DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Progress Report on Get Out MORE
(Modernize Outdoor Recreation Experiences)



Reporting period of October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2026

Report date: November 13, 2026

Table of Contents

Executive Summary 3

Introduction 4

Implementation Progress by Investment Area 6

Enhancing Access and Welcoming New Users to Public Lands and Outdoor Recreation Facilities 6

Modernizing Camping and Related Infrastructure 30

Modernizing Boating Access 33

Enhancing Fisheries and Fishing Infrastructure 44

Restoring Streams and Modernizing Water-Related Infrastructure to Support Outdoor Recreation 57

Expenditure Summary 64

Legislative Charge

Minnesota Laws of 2023, Chapter 60, Article 1, Section 3, Subdivision 10 (d)

No later than Nov. 30 each year, the commissioner must provide a progress report on the expenditure of money appropriated under this subdivision to the chairs of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over environment and natural resources finance.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4044
Phone: 651-296-6157
mndnr.gov

As requested by Minnesota Statute 3.197: This report cost approximately $10,000 to prepare, including staff time, printing, and mailing expenses.

Upon request, the DNR will provide this material in an alternative format such as large print, Braille, or audio recording. Printed on recycled paper.

The Minnesota DNR prohibits discrimination in its programs and services based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital or familial status, disability, public assistance status, age, sexual orientation, and local human rights commission activity. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to access or participate in DNR programs and services, including those who would like to request this document in an alternative format, should contact the DNR ADA Title II Coordinator at info.dnr@state.mn.us or 651-296-6157. We welcome calls from Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) users. For assistance in other languages, please call 651-296-6157 or 888-MINNDNR (646-6367). Discrimination inquiries should be sent to Minnesota DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4049.

©2026, State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources

Executive Summary

The $150 million of Get Out MORE (Modernize Outdoor Recreation Experiences) funding appropriated to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) focuses on five investment categories:

- Enhancing access and welcoming new users to public lands and outdoor recreation facilities
- Modernizing camping and related infrastructure
- Modernizing boating access
- Enhancing fisheries and fishing infrastructure
- Restoring streams and modernizing water-related infrastructure to support outdoor recreation

These investments, which include $110 million in General Fund and $39.9 million in capital investment dollars, are helping the DNR ensure that Minnesotans of all abilities and interests enjoy a world-class recreation system, whatever outdoor experience they choose. Get Out MORE projects to modernize and enhance the state's outdoor recreation system are in 63 of Minnesota's 87 counties.

This report highlights the progress made from October 1, 2025, through Sept. 30, 2026, and previews the work scheduled through the end of the appropriation. During the reporting period, project implementation accelerated as projects entered and progressed through the pre-design, design, construction and completion phases. Through Sept. 30, 2026, the DNR has spent $41.9 million of the Get Out MORE investments — $35.2 million from the General Fund appropriation and $6.7 million from the capital investment appropriations. Additionally, the DNR has encumbered $36.9 million in funds. As of September 30, 2026, 16% of Get Out MORE projects have been completed and 81% of projects are in the planning, design, or construction phase.

Introduction

Outdoor recreation, and the natural resources that support it, are central to Minnesota's identity, fundamental to our economy, and essential for our health and quality of life. Minnesota consistently ranks among the top states in which to live, and a key factor to that ranking is our healthy natural environment with abundant parks, natural lands, and high-quality outdoor recreation experiences.

The DNR provides enriching public outdoor recreation opportunities — such as hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, camping, skiing, hiking, biking, off-highway vehicle riding, and naturalist programs — for Minnesotans of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. It does so, in part, by managing a statewide outdoor recreation system that includes state parks, trails, forests, wildlife and aquatic management areas, public water access sites, and other recreation facilities. While Minnesota is known for its unique outdoor recreation experiences, many of the DNR-managed facilities that support these experiences are showing their age, and in some cases do not meet the needs of today's outdoor users. Further, Minnesota's incredible natural resources need ongoing management and stewardship — such as fish stocking, habitat restoration, and enhanced climate resiliency — to continue to provide the amazing places and activities that draw people outdoors.

The Get Out MORE initiative launched in 2023 provides a once-in-a-generation investment in outdoor experiences cherished by Minnesotans. This $150 million, transformative investment is enabling the DNR to develop more modern and inclusive outdoor recreation experiences. As a result, Minnesota will better serve current outdoor enthusiasts, connect even more people to the outdoors, and help ensure future generations will also benefit from time spent in our unparalleled natural places.

To best take advantage of the transformational opportunity afforded by the Get Out MORE initiative, and in recognition that the level of spending far exceeded our typical project budget, the DNR committed to a departmentwide and programmatic approach to funding allocation decisions. This approach ensures the agency is spending the investments as efficiently and effectively as possible to improve the outdoor recreation experience for Minnesotans and visitors. The DNR also works with local units of government and other partners to ensure project desirability.

The $150 million of Get Out MORE funding is allocated to five investment categories:

- Enhancing access and welcoming new users to public lands and outdoor recreation facilities — $35.4 million
- Modernizing camping and related infrastructure — $9.5 million
- Enhancing fisheries and fishing infrastructure — $60 million
- Modernizing boating access — $35 million
- Restoring streams and modernizing water-related infrastructure to support outdoor recreation — $10 million

Table 1 shows the mix of General Fund and capital investments for each of these five categories. The total funding allocated to the DNR for the Get Out MORE initiative is $149.9 million, generally rounded to $150 million in this report.

Funding Sources for Get Out MORE

Category	General Fund	Capital Investment	Total Amount ($ in 000s)
Enhancing access and welcoming new users to public lands and outdoor recreation facilities	$25,000	$10,400	$35,400
Modernizing camping and related infrastructure	$5,000	$4,500	$9,500
Modernizing boating access	$35,000	$0	$35,000
Enhancing fisheries and fishing infrastructure	$35,000	$25,000	$60,000
Restoring streams and modernizing water-related infrastructure	$10,000	$0	$10,000
Total	**$110,000**	**$39,900**	**$149,900**

Table 1. Specific funding source (i.e., General Fund or Capital Investment) and amounts for each Get Out MORE investment area (dollars in thousands).

The DNR tracks pace of projects and spending through quarterly reports, tracking expenditures, encumbrances, and current project status. The DNR keeps the public informed of progress through the Get Out MORE webpage at mndnr.gov/get-out-more.

This report highlights the DNR's progress in implementing these investments from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026. The following sections describe accomplishments in each of the five investment categories. Each section contains a table of all projects showing project location, upgrade or improvement, status, and year or scheduled year of completion; completed projects are highlighted in each table in green. Following each table are notable examples of projects completed in each funding area. Finally, the report previews the anticipated accomplishments during the next reporting period with work that is currently in the planning or design process. Throughout, the report highlights the benefits these efforts are providing to Minnesotans and their communities.

Implementation Progress by Investment Area

Enhancing Access and Welcoming New Users to Public Lands and Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Of the $150 million in Get Out MORE investments, $35.4 million is allocated for more than 100 access and accessibility projects throughout the state, including:

- $15 million for accessibility improvements in state parks and wildlife management areas (WMAs)
- $9.4 million for road improvements
- $8 million for improvements to hiking and paved trails at state parks and hunter walking trails at wildlife management areas
- $2 million for improved wayfinding and signage
- $1 million for adaptive equipment, including track chairs and accessible hunting blinds, and supporting infrastructure

Much of the DNR's infrastructure is 60- 90 years old and was designed when no accessibility standards existed. Such shortcomings present barriers to visitors with mobility needs and other disabilities, and in some cases create safety concerns. Investments in this area are modernizing recreational facilities, improving roads and trails that provide access to recreational opportunities, and enhancing accessibility for all Minnesotans. Recent advancements in specialized adaptive equipment provide opportunities to improve the outdoor experiences of people with a variety of disabilities and allow them to enjoy Minnesota's outdoor recreation system with their friends and family. In addition, studies have shown that user-friendly wayfinding signage and maps are key to creating a welcoming environment for new and existing users. Figure 1 shows the locations of facility improvement and road and/or trail improvement projects.

General Fund ($25 million)

Investments from the General Fund are improving accessibility at existing facilities; providing more adaptive equipment at state parks, recreation areas and wildlife management areas; improving roads that provide access to outdoor recreation opportunities; and enhancing wayfinding, signage and maps at DNR-managed public lands across Minnesota.

Capital Investment ($10.4 million)

Get Out MORE capital investments support wide-ranging accessibility enhancements at state parks, recreation areas, and wildlife management areas; capital repairs to roads and parking lots; and rehabilitation of segments of the most used state trails.

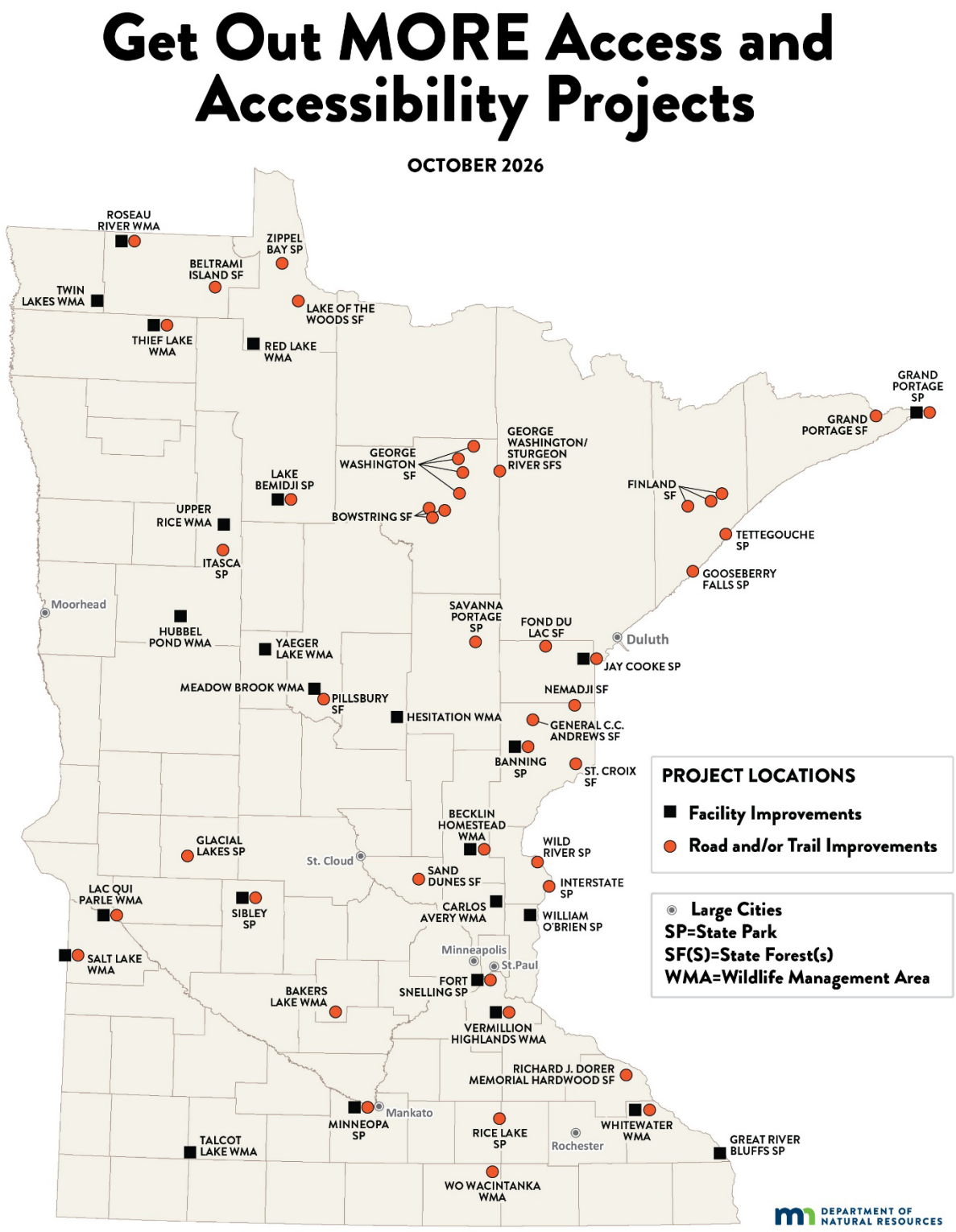


Figure 1: Map of Get Out MORE Access and Accessibility Projects

Projects Funded

State Park Accessibility and Wayfinding Improvements

Minnesota has 64 state parks and nine recreation areas enjoyed by roughly 11 million visitors each year. Many park buildings and other types of infrastructure are 50-plus years old and no longer meet the needs of today's visitors, particularly visitors with accessibility needs. The accessibility improvements listed in Table 2 include park-wide accessibility improvements at eight state parks, smaller accessibility improvements at four state parks, and updates to wayfinding signage to ensure that it meets current accessibility standards.

Get Out MORE State Park Accessibility and Wayfinding Improvements

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
27 counties	38 PWA kiosk signage projects	Planning	2027
Banning State Park	Park-wide accessibility improvements	Construction	2027
Cook and Lake Counties	Three kiosks with panels for Caribou Falls, Ray Berglund Wayside, and Temperance River State Park kiosks and panels	Design	2026
Fort Snelling State Park	Beach, visitor center and ranger station accessibility improvements	Design	2027
Grand Portage State Park	Park-wide accessibility improvements	Design	2027
Great River Bluffs State Park	Accessibility improvements	Planning	2029
Itasca County	Pokegama Lake PWA kiosk signage	Design	2026
Jay Cooke State Park	Park-wide accessibility improvements	Design	2028
Lake Bemidji State Park	Park-wide area accessibility improvements	Design	2028
Lake County	Gitchi-Gami State Trail trailhead kiosks and kiosk panels	Planning	2027
Minneopa State Park	Wayfinding Signage	Planning	2027
Minneopa State Park	Park-wide accessibility improvements	Design	2029
Rice Lake State Park	Park-wide accessibility improvements	Planning	2029
Sibley State Park	Park-wide accessibility improvements	Design	2027
St. Louis County	Lake Vermilion State Recreation Area – OHV campground wayfinding and kiosk signage	Complete	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
St. Louis County	Crane Lake PWA kiosk signage	Complete	2026
St. Croix County	St. Croix Crossing PWA kiosk signage	Complete	2025
Tettegouche State Park	Campground accessibility improvements	Design	2027
William O'Brien State Park	Park-wide accessibility improvements	Complete	2025
Zippel Bay State Park	Accessibility improvements	Planning	2029

Table 2. State Park accessibility and wayfinding improvements funded through Get Out MORE.

Example: Kiosk signage at State Parks and PWA

Get Out MORE investments are being used to install kiosks at high-use sites within DNR-managed properties. Standard kiosks with organized modules of information make it easier for visitors to find the information they need. This new approach to kiosks improves the effectiveness of signage by reducing sign clutter.



Figure 2. Kiosk installed at the William O'Brien State Park Day Use Area as a part of park-wide accessibility improvements.

Example: Banning State Park accessibility updates

Construction has started for several site improvement projects at Banning State Park. Improvements include a new accessible shower building in the campground, upgrades to campsites for improved accessibility, improvements to the picnic area, removal of a multiple toilet building to be replaced by three vault toilets, and reconfiguration of the parking lot (Figure 3). Construction is expected to be completed in fall 2027. The shower building portion of this project was funded with Legacy funds, demonstrating how we combine funds to achieve more efficient and complete projects.



Figure 3. Construction begins on the reconfiguration of the parking lot in the Banning State Park day use area.

Track Chair Expansion

The DNR continues to expand the all-terrain track chair program, purchasing four additional chairs in the fall of 2026. Track chairs are specialized mobility devices equipped with tracks instead of wheels, allowing users to explore rugged terrain and natural surfaces that are typically inaccessible to standard wheelchairs and others with limited mobility (Figure 4). For many visitors with mobility limitations, using a track chair has been a transformative experience, offering access to trails, scenic overlooks, and family adventures that were previously out of reach.

These chairs are now available at 27 state parks and recreation areas throughout the year (Figure 5). To meet growing demand, especially near the Twin Cities, some parks have added a second chair. To ensure maximum use of chairs, parks in more remote areas share chairs. Some parks are also receiving a track chair battery retrofit to extend the time chairs can be used.



Figure 4. Track chair in use at Myre-Big Island State Park.

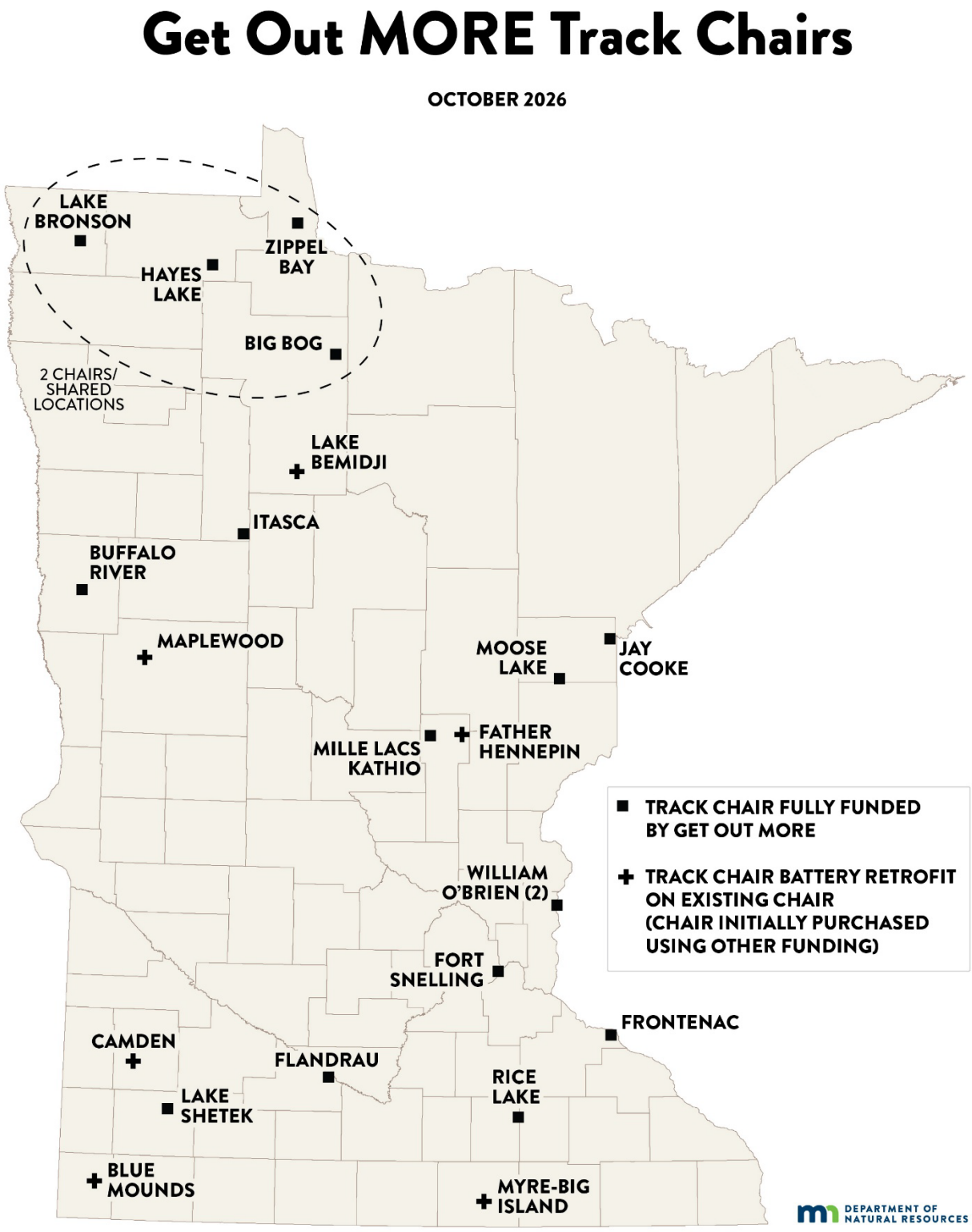


Figure 5. Location of track chairs purchased with Get Out MORE funding.

Additional Adaptive Equipment

Building on the DNR's commitment to enhancing accessibility, Get Out MORE funds are now providing additional adaptive equipment across Minnesota's state parks and recreation areas (Table 3 and Figure 6). Each piece of adaptive gear serves a unique purpose, tailored to assist in a variety of outdoor recreation scenarios such as accessible beach chairs and mats to provide swimming opportunities, color assist glasses for red-green colorblindness, and adaptive e-assist handcycles to allow access to trails.

Planning, purchasing and implementing the new equipment is happening in phases. The "planning" status in Table 3 below includes items that are either in the planning or the purchasing phase. The "complete" status includes items that have been placed and implemented within state parks and recreation areas. This expansion marks another step toward making Minnesota's natural spaces more inclusive, ensuring that all visitors, regardless of ability, can connect with the outdoors in meaningful and memorable ways.

Get Out MORE Adaptive Equipment Placements

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
All state parks and recreation Areas that can accommodate check-out process	Color-assist glasses	Planning	2026
All state parks and recreation Areas that can accommodate check-out process	Trekking poles	Planning	2027
Afton State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Afton State Park	Sit skis	Planning	2026
Bear Head Lake State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Big Bog State Recreation Area	Beach chair and beach mat	Planning	2026
Big Bog State Recreation Area, Zippel Bay State Park	Track chair (1 shared chair) and covered trailer	Complete	2025
Big Stone State Park	Non-motorized all-terrain wheelchairs (2)	Planning	2027
Blue Mounds State Park	Track chair battery retrofit, assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Buffalo River State Park	Track chair and covered trailer	Complete	2025
Buffalo River State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Camden State Park	Track chair battery retrofit	Complete	2026
Father Hennepin State Park	Track chair battery retrofit	Complete	2026
Father Hennepin State Park	Beach chair and beach mat	Planning	2026
Fergus Falls and Spicer Area	Beach mats to fishing pier	Planning	2026
Flandrau State Park	Track chair, sit skis	Planning	2026
Fort Ridgely State Park	Non-motorized all-terrain wheelchair	Planning	2027
Fort Snelling State Park	Sit skis	Planning	2026
Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park	Assistive listening device packages, compact motorized scooter, door openers for scooter storage/display/promotion	Complete	2026
Fort Snelling State Park	Track chair	Complete	2025
Fort Snelling State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Frontenac State Park	Track chair battery retrofit	Complete	2026
Frontenac State Park	Track chair (second chair)	Planning	2026
Glacial Lakes State Park	Beach chair and beach mat	Planning	2026
Glendalough State Park	Sit skis	Planning	2026
Glendalough State Park	Non-motorized all-terrain wheelchairs	Planning	2027
Gooseberry Falls State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Gooseberry Falls State Park	Sit skis	Planning	2026
Gooseberry Falls State Park	Non-motorized all-terrain wheelchairs	Planning	2027
Grand Portage State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Hayes Lake and Lake Bronson State Park	Track chair	Planning	2026
“I Can!” Program (Statewide)	Kayak (10)	Complete	2025
Interstate Falls State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Itasca State Park	Track chair battery retrofit, assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Itasca State Park	Beach mat without chair, sit skis	Planning	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Itasca State Park	Non-motorized all-terrain wheelchairs	Planning	2027
Jay Cooke State Park	Track chair and covered trailer	Complete	2025
Jay Cooke State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Jay Cooke State Park	Non-motorized all-terrain wheelchairs	Planning	2027
Lake Bemidji State Park	Track chair battery retrofit, assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Lake Bemidji State Park	Beach chair and beach mat	Planning	2026
Lake Bronson State Park	Beach chair and beach mat	Planning	2026
Lake Carlos State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Lake Shetek State Park	Track chair and covered trailer	Complete	2025
Lake Shetek State Park	Track chair battery retrofit, track chair access trail improvement	Complete	2026
Lake Shetek State Park	Non-motorized all-terrain wheelchair	Planning	2027
Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Maplewood State Park	Track chair battery retrofit	Complete	2026
Maplewood/Glendalough State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Mille Lacs Kathio State Park	Track chair and covered trailer	Complete	2025
Mille Lacs Kathio State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Minneopa State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Moose Lake State Park	Track chair and covered trailer	Complete	2025
Moose Lake State Park	Track chair storage enclosure improvements	Complete	2026
Myre-Big Island State Park	Track chair battery retrofit	Complete	2026
Nerstrand Big Woods State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Region 4 – Dakota Outreach	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Rice Lake State Park	Track chair and covered trailer	Complete	2025

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Sibley State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Sibley State Park	Sit skis	Planning	2026
St. Croix State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
St. Croix State Park	Sit skis	Planning	2026
Tettegouche State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Whitewater State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Wild River State Park	Assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
William O'Brien State Park	Track chairs (2) and covered trailer	Complete	2025
William O'Brien State Park	Track chair battery retrofit, assistive listening device packages	Complete	2026
Zippel Bay State Park	Beach chair and beach mat	Planning	2026

Table 3: Get Out MORE adaptive equipment placements.

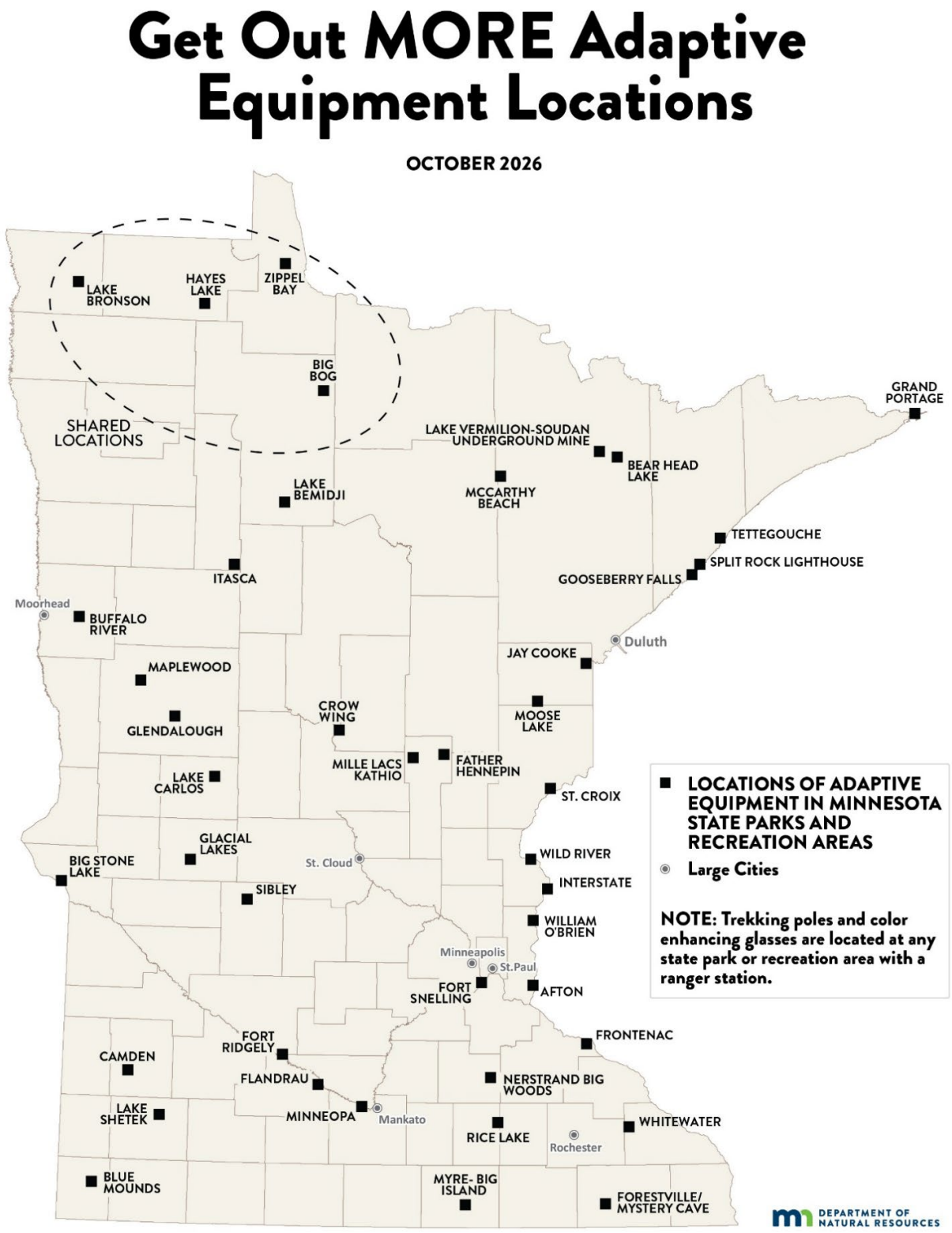


Figure 6. Get Out MORE adaptive equipment locations.

Accessible Hunting

The DNR currently provides partially accessible facilities at WMAs statewide, such as raised or ground-height hunting blinds, observation platforms, or boardwalks.

After consulting with Capable Partners and Disabled Outdoorsmen MN, the DNR identified a hunting blind system that best meets the needs of disabled hunters (Figure 7). As a result, 21 new hunting blinds and five hydraulic hunting blind trailers were purchased to provide a much-needed upgrade to accessible special hunt offerings (Table 4). These new blinds will also expand access to areas that previously had limited or no accessible hunting options, including Talcott, Thief Lake, Twin Lakes, Roseau River, and Red Lake WMAs. It is expected that 50% or more of the new blinds will be available during the 2026 hunting season for special hunts with Capable Partners or by reservation.

In addition, accessible hunting projects are in the design phase and scheduled for construction in 2027. These improvements include accessible parking areas, trailheads, water accesses, remote camping opportunities, and hunter walking trails and wayfinding improvements.

Funds for these projects come primarily from the Get Out MORE investment, with additional funding from Natural Resource Asset Preservation (NRAP) allocations.



Figure 7. Accessible hydraulic hunting blind at Vermilion River WMA.

Get Out MORE Accessibility Updates in Wildlife Management Areas

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Chisago County	Carlos Avery WMA accessibility projects	Completed	2026
Dakota County	Vermillion Highlands WMA accessibility projects	Design	2027
Freeborn County	Wo Wacintanka WMA road repairs	Complete	2025
Isanti County	Becklin Homestead WMA accessibility projects	Design	2027
Laq qui Parle County	Salt Lake Observation Area accessibility improvements	Construction	2026
Lac qui Parle County	Laq qui Parle WMA accessibility projects	Design	2027
Roseau County	Roseau River WMA accessibility projects	Design	2027
Marshall County	Thief Lake WMA accessibility projects	Design	2027
Wabasha County	Whitewater WMA accessibility projects	Construction	2026
Marshall County	Thief Lake WMA road repairs	Complete	2026
Mcleod County	Bakers Lake WMA road repairs	Construction	2026
Roseau County	Roseau River WMA road repairs	Complete	2026
Swift and Bigstone Counties	Laq qui Parle WMA Howard and Bahl Road repairs	Complete	2026

Table 4: Get Out MORE accessibility updates in Wildlife Management Areas.

Example: Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area

Located just north of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Carlos Avery WMA has long been a popular destination for outdoor enthusiasts. The recently completed ADA accessibility improvements include a new parking lot, water access improvement (Figure 8), and an observation overlook that will further broaden access to the communities and people the WMA serves (Figure 9). In addition to these highlighted projects, a water access improvement was completed on the South Sunrise Unit of Carlos Avery in May 2026, along with the addition of new ADA hunting blinds on the main unit near the upgraded Zodiac parking lot (Figure 10) in October of 2025. These projects were primarily funded through Get Out MORE, with supplemental funding provided through the 2023 bonding allocation.



Figure 8. Water access improvement at Carlos Avery WMA.



Figure 9. The accessible observation overlook improvement at Carlos Avery WMA.



Figure 10. Upgraded Zodiac parking lot at Carlos Avery WMA.

State Park Hiking and Paved Trails

As hiking increases in popularity and state park visitation grows, the need for accessible and sustainably engineered trails has become vitally important to Minnesota's state parks. In addition, state park visitor surveys have shown that hiking trails are among the most important amenities to visitors. Paved trails are particularly important because they offer experiences for visitors who have short amounts of time, families with older adults and/or small children, and visitors with disabilities, especially those who use adaptive equipment. State park trail improvements as shown in Table 5 will enhance accessibility and ease of use for visitors.

Get Out MORE State Park Trail Improvements

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Banning State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Construction	2027
Fort Snelling State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Design	2027
Glacial Lakes State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Design	2028
Gooseberry Falls State Park	Hiking and paved trail to waterfall	Design	2028
Grand Portage State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Design	2027
Interstate State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Planning	2029
Itasca State Park	Paved trails	Planning	2029

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Jay Cooke State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Design	2028
Lake Bemidji State Park	Rocky Point – Hiking and paved trails	Design	2028
Rice Lake State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Planning	2029
Sibley State Park	Hiking and paved trails	Design	2027
Zippel Bay State Park	Fishing pier and trail	Planning	*2029*

Table 5: Get Out MORE State Park trail improvements.

State Park Roads

State park roads are essential to providing visitor access, and unfortunately many roads have experienced deterioration due to high use and severe weather events. DNR is using Get Out MORE funding to address deferred maintenance on roads in four state parks (Table 6), including roads within several of Minnesota's busiest campgrounds and day use areas.

Get Out MORE State Park Road Improvements

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Itasca State Park	Bear Paw campground roads	Design	2027
Tettegouche State Park	Baptism River campground road	Design	2027
Wild River State Park	Road repair	Design	2027
William O'Brien State Park	Road repair	Complete	2025

Table 6: Get Out MORE State Park road improvements.

State Trails

There are over 1,500 miles of state trails in Minnesota, ranging from paved railroad-grade bike trails to natural terrain for horseback riding. Some trails travel through Minnesota state parks, while others link communities to outdoor spaces. State trails allow Minnesotans and visitors to explore the beauty of Minnesota at their own pace. Surface repairs and rehabilitation, and culvert replacement are among the upgrades to state trails being funded by Get Out MORE (Table 7). These improvements will allow users to experience a safer trip, as well as protect the trail and prevent additional degradation.

Get Out MORE State Trail Rehabilitation Projects

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Aitkin County	Cuyuna Lakes State Trail, Aitkin trail surface repair	Complete	2025
Beltrami County	Paul Bunyan State Trail, Clausen Avenue culvert replacement	Complete	2025
Beltrami County	Paul Bunyan State Trail, vegetation management	Complete	2026
Carlton County	Munger State Trail, Gillogly Road trail surface repair	Complete	2025
Carlton County	Munger State Trail, crack sealing	Complete	2026
Cass County	Heartland State Trail, Steamboat Lake trail surface repair	Planning	2027
Hennepin County	Luce Line State Trail, intersection pavement improvements	Planning	2027
Hennepin County	Luce Line State Trail, Orono Orchard wing wall replacement	Planning	2027
Lake County	Gitchi-Gami State Trail, minor culvert repair	Complete	2026
Lake County	Gitchi-Gami State Trail, Gooseberry to Beaver Bay trail surface repair	Planning	2027
Mcleod County	Luce Line State Trail, trail rehabilitation	Complete	2026
McLeod County	Luce Line State Trail, Hutchinson trail rehabilitation	Planning	2027
McLeod County	Luce Line State Trail, Winsted trail surface repair	Planning	2027
Mower County	Shooting Star State Trail, crack sealing	Planning	2027
Pine County	Matthew Lourey State Trail, minor culvert repair	Complete	2026
Ramsey County	Gateway State Trail, White Bear Avenue and McKnight Avenue bridge fencing replacement	Planning	2027
Washington County	Gateway State Trail, Highway 96 culvert replacement	Design	2027

Table 7: State trail rehabilitation projects funded by Get Out MORE.

State Forest Roads

Minnesota's state forest road network was constructed throughout the 20th century and traverses some of the most difficult landscapes for road construction in the state. State forest roads enable access to numerous recreational opportunities on state forest land, as well as forest management, emergency response to wildfires and floods, and transportation of forest products. There is high public interest in recreating in state forests, including using these roads to access forest campgrounds, forest day use areas, public water accesses, and recreation and hunting trails. Time and changing environmental conditions, such as more intense precipitation events, mean that many of these roads need repair and, in some cases, redesign.

Significant improvements to the state forest road network are in construction or have been completed throughout the forested areas of Minnesota. Improvements include water crossing replacements, bridge installations, and road reconstruction to provide Minnesotans with safe access to state forest lands. As part of this larger improvement effort, the DNR identified 17 state forest road segments for Get Out MORE investments that focus on improving Minnesotans' access to important recreation areas (Table 8 and Figure 11). Funds for these projects come primarily from the Get Out MORE investment, with additional funding from Natural Resource Asset Preservation (NRAP) and Water Recreation Account funding.

Get Out MORE State Forest Road Projects

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Carlton County	Ditchbank Road reconstruction	Complete	2024
Cass County	Rock Lake Campground Road culvert replacement	Construction	2026
Cook County	Otter Lake Road culvert replacements	Design	2027
Itasca/St. Louis Counties	Hibbing Area Forest recreation roads resurfacing – Buttonbox Campground, Link, Snake, and Beatrice Lake Roads	Complete	2025
Itasca County	Larson Lake campground road Resurfacing	Complete	2024
Itasca County	Deer River Area Forest recreation roads reconstruction – Burnt Shanty/Lost Moose, Little Long, and Grave Lake Roads	Complete	2025
Itasca County	Deer River Area Forest recreation roads reconstruction – Wilson and Long Lake Roads	Complete	2025
Lake County	Stoney Grade culvert replacements	Complete	2026
Lake County	East General Grade, Manitou and Baptism River bridge replacements	Design	2027

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Lake of the Woods County	Roosevelt-Norris culvert replacement	Complete	2025
Lake of the Woods County	Pitt Grade Road reconstruction	Construction	2026
Pine County	McCormick Lake Day Use Area Road resurfacing	Complete	2025
Pine County	Tamarack Campground Road resurfacing	Complete	2026
Pine County	Net River Bridge replacement	Complete	2026
Roseau County	Bemis Hill campground road resurfacing	Complete	2025
Sherburne County	Ann Lake Day Use Road reconstruction	Complete	2026
Wabasha County	Kruger Campground Road resurfacing	Complete	2025

Table 8: Get Out MORE State forest road projects.

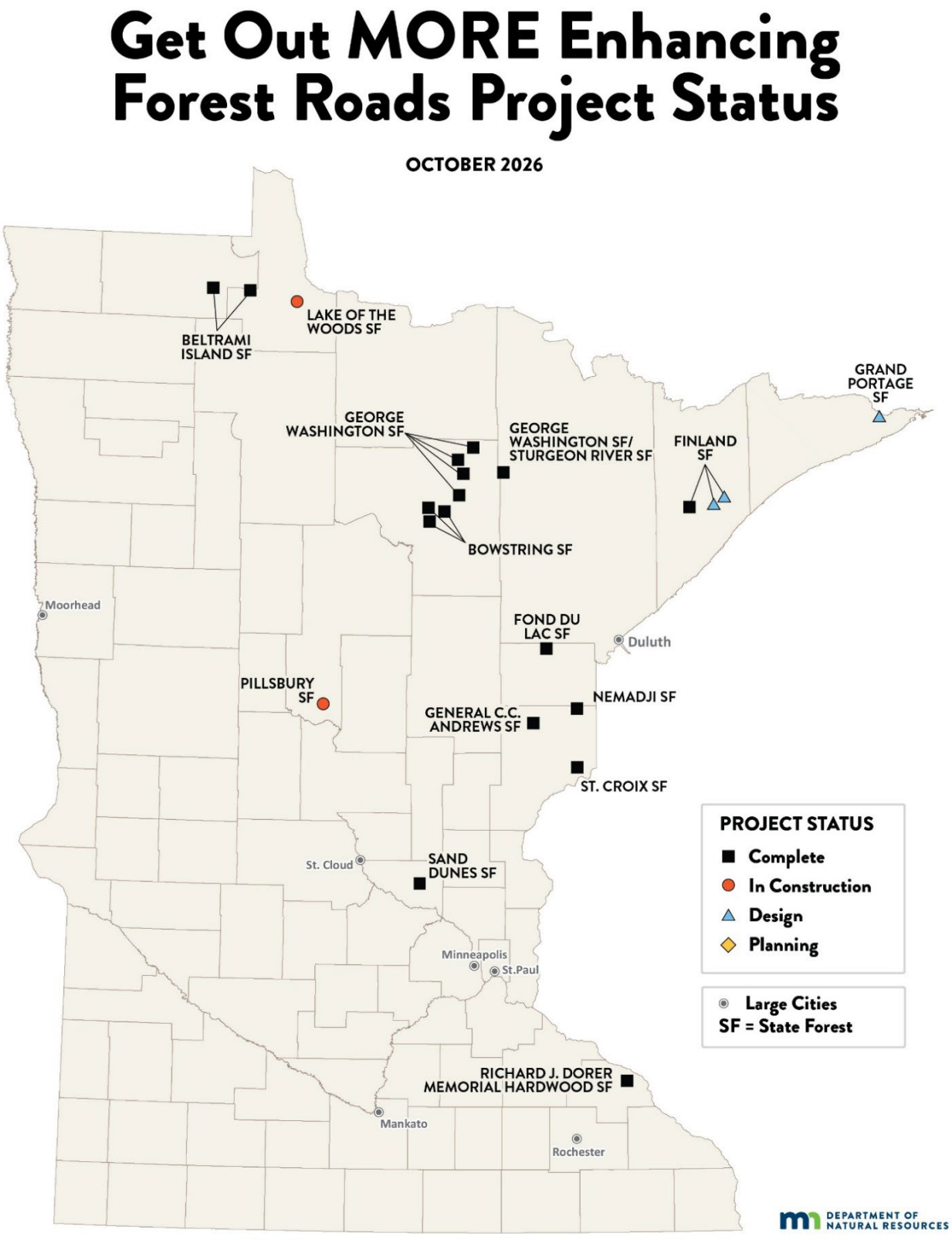


Figure 11: Status of Get Out MORE forest road projects.

Example: Ann Lake Day Use Area and Campground State Forest Road

The Ann Lake Day Use Area and Campground State Forest Roads, located 5.5 miles west of Zimmerman in the Sand Dunes State Forest, are heavily used by recreationists to access a day-use area, public beach, and a forest campground. Due to a lack of maintenance funds and no adequate road ditches, the road developed sand pockets that were difficult for vehicles to drive through. The public avoided these pockets by driving around them, causing road width expansion. The road was improved by creating ditches where needed, reshaping roads, resurfacing the entire day-use road, and spot-gravelling the campground road (Figure 12). The project also included the addition of a split rail fence to keep vehicles out of a rare native plant community adjacent to the road (Figure 13). Construction on this project started in October 2025 and finished in May 2026.



Figure 12. Ditch establishment and resurfacing on the Ann Lake Day Use Area and Campground State Forest Road.



Figure 13. Split rail fence protecting rare native plant community on the side of the Ann Lake Day Use Area and Campground State Forest Road.

Example: Rock Lake State Forest Campground Road

The Rock Lake State Forest is a popular recreation area in the Pillager State Forest and the campground road provides access to a forest campground, day use area, and public water access. Currently under construction, the access road will be improved by replacing three failing culverts with a box culvert and will also be raised to reduce flooding and paved all the way to the campground entrance (Figure 14). Additional funding for the project comes from the State Park Road Account and the Water Recreation Account. The township portion of the access road, Orchard Park Lane SW, will be resurfaced at the same time as the forest road project using the State Park Road Account (SPRA). Construction will be completed on November 27, 2026.



Figure 14. Flooding on the Rock Lake State Forest Campground Forest Road in the summer of 2024. Raising the road will prevent this from happening in the future.

Updating State Forest Maps

In 2017, DNR started a project to modernize maps across all 60 state forests with 44 new state forest maps completed by 2022. Get Out MORE funds are supporting the remaining 16 state forest maps (Table 9).

The Get Out MORE State Forest Map Project will use Get Out MORE funding to create geospatial PDF (GeoPDF) maps that will allow users to download the map on a mobile device and track their location as a dot on the screen. The project will also include paper maps highlighting each forest's unique recreation features, including pop-out maps for popular campgrounds and day-use areas.

These modern, user-friendly maps will highlight the endless recreation opportunities across 4.2 million acres of state forests, such as hiking, mountain biking, birding, berry picking, cross-country skiing, hunting, and horseback, ATV and snowmobile riding. Many state forests also offer campgrounds, fishing piers, boat launches, swimming beaches, and picnic areas.

In 2026, the DNR hired a project coordinator for the Get Out MORE State Forest Map Project, filling a vacancy created by the departure of a previous mapping project coordinator within the Division of Forestry. The DNR also assembled local mapping teams and began drafting new maps for Kabetogama, Sand Dunes, and Savanna State Forests. The team also drafted updates for the Nemadji State Forest Map to reflect changes since its original publication in 2018. All maps that are currently in progress in the table below are expected to be published in 2027. The other state forest maps are upcoming and expected to be complete by 2028.

Get Out MORE State Forest Map Project

Location	State Forest	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Aitkin County	Savanna State Forest	In progress	2027
Becker County	Smoky Hills State Forest	Upcoming	2027
Becker County	Two Inlets State Forest	Upcoming	2027
Carlton and Pine Counties	Nemadji State Forest	In progress	2027
Carlton and St. Louis Counties	Fond du Lac State Forest	Upcoming	2027
Carlton and St. Louis Counties	Riverlands State Forest	Upcoming	2028
Cass and Hubbard Counties	Foot Hills State Forest	Upcoming	2028
Dakota, Fillmore, Goodhue, Houston, Olmsted, Wabasha, and Winona Counties	Richard J. Dorer Memorial State Hardwood Forest (anticipated series of 5 maps to accommodate large size and diverse use of forest)	Upcoming	2027/2028
Koochiching and St. Louis Counties	Kabetogama State Forest	In progress	2027
Koochiching and St. Louis Counties	Lake of the Woods State Forest	Upcoming	2027
Lake of the Woods County	Northwest Angle State Forest	Upcoming	2028

Location	State Forest	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Pine County	Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.) State Forest	Upcoming	2027
Roseau County	Lost River State Forest	Upcoming	2028
Sherburne County	Sand Dunes State Forest	In progress	2027
St. Louis County	Cloquet Valley State Forest	Upcoming	2028
St. Louis County	White Face River State Forest	Upcoming	2028

Table 9. State forest maps that will be updated using Get Out MORE funds.

Modernizing Camping and Related Infrastructure

DNR-managed camping experiences and related infrastructure were developed beginning in the 1930s and the original facilities do not always meet modern needs or standards. Today's users camp in a variety of ways, including in larger groups and with multiple vehicles (cars/trucks, campers and boats). Survey and visitation patterns also suggest that many current visitors prefer higher-amenity experiences, such as bathroom/shower facilities and access to electricity at campsites. The need for access to technological infrastructure has also increased, both to accommodate self-service payments and to offer visitors amenities and conveniences such as checking in with family members or work while vacationing. To address these changing visitor needs, the DNR is using Get Out MORE to complete two projects. Figure 15 shows the locations of the two campground modernization projects.

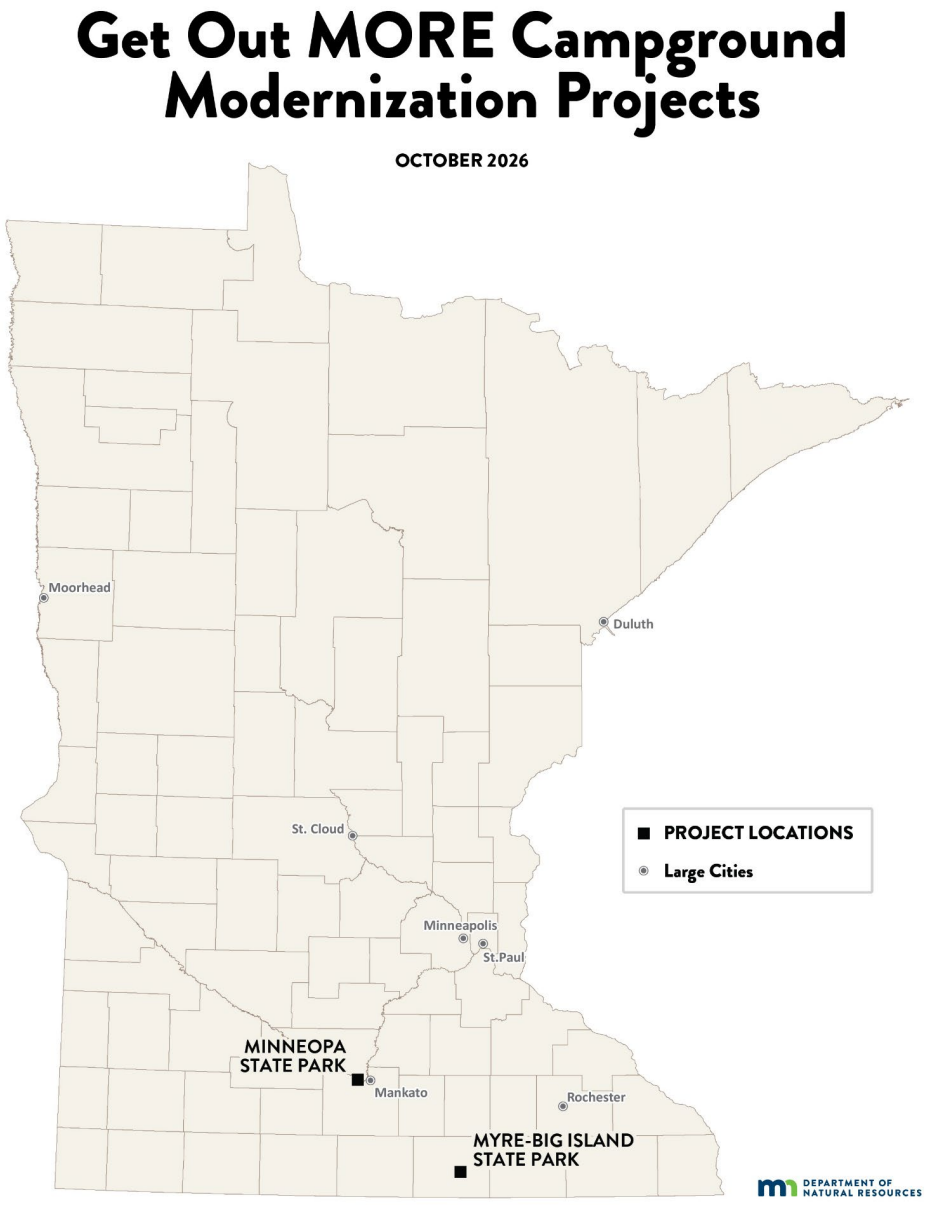


Figure 15: Get Out MORE campground modernization projects.

General Fund ($5 million)

Minneopa State Park campground and related infrastructure modernization

Minneopa State Park, located near Mankato, is undergoing a comprehensive modernization that will serve a wider range of campground users and provide an upgrade to campsites that are currently undesirable and underused. Design is underway for the following updates as part of this modernization project:

- An improved entry plaza with user-friendly self-service
- Reconfiguration of the campground to align with modern campground design standards
- Redesign of camping spurs to improve ADA-accessibility and accommodate RVs (Figure 16)

- Additional group camping options to support a wide variety of new and non-traditional users camping experiences
- Upgrades to electric service at campsites including EV chargers at select campsites
- Replacement of the restroom facility
- Replacement of the septic system and RV dump station
- Reconstruction of hiking trails to improve accessibility and accommodate mobility devices

Construction will likely begin in late 2027. In addition to Get Out MORE investment, DNR is using Legacy and capital investment dollars to accomplish a more complete modernization and accomplish all necessary construction at once.



Figure 16. View of a vehicle parked next to an RV in an undersized campsite in the current Minneopa State Park campground.

Capital Investment ($4.5 million)

Myre-Big Island State Park wastewater system rehabilitation for park and campground infrastructure

The wastewater infrastructure at Myre-Big Island State Park near Albert Lea is outdated and at the end of its useful life. This Get Out MORE capital investment project will connect the park to the City of Albert Lea's wastewater treatment system. The project is expected to be completed in 2028. In addition to collaborating with the City of Albert Lea, DNR staff worked closely with Dakota Tribal Historic Preservation Officers to ensure design plans are appropriate given the cultural significance of Big Island to the Dakota people.

Modernizing Boating Access

General Fund ($35 million)

Minnesota's extensive system of state public water accesses (PWAs) needs significant investment to enhance accessibility, meet the needs of modern watercraft and towing vehicles, improve protection of public waters from stormwater runoff and invasive species, and enhance climate resilience. The Get Out MORE investment is enabling the DNR to update at least 115 of Minnesota's 1,700 state-managed PWA sites, including large- and small-scale projects as noted below:

- $30 million for 45-50 large-scale projects, which will include rehabilitated ramps and parking areas, stormwater improvements, aquatic invasive species prevention, healthy shorelines, accessible access for non-motorized boats and other accessibility features
- $5 million for 85-100 small-scale projects, including features such as longer launch ramps, improvements to parking lots and drive lanes, improved stormwater treatment as well as shore fishing and fishing piers replacements

Projects Funded

Large-Scale Projects

Table 10 and Figure 17 show all large-scale PWA improvement projects funded or partially-funded with Get Out MORE investments, as well as projects considered for future investment as funding allows.

Get Out MORE Large-Scale Public Water Access Improvement Projects

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Becker County	Bad Medicine Lake PWA – cooperative project with MnDOT	Design	2027
Becker County	Toad Lake PWA	Design	2027
Becker County	Detroit Lake NE PWA	Complete	2025
Carver County	Lake Auburn PWA – cooperative project with Three River Park District	Complete	2026
Cass County	Leech Lake (Ericksons Landing) PWA	Design	2028
Cass County	Cass Lake (TH 2 Wayside) PWA – cooperative project with MnDOT	Design	2029
Chisago County	South Center Lake PWA	Complete	2026
Crow Wing County	North Long Lake PWA -cooperative project with MnDOT	Planning	2028

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Crow Wing County	Mille Lacs Lake (Pike Point-Garrison) PWA – cooperative project with MnDOT	Design	2029
Dakota County	Mississippi River (So. St. Paul) PWA – cooperative project with the City of South St. Paul.	Complete	2026
Douglas County	Lake Carlos (West) PWA	Design	2027
Douglas County	Lake Reno (NE) PWA	Design	2027
Hennepin County	Mississippi/Crow River PWA – cooperative project with the City of Dayton	Design	2027
Hennepin County	Whaletail Lake PWA	Complete	2026
Itasca County	Pokegama Lake (Tioga) PWA	Complete	2026
Kanabec County	Ann Lake PWA	Design	2027
Kandiyohi County	Green Lake (County Park 5) PWA – cooperative project with Kandiyohi County	Complete	2026
Kandiyohi County	Green Lake (Rush Brown) PWA – cooperative project with New London Township	Complete	2025
Kandiyohi County	Elkhorn Lake PWA	Complete	2025
Lake County	Lake Superior – Knife River PWA	Design	2028
Lake of the Woods County	Rainy River (Wheelers Point) PWA	Design	2027
Mahnomen County	Tulaby Lake PWA	Design	2028
Meeker County	Marion Lake PWA – cooperative project with Meeker County	Complete	2026
Meeker County	Lake Manuella PWA	Complete	2026
Olmsted County	Lake Zumbro – Olmsted County Park	Complete	2026
Otter Tail County	Lake Lida (North) PWA	Design	2027
Pine County	Snake River/Cross Lake PWA – cooperative project with the City of Pine City	Design	2027
Rice County	Mazaska Lake PWA – cooperative project with MnDOT	Design	2027
Rice County	Shields Lake PWA	Complete	2025
Roseau County	Warroad River – Ka Ka Geesik PWA	Design	2027

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
St. Louis County	Crane Lake (City of Crane Lake) PWA – cooperative project with the city of Crane Lake	Complete	2025
St. Louis County	Lake Vermilion – Moccasin Point PWA – cooperative project with St. Louis County	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Lake Vermilion – Oak Narrows PWA – cooperative project with St. Louis County	Complete	2025
St. Louis County	White Iron PWA – cooperative project with St. Louis County	Complete	2026
Scott County	Spring Lake PWA	Complete	2025
Sibley County	Minnesota River – Belle Plaine PWA	Construction	2026
Stearns County	Lake Koronis (Co Park) PWA – cooperative project with Stearns and Meeker Counties	Design	2027
Stearns County	Rice Lake (South) PWA	Complete	2025
Steele County	Rice Lake/ Rice Lake State Park PWA	Design	2027
Steele County	Beaver Lake/Steele County PWA	Design	2027
Traverse County	Lake Traverse County Park PWA – cooperative project with Traverse County	Complete	2026
Washington County	St. Croix Crossing PWA	Complete	2025
Washington County	St. Croix River/William O'Brien State Park PWA	Complete	2025
Washington County	Demontreville Lake PWA	Planning	2028

Table 10: Get Out MORE large-Scale Public Water Access Improvement Projects.

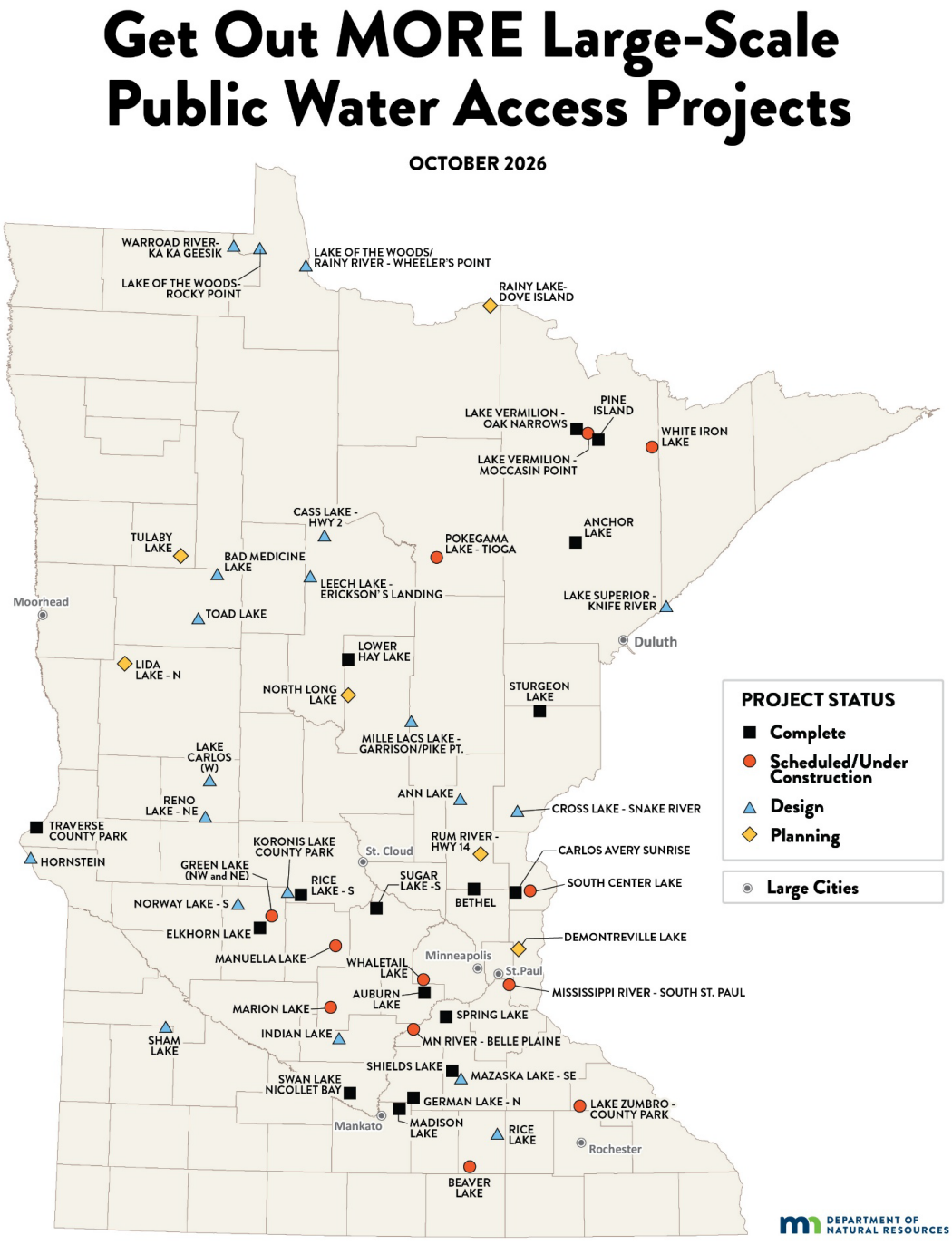


Figure 17. Get Out MORE large-scale public water access projects.

Example: South Center Lake, Chisago County

An update to the public water acess to South Center Lake, located near Lindstrom in Chisago County and shown before reconstruction in Figure 18, was completed in 2026. To accommodate current use and equipment, the improvements include the bituminous surfacing of the facility entrance road and parking area, restriping of

parking area to include two ADA and 46 non-ADA parking spots that accommodate modern length vehicles and trailers. The site was graded to direct water into a new retention basin to provide improved water quality. The site also includes a portable restroom enclosure and designated traffic lanes for boaters to clean and drain their boats to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species. Figure 19 shows the site during construction.



Figure 18. South Center Lake PWA before reconstruction.



Figure 19. South Center Lake PWA during construction.

Example: Moccasin Point, Lake Vermilion Public Water Access

The existing public water access at Moccasin Point, centrally located on sprawling Lake Vermilion, is located on the site of a former resort and public boat launch. The property was acquired by the DNR in 2008, and because the site functioned as a public boat launch prior to state acquisition, only limited improvements were required at the time. Parking was unmanaged, and stormwater and accessibility issues with the site layout needed to be addressed. Construction is now complete, and the improved facility consists of a large, paved parking facility containing 81 vehicle/trailer parking stalls, including four designated as ADA-accessible, and 17 single vehicle parking spaces, including one that is designated as accessible. There are new designated travel lanes designed to improve user access and safety. The improvements also include replacement of two boat ramps, plus a heavy-duty boat ramp to accommodate equipment, materials and supplies to support water-access-only facilities and properties, new boarding docks, designated lanes for boaters to clean and drain their boats to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species, a stormwater management system and the installation of a portable restroom enclosure. With the assistance of St. Louis County, the improved Moccasin Point PWA (Figure 20) opened for public use in October 2026.



Figure 20. Aerial view of Moccasin Point PWA after reconstruction.

Example: Green Lake Kandiyohi County Park 5 Public Water Access

The Green Lake Kandiyohi County Park 5 Public Water Access near Spicer was originally developed in 2003 as a cooperative project with Kandiyohi County. The existing water access required improvements to accommodate larger vehicles and trailers, subgrade corrections, improved stormwater management, aquatic invasive species inspections area, accessible parking and routes, and boat ramp replacement. The County Park 5 Water Access consists of two parcels, one owned by Kandiyohi County and the other by the State of Minnesota.

The upgraded facility (Figure 21) contains a total of 22 vehicle/trailer parking stalls, including one that is designated ADA accessible. The proposed project also includes improved traffic lanes, the replacement of two boat ramps, new boarding docks, and a designated lane for boaters to clean and drain their boats to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species. Drainage and subgrade issues were also corrected to improve site function and sustainability.

The county continues to own about half of the site, and this PWA is an important complementary facility to the county's adjacent public campground. Construction was completed June 30, 2026, and the facility reopened to public use the following day.



Figure 21. Green Lake Kandiyohi County Park 5 PWA after reconstruction.

Small-Scale Projects

Small-scale projects fall between the more extensive projects described above and the temporary patches and urgent repairs that typically consume the available resources in DNR's annual PWA maintenance program. Get Out MORE funds for small-scale projects are providing opportunities to purchase materials and supplies, hire contractors to extend or replace boat ramps, fix paved and unpaved parking lots and driveways, and improve accessibility. Table 11 lists projects planned and/or completed in 2025-2026. Additional sites are also being planned for completion in 2027.

Get Out MORE Small-Scale PWA Projects

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Aitkin County	Lone Lake, parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Aitkin County	Spirit Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Beltrami County	Blackduck Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Beltrami County	Movil Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Beltrami County	Rabideau Lake ramp replacement	Complete	2026
Big Stone County	Big Stone Lake parking lot improvement	Planning	2027
Cass County	Baby Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Cass County	Horseshoe Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Cass County	Lindsey Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Cass County	Long Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Cass County	Pleasant Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Cass County	Silver Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Cass County	Stoney Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Cook County	McFarland Lake ramp replacement	Complete	2025
Crow Wing County	Goodrich Lake road/parking lot improvements	Complete	2026
Hubbard County	Benedict Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Hubbard County	Long Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Koochiching County	Rainy Lake Dove Island parking lot improvement	Complete	2025
Koochiching County	Rainy Lake Bohman parking lot improvement	Complete	2025
Pipestone County	Split Rock Creek parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Ban Lake road improvement	Complete	2025
St. Louis County	Lake Vermilion Wakemup Bay parking lot improvement	Complete	2025
St. Louis County	Ash River parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Fish Lake Dam ramp replacement	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Island Lake Hide-a-way ramp replacement	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Rainy River Tilson Bay parking lot improvement	Complete	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
St. Louis County	Lake Vermilion Frazer Bay parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Lake Vermilion Hoodoo Point ramp replacement and parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Lake Vermilion Oak Narrows ramp replacement and parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
St. Louis County	Miners Lake Ely parking lot improvement	Planning	2027
St. Louis County	St. Louis River Boy Scout Landing ramp repair	Planning	2027
Stearns County	Lake Koronis ramp replacement	Complete	2025
Stearns County	Pleasant Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2025
Washington County	Big Marine Lake parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Washington County	Forest Lake 2 parking lot improvement	Complete	2026
Wright County	Sugar Lake ramp replacement	Complete	2025

Table 11. Get Out MORE small-scale PWA projects.

Small-Scale Projects in Wildlife Management Areas

The DNR is also making small-scale improvements to PWAs in wildlife management areas (Table 12). These enhancements include more parking spaces, ADA parking, new boat ramps, AIS pullouts, and improved traffic flows that will provide improved water access for anglers and hunters in WMAs.

Get Out MORE Small-Scale Public Water Access Improvement Projects in WMAS

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Big Stone County	Hornstein WMA water access improvement	Design	2027
Chisago County	Carlos Avery WMA South Sunrise water access improvement	Complete	2026
Nicollet County	Swan Lake WMA water access improvement	Complete	2026

Table 12. Get Out MORE small-Scale Public Water Access Improvement Projects in WMAs.

Example: Swan Lake WMA Nicollet Bay Public Water Access

As a premier waterfowl hunting destination in Minnesota, Swan Lake WMA receives heavy use during the waterfowl season. The Nicollet Bay Access is a popular entry point to Swan Lake because of its proximity to Minnesota Highway 14 and the cities of Mankato and New Ulm. Prior to the Get Out MORE project, access to the lake was limited and challenging during periods of high use and low-water conditions.

The modernization project included several improvements to the water access, including expanding the parking lot, improving traffic flow, formalizing parking areas, and designating an area to drain and clean boats to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species (Figure 22).

The project also added an ADA-accessible parking space and toilet area. These improvements included a paved pathway leading to the top of two new boat ramps, which were constructed at a more user-friendly grade to help alleviate access challenges during periods of high use and low-water conditions.



Figure 22. Boat ramps were reconstructed at a more user-friendly grade at Swan Lake Nicollet Bay Public Water Access.

Enhancing Fisheries and Fishing Infrastructure

Fishing in Minnesota is a $4.4 billion industry and a favorite outdoor activity for many Minnesotans and visitors. Hatchery and shore fishing enhancements received $35 million in General Fund and $25 million in capital investments as part of Get Out MORE, allocated as follows:

- $24 million for a new hatchery building at the Waterville State Fish Hatchery
- $19 million to replace water supply lines and construct a new hatchery building at Crystal Springs Hatchery
- $12 million for improvements at other hatcheries including upgrades to dikes, ponds, raceways, and water and power supply
- $5 million to enhance shore fishing sites and opportunities across the state

Fish Hatcheries ($55 million)

Several of the state's fish hatcheries were constructed in the 1950s or earlier and are still operating with original equipment. Feasibility studies completed in 2018 and 2019 indicated that the state's fish hatcheries needed significant investment to address critical issues related to biosecurity, aging infrastructure, and safety. Addressing these needs will move Minnesota toward a state-of-the-art fish hatchery system with safe and bio secure water supplies, increased fish production capacity, and improved staff safety. Investments in these facilities will help sustain high-quality fish populations across Minnesota and support fishing opportunities into the future. Figure 23 shows hatchery project locations, and Table 13 lists all Get Out MORE hatchery infrastructure projects.

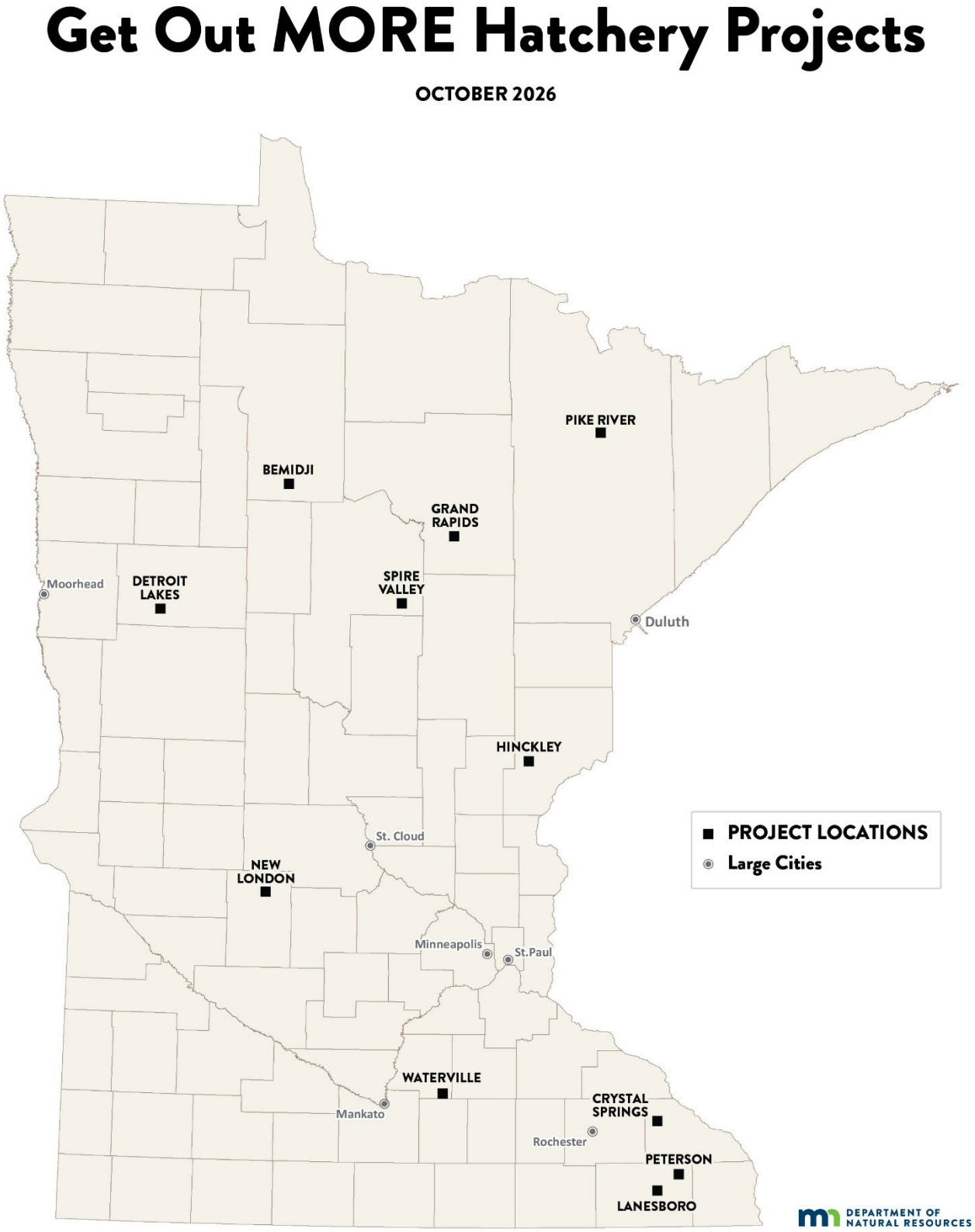


Figure 23: Get Out MORE hatchery projects.

Get Out MORE Hatchery Infrastructure Projects

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Crystal Springs Hatchery	Rearing facility replacement	Design	2029
Lanesboro Hatchery	Spring pool impoundment and shelter repair/replacement	Construction	2026
Lanesboro Hatchery	Raceway building roof replacement	Design	2027
Peterson Hatchery	Rearing building remodel	Complete	2026
Spire Valley Hatchery	Production tank install	Complete	2023
Spire Valley Hatchery	Pond bottom improvements	Complete	2024
Spire Valley Hatchery	Cover main spring	Complete	2026
Waterville Hatchery	Rearing facility replacement	Design	2028
Tower (Pike River) Hatchery	Replace chillers	Complete	2025
Tower (Pike River) Hatchery	Replace generator	Complete	2026
Tower (Pike River) Hatchery	Drain line repair	Complete	2024
Tower (Pike River) Hatchery	Filtration upgrades	Design	2027
Bemidji Hatchery	Muskie rearing pond repair	Complete	2026
Detroit Lakes Hatchery	Source water feasibility study	Complete	2025
Detroit Lakes Hatchery	Replace generator	Complete	2026
Grand Rapids Hatchery	Filtration system repairs	Planning	2027
Grand Rapids Hatchery	Head tank inspection	Complete	2025
Hinckley Hatchery	Muskie rearing pond water source	Design	2027
New London Hatchery	UV sterilizer for recirculating system	Complete	2024
New London Hatchery	Recirculating system for muskie production	Complete	2024
New London Hatchery	Temperature control for feed storage	Complete	2025
New London Hatchery	Rearing pond dike and kettle repairs – Phase 2	Complete	2025
New London Hatchery	Water filtration system upgrade	Complete	2025
New London Hatchery	Water supply line replacement	Complete	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
New London Hatchery	Rearing pond dike and kettle repairs – Phase 3	Complete	2026
New London Hatchery	Drum filter rebuild	Complete	2025
St. Paul Hatchery	Hatchery feasibility study (separate funds)	Design	2027

Table 13: Get Out MORE hatchery infrastructure projects.

General Fund

Projects Funded

Crystal Springs Hatchery

Crystal Springs Hatchery raises more than 50,000 pounds of brook trout, rainbow trout and steelhead each year to be stocked in lakes and streams across Minnesota. Concrete infrastructure dating to the 1930s is crumbling, and clay water lines that bring 48-degree artesian spring water into the facility have cracked and are beginning to fail, putting the hatchery's entire operation at risk. To address this risk, Get Out MORE investments are providing $19 million for upgrades including construction of a new hatchery building and replacement of degraded raceways and water lines. The project pre-design is complete, and design work began in July 2025 and is expected to be complete by the end of 2026. The modernized hatchery will allow for continued trout production, greater efficiency, and a more biosecure environment for the fish. The DNR anticipates beginning construction on this project in the summer of 2027 and completing the project in early 2029.

New London Hatchery Water Line Repair

Significant water quality upgrades have been completed at the New London Hatchery. A new recirculating water system with aquatic invasive species filtration and ultraviolet light filtration has been installed to ensure that water used through the hatchery is biosecure and healthy for the walleyes and muskies being raised at the New London Hatchery. The water heating system was upgraded to allow water within the hatchery facility to be warmed above 50 degrees, providing ideal development and growing conditions for fish eggs and fry (Figure 24).



Figure 24. New recirculating water system at New London Hatchery.

Capital Investment

Projects Funded

Example: Peterson Hatchery

The Peterson Hatchery in Fillmore County near the town of Peterson produces and stocks Lake Trout, Splake Trout and MN Driftless Brook Trout for Minnesota's Cold Water Trout Program. The trout are stocked into cold, deep-water lakes throughout northern Minnesota as well as the cold streams of southeastern Minnesota. The update increased available rearing space and added rearing units that are better suited for fish production while providing a safer environment for staff (Figure 25). Funds for this project come primarily through the Get Out MORE investment with additional funds provided from the trout stamp fund.



Figure 25. An upgrade to the rearing building located on the west side of Peterson Hatchery.

Example: Waterville Hatchery

Opened in 1954, the Waterville Hatchery propagates walleye, northern pike, and muskie and is the state's largest cool-water facility. This modernization project includes design and construction of a new hatchery to increase production and enhance biosecurity. The modern hatchery will include a recirculating aquaculture system, updated growing chambers, and improved equipment that will use water more efficiently, with the ability to increase production of multiple species and sizes of fish. Design plans have been submitted for review. It is anticipated that construction will start in early 2028, depending on the review and bidding process.

New and Revitalized Shore Fishing Opportunities ($5 million)

Get Out MORE investments from the General Fund will enhance fishing opportunities by collaborating with local government units on more than 80 shore fishing sites. These shore fishing sites will enhance fishing opportunities for all Minnesotans, including new anglers, families and children, individuals with limited mobility, and people without access to a watercraft. Figure 26 shows project locations for shore fishing projects and Table 14 lists all Get Out MORE shore fishing projects.

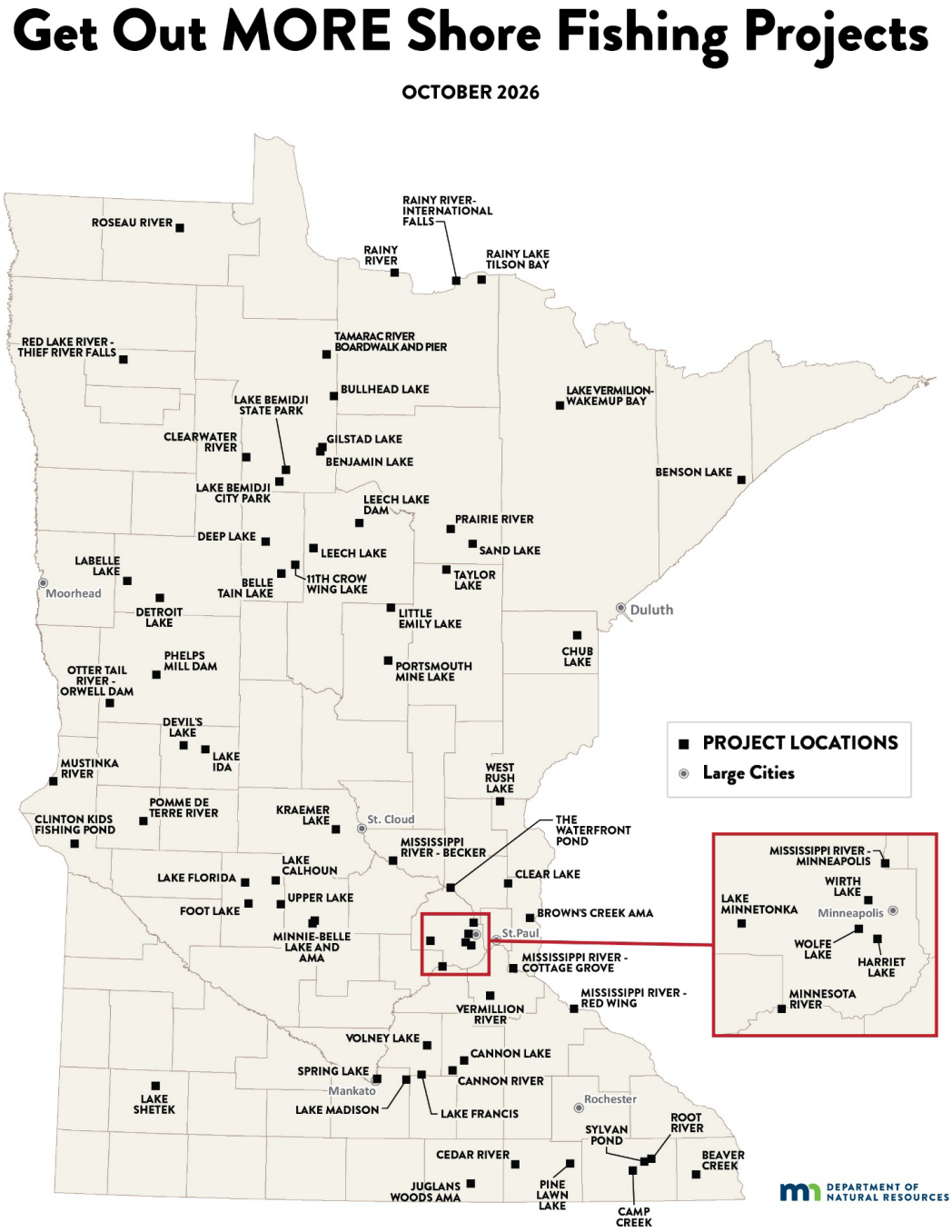


Figure 26. Get Out MORE shore fishing projects.

Get Out MORE Shore Fishing Projects

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Aitkin County	Taylor Lake, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Anoka County	Waterfront Pond, new fishing pier	Complete	2026
Becker County	Labelle Lake, new fishing pier	Planning	2027
Becker County	Big Detroit Lake, new fishing pier	Design	2027
Beltrami County	Lake Bemidji City Park, ADA improvement	Complete	2025
Beltrami County	Tamarac River, Big Bog State Recreation Area, ADA improvement	Complete	2025
Beltrami County	Lake Bemidji State Park, ADA improvement	Complete	2026
Beltrami County	Benjamin Lake, ADA improvement	Complete	2026
Beltrami County	Bullhead Lake, ADA improvement	Complete	2026
Beltrami County	Gilstad Lake, ADA improvement	Complete	2026
Beltrami County	Lake Bemidji, Bemidji State Park, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2026
Beltrami County	Clearwater River Aquatic Management Area, replacement fishing boardwalk	Construction	2026
Beltrami County	Tamarac River Waskish Aquatic Management Area, ADA improvement	Construction	2027
Beltrami County	Leech Lake Dam, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Big Stone County	Clinton Kids Pond, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
Blue Earth County	Madison Lake, North Shore Park, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2026
Blue Earth County	Lura Lake, Daly Park, fishing pier replacement	Planning	2026
Blue Earth County	Madison Lake, ADA improvement	Complete	2024
Carlton County	Chub Lake, replacement fishing pier	Planning	2027
Cass County	Leech Lake, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
Cass County	Birch Lake, Hackensack, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2026
Chisago County	North Center Lake, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2025
Chisago County	West Rush Lake, new shore fishing	Construction	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Crow Wing County	Little Emily Lake, expansion of fishing pier	Complete	2025
Crow Wing County	Cuyuna State Recreation Area, Portsmouth Mine Lake, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
Dakota County	Vermillion River, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Douglas County	Devil's Lake, expansion of fishing pier	Complete	2025
Douglas County	Lake Ida, new fishing pier	Complete	2026
Fillmore County	Sylvan Pond, new shore fishing	Complete	2025
Fillmore County	Root River, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Fillmore County	Camp Creek, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Freeborn County	Juglans Woods Aquatic Management Area, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Goodhue County	Mississippi River, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Hennepin County	Lake Minnetonka, rehabilitation of shore fishing	Complete	2026
Hennepin County	Wirth Lake, replacement fishing pier	Complete	2026
Hennepin County	Minnetonka Lake, Coffee Cove, shore fishing reconstruction	Planning	2026
Hennepin County	Lake Harriet, new fishing pier	Planning	2027
Hennepin County	Wolfe Lake, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Hennepin County	Mississippi River, new shore fishing	Planning	2028
Houston County	Beaver Creek State Park, new shore fishing	Design	2027
Hubbard County	Lake Belle Taine, ADA improvement	Complete	2026
Hubbard County	11th Crow Wing Lake, ADA improvement	Complete	2026
Hubbard County	Deep Lake, new fishing pier	Construction	2026
Itasca County	Pokegama Lake, Tioga Beach City Park, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2026
Itasca County	Sand Lake, replacement fishing pier	Complete	2026
Itasca County	Prairie River, new shore fishing and carry-in water access	Design	2027
Kandiyohi County	Upper Lake, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
Kandiyohi County	Foot Lake, new shore fishing	Complete	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Kandiyohi County	Florida Lake Aquatic Management Area, ADA improvement	Complete	2026
Kandiyohi County	Dietrich Lange Wildlife Management Area new shore fishing	Construction	2026
Kittson County	Bronson Lake, State Park, fishing pier replacement (2)	Planning	2026
Koochiching County	Rainy Lake Tilson Bay, ADA improvement	Construction	2026
Koochiching County	Lessard-Anderson Wildlife Management Area, Rainy River, new fishing pier	Design	2027
Koochiching County	Rainy River, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Lake County	George H. Crosby Manitou State Park, Benson Lake, rehabilitation of shore fishing	Design	2027
Le Sueur County	Francis Lake, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
Le Sueur County	West Jefferson Lake South, Fishing pier replacement	Complete	2026
Le Sueur County	Volney Lake, new fishing pier	Planning	2027
Meeker County	Minnie-Belle Lake, new fishing pier	Design	2027
Meeker County	Minnie-Belle Lake Aquatic Management Area, new shore fishing	Planning	2028
Mower County	East Side Lake, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2026
Mower County	Mill Pond, fishing Pier replacement	Complete	2026
Mower County	Pine Lawn Lake, new shore fishing	Design	2027
Mower County	Cedar River, new shore fishing	Planning	2028
Murray County	Lake Shetek, new shore fishing	Complete	2025
Nicollet County	Spring Lake, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
Otter Tail County	Otter Tail River at Phelps Mill Dam, new shore fishing	Construction	2026
Otter Tail County	Otter Tail River at Orwell Dam, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Polk County	Spring Lake, Lengby, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2025
Rice County	Cannon River at Morristown, new shore fishing and ADA accessibility	Construction	2026

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Rice County	Cannon Lake/Wells Lake, new shore fishing	Design	2026
Roseau County	Hayes Lake, State Park, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2026
Roseau County	Roseau River, new shore fishing	Construction	2026
Scott County	Minnesota River, new shore fishing	Design	2026
Sherburne County	Mississippi River, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
St. Louis County	Lake Vermillion, new fishing pier	Complete	2025
St. Louis County	Indian Lake, Campground, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2025
St. Louis County	St. Louis River, Munger Landing, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2025
Stearns County	Warner Lake, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2025
Stearns County	Kraemer Lake, new fishing pier	Construction	2026
Stearns County	Big Birch Lake, Forest Rec Area, fishing pier replacement	Planning	2026
Steele County	Beaver Lake, fishing pier replacement	Planning	2026
Stevens County	Pomme de Terre River, new shore fishing	Design	2026
Traverse County	Mustinka River, new shore fishing	Planning	2027
Todd County	Bass Lake, Grey Eagle, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2025
Washington County	Browns Creek Aquatic Management Area, new shore fishing	Complete	2025
Washington County	Mississippi River, Mooers Lake, New fishing pier	Construction	2026
Washington County	Clear Lake, new fishing pier and shore fishing	Construction	2027
Yellow Medicine County	Del Clark Lake, Stone Hill Regional Park, fishing pier replacement	Complete	2025

Table 14. Get Out MORE new and revitalized shore fishing opportunities.

Example: Lake Minnetonka Coffee Cove

Coffee Cove shore fishing area was originally constructed in 1994 through a partnership between the DNR, Hennepin County, the City of Spring Park, and the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District. Located on the channel between West Arm and Crystal Bay on Lake Minnetonka, it has long been a popular shore fishing location, offering anglers safe and accessible access to the water, parking, a restroom, and trash receptacles.

After over 30 years of providing quality fishing opportunities, the site was in need of rehabilitation. The bituminous pathway had become rutted and heaved, no longer meeting ADA standards, and the shore fishing limestone blocks had settled into the lakebed, leaving the lower tier frequently underwater and tipped (Figure 27).

The rehabilitation project was completed using Get Out MORE funding from DNR and engineering design and construction management from Hennepin County (Figure 28). The existing limestone blocks were able to be reused, reducing project costs, and the bituminous pathway was replaced with concrete to maintain long-term accessibility (Figure 29). Additionally, the parking lot was resurfaced, and a small rain garden was installed to treat site runoff.



Figure 27. Coffee Cove before rehabilitation work.



Figure 28. Coffee Cove after project completion with rock elevations adjusted and new concrete installed.



Figure 29. New accessible concrete sidewalk from the parking lot to the fishing area.

Example: Lake Ida, Douglas County Pilgrim Point Park

Pilgrim Point Park on Lake Ida is a new Douglas County park developed for swimming, boating, and wildlife recreation. In 2024, DNR staff met with Douglas County staff at the site to determine how shore fishing could be incorporated into the park. Because the park sits on a sandy point, the shoreline experiences significant ice buildup and heaving, which dictated what type of fishing structure would work best at this location.

A standard wooden fishing pier connected to shore by a long aluminum gangway was installed as a non-traditional pier design (Figure 30). The gangway spans the wide sandy shoreline and provides ADA-accessible access to the pier. Each fall, the pier and gangway will be disconnected, the pier floated into a protected bay, and the gangway pulled onto shore, keeping both components safe from ice damage.



Figure 30. Lake Ida fishing pier.

Restoring Streams and Modernizing Water-Related Infrastructure to Support Outdoor Recreation

More intense rains combined with changes in land use are causing more flooding and road washouts, degrading streambanks, and overwhelming water control structures. This impacts Minnesota's fish, waterfowl, and recreation opportunities. Using $10 million in Get Out MORE funding, the DNR is modernizing culverts and

removing and modifying dams to enhance climate resiliency and to improve overall stream ecology by ensuring connectivity between upstream and downstream segments bisected by this infrastructure. Connectivity is important for the movement of water, sediment, and nutrients, and is also essential to fish and other aquatic species that need to access different habitat areas seasonally or to complete elements of their life cycle. Better fish passage also enhances recreation with improved angling opportunities through new or improved shore fishing sites.

Water-related infrastructure and stream restoration projects have far-reaching, watershed-wide benefits, including enhanced recreation through new and improved paddling or tubing opportunities and improved wildlife viewing. The removal of existing barriers also helps to improve public safety, support movement and migration of mussels (through enhanced fish passage, as fish serve as host for juvenile mussels), increase climate resiliency by reducing erosional energy along banks and ensuring design is appropriate for large flood events, and improve biodiversity within the watershed.

This $10 million investment includes dam removal or modification projects as well as culvert replacements that will reconnect an estimated 158 miles of streams (Table 15 and Figure 31). $9.125 million has been allocated and the DNR is reserving the remaining $875,000 for possible additional funding needs. If all current projects are within or below budget, the remaining dollars will fund another water-related infrastructure project.

Get Out MORE Stream Restoration and Culvert Projects

Location	Improvement or Project Name	Current Status	Completed Year or Scheduled Completion
Detroit Lakes, MN	Bucks Mill Dam	Complete	2026
Duluth, MN	Lower Knowlton Creek Bridge	Construction	2026
Eden Valley, MN	Eden Lake Dam	Complete	2026
Elbow Lake, MN; Morris, MN	Pomme de Terre Dam and Perkins Dam	Construction	2026
Finland, MN	Baptism and Manitou culverts	Design	2027
Finland, MN	Ramstad/Moosewalk Bridge	Complete	2026
Hewitt, MN	Hewitt Dam	Design	2028
Morris, MN	Crissy Lake Dam	Design	2027
Spicer, MN	Lake Calhoun Dam and Lake Callhoun Bypass Dam	Construction	2026
Waterville, MN	Gorman Lake Dam, Gorman Culvert	Design	2027

Table 15: Get Out MORE stream restoration and culvert projects .

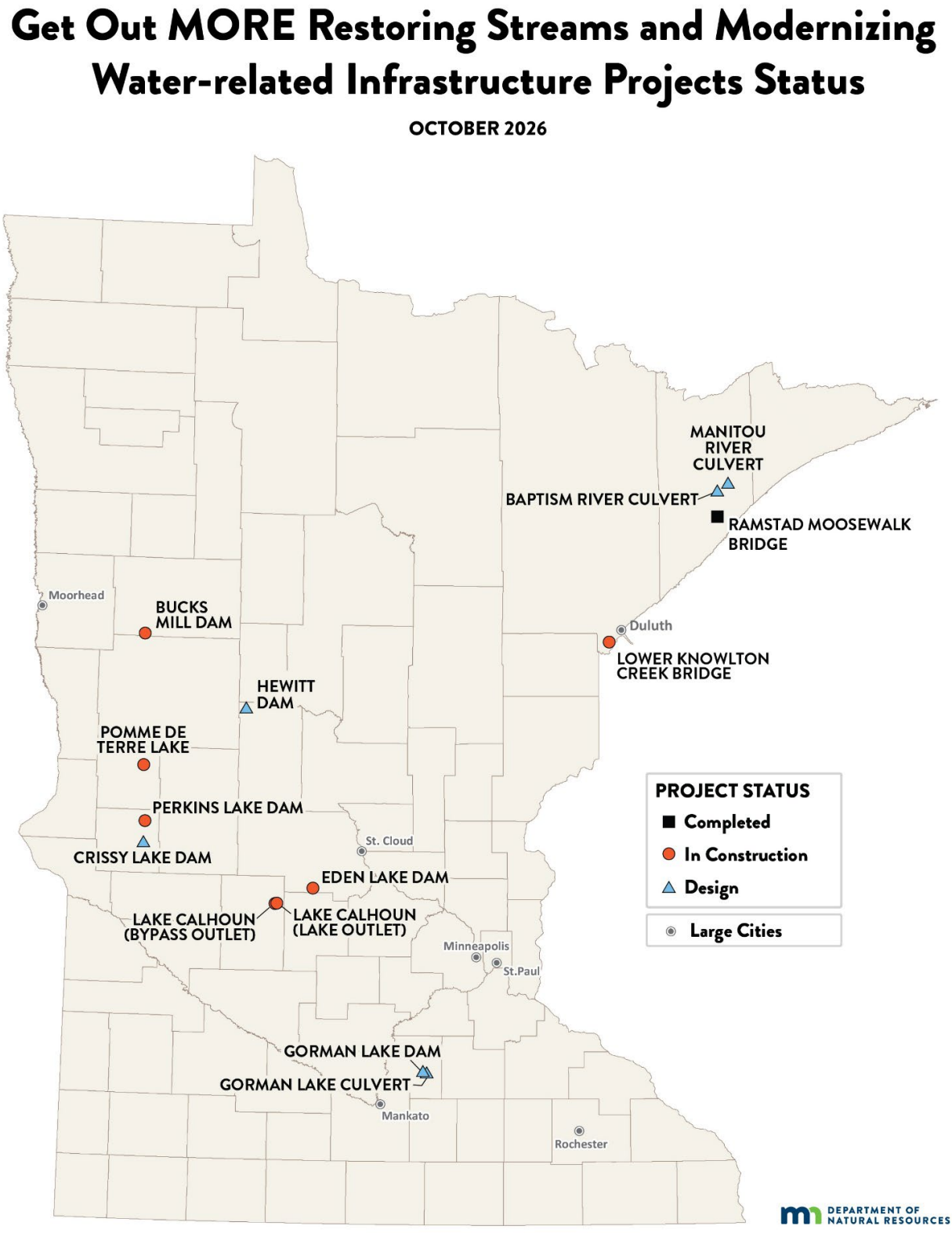


Figure 31. Status of Get Out MORE Restoring Streams and Modernizing Water-Related Infrastructure projects.

Example: Bucks Mill Dam

Bucks Mill Dam, originally constructed in 1871, is a historic structure located on the Pelican River between Mill Pond and Buck Lake, near Lake Melissa. As a key feature in the region's water system, it has served the area for over 150 years.

The previous dam (Figure 32) was converted into rock arch rapids in 2026, which created opportunities for fish passage, removed the hydraulic roller, increased public safety, reduced dam maintenance costs, and created new in-stream habitat (Figures 33 and 34). These improvements provide fish access to an additional 14.5 miles of habitat on the Pelican River. The rock arch rapids also connect the Big Detroit Lake Sturgeon population to the lower Pelican River, supporting important reproductive benefits for sturgeon.

This community-supported project had a ribbon cutting ceremony on July 16th, 2026, to commemorate the efforts of the project. Additionally, the local museum has developed an exhibit to remember the history of the dam and the conversion back to a passable river feature.

This project was funded through the Get Out MORE investments and the Outdoor Heritage Fund.



Figure 32. Bucks Mill Dam before reconstruction.



Figure 33. Bucks Mill Dam during construction.



Figure 34. Bucks Mill Dam after reconstruction.

Example: Eden Lake Dam

The Eden Lake Dam was built as part of the 1930's Work Progress Administration, making the dam over 90 years old (Figure 35). In 2013, the Eden Lake Association contacted DNR to request replacement of the dam, which had become dilapidated and was no longer holding water. There was exposed rebar as well as active deterioration of the concrete abutments. The deteriorating dam was affecting lake levels and blocking fish passage in the stream. The dam was converted to rock arch rapids in 2026 (Figure 36); the rock arch rapids stabilized lake levels, improved habitat and reconnected the upstream habitat for 36 species of fish. The Eden Lake Dam project also reconnected 10.5 miles of habitat on a tributary to the Sauk River.



Figure 35. Eden Lake Dam before reconstruction.



Figure 36. Eden Lake Dam after reconstruction into rock arch rapids.

Expenditure Summary

As of September 30, 2026, the DNR has spent $41.9 million of the Get Out MORE investments, including $35.2 million from the General Fund appropriation (Table 16) and $6.7 million from the capital investment appropriations (Table 17). In comparison, the DNR had only spent $14.3 million of the Get Out MORE investments as of September 30, 2025. Much of the funding expended from capital investment appropriations was in the "Modernizing Boating Access" and "Enhancing Fisheries and Fishing Infrastructure" investment areas, including a number of completed public water access improvements, shore fishing improvements, work at the New London Hatchery and pre-design of the Waterville Hatchery modernization.

Spending will continue to accelerate in the months ahead as larger projects move into construction. The DNR has encumbered an additional $36.9 million across the General Fund and capital investment appropriations and anticipates putting many more projects out for bid for the 2027 construction season.

Get Out MORE General Fund Expenditures

Investments (General Fund)	Amount Appropriated	Amount encumbered* includes pre-encumbrances	Amount expended	Amount previously expended	Total amount expended
Enhancing Access	25,000,000	2,089,000	2,310,000	2,121,000	4,431,000
Revitalizing Camping	5,000,000	737,000	2,000	-	2,000
Modernizing Boating	35,000,000	6,132,000	10,708,000	5,218,000	15,926,000
Enhancing Fishing	35,000,000	3,913,000	7,406,000	3,306,000	10,712,000
Modernizing Water-related Infrastructure	10,000,000	4,390,000	3,157,000	954,000	4,111,000
Total	**110,000,000**	**17,261,000**	**23,583,000**	**11,599,000**	**35,182,000**

Table 16. Get Out MORE General Fund Expenditures as of September 30, 2026.

Get Out MORE Capital Investment Expenditures

Investments (Bonding)	Amount Available	Amount encumbered* includes pre-encumbrances	Amount expended since last report	Amount previously expended	Total amount expended
Enhancing Access	10,400,000	1,744,000	1,977,000	2,452,000	4,429,000
Revitalizing Camping	4,500,000	407,000	96,000	12,000	108,000
Enhancing Fishing	25,000,000	17,495,000	1,936,000	256,000	2,192,000
Total	**$39,900,000**	**$19,646,000**	**$4,009,000**	**$2,720,000**	**$6,729,000**

Table 16. Get Out MORE Capital Investment Expenditures as of September 30, 2026.

Figure 37 shows the distribution of projects by project phase as of September 30, 2026. As of September 30, 16% of Get Out MORE projects have been completed and 81% of projects are in the planning, design, or construction phase. To show the steady increase in progress, figure 38 shows the distribution of projects by phase as of September 30, 2025. In September 2025, only 8% of Get Out MORE projects had been completed and 84% of projects were in the planning, design, or construction phase. The DNR is confident that all Get Out MORE projects and improvements will be completed before the funds are due to cancel.

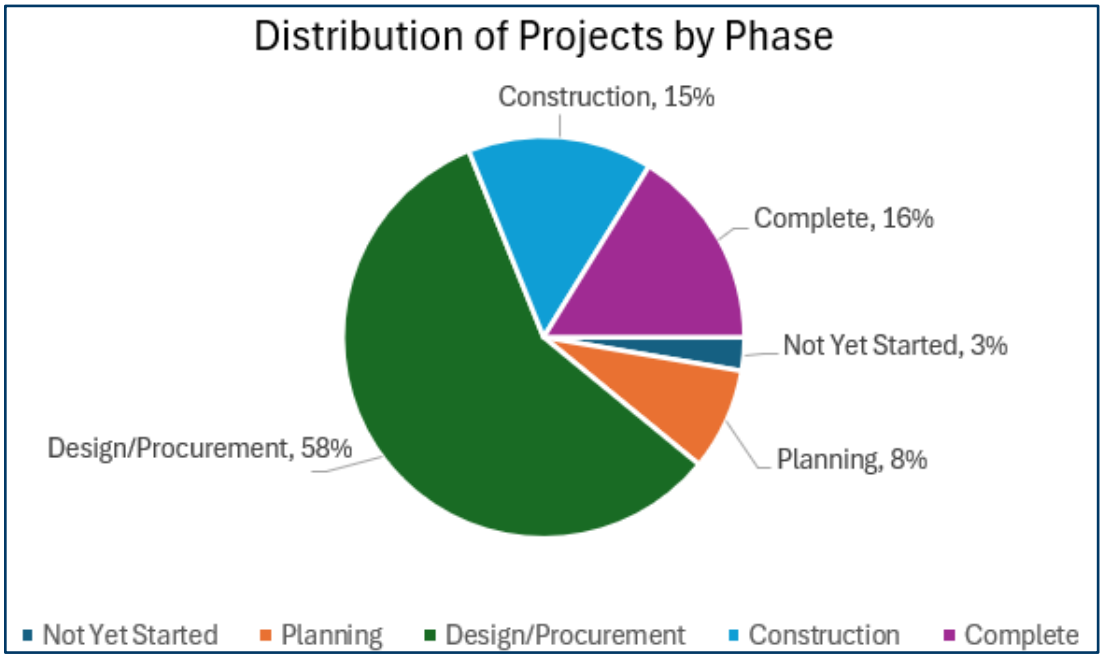


Figure 37. Distribution of Projects by Phase as of September 30, 2026.

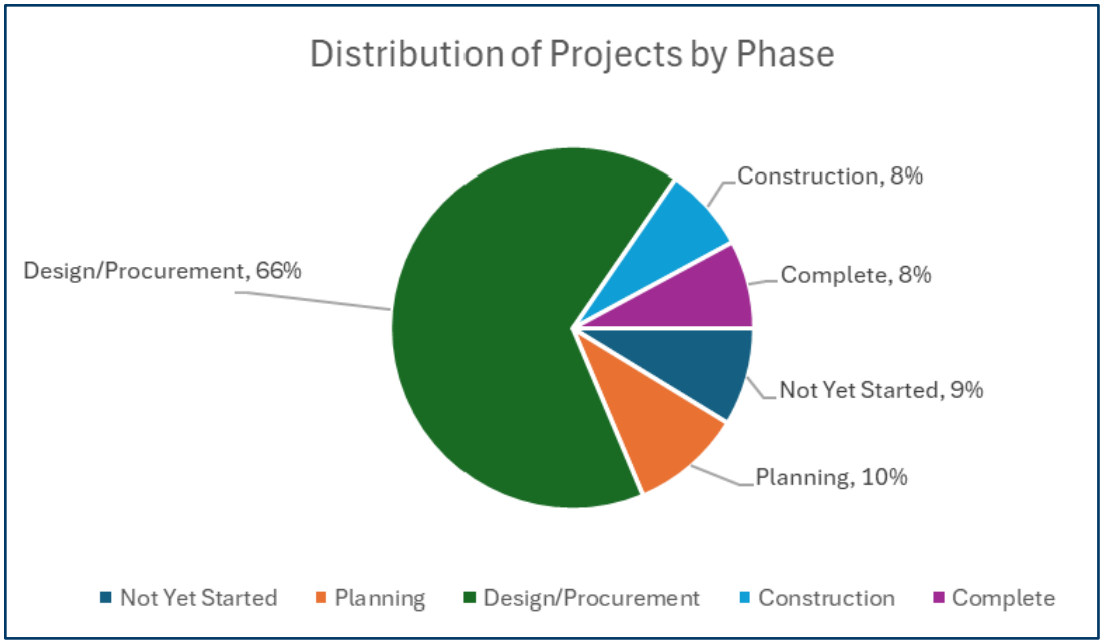


Figure 38. Distribution of Projects by Phase as of September 30, 2025.



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
Saint Paul, MN 55155-4044
651-296-5157
mndnr.gov