

## Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road · Saint Paul, Minnesota · 55155-4037

Office of the Commissioner

651-259-5555



June 1, 2009

Peter S. Wattson  
Secretary of the Senate  
231 State Capitol

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Albin Mathiowetz

Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives  
211 State Capitol

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Dear Secretary Watson and Chief Clerk Mathiowetz:

Enclosed is the Department of Natural Resources' current dam safety program project priority needs list. It is being submitted in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 103G.511, subdivision 12, which requires the DNR to prioritize and report dam project needs to the legislature by June 1 of each odd-numbered year.

The list reflects changes that were necessary to accommodate additional funding that is needed to complete the New London Dam in Kandiyohi County. We had expected 2006 funding to cover the costs for this project; however, the final design resulted in a more complex and consequently more expensive project. The project design will be completed within a month and the project is scheduled for construction in 2010.

This high hazard New London Dam project will be completed using some of the 2008 bonding funds previously designated towards the Lake Bronson Dam, and Clayton Lake Dam (L08, C179, S7, Subd 6). These two projects will be deferred to the next bonding cycle for the following reasons: the Clayton Lake Dam is a lower hazard potential dam; and the Lake Bronson Dam project is a high hazard dam that is not ready to proceed as an estimated \$9 million is needed to reconstruct the dam and that funding has not been procured.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mark Holsten'.

Mark Holsten  
Commissioner

c: Legislative Reference Library (6 copies)  
645 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1050

**Dam Safety Program - Project Priority Needs List**  
**Prepared as directed by Minnesota Statutes Section 103G.511, Subdivision 12**  
*(Dollars in thousands)*

**DNR Waters**

Updated June 1, 2009

Priority Ranking	Name	Owner	County	DNR Region	Hazard Class	Project Type	Est Cost	State's Cost	Cumulative State Cost	Primary Needs	Comments
funded	Shell Rock (Albert Lea Lake)	County	Freeborn	4	2-Med.	Replace	\$500	\$250		maintain lake levels	
funded	Rush Creek	DNR	Chisago	3	N/A	Remove/restore	\$200	\$200		restore fish passage	
funded	*New London	DNR	Kandiyohi	4	1-High	Rehabilitate	\$2,950	\$2,950		safety/maintain lake levels	use \$1 Million of 2008 bonding
funded	Jackson	City	Jackson	4	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$1,000	\$150		safety/restore fish passage	
funded	King's Mill (Faribault)	County	Rice	4	1-High	Modify eng.	\$200	\$100		safety/maintain flood control	
funded	Windom	City	Cottonwood	4	N/A	Remove/restore	\$300	\$150		safety/restore fish passage	
funded	Cross Lake	DNR	Pine	2	3-Low	Modify	\$225	\$225		safety/restore fish passage	
funded	Hartley (Duluth)	City	St. Louis	2	1-High	Modify	\$500	\$250		safety/maintain lake levels	
funded	Luverne	City	Rock	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$150	\$75		safety/restore fish passage	
1	*Lake Bronson	DNR	Kittson	1	1-High	Rehab. eng.	\$800	\$800	\$800	safety/maintain lake levels	Final design work; \$9M reconstruction est.
2	*Pike River	DNR	St. Louis	2	2-Med.	Modify eng.	\$225	\$225	\$1,025	safety/maintain lake levels	poor condition
3	*Clayton Lake	DNR	Pine	2	3-Low	Repair	\$325	\$325	\$1,350	safety/historic preservation	historic, project is ready
4	Montevideo	City	Chippewa	4	2-Med.	Remove	\$300	\$150	\$1,500	safety/restore fish passage	community support for removal, damaged
5	Lanesboro	City	Fillmore	3	1-High	Repair/rehab	\$900	\$450	\$1,950	safety/historic preservation	FEMA; check if still high hazard
6	Drayton	Drayton, ND	Kittson	1	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$1,000	\$250	\$2,200	safety/restore fish passage	many deaths, issues; \$ for MN side only
7	Champlin Mill Pond	City	Hennepin	3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$500	\$250	\$2,450	safety	WSB study, ownership, water quality
8	Milaca	City	Mille Lacs	3	3-Low	Remove	\$300	\$150	\$2,600	safety/restore fish passage	drowning machine, City would like to keep
9	Hallock	City	Kittson	1	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$300	\$150	\$2,750	safety/restore fish passage	need better PR, golf course, communicate
10	Byllesby	County	Dakota/Goodhue	3	1-High	Repair	\$4,800	\$2,400	\$5,150	safety	PMF increase in capacity via FERC
11	Balsam Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Repair	\$250	\$250	\$5,400	safety/maintain lake levels	Local support; concrete deterioration
12	Perkins Lake	DNR	Stevens	3	3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$5,600	safety/maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel and redo; remove crossing
13	Brawner	DNR	Lyon	4	3-Low	Repair/remove	\$250	\$250	\$5,850	safety	trail over it, in bad shape, Parks
14	Rum River (Anoka)	City	Anoka	3	3-Low	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$6,150	safety	Ekman-inquiry; flashboard, big gate
15	Homer township/Pickwick	Township	Winona	3	2-Med.	Repair/modify	\$300	\$150	\$6,300	safety/maintain lake levels	FEMA?; order to repair, verify hazard
16	Sunrise River Pool #1	DNR	Chisago	3	3-Low	Modify	\$75	\$75	\$6,375	safety	might act as a drowning machine
17	Sunrise River Pool #2	DNR	Chisago	3	3-Low	Modify	\$75	\$75	\$6,450	safety	might act as a drowning machine
18	Shady Lake	County	Olmsted	3	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$400	\$200	\$6,650	safety/maintain lake levels	wait to see how study turns out
19	Clearwater River	Counties	Stearns/Wright	3	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$150	\$6,800	safety	recent bike trail
20	Big Stone Lake	WD/DNR	Big Stone	4	2-Med.	Modify	\$50	\$50	\$6,850	safety	Corps acceptance needed
21	Woolen Mill (Faribault)	City	Rice	4	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$400	\$200	\$7,050	safety	need scope of project
22	Knife Lake	LID	Kanabec	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$500	\$250	\$7,300	safety	drowning machine?, Joe Raiolo, \$ seems high
23	State Hospital Pond	State	Nicollet	4	2-Med.	Remove/modify	\$500	\$500	\$7,800	safety	buildings may get wet, prefer removal
24	Sunrise River (Kost)	County	Chisago	3	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$50	\$7,850	safety	Fishing hole; need further discussions
25	Fish Lake	DNR	Kanabec	3	3-Low	Modify	\$250	\$250	\$8,100	safety/restore fish passage	Fisheries support-info sheet; keep "hole"
26	Pelican Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$8,300	maintain lake levels	Local support is high
26	Round	DNR	Becker	1	3-Low	Modify	\$25	\$25	\$8,325	fish passage/maintain lake	Merritt-fish/bridge project
27	Sullivan Lake	DNR	Morrison	3	3-Low	Replace	\$100	\$100	\$8,425	maintain lake levels	Local support; sheet piling and earth work
28	Madison Lake	?	Blue Earth	4	3-Low	Replace	\$100	\$100	\$8,525	maintain lake levels	orphan dam?
29	Height of Land Lake	DNR	Becker	1	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$8,625	maintain lake levels	Don-cut low piers and repairs-bog
30	Lizzie	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Modify	\$25	\$25	\$8,650	maintain lake levels	maintainance headache-bogs
31	Dam Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$8,750	maintain lake levels	Lonnie-deteriorated
32	Sand Hill Lake	DNR	Polk	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$8,850	fish passage/maintain lake	Bezek-fish passage, frost heave
33	Stalker	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$8,875	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, repair abutment
34	Ten Mile	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$8,975	maintain lake levels	Don-redo dam and embankment
35	Deer Lake at Effie	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Replace	\$250	\$250	\$9,225	safety/aesthetics	Don-fix abutment
36	Eagle Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$9,250	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, tampering
37	Hanging Kettle Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$9,350	maintain lake levels	Don/Lonnie- abutments falling
38	Long (Tamefish)	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$50	\$50	\$9,400	maintain lake levels	sheep pile heave, rocks and debris
39	Ripple Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$9,500	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, abutment failing
40	Wynne	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$9,600	safety	Don-6 bays open, log jam
41	Pine Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$9,750	maintain lake levels	Lonnie-not high priority, but keep on list
42	George Lake	DNR	Anoka	3	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$9,800	maintain lake levels	should install heavy sheetpile
43	Northern Light Lake	DNR/USFS	Cook	2	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$9,850	maintain lake levels	need internal discussions
44	Melrose	City	Stearns	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$400	\$200	\$10,050	safety	Lais-shoreland stabilization
45	Sylvia	DNR	Stearns	3	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$10,100	fish passage/maintain lake	Lais-removal/riffle abutment repair
46	Abandoned mining dams	State	Various	2		Repair/remove	\$500	\$500	\$10,600	safety	contact Jim Sellner, research

\*The list shows that the New London Dam reconstruction will be funded using 2008 bonding originally designated towards Lake Bronson, Pike River, and Clayton Lake. New London was the #1 priority on the 2006 priority list. The most recent cost estimate is higher than was originally estimated in 2006, thus the need for additional funding. We propose to use 2008 bonding to fund the New London project since it is a high-hazard dam that is nearly ready for reconstruction, while the others are not ready or are of a lower hazard.

<i>The remaining projects are grouped by DNR Region and are not prioritized.</i>										
Shell Lake	DNR	Becker	1	3-Low	Repair	\$75	\$75	\$10,675	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
Hattie Lake	DNR	Cass	1	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$10,700	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, dam ok
Miltona Lake	DNR	Douglas	1	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$10,850	maintain lake levels	
Upper Hunt Lake	DNR	Douglas	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$10,950	maintain lake levels	
Park Rapids (Fish Hook)	City	Hubbard	1	2-Med.	Repair	\$300	\$150	\$11,100	safety	
Portage Lake	DNR	Hubbard	1	3-Low	Repair	\$200	\$200	\$11,300	maintain lake levels	
Stephen	City	Marshall	1	3-Low	Modify	\$200	\$100	\$11,400	safety/restore fish passage	
Blanche	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$11,500	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete pier deterioration
Fergus Falls	City	Otter Tail	1	N/A	Remove remnant	\$100	\$100	\$11,600	safety	
Little Pine Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$11,700	maintain lake levels	Don-put top row in steel
Long (Dalton)	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$11,750	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
Long (Elizabeth)	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$11,800	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
Prairie Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$11,900	maintain lake levels	
Rose Lake	DNR	Otter Tail	1	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$12,000	maintain lake levels	
Crissy Lake	DNR	Stevens	1	2-Med.	Modify	\$300	\$300	\$12,300	safety/restore fish passage	
Hill Lake	DNR	Aitkin	2	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$12,350	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel
Greer Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$12,450	maintain lake levels	
O'Brien Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$12,550	maintain lake levels	steel recently installed
Round Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$12,575	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, concrete deterioration
Upper South Long Lake	DNR	Crow Wing	2	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$12,600	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, dam ok
Buck Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Modify	\$100	\$100	\$12,700	safety/aesthetics	
Splithand Lake	DNR	Itasca	2	3-Low	Remove	\$100	\$100	\$12,800	safety/aesthetics	
Grindstone River (Hinckley)	DNR	Pine	2	2-Med.	Replace/modify	\$500	\$500	\$13,300	safety	
Willow River	DNR	Pine	2	2-Med.	Modify	\$300	\$300	\$13,600	safety	
Bear Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Replace	\$100	\$100	\$13,700	maintain lake levels	
Esquagama Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair/modify	\$500	\$500	\$14,200	maintain lake levels	Don-?
Floodwood	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$14,300	safety/maintain lake levels	Don-dam ok?
Pequaywan	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$50	\$50	\$14,350	safety/maintain lake levels	Don-fix eroded hole on apron
Sturgeon Lake	DNR	St. Louis	2	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$14,450	maintain lake levels	Don-?
Bucksport	private	Fillmore	3	3-Low	Remove	\$200	\$200	\$14,650	safety	
Mayowood (Rochester)	City	Olmsted	3	3-Low	Modify	\$500	\$250	\$14,900	safety	
Silver Lake (Rochester)	City	Olmsted	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$15,200	safety	
Cold Spring	DNR	Stearns	3	3-Low	Modify	\$500	\$500	\$15,700	safety	
Eden Lake	DNR	Stearns	3	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$15,850	maintain lake levels	Don-put in stoplogs
Sauk Centre	City	Stearns	3	2-Med.	Modify	\$500	\$250	\$16,100	safety	
Fairhaven	County	Wright/Stearns	3	3-Low	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$16,400	safety	
Rapidan	County	Blue Earth	4	2-Med.	Remove	\$15,000	\$7,500	\$23,900	safety/river restoration	
Springfield	not known	Brown	4	3-Low	Remove/modfy	\$300	\$150	\$24,050	safety/restore fish passage	
Talcof Lake	DNR	Cottonwood	4	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$24,200	safety/maintain lake levels	
Warren Lake	DNR	Cottonwood	4	3-Low	Repair	\$250	\$250	\$24,450	safety/maintain lake levels	
Mantorville	City	Dodge	4	3-Low	Repair/Modify	\$300	\$150	\$24,600	safety/maintain lake levels	
Fountain Lake (Albert Lea)	City	Freeborn	4	3-Low	Modify	\$300	\$150	\$24,750	safety	
Freeborn Lake	DNR	Freeborn	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$24,850	maintain lake levels	
Washington Lake	not known	LeSueur	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$100	\$24,950	maintain lake levels	
4th Street (Austin)	private	Mower	4	3-Low	Remove	\$250	\$250	\$25,200	safety	
Louise Lake	DNR	Mower	4	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$300	\$25,500	safety/restore fish passage	
Ramsey (Austin)	private	Mower	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$250	\$250	\$25,750	safety	
Ocheda	DNR	Nobles	4	3-Low	Repair	\$25	\$25	\$25,775	maintain lake levels	Don-put in steel, tampering
Lamberton	County	Redwood	4	3-Low	Remove/modify	\$300	\$150	\$25,925	safety/restore fish passage	
Sanborn	not known	Redwood	4	3-Low	Remove/modfy	\$300	\$150	\$26,075	safety/restore fish passage	
Blue Mounds (Lower)	DNR	Rock	4	3-Low	Repair	\$300	\$300	\$26,375	maintain lake levels/historic pres.	
Curran Lake	County	Sibley	4	3-Low	Repair	\$100	\$50	\$26,425	maintain lake levels	
High Island	DNR	Sibley	4	3-Low	Remove	\$200	\$200	\$26,625	safety/restore fish passage	
Elysian Lake	DNR	Waseca	4	3-Low	Repair	\$150	\$150	\$26,775	maintain lake levels	
Moonan Marsh	DNR	Waseca	4	3-Low	Repair	\$250	\$250	\$27,025	maintain lake levels	
Granite Falls	City	Yellow Medicine	4	1-High	Modify	\$600	\$300	\$27,325	safety	

**Notes:**

- 1) Priorities are subject to change based on results of dam safety inspections, readiness of local project sponsors, opportunities for piggybacking projects, etc.
- 2) All cost estimates are preliminary; actual costs will depend on final project design and construction bids received.
- 3) MS Section 103G.511 authorizes matching grants to local governments and requires legislative approval of projects or grants of \$250,000 or more.
- 4) MS Section 103G.515 authorizes the state to pay the full cost of dam removals under certain conditions.
- 5) "Remove/modify" means a final decision has not been made on whether the dam will be removed or modified.

For more information contact: Kent Lokkesmoe at (651) 259-5701 or Dave Leuthe at (651) 259-5709 or Jason Boyle at (651) 259-5715.

## **103G.511 PUBLICLY OWNED DAM REPAIR.**

Subd. 6. **Determination of grant.** The commissioner shall consider all relevant factors in determining whether to repair or reconstruct a state-owned dam or to make a grant to a political subdivision including:

- (1) the age and type of construction of the dam;
- (2) the use of the dam for water supply, flood control, navigation, hydroelectric power generation, recreation, wildlife management, scenic value, or other purposes related to public health, safety, and welfare;
- (3) the consequences of abandonment, removal, or alteration of the dam;
- (4) prospective future uses of the dam; and
- (5) the relative importance of the dam to the statewide water resource program.

Subd. 12. **Priority list of dams needing repair.** After reviewing examinations of dams owned by the state and political subdivisions, the commissioner shall prioritize the state and political subdivision dams in need of repair, reconstruction, or removal and report by June 1 of each odd-numbered year to the legislature. The commissioner must prioritize projects considering danger to life, damage to property, and the factors listed in subdivision 6.