



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council  
The State of Minnesota

State Office Building, Room G95 100 Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

January 15, 2019

The Honorable Tim Walz  
Governor of Minnesota  
130 State Capitol  
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz,

It is my honor, on behalf of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council and as required by law, to present a bill jacketed for introduction incorporating the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council's recommendations for FY 2020 appropriations from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. This proposed legislation contains the Council's 11<sup>th</sup> annual appropriation recommendations to protect, enhance, and restore Minnesota's prairies, wetlands, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife which are consistent with and effectively address the Council's strategic statewide and regionally-based conservation and habitat priorities from the Outdoor Heritage Fund's 25-Year Framework.

The Council received 45 requests totaling over \$264 million from a cross-section of public and non-profit organizations and levels of government. The Council's FY 2020 recommendations include 44 proposed appropriations with expenditures totaling \$127,505,000.

The Council's recommendations are consistent with constitutionally-specified uses of the Outdoor Heritage Fund and promise to have lasting and positive impact on the state's natural resource based habitats. The following outputs are associated with these recommendations:

- 10,020 acres of wetlands and wetland systems protected, restored, and enhanced;
- 108,384 acres of prairies and prairie systems protected, restored, and enhanced;
- 14,598 acres of forest protected, restored and enhanced; and
- 8,216 acres of aquatic habitat protected, restored, and enhanced

Restoration and enhancement of public lands accounts for the majority (87%) of acres impacted by these recommendations. Over 141,218 acres are to be affected and will improve habitat for a range of species, from duck habitat in the prairie pothole region, to pheasants in the tall grass regions, to trout streams in the southeast and northeast, to various wildlife habitats in the metropolitan region. Habitat restoration and enhancement activity puts money on the ground by creating and supporting jobs in local economies.

The Council remains focused on recommending funding for those programs with the potential greatest impact on habitat heritage for future generations. Several on-going programs focusing on the prairie regions of the state are recommended for funding, including the Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area program – Phase XI, Shallow Lakes and Wetland Enhancement – Phase XI, and the DNR Grasslands Enhancement - Phase XI that support the work of the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan and will have a powerful impact on prairie and prairie systems.

The Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council is confident its recommendations will be broadly supported by the citizens of Minnesota. The Council stands prepared to provide any assistance and additional information necessary during the legislative session.

Again, on behalf of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, I thank you for the opportunity to serve the people of Minnesota in improving our state's great outdoors habitat heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert W. Anderson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Robert W. Anderson  
Chair, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

C: Members and staff, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Attachment: copy of Jacketed OHF bill



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council  
The State of Minnesota

State Office Building, Room G95 100 Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

January 15, 2019

The Honorable Jeremy Miller  
President, Minnesota Senate  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3107  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear President Miller,

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Robert W. Anderson  
Chair, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

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Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council  
The State of Minnesota

State Office Building, Room G95 100 Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

January 15, 2019

The Honorable Melissa Hortman  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
463 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Speaker Hortman,

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Chair, Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

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1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to legacy; appropriating money from outdoor heritage fund; modifying

1.3 previous appropriations; amending Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 2,

1.4 article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, as amended; Laws 2017, chapter 91, article 1,

1.5 section 2, subdivision 2.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. **OUTDOOR HERITAGE APPROPRIATION.**

1.8 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agencies

1.9 and for the purposes specified in this act. The appropriations are from the outdoor heritage

1.10 fund for the fiscal year indicated for each purpose. The figures "2020" and "2021" used in

1.11 this act mean that the appropriations listed under the figure are available for the fiscal year

1.12 ending June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2021, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2020.

1.13 "The second year" is fiscal year 2021. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2020 and 2021. These

1.14 are onetime appropriations.

1.15		<b><u>APPROPRIATIONS</u></b>	
1.16		<b><u>Available for the Year</u></b>	
1.17		<b><u>Ending June 30</u></b>	
1.18		<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>

1.19 Sec. 2. **OUTDOOR HERITAGE FUND**

1.20	<b><u>Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>127,505,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>565,000</u></b>
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1.21 This appropriation is from the outdoor heritage

1.22 fund. The amounts that may be spent for each

1.23 purpose are specified in the following

1.24 subdivisions.

2.1	<u>Subd. 2. <b>Prairies</b></u>	<u>38,303,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
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2.2 **(a) DNR Wildlife Management Area and**  
 2.3 **Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition - Phase**  
 2.4 **XI**

2.5 \$2,519,000 the first year is to the  
 2.6 commissioner of natural resources to acquire  
 2.7 in fee and restore and enhance lands for  
 2.8 wildlife management under Minnesota  
 2.9 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8, and  
 2.10 to acquire lands in fee for scientific and natural  
 2.11 areas under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 2.12 86A.05, subdivision 5. Subject to evaluation  
 2.13 criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900,  
 2.14 priority must be given to acquiring lands that  
 2.15 are eligible for the native prairie bank under  
 2.16 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
 2.17 adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of  
 2.18 proposed land acquisitions must be provided  
 2.19 as part of the required accomplishment plan.

2.20 **(b) Accelerating Wildlife Management Area**  
 2.21 **Program - Phase XI**

2.22 \$6,060,000 the first year is to the  
 2.23 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 2.24 agreement with Pheasants Forever to acquire  
 2.25 in fee and restore and enhance lands for  
 2.26 wildlife management under Minnesota  
 2.27 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8.  
 2.28 Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota  
 2.29 Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given  
 2.30 to acquiring lands that are eligible for the  
 2.31 native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes,  
 2.32 section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected  
 2.33 native prairie. A list of proposed land  
 2.34 acquisitions must be provided as part of the  
 2.35 required accomplishment plan.

3.1 **(c) Minnesota Prairie Recovery Project - Phase**  
3.2 **IX**

3.3 \$3,058,000 the first year is to the  
3.4 commissioner of natural resources for an  
3.5 agreement with The Nature Conservancy to  
3.6 acquire lands in fee and to restore and enhance  
3.7 native prairies, grasslands, wetlands, and  
3.8 savannas. Subject to evaluation criteria in  
3.9 Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority  
3.10 must be given to acquiring lands that are  
3.11 eligible for the native prairie bank under  
3.12 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
3.13 adjacent to protected native prairie. No later  
3.14 than 180 days after The Nature Conservancy's  
3.15 fiscal year ends, The Nature Conservancy must  
3.16 submit to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage  
3.17 Council annual income statements and balance  
3.18 sheets for income and expenses from land  
3.19 acquired with this appropriation. A list of  
3.20 proposed land acquisitions must be provided  
3.21 as part of the required accomplishment plan,  
3.22 and the acquisitions must be consistent with  
3.23 the priorities identified in *Minnesota Prairie*  
3.24 *Conservation Plan*.

3.25 **(d) Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife**  
3.26 **Refuge Land Acquisition - Phase X**

3.27 \$2,383,000 the first year is to the  
3.28 commissioner of natural resources for an  
3.29 agreement with The Nature Conservancy, in  
3.30 cooperation with the United States Fish and  
3.31 Wildlife Service, to acquire lands in fee or  
3.32 permanent conservation easements and to  
3.33 restore and enhance lands in the Northern  
3.34 Tallgrass Prairie Habitat Preservation Area in  
3.35 western Minnesota for addition to the Northern  
3.36 Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife Refuge.

4.1 Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota  
4.2 Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given  
4.3 to acquiring lands that are eligible for the  
4.4 native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes,  
4.5 section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected  
4.6 native prairie. A list of proposed land  
4.7 acquisitions must be provided as part of the  
4.8 required accomplishment plan, and the  
4.9 acquisitions must be consistent with the  
4.10 priorities in *Minnesota Prairie Conservation*  
4.11 *Plan.*

4.12 **(e) Lower Wild Rice Corridor Habitat**  
4.13 **Restoration - Phase II**

4.14 \$225,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
4.15 of natural resources for an agreement with the  
4.16 Wild Rice Watershed District to acquire land  
4.17 in permanent conservation easement and to  
4.18 restore river and related habitat in the Wild  
4.19 Rice River corridor. \$2,750,000 the first year  
4.20 is to the Board of Water and Soil Resources  
4.21 to acquire lands in permanent conservation  
4.22 easements and to restore river and related  
4.23 habitat in the Wild Rice River corridor, of  
4.24 which up to \$111,000 is for establishing a  
4.25 monitoring and enforcement fund as approved  
4.26 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
4.27 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
4.28 subdivision 17. A list of proposed acquisitions  
4.29 must be included as part of the required  
4.30 accomplishment plan.

4.31 **(f) Martin County DNR WMA Acquisition -**  
4.32 **Phase III**

4.33 \$3,650,000 the first year is to the  
4.34 commissioner of natural resources for  
4.35 agreements to acquire lands in fee and restore  
4.36 and enhance strategic prairie grassland,

5.1 wetland, and other wildlife habitat in Martin  
5.2 County for wildlife management under  
5.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
5.4 subdivision 8. Of this amount, \$3,002,000 is  
5.5 to Fox Lake Conservation League Inc.,  
5.6 \$554,000 is to Ducks Unlimited, and \$94,000  
5.7 is to The Conservation Fund. A list of  
5.8 proposed acquisitions must be provided as part  
5.9 of the required accomplishment plan.

5.10 **(g) RIM Grasslands Reserve**

5.11 \$2,276,000 the first year is to the Board of  
5.12 Water and Soil Resources to acquire  
5.13 permanent conservation easements and to  
5.14 restore and enhance grassland habitat under  
5.15 Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.501 to  
5.16 103F.531. Of this amount, up to \$39,000 is  
5.17 for establishing a monitoring and enforcement  
5.18 fund as approved in the accomplishment plan  
5.19 and subject to Minnesota Statutes, section  
5.20 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of permanent  
5.21 conservation easements must be provided as  
5.22 part of the final report.

5.23 **(h) Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the**  
5.24 **Southern Red River Valley - Phase V**

5.25 \$2,558,000 the first year is to the  
5.26 commissioner of natural resources for an  
5.27 agreement with Pheasants Forever, in  
5.28 cooperation with the Minnesota Prairie  
5.29 Chicken Society, to acquire lands in fee and  
5.30 restore and enhance lands in the southern Red  
5.31 River valley for wildlife management under  
5.32 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
5.33 subdivision 8, or to be designated and  
5.34 managed as waterfowl production areas in  
5.35 Minnesota in cooperation with the United

6.1 States Fish and Wildlife Service. Subject to  
6.2 evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part  
6.3 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring  
6.4 lands that are eligible for the native prairie  
6.5 bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96,  
6.6 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie.  
6.7 A list of proposed land acquisitions must be  
6.8 provided as part of the required  
6.9 accomplishment plan.

6.10 **(i) DNR Grassland Enhancement - Phase XI**

6.11 \$8,861,000 the first year is to the  
6.12 commissioner of natural resources to  
6.13 accelerate restoration and enhancement of  
6.14 prairies, grasslands, and savannas in wildlife  
6.15 management areas, in scientific and natural  
6.16 areas, in aquatic management areas, on lands  
6.17 in the native prairie bank, in bluff prairies on  
6.18 state forest land in southeastern Minnesota,  
6.19 and in waterfowl production areas and refuge  
6.20 lands of the United States Fish and Wildlife  
6.21 Service. A list of proposed land restorations  
6.22 and enhancements must be provided as part  
6.23 of the required accomplishment plan.

6.24 **(j) Anoka Sand Plain Habitat Restoration and**  
6.25 **Enhancement - Phase VI**

6.26 \$2,573,000 the first year is to the  
6.27 commissioner of natural resources for  
6.28 agreements to acquire permanent conservation  
6.29 easements and to restore and enhance wildlife  
6.30 habitat on public lands and easements in the  
6.31 Anoka Sand Plain ecoregion and intersecting  
6.32 minor watersheds as follows: \$156,000 is to  
6.33 the Anoka Conservation District; \$699,000 is  
6.34 to Great River Greening; \$269,000 is to the  
6.35 Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation

7.1 District; \$182,000 is to the National Wild  
 7.2 Turkey Federation; and \$1,267,000 is to  
 7.3 Minnesota Land Trust, of which up to  
 7.4 \$144,000 to Minnesota Land Trust is for  
 7.5 establishing monitoring and enforcement funds  
 7.6 as approved in the accomplishment plan and  
 7.7 subject to Minnesota Statutes, section  
 7.8 97A.056, subdivision 17. A list of proposed  
 7.9 permanent conservation easements,  
 7.10 restorations, and enhancements must be  
 7.11 provided as part of the required  
 7.12 accomplishment plan.

7.13 **(k) Fairmont Chain of Lakes Habitat**  
 7.14 **Restoration Plan - Phase I**

7.15 \$1,390,000 the first year is to the  
 7.16 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 7.17 agreement with the city of Fairmont to restore  
 7.18 and enhance grassland, wetland, and stream  
 7.19 habitats in the Dutch Creek watershed. A list  
 7.20 of proposed restorations and enhancements  
 7.21 must be provided as part of the required  
 7.22 accomplishment plan.

7.23 **Subd. 3. Forests**

17,032,000

-0-

7.24 **(a) Protecting Strategic Forest Lands Near**  
 7.25 **Camp Ripley Partnership - Phase VIII**

7.26 \$3,348,000 the first year is to the  
 7.27 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 7.28 agreement with The Conservation Fund to  
 7.29 acquire in fee and restore and enhance forest  
 7.30 wildlife habitat in Cass, Crow Wing, and  
 7.31 Morrison Counties in proximity to the  
 7.32 Minnesota National Guard Camp Ripley  
 7.33 Sentinel Landscape. Land must be acquired  
 7.34 for state forests under Minnesota Statutes,  
 7.35 section 86A.05, subdivision 7; for wildlife

8.1 management under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.2 86A.05, subdivision 8; for scientific and  
 8.3 natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.4 86A.05, subdivision 5; or as county forest land  
 8.5 or municipal forest land. A list of proposed  
 8.6 land acquisitions must be provided as part of  
 8.7 the required accomplishment plan.

8.8 **(b) Southeast Minnesota Protection and**  
 8.9 **Restoration - Phase VII**

8.10 \$5,741,000 the first year is to the  
 8.11 commissioner of natural resources for  
 8.12 agreements as follows:

8.13 (1) \$2,701,000 to The Nature Conservancy to  
 8.14 acquire lands in fee to be held by The Nature  
 8.15 Conservancy or acquire lands in fee for  
 8.16 wildlife management under Minnesota  
 8.17 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8; for  
 8.18 scientific and natural areas under Minnesota  
 8.19 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 5; for  
 8.20 state forests under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.21 86A.05, subdivision 7; and for aquatic  
 8.22 management areas under Minnesota Statutes,  
 8.23 section 86A.05, subdivision 14;

8.24 (2) \$1,370,000 to The Trust for Public Land  
 8.25 to acquire lands in fee for wildlife  
 8.26 management under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.27 86A.05, subdivision 8; for scientific and  
 8.28 natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.29 86A.05, subdivision 5; for state forests under  
 8.30 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
 8.31 subdivision 7; and for aquatic management  
 8.32 areas under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 8.33 86A.05, subdivision 14; and

8.34 (3) \$1,670,000 to Minnesota Land Trust to  
 8.35 acquire permanent conservation easements

9.1 and to restore and enhance wildlife habitat, of  
9.2 which \$192,000 is to establish a monitoring  
9.3 and enforcement fund as approved in the  
9.4 accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota  
9.5 Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17.

9.6 Annual income statements and balance sheets  
9.7 for income and expenses from land acquired  
9.8 in fee and held by The Nature Conservancy  
9.9 with the appropriation in clause (1) must be  
9.10 submitted to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor  
9.11 Heritage Council no later than 180 days after  
9.12 The Nature Conservancy's fiscal year closes.

9.13 A list of proposed land acquisitions must be  
9.14 provided as part of the required  
9.15 accomplishment plan.

9.16 **(c) Minnesota Forests for the Future - Phase VII**

9.17 \$4,573,000 the first year is to the  
9.18 commissioner of natural resources to acquire  
9.19 lands in fee and easements and to restore and  
9.20 enhance forests, wetlands, and shoreline  
9.21 habitat through working forest permanent  
9.22 conservation easements under the Minnesota  
9.23 forests for the future program according to  
9.24 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.66. A  
9.25 conservation easement acquired with money  
9.26 appropriated under this paragraph must  
9.27 comply with Minnesota Statutes, section  
9.28 97A.056, subdivision 13. The accomplishment  
9.29 plan must include an easement monitoring and  
9.30 enforcement plan. Of this amount, up to  
9.31 \$150,000 is for establishing a monitoring and  
9.32 enforcement fund as approved in the  
9.33 accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota  
9.34 Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A  
9.35 list of proposed land acquisitions must be

10.1 provided as part of the required  
10.2 accomplishment plan. A list of permanent  
10.3 conservation easements must be provided as  
10.4 part of the final report.

10.5 **(d) Mississippi River Floodplain Forest**  
10.6 **Enhancement - Phase III**

10.7 \$1,357,000 the first year is to the  
10.8 commissioner of natural resources for an  
10.9 agreement with the National Audubon Society  
10.10 to restore and enhance floodplain forest habitat  
10.11 for wildlife on public lands along the  
10.12 Mississippi River. A list of restorations and  
10.13 enhancements must be provided as part of the  
10.14 required accomplishment plan.

10.15 **(e) Enhanced Public Land Open Landscapes -**  
10.16 **Phase I**

10.17 \$955,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
10.18 of natural resources for an agreement with  
10.19 Pheasants Forever, in cooperation with the  
10.20 Minnesota Sharp-Tailed Grouse Society, to  
10.21 enhance and restore early successional open  
10.22 landscape habitat on public lands. A list of  
10.23 proposed restoration and enhancements must  
10.24 be provided as part of the required  
10.25 accomplishment plan.

10.26 **(f) Minnesota Forest Recovery Project - Phase**  
10.27 **I**

10.28 \$1,058,000 the first year is to the  
10.29 commissioner of natural resources for an  
10.30 agreement with The Nature Conservancy to  
10.31 enhance degraded forests in Beltrami, Cass,  
10.32 Cook, Itasca, Lake, and St. Louis Counties. A  
10.33 list of enhancements must be provided as part  
10.34 of the required accomplishment plan.

11.1	<u>Subd. 4. <b>Wetlands</b></u>	<u>20,753,000</u>	<u>-0-</u>
11.2	<u><b>(a) Accelerating Waterfowl Production Area</b></u>		
11.3	<u><b>Acquisition - Phase XI</b></u>		
11.4	<u>\$5,631,000 the first year is to the</u>		
11.5	<u>commissioner of natural resources for an</u>		
11.6	<u>agreement with Pheasants Forever, in</u>		
11.7	<u>cooperation with the United States Fish and</u>		
11.8	<u>Wildlife Service, to acquire lands in fee and</u>		
11.9	<u>to restore and enhance wetlands and grasslands</u>		
11.10	<u>to be designated and managed as waterfowl</u>		
11.11	<u>production areas in Minnesota. A list of</u>		
11.12	<u>proposed land acquisitions must be provided</u>		
11.13	<u>as part of the required accomplishment plan.</u>		
11.14	<u><b>(b) Shallow Lake and Wetland Protection</b></u>		
11.15	<u><b>Program - Phase VIII</b></u>		
11.16	<u>\$6,150,000 the first year is to the</u>		
11.17	<u>commissioner of natural resources for an</u>		
11.18	<u>agreement with Ducks Unlimited to acquire</u>		
11.19	<u>lands in fee and to restore and enhance prairie</u>		
11.20	<u>lands, wetlands, and land buffering shallow</u>		
11.21	<u>lakes for wildlife management under</u>		
11.22	<u>Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,</u>		
11.23	<u>subdivision 8. A list of proposed acquisitions</u>		
11.24	<u>must be provided as part of the required</u>		
11.25	<u>accomplishment plan.</u>		
11.26	<u><b>(c) Wetland Habitat Protection Program - Phase</b></u>		
11.27	<u><b>IV</b></u>		
11.28	<u>\$2,129,000 the first year is to the</u>		
11.29	<u>commissioner of natural resources for an</u>		
11.30	<u>agreement with Minnesota Land Trust to</u>		
11.31	<u>acquire permanent conservation easements</u>		
11.32	<u>and to restore and enhance prairie, wetland,</u>		
11.33	<u>and other habitat on permanently protected</u>		
11.34	<u>conservation easements in high-priority</u>		
11.35	<u>wetland habitat complexes in the prairie and</u>		

12.1 forest/prairie transition regions. Of this  
 12.2 amount, up to \$240,000 is to establish a  
 12.3 monitoring and enforcement fund as approved  
 12.4 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
 12.5 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
 12.6 subdivision 17. A list of proposed  
 12.7 conservation easement acquisitions and  
 12.8 restorations and enhancements must be  
 12.9 provided as part of the required  
 12.10 accomplishment plan.

12.11 **(d) Wild Rice Shoreland Protection - Phase VI**

12.12 \$937,000 the first year is to the Board of  
 12.13 Water and Soil Resources to acquire  
 12.14 permanent conservation easements on wild  
 12.15 rice lake shoreland habitat for native wild rice  
 12.16 bed protection. Of this amount, up to \$72,000  
 12.17 is for establishing a monitoring and  
 12.18 enforcement fund as approved in the  
 12.19 accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota  
 12.20 Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A  
 12.21 list of permanent conservation easements must  
 12.22 be provided as part of the final report.  
 12.23 \$250,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
 12.24 of natural resources to acquire lands in fee and  
 12.25 restore and enhance lands for wildlife  
 12.26 management under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 12.27 86A.05, subdivision 8; for scientific and  
 12.28 natural areas under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 12.29 86A.05, subdivision 5; for state forests under  
 12.30 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
 12.31 subdivision 7; and for aquatic management  
 12.32 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05,  
 12.33 subdivision 14, and 97C.02 to acquire lands  
 12.34 for wild rice lake shoreland habitat to protect  
 12.35 native wild rice beds. A list of proposed

13.1 acquisitions in fee must be provided as part  
13.2 of the required accomplishment plan.

13.3 **(e) Shallow Lakes and Wetlands Enhancement**  
13.4 **- Phase XI**

13.5 \$3,541,000 the first year is to the  
13.6 commissioner of natural resources to enhance  
13.7 and restore shallow lakes and wetland habitat  
13.8 statewide. A list of proposed land restorations  
13.9 and enhancements must be provided as part  
13.10 of the required accomplishment plan.

13.11 **(f) Restoring Wetlands Dominated by Nonnative**  
13.12 **Cattail in Border Waters**

13.13 \$1,270,000 the first year is to the  
13.14 commissioner of natural resources for an  
13.15 agreement with the National Park Service to  
13.16 restore and enhance wetland and lacustrine  
13.17 habitat in Voyageurs National Park. A list of  
13.18 proposed restorations and enhancements must  
13.19 be provided as part of the accomplishment  
13.20 plan.

13.21 **(g) Big Rice Lake Wild Rice Enhancement**

13.22 \$845,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
13.23 of natural resources to enhance and restore  
13.24 wild rice wetland habitat in Big Rice Lake in  
13.25 St. Louis County.

13.26 **Subd. 5. Habitats**

50,497,000

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13.27 **(a) St. Croix Watershed Habitat Protection and**  
13.28 **Restoration - Phase I**

13.29 \$3,751,000 the first year is to the  
13.30 commissioner of natural resources for  
13.31 agreements as follows:

13.32 (1) \$2,209,000 to The Trust for Public Land  
13.33 to acquire land in fee and to acquire permanent  
13.34 conservation stream easements in the St. Croix

14.1 River watershed using the payment method  
14.2 prescribed in Minnesota Statutes, section  
14.3 84.0272, subdivision 2;  
14.4 (2) \$1,377,000 to Minnesota Land Trust to  
14.5 acquire permanent conservation easements  
14.6 and to restore and enhance natural habitat  
14.7 systems in the St. Croix River watershed. Of  
14.8 this amount, up to \$168,000 to Minnesota  
14.9 Land Trust is to establish a monitoring and  
14.10 enforcement fund as approved in the  
14.11 accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota  
14.12 Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17; and  
14.13 (3) \$165,000 to the St. Croix River  
14.14 Association to coordinate and administer the  
14.15 program under this paragraph.  
14.16 A list of proposed land acquisitions and  
14.17 permanent conservation easements must be  
14.18 provided as part of the required  
14.19 accomplishment plan.  
14.20 **(b) Metro Big Rivers - Phase IX**  
14.21 \$4,163,000 the first year is to the  
14.22 commissioner of natural resources for  
14.23 agreements to acquire lands in fee and  
14.24 permanent conservation easements and to  
14.25 restore and enhance natural habitat systems  
14.26 associated with the Mississippi, Minnesota,  
14.27 and St. Croix Rivers and their tributaries in  
14.28 the metropolitan area. Of this amount,  
14.29 \$820,000 is to Minnesota Valley National  
14.30 Wildlife Refuge Trust Inc., \$532,000 is to  
14.31 Friends of the Mississippi River, \$1,061,000  
14.32 is to Great River Greening, and \$1,750,000 is  
14.33 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$144,000 to  
14.34 Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a

15.1 monitoring and enforcement fund as approved  
 15.2 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
 15.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
 15.4 subdivision 17. A list of proposed land  
 15.5 acquisitions and permanent conservation  
 15.6 easements must be provided as part of the  
 15.7 required accomplishment plan.

15.8 **(c) Dakota County Habitat**  
 15.9 **Protection/Restoration - Phase VII**

15.10 \$3,516,000 the first year is to the  
 15.11 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 15.12 agreement with Dakota County to acquire  
 15.13 permanent conservation easements and land  
 15.14 in fee and to restore and enhance riparian and  
 15.15 other habitats in Dakota County. A list of  
 15.16 proposed land acquisitions and restorations  
 15.17 and enhancements must be provided as part  
 15.18 of the required accomplishment plan.

15.19 **(d) Fisheries Habitat Protection on Strategic**  
 15.20 **North Central Minnesota Lakes - Phase V**

15.21 \$3,365,000 the first year is to the  
 15.22 commissioner of natural resources for  
 15.23 agreements to acquire lands in fee and  
 15.24 permanent conservation easements and to  
 15.25 restore and enhance wildlife habitat to sustain  
 15.26 healthy fish habitat on coldwater lakes in  
 15.27 Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, and Hubbard  
 15.28 Counties. Of this amount, \$841,000 is to  
 15.29 Northern Waters Land Trust and \$2,524,000  
 15.30 is to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$192,000  
 15.31 to Minnesota Land Trust is to establish a  
 15.32 monitoring and enforcement fund as approved  
 15.33 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
 15.34 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
 15.35 subdivision 17. A list of acquisitions must be

16.1 provided as part of the required  
16.2 accomplishment plan.

16.3 **(e) Sauk River Watershed Habitat Protection**  
16.4 **and Restoration**

16.5 \$2,946,000 the first year is to the  
16.6 commissioner of natural resources for  
16.7 agreements to acquire lands in fee and  
16.8 permanent conservation easements and restore  
16.9 and enhance wildlife habitat in the Sauk River  
16.10 watershed as follows: \$440,000 to Sauk River  
16.11 Watershed District, \$590,000 to Pheasants  
16.12 Forever, and \$1,916,000 to Minnesota Land  
16.13 Trust. Up to \$192,000 to Minnesota Land  
16.14 Trust is to establish a monitoring and  
16.15 enforcement fund as approved in the  
16.16 accomplishment plan and subject to Minnesota  
16.17 Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 17. A  
16.18 list of acquisitions must be provided as part  
16.19 of the required accomplishment plan.

16.20 **(f) Minnesota Trout Unlimited Coldwater Fish**  
16.21 **Habitat Enhancement and Restoration - Phase**  
16.22 **XI**

16.23 \$2,359,000 the first year is to the  
16.24 commissioner of natural resources for an  
16.25 agreement with Minnesota Trout Unlimited  
16.26 to acquire permanent conservation stream  
16.27 easements using the payment method  
16.28 prescribed in Minnesota Statutes, section  
16.29 84.0272, subdivision 2, and to restore and  
16.30 enhance habitat for trout and other species in  
16.31 and along coldwater rivers, lakes, and streams  
16.32 in Minnesota. Up to \$40,000 is to establish a  
16.33 monitoring and enforcement fund as approved  
16.34 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
16.35 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
16.36 subdivision 17. A list of proposed land

17.1 acquisitions and restorations and  
 17.2 enhancements must be provided as part of the  
 17.3 required accomplishment plan.

17.4 **(g) DNR Aquatic Habitat Restoration and**  
 17.5 **Enhancement - Phase II**

17.6 \$3,208,000 the first year is to the  
 17.7 commissioner of natural resources to restore  
 17.8 and enhance aquatic habitat in degraded  
 17.9 streams and aquatic management areas and to  
 17.10 facilitate fish passage. A list of proposed land  
 17.11 restorations and enhancements must be  
 17.12 provided as part of the required  
 17.13 accomplishment plan.

17.14 **(h) St. Louis River Restoration Initiative - Phase**  
 17.15 **VI**

17.16 \$3,777,000 the first year is to the  
 17.17 commissioner of natural resources to restore  
 17.18 aquatic and riparian habitats in the St. Louis  
 17.19 River estuary. Of this appropriation, up to  
 17.20 \$2,182,000 is for an agreement with  
 17.21 Minnesota Land Trust. A list of proposed  
 17.22 restorations must be provided as part of the  
 17.23 required accomplishment plan.

17.24 **(i) Knife River Habitat Rehabilitation - Phase**  
 17.25 **IV**

17.26 \$891,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
 17.27 of natural resources for an agreement with  
 17.28 Zeitgeist, in cooperation with the Lake  
 17.29 Superior Steelhead Association, to restore and  
 17.30 enhance trout habitat in the Knife River  
 17.31 watershed. A list of proposed enhancements  
 17.32 must be provided as part of the required  
 17.33 accomplishment plan.

17.34 **(j) Shell Rock River Watershed Habitat**  
 17.35 **Restoration Program - Phase VIII**

18.1 \$2,046,000 the first year is to the  
18.2 commissioner of natural resources for an  
18.3 agreement with the Shell Rock River  
18.4 Watershed District to acquire lands in fee and  
18.5 to restore and enhance aquatic habitat in the  
18.6 Shell Rock River watershed. A list of proposed  
18.7 acquisitions, restorations, and enhancements  
18.8 must be provided as part of the required  
18.9 accomplishment plan.

18.10 **(k) Pine River Fish Passage Project**

18.11 \$1,246,000 the first year is to the  
18.12 commissioner of natural resources for an  
18.13 agreement with the Crow Wing Soil and Water  
18.14 Conservation District to restore and enhance  
18.15 riverine habitat in the Pine River and provide  
18.16 fish passage by removing dams and modifying  
18.17 and installing structures.

18.18 **(l) Sauk River Dam Fish Passage**

18.19 \$737,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
18.20 of natural resources for an agreement with the  
18.21 Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation  
18.22 District to restore and enhance riverine habitat  
18.23 in the Sauk River and provide fish passage by  
18.24 removing the dam and modifying and  
18.25 installing structures at the Melrose dam site.

18.26 **(m) Restoring Norway Brook Connectivity to**  
18.27 **the Pine River**

18.28 \$2,267,000 the first year is to the  
18.29 commissioner of natural resources for an  
18.30 agreement with the city of Pine River to  
18.31 restore and enhance riverine habitat in the Pine  
18.32 River and provide fish passage by removing  
18.33 the dam and modifying and installing  
18.34 structures at the Norway Lake dam site.

19.1 **(n) Pig's Eye Lake Islands Habitat Restoration**  
 19.2 **and Enhancement**

19.3 \$4,337,000 the first year is to the  
 19.4 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 19.5 agreement with Ramsey County to restore and  
 19.6 enhance wildlife habitat in Pig's Eye Lake, to  
 19.7 include constructing islands.

19.8 **(o) Restoring Upper Mississippi River at Lake**  
 19.9 **Pepin**

19.10 \$750,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
 19.11 of natural resources for an agreement with the  
 19.12 Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance to restore and  
 19.13 enhance wildlife habitat on public lands in  
 19.14 Lake Pepin and the adjacent floodplain. A list  
 19.15 of proposed restorations and enhancements  
 19.16 must be provided as part of the required  
 19.17 accomplishment plan.

19.18 **(p) Conservation Partners Legacy Grant**  
 19.19 **Program: Statewide and Metro Habitat - Phase**  
 19.20 **XI**

19.21 \$11,138,000 the first year is to the  
 19.22 commissioner of natural resources for a  
 19.23 program to provide competitive matching  
 19.24 grants of up to \$400,000 to local, regional,  
 19.25 state, and national organizations for enhancing,  
 19.26 restoring, or protecting forests, wetlands,  
 19.27 prairies, or habitat for fish, game, or wildlife  
 19.28 in Minnesota. Of this amount, up to  
 19.29 \$3,000,000 is for grants in the seven-county  
 19.30 metropolitan area and cities with a population  
 19.31 of 50,000 or greater. Grants must not be made  
 19.32 for activities required to fulfill the duties of  
 19.33 owners of lands subject to conservation  
 19.34 easements. Grants must not be made from the  
 19.35 appropriation in this paragraph for projects  
 19.36 that have a total project cost exceeding

20.1 \$575,000. Of the total appropriation, \$445,000  
20.2 may be spent for personnel costs and other  
20.3 direct and necessary administrative costs.  
20.4 Grantees may acquire land or interests in land.  
20.5 Easements must be permanent. Grants may  
20.6 not be used to establish easement stewardship  
20.7 accounts. Land acquired in fee must be open  
20.8 to hunting and fishing during the open season  
20.9 unless otherwise provided by law. The  
20.10 program must require a match of at least ten  
20.11 percent from nonstate sources for all grants.  
20.12 The match may be cash or in-kind resources.  
20.13 For grant applications of \$25,000 or less, the  
20.14 commissioner must provide a separate,  
20.15 simplified application process. Subject to  
20.16 Minnesota statutes, the commissioner of  
20.17 natural resources must, when evaluating  
20.18 projects of equal value, give priority to  
20.19 organizations that have a history of receiving,  
20.20 or a charter to receive, private contributions  
20.21 for local conservation or habitat projects. If  
20.22 acquiring land in fee or a conservation  
20.23 easement, priority must be given to projects  
20.24 associated with or within one mile of existing  
20.25 wildlife management areas under Minnesota  
20.26 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8;  
20.27 scientific and natural areas under Minnesota  
20.28 Statutes, sections 84.033 and 86A.05,  
20.29 subdivision 5; or aquatic management areas  
20.30 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 86A.05,  
20.31 subdivision 14, and 97C.02. All restoration or  
20.32 enhancement projects must be on land  
20.33 permanently protected by a permanent  
20.34 covenant ensuring perpetual maintenance and  
20.35 protection of restored and enhanced habitat,  
20.36 by a conservation easement or public

21.1 ownership or in public waters as defined in  
 21.2 Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.005,  
 21.3 subdivision 15. Priority must be given to  
 21.4 restoration and enhancement projects on public  
 21.5 lands. Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
 21.6 subdivision 13, applies to grants awarded  
 21.7 under this paragraph. This appropriation is  
 21.8 available until June 30, 2023. No less than five  
 21.9 percent of the amount of each grant must be  
 21.10 held back from reimbursement until the grant  
 21.11 recipient has completed a grant  
 21.12 accomplishment report by the deadline and in  
 21.13 the form prescribed by and satisfactory to the  
 21.14 Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. The  
 21.15 commissioner must provide notice of the grant  
 21.16 program in the summary of game and fish law  
 21.17 prepared under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 21.18 97A.051, subdivision 2.

21.19 **Subd. 6. Administration**

920,000

565,000

21.20 **(a) Contract Management**

21.21 \$210,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
 21.22 of natural resources for contract management  
 21.23 duties assigned in this section. The  
 21.24 commissioner must provide an  
 21.25 accomplishment plan in the form specified by  
 21.26 the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council  
 21.27 on expending this appropriation. The  
 21.28 accomplishment plan must include a copy of  
 21.29 the grant contract template and reimbursement  
 21.30 manual. No money may be expended before  
 21.31 the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council  
 21.32 approves the accomplishment plan.

21.33 **(b) Legislative Coordinating Commission**

21.34 \$555,000 the first year and \$560,000 the  
 21.35 second year are to the Legislative

22.1 Coordinating Commission for administrative  
 22.2 expenses of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor  
 22.3 Heritage Council and for compensating and  
 22.4 reimbursing expenses of council members.  
 22.5 This appropriation is available until June 30,  
 22.6 2021. Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.281,  
 22.7 applies to this appropriation.

22.8 **(c) Technical Evaluation Panel**

22.9 \$150,000 the first year is to the commissioner  
 22.10 of natural resources for a technical evaluation  
 22.11 panel to conduct up to 25 restoration and  
 22.12 enhancement evaluations under Minnesota  
 22.13 Statutes, section 97A.056, subdivision 10.

22.14 **(d) Legacy Website**

22.15 \$5,000 the first year and \$5,000 the second  
 22.16 year are to the Legislative Coordinating  
 22.17 Commission for the website required in  
 22.18 Minnesota Statutes, section 3.303, subdivision  
 22.19 10.

22.20 **Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation**

22.21 Money appropriated in this section may not  
 22.22 be spent on activities unless they are directly  
 22.23 related to and necessary for a specific  
 22.24 appropriation and are specified in the  
 22.25 accomplishment plan approved by the  
 22.26 Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.  
 22.27 Money appropriated in this section must not  
 22.28 be spent on indirect costs or other institutional  
 22.29 overhead charges that are not directly related  
 22.30 to and necessary for a specific appropriation.  
 22.31 Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in  
 22.32 this section are available until June 30, 2022.  
 22.33 For acquisition of real property, the amounts  
 22.34 in this section are available until June 30,

23.1 2023, if a binding agreement with a landowner  
23.2 or purchase agreement is entered into by June  
23.3 30, 2022, and closed no later than June 30,  
23.4 2023. Funds for restoration or enhancement  
23.5 are available until June 30, 2024, or five years  
23.6 after acquisition, whichever is later, in order  
23.7 to complete initial restoration or enhancement  
23.8 work. If a project receives at least 15 percent  
23.9 of its funding from federal funds, the time of  
23.10 the appropriation may be extended to equal  
23.11 the availability of federal funding to a  
23.12 maximum of six years if that federal funding  
23.13 was confirmed and included in the original  
23.14 draft accomplishment plan. Funds appropriated  
23.15 for fee title acquisition of land may be used  
23.16 to restore, enhance, and provide for public use  
23.17 of the land acquired with the appropriation.  
23.18 Public-use facilities must have a minimal  
23.19 impact on habitat in acquired lands.

23.20 **Subd. 8. Payment Conditions and Capital**  
23.21 **Equipment Expenditures**

23.22 All agreements referred to in this section must  
23.23 be administered on a reimbursement basis  
23.24 unless otherwise provided in this section.  
23.25 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
23.26 16A.41, expenditures directly related to each  
23.27 appropriation's purpose made on or after July  
23.28 1, 2019, or the date of accomplishment plan  
23.29 approval, whichever is later, are eligible for  
23.30 reimbursement unless otherwise provided in  
23.31 this section. For the purposes of administering  
23.32 appropriations and legislatively authorized  
23.33 agreements paid out of the outdoor heritage  
23.34 fund, an expense must be considered  
23.35 reimbursable by the administering agency  
23.36 when the recipient presents the agency with

24.1 an invoice, or a binding agreement with the  
24.2 landowner, and the recipient attests that the  
24.3 goods have been received or the landowner  
24.4 agreement is binding. Periodic reimbursement  
24.5 must be made upon receiving documentation  
24.6 that the items articulated in the  
24.7 accomplishment plan approved by the  
24.8 Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council have  
24.9 been achieved, including partial achievements  
24.10 as evidenced by progress reports approved by  
24.11 the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.  
24.12 Reasonable amounts may be advanced to  
24.13 projects to accommodate cash flow needs,  
24.14 support future management of acquired lands,  
24.15 or match a federal share. The advances must  
24.16 be approved as part of the accomplishment  
24.17 plan. Capital equipment expenditures for  
24.18 specific items over \$10,000 must be itemized  
24.19 in and approved as part of the accomplishment  
24.20 plan.

24.21 **Subd. 9. Mapping**

24.22 Each direct recipient of money appropriated  
24.23 in this section, as well as each recipient of a  
24.24 grant awarded according to this section, must  
24.25 provide geographic information to the  
24.26 Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council for  
24.27 mapping of any lands acquired in fee with  
24.28 funds appropriated in this section and open to  
24.29 public taking of fish and game. The  
24.30 commissioner of natural resources must  
24.31 include the lands acquired in fee with money  
24.32 appropriated in this section on maps showing  
24.33 public recreational opportunities. Maps must  
24.34 include information on and acknowledgment

25.1 of the outdoor heritage fund, including a  
25.2 notation of any restrictions.

25.3 **Subd. 10. Carryforwards**

25.4 (a) The availability of the appropriation in  
25.5 Laws 2014, chapter 256, article 1, section 2,  
25.6 subdivision 5, paragraph (k), Evaluate  
25.7 Effectiveness of Aquatic Invasive Species  
25.8 Prevention Strategies, is extended to June 30,  
25.9 2020.

25.10 (b) The availability of the appropriation in  
25.11 Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 2,  
25.12 article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, paragraph  
25.13 (f), Minnesota Buffers for Wildlife and Water  
25.14 - Phase V, is extended to June 30, 2024.

25.15 (c) The availability of the appropriation in  
25.16 Laws 2016, chapter 172, article 1, section 2,  
25.17 subdivision 2, paragraph (g), Reinvest in  
25.18 Minnesota (RIM) Buffers for Wildlife and  
25.19 Water - Phase VI, is extended to June 30,  
25.20 2025.

25.21 (d) This subdivision is effective the day  
25.22 following final enactment.

25.23 Sec. 3. Laws 2015, First Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, as  
25.24 amended by Laws 2016, chapter 172, article 1, section 5, and Laws 2017, chapter 91, article  
25.25 1, section 7, is amended to read:

25.26 **Subd. 2. Prairies** 40,948,000 -0-

25.27 **(a) DNR Wildlife Management Area and**  
25.28 **Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition - Phase**  
25.29 **VII**

25.30 \$4,570,000 in the first year is to the  
25.31 commissioner of natural resources to acquire  
25.32 land in fee for wildlife management purposes  
25.33 under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
25.34 subdivision 8, and to acquire land in fee for

26.1 scientific and natural area purposes under  
 26.2 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
 26.3 subdivision 5. Subject to evaluation criteria  
 26.4 in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority  
 26.5 must be given to acquisition of lands that are  
 26.6 eligible for the native prairie bank under  
 26.7 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
 26.8 adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of  
 26.9 proposed land and permanent conservation  
 26.10 easement acquisitions must be provided as  
 26.11 part of the required accomplishment plan.

26.12 **(b) Accelerating Wildlife Management Area**  
 26.13 **Acquisition - Phase VII**

26.14 \$7,452,000 in the first year is to the  
 26.15 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 26.16 agreement with Pheasants Forever to acquire  
 26.17 land in fee for wildlife management area  
 26.18 purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 26.19 86A.05, subdivision 8. Subject to evaluation  
 26.20 criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900,  
 26.21 priority must be given to acquisition of lands  
 26.22 that are eligible for the native prairie bank  
 26.23 under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or  
 26.24 lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A  
 26.25 list of proposed land acquisitions must be  
 26.26 provided as part of the required  
 26.27 accomplishment plan.

26.28 **(c) Minnesota Prairie Recovery Project - Phase**  
 26.29 **VI**

26.30 \$4,032,000 in the first year is to the  
 26.31 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 26.32 agreement with The Nature Conservancy to  
 26.33 acquire native prairie, wetlands, and savanna  
 26.34 and restore and enhance grasslands, wetlands,  
 26.35 and savanna. Subject to evaluation criteria in  
 26.36 Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority

27.1 must be given to acquisition of lands that are  
27.2 eligible for the native prairie bank under  
27.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
27.4 adjacent to protected native prairie. Annual  
27.5 income statements and balance sheets for  
27.6 income and expenses from land acquired with  
27.7 this appropriation must be submitted to the  
27.8 Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council no  
27.9 later than 180 days following the close of The  
27.10 Nature Conservancy's fiscal year. A list of  
27.11 proposed land acquisitions must be provided  
27.12 as part of the required accomplishment plan  
27.13 and must be consistent with the priorities  
27.14 identified in the Minnesota Prairie  
27.15 Conservation Plan.

27.16 **(d) Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife**  
27.17 **Refuge Land Acquisition - Phase VI**

27.18 \$3,430,000 in the first year is to the  
27.19 commissioner of natural resources for an  
27.20 agreement with The Nature Conservancy in  
27.21 cooperation with the United States Fish and  
27.22 Wildlife Service to acquire land in fee or  
27.23 permanent conservation easements within the  
27.24 Northern Tallgrass Prairie Habitat Preservation  
27.25 Area in western Minnesota for addition to the  
27.26 Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife  
27.27 Refuge. Subject to evaluation criteria in  
27.28 Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority  
27.29 must be given to acquisition of lands that are  
27.30 eligible for the native prairie bank under  
27.31 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
27.32 adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of  
27.33 proposed land acquisitions must be provided  
27.34 as part of the required accomplishment plan  
27.35 and must be consistent with the priorities in  
27.36 the Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan.

28.1 **(e) Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection**  
28.2 **- Phase IV**

28.3 \$3,740,000 in the first year is to the  
28.4 commissioner of natural resources to  
28.5 implement the Minnesota Prairie Conservation  
28.6 Plan through the acquisition of permanent  
28.7 conservation easements to protect native  
28.8 prairie and grasslands. Up to \$165,000 is for  
28.9 establishing monitoring and enforcement funds  
28.10 as approved in the accomplishment plan and  
28.11 subject to Minnesota Statutes, section  
28.12 97A.056, subdivision 17. Subject to evaluation  
28.13 criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900,  
28.14 priority must be given to acquisition of lands  
28.15 that are eligible for the native prairie bank  
28.16 under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or  
28.17 lands adjacent to protected native prairie. A  
28.18 list of permanent conservation easements must  
28.19 be provided as part of the final report.

28.20 **(f) Minnesota Buffers for Wildlife and Water -**  
28.21 **Phase V**

28.22 \$4,544,000 in the first year is to the Board of  
28.23 Water and Soil Resources to acquire  
28.24 permanent conservation easements to protect  
28.25 and enhance habitat by expanding the clean  
28.26 water fund riparian buffer program for at least  
28.27 equal wildlife benefits from buffers on private  
28.28 land. Up to \$728,000 is for establishing a  
28.29 monitoring and enforcement fund as approved  
28.30 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
28.31 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
28.32 subdivision 17. A list of permanent  
28.33 conservation easements must be provided as  
28.34 part of the final report.

28.35 **(g) Cannon River Headwaters Habitat Complex**  
28.36 **- Phase V**

29.1 \$1,380,000 in the first year is to the  
29.2 commissioner of natural resources for an  
29.3 agreement with The Trust for Public Land to  
29.4 acquire and restore lands in the Cannon River  
29.5 watershed for wildlife management purposes  
29.6 under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
29.7 subdivision 8. Subject to evaluation criteria  
29.8 in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority  
29.9 must be given to acquisition of lands that are  
29.10 eligible for the native prairie bank under  
29.11 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
29.12 adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of  
29.13 proposed land acquisitions must be provided  
29.14 as part of the required accomplishment plan.

29.15 **(h) Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the**  
29.16 **Southern Red River Valley**

29.17 \$1,800,000 in the first year is to the  
29.18 commissioner of natural resources for an  
29.19 agreement with Pheasants Forever in  
29.20 cooperation with the Minnesota Prairie  
29.21 Chicken Society to acquire and restore lands  
29.22 in the southern Red River Valley for wildlife  
29.23 management purposes under Minnesota  
29.24 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8, or for  
29.25 designation and management as waterfowl  
29.26 production areas in Minnesota, in cooperation  
29.27 with the United States Fish and Wildlife  
29.28 Service. A list of proposed land acquisitions  
29.29 must be provided as part of the required  
29.30 accomplishment plan.

29.31 **(i) Protecting and Restoring Minnesota's**  
29.32 **Important Bird Areas**

29.33 \$1,730,000 in the first year is to the  
29.34 commissioner of natural resources for  
29.35 agreements to acquire conservation easements  
29.36 within and restore and enhance important bird

30.1 areas identified in the Minnesota Prairie  
 30.2 Conservation Plan, to be used as follows:  
 30.3 \$408,000 is to Audubon Minnesota and  
 30.4 \$1,322,000 is to Minnesota Land Trust, of  
 30.5 which up to \$100,000 is for establishing  
 30.6 monitoring and enforcement funds as approved  
 30.7 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
 30.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
 30.9 subdivision 17. A list of permanent  
 30.10 conservation easements must be provided as  
 30.11 part of the final report. This appropriation is  
 30.12 available until June 30, 2021.

30.13 **(j) Wild Rice River Corridor Habitat**  
 30.14 **Restoration**

30.15 \$2,270,000 in the first year is to the  
 30.16 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 30.17 agreement with the Wild Rice Watershed  
 30.18 District to acquire land in fee and permanent  
 30.19 conservation easement and to restore river and  
 30.20 related habitat in the Wild Rice River corridor.  
 30.21 A list of proposed acquisitions and restorations  
 30.22 must be provided as part of the required  
 30.23 accomplishment plan.

30.24 **(k) Accelerated Prairie Restoration and**  
 30.25 **Enhancement on DNR Lands - Phase VII**

30.26 \$4,880,000 in the first year is to the  
 30.27 commissioner of natural resources to  
 30.28 accelerate the restoration and enhancement of  
 30.29 prairie communities on wildlife management  
 30.30 areas, scientific and natural areas, state forest  
 30.31 land, and land under native prairie bank  
 30.32 easements. A list of proposed land restorations  
 30.33 and enhancements must be provided as part  
 30.34 of the required accomplishment plan.

30.35 **(l) Enhanced Public Land Grasslands - Phase**  
 30.36 **II**

31.1 \$1,120,000 in the first year is to the  
 31.2 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 31.3 agreement with Pheasants Forever to enhance  
 31.4 and restore habitat on public lands. A list of  
 31.5 proposed land restorations and enhancements  
 31.6 must be provided as part of the final report.

31.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2015.

31.8 Sec. 4. Laws 2017, chapter 91, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

31.9	Subd. 2. <b>Prairies</b>	29,489,000	1,373,000
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31.10 **(a) DNR Wildlife Management Area and**  
 31.11 **Scientific and Natural Area Acquisition - Phase**  
 31.12 **IX**

31.13 \$3,064,000 the first year and \$1,373,000 the  
 31.14 second year are to the commissioner of natural  
 31.15 resources to acquire in fee and restore lands  
 31.16 for wildlife management purposes under  
 31.17 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
 31.18 subdivision 8, and to acquire land in fee for  
 31.19 scientific and natural area purposes under  
 31.20 Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
 31.21 subdivision 5. Subject to evaluation criteria  
 31.22 in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900, priority  
 31.23 must be given to acquiring lands that are  
 31.24 eligible for the native prairie bank under  
 31.25 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
 31.26 adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of  
 31.27 proposed land acquisitions must be provided  
 31.28 as part of the required accomplishment plan.

31.29 **(b) Accelerating the Wildlife Management Area**  
 31.30 **Acquisition - Phase IX**

31.31 \$5,603,000 the first year is to the  
 31.32 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 31.33 agreement with Pheasants Forever to acquire  
 31.34 in fee and restore lands for wildlife  
 31.35 management area purposes under Minnesota

32.1 Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8.  
 32.2 Subject to evaluation criteria in Minnesota  
 32.3 Rules, part 6136.0900, priority must be given  
 32.4 to acquiring lands that are eligible for the  
 32.5 native prairie bank under Minnesota Statutes,  
 32.6 section 84.96, or lands adjacent to protected  
 32.7 native prairie. A list of proposed land  
 32.8 acquisitions must be provided as part of the  
 32.9 required accomplishment plan.

32.10 **(c) Minnesota Prairie Recovery Project - Phase**  
 32.11 **VII**

32.12 \$1,901,000 the first year is to the  
 32.13 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 32.14 agreement with The Nature Conservancy to  
 32.15 acquire land in fee for native prairie, wetland,  
 32.16 and savanna and to restore and enhance  
 32.17 grasslands, wetlands, and savanna. Subject to  
 32.18 evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part  
 32.19 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring  
 32.20 lands that are eligible for the native prairie  
 32.21 bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96,  
 32.22 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie.  
 32.23 No later than 180 days after The Nature  
 32.24 Conservancy's fiscal year ends, The Nature  
 32.25 Conservancy must submit to the Lessard-Sams  
 32.26 Outdoor Heritage Council annual income  
 32.27 statements and balance sheets for income and  
 32.28 expenses from land acquired with this  
 32.29 appropriation. A list of proposed land  
 32.30 acquisitions must be provided as part of the  
 32.31 required accomplishment plan and must be  
 32.32 consistent with the priorities identified in  
 32.33 Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan.

32.34 **(d) Northern Tallgrass Prairie National Wildlife**  
 32.35 **Refuge Land Acquisition - Phase VIII**

33.1 \$2,683,000 the first year is to the  
33.2 commissioner of natural resources for an  
33.3 agreement with The Nature Conservancy in  
33.4 cooperation with the United States Fish and  
33.5 Wildlife Service to acquire land in fee or  
33.6 permanent conservation easements and restore  
33.7 lands in the Northern Tallgrass Prairie Habitat  
33.8 Preservation Area in western Minnesota for  
33.9 addition to the Northern Tallgrass Prairie  
33.10 National Wildlife Refuge. Subject to  
33.11 evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part  
33.12 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring  
33.13 lands that are eligible for the native prairie  
33.14 bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96,  
33.15 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie.  
33.16 A list of proposed land acquisitions must be  
33.17 provided as part of the required  
33.18 accomplishment plan, and the acquisitions  
33.19 must be consistent with the priorities in  
33.20 Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan.

33.21 **(e) Cannon River Headwaters Habitat Complex**  
33.22 **- Phase VII**

33.23 \$1,436,000 the first year is to the  
33.24 commissioner of natural resources for an  
33.25 agreement with The Trust for Public Land to  
33.26 acquire in fee and restore lands in the Cannon  
33.27 River watershed for wildlife management  
33.28 purposes under Minnesota Statutes, section  
33.29 86A.05, subdivision 8. Subject to evaluation  
33.30 criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900,  
33.31 priority must be given to acquiring lands that  
33.32 are eligible for the native prairie bank under  
33.33 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
33.34 adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of  
33.35 proposed land acquisitions must be provided  
33.36 as part of the required accomplishment plan.

34.1 **(f) Accelerated Native Prairie Bank Protection**  
34.2 **- Phase VI**

34.3 \$2,481,000 the first year is to the  
34.4 commissioner of natural resources to acquire  
34.5 permanent conservation easements to  
34.6 implement the strategies in Minnesota Prairie  
34.7 Conservation Plan to protect and restore native  
34.8 prairie. Of this amount, up to \$140,000 is for  
34.9 establishing monitoring and enforcement funds  
34.10 as approved in the accomplishment plan and  
34.11 subject to Minnesota Statutes, section  
34.12 97A.056, subdivision 17. Subject to evaluation  
34.13 criteria in Minnesota Rules, part 6136.0900,  
34.14 priority must be given to acquiring lands that  
34.15 are eligible for the native prairie bank under  
34.16 Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96, or lands  
34.17 adjacent to protected native prairie. A list of  
34.18 permanent conservation easements must be  
34.19 provided as part of the final report.

34.20 **(g) Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) Buffers for**  
34.21 **Wildlife and Water - Phase VII**

34.22 \$5,333,000 the first year is to the Board of  
34.23 Water and Soil Resources to restore habitat  
34.24 and acquire permanent conservation easements  
34.25 under Minnesota Statutes, section 103F.515,  
34.26 to protect, restore, and enhance habitat by  
34.27 expanding the riparian-buffer program of the  
34.28 clean water fund for at least equal wildlife  
34.29 benefits from buffers on private land. Of this  
34.30 amount, up to \$858,000 is for establishing a  
34.31 monitoring and enforcement fund as approved  
34.32 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
34.33 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
34.34 subdivision 17. A list of permanent  
34.35 conservation easements must be provided as  
34.36 part of the final report.

35.1 **(h) Prairie Chicken Habitat Partnership of the**  
 35.2 **Southern Red River Valley - Phase III**

35.3 \$1,908,000 the first year is to the  
 35.4 commissioner of natural resources for an  
 35.5 agreement with Pheasants Forever in  
 35.6 cooperation with the Minnesota Prairie  
 35.7 Chicken Society to acquire land in fee and  
 35.8 restore and enhance lands in the southern Red  
 35.9 River valley for wildlife management purposes  
 35.10 under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05,  
 35.11 subdivision 8, or to be designated and  
 35.12 managed as waterfowl-production areas in  
 35.13 Minnesota in cooperation with the United  
 35.14 States Fish and Wildlife Service. Subject to  
 35.15 evaluation criteria in Minnesota Rules, part  
 35.16 6136.0900, priority must be given to acquiring  
 35.17 lands that are eligible for the native prairie  
 35.18 bank under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.96,  
 35.19 or lands adjacent to protected native prairie.  
 35.20 A list of proposed land acquisitions must be  
 35.21 provided as part of the required  
 35.22 accomplishment plan.

35.23 **(i) Accelerated Prairie Restoration and**  
 35.24 **Enhancement on DNR Lands - Phase IX**

35.25 \$3,950,000 the first year is to the  
 35.26 commissioner of natural resources to  
 35.27 accelerate restoration and enhancement of  
 35.28 prairies, grasslands, and savannas on wildlife  
 35.29 management areas, scientific and natural areas,  
 35.30 native prairie bank land, bluff prairies on state  
 35.31 forest land in southeastern Minnesota, and  
 35.32 United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
 35.33 waterfowl-production area and refuge lands.  
 35.34 A list of proposed land restorations and  
 35.35 enhancements must be provided as part of the  
 35.36 required accomplishment plan.

36.1 **(j) ~~Anoka Sandplain~~ Sand Plain Habitat**  
36.2 **Restoration and Enhancement - Phase V**

36.3 \$1,130,000 the first year is to the  
36.4 commissioner of natural resources for  
36.5 agreements to acquire permanent conservation  
36.6 easements and to restore and enhance wildlife  
36.7 habitat on public lands in ~~Anoka, Benton,~~  
36.8 ~~Isanti, Morrison, and Stearns Counties~~ the  
36.9 Anoka Sand Plain ecoregion and intersecting  
36.10 minor watersheds as follows: \$41,000 is to the  
36.11 Anoka Conservation District, \$231,000 is to  
36.12 the Isanti County Soil and Water Conservation  
36.13 District, \$345,000 is to Great River Greening,  
36.14 \$163,000 is to the Stearns County Soil and  
36.15 Water Conservation District, and \$350,000 is  
36.16 to Minnesota Land Trust. Up to \$40,000 to  
36.17 Minnesota Land Trust is for establishing  
36.18 monitoring and enforcement funds as approved  
36.19 in the accomplishment plan and subject to  
36.20 Minnesota Statutes, section 97A.056,  
36.21 subdivision 17. A list of proposed permanent  
36.22 conservation easements, restorations, and  
36.23 enhancements must be provided as part of the  
36.24 required accomplishment plan.

36.25 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2017.