to the Conservation Partners Grant Program. This would provide funding for an additional 16 projects, plus additional funding for one of the projects recommended for 1995 FRF funding. Most of these projects will be initiated this spring or summer. The Commission approved the funding recommendations at the April 24, 1996 meeting.

3) 1997 FRF (July 22, 1997 - June 10, 1998):

The LCMR recommended and the 1997 Legislature appropriated \$600,000 for grants to private organizations and local governments to cost share improvement of fish, wildlife, and native plant habitats and research and surveys of fish and wildlife. On July 22, 1997 the Commission reviewed and approved DNR staff recommendations to fund 45 projects totaling \$299,808. This left a balance of \$300,192. The Commission approved an additional 12 projects totaling \$60,000 at its April 29, 1998 meeting. These were recommended by staff in DNR regions 1, 2, and 5. An additional 2 projects were recommended by DNR Region 4 for a total of \$20,000. These were approved by the Commission at its May 13, 1998 meeting, along with an additional 4 projects totaling \$27,172, which would be funded from the 1998 appropriation. Grant applications are still being reviewed in Region 3 and the Metro Region. We will submit recommendations from those regions for review and approval at the July 15, 1998 meeting.

E. Community Environmental Partnerships Grant Program:

1) 1997 FRF (June 23, 1997 - June, 10, 1998):

The LCMR recommended, and the 1997 Legislature appropriated, \$200,000 for this new program. On July 22, 1997 the Commission approved 56 projects totaling \$200,000. No additional funding was provided for this program during the 1998 legislative session.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROGRAM RESULTS: Project results are detailed in Part III.

V. DISSEMINATION: Each year the Local Grants Unit of DNR distributes information on the various grant programs and application materials to local governments and private organizations throughout the state. A general mailing is made at the beginning of each application period, usually in the fall, and individual requests are handled on a case by case basis. (See detail on the evaluation and ranking process in Part II)

VI. CONTEXT:

A. Program Context:

Six grant programs have received prior funding:

- * The Local Park Grant program has the longest history of funding, having received state appropriations over the past thirty years. This program has also received over \$45 million in federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON) allocations since 1965. Congress did not allocate LAWCON dollars to the states in 1995, 1996 or 1997, however, and it is uncertain whether an allocation will be made in 1998. The 1998 Legislature provided \$3.5 million for the Local Park Grant Program and the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program.

- * The Natural and Scenic Areas Grant program was first funded in 1994. It received state

Bonding funds in 1994 and LCMR FRF funding in 1995 and 1997. The 1998 Legislature provided \$3.5 million for the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program and the Local Parks Grant Program.

* The Conservation Partners Grant program was first funded in 1995 as recommended by LCMR. Additional 1996 FRF Supplemental funds and 1997 FRF funds have also been appropriated. The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$200,000 in additional funding for the program.

* The Cooperative Trail Grant program received FRF funds in 1993, 1995, and 1997 as well as FRF Supplemental funds in 1996. The 1998 Legislature appropriated \$1 million in additional funding for the program.

* The Community Environmental Partnerships Grant program was first funded with FRF funds in 1997.

* The Regional Trail Grant Program was first funded with FRF funds in 1997.

The following illustrates the need for such grant programs as indicated by recent application requests:

1) Local Park Grants:

In 1995 a total of 112 applications were received for the Outdoor Recreation Grant program representing almost \$7.4 million in grant requests. Preliminary application requests in 1996 represented over \$16.3 million in total project costs. 1997 application requests included almost \$10.7 million in total project costs and almost \$3.8 million in grant requests. In 1998, actual applications received totaled almost \$2.9 million for 77 projects.

2) Natural and Scenic Area Grants:

Efforts to protect open space and natural areas, especially in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, have accelerated in recent years. The Natural and Scenic Areas Grant Program helps local governments acquire and protect these critical lands and habitats. Over \$1.7 million in final application requests were received in 1995, about \$1 million in 1996, over \$1.2 million for 1997, and almost \$1.6 million in 1998..

3) Conservation Partners Grants:

Almost 250 applications for the Conservation Partners Grant Program were received during the first application round. These project proposals represent almost \$5 million in total proposed project costs and over \$1.6 million in grant requests. The grants will aid the many private organizations interested in projects to protect an enhance fish, wildlife and native plant habitat. The 1996 Supplemental funding helped by assisting 17 projects in addition to the 60 projects recommended to receive grants from the 1995 appropriation. The 1997 FRF appropriation helped fund 45 projects after the first round in 1997. The Commission approved an additional 12 projects from the spring, 1998 grant solicitation on April 29, 1998. Approval of the Region 4 recommendations on May 13, 1998 added an additional two projects totaling \$20,000 from the 1997 appropriation and four projects totaling \$27,172 from the 1998 appropriation. Additional projects will be recommended for funding at the July 15, Commission meeting.

4) Cooperative Trail Grants:

In 1995 a total of 24 applications were received for Cooperative Trail Grants

representing almost \$900,000 in grant requests. The 1996 FRF Supplemental funding will help fund four additional trail linkage projects, plus provide additional dollars for one of the approved 1995 FRF projects. In addition, local governments are increasingly involved with trail projects that have regional significance. The recommended \$700,000 appropriation for local trails of regional significance will provide state assistance to these projects.

B. TIME:

It should be possible to complete all of the previously funded grant projects with an extension of the normal time frame to June 30, 1998. This would provide additional summer and fall development time for weather sensitive projects. It would also provide a more reasonable project period for the 1996 FRF Supplemental grants, which were not approved until April 24, 1996. It should be possible to complete all of the 1997 FRF and 1998 Gen. Rev. funded projects by the June 30, 2000 deadline.

C. BUDGET:

None of the grant program funds are used for department personnel or support costs. A small portion of the Conservation Partners Grant and Community Environmental Partnerships Grant funds may be used by grant recipients to purchase some equipment related to their project.

See detailed program descriptions and appendices describing each of the individual grant projects for more information on how the funds will be spent.

D. COOPERATION:

The Conservation Partners Grant Program and the Community Environmental Partnerships Grant Program will involve grants to private organizations and groups that, in many cases, will work closely with local governments. Since these are competitive grant programs, the specific organizations or local governments are not known at this time. The Outdoor Recreation Grant, Natural and Scenic Area Grant and Cooperative Trail Grant Program also involve many partnerships between local governments and private service organizations, athletic associations, conservation groups, etc. Other DNR regional and division staff will be involved in project solicitation, evaluation and ranking. The Trails and Waterways Unit will administer the appropriations for the Cooperative Trail Grant Program and the Regional Trail Initiative Grant program. Dan Collins is the program supervisor for those two programs.

III. LOCATION: Statewide grants; projects will be located within several of the ecological classification locations.

IX. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

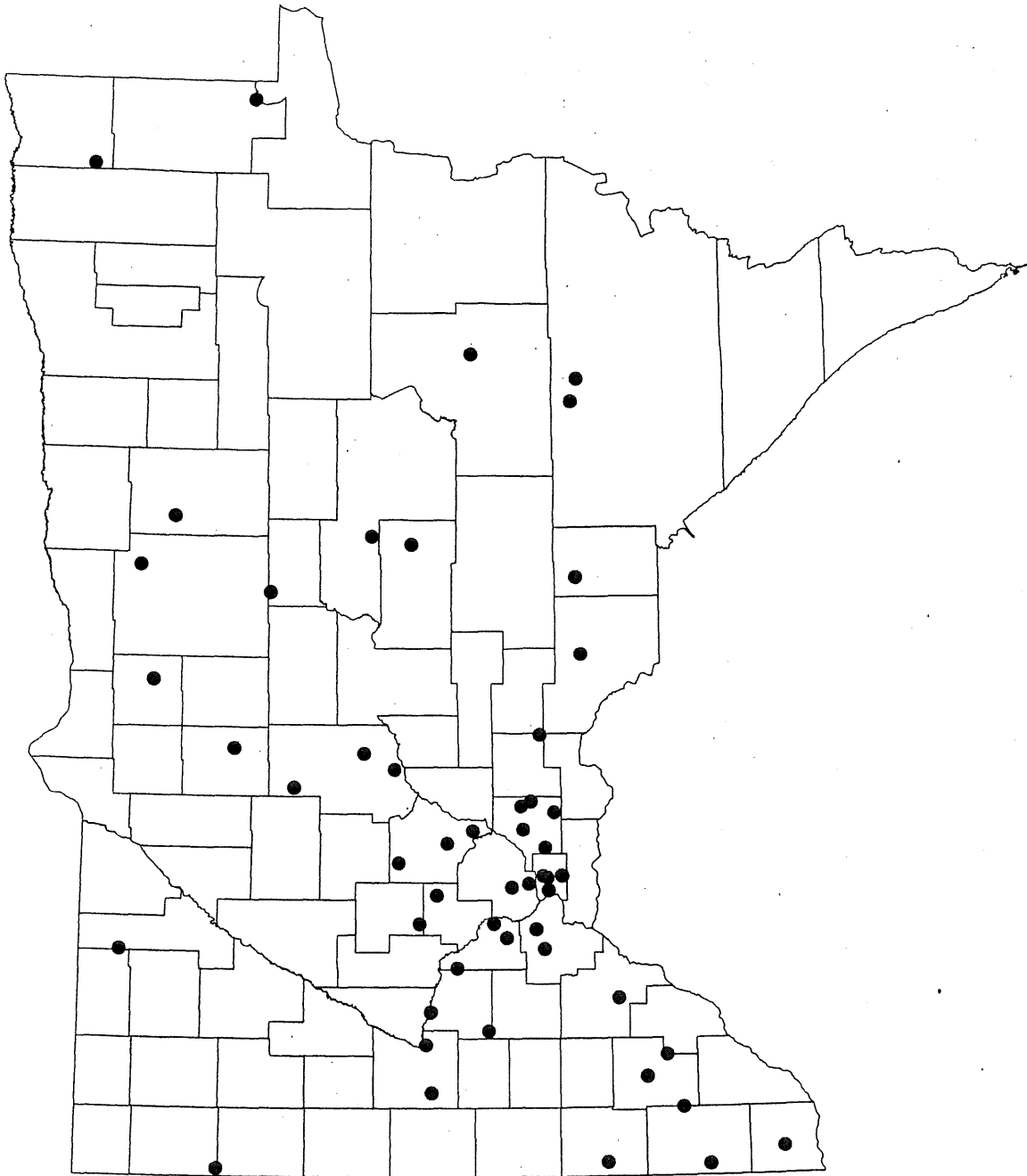
Workprogram reports will be submitted whenever a new grant approval is required. These workprogram report updates will also note when an appropriation for a specific grant program has been liquidated and all associated work has been completed. We anticipate reporting in July 98, September 98, June 99 and a final report in June 2000.

Local Initiatives Grants Program

1998 Project Summary

<u>Local Grants Program</u>	<u>Metro #Apps</u>	<u>Metro Dollars</u>	<u>Outstate #Apps</u>	<u>Outstate Dollars</u>	<u>Total # Apps</u>	<u>Total Dollars</u>
Outdoor Recreation Program	15	\$ 621,330.	37	\$1,308,960.	52	\$1,930,290.
Natural and Scenic Area Program	<u>6</u>	<u>896,600.</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>441,040.</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>1,337,640.</u>
Project Total	21	\$1,517,930.	42	\$1,750,000.	63	\$3,267,930.
 Unfunded Applications	 0	 \$0.	 22	 \$873,340		
Appropriation Balance		<u>232,070.</u>		<u>0.</u>		<u>232,070.</u>
Appropriation Total		\$1,750,000.		\$1,750,000.		\$3,500,000.

1998 Outdoor Recreation Projects



DNR - Local Initiatives Grant Program, June 1998

Approval requested for:

June 2, 1998

1998 Grant Awards

Metropolitan Area

Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

Rank	Applicant	Title	98 Cap Approp.	Unfunded Request
1	Linwood Township of	Town Park	25,802	\$0
2	St. Louis Park City of	Westwood Hills Marsh Trail and Boardwalk	50,000	\$0
3	Maplewood City of	Maplewood Nature Center	50,000	\$0
4	Roseville City of	Langton Lake Park	50,000	\$0
5	Shakopee City of	Tahpah Park	50,000	\$0
6	Andover City of	Kelsey Round Lake Park	50,000	\$0
7	Mayer City of	City Park	24,800	\$0
8	St. Paul City of	Groveland Park	50,000	\$0
9	Apple Valley City of	Redwood Park	44,342	\$0
10	Lauderdale City of	City Park	8,750	\$0
11	Prior Lake City Of	Lakefront Park Acquisition	50,000	\$0
12	Circle Pines City Of	City Hall Playground	24,936	\$0
13	Farmington City of	Farmington Community Trail and Preserve	50,000	\$0
14	Ham Lake City of	City Park	42,700	\$0
15	Minneapolis City of	Cavell Park	50,000	\$0
Total	15		621,330	\$0

Approval requested for:

June 5, 1998

1998 Grant Awards

Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

**Outside of the
Metropolitan Area**

Rank	Applicant	Title	98 Cap Approp.	Unfunded Request
1	Warroad City of	Lakeview Park	50,000	\$0
2	Mapleton City of	Heritage Park	50,000	\$0
3	Elgin City of	Elgin Park	49,000	\$0
4	Harmony City of	Trailside Park	45,000	\$0
5	Elbow Lake City of	New City Park	46,000	\$0
6	Crosslake City of	Park Development	11,000	\$0
7	Glenwood City of	Barsness Park	50,000	\$0
8	Waterville City of	Lion's Park	25,000	\$0
9	Braham City of	Hidden Park	21,000	\$0
10	Caledonia City of	Family Park	50,000	\$0
11	Cokato City of	Veterans Memorial Park	22,000	\$0
12	Karlstad City Of	Moose Park	25,000	\$0
13	Pelican Rapids City of	Sherin Park Playground	7,000	\$0
14	Porter City of	City Park Playground	16,000	\$0
15	Wright County of	Montissippi Park	50,000	\$0
16	Adams City of	Adams Park	6,300	\$0
17	Pine River City of	Pine River Info Center	50,000	\$0
18	Plato City of	Blue Jay Recreation	50,000	\$0
19	Rochester City of	Silver Lake Park	50,000	\$0
20	Balkan Township of	Recreation Improvements	50,000	\$0
21	Chatfield City of	Mill Creek Park	50,000	\$0
22	Cherry Township of	Cherry Recreation Complex	5,000	\$0
23	Henderson City of	Bender Park	50,000	\$0
24	Kettle River City of	City Park	25,000	\$0
25	Marcell Township of	Marcell Community Trail	45,000	\$0
26	Nicollet County Of	County Park	16,000	\$0
27	North Mankato City of	Spring Lake Park	50,000	\$0
28	Round Lake City of	City Park	10,000	\$0
29	Sandstone City of	Sandstone Community Park	50,000	\$0
30	Wyoming City of	Swenson Park	50,000	\$0
31	Albertville City of	Oakside Park	50,000	\$0
32	Becker County of	Dunton Lakes Playground	21,000	\$0
33	Belgrade City Of	City Park Playground	18,000	\$0
34	Goodhue City of	City Park	50,000	\$0
35	Stearns County of	Quarry Park & Nature Preserve Boardwalk	50,000	\$0
36	Wadena City of	Black's Grove Park	25,000	\$0
37	Avon City of	Avon Connection - Wobegon Trail Head	20,660	\$29,340
38	Canosia Township of	Township Park		\$45,000
39	Faribault City of	Trailhead Facility		\$50,000

Approval requested for:

June 5, 1998

1998 Grant Awards

Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

Outside of the Metropolitan Area

Rank	Applicant	Title	98 Cap Approp.	Unfunded Request
40	Mountain Iron City of	South Grove Park		\$50,000
41	Lake Park City of	Local Park		\$48,000
42	Isanti City of	Isanti-Cambridge Soccer Complex		\$50,000
43	Webster Township of	Webster Community Park		\$29,000
44	Hutchinson City of	Tartan Park		\$50,000
45	Sauk Rapids City of	Bob Cross Park		\$40,000
46	Albert Lea City of	Frank Hall Recreation Area		\$50,000
47	Calumet City of	Playground		\$15,000
48	Rockford City of	Riverside Park		\$50,000
49	Cromwell City of	City Park		\$14,000
50	Sauk Centre City of	Towerview Park		\$17,000
51	Backus City of	Backus Waterfront Park & Nature Area		\$33,000
52	Nisswa City of	Ballfield Acq and Dev		\$47,000
53	Nashwauk City of	LaRue Pit Overlook and Campground		\$50,000
54	Clinton Township of	Township		\$17,000
55	Breezy Point City Of	City Hall Park		\$50,000
56	Gilbert City of	Campground Expansion		\$40,000
57	Climax City of	Trail Redevelopment		\$29,000
58	Biwabik City of	Baseball field		\$20,000
59	Albany City of	Lake Wobegon Trail Head		\$50,000
Total	59		\$1,308,960	\$873,340

1998 Project Descriptions for: Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

June 8, 1998

Applicant	Title	County	Grant	Project Scope
Adams City of	Adams Park	Mower	\$6,300	New playground equipment .
Albertville City of	Oakside Park	Wright	\$50,000	Develop a playground, tennis court, ballfield and horseshoe pit.
Andover City of	Kelsey Round Lake Park	Anoka	\$50,000	Trail and boardwalk development
Apple Valley City of	Redwood Park	Dakota	\$44,342	Picnic shelter and parking lot.
Avon City of	Avon Connection - Wobegon Trail Head	Stearns	\$20,660	Picnic shelter, observation platform, connecting trails and parking along the proposed Lake Wobegone Regional Trail.
Balkan Township of	Recreation Improvements	St. Louis	\$50,000	Pavilion, Bocci Ball Shelter and walkways.
Becker County of	Dunton Lakes Playground	Becker	\$21,000	Construct playground at Dunton Lks Cnty Park
Belgrade City Of	City Park Playground	Stearns	\$18,000	Rehab/replace playground equipment in an existing City park.
Braham City of	Hidden Park	Isanti	\$21,000	Develop an accessible playground, rehab an existing playground, picnic shelter and paths.
Caledonia City of	Family Park	Houston	\$50,000	Picnic facilities, playground area, benches and drinking fountain.
Chatfield City of	Mill Creek Park	Fillmore	\$50,000	Playground area, warming house, basketball court, trails and lighting.
Cherry Township of	Cherry Recreation Complex	St. Louis	\$5,000	Baseball field seeding, aglyme and fencing.
Circle Pines City Of	City Hall Playground	Anoka	\$24,936	Playground development.
Cokato City of	Veterans Memorial Park	Wright	\$22,000	Playground, rehab picnic shelter and landscaping.
Crosslake City of	Park Development	Crow Wing	\$11,000	Picnic Shelter with restrooms & kitchen, walkways, basketball and playground.
Elbow Lake City of	New City Park	Grant	\$46,000	Construct new park w/ hockey rink, skating rink, 2 little league softball fields, volley ball and .5 mi bit trail around park.
Elgin City of	Elgin Park	Wabasha	\$49,000	Softball fields and restrooms.
Farmington City of	Farmington Community Trail and Preserve	Dakota	\$50,000	Development of trails and picnic areas.

1998 Project Descriptions for: Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

June 8, 1998

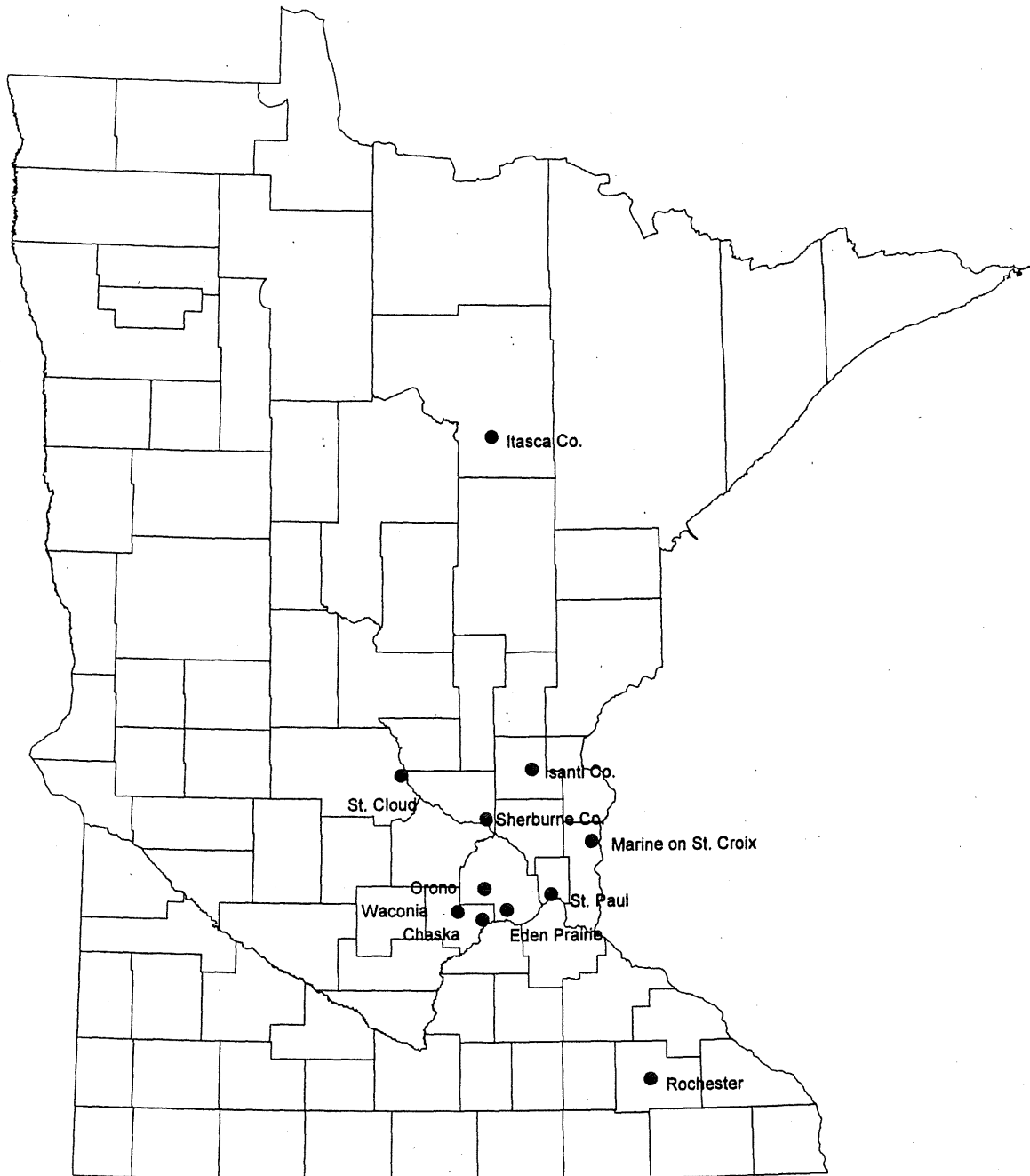
Applicant	Title	County	Grant	Project Scope
Glenwood City of	Barsness Park	Pope	\$50,000	Renovate and expand existing campground including new restroom/bathhouse.
Goodhue City of	City Park	Goodhue	\$50,000	Tennis court and ballfield.
Ham Lake City of	City Park	Anoka	\$42,700	Picnic shelter with restrooms.
Harmony City of	Trailside Park	Fillmore	\$45,000	Create trailhead facility along Root River Trail extension. Picnic facilities, playground, parking, lighting, signage, drinking fountain, and bike racks.
Henderson City of	Bender Park	Sibley	\$50,000	Development of ballfields, picnic facilities, trails, basketball court, parking, signage and landscaping.
Karlstad City Of	Moose Park	Kittson	\$25,000	Develop basketball ct (58x122); multi-use trail (3,450 x 8') in Moose Park.
Kettle River City of	City Park	Carlton	\$25,000	Playground, basketball court, restroom.
Lauderdale City of	City Park	Ramsey	\$8,750	Contract a volleyball court, grills, fire pit, trash containers, and walkways.
Linwood Township of	Town Park	Anoka	\$25,802	Tennis courts.
Mapleton City of	Heritage Park	Blue Earth	\$50,000	Playground development, tennis and basketball courts, walkways, nature trail, restroom renovations for accessibility and parking.
Maplewood City of	Maplewood Nature Center	Ramsey	\$50,000	Boardwalk replacement for access.
Marcell Township of	Marcell Community Trail	Itasca	\$45,000	Develop 1 to 1.5 mile loop trail.
Mayer City of	City Park	Carver	\$24,800	Acquire approx 7.09 acres and develop new park
Minneapolis City of	Cavell Park	Hennepin	\$50,000	Replace playground, walking trails, soccer field, lighting, basketball and tennis courts.
Nicollet County Of	County Park	Nicollet	\$16,000	Trail and bridge over Seven Mile Creek.
North Mankato City of	Spring Lake Park	Nicollet	\$50,000	Playground area, restrooms and walkways
Pelican Rapids City of	Sherin Park Playground	Ottertail	\$7,000	Redevelop existing playground, modify existing restrooms to provide accessibility.
Pine River City of	Pine River Info Center	Cass	\$50,000	Construct shelter along Paul Bunyan trail w/ restroom and picnic facilities to be used as a trail wayside.

1998 Project Descriptions for: Outdoor Recreation Grant Program

June 8, 1998

Applicant	Title	County	Grant	Project Scope
Plato City of	Blue Jay Recreation	McLeod	\$50,000	Acquisition 8 acres, development of two little league fields.
Porter City of	City Park Playground	Yellow Medicine	\$16,000	Playground equipment, restrooms and sidewalks
Prior Lake City Of	Lakefront Park Acquisition	Scott	\$50,000	Acquire approx 12.43 acre inholding in existing park
Rochester City of	Silver Lake Park	Olmsted	\$50,000	Picnic facilities, restrooms, walkways.
Roseville City of	Langton Lake Park	Ramsey	\$50,000	Trail development within Langton Lake Park.
Round Lake City of	City Park	Nobles	\$10,000	Basketball court and walkways.
Sandstone City of	Sandstone Community Park	Pine	\$50,000	Development of ball fields, playground, pathways, restroom/concession bldg, road, parking and landscaping.
Shakopee City of	Tahpah Park	Scott	\$50,000	Acq. 10.26 acres adjacent to city park for ballfields and parking.
St. Louis Park City of	Westwood Hills Marsh Trail and Boardwalk	Hennepin	\$50,000	Replace a 1/4 mile floating boardwalk and rehab of trails for accessibility.
St. Paul City of	Groveland Park	Ramsey	\$50,000	Development of new accessible playground.
Stearns County of	Quarry Park & Nature Preserve Boardwalk	Stearns	\$50,000	Trail with floating boardwalk.
Wadena City of	Black's Grove Park	Wadena	\$25,000	Construct 24x48 log picnic shelter, improve pkg, add connecting walkway.
Warroad City of	Lakeview Park	Roseau	\$50,000	Construct 2 playgrounds & paths.
Waterville City of	Lion's Park	LeSueur	\$25,000	Playground area, picnic facilities and walkways.
Wright County of	Montissippi Park	Wright	\$50,000	Paving the park trails and access road.
Wyoming City of	Swenson Park	Chisago	\$50,000	Playground, tennis courts, pathway and hockey rink rehab and paving of rink for in-line hockey.
Total: 52			\$1,930,290	

1998 Natural and Scenic Area Projects



DNR - Local Initiatives Grant Program, June 1998

Approval requested for:

June 2, 1998

**1998 Grant Awards
Natural and Scenic Grant Program**

Metropolitan Area

Applicant	Title	97LCMR Award*	98 Cap. Approp.**	Project Description
Chaska City of	Fen Acq		32,000	Acquire 6.3 acres, including a part of Seminary Fen and Assumption Creek, a designated trout stream.
Eden Prairie City of	Richard T. Anderson Conservation Area		318,000	Acquire ~30 acres of environmentally sensitive land along the Minnesota River Bluff which will increase the city's ownership at this site to 115 acres. Contains dry prairie, oak savannah/woodland and lowland hardwoods.
Marine on St. Croix City of	Jackson Meadow Hollow		150,000	Acquisition of 53 acres known as the "Hollow". It has vistas of the St. Croix River Valley. The site consists of upland prairie land where dense virgin Little Bluestem dominate, Oak Woodland on the steep slopes and a dense Red and White pine forest along the base of the Hollow.
Orono City Of	Saga Hill Park		75,000	Acquire 8.3 acres of middle-aged hardwood forest, lowland marsh and upland meadows for expansion of Saga Hill Natural Area. The area will succeed to "Big Woods" if left undisturbed.
St. Paul City of	Highwood Park Nature Preserve		155,000	Acquisition of 12.73 acres of scenic bluff property within the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area corridor. Contains a large population of rare lilia-leaved twayblade orchids.
Waconia City of	Coney Island Acq		166,600	Acquire 32 acre island on Lake Waconia for passive recreation, historical/nature interpretation. Scenic vistas; Blue Heron rookery.
896,600				

* Grants awarded from remaining 97 MFRF appropriation

** Grants awarded from 1998 capital improvement appropriation

Approval requested for:

June 2, 1998

**1998 Grant Awards
Natural and Scenic Grant Program**

**Outside of the
Metropolitan Area**

Applicant	Title	97LCMR Award*	98 Cap. Approp.**	Project Description
Isanti County of	Springvale Park		59,750	Acquisition of two parcels totalling 69.48 acres. Contains northern hardwoods, oak savannah, tamarack swamp, and a glacial esker.
Itasca County of	Drumbeater Island		67,000	Acquire an ~17 acre island in Pokegama Lake, with 3,500' of scenic shoreline, old growth northern hardwood forest and cultural/archeological significance.
Rochester City of	Quarry Hill Nature Area	60,210	46,790	Acquisition of 19 acres of land adjacent to Quarry Hill Nature Center. Contains a mature oak forest and open fields.
Sherburne County of	Bridgeview		180,000	Acquisition of 29 acres and 1,200' of shoreline along the Mississippi State Scenic and Recreational River. Contains Oak Woodland and brushland, prairie remnants.
St. Cloud City of	Oak Hill Forest Park		87,500	Acquisition of 10 acres of dry-mesic oak forest. Used by adjacent school for nature study.
		60,210	441,040	

* Grants awarded from remaining 97 MFRF appropriation

** Grants awarded from 1998 capital improvement appropriation

June 2, 1998