

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES

Environmental Permit Performance:
Report for Fiscal Year 2016
150-Day and 90-Day Permit Decision Goals



September 2, 2016

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Background

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) mission is to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state's natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life. The DNR uses a wide range of programs to fulfill this mission, including permitting programs established by the Minnesota Legislature. Many of these have been in place for decades. More recently, the Legislature has created other programs to address new resource management concerns. It is important to review regulatory programs over time to ensure that they continue to address the needs of the state. The DNR is committed to maintaining a modern, efficient and effective regulatory system.

This report meets the requirements of Minnesota Statute (MS) 84.027, Subd. 14a.

Scope of Report: Environmental and Natural Resource Permits

The DNR is reporting on the following natural resource permits:

- Aquatic plant management permits
- Water appropriation permits
- Public waters work permits
- Endangered or threatened species taking permits
- Metallic mineral mining permits (ferrous and non-ferrous)
- Peat mining permits

These permits are relevant to the concerns underlying MS 84.027 Subd. 14a. This report does not include other DNR permit programs that focus mainly on recreational activities such as hunting and fishing.

Summary Statistics for 150-Day and 90- Day Goal Attainment

The DNR's goal is to approve or deny permit applications within 90 days of receiving an initial application (tier 1 permit applications) or within 150 days of receiving an initial application (tier 2 permit applications). Tier 1 permit applications, which are subject to the 90 day goal, include general permits for work in public waters in addition to water appropriation and aquatic plant management permit renewals that do not require a site inspection. The DNR manages a large number of permit applications. DNR permitting activity for fiscal year 2016 included:

- 774 permit applications in progress on July 1, 2015,
- 7,658 new applications received,

- 7,604 applications approved or denied,
- 389 applications withdrawn, and
- 439 applications in progress after June 30, 2016

DNR continued to do well with its permitting goals. However, many permit applications are not filled out correctly, and DNR staff must spend time getting the additional information. This can delay permitting decisions. Table 1 summarizes how well DNR met its 90-day goal for tier 1 applications and table 2 summarizes how well DNR met its 150-day goal for tier 2 applications.

Of the 4,763 tier 1 permit applications where a decision was made¹ in fiscal year 2016:

- 4,592 tier 1 permit applications, 96%, were approved or denied within 90 days of receiving an initial application
- 4,735 tier 1 permit applications, 99%, were approved or denied within 90 day of receiving a complete application
- 28 tier 1 permit applications, less than 1%, took longer than 90 days to approve or deny following a complete application

Of the 2,887 tier 2 permit applications where a decision was made¹ in fiscal year 2016:

- 2,641 tier 2 permit applications, 91%, were approved or denied within 150 days of receiving an initial application
- 2,798 tier 2 permit applications, 97%, were approved or denied within 150 days of a receiving a complete application
- 89 tier 2 permit applications, 3%, took longer than 150 days to approve or deny following a complete application

Table 3 shows the causes of delay for the 28 tier 1 permit decisions that took more than 90 days from a complete application² for a DNR decision. Table 4 shows the causes of delay for the 89 tier 2 permit decisions that took more than 150 days from a complete application² for a DNR decision. Incomplete applications were the primary cause for the permits that were not approved or denied within 90/150 days of initial application.

¹ Aquatic Plant Management program includes withdrawn applications in the “decisions made” count.

² The Aquatic Plant Management program lists permits where the decision exceeded 90/150-days from initial application and may include withdrawn permits. Other programs list permits where the decision exceeded 90/150-days from a complete application and do not include withdrawn permits.

Table 1: Summary Statistics for Tier 1 Permits (90 days)

7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016

Permit Program	Permit applications Received	Active applications carried over from previous period	Permit applications deemed complete	Total Decisions Made	Decisions made within 90 days of initial application	Exceeding 90 days from initial application but Within 90 days of a complete application	Exceeding 90 days from a complete application	Withdrawn Applications	Active Applications at the End of Reporting Period	Median Days to decision from complete application: new applications	Median Days to decision from complete application: permit modifications
Water Appropriations	745	20	740	705	678	26	1	38	22	2	1
Public Waters Work	229	75	245	260	190	59	11	14	30	30	1
Aquatic Plant Management ³	3763	45	3798	3798	3724	58	16	20	10	N/A	N/A
Endangered Species Takings											
Mine – Iron Ore and Taconite											
Mine – Non-Ferrous Metallic Minerals											
Mine – Peat											
Total	4737	140	4783	4763	4592	143	28	72	62	N/A	N/A

³ Aquatic Plant Management program includes withdrawn applications in the “decisions made” count.

Table 2: Summary Statistics Tier 2 Permits (150 days)

7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016

Permit Program	Permit applications Received	Active applications carried over from previous period	Permit applications deemed complete	Total Decisions Made	Decisions made within 150 days of initial application	Exceeding 150 days from initial application but within 150 days of a complete application	Exceeding 150 days from a complete application	Withdrawn Applications	Active Applications at the End of Reporting Period	Median Days to decision from complete application: new applications	Median Days to decision from complete application: permit modifications
Water Appropriations	785	300	807	734	580	83	71	185	166	48	1
Public Waters Work	717	184	741	599	536	55	8	105	197	33	12
Aquatic Plant Management ⁴	1403	124	1523	1523	1500	14	9	26	4	5	20
Endangered Species Takings	10	15	13	25	20	5	0	0	0	108	N/A
Mine – Iron Ore and Taconite	4	11	6	6	5	0	1	1	8	N/A	4
Mine – Non-Ferrous Metallic Minerals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
Mine – Peat	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	N/A	N/A
Total	2921	634	3090	2887	2641	157	89	317	377	N/A	N/A

⁴ Aquatic Plant Management program includes withdrawn applications in the “decisions made” count.

Table 3: Causes for Delay on Permit Decisions Taking Longer than 90 Days (Tier 1 Permits)⁵

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reason for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff ⁶	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
2015-1292	Public Waters Work	10	Issued			X			
2015-1790	Public Waters Work	10	Issued			X			
2015-1785	Public Waters Work	11	Issued			X			
2015-1269	Public Waters Work	13	Issued				X		
2015-1754	Public Waters Work	15	Issued			X			
2015-1563	Public Waters Work	16	Issued			X			
2015-1736	Public Waters Work	17	Issued			X			
2015-1892	Public Waters Work	18	Issued			X			
2015-1717	Water Appropriation	22	Issued			X			
2015-1825	Public Waters Work	33	Issued			X			
2015-2413	Public Waters Work	75	Issued			X			
2015-1598	Public Waters Work	133	Issued			X			

⁵ The Aquatic Plant Management program lists permits where the decision exceeded 90-days from initial application and may include withdrawn permits. Other programs list permits where the decision exceeded 90-days from a complete application and do not include withdrawn permits.

⁶ Aquatic Plant Management staff in the Bemidji Office are assigned to aeration duties in the winter months when many applications were received. Since the applications were received before ice out, the specialist waited until aeration duties were completed before working on Aquatic Plant Management permit applications. All of the permits were issued before they were needed.

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reason for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff ⁶	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
15F-4209	Aquatic Plant Management	129	Withdrawn		X				
16F-10024	Aquatic Plant Management	96	permit issued			X			
16F-10283	Aquatic Plant Management	91	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0031	Aquatic Plant Management	113	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0033	Aquatic Plant Management	94	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0049	Aquatic Plant Management	108	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0052	Aquatic Plant Management	143	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0060	Aquatic Plant Management	134	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0099	Aquatic Plant Management	109	3 - permit issued marked for follow-			X			
16F-1A0100	Aquatic Plant Management	110	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0101	Aquatic Plant Management	108	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0102	Aquatic Plant Management	109	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0103	Aquatic Plant Management	105	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0104	Aquatic Plant Management	111	permit issued			X			

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reason for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff ⁶	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
16F-1A0105	Aquatic Plant Management	107	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0106	Aquatic Plant Management	105	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0129	Aquatic Plant Management	105	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0130	Aquatic Plant Management	108	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0131	Aquatic Plant Management	108	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0154	Aquatic Plant Management	108	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0155	Aquatic Plant Management	104	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0172	Aquatic Plant Management	98	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0173	Aquatic Plant Management	99	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0174	Aquatic Plant Management	98	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0175	Aquatic Plant Management	99	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0176	Aquatic Plant Management	99	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0189	Aquatic Plant Management	102	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0205	Aquatic Plant Management	102	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0206	Aquatic Plant Management	99	permit issued			X			

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reason for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff ⁶	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
16F-1A0207	Aquatic Plant Management	102	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0211	Aquatic Plant Management	103	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0212	Aquatic Plant Management	103	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0233	Aquatic Plant Management	100	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0234	Aquatic Plant Management	96	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0235	Aquatic Plant Management	97	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0236	Aquatic Plant Management	100	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0237	Aquatic Plant Management	97	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0238	Aquatic Plant Management	98	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0251	Aquatic Plant Management	125	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0252	Aquatic Plant Management	125	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0274	Aquatic Plant Management	92	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0275	Aquatic Plant Management	96	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0288	Aquatic Plant Management	93	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0295	Aquatic Plant Management	93	permit issued			X			

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reason for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff ⁶	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
16F-1A0423	Aquatic Plant Management	98	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0425	Aquatic Plant Management	134	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0456	Aquatic Plant Management	93	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0472	Aquatic Plant Management	110	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0657	Aquatic Plant Management	93	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0658	Aquatic Plant Management	93	permit issued			X			
16F-1A0661	Aquatic Plant Management	97	permit issued			X			
16F-1A1202	Aquatic Plant Management	134	permit issued			X			
16F-2B0001	Aquatic Plant Management	164	permit issued		X				
16F-2B0007	Aquatic Plant Management	139	permit issued		X				
16F-3A286	Aquatic Plant Management	106	permit issued		X				

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reason for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff ⁶	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
16F-3B318	Aquatic Plant Management	99	permit issued		X				
16W-1B0001	Aquatic Plant Management	102	permit issued		X				
16W-2B03	Aquatic Plant Management	162	permit issued		X				
16W-3A010	Aquatic Plant Management	179	permit withdrawn		X				
16W-3A034	Aquatic Plant Management	125	permit issued		X				
16W-3B001	Aquatic Plant Management	137	permit issued			X			
16W-3B004	Aquatic Plant Management	137	permit issued			X			
16W-3B005	Aquatic Plant Management	137	permit issued			X			
16W-3B006	Aquatic Plant Management	137	permit issued			X			
16W-3B009	Aquatic Plant Management	105	permit issued			X			
16W-3B010	Aquatic Plant Management	105	permit issued			X			

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reason for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff ⁶	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
16W-3B028	Aquatic Plant Management	99	permit issued			X			
16W-3B053	Aquatic Plant Management	107	permit issued			X			
16W-4001	Aquatic Plant Management	151	permit issued			X			
16W-4005	Aquatic Plant Management	157	permit issued			X			
16W-4006	Aquatic Plant Management	167	permit issued			X			
16W-4014	Aquatic Plant Management	154	permit issued			X			
16W-4015	Aquatic Plant Management	159	permit issued			X			

Table 4: Causes for Delay on Permit Decisions Taking Longer than 150 Days (Tier 2 Permits)⁷

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsive-ness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
1976-3065	Water Appropriation	1	Amended				X		
1979-3131	Water Appropriation	1	Amended			X			
2012-0828	Water Appropriation	1	Amended			X			
2014-1850	Water Appropriation	1	Amended			X			
2015-0976	Water Appropriation	1	Issued				X		
2015-1397	Public Waters Work	1	Issued						Significant scope and complexity of the project
2014-1709	Water Appropriation	4	Issued				X		
2014-2420	Water Appropriation	5	Issued			X			
2014-1798	Water Appropriation	6	Issued			X			
2015-0948	Water Appropriation	6	Issued				X		
2015-2113	Water Appropriation	6	Issued						Cumulative impact concerns in a groundwater management area
2015-0925	Water Appropriation	8	Issued			X			
2014-2111	Public Waters Work	9	Issued			X			

⁷ The Aquatic Plant Management program lists permits where the decision exceeded 150-days from initial application and may include withdrawn applications. Other programs list permits where the decision exceeded 150-days from a complete application and do not include withdrawn applications.

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
2015-1487	Water Appropriation	11	Issued						The authorization to issue this permit was overlooked while the hydraulics report was updated
2014-2476	Water Appropriation	12	Issued			X			
2015-2527	Public Waters Work	12	Issued				X		
2007-0723	Water Appropriation	13	Amended						Working with the applicant to develop a monitoring plan
2014-0750	Public Waters Work	13	Issued						A complicated site to evaluate the project proposal
2015-0861	Water Appropriation	13	Issued			X			
2015-0984	Water Appropriation	13	Issued			X			
2008-0758	Water Appropriation	14	Amended			X			
2014-0896	Water Appropriation	15	Issued			X			
2015-1495	Water Appropriation	15	Issued				X		
2014-0257	Water Appropriation	16	Issued						Part of a well interference case which needed to be settled before issuance
2015-1954	Public Waters Work	16	Issued						Legal question around a city shoreland ordinance needed to be resolved before the permit was issued.
2005-3128	Water Appropriation	19	Amended				X		
2015-2050	Public Waters Work	19	Issued						Confirmation of outlet elevation based on previous runout. Consideration of several previous surveys.
2015-2013	Water Appropriation	22	Issued			X			

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
2015-0769	Water Appropriation	23	Issued			X			
2015-1656	Public Waters Work	23	Issued			X			
1984-6121	Water Appropriation	24	Amended					X	
2015-1222	Water Appropriation	27	Issued						The need to determine sustainability of the aquifer system, and how to incorporate groundwater level monitoring into the permit
2015-1466	Water Appropriation	28	Issued				X		
2014-1132	Water Appropriation	31	Issued				X		
2014-1644	Water Appropriation	33	Issued			X			
2015-1265	Water Appropriation	34	Issued				X		
2013-1540	Water Appropriation	36	Issued				X		
2015-2690	Water Appropriation	36	Issued						
2008-0500	Water Appropriation	39	Transferred/ Amended				X		
2014-0996	Water Appropriation	44	Issued						The need to determine how to address potential impacts to non-Public Waters wetlands in the area
2009-0366	Water Appropriation	46	Amended						A mandatory EAW was required (cannot issue a permit during environmental review)
2014-1939	Water Appropriation	59	Issued				X		
2015-0299	Water Appropriation	62	Issued				X		

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
1997-3190	Water Appropriation	64	Amended			X			
2014-0786	Water Appropriation	71	Issued			X			
2014-0787	Water Appropriation	71	Issued			X			
2015-1676	Water Appropriation	81	Issued			X			
2013-1102	Water Appropriation	89	Issued				X		
1981-5043	Water Appropriation	97	Amended						Significant review needed due to major changes to the city water supply system
2015-0177	Water Appropriation	101	Issued				X		
2015-1874	Public Waters Work	101	Issued				X		
2014-1586	Water Appropriation	106	Issued				X		
1986-3056	Water Appropriation	118	Amended				X		
2000-3194	Water Appropriation	120	Amended				X		
2000-3195	Water Appropriation	120	Amended				X		
2015-0165	Water Appropriation	120	Issued				X		
2015-0771	Water Appropriation	122	Issued				X		
2014-2048	Water Appropriation	126	Issued			X			

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
2014-1028	Water Appropriation	143	Issued					X	
2014-1012	Water Appropriation	151	Issued						Technical groundwater review needed and collaboration with other area permits
2015-1160	Water Appropriation	153	Issued				X		
2014-1273	Water Appropriation	156	Issued				X		
1975-3327	Water Appropriation	165	Amended					X	
1976-1507	Water Appropriation	174	Transferred/ Amended						DNR discretionary EAW proposed and later cancelled (cannot issue a permit during environmental review)
2014-1432	Water Appropriation	199	Issued				X		
2014-0613	Water Appropriation	231	Issued				X		
2014-2115	Water Appropriation	258	Issued			X			
2014-2117	Water Appropriation	258	Issued			X			
2014-2341	Water Appropriation	270	Issued			X			
2009-0678	Water Appropriation	294	Amended				X		
2014-2118	Water Appropriation	300	Issued			X			
2014-1402	Water Appropriation	303	Issued				X		
2015-0475	Water Appropriation	317	Issued						Applicant pointed out historical inconsistencies for permitting hydropower facilities around the state. DNR needed time to evaluate.

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
2014-2039	Water Appropriation	335	Issued				X		
2013-1484	Water Appropriation	336	Issued					X	
1976-3267	Water Appropriation	359	Amended			X			
2013-1748	Water Appropriation	378	Issued					X	
2002-3149	Water Appropriation	394	Amended			X			
2010-0510	Water Appropriation	405	Amended				X		
Northshore Type II Stockpile – Amend	Mine – Iron Ore and Taconite	990	Issued 3/10/2016					X - Public interest in environmental review	X – Company volunteered environmental review (EAW) required for site, after permit process had begun
16F-1B0015	Aquatic Plant Management	278	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-1B0017	Aquatic Plant Management	246	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-1B0019	Aquatic Plant Management	269	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-1B0020	Aquatic Plant Management	191	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-1B0021	Aquatic Plant Management	259	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-1B0023	Aquatic Plant Management	244	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
16F-1B0028	Aquatic Plant Management	230	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-1B0050	Aquatic Plant Management	201	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-2B0002	Aquatic Plant Management	167	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-2B0003	Aquatic Plant Management	167	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-2B0014	Aquatic Plant Management	161	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3A012	Aquatic Plant Management	165	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3A054	Aquatic Plant Management	161	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3B008	Aquatic Plant Management	164	permit denied						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3B011	Aquatic Plant Management	177	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3B036	Aquatic Plant Management	175	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3B041	Aquatic Plant Management	162	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3B066	Aquatic Plant Management	174	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.

Permit	Type	Days to determine complete application from initial submission	Final Status	Reasons for Not Meeting Goal:	Responsiveness of the Proposer	Lack of Staff	Scientific/ Technical Disagreement	Level of public engagement	Other
16W-3B103	Aquatic Plant Management	177	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-1B0029	Aquatic Plant Management	203	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-2B0012	Aquatic Plant Management	210	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16F-2B0013	Aquatic Plant Management	203	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.
16W-3B003	Aquatic Plant Management	176	permit issued						Application received in August Sept Oct Dec the year prior to issuance; and Jan Feb of 2016.

DNR Actions and Planned Actions

DNR has consistently achieved a high compliance rate with the 150-day permitting goal since first reporting results on August 1, 2011. DNR works to continue improving overall permitting performance.

Expanding Use of MPARS:

The Aquatic Plant Management (APM) permit program is being migrated into the Minnesota DNR Permitting and Reporting System (MPARS). This process began in fiscal year 2016 and will take up to two years. Once complete, MPARS will allow applicants who create an account to apply and pay for permits online. In addition, permits will be emailed to property owners and agents eliminating wait times inherent with the paper mail system currently used for APM permit applications. Applicants who prefer to use a paper application and pay by check will still be able to do so. MPARS also provides automated reminders to staff as a permit approaches a review goal deadline.