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**REINVEST IN MINNESOTA
PROGRAM**

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
1987**

REINVEST IN MINNESOTA PROGRESS REPORT

The Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) program was established and funded by the 1986 legislature. The main goal of this program is to provide the citizens of Minnesota with an improved environment and to increase fish and wildlife habitat.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was appropriated \$6 million in RIM funding to acquire and develop habitat in critical areas and to improve conditions pertinent to fish production. Following are areas in which DNR is presently implementing projects.

Critical Habitat Matching Program. This program provides a means for private citizens to help fund the acquisition and development of critical fish and wildlife habitat. Funding for this program is \$2.5 million which must be matched dollar-for-dollar by contributions in land or money by the private sector. Since July 1, 1986, DNR has received \$1,304,000 in contributions.

Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Projects. About 60 fish and wildlife projects costing \$3.5 million have been initiated by DNR since the inception of the RIM program. These projects cover all regions of the state. Generally, these projects include the improvement of habitat for walleyes, northern, trout, deer, moose, grouse and waterfowl. Included in the habitat development program is the aspen recycling program which allows for the overly mature trees to be replaced by young, immature trees. Other projects being initiated during this fiscal year include six aeration systems, nine fishing piers, rough fish barriers and improvements to existing hatcheries. Several tracts of land are in the process of being acquired. These parcels of land will be developed for improved fish and wildlife habitat and will provide better access for recreationists.

During the 1987-89 biennium, DNR will again acquire and develop fish and wildlife habitat, increase fish production and provide increased access for fish and wildlife recreationists. Projects will be developed in the following categories during the coming biennium:

Wildlife Acquisition and Development	\$2,000,000
Critical Habitat Private Matching Program	2,500,000
Aspen Recycling/Forest Wildlife Development	1,500,000
Fisheries Acquisition	900,000
Fish Culture	4,000,000
Fish Habitat Development	2,700,000
Planning and Administration	2,400,000
	<u>\$16,000,000</u>
Bonding Proceeds	1,600,000
Project Administration, General Fund	<u>1,600,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$17,600,000</u>

REINVEST IN MINNESOTA

1987 - 1989

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1987-1989

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION:

Bonding Proceeds: \$2,400,000

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Engineering	5 Positions
Lands	4 Positions
Fish and Wildlife	2 Positions
Legal	1 Position
	<u>12</u>

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION:

General Fund: \$1,600,000

FOREST MANAGEMENT

To Administer Aspen Recycling Program	\$100,000
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WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

4 Habitat Coordinators at Grand Rapids, Brainerd, New Ulm, and Whitewater WMA	\$324,000
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4 Part-time Habitat Specialists at Crookston, Thief River Falls, Cloquet and Madison	\$244,000
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FISH MANAGEMENT

5 Positions - 1 Hatchery Manager at Peterson Trout Farm, 4 Project Coordinators at Bemidji, Grand Rapids, Brainerd and New Ulm	\$405,000
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2 Part-time - 1 Specialist at Rochester and 1 Assistant at Peterson Trout Farm	\$122,000
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ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

4 Planners - Conversion of Three LCMR Positions and Addition of One New Planner	\$324,000
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FISH AND WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATION

1 Position - RIM Coordinator to Assist Director	\$ 81,000
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TOTAL: 14 Positions

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
1987-89 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST
PROJECT PROPOSAL WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: RIM - Wildlife/Development DIVISION/UNIT: Fish & Wildlife STATE/REGION: Statewide
 PROJECT CATEGORY: FACILITIES PRIORITY: 0 BUDGET REQUESTED: 1987-89 (NEW PROJECTS)
 DAN SAFETY RECONSTRUCTION ESTIMATED COST: \$ 2,000,000 1988-91 (NEW PROJECTS)
 NON-BUILDING (CHECK IF APPLICABLE TO BID) PREPARED BY/PHONE: _____ 1991-93 (NEW PROJECTS)

BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Activity	Cost/Unit	1988	Quantity	1989	Quantity
Deer Habitat Improvement					
Shearing for browse	\$ 61/ac.	\$ 100.0	1640 ac.	\$ 100.0	1640 ac.
Forest wildlife openings	156/ac.	200.0	1280 ac.	200.0	1280 ac.
Access trails & seeding	1942/ml.	70.0	36 ml.	70.0	36 ml.
Deer yard improvement	219/ac.	25.0	114 ac.	25.0	114 ac.
Prescribed burning - forest	39/ac.	50.0	1280 ac.	75.0	1920 ac.
Moose and Sharp-tailed Grouse					
Brush shearing for browse	44/ac.	100.0	2270 ac.	100.0	2270 ac.
Prescribed burning - transition	20/ac.	30.0	1500 ac.	30.0	1500 ac.
Waterfowl and Furbearers					
Water control on rice lakes	10/ac.	20.0	2000 ac.	20.0	2000 ac.
Small Impoundments on WMA's	200/ac.	30.0	150 ac.	50.0	250 ac.
Ruffed Grouse Management	75/ac.	40.0	533 ac.	40.0	533 ac.
Prairie Burning - WMA's & SNA's	20/ac.	75.0	3750 ac.	50.0	2500 ac.
Development on WMA's					
Cover plantings	400/site	40.0	100 sites	40.0	100 sites
Nesting cover restoration	20/ac.	50.0	2500 ac.	50.0	2500 ac.
Boundary fencing	1800/ml.	50.0	28 ml.	50.0	28 ml.
Hunter access & parking sites	1000/site	50.0	50 sites	25.0	25 sites
Lake Restoration	200/ac.	<u>70.0</u>	350 ac.	<u>75.0</u>	375 ac.
		\$1000.0		\$1000.0	

High quality habitat is the main factor for optimal production of wildlife. The development projects listed here address the most important of those habitat needs for the most popular wildlife species in the state or those most in need. Emphasis is on forest and brushland species but projects on wildlife management areas (WMA's) are statewide. The key habitat factor for waterfowl and upland birds, safe nesting cover, is being addressed on private lands by the RIM conservation reserve and the federal conservation reserve throughout the state.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 1987-89 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST
 PROJECT PROPOSAL WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: RIM - Critical Habitat Private Sector Matching Account
 DIVISION/UNIT: Fish & Wildlife Section of Wildlife
 STATE'S/REGION: Statewide

PROJECT CATEGORY: FACILITIES
 PRIORITY: 0
 ESTIMATED COST: \$ 2,500,000

NEW-BUILDING (CHECK IF APPLICABLE TO RIM)
 PREPARED BY/PHONE: _____

DEMAND REQUESTED: 1987-89 (NEW PROJECTS)
 1989-91 (NEW PROJECTS)
 1991-93 (ALL PROJECTS)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: PROPOSED DONATIONS:

	Amount	
<u>Source</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
The Nature Conservancy	\$350.0	300.0
Individuals	250.0	250.0
Corporations	100.0	100.0
Local Sportsman's Clubs	50.0	50.0
Nongame Program Development	150.0	120.0
Minnesota Waterfowl Association	50.0	50.0
Pheasants Forever Chapters	50.0	50.0
Minnesota Deer Hunters Assoc.	50.0	50.0
Ducks Unlimited-North American Habitat	300.0	180.0
Total	\$1,350.0	1,150.0

<u>Type of Donation</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
80 % land donations(acres)	2,700	2,300
20 % cash(dollars)	\$270.0	270.0

ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES OF RIM MATCHING FUNDS:

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Dollars	\$1,350.0	1,150.0
90% land acquisitions(acres)	2,000	3,625
10% development projects(number)	7	8

All figures are estimates based on donations received in 1987 or expressions of interest. No pledges have been received for the 1988-89 biennium nor does this listing indicate a commitment of any kind by any organization.

The Critical Habitat Private Sector Matching Account created a tremendous response from the private sector with pledges received for the entire \$2,500,000 appropriation for F.Y. 1987. This sponsorship not only doubles the state's effort to maintain healthy and diverse habitats, but also helps to perpetuate a strong conservation ethic in Minnesota.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 1989-90 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST
 PROJECT PROPOSAL NUMBER 1

PROJECT TITLE: RIM Habitat Development DIVISION/UNIT: Forestry NON-S./REGION: Statewide
 PROJECT CATEGORY: FACILITIES PRIORITY: 0 BUDGET REQUESTED: 1989-90 (NEW PROJECTS)
DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION ESTIMATED COST: \$ 1,500,000 1989-90 (NEW PROJECTS)
 NON-EMPLOYING CHECK IF APPLICABLE TO GDB PREPARED BY/PAGE: _____ 1989-90 (GDB PROJECTS)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Habitat work on forested lands coordinated with the Divisions of Forestry and Fish and Wildlife

	Cost/Unit	F.Y. 88 Units	F.Y. 89 Units	Total Units	Total Cost
Aspen Recycling					
Region 1 (Bemidji)	\$71.40/ac	2,700 ac	2,700 ac	5,400 ac	\$ 386,000
Region 2 (Grand Rapids)	71.40/ac	4,000	4,000	8,000	571,000
Region 3 (Brainerd)	71.40/ac	300	300	600	43,000
				<u>14,000 ac</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
Prescribed Burning					
Region 1 Bemidji	\$60.00/ac	2,000 ac	2,000 ac	4,000 ac	240,000
Region 2 (Grand Rapids)	60.00/ac	1,800	1,800	3,600	216,000
Region 3 (Brainerd)	60.00/ac	360	360	720	44,000
				<u>8,320 ac</u>	<u>\$ 500,000</u>

REMARKS: This development work will enhance wildlife habitat on state lands by the following measures:

1. Prescribed burning non-marketable forest vegetation.
2. Mechanical treatments to recycle (regenerate) non-marketable forest vegetation.
3. Creating wildlife openings as part of the burns or mechanical treatments.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
1987-89 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST
PROJECT PROPOSAL WORKSHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Rim/Fisheries

DIVISION/UNIT: Fish & Wildlife

HQTR'S/REGION: Statewide

ESTIMATED COST: 7,600,000

BIENNIUM REQUESTED: 1987-89

BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION: <u>Activity</u>	<u>Cost/Unit</u>	<u>FY88 Units</u>	<u>FY88 Costs</u>	<u>FY89 Units</u>	<u>FY89 Costs</u>	<u>Biennial costs</u>
<u>Acquisition</u>						
Northern Pike Spawning Areas St. Catherines, Scott Co. L. Pepin, Wabasha Co.	\$30,000/area	1 area	30.0	1 area	30.0	60.0
Trout Stream Access Straight River, Becker/Hubbard Co. West Beaver Creek, Houston Co. Split Rock River, Lake Co. Cold Spring Brook, Wabasha Co. East Indian Creek, Wabasha Co. Talmadge River, St. Louis Co.	5,000/mi.	20 mi.	100.0	10 mi.	100.0	200.0
Mine Pit Lakes Access	40,000/site	2 sites	80.0	2 sites	80.0	160.0
			<u>\$210.0</u>		<u>\$210.0</u>	<u>\$420.0</u>

Rationale: The preservation of sufficient natural spawning areas for northern pike is a critical management need on many popular lakes where such areas have been impacted by development or are of marginal quality. Minnesota has 620 designated trout streams and has actively sought easements to provide access for habitat improvement work and anglers. Many abandoned mine pits along the Iron Range are suited for Trout management and access requirements must be met before their potential for increased angling opportunities is realized.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Cost/Unit</u>	<u>FY88 Units</u>	<u>FY88 Costs</u>	<u>FY89 Units</u>	<u>FY89 Costs</u>	<u>Biennial Costs</u>
Habitat Development						
Lake and Stream Bank Stabilization Winnibigoshish erosion control and walleye spawning area de- velopment, Cass County	\$80/ft.	1,350 ft	\$110.0	1,350 ft	\$110.0	\$220.0
Stream Bank Stabilization and Habitat Improvement	35,000/mi	17.1 mi	600.0	17.1 mi	600.0	1,200.0
Clearwater R., Beltrami Co.						
Kabetogama R., Hubbard Co.						
Straight R., Becker & Hubbard Co.						
Sucker R., St. Louis Co.						
Stewart R., Lake Co.						
Flute Reed R., Cook Co.						
Kimball Cr., Cook Co.						
Stoney Brook, Cass Co.						
Trout Run Cr., Fillmore/Winona Co.						
W. Indian Cr., Wabasha Co.						
Mississippi R., Wabasha Co.						
Fishing Piers	20,000/pier	20 piers	400.0	20 piers	400.0	800.0
Rough Fish Barriers	40,000/site	2 sites	80.0	2 sites	80.0	160.0
Pocket Lake, Douglas Co.						
Chippewa R., Pope Co.						
Lotus Lake, Carver Co.						
Diamond Lake, Hennepin Co.						
North Shore Harbor of Refuge Brighton Beach, St. Louis Co. Sugar Loaf, Cook Co.	300,000/site	1 site	300.0	1 site	300.0	600.0
North Shore Steelhead Stream Enhancement	40,000/stream	2 streams	80.0	3 streams	120.0	200.0
Stewart R., Lake Co.						
Split Rock Cr., Lake Co.						
Silver Cr., Lake Co.						
Flute Reed R., Cook Co.						
Knife R., Lake Co.						
			<u>\$1,570.0</u>		<u>\$1,600.0</u>	<u>\$3,180.0</u>

Rationale: Bank stabilization on lakes is designed to contain erosion and subsequent siltation which degrades natural fisheries spawning and rearing areas. Present efforts to stabilize banks on the eastern shoreline of Lake Winnibigoshish in Cass County will be continued. Rip-rap will be placed on a filter fabric mat for erosion control and the toe extended with suitable substrate for walleye spawning.

Stream bank stabilization work also serves to reduce erosion and control siltation as well as providing cover for both game and forage fish species.

Habitat improvement work will generally be conducted in conjunction with bank stabilization and will provide for narrowing and deepening channels, creating areas of cover, increasing the abundance of natural food sources and providing or improving natural spawning areas.

Fishing piers will be purchased and installed on approximately twenty (20) lakes each year through the CORE PROGRAM. Agreements are made between the State and a local sponsor which define pier ownership, maintenance responsibilities, liability, etc. Specific site locations will be selected each year from CORE proposals and piers will be purchased and installed in cooperation with the Trails and Waterways Unit.

Rough fish barrier and trap construction is designed to restrict the movement of undesirable fish species into game fish waters. Species such as carp can degrade habitat by destroying vegetation and reducing water clarity and quality.

Harbors of refuge are needed on Lake Superior to provide protection to small and medium size boats from wind and wave action, increasing opportunities to use the Lake and reducing the potential for accidents.

Precipitous falls on lower stream reaches of Lake Superior tributaries prevent migration of spawning salmonids and restrict spawning area and natural reproduction. Alteration of these barriers by step-pockets or other means allows the expansion of spawning areas available to anadromous adults.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Cost/Unit</u>	<u>FY88 Units</u>	<u>FY88 Costs</u>	<u>FY89 Units</u>	<u>FY89 Costs</u>	<u>Biennial Costs</u>
Fish Culture						
Expansion of Walleye Fingerling Production						
Transport tanks	\$6,000/tank	10 tanks	\$60.0	10 tanks	\$60.0	\$120.0
Transport trucks	20,000/truck	3 trucks	60.0	2 trucks	40.0	100.0
Pond leases			10.0		14.0	24.0
Management expenses			10.0		14.0	24.0
Labor			10.0		22.0	32.0

<u>Activity (Continued)</u>	<u>Cost/Unit</u>	<u>FY88 Units</u>	<u>FY88 Costs</u>	<u>FY89 Units</u>	<u>FY89 Costs</u>	<u>Biennial Costs</u>
Peterson Trout Farm Acquisition			\$3,500.0			\$3,500.0
Hinckley Hatchery Construction					\$100.0	100.0
Brainerd Hatchery Incubation Batteries			\$100.0			100.0
			<u>\$3,750.0</u>		<u>\$250.0</u>	<u>\$4,000.0</u>

Rationale: In an effort to enhance the walleye fishery in Minnesota lakes, the Section of Fisheries will increase the number of walleye rearing ponds with a goal of rearing an additional two million walleye fingerlings each year.

The Peterson Trout Farm has the capacity to produce 150,000 pounds of trout each year. The greatest need for a hatchery of this quality is to segregate trout broodstock of sufficient quantity to provide a disease-free source of all the trout eggs needed by DNR hatcheries and to develop better genetic stocks of fish. Besides the broodstock, there will be sufficient water volume to produce at least 76,000 pounds of trout, splake and salmon to meet our present and projected stocking requirements.

The Hinckley Area Headquarters does not now have a facility for hatching walleye eggs and must rely on the small facility at Brainerd for walleye fry, resulting in extensive travel to the lakes and ponds of the east-central counties.

The walleye hatchery at Brainerd is located in the old Area Headquarters building and will not be used after 1987 because of the move to the new Regional Headquarters building. New egg incubation batteries must be installed at the new Regional building. The walleye fry from the Brainerd hatchery are stocked into the many lakes and rearing ponds managed by the Brainerd and Little Falls area headquarters.

RIM positions: A minimum of ^{five} ~~seven~~ positions will be needed to help implement the RIM Fisheries program.

1 Hatchery personel to operate the Peterson Trout Farm.

4 RIM project leaders, one each for Regions I, II, III, and IV respectively.