

# Natural Resources

# Projects Summary

(\$ in thousands)

Project Title	Rank	Fund	Project Requests for State Funds			Gov's Rec	Gov's Planning Estimates	
			2022	2024	2026	2022	2024	2026
Natural Resources Asset Preservation	1	GO	149,000	149,000	149,000	110,800	110,800	110,800
Natural Resources Betterment of Buildings	2	GO	49,000	49,000	49,000	36,400	36,400	36,400
Natural Resources Acquisition and Betterment of Public Lands	3	GO	91,000	91,000	91,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Wildfire Aviation Infrastructure	4	GO	7,800	0	0	7,800	0	0
Improving Accessibility to State Parks, Recreation Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas	5	GO	20,000	0	0	5,000	0	0
Dam Safety Repair, Reconstruction or Removal	6	GO	9,500	10,000	10,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Program	7	GO	25,000	25,000	25,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park	8	GO	12,000	0	0	12,000	0	0
Parks and Trails Local and Regional Grant Program	9	GO	4,000	4,000	4,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Community Tree Planting Grants	10	GO	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Upper Sioux Agency State Park Bond Defeasance	11	GF	250	0	0	250	0	0
<b>Total Project Requests</b>			<b>372,550</b>	<b>333,000</b>	<b>333,000</b>	<b>221,250</b>	<b>196,200</b>	<b>196,200</b>
<b>General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total</b>			<b>372,300</b>	<b>333,000</b>	<b>333,000</b>	<b>221,000</b>	<b>196,200</b>	<b>196,200</b>
<b>General Fund Cash (GF) Total</b>			<b>250</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

### AT A GLANCE

#### Conserve and manage natural resources

- Manage 1.3 million acres of wildlife management areas, 192,000 acres of scientific and natural areas, and 4.2 million acres of state forest
- Protect, enhance, and restore habitat on 4,500 fishing lakes and 16,000 miles of streams and rivers
- Manage 2,800 surface-water monitoring sites

#### Get people outdoors

- Operate 75 state parks and recreation areas, 43 state forest campgrounds, and nine state waysides
- Manage 2.4 million license sales and 1.3 million boat and vehicle registrations
- Provide more than 29,700 miles of trails for hiking, biking, snowmobiles, off-highway vehicles, horseback riding, and cross-county skiing
- Manage 1,700 public water accesses, 360 fishing piers, and 35 water trails

#### Build the economy

- Provide recreation opportunities that contribute to the state's \$16.7 billion outdoor recreation economy, which generates about \$1.4 billion in state and local tax revenues
- Manage 12 million acres of state mineral rights contributing directly to the mining economy, including 3.5 million acres of school trust lands
- Offer 900,000 cords of timber annually while meeting forest certification requirements on 5 million acres of state lands, including 2.5 million acres of school trust lands, that provide habitat, clean water, and recreational opportunities as well as timber

#### Serve the public

- Respond to over 126,000 calls and emails from the public received by the DNR Information Center
- Ensure the health and safety of employees and visitors at 3,000 facilities statewide
- Deliver information via the DNR website, which had 78 million pages viewed by 9 million users in FY20
- Protect people and property from wildfires and other natural disaster emergencies (781 fires in FY20)

### PURPOSE

**The mission of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is to work with Minnesotans to 1) conserve and manage natural resources, 2) provide outdoor recreation opportunities; and 3) provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life.**

### STRATEGIES

To accomplish its mission, DNR uses the following long-term strategic framework:

**1. Minnesota's waters, natural lands, and diverse fish and wildlife habitats are conserved and enhanced.**

DNR works closely with partners to achieve this by:

- Enhancing management of surface waters and groundwater—monitoring, permitting, education and compliance—to ensure sustainability and quality.
- Working with farmers, landowners, local officials, and the public to promote conservation and enhancement of forests, prairies, grasslands, and wetlands.
- Preventing and curbing the spread of invasive species.
- Inventorying and monitoring the status of natural lands, waters, wildlife, and plants.
- Implementing climate change mitigation and adaptation practices through public land management activities and assistance to private landowners.

2. **Minnesota’s outdoor recreation opportunities meet the needs of new and existing participants so all benefit from nature.** DNR seeks to engage more Minnesotans in outdoor activities to benefit health, community, and conservation by:
  - Managing the state’s parks, trails, forests, recreation areas, and other lands to provide quality, accessible visitor experiences and attract new users.
  - Providing affordable outdoor learning experiences to beginners by implementing programs such as the ‘I Can’ series and “Learn to Hunt”.
  - Promoting user friendly, digital recreation information, such as new websites and mobile apps.
3. **Minnesota’s natural resources contribute to strong and sustainable job markets, economies, and communities.** While ensuring strong environmental stewardship, DNR helps generate billions of dollars a year for the state through outdoor recreation, forest products, and mineral and water resources, by:
  - Maintaining diverse, healthy, sustainable, and productive forests that meet third party certification standards while also providing a sustainable and predictable source of timber for Minnesota’s forest products industry.
  - Researching and developing mining technologies that protect the environment.
  - Improving data management systems to provide better access to and analysis of groundwater and surface water data for sustainable communities.
  - Leasing mineral rights and real estate and selling land and timber from the school trust portfolio.
4. **DNR demonstrates operational excellence and continuous improvement in service to Minnesotans.** DNR strives to continually improve services offered by:
  - Ensuring the health and safety of employees and visitors at DNR facilities.
  - Employing a diverse workforce that reflects the communities we serve.
  - Improving access to parks, trails, and other DNR facilities for people of all abilities.
  - Maintaining work standards that reinforce positive and professional conduct, promote diversity and inclusion, and support staff training and development.
  - Increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy use to reduce costs and reduce the environmental impact of our operations.
  - Developing “continuous improvement” projects to improve efficiency and customer satisfaction.

In partnering with Minnesotans to advance the above strategies and the DNR mission of conserving and managing the state's natural resources, providing access to special outdoor places, and supporting economies that depend on sound management of resources – the agency strives to ensure that the benefits of Minnesota’s abundant natural resources are enjoyed by all Minnesotans. These efforts also contribute to broader outcomes for Minnesota. For example, the DNR helps to improve the wellbeing of children and families by advancing connections to the outdoors and the health and wellness benefits those connections provide. The agency also advances diversity, equity and inclusion by striving to ensure its facilities, lands, and engagement processes are welcoming and accessible, and its services are equitable across economic and cultural communities.

Finally, the DNR’s core work is rooted in natural resources management and environmental protection. Thriving natural systems are critical for thriving communities, and by managing for the sustained health of natural resources the DNR contributes to community health and economic opportunity. In this work, the agency is also committed to mitigating and adapting to climate change and enhancing the climate resiliency of natural systems and communities now and into the future.

---

Department of Natural Resources legal authority comes from Minnesota Statutes:

84 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=84>)

84A-84D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/part/CONSERVATION>)

85-87A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/part/RECREATION>)

88-91 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/part/FORESTRY>)  
92-94 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/part/LANDS+AND+MINERALS>)  
97-102 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/part/GAME+AND+FISH>)  
103A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=103A>)  
127A (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=127A>)

**AT A GLANCE**

The mission of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is to *work with Minnesotans to conserve and manage the state's natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life.*

DNR seeks to achieve the following goals to fulfill its mission:

- **Goal 1:** Minnesota's waters, natural lands, and diverse fish and wildlife habitats are conserved and enhanced.
- **Goal 2:** Minnesota's outdoor recreation opportunities meet the needs of new and existing participants so all benefit from nature.
- **Goal 3:** Management of Minnesota's natural resources contributes to strong and sustainable job markets, economies, and communities.
- **Goal 4:** The DNR has operational excellence and a focus on continuous improvement in public service.

**Factors Impacting Facilities or Capital Programs**

The DNR is responsible for extensive capital assets — both “built” (e.g., buildings, forest roads, campgrounds, fish hatcheries, boat ramps) and “natural” (i.e., public lands). This natural and built infrastructure benefits Minnesotans throughout the state and is critical to the DNR's mission of conserving and managing natural resources, providing outdoor recreational opportunities, and providing for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life. Preserving, enhancing, and renewing this infrastructure requires significant ongoing investment.

In 2015, the DNR undertook a comprehensive review of its built assets that culminated in the development of a 10-Year Capital Asset Need Report. This report has since been updated every two years, most recently in September 2021.

Much of the DNR's built infrastructure is more than 50 years old and the deferred maintenance needs of these aging assets are multiplying. In addition, Minnesota is facing unprecedented change regarding both natural resources and public interaction with these natural resources. For example:

- Accelerating shifts in climate are having significant impacts on Minnesota's lands and waters, intensifying the negative effects of flooding, invasive species, and disease on natural resources.
- Demographic changes are highlighting the importance of improving accessibility if the state is to ensure that all Minnesotans can enjoy and benefit from their public lands.
- Aquatic invasive species (AIS) and changes in water recreation habits and equipment have highlighted the need to not only maintain but also reconfigure public water access sites to accommodate today's types of watercrafts, and to provide safe and convenient areas to clean, drain and dry watercraft and trailers to prevent the spread of AIS.

At the same time challenges associated with maintaining the DNR's capital assets are growing, the importance of these resources to Minnesotans' health and wellbeing has never been more evident. During the COVID-19 pandemic, people have turned to Minnesota's public lands and outdoor spaces in record numbers to find safe and healthy activities and lessen stress and anxiety. The increase in outdoor activity also emphasizes the importance of our natural resource-based economy to overall community prosperity.

The DNR has formulated its 2022 Capital Budget request to advance four strategic goals focused on achieving the DNR's mission:

Goal 1: Minnesota’s waters, natural lands, and diverse fish and wildlife habitats are conserved and enhanced. The DNR works closely with partners to target conservation in prairie and forest landscapes, prevent and curb the spread of harmful invasive species, and implement climate change mitigation and adaptation practices on public lands. The 2022 Capital Budget request includes funding for the strategic acquisition and betterment of public lands in support of this goal.

Goal 2: Minnesota’s outdoor recreation opportunities meet the needs of new and existing participants so all benefit from nature. Outdoor recreation is vital to supporting the state’s robust tourism economy, contributing to community prosperity and Minnesotans’ health and quality of life, and helping attract new businesses and a skilled workforce. The 2022 Capital Budget request aims to ensure people have access to high quality, diverse outdoor experiences by providing for the repair, renewal, and improved accessibility and development of parks, trails, scientific and natural areas, public water access sites and wildlife management areas.

Goal 3: Management of Minnesota’s natural resources contributes to strong and sustainable job markets, economies, and communities. Minnesota’s natural resource-based economies — including recreational tourism, forest products, and mineral resources — generate billions of dollars for the state. Investing in these economies is critical to maintaining the long-term economic health of Minnesota. The 2022 Capital Budget request advances this goal by improving the health and productivity of the state’s forest lands, ensuring DNR facilities are safe and meet business needs, repairing roads and bridges that support recreational and economic activity, mitigating flood risk, maintaining and enhancing outdoor recreation facilities, supporting wildfire suppression, and providing pass-through funding to assist Minnesota communities.

Goal 4: The DNR has operational excellence and a focus on continuous improvement in public service. The DNR is one of the state’s largest and most geographically dispersed agencies, with many work locations, varied work sites and built assets valued at nearly \$3 billion. Maintaining this infrastructure is critical to managing and sustaining the benefit of the state’s natural resources. Through the 2022 Capital Budget request, the DNR seeks to improve its delivery of conservation services, ensure the health and safety of Minnesotans, reduce operating costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and preserve the state’s cultural and ecological assets.

## **Self-Assessment of Agency Facilities and Assets**

The DNR’s comprehensive asset review and assessment identifies significant and growing capital investment needs throughout Minnesota. The 2021 DNR 10-year Capital Asset Need Report indicates that over the next 10 years, \$184 million is needed annually to fund deferred maintenance and renew and replace obsolete or inadequate built assets. Funding to acquire, restore, and enhance public lands is also needed to advance strategic goals. The following list highlights many of these needs.

- **Buildings and related facilities:** The DNR owns and manages 2,902 buildings statewide. These include offices, storage facilities, state park visitor centers, campground shower buildings, and associated parking, wastewater, and water supply systems. More than one-third of these buildings are more than 50 years old, and more than 20 percent have a facility condition rating of “crisis” or “poor.” Some have major issues impacting health and safety, such as mold or leaking roofs. Others — including the Hibbing Drill Core Library, facilities at Waterville and other fish hatcheries, and components of the Badoura State Forest Nursery — require major renovation or replacement to meet current and future obligations and needs.
- **Accessibility:** Many DNR facilities have limited accessibility, which can be a barrier to enjoyment of the outdoors for many people. While all recent renovations meet accessibility standards, such projects are typically implemented only when facilities are in need of major repairs. The DNR seeks to better serve Minnesotans by more comprehensively improving the accessibility of specific state parks and wildlife management areas.

- Wildfire aviation infrastructure: The DNR's ability to effectively respond to wildfire and other public safety needs depends on having safe, secure, and efficient space for air operations. Current facilities do not meet this standard and need significant repair and replacement.
- Public water accesses: Minnesota is renowned for its abundant water recreation opportunities, an economic engine that relies on public water accesses to serve boaters, paddlers, anglers, and businesses. Rehabilitation of many accesses is needed to better and more safely serve Minnesotans and protect water quality.
- Roads and bridges: The DNR is responsible for more than 4,633 miles of forest, wildlife management area, and state park roads and about 500 bridges. This infrastructure requires significant investment to address deficiencies that affect safety and access.
- Trails: While the state trail system has grown, funding to maintain existing trail assets has not kept pace. Of the 803 miles of paved state trails, more than 100 miles are in immediate need of rehabilitation to address quality, accessibility, and safety issues.
- Flood hazard mitigation: On average, \$1 spent on flood mitigation averts \$7 in future damage. While Minnesota has made significant progress in this area, flood risks remain. Climate change and the resulting increased intensity of storm events has elevated the urgency for robust program funding to enhance resiliency to future flooding events.
- Dam safety: The DNR manages 311 dams and administers a dam safety grant program for 332 dams owned by local units of government. Most of these public dams are more than 50 years old and many need capital funding for repair, reconstruction, or removal to protect public safety and property.
- Public lands: Reforestation; acquisition of strategic in-holdings and easements; new and expanded wildlife and aquatic management areas; stream restoration; fish-rearing ponds; and development and replacement of recreational facilities like campgrounds, boat launches, and shore fishing amenities are all examples of capital investment needs and opportunities associated with DNR-managed public lands. These investments advance natural resource conservation goals, support local economies, and help ensure Minnesotans of all incomes and abilities have adequate access and facilities to enjoy public lands.

## Agency Process for Determining Capital Requests

The 2022 Capital Budget request is designed to advance the agency's mission and goals. The DNR's 10-year Capital Asset Need Report ([mndnr.gov/reports](http://mndnr.gov/reports)) and natural resource management plans guided the development of this request. The capital budget development process employs an agency-wide interdisciplinary approach whereby the DNR senior management team first discusses investment needs and establishes principles to guide proposal development. Program staff and the capital budget team then develop proposals based on the analysis of capital needs and identified principles. Proposals are then discussed and prioritized by senior managers and the DNR Commissioner's Office approves the final request.

## Major Capital Projects Authorized in 2020

### 2020 Fifth Special Session Capital Budget

- Natural Resources Asset Preservation — \$15 million
- Lake Vermilion Underground Mine State Park mine shaft repair — \$5 million
- Lake Vermilion Underground Mine State Park development — \$5.8 million
- Flood Hazard Mitigation Grants — \$15 million
- Dam Safety — \$20 million
- State Park Accessibility — \$3 million
- Community Shade Tree Grants — \$1 million
- Forests for the Future (i.e., easements for forest preservation) — \$1 million
- Directed funding for state trail development — \$6.74 million
- Pass-through funds to local governments (various infrastructure projects) — \$20.68 million

Natural Resources Asset Preservation

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$149,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	1
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$149 million for the repair and renovation of capital assets (including buildings, roads, trails, public water accesses, bridges, recreational facilities and more) to ensure they are safe and functional for the recreating public, support the conservation of Minnesota’s natural resources, and preserve the state’s investment in its capital assets.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$149 million for Natural Resources Asset Preservation (NRAP) needs under M.S. 84.946. The DNR manages a broad array of building and recreational assets that serve and benefit people across Minnesota. This includes 2,902 buildings at more than 225 locations, 75 state parks and recreation areas, nine waysides, 43 forest campgrounds, 4,633 miles of roads, 803 miles of paved trails, 503 bridges and several thousand culverts, 1,691 public water access sites, more than 1,000 water control structures and dams, 15 fish hatcheries, one conservation-grade tree nursery, and thousands of miles of hiking trails. All of these require periodic repair and renewal.

This request addresses the following high-priority needs:

- **Buildings:** \$61 million for repair and deferred maintenance of existing buildings, particularly to bring crisis or poor buildings and building components up to acceptable or better condition. The DNR’s 10-Year Capital Asset Needs Report shows that of 2,902 buildings, 191 are in crisis condition and 450 are in poor condition. Special focus will be paid to safety and accessibility for visitors and staff, and operational efficiency.
- **Water and Wastewater Systems:** \$13 million to address aging and failing water and wastewater infrastructure statewide, including at Itasca, Myre-Big Island, and Fort Snelling state parks. Projects will focus on water and wastewater systems that do not meet current health and environmental standards.
- **Roads and Trails:** \$34.5 million to provide critical repair and renewal of roads, trails and associated culverts on public land. DNR-managed roads provide Minnesotans access to state forests, parks, recreation areas, and wildlife management areas, and the recreational and economic activities these lands support. Priority trail repair projects include the Glacial Lakes, Paul Bunyan, and Willard Munger state trails.
- **Bridges:** \$14 million to repair and replace bridges in the worst condition. This includes replacement of the vehicle entrance bridge at Tettegouche State Park, a nearly 100-year-old, fracture-critical bridge that is beyond the end of its service life and has required temporary closures and ongoing weight restrictions due to safety hazards.



- **Public Water Access Sites (PWAs) and Lake Superior Small Craft Harbors:** \$11 million to repair deteriorated ramps, pavement and docks and address other safety issues at existing sites; implement aquatic invasive species (AIS), stormwater, and shoreland best management practices; and enhance accessibility. PWAs have seen an unprecedented level of use during the COVID-19 pandemic and are in critical need of investment to maintain their functionality.
- **Water Control Structures:** \$4 million to repair or replace deteriorating water control structures that provide waterfowl habitat and support fisheries on key shallow lakes and wetlands across Minnesota.
- **Monitoring Wells:** \$1 million for rehabilitation of existing groundwater monitoring (observation) wells.
- **Campsites, Group Camps, and Day Use Areas:** \$7.5 million to address deferred maintenance and meet the changing needs of the public, thereby connecting more people to the outdoors. Priority sites include Sibley, Frontenac, Itasca, Beaver Creek Valley, and Old Mill state parks.
- **Hatcheries:** \$3 million for critical repairs to fish hatchery facility components that support conservation, outdoor recreation, tourism and rural economies. For example, the Crystal Springs hatchery requires immediate replacement of its 1930s-vintage water piping and control system, which is on the verge of failing, thereby risking the production of more than 220,000 fish each year that DNR relies on for stocking Minnesota lakes and streams.

### **Project Rationale**

The DNR manages built assets valued at nearly \$3 billion for the benefit of all Minnesotans. This infrastructure, which spans every Minnesota county and reflects generations of investment, connects Minnesotans with the outdoors, supports community prosperity, conserves our natural heritage, and contributes to our quality of life. Stewardship of these assets requires ongoing repair, renovation, and replacement.

The growing list of deferred maintenance (currently estimated to total \$682 million) poses considerable risk to the safety and usability of DNR-managed assets, and the public benefits they provide. This requires significant investment in asset preservation to ensure these resources continue to serve all Minnesotans safely and effectively into the future.

### **Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

### **Other Considerations**

The DNR's asset preservation needs are further documented in the most recent DNR 10-Year Capital Asset Need report ([mndnr.gov/reports](http://mndnr.gov/reports)).

The DNR has set aggressive goals for securing a more sustainable future that incorporate greater use of clean energy to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions. The DNR leads by example by investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy, which have included solar PV with a capacity of 645 KW, air-source heat pumps, and building construction designed to meet or exceed the Sustainable Buildings 2030 standard.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This will have a minimal impact on operating budgets.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2020 (5th SS), Ch. 3 - Bond, Asset Preservation \$20,000,000

L2019 Ch. 2 - Bond, Asset Preservation, \$3,419,000

L2018 Ch. 214 - Bond, Asset Preservation, \$26,581,000

L2017 (1st SS), Ch. 8 - Bond, Asset Preservation, \$15,000,000

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer

Assistant Commissioner

651-276-3404

Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$110.8 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$110.8 million for each planning period for 2024 and 2026.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Natural Resources Asset Preservation

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 65,000	\$ 149,000	\$ 149,000	\$ 149,000
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 65,000</b>	<b>\$ 149,000</b>	<b>\$ 149,000</b>	<b>\$ 149,000</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 9,750	\$ 22,350	\$ 22,350	\$ 22,350
Project Management	\$ 6,500	\$ 14,900	\$ 14,900	\$ 14,900
Construction	\$ 48,750	\$ 111,700	\$ 111,700	\$ 111,700
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 65,000</b>	<b>\$ 149,000</b>	<b>\$ 149,000</b>	<b>\$ 149,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 149,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?	No
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	Yes
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	No
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

Natural Resources Betterment of Buildings

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$49,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	2
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$49 million for reconstruction or replacement of offices and facilities that are unsafe, fail to meet current needs, or have reached the end of their useful life, in order to create a healthy and safe workplace and better serve all Minnesotans.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$49 million to acquire, construct, and improve buildings under M.S. 86A.12. The request will allow significant improvements to, or replacement of, DNR-managed buildings across Minnesota including:

- adding needed capacity for the statutorily-required storage of mineral exploration samples at the **Hibbing Drill Core Library** and enhancing the mineral core examination facilities;
- addressing critical renewal and replacement needs at the **Waterville fish hatchery**, which is nearly 70 years old, including replacing the main hatchery building, adding biosecurity measures, and constructing a discharge water treatment system;
- enhancing the safety and efficiency of tree seed and seedling storage and processing facilities at the **Badoura State Forest Nursery** to support afforestation and reforestation efforts across Minnesota; and
- replacing **campground shower buildings** at state parks to enhance their safety, functionality and accessibility while reducing maintenance costs.

These funds will also support the highest-priority replacements of inadequate or unsafe office and storage spaces statewide and the most critical renovations to historic buildings.

**Project Rationale**

The DNR manages built assets valued at nearly \$3 billion for the benefit of all Minnesotans. This infrastructure, which spans every Minnesota county and reflects generations of investment, connects Minnesotans with the outdoors, supports community prosperity, conserves our natural heritage, and contributes to our quality of life. Stewardship of these assets requires ongoing repair, renovation, and replacement.

Funding for Natural Resources Acquisition and Betterment of Buildings is a critical counterpart to funding for Natural Resources Asset Preservation (NRAP). NRAP funding addresses the backlog of deferred maintenance that affects the safety and usability of DNR-managed facilities. “Betterment” funding allows for substantial improvements or additions to, or replacement of, buildings that are unsafe, fail to meet current needs, or have reached the end of their useful life. These programs together are critical to address the substantial deferred maintenance and renewal/replacement

needs for DNR-managed facilities and infrastructure.

The growing list of renewal and replacement needs (currently estimated to require more than \$100 million per year to systematically address) poses considerable risk to the public benefits provided by DNR-managed assets. This requires significant investment to ensure these resources continue to serve all Minnesotans safely and effectively into the future.

Renewal and replacement of DNR-managed buildings also reduces operating costs and enhances public value by replacing antiquated buildings with ones that require less energy and water to operate, have greater safety features, provide better access to all Minnesotans, and require significantly less maintenance now and into the future.

### **Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

### **Other Considerations**

The DNR uses renewal and replacement to enhance the energy efficiency and sustainability of DNR facilities, which lowers operating costs for specific facilities.

When determining building needs, the DNR looks for opportunities to consolidate uses to promote efficient use of space and reduce long-term operating costs (example: co-located offices or storage).

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This will have a minimal impact on operating budgets, although some reduction may be realized due to the enhanced efficiency of replaced buildings.

### **Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2018, Ch. 214 - Bond, Buildings, \$6,000

### **Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer  
Assistant Commissioner  
651-276-3404  
Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

### **Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$36.4 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$36.4 million for each planning period for 2024 and 2026.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Natural Resources Betterment of Buildings

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 6,000	\$ 49,000	\$ 49,000	\$ 49,000
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>	<b>\$ 49,000</b>	<b>\$ 49,000</b>	<b>\$ 49,000</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 120	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
Design Fees	\$ 1,080	\$ 6,800	\$ 7,350	\$ 7,350
Project Management	\$ 600	\$ 4,900	\$ 4,900	\$ 4,900
Construction	\$ 4,200	\$ 35,600	\$ 36,050	\$ 36,050
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 1,500	\$ 500	\$ 500
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>	<b>\$ 49,000</b>	<b>\$ 49,000</b>	<b>\$ 49,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 49,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?	No
<b>Pre-design Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for pre-design?	Yes
Has the pre-design been submitted to the Department of Administration?	No
Has the pre-design been approved by the Department of Administration?	
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A



## Natural Resources Acquisition and Betterment of Public Lands

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$91,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	3
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$91 million to acquire and better state lands in order to conserve Minnesota's natural resources, enrich outdoor recreational opportunities, and provide for sustainable commercial uses of natural resources.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$71 million to acquire and improve DNR-managed public lands under M.S. 86A.12, and \$20 million to compensate the Permanent School Trust Fund under M.S. 84.027, subd. 18.

**Acquisition:** \$32 million is requested to acquire (either in fee or through easements):

- New and expanded Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs) that reflect Pheasant Action Plan and Duck Action Plan priorities and provide match for Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) funding.
- High-priority parcels for Scientific and Natural Areas (SNAs), focusing on in-holdings and adjacent parcels to existing SNAs, parcels already in public ownership, and those that may provide match for RIM funding.
- Strategic in-holdings for state parks and recreation areas, state trails, and public water accesses.
- Forested parcels, to protect important private forest lands threatened by conversion to nonforest uses.

**Betterment of Public Lands:** \$39 million is requested to improve public lands, including:

- Reforestation after timber harvests, forest pest outbreaks, and storms/wildfires.
- Forest stand improvement projects to enhance species diversity, resilience, wildlife habitat, water quality benefits, and economic value.
- Major safety projects at Pine Bend Bluffs SNA, as well as enhancing access (e.g. adding parking) at other SNAs.
- Renewal and replacement of campgrounds, recreation areas, and day-use areas to meet the needs of current users. This includes construction of a campground with off-highway vehicle access in the Beltrami Island State Forest.
- Renewal and replacement of public water accesses to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) design standards; help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species by adding boat-

cleaning areas; and protect water quality and enhance habitat for pollinators and other wildlife by incorporating native vegetation and best practices for stormwater runoff management, erosion control, and shoreline buffers.

- Priority stream restoration projects across the state, including the Whetstone Channel reconnection project.
- WMA Gateway development projects to create a more inclusive experience at select WMAs. Projects at the entry point and specific points of interest will facilitate learning, build confidence in outdoor settings and introduce visitors to a network of public lands that may otherwise be unknown to them.
- Adding more shore fishing opportunities across the state to enable and encourage anglers of all incomes, ages and abilities to enjoy fishing.

**School Trust Land:** \$20 million to compensate the Permanent School Trust Fund for designations that restrict the state’s ability to maximize the long-term economic return from the land while maintaining sound natural resource conservation and management principles, consistent with M.S. 84.027, subd. 18 and M.S. 92.122, subd. 2(3).

### **Project Rationale**

Minnesota’s public lands are vital to the health and wellbeing of the state. They provide opportunities for those of all incomes and abilities to connect with and enjoy the benefits of the outdoors, and contribute to the health of local economies. The existing system of state lands is a legacy of generations of past investments. Continued investment is needed both to maintain the rich outdoor resources Minnesotans currently enjoy, and to ensure the state’s public lands meet the needs of a growing and changing population. Investment is also needed to help ensure Minnesota’s natural systems are resilient to the effects of climate change and other large-scale landscape impacts.

The projects identified above directly support the DNR’s strategic conservation and resource management goals, as well as the wellbeing of local communities and economies. In addition, the projects further connect people to the outdoors, enhance the DNR’s ability to serve all Minnesotans, and help the state mitigate and adapt to climate change. This funding is needed to improve the management and conservation of the natural resources of the state as provided for in M.S. 86A.12. Additionally, this funding will allow the DNR to make progress addressing the requirements under M.S. 84.027, subd. 18 regarding the Permanent School Trust Fund.

### **Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

### **Other Considerations**

In-holdings are the highest priority for acquisition.

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This will have a minimal impact on operating budgets.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2020 (5th SS), Ch. 3 - Bond, Forests for the Future (i.e. easement acquisitions), \$1,000,000

L2018, Ch. 214 - Bond, Reforestation, \$3,000,000

L2017 (1st SS), Ch. 8 - Bond, Reforestation, \$1,000,000

L2017 (1st SS), Ch. 8 - Bond, Parks and Trails, \$14,548,000

L2017 (1st SS), Ch. 8 - Bond, St. Paul Invasive Tree Pests, \$1,500,000

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer

Assistant Commissioner

651-276-3404

Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$15 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$15 million for each planning period for 2024 and 2026.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Natural Resources Acquisition and Betterment of Public Lands

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 21,048	\$ 91,000	\$ 91,000	\$ 91,000
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 21,048</b>	<b>\$ 91,000</b>	<b>\$ 91,000</b>	<b>\$ 91,000</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 783	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 3,043	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Project Management	\$ 1,622	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800
Construction	\$ 15,600	\$ 31,200	\$ 31,200	\$ 31,200
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 21,048</b>	<b>\$ 91,000</b>	<b>\$ 91,000</b>	<b>\$ 91,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 91,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	Yes
<b>Pre-design Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for pre-design?	N/A
Has the pre-design been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the pre-design been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

Wildfire Aviation Infrastructure

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$7,800
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	4
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$7.8 million to repair and construct wildfire aviation infrastructure in Hibbing and Brainerd that supports effective response to wildfires and other safety needs.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) responds to wildfires and other safety needs, which requires having safe, secure, and efficient areas to house air operations. This request would allow the DNR to address the following high-priority aviation infrastructure needs:

- **Hibbing Airtanker Base:** The ramp that serves as the DNR’s airtanker staging and access area at the Hibbing airport has deteriorated to the point where it can no longer be used. This has necessitated a temporary move to a new staging location, adding operational complexity and reducing response efficiency. The two mobile home units that house the tanker base operations have also reached the end of their useful life. A total of \$4.3 million is needed to repair the ramp (\$1.8 million) and replace the operations center (\$2.5 million). The new operations center would accommodate dispatch, weather, and communications personnel; and include wildfire crew readiness and rest areas, as well as meeting space for daily weather and activity briefings.
- **Brainerd Airtanker Base:** The wildfire response facility at the Brainerd airport currently consists of two mobile home units that have reached the end of their useful life. A total of \$3.5 million is needed to replace these units and associated storage areas with an operations center that meets current needs.

**Project Rationale**

Airtanker base, hangar, and helibase facilities must be secure, safe, energy efficient, and provide the space needed for operations personnel and aircraft pilots and crews so the DNR can effectively respond to wildfires and support enforcement and other public safety needs. To meet these goals, these facilities should:

1. Be strategically spaced across the state for efficient and timely response to wildland fires and enforcement activities,
2. Support integrated operations as much as possible to increase efficiency and inter-operability, and
3. Provide for storage and protection of equipment to increase life-cycle and decrease down-time.

This bonding request helps the DNR advance the above goals and a number of its strategic priorities, including managing natural resources responsibly and cultivating a healthy, safe and supportive workplace. Additionally, effective wildfire response is necessary to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

**Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

**Other Considerations**

The DNR is working with the airport authorities on these projects and may grant them funds to execute construction.

The DNR has successfully co-located with other public entities in Warroad, Thief River Falls, and Bemidji.

Infrastructure updates and building improvements at DNR airtanker bases have been sporadic and limited since the Wildfire Aviation program's inception in 1976.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This project is not expected to have a significant impact on operating budgets.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

Not applicable.

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer  
Assistant Commissioner  
651-276-3404  
Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$7.8 million in general obligation bonds for this request.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Wildfire Aviation Infrastructure

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 0	\$ 7,800	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 7,800</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 75	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 0	\$ 225	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 0	\$ 125	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	\$ 0	\$ 7,130	\$ 0	\$ 0
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 245	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 7,800</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 7,800	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %



**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	No
<b>Pre-design Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for pre-design?	Yes
Has the pre-design been submitted to the Department of Administration?	No
Has the pre-design been approved by the Department of Administration?	No
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

**Improving Accessibility to State Parks, Recreation Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas**

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$20,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	5
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$20 million to improve accessibility at William O’Brien and Fort Snelling state parks and at two high-visitation wildlife management areas. Project components include renovations of bathrooms, showers, campsites, trails, and day-use facilities and development of new accessible amenities to serve visitors with a variety of physical abilities.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$20 million to more comprehensively improve the accessibility of state-managed lands and facilities to Minnesotans of all abilities, thereby advancing the strategic priorities of connecting people to the outdoors and expanding diversity, equity and inclusion. The funding will enable the DNR to complete accessibility improvements to high-use facilities at William O’Brien State Park that were partially funded in 2020, and to apply the lessons learned from that project to Fort Snelling State Park and two high-visitation wildlife management areas (WMAs), Carlos Avery and Whitewater. When complete, the project will include accessibility renovations of bathrooms, parking areas, showers, campsites, trails and a variety of day-use and interpretive facilities, as well as new amenities to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse user base with a variety of physical abilities and skills.

At William O’Brien State Park, the DNR will complete the work partially funded with 2020 bonding to enhance accessibility of the following facilities and amenities:

- Interpretive center
- Savanna campground: shower building, campsites, vault toilets, camper cabins
- Riverside group camp: campsites, vault toilets
- Trails and trail amenities
- Picnic shelters
- Athletic field
- Wayfinding and signage
- Key parking and access routes throughout the park

At Fort Snelling State Park, the DNR will enhance accessibility of the following:

- Ranger station: restrooms, service counter, exterior plaza, parking and self-registration station
- Beach and day use area: parking, access routes, building access, beach and picnic area
- Picnic Island: causeway, parking, public water access, perimeter trail, youth camp, picnic areas and

shelters, restroom buildings

- Confluence (“Pike”) Island: trail from the Visitor Center to the Mississippi River
- Other trails: repair degraded areas that are limiting accessibility

At the Carlos Avery and Whitewater WMAs, the DNR will conduct a comprehensive, site-specific assessment of accessibility needs and opportunities at each WMA and complete the accessibility improvements identified to have the greatest benefit. Projects are expected to include improved accessibility of parking lots, gated trails, and hunting blinds.

### **Project Rationale**

Many DNR buildings and facilities are more than 50 years old and were built before the advent of state and federal accessibility standards. All recent renovations and construction projects meet these standards. However, such projects are currently only implemented as building and facility components are in need of major repairs. As a result, most parks and recreation areas remain only partially accessible.

The importance of increased accessibility extends beyond state parks and recreation areas to other DNR-managed outdoor recreation lands and facilities. The DNR also has been partnering with the Minnesota Council on Disability and interested stakeholders to identify opportunities to enhance accessibility at WMAs. As was done for William O’Brien and Fort Snelling state parks, the first step is to identify the needs and opportunities that exist to improve the comprehensive accessibility of these locations.

Funding this proposal will create more comprehensive accessibility at specific state parks and WMAs. This will demonstrate what more comprehensive accessibility looks like, serve as a model for efforts on other state lands, and, most importantly, provide a much more accessible experience so that all Minnesotans can enjoy these public lands and facilities in their entirety.

### **Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

### **Other Considerations**

The DNR is responsible for providing a wide range of recreational opportunities and these opportunities need to be available to everyone. Enhanced accessibility opens outdoor experiences to people with disabilities and improves access and experience for people of all abilities.

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This will have a minimal impact on operating budgets.

### **Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2020, (5th SS), Ch. 3 - Bond \$3,000,000

L2018, Ch. 214, Bond, \$500,000

### **Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer  
Assistant Commissioner

651-276-3404

Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$5 million in general obligation bonds for this request.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Improving Accessibility to State Parks, Recreation Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 3,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,500</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 700	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Project Management	\$ 170	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Construction	\$ 2,630	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,500</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 20,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	No
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	Yes
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

**Dam Safety Repair, Reconstruction or Removal**

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$9,500
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	6
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$9.5 million to maintain the structural integrity of dams, prevent public safety hazards, and maintain water levels on rivers and lakes.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$9.5 million for dam safety projects. This request supports the DNR’s Dam Safety Program, which was established under M.S. 103G.511 to manage Minnesota’s public dam infrastructure. The program provides design, engineering, and construction assistance to repair, reconstruct, or remove dams, and to respond to dam safety emergencies. This request will support:

- Removal of the Grindstone Dam following completion of an Environmental Impact Statement.
- Modification of the Clearwater and Buck’s Mill dams to address the safety hazard inherent to the obsolete design of these low-head river dams.

This request may also be used to supplement the 2020 bond funds provided for the Lake Bronson Dam project, if needed, to ensure that the current high rate of inflation in construction costs does not adversely impact the project’s safety objectives. About 10 percent of the request will be reserved for emergencies. Unspent emergency funds will be used on high priority projects.

**Project Rationale**

Dams are relied on to maintain water levels on many of Minnesota’s recreational lakes, providing significant outdoor recreation, tourism, economic, and community benefits. For example, Mille Lacs, Minnetonka, Bronson, and Ottertail lakes all depend on dams to maintain water levels.

There are more than 1,150 dams in Minnesota; 650 are public dams, and the state owns more than 300 of these. Most of the publicly owned dams in Minnesota are more than 50 years old and require ongoing repairs to maintain their structural integrity, prevent public safety hazards, and to maintain water levels on recreational lakes. Emergency repairs must be made when an imminent dam failure threatens public safety.

Management of the state’s public dam infrastructure via the Dam Safety Program also includes modification of hazardous or obsolete dams, and removal of those that no longer provide significant public benefits where rehabilitation will not be cost-effective or environmentally protective. These projects may also provide natural resource benefits by maximizing the biological diversity of river systems and through restoring and reconnecting upstream and downstream habitats.

**Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

**Other Considerations**

As a part of the Dam Safety Program, every other year the DNR develops and submits to the legislature a dam safety project priority list. This list, along with the maintenance needs identified in the DNR's 10-Year Capital Asset Needs Report, informs each capital request for dam safety repair, reconstruction and removal.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

There will be minimal impact on operating budgets.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2020 (5th SS), Ch. 3 - Bond, \$20,000,000

L2017 (1st SS), Ch. 8 - Bond, \$9,400,000

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer  
Assistant Commissioner  
651-276-3404  
Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$8 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$8 million for each planning period for 2024 and 2026.



## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Dam Safety Repair, Reconstruction or Removal

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 29,400	\$ 9,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 29,400</b>	<b>\$ 9,500</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600
Project Management	\$ 1,660	\$ 400	\$ 700	\$ 700
Construction	\$ 25,240	\$ 8,100	\$ 7,700	\$ 7,700
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 29,400</b>	<b>\$ 9,500</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 9,500	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	Yes
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	N/A
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	N/A
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

**Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Program**

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$25,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	7
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$25 million for cost-share grants to local governments, including cities, counties, and watershed districts, for projects that reduce flood risk. Projects range from purchasing and removing damaged and at-risk residential structures from the floodplain to constructing levees, pumping stations, and multi-purpose flood impoundments.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$25 million for flood hazard mitigation assistance grants. These funds will allow for cost-share grants to local governments to support projects that reduce flood risk in cities and watershed districts in the Red River Valley, Minnesota River Valley and other flood-risk areas across the state. Types of projects include the purchase and removal of flood-damaged and at-risk residential structures, construction of levees and pumping stations, and engineering and construction of multi-purpose flood impoundments.

This funding supports the Flood Hazard Mitigation Program established by M.S. 103F.161.

**Project Rationale**

Flood mitigation is cost effective. Studies show that every \$1 spent on flood mitigation avoids \$7 in future damages. Past investment in flood mitigation has resulted in a more flood-resilient state, and significantly decreased emergency flood response and recovery costs. Even with the significant progress that has been made, flood mitigation risks remain. Climate change and the resulting increased intensity of storm events has elevated the urgency for robust program funding, to enhance the resiliency of Minnesota communities to future flooding events.

**Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

**Other Considerations**

Past appropriations for flood hazard mitigation assistance grants have leveraged significant federal and local dollars, considerably reducing Minnesota's vulnerability to both the safety and economic impacts of floods.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This will have a minimal impact on operating budgets.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2020, (5th SS), Ch. 3 - Bond, \$17,000,000

L2018, Ch. 214 - Bond, \$20,000,000

L2017, SS1, Ch. 8 - Bond, \$11,555,000

L2015, SS1, Ch. 5 - Bond, \$23,549,000

L2015, SS1, Ch. 5 - Bond, \$2,515,000 (Disaster)

L2015, SS1, Ch. 5 - General Fund, \$500,000 (Disaster)

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer

Assistant Commissioner

651-276-3404

Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$20 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$20 million for each planning period for 2024 and 2026.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant Assistance Program

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 48,555	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 48,555</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 6,550	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 4,960	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250
Project Management	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	\$ 37,045	\$ 13,750	\$ 13,750	\$ 13,750
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 48,555</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 25,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	Yes
<b>Pre-design Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for pre-design?	N/A
Has the pre-design been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the pre-design been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	N/A
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$12,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	8
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$12 million to design and develop key recreational amenities at Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park, Minnesota’s newest state park.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$12 million for Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park. This project supports continued design and construction of recreational opportunities and supporting infrastructure at Minnesota's newest state park. Projects include:

- construction of the Lake Lodge Visitor Center; design of the South Vermilion Ridge Campground, including campsites with electric hook-ups and shower facilities,
- rehabilitation of an existing fire tower, including access, parking and interpretation,
- design of additional hiking/biking trails within the park, and
- design and construction of a renewable energy project that will offset some operating costs of the park.

**Project Rationale**

The DNR is responsible for providing a wide range of outdoor recreational opportunities across the state. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how important state parks, trails, and recreation areas are to Minnesotans, with visitors flocking to these public resources in record numbers. State parks and trails advance a key agency priority of connecting people with the outdoors, which offer health and wellness benefits to individuals, families and communities. Lake Vermilion State Park was established in 2008 by the Minnesota Legislature, and the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine Cooperative Master Plan was completed in December 2010. The goal for development of the park is to provide new nature-based recreational opportunities that will encourage healthy, active lifestyles, and engage increasingly diverse users in a growing appreciation for outdoor activities.

**Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

**Other Considerations**

This request focuses on continued investment and development in Minnesota's newest state park.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

Upon completion of the new recreational amenities, there will be some additional operating costs,

which will be partially offset by revenue from entrance permits, facility rental, camping fees, and equipment rentals.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2020 (5th SS), Ch. 3 - Bond, \$5,800,000

L2018 Ch. 214 - Bond, \$4,000,000

L2017 (1st SS), Ch. 8 - Bond, \$3,500,000

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer

Assistant Commissioner

651-276-3404

Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$12 million in general obligation bonds for this request.



**Natural Resources**

**Project Detail**

(\$ in thousands)

**Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park**

**PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES**

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 13,300	\$ 12,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13,300</b>	<b>\$ 12,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**TOTAL PROJECT COSTS**

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 2,485	\$ 1,850	\$ 1,850	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 665	\$ 600	\$ 788	\$ 750
Construction	\$ 10,150	\$ 9,550	\$ 9,362	\$ 14,250
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13,300</b>	<b>\$ 12,000</b>	<b>\$ 12,000</b>	<b>\$ 15,000</b>

**IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS**

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

**SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS**

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 12,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	No
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	No
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	No
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

**Parks and Trails Local and Regional Grant Program**

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$4,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	9
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$4 million to provide competitive grants to local governments for acquisition and development of local and regional parks and trails across the state.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$4 million to provide competitive grants to local governments for acquisition and development of local and regional parks and trails across the state. These funds will support the following park and trail matching grant programs established in M.S. 85.019:

- The Outdoor Recreation Grant Program helps local governments acquire, develop and/or redevelop close-to-home outdoor recreation facilities.
- The Regional Park Grant Program helps local governments acquire shoreland, natural areas and threatened habitat, and develop and rehabilitate natural resource-based outdoor recreation facilities of regional significance.
- The Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program helps local governments and school districts acquire and protect natural and scenic areas statewide that are diminishing due to development, especially in high growth areas, shoreland, bluff tops and areas where land use changes may limit future opportunities.
- The Local Trail Connections Grant Program provides grants to local units of government to develop and acquire trail connections to residential areas, schools, workplaces, community centers, recreation areas, trails and parks.
- The Regional Trail Grant Program provides grants to local units of government for development and acquisition of regional trails outside of the metropolitan area.

These grant programs allow the DNR to partner with local communities to acquire land and develop parks and trails that help create a network of close-to-home recreation facilities. The request will provide grants to local communities to acquire approximately 100 acres of parkland and trail corridor, develop or redevelop about 10 local and regional parks, and complete about 14 local and regional trail projects.

**Project Rationale**

This project supports Minnesota’s communities by helping to ensure public access to a high-quality system of local and regional parks and trails. Connecting people to the outdoors is a DNR strategic priority that is critical to enhancing community health and wellness. The COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized the importance of parks and trails to Minnesotans. Pass-through funding for local and

regional parks and trails projects further fosters connections of children and families to the outdoors.

**Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

**Other Considerations**

While Legacy funds have provided additional park and trail building acquisition and development funding to areas of regional significance, these funding sources cannot be used for local parks and trails. These programs have received Lottery-in-Lieu, Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund, and General Fund appropriations in recent years but the demand for funding is significantly greater than available funds. Therefore, bond funding remains one of the only sources of money for the purchase and development of smaller recreational opportunities located within communities.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

There will be minimal impact on the operating budget involved in managing the grant process.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

Not applicable

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer  
Assistant Commissioner  
651-276-3404  
Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$1 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$1 million for each planning period for 2024 and 2026.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Parks and Trails Local and Regional Grant Program

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 1,400	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,400</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 210	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 70	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
Construction	\$ 1,120	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,400</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 4,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	Yes
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	N/A
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	Yes
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	No
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	No
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	N/A
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

Community Tree Planting Grants

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$5,000
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	10
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$5 million for grants to communities to help mitigate loss or damage of community forest resources due to shade tree pests or disease, thereby protecting the important public benefits shade trees provide.

**Project Description**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) requests \$5 million for MNReleaf grants to communities to plant diverse trees on public land to create resilient community forests or removing public trees damaged by forest insects or disease that will become hazards in the landscape. These funds will minimize loss of or damage to community forest resources. All trees planted will be compatible with the expected climate change trends for Minnesota.

Projects will be evaluated according to how well they: demonstrate commitment to long-term monitoring and management, increase the diversity of tree species, develop and sustain local community forestry programs, benefit the entire community forest resource, and provide multiple benefits to the public. Grant recipients must demonstrate their commitment to ongoing care.

**Project Rationale**

Minnesota community forests are facing imminent threats from invasive pests such as emerald ash borer (EAB), Lymantria Dispar Dispar (LDD) (formerly known as gypsy moth), and oak wilt. At the same time, maintaining community shade tree canopy is increasingly important for energy efficiency, climate mitigation, and community health and wellbeing. This request will allow the DNR to help communities mitigate loss or damage of their forest resources as a result of shade tree disease or pests.

**Project Timeline**

The project will be completed within the given time frame.

**Other Considerations**

Funding reforestation with bond funds is supported in the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, article XI, section 5(f).

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

There will be minimal impact on operating budgets.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

L2020 (5th SS), Ch. 3 - Bond, \$1,000,000

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer  
Assistant Commissioner  
651-276-3404  
Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$5 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$5 million for each planning period for 2024 and 2026.



## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Community Tree Planting Grants

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 50	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 50	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250
Construction	\$ 900	\$ 4,750	\$ 4,750	\$ 4,750
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 5,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	Yes
<b>Pre-design Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for pre-design?	N/A
Has the pre-design been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the pre-design been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	N/A
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	N/A

## Upper Sioux Agency State Park Bond Defeasance

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2022 Request Amount:</b>	\$250
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	11
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$250,000 is requested from the General Fund to provide the funds necessary to repay previous GO bond investments in the Upper Sioux Agency State Park and other associated financing costs.

**Project Description**

This proposed funding will defease the remaining state bond encumbrances at Upper Sioux Agency State Park.

**Project Rationale**

The Upper Sioux Community has a longstanding request to the State of Minnesota that Upper Sioux Agency State Park (USASP) lands be transferred back to Upper Sioux, given the extraordinary significance of this land to the Dakota peoples. At the same time, current management challenges at the park—including ongoing access issues with the Highway 67 road failure and other deteriorating facilities—make this a good time to re-consider the future of the site.

To help facilitate this planning for the future, DNR requests funding to defease the remaining state bond encumbrances at the park, allowing greater flexibility in determining its future. Determining the ultimate future of the USASP will require the state to consider many factors and will need to involve the people most impacted by the decision as well as the Minnesota Legislature, the Minnesota Historical Society and State Historic Preservation Office, and the National Park Service (due to federal encumbrances at USASP).

**Project Timeline**

The DNR will work with Minnesota Management and Budget on the timing of the bond defeasance once funding becomes available. As noted above, a decision on the ultimate future of the USASP will take time and there are many factors that will need to be addressed.

**Other Considerations**

As noted above, determining the ultimate future of the USASP will require the state to consider many factors, including additional funding considerations.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This proposal will have no impact on the DNR's operating budget over the upcoming six-year period.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

None

**Project Contact Person**

Shannon Lotthammer  
Assistant Commissioner  
651-276-3404  
Shannon.Lotthammer@state.mn.us

**Governor's Recommendation**

The Governor recommends \$250,000 in general fund cash for this request.

## Natural Resources

## Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

### Upper Sioux Agency State Park Bond Defeasance

#### PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
<b>State Funds Requested</b>				
General Fund Cash	\$ 0	\$ 250	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Funds Already Committed</b>				
<b>Pending Contributions</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

#### TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 250	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Project Management	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

#### IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2022	FY 2024	FY 2026
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

#### SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 0	
User Financing	\$ 0	

**STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The following requirements will apply to projects after adoption of the bonding bill.

<b>Is this project exempt from legislative review under M.S. 16B.335 subd. 1a?</b>	No
<b>Predesign Review (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 3):</b>	
Does this request include funding for predesign?	No
Has the predesign been submitted to the Department of Administration?	N/A
Has the predesign been approved by the Department of Administration?	N/A
<b>Will the project design meet the Sustainable Building Guidelines under M.S. 16B.325?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project designs meet applicable requirements and guidelines for energy conservation and alternative energy sources (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 4 and 16B.32)?</b>	N/A
<b>Have Information Technology Review Preconditions been met (M.S. 16B.335 subd. 5 &amp; 6)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project comply with the targeted group purchasing requirement (M.S. 16C.16 subd. 13)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project meet public ownership requirements (M.S. 16A.695)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will a use agreement be required (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 2)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will program funding be reviewed and ensured (M.S. 16A.695 subd. 5)?</b>	Yes
<b>Will the matching funds requirements be met (M.S. 16A.86 subd. 4)?</b>	N/A
<b>Will the project be fully encumbered prior to the Cancellation Deadline (M.S. 16A.642): December 31, 2026?</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 16A.502 and M.S. 16B.31 (2): Full Funding Required</b>	Yes
<b>M.S. 473.4485: Guideway Project</b>	
Is this a Guideway Project?	No
Is the required information included in this request?	Yes