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# Land Acquisition Account Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2025

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As requested by Minnesota Statute 3.197: This report cost approximately \$1,500 to prepare, including staff time, printing and mailing expenses.

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## Creation and Purpose of the Account

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers 5.6 million acres of land within state forests, state parks, wildlife management areas, scientific and natural areas, aquatic management areas, and other recreation and access sites. The Minnesota Legislature established the Land Acquisition Account in 1984 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 94.16 and 94.165 for the acquisition of natural resource lands or interests in land within the Outdoor Recreation System established in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 86A.

## Sources and Uses of the Funds

Receipts from the sale of acquired state natural resource land administered by the DNR are credited to the Land Acquisition Account (the “Account”). These credits provide funding to acquire additional state natural resource land in the Outdoor Recreation System and to cover the costs of sale of surplus state land or the exchange of state-owned property administered by the Commissioner of Natural Resources. The Account helps the DNR reach the following goals:

- Consolidating state forest land into large contiguous blocks to increase forest management efficiencies and protect critical forest habitat.
- Acquiring privately-owned “in-holdings” within state parks.
- Acquiring recreation access.
- Acquiring lands with significant natural resource characteristics.

## FY2025 Accomplishments

### Receipts to the Account

Receipts to the account come from the sale of parcels no longer needed for conservation purposes. Receipts into the account include proceeds from land sales; any transaction costs related to the sale, which are paid to the DNR by the buyer; and damages, which are proceeds from the sale of standing timber on the sale parcel prior to the sale. Receipts were posted to the Account from the following FY2025 land sales:

Sale	County	Receipts	Total
Sugar Lake WAS	Aitkin	4,641.24	4,641.24
Schwartz WMA	Becker	2,146.70	2,146.70
Miscellaneous Forestry Land	Itasca	4,067.68	4,067.68
Miscellaneous Forestry Land	Itasca	7,029.68	7,029.68
Miscellaneous Forestry Land	Cook	5,652.96	5,652.96
Miscellaneous Forestry Land	Aitkin	4694.71	4694.71
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>\$28,232.97</b>

Some of the lands listed were part of the Permanent School Fund inventory. The proceeds for sale of those lands – namely, the land value and the value of standing timber – are deposited to the Permanent School Fund pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, §92.28.

### Expenditures from the Account

Money in the Land Acquisition Account is used to pay transactional costs. This includes expenses related to land acquisition within the outdoor recreation system, expenses related to land sales, and expenses related to land exchanges. During FY2025, funds from the Land Acquisition Account were used by DNR divisions to pay land transaction costs under the following account categories:

Land transactions costs paid by Division, FY2025 (totals in bold, broken down by division)	
<i>Account category</i>	<i>Sum of amount</i>
<b>411104 Advertising</b>	<b>\$ 81.00</b>
Forestry	81.00
<b>411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr</b>	<b>\$ 85,390.00</b>
Fish and Wildlife	5,140.00
Forestry	79,500.00
Parks and Trails	750.00
<b>411606 Car/Vehicle Rental In State</b>	<b>\$ 78.24</b>
Fish and Wildlife	78.24
<b>411912 State Agency Other Service</b>	<b>\$ 177,606.75</b>
Fish and Wildlife	40,506.00
Forestry	95,653.50
Parks and Trails	41,447.25
<b>470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital</b>	<b>\$ 4,060.49</b>
Fish and Wildlife	1,672.96
Forestry	2,387.53
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 267,216.48</b>

In addition to being tapped as a funding source for land transactions, the Land Acquisition Account is used to pay central support costs related to land acquisitions, sales and exchanges of state-owned lands. The Account was used by DNR divisions to pay central support costs in FY2025 as follows:

Central support costs paid by Division, FY2025 (totals in bold, broken down by division)	
<i>Account category</i>	<i>Sum of amount</i>
<b>420101 Agency Direct Cost</b>	<b>\$412.56</b>
Fish and Wildlife	412.56
<b>TOTAL Central support costs paid by Division</b>	<b>\$412.56</b>

## Expenditures by Land Transaction

The following is a list of all expenditures from the account during FY2025 that were associated with a land transaction and, where applicable, the outdoor recreation unit associated with the transaction. As mentioned above, this list does not include expenditures used to pay central support services related to land acquisitions, sales and exchanges of state-owned lands.

Transaction Type	Outdoor Rec Unit	County	Expenditure Type	Dollar Amount
Acquisition	ROUND LAKE WATER ACCESS SITE (WAS)	Morrison	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 129.00
Acquisition	GOODHUE PIONEER TRAIL (TRA)	Goodhue	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 12,222.75
Acquisition	SWAN RIVER DEER YARD WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)	Itasca	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 129.00
Acquisition	BOWSTRING DEER YARD WMA	Itasca	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 129.00
Acquisition	PRAIRIE LAKE DEER YARD WMA	Itasca	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 129.00
Acquisition	MUD-GOOSE WMA	Cass	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 129.00
Acquisition	LAKE VERMILION-SOUDAN UNDERGROUND MINE STATE PARK (SPK)	St. Louis	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 677.25
Acquisition	SMOKY HILLS STATE FOREST (SFT)	Becker	470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$ 46.00
Acquisition	R J D MEMORIAL HARDWOOD SFT	Wabasha	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 741.75
Acquisition	BRAINERD LAKES MISC SFT	Crow Wing	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 161.25
Acquisition	BIG FORK SFT	Itasca	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 161.25
Acquisition	GLACIAL LAKES TRA	Stearns	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 3,096.00
Acquisition	BADOURA SFT	Hubbard	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 64.50
Acquisition	ROCKY POINT WAS	Lake of the Woods	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 3,547.50
Acquisition	CHENGWATANA SFT	Pine	470054 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constru 411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 4,250.00 \$ 2,934.75
Acquisition	ST. CROIX SFT	Pine	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 258.00
Acquisition	MINNIE-BELLE LAKE AQUATIC MANAGEMENT AREA (AMA)	Meeker	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 129.00
Acquisition	ANDERSON LAKE AMA	Renville	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 96.75
Acquisition	LAND O'LAKES SFT	Cass	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 161.25
Acquisition	R J D MEMORIAL HARDWOOD SFT	Fillmore	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 6,192.00
Acquisition	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	St. Louis	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 1,032.00
Acquisition	KANDIYOHI FISH TRAP FISHERIES PROJECT – OTHER (FPO)	Kandiyohi	411912 State Agency Other Service 470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$ 161.25 \$ 46.00
Acquisition	PAT BAYLE SFT	Cook	411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constru 411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 67,250.00 \$ 59,759.25
Acquisition	NEMADJI SFT	Pine	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$ 1,483.50

Transaction Type	Outdoor Rec Unit	County	Expenditure Type	Dollar Amount	
Acquisition	SAVANNA SFT	Aitkin	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	2,547.75
			470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$	522.65
Acquisition	MINNIE-BELLE LAKE AMA	Meeker	411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr	\$	2,900.00
			411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	12,222.75
Acquisition	HART LAKE FISHWAY FPO	Swift	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	4,418.25
			470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$	1,416.80
Acquisition	DOUGLAS TRA	Olmsted	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	3,966.75
Acquisition	R J D MEMORIAL HARDWOOD SFT	Houston	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	4,192.50
Acquisition	PAUL BUNYAN STATE TRA	Crow Wing	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	290.25
Acquisition	PAUL BUNYAN STATE TRAIL/GITCHI GAMI STATE TRA	Crow Wing / Cook	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	258.00
Acquisition	PRE-TRANSACTION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT / PAUL BUNYAN STATE TRA	Crow Wing	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	2,193.00
Acquisition	PRE-TRANSACTION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT		411606 Car/Vehicle Rental In State	\$	78.24
Acquisition	CUYUNA STATE RECREATION AREA (SRA)	Crow Wing / Cook	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	3,327.75
Exchange	EAGLE CREEK AMA	Scott	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	2,386.50
Exchange	BEACHES LAKE WMA	Kittson	411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr	\$	1,600.00
			411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	8,256.00
Exchange	SHYPOKE WMA	Polk	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	322.50
Exchange	BEACHES LAKE WMA	Kittson	411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr	\$	640.00
			411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	8,643.00
Exchange	MCMARTIN WMA	Dodge	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,322.25
			470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$	210.16
Sale	GOODHUE PIONEER TRA	Goodhue	411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr	\$	750.00
			411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,290.00
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Aitkin	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	709.50
			470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$	304.16
Sale	COTTON LAKE WAS	Becker	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	64.50
Sale	SCHWARTZ WMA	Becker	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	806.25
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Beltrami	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	64.50
Sale	PAUL BUNYAN TRA	Beltrami	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	322.50
Sale	MINNEOPA SPK	Blue Earth	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	451.50
Sale	FOND DU LAC SFT	Carlton	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	161.25
Sale	FOND DU LAC SFT	Carlton	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	3,547.50
Sale	HEARTLAND TRA	Cass	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	129.00
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Cook	411104 Advertising	\$	81.00
			411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr	\$	2,500.00
			411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	3,128.25
			470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$	792.63
Sale	HEARTLAND TRA	Hubbard	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,257.75

Transaction Type	Outdoor Rec Unit	County	Expenditure Type	Dollar Amount	
Sale	HEARTLAND TRA	Hubbard	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,257.75
Sale	HEARTLAND TRA	Hubbard	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,419.00
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Itasca	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,193.25
			470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$	527.35
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Itasca	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	612.75
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Itasca	411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr	\$	3,500.00
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Itasca	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	2,322.00
Sale	FLORIDA LAKE FMA	Kandiyohi	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	64.50
Sale	ROCKY POINT WAS	Lake of the Woods	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	2,064.00
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Mille Lacs	411309 Bldg Ops Real Estate - Constr	\$	2,000.00
Sale	DOUGLAS TRA	Olmsted	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	64.50
Sale	HANGAARD WMA	Polk	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	129.00
Sale	ROSEAU LAKE WMA	Roseau	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,032.00
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	St. Louis	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	225.75
			470054 Land-Other Acquis Cost-Capital	\$	194.74
Sale	LAKE VERMILION/SOUDAN UNDERGROUND MINE SPK	St. Louis	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	774.00
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	St. Louis	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	548.25
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	St. Louis	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	1,257.75
Sale	MISC. FORESTRY LAND	Sherburne	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	2,257.50
Sale	GLACIAL LAKES TRA	Stearns	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	193.50
Sale	SPELLMAN LAKE WAS	Yellow Medicine	411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	2,128.50
Sale	PRE-TRANSACTION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT		411912 State Agency Other Service	\$	258.00
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>\$</b>	<b>267,216.48</b>

## Financial Summary

A review of Account activity suggests that the Account is particularly useful when working with transaction partners, and in transactions involving no monetary consideration. In FY2025, transactions with partners (US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Permanent School Fund, and non-governmental organizations such as Wetlands America Trust and Trust for Public Land) were the largest users of the Account. The Account is also tapped frequently for transactions that resolve boundary concerns with private parties, and transfers of custodial control between DNR and other agencies and government units. Revenue to the Account was minimal in FY2025; however, the Account's balance remains a reliable source for land transaction expenses.