

Dam Safety Project Priority List

05/31/2023

Department of Natural Resources
Dam Safety Program
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4032
651-259-5715

jason.boyle@state.mn.us https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/

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Dam Safety Project Priority List

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) prepares this dam safety project priority needs list as directed by Minnesota Statutes Section 103G.511, Subdivision 12. The DNR examined dams owned by the state and political subdivisions and prioritized those dams in need of repair, reconstruction, or removal. The DNR considered danger to life, damage to property, and the factors listed in Minnesota Statute 103G.511, Subdivision 6 when prioritizing the dams.

The top section of the priority list table includes completed dam safety projects, as well as currently funded projects that are not yet completed. Each line represents a certain project or phase of a project, so some dams are listed multiple times because there have been multiple projects or multiple phases of a project. The middle section is the priority list of 73 currently unfunded dam projects. The final section includes dams that are not prioritized, as they are significantly lower priority.

The hazard classification shown on the list relates to Minnesota Rule 6115.0340. A Class I dam failure would result in high consequences, including potentially the loss of human life; whereas a Class III dam failure would have minor consequences.

Cost estimates are preliminary. Actual project costs will depend on final project design and construction bids received.

Minnesota's public dam infrastructure includes 644 dams owned by the state, counties, cities, and watershed districts. The State of Minnesota owns 312 of these dams. Most of these public dams are over 50 years old and require ongoing repairs to maintain their structural integrity and prevent public safety hazards.

Dam Safety Program - Project Priority Needs List Prepared as directed by Minnesota Statutes Section 103G.511, Subdivision 12 (Dollars in Thousands)

DNR Ecological and Water Resources Updated May 31, 2023

(Dollars in Thol											
Priority Ranking	Name	Owner	County	DNR Region	Hazard Class	Project Type	Est Cost (K)	State's Cost (K)	Cumulative State Cost (K)	Primary Needs	Comments
	Byllesby	County	Dakota/Goodhue	3	1-High	Repair	\$7,600			safety	Completed in 2015. 2008-2010-2012 bonding
	Pike River	DNR	St. Louis	2	2-Med.	Repair eng.	\$30			safety/maintain lake levels	Completed in 2016. 2012 bonding, design only
Complete	Coon Rapids	County	Hennepin	3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$16,000	\$16,000		safety	Completed in 2016. 2012 bonding
Complete	Champlin Mill Pond	City	Hennepin	3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$3,800	\$3,000		safety	Completed in 2016. 2010 and 2014 bonding
Complete	Balsam Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$300		safety/maintain lake levels	Completed in 2017. 2012 bonding
	St. Cloud	City	Stearns	3	1-High	Repair	\$3,612			safety	Completed in 2017. 2012 bonding, Obermeyer gates
	Pelican Rapids	City	Otter Tail	1	1-High	Repair eng.	\$45		2	safety	Completed in 2017. 2012 bonding, design
	Little Stone Lake	County	St. Louis	2	2-Med.	Repair	\$200			safety	Completed in 2017. 2017 bonding, culverts
	Shady Lake	County	Olmsted	3	2-Med.	Remove	\$1,350	\$1,350		safety	Completed in 2018. 2011 and 2012 bonding
	Byllesby	County	Dakota/Goodhue	3	1-High	Repair	\$3,100			safety	Completed in 2018. 2014 and 2017 bonding
	Collinwood	DNR	Meeker	4	3-Low	Repair	\$318	\$318	3	safety/maintain lake levels	Completed in 2018. 2017 bonding, emergency
	Rapidan	County	Blue Earth	4	2-Med.	Repair	\$2,400	\$2,400		safety	Completed in 2019. 2014 bonding
	Lake Bronson	DNR	Kittson	1	1-High	Rehab. eng.	\$400			safety/maintain lake levels	Completed in 2019. 2012 bonding, pre-design
	Esquagama Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair/modify	\$50	\$50)	maintain lake levels	Completed in 2020. 2017 bonding
	Lanesboro	City		3	1-High	Repair/rehab	\$4,266			safety/historical preservation	Completed in 2021. 2017 bonding and 2021 GF
	Lake Carlos	DŃR	Douglas		3-Low	Modify	\$8			maintain lake levels	Completed in 2021. 2017 bonding, emergency
	Pike River	DNR	St. Louis	2	2-Med.	Repair	\$25			safety/maintain lake levels	Completed in 2021. 2017 bonding, emergency
	Willow River	DNR	Pine	2	2-Med.	Modify	\$2,000			safety	Completed in 2022. 2017 and 2020 bonding
	West Leaf Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$44			maintain lake levels	Completed in 2022. 2017 bonding, rock rapids
	High Island Lake	DNR	Sibley	4	3-Low	Replace	\$275			safety/maintain lake levels	Completed in 2022. 2017 bonding
	Norway Lake	City	Cass	1	1-High	Rehab. eng.	\$400			safety	Completed in 2022. 2017 bonding, design
	Brawner	DNR	Lyon	4	3-Low	Repair/remove	\$700			safety	To be completed in 2023. 2017 bonding. Failure 2015
	Pelican Rapids	City	Otter Tail	1	1-High	Repair eng.	\$1,000			safety	To be completed in 2023. 2017 bonding, removal
	Sullivan Lake	DNR	Morrison	3	3-Low	Replace	\$200			maintain lake levels	Abutment- Local support, earth work
	Grindstone River (Hinckley)	DNR	Pine	2	2-Med.	Replace/remove				safety	Right abutment; dam removal; design phase
	Nest Lake	County	Kandiyohi	4	3-Low	Repair	\$1,000			safety	Need additional funding of \$250,000
	Lake Bronson	DNR	Kittson	1	1-High	Replace	\$20,000			safety/maintain lake levels	Rebuild dam
	Lake Bronson	DNR	Kittson	1		Replace	\$3,600			safety/maintain lake levels	Rebuild dam
	Emergencies	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$400			safety	To Be Determined should an emergency arise
	Nest	County		4	3-Low	Repair	\$1,000			safety	Need additional funding of \$250,000
	Schultz Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$200			maintain lake levels	Not at authorized level, design is complete.
3	JD20SN/Sibley 34	County	Sibley	4	3-Low	Repair	\$120			maintain lake levels	Breached, not at authorized level. Design complete.
<u>J</u>	Clearwater	DNR	Clearwater	1	3-Low	Modify	\$500				Safety. Recent drowning.
	Bucks Mill	DNR	Becker	1	3-Low	Modify	\$1,000			safety/maintain lake levels	Safety-hydraulic roller. Tampering.
6	Lower Sakatah	DNR	Rice	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100			safety	Remove catwalk and piers for safety and bogs
7	Calhoun	DNR		4	3-Low	Repair	\$1,000			safety/maintain lake levels	Controls Green Lake, spalling, tampering, operations
	Little Stone Lake	County	St. Louis	2		Repair	\$1,000				Embankment stability.
	Coon Rapids	County		3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$2,000			safety	High priority items from Ayers inspection
	Eden Lake	DNR			3-Low	Repair	\$500			maintain lake levels	Operation; Lake Assn. letter of support
	South Connection	DNR	Polk	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100			maintain lake levels	Abutment washout temporarily repaired.
	Cross	DNR	Polk	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100			maintain lake levels	Abutment washout forthcoming
	Gorman	DNR	Le Sueur	1	3-Low	Repair	\$500			maintain lake levels	Runout issues with weir, concrete deterioration
	Eagle Lake	DNR	Kandiyohi	4	3-Low	Repair	\$500			maintain lake levels	Runout issues with weir, concrete deterioration
	Perkins Lake	DNR	Stevens	1	3-Low	Repair	\$500			safety/maintain lake levels	Runout issues. Public meeting.
	Moose Lake State Park	DNR	Carlton	2	3-Low	Repair	\$500			recreation	Conduit and riser rusted. Second dam close by.
	Rum River (Anoka)	City	Anoka	3	3-Low	Modify	\$500			safety	Concrete repair. Flashboard safety.
	Splitrock Creek	DNR	Pipestone	4	2-Med.	Repair	\$1,000			safety/maintain lake levels	Potential structural issues
	Pike River	DNR		2	2-Med.	Repair	\$4,000			safety/maintain lake levels	Poor condition, expensive repairs
	Horseshoe Lake WMA	WD/DNR	Kittson	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100				WD request. FEMA funding sought. Replace outlet.
	Warren Lake	DNR	Cottonwood	1	3-Low	Repair/remove	\$500			safety/maintain lake levels	Overtopping protection or dam raise or removal
	Lake Linka	Pope SWCD	1	1	3-Low		\$500				Replace cradle and stabilize embankment
	Roseau River Pool 1 and 2	DNR	Pope Roseau	1	3-Low	Repair Repair	\$250				Crack and displacement in dam/road. Pool 2 outlet.
			1	1	3-Low		\$300				
	Diamond Mud Loke downstream of Emily	County	Kandiyohi	4		Repair				maintain lake levels	Poor condition. County request.
	Mud Lake downstream of Emily		Le Sueur	4	3-Low	Replace	\$100			maintain lake levels	Sheet pile heave, deterioration
	Hewitt/Wing River Dam	DNR/City	Todd	3	3-Low	Repair/modify	\$250	\$125			Removal/modification; ownership is unclear
	Silver Lake	City		3	2-Med.	Modify	\$4,000			safety/restore fish passage	Part of trail connection project
	Crooked Lake	WD	Anoka	3	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$25		maintain lake levels	Vinyl sheet pile for seepage
	Halleque	DNR	Douglas	1	3-Low	Repair	\$200			safety/maintain lake levels	Scarps in embankment and bad concrete
	Shields	DNR	Rice	4	3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	ı \$16,235	maintain lake levels	Right abutment has failed

31	Dordon	DND	Crow Wing	10	2 1 014	Donoir	¢250	¢ ጋΕΩ	¢16 105 maintain laka layala	Leaning left abutment; reak arch regide ention
2	Borden	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$250	\$250	\$16,485 maintain lake levels	Leaning left abutment; rock arch rapids option
<u>2</u> 3	Dam Lake	DNR	Aitkin		3-Low	Repair	\$250	\$250	\$16,735 maintain lake levels	Both abutments
	Ten Mile	DNR	Otter Tail		3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$300	\$17,035 maintain lake levels	Redo dam and embankment, sill
	Hanging Kettle Lake	DNR	Aitkin		3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$17,235 maintain lake levels	Both abutments falling
	Ripple Lake	DNR	Aitkin		3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$17,435 maintain lake levels	Put in steel, left abutment failing
	Long (Tamefish)	DNR	Aitkin		3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$200	\$200	\$17,635 maintain lake levels	Sheet pile heave, rocks and debris
	Toad	DNR	Becker		3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$200	\$200	\$17,835 maintain lake levels	Concrete deterioration. Local interest.
	McCraney	DNR	Mahnomen		3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$200	\$200	\$18,035 maintain lake levels	Tillting abutments. Concrete deterioration.
	Little Toad	DNR	Becker		3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$200	\$200	\$18,235 maintain lake levels	Debris problem. Maintenance. Concrete deteriora
	Badger Lake	County	Polk		3-Low	Modify	\$400	\$200	\$18,435 safety/maintain lake levels	County request to replace with rock arch rapids.
	Maple Lake	County	Polk		3-Low	Modify	\$700	\$350	\$18,785 safety/maintain lake levels	County request to replace with rock arch rapids.
	Hill Annex No. 1	State	Itasca		3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$18,885 safety	High water levels
	Donna Lake	not known	St. Louis		3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$50	\$18,935 safety	Drummond Grade. Ownership unclear. Fisheries.
	Sandstone (Robinson Park)	not known	Pine	2	3-Low	Remove	\$100	\$100	\$19,035 safety	Potential hazard to river users
	Platte River	DNR	Morrison	3	3-Low	Remove	\$500	\$500	\$19,535 safety/fish passage	American Rivers interest in removal
	Prior Lake	not known	Scott		3-Low	Remove	\$150	\$150	\$19,685 safety	Abandoned structure. Ownership question.
	Hanska	DNR	Brown		3-Low	Replace	\$300	\$300	\$19,985 safety	Structure bowing, abutments repaired twice.
	Crissy Lake	DNR	Stevens		2-Med.	Modify	\$300	\$300	\$20,285 safety/restore fish passage	guarante de la constante de la
	Long	State	Hubbard		3-Low	Modify	\$250	\$250	\$20,535 maintain lake levels	DOT project in 2023
	Lightning	DNR	Grant		3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$20,735 maintain lake levels	Fisheries 2015; failing slowly 2018
	Elim	Carlton SWCD			3-Low	Remove	\$1,000	\$500	\$21,235 safety	SWCD looking to remove the dams-private prop.
	Hanson	Carlton SWCD			3-Low	Remove	\$1,000	\$500	\$21,735 safety	SWCD looking to remove the dams-private prop.
	Knife Lake		Kanabec		2-Med.		\$500	\$250		Describe drawning bezord
		LID				Modify			\$21,985 safety	Possible drowning hazard
	Sunrise River Pool #1	DNR	Chisago		3-Low	Modify	\$200	\$200	\$22,185 safety	Bog problems, possible drowning machine
	Sunrise River Pool #3	DNR	Chisago		3-Low	Modify	\$200	\$200	\$22,385 safety	Bog problems, possible drowning machine
	Eagle Lake	DNR	Crow Wing		3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$22,410 maintain lake levels	Put in steel, tampering
	South Stanchfield	DNR	Isanti		3-Low	Replace	\$50	\$50	\$22,460 maintain lake levels	County bridge replacement not ready
	Wynne	DNR	St. Louis		3-Low	Modify	\$300	\$300	\$22,760 safety	Log jam, right abutment fill, difficult access
	Otter Tail River (Phelps Mill)	County	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$50	\$22,810 safety/fish passage	Historic structure, fish passage
	Clearwater River	Counties	Stearns/Wright	3	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$150	\$22,960 safety	Recent bike trail
	Big Stone Lake	WD/DNR	Big Stone	4	2-Med.	Modify	\$50	\$50	\$23,010 safety	Corps acceptance needed
	Woolen Mill (Faribault)	City	Rice	4	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$400	\$200	\$23,210 safety	Need scope of project
	Sunrise River (Kost)	County	Chisago		3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$50	\$23,260 safety	Fishing hole; need further discussions
	Pine Lake	DNR	Aitkin		3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$23,410 maintain lake levels	Not high priority, but keep on list
	Northern Light Lake	DNR/USFS	Cook		3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$23,460 maintain lake levels	Need internal discussions, consider dam removal
<u>'</u>	French Lake	County	Rice		3-Low	Replace	\$200	\$100	\$23,560 maintain lake levels	5 years
	Crooked Creek R-3	SWCD	Houston	3	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$50	\$23,610 safety	Sinkhole
	Bear Creek Site No. 3	SWCD	Houston	3			\$100	\$50	\$23,660 safety	Sinkhole
		City			3-LOW	Repair			\$23,000 Salety	
	Pioneer Tailings	City City	St. Louis		3-Low	Repair/remove	\$100	\$50	\$23,710 safety	May want to remove, near golf course
	Pioneer Tailings Clarification	City	St. Louis			Repair/remove	\$100	\$50	\$23,760 safety	May want to remove, near golf course
	Douglas Tailings	State	St. Louis		3-Low	Remove	\$50	\$50	\$23,810 safety	Breach dam when done mining
	Abandoned mining dams	State	Various	2		Repair/remove	\$500	\$500	\$24,310 safety	Research
	Clayton Lake	DNR	Pine	2	3-Low	Repair	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$26,110 safety/historic preservation	Completely new spillway
e remai	ning projects are grouped by DNF	R Region and are	e not prioritized.							
	Ice Cracking	DNR	Becker		3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$26,210 maintain lake levels	Some concrete deterioration.
	Little Floyd	DNR	Becker	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$26,310 maintain lake levels	Minor concrete deterioration.
	Hattie Lake	DNR	Cass	1	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$26,335 maintain lake levels	Put in steel stoplogs
	Miltona Lake	DNR	Douglas		3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$26,485 maintain lake levels	Concrete deterioration, leaning left abutment
	Upper Hunt Lake	DNR	Douglas		3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$26,585 maintain lake levels	g g
	Portage Lake	DNR	Hubbard		3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$26,785 maintain lake levels	
	Stephen	City	Marshall		3-Low	Modify	\$200	\$100	\$26,885 safety/restore fish passage	
	Blanche	City DNR	Otter Tail		3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$26,985 maintain lake levels	Put in steel stoplogs, concrete pier deterioration
	Fergus Falls	City	Otter Tail		N/A	Remove remnan	\$100	\$100	\$27,085 safety	rut in steel stoplogs, concrete pier deterioration
		City DNR	Otter Tall							Dut in steel steeless sements date visuation
	Long (Dalton)		Otter Tail		3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$27,135 maintain lake levels	Put in steel stoplogs, concrete deterioration
	Long (Elizabeth)	DNR	Otter Tail		3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$27,185 maintain lake levels	Put in steel stoplogs, concrete deterioration
	Prairie Lake	DNR	Otter Tail		3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$27,285 maintain lake levels	Snowmobile trail over dam; letter of support
	Rose Lake	DNR	Otter Tail		3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$27,385 maintain lake levels	
	Turtle	DNR	Polk		N/A	Remove	\$50	\$50	\$27,435 safety	Non-functional, remove remnants
	Hill Lake	DNR	Aitkin		3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$27,485 maintain lake levels	Put in steel stoplogs
	Daggett Brook WMA	DNR	Cass		3-Low	Repair	\$75	\$75	\$27,560 safety	Embankment washouts and beaver runs
			Crow Wing		3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$27,660 maintain lake levels	
	Greer Lake	IIIIK					Ψ 1 0 0 1	ΨΙΟΟΙ		
	Greer Lake	DNR DNR		2						Steel stonlogs recently installed
	Greer Lake O'Brien Lake Round Lake	DNR DNR DNR	Crow Wing Crow Wing	2	3-Low 3-Low	Repair Repair	\$100 \$25	\$100 \$25	\$27,760 maintain lake levels \$27,785 maintain lake levels	Steel stoplogs recently installed Put in steel stoplogs, concrete deterioration

Splithand Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Remove	\$100	\$100	\$27,985 safety/aesthetics	
Floodwood	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$28,085 safety/maintain lake levels	
Pequaywan	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$28,135 safety/maintain lake levels	Fix eroded hole on apron
Sturgeon Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$28,235 maintain lake levels	Potential for additional steel stoplogs
Onamia	DNR	Mille Lacs	3	3-Low	Modify	\$200	\$200	\$28,435 maintain lake levels	Wildlife concern with safe bog removal
Sauk Centre	City	Stearns	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$500	\$250	\$28,685 safety	
Fairhaven	County	Wright/Stearns	3	3-Low	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$28,985 safety	
Springfield	not known	Brown	4	3-Low	Remove/modfy	\$300	\$150	\$29,135 safety/restore fish passage	
Talcot Lake	DNR	Cottonwood	4	3-Low	Remove/modfy	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$30,635 safety/maintain lake levels	Replace with rock rapids. Abutments too low.
Mantorville	City	Dodge	4	3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$300	\$150	\$30,785 safety/maintain lake levels	
Calhoun Diversion	DŃR	Kandiyohi	4	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$30,885 maintain lake levels	Need fixed crest to address tampering
Louise Lake	DNR	Mower	4	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$300	\$31,185 safety/restore fish passage	
Elysian Lake	DNR	Waseca	4	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$31,335 maintain lake levels	
Watonwan River Diversion	County	Watonwan	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$31,435 maintain lake levels	Added in 2013
Granite Falls	City	Yellow Medicine	4	1-High	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$31,735 safety	Mixed interest in whitewater park

- 1) Priorities are subject to change based on results of dam safety inspections, readiness of local project sponsors, opportunities for piggybacking projects, etc.
 2) All cost estimates are preliminary; actual costs will depend on final project design and construction bids received.
 3) MS Section 103G.511 authorizes matching grants to local governments and requires legislative approval of projects or grants of \$250,000 or more.
 4) MS Section 103G.515 authorizes the state to pay the full cost of dam removals under certain conditions.
 5) "Remove/modify" means a final decision has not been made on whether the dam will be removed or modified.
 *The removal of private dams may be eligible for state assistance. Repairs and modifications of private dams are not eligible.

For more information contact: Randall Doneen at (651) 259-5156, or Jason Boyle at (651) 259-5715.

103G.511 PUBLICLY OWNED DAM REPAIR.

- Subd. 6. **Determination of grant.** The commissioner shall consider all relevant factors in determining whether to repair or reconstruct a state-owned dam or to make a grant to a political subdivision including:
- (1) the age and type of construction of the dam;
- (2) the use of the dam for water supply, flood control, navigation, hydroelectric power generation, recreation, wildlife management, scenic value, or other purposes related to public health, safety, and welfare;
- (3) the consequences of abandonment, removal, or alteration of the dam;
- (4) prospective future uses of the dam; and
- (5) the relative importance of the dam to the statewide water resource program.

Subd. 12. **Priority list of dams needing repair.** After reviewing examinations of dams owned by the state and political subdivisions, the commissioner shall prioritize the state and political subdivision dams in need of repair, reconstruction, or removal and report by June 1 of each odd-numbered year to the legislature. The commissioner must prioritize projects considering danger to life, damage to property, and the factors listed in subdivision 6.