

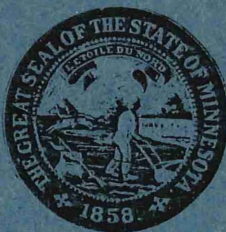
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**1978  
REPORT  
TO THE  
LEGISLATURE**



*Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources*

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1978

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Senator Roger D. Moe . . . . .	Vice Chairman
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Representative Fred C. Norton . . . . .	Legislative Review
Representative James R. Casserly . . . . .	Special Studies
Representative Willard Munger . . . . .	Water
Senator Gerald L. Willet . . . . .	Forestry
Representative Fred C. Norton . . . . .	Goals and Objectives

### STAFF

Robert E. Hansen . . . . .	Executive Director
John R. Velin . . . . .	Administrative Assistant
Linda Clauson-Pedersen . . . . .	Executive Secretary

# Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources

B-46 STATE CAPITOL

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155

(612) 296-2406



ROBERT E. HANSEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 15, 1978

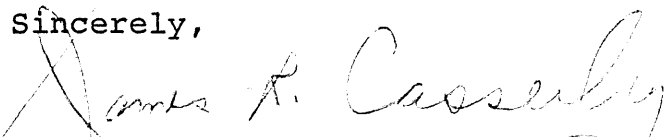
## Members of the Legislature:

The "1978 Report to the Legislature" is submitted as required under MS 86.11, Subdivision 5. This Report is a fulfillment of part of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources responsibility to "provide the background necessary to evaluate programs proposed to preserve, develop and maintain the natural resources of this state." (MS86.02) Working cooperatively with the appropriate standing committees, the Commission will continue to identify and research emerging resource issues facing the state. The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources will recommend appropriations from the natural resources account for innovative and/or accelerative programs which would not normally be funded as part of regular operating budgets. The Commission will continue to monitor and evaluate funding from the natural resources account.

The Commission has requested the advice of a wide range of organizations and individuals, including the appropriate standing committees, as to which resource issues present the most pressing problems to the state and which, therefore, deserve the special consideration of the Commission. After the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources has determined the issues with which it will deal in FY1980-81, it will recommend appropriations from the natural resources account to provide for programs to solve or better define existing problems.

The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources is now, and will continue to be, an effective resource for the Legislature in dealing with emerging natural resource issues. Please call upon the Commission at any time for background information which may be available on Minnesota's resources.

Sincerely,

  
Rep. James R. Casserly, Chairman  
Legislative Commission on  
Minnesota Resources

JRC/lcp

## NATURAL RESOURCES AND RECREATION ACT OF 1963; PURPOSES

86.01 CITATION. Laws 1963. Chapter 790, may be cited as the Omnibus Natural Resources and Recreation Act of 1963.  
( 1963 c 790 art 1 s 1 )

86.02 PURPOSE. The purpose of the legislature in this enactment is to provide the legislature with the background necessary to evaluate programs proposed to preserve, develop and maintain the natural resources of this state. Such resources include, but without limitation, forests, parks, historic sites, wildlife areas, access to and improvement of lakes, rivers, streams, scenic areas and camping areas, and camping grounds. It is the intention of this legislature to study and examine anticipated future needs and the extent to which private and commercial facilities will need supplementation of publicly subsidized and operated facilities and opportunities.

(1963 c 790 art 1 s 2; 1967 c 867 s 1 )

86.03 FUNDS. This legislature anticipates the tax hereinafter provided will be adequate to insure funds for carrying out the program herein contemplated for the period of years necessary for its accomplishment.

( 1963 c 790 art 1 s 3 )



### Role of the Commission

The role of the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR, formerly called the MRC) is to implement the purpose of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 86.02:

... to provide the legislature with the background necessary to evaluate programs proposed to preserve, develop and maintain the natural resource of this state.

Thus the Commission is an advisory, oversight and monitoring body for the legislature. The Commission acts as an information base for the legislature regarding various resource programs. The Commission also has a role, implicit from the types of programs with which it is involved, to make inquiries and instigate action designed to examine potential innovative and/or accelerative approaches to state policy. The latter function has evolved from the basic orientation of the Commission, expressed through its members, toward involvement with programs designed to meet future needs or to correct past policy decisions. Thus the Commission attempts to focus upon relatively new ideas and emerging natural resource issues, which are not otherwise to be considered as part of the regular budget process for state agencies.

### Commission Priorities

The Commission maintains two very basic policies. The first involves maximizing the impact of the programs for which natural resource funds are recommended. The Commission limits its recommendations for expenditures to those programs not previously or adequately financed by other sources and which are not established as part of the regular state agency operations. Part of the underlying philosophy of that policy is that the Commission should deal with programs which are innovative or demonstrative in nature, such that, when sufficient examination of a program idea has occurred or when certain goals have been accomplished, the program would either be phased into regular departmental operations (and thus no longer supported with natural resource account appropriations) or deleted as a state program.

A second feature of this policy involves the Commission attempts to accelerate the progress of programs which it recommends and maximize the impact of the state dollars thus recommended. One of the primary means to fulfill this feature has been the Commissions consistent priority to seek matching monies for the natural resources account appropriations which it recommends. The major source of maximizing the state dollar in that regard has come from the Federal matching

grant programs. (For a breakdown of estimated Federal matching monies earned, see Appendix C) The Commission has also attempted to maximize state dollar impact by frequently recommending that a local match be required for the expenditure of state natural resource dollars on individual projects and for certain grant-in-aid programs. Upon recommendation by the Commission, the State of Minnesota has used monies from the natural resources account as matching dollars, to a great advantage.

The second basic policy of the Commission is to maintain oversight of the implementation of the programs which are financed through natural resource account appropriations. The purpose of such oversight activities is to review the results of the recommended programs with an eye towards submitting further advice to the legislature on the applicability and feasibility of the programs. In that role the Commission does not assume the stature of an auditor, but rather, reviews the effects of the programs to determine policy implications.

#### Commission Membership and Operations

The list of Commission members, officers and committee Chairmen and staff is found in the front of this report. According to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 86.07:

"The Commission hereby created shall consist of 14 members appointed as follows: (1) Seven members of the Senate to be appointed by the Committee on Committees to be chosen before the close of each regular session of the Legislature and to serve until their successors are appointed; (2) Seven members of the House to be appointed by the Speaker to be chosen before the close of each regular session of the Legislature and to serve until their successors are appointed; (3) Vacancies occurring on the Commission shall not affect the authority of the remaining members of the Commission to carry out the functions thereof, and such vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original positions."

The Executive Committee consists of the Chairman, Rep. James R. Casserly; the Vice Chairman, Senator Roger D. Moe; the Secretary, Rep. Rod N. Searle; the immediate past Chairman, Senator Jerald C. Anderson; Senator William G. Kirchner and Rep. Fred C. Norton. The Executive Committee serves to guide the on-going functioning of the Commission and oversees the administrative operation of the Commission. It receives and reviews staff reports on Commission affairs such as work agreement progress reports, financial reports, Commission meeting agendas and general business affairs of the Commission. This Committee gives guidance to the staff and determines the general direction of Commission activities.

The Executive Committee also served as a special subcommittee to conduct the second phase of a Public Land Impact Study (PLIS). The PLIS was conducted jointly with the Tax Study Commission (TSC) through it's subcommittee on Tax Exempt Property. The two Committees established the study scope and direction and, through monthly meetings, reviewed progress and set the direction for successive work.

The final chapter will consist of a thorough outline of issues and is expected to be presented to the Legislature by early in the 1979 session.

The Legislative Review Committee, chaired by Representative Fred C. Norton, is charged to review the recommended allocations from the grant-in-aid program for local and regional recreation projects. This Committee reviews those recommended allocations in order to determine whether they are consistent with state policy and the purpose intended in establishment of the programs. When this Committee determines that a recommended allocation is in fact consistent with the programs as established, it delivers that advice to the Chairman of the Commission. If the Committee determines that a substantive policy question is involved with a given allocation request, it refers that question to the full Commission for review and determination. The recommendation of the Legislative Review Committee is transmitted to the Chairman of the Commission, who in turn transmits the recommendations to the Legislative Advisory Committee as established in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 3.3.

The Special Studies Committee is chaired by Rep. James R. Casserly. It reviews selected programs and provides the Commission with findings in areas of critical concern. During the 1977-79 biennium to date, this Committee has reviewed (1) the Outdoor recreation Act implementation, (2) Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Planning, (3) Natural Resource Data and Information Systems, (4) Land Acquisition and Development, (5) Copper Nickel Studies.

The Water Committee is chaired by Rep. Willard Munger. The Committee has reviewed a variety of issues relating to the water resources. The Committee has focused upon the work underway on development of the State Framework Water and Related Land Resources Plan. That Plan is supervised by the Water Planning Board created in 1977. The Plan is due in Spring 1979. The Committee will study the implications of the Plan and recommend further action to the full Commission.

The Forestry Committee is chaired by Senator Gerald L. Willet. The Committee has reviewed proposed forest land acquisition as charged by ML77, Chap. 421. It has also reviewed the general management of the states forest resources including both timber and non-timber uses. The Committee developed and monitored Forestry in Minnesota, A Preliminary Appraisal and determined that a broad based study is necessary in order to develop methods to better use the forest resources. The results of the broad based study will not be available for 1979 legislative action. However, the Forestry Committee will continue to closely review and forest resources and recommend actions to the full Commission.



The Goals and Objectives Committee is chaired by Rep. Fred C. Norton. The Committee will review the results of the 1978 LCMR Issues Seminar and prepare preliminary recommendations for Commission appropriation recommendations to the 1979 Legislature.

The Underground Space Advisory Committee is a special committee to maintain review and monitor underground research and development activities. The committee members have been involved since the LCMR recommended inception of the University Underground Space Center in 1977.

### Commission Staff

In accordance with the recommendation of a special subcommittee on Policies and Goals in 1974, the Commission appointed an Executive Director and authorized the hiring of the necessary professional staff required to carry out its advisory role to the Legislature, and to provide day by day administration of Commission operations. This is the first full time staff employed by the LCMR. Mr. Robert E. Hansen was appointed as the Executive Director on July 1, 1974. The Executive Director is authorized to hire additional supporting staff as necessary, with the concurrence of the Chairman. The Commission staff is not charged to conduct primary research nor detailed technical studies in various issues areas. Instead the Commission calls upon existing state agency staff, including legislative staff and from time to time outside contractors, for those purposes. The Commission staff itself is charged to coordinate the efforts of such other persons and to assist in organizing the results for Commission consideration. The Commission staff serves in the unclassified service.

### Relationship with other Committees

Since the role of the Commission is advisory to the Legislature and since the natural resources of the state are the primary concern of the Commission, the LCMR maintains a constant liaison with the appropriate standing committees of the legislature. This is accomplished in two ways. First the membership of the Commission traditionally includes the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee and the House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. In addition, the other members of the LCMR are also key members of one or more standing committees and hold positions of legislative leadership. Thus the standing committees are informed of the actions and recommendations of the Commission through the direct participation of the Chair and members of those standing committees in the LCMR activities. Secondly, the staff of the LCMR maintains communication with the staff of those standing committees. Frequent informal contacts by telephone and in person complement the periodic formal communications. Frequently one or more of the staff people from the standing committees are invited to participate in discussions between the LCMR staff and the various organizations, agencies, and persons interested in the Commission. The staff of the Finance, Appropriations and the Senate and House Committees on Natural Resources receive all the material and communications

prepared by the LCMR staff at the same time as the Commission membership.

### Commission Operations

The Commission holds meetings as required in order to complete its responsibility to develop advice for the Legislature regarding various resource issues. When the Commission or one of its sub-committees holds a meeting, the liaison officers from the various agencies and departments, as well as the general public, are informed as far in advance as feasible. The meetings are held at the state capitol or on the site of programs which have received natural resource account funding, or which require on-sight review for development of LCMR background information. The Commission or sub-committee Chairman frequently request state agency officials to appear and present testimony and appropriate data regarding the subject matter at hand. The Commission also conducts written correspondence between the Chairman, members or its staff and various agencies of the state and federal government which are involved in natural resource programs. After receiving testimony, correspondence and conducting its own intensive discussions, the Commission develops recommendations for action on given topics and delivers those recommendations to the appropriate persons, agencies and legislative committees. Essentially there are three alternative recommendations available to the Commission regarding the various programs under review. The Commission may recommend that a particular program receive continued natural resource account funding support. A second alternative might be to conclude that a particular program represents an appropriate and effective state policy for a given problem area and recommend that the program should therefore be financed through the regular budget of the appropriate agencies. The third alternative is for the Commission to review its own evaluation of a given program and recommend that the program be no longer conducted by the state.

## Chapter II      The LCMR in the Appropriations Process

The Commission is charged in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 86, its enabling legislation, to advise the Legislature on programs "proposed to preserve, develop and maintain the natural resources of this state". (MS Chap. 86) "Developing recommendations for allocation of the money in the natural resources account has been one of the functions of the Commission from its inception." (1) Appendix A contains a summary of appropriations from the natural resource account for the period 1963-1977.

(1) Origin and history of Minnesota Resources Commission Feb., 1974

The Commission began its review of resource issues in early spring, 1978. After receiving numerous comments on which problems represent priority issue areas, the members reviewed all the natural resource subjects in depth during a two and one half day Seminar held at Bemidji State University. The Commission followed up that Seminar in its meetings September 14-15, 1978 and reviewed the findings from the Seminar. As described above, a Committee will now develop preliminary recommendations for LCMR consideration. The process of formulating Commission recommendations is accelerated now and should result in delivery of recommendations to the 1979 legislature substantially earlier than in past years.

### Funding Sources

The Commission performs its advisory role by recommending that certain programs proposed to preserve, develop and maintain the natural resources of the state should be supported with state appropriations. In most cases it recommends that those appropriations be provided from the Natural Resources Account, which receives income from several sources. Eleven percent of the cigarette tax is deposited in the General Fund and specified by appropriations laws to support the natural resources account. That amount is roughly equivalent to 2¢ per pack of cigarettes and during the coming biennium it has been estimated to total approximately \$19.5 million. The second income source consists of federal reimbursements which are earned by expenditure of natural resource appropriations. The reimbursements are deposited in the Federal Reimbursement Account and are then available to support appropriation recommendations. This source will account for approximately \$8.7 million in support of the appropriations recommended by the LCMR for 1977-79.

Additionally, the Commission reviews the State Park Development Account and recommends appropriation of that amount as part of the natural resources account. The 1977-79 figure is approximately \$2.4 million. Finally, certain amounts of past appropriations from the natural resource account which will not be spent are added to the amount available for the next biennium.

### Funding Recommendations

With the assistance of its staff the Commission reviews the past programs supported by natural resource appropriations, as well as existing state programs of natural resource management. The Commission in the past also reviewed proposals submitted to it by various agencies and individuals for establishment of new or accelerative programs proposed for LCMR support. According to its determination of June, 1976 the Commission now invites various statewide organizations and individuals including the appropriate standing committees, to submit suggested issue areas which should be dealt with on a priority basis. The Commission will then select a number of issue areas for concentration and later recommend that certain programs in those issue areas be financed with natural resource account appropriations. Before the LCMR recommends an



appropriation for a program, every effort is made to insure that the suggested program is not a duplication of existing state agency programs nor merely a supplement to regular agency budgets.

Once the set of recommended programs is submitted by the LCMR to the legislature and finally adopted in appropriation laws, the Commission implements its responsibility to closely monitor the operations of the programs in order to insure that the correct problems are addressed and that the agencies implement the programs in a manner consistent with the intention of the legislature. The appropriation laws require the LCMR to review and approve a detailed work program submitted by the agencies which describes the proposed implementation of the program, before the actual implementation can begin. Thus the LCMR has an opportunity to closely supervise the program once it is approved by the legislature. The Commission also reviews, on a regular basis, semi-annual status reports submitted on each of the programs. In those cases where a program appears to be straying from legislative intent or suffering from lack of direction or initiative, the Commission calls upon the state agency involved to rectify the problem.

### Chapter III      Commission Work Programs

In addition to its charge to monitor the implementation of the appropriations made to state agencies for natural resource programs, the Commission is also charged from time to time with various study responsibilities.

The Commission was charged to establish oversight Committees. A discussion of those activities is included above in the section entitled "Commission Membership and Operations". The Commission also reviewed certain activities relating to Voyageurs National Park. Here it should be noted that the Citizens Advisory Committee on the Park has been in operation for several years. The LCMR has no specific report or recommendations pertaining to the Park at this time.

## Chapter IV

Summary of 1977 LCMR recommended appropriations. REFERENCE:  
ML77, Chapter 455, Section 33, Subdivision 1 thru 14

### Subd. 2 Department of Agriculture

#### 2(a) Framework Water Plan

The comments in this particular paragraph will apply to paragraph (a) under subdivisions 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9. There may be additional comments in those paragraphs relating to the specific agency receiving an appropriation. The Commission found an immediate need to develop a workable system to administer the state's water resources, and that existing data must be organized, while at the same time a system is developed to organize data which may be collected in the future, including well driller logs. The economics of irrigation must be better understood in order to make better water supply, ground and surface, nor does it know the projected use of water by all the various users. There is a need to determine the kind of specialized water resource studies which are appropriate. Conflicts are increasing between in place water uses and water storage or drainage for conversion to agriculture. There is a need for a long term consideration for the need for possible allocation schemes during low water years. Lakes management is currently divided among various agencies and divisions. There appears to be little or no consistency in lake management.

The Framework Water Plan appropriation given to the agencies noted above in the various Subdivisions and paragraphs, was designed to give shape to most of those questions, at lease on a tentative basis by the end of the 1977 biennium.

Note: Appropriation to all agencies for the Framework Water Plan was \$657,764.

Notice that the Water Resources Council or Board, if created, was required to coordinate the work programs and reports of all the agencies involved. This relates to the first finding regarding a workable system to administer the state's water resources. That Board was created in 1977, funded separately, and has reported to the Commission and coordinated the programs as indicated.

Subd. 3 Department of Economic Development

3(a) Framework Water Plan \$41,786

See comments above.

Subd. 4 Minnesota Energy Agency

4(a) Framework Water Plan \$11,927

In addition to the comments above regarding the water plan, the Energy Agency was charged with the responsibility to coordinate the development of a prototype water management information system which would be compatible with the MLMIS. This program was designed to meet the need for coordination of water resource data, present and future, by improving data storage and retrieval.

4(b) Alternative Energy Grants \$400,000

The Commission found that there are not sufficient funds available in the state to support the background work, development and preparation of funding proposals for application to various funding sources. It appears that the state does not receive a fair share of the federal energy research funds. Alternative energy sources development is the priority for the long term and aggressive programs to develop alternative sources must receive immediate and sustained commitments. The Commission recommended an alternative energy grant program designed to stimulate research and demonstration projects, some of which would be of immediate application on a commercial scale.

4(c) Alternative Energy Monitoring \$50,000

The Commission found that the multitude of alternative energy sources available as well as the numerous sources of grants and research monies, had the possibility of confusing all involved, including the Energy Agency itself. This appropriation was recommended to insure that the state's activities in alternative energy do not unnecessarily duplicate activities conducted elsewhere. Furthermore, this appropriation was also intended to maximize the state's awareness and involvement in federal programs.

4(d) Energy Grant Application Assistance \$100,000

The Commission found that some of the potential applicants for the rather large scale alternative energy research and demonstration grants do not have sufficient financial resources themselves to conduct the groundwork preparatory for a major federal grant. The state money will be available to those with high potential and a good likelihood of funding success at the federal level.



Subd. 5 Department of Health

5(a) Framework Water Plan \$40,173

See comments under Subd. 2 above.

5(b) Southeast Minnesota Groundwater Contamination \$41,000

The Commission found that water supply and water quality problems appear to be most acute in the Twin Cities, the iron range and places where agricultural irrigation is proposed. In addition, the Commission found that particular geographic and hydrologic conditions in southeastern Minnesota present a high likelihood of groundwater contamination from human activities in conjunction with the natural conditions. The Dept. of Health is to coordinate a multi-agency approach and develop definitions of problems and solutions. This includes a cooperative venture with the U. S. Geologic Survey to analyze interflow between uncased multiaquifer wells.

Subd. 6 Minnesota Historical Society

6(a) Restoration of Fort Snelling \$250,000

This appropriation represents the culmination of a ten year effort supported by the LCMR to bring historic Fort Snelling back to full restoration.

6(b) Statewide Archeologic Survey \$250,000

The Commission found that many projects proposed by state or local governments in Minnesota are hampered by the lack of information on significant historical and archeological data at the sites proposed for development. Frequently this requires the completion of an EIS to determine whether or not the development would negatively impact possible historical or archeological remnants. The Society was charged to develop a report and conduct the surveys necessary to produce a document which would contain information on a statewide basis of all of those potentially significant archeological sites, and thus serve to reduce the need to do environmental assessments and impact statements in some of those areas where the archeology may not be significantly affected.

6(c) Outdoor Recreation Act Implementation \$20,000

The Historical Society has a role in conducting master planning activities for the historical facilities within the state outdoor recreation system. Most of this will be finished by the end of the 1977 biennium.

Subd. 7 Department of Natural Resources

7(a) Framework Water Plan \$225,726

See comments in Subd. 2 above. The Commission found an immediate need to develop a workable system to administer the state's water resources in total. Part of this need includes organization of the water resource data. The development of watershed maps with a common delineation and the correlation of that common delineated boundary system with the MLMIS was necessary to support the workability of the total water resources system.

7(b) Topographic Mapping \$628,000

The Commission found that the information on land in the state is somewhat limited. Management agencies need to know the characteristics, capabilities and relationship to other lands. Gaps in knowledge exist regarding the land and its uses. The appropriation provides for completion of the map of the state at 7½ minute scale and updating of those formerly mapped areas which are now obsolete. The U.S.G.S. participates on a 50% match basis, which was approved as part of the work program.

7(c) Outdoor Recreation Act Implementation \$801,892

The Commission found that it is necessary to complete the master planning and classification process for the state Outdoor Recreation System in order to provide a sensible overall management program for recreation. Even though the 1975 appropriation objectives were not reached, it was assumed that the experience from the 1975 biennium would provide sufficient information and training to accelerate the second biennium of effort and catch up in terms of the earlier prediction of completion in a three biennium period.

7(d) State Land Recreation Development \$6,863,250

The Commission found that the DNR has a continued need for accelerated capital improvements in the state parks system. Continued pressure for recreational use of state facilities generates a need for expansion of the capital facilities necessary to meet that demand. The Commission also found that because the LAWCON fund appears to be scheduled for a significant increase, it will be necessary to more clearly establish the relationship between state appropriations and the ability to earn the available federal apportionments. Thus the development appropriation was limited to the authority to expend only 10% on non-fundable projects in the effort to insure earning the maximum amount of apportionment available. The Commission also recommended that up to three million of unuseable land acquisition monies be made available for this purpose.

7(e) Upper St. Croix Riverway \$750,000

The Commission found that the Upper St. Croix Scenic Riverway project, especially the state involvement, appears to be a good example of a high rate of success in application on a single project. The Commission felt the state should be prepared to spend the total amount committed to the project, and if any changes occurred this additional money would be available to augment the project for both acquisition and development.

7(f) Management Upper St. Croix

The Commission found that since the federal environmental impact statement had delayed implementation of the Upper St. Croix project to some extent, that the need for providing state staff in a coordinative and administrative role continues for another biennium. The amount appropriated is reappropriated from the 1977 laws.

7(g) Planning for Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers \$455,000

The Commission found that the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers program is progressing smoothly, and that the protection provided to the various rivers already designated demonstrates a significant gain in the long term management of those rivers.

7(h) Peat Inventory Project \$250,000

The Commission found that there is a need to establish the purposes and guidelines for management of state lands. The inventory information on lands is sometimes limited and not conducive to effective analysis. The lack of knowledge about the characteristics of land in the state hampers effective analysis and good decision making. The peat resource is not completely understood. The comprehensive inventory under way should be completed before substantial peat resources are committed to irretrievable uses. The state needs a comprehensive policy and a well founded program to provide for reclamation of lands subjected to resource extraction activities. Mineral potential should be included in decisions concerning land use. The development of alternative energy sources is the priority for the long term, which will require aggressive programs to develop the sources through research and demonstration. There is a need to accelerate the development of energy applications for biomass products, including peat, wood, etc. The substantial amount of peat in Minnesota warrants significant advance planning before decisions are reached.



7(i) Iron Range Information Analysis \$100,000

The Commission found that mineral potential should be included in decisions concerning land use. There is a need for development of a comprehensive data bank on the state's surface and underground mineral resources. There is a need to know the extent of the mineral resources in order to make short and long term decisions on mineral extraction practices and priorities. The iron range area is not well enough understood to make the necessary plans and/or decisions concerning it's future. Special problems exist with regard to the conflict between potential mineral extraction versus urban development, community facilities, etc. The iron range is a special land use area which requires an improved analytic capability at the state level.

7(j) Long Range Plan \$331,000

The Commission found there is a need to define the purposes of the state for acquiring and managing land and facilities. The purpose statements must be specific enough to give clear guidance to the administering agencies and specific enough to translate the purposes into estimates of acres needed. There are no legislatively established guidelines by which the various agencies may receive direction on how to manage lands under their control. Sometimes this results in conflicting implementation and management. Certain institutional situations and relationships, such as division of responsibility among and within agencies and failure to effectively cooperate, seem to limit the effectiveness of state resource management. There is an immediate need to develop a workable system to administer the state's water resources in total. This finding also carries over into the overall administration of the state's natural resources. The DNR as the major manager of natural resources, should effectively interrelate it's various programs according to a clear plan.

7(k) Land Records Systems Merger \$45,000

The Commission found that the lands inventory is somewhat limited and the existing classification system is not conducive to effective analysis. In order to properly manage state lands, it is necessary to know the characteristics, capabilities and relationship to other lands. The capability of the state to collect, organize, analyze, store and retrieve land and other related resource data does not appear to be as effective as possible. Part of that problem lies with the existence of the two record systems, one which provides classification of land, and the other which provides information on the ownership. Merger of the two systems would reduce confusion and allow production of meaningful maps and data summaries.

7(1) Standardized Land Transactions \$35,000

In conjunction with the findings above the Commission found that a better process was necessary in recording land transactions of various sorts in order to support the improved land record systems mentioned above.

7(m) Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Plan Surveys (SCORP) \$330,000

The Commission found that there was a need to define the purposes of the state for acquiring and managing land and facilities. The surveys to be provided under the SCORP planning process should provide a better justification for acquiring land and investing capital in recreational facilities. Local units of government appear to have a continuing need for assistance in providing recreational facilities. DNR proposed continued accelerated land acquisition for a variety of purposes. The surveys for the SCORP planning process should give some indications of the expressed needs of Minnesotans for recreation facilities of all sorts. In addition the completion of an acceptable SCORP by the ending of the biennium will provide eligibility for the LAWCON funds which significantly affects both the state and local recreation budget.

7(n) Soil and Water Conservation Board Sediment and Erosion Grants-in-Aid \$501,000

The Commission found that erosion and the resulting sedimentation continues to strip off the highly valuable top soil and to pollute the waters in the state. Significant inter-governmental programs are needed to solve both the causes and effects of erosion. Stream bank and road side erosion were considered to be the highest priority erosion problems to be solved with this grant-in-aid program. A companion program to provide assistance to private land owners was enacted in 1977 and complements the effects of this recommended program.

Subd. 8 Pollution Control Agency

8(a) Framework Water Plan \$36,907

See comments in Subdivision 2 above.

8(b) Lake Improvement Grants \$1,385,626

The Commission found that conflicts are increasing between in place water uses such as wet land and water storage and drainage or conversion to agricultural uses. Sometimes the prevailing use has caused eutrophication of the lakes of the state. The Commission also found that management of lakes is presently divided among various agencies or divisions. There is no clear program established which addresses lake problems in a comprehensive manner. The recommended program is an attempt to place responsibility for solving lake eutrophication problems in one agency, PCA, and to coordinate that program with a federally funded program of similar nature.

Subd. 9 State Planning Agency

9(a) Framework Water Plan

No appropriation necessary because the agency would provide staff from it's regular budget to assist in cooperation between the agencies. See comments in Subdivision 2 above.

9(b) Copper Nickel Regional Impact Study \$2,042,000

The state needs a comprehensive policy and a well founded program to provide for reclamation of land subjected to mineral extraction. Mineral potential should be included in decisions concerning land use. The Copper Nickel Regional Impact Study is a necessary item to evaluate alternative impacts of the proposed mineral development.

9(c) Outdoor Recreation Act Implementation \$65,000

The SPA staff provides a review role in the implementation, including master planning. See discussions above in Subdivision 7(c).

9(d) Mapping and Remote Sensing Information Center \$10,000

The Commission found that there is a need to coordinate the remote sensing information available on various types of resources. The resource data available should be accessible to all managing agencies. The center proposed in the recommendation would provide such coordinated information to all potential users of natural resource data.

9(e) Manual of Standard Land Terms \$5,000

The Commission found that the use of different terminology for describing similar land uses creates confusion between and among various agencies at various levels of government. The recommendation would provide a suitable format so that problems can be discussed with relatively similar language.



9(f) Demonstration Project Minnesota Land Management  
Information System (MLMIS) \$110,000

The MLMIS System has been useful at the state level for natural resource management information purposes. The application of MLMIS capability at the regional or local level was considered feasible and possibly quite useful for local and regional agencies.

9(g) Grants-in-Aid for Local Significance Recreation and Natural  
Areas \$4,000,000

Local units of government continue to express a need for substantial assistance from the state and federal government in providing sufficient recreational resources at the local level.

9(h) Grants-in-Aid for Regional Significance Recreation and Natural  
Areas \$4,000,000

See comments above in paragraph g. The Commission found that the state assistance to local units for providing regional significance facilities should be limited to the major elements of those recreational projects including acquisition and major capital improvements. Since the need for regional facilities is rather substantial, the state and available federal dollars should be employed to provide the basic facilities only, for as many facilities as possible.

9(i) Regional Significance Designation \$90,000

The Commission found that the determination of which regionally significant facilities in the various regions are most appropriate for funding is better made by the existence of regional recreation plans. The use of a prioritized list of regional facilities consistent with the regional recreation plan would make the allocation of state and available federal dollars more consistent with local and regional priorities.

9(j) Uniform Generalized Forest Maps

Information on the location and type of forest cover in the state is highly important for a variety of resource managing agencies. The recommended appropriation is a re-appropriation of monies made available in 1975.

Subd. 10 Regents of the University of Minnesota

10(a) Mines Directory \$25,000

The Commission found that information on the minerals available and the mining activity conducted in the state is highly important to a variety of resource management agencies.

10(b) Pilot Plant Copper Nickel Processes \$200,000

The Commission found that the potential development of a Copper Nickel industry has great import to the state. The research and demonstration necessary to produce and improve technology for the processing of copper and nickel minerals should be accelerated in order to produce processes which are technically and environmentally feasible.

10(c) Study of Autogenous Grinding and Tailings Analysis for Copper Nickel \$200,000

See comments in paragraph b above.

10(d) Publish Regional Soils Atlas \$70,000

The need for providing information on the state's soils resources will be assisted by publication of the Regional Soils Atlas Map series. Completion of that map series would produce soil information on a regional scale for the entire state for the first time ever.

10(e) Accelerated Detailed Soil Survey \$967,000

The Commission found that the provision of detailed surveys for all areas of the state is very important. The Commission recommended a program of state, local and federal cost sharing with a pro rata formula based on the amount of land owned by the respective jurisdictions in each county.

10(f) Southeast Minnesota Ground Water Contamination \$60,000

See comments under subd. 5(b) above.

10(g) Publish Geological Data \$100,000

See comments in paragraph (d) above. The Commission found that there is a great need to make information available on the geologic characteristics of the state's lands. The data collection was funded in years past but no money was available for publishing the maps and analysis.

10(h) Aeromagnetic Mapping Assessment \$200,000

The Commission found that mineral potentials should be included in decisions concerning land use. There is a need for development of a comprehensive data base bank on the state's surface and underground mineral resources. There is a need to know the extent of the mineral resources to be able to make short and long term decisions on mineral extraction practices. In short we don't know what is the extent of our mineral supply. This program would provide a relatively low cost means to indicate on a reconnaissance level the broad range of minerals which exist in the state.

10(i) Southeast Minnesota Ground Water Contamination \$44,573

See discussion in subdivision 5(b) above.

10(j) Assessment of Lake Improvement Techniques; Eagle Lake \$75,090

The Commission concluded that it is necessary to determine what kind of specialized water resource studies are appropriate. In this regard it was judged necessary to re-evaluate the effects of the lake improvement project on Eagle Lake in order to assess whether that resource study is consistent with the types of specialized studies necessary. The management of lakes is presently divided among various agencies or divisions. There is no clear program established which addresses lake problems in a comprehensive manner. The assessment of the success or lack of success on the Eagle Lake project improvement may provide a key to the organization necessary for future lake improvement involvement.

Subd. 11 Professional Services

11(a) Department of Natural Resources

The Commission concluded that the land acquisition and development needs include a need for professional staff support services, and concluded that fifteen percent of the appropriation provided for those purposes would be sufficient for the support necessary.

11(b) State Planning Agency

The Commission concluded similar to the above conclusion that a certain amount of administration and staffing money is necessary to support the program of grants-in-aid to local units for recreation facilities.

11(c) Pollution Control Agency

The same rationale applies to the administrative support for the lake improvement grants.

Subd. 12

The Commission concluded that it's review of work programs and control over work programs and progress reports continues to be a necessary part of the Commission's oversight role.

Subd. 13 Natural Resources Federal Reimbursement Account

The Commission found that it is important for the LCMR to continue to be involved in reviewing the use of Federal reimbursements and match money which are earned through state appropriations and/or other activities. Further, the Commission concluded that \$1,000,000 of those anticipated receipts should be made available to meet the unforeseen needs for natural resource conservation, preservation and development during the interim. The Commission also included a provision that the Federal Reimbursement Account should be available for the Upper St. Croix Scenic Riverway project because of it's important nature and because of it's exemplary character.

Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources

FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT ACCOUNT

Quarterly Statement

As of June 30, 1978

Available for allocation = This biennium

	Appropriations	Allocations	Balance
1977 Chap. 455, Sec. 33	\$1,000,000		
Allocations to date		\$395,000	
Allocations recommended		49,315	
	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$444,315</u>	<u>          </u>
<u>Allocations that can be made</u>			<u>\$555,685</u>

Available cash

Received to date	\$721,283.55	\$444,315.00	\$276,968.55
Coming - To cover appropriations	278,716.45		278,716.45
Totals	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>	<u>\$444,315.00</u>	<u>\$555.685.00</u>

Anticipated Reimbursements to June 30, 1979

LAWCON	\$5,100,000
National Parks Service	167,000
Upper Great Lakes	20,000
Title 111	180,107
Estimated Total	<u>\$5,467,107</u>

This amount is scheduled to be received

To June 30, 1978	\$ 721,283.55
To June 30, 1979	<u>\$4,745,823.45</u>
Total	<u>\$5,467,107.00</u>



Subd. 13     Natural Resources Federal Reimbursement Account

Federal reimbursements and match money received for the purposes described in Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 86, regardless of the source of state match, credit or value used to earn the reimbursement or match, shall in the first instance be credited to a federal receipt account by the state agency receiving the reimbursement or match. Any state department or agency, including the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota, which receives reimbursements or matching moneys as described above, shall transfer those amounts to the Natural Resources Federal Reimbursement Account. Of the amounts transferred, \$1,000,000 is appropriated for the purposes of that account.

Any land and water conservation fund moneys received over and above the normal state apportionment from that fund are also appropriated for the purposes of this reimbursement account. This appropriation is additional to the specific amount appropriated from the amounts transferred in this subdivision.

These appropriations are available for the purposes of state land acquisition and development as described in this section, when the acquisition and development is deemed to be of an emergency or critical nature. In addition, these moneys are available for studies initiated by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources that are found to be proper in order for the Commission to carry out its legislative charge.

Requests for allocation from the Account for acquisition or development must be accompanied by a certificate signed jointly by the State Planning officer and Commissioner of Natural Resources, showing a review of the application against Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 864. Copies of the certification must be submitted to the appropriate legislative committees and commissions.

After all the Federal Reimbursement and matching moneys are received for the Upper St. Croix Riverway Project, this account may be used to provide additional state moneys for acquisition and development on that project, and the necessary amounts are appropriated for the project. This appropriation is additional to the specific amounts appropriated in this subdivision.

The appropriations made in this subdivision shall be expended with the approval of the governor after consultation with the Legislative Advisory Commission. The Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources shall make recommendations to the Legislative Advisory Commission regarding the expenditures.

	<u>1977 Appropriation</u>
I. Acquisition	
State Parks recreation areas - Upper St. Croix	\$ 400,000
II. Development	
Restoration Fort Snelling	250,000
State recreation land	4,433,250
	<u>2,400,000</u>
	6,833,250
Upper St. Croix	350,000
III. Plans, Research and Development Data	
Framework Water Plan 9 various agencies)	657,674
Framework Water Plan - Water Planning Board (RDC citizen participation) (Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)	52,000
Framework Water Plan - DNR Title III (Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)	58,000
S. E. Mn. Groundwater (various agencies)	145,673
Archeologic Survey	250,000
Outdoor Recreation Act of 1975 - implementation (various agencies)	887,892
DNR	
Topographic Map Acceleration	628,000
Wild, Scenic, Recreational Rivers Plan	455,000
Peat Inventory Project	250,000

1977 Appropriation

## DNR

Iron Range Information Analysis	100,000
Long Range Plan	331,000
Land Records System Merger	45,000
Standardize Land Transactions	35,000
State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan	330,000

## SPA

CuNi Regional Impact Study	2,042,000
Mapping Information Center	10,000
Manual Standard Land Terms	5,000
Demonstration develop MLMIS	110,000

## U of Mn

Mines Directory	25,000
CuNi Pilot Plant	200,000
CuNi Process Research	200,000
Regional Soils Atlas	70,000
Accelerate Detailed Soil Survey	967,000
Geologic Data - Publish	100,000
Aeromagnetic Map Assessment	200,000
Hydrocarbon Plant Study (Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)	150,000

1977 Appropriation

U of Mn

Forest Management Information System R & D  
(Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)

\$ 49,315

Heritage Inventory System  
(Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)

130,000

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Subtotal

\$ 13,916,804

IV. Grants-in-Aid

Alternative Energy Grants

400,000

Energy Grant Monitoring

50,000

Grant Application Assistance

100,000

Sediment and Erosion Control

501,000

Lake Improvement

1,385,626

Assess Lake Improvement Techniques

75,098

Local Recreation

4,000,000

Regional Recreation

4,000,000

Regional Designation

90,000

1977 Appropriation

V. Administration

LCMR

\$ 360,000

LCMR Public Land Study

(Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)

35,000

LCMR Forestry Study

(Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)

50,000

U of Mn Underground Center

(Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)

50,000

U of Mn Underground Center

(Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)

26,000

Total

\$ 27,439,520

Federal Reimbursement Account Balance

399,685

October 1, 1978 Appropriations Total

\$ 27,839,205



1977 Appropriation

V. Administration

LCMR	\$ 360,000
LCMR Public Land Study (Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)	35,000
LCMR Forestry Study (Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)	50,000
U of Mn Underground Center (Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)	50,000
U of Mn Underground Center (Federal Reimbursement Account - LAC allocation)	<u>26,000</u>
Total	\$ 27,439,520
Federal Reimbursement Account Balance	<u>399,685</u>
October 1, 1978 Appropriations Total	\$ 27,839,205

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